

Sitterly is 4th and 9th in Saturday Oswego twin bill

By Keith Shampine

OSWEGO, N.Y. – July 5, 2010 – Otto Sitterly drove his Nicotra Racing No. 7 to a fourth-place finish in Saturday night's first of two 45-lap features at Oswego Speedway. The top-five finish did little to negate Sitterly's commanding point lead over the Oswego supermodified field, but it did end an impressive four-race winning streak that Otto had laid down to open the 2010 season.

Sitterly finished a disappointing ninth in the second 45-lapper and admitted the night never developed into what he had hoped. The Canajoharie, N.Y., shoe spoke of tire issues that he felt clearly hindered his chances at a fifth victory on the 2010 season.

"I thought I was going to wreck twice per lap, the whole race," Sitterly quipped after the second 45-lap go. "But I was lucky to stay on top of it and fortunate that we didn't wreck a good race car. We ended up with an inch and a half more stagger than usual. We had a tricky set of tires that I talked to (tire man) Tom about, and he said in 12 years that may have happened two or three times, ever."

Sitterly noted that while a quarter-inch off in rear stagger is drivable, an inch or more off takes away any chances of coming to the front. With the last-three-week-money-won handicap, Sitterly was forced to start from the sixth row in both features since he had won the first four races of the season.

"If we miss by a quarter (inch of stagger), I can feel it. If we miss by an inch and a quarter, it's really tough. But, we win as a team and we lose as a team. This is a team deal and I don't blame anything on anyone. It's just part of it," Otto said.

Otto will still hold a comfortable lead in the Oswego point standings despite his first Oswego finish outside the top five in nearly a year.

Now, Sitterly will put the non-wing setup to the side for a couple weeks. As of Saturday night, Otto plans to lead the G&I Homes-sponsored Nicotra team to Stafford (Conn.) Motor Speedway for the special 7th Annual CARQUEST Extreme Tuesday. Sitterly finished seventh in the 2009 Stafford ISMA show. "At this point I think we're going (to Stafford)," Otto told LakesideRacingNews.com reporter Chris Porter Saturday night at Oswego.

Following Stafford's Tuesday show, Sitterly will return to Oswego for the special King of Wings Friday, Saturday night doubleheader. A 40-lap Friday night feature precedes the big 50-lapper Saturday night. Otto finished a strong sixth in last year's inaugural version of the special winged Oswego main.

"We're not coming just for the points," Otto replied to Porter when asked about his chances in this Saturday's Oswego showdown. "We come here to win," he added.

Davey Hamilton returned to Oswego Saturday night for the first time since last Labor Day's International Classic 200. Hamilton drove the potent Nicotra-owned Xtreme Chassis super, and ran competitive until getting caught up in an incident around the halfway point of the 45-lap nightcap. Hamilton returned to the track after the accident with some front-end damage and drove to an 11th-place result.

About Nicotra Racing

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For more information, visit www.NicotraRacing.com. To contact Nicotra Racing, e-mail John Nicotra John@NicotraRacing.com.

Press written by Keith Shampine. Contact Keith at 315-657-2207 or e-mail TheRacerWriter@gmail.com.