

R. J. VALENTINE RACES TO A “FAB” FINISH IN “SAHLEN’S SIX HOURS OF THE GLEN”



Braintree, MA (June 25, 2003) – Summer racing really heated up for local business leader and racer – RJ Valentine as he competed in Sunday’s “Sahlen’s Six Hours of the Glen.”

The 2003 Grand-Am Rolex Sports Car Series continued with all new Daytona Prototype (DP) class at Watkins Glen, NY. The DP class is comprised of specially prepared racers powered by diverse engines from Toyota, Porsche, and Chevrolet, to name a few. The three other classes to take on the track consisted of Corvettes,

Firebirds, Mustangs, etc. in GT; BMW and Porsches of GT3; and the smaller prototype racers of the SRPII class.

Valentine split talent on the track with Ferrari Challenge Champion, Darius Grala, and Formula Mazda Champion, Guy Cosmo in the Team Cegwa Sport's 4.35-liter Toyota V8 engine-powered silver and blue FABCAR sponsored by OzEXE, F1 Boston and Goodyear. With their winning backgrounds, Valentine, Grala and Cosmo were impressive contenders for the coveted champagne-spraying spot on the Glen's Gatorade Victory Lane. After a six-hour test of stamina, strategy, and endurance, the team crossed finish line in fifth place overall; third in their DP class.

"...the car performed beyond expectations...even with a fuel-pump failure early on, we overcame an 18-lap deficit to finish on the podium...!" R.J. declared.
"Darius has asked me to sign on with his team for the remainder of the year. After the Paul Revere 250 on July 3rd-4th I'll give him my answer. Frankly, I am 80% there – but first I need to look at my business schedule."

This is R.J.'s 1st time in the new prototype. He made his 18th appearance at this year's prestigious Rolex Daytona 24-hour endurance classic and finished second with the Racer's Group GT3 Porsche at Homestead in April.

Valentine has held 260 professional road race starts and ranks third highest in start records in Trans Am racing with over 125 starts.

The Glen Track Facts:

Track Length: 2.45-mile (3.94 km) road course, 8 turns with a variety of banking in turns, ranging from 6 to 10 degrees 3.37-mile (5.43 km) Grand Prix course, 11 turns with a variety of banking in turns, ranging from 6 to 10 degrees

Length of Front-Stretch: 2,150 feet

Track Width: varies from 36' to 48' wide, averaging 38' wide

For further information call Glen Ransden at 781-228-2136.