

2002 / 2003 SEASON



Miniature Auto Racing Club

Dr. John Triumphs in Modified, Jeb Reprises 2001 Win

November 9, 2002, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

By: Rob Hayes

The first MARC Modified-class date for the newest-generation chassis showed there are still some lessons to be learned about these new cars, and in the end it was last year's machinery that prevailed. In the Production class, the chassis were all new G3s, but the top step on the podium was occupied by exactly the same guy as 12 months previous. And now, the rumors behind the news?

The Catfish International basement opened at 7:30 on raceday, and by 7:40 we had Production cars circulating. As we wound toward 9:00 tech inspection, it became clear that several of the class regulars would not be on the scene, including Erik Eckhardt, Benny Leyro, Greg Lukas, Pete Monemvasitis, and Robin Smith. They were missed, and the contest took on a different look as result.

An even dozen contested the three Semis, and lined out this way: Eric Chagnot, in a rare Catfish appearance, had a troublesome car, and was 12th as a result. 11th was Kevin Macartney, Gerry Cullan was bested with his own car (an old story) by late addition Cedric Prevoe, who came home 9th. Track namesake Henry Catfish was 8th, two behind Marc Gosselin, and three behind local guy Adrian (Cameo) Ross.

Fifth, and exactly one lap out of the moveup to the Main, was Catfish regular Joe Eastlack, who had made the previous two features, in just his second year in the club. Joe was coming off oral surgery (urggh!), and showed a lot of moxie, showing up early to help, and until the end of the day's program. Thanks, Joe!

So, the Main. Last year's Catfish Production finale had come down to the absolute wire, with Catfish guys Greg Lukas and Jeb Bowron battling to a stirring finish. Jeb triumphed in that one by half a lap, but with Greg MIA today, he would be facing a different, equally formidable group in fast-improving Catfisher Hakim Harris, and the father-son Jahl: Tom and son Stephen.



Jeb elected to start on Red, our toughest lane, and ran a race-best 38 there to position himself well for the better lanes to follow. Tom Jahl, and then Hakim, led, but by the end of the third segment, when Jeb ripped out a 44 on the track's

best lane, it was his to lose. Hakim was set to come in second, but had chosen to finish on Red, and Tom made up four laps, taking 2nd by a lap. After a great start on White, Stephen had his troubles on the following lanes, coming home 4th.

After two hours of practice, we got underway with a field of 19 for the Modified program. After a dominating Super Stock performance at Sycamore two weeks prior, many were anxious to try their new machinery. However, as the practice session came to a close, many stuck

with their old standbys as some of the new cars developed heat issues on the big MaxTrax rail.

Lanemaster auto qualified five Consies, and after they were run, we had the makings of an A and a B Main. Notable by their absence in those eight spots were The Old Master, Bruce Beaulieu, and Jim Macartney. Both were fast, and both succumbed to heat and other issues.

Top lap total (and a new Semi record) was Catfish Sr., with a 258, followed ever-so-closely by past national champions Dr. John Pileggi at 254, Dan DeCosmo at 246, and Todd Duda, at 233. But Rob's G3 was running mighty hot, and how it would fare in the longer five-minute/lane Main was an open question. Well, it did drop a notch in performance, and these guys don't need much of a break to show you their taillights!



John Pileggi started the feature with an outstanding run on Red, and pulled ahead of Dan in the third segment to take the win by four, with a new track record of 431. Rob had gone up a few thou, and was circulating, waiting for one of them to melt, but it was Todd who saw it all come apart in his second heat, and he finished 8th. Because, there was a B Main yet to run.

Tom Gray, he of the lightning fast car, had been counseled by noted psychologist Todd Duda to seek retirement if he didn't take the overall win, and Tommy could still do this with a lap total higher than John's. Matched in the B Main with Tom and Stephen Jahl, and 9-year-old Henry Catfish, he had steady trackmates for his own assault on the record. But, after starting out with a 103 on the track's best lane, it was clear that Tommy's record run was just a cruel fantasy.

