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FastTrack

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The Field is Set Playoffs Begin in Vegas



Keselowski
Puts Penske
in Indy
Victory Lane

Let the Games Begin

NASCAR had to wait an extra day at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway to set the field for the playoffs, but there wasn't enough rain during the weekend to wash away the small group of drivers who are likely to contend for the championship.

In fact, you can probably count the legitimate challengers on one hand.

Or just a couple fingers.

But since the rest of the sport has to go through the motion of three rounds of eliminations and a single-race finale at Homestead, Fla., to decide it all, so will we.

With the addition of Jimmie Johnson and Alex Bowman on Monday, there now are 16 regular-season survivors. All fall into one of four categories, starting with a powerhouse group that probably will last all the way to the final lap, and ending with a group that will be a trivia bonus-round question a month from now.

So here they are:

THE BEST OF THE BEST

By combining to win 17 of 26 races, Kevin Harvick, Kyle Busch and Martin Truex Jr. have separated themselves far from everyone else. And by winning the last two regular season races, including Monday's rain-delayed race at Indianapolis, Brad Keselowski put himself into the conversation.

All four are former champions, so they understand how to deal with the rigors of staying alive in a system where four drivers are eliminated every three races.

Harvick leads the way with seven wins and a series-best 19 top-five finishes.

"Coming to the race track you've got a group of guys and a team and an organization and a manufacturer and everybody who is trying to figure out how to keep it going and doing everything that they can to keep progressing the cars and the team and everything around it," he said.

Busch has six victories and 17 top-fives. He advanced to the final four in each of the last three seasons.

"Our motivation right now is to continue our dominant stretch, continue to finish with top fives, winning races, continue to add bonus points," he said. "We want to finish the season on top.

Truex, the defending Monster

Energy NASCAR Cup Series champion, has four wins. He also knows his Furniture Row Racing team will shut down after the 10-race playoffs. Despite tailing off with just one top-10 finish in his last six races, he insists his group won be distracted.

"The past couple seasons we've been at a tipping point at some point in time and we've just been able to focus on doing our jobs," Truex said. "We always feel like that at the end of the day, if we do our jobs and we do them well and we're winning races, that's our best opportunity to keep things going the way they are."



DON COBLE

Keselowski's victory two weeks ago at the Darlington Raceway and again at Indy provided a much-needed spark. The real challenge now is to keep it going.

"They recharge your batteries so much because the season is such a death march, especially when things aren't going well, and this is a complete battery recharge for myself and for our team," he said. "It makes going to the race track fun knowing that you've won and you can win."

BEST OF THE REST

Joey Logano, Chase Elliott, Kyle Larson and Kurt Busch have shown bursts of speed, but none have been able to sustain it over a month-long stretch.

Since a single victory will move any one of them to the next round, count on one of them being part of the final four.

With only one victory this year, Logano believes the entire Penske Racing organization is finding some late season speed to catch the top-three drivers.

"Sure, they should be scared. We're coming for them," he said. "I don't know, they're still really strong teams. But the fact that we can keep up and race them and pass them, that felt good. So that feels really good the last couple races. I didn't know I could do that anymore."

The siren at the Dawsonville Pool Room echoed throughout the North Georgia mountains when Elliott, the son of hall of famer Bill Elliott, won at Watkins Glen International. But he knows it will take even more success – and a couple more siren blasts – to stay alive in the playoffs.

"We still need a little bit more of an edge to get up there with those [top three] guys," Elliott said. "We're working a little too hard to keep up. You still have to find a little bit more as you get into the final 10. I think

we can. We're getting close. We're doing a lot of the little things right."

It's baffling that Larson qualified for the playoffs on points – and without a victory. He's shown tremendous speed by leading 666 laps, but the fifth-year driver still has trouble closing the deal.

"We learned some things with some different components, and I felt like it really helped our car there," Larson said. "And this is a good time of year to get some speed going before the playoffs where we haven't had speed the last few months."

Kurt Busch broke a 58-race winless streak at the Bristol Motor Speedway three weeks ago. Although he has but four top-five finishes this year, he has the benefit of having Harvick, Clint Bowyer and Aric Almirola as teammates at Stewart-Haas Racing.

"No reason for us to change on anything what we're doing. There's this nice progression," Busch said. "Each and every week we have not more confidence but more clarity. Just keep going. We're going to keep it simple."

CAN GET BY WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM THEIR FRIENDS

Bowyer, Ryan Blaney, Almirola and Denny Hamlin are good enough to win a championship, but are their cars? All four need to shake things up if they hope to still be alive in the playoffs in October.

Although Bowyer won two of first 15 races and led 37 laps at the Brickyard, he has just one top-five finish in his last nine races. Like so many others, he needs to kick-start that momentum.

"Everybody gets better each week," he said. "You go to work on trying to get better. That being said, everybody has had time to get better here and I know they will. I also know we have, too."

As the newest driver to join Penske Racing, Blaney wasn't worried about making the playoffs. However, he expected to win his way into the postseason, not get there on points.

"Hopefully we can keep it going in the right direction," he said. "Just keep finding new things, keep working hard and Penske does a great job on that, just improving on every little thing, from the body to mechanical grip, to eking out races. That spot's coming along."

Almirola also used the point standings to earn his spot in the playoffs. Unless he finds something dramatic, his stay in the postseason will be short.

"You go into race weekend and you know what you are faced with and you know the challenge ahead. Every weekend my goal as a race car driver is to meet that challenge," he said. "I feel we've had that opportunity a few times and

haven't broken through yet."

Although he's generally one of the leading candidates to win the championship, Hamlin doesn't seem to be hitting on all cylinders. And he knows his team will need to make a huge swing on strategy and setups to have a chance.

"We'll have to take a bigger jump this year than what we've taken in years past," he said. "We've typically been pretty good and then we've been great in the playoffs. This year we've been mediocre and I think that the big jump to great is a big one. You have to try and do it overnight."

THANKS FOR PLAYING

Jimmie Johnson, Austin Dillon, William Byron and Erik Jones need more than speed to advance. They need consistency, momentum and miracles.

Yes, Johnson is a longshot to advance past the first cutoff, much less contend for his eighth championship. The first step is winning a race to extend his winning streak to 17 years.

"It's been extremely frustrating and extremely difficult to live through, but we are all still very eager to turn it around and know that we will," he said. "And, a win is the way to turn it around."

Jones' lone victory came at the Daytona International Speedway and one of his five other top-five runs came on the road course at Watkins Glen. That doesn't bode well for the tracks on the playoff schedule.

"Obviously, we want to be competitive in the playoffs," he said. "We don't just want to be guys that are in there and fall out in the first round. We want to be able to advance and move on and make a run for it."

Dillon's only win came at the season-opening race at Daytona. Since then, he has just two top-10s.

"It's frustrating when you start it at such a high at Daytona and then you have some struggles," he said. "You've got to continue working in the areas that matter and that is what we are doing."

Finally, Bowman was the final driver to squeak in on points. Added with the difficulty of finding Victory Lane at Hendrick Motorsports, this probably will be little more than a learning experience.

"I think it's no secret it's been a rough year for us and for all of Hendrick Motorsports, but we are still in contention for the playoffs, so that is cool to be a part of," he said. "Vastly different than anything else I've done in my career or any other position I've been in in the Cup Series."

COVER PHOTOS:
RUSSELL LABOUNTY/NKP
CHRIS GRAYTHEN/GETTY

Brad Keselowski Executes Late-Race Pass to Win at Indy

SPEEDWAY, IN – It's been a historical two weeks for Brad Keselowski. The No. 2 Ford driver executed a hard-nosed pass of Denny Hamlin with two laps remaining in Monday's rain-delayed Big Machine Vodka 400 at the Brickyard to win his first race at prestigious Indianapolis Motor Speedway, one week after visiting Victory Lane in the "crown-jewel" Southern 500 at Darlington Raceway.

Keselowski earned Team Penske its first Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series win at the track to go with the storied organization's 17 Indianapolis 500 trophies – including one this May.

The 34-year-old Michigan native finished runner-up in this race last year and positioned himself to one-up the effort thanks to a late-race pit strategy call by his crew chief Paul Wolfe.

On a restart with three laps remaining, the 2012 Cup champion muscled by Hamlin on fresher tires. He beat runner-up Erik Jones –

who later maneuvered around Hamlin – to the start/finish line by 0.904 seconds.

"It's incredible, last year I lost this race almost exactly the same way," Keselowski said in Victory Lane after joining his team in climbing the front stretch grandstands to celebrate with the loyal crowd.

"It feels really good to make up for it and to get Roger Penske his first Cup car win here at the Brickyard. It's an incredible feeling and I'm so happy for Team Penske."

Hamlin finished third, while Kevin Harvick and Clint Bowyer rounded out the top five. Hamlin and Bowyer – who raced for the lead much of the final stage – each led a race-high 37 laps.

The race marked the end of the regular season with points leader Kyle Busch – who finished eighth Monday – officially collecting the regular season trophy. He and seven-race winner Harvick top the points standings as the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series begins its 10-week Playoff run this Sunday at Las Vegas Motor Speedway.

"We had a lot of ups and downs, mostly downs but fought our way

back," the six-race winner and two-time Indy winner Busch said just before receiving the regular season trophy.

"In the grand scheme of things it was a pretty good day considering we get to go home with some hardware."

The third member of the sport's "Big 3" this season is four-race winner Martin Truex Jr. The reigning Monster Energy NASCAR Cup champion goes into the playoffs ranked third, although he only completed 41 laps at Indy – his No. 78 Furniture Row Toyota officially finishing last in the 40-car field having to retire early with a brake problem.

With the two wins, Keselowski jumps into fourth place in the Playoff standings just ahead of the season's other two-time winner Bowyer.

Jimmie Johnson and Hendrick Motorsports teammate Alex Bowman were the only two drivers that hadn't secured a Playoff berth prior to the drop of the Indy green flag, but both advanced to the 16-driver field with 16th and 33rd place.

"We raced up into the top 10 a couple times, we just didn't have the speed to run up front," said Johnson, driver of the No. 48 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet.

"We'll go home and work hard and be ready for Las Vegas. I'm just proud I've made every Playoff since NASCAR started them. ...we have a lot of experience and I think

our experience in pressure-packed situations will help us."

There were plenty of pressure-packed situations in Monday's race, including two at the end of the day stymying the chances of a couple frontrunners.

Ryan Blaney, who ran among the front-runners most of the day, missed his pit stall on the final stop and ended up 11th in his Team Penske Ford. And former series champion Matt Kenseth, who seemed to revitalize the No. 6 Roush-Fenway Racing Ford operation this weekend, had pit problems as well on the final stop with the car falling off the jack.

Still it was a positive day for the team. Kenseth led five laps and scored the first stage win of the season for the No. 6 Ford, capturing the Stage 2 checkered flag just ahead of Chase Elliott and Jones. His 12th-place effort was a season best for him and a promising sign for Roush-Fenway Racing.

