



CMC Mid-Atlantic Race Report

Virginia International Raceway – February 23 & 24, 2008



Well the 2008 NASA Mid-Atlantic CMC race season got kicked off at Virginia International Raceway on February 23rd & 24th for the Charlie Gibson 300 and Sprint Races. The weather forecasts leading up to the event were calling for a severe ice storm to hit the area just as everyone would be driving to the track and the possibility of rain on Friday & Saturday. However, just as every other weather forecast in this area, they were wrong as usual and nothing ever materialized and the weekend turned out to be mostly sunny and in the high 50's to low 60's. With the cool and dry weather conditions, the track was predicted to be very fast, and they were right because a shocked Mike Morris, who was considered the man to beat on his home track, found himself in the third position behind last years 3rd place finisher Colin IKHLN (I Know His Last Name) Jevens. With his newly tricked out taxi cab, Colin turned the fastest time and took his first pole ever in his CMC racing career. With the typical three race groups combined into only two for this weekend, the CMC cars were shuffled way back in the field for Saturday's standing start. As the green flag waved, I was expecting the typical stalled car to wreak havoc with the CMC guys, but to my amazement, it was a clean start with everyone disappearing into the inevitable dust cloud in turn one. As the pack emerged from the cloud, Mike Morris was all over Colin coming into turn three and completed the pass to take the lead as they rounded turn five.



Bruce Byerly, who made the trek all the way up from the Florida NASA region, had managed to



qualified 5th but was forced to start from the back of the pack due to a minor “technical infraction”, or possibly because we used our CMC influence with the NASA officials to mess with him because he hails from an inferior NASA region. In either case, Bruce managed to put some fear into the CMC-MA pack and demonstrated his driving abilities (along with the selfless point by

gesture from Colin) to finish in second place just behind the heralded Mike Morris. As usual, the best racing is always back in the pack, Pastorious and London were slugging it out the entire race but in the end, it would be Pastorious edging out London for 4th by only one second. In contention for the 6th place finish were Brian

Smith and Ron Cates who appeared to be having more fun playing bumper tag than actually battling for the position. Whatever the case may be, their game of tag ended with Smith capturing the position from Cates by a



mere 2 seconds. So the final Saturday race finishing order for CMC had Morris with the win followed by Byerly, Jevins, Pastorious, London, Smith, Cates, and Loughrie.

CMC 2 Group

The CMC2 race was a whole different story. Dave Dejarnette, or “Big Double D” as we like to refer to him, qualified on the pole and was unchallenged for the win both days. Dave’s closest



competitor was Marc Bennett, who if had he not been distracted acting as the CMC Commander-in-chief in the absence of Kent Lydic, might have been able to rattle Dave with his text book driving skills. Thanks Marc for all your help this weekend and showing us how the job should really be done. What started out to be a big CMC2 field quickly diminished as both of the Dr. Joyce brothers

had engine issues and were not able to run. Bill Velasco unveiled his newly prepared jet black CMC 2 #5 Bitchin’ Camaro. However, as it would be expected after trading down to a Chevy, the car battled with issues which would ultimately prohibit him from finishing the Race.

Fresh from his successful completion of the Super Competition School on Friday the newest CMC 2 rookie for 2008, and official drink runner for NASA Race Director J. Johnson, is Shawn Stern.



He managed to finish 4th on Saturday and 3rd on Sunday. The final finishing order for CMC 2 in Saturday's race had Dejarnette with the win followed by Bennett, Bill Purdy, Stern and Father time himself, Don Trask.

CMC & CMC 2 - Sunday Races

Saturday night was uncommonly quite and uneventful without Mr. Entertainment, Kent Lydic and his mile-a-minute mouth. We all took advantage of this quiet time to direct our thoughts, prayers towards the Krein & Lydic family in their time of bereavement. With a good nights sleep and no lingering effects from finishing of the keg from the Saturday dinner, Sunday's race was shaping up to be rather exciting. With a unprecedented attendance by all the CMC driver to a Sunday's drivers meeting, there was a louder than normal grown after the announcement that the races would have rolling starts. Rolling starts really suck for the "page 2" CMC bottom feeders, due to the greater than normal number of cars. Buy the time the bottom feeders could see the green flag , the front runners were already a quarter of a lap ahead of the field. Morris continued his dominance while Jevens made that taxi of his as wide as possible to fend off a persistent and determined Byerly. Byerly, having never been to VIR before, experimented with new ways to get around Colin

and found some interesting places and techniques to finally get around Colin to take second place. The other battle involved



Pastorious, London, and Smith all of who finished with lap times within a half a second of each other. Cates had a great battle with boredom and focus while poking around like a Sunday driver trying to find animal shapes in the big puffy clouds. So Sunday's race ended with Morris winning again followed by Byerly, Jevens, Pastorious, London, Smith, Cates, and Loughrie. The five remaining CMC2 cars finished as follows: Dejarnette, Bennett, Stern, Trask, and Purdy.

Finally, congratulations to Mike Morris who set a new CMC lap record for the long course with



their drinks.

a 2:16:092 shattering the last record of 2:16.489 set by some guy named Lydic. The timing and scoring results also listed Rookie Shawn Stern with an even faster lap time of 2:15.752, however his time will need to be “reviewed” by the NASA officials and depends greatly on how well he performs fetching

The next race brings us back to VIR’s long course on March 28-30 which always gets more interesting as the drivers really start their quest for the prized Top Dawg trophy and the title of CMC Mid-Atlantic 2008 Champion.

See you next month and happy motoring,

Ron Cates & Chris Schutze

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