

Central Valley Rocket News
Tripoli Central California
October 2009



Mark Canepa 's Winternationals takes off on a M-1315 . Photo by Jim Norton

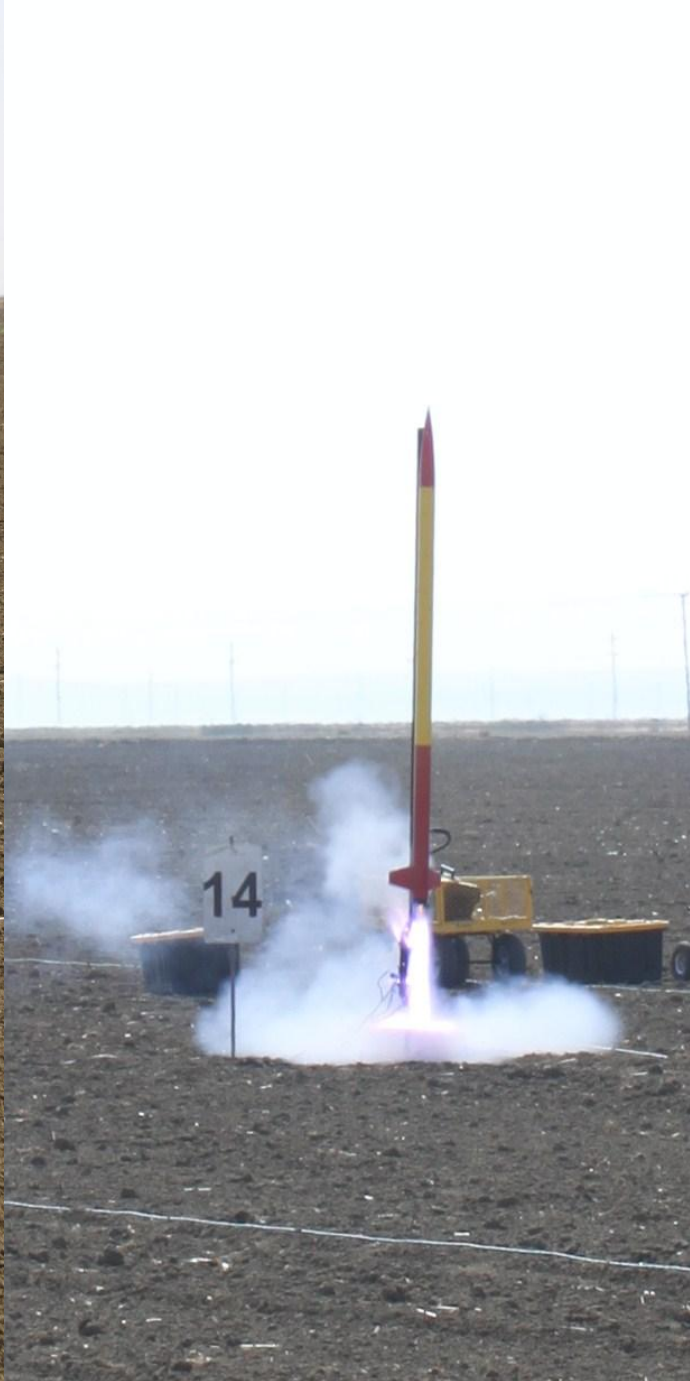
Written by Jim Norton

Photos by Jim Norton, Robert Zylstra .and Mike Garrett

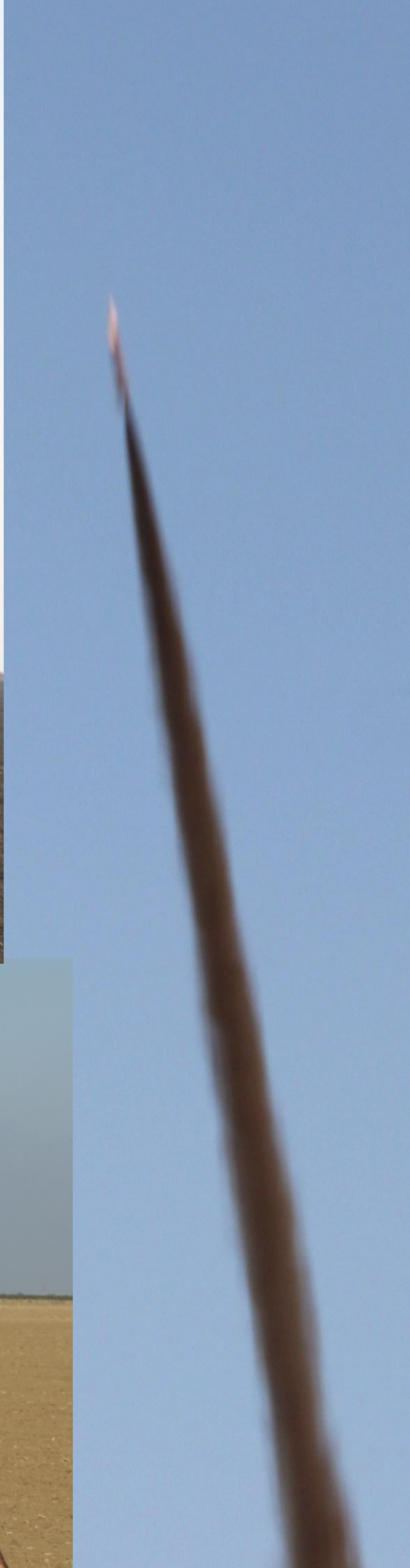
Friday

Friday stated out very windy, but it calmed down as the day went on. As a result launching started very late and there were just 17 launches for the day. Making its first appearance on Friday was "Tweety Bird", Jack Garibaldi's new towing rig. And Brian Weese showed off his Governator rocket which was highly decorated with decals but would not fly until Saturday. James Dougherty flew his ¼ scale Nike Smoke twice, on a K454 skidmark motor and later on a K2045 Vmax. Charlie Wittman launched his Arless K rocket on two experimental motors, a K777 and then a K888. Gene Engelau launched his Eve rocket on K880 and his Talon 4 on a L1450 Wimpy Red motor.







