



NOEL DOWLER MAKES FIRST NASCAR OVAL START

July 24, 2011. Sherwood Park, Alberta's Noel Dowler was back in action for round number six of the NASCAR Canadian Tire Series this past weekend at Motoplex Speedway near Vernon, BC. After three races on road courses Dowler made his first ever series start on an oval track and showed good progress in the #5 EMCO Dodge as the day moved on.

Dowler's first laps of the day on the half mile oval in BC's Okanagan Valley were during the afternoon practice session as he set out to get comfortable in the #5 EMCO Dodge and get used to the track. During the practice session Dowler was contacted by another car and spun. While he did manage to keep the car from contacting the concrete wall a problem with the engine may have occurred and the team made an engine swap before the 300 lap race. "It's too bad that something that wasn't our fault caused the team to have so much work but it's just something that happens in racing" said Dowler.

The #5 EMCO Dodge completed the work but unable to make a qualifying attempt Dowler was forced to start at the tail end of the field. "It's not fun to start at the back but our objective here was to run as many laps as possible to learn as much as possible" said Dowler. "We could do that no matter what our starting spot was" he added.

As the green flag waved Dowler began his night of learning in the #5 EMCO Dodge and as the laps ticked off Dowler grew more and more comfortable and confident. "It was amazing how much I learned over the course of the race" explained Dowler. "How to run the inside and the outside, how to run in traffic and make a pass, it was really great" he added.

The #5 EMCO Dodge driver was equally enthusiastic about his first ever NASCAR race outing on a very challenging oval track. "I really liked it" said the young racer. "I just tried to be really consistent which is what you have to do at these tracks and especially such a long race. I'm looking forward to getting back at it in a couple of days in Saskatoon" he stated.

The next event of the 2011 NASCAR Canadian Tire Series schedule for Noel Dowler takes place on Wednesday July 27th at Auto Clearing Motor Speedway in Saskatoon, SK. Dowler will participate in a total of five road and street course events, along with the two oval track races at Motoplex Speedway in Vernon, BC and Auto Clearing Speedway in Saskatoon for a total of seven races. All of the 2011 NASCAR Canadian Tire Series races will be broadcast on TSN. Check local listings for times in your area. For more information about Noel Dowler Jr. log onto www.apollomotorsports.ca

Attached Photo: The #5 EMCO Dodge at Motoplex Speedway

Photo Credit: Todd Lewis

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