



THE NOTEBOOK: Z103.5 NIGHT

June 26, 2009

WALLAGE ROARS TO SECOND IN RACE, FIRST IN POINTS

In a wild C&R Auto Supply Sportsman feature which involved two red flags, one driver pushed towards the front every circuit and nearly won the 25-lap event. Darren Wallage drove his Kirk Heating Ltd. #3 Chevrolet to a fourth place feature run on Opening Day and backed it up early on at Z103.5 Night with a runner-up finish in heat number two. Wallage ran mid pack early in the going in the main, dodged all the bullets and was there at the end to make a run to the finish, settling for second behind Leonard Boutilier. Though second place is all Darren thought he could muster after the race while standing on the podium, expect that main feature win to come soon as not only has the Enfield driver shown strong runs early in this season, he has also been rewarded with the points lead – five points over another driver showing a strong early season, Steve Ross of Waverly.

RYAN, SMITH RUN STRONG BEFORE FADING

Before the racing on Z103.5 Night at Scotia Speedworld, the driver of the #2 Eric Noble Trucking Grand Prix was all smiles and anticipating a good run on the evening. All was looking good for Kirk Ryan on the night, the driver from Enfield went out and won his heat race and looked sporty in the feature, leading a handful of laps and was able to stick on the outside groove when battling for the lead through the run. That all changed when he and another driver made contact in the second corner, sending the #2 for a spin. All looked to be alright for the drivers involved until on-coming traffic made their way past, and in some cases into the wreck as Scott Thibodeau clobbered the Ryan car on a partially blocked track in turn two. The drivers involved in the wreck, which also included Mike Banks, will have a ton of work to get ready for Kiddie Night this Friday night.

Meanwhile, another driver running a Black GM product in the main feature was having a great run as well. Cape Sable Island's Colby Smith was impressive last season, posting some strong top ten runs while running a partial schedule. Z103.5 Night's main feature looked for a long time like Colby could parlay the top running #77 Burn-it Stoves/DM Snow Construction Monte Carlo into a great finishing position. In the end, Colby dodged all the bullets of yellow and red flags and ended up finishing sixth after being stuck on the high line for most of the event. A top five finish is on the horizon for the team from the southern part of the province as it looks like they have a handle on Scotia Speedworld!

BROWN HAS GOOD NEWS/BAD NEWS NIGHT FOR SECOND STRAIGHT EVENT

At the season opener, Jason Brown and team had to rally following a practice incident that left their #89 Atlantic Bunker Gear Inc. Impala damaged. The crew worked throughout the afternoon, getting the car repaired in time for the event and the driver completed the task on the day by rewarding them with a fifth place finish.

Z103.5 Night was similar in circumstance with about the same outcome as event number one on the '09 season. The Cole Harbour driver raced to seventh in his heat and was working his way up through the twenty-three car field until he and Windsor's Fred Schofield made contact coming out of the fourth corner. The cars became entangled with Schofield's front end lodged in the driver's side window of Brown's Chevrolet. Not only did Brown escape injury in the incident, he got back in his ride after the cleanup crew got the #05 off the #89 and sped back to the pits. Moments later, he returned to the track, minus a few body panels and started marching back to the front, this time with only seventeen laps to do it. Brown got up on the wheel and brought the car home in ninth place at the end of the night, keeping

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the Hazmasters ride in the top ten in points following two events.

RITCHIE MAKES HISTORY IN LOCKHART TRUCK CENTER HOBBY STOCK DIVISION

When Gordon Ritchie pulled his beautifully painted Chevrolet S10 into the pits on May 31st, not only did he turn heads as one of the two trucks racing in the Hobby Stock division, he turned heads on track by clocking in a second place run in the main feature, behind Brandon Watson of Windsor Junction. Watson and his father, Bryan battled for the second place position as they chased down Ritchie for the lead but it wouldn't be enough as Ritchie piloted his silver #26 Ritchies Renovations S-10 to victory on Z103.5 Night, becoming the first truck to win in the Hobby Stock division! He also became point leader when Brandon blew a tire on the final lap of the race, coming to a rest on the back straightaway on the bell lap. Ritchie will now have to hold off the Watsons (Brian and Brandon) and the Moore brothers (Terry and Ritchie) in the points as the season wears on and Kiddie Night goes green this Friday!

LEGENDS RACE A TIGHT ONE

Scott MacLean is a multi-time Legends titlist, as is Cy Harvey. Ian Mollins joined the ranks of Legends champ last season as well. Put all three of those drivers at the front of the field, add former Pro Stock standout Darren Sherwood to the mix and you have yourself a showdown for the ages. Twenty nine cars from Charlottetown, PEI to Salisbury, NB and all points in-between showed up to put on a great show and the drivers did not disappoint.

