

Mincomp's Corner

September, 98



We have taken the Mincomp-Mini Mania Mini racing a couple of times since my last writings. The first race was April 26th held at Buttonwillow Raceway. Well...as far as race weekends go this one was a useless, worthless, waste of my time and everybody else's experience. I was not feeling at all well and should probably not have been trying to drive. I had absolutely no feeling for the car, I was slow. Joe Huffaker was there running his rear drive Mini and making me look even slower than I already was. To top everything off, my Mini had a small misfire all weekend, finally breaking the head off an intake valve. That in the end

put me out of the race on the fourth lap...misfire found.

Race two was once again at Buttonwillow over Memorial Day weekend. Now I know that I've had an up and down year, but this is ridiculous. The first practice session we had a head gasket problem that had the appearance of a big problem, but turned out to be an irritation caused by a new product failure. After this was remedied I went back to the track and was fast, real fast. Like three seconds faster than my own lap record of last year. When it came to the race I slowed it down a bit but still set a new track record officially by about $1 \frac{3}{4}$ seconds. We are now qualified for the runoffs so it's time to start the rebuilding process that begins this time every year in preparation for the runoffs.

Bill Gilmore