



The SPORTSMAN Newsletter

Canadian Racing ... at its BEST!

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Welcome to edition #2 of our series newsletter *The SPORTSMAN* highlighting activities of the teams and drivers in, the **National Stock Car Association**, formerly known as the **OSS - Ontario Sportsman Series**

This edition of *The SPORTSMAN* is intended to provide race fans with an insight into the competitors, sponsors, tracks and team owners who make up the core ingredients of our grass roots racing programs.

As of May 1st there are 26 registered drivers and teams in the Lucas Oil Sports Cup Series and a few more are expected to join our ranks in the weeks ahead.

2009 SCHEDULE

- June 13th Mosport Speedway
- July 11th Peterborough Speedway
- Aug. 2nd Flamboro Speedway **
- Aug 8th Capital City Speedway
- Aug 15th Sauble Speedway
- Sept 5th Delaware Speedway
- Sept. 12th Flamboro Speedway

** Rescheduled date from May

Hopefully you will enjoy this recap of our series' activities todate and join us throughout the summer at a speedway near you.

Attention Drivers and Team Owners

See page 4 for some exciting news on how you can increase awareness in your team and sponsors



Series Title Sponsor

Presenting Sponsor



Robblees Take Grand Prix Kartways Twin 50's Shoot Out

The Lucas Oil Sportsman Series entertained Mosport International Speedway Saturday night with their first action packed race of the year. Josh Wood of the number 66 smashed the series time trial record with an outstanding 22.54-second lap time setting precedence for the series.

Call it the "Battle of the Robblee's", the father and son duo dominated the night with dad Steve taking home top prize for the first 50 lapper and son Matt winning the second 50 lapper with dad hot on his tail. Leading the way for the majority of the first race by a car length was Josh Wood in the number 66 for an outstanding 26 laps. Josh held the lead until lap 48 when under a restart he and Steve Robblee tangled and Josh ended up spinning and hitting the inside pit row wall. Hard Charger Mike Hrynuik driving the number 80 pressurized the pack pushing up 9 positions to finish third just behind the number 11 Cole Weber. Rounding out your top 5 is Brennan Didero with a 4th place finish and Dave Connelly finishing 5th.



The second 50 lapper complete with an inversion of the top 10 lap got underway with not much pit time between features. Kevin Trevellin started on the pole with Shawn McGlynn in the number 2 spot. The pair got together going through turns 1 and 2 with the #11 of Cole Weber taking the worst of it and ending his night early after a terrific 1st race. That opened the door for Matt



Robblee piloting the number 27 who took the lead on lap 2 and dominated the race for the next 48 laps and taking home the trophy. Steve Robblee covered his son's tracks as Josh Wood desperately tried to get by Steve but had to settle for 3rd and won the Hard Charger flying by 11 cars to finish 3rd behind the father and son duo. Honourable mention goes to 4th place Mitch Brown and 5th place Brennan Didero.

Grand Prix Kartways the official race sponsor for the night was on site with representatives and a crowd drawing display. Al Lebert driving the number 36 is their sponsored car and driver ventured over to the fans side and did a 1 hour autograph signing session.

1st Fifty Lap Feature

1. 28 Steve Robblee
2. 11 Cole Weber
3. 80 Mike Hrynuik
4. 24 Brennan Didero
5. 82 Dave Connelly
6. 96 Dan Prudhomme
7. 27 Matt Robblee
8. 10 Mitch Brown
9. 81 Shawn McGlynn
10. 19 Kevin Trevellin
11. 36 Al Lebert
12. 93 Jason Meyer
13. 35 Scott Marvin
14. 66 Josh Wood
15. 43 Bob Merrifield
16. 5 Jay Christie
17. 23 Dave Bitner
18. 68 Tony Bawden

2nd Fifty Lap Feature

1. 27 Matt Robblee
2. 28 Steve Robblee
3. 66 Josh Wood
4. 10 Mitch Brown
5. 24 Brennan Didero
6. 19 Kevin Trevellin
7. 82 Dave Connelly
8. 68 Tony Bawden
9. 36 Al Lebert
10. 80 Mike Hrynuik
11. 93 Jason Meyer
12. 35 Scott Marvin
13. 5 Jay Christie
14. 43 Bob Merrifield
15. 96 Dan Prudhomme
16. 81 Shawn McGlynn
17. 23 Dave Bitner
18. 11 Cole Weber



IMPRESSIVE NIGHT FOR BROWN AT MOSPORT

Brantford's Mitchell Brown had a busy but impressive stretch of racing this past weekend and although he didn't win, he certainly made his presence felt on two uniquely different racing circuits.

