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RACE REPORT#3

Rounds 5 & 6 Cowboy Chaos

Onward and Westward! The Warnert Racing team headed to Historic Deadwood, SD for rounds 5 and 6 of ISOC Snocross. From the moment racing started, it snowed like a banshee and temps fell as the weekend wore on. A favorite amongst teams and riders, the shootout in the bullring at the Days of '76 Fairgrounds never disappoint!

Francis Pelletier kicked the weekend off with a stout qualifying effort Friday night. Starting in the front row of the Pro Final, Frank was quick on the trigger, but was booted from his inside line going into turn one. Having to do it the hard way, the 220 clawed his way back up to 5th to end the day. Jordan Lebel looked to strike gold and expand his points lead in the Black Hills. After two solid rounds of qualifying, Lebel was ready to dig in for the Pro Lite Final. Like a speeding bullet, the 511 took the lead into the first corner, packed his bags, and checked out. Jordan finished with a 16 second lead over second place, putting on a clinic in his 5th consecutive win of the season. The sarsaparilla-fueled crowd echoed from the grandstands as the 511 gunslinger sported a Makita cowboy hat from the top of the box!

After getting bucked off her teal bronco in round 3, Naeli needed a consistent weekend to get her back on track in the Pro Women's points battle. 518 put up a 5^{th} place finish in her first night in the bullring. Dylan Lebel is back in the saddle after a scary ending to his weekend in Shakopee. His Friday Jr. 14 – 15 final didn't go as planned, P7. The stoic youngster shook it off and focused on his Sport Lite final, finishing P4.

As a new day dawned at the rodeo, Francis Pelletier showed blistering pace aboard his iron horse in his practice and qualifiers. In the Pro Final shootout, Frank was a victim of "racing". On the opening lap, 5 riders occupied a corner only fit for 3, and Frank was dealt the bad hand. After getting separated from the entangled sleds, Frank finished 9th in the Pro Final. Jordan Lebel aimed to continue his winning streak in round 6. After a crash in qualifying, he narrowly made the front row of the Pro Lite Final. In his traditional spot-and-stalk style, Lebel moved from 4th to 1st, lighting the candles in his 6th consecutive Pro Lite victory. It seems teal is the new gold after another weekend sweep!

Naeli Lebel grabbed the bull by the horns, improving her previous night's result. She posted promising qualifying finishes and went into the Pro Women's final feeling confident. Starting the Final in 5^{th} , Naeli finished P4 with a podium surely on the horizon for the 518! Often referred to as "The Weapon" within the Warnert Racing trailer, Dylan Lebel was out for redemption in round 6. In his Jr. 14 - 15 Final he claimed the silver medal, keeping him in the points hunt. In the Sport Lite Final, D-Man got it done, taking his first Sport Lite win! Following Jordan's lead, the young-gun opted for a Makita cowboy hat on the podium.

Now that the dust has settled at the Deadwood Rodeo, the team is Eastbound and Down where the athletes will enjoy home field advantage at the Valcourt Grand Prix! The crew from Quebec will race in the backyard of Skidoo HQ Feb 10th, 11th, and 12th.



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About Warnert Racing

Hill City, Minnesota-based Warnert Racing is the premier team in professional snocross racing and one of the sport's pioneering "superteams." The team is modeled after the most successful auto racing operations, managing the day-to-day operations of two snocross racers, including sponsorship, transportation, marketing, sled set-up, driver development and technology development.