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PGM Racing Rockingham Post Race News & Report:

PR Contact:

Annamarie M. Strawhand
Email: pr03@pgmracing.net
(757)689-3171 main office
(980)329-9834 mobile

Team Contact:

Donny Kelley - Owner
Email : donnypgm@yahoo.com
(281)354-5333 office/shop
(281)635-3118 mobile



Rockingham Brings Changes And A Solid Run For PGM

Porter, TX.....ARCA RE/MAX Carolina 200 event held at Rockingham Speedway in North Carolina was preceded by a week of changes for the PGM Racing Team.

Mike McCurley was named team crew chief replacing Travis Sharpe and Donald Lesley was brought in as car chief and shop foreman. Driver Stephan McCurley will be also pulling double duty as chassis engineer. The team continues working with the weekend crew of automotive students from UNOH (University of Northwestern Ohio).

Engine builder Steve Allen, with Steve Allen Racing was on hand to tune the engine at the Rock, along with Tony Blanchard, former Joey Logano crew chief as a weekend consultant. Saturday's practice was cut short with important issues that needed to be addressed with the race car. The team worked very hard, made major adjustments and got Stephan on track in time for two full sessions. Qualifying time in the sunny afternoon saw temperatures rising on the Rockingham surface, and the team knew they had to hope for the best. McCurley wheeled the #03 solidly in the show, qualifying 25th out of 42 cars.

Says McCurley, "We all work hard on the car, and we are getting better together and starting to gel as a team." He says. "I am still learning about these cars, the changes that worked on my late model are not always working here. I need to get the feel on these tracks that I've never run, too. I am trying to adapt and learn as much as I can as fast as possible so I can communicate back to my team. We have done pretty good I think for a new team in a short time, and we can only get better."

In the 200 lap race team and driver worked in sync together all day to improve the car. Starting 25th, the #03 American Screen Graphics, Royal Purple Chevy was holding its own, but needed to be adjusted with a pushing problem. The first two pit stops included tire changes and chassis adjustments to improve the car. The Rock is famous for eating up tires, and even with a slight push you can quickly run into major tire issues. McCurley and the team called the pit stops in the nick of time, with tires coming off the car that were literally worn to the cords.

The team pulled off great pit stops, and with a final pit stop for a four tire change and fuel they managed to beat seasoned teams out of the pit. SPEED TV cameras caught a lot of the action in the PGM pits during the LIVE broadcast.

The PGM team pulled off a solid 23rd place finish in the race, and most importantly got the flow they needed as a team.

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On a promotional note, the Rockingham weekend was kicked off with “ThunderFest” on Friday before the race for the fans in downtown Rockingham, NC. PGM racing was front and center, taking part in the hauler parade and also the meet and greet with the fans. Team owner Donny Kelley was handing out scores of complimentary official team merchandise for the hundreds of fans on hand. Driver Stephan McCurley was the first ARCA driver at the top of the signing table, and he posed for photos with fans, and signed their PGM shirts. The PGM shirts were so popular that the fans had ALL the drivers sign them all the way down the line!

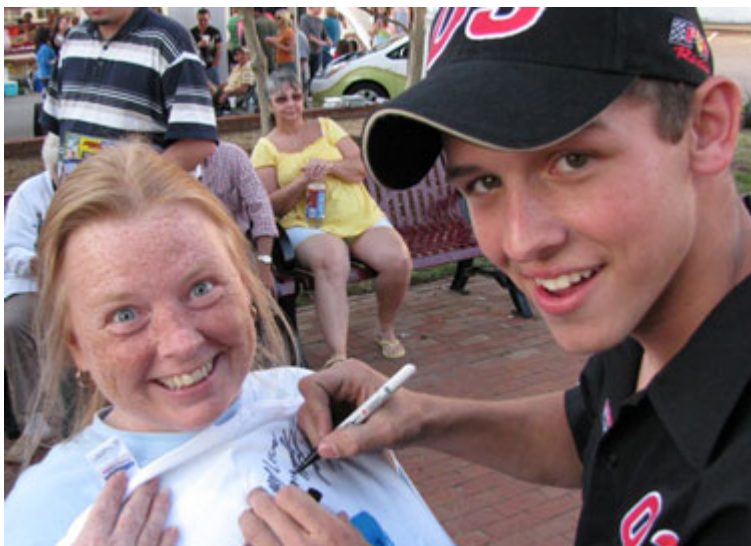
“We would like to take time to say Thank You to our sponsors ASG, Royal Purple and Porter Glass for their continued support . American Screen Graphics row with PGM Racing has been overwhelming. The response that we get from the give away shirts at each event from the fans has increased or T - shirt sales online. The Royal Purple oil products I would put up side by side with any. The Royal Purple product support and development has proven them to be by far the best.” States team owner Donny Kelley.

See photos from the Rockingham ThunderFest and the race on our photos page on www.pgm racing.net.

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The PGM Team Pulls Off A Fast Pit Stop At Rockingham



Stephan McCurley Signs A PGM T-shirt For A Happy Fan At ThunderFest