

knock everybody out."

Tarver, of Orlando, Fla., did his best work with his left cross. Except for a few instances, he did not seem to be throwing it with fight-ending intentions, like he did when he knocked out Jones in the second round seven months ago.

"I am not one to make excuses," Tarver, 36, said. "I hurt my left hand early in the fight. I'll have to get an X-ray. I caught him with a good shot in the fourth or fifth round, and I had excruciating pain.

"He fought with a cut (left) eye, and I fought with an injured hand. We're both warriors."

Each fighter was paid a guarantee of \$1.05 million, but Tarver's promoter, Joe DeGuardia of Star Boxing, said Tarver would end up

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Giants running back Tiki Barber is dropped for a loss by Steelers linebacker James Farrior during the first quarter of Saturday's game.

# Steelers draw curtain on Giants

By Tom Canavan

The Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — The main thing separating Ben Roethlisberger and Eli Manning on Saturday was the Pittsburgh Steelers' rookie quarterback made his biggest plays with the game on the line.

Roethlisberger threw for a season-high 316 yards and hit four straight passes to set up Jerome Bettis' game-winning 1-yard run with 4:57 to go, leading the Pittsburgh Steelers to a 33-30 win over the New York Giants.

"I am amazed, but he is an awe-

some quarterback," receiver Antwaan Randle El said after Roethlisberger led the Steelers (13-1) to a team-record 12th straight win and handed the Giants (5-9) a seventh straight loss.

"He might have a long way to go, but he has this great poise," said Randle El, who caught five passes for 149 yards and a TD and also threw his first career TD. "You can have all the ability in the world but if you don't have to the poise to do it, it won't happen."

Roethlisberger, who has not lost in 25 straight college and pro starts, showed his poise in moving the Steel-

ers from their 33 to the New York 8 after a Tiki Barber 1-yard run had given New York a 30-26 lead.

"He has been making good decisions with games on the line," coach Bill Cowher said of the 11th pick in the NFL draft. "In the fourth quarter, he has a feel for the game and an understanding of the game and he manages it well."

Until Saturday, Manning has struggled in losing his first four starts. The No. 1 pick in the draft was horrible in his last two games and seemingly had lost his confidence.

Using a game plan filled with plays he liked, Manning found himself against the NFL's top-ranked defense. He threw two touchdown passes and set up Barber's go-ahead touchdown with three completions of 15 yards or more.

"I had fun because we were getting some stuff done," said Manning, who completed 16-of-23 for 182 yards. "We were making plays, running the ball, the line was protecting, receivers were making catching. We got in a

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## Controversy in two languages

### Inaugural JGTC event decided after ruling pushes race winner to second spot

By Louis Brewster

Staff Writer

FONTANA — Some things in racing don't change, regardless of nationality.

Long after the pictures in the winner's circle were taken and the press conference had ended, controversy embroiled the inaugural Japanese Grand Touring Championship All-Star 200 Saturday night at California Speedway.

The SCCA penalized the tandem of Andre Lotterer and Tsugio Matsuda 60 seconds for pitting too early, handing the win to Tatsuya Kataaoka and James Courtney. The American organization, which sanctioned the U.S. debut of the JGTC, carefully crafted the decision to overturn the action on the track.

The ruling dropped Lotterer and Matsuda to second place. They had overcome a bad start and rising water temperatures to take the checkered flag 1.456 seconds ahead of the

eventual winners with an average speed of 157.122 kilometers per hour.

There was also a dispute about the number in attendance at the Fontana track. Speedway veterans estimated 20,000 attended the day-long event capped by the 87-lap race around the 21-turn, 2.3-mile road course, although event organizers announced a figure of 32,500.