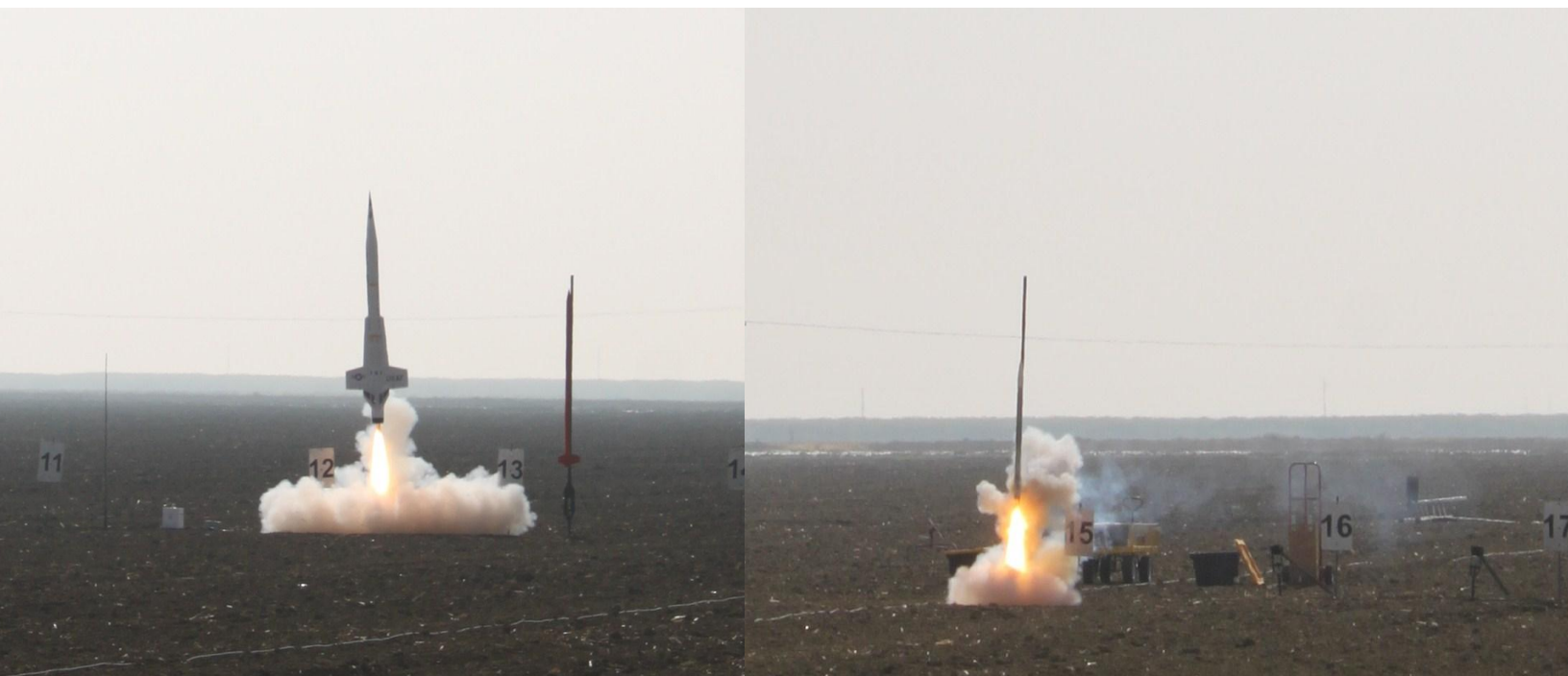


Saturday

Saturday started out very foggy but this cleared up as the day went on. At 830 you could not even see the high power pads, but we were able to launch low power rocket by 1000 and high power launches started at 1100. The day ended with a night launch, where the skidmark motors proved to be especially spectacular. There was a total of 220 flights on Saturday.

Mark Canepa flew his red Florida Winternationals rocket on a M1315 (see cover photo). He teamed up with Scott Canepa to fly a Loc Magnum on a K550. Alan Thym flew his 60 pound red N-rage on a M1939. Mike Smith launched his Still Smoking rocket, a white 5.5 inch Polecat Nike Smoke on a M1297. Shawn Stephens' black, red and white X-project flew on a L4800 Kosdon motor. James Dougherty chose a Cesaroni L1410 skidmark motor to launch his silver and black Intimidator. Jack Meridith and Brian Weese sent the Govenator up on its first flight using a L850. Brian also flew his unpainted MIG 21 on a J570, only to have it shot down by enemy fire. James Marino and Richard King drag raced their heavily modified Maxi Mags on K1000s, I think James won. The students from Cal Poly flew their blue and orange Return of the Revenge of the Wrath of Kahn using a J500 for the first stage and a J350 for the sustainer. Mark Clauson flew his 7 foot tall War Pig on a K1275. Gene Engeleau launched his red and blue EVE rocket on a K185. Mike Bailey of Sacramento flew his red and white Redline rocket on a K270. Norm Newlon used a K185 in his 8 foot tall 4 inch diameter yellow and blue Phantom. Brian Dolby launched his red and blue Mr. Smeee on a K550. Jim Norton white Nike Smoke went up on a K454 skidmark motor. Tom Fetter's red and yellow Speedmotion took to the skies on a K560. Paul lane of Rodeo flew his orange and black Super LOC EZI on a K590 also flew his Thunderbird3 on a CSI I 800 and air started t three G77s.

