

Get this from a library! Tommy-Soap Box Derby champion.. [C Paul Jackson] -- A boy, champion in his town, demonstrates his ability by going on to Akron for the finals.

It was donated to the Smithsonian by his father. Fair enough for a museum catalog. It was conceived early in the summer of by Robert Pusateri, then 11 years old. Robert had just lost a soapbox qualifier in Connecticut. His brother, Anthony, was about to race another car in Akron, but Robert was already deep into plans for , the new "soapbox year. By Easter , Robert and others had spent hundreds and hundreds of hours gluing, clamping and, especially, sanding and polishing the body to cut down drag. By Derby rules the combined weight of racer and driver is limited. Because gravity is what drives soapbox cars and weight combats air resistance, competitors want to weigh in with their cars as close to the limit as possible. During the painstaking work of building the car and in the preliminary competitions to qualify for Akron, Robert had lost some weight. In order to compensate, he added heavier wood to the construction. He took the Connecticut Championship and qualified for Akron. But he lost out in the nationals, perhaps because his car might have been crooked in the starting block. Soapboxes are delicately balanced; they race at speeds upwards of 30 miles per hour. Each year the cars that win the finals stay in Akron and are put on display in the Soap Box Derby Hall of Fame of them to date. Most trips to Akron, however, are round trips. So Robert brought the racer home, and in his father, Anthony Pusateri sr. It had then-and still has-great meaning to the family, particularly Robert. He went on to study engineering and became a manager in the Polaroid Corporation. Like many past Derby contestants, he is convinced the discipline and effort that went into the racer helped him choose-and become a success in-his profession. In a photographer named Myron Scott was photographing three boys, each sitting in a cratelike frame fixed to baby-buggy wheels, rolling down a bumpy hill in Dayton. Scott invited the boys to come back a week later and bring their friends-for a bigger race. A considerable crowd gathered. One of the contestants was a local year-old named Bob Gravett, who had painted the number 7 on his car-it was the easiest number to draw, he explained. An image of Old No. The official Soap Box Derby began the next year in Dayton with 34 winners of local races from all over the Midwest pitted against one another. Part spin-off from automobile racing and part spin-off from downhill sledding on Flexible Flyers, it thrived on the passion of teenage boys for anything that has four wheels and flies-if only down a hill under the power of gravitational pull. The racers soon moved beyond orange crates and the rickety wooden soapboxes that gave the race its name. The winning racer in , steered by Bob Turner of Muncie, Indiana, was built from laminated wood taken from a saloon bar. The track has three lanes, each ten feet wide, bounded by grandstands that seat 8, people. The slope starts at 11 percent, easing off to a gentle 1 percent at the end. The speed record is held by Tommy Fisher, who covered the Early winners kept coming back as fathers, then as grandfathers. These events, it said, were more in keeping with changing American lifestyles. Then Soap Boxers were hit with scandal. The winning car had in its nose a secret electromagnet activated by the driver, which helped him get off fast from behind the metal starting gate. This happened at the time of Watergate, which encouraged editorialists to draw all sorts of demoralizing parallels. It was in the s that girls first began competing. In Karren Stead became the first girl to win, driving with her left arm in a cast. However, recognizing that not all families have unlimited time for constructing a car, the Derby has made some competitions easier by creating three racing categories. The first is "Stock. These can be sit-up or lie-down cars. Most of the youngsters who enter the Masters contest build their own, and three-quarters of these build needle-nose cars in which the drivers lie down during the race. In Soap Box circles, Danielle is likely to be remembered for a long, long time. In she became the first two-time winner in the history of the Derby; she had also won the Kit Car championship the year before. Tiny and slender- 5 feet 1 and 96 pounds when she raced last summer-Danielle designed and built her car, the "Double D," with the help of her father, a professional cabinetmaker. It was made of wooden strips glued side by side, then covered with fiberglass that took many hours of highly skilled sanding to make really smooth. Then white cars began to win. Danielle agrees with DeLuca that steering and knowing the course are what matter most. A lot of kids will end up hitting bumps and wandering off-line. In a race, her father explains, "her helmet and

eyes barely peep over the cockpit. One bad move can mean the race. What I learned was, you had to hold just hard enough to take a bump and not move from a straight line. She crossed the finish line doing 32 mph. What did it feel like?

