



# BALLS2005

The unofficial pictorial newsletter of the Tripoli  
Experimental Launch held September 16-18, 2005 at the  
Black Rock Desert in Northern Nevada



**Q!**

Team PASA's "Wimpy Q" was propelled on the only Q motor of the launch. The rocket reached more than 35,000 feet.



80 pounds of "Wimpy Red" at ignition

Crew members prepare the 180-pound rocket at the launch pad.



# 60,000 feet!

(OK, we're lying: This rocket reached only 59,718 feet.)



What a flight and what a rocket:

Gene Nowaczyk and Mark Brown made the trip from Kansas City with Gene's high-altitude flyer. The "Scion" was an all-metal design and weighed more than 135 pounds on the pad. The P10,480 propelled the rocket to speeds in excess of Mach 3 and pulled more than 26 Gs in flight. The rocket was recovered more than 11 miles from the launch pad down range.



P10,480



More than 65 pounds of fuel lifted the Scion to just shy of 60,000 feet. It was an incredible flight.



Gene preps the rocket at the pad. Note the o-rings to seal the internal bays.

## Mark Mazzon Nike



The entire rocket was scratch-built, right down to the nose cone. "Hey Mark, when will you start selling kits?"



Mark and Kim Mazzon travelled all the way from Ohio with Mark's beautiful scratch-built Nike Smoke on "O" power. The 13.25" Nike roared off the pad on the six-inch motor and had a perfect recovery from nearly 11,000 feet on a modified 24-foot-parachute.

# OHIO "O"

The six-inch "O" motor lifted the huge rocket to more than two miles above the desert floor.



# TEAM UROC ON "P" POWER



Team UROC returned to Black Rock with two large projects. Their "Blown Fuse," above, flew on P7500 power to more than 17,000 feet. They also flew their original "Bad Wiring" on three 75mm M motors.



The three 75mm M motors lit right on cue, sending Team UROC's "Bad Wiring" skyward atop a huge red flame out of the aft end of the rocket.



**TEAM UROC ON  
MULTIPLE M  
MOTORS**



It took a lot of hands to raise Alex McLaughlin's long rocket up on the pad. The propellant alone weighed more than 65 pounds.

