

The team has been busy with both cars this semester. The baja team is currently in the midst of design work, while the formula team has just finished frame construction. Both teams have been working hard to make the cars even more competitive for this year's competitions, in order to challenge last season's top ten placements.

Formula Update

Due to drastic rule changes for this year, the team has been hard at work designing the 2008-2009 formula vehicle. At the start of this semester, system leaders finalized the designs they had been working on since the beginning of summer. During August through November, frame construction and recruitment were the two main priorities. Many new members gained their first insight into fabrication by working with various hand tools, sanders, and grinders to shape the frame's steel tubing. The frame was completed before Thanksgiving and the car's entire assembly is on track to be done before the New Year.



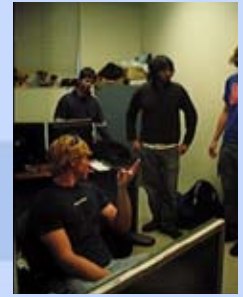
During the upcoming holiday break the team will be finishing all systems to have a completed assembly of the 2008-2009 formula vehicle. With a new driving facility sponsorship and a growing understanding of data acquisition the team is very excited to start testing and preparing for this year's competition. A special thanks to the European Rally Performance Driving School in Keystone Heights, Florida, for allowing us to use their karting track next semester for formula testing.

Baja Update

Since the beginning of the semester, the Baja team has been spending their time working on design changes, recruiting and training new members.

One of the baja team's main design focuses this year has been around a new trailing arm setup and rear box. New members have been taught the fundamentals of design and challenged to come up with innovative designs for the transaxle and trailing arms. The baja team has been trying to get new members involved in design to ensure the future of the program. By pairing new and senior members in specific systems they have made

much progress in this area.



With the year well under way I am excited at the potential of this year's Baja team.

University/Community Update

While the cars remain one of Gator Motorsport's top priorities, the team has been actively involved in events on campus and hosted several recruiting and member activities. During the fall the team drove, pushed and carried the cars across campus multiple times for different tabling and recruiting events. Both the Baja and Formula cars were big hits at the biannual Ideal organization fair, the Benton Engineering Council's Society Night, and the Alumni Homecoming BBQ. For the UF Homecoming parade, the team built a float displaying both cars and showed their Gator pride by leading cheers for the parade's audience. In addition, the team took time to educate new members about Gator Motorsport's at the New Student Shop Day and a general body dinner at Gator's Dockside. These events were the first exposure to Formula and Baja SAE for over 40 new and transfer students.



We were privileged to have many of our sponsors stop by this semester to get a first hand look at Gator Motorsports and share about their companies. In September, during the week of the UF career fair, Gator Motorsports hosted information sessions with Chevron, Power System Manufacturing and P&G, for all UF engineering students. Our November General Body Meeting was hosted in conjunction with Schlumberger. Taya Williams from Schlumberger spoke about Schlumberger's

mission and current endeavours. Right before the stress of exam week, Lockheed Martin invited the team to dinner at Gator's Dockside. Special thanks to Schlumberger and Lockheed Martin for hosting these events!

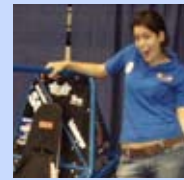
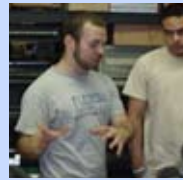
This semester Gator Motorsports has also participated in many community outreach programs. Gator Motorsports hosted a Gator Trax event which included a class room lecture and a World in Motion hands on activity for 50 elementary and middle school students. The lecture was given by Ashley Averill and focused on gear ratios, simple and compound machines; it featured interactive games, videos, and word problems. This lecture was a precursor to a World in Motion hands on activity in which the students could apply all they had learned,



During the activity, students were placed in teams and given vehicle component kits with which they were taught to select the proper size and location of gears and wheels to meet certain goals. The project gave the group hands on experience with gear ratios, packaging and the engineering decision making process. In addition Gator Motorsports has given numerous tours to groups of local student through Gator Outreach and other programs.

Member of the Month

Congratulations to Luther Lloyd, Ashley Averill, Billy Fraiser, Wayne Moss, David Didomenico, Iain Specht, and Russ Clendenin for being selected as member of the months for June, July, August, September, October and November, respectively.



To Our Sponsors

Gator Motorsports would like to thank our sponsors for being an integral part of our organization. Without your continued support, we would be unable to bring our designs from the computer to the track. Thank you once again for making UFSAE, Gator Motorsports, what it is today. Special thanks to William McCombie for the photos from Gator Trax. We also wish to thank Central Florida Office Plus for publishing this newsletter!

Team Contact

UFSAE Shop: (352) 392-7076

Lori Harrington
President, UFSAE

prez@gatormotorsports.com
Cell: 863-206-9198

Ashley Averill
Vice President, UFSAE

vp_university@gatormotorsports.com
Cell: 727-871-0604

Sponsorships

Checks to: "Florida Foundation"
"UFSAE" (on the memo line)

Mail To: 237 MAE-B
University of Florida

UF | UNIVERSITY of
FLORIDA

UFSAE Gator Motorsports
237 MAE-B
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611

