



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **A First for Targa Newfoundland!**

**September 17, 2008 (Clareville, NL)** - Second time competitors Pete Lazier and Sharon Middler of British Columbia told organizers in 2007 that they would return to Targa Newfoundland 2008 if they could be married at the Barbour Historic Site in Newtown. Their wish came true today as they were married by event chaplain and fellow competitor, the "Fastor Pastor", Edison Wiltshire of Clareville. "We didn't want anything traditional or fancy, but Targa organizers did arrange a few extras to ensure the event was memorable," said the bride as their Targa family and friends looked on.

The Fastor Pastor keeps an active schedule with Targa beyond the actual event dates; last year he was flown to Ontario to perform the wedding ceremony for veteran competitor Rick McLeod. Now Rick and his wife Ashleigh plan to have him christen their newest addition, Braydon, this Saturday in Flatrock.

Family is the backbone of Targa Newfoundland now in its' 7<sup>th</sup> year. Father and son team, Robert and Scott Giannou, organize what has become known as the ironman of motorsport. Robert oversees the course and coordinates the efforts of some 2200 volunteers in 72 communities. Scott typically coordinates the sponsor activities and oversees the marketing of the event but he is also a passionate competitor. Scott has had to trade in his racing gear for an officials badge today as his engine blew on the final stage in Gander yesterday.

Of the 64 competition crews remaining in Targa Newfoundland, 5 of them are manufacturers competing for the first ever Sirius Satellite Radio President's Cup. This is the first year the manufacturer entries will have the opportunity to compete against one another and have their efforts recognized with a specific award. Audi, Chrysler, Lexus, Mitsubishi and Subaru are all showing well in the standings – a testimony to the fierce competition among these professional teams. The sixth manufacturer team, Mini/BMW, driven by Jim Kenzie and Brian Bourbonniere, won't be returning to the competition. The crew are both fine, however the car didn't fare so well. Kenzie, a renowned North American automotive journalist, is staying and will host the VIP Tour on Friday.

Now in the third day of the event, the crews and their cars are starting to feel the pressure of increased competition. The morning was riddled with mechanical issues but the stop in Newtown allowed service crews to get them all back on the road. The afternoon stages in North West Brook and Gooseberry Cove resulted in two competition incidents, the competitors fared much better than their cars.

With two days remaining in Targa Newfoundland 2008 and the Heritage Leg being one of the favorites for the veteran competitors, the game is on.

Please visit the Targa Website for daily photos: (<http://www.targanewfoundland.com/multimedia/photos> ).  
For high resolution versions of these images, please contact Ian Chaytor.

Please see below for Wednesday's results for both Targa and Grand Touring.

-30-

For more information please contact:

Ian Chaytor

709-480-0100

[ian@targanewfoundland.com](mailto:ian@targanewfoundland.com)