In fact, Tom Jahl ran a truly superb race, and pulled past Tommy in the last heat to take the B Main win, and 4th overall, with a 387. Tommy was 5th with 386, Stephen Jahl, with a very impressive 380, was 6th, and Henry, with his best-ever finish in a MARC championship class event, was 7th.

Many thanks to everyone for coming. Congratulations to all the folks who had best-ever finishes. We see real strides being made, and some hard work paying off. Our next date is November 23, on Jim and Kevin Macartney's oval. Bring the Dramamine®!

Next Race: Twin Bridge Raceway ● Weare, NH ● Nov. 23rd

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Cambridge, MA 11/9/2002

Modified

A - Main

Driver	Yel	Blu	Wht	Red	Total	Place	Points
John Pileggi	110	109	106	106	431.10	1	100
Dan DeCosmo	102	113	107	104	426.27	2	95
Rob Hayes	103	107	108	95	413.25	3	90
Todd Duda	101	93	11	15	220.29	8	65

B - Main

Driver	Yel	Blu	Wht	Red	Total	Place	Points
Tom Jahl	93	101	98	95	387.00	4	85
Tom Gray	98	103	98	87	386.00	5	80
Stephen Jahl	94	99	100	87	380.00	6	75
Henry Hayes	92	92	90	91	365.00	7	70

A - Semi

Driver	Yel	Blu	Wht	Red	Total	Place	Points
Dan DeCosmo	55	67	62	62	246.00	mu	
Tom Jahl	55	59	57	51	222.25	mu	
Kevin Macartney(2)	53	57	51	46	207.08	9	60
Cedric Prevoe	48	51	47	9	155.29	16	20

B - Semi

Driver	Yel	Blu	Wht	Red	Total	Place	Points
Gerry Cullan	41	54	54	44	193.01	12	40
Jim Macartney	54	38	34	48	174.27	13	35
Bruce Beaulieu	54	29	33	27	143.15	18	10
John Shortsleeves	59	23	20	12	114.29	19	5

C - Semi

Driver	Yel	Blu	Wht	Red	Total	Place	Points
Rob Hayes	63	67	66	62	258.08	mu	
Marc Gosselin	40	55	54	50	199.08	11	50
Kevin Macartney	50	53	48	45	196.16	-	-
Ethan Duda	37	49	42	37	165.14	15	25

D - Semi

Driver	Yel	Blu	Wht	Red	Total	Place	Points
Todd Duda	58	59	58	58	233.29	mu	
Stephen Jahl	54	58	56	51	219.16	mu	
Joe Eastlack	52	52	50	48	202.11	10	55
Hakim Harris	50	55	44	23	172.23	14	30

E - Semi

Driver	Yel	Blu	Wht	Red	Total	Place	Points
John Pileggi	65	63	65	61	254.32	mu	
Tom Gray	58	57	59	54	228.16	mu	
Henry Hayes	52	58	53	54	217.07	mu	
Eric Chagnot	47	51	50	0	148.00	17	15

Cambridge, MA 11/9/2002

Production Class

Main

Driver	Yel	Blu	Wht	Red	Total	Place	Points
Jeb Bowron	38	44	41	38	161.00	1	100
Tom Jahl	40	42	36	35	153.00	2	95
Hakim Harris	39	40	37	36	152.00	3	90
Stephen Jahl	30	35	40	32	137.00	4	85

A - Semi

Driver	Yel	Blu	Wht	Red	Total	Place	Points
Hakim Harris	23	28	23	25	99.00	mu	
Joe Eastlack	25	26	23	22	96.00	5	80
Adrian Ross	21	25	25	22	93.00	6	G
Marc Gosselin	24	25	25	18	92.00	7	75

B - Semi

Driver	Yel	Blu	Wht	Red	Total	Place	Points
Stephen Jahl	26	28	27	23	104.00	mu	
Tom Jahl	25	26	24	22	97.00	mu	
Kevin Macartney	21	21	17	19	78.00	11	55
Eric Chagnot	17	16	17	16	66.00	12	50

