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## Shock Absorber, Steering and Suspension Specialists



### Neil's Corner



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The 2009 Supercheap Auto Bathurst 1000 takes place this Sunday and as the official steering and suspension sponsor of the Great Race the Pedders BULL took V8 Expert Neil Crompton aside for a few minutes in the lead up to get his thoughts on the hot topics.

*THE BULL : So neil - who is your tip to take out the great race this year?*

NEIL : I'm useless at tipping - otherwise by now I would have cleaned-up the Lotto and everybody would be rid of me!

You wont get a straight NO BULL answer but logic suggests a titanic battle between Toll Holden Racing Team (Tander/Davison) and Team Vodafone (Whincup/Lowndes)

However, Bathurst results and logic are often a "Bulls roar" apart. So factor in - weather, traffic, incidents, unreliability, and simple good or bad luck and the result is near impossible to figure out.

*THE BULL : Will Murph's lap record finally fall? If so who will take the mantle?*

NEIL : Hhhhm. Good question!

The cars have changed a tiny bit since 2003 and sitting here in the Pit Paddock with my "fluffy jocks on to beat off the freezing cold I think weather and tyre performance could both be factors.

We've certainly seen times very close in the recent past, however, you're looking for a NO BULL answer - so my "guess" is not this year...

*THE BULL : The forecast suggests cold with a chance of showers - how does this impact the race? If we have a wet race does that change your race win prediction?*

NEIL : I love the each-way bet the Bureau is having. They're tipping "clearing shower and 17 degrees!

Showers + this race, typically = chaos.

The weather will be a factor it seems. Recent races have been quite warm so this weather will come as shock for some of the "newbies".

*THE BULL : The new csr ethanol fuel means more pit stops - who does this help?*

NEIL : The refuellers! They'll be seriously busy!

Previously the could be done in either 4 or 5 stops. And the 5th stop was only a splash and dash.

CSR E85 is an 85% ethanol blend with 15% premium unleaded. It's renewable and "green" but the consumption is up by an average of 27% across the field.

This means the race is now 6 or 7 stops and the 120 litre tank load will last for 24 to 25 laps instead of 32-35 laps the recent average.

We will see drivers double stinting and lots of pit lane activity. Every time a car enters or leaves the pit the probability of trouble also increases. These cars/engines hate hot idling (no air and no fan) and finger trouble is often a plague.

*THE BULL : Finally, who will be the 2009 champ?*

NEIL : Refer answer 1! Oh, okay - my first and only tip of the season I'll exclusively allocate to my friends at Pedders.

Jamie Whincup (unless of course something weird happens :-)) !!!



Straight advice, specialists you understand and... No Bull