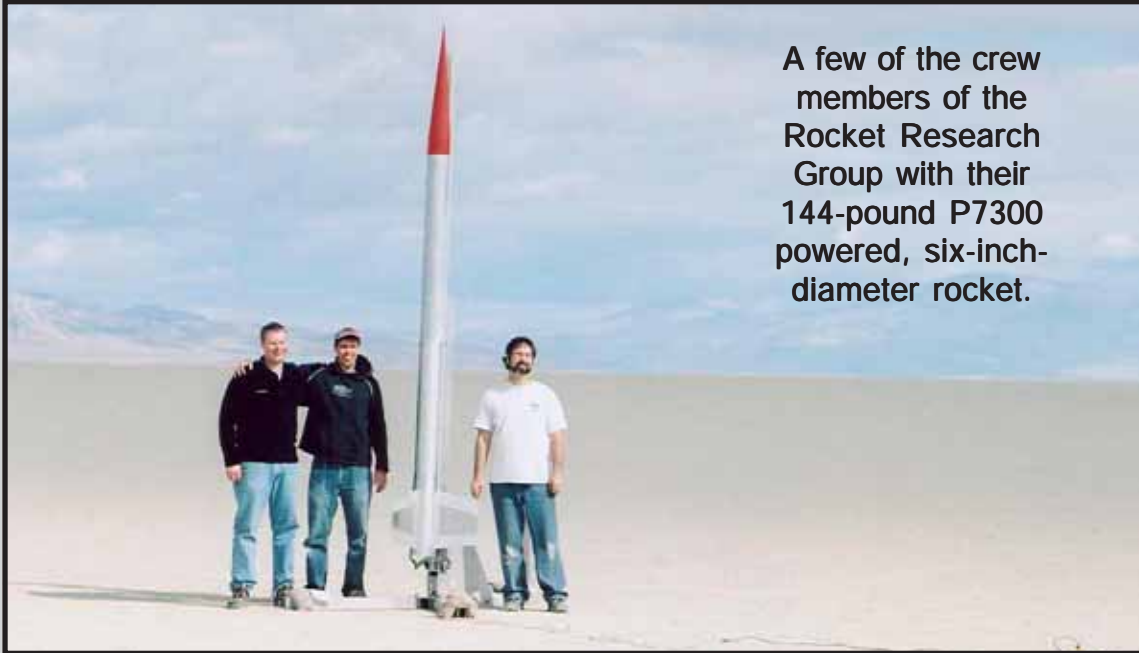


Alex McLaughlin and crew fired off this great-looking metal and wood rocket on a P10,000 "Alumaflame" EX motor.

The P-powered rocket by McLaughlin  
rose to more than 30,000 feet.



**P10,000 "Alumaflame"**

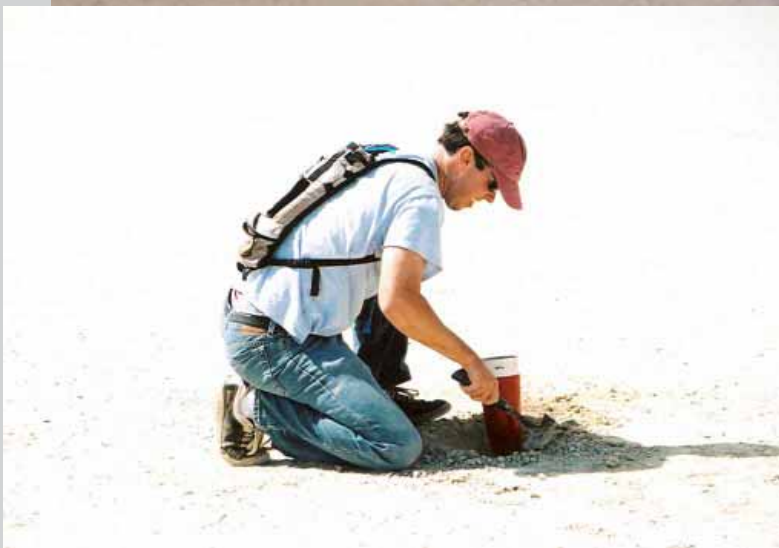
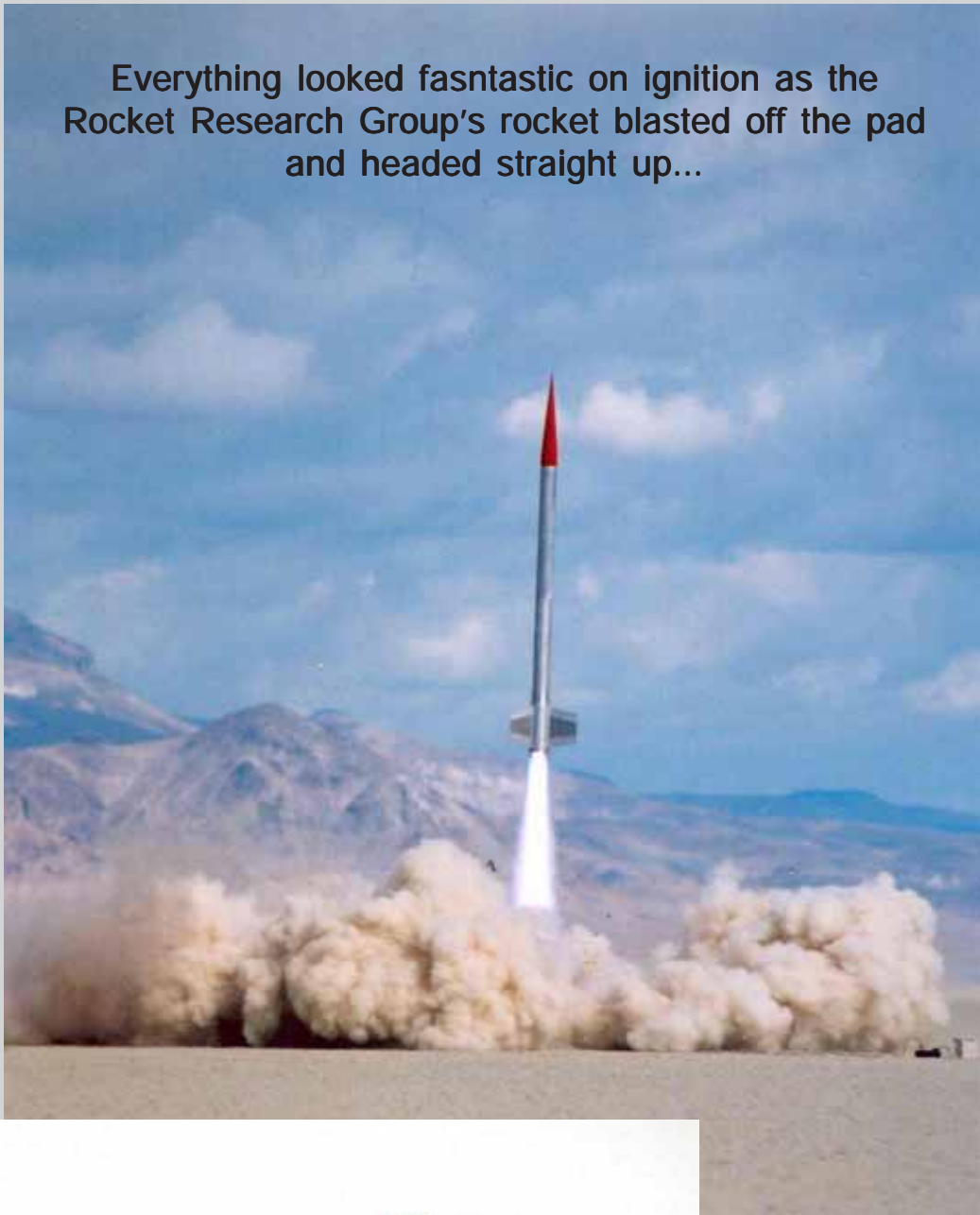


