



# AutoTrail 2005 birthday bash

**A**utoTrail 2005 was held to celebrate Singapore's 40<sup>th</sup> birthday in August. Held at Marina South, the event encompassed a drag race called "AutoDrag", a competition for race queen wannabes, AutoBabe and AutoSound, a sound challenge competition for car audio enthusiasts.

Boon put up a good fight and set good times in a monstrous Proton Satria. But it was Amprex's Masatomo Nomura who prevailed in the end in the 1000bhp Skyline. Nomura-san's fastest time was never beaten by anyone else throughout the event, leaving him and his team with a cool \$25k in their pockets at the end of it all.



Everybody wants a piece of the limited edition Jackie Chan Mitsubishi Evo

AutoDrag was held on a closed stretch of tarmac adjacent to Marina Park. The event attracted more than 100 participants from Singapore, Malaysia and Japan. The 300-metre drag race was a stern test of driver skills and brute horsepower. A variety of cars were entered for the race, comprising the usual Evos, WRXs, Silvias and Civics but there were also several non-traditional contenders as well – a couple of Skoda Octavia Turbos and VW Passats. No more bad jokes about Czech cars then. The Japanese were represented by Amprex Motorsports and their potent purpose-built drag machines – a Nissan Skyline GTS and a Mitsubishi Evo.

With \$25,000 cash going to the driver who sets the fastest time at the event, the participants certainly did their very best to try to take top honours. Local team ST Powered's The Kian

Besides action from the drag race, the crowds were also entertained by Malaysian rally star Karamjit Singh. The 'Flying Sikh', a former Asia-Pacific Rally Champion, wooed the crowds with his demonstration of precision driving stunts in the Cycle & Carriage Mitsubishi Evo IX.

Sean Khoo, a Malaysian stunt-driving specialist, who is also highly skilled in anti-terrorist driver training, provided further action whenever he steered his Subaru Impreza TS like a World Rally Car on the slalom and stunt course. Several lucky spectators had a closer look and feel of the action when Subaru and AXN provided occasional taxi rides with Sean throughout the event.

Needless to say, the AutoBabe event was hugely popular with the boys. Cameras and lenses popped up whenever the lovely girls took to the stage to strut their stuff. ●



Flying Dutchman one of the M.C.



Good things come in pairs

