

CHIMNEY ROCK Hillclimb



CHIMNEY ROCK, N. C. — The 29th annual running of the Chimney Rock Hillclimb for sports cars has been set for Saturday and Sunday, April 27-28, by the sanctioning Central Carolinas Region of the Sports Car Club of America and the sponsoring Chimney Rock Park Co.

Again, drivers from all over the United States, piloting five classification of sports cars, will invade this western North Carolina resort village for the challenge of conquering the tortuous, twisting 1.9-mile, 13-hairpin-curved, paved course.

For over a quarter of a century, sports car racers have risked their expensive machinery to the perils of climbing the mountain just for the thrill of posting a good time or winning class titles. The \$2,000-plus purse divided each year is no compensation for the invasion into the land of stock car fans, who worship the likes of Richard Petty, David Pearson, Bobby Isaac or Cale Yarborough.

Unless, they are sports car buffs, fans know nothing about Harry Ingle, Ted Tidwell or John Finger. These men come to Chimney Rock Park to reign as "King of the Mountain." Each has reigned with Finger, a smooth 29-year-old driver from Greenville, S. C., wearing the current crown.

The Chimney Rock Hillclimb is the ultimate challenge for the male and female drivers that will come this year. It's more than a home or state association rally. It's more than Road Atlanta, Sebring of the past or VIR. It's more than Watkins Glen.

It's more than Daytona Beach and Petty. It's more than Unser and the Indy 500.

Stablemates Tom Pumpelly of Alexandria, Va., and Larry Gordon of Asheville towed in two powerful Eldens. Pumpelly skidded all over the mountain in his debut at the Rock for a 1:57.236 effort and the formula B class record. Gordon barely missed the magic standard with a 2:00.540, but did write a new formula Ford record. And Tidwell, up all night, doing engine repairs, piloted his Zink super vee to a 1:58.859 time proving the veteran's days are far from over.

Before Ingle left for national races leading to the most coveted prize (The President's Cup) in SCCA racing, one observer remarked to Harry on his last appearance here, "Hear the stock car boys think you sports car boys are a bunch of candy men."

"Yeah?" Harry grinned. "Bring them up here and I'll show them my mountain." It's Finger's mountain this year, but John's sentiments are the same. Early indications show a head-to-head fight this year is shaping up between Ingle and Finger for the title.

If there is no conflict of dates in Ingle's quest for the 1974 Volkswagen Gold Cup Series championship, Harry will return to the Rick this spring, according to Steve Freeman, manager of Zink Enterprises, which will sponsor Ingle this year.

"Ingle's chances of winning the hillclimb are 100 per cent if we can run, but there is too much insufficient data to say about his chances of running the hillclimb.

"Ingle doesn't expect to be a bridesmaid on the circuit this year," said Freeman, "but Harry likes the Hill. He's that special breed of guy it takes to run it.

There's a helluva lot of machinery run up that hill with no financial reward.

If Ingle returns, he'll pilot a new Zink super formula vee "Z-11." Finger is returning and also will be driving a new car, a T320 Lola.

"The internal parts of the engine are lighter and it should be a faster car than I had last year," appraised Finger. It all shapes up as the fastest Hillclimb of them all.

Seven class records fell that beautiful spring Sunday last year and more are expected to go by the wayside this year.

It's hillclimbing—wrestling an automobile up a road, that goes, not as the crow flies but as the snake crawls. It's roller coasting up a small slip of pavement where the only guard rails are gorges, boulders and Carolina pines.

It's 60 miles per hour-plus on an average through the hairpins. "On a road course or oval you have room to spin out," says veteran record holder Jack Baumgardner of Mansfield, Ohio. "Up on the hill you don't."

To Hillclimb is a car show, a thrill show, a weekend picnic, a chance to talk to drivers as they service their expensive machines, and if you're a dyed-in-the-wool stock car fan, it's a chance to listen to Martinsville on your portable radio and see an event you won't forget.

Area service stations will be open Sunday for spectators to gas up before returning home after the Hillclimb.

Time practice will begin at 9 a.m. and run all day Saturday. The finals will begin at 1 p.m. on Sunday.

(CPS) — The proposed federal budget for higher education in fiscal 1975 accomplishes a linguistic ballet when it claims it "continues the shift in Federal support from institutional assistance to student assistance which began several years ago."

