

## *Bike builder hits number one spot*

**BY JENNIFER WILSON**  
*Innisfail Province*

Innisfail's Don Newlove likes being in the number one spot.

Newlove and his driver Mike Scott, from Fort St. John B.C., were recently awarded the number one title in the top fuel class from the Canadian Motorcycle Drag Racing Association.

Scott drove Newlove's bike in five races this year, earning the team enough points to reach the top of the pack.

"It was pretty good," said Newlove of the win. "We've been chasing it for a few years now.

"We were number two a couple times, but number one is better," he added with a laugh.

Newlove and Scott's team, Hard Core Racing, have been together for four years. The top fuel class is the fastest class in motorcycle drag racing, with bikes running in the six second time frame and hitting speeds of more than 200 miles per hour. The bikes run on nitro methane, the same fuel as dragsters.

The team's best pass has been a 6.52 second, 218 mile per hour run in a quarter mile. They also hold a Canadian eighth mile record of 195.65 mph.

Newlove built the bike at his shop in Innisfail two years ago. He is credited with building the first nitro Harley in Canada in 1989 and has built dozens of bikes since then.

Scott piloted the bike to four wins and several runner up titles this year. He has been racing bikes since he was a kid and has several wins under his belt. The team has raced in several Western Harley Racing Association races at both International Hot Rod Association and National Hot Rod Association events. They have raced from Grand Bend, Ont. to Mission, B.C. and as far south as Las Vegas.

This season the team went to five of the seven races held. The drag racing association totaled everyone's top six points to determine the winner, but Hard Core Racing still came out on top.

"We still beat everyone that went to six races," Newlove said.

Newlove is also the crew chief for the team and does all the tuning maintenance and transportation from race to race. His wife Denise helps with the maintenance and keeps track of all the data from each run. Newlove said there are about 100 different pieces of information to keep track of from each pass to make the right decisions for the next pass.

The sport of nitro bike racing is becoming more popular all the time, Newlove explained, with a growing number of bikes racing at the IHRA and NHRA. He said many people can't believe these bikes go down the track at over 200 mph on one wheel. There are about 30 nitro Harleys in Canada and about twice that amount in the U.S.



The collage contains several advertisements:
 

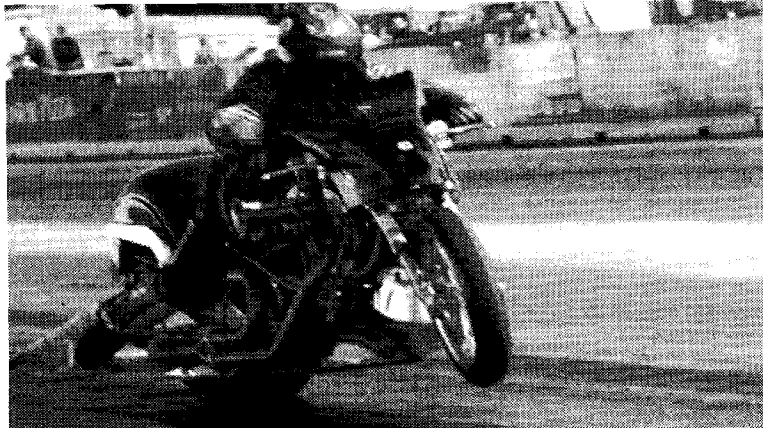
- FOURLANE Service Features:** Lists services like oil changes, tire rotations, and brake services with prices.
- Canadian Crossword:** A crossword puzzle grid with clues.
- Innisfail Pharmacy Ltd.:** Advertisement for a pharmacy listing various medications and services.
- Other small ads:** Various local business notices and services.



*INNISFAIL PROVINCE PHOTO submitted*

Mike Scott and Don Newlove.

Mike Scott  
races Don  
Newlove's  
bike in  
Edmonton at  
the CMDRA  
finals.



*INNISFAIL PROVINCE PHOTO submitted*