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## PRESS RELEASE

# HARLEY-DAVIDSON® SCREAMIN' EAGLE® V-ROD® DESTROYER™ NATIONAL SERIES - ROUND TWO IN **GRAND BEND, ONTARIO – FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND**

#### All About Dad!

CONCORD, Ontario (June 17, 2013) In dramatic fashion, the Harley-Davidson<sup>®</sup> Screamin' Eagle<sup>®</sup> V-Rod<sup>®</sup> Destroyer™ National Series made its stop at the popular Rocky's Harley-Davidson® "Harleys By The Beach" Father's Day event at the Grand Bend Motorplex in beautiful Grand Bend, Ontario.



True to form, the event turned out to be all about Father's Day after the Rocky's Harley-Davidson® sponsored Pete Thomson faced his toughest challenge from his son Dan Thomson who was racing for Kitchener Harley-Davidson®. The weather was perfect, and the racing was close. And after the qualifying sessions on Saturday, it was clear that this would become one of the closest battles to date between the V-Rod® Destroyer™ models.

In the first qualifying session of the day, Dan Thomson of Kitchener Harley-Davidson® made his intentions known with a blistering run. The younger Thomson hit the guarter-mile mark with an ET of 9.338 seconds and a top speed of 138.93 mph

to best his dad's time and set up what would be the father-son battle of the weekend. The Eastern Series reigning champion, Pete Thomson, ran a very close ET of 9.364 seconds and had a top speed of 141.39 mph. Six other V-Rod® Destroyer™ motorcycle competitors looked to move up during the afternoon qualifiers.

The second qualifying session saw the elder Thomson reclaim his rightful place atop the leader board through his best run of the day: an ET of 9.226 seconds. Dan Thomson kept the pressure on his father with another solid run, finishing with an ET of 9.286 seconds and a top speed of 140.25 mph. Fox Harley-Davidson® rider Chris Fox carried his earlier momentum into the second session and posted an ET of 9.397 seconds. In fourth spot was Yellowknife, NT rider Jeff Pitre, just ahead of rookie Thunder Road Harley-Davidson® racer Dave Hodare who in just his second outing pushed his way to fifth place. The returning Mitch McCallum drove the Fox Harley-Davidson® Destroyer™ motorcycle into sixth, while Edge Harley-Davidson® rider Dan Ramage edged out the struggling Ray Philp for seventh.

In the final qualifying session of the day, Pete Thomson took the rubber match of the battle, refusing to yield to Dan Thomson's best efforts. Chris Fox kept ahead of Pitre to remain in third, while Dave Hodare was solidly in fifth. Dan Ramage moved up one spot, displacing Mitch McCallum, and Ray Philp managed to improve on his times but not his position. Sunday morning got off to an ominous start, with heavy rain showers having been



present throughout the night and the heavy clouds overhead now grasping the Grand Bend Motorplex in their clutches. As the day progressed, so did the weather; with the sun finally bursting through the clouds at race time. The stage was set for a father-son showdown between Pete and Dan Thomson, but there were several other talented racers who were looking to play the part of spoiler.

First up was Ray Philp, who was looking for a breakthrough run against Pete Thomson. Philp bested Thomson in reaction time, but the cagey champ held on for the win with an ET of 9.290 seconds and a top speed of 141.50 mph. Next up, Jeff Pitre dispatched Dave Hodare to the sidelines. Hodare got a great jump at the tree, but Pitre's ET of 9.404 seconds was enough to move the Pido Productions rider into the next round. Dan Thomson continued his quest for a Father's Day final with a reaction time of only 11 thousandths of a second (0.011 s) and an ET of 9.344 seconds, against an ET of 9.466 seconds by the Fox Harley-Davidson® sponsored Mitch McCallum, sending McCallum to go sit with the spectators. The final elimination saw Chris Fox get the better of Dan Ramage who fouled out at the tree and took himself out of contention.

Round two of eliminations had the closest race in recent history. Dan Thomson and Chris Fox both ran an ET of 9.366 seconds. Even their reaction times were nearly identical, with Dan Thomson only besting Fox by one thousandth of a second (0.001 s). Only when the white light flashed in Thomson's lane did the fans know who the winner was. Thomson had beaten Fox by top speed only, 138.16 mph to 137.71 mph. All that remained now was for Pete Thomson to beat out Jeff Pitre and officially set up the father-son showdown. Thomson did just that, with an ET of 9.326 seconds that narrowly beat out Pitre's 9.412 seconds.

In an all Thomson final, both racers edged up to the tree one last time for a final race that, regardless of its outcome, would end in a great celebration for the Rocky's "Harleys By The Beach" Father's Day weekend.

When the green lights flashed at the bottom of the tree, Dan Thomson pushed forward to gain a slight edge over his father, but both riders were inseparably stapled together all the way down the track. At the three-quarter-mile mark, Dan drifted off the line a bit. Although he recovered quickly, this slight miscue was all that his dad needed to take his second win of the season. Pete Thomson won with an ET of 9.247 seconds, arriving at the finish line less than a quarter-second sooner than his son Dan whose ET was 9.430 seconds.

### Official Weekend Standings:

1. Pete Thomson Rocky's Harley Davidson®

2. Dan Thomson Kitchener Harley-Davidson®

3. Chris Fox Fox Harley-Davidson®

The next event on the schedule will be the Rendez-vous Nationals, June 22-23 at the Napierville Dragway in Napierville, QC.

## **About Deeley Harley-Davidson® Canada**

Deeley Harley-Davidson® Canada is the exclusive Canadian distributor of Harley-Davidson® motorcycles, Genuine Motor Parts and Accessories, and MotorClothes® apparel, which are provided through a national network of authorized Harley-Davidson® Retailers. Office and distribution warehouse facilities are located in Richmond, British Columbia, and Concord, Ontario.

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