



## THE NOTEBOOK: SHRINER'S CLASSIC

### DILLMAN CONTINUES TO DELIVER IN CLASSIC, 100 IN SIGHTS!

Jeff Dillman (Middle Musquodoboit) picked up where he left off on AMP Energy Day and won his second main feature in a row in the C&R Auto Supply Sportsman division, not to mention the prestigious and pretty cool trophy that comes along with the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Shriners Classic! Dillman is finally hitting his stride mid-season in 2009 after winning the Rookie of the Year honors one year ago. Dillman added his name to an impressive list of drivers who have won the Classic in the past – the likes of Roma, HOSS, Pemberton, Tibert, Leonard, Slaunwhite and Ryan!

With two wins under his belt and the point lead on the rest of the massive field of Sportsman cars we have seen this year, expect Dillman to be one of the top runners this Saturday night as the Sportsman will run 100 laps as the under-card to the Atlantic CAT 250!

### ...BUT WHO ELSE WILL BE STRONG?!

We are expecting a few drivers from outside the area to attempt to steal the crown away from the C&R Auto Supply Sportsman regulars, including a former track champ, Berwick's James Graves! Graves won a 25-lap feature here last year but had a problem with his #28 Chevrolet during the big 100-lap feature. The team who primarily runs in James River at Riverside International Speedway is expecting nothing less than that big trophy on Saturday and will be a threat for the win when Ralph Vokey throws that checkered flag in just a few hours!

**\*\*Editor Note\*\*** - As I was getting ready to press send on this article, I just got word that Terence Bay's Troy Slaunwhite will be back behind the wheel of his former car, now owned by the Niles family out of Truro. Former Bandolero standout Brandon Niles was expected to run for the Rookie of the Year this season in the car. Slaunwhite had a solid run going last season in the C&R Auto Supply 100 before something broke aboard the System Care Truro Dodge which put him out of the race.

### FRASER WILL LOOK TO DEFEND CROWN

If you weren't here for last year's C&R Auto Supply Sportsman 100, you missed the powerful performance turned in by the #0 Halifax Glass and Mirror Chevrolet team with Frankie Fraser behind the wheel! Fraser made it look easy as he beat eventual '08 division champ Terry Roma (West Chezzetcook) and Sportsman veteran Leonard Boutilier (Dutch Settlement). The driver from Shubenacadie has been out on the track this season as well, not only behind the wheel of the #0 but behind the wheel of the Kyle Butler prepared #5 Halifax Glass and Mirror Grand Prix as Butler was suffering from an arm that was bandaged up last weekend.

### BUT DON'T FORGET ABOUT...

Along with the others already mentioned in this article, there will be 20+ other cars looking to walk out of Scotia Speedworld Saturday night as a big winner! Noel Road's Harry Ross White is always a contender in the division and Porter's Lake's Aarron Boutilier has been recording top three finishes this season like they're going out of style! Darren Wallage (Oakfield) is a big event Sportsman winner from Riverside in July and will be one to watch as he tries to put his Kirk Heating Limited Camry back into Victory Lane! Odds are after a couple of strong weeks that Colby Smith (Cape Sable Island) is due for a top three run in his DM Snow Contracting/Burnit Stoves Chevrolet! Add in the likes of Steve Ross (Waverley), Carmen Comeau (Meteghan) and Jordan Veinotte (Porter's Lake) among the many regulars scheduled to race this weekend and you have yourselves the ingredients for one helluva 100-lap event this weekend.

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#### NOW A NOTE FROM RACE CONTROL!

In order to ensure a green flag start to the Atlantic CAT 250 as close to 7pm on Saturday night, the Sportsman 100-lap event will have a 90 minute cap on it. The weekend format change from the past couple of years is new to us all as we continue to build for the future of racing here in the Maritimes.

We've seen our boys (and girls) in the Sportsman division run quick, clean races and we expect nothing but from the biggest weekly field of Sportsman drivers in Atlantic Canada on Saturday night! Oh yeah, there was other racing happening last week besides the Classic, wasn't there?

#### EDDY BRINGS HOME ANOTHER WIN ON SHRINERS CLASSIC NIGHT

Though Brad Eddy took home honors from INEX last season as the Canadian Bandolero champion to go along with the multiple trophies and checkered flags from Scotia Speedworld that the talented youngster has already won – there is one thing missing, that big trophy from the Scotia Speedworld Awards Banquet as the Bandolero track champ! He took one step forward in that chase this past week by winning the Sojourn Signs Bandolero feature over by powering the #1 Sojourn Signs Bandolero car to the lead on a late restart and never looked back. Eddy stretched his point lead to six points over Prospect Road's DJ Casey with the win on Sunday!

Brad Eddy, along with a couple of his Bandolero buddies are expected to wheel Legend cars this weekend over at Oyster Bed Speedway. For more information on the Scotia Speedworld Bandolero point leader, you can check out Brad's website at [bradeddy.com](http://bradeddy.com)!

#### MATTHEWS, MACMILLAN SCORE FIRSTS ON SHRINERS CLASSIC NIGHT

It took them half of the season but someone has finally dethroned Boulton Racing from the top spot on the podium and it came from their closest competitor all season long – Kennetcook's Dave Matthews! In the last twelve months, Matthews has been involved in countless photo finishes with Boulton drivers Derek MacCallum (Lower Sackville) and Kyle Gammon (Middle Sackville) but this time it went the way of the #99 Chapman Auto Body Civic as he snapped the win streak by Gammon and MacCallum, who finished 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> during the main feature. The drivers will return to the track on August 21<sup>st</sup> for C&R Auto Supply Night to continue the rivalry and the battle to be called the 2009 Miller Tire Thunder Champ!

