

BY GENE HUSTING

REEDY INTERNATIONAL RACE OF CHAMPIONS

Goes to Japan

This Reedy Race was more commonly being referred to as The World Champs Round-Up Race, because it was held on Yokomo's Yatabe Arena in Tsukuba, Japan. This is the location of the upcoming IFMAR Offroad World Championships this summer. With the chance to run on the World's track, racers from team Associated and Los in the USA came, as well as racers from England, Germany, and Gary Briant and Marc V.D. Zon from South Africa. Gary and Marc receive the longest distance traveled award for their journey, which actually took 24 hours.

The Yatabe Arena is a first-class raceway, complete with a fully stocked hobby shop, as well as a brand new, beautiful 1/10 outdoor scale onroad track, right next to the Arena, and future plans call for the arena to be expanded to include an indoor carpet track. Onroad racing is growing quite fast in Japan.

When you first walk into the Arena, the track looks very similar to many other indoor tracks that I've seen.

continued on page 59

Masami Hirotsuka receives his trophy from Sylvie, for winning the 4WD class. Masami TQ'd with his Reedy Modified-powered Yokomo YZ10.

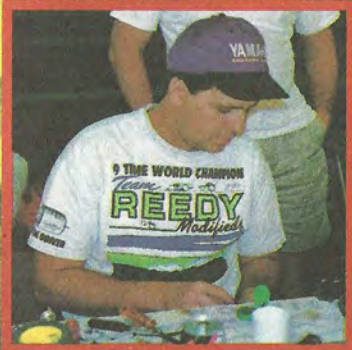


Just part of the pit area. For the World's, this will be a bleacher area, and then a larger pit area will be available behind the drivers' stand.



REEDY INTERNATIONAL

REEDY



Without enough time to break his own tires in, Mark Pavidis, borrowed Masami's tires and TQ'd.



Craig Drescher, from England, is saying, "I hope I heard you wrong. How many runs did you say it would take to break these tires in?"



The fast group from Team Losi USA, with the fastest, Greg Hodapp, on the left, who took third in the class.



The Yatabe Arena in Tsukuba, Japan was the site of the 1995 Reedy International Race of Champions.



Mike Reedy celebrates his 39th birthday, again, in Japan, by building both of the winning motors in Mark's and Masami's cars, and then holding a birthday dinner feast at the track for everyone.



The Yatabe hobby shop is very well-stocked with all the major brands.



Masami drives and his father, Masaki, builds and maintains his cars. Quite a strong combination.



Mark Pavidis' RC10 World's Car uses Reedy modifieds and Orion batteries for power, LRP ESC, Airtronics radio and Yokomo tires. Lovely Sylvie, Miss Orion, presents the first-place trophy to Mark Pavidis for winning the class at the Japanese Reedy International Race of Champions. Mark was also Top Qualifier with his Reedy Modified-powered RC10.



REEDY RACE *CONTINUED FROM PAGE 53*

It has a large drivers' stand, a separate lap-counting room, and the track layout is similar to tracks in Southern California, with wide lanes and jumps and a tabletop. The sides of the building are actually made of canvas that can be rolled up for ventilation during the summertime. The metal framework roof is also covered with canvas that can be rolled open.

However, the biggest difference about the track is something you can't see. It's the dirt. It looks the same as most indoor track's dirt, but it's definitely not the same as any other dirt we've ever seen. We were told that only one tire works on it—one of Yokomo's tires.

Of course, we started by running all of our normal tires on it, and sure enough, all we were doing was slipping and sliding around the track. We put on the Yokomo tires, but we were still slipping and sliding around the track. Masami then told us that we had to run the tires at least 10 times before they started to break in! He also said the local drivers only have one set of tires because they don't wear out—unbelievable!

So, while we were slipping and sliding around the track breaking in our tires, the Losi team was flying around the track glued in. We then found out that they had gotten some of the Yokomo tires ahead of time, and broken them in at home. Way to go, guys.

What was also strange about the track was that it didn't get all pockmarked from heel prints, the way our tracks do. It started out perfectly smooth, and it stayed that way all day long, every day. However, the



Mark Pavidis wins the class, with Atushi Hara second and Greg Hodapp third. From the left, Rick Hohwart tenth, Masami Hirosaka ninth, Hiroshi Suzuki sixth, Shinnosuke Adachi fifth, Patrick Feschtschenko eighth, Joel Johnson seventh, and Brian Kinwald fourth.