Three former Brickyard winners – Jamie McMurray, Paul Menard and Ryan Newman – kept the closing laps suspenseful as well. Because they came into the race ranked outside the Playoffs' top-16, a win would've eliminated Bowman from the postseason. They finished seventh, ninth and tenth respectively.

Keselowski's win was the first for Ford Motor Company at Indianapolis since 1999.



Race winner Brad Keselowski, crew and family celebrate kissing the bricks. (BRIAN LAWDERMILK/GETTY IMAGES photo)

Justin Allgaier Gets Coveted Xfinity Win at the Brickyard

SPEEDWAY, IN – The Lilly Diabetes 250 NASCAR Xfinity Series race at Indianapolis Motor Speedway may have been delayed by rain for two days, but that wasn't enough to break the magical run Justin Allgaier is enjoying.

Holding off JR Motorsports teammate Tyler Reddick after grabbing the lead on Lap 84 of 100 in Monday's event, Allgaier collected his fifth victory of the season, his third in the last five races and – perhaps most important – his first at the vaunted Brickyard.

"We won Indy – how cool is that?" Allgaier exulted on the team radio after powering his No. 7 Chevrolet across the finish line .092 seconds ahead of Reddick. "You guys (his team) are awesome. That's all I can say. The car was phenomenal.

"I know that (Indianapolis) has given me a lot of headaches and a lot of grief over the years, but we just won Indy - how cool is that?"

The victory was the 10th of Allgaier's career. With one race left before the cutoff for the NASCAR Xfinity Series Playoffs (Saturday at Las Vegas Motor Speedway), Allgaier moved significantly closer to the regular-season title and accompanying bonus of 15 Playoff points.

He currently leads Cole Custer, second in the series standings, by 49 points. Custer suffered a jarring wreck into the inside wall after turn-

ing his Ford into the Toyota of Brandon Jones on Lap 72. Custer finished 29th but maintained a three-point advantage over third-place Christopher Bell, who faded to seventh on Monday after restarting second on Lap 84.

Allgaier dedicated the victory to his father, who helped develop Allgaier's off-track sophistication by bringing him to Toastmasters classes for young drivers at a hotel near the speedway.

"This one is for my dad, because at Brickyard Crossing up there, he drove me up here every Wednesday night during the winter, so that I could take classes to be the best that I could be, not only inside the car but outside the car," Allgaier said.

"It was about three-and-a-half hours, and he drove me here every Wednesday night, so hats off to him."

Ryan Blaney finished third after starting from the pole in his No. 22 Ford. Chase Elliott came home fourth, followed by Daniel Hemric, as Chevrolets claimed four of the top five positions.

Reddick wanted to wait until the final lap to battle his teammate for the victory, but he never got a run on the final circuit.

"I didn't want to cost me and Justin a first- and second-place finish," Reddick said. "I wanted it to be off Turn 4, preferably on the last lap... Unfortunately, I didn't get the run I needed on that last lap.

"I really should have taken it with two (laps) to go, but I was unsure. I really didn't want to mess up either



Justin Allgaier is more than happy to take the stance in the historic victory lane at Indianapolis Motor Speedway after winning the Lilly Diabetes 250. (SEAN GARDNER/GETTY IMAGES photo)

one of our days."

Elliott Sadler saw his hopes for a regular-season title disappear on Lap 23, when Ty Dillon spun in Turn 3 and carried Sadler's Chevrolet into the outside wall.

"We're done," radioed Sadler, who fell out of the race in 35th place and dropped to fifth in the standings, 69 points behind All-

gaier.

Austin Cindric, 12th in the standings and currently in the last Playoff-eligible position, fell out of the race after running through the grass and tearing the splitter off, trying to avoid the Sadler wreck. Cindric finished 34th but remained 57 points ahead of 13th-place Michael Annett, who ran 31st.



Justin Allgaier (7) powers ahead of Tyler Reddick (9) to win the NASCAR XFINITY race at IMS Monday morning. (MICHAEL REAVES/GETTY IMAGES photo)

Justin Bonsignore Scores The Season Sweep at Riverhead

RIVERHEAD, NY - Justin Bonsignore just continues to pull away in the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour championship race.

The Holtsville, New York, driver found himself carrying the checkered flag for the seventh time this season on Saturday night at Riverhead Race-

way.

Bonsignore took the lead from Timmy Solomito on Lap 133 and went on to capture his sixth career win at his home track, sweeping the two races at the New York oval in 2018. The victory was his his 19th career in Whelen Modified Tour competition.

"We circle these races for sure, if you can't win anywhere else, you better win at home," Bonsignore said. "You have to put on a show for the hometown fans. I put extra effort in as a driver to make sure I am on top of my game when I come here."

After qualifying was rained out, Bonsignore's No. 51 Phoenix Communications Chevrolet started from the outside pole position after the field was set by practice speeds. Bonsignore didn't have the car to beat in the early laps, though, as polesitter Doug Coby was at the

point for the first 64 circuits.

But, when Coby spun from the lead off turn two on Lap 65, Bonsignore found himself in the middle of a battle with fellow hometown favorite Solomito for the win. After chasing the back bumper of Solomito's No. 16 Ford for more than 50 laps, Bonsignore made his move on Lap 133, sliding around and putting himself in control.

A final caution flag on Lap 152 gave Solomito one last chance to mount a charge, and he was able to lead the field across the line on Lap 159. But, just one lap later, Bonsignore took back the top spot

and never looked back.

The second-place finish was the best result of the season for the Islip, New York, driver.

"We faded a little bit towards the end, but I wanted to get up there and lead some laps," Solomito said. "We haven't really had the speed all year, but to come here and give them a run for their money, we kept them honest tonight."

Chase Dowling, who is still looking for his first career Whelen Modified Tour win, scored his eighth podium finish in 54 career starts with a third. Coby, who spun from the lead early, rallied through the field during a green flag run and finished fourth.

Dave Sapienza, who ran as high as third spot before a crash on a restart, rallied back to finish

fifth. John Fortin was sixth, followed by John Beatty, Shawn Solomito, Chris Pasteryak and Rob Summers.

Drivers with Modified Division background at Riverhead as part of the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series filled six of the top-10 positions at the checkered flag.

With his seventh win, Bonsignore extended his points lead to 81 points over Dowling with three races remaining in the championship points schedule. Solomito is third, 106 points back.

The Miller Lite 200 will air on NBCSN on Thursday, September 13, at 6 p.m.

The NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour will return to the track at New Hampshire Motor Speedway for the inaugural Musket 250 on Saturday, September 22.



Justin Bonsignore celebrates winning the Miller Lite 200 at Riverhead Raceway. (Adam Glanzman/NASCAR photo)

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Thompson Gets World Stock Car CRA Street Stock Victory at Winchester

SALEM, IN - Shirley, Indiana's Jason Thompson got by early leader Jason Atkinson then cruised to victory in Sunday's CRA Street Stocks Powered by JEGS event Monday At Winchester Speedway as part of the Labor Day Weekend World Stock Car Festival. It was

Thompson's eighth all time win with the series.

"It's great to get a win here at Winchester," remarked Thompson in victory lane. "This is a great place to race, we appreciate everything Charlie Shaw has done to keep this track going and being able to race here. Have to thank my whole crew and family for their hard work. This is an old car, but she can still get around the High Banks!"

Atkinson grabbed the lead at the drop of the green flag from his pole starting position after Allstar Performance Fast Qualifier Jake Hinton drew a seven for the events inverted start. Thompson and Jimmy Kirby made some contact right as the two were battling form early positions, both were able to save their cars and keep going and making their way to the front.

Thompson closed to the back bumper of Atkinson and made his move in turn two on the inside and completed the pass coming out of turn four to grab the lead on lap 11. The events only yellow flew on lap 18 when Hinton made spun and made hard contact with the backstretch wall.

Thompson was able to keep the lead on the lap 19 restart from Atkinson. Thompson then had to fight off Kirby who made a run to the front. Thompson lengthened out his lead over the last ten laps to win by almost three seconds. Thompson picked up the Racer Parts Wholesale Sweet Move of the Race Award for his pass to take the lead on lap 11.

Kirby would finish in second and picked up the AR Bodies Cool Move of the Race Award for being able to keep control of his car when he and Thompson tangled early in the event. Atkinson finished in third, the highest of the Chase for the Championship contenders. Danny Adams would finish in fourth, second of the Chase contenders. Re-

cently crowned Five Crown Champion Jake McElfresh came from his ninth place starting position to finish in fifth place, third among the Chase contenders.

John Schafer, son of series Chase contender J.J. Schafer, made a return to the driver's seat after several years of watching his son. Schafer got the win in the series first heat race on Sunday night. Jimmy Kirby won the second heat.

The next event for the Lawrence Towing CRA Street Stocks is at Anderson Speedway on Saturday, September 15th, the second event of the Chase for the Championship for the series. For more information on all the CRA series go to www.cra-racing.com.

Speed51 Super Select Canceled; 2019 Date Announced

With Tropical Storm Gordon expected to bring heavy rain to the Indianapolis area this weekend, race officials have made the decision to cancel the inaugural Speed51 Super Select at Lucas Oil Raceway. Despite this unfortunate news, officials from Track Enterprises, the Champion Racing Association (CRA) and Speed51.com are pleased to announce that the inaugural Super Late Model All-Star Race will now be held on Saturday, September 7, 2019.

Race officials made the decision to cancel this year's version of the event with the interest of the competitors in mind. With many teams traveling from as far away as California and New Hampshire to compete in this national event, the management team for the race wanted to save teams the additional expenses that could be involved with a weather-impacted event.

Dates Announced for CRA SpeedFest 2019

SALEM, IN - Champion Racing Association Powered by JEGS officials and the management at Crisp Motorsports Park - Home of Watermelon Capital Speedway have released the dates for CRA SpeedFest 2019. The prestigious pre-season event featuring Super Late Models and Pro Late Models will be held on Friday, January 25th and Saturday, January 26th, with Sunday January 27th as the events

rain date. As is tradition, this event is held the weekend prior to the Super Bowl every year. This will be the 8th straight year that SpeedFest has been held at Crisp Motorsports Park - Home of the Watermelon Capital Speedway, which is located in Cordele, Georgia.

This will be the fifth year for Speedway owner Wayne Lyle to host the CRA SpeedFest event at his facility. Each year he has made significant improvements to the facility to improve the experience for both the fans and the racers attending the event. Mr. Lyle has also made some positive changes for the upcoming 2019 event in order to keep it as one of the premier late model events in the country.

"Each year we look to continue to make this event one of the top late model events in the country," remarked Mr. Lyle. The South Georgia businessman noted that CRA SpeedFest 2019 we will continue with the increase purses introduced last year, with the Supers paying \$10,000 to win and the Pro's \$5,000 to win. The reduced 2-day official schedule of events with a built-in rain date on Sunday has appealed to most teams. For those that desire, practice through track

rental is still available leading up to the event, including Thursday."