This is not entirely correct. This is the third year the Nixon administration has attempted to reorder the funding priorities in higher education. Congress has repeatedly rejected the Administration's plan to place major emphasis on individual student aid through Basic Opportunity Grants (BOG) and Guaranteed Student Loans (GSL) while eliminating supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, Direct Loans, and categorical programs such as aid to Land-Grant colleges, university-community services, and undergraduate instructional equipment.

Last year a similar budget drew an overwhelmingly negative response from many legislators as well as institutional groups and student associations. Congress rewrote the entire higher education budget.

An analysis prepared by staff representatives of 16 postsecondary associations predicted a similar fate this year. "It is fair to assume that the Congress will again reject proposals not in keeping with Congressional intent, the law as written, or the best interests of the country as the Congress views them," said the report.

Reaction from Capitol Hill has indicated legislators are again dissatisfied with Nixon's budget. Senator William Proxmire (D-WI), vice-chairman of the Congressional Joint Economic Committee, called for increased aid to health and education. According to Proxmire the funds could "easily come out of the massive fat and waste in mili-

tary procurement, excessive overseas bases and troops, and the dilatory and gold-plated weapons such as the new carrier, the B-1 bomber and the F-14 fighter plane."

Of the \$304.4 billion in the proposed federal budget nearly \$9 billion would eventually reach some type of post-secondary related institution through allocations to students, schools, research and development programs, GI Bill payments and other programs (see chart).

But this is a misleading figure. Money directly requested through Health Education and Welfare's (HEW) Office of Education for support of higher education amounts to only \$2.2 billion, which represents an overall increase of \$227 million in the higher education budget. However, with inflation at its present rate this actually is a net decrease of \$145 million for fiscal 1975.

House Education and Labor Committee Chairman Carl Perkins criticized the budget request for education saying, "For the third straight year it's insufficient." Perkins added that some of the programs eliminations were "violations of laws the President himself signed."

Perkins was referring to Title IV of the 1972 Higher Education Act which requires that National Direct Student Loans, Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants and College Work-Study be funded at a certain minimum level before any funds are provided for the Basic Opportunity Grant program.

Representative James G. O'Hara, chairperson of the House Special Subcommittee on Education, strongly protested the circumvention of the law. "On previous occasions the Congress has refused to grant the executive branch a dispensation from following the law," said O'Hara. "I know of no one in or out of the executive branch who thinks that the Congress will give such a dispensation in this third year of the (basic grants) program."

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If You Thought War Was Expensive . . .

(CPS)— For the first time in American history, the end of a war has been followed by increases in military spending.

Despite withdrawal of American troops from Vietnam, improved relations with the Soviet Union and the Peoples Republic of China, and the ongoing Strategic Arms Limitation (SALT) Talks, the Nixon administration is requesting a total military budget in fiscal 1975 of \$92.6 billion, plus a supplemental of

\$6.2 billion for fiscal 1974.

According to a February, 1974 Congressional study, the new defense budget includes a real increase of \$4.4 billion over 1974 spending after allowing for inflation.

Included in the budget is a request for funding of chemical warfare research. According to a statement by Rep. Edward Roybal (D-CA) the Army plans to continue its binary nerve gas research and development pro-

gram at the Pine Bluff Arsenal in Arkansas at a cost of from \$1.5 to \$2 billion.

Defense Department officials estimate the cost of US forces in support of NATO is roughly \$17 billion for 1974. About \$7.7 billion of that figure relates to American combat forces stationed in Europe.

According to Defense Department records approximately 500,000 members of the US Armed Forces are stationed

overseas, with 300,000 in Europe and 200,000 in other parts of the world.

Also included in Nixon's budget report was a request for authority to provide an increase of \$474 million in military assistance to South Vietnam for the remaining months in fiscal 1974 in excess of the amount authorized by Congress last year.

Last year Congress cut the administration's request for \$1.6 billion in military aid to South Vietnam to an authorization of \$1.1 billion.

This year's budget again includes a proposed \$1.6 billion for financial aid to Southeast Asia.

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House Democratic leader Thomas (Tip) O'Neal of Massachusetts called for new "spending priorities to emphasize domestic needs such as education,

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