

# GRIMY LOLA ROLLS OUT FOR US CONCOURS



**Above and below right: barnfind Lola-OSCA presented as-found. Right, above: at Daytona in 1960**

A BARNFIND LOLA MK1, STILL COVERED IN 30 YEARS' worth of grime and dust, was the talking point at Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance on 11 March. Presented by Pennsylvania-based restorer Dave George, the little Lola even won the 1961-'71 Race Car class. "I first learned of it in the mid-'80s," said George. "El Ginther showed me the car, which was completely disassembled. El was a perfectionist and had catalogued and stored every part. Over the next 20 years I occasionally checked on it and El finally sold me the car last spring."

The Lola kit turned out to be chassis BR-10, fitted with a 750cc OSCA motor by Oliver Schmidt who ran it successfully in the 1960 and '61 SCCA H-Modified group. Later bought by Guy Bates and John Holmes, the Lola-OSCA scored three victories at Nassau. In the mid-'70s Ginther acquired the car and, after dismantling it, never reassembled the project. For the next 30 years it sat in his West Chester machine shop.

"We assembled it and found absolutely every nut and bolt was there," he added, "all catalogued as to its location on the car. I thought it would be fun to enter the Lola just as we found it taking care not to disturb the dirt and dust. We even rebuilt the engine and brakes using the spares Ginther had collected and presented it as a runner."

The Lola-OSCA was greeted with great enthusiasm at Amelia, particularly by organiser Bill Warner who dug out a photograph of Schmidt's sleek racer taken at Daytona in 1960 when he was a teenager.