CRA SpeedFest 2019 will once again consist of an ARCA/CRA Super Series Powered by JEGS special non-points 200 lap Super Late Model event and a JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour Presented by Chevrolet Performance special non-points 125 lap Pro Late Model event. Additional information about CRA SpeedFest 2019 will be released at a later date.

2019 will be the 15th SpeedFest event for ARCA/CRA Super Series Super Late Models, past winners include: 2005 Charlie Menard, 2006 Mike Fritts, 2007 Eddie Hoffman, 2008 and 2013 Jeff Choquette, 2009, 2010 and 2012 Kyle Busch, 2011, 2014 and 2015 Chase Elliott, 2016 Bubba Pollard, 2017 Harrison Burton, and this year's Chandler Smith winner.

2019 will be the seventh SpeedFest event for the JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour Pro Late Models, past winners include: 2012 and 2013 Chase Elliott, 2014, 2015 and 2016 John Hunter Nemechek, 2017 Casey Roderick and this year's winner Bubba Pollard.

Additional event information can be found at www.crispmotorsportspark.com.

Rain Postpones ARCA Shore Lunch 200 at Lucas Oil Raceway

The ARCA Racing Series presented by Menards 200 Shore Lunch 200 presented by Trail Load has been postponed due to inclement weather. A front moved in this morning associated with Tropical Storm Gordon, and persistent rains throughout the day have series and track officials to postpone the race to Saturday, October 6.

"It's always our goal to race on the originally scheduled date, but Mother Nature just didn't allow it tonight," said ARCA president Ron Drager.

"Not only was the weather not favorable tonight, the forecast for tomorrow for calls for a 100 percent chance of rain all day, so in conjunction with our partners at Track Enterprises, our Menards vendor partner and race entitlement sponsor Shore Lunch, our television partner for this weekend MAVTV, and the people here at Lucas Oil

Raceway, we decided it was best to let everyone head home rather than spend another day here in the rain. We'll look forward to coming back here on October 6 with much better weather, and in the mean time we turn our attention to the Kentuckiana Ford Dealers Fall Classic at Salem Speedway next Saturday night."

Since no on track activity has taken place at Lucas Oil Raceway, the event will still include a full round of practice, General Tire Pole Qualifying, and the Shore Lunch 200 feature event. A complete schedule will be released in the near future.

The Kentuckiana Ford Dealers Fall Classic at Salem Speedway is scheduled for Saturday, September 15. Practice is set for 1 pm ET, General Tire Pole Qualifying, and the green flag will fly shortly after 7 pm ET.

MAVTV will have live television coverage; ARCARacing.com will have live timing & scoring, track updates and scanner audio throughout the day for registered users.

Nasse, Myers, & McCaskill Highlight Latest Group Of Richmond Early Entries

NAPLES, ME - Entries continue to steadily come in as October's inaugural PASS Commonwealth Classic at Richmond Raceway draws nearer. The Pro All Stars Series (PASS) Super Late Models will be one of the headline divisions at Richmond and will compete for 100 laps and \$10,000 to win in the penultimate event of the PASS National Championship series.

Former Easter Bunny 150 winner, Stephen Nasse, from Florida and 2008 PASS National Champion, Cassius Clark, headline the latest batch of PASS Super Late Model entries. Several former Mason-Dixon Meltdown winners have entered including Brandon Setzer, Trevor Noles, Ben Rowe, and Tyler Church, along with former two-time Oxford 250 winner, Eddie MacDonald, and several drivers who were locked in through the South Boston qualifier like Lucas Jones, Jeff Batten, and Corey Heim.

But, the PASS Super Late Models will not be the only division to tackle the legendary D-shaped, 3/4-mile oval on Saturday, October 20. Stock car racing's oldest division, the ground pounding Tour-

Type Modifieds will return to Richmond for the first time since 2002, marking the biggest race for this type of car in the region all season.

The "Mod Squad" is serious about their Richmond opportunity and it shows. "Big Money" Matt Hirschman, Eric Goodale, and Modified legend, Jamie Tomaino were some of the first to enter and have now be joined by two of Southern Modified racing's biggest names, Jason Myers, and Bobby Measmer, Jr, and southern stalwart, The Hillbilly Racing team #79 driven by James Civali. Jon McKennedy, who won the first ever PASS Southern Modified event at Hickory on Easter Bunny weekend 2016, will be competing in the Tommy Baldwin-owned entry, and former Bristol winner, Patrick Emerling, will be making the trip from western New York.

NASCAR-style Late Model Stocks, Limited Late Models, and Street Stocks will all be competing on this amazing short track racing card of events under the famed lights of Richmond Raceway.

Deac McCaskill, one of the top Late Model Stock drivers in the region, has filed his early entry. Former PASS competitor and current Limited Late Model driver, Clay Jones, is entered and has expressed his excitement for the op-

portunity to race at one of America's most prestigious short tracks. And, Street Stocks from Maine to California have already sent entries in, including top MASS Street Stock racers, Ron Flynn and Kyle Lynch.

The final early entry deadline for all divisions will be on Monday, October 1 giving teams the opportunity to save money versus entering the weekend of the event.

The weekend will begin on Thursday, October 18 with hauler parking and safety inspection for all divisions from 11 AM – 5 PM. A practice day for the PASS Super Late Models, Tour-Type Modifieds, Solid Rock Carriers Late Model Stocks, Limited Late Models, and Street Stocks is scheduled for Friday, October 19 starting with gates opening and more parking at 7 AM and practice from 10AM – 5 PM. On Saturday, October 20, practice will begin at 9 AM, qualifying at 1 PM, and features starting at 4 PM with 100 laps for the PASS Super Late Models, 75 laps for the Tour-Type Modifieds and Solid Rock Carriers Late Models Stocks, 50 laps for the Limited Late Models, and 40 laps for the Street Stocks.

Entry forms for all divisions and additional information is now available at ProAllStarsSeries.com.

Fans can purchase tickets online at RichmondRaceway.com leading up to the PASS Commonwealth Classic or at the speedway the weekend of the event. And, as an added bonus, fans will be able to access Richmond's brand new,

state-of-the-art Fan Zone and watch everything going on in the garage area throughout the weekend with a paid general admission ticket.

The Pro All Stars Series is recognized as North America's premier sanctioning body for asphalt Super Late Models and boasts such marquee events as the legendary Oxford 250 at Oxford Plains Speedway, PASS South's Easter Bunny 150 at the historic Hickory Motor Speedway, and the inaugural Commonwealth Classic at Richmond Raceway. For technical information concerning all PASS divisions please send questions to passracing@roadrunner.com.

For media or marketing questions, please contact Alan Dietz at 704-231-2039 or alandietzpass@live.com. And, don't forget to "Like" the Pro All Stars Series on Facebook or follow us on Twitter @PASSSLM14 to keep up with breaking news.

Richmond Raceway is America's Premier Short Track annually hosting two NASCAR race weekends, featuring the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series and NASCAR XFINITY Series, on a 3/4-mile D-shaped oval. Richmond is a regional leader for events including sports, live music and consumer trade shows. The Richmond Raceway Complex's 1,000 plus acre multipurpose facility hosts more than 200 live events annually including concerts with top national recording artists at The Classic Amphitheater. To learn more, visit RichmondRaceway.com and richmondracewaycomplex.com.

NMPA Most Popular Driver Voting Opens

DARLINGTON, SC - Voting for the 2018 National Motorsports Press Association (NMPA) Most Popular Driver Award presented by Hooters has officially opened. Fans can cast a vote for a single driver once per day at www.nascar.com/mostpopulardriver or on the NASCAR Mobile app. Votes shared

by fans on Facebook and / or Twitter count double.

To be eligible, drivers must have declared series points and be in the Top 40 in Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series points by the start of the voting.

Voting closes for the NMPA Most

Popular Driver Award on Tuesday, November 27 at noon ET.

The 2018 NMPA Most Popular Driver will be announced during the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Awards program Thursday, Nov. 29 at Wynn Las Vegas. NBCSN, MRN and SiriusXM will provide coverage of this year's program.

The award was first presented to Curtis Turner in 1949 at the completion of NASCAR's inaugural season. It has been administered by the NMPA and presented annually by the organization since 1983 and remains the only major NASCAR award determined solely by fan vote.

Nineteen drivers have received the award at least once since the program began. NMPA Hall of Fame member and 1988 Cup Se-

ries champion Bill Elliott holds the record for most popular driver award wins with 16 coming in 1984 to 1988, 1991 to 2000 and 2002. Former Hendrick Motorsports driver Dale Earnhardt Jr. won the award 15 consecutive seasons from 2003 to 2017.

"With me retiring, there's a great opportunity for a lot of these guys, the younger guys particularly, who are more social media savvy," Earnhardt Jr. said in 2017. "There's a great opportunity for them to engage fans, introduce themselves to fans, but it really comes down to their relatability and the fan's ability to feel like they're the next door neighbor or the guy they're going to meet at the bar or run into at the grocery store. Whoever that guy is for them, that's who

they'll pull for.

"...We touted our accessibility to the fans as something that sets us apart from other sports; it makes us unique and it's something we take a lot of pride in. The trophy itself is representative of that access. I've learned over the years it's not really just a popularity award or about one individual. It's really about the fan base that puts the effort in to not only vote for the award but to cheer for that driver and support him week in and week out."



Rico Abreu Pockets \$15,000 in Gold Cup Thriller

CHICO, CA - Rico Abreu went from third to first to lead Lap 26 and never looked back, securing his second Gold Cup title in a slide job war Saturday Night at Silver Dollar Speedway. Tim Kaeding, in a second Sides Motorsports entry, finished second for the second consecutive night with Cory Eliason completing the all-California podium.

16-year-old Buddy Kofoid won the Sears Craftsman Dash by 4.921 seconds to earn the pole for the 40-Lap Gold Cup Race of Champions alongside Justin Sanders, both drivers in search of their first career World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series victories.

Kofoid and Sanders set a slow pace as the field came to Green and Kofoid slipped off the bottom, opening the door for third-starting Cory Eliason to blast into the lead and take command.

With three provisionals being used, there were 27 410 Sprint Cars blasting around the tight-quartered Silver Dollar Speedway. Eliason, aboard the famous Roth Motorsports No.83, reached lapped traffic on Lap 5 around the bullring oval. Cars were littered all around the racing surface as Eliason worked through traffic to extend his lead.

Tanner Thorson established himself as a threat, coming forward from his seventh starting position to grab second on Lap 10 as he set his eyes on Eliason in search of his first career Outlaw win. Rico Abreu, who came from eighth to fifth in the Dash, moved into third on Lap 12, shuffling young Kofoid back to fourth with Sanders in fifth.

As Eliason negotiated heavy lapped traffic, Thorson closed in on Lap 18 and took a peak underneath the Roth Motorsports No.83. The duo battled hard, allowing Abreu to clear slower cars and reel both of them in.

Thorson used a big slider in three and four on Eliason to take the lead on Lap 25. Eliason tried to get back by into turn one, but left the door open for Abreu who took second down the backstretch and then went for the home run slider in turn three and completed it to take the lead from Thorson and lead

Lap 26 with the crowd on their feet.

