

24/06/2010

An other weekend, an other race.

Today we are leaving to Oscherleben. Six hours driving, but a really nice track.

I think it's my 5th year that I have the possibility to race there, but almost each time in rain.

The weather conditions look really good now, so lets go!

After almost 8h driving with a few stops, we arrive at the track. The paddock for the 3D Cup wasn't open yet, but there was a lot of place at the large paddock in the middle. Robin, 1 of the Belgian drivers already arrived, so we took place near them.

We took the bike out of the car, placed our tent and we were ready for a nice racing weekend.

25/6/2010

Today, we have 6 free practices. It's the first time I ride here with my 848 instead of my Twin. And no, I can not reach my time of the Twin!! It feels strange, the bike has more hp, but in the corners I lose time. But ok, it's the first practice. The second one feels better, the third even more and than, the 4th practice I feel that I become one with my 848. If I keep working like that, I hope that I will have a good time on Saturday. 2 more practices to go. It was hot! Really hot, and at the end of the day, everyone was happy that it was over!

In the evening, the other Belgian rider, Yoeri, arrived also. We kept a place next to us for him, and now the "gang" is completed.

The girls took care for preparing the food for the bbq and so we had a nice evening together, with Master Chef Frank who prepared the meat.

Time to sleep, tomorrow we have the qualifications.

26/06/2010

Today, we have 3 qualifications. I hope it will be as good, or even better than yesterday.

We start as second group, so we have to be up on time.

And yes, I feel good! At 8.20, it's not so hot yet, but Q2 and Q3 it became very warm, the temperature on the bike shows that it is 35°C!

Q1, Q2, Q3 went very good and at the end when Cecile have us the time tables, it seems that I have the 3rd starting position! Yiehaa! It feels great, finally I will have some luck this year!

Also this evening, the girls prepared all the food, and Master Chef Frank took care of the meat. The 3 Belgian riders don't have to think about anything, just preparing ourselves for tomorrow 😊

27/06/2010

Today, the "grand finale"

First we had a warming up, 10 minutes cruising! See if I can do anything more... but no, just do what I did yesterday.

10.50h: the first race. First the sightseeing lap, than warming up lap and than the start.

A start that I want to forget! What a disaster! I did not really practice the start with this 848 and that I can feel. Normally with the Twin I started in 2nd, but with this bike, it is really not possible. First corner, 18th position! BAD! This is hunting time! The first lap, there was already a red flag, good for me (a new start), bad for the driver who felt hard. Second start for me. Now I have to try in 1st. Ok, this is no good! The front wheel goes up and down, but I can control the bike, first corner, 12 position! I hope my second race will start better! Also now after 1 lap, we have a red flag again. The race will be cancelled. This time it looks not so good.

The helicopter is on his way, that is never good news. I wish them all the best.

3 hours later, we have are second race. Enough time to speculate with the other riders how I can have a good start.

Ok, back on track. Sightseeing and warming up lap and than the start. Lights go out and yes! A really good start. 4th position in the first corner, now I have to keep this position and even go over the 3rd rider. A few corners later, I'm in 3rd position. The first and second place, that will not be for me. A second is only the difference, but they are to fast for me on the straight.

After 15min. and 2 laps, I see the finish flag. Oh yeah, I did it! I know where my girlfriend and my supporters are looking, and I'm so happy that I even did a little burn out for them...

Finally, God is with us!

The winners need to take place at the pitlane and Robin, the Belgian rider, took care of me. He went for my paddock stand, so I could have a little rest. It is sooooo hot! Thanks buddy!

At the end of the evening we could pick up our tropee and also a bottle of champagne, that we did not drink of course!

A nice weekend, with very good weather, nice company and a tropee. This is good for my self-confidence.

The next race is half August, in Spa-Francorchamps.

See you there!