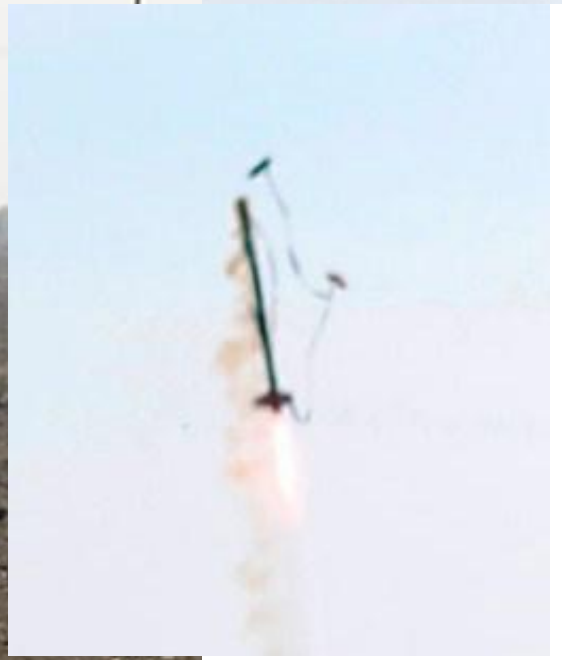
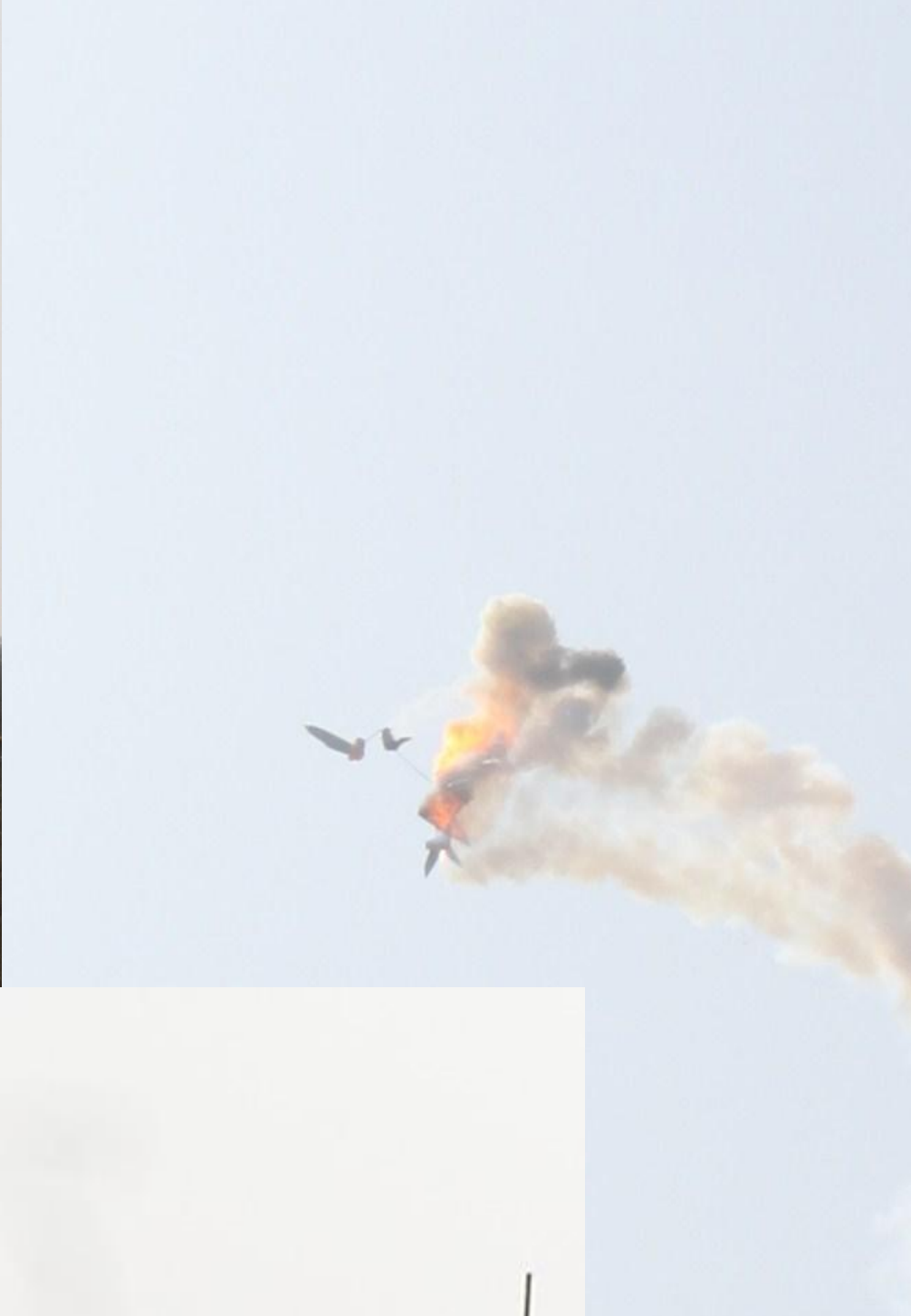
Making Level 2 Certification flights on Saturday were Jason of San Luis Obispo flying his red Still Unnamed Rocket on a J500 and Joe Dorough Kingsburg with his black and red Slithis J315. Going for Level 1 Certification were Ron Swenson, Jimmy Franco of Selma and David Aerate of Sacramento.















Sunday

On Sunday there was great weather all day, but a comparatively small crowd and just 88 flights. The Governor made two more flights. The first one on a L995 flew great but a L1195 proved too much and Arnold shredded, dropping parts all over the flight field. Karl Baumheckel also had some bad luck. He tried to fly his 7.5 inch V-2 on a hybrid Skyripper K357 but the rocket sat on the pad for a long time after motor ignition and then never achieved much altitude. It became a lawn ornament for most of the day. Gary Dwyer flew his white and black 7.5 inch Nova rocket on a K550. Brian Dalby flew his red and white Ex Heavy Duty Beauty on one G80 four F32s and four D21s. Sam did his Level 1 Certification flight using his Headshot rocket and an H90.