Eliason and Thorson continued to battle it out for second with the pair making contact with 27 laps complete, resulting in a broken front axle of Thorson's No.3C. Thorson's night was done, moving ninth-starting Tim Kaeding into third and defending Gold Cup Champion Shane Stewart into fourth.

The first caution of the event allowed the fans and drivers to catch their breath after an action-packed first 27 laps. A pair of cautions on the ensuing double-file restart and two laps later kept the action tame.

When action resumed Abreu darted away from the field as Kaeding and Eliason waged for second. The duo made contact coming off of turn four on Lap 31, allowing Stewart to get to third in front of Kaeding. The final caution of the evening flew for Outlaw Rookie Ian Madsen with front end damage with nine laps remaining.

Again, Abreu blasted away from the field as Kaeding, Eliason and Stewart battled for position behind him. The trio of cars battling allowed Abreu to run and hide en route to his second Outlaw win of the season in popular fashion and be crowned Gold Cup Champion for the second time in his career.

"It is so much fun to drive when your car is like it was tonight," Abreu said in compliments of his young team, which features no one older than 23 years old.



Rico Abreu raced his way to victory lane at Silver Dollar Speedway for his second Gold Cup title. (Paul Arch photo)

"They are a young group, but they are becoming the best in the business. It's hard to find a group of young guys that want to work. They all want to race, but my guys want to work. Drivers can showcase their talents when their cars are fast," Abreu added speaking highly of his crew headlined by Ricky Warner's son, Drew.

"I grew up racing here every Friday night in Sprint Cars, so this track is close to home to me. It's great to get a win, especially when you beat the Outlaws," Abreu said with a big smile to a huge roar from the crowd.

Tim Kaeding edged in front Eliason for good to secure second on back-to-back nights. "I have to thank Jason Sides and everyone that came on board for this deal. They let me have fun and that's the

one thing that has been lacking the past few years," Kaeding said.

"That was one hell of a race from my point of view, I hope you fans enjoyed it, because that was fun," Kaeding added to another large applause from the engaged crowd.

Cory Eliason completed the all-California podium and took the time to apologize to Thorson. "I want to apologize to Tanner for getting into him," Eliason said humbly. "Tim and I got into each other, but we both kept going and you get that racing hard on a slick track. It was a great week," Eliason, who finished fifth Friday, added.

Shane Stewart was the highest finishing Outlaw, coming home fourth with young Kofoid netting a career-best fifth. Justin Sanders finished sixth with 13th-starting

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Shane Golobic coming forward to seventh, as California was well-represented up front for the second night in a row.

Outlaws Donny Schatz and Brad Sweet charged forward from 19th and 16th, respectively, to finish eighth and ninth with track champion Andy Forsberg completing the top ten. DJ Netto garnered KSE Hard Charger honors

coming from 24th to finish 12th. Brent Marks made noise by running the alphabet, transferring from the C to the Feature, where he came home 17th in his second weekend at Silver Dollar. Joey Saldana set Quick Time over the 41-car field but was on the wrong end of contact in his Heat Race, sending him to the LCS, which he won and then came forward to 15th in the Feature.

The World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series and California locals get three days off before heading to Placerville for the \$20,000 to win 49er Gold Rush Classic on Wednesday, September 12. As always, if you can't make it to the track, catch all the action LIVE on DIRTVision.com.

Brad Sweet Gets His 6th of the Year in Front of Hometown Crowd at Silver Dollar Speedway

CHICO, CA - Grass Valley, California native Brad Sweet passed Tim Kaeding on Lap 17 and powered around a Kaeding slide job in the Green-White-Checkered finish to win his sixth World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series Feature of 2018. Tim Kaeding, aboard a second Sides Motorsports entry, settled for second and his brother Bud Kaeding completed the podium.

Tim Kaeding, fresh off of a fifth-place finish at the Knoxville Nationals, won the Sears Craftsman Dash to earn the pole for the 30-Lap Feature alongside fellow California native Cory Eliason. Eliason powered off the cushion of turn four to lead the opening lap with Kaeding in tow.

Eliason, aboard the famous Roth Motorsports No.83, reached traffic quickly around the quarter-



Brad Sweet raced his way to his sixth win of the year with the World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series with a victory at Silver Dollar Speedway in front of his hometown crowd. (Paul Arch photo)

mile oval and Kaeding took advantage with a slider to lead Lap 9. Meanwhile, Brad Sweet worked his way forward from his fifth-starting spot to third on Lap 10.

Sweet battled with Eliason for second for a couple circuits before securing the position for good on Lap 14. Sweet set his eyes on Kaeding and reeled him in quickly in heavy lapped traffic before completing the slide job for the lead in turn one to lead Lap 17.

As Sweet motored away, Kaeding and Eliason waged war for second with the latter taking the position at the conclusion of the 18th circuit. Bud Kaeding closed in on his brother and Eliason making it a three-car battle for the runner-up position. Tim Kaeding established the position and tried to reel Sweet back in as the leaders sliced and diced their way through traffic around the bullring.

Sweet had a comfortable lead coming to the White Flag, but a caution for Buddy Kofoid put the celebration on hold. A Green-White-Checkered finish would end the race, officially making the event 31 laps.

Tim Kaeding threw a big slider into turn one, but Sweet stayed on the gas, powered around him down the backstretch and went on to win his sixth Feature of 2018.

"I've been coming here since I was a kid and it's cool to get a win here. It's all about tomorrow night now, it would be awesome to get a Gold Cup victory tomorrow, that's something I dreamed about as a kid," Sweet said next to his NAPA Racing, Kasey Kahne No.49.

When prompted about the late restart, Sweet didn't hold back, "I

made a mistake and I will learn from it in the future. I think I had the best car, but you've got to finish that restart," the Grass Valley, CA native added.

Tim Kaeding continued his impressive week coming home second in the Sides Motorsports No.3.

"It's a privilege to be able to drive for Jason. Jason is a great guy and one of the last true guys in the sport. It's great to be competitive with the Outlaws again," Kaeding said.

When asked about the last restart Kaeding chuckled and said, "10 years ago I probably would have crashed both of us."

The San Jose, CA fan-favorite concluded the interview by encouraging the large crowd to get some cold beer and go to the annual Chili Feed.

Tim's brother, Bud, was pleased to be on the podium aboard the famous Williams No.0. "I don't think I've ever been on the podium with the Outlaws. Morrie and Kate Williams have been doing this a long time and I can't thank them enough," Bud said in appreciation before thanking the fans for supporting Gold Cup and dirt track racing.

10th-starting Shane Golobic, who competed last night in the BC39 at Indianapolis Motor Speedway, finished fourth with Eliason fading to fifth.

Following Sweet to the line were seven California locals, meaning the first eight finishers were California natives to the delight of the hometown crowd. Outlaws Ian Madsen and Shane Stewart completed the top-ten. Daryn Pittman

garnered KSE Hard Charger honors coming from 18th to 11th.

Donny Schatz Does It Again at Willamette Speedway

LEBANON, OR - Donny Schatz won for the second time in 48 hours, passing Logan Schuchart on Lap 14 to win his 19th World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series Feature of 2018 Wednesday at Willamette Speedway in the Series lone visit to Oregon. Schuchart, who passed Schatz on Lap 4 and led 10 laps, settled for second with David Gravel completing the podium.

Overcoming a mediocre Qualifying effort, Schatz was able to come from fourth to second in his Heat Race to earn a spot in the Sears Craftsman Dash. Schatz drew the one for the Dash and won it to earn the pole for the 30-Lap Feature, alongside David Gravel.

Schatz got the jump on the initial start and led the opening lap. Logan Schuchart and Shane Stewart fought their way to second and third, with Gravel getting shuffled back to fourth. Brent Marks came to a stop on Lap 2, bringing out the caution and setting up a double-file restart.

Schatz chose the bottom and stayed committed down there as Schuchart got a run to his outside. Schuchart used a big surge off the cushion of turn four to lead the fourth circuit.

Schuchart reached lapped traffic on Lap 9 and negotiated it well, but Schatz stayed right with him. Schatz continued to stalk Schuchart through traffic.

Schuchart followed the slower car of Willie Croft on the bottom into turn one on Lap 13 and then slipped up on the bottom off of turn four and that was all the nine-time Series Champion needed to steal the top spot back and lead Lap 14.

A long Green Flag run allowed Schatz to show his prowess in lapped traffic as he built a sizable advantage over Schuchart. Behind Schuchart a slew of cars were littered across the racing surface, waging war for third through sixth.

Ian Madsen brought out the Yellow Flag with 26 laps complete and four laps to run, giving Schuchart and company one last chance to get Schatz for the win. Schuchart followed Schatz into turn one on the bottom and tried to get a run off of turn four to no avail, as Schatz powered away and won by 1.804 seconds for the 19th time in 2018.

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"I was a little evil early, I was trying to burn off the fuel and the more I did, the better I got. My car was really good, hats off to my guys, they are the ones that should be standing here," Schatz said of his Tony Stewart Racing No.15 crew.

When asked about the long Green Flag run, Schatz said, "That's what you live for when you are run-

ning second, or when you are leading. If you can get out front and you do the right things in lapped traffic, you know it."

"There were a lot of grooves out there, a top, a bottom and a middle sometimes. Hats off to the track crew for providing an excellent race track," Schatz, who also won at Willamette in 2016, said of the racing surface.

Schuchart settled for second and wasted no time complimenting Schatz.

"Props to the 15 team, they do a great job every night and Donny

drove a great race. Second-place is still pretty good and this Team Drydene, Shark Racing No.1S is really fast right now. I'm proud of where we are at," Schuchart said with confidence.

After starting on the front row David Gravel fell as far back as sixth before finding speed on the top side of the racing surface to surge back to third.

"We tried to run the bottom early and I went backwards so I had to move up and make some of that ground back up. It's good to be on the podium, but when you start up front you want to get some wins. Hopefully we can keep this momentum going," Gravel said next to his CJB Motorsports No.5 machine.

2014 Willamette winner Shane Stewart finished fourth with Sheldon Haudenschild rim-riding his way to fifth.

13th-starting Kyle Larson, in his 8th Outlaw start of the year, came forward to sixth with his brother-in-law Brad Sweet finishing seventh. Daryn Pittman, Joey Saldana, who set Quick Time to open the evening, and 20th-starting Rico Abreu completed the top-ten. Abreu's efforts were good enough to garner KSE Hard Charger honors in his first visit to Willamette

Speedway.

Historic Calistoga Speedway to Conclude 2018 Season with Two-Day World of Outlaws Invasion

CONCORD, NC - The World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series will conclude all West Coast appearances for the 40th Anniversary season at quite possibly the most scenic facility in the country, Calistoga Speedway, on Friday, September 14 and Saturday, September 15. The 2018 Wine Country Outlaw Showdown will also wrap up the racing season at the historic speedway.

Calistoga has been a staple on the World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Series schedule throughout its 40-year history, dating back to 1978 when Rick Ferkel won the first World of Outlaws event contested at the half-mile during the inaugural season.

