



# Gorilla Wins Fans at Southern National Raceway in Kenly, NC

## Kirila Race Update 10-4-08

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The Kirila race team completed its third race in less than 6 weeks at the Southern National Raceway in Kenly, NC and the local fans who know paved asphalt racing really took to the hard charging 15 year old as he became a fan favorite.

Gene had finished 4<sup>th</sup> in his first race there during the weekend of August 16<sup>th</sup>. Track owner Del Richards became Gene's best promoter as the #05 ran an exciting race. The local fans and racers were impressed with Gene and started to help with opportunities.

Gene's next race at Southern National was September 20<sup>th</sup> when he raced the P.J. Inc. sponsored Late Model Stock car owned by Brad Mutchler. The previous race Mr. Mutchler liked what he saw in Gene and his crew chief Tony Blanchard. Mutchler offered Gene his first drive in a totally sponsored ride.



*Gene drives the P.J., Inc. sponsored #11*

This car has several differences to Gene's late model one of the big ones is the weight difference. This car is 3,100 lbs vs. Gene's late model car at 2,700 lbs.

Gene qualified in 4<sup>th</sup> place and he completed the 100 lap race finishing 2<sup>nd</sup>. When the car went through tech, however, the officials indicated that the carburetor was

not correct and they disqualified him. There was no technical advantage to the engine part but it was not to spec. While the team was disappointed, the fans at Southern National witnessed one hell of a race talent. Car owner Brad Mutchler was excited and left an open invitation for Gene to run more in the number 11. There is a lot of well connected racing industry experts hanging around the track and Gene made an impression. Let's say the right people now have an eye on Gene.

This past weekend, October 4<sup>th</sup>, Gene raced at Southern National Raceway again, this time with the ASA Southeast tour and in his #05 car.

Starting from his qualifying position of 15<sup>th</sup> Gene got down to business. Within the first 30 green flag laps, Gene raced his way up to 10<sup>th</sup> place. Gene moved up to 8<sup>th</sup> place and raced over 30 laps nose to tail sandwiched between two of the nations best ranked late model drivers, proving once again he is a wheel man.

While in 8<sup>th</sup> place on lap 80 of the 100 lap event, Gene's right front tire blew causing him to spin. He brought his car in to the pits to change the tire and when he came back out on the track he was 3 laps down. Gene talked to Tony Blanchard (his crew chief) over the radio and told him that the car had additional handling issues, so he had to bring it in. He completed 84 of the 100 lap feature which gave him a 16<sup>th</sup> place finish. After the race several veterans commented how tough Gene ran and were amazed at the skill demonstrated by the 15 years old.



*Gene with his Southeast Asphalt Tour #05*

Thanks to all of you, our race fans, for your continued and endless support!! It is wonderful to know that we have so many great friends and family behind our race endeavors.