C - Semi

Driver	Yel	Blu	Wht	Red	Total	Place	Points
Jeb Bowron	28	26	26	24	104.00	mu	
Henry Hayes	22	25	23	20	90.00	8	70
Cedric Prevoe	24	26	20	19	89.00	10	60
Gerry Cullan	22	25	21	21	89.00	9	65

MADE IN ITALY

2002-2003

Production

MARC Members only

Rank	Name	Race 1 10/12	Race 2 10/26	Race 3 11/9	Totals	2 Drop
1	Eric Eckhardt	95	100		195	100
2	Benny Leyro	100			100	100
3	Jeb Bowron			100	100	100
4	Paul Avis	90	95		185	95
5	Tom Jahl	80	65	95	240	95
6	Greg Lukas		90		90	90
7	Hakim Harris	70		90	160	90
8	Joe Eastlack	85	80	80	245	85
9	Gerry Cullan	75	85	65	225	85
10	Stephen Jahl	60	75	85	220	85
11	Marc Gosselin		70	75	145	75
12	Henry Hayes	50		70	120	70
13	Eric Chagnot	65	55	50	170	65
14	Kevin Macartney	40	60	55	155	60
15	Cedric Prevoe			60	60	60
16	Joe Connolly				55	55
17	Robin Smith	45	50		95	50
18	Mike K		45		45	45

2002-2003

Modified

MARC Members only

Rank	Name	Race 1 10/12	Race 2 11/9	Totals	1 Drop
1	John Pileggi	100	100	200	100
2	Dan DeCosmo	95	95	190	95
3	Todd Duda	90	65	155	90
4	Rob Hayes	70	90	160	90
5	Eric Eckhardt	85		85	85
6	Tom Jahl	5	85	90	85
7	Justin Kudelka	80		80	80
8	Tom Gray	50	80	130	80
9	Bruce Beaulieu	75	10	85	75
10	Stephen Jahl	5	75	80	75
11	Henri Hayes	25	70	95	70
12	Pete Monemvasitis	65		65	65
13	Paul Avis	60		60	65
14	Kevin Macartney	10	60	70	60
15	Jim Macartney	55	35	90	55
16	Joe Eastlack		55	55	55
17	Marc Gosselin		50	50	50
18	John Shortsleeves	45	5	50	45
19	Benny Leyro	40		40	40
20	Gerry Cullan	5	40	45	40
21	Hakim Harris	35	30	65	35
22	Mark McQueeney	30		30	30
23	Ethan Duda	5	25	30	25
24	Cedric Prevoe	5	20	25	20
25	Mike Martyn	15		15	15
26	Eric Chagnot	5	15	20	15
27	Robin Smith	5		5	5
28	Joe Connolly	5		5	5

2002-2003
Super Stock

MARC Members only

Rank	Name	Race 1 10/26	Totals	1 Drop
		SS		
		10/26		
1	Dan DeCosmo	100	100	0
2	John Pileggi	95	95	0
3	Tom Gray	90	90	0
4	Paul Avis	85	85	0
5	Eric Eckhardt	80	80	0
6	Pete Monemvasitis	75	75	0
7	Greg Lukas	70	70	0
8	Jim Macartney	65	65	0
9	Rob Hayes	60	60	0
10	Mike Martyn	55	55	0
11	Dave Kaiser	50	50	0
12	John Shortsleeves	45	45	0
13	Mark McQueeney	40	40	0
14	Eric Chagnot	35	35	0
15	Hakim Harris	25	25	0
16	Robin Smith	20	20	0
17	Bruce Beaulieu	15	15	0
18	Tom Jahl	15	15	0
19	Joe Eastlack	10	10	0
20	John Stezelecki	5	5	0
21	Marc Gosselin	5	5	0
22	Cedric Prevoe	5	5	0
23	Kevin Macartney	5	5	0



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