The past two years at the famed half-mile, Brad Sweet and Donny Schatz have split the weekend with a win each, and heading into the 2018 edition, Sweet and Schatz continue to lead the Series regulars

from track to track.

Sweet, a California native, always enjoys coming home to race at the historic facility. "We race all over the country all season-long, so it's always good to be able to come back home and race in front of your friends and family," Sweet said of the hometown date.

Of course, added success at the half-mile doesn't hurt the cause as well. "I have had a lot of success at Calistoga over the years. It's one of the most scenic tracks in the country, and it's treated me well throughout my career," added Sweet, who has won three of the last six World of Outlaws events at the facility.

As always on the West Coast, a strong contingent of locals will be on hand looking to steal a win from the Outlaws. While the California locals have had their fair share of success around the state, they have never defeated the Outlaws at the big half-mile. Expect Kyle Hirst, Bud Kaeding, Gio Scelzi and the rest of the Golden State natives to look to change that in 2018.

Tickets for the Wine Country Outlaw Showdown are still available online.

If you can't make it to the track, be sure to watch all the action LIVE on DIRTVision.com.

Craftsman WoO Late Model Series Returns to Selinsgrove Speedway

SELINGROVE, PA - Selinsgrove Speedway will present the 20th Anniversary Jeff's Auto Body & Recycling Center Late Model National Open sanctioned by the Craftsman World of Outlaws Late Model Series at 7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 22.

This year's special anniversary running of the track's crown jewel stock car event will pay \$10,000 to win and \$700 to start the 50-lap main event out of the \$40,000-plus purse.

Joining the super late models on the racing card will be the limited late models in a 20-lap feature paying \$1,000 to win and \$100 to start.

In last year's Late Model National Open, former 12-time track champion Jeff Rine of Danville scored his first career win in a World of Outlaws main event which also marked his fifth victory in the Open. Rine's other Open wins occurred in 2005, 2006, 2008, and

2009.

Previously, Darrell Lanigan of Union, Ky., won three straight Selinsgrove Late Model Opens sanctioned by the World of Outlaws from 2013-2015 with Billy Moyer Jr. of Batesville, Ark., claiming a WoO win in 2016.

Chris Shuey of Orefield won the inaugural Late Model Open in 1999 followed by a win in the 2001 race. Nick Dickson of Lewistown is the only other repeat winner with victories in 2007 and 2012.

Other past winners of the Late Model Open include Kenny Pettyjohn of Millsboro, Del. (2000); Dale Kerstetter of Liverpool (2002); Jeff Smith of Blain (2003); Scott Haus of Hamburg (2004); Dan Stone of Thompson (2010); and Rick Eckert of York (2011).

Tickets for the World of Outlaws Late Model Series National Open will be sold on race day only. Pit gates will open at 3 p.m. with grandstand gates at 4 p.m. Qualifying is slated for 7 p.m.

Limited late model rules in effect for this race include 358 cubic inch

maximum engines and any brand of 11 inch tires. The limited late model weight rule will be 2,350 pounds with driver.

FREE camping will be permitted on the speedway grounds over the race weekend. Campers must park in the new upper lot designated for

camping. Campers are not permitted to park in any of the center sections of the speedway lot.

For the latest news, results, and race status, visit selinsgrovespeedway.com or follow us on Twitter and Facebook. The speedway office can be reached at 570.374.2266.

Kelly Miller Charges To ASCS Frontier Win at Gallatin Speedway

BELGRADE, MT - Marking the seventh time that Kelly Miller has rolled into Victory Lane with the Brodix ASCS Frontier Region, the Canadian shoe used a late race caution to grab the win Friday night at Gallatin Speedway.

Battling with Trevor Kirkland in the closing laps, the No. 2 utilized the high side of the three-eighths-mile oval to gain the advantage over the No. 37. Holding on for the runner-up spot, the pair were joined on the podium by Kory Wermling with Cody Masse fourth and Anthony Farnsworth, from 11th, to complete

the top-five.

David Hoiness crossed sixth and is the 2018 Brodix ASCS Frontier Region Champion. Shad Petersen, Shane Moore, Damon McCune, and James Setters filled out the top ten.

The Brodix ASCS Frontier Region thanks the tracks, teams, and fans who have stood with the series in 2018, and look forward to being a part of Sprint Car Racing across Montana and beyond in 2019.

For other news, notes, and information on the American Sprint Car Series, from the National Tour to any of the Regional Tours log onto hwww.ascsracing.com, follow on Facebook, on Instagram, and on Twitter (@LucasOilASCS).

Freddie Rahmer Earns Night Before The Tuscarora 50 Win at Port Royal Speedway

PORT ROYAL, PA - Snapping a Lance Dewease win streak of five consecutive Arctic Cat All Star Circuit of Champions presented by Mobil 1 victories at the Juniata County Fairgrounds half-mile, Salfordville, Pennsylvania's Freddie Rahmer

is a main event winner at Port Royal Speedway, holding off a pair of Pennsylvania hotshoes for the Night Before The Tuscarora 50 presented by Tedd Reitz crown worth \$5,000.

Although dominate for much of the 30 turned 31-lap main event, Rahmer would earn his place on the coveted Port Royal Speedway victory lane platform in dramatic fashion, forced to hold back the 'Steel City Outlaw' Tim Shaffer and the 'Kunkletown Kid' Ryan Smith during a green-white-checked finish. Rahmer prevailed, ultimately driving away from Shaffer, Smith, Brock Zearfoss, and Lance Dewease to the final checkers. The victory, his second All Star Circuit of Champions triumph of the season, was Rahmer's first-ever at the Port Royal 'Speed Palace.'

"This feels great. I knew if we got the car where it needed to be, we were going to be good," Freddie Rahmer said in victory lane, driver of the Leffler Energy No. 51R. "There are so many parts of the night that need to go together to make this happen, the dash draw included. You can't let up when you have a guy like Tim Shaffer behind you. I just want to thank everyone who helps on the car. We have a guy helping us who lives right around here. It's cool to win this for him."

After a caution during the initial start for a slowing Trey Starks, the Night Before The Tuscarora 50 presented by Tedd Reitz main event was officially underway with the 'Steel City Outlaw' Tim Shaffer earning the early advantage, racing by the flagstand for the first time with Freddie Rahmer and Ryan Smith in tow.

Shaffer led the first six circuits undisturbed, eventually reaching the back of the field for the first time on lap seven.

As traffic intensified, so did the

battle for the lead. Cutting down on Shaffer's advantage in the hurry, Freddie Rahmer used traffic to his advantage and closed the gap to a car-length as the leaders checked off lap eight.

As the lead duo entered turn one on lap nine, Rahmer pounced, diving to the bottom of the speedway in an attempt to slide Shaffer for the lead. Although Shaffer was able to cut back underneath Rahmer to regain control, Rahmer did not lose focus, eventually chasing Shaffer down the backstretch before sliding the Aliquippa, Pa., native once again in turns three and four, this time making the move stick.

Although forced to slow for cautions on laps 10, 13, and 21, the only true challenge for Rahmer after working to the lead was on lap 30 when the field was forced to halt once again, this time for a slowing Jared Esh, ultimately turning the situation into an open red to allow teams to add fuel. The caution erased a near-three second advantage for Rahmer.

Due to All Star rules mandating that a feature must be finished with two consecutive green flag laps, the ensuing restart resulted in a green-white-checked restart, planting the 'Steel City Outlaw' on Rahmer's back bumper.

On the restart, Shaffer dived to the bottom of turns one and two forcing Rahmer up the track. Although the move looked convincing, Rahmer held on, powering back to comfortable advantage as the pair raced down the backstretch.

The 31st and final circuit proved



Freddie Rahmer celebrates in victory lane after winning the Tuscarora 50 at Port Royal Speedway. Rahmer snapped a 5 race Lance Dewease win streak at Port Royal. (allstarsprint.com photo)

to be much like the rest; all Freddie Rahmer at the front of the field, eventually crossing under the final checkers with Tim Shaffer and Ryan Smith in tow.

"Timmy [Shaffer] was getting loose there at the beginning. I was lucky to be able to get by him in traffic," Rahmer continued.

"I could feel that I was starting to get low on fuel there at the end, then the red flag came out. I got lucky there. That was still too many shots for Shaffer to get by me. I need to do a better job on my restarts. If you have clean air, you can really build some speed. It means so much to win this race."

Mother Nature Washes Out Tuscarora 50

PORT ROYAL, PA - Despite an attempt to outrun incoming wet weather by starting approximately 90 minutes earlier than previously scheduled, Mother Nature prevailed and made an appearance just after the first Tuscarora 50 heat race was called to staging.

With light to moderately heavy rain saturating the Port Royal

Speedway surface, mixed with a forecast predicting heavy amounts of precipitation throughout the overnight hours, Arctic Cat All Star Circuit of Champions presented by Mobil 1 and Port Royal Speedway officials were left with no choice but to postpone the 51st running of the Tuscarora 50 until tomorrow - Sunday, September 9. The program will start from scratch with hot laps beginning at 5 p.m.

Trey Starks set the evening's overall fast time before the rain took over. There were 53 cars entered for action.

In case you missed the action from Port Royal Speedway, MAVTV Motorsports Network, the official television home of the All Star Circuit of Champions in 2018, was on hand to capture all of the action from the Night Before The Tuscarora 50. The Night Before The Tuscarora 50 will air on MAVTV Motorsports Network on Sunday, October 14, at 8 p.m. and 11 p.m.

Those wanting to learn more about MAVTV Motorsports Network should visit MAVTV live on the Web at www.mavtv.com.

Balance of World 100 Postponed to October 12th and 13th

ROSSBURG, OH - A dire forecast that will bring several inches of flooding rain to the area has forced Eldora Speedway officials to postpone the balance of the 48th World 100 weekend to Friday, October 12th and Saturday, October 13th.

"The news on the weather just keeps getting worse, flash flood watches are becoming warnings and green on the radar is turning red," said Roger Slack, General Manager. "We need to be mindful of the safety of our fans, guests and competitors. There is a lot of rain coming, the Wabash is rising quickly, the infield may flood, and we are expecting very heavy winds. It's best that we get the

campers and racers on their way back home and hold the event in far more enjoyable conditions on October 12th and 13th."

The postponement turns Eldora's #LastCallForThemAll season finale into a three-day blockbuster with the World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series already scheduled for Sunday, October 14th.

Fans and competitors should retain all tickets, wristbands and camping permits as rainchecks for the rescheduled event.

Full details will be posted on www.EldoraSpeedway.com when available.

Charlotte Motor Speedway
CONCORD, NC -

John Gray's lime green 1970 Plymouth Barracuda was as good as gold in Sunday's Pennzoil AutoFair presented by Advance Auto Parts at Charlotte Motor Speedway, earning Walt Hollifield Best of Show honors in a hotly contested showcase of colorful classic cars,

hot rods and sports cars.

