

The #86 was back on track on Saturday night at Sunset Speedway though it was not Billy behind the wheel as Cole was making his pro late model debut. Despite having the weekend off, the majority of the #86 team made the trip north with Ken, Carol, Billy, Dave, and Billy's spotter David making the trip north to help Cole and the #18 team. Blaise was also back with the #81 mini stock for the first race of a double header weekend.



After some work in the shop during the week to try and loosen up the #81, Blaise found the car still to be little too tight during first practice, so some more adjustments were made before second practice and the car was then found to be too loose. Cole hit the track for the first time in a pro late model and ran as many laps as he could to get used to the track and figure out his line. Overall, the car felt a little tight in the centre of the corner and a little loose off, so

some minor adjustments were made knowing that Cole was also going to have brand new sticker tires on for qualifying. Blaise started 6<sup>th</sup> in his first heat race and made a couple of passes on lap 5 & 6 to move into 4<sup>th</sup> where he would finish.

The pro late models were out next for single car qualifying and after some tips and some coaching from driver development coach Billy, Cole left pit road for his two-lap qualifying effort and shocked himself as well as a few other people as his fast lap of 14.592 seconds put him 5<sup>th</sup> on the board. Blaise started 2<sup>nd</sup> in his second heat race but fell back to finish 4<sup>th</sup> as the handling of the #81 was better but still a little too free.



The mini stock class was up first for their feature as Blaise started back in the 11<sup>th</sup> position. As the field took the green the #81 got held up behind some slower traffic for a couple of laps and through the shuffle of traffic, he was able to move up into the top-10 in 10<sup>th</sup> before he started chasing down the front of the field. On lap 9 Blaise took over the 9<sup>th</sup> position and was able to finally catch the next pack of cars with just a few laps remaining but unfortunately, he ran out of time to make any additional moves and had to settle for 9<sup>th</sup>.

The pro late models were up next to close out the night as Cole lined up in the 4<sup>th</sup> position, having moved up one spot due to one of his other competitors not starting the feature. The goal for the night was just to run some laps and get some experience running in traffic with the bigger, faster late model and as the green flag dropped Cole got stuck on the outside which wasn't a bad thing. As the field strung out, Cole tucked in at the back of the field and started working on running some consistent laps for the first half of the race.



Unfortunately for Cole he got into the wall a couple of times before ultimately cutting a tire down on lap 23 sending up a shower of sparks through turn 1 & 2. As he limped the #86 back to the pits the team went to work changing the tire and getting him back out on track. The problems continued as under the next

caution the #86 suddenly lost all power while coming down the front straightaway bringing the #86 to a stop. After being brought in by the tow truck, the diagnosis was an ignition switch issue which ended the night early for the #86. Despite the way that the night ended, Cole proved himself well in his first pro late model race by running several laps alongside and out qualifying a couple of APC United Late Model Series drivers. A big congratulations goes out to Cole's crew chief on the #18 mini stock Erik Dalla Riva as he picked up his first pro late model victory.

While Cole took the Sunday off to recuperate from his introduction into the pro late model world, Blaise returned to Sunset for the back half of the double header weekend. In first practice the #81 was a just little loose but an adjustment was made before second practice and Blaise was very happy with the car. Starting 7<sup>th</sup> in his first heat race of the night, Blaise quickly moved up into 5<sup>th</sup> on the opening lap and then up into 4<sup>th</sup> on lap 4. On lap 9 the #81 moved up into 3<sup>rd</sup> as Blaise picked up his best heat finish so far this season. Blaise started on the pole in his second heat race and a great jump on the initial start put him into battle for the lead on the outside. A crossover move on lap 2 put Blaise up front to lead his first ever laps in the mini stock before eventually falling back into 2<sup>nd</sup> to improve one position on his best heat finish so far this season.



After both heat races Blaise was extremely happy with the car and his confidence was at an all-time high heading into the feature where he started in the 5<sup>th</sup> position. The feature also featured another member of the Shaw family as for the first time, Blaise would be racing against his sister Samantha as she was driving the #67 of Josh Bullen. As the green flag flew, Blaise got pinched on the low side behind some slower traffic up front and fell back to 9<sup>th</sup>. On lap 2 he was able to get around the slower car to move into 8<sup>th</sup> before making a pass for 7<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> before the caution came out on lap 14. Restarting on the outside in 6<sup>th</sup>,

Blaise held off the 7<sup>th</sup> place car on the high side to hold his position before he ran side by side with the 5<sup>th</sup> place car to finish coming up just shy of a top-5 to finish 6<sup>th</sup> making it his best feature finish so far while big sister Samantha picked up the win.

Cole and the #18 team return to Sunset Speedway on Saturday September 10<sup>th</sup> where they will be joined by Blaise and the #81 team for Championship Night. The front gates open at 3:30PM with racing getting underway at 5:00PM. Billy and the #86 team have their second consecutive weekend off as they gather for the wedding of Billy and his longtime girlfriend Josée.