

Otto First to Repeat at Oswego in 2011

OSWEGO, N.Y. – Otto Sitterly is the first two-time supermodified winner at Oswego Speedway in 2011.

Sitterly wheeled his G&I Homes-sponsored Nicotra Racing No. 7 to victory this past Saturday night in the season's seventh non-wing super feature, an Oswego County Federal Credit Union and Subway-backed 50-lapper.

Starting 10th in the 28-car field, Otto took to the high side of Oswego's fast five-eighths and quickly made his way past a handful of contenders. Early-race accidents involving racers running inside the top 10 advanced Otto a few more positions, and by a lap 19 caution the blue Nicotra 7 sat in second place behind leader Tim Snyder.

With a strong car underneath him, Otto wasted no time pulling the trigger. Sitterly shot his potent Hawk Jr chassis to the inside of Snyder as the green waved for the restart, moving past the former leader in turn one and setting sail out front. Sitterly was never headed, pulling out to leads as long as full straightaway in length before the checkers waved on lap 50.

"The car was really good," Sitterly said after the win. "The Hawk cars have a rear fuel tank. When you put weight back there, it makes the car loose. When you burn that off, the car tightens up. The car gets tighter as the race goes on, and that's what we've got. The car got a little bit better (as the race progressed), probably a little too tight at the end, but other than that it was a very good car tonight."

Otto's triumph marked his 18th career supermodified win at The Big O, which has him 16th on the all-time Oswego super win list.

More importantly, the win increased the Nicotra team's chances at a fourth Oswego track championship in a row. Otto entered the night fifth in the standings, 60 markers back of leader Dave McKnight Jr. Sitterly's win, coupled with a second-place heat finish, means he nearly captured the maximum amount of points for the night. McKnight finished fifth in his heat and sixth in the main, meaning Otto gained 24 points on the Canadian. Five point nights remain on the 2011 schedule.

While clearly pleased with the team's second win of the season, Otto continued to take the stance that his main concern is finishing races and the championship race will solve itself.

"We're really happy to the load the cars with no damage, giving us an opportunity to better it for next week," Otto stated when LakesideRacingNews.com's Chris Porter asked him about the points. "We're here for a championship, we're here for fifth, we're here for 10th. As long as we can roll the cars into the trailer at the end of the night, we're truly happy. This takes a lot of money and a lot of time, and we've won our share. If we can

come and be a good competitor week in and week out and be a nice addition to the field, we're happy."

Davey Returns!

Saturday marked the first time Nicotra Racing fielded two supers in 2011. Boise, Idaho, native Davey Hamilton made his first appearance at Oswego this season and the Indy car veteran had a solid night despite a loose-handling car.

Hamilton started last in his 10-car heat and moved up to fourth. Davey started 12th in the feature and wheeled the Nicotra No. 6 to sixth before spinning late in the race. Hamilton then parked the car, but was pleased with the team's night in what he called the best competition level he's seen in 20-plus years of racing at Oswego.

"The car is very close," Hamilton said. "When you come here and race against these weekly runners, it's very tough. We were just loose, pretty loose all day on entry. That lap (we spun), we didn't really do anything different. I was in sixth and not really catching anyone, and at that point it got hard to hang onto. We just need to make a few small adjustments to get the car right. I'm happy; we have a car that can win the race. We just have to make a few small adjustments."

Hamilton added that he'll probably make another Oswego race before Classic Weekend, but he's not sure which date.

Next up for Nicotra Racing is the big Race of Champions this weekend at Oswego. The non-wing supers run a special 61-lapper Saturday night, the same night the asphalt modifieds run their RoC 200 and a day after ISMA takes to the Oswego oval for a 50-lapper.

About Nicotra Racing

Nicotra Racing is sponsored by G&I Homes, Inc., 5 Brothers Produce, Burnac Produce Limited, Provincial Fruit Co., S&L Beans, Florida Vegetable, Flavor First, V.L. Walker Co., Georgia Crate & Basket, Rite-Pak Produce, Quality First Produce, Magnolia Packing, Beaver River Distribution and N&N Corporation.

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