

July 31 – August 1, 2010

Saturday – Canaan Fair Speedway

It was a beautiful Saturday to go back to Canaan Fair Speedway after one weekend off. Austin was coming back after his awesome win 2 weeks ago. The two warm-ups were uneventful and Austin said the car felt “good”. For the heat, he started in the 3<sup>rd</sup> spot. He had an excellent start and went right under the #71 of Ed Laquire Jr to take the 2<sup>nd</sup> spot, but the #5 spun in the 2<sup>nd</sup> turn on the start, so they had to go back to the original green for the restart. On the restart, the #71 got the jump over Rich Dubeau in the #60 who was on the pole. The #7 of Scott MacMichael followed Laquire and this shuffled Austin back to the 4<sup>th</sup> position. Austin was following Dubeau, when Dubeau had to get on the brakes in the middle of turn 1 and 2, so he didn’t hit the #71 in front of him. Austin jumped on the brakes, so he didn’t hit Dubeau and this caused him to spin to the infield. The caution came out and he started in the back of the field. Unfortunately, he was now following the #69 of Sid Laquire, who was dumping fluid all over the race track. This made it so Austin really couldn’t even race to try to pass him for fear of spinning out in his fluid. Laquire was black-flagged for 4 laps, but failed to go off the track. Therefore, Austin finished behind him in 5<sup>th</sup> place.

Austin started in 8<sup>th</sup> for the feature in an outside lane that was fast. He did a great job on the initial green running the outside and getting right up into about the 5<sup>th</sup> spot, but again, the #5 spun out in turn 1 and 2 on the start. So, they went back to the initial line-up and he restarted in 8<sup>th</sup> again. On the restart, the outside line didn’t get quite as good of a jump as the initial start, but Austin still ran awesome on the outside. By lap 4, Austin found himself in the 5<sup>th</sup> position. They had another restart and was able to take advantage of the inside position to move right up to 3<sup>rd</sup>. He then found his way underneath the #60 of Rich Dubeau to get to 2<sup>nd</sup> place and was following the #31 of Kenny Cantlin, with the #7 of MacMichael close on his bumper. At one point, he got into the back of Cantlin on the backstretch, but backed off to let him straighten back out (he didn’t mean to get into him and felt badly about that). While continuing to try to get by Cantlin, he slid up going into turn 3, allowing MacMichael to get under him and take the 2<sup>nd</sup> place spot. Then with four laps to go, Austin was trying really hard to get back up into second and came off of turn two a little hard, which caused the car to get really loose. He almost saved it, but going into turn 3, he stepped on the gas too soon, before the car had gotten totally straightened out and spun out high in turn 3. While sitting there, the #71 of Laquire Jr. slid into the front of him and took out the radiator. Austin was pushed into the pits and the crew started working feverishly to change the radiator, hoping to get back on the track and get some points. There was another caution on the restart, which allowed Austin to get back on the track without losing any laps. However, he had no radiator fan, no front bumper or hood, so was just out there to ride around for the last four laps. He ended up with an eighth place finish, which was a little disappointing, since he definitely had a top three car. He just needs more time and experience. ☺

## Sunday – Twin State Karting

Austin lost his go-kart ride because the kart owner decided he wanted the kart back. So, Dad went out and found him another go-kart this week, so he could stay in the points race at Twin State. This go-kart was phenomenal. Austin came in from his two warm-ups, saying the car was loose in the beginning, but after a few laps, it was “excellent”. He started last for the heat, but had the lead by lap 2. He won his heat. Then he started on the pole for the feature event and led all 40 laps – lapping the entire field!