

Labatt's Blue races set for weekend

There will literally be a bumper to bumper surge as the IMSA GT Series makes its first ever Canadian appearance in the Labatt's Blue 5000 Weekend at Mosport Park June 13, 14 and 15.

Mosport officials have received special permission to start up to 60 cars in the IMSA event which would be a record number in the track's 14-year history.

Entering its fourth year of competition, the IMSA GT Series, which features Porsches, BMWs, Corvettes and Ferraris, has continued to draw record crowds. Seasoned well known road racers and top notch factory teams are combining to provide spectators with racing being described as the most competitive in North America.

Leading a field of experienced international drivers into Mosport Park will be Porsche factory driver and 1973-74 GT Champion, Peter Gregg. Australia's Allan Moffat, Sam Posey of the United States and Hans Stuck of West Germany will be the pilots for the BMW factory team. BMW is one of a number of entries which appears capable of breaking the Porsche stranglehold on the series. In 1974 Porsche captured all but two events.

John Greenwood, driving a Corvette, and Milt Minter, the 1974 GT runner-up piloting a Ferrari, are two top runners capable of penetrating the winner's circle at any time. Canada's hopes lie with IMSA GT regulars, Mo Carter of Hamilton who will drive a Monza AAGT, Ludwig Heimrath of Toronto in a Porsche and with Eppie Wietzes, a newcomer to the IMSA Series in a Ferrari.

Headlining the weekend will be the second event in the Formula 5000 series. This will be the only time this

season that the two series appear at the same track on the same weekend. England's Brian Redman and Wietzes are each slated in both the IMSA event on Saturday and the F5000 race on Sunday.

Rounding off the Labatt's Blue Weekend schedule will be the third round in the Bulova Championship for Formula 100s and 2.5 litre sedans.

The Formula 5000 race — the feature event of the weekend — is one of nine in a series to be held in Canada and the United States featuring some of the great names of auto racing.

Following years of negotiation, two of the largest governing bodies in North American motorsport, the United States Auto Club and the Sports Car Club of America have joined forces to sanction this series along with the Canadian Automobile Sport Clubs. As a result, each race features Indianapolis 500 drivers against some of the world's leading road racers.

It is a concept which has been in the works for more than three years and brings together oval and Indy 500 champions such as Mario Andretti, Johnny Rutherford, Al and Bobby Unser of the United States against Can-Am-Champion Jackie Oliver of England, defending Formula 5000 champion Brian Redman, also of England, and Canada's Eppie Wietzes.

The opening round in the series is actually scheduled for Pocono, Penn., June 1 as a result of an earlier postponement when dangerous weather conditions forced officials to re-schedule the event.

Whitby drivers hold third and eighth places

Nigel Gough of Concord and Werner Von Englebrechten of Toronto were new additions to the winners' circle in the 1975 Bulova Championship for Formula 100s and 2.5 litre Sedans, as the seven-race series held its second round Monday, May 19 at Mosport Park.

Gough, who finished out of the points in the first race of the series, piloted his Crossle from fourth on the starting grid to the Formula 100 win in an elapsed time of 31:17.10. The pole sitter in the 20-lap feature, Clive Rayman of Toronto, drove to a strong second place finish despite losing the nose off his Titan in a collision with Don Sobering on the 14th lap. Sobering, a native of Brantford, finished his Crossle in third place.

BMW's finished one-two in the 2.5 litre Sedan feature, with Toronto's Werner Von Englebrechten completing the 20-lap event in an elapsed time of 34:14.36 to claim the win. Von Englebrechten's partner on the Toronto based Beach Auto BMW Team, Pickering's Werner Gudzus, finished in second place while Toronto's George Comacchio took third in his Fiat. Paul Lambke of Cambridge, the 1974 Sedan Champion and

victor in the 1975 opener, diced with the leaders in the early going, but was forced to retire his Datsun 510 on the sixth lap of the race due to a blown head gasket. Peter Clare of Nashville, Ontario won the C class of the Sedan event, finishing sixth overall.

