

2010 NORC: Another Good Run

Written by Asa Jay Laughton

Sunday, 16 May 2010 12:24 - Last Updated Sunday, 16 May 2010 21:29

Update from the desk of Team Pantera Racing

Dateline --- sometime after the NORC 2010 Banquet ---

Dennis "Mad Dog" Antenucci gave us a call to update some results after attending the banquet.

First, he gave us information on the other gentlemen who came out and ran the Pantera. Langdon Claypoole (Driver) and Donald Kavanagh (Navigator). For their first time ever in an Open Road Race, they placed third with an average time of 99.9601 in the 100 class. WAY TO GO!

In the 150 class, where the Dog was entered, a Viper took first with an average time of 149.9944, closely followed by a Corvette Z06 at 149.9906. Dennis knew he'd be slow today but he did average more than he thought earlier, with a 146.106 (time for all the slacker comments)

I'm told Charlie Friend did 169.9854 in his Corvair entered in the 170 class. No Unlimiteds entered or ran today. It may have been due to construction on the road. Due to it being incomplete, it caused some folks to slow down a bit. Still, it should be in great shape and completely done by September.

Besides the two Panteras and Charlie's Corvair, the only other Vintage car there was Bob Schilling's 1973 Barracuda. He ran a 166.47 (if my note here is correct), and Mad Dog wanted me to mention Bill is an honorary member of Team Pantera Racing.

Our Viking friends, Bjoern & Inger finished with a 109.95 in the 110 class, not enough for a top three, but geez how close can you get? (We'll chalk it up to jet-lag from flying in from Europe -and- too much late night Viking raiding.) Congratulations to them on a good run.

As Grand Marshal, Dennis got to lead the Parade. He was also honored with an American Flag and Steve Waldman had some words to say about him as well. Unfortunately, this reporter wasn't present at the banquet so I can't really say what else happened.

Prayers for a safe and uneventful run of the 2010 NORC were answered, no accidents, no injuries and a good time had by all.

Asa Jay

PS. No news on any of the other suspected/reported breakdowns as yet

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Dateline --- Prior to the 2010 NORC Banquet ---

Just got a phone call from Dennis (Mad Dog) Antenucci.

First in his class to leave the starting line, and First in his class to cross the Finish line. When nobody passes you... it's been a good day. :) Dennis reports he was followed by Steve Waldman, one new Corvette ZR1 and a squadron of Z06's but nobody could catch him. He was entered in the 150 class and figured he may have averaged just under that as the road is going through some improvements and most drivers were more cautious during this years NORC, more on that later.

I'm told there were two cars, a Grand National and a Mustang both with high dollar race prepared engines, which failed to complete the race due to blowing up those nice race engines somewhere along the course. No accidents to report and no other breakdowns at the moment. Nice to know a nearly 40 year old Pantera can still make it down the road in one piece. Another shout out to Russ Fulps who once again provided a rock solid engine to get Mad Dog to the finish line.

The Vikings put in a good show, I'm sure Dennis will tell you more about that later.

The NDOT is repaving portions of Highway 318 and it should all be complete by the September running of the Silver State Classic Challenge. For those who have been keeping track, most of the top professional drivers in the Unlimited division have said this race won't see a 200 MPH record again until they re-pave 318. Sometimes wishes do come true. This September may see a new record speed posted on the Silver State route. Wouldn't it be nice if you were there?

Dennis had a name to go with the other Pantera that showed up. Clay Pool (not sure if the spelling is correct). He owns a fairly stock Pantera (not much detail on this part) and it's for Sale. He was slated to run the 100 class but Dennis had left the finish line before any of the slower classes began showing up. No word on if Clay ran or not, finished or not.

More news as it becomes available.

Asa Jay