



THE BUCKEYE BULLET

Speed Week at the Bonneville Salt Flats

Speed Week started with the technical inspection on Friday, August 15th. The Buckeye Bullet passed with flying colors and they began their quest for the American Record (254 mph). There were 400 vehicles, of all different classes at the Salt Flats. The couple of runs the Bullet got in during Saturday and Sunday resulted with an average speed of 221 mph, not too shabby! Our driver, Craig Taylor, noticed a significant increase in the speed of the car from last October. This is more than likely a result of fine tuning the controller. Unfortunately, the last run the Bullet made on Sunday broke the transmission. The team scrambled to take the car



apart to see exactly what the problem was. They ordered the parts they needed to fix the car and had them shipped overnight to Bonneville. The parts arrived Monday evening and the team worked to get the car running so they could attempt another run on Tuesday. They fixed the transmission but it was still making a lot of noise, so they had no choice but to take it out and take it apart, again! There would be no run made on Tuesday. Wednesday brought on some electrical problems with the controller. The team was able to get in touch with Saminco, the controller manufacturer, and fix the problem. Everything was looking up and the car was able to make a run on Wednesday. Something broke in the backend of the car and the Bullet, once again, was out of commission. The team had to wait until Thursday morning for another part needed to fix the

car. They were able to repair the car and they lined up to make a run. After waiting for an hour or two, the Bullet was next in line to make its run. Mother Nature was the culprit this time, a big storm suddenly kicked up and it cancelled the remainder of Thursday's meet. The team was disappointed but had a positive outlook for Friday. The

team arrived on the salt around 7:00 am on Friday to find out the SCTA (Southern California Timing Association), the event organizers, had cancelled the remainder of the meet. They weren't really given an explanation other than lightning was spotted on the salt at 4:00 am. The ironic thing is, the folks that were out in Bon-

neville said that Friday was the best weather they had all week! This was not the best week for the Buckeye Bullet, but we're going to try it again in October at the World Finals, where the Bullet will attempt to beat the World Record of 245 mph. Keep your fingers crossed!