Another strong run though was turned in by Thunder car veteran Kyle MacMillan. The driver from Hammonds Plains has been struggling all season long in his #5 No Bull Auto Civic to get the car up to speed but after a motor change this past week, the #5 found his groove. MacMillan won a heat on Shriners Classic Night, led the first half of the feature and had a great battle with Jeremy Hallett (who returned to his old car after struggling to get his new car dialed in) for most of the event, eventually bringing car #5 home for 5<sup>th</sup>. After his best career Thunder finish, MacMillan wanted to thank crew chief Johnny Haverstock and brother Kirk Mullane for helping put the motor in the racecar and helping him to the great finish!

#### SOME THUNDERS HEADING TO THE CENTRE THIS WEEKEND

Tim Tanner (Northern Beaverbank) proved last Sunday everyone at Scotia Speedworld already knew – we have the best four cylinder drivers Atlantic Canada has to offer! Tanner won a "Fun Four" 35 lap invitational at the Centre for Speed, just outside Shediac, N.B. last weekend, taking his first main feature win in over three years! Kyle Gammon finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the event that also featured Lucasville's Robbie Watts.

This weekend the CENTRE is featuring a "Little Guys 100", which features all four cylinder cars in the Maritimes! Though both divisions of four-cylinder cars the Southeast N.B. track runs will be included in the race (over and under 100hp), the race will be more about survival to get through the 100-lap race

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distance! Early numbers indicate Scotia Speedworld could be well represented in the event, which will include a couple of the Boulton Racing drivers as well as the #5 of Kyle MacMillan. Post-time at the Centre for Speed in 2pm on Sunday afternoon!

Even though Tanner may want to participate this weekend at the Centre, he has other things to attend to. We've heard through the grapevine that it is his wedding anniversary this weekend! Congrats!

#### LIGHTNING DRIVERS TAKE IN RACING ON SHRINERS CLASSIC NIGHT

Though they weren't on the schedule for racing this past Friday night, some of our Miller Tire Lightning drivers had the opportunity to take in the Weekly Racing Series action from the grandstand side. Point leader Dan Michaud Jr. (Cole Harbour), 2007 division champ Russell Smith Jr. (Lakeside) and Nick Hurshman (Lakeside) took in the action from the balcony Friday night as they had their final regular Weekly Racing Series off-week before the end of the season!

It wasn't without a battle though as both Smith and Michaud tried to win a prize from Pepsi as they were "caught drinking an AMP Energy drink" during the show. In the end, Michaud received a T-Shirt from the fine folks at Pepsi as he will look to fend off Smith, Hurshman and the rest of the Lightning field on Fan Appreciation Night presented by Q104 on August 14<sup>th</sup>!

#### WAYNE RITCHIE CAPTURES FIRST MAIN – WITH GORDON CHASING HIM TO LINE!

It's great anytime we see a first time winner at Scotia Speedworld. It's even better when we see that driver beating another who has won nearly everything at the facility this season! Coldstream's Wayne Ritchie drove his CARQUEST Mustang to the win on Friday night in the 25-lap Lockhart Truck Centre Hobby Stock main but it was far from easy as he held off the hard charging Gordon Ritchie (Antrim) as Ritchie tried to make a number of passes on the outside but couldn't seem to get the Chevy around the Ford at the end of the race! We knew it was just a matter of time for the #82, as he had amassed a bunch of top fives this season, including a couple of runner up finishes!

With all the fast trucks coming on board though, Wayne and the rest of the Hobby Stock car drivers will have to watch their rearview mirrors in the next few weeks as Gordon heads a strong field of drivers to the front. Who will win the next feature for the Hobby class? Find out on August 14<sup>th</sup>!

#### CAMPBELL MAKES LONG TRIP WORTH IT

"It's about time we finally got some sun," Kyle Campbell exclaimed on Friday afternoon as they unloaded the #29 Sno Mo Repair and Sales '37 Ford Sedan Legend car in preparation for the night's racing card. The team travels from Salisbury, New Brunswick to compete across the Maritimes in the Legends division.

"I think this is one of the first weekends this summer where we looked outside and on the weather report to find a sunny and hot day with no chance of rain." Campbell ran strong on the evening, posting a close second place run in his heat race while he ran mid-pack in the Legends field which was full of great competition on Shriners Classic Night! Campbell and crew are scheduled to head to Prince Edward Island this weekend for the Maritime Legends Tour feature at Oyster Bed Speedway!

#### THE ROOKIE NEARLY BEATS THE LEGEND

For a long time in the 25-lap main feature for the Legends cars it looked as if Truro's Neil Stewart was going to his first main feature in a Legend car. The driver is no stranger to success in Maritime racing as he previously piloted a Sportsman car and was the crew chief on his son's (Ethan) efforts in the Sojourn Signs Bandolero cars, but the Legend is something new for 2009. "I love it," Neil told me a few weeks back. "It's way different from a Sportsman and they are so much fun to drive," said the driver of the Stewart Auto Repair and Accessories #24 '37 Ford!

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Last week he put on a great show up front as he and "The Legend" Cy Harvey (Elmsdale) battled side by side for a majority of the feature. As they neared the end, Justin MacNeill (Bedford) led the rest of the pack up to the leaders and they made a spectacular battle for the win. In the end, it was the Harvey's Auto #37 Legend car winning the main feature but Stewart made it close at the end. The Legends are back on August 14<sup>th</sup> for Fan Appreciation Night presented by the Mighty Q!

That's all for this week! Until the big Atlantic CAT 250 weekend, keep the hammer down and we'll see you at the track!