Gray, a Ho-Ho-Kus, New Jersey, native, bought the car in 1991 in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, after owning a different version of the same ride in the 1970s. Gray's Barracuda also earned Best Paint honors in his first time bringing a classic car to AutoFair.

"It's quite a thrill," said Gray, who used his original Barracuda for drag racing before selling it years prior to buying the overall winner. "I'm very surprised. We just retired here to Denver, North Carolina, a year and a half ago. I had visited (AutoFair) before but we've never exhibited a car."

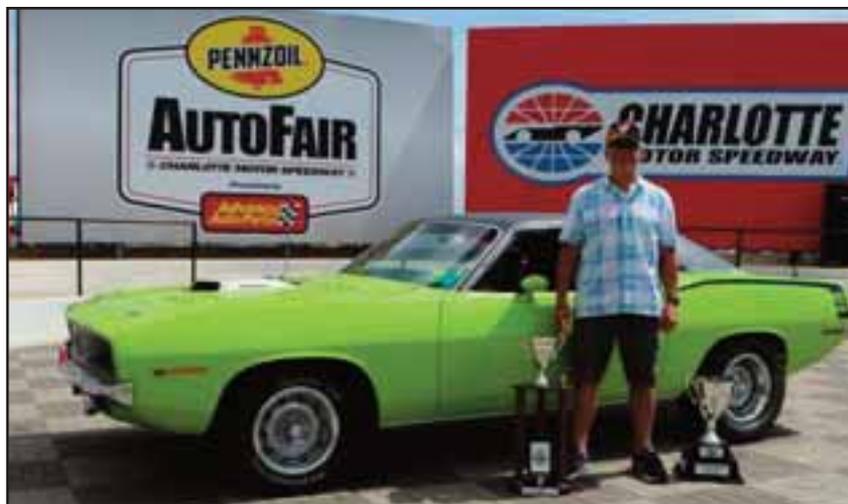
Attendees at the world's largest automotive spectacular also witnessed a breathtaking drift car exhibition featuring world-renowned drift superstar Vaughn Gittin Jr., a smoke-billowing burnout contest and special displays honoring road racing and the late Carroll Shelby's historic Shelby Mustangs.

MORE INFO: After four days of family-friendly fun and eye-catching examples of automotive excellence at Charlotte's 1.5-mile superspeedway, judges presented additional awards to:

- Best of Show Runner-up: Terry Drumm's white 1965 Plymouth Barracuda
- Best of Show Second Runner-up: Chad Gragg's black 1929 Ford Model A
- Bob Laidlein Award (Most Original): Peter Ashby's canary yellow 1978 Toyota Corolla
- Mecklenburg Strelitz Award (Ladies' Choice): Allen King's 1968 cabernet red Chevrolet Camaro
- Cabarrus Cup (Most Creative): Will Yarborough's blue-and-black 2012 Dodge Charger
- Concord Concours (Best Restoration): Scott Barrett's aqua 1964 Chevrolet Chevelle

Talladega Superspeedway

TALLADEGA, AL - Top NASCAR veterans Kevin Harvick, Martin Truex Jr. and Clint Bowyer com-



A lime green 1970 Plymouth Barracuda owned by Ho-Ho-Kus, New Jersey, native John Gray captured Walt Hollifield Best of Show honors in the Pennzoil AutoFair presented by Advance Auto Parts on Sunday at Charlotte Motor Speedway. (CMS/Adam Fenwick photo)

prise a trio set to partake in the Pre-Race Fan Question & Answer Session prior to Talladega Superspeedway's 1000Bulbs.com 500 Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series event on Sunday, Oct. 14.

Held at Talladega's famous start-finish line, race fans will get the opportunity to ask drivers questions in advance of the critical second race in the Round of 12 in the MENCs Playoffs. With a victory in the 1000Bulbs.com 500, a playoff driver can clinch a spot in the Round of 8. Fans who purchase Talladega's Pre-Race Pit Pass Upgrade will have access to the exclusive session.

Additional drivers who will join the Fan Q&A line-up will be announced at a later date.

Along with interacting with some of NASCAR's brightest stars with the Pre-Race Pit Pass Upgrade, fans will also have the chance to walk down pit road and gain access to watch their favorite drivers make their way down the red carpet to the Drivers Meeting as well as numerous exhilarating festivities at the pre-race stage, including Driver Introductions. Below is a run-down on the trio headlining this fall's Fan Q&A:

Kevin Harvick, driver of the No. 4 Ford for Stewart-Haas Racing, has competed in 35 MENCs races at Alabama's 2.66-mile tri-oval. The 2014 MENCs Champion captured his sole series track victory in the 2010 GEICO 500, and has also racked up three runner-up finishes along with seven top-five and 15 top-10 results in his Cup career at Talladega. He has also started on the pole twice at the superspeedway, including in the GEICO 500 earlier this season. It has been an historic year for "The Closer" so far, including a career-high seven victories and a series-best 12 stage

wins.

Martin Truex Jr., driver of the No. 78 Toyota for Furniture Row Racing, will be making his 28th MENCs start at Talladega this fall. The reigning MENCs Champion has finished in the top 10 eight times, and earned the pole in the 2016 1000Bulbs.com 500. But more than a decade ago, Truex dominated NASCAR's biggest track in the NASCAR Xfinity Series, where he took three straight trips to Gatorade Victory Lane from 2004 to 2006. A victory at Talladega this fall for Truex, who already has four wins this season, would also give car owner Barney Visser his first triumph in his 27th start at the track.

Clint Bowyer, driver of the No. 14 Ford for Stewart-Haas Racing, has grabbed two wins (2010 and 2011 fall races) in his 25 MENCs starts at the "biggest & baddest" track in NASCAR. Bowyer has tallied six top fives and 12 top 10s in the MENCs at Talladega, as well as one pole and two top-10 finishes in eight NASCAR Xfinity Series races at the 33-degree banked venue. The 39-year-old is having his best season since he finished runner-up in the MENCs championship in 2012, earning a drive to victory lane twice along with six top-five and 11 top-10 finishes in the first 25 races of the season.

To purchase the Pre-Race Pit Pass Upgrade, visit www.talladegasuperspeedway.com/pitpass or call 855-518-RACE (7223). The doubleheader NASCAR Playoff weekend kicks off on Friday, Oct. 12, with qualifying for the Talladega 250 NASCAR Camping World Truck Series event. It, too, has playoff implications as the final race in the Round of 8 where the field of title con-

tenders will be trimmed from eight to six. The Talladega 250 is set for a noon CDT start on Saturday, Oct. 13. Sunday's (Oct. 14) 1000Bulbs.com 500 gets the green flag at 1 p.m. CDT.

Dover International Speedway

DOVER, DE - The annual NASCAR Hauler Parade, presented by Delaware's Quaint Villages, will be held through the City of Dover on Thursday, Oct. 4 as part of the festivities surrounding the Oct. 5-7 NASCAR tripleheader weekend, Dover International Speedway officials announced today.

A line of Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series haulers will travel on some of the city's most prominent streets and near some of Kent County's famous landmarks, including Legislative Hall, Loockerman Street, and State Street on the way toward the Speedway. The parade will begin at 5 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

The hauler parade will roll through Legislative Mall in Downtown Dover and proceed on Legislative Avenue before turning left onto Loockerman Street, then right on South State Street. From there, the haulers will proceed to the track via Leipsic Road and arrive at approximately 5:45 p.m.

The parade will pass directly in front of Dover's Grey Fox Grille and Public House (140 S. State Street), which will host a "Hauler Happy Hour" from 5-7 p.m. Drink specials and NASCAR merchandise giveaways will be available.

The Oct. 5-7 NASCAR tripleheader weekend includes the "Crosley 125" NASCAR K&N Pro Series East race on Friday, Oct. 5, the NASCAR Xfinity Series playoff race on Saturday, Oct. 6 and the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series playoff race on Sunday, Oct. 7.

The Sunday, Oct. 7 race is the fourth race of the 2018 Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series playoffs, and the opening race in the Round of 12. A dozen drivers will look to secure advancement in the post-season by earning the checkered flag after 400 grueling laps around the world's fastest one-mile concrete oval.

For tickets or more information, call (800) 441-RACE or visit DoverSpeedway.com.

Carteret County Speedway

SWANSBORO, NC – Carteret County Speedway has canceled Saturday night's racing program, which featured the MASS Street Stocks, due to the looming threat from category four Hurricane Florence.

Hurricane Florence is expected to hit the coastal region of North Carolina on Friday and possibly linger into the weekend. Over the past weekend, North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper issued a State of Emergency and Carteret County officials have also placed the entire county under a local State of Emergency.

"With Hurricane Florence looming and the area under a state of emergency, we have made the decision to cancel Saturday's race," Carteret County Speedway media relations director Andy Marquis said. "The safety of our fans and drivers is first and foremost for us, and there is no good reason for us to try to push forward and race. We urge our fans to take this storm seriously, monitor local media and heed advice from authorities during this storm and we hope for the best for everyone."

The September 29th date was also pulled from the schedule last week due to scheduling conflicts. The next race at Carteret County Speedway will be on Saturday, October 6th with Late Models headlining the event. A makeup date for the MASS Street Stocks has not yet been announced. Carteret County Speedway will also have races on Saturday, October 27th and a recently added date on Saturday, November 15th.

For more information about Carteret County Speedway, visit the track's official website at www.carteretspeedway.com, "like" Carteret County Speedway on Facebook or follow @carteretcoswy on Twitter.

Hickory Motor Speedway

The thunder rumbled in the Catawba Valley on Saturday night, not from severe weather, but instead from the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series roaring back to life on Sheetz Night at the Races presented by Gaston Rentals.

Leading off the night would be the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series Late Models with the first of

two 40 laps features on the night. Thomas Beane in the #31 would light up the scoreboard with a sub-15 second lap to grab the top spot in qualifying. The #29 of Mitch Walker would turn a fast lap and only be .009 of a second slower than the pole to qualify second. Austin Green in the #2 would start third with 2-time Hickory Motor Speedway winner Chris Hudspeth in the #28 qualifying fourth. As the field was preparing to take the 'one lap to go to green' signal the #51 of Jeremy Pelfrey would hit put road with mechanical issues. The yellow would fly as Pelfrey's crew would work hard to make repairs and he would rejoin the field in the rear. When the green flew Beane would take the early lead as the field would be close in tow. The yellow flag would fly on lap 16 for debris on the track in turn two. When the green flag would fly once again Beane would get another great restart and pull out to the lead. Green would follow Beane and slip by Walker for second place. Beane would set the pace as Green and Walker were hot on his heels giving chase. With 2 laps to go Beane would have to navigate lapped traffic as Green was bearing down on him. Beane would handle the traffic masterfully and drive on to the victory, his second at America's Most Famous Short Track. Green would have a great run finishing 2nd as would Walker who would finish 3rd. Monty Cox in the #21 would move up to finish 4th with multi-time Hickory Motor Speedway winner Chris Hudspeth in the #28 finishing 5th.

