

## **ARE THESE GIRLS FAST OR WHAT?**

## **YOU BETCHA!**

First let me introduce you to the bevy of karting beauties of the Mosport Kart Club.

Gaby Chin has been racing karts for the past 10 years and is the matriarch of the active karters at Mosport. Gaby has always been a top 5 contender in the Honda 4 cycle classes. In a sport where the class distinctions are determined by age and weight Gaby won the Senior Light Championship in 2000 and placed fourth this year

Ashley Hiltz competes in the ultra fast 125 cc shifter karts. These rocket ships can go in excess of 120kph are used by most open wheel racers, like Formula 1 and Cart drivers, as a tune up to get in shape since their handling characteristics are so similar. At the 2-kilometer Mosport Driver Development Track they hold the lap record, faster than even the F2000 formula cars. After several years of 4 cycle competition, where she won many championships including a "Bear" as a Canadian Grand National Champion at Shannonville, Ashley graduated to shifters last year and is regularly on the top box of the podium or setting the fastest lap time. Ashley finished fourth in the 2003 championship.

Pretty soon not only Ashley but the rest of the guys will be getting some more competition from a crop of up and coming gals in 80 cc shifters. These karts are just a tad slower than the 125's and are piloted by twelve to fifteen year olds and the head of this class is undoubtedly Alison MacLeod. Alison has already won two 80cc championships and displays the same cool calculated aggression of Ashley Taws who campaigned karts very successfully before moving on to Formula Fords where she continues to impress us all. Caitlin Johnston and Lauren Nunnari started to race 80cc shifters this year and have already shown their potential through their steady improvement and will soon be contenders. Caitlin and Lauren were right behind Alison and finished in fifth and eight places respectively in this year's championship. Caitlin was also fourth overall in Junior Heavy Honda four-cycle where she did double duty.

Caitlin younger sister Kelsey sat in a go-kart for the first time this year in the Novice Class for eight to twelve year olds at Mosport. Kelsey is no doubt having fun as she has steadily improved from a B Class Novice to an A Class Novice. Kelsey not only runs with the faster A's but she is on the podium quite consistently and won her first race recently. She ended her first full season in seventh place. Caitlin I think your 'lil sister is going to be faster than you. Indeed karting is definitely not a guy thing.

Look out for these girls and much more at KART START. Presented by the Mosport Kart Club this is the biggest go-kart Trade Show and swap meet and it will be held at the Markham Fair Grounds on Saturday February 7<sup>th</sup> 2004 from 10.00am to 3.00pm. Here you can buy new and used equipment from kart dealers as well as individual karters. All of the area kart clubs will also be represented here with information booths set up. KART START is the place to be if you are into karting or are thinking about it.