

# SOLAR EXPRESS

The Official  
Publication  
of the  
University of  
Michigan  
Solar  
Car Team

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WRAP UP**

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## From the Project Manager ...

It has been an exciting and turbulent six months since the end of Sunrayce '97. After ten days of racing in nearly perfect sunny weather, the team was pleased to finish sixth out of a field of thirty-six cars.

We would like to formally thank all of our sponsors of the Wolverine Project. It is because of your support that we did so well in Sunrayce. We were happy to be recognized as one of the top competitors in the field.

Since this summer, we have begun anew. The

MaizeBlaze Project was officially started in September of 1997. We have already begun work on all aspects of the new car and expect to begin test chassis construction in March.

Unfortunately, due to some accounting beauracracy, we have had problems accessing our accounts during this past term. Jose Alvarez, our new Head of Operations, has done a superb job of solving these difficulties and we are again free to publish these newsletters.

With that said, I would like to introduce myself as the

Project Manager of the MaizeBlaze Project. Feel free to contact myself, Jose, or Reuben Rohrschneider (the new Vehicle Systems Coordinator) with any questions concerning the MaizeBlaze team.

The MaizeBlaze team has developed a unique vision for the next two years. We are committed to producing the best vehicle and the best team at Sunrayce '99. Following that, we will present ourselves, our team, the University and our sponsors with pride. Only when we accomplish this will we feel that we have the best chance of reclaiming the national championship.

## World Solar Challenge 1999 ?

During our finals last semester, we received an interesting notice from the headquarters of the World Solar Challenge. The 1998 World Solar Challenge has been postponed until October 1999.

Typically, after the 1996 race, the next event would have been three years later. Due to a change in the ownership of the race, the decision was made to change the race to a two year cycle. Unfortunately, since race sponsorship was not secured in time for 1998, the officials

moved the race to 1999.

The team is currently deciding whether or not to participate in World Solar Challenge 1999. The last project to race in Australia was Maize & Blue in 1993, and we would be looking forward to racing in the Outback again. Hopefully, we will be informing you of our decision in the next Solar Express. Please contact us if you have any ideas or comments on the team going to Australia.

*Both articles written by Jed Christiansen, Layout by Jose Alvarez*



**Congratulations  
Wolverines!!**

**1997  
Football  
National  
Champions!**

University of Michigan  
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Sunrayce '97 Results

School	Time
1 . C a l . S t a t e - L . A .	2 8 : 4 1 : 3 4
2 . M I T	2 9 : 0 0 : 2 0
3 . S t a n f o r d - U C B e r k e l e y	2 9 : 3 3 : 1 5
4 . T e x a s A & M U n i v e r s i t y	2 9 : 4 7 : 2 1
5 . R o s e - H u l m a n I n s t . T e c h .	3 1 : 3 7 : 5 4
6 . U n i v e r s i t y o f M i c h i g a n	3 2 : 1 4 : 0 1
7 . U n i v e r s i t y o f W a t e r l o o	3 2 : 2 2 : 0 4

Other University of Michigan Awards:

\*3rd Place Day Three (Godfrey, Ill. - Fulton, Mo.)