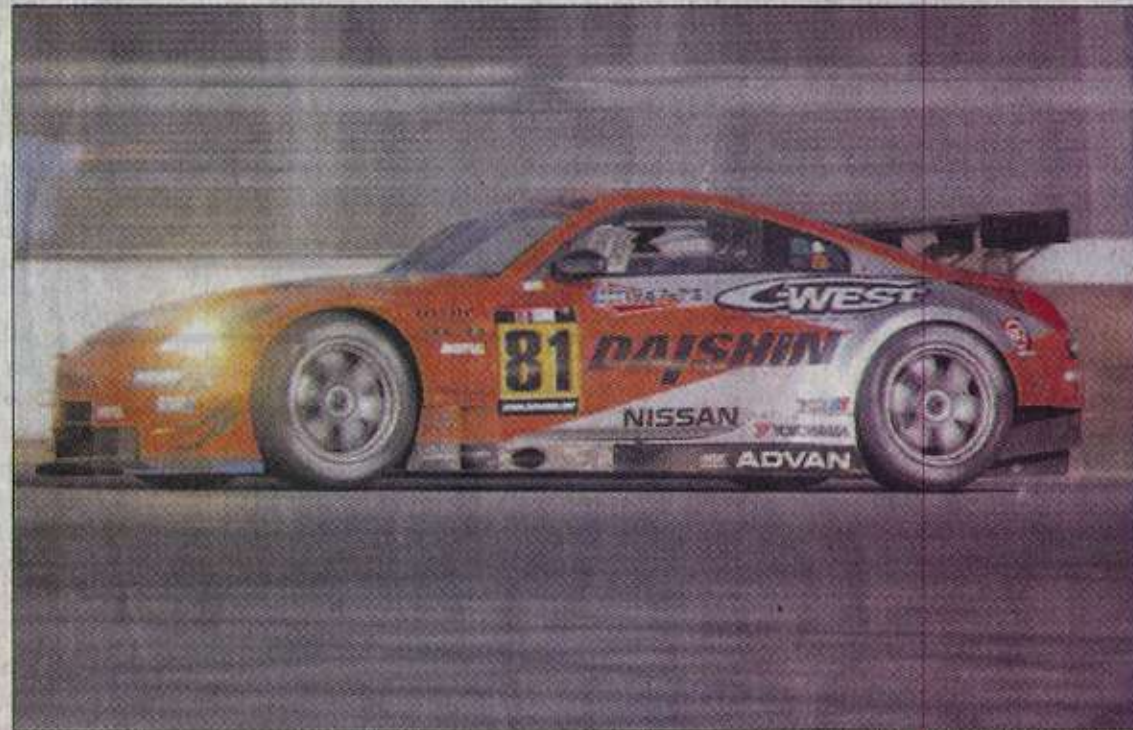
The SCCA left no doubt it was in charge of the race as its penalty deprived Acura of a sweep since the team of Tetsuta Yamano and Haruki Kurosawa won the GT300 class, despite a 60-second penalty for a similar violation. Yamano and Kurosawa were three laps ahead of the competition.

Kataaoka and Courtney were in a Toyota Supra, while Lotterer and Matsuda drove a P1aa NSX. Naoki Hattori and Shigekazu and Wakisaka were third, also in a Supra.

Due to the lateness of the verdict, officially more than two hours after the end of the race at 6:49 p.m., the winners were unavailable for comment.

Lotterer, starting in the sixth spot, spun on

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John Valenzuela / Staff photographer

The C-West Daishin Advan Z team races by during the JGTC All-Star 200 race at California Speedway in Fontana on Saturday.

# Race

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the first lap in an effort to avoid Masami Kaggeyama at the chicane placed at the end of the tri-oval. Later in the race, while leading, Matsuda was tagged in the rear by Katsutomo Kaneishi, also in a factory NSX.

"There was no damage," Lotterer said about the two incidents, "but we lost plenty of time."

There was more concern about the radiator problems. Just 20 laps into the 200-mile race, Lotterer first spotted the rising temperatures. Matsuda later reported that the temperatures were reaching the 100-degree (Celsius) mark.

"I was just concentrating on finishing," said Matsuda through an interpreter. "Luckily for us, there was nobody going faster to catch us. The NSX showed its power and potential in the race."

Only after Lotterer rallied following his spin on the opening lap.

"I went in too hot-headed in the first turn on cold tires," said Lotterer. "I just didn't want to hit him, so I spun the car. After that, I just started passing cars. I didn't know how fast we were going."

The German driver said the Fontana track was "a good change" from the courses the series competes on in Japan.

"It was challenging," said Lotterer. "There were different bumps and at the exits. It was a good change. It would



John Valenzuela / Staff photographer

Original race winner Andre Lotterer is swarmed by the media after finishing Saturday's race first. Lotterer and teammate Tsugio Matsuda were later penalized 60 seconds and were dropped into second position at the JGTC All-Star 200 at California Speedway.

have been cool to use a part of the oval in the turns, but it was too risky for the tires."

He also learned the hard way the chicane was not wide enough for two cars.

"One time I tried to pass two cars," said Lotterer. "I got past one, but I hit the tires (barrier). I lost positions but didn't damage the car. Our team strategy paid off."

Pole-sitter Satoshi Motoyama was not a factor after being hit by Ryo Michigami eight laps into the race. As a result, 2004 series champion Richard Lyon did not get into the Nissan-Z.

In the GT300 class, Yamano said the track resembled a parts store.

"There were so many things happening," said Ya-

mano. "People were crashing and there were parts all over. I was happy to win in California, my second home."

A total of 15 cars were running at the finish from the original field of 22 in the GT500 class, and six of 10 cars in GT300.

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