

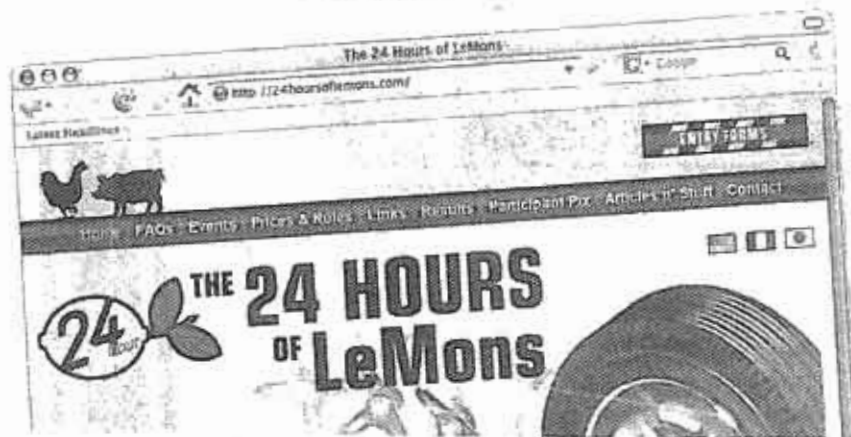
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## INTERNAL AFFAIRS

POLITICS IN THE BAY AREA



**Listwin**  
With the Grand Prix gone, Canary Foundation director needs a new ride.



**Diridon Jr.**  
He offers up LeMons — as in lemons — race — 25 cents a lap per driver.

# As they say, when life gives you lemons . . .

When IA last checked in with **Don Listwin**, the Canary Foundation head was front and center for the San Jose Grand Prix. Well, that race may have zoomed out of town, but the foundation has hooked up with another team of speedsters to raise money for cancer research.

Don't expect to see \$300K, open-wheel Champ Cars, though. Think lemons. As in the 24 Hours of LeMons, a bizarre-to-the-max endurance race that pays homage to France's famous 24 Hours of Le Mans. Both races feature drivers in a 24-hour, tag-team marathon. But the local version takes

place at Altamont Motorsports Park, far from the beauty of the French countryside. And while the Le Mans teams spend oodles on their hot-rods, the LeMons race limits teams to no more than \$500 (hence the name).

For this past July's race, Santa Clara City Clerk and lifelong gearhead **Rod Diridon Jr.** and some buddies entered a car they'd covered with toilet seats. Other entries have been encased in shag carpet or tricked out with a mannequin dressed like the pope. (Visit [www.24hoursoflemons.com](http://www.24hoursoflemons.com) for more info, and a few laughs.)

Because Diridon's team raises money for charity each race, he approached the folks at Listwin's Canary Foundation about donating his team's take from next year's race. The team — now renamed "Team Uber-Vogel" or SuperBird, after the foundation's mascot — will donate 25 cents per lap, per driver.

That won't generate anywhere near the \$1 million-plus Listwin estimated the foundation brought in from this summer's final Grand Prix — Diridon figures his team will probably max out at about 600 laps. But hey, every bit helps.