DOING IT IN THE MUD BIG TIME - 1996!

By Martin Agatyn.

Based on the success of the 1995 event, Latrobe was again granted a round of the national championship again this year.

If anyone thought the crowd last year was as big as it was because of the novelty value of the first event of its type in Tasmania, then they were very wrong, with a similar crowd of almost 6000 spectators turning up again this time to witness more of the same spectacular action.

Scott Rockliff was again looking for a home town victory in class five and when he recorded the fastest time in qualifying, it looked as if he and a large part of the partisan Tasmanian crowd were going to get their wish.

However, not to be outdone, reigning Australian champion Sam Xuereb reproduced the same form he did 12 months earlier to again take victory in the Tasmanian leg of the championship.

Sam is now starting to develop a liking for the Latrobe Mudbowl with two wins in successive years.

Once again Scott Rockliff was the bridesmaid, finishing second less than a second slower than Xuereb, with Peter Holman finishing third.

The locals gained some joy in class four, where Ricky Penney, of Frankford, was voted the most spectacular of the day on his way to finishing second in his class.

Slight modifications to the track compared to last year made for faster times in most divisions, with improved spectator facilities also catering well for the large crowd.

RESULTS -

CLASS 1: K. Morrison, 1:29.61, 1; J. Dickerson, 1:29.82, 2; Jason McGiveron, 1:34 59 3

1:34.59, 3. CLASS 2: Gary Joslin, 1:06.16, 1; I. Lummis, 1.08.58, 2; Andrew Joslin, 1:15.93, 3.

CLASS 3: Paul Walters, 1:06.69, 1; Len Marx, 1:10.93, 2; A. Parker, 1:22.35, 3. CLASS 4: K. Vreko, 1:12.26, 1; Ricky Penney, 1:20.82, 2; Mark Penney, 1:23.03, 3.

CLASS 5: Sam Xuereb, 1:02.54, 1; Scott Rockliff, 1:03. 38, 2; Peter Holman, 1:08.35, 3.



• Armin Baier & Peter Holman, Finish 3rd in class 5.



• The Big Bird stunt team of Brad Martin & Brent Tyler, both managed to roll their Toyota Landcruiser in the same spot in the final.



· One of the Mainland entrants, pushing hard gets onto the dry dirt



• Tony Streets, called it a day after rolling in his second run.



• The new four wheel stear Hilux, got better as the day went on.



• The Rotary powered Susuki, driven by the Lunsons.



• Agro, a regular competitor that always goes hard.



• Mathew Rogers & Mike Bates,in the new Mark Stewarts car



• In it's first outing Armin Baier's car finished 3rd.



• Vic. Suzuki back for a second time, won it's class last year.



• V8 Landcriuser, trying to hard and going off.