

April 8, 2005 Chateau Raceway Classic Dwarf Report by Matthew Grage

The 2005 racing season kicked off Friday Night at Chateau Raceway. The night started with two rollovers before the first official race was run. Chateau Pure Stock Driver Keith Devonshire of Austin rolled his car off turn three in hot laps. The car went over one time, landed on its wheels, and when the engine didn't kill Keith put the car back in gear and drove it back to the pits. Classic Dwarf Driver Greg Kral of Glenville turned his car over in about the same spot; however his car came to rest on its top and suffered damages that caused him to have to scratch the car from the night's event.

After hot laps there was a somber moment as time was taken to remember the passing of a driver during the off-season. Former Chateau Pure Stock Track Champion Dan Gasner of Medford who also had driven WISSOTA Super Stock and had been running WISSOTA Midwest Modifieds the past few years died back on March 11th at the young age of 38. Dan was diagnosed with a brain cancer and lost his battle with the disease just ten weeks after learning of it. Dan leaves behind a wife and three young children ages seven, four and eighteen months. Family and drivers gathered on the track during a short memorial and released 73 balloons to match the number on his car which was than used to carry our nation's colors during the national anthem.

A Benefit will be held Saturday April 16th at the KC Hall in Medford to raise money for the family. Donations can also be sent to the family or brought to the track on any race night and officials will be sure to see the family receives it.

In Classic Dwarf action Drew Jech of Austin lead flag to flag to win the classes heat event and than drew pole position for the feature looking to score a sweep on opening night. It looked like he may get it as he jumped to the point early however Mike Gaines of Glenville had other ideas. Mike, in his third year of racing, all in the Classic Dwarf class quickly came out of the second row and pulled up behind Drew. On lap four he found room by and went on to score a season opening feature win. Even sweeter for Mike was the fact it was his first career Feature win. Jech held on for second.

<i>Heat 1</i>	<i>Feature</i>	
1. Drew Jech	1. Mike Gaines	8. Joel Kath
2. Brian Kiehne	2. Drew Jech	9. Brian Kiehne (dns)
3. Mike Gaines	3. Jeff Jech	10. Dave Anderson (dns)
4. Jeff Jech	4. Larry Dahle	11. Greg Kral (dns)
5. Kevin Bigalk	5. Kevin Bigalk	
6. Larry Dahle	6. Jeremy Anderson	
7. Jeremy Anderson	7. Derek Olson	
8. Derek Olson		
9. Dave Anderson		

April 9, 2005 Deer Creek Speedway Classic Dwarf Report by Bill Nelson

A balmy 70 degree afternoon greeted a large crowd and 144 race cars in the pit area at Deer Creek Speedway on the opening night of the 2005 racing season. The racing season started off with a bang with some great features in a lot of classes. The fans were greeted to many new projects going on at the speedway. The new VIP Suite and Deck building is nearing completion with many of the leasers moving into the spaces. A new wheelchair ramp has been erected in preparation for a new 1600 seat bleacher system that is being installed shortly. Some additional changes to the track surface occurred this spring with the racing width changing to 80'. New clay is currently being sought after and later this summer should be installed onto the racing surface. Some changes to the concession area will occur with some additional selling points available later in the month as the other projects near completion.

The Classic Dwarf cars started out their last season at the speedway with a great race. Jeff Jech held at the green with some big battles further back. Drew Jech and Corey Whalen raced hard for second as Mike Gaines worked into the top five from his midpack starting spot. Gaines, Drew Jech and Whalen battled for most of the middle of the race for the second spot while up front Jeff appeared to be cruising onto the opening night win. With twelve to go Gaines and Whalen broke away from Drew Jech and while racing each other gained a lot of ground on the leaders. These two swapped positions over the next six laps. With four to go they were on Jeff Jech's rear bumper with Drew Jech regaining composure and moving into a four car battle for the lead. Jeff Jech slipped up with two circuits remaining allowing the other three cars past. Coming into four to take the white Drew Jech moved past Gaines to take second and pulled along side of Whalen at the stripe. With the flag man waving the checkers Whalen took the win by half a car length over Drew Jech and Roger Torgerson getting around Jeff Jech for the fourth position on the last lap. A great race to finish out the opening night of the 2005 racing season.

Heat 1	Heat 2	Feature	
1. Drew Jech (5)	1. Corey Whalen (2)	1. Corey Whalen (5)	8. Rick Utley (8)
2. Tate Bestor (4)	2. Jeff Jech (3)	2. Drew Jech (1)	9. Kevin Bigalk (10)
3. Mike Gaines (6)	3. Rick Utley (6)	3. Mike Gaines (7)	10. Gavin Wangen (6)
4. Kevin Bigalk (2)	4. Curtis Luhmann (4)	4. Roger Torgerson (12)	11. Joel Kath (3)
5. Joel Kath (3)	5. Gavin Wangen (1)	5. Jeff Jech (4)	12. John Griffen (11)
6. John Griffen (7)	6. Roger Torgerson (5)	6. Tate Bestor (9)	13. Todd Kiehne (13)
7. Todd Kiehne (1-dnf)		7. Curtis Luhmann (2)	

() = Starting Position
 DNF = Did Not Finish
 DNS = Did Not Start