On Saturday night the youngster made his first start of the season in the Lucas Oil Sportsman Cup Series at the paved Mosport Speedway qualifying tenth among the 18 participants and raising some eyebrows with his runs in the two 50-lap features.

In the first 50-lap chase around the fast half-mile oval he was making a strong run at the leaders midway through the contest when he got hit from behind during a brief skirmish entering turn one. The result of the spin forced him to restart at the rear of the field but with a solid effort during the final laps the teenager had worked his way back to eighth.



With the top ten finishers in the first feature inverted for the second 50-lap event, Mitchell was determined to make an even better showing and stayed with the leaders from the drop of the green flag until deep into the event. He eventually worked his way up to fifth spot with six laps remaining chasing down last year's "Rookie of The Year" Brennan Didero of Ancaster. On lap 48 Brown passed Didero finishing fourth at the checkered flag.

"Yea, it was a good night for my Bicknell Racing Products/ Leitch Performance Engines/Carquest and Strodes BBQ & Deli Chevy team and it could have been even better given that incident in the first 50 but I'll take it," he grinned, showing signs of exhaustion having raced against some veteran campaigners much his senior.

Brown Just Misses Four in a Row at Ohsweken

Mitchell Brown's win streak at Ohsweken Speedway was broken by Rick Robinson of Paris who managed to stave off a late race caution and red flag to capture his first Esso Mini Stock feature of the season.

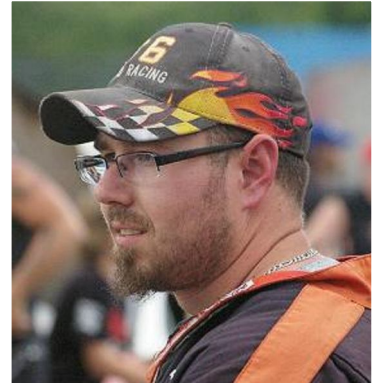
Robinson had built up a sizeable lead in the early going until Brown broke free from the pack from his tenth starting spot. But a late race caution for a spinning car and a red flag thrown when Wyatt Van Wart of Cambridge flipped his racer with less than five laps remaining meant the field was right on Robinson tail for the restart. Brown had Mike Evers of Caledonia between him and the leader and was able to work his way into second place on the final lap. But his bid for his fourth straight feature victory fell short by the length of the front fenders on his Strodes Express & Deli-sponsored Mustang.

In victory lane, Robinson said "Mitchell and I are good friends and we help each other with our cars, but I am glad to beat him!"

WOOD AND DIDERO STRONG IN SEASON OPENERS

Josh Wood of London appeared to be in control of the opening race of the "Grand Prix Kartways Twin 50's Shoot Out" at Mosport Speedway on June 13th until a spin resulting from contact with eventual winner Steve Robblee forced him to retire with minor damages to his #66 Monte Carlo.

Wood had led a total of 28 laps after working his way to the front of the field from his 10th-place starting position. The incident on lap 48 caused some concerns among series officials but after consultation they could find no reason to impose any penalty on Robblee for what appeared to be the slight bobble by Wood on the restart following a caution flag.



Josh came back strong in the second segment with a sterling performance that saw him finish a solid third after starting the 50-lap race in 14th place.

Brennan Didero driver of the #24 Benson Auto Parts Impala enjoyed a strong opening night at Mosport with solid top-five runs in each of the twin 50s.

Last year's "Rookie of the Year" took the green flag for race #1 in third place and ran with the leaders throughout the 50-lap chase. He



had moved into second spot by lap 23 and was taking steady aim at leader Josh Wood by lap 27. Steve Robblee, who had spun earlier caught, along with Al Lebert and Mike Hrynuik caught Didero as the race wound down resulting in a fourth place finish for the Ancaster youngster.

