



White Victory at Langley Speedway

MARTY WHITE

Pioneer - Oval Racing

By Brian Pratt

Marty White's rookie season as a driver was 1970, he was 21. He campaigned a 1955 Pontiac, nicknamed *The White Tornado*, that he had bought from Al Tourond for \$300. He ran it in the Early-Late class to fourth in the point standings with one feature win, he set a track record for the class that year at 17.64 seconds.

The next year Marty moved to the B super stock class with a 1957 two-door Chev sedan that he moved up to the A super stock class by changing the carburetor.

1972 Marty didn't race. He bought a house in Bradner to help bring up his growing family. It wasn't until 1973, when he was asked by the Christiansen brothers to drive a Modified Stock at Langley Speedway, he won three main events. In 1974, he won the first of three Modified Stock class championships. (The Modified Stocks became Modified Sportsman the next year to get in line with NASCAR rules). That year he had four feature wins. In 1975, he had seven feature wins and in 1976, Marty had ten feature wins. In 1976, he was the NASCAR Northwest Modified Sportsman champion making him one of the first Canadians to win a NASCAR title on American soil.

Marty White, having figured he'd accomplished everything he could in



Super Modified at speed (Robert G. Hunter photo)

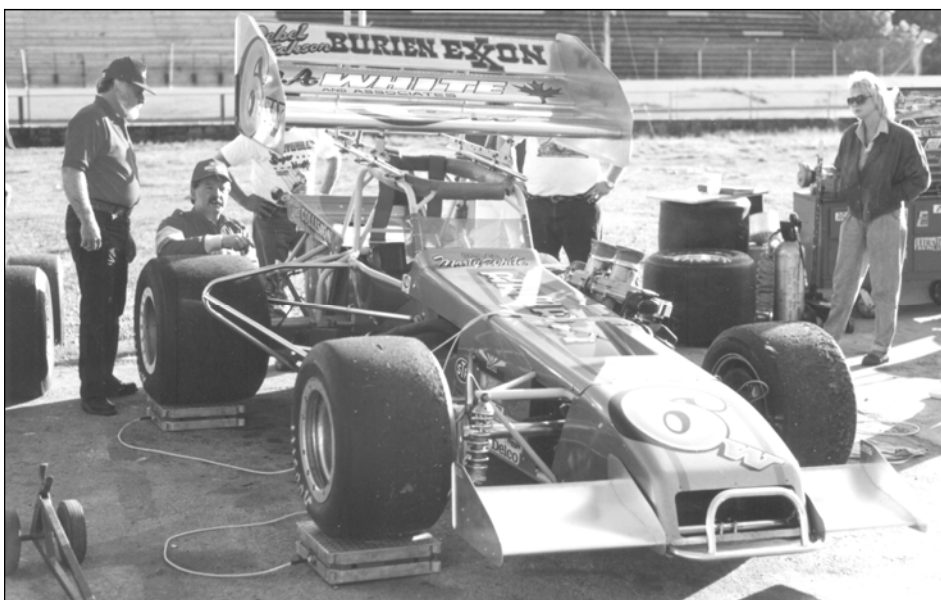
racing, relocated to Kamloops in 1977 to run a general store. He was asked one day to drive the Jack Cross super modified at Kamloops' Schiedam Speedway for the injured Jack. Marty so impressed one car owner from the south that he was offered a ride to compete with the Canadian American Modified Racing Association (CAMRA). In 1978, he finished third in points and was named rookie of the year for CAMRA. The next two years he finished second and third respectively. And in 1982, he took the CAMRA points championship, joining names like Billy Foster, Jim Malloy, Tom Sneva and Doug Larson who had done so previously.

Marty's racing continued into the 1990s with the super modifieds of Darrell Lopeman. He campaigned with the Northwest Supermodified Racing Association (NSRA), the Western States Super Modified Tour and the Super Modified Racing Association. In 1990, he finished fourth in points with the NSRA winning at the Daffodil Cup at Victoria's Western Speedway as well as a significant race at Portland Speedway.

Marty travelled south to California's Madera Speedway at the request of one car owner and, after the tragic death of Billy Vukovich III, was asked by car owner Vernon Reitz of California to drive the super modified Billy had driven. At the 1991 Copper World Classic on the Phoenix Mile Marty finished third.

Having set numerous records, winning major races and getting multiple championships Marty stopped racing after 1994. He did, however, come back in 2006 to run with both his sons, Jimmy and Jason.

Marty's sons both raced over the years, with Jason still heavily involved in the national NASCAR Canadian Tire series. In 2009, at the Vernon Speedway race, Marty was honoured as grand marshal.



Super Modified in Pits (Robert G. Hunter photo)