

Gannon, Thomas, Petty speed to victory at RiverCity Raceway

By Mike Weber

Nearly 120 competitors entered the Columbia County Racing Association's fifth race Saturday, and two of the most impressive drivers were St. Helens residents Gannin Thomas and Tricia Brittain. Thomas, the defending sportsman division champion, captured his second main event, while Brittain was a two-time winner as she posted victories in the trophy dash and women's main.

The Pacific Hardtop Racing Association cars returned to River City Speedway for their first race since 1996. Richard Petty of Scappoose captured the stock class main with his Overhead Door sponsored dwarf car and Mike Schoen of Gaston won the dwarf car modified class main event. Tom Fischer Jr. of Columbia City won the "Draggin Wagons Shootout" modified race, which included the largest first place prize (\$800) of any division at the speedway.

Brittain took the lead on lap six of the women's race after passing 16-year-old Lisa Liner of St. Helens. Brittain, who leads the division standings, stayed up front for the remainder of the 20-lap race, and recorded her third main event win of the season with the Carousel Concessions Chevrolet Monte Carlo.

Portland's Brad Tanner led from start to finish in the street stock main with his Clab Cabos

sponsored Chevrolet Camaro. Rookie-of-the-Year contender Jerry Davenport of Longview was the runnerup as he recorded his first ever top-five finish. Vancouver's Ricky "Killer" Troutt, who is the only driver competing in two divisions, took third. Troutt won the sportsman B-feature and was 11th in the main event. Vancouver's Wayne Jordan started on the pole position and led all the way as he captured the 20-lap street stock B-main.

Thomas started eighth in the 16-car sportsman race and maneuvered up front on lap 15 after passing frontrunner Marty Holmason. He remained in the lead for the last five circuits with the Pabst Blue Ribbon sponsored Oldsmobile Cutlass and won by a straightaway length over Longview's Tim Gosch. Milwaukie's Leroy White was third, followed by Rainier's Al Cardwell. Dan Fox of Warren, who leads the sportsman division point standings, took fifth with his Pontiac Gran Prix.

"Kirk Lockwood (car owner) and our crew (Chris Mabe, Lynn Breeden) helped prepare the car and it was running just perfectly," said Thomas, 30. "I feel just ecstatic to get my second win, which is already one more than I had last year. It's a long season though, but I feel very confident that we'll have a good chance to win a second

consecutive championship this year."

Fischer, 27, moved up from a ninth place start in the modified main and passed frontrunner Candy Brown for the lead on lap 13. Although he led the remainder of the 25-lap event with his Tom Fischer Trucking & Excavating modified racer, Fischer nearly lost on the final circuit of the quarter-mile clay oval track. Portland's Matt Sayre caught up with Fischer and nearly overtook him as their two cars were side-by-side at the finish line. Sayre's runnerup finish was spectacular though since he was awarded a \$500 purse, the largest prize he's ever received in his career.

SUMMARY, JULY 10, 1999

Sportsman
Fast time: Dan Fox, 15.668.
A Trophy Dash: Troy Schreiner
B Trophy Dash: Bob Cram
C Trophy Dash: Tom Elstoen
Heat 1: Leonard Thompson, Ron Bainbridge, Bob Hulegaard, Larry Jauron.
Heat 2: Ricky Troutt, Rich Kelley, Lorey Cook, Paul Liner Jr.,
Heat 3: Marty Holmason, Dan Smith, Tim Shaw, Leroy White
Heat 4: Al Cardwell, Paul Liner, Tim Gosch, Mike Hagen
C Main: Hulegaard, Pat Cardew, Elstoen, Phil Sprague, Mike Rau
B Main: Troutt, Smith, Thompson, Cram, Rudy Chappelle
A Main: Gannin Thomas, Gosch, White, Cardwell, Fox Schreiner, Cook, Shaw, Holmason, Greg Greer.

Street Stock
Fast time: Doug Hurley, 16.253
A Trophy Dash: Mitch Martinez
B Trophy Dash: Jon Gillette

Heat 1: Jim Davis, Gillette, Wayne Jordan, Peter Nein
Heat 2: Kevin Romines, Ron Greer, Brenda Hurley, Troutt
Heat 3: Rick Jordan, Brad Tanner, Martinez, Jerry Davenport.
B Main: Wayne Jordan, Gillette, Davis, Bill Hulse, David Sorenson.
A Main: Tanner, Davenport, Troutt, Hurley, Paul Fortney, Jordan, Danny Asher, Greer, Romines, Brenda Hurley.

Modifieds
Fast Time: Bob McCord, 15.762
Dash: Matt Sayre
Heat 1: Candy Brown, Al Artero, Chris Quinn, Eddie Farness
Heat 2: Sayre, Mark Hill, Jim Gross, Bud West.
Main: Tom Fischer Jr., Sayre, Don

Kelley, Brown, Hill, Gross, Farness, Artero, McCord, Quinn

Women's Division
Fast Time: Toni Dumbar, 16.896
Dash: Tricia Brittain
Heat 1: Susan Branch, Wendy Schwartzkopf, Kari Puncochar, Robin Fouché
Heat 2: Paula Timmons, Brittain, Dunbar, Sundee White
Main: Brittain, White, Diane Davenport, Timmons, Lisa Liner, Schwartzkopf, Puncochar, Lisa Tanner, Becky Hulse, Dunbar.

(Ed. note: Due to technical difficulties, we were unable to include the results of July 17.)

RIVERCITY Street Stock
SPEEDWAY Sportsman
Women
Modified

Stock Cars & More!
July 31 - Regular Races
PLUS 4-Cyl. Modifieds

Sponsored by & Line-X of Kelso
and Gunners Auto Supply



Dirt Filgin', Ground Poundin', 1/4 Mile Oval Action!

DASHES - HEATS - MAINS

Columbia County Fairgrounds, St. Helens
Time Trials 3:30 p.m. • Racing 6:00 p.m.
Info: 503-397-2393 Race Day Only: 503-397-6506
Sponsored by CCRA



Video Rentals..... 50¢ EACH
(Excluding New Releases)

New Releases..... 2 FOR \$2.99
OR \$1.99 EACH

VIDEO PRICES GOOD THRU AUG. 3, 1999

Used Movies..... 1/2 Price!

21st SENTRY

VIDEO

JULY 21 - AUGUST 3, 1999

Daily Giveaways & Drawings
Video Tapes/T-Shirts/Balloons/Video Rentals

GRAND PRIZE DRAWING
August 4th for
TEAC AM/FM/Stereo CD Player
1 Year Supply of RC Cola

1 Year Supply of Western Family Microwave Popcorn

New Video Department Features!!

Color Copies
T-Shirt Iron-On Transfers

WESTERN UNION • MONEY ORDERS
FAX SERVICE • LAMINATING
MAGAZINES • BOOKS • GREETING CARDS

Open 8 am - 9 pm Seven Days a Week - VISA & MasterCard • 735 Jefferson Ave. • Vernonia • 429-3811