

PAT HUMPHRIES STUDENT PILOT OF THE YEAR



Centre: Ed ten Broeke from Petrusma and Partners presents equal first to R: Don Prairie and L: Ron Flakowski for round four of the Petrusma and Partners Summer Comps.

Round five, Flapless Landing, saw one point between leader Ed ten Broeke and Pat Cliffe Hickling in second position, with now familiar names on the Leader Board, Ron Flakowski, Stan Tilley and John Bright, taking up the top five spots.

Now that everyone has "warmed up" to competition flying again, the scoring has become quite close, with Ian Aitken, David Prince and John Breden sitting just outside the top five spots in round five.

Next Summer Comps this Wednesday January 23rd.

Right: Air Traffic control Line Manager for Hobart Airport, John Glass presented ACST Student Pilot of the Year, Pat Humphries with his Trophy, the Perpetual Trophy and a \$200 voucher to be spent on Airservices products.

John said "We really appreciate being able to sponsor the award for Student Pilot of the Year for 2007. We see it as encouraging General Aviation in Hobart and we want to support the Industry and see it as an overall benefit to all of us."

Flying Instructor Mike Strudwick said "Student Pilot of the Year is a person who is really motivated to learn to fly. The student is here regularly, they keep their theory up to their flying practice and this is a Student who doesn't waste any time, they are keen, they are motivated, that makes Student Pilot of the Year."

This is the second year Airservices Australia has sponsored the Student award. "We see General Aviation really thriving at the moment, training seems to be doing well, and if this sponsorship helps encourage people to be part of it, that's great." added John.



Pat said "2007 started off a bit slow because getting the hang of flying the Jabiru took a little bit of time. But once you get the hang of it, it's something you don't forget. The Jabiru feels completely different to any other aircraft I've flown."

"I went solo in February last year and earned my RAA licence by September, followed by my passenger endorsement in October. I try and fly somewhere between five or six hours a month and I like to get at least an hour in each session, I'm keen to start on Aerobatics next"

Pat has casual jobs at Subway and working the front desk at the ACST that pay for his training. Pat suggested to other students "If you feel like you're

not getting anywhere with your flying, you are just a little bit away, you are going to break through eventually and it's probably just a couple of hours away and then suddenly you're learning at a rapid rate."

"I'd like to thank Mike Strudwick who has stuck with me the whole time, and he hasn't given up hope on me!" My sister Alex and Dad Graham who drive me out to the airport and Mum but she doesn't drive me!" Pat joked in closing.

John added "It's a great time to be learning to fly, with the industry short of qualified personnel, employment opportunities are everywhere, not only for Pilots but Air Traffic Controllers. If anyone wants to get into the Industry, this is the time to do it."

WILL BIGNELL UPSIDE DOWN IN NEW ZEALAND

"Bloody nervous at representing Australia in Aerobatics"



Left: Pilot Will Bignell and mate George Roberts enjoying Aerobatics in the Victa.

Will Bignell, Pilot, Farmer and PhD Student is packing his headphones and heading off to Timaru on the East Coast of the South Island of New Zealand, to represent Australia in the Wings Team for the Trans Tasman competition in Aerobatics.

Stan Tilley and Albert Poon have been mentoring Will on quite an advanced aerobatic sequence. "It is an energy management sequence, so you are judged from the moment you enter the Competition Box to the time you exit," said Will.

Will has been training in Tasair's Cessna 152 Aerobat to get practice time on the type, as the Aerobat will be the aircraft he will be flying in New Zealand. Will is heading off in a bit over a week. Go for it Will and Go Australia!