

Steady Fabi Cruises to Win In Escort 200

LEXINGTON, Ohio (AP) — Consistent Teo Fabi outdistanced the field to run off with an easy victory yesterday in the Escort Radar Warning 200 Indy-car race at Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course.

The Indy-car rookie sensation took the lead for good 37 laps from the end of the 200.5-mile race when a car driven by Al Unser Jr., another high-flying Indy-car rookie, blew as he tried to hold off the tenacious Fabi.

Fabi drove his Skoal-sponsored March-Cosworth racer across the finish line 26 seconds ahead of Mario Andretti's Budweiser Lola-Cosworth. The only other finisher on the same lap with the winner was Bobby Rahal, who finished far off the pace with a sick engine and was passed by Andretti just three laps from the end of the 84-lap event.

Season point leader Al Unser was fourth and Danny Ongais, gaining his best finish since coming in third in a road race at Watkins Glen, N.Y., in August of 1988, was fifth.

The winner averaged 98.758 mph in picking up \$37,680 from the total purse of \$244,122.

Fabi, a 28-year-old graduate engineer, added the victory on the 2.4-mile, 13-turn Mid-Ohio circuit — where he holds the qualifying record in a Can-Am car — to an earlier triumph in the Pocono 500.

He joined Tom Sneva, who won the Indianapolis 500 and a 150-mile race at Milwaukee, as the only two-time winners in nine races of this season's CART-PPG Indy-Car World Series.

The tiny Italian, who had an unsuccessful shot at Formula One racing a year ago, Sunday started next to pole-sitter Rahal at the head of the 27-car starting grid.

Fabi quickly fell back to fourth, while Rahal, driving the only Chevrolet-powered car among the top qualifiers, led until he pitted on lap 19. John Paul Jr., yet another of the impressive Indy-car rookie crop, took over the top spot, with the younger Unser right behind.

Fabi again took the lead when both Paul and Unser pitted on lap 27, but he gave up the top position to the veteran Andretti when he came in for fuel and tires four laps later.

When Andretti made a routine stop on lap 33, the 22-year-old Unser Jr. streaked into the lead, with Fabi on his heels. That's the way it stayed until Unser's Eagle suddenly began belching smoke and stopped on course on lap 48.

The rest of the race was routine for Fabi, while Rahal and Fabi battled for the second spot.

A crowd estimated at 40,000 was on hand for only the second Indy-car race ever run at Mid-Ohio. Johnny Rutherford, who won the race in 1980, did not enter this year.

WILLOUGHBY, OHIO
NEWS-HERALD
D. 31.622—S. 38.437
CLEVELAND METROPOLITAN AREA

Fabi cruises to Escort win

Associated Press

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Allison tops Wrangler

RICHMOND, Va. — Bobby Allison

Auto racing roundup

beat the heat and the opposition, coasting to an eight-length victory in the Wrangler-Sanforset 400 for his second Grand National stock car racing victory in six days.

Allison averaged 79.381 mph in a Buick on the .542-mile Fairgrounds Raceway track, where he has won the last three races, starting last fall.

Crawford Can-AM king

MOSPORT, Ontario — Scottish driver Jim Crawford edged Canadian Jacques Villeneuve by 1.7 seconds to win the Labatt's Can-Am sports car race and jump ahead of Villeneuve in the series point standings.

Crawford was clocked in one hour, 16 minutes, 6.814 seconds. His fastest lap was 1:13.545 — a speed of 120 miles an hour.

The win was worth \$12,000 from the purse of \$70,000 for the 34-year-old driver, who drove a Wardair RK-180B. Villeneuve's Canadian Tire Frisbee was the only other car on the same lap at the end of the 60-lap, 175-mile race.

DECATUR, ILL.
MORNING HERALD & REVIEW
D. 34.497—S. 58.169
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Fabi averaged 99.297 mph in picking up \$37,680 from the total purse of \$244,122.

Fabi, who won the Pocono 500 earlier this year, joined Tom Sneva as a double winner. Sneva won the Indianapolis 500 and a 150-mile race at Milwaukee.

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