The One Design Super Trucks would hit the track next for 35 laps with their season points battle tightening up as they prepare for next week's finale. The man with the hot hand of late, Charlie Neill in the #26 would set the fast time of 15.572 to

take the top spot with Allen Huffman in the #51 only .01 of a second behind in second place. Sheflon Clay in the #15 would be third fast with Dakota Slagle in the #13 qualifying in the fourth spot. The field would be in tight formation looking for the green flag as the division points leader Huffman would pull to a stop on the outside of turn four bringing out the caution flag. The Huffman crew would work furiously but be unable to get the truck back into competition as the field would take the green flag. Clay would get the early jump and move to the top spot with Neill hot on his heels. Lap 16 would see Neill move around Clay for the top spot. The yellow flag would fly for an accident on the backstretch involving the #33 of Kosma Guznyakov. The green flag would fly again with Neill and Clay battling for the top spot and a chance at the division championship to be decided next week between themselves and Huffman. Neill would nose ahead for the lead with Clay hooked to his bumper for several laps. Neill would drive on to the win and take the points lead going into the final race. Clay would finish 2nd while Slagle would finish 3rd. Josh Stark in the #39 would finish 4th and Guznyakov would round out the top 5.

Rolling off next would be the Hickory Vintage Racers for 25 laps in their season ending race. Tim Gilbert in the #95 would make the most of his return to Hickory Motor Speedway by grabbing the pole position with series points leader, Bill Powell in the #71 starting to his outside. Gilbert would jump to the early lead with Powell close in tow. As the laps counted down Gilbert would battle lapped traffic giving Powell a chance to close in on the lead, but Gilbert would hang on for the win. Powell would finish 2nd

and win the 2018 Hickory Motor Speedway Vintage Racers Track Championship. Robert Webb in the #6 would finish 3rd with Mackie Webb in the #16 finishing 4th.

The rowdy Renegades would hit the track next for 20 laps of excitement. Kenneth Roberts in the #8 would set the fast time to start from the top spot with the #1 of Justin Austin to his outside. Roberts would nose ahead at the start and move to the lead in the first corner. The #83 of David Hasson would make the move under Austin for second. The pair would make contact in turn two and never separate until hitting the backstretch wall hard, taking both cars out of the night's competition. The restart would see Roberts once again take the lead with the #7 of Brian Larkin giving chase. Roberts would prove too strong and drive on to the win with Larkin finishing 2nd. Robbie Hollifield in the #51 would finish 3rd, Austin would finish 4th, and Hasson would round out the top five in 5th.

Next up would 35 laps for the always exciting Paramount Auto Group Limited Late Models. Hickory Motor Speedway points leader Pat Rachels in the #34 would set the fast time and start from the top spot with Vince Midas in the #14 to his outside starting second. Gage Painter in the #12 and Brandon Lemke in the #22 would make up the second row starting third and fourth respectively. Rachels and Midas would battle side by side for the top spot for several laps. Midas would eventually nose ahead with Rachels close in his tire tracks. Skirmishes would rage throughout the field, but cool heads would prevail and the race would be run with no caution flags, but plenty of action. At lap 25 Rachels would reel in Midas and set up a spectacular battle for the win. The lead duo would battle side by side for rest of the race with no clear leader decided until the waning moments. The battle would continue to rage even on the final corner of the final lap and all the way to the checkered flag as Midas would take the win by a nose. Rachels would finish 2nd and extend his points lead going into the final race next week. Brandon Lemke in the #22, winner of last week's Bobby Isaac Memorial Limited race would go on to finish 3rd. Painter would finish 4th and Taylor Gray in the #15 would finish 5th.

The Cosmo Motors Street Stocks would roar to life next for their 30 lap feature. Hickory Motor
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Thomas Beane celebrates in Hickory's victory lane after winning the first of the twin Late Model races Saturday night. (SHERRI STEARNS photo)

(Continued...)

Speedway points leader, Troy DeMarmels in the #18 would top the speed charts in qualifying and grab the pole position with the #21 of Drew Cox second fastest starting to his outside. DeMarmels would nose ahead for the early lead as Cox would hang tough in the outside groove to give challenge. After a few laps Cox would move around to the

top spot. DeMarmels would face a challenge for the second spot from the #03 of Kevin Eby, while Marshall Sutton in the #64 and Mark Whitten in the #77 would run nearly the entire race side by side in battle for position. Cox would drive on to the win, his first at Hickory Motor Speedway. DeMarmels would finish 2nd with Eby finishing 3rd. Whitten and Sutton would round out the top five with 4th and 5th respectively.

The NASCAR Whelen All American Series Late Models would roll off for the second installment of their doubleheader 40 lap races. After an invert from the finishing positions of race one Austin Green in the #2 would start from the point with Jeremy Pelfrey in the #51 to his outside. Monty Cox in the #21 and Chris Hudspeth in the #28 would make up row two. Green and Pelfrey would battle side by side for several laps until Green would nose ahead. Lap 14 would see the #29 of Mitch Walker and first twin winner Thomas Beane in the #31 both move into the top three and looking for the top spot. Green would continue to set the pace turning consistently fast lap times. Walker and Beane would give

chase, but Green would prove too tough and take his first Hickory Motor Speedway victory. Walker would hold on for 2nd with Beane finishing 3rd. Pelfrey would finish 4th while Cox would finish 5th.

Closing out the night would be the motorized mayhem of the Smash & Crash Series slugging it out for 10 laps. After 10 hard fought laps Justin Austin in the #1 would take the win.

Next week will see the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series regular season come to an end with Cargo Transporters Championship Night presented by NAPA. Champions will be crowned with on track celebrations all divisions.

In two weeks the Mighty Modifieds are back as the Southern Modifieds return with the SELLM, 602 Super Limited and Modifieds, Allison Legacy, Carolina Vintage and Mini Stocks.

For more info check us out at www.hickorymotorspeedway.com, on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

South Boston Speedway

SOUTH BOSTON, VA - Peyton Sellers is now a four-time South Boston Speedway NASCAR Whelen All American Series Late Model Stock Car Division champion.

With a second-place finish in the first of the twin 75-lap NASCAR Late Model Stock Car Division races that headlined Saturday night's GCR Presents Spaulding Equipment Company NASCAR Late Model Twin 75s racing program and a win in the nightcap, the Danville, Virginia resident earned his third South Boston Speedway track championship in five years.

Sellers entered Saturday night's twinbill with a 41-point lead over NASCAR national points leader Philip Morris of Ruckersville, Virginia, and with the two drivers finishing within one position of each

other in both races, Sellers was able to secure the championship.

Morris earned a full-field win in the opening race, starting on the pole and leading all the way, edging Sellers by 2.446 seconds in a 25-lap dash to the finish that followed the race's last caution period. Sellers started in the back of the field in order to pick up track passing points, moved into second place on lap 48, and remained there the rest of the race.

The win, Morris' 10th of the season at South Boston Speedway, put him in the position of all but locking up a fifth career NASCAR Whelen All American Series national championship.

Thomas Scott of Efland, North Carolina finished third, Justin Carroll of Lanexa, Virginia finished fourth and Colin Garrett of South Boston, Virginia completed the top five finishers.

Sellers started eighth and Morris started 10th in the nightcap which featured an inverted start among the top finishers of the first race. It

Crews took the lead from Jessica Dana of Mooresville, North Carolina with 15 laps to go and edged her by .835-second to score his eighth win of the season.

Ross "Boo Boo" Dalton of Greensboro, North Carolina, Daniel Moss of Danville, Virginia and Brandon Jones of Amelia Courthouse, Virginia rounded out the top five finishers.

Shelton Wins SBS Budweiser Pure Stock Division Championship: Daniel Shelton of Hurt, Virginia had never faced a stock car prior to the start of this season, but you would never have known it based on his performance.

With a sixth-place finish, Shelton won the South Boston Speedway Budweiser Pure Stock Division championship. He entered Saturday night's 30-lap race holding a 22-point lead over two-time and defending division champion Johnny Layne Jr. of Nathalie, Virginia. Layne finished fourth, two positions ahead of Shelton, but the difference was not enough as Shelton



Peyton Sellers celebrates his fourth South Boston Speedway Late Model championship last Saturday night. (SBS photo)

took Sellers and Morris only six laps to pick their way to the front of the field, and from there, Sellers fended off several bids by Morris over the final 69 circuits to score his third win of the season at South Boston Speedway.

Austin Thaxton of Clarksville, Virginia, Scott, and Mark Keesee Jr, of Altavista, Virginia rounded out the top five finishers in the nightcap.

Crews Wins Limited Sportsman Division Championship: Trey Crews of Halifax, Virginia won his second career South Boston Speedway Limited Sportsman Division championship and his third career South Boston Speedway track title with a win in Saturday night's 50-lap Limited Sportsman Division race.

emerged with the title.

Jordan Pickrel of Keeling, Virginia took the lead from Jarrett Milam of Keeling, Virginia with nine laps to go and won the race to earn his second win of the season. His victory made him the fifth different winner in the track's last five races of the season.

Greg Autry of Alton, Virginia finished second, .763-second behind Pickrel. Stuart Crews of Long Island, Virginia, Layne and Bruce Mayo of Halifax, Virginia rounded out the top five finishers.

Jarrell Wins Budweiser Hornets Division Championship: Cameron Jarrell of Amelia, Virginia became the second first-year stock car racer to win a division championship at South Boston Speedway

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For the second feature of the night Austin Green made it to victory lane with all of his crew, friends and family. (SHERRI STEARNS photo)

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this season on Saturday night, using a second-place finish to lock up the Budweiser Hornets Division championship.

Jarrell entered the race with seven victories this season including the last five in a row and held a near insurmountable 62-point lead over Kevin Currin of Chase City, Virginia in the chase for the division championship.

Billy Goble scored a flag-to-flag win in his first time in competing in the division at South Boston Speedway with Jarrell finishing second. Tony Housman of Rocky Mount, Virginia, Currin and Steven Layne rounded out the top five finishers.

Holdren Wins Mod-4 Division Title: Dennis Holdren of Roanoke, Virginia wrapped up the Mod-4 Division championship Saturday night in good fashion by winning the 20-lap Mod-4 Division race.

The win was Holdren's fourth victory in the six races run in the division this season at South Boston Speedway.

Holdren edged Cory Dunn of Salem, Virginia by 1.341-second with Drew Holdren of Hardy, Virginia, Josh Phillips of Roanoke, Virginia and Jesse Yopp of Moneta, Virginia rounding out the top five finishers.

Next Race At South Boston Speedway: South Boston Speedway will close out its 2018 season on Saturday Nov. 3 when America's Hometown Track hosts the CARS Response Energy Tour with the running of the AutosbyNelson.com 250.

The AutosbyNelson.com 250 will be a doubleheader event featuring the CARS Response Energy Tour Late Model Stock Cars and Super Late Models, with both competing in races that will go for 125 green-flag laps.

The event marks the final race of the season for the CARS Response Energy Tour Late Model Stock Cars and Super Late Models, and the championships in the two divisions will be determined by the outcome of the season finale.