A few of the crew members of the Rocket Research Group with their 144-pound P7300 powered, six-inch-diameter rocket.

## More P Power!



Everything looked fantastic on ignition as the Rocket Research Group's rocket blasted off the pad and headed straight up...



...but it all came to an end under the power of a mighty CATO/shred. At left, a crew member tries to dig out a portion of the nose cone.

## Miscellaneous fun



This upscale Goblin had a great launch on M power, but turned over and came in undeployed.

The result?

A million little pieces.



Tripoli Pittsburgh members and friends with their "Gloria Mundi III" on M power on Saturday morning.



Getting another  
Nike ready on  
N power.



# TRIPOLI MINNESOTA "P"



Fueled by a Richard Hagensick P2700, this huge 12-inch rocket from Minnesota had a great flight and a perfect recovery.

# SKIDMARK "P" IGNITION!



Fred Azinger and crew from Oregon launched a P5500 sparky motor on Saturday afternoon in yet another popular Nike Smoke rocket. Here, the rocket gets ready to rumble as ignition of the Skidmark motor starts the show.





See you next year at Black Rock

This newsletter and all photographs by Mark Canepa. For the complete story on the launch, see the upcoming issue of *Extreme Rocketry* magazine (issue #50)

The “desert dart” of this year’s launch: A minimum diameter EX N900 hybrid that buried itself deep in the ground after a good flight up but a failure of recovery. It took a while to dig this one out!

