

DJ BASSANI -- SO YOUNG -- SO FAST -- SO SOON

What do you say to your four year old when he tells you he wants to race? "Maybe next year sweetheart." Who knew at such a young age that kids race atvs? Fast forward a year later DJ wins his first 50cc limited title in 2007.

After his first year in the sport, DJ couldn't wait to return for the 2008 season where he would compete in two separate districts, compete in three separate classes and go run at two Nationals. This would prove to be a turning point for him. It was a year when talent was introduced to maturity. There were many who showed up thinking they were going to duke it out with the promising riders from last year, but many were as surprised as we were. After the season opener race of the D6 Ultimate series at Evansville, PA, my husband said to me over coffee the next morning, "I think DJ can win this thing." Perhaps I thought, maybe. It wasn't until the spring race at Englishtown's Raceway Park that I was convinced. DJ took an impressive victory over thirty quads that showed up that day. Ok, now I started to believe.

Yes he had his struggles, but with the bad came the good. Mid season he developed a fear of the gate and if I weren't shown a photo at Pleasure Valley we would not have realized it. After all the riders left the gate, DJ was still sitting in it. Tirelessly my husband worked on his quad day and night still thinking something was wrong. We finally had to come to the realization that it wasn't the quad, it was the rider. One thing Rich Hetrick always says to us is "I can give you the best quad out there, but DJ has to be willing to us his thumb." Fortunately, with this fear it gave DJ a new confidence. Although he was afraid of the gate, he was not willing to settle for anything less than first. Out of fear came the ability to have to pass. And so he did. He passed his way onto three district titles this year, and won both Nationals he attended.

We are excited to see what DJ can do for this upcoming year for Team Hetrick. It proves to be very promising especially after the season ending Tri-State Race where he won the 50 class and placed an impressive 4th in the 70's. He went on also to win the 50 limited class at Englishtown's ATV Fall Classic and a surprising 2nd in the 70 class with a full gate pulling out both hole shots. He also won his first ever arena cross race in the 0-90cc class at the Union Center in Albany.

What a year it has been for DJ, but having said that we want to express our gratitude to Hetrick Racing for giving him a full sponsorship and believing in him. Rich, Michelle, and Chris have been an absolute pleasure to work with, and we want to thank them for working tirelessly to continue giving DJ the best throughout the entire season. We have recently been accepted for many future sponsorships and look forward to promoting them throughout the upcoming season. As always, we wish everyone a fun, safe, successful season and most of all it will be great to see all our friends once again.

Bassani Power Racing **# 40 DJ Bassani**

- '08 District 6 - 50cc limited champion
- '08 District 6 - 50cc production champion
- '08 District 34 - 50cc limited champion
- '08 National Winner Unadilla & Pleasure Valley 50cc
- '08 Winner Tri-State of Champions - 50cc
- '08 Winner Englishtown's ATV Fall Classic - 50cc
- '08 Winner Albany's Union Center Arena Cross - 90cc

