



RING-FREE GOES RACING



1967 Daytona Continental 24 Hour

Car Number 6 made its debut at the 1967 24 Hour Daytona Continental quite by chance. Originally, Ring-Free Racing planned on sponsoring two GT350s, along with one ASA 411 (21004). One GT350 for Ray Cuomo and Paul Richards and the second GT350 for Anita Taylor-Matthews, Smokey Drolet and Janet Guthrie. The ASA was assigned to Donna Mae Mims and Suzy Dietrich. Unfortunately, Shelby American did not have any GT350s available. The only car available was Car #6 of the original 16 1966 Shelby Group II Notchback Mustangs.



Number 6, the Ray Cuomo/Paul Richards Mustang (72), leads the Mustang of Yeager/Hane/Feistman (66). (Daytona Photo)

The car was purchased from Shelby American by Gofaster, Inc. of Long Island City, NY. Gofaster, owned by John Norwood, was at that time East Coast Distributor for Goodyear Racing Tires. The car was prepared by Shelby for the 24 Hour race and shipped directly to Daytona. Ray and Paul got the Shelby Notchback. Janet Guthrie, Donna Mae Mims and Suzy Dietrich were also listed as drivers of the car however, driver assignments were rearranged and they never drove the car. The car started 39th on the grid with a 2:24.7 qualifying time for an average speed of 101.734 mph.



Car Number 6 and Ray Cuomo.

(Daytona Photo)



Ring-Free Oil Racing Team Crew Chief, Jim McGee

Legendary mechanic Jim McGee, proprietor of Eastern Engineering on Montauk Highway in Bridgehampton, Long Island, NY, was Crew Chief for the Ring-Free Oil Racing Team.



Suzy Dietrich heading back out on the track in the ASA

Veteran racer Jim Baker, of The Baker Motor Company in Atlanta, Georgia, was the entrant for the three Ring-Free Oil sponsored cars.



Ray Cuomo, Ring-Free executive Tom Nasca and Donna Mae Mims (Cuomo Collection Photo)



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Paul Richards and Ray Cuomo

Exactly a day later - 24 hours, with 526 laps completed, Ray and Paul crossed the finish line 1st in Class and 11th Overall. The 3 girls drove a Mustang which was a street car only weeks before. It

was prepared by Frank Dominnani, 1964 SCCA National B Production Champion. The car was driven from Long Island, NY to Daytona for the race. The girls finished the car 5th in Class and 20th Overall, completing 484 laps, despite spending 40 minutes in the pits with an electrical problem. Donna Mae Mims and Suzy Dietrich completed 459 laps in the ASA, 3rd in Class.



l to r: Smokey Drolet holding the KLG Award for the girls, Anita Taylor-Matthews and Janet Guthrie.

Finishing the race without a repair (unscheduled) pit stop, Ray and Paul's Ring-Free Special Mustang was awarded the International Chief's of Police "Most Durable Most Reliable Vehicle Award".



l to r: Ring-Free Crew Chief Jim McGee, Smokey Drolet, Ray Cuomo, Suzy Dietrich, Ring-Free Team Manager John Norwood and Janet Guthrie.

DATELINE:

DAYTONA The 24 Hour Continental

RING-FREE TAKES ENDURANCE AWARD THE 2ND YEAR IN A ROW RING-FREE MOTOR MAIDS SET RECORD AGAIN

Ferrari swamped Ford, as they finished 1, 2, 3, and the big muscle of the Ford Mark II's developed cramps as they went out with gear box trouble.

The bright side for Ford was an Endurance Award to the Ring-Free entry, a Mustang, piloted by Ring-Free standard bearers, Paul Richards and Ray Cuomo. The International Chief's of Police award was presented to Ray Cuomo representing the Ring-Free Special Mustang that completed the race without a repair pit stop. This is the second consecutive year a Ring-Free car has won the award. A Ring-Free Special Corvette took it last year. Cuomo and Richards moved their Mustang to the unbelievable 11th overall position in this race that featured massive machinery. Following close behind was Johnny Tremblay, another Ring-Free veteran driving "Doc" Marinelli's Volvo. The Ring-Free Motor Maids took the KLG trophy for thesecond consecutive year. Anita Taylor, Smokey Drolet and Janet Guthrie piloted their Ring-Free Special Mustang to the finish followed closely by Donna Mae Mims and Suzy Dietrich driving a Ring-Free Special, a fresh factory ASA. The ASA, an Italian Car, sometimes referred to as "Half a Ferrari", because of the fact that it is powered by one-half of the big Ferrari engine. The Mims-Dietrich finish earned international racing points for ASA and helped qualify it for LeMans.

RING-FREE ACHIEVEMENTS AT DAYTONA:

The most durable most reliable award for 24 hours and over 2500 miles of intensive racing • The KLG Women's Trophy • Two Women's Team Endurance Records.

First 3 car team to finish the Daytona Continental race intact for two consecutive years...Positive proof of the quality and Endurance of Ring-Free Racing Formula Motor Oil and Lubricants, unmatched formulations that prevent thickening, galling and scuffing. Positive film strength and stability at high and low temperatures and special non-foaming additives...Now you know why Ring-Free subjects its products to these intensive, grueling and demanding competitive events publicly...to prove beyond a doubt that THERE IS NO BETTER LUBRICANT FOR YOUR CAR THAN RING-FREE.

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