Mark Pavidis also realized this, and after the qualifying rounds were posted, asked Masami if he could run Masami's tires too, in qualifying. Masami was in the second round and Mark was in the fourth round, so they could both run the same tires. Masami agreed.

2WD QUALIFYING

Greg Hodapp led the first round of qualifying with a super-smooth 15 laps in 5 minutes 11.82 seconds or 15-5.11.82. Local driver Atushi Hara was right behind with 15-5.12.67, followed by Masami with 15-5.13.35, Mark Pavidis 15-5.13.94 and Brian Kinwald with 15-5.14.

The next round turned out to be the quick one as Mark Pavidis took Top Qualifier honors with a quick 15-5.06.53. Hodapp followed with 15-5.08.43, then Shinnosuke Adachi with 15-5.10.29 and

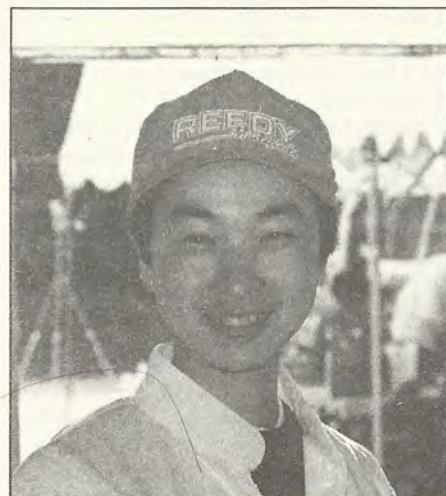
Mark to run Masami's tires in the mains, while Masami ran Mark's tires.

2WD QUALIFYING

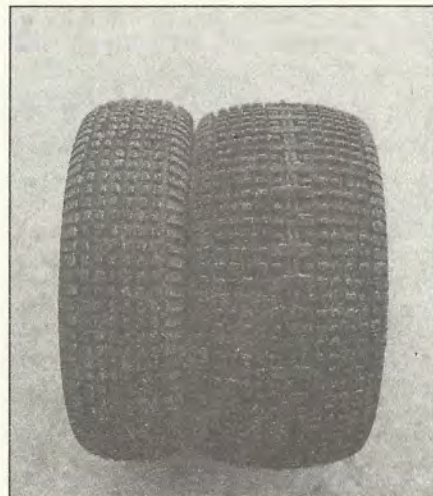
Place, Racer	Laps	Time
1 Mark Pavidis	15	5.06.53
2 Greg Hodapp	15	5.08.02
3 Atushi Hara	15	5.10.16
4 Shinnosuke Adachi	15	5.10.29
5 Masami Hirosaka	15	5.10.92
6 Rick Hohwart	15	5.13.54
7 Joel Johnson	15	5.13.89
8 Hiroshi Suzuki	15	5.13.98
9 Brian Kinwald	15	5.14.00
10 Patrick Feschtschenko	15	5.15.08
11 Matt Francis	15	5.15.39
12 Mark Francis	15	5.16.34
13 Akira Suzuki	15	5.17.00
14 Barry Baker	15	5.18.61
15 Craig Drescher	15	5.19.64

traction did change during the day, depending on the temperature and humidity, but there was no clear pattern.

Our cars did get better and better each day, as we kept running the same set of tires. However, after the three practice days, we still didn't have the same traction



Masami says, "Yes, now we get to run 4WD!"



These are the infamous Yokomo tires that are the only tires that work on the Yatabe track.



Rick Hohwart was looking good in the 4WD class, taking a great second place finish to Masami, with his Peak/Orion-powered Yokomo YZ10.

as the local Japanese team running RC10's had. So, I asked Masami how many runs he had on his tires. He said well over 30. We were in trouble.

Masami at 15-5.10.92. The track was never as fast again, so no one bettered their times in the next three rounds. Because of Mark's TQ, Masami graciously allowed

16 Derek Furutani	15	5.20.20
17 Jurgen Lautenbach	15	5.20.96
18 Tatuya Sanpei	14	5.00.04
19 Gil Losi Jr.	14	5.01.32

20 Akio Kawamata	14	5.02.25
21 Arron Biner	14	5.02.75
22 Toshiaki Kato	14	5.03.72
23 Akihiko Yoshimura	14	5.03.73
24 Yukio Wakasugi	14	5.05.59
25 Marc V D Zon	14	5.08.16
26 Jon Leonard	14	5.08.24
27 Takashi Kato	14	5.08.52
28 Hiroshi Kamibayashi	14	5.13.78
29 Gary Briant	14	5.15.84
30 Satoshi Maezumi	14	5.18.05

One thing I haven't mentioned yet, which, at the right moment, is the most important survivability item of all. There's a McDonald's one block from the hotel, with a Colonel Sanders across the street, and a Pizza Hut about a mile away. And, there's an arcade two blocks away from the hotel. We survived.