Practice will be held from 9:45 a.m. until 10:50 a.m. Grandstand gates will open at 12 noon and qualifying will start at 12:45 p.m. A Fan Fest will be held trackside from 1:45 p.m. until 2:30 p.m. with the first race starting at 3 p.m.

Advance adult general admission tickets are on sale for \$10 each. Adult general admission tickets on race day will be \$15 each. Youth ages 12 and under will be admitted free with a paying adult.

For additional information about the AutosbyNelson.com 250 racing program or any other events at South Boston Speedway, please visit the speedway's website at www.southbostonspeedway.com or telephone the speedway at 434-572-4947 or 1-877-440-1540.

Stafford Motor Speedway

STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT - Stafford Speedway returned to NASCAR Whelen All-American Series racing action with the Street Stock division taking center stage with the extra distance R.A.D. Auto Machine Street Stock 30. George Bessette, Jr. took down the extra distance win while other feature winners on the night included Michael Christopher, Jr. winning his second race of the season in the SK Modified® feature, Tom Fearn scored his 12th Late Model win of the year and in the process clinched the track championship, Bryan Narducci made a last lap pass on Marcello Rufrano for the second consecutive week to score his fifth win of the season, and Ryan Fearn won his fourth Limited Late Model feature of the season.

In the 30-lap R.A.D. Auto Machine Street Stock event, Richard Ciriello took the lead at the green with Samantha Anderson behind him in second. Greg DeMone was third in the order with Chuck Harrison and Jason Lafayette side by side for fourth. Anderson made a move to the inside of Ciriello on lap-4 to take over the race lead. The caution then came out with 4 laps complete as Meghan Fuller spun in turn 2 and collected the car of Tess Beyer.

Anderson took the lead on the restart with Ciriello second but the field could only complete one lap before the caution came back out for a spin by David Macha in turn 3 after contact from Beyer. Beyer was black flagged and parked for the remainder of the race for the contact with Macha.

DeMone got a good run on the restart and he took the lead from Anderson. Brandon Michael moved into second with Johnny Walker taking third as Anderson slid back to fourth, just in front of Travis Hydar. Michael moved to the front on lap-8 and he brought Walker with him into second as DeMone fell back to third. Hydar was now fourth with Nicole Chambrello

up to fifth.

Walker made a bid for the lead on lap-11 in turn 4 but Michael was able to hold him off and retain the lead. Walker's move cost him second as Hydar took the position before the caution came out for a spin in turn 2 by Ciriello.

Harrison spun in turn 1 and collected the car of Fuller to bring the caution right back out on the restart. The next restart saw Michael streak into the lead with Walker glued to his back bumper. George Bessette, Jr. worked his way up to third with Hydar fourth and DeMone back to fifth. This was the order when the caution came out with 20 laps complete for a spin on the backstretch by Rob Sears.

Michael and Walker were side by side for the lead on the restart with Bessette right behind them. Michael got clear on lap-21 and Bessette got by Walker to move into second. Hydar was all over Walker's bumper in fourth with DeMone still fifth. Bessette nearly spun coming out of turn 4 as he tried to take the lead from Michael before the caution came out with

24 laps complete for a spin in turn 3 by Macha.

Michael and Bessette were now side by side for the lead on the restart with Walker looking for a way to get around both cars. Macha and William DesJardins came together and spun on the backstretch to bring the caution back out with 25 laps complete.

Bessette got a good run in the outside lane and he took the lead from Michael, who nearly spun as he tried to keep the lead. Walker moved into second with Hydar taking third. Chris Bagnall moved into fourth as Michael fell all the way back to fifth. Michael got back around Bagnall on lap-28 to move in to fourth. Bessette led Walker to the checkered flag to pick up his fourth win of the 2018 season. Hydar finished third with Michael and Bagnall rounding out the top-5.

In the 40-lap SK Modified® feature event, Tyler Hines and Tony Membrino, Jr. led the field to the green and they raced side by side with Matt Galko third, Michael Gervais, Jr. fourth, and Chase Dowling fifth. Keith Rocco brought the cau-

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tion out with 3 laps complete by stopping on the track with a flat left front tire. Rocco was given a one lap penalty for drawing an intentional yellow flag.

Membrino took the lead on the outside of Hines with Michael Christopher, Jr. following him by Hines. Christopher and Dowling then both moved around Membrino on lap-5 and began a side by side fight for the

lead. Woody Pitkat was up to third driving Dan Avery's car with Glen Reen fourth and Gervais fifth. Just behind Gervais was Todd Owen and Eric Berndt with Membrino falling back to eighth.

With 15 laps complete, Christopher had cleared Dowling and was pulling away while Dowling was locked in a wheel to wheel fight with Pitkat for second. Reen was still in fourth with Gervais holding fifth. Pitkat won the duel with Dowling to get clear into second place on lap-19 while Ronnie Williams was charging his way to the front by moving around Owen to take seventh place.

Williams took sixth place from Berndt on lap-23 while Reen was starting to apply heavy pressure to Dowling in a fight for third. Williams continued his charge to the front by taking fifth place from Gervais on lap-30 as Christopher was still leading the race with Pitkat in second. Dowling and Reen were still side by side for third with Williams now stuck behind the two cars. Dowling nearly had Reen cleared on lap-34 but Reen was able to stay wheel to wheel with Dowling with Williams looking for any opening he could get to pass them both.

Christopher cruised to his second feature win of the 2018 season with Pitkat coming home second. Dowling edged out Reen by inches at the line for third with Williams rounding out the top-5.

In the 30-lap Late Model feature event, Fearn led the field to the checkered flag to score his 12th win of the 2018 season. Keane finished second with Leary, Saunders, and Reen rounding out the top-5. Fearn's victory, combined with Leary's third place finish, locked up the 2018 track championship for Fearn.

In the 20-lap SK Light feature event, Bryan Narducci took the checkered flag for his fifth win.

Berry, Plott Victorious Over Competition and Mother Nature at Orange County

ROUGEMONT, NC - The CARS Response Energy Tour beat Mother Nature on Saturday night at Orange County Speedway, completing all 300 scheduled laps of the Thrifty Tire Center

/ Puryear Tank Lines 300 in record time at the .375-mile facility. Despite the quick showtime, the racing was fierce and resulted in a return to victory lane for one driver, Josh Berry, while Kyle Plott scored his first career series triumph in a fantastic comeback story.

LATE MODEL STOCK RECAP:

Qualifying for both divisions was washed out due to a passing shower and on-track weepers, setting the field by the rulebook and ultimately combined practice speeds from earlier in the afternoon. By virtue of his practice run, Craig Moore captured his first career Hedgecock Racing Pole Position and led the opening eleven laps of the race.

On lap 11, outside pole sitter Bradley McCaskill missed turn three and slid into the outside wall, ultimately stopping on-track with damage just a circuit later to bring out the first and only caution flag for an on-track incident in the race. Following the restart, Deac McCaskill motored around Craig Moore for the race lead and held the point through lap 92.

By rule, the CARS Response Energy Tour throws a competition caution for every 40 consecutive green flag laps early in an event. The ensuing restart after the lap 92 caution found Josh Berry alongside of Deac McCaskill, where the JR Motorsports driver took full advantage of a front row start and rocketed around McCaskill on lap 93. Despite challenges from McCaskill and Ronald Hill late in the race, Berry held on for his second win of the season and the third consecutive victory for JR Motorsports in the CARS Response Energy Tour. Deac McCaskill held on for second while Craig Moore, Tommy Lemons, Jr., and Bobby McCarty rounded out the top five.

"I'll be honest, we were really close; he was really good and we

were really good," Berry said in Edelbrock Victory Lane. "He looked to be a tick tight, we were a tick loose, and I knew it was going to come down to that restart. The outside went, and I felt like I had to find a way to make it happen. I sailed off in there, turned it sideways, stood on the gas and had him pinned down enough where I could carry the momentum through three and four.

"We are on it at the right time, that's for sure" he continued when asked about the momentum JR Motorsports has late in the season. "To win one of these races is such a hard feat because everyone in this field is so good. These are the best of the best in these races every week. We got off to a slow start and we're hitting our stride. That's three in a row for this organization and we've got a big one coming up soon, and I'd sure like to have a clock."

SUPER LATE MODEL RECAP:

Raphael Lessard made the most of final practice to log the fastest time of the day, placing him on the Mahle Pistons Pole Position to start the super late model portion of the Thrifty Tire Center / Puryear Tank Lines 300 at Orange County. Much like the late model stock race, Lessard held onto the lead early but Steve Wallace motored around the driver of the Kyle Busch Motorsports Toyota to take the point on lap five.

In one of the cleanest displays of driving by the super late model competitors all season, Wallace led the field for the majority of the race, including through three competition cautions which came on laps 40, 83 and 123.

Occasional challenges from Lessard, and Matt Craig were met with additional speed from the No. 66 Ford, and Wallace held strong on the point through the third competition yellow.

The restart on lap 123 is where it all began to unravel for some. Contact from Matt Craig sent Raphael Lessard down the speedway where he entered turn one at a bad angle, bouncing off of Wallace's left rear and spinning the race leader in front of the field. Miraculously, no other contact was made despite

cars spinning in the aftermath. By rule in the CARS Response Energy Tour, anyone involved in the caution must go to the tail, meaning each of the three were sent to the back for the final 27 lap sprint to the flag.

Kyle Plott and Corey Heim inherited the front two positions after the call, positioning both drivers for a shot at their first career win. After a handful of restarts for relatively harmless spins, Plott and Heim came down for the final restart with just 16 laps remaining with Steve Wallace immediately behind them. The pair raced side-by-side for laps on end with Heim stealing the lead on lap 145. Undeterred, Plott moved up the racetrack to retake the position and held on for his first career win. Heim finished second followed by Wallace, Jared Fryar and Lessard.

For Plott, the win was exceptionally unlikely because his team had begun loading up at the end of practice with a motor issue, but thanks to quick thinking and some generous hands at-track, were able to repair the issue (head gasket) before the race began.

"The motor laid down in practice and we were struggling and loading up," Plott explained in Edelbrock Victory Lane. "Robert Long came by and asked if we needed a head gasket for this thing and I said yeah, so me and the crew busted tail on this thing and got it fixed. I was trying to save my tires as good as I could because I knew we were too free and I was spinning them too much. Somehow I got out with that win because the 78 (Heim) was battling me hard and I appreciate him racing me clean, but I had to work for that one and am a little wore out."

The next event on the CARS Response Energy Tour comes at South Boston Speedway on Saturday, November 3. The dual-division show will crown champions for the second consecutive year with a two-horse race in both the late model stock and super late model divisions.

For more information on the CARS Tour, visit their website at www.carsracingtour.com.

NOTES OF INTEREST:

Bobby McCarty expanded his point lead over Lee Pulliam by virtue of a finish ahead of him on Saturday night. Mathematically, everyone else is eliminated from the late model stock championship battle entering South Boston and Pulliam will need some help in order to pull off a title in his first full season with the tour.