

# PELCHAT/ITP CLINCH 4th CANADIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

## 5<sup>th</sup> National ATV Race; Valleyfield, Quebec; 27-28 August 2005

The fifth round of the CMRC Canadian ATV championship was held in Valleyfield, 45 minutes west of Montreal. The Valleyfield supercross-style track is always a favorite for the ATV National racers. The event always brings a lot of spectators. This fast and narrow track is always packed with exciting racing action.

Team Splash'n Dirt Yamaha Canada star Richard Pelchat was in excellent condition coming into Valleyfield after two weeks off, during which he took the necessary time to rest his body and mind. He was now looking fresh and in super shape. Indeed, Richard changed his normal training schedule to spend one day practicing at the Octane Pack in La Tuque, QC.



### PRO-AM 450 (Saturday)

In the first race of the day, it was Yvan Pelchat who pulled the holeshot. Richard quickly made a magic move while Yvan was still all smiles about his holeshot. Richard led the race from there and never looked back. Mid-way through the race Yvan started to suffer from major arm-pump on the rutted track. He crossed the line in 12<sup>th</sup>.

The second Pro-Am 450 race made Richard sweat a little bit as he started the race in 5<sup>th</sup>. Richard, who is always up for the challenge, quickly took the spot that he is so familiar with, first place. Yvan got a good start again on his YFZ450 coming out of the first corner in 3<sup>rd</sup> but finished 10<sup>th</sup> for 10<sup>th</sup> overall. Thanks to the 1-1 finished Richard was able to secure the number 1 plate in the Pro-Am 450 on his Yamaha.

### PRO-OPEN (Sunday)

While weather was perfect on Saturday for the 450 Pro-Am heats, the heavy rains during the night turned the supercross-style track into a mud hole. The conditions were so bad that some riders didn't take their position on the starting gate. With the muddy conditions the start would be the key. Richard, sitting on his rocket-fast Yamaha, pulled the all important holeshot and led the race from start to finish. Behind Richard the ATVs were splashing the thick mud on one another. The ATVs weighed a good 100lbs more at the end of the race due to the mud accumulation.

The second moto of the day provided a lot more excitement for the fans. Indeed, Richard got stuck in the first corner, stalling his engine. Richard would be starting out dead last and a good 10 seconds behind the last rider. The fans didn't care much about the leaders anymore; all of the focus and attention was on Richard as he started picking positions one after the next and sometimes 3 at a time. After only 3 laps Richard was in 5<sup>th</sup>, then 2 laps later he had moved into 3<sup>rd</sup> but the YFZ, which had worked flawlessly, bogged down for a few seconds right in front of the double section. Richard took it easy and removed his goggles thinking his race was over but after a little while the engine came back to life. Richard started chasing the pack but didn't quite achieve what he wanted. Fans couldn't believe what they just saw before their eyes. Richard finished 3<sup>rd</sup> side by side with #54 Samuel Raymond, who finished 2-2. That meant that Richard with

his 1-3 finishes still had the overall and to top it off he also sealed his 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive Pro-Open National Championship. His incredible heat winning streak stopped at 41!

Richard commented, "This is awesome, I would like to thank everyone, every sponsor that helped me out. This is for you. It has been so much fun racing on my super fast YFZ 450.

## Final Round, National ATV Race; Lac Megantic, Quebec; 10-11 September 2005

Richard Pelchat was all smiles for the last and final round of National ATV championship as he had already sealed the Pro 450 and the Pro-Open class in Valleyfield 2 weeks prior. The track of Lac Megantic is situated 2 hours east of Sherbrooke, QC. The track is one of most appreciated by all racers but it is definitely the best track for the fans as they can see 99% of action from the grandstand.

### PRO-AM 450 (Saturday)

Richard did not get a straight shot out of the gate which left him in about 8<sup>th</sup> place, and a tangle in the second corner left him even farther back. He then put in a quick lap to catch up with the leaders. Unfortunately he collided with the James Bank and was projected in the air. Richard hit the ground pretty hard but was able to remount his YFZ450 after a little bit. With his mechanic writing "Practice" on the pit board, Richard rode smooth, watching for different lines. Without knowing it Richard was riding about 4 seconds faster than the leader.



After catching and passing most of the pack, he finished 6<sup>th</sup>. For the second moto of the day Richard was determined to win the last race of the 2005 season of the Pro-Am 450 class and he did that with style. With a powerful holeshot Richard took control of the race and started racing the

clock, riding fast and pushing hard. At the end of the race, Richard had an unbelievable lead over second place, Dave Larochelle.

### PRO-OPEN (Sunday)

Before the hot lap, the CMRC official presented Richard Pelchat the No.1 plate of the 2005 National Championship in front of the fans. This did not affect Richard's concentration as he took controls of the race from the start. He raced aggressively in preparation for the Montreal Supercross and lapped more than half the field. The second and last moto of the season was the one that would settle the position for the 2 to 10 in the standings. Only a few points separated each racer. Richard started in the 7<sup>th</sup> position but after 2 laps he had taken control of the lead and finished the season the same way he started: with the victory.

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