

AMSOIL Captures Derby Track Triumph

Title sponsorship of oval ice track, world championship race a success



For the past 44 years, the small, tucked-away tourist town of Eagle River, Wis. has held a race of such prestige that some of the top names in all of racing travel north to see it every second weekend of January.

Legends like Dick Trickle and Bobby Unser retreat to the half-mile oval ice track every year, and this past January, the legends of racing watched the race at the recently renamed AMSOIL Eagle River Derby Track, home of the AMSOIL World Championship Snowmobile Derby. AMSOIL came to a three-year agreement with the track's promoters last summer to become the title sponsor of the facility, as well as the esteemed world championship race. The partnership also makes AMSOIL the exclusive oil of the venue.

Only three men in the history of the event have won the derby championship three times, and that includes the 2006 champion, Team AMSOIL rider PJ Wanderscheid. Qualified to start on the front row for the 25-lap final, Wanderscheid was in great position to win his fourth world championship race and in turn become the only racer to win the race more than three times.

After a strong start, Wanderscheid was running in third. Handling issues, however, caused the three-time champ to struggle on the fast oval ice turns. Wanderscheid would drop to sixth and battle for fifth for the remainder of the race. While the checkered flag was flying for the race leaders on the last lap, Wanderscheid's handling issues caught up with him and sent his Arctic Cat into the hay bales. Wanderscheid finished the race in seventh.

"Eagle River is our biggest event of the year," said Wanderscheid. "We were just a little short this weekend. Our new motor was right there, but our new chassis had me fighting with the sled in the corners more than the past few years. The track was smooth, allowing faster, wide-open racing, and the field of drivers this year was very fast. AMSOIL and the Derby Track put on a first-class show and that's what makes Eagle River so special."

Wanderscheid did finish on the podium during the four-day Derby weekend. The Sauk Centre, Minn. native finished third in the Pro 600 Open class on Thursday, and he also finished fourth in the Formula 1 final on Friday night. Meanwhile, Gary Moyle won his second AMSOIL World Championship while running the entire cir-



PJ Wanderscheid was looking for his record-setting fourth world championship title in 2007.



The AMSOIL Eagle River Snowmobile Derby included vintage oval ice racing.



Wanderscheid blurs past the checkered flag during the AMSOIL World Championship race in January.



The AMSOIL Eagle River Derby Track saw record crowds in 2007.

cuit without cause for concern. The 25-lap final was run without a red flag due to a crash or downed rider.

"What an exciting race," said Jeremy Meyer, AMSOIL Race Coordinator. "AMSOIL was well represented both on and off the track. Everyone at the AMSOIL Eagle River Derby Track helped to exceed our expectations. AMSOIL is proud to be the title sponsor for this event for the next two years. The Wanderscheid team worked so hard, but had trouble with the set-up this year. Hopefully next year we can get AMSOIL/Arctic Cat into the history books."

AMSOIL Gets Into Motorcycle Mischief



More than 1,000 studs were put into the tires of the Vertical Mischief bikes to ensure traction on the slippery ice at Eagle River.

During a snowmobile race, whether it's on an ice oval or a snocross course, there are inevitable "grooming" breaks to get the track ready for racing. These slow times call for some high excitement to keep the fans interested. This year, the AMSOIL Eagle River Derby Track called on an AMSOIL co-op sponsored team to keep the crowd entertained. Vertical Mischief is a stunt bike team out of Milton, Wis. The five-member team competes in motorcycle stunt shows across the globe, including Hong Kong. After putting more than 1,000 studs in each motorcycle tire, Vertical Mischief took their bikes onto the slippery half-mile oval track in Eagle River to show off their skills. Thanks to AMSOIL Dealer Todd Hill for equipping the bikes with AMSOIL products, including AMSOIL 10W-40 Synthetic Motorcycle Oil (MCF).

"Before I switched the oil in my bikes to AMSOIL 10W-40 Synthetic Motorcycle Oil, I went through 14 different engines," said Vertical Mischief team manager Ryan Suchanek. "Since switching to AMSOIL, I haven't had a problem with a motor in two years."



AMSOIL-sponsored Vertical Mischief entertained the crowd with dangerous stunts at the AMSOIL Eagle River Snowmobile Derby.

AMSOIL Goes Extreme in Aspen

Freestyle snocrosser finds silver medal, world records at Winter X Games



Aleksander Nordgaard set a world record with three consecutive back flips during his run toward silver at this year's Winter X Games.

After all the hype that surrounded the snocross competition at this year's Winter X Games, it turned out to be a snowmobile freestyler that brought home a medal for Team AMSOIL.

Norwegian Aleksander Nordgaard has been labeled the "Salto Konge" in his native language, or the "Back-flip King." In front of a national audience on ABC, Nordgaard proved his place among freestyle snowmobiling royalty by setting two world records and winning a silver medal at the 2007 Winter X Games.

Nordgaard, who was the number two qualifier after the first round, set the bar for the final two rounds early on Sunday night. The Scandinavian pushed his AMSOIL/Hentges Racing/Polaris sled to a world record three consecutive back flips in the cool Aspen air, and his score of 91 was good enough to advance to the finals against Chris Burandt.

In the final, Nordgaard laid it on the line and continued his record-setting ways. With the clock winding down to zero, Nordgaard went for a final back flip, setting the world record for longest back flip on a snowmobile at 106 feet. While his overall score of 93.66 wasn't enough to beat Burandt's 96.33, his performance was the talk of the 2007 Winter X Games.

"That was pretty amazing to see," said AMSOIL Race Coordinator Jeremy Meyer. "I've watched a lot of racing, and nothing compares to seeing a snowmobile launch more than 100 feet in the air while spinning in a circle."



Nordgaard set a second world record with a 106 ft back flip on his final trick of the night.