



Photo by Dave Harvey

Thomson's points scoring hopes, Norm Leblanc's steady charge had pipped him to third place on the podium. Also earning Norm first in the WCRC portion of the rally ahead of Nat Stow and Gary Cavett. As none of these drivers are in the running for the WCRC awards, the significant result is Aaron Neumann's 6th place will score him enough points to move him into second ahead of Warren Currie in the regional drivers standings. For the National prize, Peter Thomson now leads Antoine L'Estage by only ten points with Matt Iorio moving up to third. It is going to be a nail biter at Tall Pines Rally, November 26.

begun with the final Mab Lake stages being run in darkness. Another brilliant driver's road with cars exceeding 150kph near the end. Spectators lining the ridge above the road for much of the last kilometre to see who would bring it home fastest. Antoine L'Estage had been running at the front all day with a comfortable 5-minute lead built up. With eyes on Championship points he could have backed off to preserve the car but that is not his style and he continued to push hard, eventually winning the rally with a 6 minute gap to second place Matt Iorio. Matt's plans had been to learn the powerful rental car carefully while staying in front of Peter Thomson, and this he had done. Unfortunately for

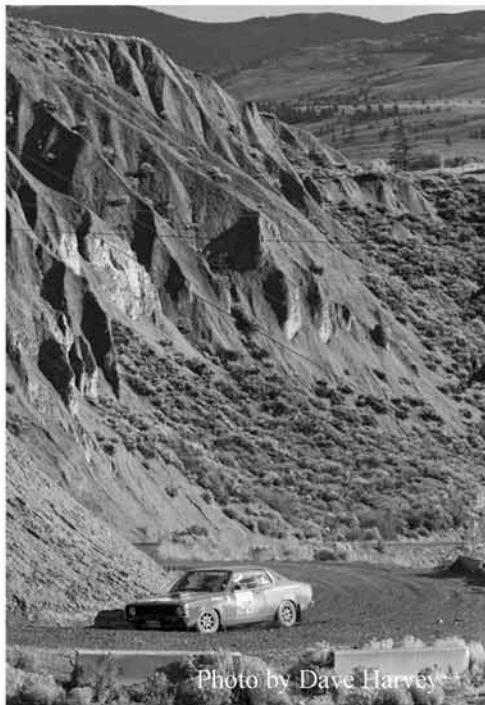


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