



THE NOTEBOOK: AMP ENERGY DAY

July 30, 2009

DILLMAN BREAKS THROUGH FOR FIRST WIN

In a list of first time winners in their divisions this season we can add yet another. Jeff Dillman (Middle Musquodobit) joined fellow Sportsman first time winner Kirk Ryan (Enfield) and Lightning rookie Trevor Smith (Timberlea) as a first time winner in his division at Scotia Speedworld. Dillman positioned his Absolute Traffic Control #08 Chevrolet Impala near the front and fended off charges from Harry Ross White (Noel Road) in the end to win his first 35-lap C&R Auto Supply Sportsman feature of his racing career! When asked about this Friday nights Shriner's Classic at Scotia Speedworld and if he can go back-to-back in victory lane he replied "I sure hope so," with a big smile on his face!

HOSS also passed on congratulatory words following his second place run to Dillman. "It's great to see Jeff get his first win. I tried to get around him but he was tough today," said the driver of car #18 following the race on Sunday afternoon. The driver from Noel Road is the defending champ of the Shriner's Classic and hopes to become only the second driver to win a third edition of the race, which would tie him with driver of car #38, Terry Roma!

BUNTAIN IMPRESSES IN FIRST RACE AT SPEEDWORLD

When you think of drivers who make the long haul each week to Scotia Speedworld many names come to mind. Gary Dunning hauls his Legend car for most races from Charlottetown, PEI. Carmen Comeau and Colby Smith, two C&R Auto Supply Sportsman drivers haul up from Meteghan and Cape Sable Island respectively to race in the division. The Miller Tire Thunder class has Eddie Rector from Merigomish and the Delorey's, John and Dan are from Afton. After this week though, you can add another driver to that list: Bruce Buntain.

Buntain hopped behind the wheel of the OK Tire Honda Civic this week as regular Brent Saulnier was in Pugwash for the weekend. Though Buntain is originally from the Annapolis Valley, he is enjoying his summer vacation as he is an English teacher. Oh, did I mention that his profession for the last ten years has been based across the Pacific and Bruce came from Beijing, China to get his crack at stock car racing at Scotia Speedworld this summer?!

The 60-year old is no stranger to racing in general. He's been a flagman and has raced Datsun 510's for many years but this past Sunday was his first time behind the wheel of a front wheel drive racecar. He enjoyed a close second place run in his first 10-lap heat race at the track and ran well in the feature before the #69 car slowed and Buntain brought it back to the pit. Saulnier is expected back in the car this Friday but if the driver currently out of Beijing returns to the track again in 2009, watch out! He could be in victory lane before you know it!

Continued...

TRUCKS FINALLY HITTING STRIDE IN HOBBY STOCK DIVISION

We all know Gordon Ritchie has his Chevrolet S-10 hooked up this season at Scotia Speedworld but it looks like he is being followed down the Truck path by a couple of Hobby vets as well in 2009. Just a few short races ago, Vernon Brown debuted his #93 R. Dearman Forestry truck and this past Sunday put it on the top of the board in one of the heat races! On the same day Brown paraded the checkers around Scotia Speedworld, last season's top Hobby rookie Eric Neilson brought his new #25 Ford Ranger to the track to make the fourth truck on track, joining Ritchie, Brown and Rawdon's Matt Pyke. With Hobby Stock driver Randy Doucette (Bass River) and Lightning veteran Kevin Robar (Sackville) already announcing interest in building a truck for 2010, the Lockhart Truck Centre Hobby Stock class is expected to continue to grow as the year wears on at Scotia Speedworld!

THUNDER CLASS CONTINUES TO DRAW BIG NUMBERS

Though we didn't have a season high car count for the Miller Tire Thunder cars this past week, anytime you get more than 30 cars trying to qualifying for a field of starters in the mid-twenties, you are doing something right. Not only are we getting quantity this season, the fans are also being treated to quality racing in the division. The last two races have been decided by less than a car-length and though it's been Kyle Gammon (Middle Sackville) and Derek MacCallum (Lower Sackville) winning everything so far, others have been making runs for the checkers. Kennetcook's Dave Matthews has been so close not only this season but the Chapman Auto Body car is coming off a strong 2008. Any one of the thirty plus cars that show up each week could win the 25-lap feature presented by Miller Tire every time they hit the track. Who will it be this week? Find out on Friday at Scotia Speedworld!

Until Friday, keep the hammer down and we'll see you at the track!