

Going directly from Formula SAE® to working on Honda's CART program may seem like an impossible goal for many students about to enter the job market, but Eric Weber did just that. His exciting story is encouraging to students working on SAE collegiate design projects. As the current Honda trackside support engineer for Michael Andretti, Eric is putting the experience learned from all those long nights in the RIT machine shop to good use.

Eric has been interested in racing for quite some time and has already amassed a wealth of experience. During high school, he worked on the service crew for a SCCA Pro Rally team and traveled around the United States on many exciting events, winning one national championship. When he was not working with the rally team, Eric kept busy by rebuilding and racing his 1973 BMW 2002.

## RIT Graduate Goes to CART

Every Formula SAE® graduate would love to land a job within the CART program. Racing teams are taking notice of FSAE™ alum and employing them in high level positions. If a graduate has the talent and skills, there's no telling where they'll land their first job.

All this automotive activity served Eric well, winning him an SAE scholarship when the time for college arrived. The Formula SAE® Racing Team at the Rochester Institute of Technology was lucky to have such a valuable member in its ranks. While getting his degree in mechanical engineering, Eric worked diligently to improve the performance and horsepower of RIT's Honda 600 CBR F2 power plant. His work directly contributed to several wins in dynamic events and the design finals in many competitions including FSAE® in Detroit, Formula Student in Birmingham, England and Formula SAE® Australasia in Geelong, Australia.

The old story about being "discovered" in Hollywood apparently happens in the racing world too. When the recruiters at Honda saw Eric working on RIT's engine at the 2000 Formula SAE® competition, they gave him an interview on the spot and asked him to fly out to their offices in Santa Clarita, California for a visit. This second interview landed Eric a full time position with Honda's CART program in one of the most exciting and glamorous positions in the racing industry. In addition to testing runs in Homestead and Sebring, Florida, Eric travels to each and every CART race around the world as a trackside support engineer. As one of the youngest engineers Honda has ever employed, he finds the work to be very challenging and exciting.



Eric (with laptop) makes very good use of his FSAE® experience by helping Michael Andretti stay on top at Nazareth.



Eric (front right) hard at work on the RIT Formula SAE® racecar on unveiling day in Rochester, New York.