Whitby's Lee White is currently in third place in point standings to date in the 2.5 litre sedan category while Raymond Gray, also of Whitby, holds down eighth spot.

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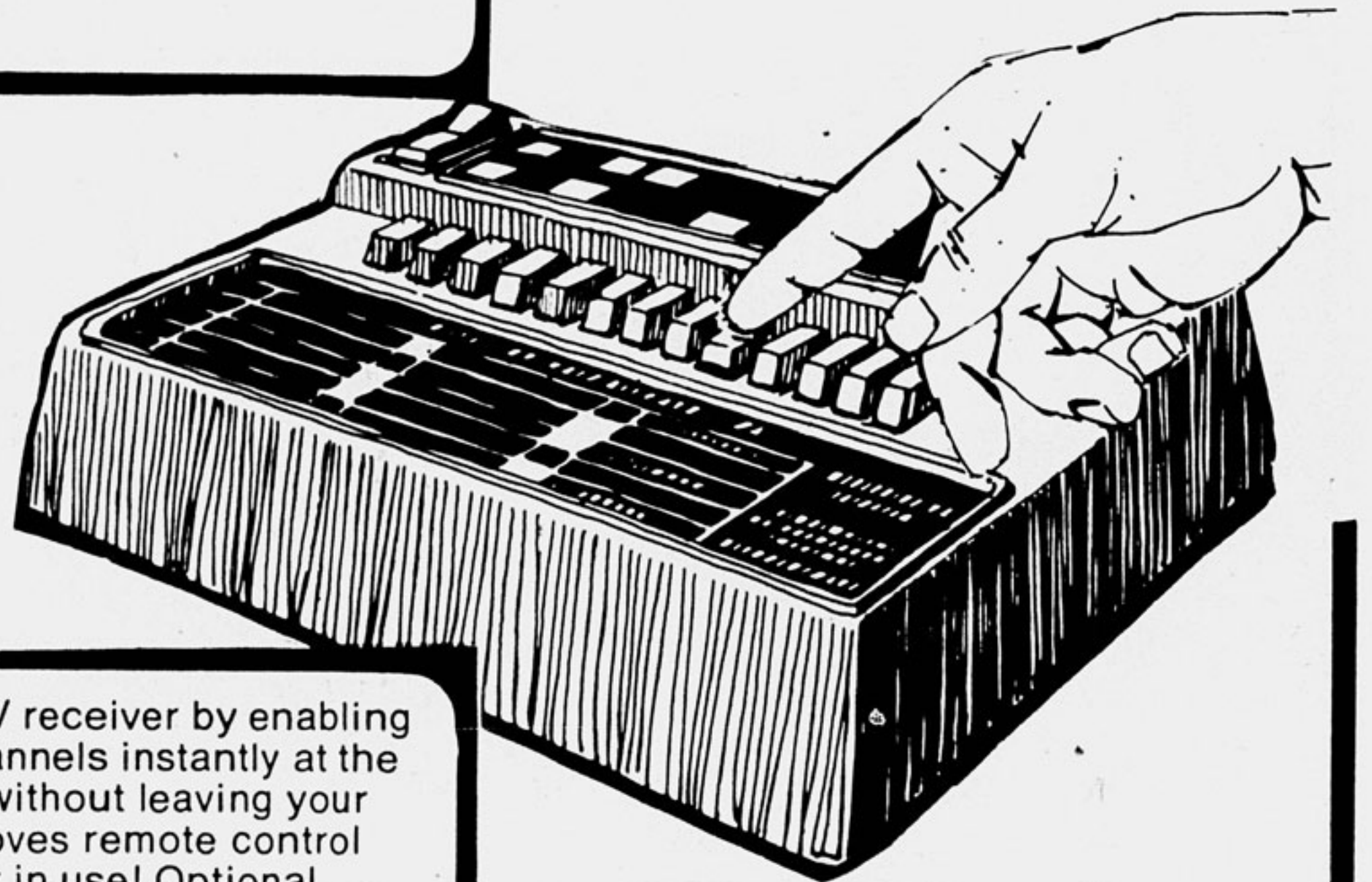
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