



For Immediate Release:

Monster opening race weekend for the Monster Energy-Wide Open CORR Pro-2 Team! Watch it unfold on NBC, Saturday, April 28, 2007!

April 26, 2007- Irvine, CA

Fresh off their "rookie" season the young Monster Energy-Wide Open Pro-2 team cleans up at Championship Off Road Racing's (CORR) opener in Lancaster, CA. Going into the first race weekend of the season, coming off an impressive 4th overall in points for the 2006 season, they were confident in their chances of placing well. "We want to come out this weekend and have a strong performance for our partners that have stuck with us (Monster Energy, BFGoodrich, SnugTop, KMC Wheels) and our new sponsors (Precision Gear, Ironclad Apparel)," driver Jerry Whelchel said Friday morning before practice. And have a strong performance they did, finishing the weekend on top of the podium for both CORR's championship points race and the Jason Baldwin Memorial Cup Championship points race.

"We know we need to finish well at each race weekend to keep in the hunt for the championship," Wide Open Crew Chief Tommy Morris told reporters, "and coming out of the first weekend leading in points definitely helps the cause!"

Whelchel and the Monster Energy-Wide Open team qualified 4th for the first race of the season on Saturday and ended up finishing 2nd in what has been called the most exciting race of the weekend. About halfway through the race Whelchel and another race truck got into each other and spun, dropping the #41 Monster Energy-Wide Open truck to 9th place. Picking off competitors one by one Whelchel marched his way through the field to an impressive 2nd place finish battling with Rob MacCachren for the lead on the last lap.

Sunday's action got started off with the arrival of NASCAR veteran Robby Gordon and qualifying for the Jason Baldwin Memorial Cup race. Whelchel set an impressive first place qualifying lap time of 53.850 seconds followed closely by Gordon in 2nd place, only 6/1000's of a second behind.

The first racing action of Sunday was the 2nd round of CORR points racing with Whelchel starting on the pole and never looking back. With an extraordinary march to victory, leading every lap of the race, Whelchel clinched the top of the point's standings for the Monster Energy-Wide Open team.

The second, and final, race of the weekend was the inaugural Jason Baldwin Memorial Cup point's race. Once again, starting on the pole Whelchel took his place at the front of

the pack. Unlike the last race Whelchel had some competition with Robby Gordon jumping out to an early lead from the 2nd starting position. It was only a matter of time before the #41 Monster Energy-Wide Open truck regained its spot at the front of the pack. On Lap 5 Gordon's suspension gave way giving Whelchel the opportunity to get in front and not look back!

Watch the excitement of the first Jason Baldwin Memorial Cup race this Saturday, April 28, 2007 on NBC Sports at 2:00 pm eastern (11:00 am pacific). Join host Bill Weber, color commentator Wally Dallenbach, and pit reporters Kelli Stavast and Marty Snider as they bring you the excitement of CORR racing!

The show will be an hour long on NBC Sports featuring the Jason Baldwin Memorial Cup Series, which includes the Pro 2 and Pro 4 classes. In addition to the broadcasting of the Antelope Valley race this Saturday, NBC will also broadcast upcoming CORR races May 27, July 29, Sept. 23, Oct. 14, Oct. 28, and Dec 8.

For more information visit: www.wideopenbaja.com
www.monsterenergy.com
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