

November 2007

As this is being written, I should be preparing for the Solo nationals and soon after the Run-Offs but again this year I will be in Portland tending to family business and I ask for your understanding.

My other column championed the twenty-three Oregon region racers who are going to the Run-Offs, and here is where the ten from NWR get the tip-of-the-helmet for attending the Run-Offs this year.

Tune-in to Speed this November and cheer for **Ryan Ennis** in the black #9 in E Production.

In Formula Ford, **Larry Bangert** will do the honors in his #18 along with one of "Jack's Boys" Mark Keller in his blue & orange #60. Formula Vee finds **Dennis Andrade** in his blue #87 hoping to crack the top ten.

FM has **Lucian Pancea** in blue/white/yellow #78 while T-2 has **Ed Zabinski** looking to medal again in #79.

T-3 has **Jerold Lowe** in green #21 along with the irrepressible & humble **Scotty B. White** in his T-1 black & silver #35. GT-2 has "Gentleman" **Jim Walsh** in his blue / white Porsche #96.

Of course, all eyes will be on SM # 30 with NORPAC driver of the year **Andrew Caddell**, who is the defending national champion, at the wheel. Andrew has been on the Pro-MX-5 circuit all year. He is fresh off another win at the season ending round in Salt Lake City, which clinched second place in season points (and hopefully rookie of the year).

The TV package for the Run-Offs is ready to be signed as this is written. It is not ideal, with the same broadcast times as this year, but it does allow Pro to go on in 2008.

The budget for Pro is tracking close, but President **Jim Julow** promised in the last BOD call, NO funds from Inc (the club side) will be used for Pro this year.

The budget for the club side is doing well. The bottom line will be impacted by Heartland Park not reaching the target for Run-Offs entries, but at year's end, the budget should still finish in the black.

On the subject of Heartland Park and the Run-Offs, the gasoline vendor problem was NOT fixed as promised. 93-octane fuel will not be available for Run-Offs competitors,

who will have to run the higher priced 100 octane. The situation, along with another year of having no land-line for the Run-Offs, makes Heartland Park something less than the first-class facility the Run-Offs requires. Stay tuned as the Run-Offs bids go out in 2008.

This HUGE tip-of-the-helmet goes out to the Reno Region for hosting the second annual NORPAC Time Trials event in Mid-September. **Carol, Dave Deborde** and **Jim Gandy** please take a bow for hosting this event for our division.

If you plan to attend the 2008 National convention in San Antonio, register SOON as there is a shortage of rooms. This has led to moving the 2009 convention to a warmer desert-like setting closer to Area 13. Tune-in next month, after the deal is signed, for the exact location but trust me EVERYONE will want to attend.

It is not too soon to start thinking about Reno in January!

Until next month:

Duck-Out