Chapter 2 : The Soap Box Derby | History | Smithsonian

*Tommy Soap Box Derby Champion [Jackson CP] on calendrierdelascience.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers.*

History[edit] In the wake of the first car races, local youth auto races took place in the US at a very early stage. There was so much interest that Scott arranged a bigger race, with prize money for August The national winner was Robert Turner of Muncie, Indiana , who made his car from the wood of a saloon bar. Despite a concussion and other injuries which resulted in a two-week hospital stay , McNamee described the collision to his listeners and finished his broadcast. In , Akron civic leaders recognized the need for a permanent track site for the youth racing classic, and through the efforts of the Works Progress Administration WPA , Derby Downs became a reality. At its peak, the Derby was one of the top five sporting events in terms of attendance. John DeLorean ended the year Chevrolet sponsorship in , claiming that the Derby was outdated and too expensive to hold. The Rally derby is a grand prix style of race in which each district, ten in all, sends back a number of champions based on number of racers and races in each district. Today there are broader categories that extend the age range to younger racers and permit adults to assist in construction. This is especially helpful for younger children who cannot use power tools , as well as to provide an outlet for adults. Modern soapbox racing[edit] Modern Derby Cars Using standardized wheels with precision ball bearings , modern gravity -powered racers start at a ramp on top of a hill, attaining speeds of up to 35 miles per hour. Rally races and qualifying races in cities around the world use advanced timing systems that measure the time difference between the competing cars to the thousandth of a second to determine the winner of a heat. Each heat of a race lasts less than 30 seconds. The annual World Championship race in Akron, however, is a single elimination race which uses overhead photography, triggered by a timing system, to determine the winner of each heat. Approximately racers compete in two or three heats to determine a World Champion in each divisions. There are three racing divisions in most locals and at the All-American competition. The Stock division is designed to give the first-time builder a learning experience. Boys and girls, ages 7 through 13, compete in simplified cars built from kits purchased from the All-American. These kits assist the Derby novice by providing a step-by-step layout for construction of a basic lean forward style car. The Super Stock Car division, ages 10 through 17, gives the competitor an opportunity to expand their knowledge and build a more advanced model. Both of these beginner levels make use of kits and shells available from the All-American. These entry levels of racing are popular in race communities across the country, as youngsters are exposed to the Derby program for the first time. The Masters division offers boys and girls, ages 10 through 20, an advanced class of racer in which to try their creativity and design skills. The goal of the event is to attract creative entries designed to reach speeds never before attainable on the historic Akron hill. The car and team that achieve the fastest single run is declared the winner. The open rules of the Ultimate speed Challenge have led to a variety of interesting car designs. Wheel optimization has included a trend towards a smaller diameter to reduce inertial effects and aerodynamic drag , the use of custom rubber or urethane tires to reduce rolling resistance , and the use of solvents to swell the tires also reducing rolling resistance. There is some overlap in technology between this race and other gravity racing events, including the buggy races race at Carnegie Mellon University. Jerry Pearson returned to defend the title with driver Nicki Henry in the Ultimate Speed Challenge beating the record time and breaking the Second place went to the DC Derbaticians with a time of Jenny set a new track record of Team Pearson finished 2nd with a time of Jenn Rodway finished 2nd with a time of Crew chief Tom Schurr and driver Cory Schurr place second with a time of Cory Schurr placed second with a time of Laura Overmyer of clean sheet racing finished third with a time of Competition was tight in , with the top 3 cars finishing within a span of 0. Driver Kayla Albertoni and crew chief Mike Albertoni broke the record in heat 2 or the opening round with a Jim improved to In heat 5, of the opening round, driver Kristi Murphy and crew chief Pat Murphy secured 3rd place with a run of Her improvement in is the largest year-to-year change in the record in the history of the AAUSC race. In , revised starting ramps and a re-sealed track with a softer road surface, led to significant increases in finishing times. Kristi Murphy, of Zero Error racing, finished in 2nd with a time of Jamie Berndt, also of Zero Error racing,

finished in 3rd place with a time of Competition was not as close as in recent years, with the top 3 cars covering a span of 0. This is roughly double the span in and and 10 times the span in The results mark the 3rd consecutive win by CSSN racing and the 4th consecutive win by wheel expert Duane Delaney. Each car was given a single run from lane 2 to determine the winner. The running order was randomly determined. Catherine Carney with crew chief Lee Carney finished 3rd with a time of

Chapter 3 : Soap Box Derby - Wikipedia

Super Stock- Tommy Cox Stock - Macaila Ziolkowski - National Champion - All American Soap Box Derby - Akron Placed 2nd in All-American Soap Box Derby - Akron.

Chapter 4 : past winners - Greater Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh, PA)

AASBD The All-American Soap Box Derby is a youth racing program which has been run since Events Gravity racing capital of the world! feet of gravity-powered fun and excitement.

Chapter 5 : Sorry, this content is not available in your region.

PORT CARBON, Pa. -- A young boy from Schuylkill County is a world champion. Port Carbon's Bradeyn Ditzler won the championship at the All American Soap Box Derby in Akron, Ohio on Saturday.