In race #2 Didero was again in the chase for the win after starting seventh in the 18-car field.

But after running with the leaders in the early laps it was apparent Matt and Steve Robblee were clearly in command of this event.

Josh Wood, recovering from his first race spin, also was on a mission and worked his way passed Didero in the closing laps.

It appeared the youngster was destined for a fourth-place finish but he couldn't hold off the persistence of rookie Mitchell Brown who had recovered from a slight bobble earlier in the race that cost him a number of spots in the running order. Brown edged past Didero on lap 48 after the two youngsters had staged a seesaw battle for the position.

Driver Profile

#82 Dave Connelly



Ottawa area driver Dave Connelly drove the Maple Leaf Foods #82 "Hot Rod" Dodge to two solid top ten runs –a fifth-place finish in the first 50-lap race and a seventh-place finish in the second segment at Mosport.

This season the veteran campaigner is focussing his racing attention full-time on the Sportsman Series and will again be working closely with Kenyon Racing hoping

to improve each race out.

Dave finished third in last season's point's race.

Dave has always shown an interest in cars and speed right from High School through til the start of his career. Dave started racing in his early twenties with the Motorsport Club of Ottawa running Solo 1 winning a number of races his first year out. After a few years off Dave started road-racing with the Winnipeg Sports Car Club finishing 2nd in the 1997 Winnipeg Sports Car Club Championship and clinching the Rookie of the Year Award at the same time.

From there Dave found his passion and moved home to Ottawa where he started racing in the Yokohama Formula 1200 Series as well as racing mini-stocks at the local stockcar track; Capital City Speedway. Dave continued to win races that year and prompted his move into late model stockcars in Canada's #1 stockcar Series; CASCAR move into late model stockcars in Canada's #1 stockcar Series; CASCAR

Over the years Dave has raced in open wheel formula cars, road racing sedans, winter rallying, mini-stocks, CASCAR Sportsman and CASCAR Super Series. He is currently focusing solely on the Lucas Oil Series

Accomplishments include numerous wins and podiums as well as the 2006 Cascar Sportsman Rookie of the Year and the 2002 CASCAR Super Series Toronto Molson Indy Top Rookie & 3rd place in the 2008 Ontario Sportsman Series CASCAR Super Series. He is currently focusing solely on the Lucas Oil Series

"Fuel For Kids" A Program

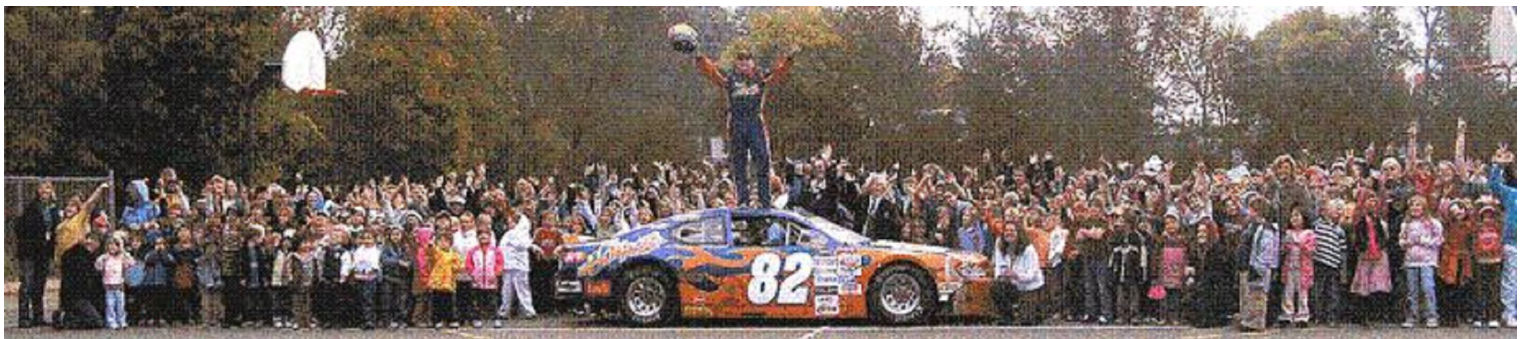
In addition to his on track racing programs, Dave also devotes a great deal of his time promoting the products of his sponsor through "Fuel for Kids" a program which includes appearances at A&P, Metro, Food Basics, and Loeb store locations.

