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Press Release

Consolidation is the key

Magnaflow UK-backed car retains second place in the SCSA standings

Mike Luck, the Midlands-based racing driver that is enthusiastically backed by **Magnaflow UK** this season, has retained his second place in the 2006 Stock Car Speed Association (SCSA) Championship following the latest round of the series at Rockingham Motor Speedway in Northamptonshire.

Last weekend's meeting (July 8/9) marked the halfway point in the 2006 season and another couple of solid results has kept Luck and Magnaflow UK in touch with overall series leader, Oli Playle. Luck only trails his rival by 135 points with six races still to run.

With weather conditions more favorable than they were at the previous SCSA meeting, Luck took to the track full of optimism on Saturday for qualifying. However, it wasn't long before the Revolution Torquespeed Racing driver noticed a problem with his 170mph machine.

While thundering around the awesome banked oval at Rockingham, Luck's V8-powered car presented a serious transmission vibration. He and his team desperately tried to identify and cure the problem but there was nothing they could do with the limited tools and equipment they had at the circuit. They had no choice but to soldier on.

Luck lined up in fifth place for Sunday's first race – ironically after his best qualifying performance of the 2006 season – but with the transmission vibration making the car progressively harder to drive, Luck was unable to move any higher during the race 20-lap race and he finished 26 seconds off the winning pace.

“The vibration was really hard to live with because, as a driver, when you go around each of the four bends at speed, your head rests on a support that is fixed to the side of the car,” Luck explained. “The vibration through the seat was so bad that I was getting blurred vision and there was no way that I could push hard. It quickly became a case of consolidating what we had.”

The second race was a similar story later the same day. With the vibration still causing problems, Luck ran as high as fifth overall. But when he went to exit the pits after a routine pit stop to clear debris from the front of his car's air intake, he quickly realised his car was suffering fuel starvation problems.

Another brief visit to the pit lane failed to remedy the problem, so Luck was left with no choice but to complete the rest of the race distance at a reduced speed. Although he only completed 28 of the scheduled 35 laps, he did enough to secure a single championship point because he had completed 75% of the total race distance.

He said: “It wasn't a perfect weekend because of the vibration and fuel feed problems that we had but we did enough to hold on to our second place in the championship and that's the main thing.

“I know we'll have to find some pace to make sure we're at the sharp end when the championship

finishes in October but we found some extra speed at the weekend and I know there is more to come on top of that.”

Magnaflow UK managing director, Paul Tomlinson, attended the latest event at Rockingham and enjoyed his first taste of SCSA racing.

He said: “As a company, we can be very proud that we’ve got a car in a championship that is such an awesome spectacle to watch and I know our presence on the race track is doing the brand a lot of favours.

“There was a large contingent of American car enthusiasts at last weekend’s meeting and it was good to meet them and make some more contacts. They already knew about the Magnaflow UK brand because they had seen it on Mike’s car, so our SCSA involvement is definitely getting the right results.”

Luck and Magnaflow UK will return to the race track on August 12/13 when the SCSA regulars will embark on what promises to be a spectacular and memorable second half of the 2006 season.

Championship standings (after round three)

- 1 Oli Playle (Team West-Tec) 1195 points
- 2 Mike Luck (Revolution Torquespeed Racing) 1060 points**
- 3 Colin White (CWS Racing) 970 points
- 4 John Steward (Steward Racing) 760 points
- 5 Shane Brereton (Team for Trucks) 750 points
- 6 Tony Hurdle (Revolution Torquespeed Racing) 740 points.

Race one results:

- 1 Oli Playle (Team West-Tec) 12m 41.51s
- 2 Colin White (CWS Racing) +7.91s
- 3 Shane Brereton (Team for Trucks) +17.96s
- 4 Tony Hurdle (Revolution Torquespeed Racing) +18.19s
- 5 Mike Luck (Revolution Torquespeed Racing) +26.63s**
- 6 John Steward (Steward Racing) +1 lap

Race two results:

- 1 Oli Playle (Team West-Tec) 23m 26.10s
- 2 Colin White (CWS Racing) +0.82s
- 3 Tony Hurdle (Revolution Torquespeed Racing) +18.27s
- 4 Shane Brereton (Team for Trucks) +27.56s
- 5 John Steward (Steward Racing) +2 laps