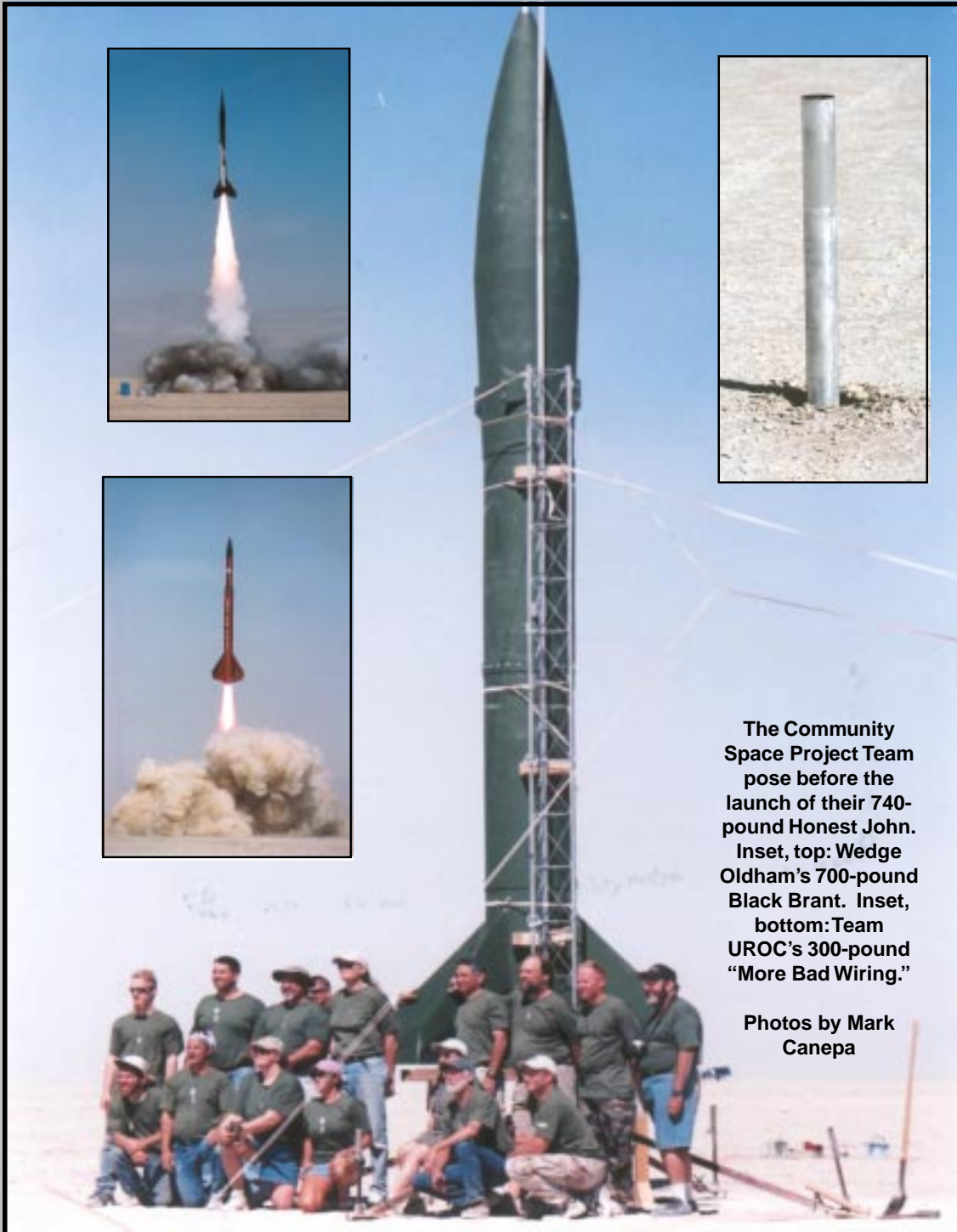


An unofficial pictorial newsletter of the great Tripoli Experimental Launch at the Black Rock Desert September 10-12, 2004

# BALLS2004!



The Community Space Project Team pose before the launch of their 740-pound Honest John. Inset, top: Wedge Oldham's 700-pound Black Brant. Inset, bottom: Team UROC's 300-pound "More Bad Wiring."

Photos by Mark Canepa



## Does It Get Any Better Than This?

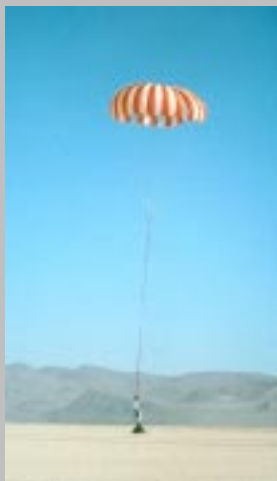
Wedge Oldham's 700-pound Black Brant II was the star of the show. The 30-foot-tall rocket was powered by three Darren Wright P motors which fired in perfect unison, lifting the rocket off the pad behind a huge flame as it left the pad.

The image shows a tall, slender rocket with a black and white color scheme, mounted on a launch pad. The rocket is angled upwards, and the launch pad is on a trailer. The background is a desert landscape with mountains under a clear blue sky.



**18,024 feet and a perfect recovery!**

**The magnificent Black Brant reached more than 18,000 feet and touched down gently under a 47-foot military parachute, several miles and twenty minutes down-range.**





**It's Up and Away!**

Team UROC's 300-pound "More Bad Wiring" cleared more than 8,000 feet on a central O motor and 4 M motors. The parachute tangled and the landing was pretty hard. Still-- what a ride!







## They Don't Call It Experimental for Nothing!

This group of rocketeers asked not to be identified (as if we don't know who they are!) as their N-powered rocket was recovered as a lawn dart. There's a lot of rocket under the ground!



## Full-Scale Honest John!

Washington's Community Space Project Team, lead by Kimberly Harms (above), launched a spectacular 30-foot-tall 740-pound Honest John on four O motors. The massive rocket boosted well, but suffered a CATO two seconds into the launch. Among other things, the rocket had 8 Gotors mounted horizontally in the upper airframe. These motors ignited one second into the flight (see photo opposite page), leading the rocket to roll-just like the real missile!



A fraction of a second after this photo was snapped, the rocket disintegrated!



All photos by Mark Canepa



## It's Q-Motor time!

Mike Hobbs, Frank Kosdon and Dave Triano teamed up to build this minimum diameter eight-inch Q-powered rocket. The rocket was rail launched and disappeared in a flash. The team hoped for an altitude upwards of 80,000 feet, but the rocket was not found as of the end of the weekend. Pictured above is Greg Davis in front of the project shortly before launch on Saturday.







**Tripoli Minnesota brought out this great-looking rocket to launch on a Richard Hagensick O motor.**





**Jeff Jacobs R-powered Hybrid was quite a rocket. It was set up Sunday morning and looked fantastic on the pad. But it suffered a massive CATO at ignition. The rocket was destroyed.**





# We Will Never Forget



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