

September 2, 2005 Chateau Raceway Classic Dwarf Report & Tidbits by Matthew Grage

There was a double dose of "Thunder" as the 2005 racing season was wrapped up Friday night at Chateau Raceway in Lansing. A season high car count of just under 100 cars packed the pits for the night's action with season high car counts also reached in three of the five classes.

The night started out with the awards presentation to the top five drivers in each class. That was followed by "Rookie of the Year" recognition for the top newcomers in each class. Those awards went to Brent Holland of Glenville in Chateau Pure Stock, Dave Sikora of Austin in Classic Dwarf, Troy Dahle of Morristown in WISSOTA Midwest Modified, Randy Bustad in WISSOTA Street Stock, and Jim Dahle of Morristown in Open Modified. Special awards than went to the driver recognized as the "Most Improved Driver of the year" which went to WISSOTA Street Stock driver Matt Eustice of Hartland, the "2nd Annual Jim Dahle Chateau Raceway Sportsman of the year award" went to Classic Dwarf driver Dave "Curly" Anderson of Lyle, and a special plaque for Tommy Myer of Blooming Prairie was brought out to recognize his setting of a new track speed record this season in the Open Modified Class.

Drew Jech of Austin captured the feature win giving him seven on the year. Rick Utley of Byron took second ahead of Tate Bestor of Harmony. Both drivers had shots at winning the race. Utley had a great jump on the initial start as he jumped from row three to the lead on the first lap only to have it wiped out by a caution. On the restart he got bottled up and had a hard time getting back towards the front. A restart also did in Bestor who had lead most of the race until a restart with two to go gave Jech the opportunity he needed to sneak by to steal the win. Drew also had a heat win along with Jeff Jech of Austin. A scary moment occurred on lap nine when first time competitor Melvin Schoenrock of Easton flipped his car wildly off turn one. Schoenrock had just purchased the car from Mike Gaines of Glenville last weekend and this was his first night in the car. He climbed out of the car, walked to the top of turn one and waved to the crowd before heading back to the pits to survey the damage to his car.

Several drivers will extend there season going to some of the fall specials while others will put the cars away and look forward to next season which of course will be kicked off by the Annual Car Show which is normally in March at Austin's Oak Park Mall and the start of a new season come next April.

<i>Heat 1</i>	<i>Heat 2</i>	<i>Feature</i>	
1. Drew Jech	1. Jeff Jech	1. Drew Jech	7. Kevin Bigalk
2. Rick Utley	2. Corey Whalen	2. Rick Utley	8. Dave Anderson (dnf)
3. Curtis Luhmann	3. Tate Bestor	3. Tate Bestor	9. Melvin Schoenrock (dnf)
4. Jeremey Anderson	4. Kevin Bigalk	4. Jeff Jech	10. Jeremy Anderson (dnf)
5. Nick Zago	5. Matt Williamson	5. Curtis Luhmann	11. Nick Zago (dnf)
6. Dave Anderson	6. Melvin Schoenrock	6. Matt Williamson	12. Corey Whalen (dns)

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