

September Report

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NDC Member 2010-11

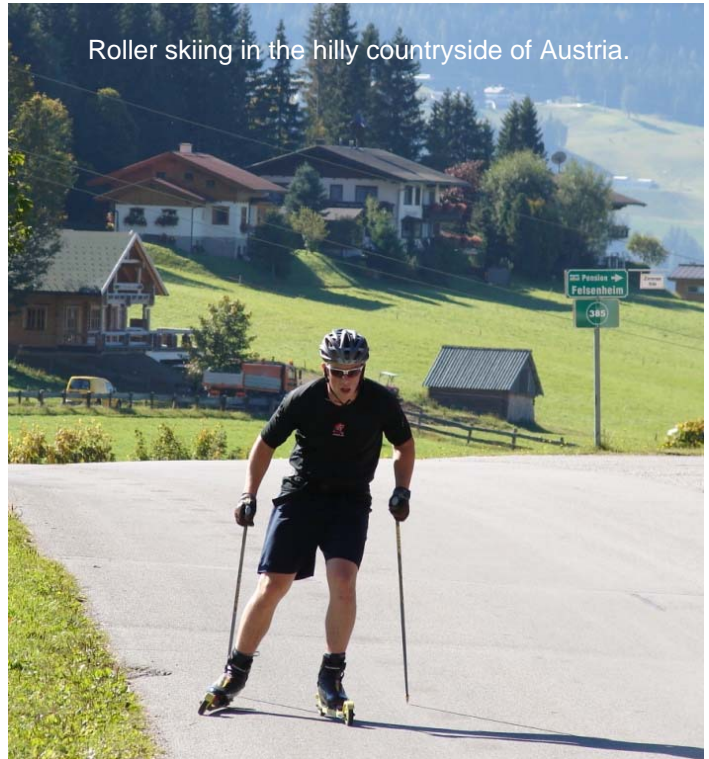


For the members of NDC Thunder Bay, racing is in our blood, our hearts, and in our minds. The drive for success is always with us, from the ski trails to training days, and in our day to day lives. This is one of the reasons why we also share an interest in high performance vehicles; or at least the males on the team anyway (sorry girls, more car talk). It seems that the most common conversations within our team, and definitely in between training sessions, are about cars. This is especially the case when NDC is on the road, traveling to a race or training session.



what the conversations were like at the majority of our training sessions, in between encouragement and technique assessments of course. The burning question in all our minds was, had he found the 'one'. There were a lot of maybes, lots of test drives, and a few almost purchases, leaving us in a constant state of anticipation.

Whether it's due to our very knowledgeable coach Eric or because of the BBC show Top Gear, any sort of interesting vehicle doesn't pass by without a conversation 500 times longer than it took the car to pass. You can be guaranteed that pretty much every statistic about the vehicle, including horse power, torque, handling, or what was featured on Top Gear, will be mentioned. The conversation consists of my teammates and I digging deep into our 'car stat archives' at the back of our memories. I think this is a common trait as members of NDC because as high performance athletes, we are commonly our own biggest critics. Every aspect of ourselves, our technique, training schedule, diet, fitness, and more are scrutinized.



Just before we left for Schladming, Austria to ski on the Dachstein glacier however, he finally purchased his new vehicle, and it was everything he, and we, had hoped for. Eric's search for the perfect high performance machine was similar to our own quests for perfection. Driving on the autobahn, on our journey from the Munich airport to our accommodation here in Schladming, we were able to see many high performance vehicles in passing. I was reminded that soon we would see many of the greatest high performance skiers in the world, passing by on the Dachstien while we train on our own paths to reach their level. This is why I think we all love vehicles so much; especially high performance vehicles. We can all compare ourselves to them. They are all designed for high speed racing, and to be the very best in the world. Moreover, they are designed for victory. The quality of the construction, and the high quality fuels the vehicles run on, mirror our own lives and values, both in body and mind.



Recently, Eric has been in the market for a new vehicle because his beloved Mazda RX-7 (aka the Bat mobile) was in need of retirement. I told him that any new vehicle he found wouldn't have the built in "smoke screen" of his beloved Bat mobile, but nonetheless, he still wanted something a bit newer. So you can pretty much guess