

Versatile Mike Johnson ready for new SCORE season

At the start of 2013, desert racer Mike Johnson and his southern California-based Bronson Motorsports team, began work on its SCORE International program. Despite his long-time career in off-road racing, there was a freshness about the team. It was the rookie season relationship of Johnson, Bronson Motorsports and Radar Tires, the flagship tire brand of Omni United.

Having fought the treacherous terrain of the SCORE events before, Johnson knew what was ahead of him, but mounted to his Class 10 No. 1031 open-wheel desert race car was a set of special non-DOT size 33X10.50R15 Radar Renegade R5 race tires that was new to SCORE competition.

The early season nerves were quickly put to rest following the Mojave Off-Road Racing Enthusiasts (M.O.R.E.) New Years 200 race in Barstow, California, on January 26. In preparation of the tire manufacturer's motorsports debut, the team entered the race to ensure that all mechanical elements and tires were up to the team's standards. The result of the weekend was far better than expected – Radar Tires' first professional racing win.

It was the beginning of many firsts for Johnson and the Singapore-based tire company. Radar Tires, Johnson and the Bronson Motorsports stunned themselves as well as the competition with this unprecedented first-ever motorsports win.

A few short weeks later, Johnson and teammate Mike Majesky again tackled the desert in the Tecate SCORE San Felipe 250, Radar Tires' SCORE International debut. The team started from ninth in Class 10 Unlimited as a result of the random starting position draw conducted by SCORE officials. Johnson and Majesky finished the opening round of SCORE competition in third place – the first SCORE podium for Radar Tires.

Johnson, in a solo Tecate SCORE Baja 500 effort, dominated Class 10 race with a 43-minute margin of victory over his closest competitor. The

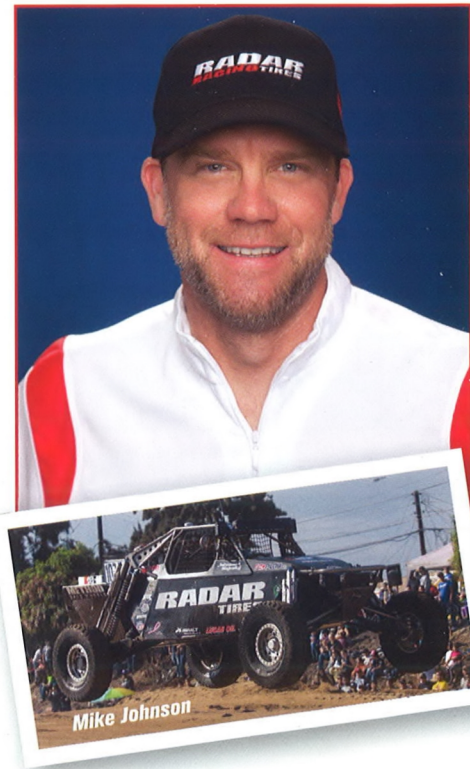
class win marked the first victory for Radar Tires in SCORE International competition. Following the SCORE Baja 500 win, Johnson was leading the Class 10 Unlimited points standings with one race remaining, the iconic SCORE Baja 1000.

After earning podium finishes in the first two races, Johnson and Majesky fell short in the SCORE Baja 1000. While in the Class 10 lead, Majesky began experiencing engine issues and with just over half of the race distance complete (race mile 445 of 883), the Radar Tires race car's engine failed. With it went expectations of another SCORE International race win and the Class 10 championship title hopes. The driving duo would have to settle for a 13th place race finish and seventh position in the SCORE International Class 10 championship standings.

"Looking back on last year, I am very proud of what we accomplished," said Johnson. "Of the three SCORE desert races, we were on the box twice. I'm especially proud of the SCORE Baja 500 win, since it was one of my goals to run that event solo. For us to win and finish in the top 15 overall was something I don't think a lot of people expected. We were hoping for a win. We surprised ourselves and the field when we won the SCORE Baja 500. We couldn't have reached the finish line without the support of Radar Tires and the hard work and dedication from the Bronson Motorsports crew."

Radar Tires and Johnson have teamed up again for the 2014 SCORE International season. With two additional races on the schedule, both Radar Tires and Johnson will continue to showcase the strength of the Bronson Motorsports team and the performance of Radar Tires.

Johnson and Majesky will wheel the No. 1031 Radar Tires race car in Class 10 in the SCORE San Felipe 250 this week. Johnson and Bronson Motorsports team, led by crew chief John Hoffman, used the offseason to rebuild the buggy in preparation of the five-race season, an increase of



two events from the previous year.

"The guys at the shop have been busy with updating the racecar as things are always evolving," continued Johnson. "The 250 course looks to be challenging as is usual for San Felipe, but I like the changes SCORE made to challenge the drivers and teams. The class is as competitive as ever. It looks to be a good race. Looking at the progress of our race car, the course, our Radar tires and our race strategy, I like our odds at San Felipe and the 2014 season."