



## **D3 Racing Tops the Charts in Radical Cup NA Race at Circuit of the Americas**

*Theodor Olsen Fastest Driver in D3's Top Performing Race Car of the Weekend*

**Austin, Texas, March 28, 2018** – The Dawson Racing D3 two-car entry led the racing field all weekend at the Grand Prix of Texas races at Circuit of the America (COTA). Norway's young racing standout, Theodor Olsen, an 18-year-old 2016 Radical Cup Scandinavia champ, showed his talent behind the wheel of a Radical SR8 RS 2.7-liter V-8 race car as well as Alan Metni and Jan Sotelo in a Radical RSX 1500cc around the 3.4308-mile COTA Formula One circuit.

The March 23-25 Blue Marble Radical Cup North America race at COTA was Round 1 of 6 in the exciting Blue Marble Radical Cup North America series.

The father and son duo of Ian Dawson and Simon Dawson, former Radical Texas dealers, entered their No. 740 Radical SR8 and their No.44 SR3 in their home state race to test their D3 Racing team and give Olsen the seat time to shake off the dust in the three races and to prepare him for the the European masters next month. The No.44 SR3 in the 1500cc Class had a solid showing with Metni and Sotelo sharing the drive for their first Radical Xperience. We look forward to seeing them in future races and thank the sponsors for their support in our first race of the Radical Cup North American at the Pirelli World Challenge which enabled all guest to see some very exciting racing and leading marques on track.

“We were dominant all weekend and it was a great position to be in,” said Ian Dawson, CEO of D3. “Having the pole, two victories and one second-place finish and fastest lap in all three races is a near perfect weekend. We made an error on the last race pit window as the radio went down and it cost us that race, but the success of the rest of the weekend was truly needed after a very stressful few months prior.”



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“It was fantastic to come back to the Circuit of the Americas and race in the Radical Cup North America event with Dawson Racing and carry on with my intended eventual journey to Le Mans with them,” said Theodor Olsen from Norway. “We had a very successful weekend and the SR8 is a very well set up car for my driving style, as the results show.”

Despite zero testing time and only Friday’s practice session to get dialed in with the car, Olsen qualified the D3 Radical on the pole with a lightning fast time of 2:05.897 and average speed of 98.10 mph. In Race 1, Olsen won the race and set a fastest lap of 2:07.920 with an average speed of 96.55 mph. Race 2 was also won by Olsen and his fastest lap was set on Lap 4 with a time of 2:05.026 and average speed of 98.78 mph. Race 3 was won by Will Hardeman who beat Olsen by a 17-second margin. All races were 40 minutes in length and held under cloudy and dry conditions.

Olsen led the field to the green flag in Race 1 with fellow Master class and Texan driver Will Hardeman by his side. An altercation in Turn 1 removed a couple of cars and Hardeman gave a strong run but Olsen prevailed and led from start to finish and won by six second, collecting his first U.S. Radical Cup North America victory. It was a proud time for the Dawson Family, especially since their Radical race car had not been raced since June 2017 and Olsen had not even sat in the car since September of 2017, had only arrived from Norway late Thursday and immediately set scorching laps in a reliable entry and on new Hankook tires.

In Race 2 the D3 entry was late to the grid due to a gearbox change and had to start from the back of field. That challenge did not fluster Olsen, as he quickly charged to the front and was in fourth position by the end of the first lap. On lap four he clocked not only the fastest lap of the race but also the fastest lap of any car driver during the entire COTA weekend! The young Norwegian then advanced to within three seconds of the leader in just six laps. When the leader Hardeman had a mechanical issue, Olsen easily advanced to the lead and collected his second Master Class victory of the weekend.



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In Race 3 the mandatory pit stop rule added both an element of strategy and a bit of controversy. Although Olsen comfortably led half of the race until 20-minutes in a pit stop was mandatory. Hardeman then jumped ahead and led to the checkered flag, relegating Olsen and the D3 Racing team to second place in the final race of the season opener event.

“I am very much looking forward to the next race in VIR,” added Olsen. “We are leading the championship in team and drivers points now after COTA and want to keep up the momentum.”

The Blue Marble Cocktails-sponsored Radical Cup North America series heads to Virginia International Raceway next for Round 2 with Pirelli World Challenge, April 27-29.

For further information please visit [DawsonRacing.com](http://DawsonRacing.com) or follow on Facebook/DawsonRacing, Twitter/DawsonRacing and Instagram/DawsonRacing.

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*For more information, contact:*

*Simon Dawson*

[simon@dawsonracing.com](mailto:simon@dawsonracing.com)

281-745-2268