Fuel for Kids has entered its 5th year. This program is available to all elementary schools throughout Ontario wherever A&P or Loeb stores are located. Schools are adopted by their local stores where they have Dave Connelly and the Schneiders Race Team show up with their 48' race hauler and 500 hp stock car. Over the last five years the program for local elementary schools has raised over \$70,000.



The team provides a free lunch to every child in the school which includes DEMPSTERS hot dog buns, Schneiders RED HOTS, water with a LIPTON TEA stick, DARE Bear Paws, Wagon Wheels. All the kids also get a picture of Dave and the Schneiders race car with their "snack pak" which Dave will autograph after lunch.

Dave and his sponsors will be continuing their fundraising efforts for local elementary school which in the last 5 years has raised over \$70,000.



Early Season Action



Kenny Forth who plans to run a limited number of Lucas Oil Sportsman Cup events, Mitchell Brown, Brennan Didero and Jason Meyer took some early practice laps at Flamboro before rain washed out their events.



Josh Woods led Mile Hrynuik and Kenny Forth during some hot laps on the Hamilton area circuit. Woods looked to be the fastest of the three combatants.



Mike Alguire was also on hand for the scheduled opener at Flamboro but was a surprise no-show for the Mosport twin-50's. His presence in the A-Door sponsored Dodge means trouble for perennial front runners in Lucas Oil Sportsman Cup events.



Mike Hrynuik piloted his #80 Chevy to a podium finish in the first 50-lapper at Mosport but could only manage a tenth-place run in the second run around the half-mile oval. He'll be out to improve his record in the July 11th event at Peterborough Speedway.



Dan Prudhomme (#96) and Bob Merrifield (#43) tried valiantly to post top ten finishes at Mosport. Prudhomme finished 6th in race #1 but fell to 15th in the second segment. Mechanical gremlins in Merrifield's Dodge limited his runs to 15th and 14th place finishes.



Shawn McGlynn was the victim of a broken fan belt and scoring error in the first 50-lap contest then lost an engine in the second for a disastrous start to the 2009 season. The Kitchener area driver was justifiably upset by the scoring oversight that cost him valuable points.

Attention Drivers and Car Owners...

If you're seeking to attract more interest in you and your team or trying to generate more exposure for your sponsors, then get your team and driver featured in our newsletter.

Throughout the 2009 season *The SPORTSMAN* will include special features on our series' competitors just like this edition's profile on Dave Connelly and his sponsor commitments that extend beyond the speedway.

Such features are intended to provide our readers and potential sponsors with information about the drivers and teams participating in our series.

And they may just help in securing additional sponsorship/marketing partners for your team.

For more details contact a Series Director or Staff Member

Wise Sayings on Government-

The way our Federal, Provincial and in many cases, local Governments are reacting to today's economic times the following seems appropriate...

I contend that for a nation to try to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle.

-- Winston Churchill



SERIES' PRESENTING SPONSOR

Benson Auto Parts offers excellent service backed by an experienced professional staff, quick and efficient delivery system, our locations are strategically located with some offering extended hours. They offer comprehensive inventories available of any auto parts jobber in Ontario both in 'Brand Name' and the more modestly priced generic brands. They are the largest AC Delco dealer in Ontario and offer fully equipped machine shops, offering exchange head and crankshaft programs, rebuilt engines and engine related parts inventories

"Benson Auto Parts is pleased to be the presenting sponsor for the 2009 Lucas Oil Sportsman Cup." said Glen Hyland - Operations Manager from Benson's Auto Parts. "This is another step for our companies to be involved in motorsports as many local companies are involved in motorsports, either as fans or competitors. Of course with quality products, such as Lucas Oil and their complete line of exceptional products, fulfilling our customer's needs becomes easier! Watch for upcoming announcements regarding a "Lucas Oil" day at a location near you!"