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Race Update

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Round 3 of the ANDRA Top bike championship saw the Parker Racing boys pack their bikes up and send them over to Perth. With 50% bonus points on offer and some high profile names not attending, it was a real opportunity for the boys to stake their claim on the championship.

The team arrived in Perth to find the bikes had made the trip safely and some finishing touches were completed on Phil's bike to ensure it was right to go after its

massive engine explosion in Queensland and Sam's bike had team tuner Bill Curry go over the fuel system to ensure a good amount of power was applied to the Kwinana race track. Both bikes rolled out for the first of three qualifiers wanting to get a good solid time on the boards. Phil was up first and recorded a troubled 9.66 at only 140mph. A lack of second gear was found to be the problem and the team set to work on fixing the shift solenoid.

In the following pairing, Sam had his first experience at the Kwinana track. A 7.87 at 175mph was the result after the bike got a bit out of shape and Sam rolled the throttle off to regain control.

Second session came around 2 hours later, this

time with Sam up first. The bike left strong and when a bit of movement started to creep in, a small throttle got it under control. Sam went through the traps to absolutely smash his previous personal best (7.69 and 184mph) with a 6.94 at 200.89mph! The team (and Sam) were ecstatic with the result especially since it was with a very safe tune and was even with a slight roll off the throttle and were looking forward to the third qualifier.

Phil inspired by his son's result, was hoping for a good figure, but unfortunately Gracie didn't want to go straight and Phil finished

in the other lane to not record a time.

With some adjustments made to the alignment of Phil's rear tyre and some further tweaking of the fuel system on Sam's bike - it was already time for the third and final qualifier. Phil started first, however Gracie was not sounding right and the team shut her down. The problem was later found to be a skipped tooth on the magneto belt, nothing serious at all. Phil would finish qualifying in seventh, the only person to qualify at all three rounds of the championship so far showing fantastic consistency.

Parker Racing crew watch on to see Sam record Personal Bests



OCTANE ALLEY
Performance

For All Your Performance Engine Needs

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All eyes were now on Sam to see if he could back up his six second performance. The bike once again on a mission stormed down the West Australian quarter mile to record a **6.75 at 205mph!** Sam just managed to pull the bike up before the sand pit and was jumping for joy when the crew came to the finish with the good news.

Sam qualified in a fantastic third place and Phil in seventh, a fantastic result for the team already. First round saw Phil line up against multi-Australian champion Jay Upton. Gracie didn't want to play the game and only managed a 8.96 at 134mph. Yet the result was enough to lift Phil up to third in the Australian

championships, a result well worth the trip for Phil.

The decision was made to take a bit of power back out of Sam's bike to ensure it had a straight run in the first round to claim victory. The bike did just that, Sam recording a 7.12 at 191mph to finish ahead of local Syd Standring.

For the next round, Sam was lined up against Jay Upton who had just defeated his father Phil. Sam gave the nod to team tuner Bill Curry to put enough power back in the bike to beat Jay. The power had definitely returned, but it proved to be a little too much and Sam had to roll off the throttle just before half track to let Jay get away. Shortly after,

the flame went out on Jay's bike and Sam cracked the throttle back open again. A monstrous top end charge saw Sam record a 6.82 at **215mph** to almost round Jay up on the finish line.

Despite the loss, the team were thrilled to see the figures as it showed that the bike has a big number in it even with the current conservative tune. The semi final finish moved same to 5th in the championship – making Parker Racing the team to beat this season with two bikes in the top 5 places of the championship. All in all, a very successful round for Parker Racing and a good sign of things to come from the rest of the season.



The look of concentration is obvious in Sam's eyes! This still shot taken from onboard cameras from www.adrenalinevideo.com.au

Matilda

The Rush to Perth - By Phil Parker

Well what a mammoth effort to have Gracie ready for the Perth round of the top bike series.

After her throwing a rod out the back at the Spring Nats in Queensland a major rebuild was required.

We are very fortunate to have some great suppliers that were able to make Gracie's return for the next round of the series possible. Firstly Ian Carroll who did a fantastic job of welding Gracie's cases back together. We can hardly believe that it

was possible to not only repair, but also repair to such a perfect standard. It is basically impossible to tell that the cases have been windowed.

Then there is Octane Alley, they were able to make her cases straight again so that the crankshaft rotated in perfect manner, in fact better than what it has rotated since we purchased her. Also a mention must go to AWH for there very kind offer of the use of their forklift to load and unload and the use of a tray truck

to transport the crates to Melbourne for there trip to Perth. Also Perth Freightliners for

So we shipped Gracie complete but still in need for some attention. At the track in Perth

with the hard work of the crew she was dismantled, base gas-gasket replaced, oil pump replaced and all assembled and tuned.

Gracie didn't behave herself well on the weekend with a couple of right turns and not shift-



The damage to Phil's engine is quite obvious... The incredible work of Ian Carrol saved this engine!

taking such great care of the bikes on the trip over and return, not a mark on them.

All of these things take time to do. So Joe, Sam and I were a few hours short of sleep before Gracie headed to Perth and a few items were not completed due to freight time requirements. Not to bad when you consider that her crankshaft, conrods, pistons, bearings had all been replaced. Also cylinder head welded and repaired.

ing to second gear, however she ran sweet and we are the only bike to have qualified at all three rounds so far.

Number 3 in the point score and with hopefully only minor repairs required before the next round in January we are enjoying our racing thanks to great suppliers and hard working crew.

Phil

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**PROFESSIONAL FAMILY
DRAG RACE TEAM**

Sponsorship Opportunities 2008/09

Parker Family Racing are currently in the search for sponsors to support them throughout the 2008/09 season. The team are looking for a major naming rights sponsor as well as smaller associate sponsors. The team are still more than happy to develop sponsorship packages for individuals or smaller businesses that would like to help support the team. If you would like to receive a sponsorship proposal information booklet or DVD, please feel free to contact Sam Parker through the details below where he will happily discuss the various options with you. You can contact Sam at sparker@deakin.edu.au or by phone on 0438414011.



Another fantastic on-board shot from adrenalinevideo.com.au Sam's rotors turning blue and are sparks flying off them to try and stop before the approaching sand trap. Be sure to watch the ANDRA TV show of this event for this fantastic footage that will give you an insight of what its like to ride these bikes!

What's Next?

Wow, what an event for Parker Racing! Phil's bike is back from certain death, Sam's bike is pumping out some incredible numbers and now both guys are in the top 5 of the Championship. It certainly is all coming together for Parker Racing and the next few rounds will be very very interesting.

The team are faced with a short break in the season now, which will allow them to focus on having both bikes 100% ready for the next round in January at Willowbank. The fields are sure to be larger and a lot tougher, so the guys will have to earn their keep. Till then, to get your drag bike (or drag rac-

ing in general) fix, be sure to keep your eyes out for the upcoming coverage of the Goldenstates on Channel 9, SBS and foxtel. Phil had one interview, Sam had two and an onboard camera for each run. The footage is sure to be spectacular! Thanks,

Sam



That's all for this issue, stay tuned