4WD QUALIFYING

This was Masami's class, and he wanted to leave no doubt about it. He led the way in the first round with a quick 15-5.04.40, with Shinnosuke Adachi close behind at 15-5.04.46 and Atushi Hara equally close with 15-5.04.85. But, in the next round



Masami Hirosaka TQ's and wins the 4WD class, with Rick Hohwart taking second, and Hiroshi Suzuki third. From the left, Craig Drescher sixth, Mark Pavidis ninth, Matt Francis fifth, Shinnosuke Adachi seventh, Atushi Hara tenth, the amazing Joel Johnson eighth, and Brian Kinwald fourth.

Masami turned the only 16-lap run with a perfect 16-5.19.81, taking Top Qualifier honors.

Place, Racer	Laps	Time
1 Masami Hirosaka	16-5	19.81
2 Hiroshi Suzuki	15-5	3.78
3 Shinnosuke Adachi	15-5	4.46
4 Brian Kinwald	15-5	5.53
5 Atushi Hara	15-5	4.85
6 Rick Hohwart	15-5	5.23
7 Craig Drescher	15-5	5.52
8 Mark Pavidis	15-5	5.88
9 Matt Francis	15-5	7.08
10 Joel Johnson	15-5	7.71

2WD A-MAIN #1

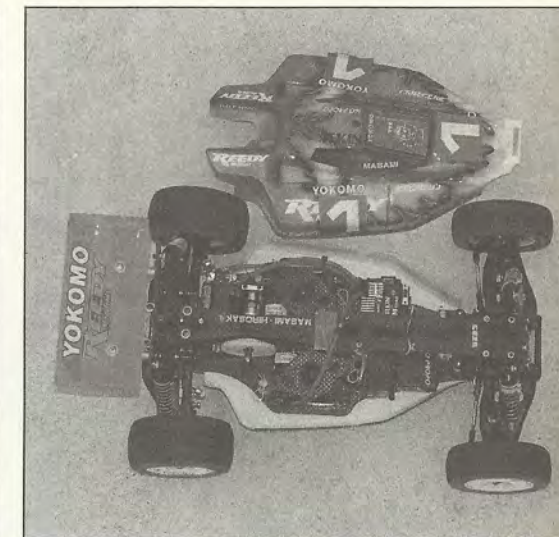
Mark Pavidis took off from his number-one starting position in the lead, closely followed by Greg Hodapp for a couple laps. Then Mark started pulling away from

the field. Meanwhile Greg was being pressured by Atushi Hara, who was also being pressured by Brian Kinwald.

Mark now had a straightaway lead, but Hara got to Greg, dropping Greg to fourth, as Hara and Brian both got by Greg. Mark ended up winning by five seconds, and as hard as Brian tried, he couldn't get by Hara, who beat Brian to the finish line by 1/10 of a second, or one car's length. Really good racing.

2WD A-MAIN #1 RESULTS

1 Mark Pavidis
2 Atushi Hara
3 Brian Kinwald
4 Greg Hodapp
5 Hiroshi Suzuki
6 Shinnosuke Adachi
7 Patrick Feschtschenko



Masami's Yokomo YZ10 features Reedy Modifieds for power, with Yokomo batteries, Tekin ESC, KO Propo radio and, of course, Yokomo tires.

8 Rick Hohwart
9 Masami Hirosaka
10 Joel Johnson

2WD A-MAIN #2

Mark Pavidis took off in the lead again, followed by Greg, but after three laps Greg had a problem and dropped out, moving Hara to second, with Shinnosuke Adachi moving to third, and Brian fourth. The order stayed that way to the end. Mark kept just enough distance ahead of Hara, so that there wouldn't be any problems, and won by a couple seconds, which also gave him the overall win.

