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SALEEN CUSTOMER TEAMS LOOK FOR THREE WINS ON SAME DAY!

Konrad/Team Saleen Hopes to Regain GTS Lead at Portland

PORTLAND, Oregon, Aug. 3, 2001 – While RML's British-based Saleen S7R and Seattle-based Fordahl/Team Saleen are hoping to repeat recent victories this weekend, Konrad/Team Saleen is looking to regain its earlier form in this Sunday's **Grand Prix of Portland**, the fourth round of the American Le Mans Series (ALMS).

After qualifying on the pole in last month's ALMS race at Sears Point, the **Konrad/Team Saleen S7R** of Terry Borcheller set the fastest lap and led by more than seven seconds during the first stint. But the team lost grip in its Goodyear tires allowing the two factory Corvettes to defeat the Saleen. This was a reversal of March's **12 Hours of Sebring** where the **#26 BASF Saleen S7R** earned a flag-to-flag victory over the Corvettes.

Next week, Konrad will take receipt of his second Saleen S7R to continue competing in the **European Le Mans Series (ELMS)** with Ray Mallock Ltd. (RML), Saleen's technical partner in England. Between them, Konrad and RML have won all three rounds of the ELMS, including last month's race at Estoril, Portugal where Saleen S7Rs placed first and second overall -- another first in the S7R's inaugural season! This Sunday, RML will try to repeat his Estoril victory and increase his lead in the GTS championship in the fourth round of the ELMS at Most, Czech Republic.

Saleen S7R customer cars are also leading the way in two other series around the globe. GTO class leader Chris Bingham and last year's GTO Co-Champion Ron Johnson have won four of seven rounds of the Grand American Rolex Series in their **Fordahl/Team Saleen S7R** and compete for a repeat of last month's Road America victory at Trois Rivieres this Sunday. And across the pond, former Spanish GT Champion Carlos Palau has won three of six races in the **Spanish FIA GT Championship**.

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A high-performance vehicle manufacturer for 18 years, Saleen introduced the S7, the first true American supercar, at the famed Monterey Historic Races in August of last year. Less than three months later, the first S7R racecar performed admirably in its inaugural race at the same Laguna Seca circuit. The Saleen S7R's 7-liter racing V8 generates 600 horsepower and is capable of speeds in excess of 200 miles per hour. With its extreme ground effects engineering, the car could be driven upside down at 160 mph and still stay attached to the road.

Saleen was crowned the SCCA World Challenge Champions in 1996-1998, while an ex-Le Mans Saleen SR won the Spanish FIA GT in 1999. Last year, Saleen swept the Grand-Am GTO Championships winning the Team and Drivers' titles, as well as their fifth-straight Manufacturers' Championship.

Austria's Franz Konrad started racing sports cars in Germany in the mid-1970s. He moved to Formula 2 and 3 in the early 1980's, winning the German F3 Championship in 1983. Other highlights in Konrad's career include his second-place overall (to his Silk Cut Jaguar teammate) in the 1990 24 Hours of Le Mans; a first-in-class and eighth overall finish in the 1995 12 Hours of Sebring driving a Porsche 962 Spider; and back-to-back GT class victories at Sebring in 1997 and 1998. Konrad was also crowned the Porsche Cup Champion both years.

Saleen Motorsports' **Terry Borcheller** of Phoenix will co-drive with Konrad at Portland. In 1998, his first full season with Saleen, Terry won 17 races in four different marques, including seven (tying an SCCA record) victories that earned him the SCCA World Challenge Drivers' Championship. Last year, Borcheller and his teammate Ron Johnson dominated the field in Grand American GTO racing, taking their Saleen team to the "Triple Crown" (Drivers', Manufacturers' and Team Championships) in the series inaugural year.

Speedvision will provide tape-delayed coverage of the Grand Prix of Portland at 8:30 p.m. EDT on Monday, August 6, with replays on the Fox Sports Net. Fans can listen to live coverage of the race online through the American Le Mans Series Radio Web at www.americanlemans.com.

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