

Bighorn Rally '05

Western Canada Rally Championship:
Bighorn Rally 2005

September 17 saw the fourth round of the series underway in Edson, Alberta. Hosted by the recently formed Edmonton Rally Club the event was an all gravel blast on some of the best roads the foothills can provide. Eleven teams took advantage of the opportunity to clinch more points in the steadily heating battle for Championship standing.



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Seeded first and leading from the start were Scott and Bob Trinder in the exciting right hand drive Subaru WRX RA. They pulled a 25 second lead on the first stage and set the standard they would press with for the rest of the rally. The next 6 teams were separated by only 14 seconds so the promise of fierce competition was clear. Unfortunately the first casualty of the rally was the Armstrong/Walker pairing whose VW engine gave up the ghost after only 12km.



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Stage 2 was a reverse of the first and every team was faster second time through bar one. Another run up and down Mitchell Creek for stages 3 and 4 and the Rsport team were picking up speed with each pass. While Scott and Bob were stretching their lead the battle was on for second place with the Machnik's VW swapping times with Warren Currie and Robin Chapelsky in the Talon. Quietly the little white Civic of Aaron Neumann and Graham Coates had snuck in amongst all the 4WD cars to take hold of 4th position. Sadly, stage 4 saw more retirement, this time the



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orange Golf of Chad Manley/Jaclyn Schofield suffered engine faults. Stage 5 "Dennison" claimed the Mitsubishi of Szewczyk/Karzynski for reason listed as "mechanical".

Mark Jennings-Bates put in a good time with his Talon on Stage 6 and climbed to fifth but the order was pretty much set from here to the finish. On the podium for champagne were 1st Trinder/Trinder, 2nd Currie/Chapelsky, and 3rd for Tom and Amy Machnik.

After 4 rounds, the top of the Championship leaderboard for overall drivers belongs firmly to Scott Trinder but Warren Currie is ahead of Aaron Neumann by only five points. Two more WCRC rounds to go so there is still plenty of battle to be had. Next event is Pacific Forest Rally in Merritt, BC.



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CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIP (After Defi)

1. P. Thomson	60
2. A. L'Estage	40
3. J. Cassidy	30
4. M. Iorio	25
5. F. Sprongl	25
6. J. Levac	23
7. W. Bacon	16
8. J. Pilon	15
9. G. Olsen	13
10. JP. Perusse	12

WESTERN CHAMPIONSHIP (After Big Horn)

1. S. Trinder	83
2. W. Currie	40
3. A. Neumann	35
4. C. Armstrong	27
5. N. Leblanc	23
6. Z. Szewczyk	18
7. G. Olsen	17
8. M. Burnley	15
9. M. Jennings-Bates	15
10. S. Martin	14