2WD A-MAIN #2 RESULTS

1 Mark Pavidis
2 Atushi Hara
3 Shinnosuke Adachi

REEDY RACE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 61

- 4 Brian Kinwald
- 5 Joel Johnson
- 6 Masami Hirosaka
- 7 Patrick Feschtschenko
- 8 Rick Hohwart
- 9 Hiroshi Suzuki
- 10 Greg Hodapp

2WD A-MAIN #3

Mark had already won the overall, so he decided not to run this race. This gave the front starting position to Greg. This turned out to be the best race, because the top four drivers were all so close. Greg had the lead and Brian was chasing him, while Suzuki was right behind Brian, with Hara right there in fourth. It was a four-car freight train flying around the track, as if hooked together. If anybody bobbed, they would immediately get passed, so everyone did a great job, with Greg winning, and everyone else within a second of each other. There's some fast Japanese drivers on this track.

2WD A-MAIN RESULTS #3

- 1 Greg Hodapp
- 2 Brian Kinwald
- 3 Shinnosuke Adachi
- 4 Atushi Hara
- 5 Hiroshi Suzuki
- 6 Patrick Feschtschenko
- 7 Joel Johnson
- 8 Rick Hohwart
- 9 Masami Hirosaka
- 10 Mark Pavidis-DNR

OVERALL 2WD A-MAIN RESULTS

Place, Racer	Points	Car	Motor
1 M. PAVIDIS	1	RC10	REEDY
2 A. HARA	4	LOSI XX	LRP
3 G. HODAPP	5	LOSI XX	MEC
4 B. KINWALD	5	LOSI XX	TRINITY
5 S. ADACHI	6	RC10	REEDY
6 H. SUZUKI	10	RC10	REEDY
7 J. JOHNSON	12	LOSI XX	TRINITY
8 P. FESCHTSCHENKO	13	LOSI XX	TRINITY
9 M. HIROSAKA	15	RC10	REEDY
10 R. HOHWART	16	RC10	PEAK

2WD B-MAIN RESULTS

- 1 MATT FRANCIS
- 2 MARK FRANCIS
- 3 DEREK FURUTANI
- 4 BARRY BAKER
- 5 TATUYA SANPEI
- 6 AKIRA SUZUKI
- 7 JURGEN LAUTENBACH
- 8 GIL LOSI JR.
- 9 AKIO KAWAMATA
- 10 CRAIG DRESCHER

Masami took the lead with Hiroshi Suzuka following. Masami started opening up a small lead over Hiroshi, while everyone behind Hiroshi were running into each other trying to catch up. Joel Johnson just drove a smooth clean race, driving around wrecks, to move up to third, with Masami taking his first win, with Hiroshi finishing second.

4WD A MAIN #1 RESULTS

- 1 Masami Hirosaka
- 2 Hiroshi Suzuki
- 3 Joel Johnson
- 4 Matt Francis
- 5 Brian Kinwald
- 6 Shinnosuke Adachi
- 7 Mark Pavidis
- 8 Craig Drescher
- 9 Rick Hohwart
- 10 Atushi Hara

Masami got hammered at the start, and dropped to last place, while a lot of the following cars also got tangled. Rick Hohwart took over the lead, by driving around the wrecks, with Craig Drescher following in second. Hiroshi Suzuki was in third.

4WD A-MAIN #2 RESULTS

- 1 Rick Hohwart
- 2 Craig Drescher
- 3 Hiroshi Suzuki
- 4 Shinnosuke Adachi
- 5 Masami Hirosaka
- 6 Mark Pavidis
- 7 Matt Francis
- 8 Atushi Hara
- 9 Brian Kinwald
- 10 Joel Johnson

4WD A-MAIN #3

This time Masami wasn't taking any chances. He jumped in the lead and made everyone else play catch up. Brian took up the challenge, and worked his way up to second, but there was no way he was going to catch Masami. Matt Francis was following in third with Hohwart close in fourth.

OVERALL 4WD A-MAINS

Place, Racer	Points	Car	Motor
1 M. HIROSAKA	2	YOKOMO	REEDY
2 R. HOHWART	5	YOKOMO	PEAK
3 H. SUZUKI	5	YOKOMO	REEDY
4 B. KINWALD	7	YOKOMO	TRINITY
5 M. FRANCIS	7	YOKOMO	REEDY
6 C. DRESCHER	10	SCHUM.	REEDY
7 S. ADACHI	10	YOKOMO	REEDY
8 J. JOHNSON	11	YOKOMO	TRINITY
9 M. PAVIDIS	13	YOKOMO	REEDY
10 A. HARA	13	KYOSHO	LRP •
