



ORIX *Team Racing*

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HOLDEN

CROWN lift trucks



KONICA MINOLTA



Lubricants



The **GEARBOX FACTORY**



Victory at Timaru

ORIX Team Racing's Holden Commodore driver, Paul Manuells hot form continued at the penultimate round of the NZV8's championship at the Levels Raceway, Timaru, when he won the final feature race on Sunday afternoon.

Starting from eighth place on the grid after some problems in race two, Manuells made short work of passing the cars in front, and despite the narrowness of the circuit hit the front after 8 laps of the 22-lap race. However, behind him Kayne Scott was in pursuit in his Falcon and for the next 16 laps the crowd was treated to a thrilling duel between these two experienced drivers who raced wheel-to-wheel through every twist and turn of the circuit without a single contact. Under immense pressure, Manuells drove a faultless race resisting Scott's every attempt to snatch a victory.

"What a fantastic race," said Manuells. "My ORIX Commodore performed superbly and I have to give credit to Kayne for such a hard, clean race. My team has worked so hard for this win so I extend a huge thanks to all involved behind the scenes."

Earlier in the weekend Manuells qualified eighth from 30 cars just struggling to find that "sweet spot" with suspension settings, and then finished eighth in the first race, only to be relegated in the official results due to passing under a yellow flag. Then he failed to start race two after his crew discovered a fault with the driveshaft.

Manuells now heads to the final round of the championship at Teretonga (Invercargill) next weekend in sixth place overall.

Earlier in the meeting, comedian Ewen Gilmour, who performs MC duties for the ORIX hospitality unit, was invited to go for a ride in the special two-seater Toyota Racing Series car, driven by international driver Paul Radisich.



"What an experience!" said Gilmour. "I was absolutely stunned at the speed of the car, the huge lateral g-forces that it generates and the amazing feeling of being so low to the ground."

Gilmour then entertained the crowd in typical style with his impressions as a guest circuit commentator, throughout the day. ORIX entertained 130 guests trackside who experienced a marvelous weekend with Manuells's on-track success combined with Gilmour's entertainment.

Points (First 8 of 32): McIntyre (Falcon) 905, Fogg (Falcon) 790, Scott (Falcon) 733, Radisich 673, Booth (Commodore) 634, **Manuells (Commodore) 593**, Proctor (Falcon) 562, Perkins (Falcon) 481

Next and final round: March 8/9 Teretonga Raceway, Invercargill.

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High resolution files of photographs are available on request