When it all shook down, the driver from Pictou topped Elmsdale's Harvey and Berry Mills, NB's Sherwood and Mollins. Ray Cox Jr., got the fifth place finishing position which is good enough for a tie in the point standings with Falmouth's Matt Moore as Bedford's Justin MacNeill had bad luck on Friday night. The Legend cars are off this week, preparing for a double header weekend on the 3rd and 4th of July at the Enfield oval!

YOUNGER EDDY WINS BET, RACES IN FIRST MONTH OF MARITIME SEASON

Remember back to opening afternoon at Scotia Speedworld when Brad Eddy doubled down in the Sojourn Signs Bandolero division? When Brad was in action in Enfield, his dad was racing his first Pro Stock race in the Geary woods at Speedway 660. We figured there would be a rivalry between Brad and Dan as to who could finish the best on the weekend. Well, we were right, to the point that there was a friendly wager put on the afternoon's events.

"I told Brad that whoever could score the best finish would buy the other a sundae," Dan told me on Friday afternoon. "I was getting ready for the Pro Stock feature in Fredericton when I got a call from Brad saying that he won the heat and, oh yea, he likes nuts on his sundae."

Dan finished sixth in the Best of the Best 100 at Speedway 660 on May 31st, but it wasn't good enough as Brad swept the afternoon in his #1 Sojourn Signs Bandolero car by winning the heat and the main in the division. He iced the cake last Friday by winning his second feature in as many events and extending his points lead in the division. The ice cream parlor better have the soft serve fired up, because at this rate they'll be pumpin' out sundaes like crazy during the Summer of '09!

GAMMON ON TOP OF THUNDER HEADING TO KIDDIE NIGHT

It's been nearly a month since the 4-cylinder Hondas have been on the track, but that will change as they will bring their massive field of cars to the track Friday for Kiddie Night presented by The Chronicle Herald! Kyle Gammon and Derek MacCallum have Boulton Racing on top of the points but after talking to numerous Miller Tire Thunder drivers last weekend, they are ready to take the reins back and



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and challenge Gammon and MacCallum for the win!

When talking to Jeremy Hallett on Friday night he said he was ready to not only debut a new #71 Rawdon Country Store Thunder car, but ready to take it to the front of the field. "I was as fast as those guys (MacCallum and Gammon) but I got caught in traffic and couldn't free myself to chase them down," said Hallett of the feature on opening afternoon. "We built a car with a full point cage in it in hopes of getting up there and not only beating those two but trying to beat everyone and get the win."

Hallett of Rawdon is currently eighth in points after one event and is a multi-time winner in the Thunder division, including the Miller Tire 100 back in 2007. Expect a field of approximately thirty cars to attempt to qualify for the 25-lap feature on Friday night at Scotia Speedworld!

CHAMP RUNS INTO POWERPLANT PROBLEMS EARLY IN FEATURE

Last season was a dream season for Andrew Starks. Not only did he triumph in the Miller Tire Lightning class by winning the title and a handful of races to go with the big trophy, he established himself as a front runner every week in the division.

After a tenth place run on opening day, the driver from Truro looked for a little more on Z103.5 Night, only to run into motor problems as a crank bearing seized up in the motor, causing an early exit for the Buffer's Broker Chevrolet Cavalier. The good news for all the Starks fans is that they are busy putting the new powerplant in the #104 ride for this week and expect to be on track for this Friday's race to chase down the Smith Brothers and Dan Michaud Jr. in hopes of locking up his second straight title in the division!

LIGHTNING ROOKIE TO MISS KIDDIE NIGHT

When rookie Harry Breimer Jr. showed up to run at Scotia Speedworld in 2009, he expected to run a full season in hopes of getting the experience and laps under his belt in his #123 Stewiacke Petro Canada Sunfire. There is just one small problem with that though in the way of a scheduling conflict. While we are running stock cars at Scotia Speedworld on Friday night, Harry and his friends will be doing something a bit more important – graduating high school at South Colchester Academy in Brookfield. Though Breimer was a little disappointed in not being able to run with his stock car buddies on Friday, he knows there are a couple more important things to do. "You only get the opportunity to graduate high school once and I know safe-grad is going to be a great time, though I am a bit bummed that they changed it to a Friday this year," said Breimer before hitting the track on Z103.5 Night. Breimer also had B-Fish Productions at the track Friday cheering him on which included Brandon Verboom and fellow '09 SCA Grad Brent "B-Fish" Fisher.

From all of us at Scotia Speedworld, I'd personally like to congratulate everyone who has, or is about to graduate as part of the Class of 2009. It is a big achievement and I can speak from experience last year that it will be one of the best days of your life. A word of advice though – if something happens you graduate Thursday night and plan to be at Scotia Speedworld the next night after partying your face off night before, be sure to drink a lot of AMP Energy or Pepsi products or grab more than two hours sleep to keep you awake! Trust me, I learned that the hard way last year!

That'll do it for now, check back Friday for our Driver Profiles where we will profile two WRS drivers who will battle it out this season for points and wins as '09 wears on. Until then, keep the hammer down and we'll see you at the track!