



FastTrack

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Elliott Sets the Stage



Wild, Wet Ride for Allmendinger

Some Made the Cut; Others Didn't

Few, if any, were surprised when Chase Elliott won on the Charlotte ROVAL last Sunday. After all, it was his fourth consecutive win on twisting road courses dating back to 2019.

More important, it earned him an automatic pass to the Round of 8 of the NASCAR Playoffs. But

with no more intentional right-hand turns remaining on the schedule, it's fair to wonder if he can transform the victory into momentum for the next round that will determine the final field of four.

The second round of the Playoffs was like no other in racing history. The three races were on the 1.5-mile quad-oval at Las Vegas, the 2.5-mile tri-oval at Talladega (Ala.) Superspeedway and the Charlotte road course. Success at a superspeedway and road course doesn't always relate to what's left on the schedule – four races on ovals.

"Looking forward to this next round, trying to make some noise," Elliott said.

Two of his three wins this year came on road courses. His lone win on an oval came at Charlotte on May 28. The rest of his season has been a mixed bag with 13 top-fives and nine finishes outside the top 20.

Elliott has six top-fives in his last 10 races. He also has three finishes outside the top 20. To make the final cut, he has to find more consistency.

"You never know; that's why we go race, is to find out who wins and who loses," Elliott said. "Just excited to have the opportunity. I think it's going to be a really big challenge for us to move on, as I think it is for everybody in this round, unless you just have a bunch of wins."

"I think [Sunday's] win is big. Getting those extra five points can be the difference. We just have to bring our A-game, push ahead, really try to execute three solid weeks."

Kyle Busch reminded everyone it takes more than a pedigree and an impressive resume to win in NASCAR. The defending Cup Series champion was eliminated from

the Playoffs at the ROVAL. Moreover, he remains winless this year.

"Man, just one of them off years," Kyle said. "It's been a terrible year for me. As other sports greats would say, there's many other drivers that would love to have a year that we're having, but it's just frustrating to know how good we are and what we're capable of and being champions from last year to not come out here and be able to succeed and be able to win."

Drivers who now have to be considered the favorites to advance to the winner-take-all Championship Round at the Phoenix International Raceway include Kevin Harvick, Denny Hamlin and Martin Truex Jr.



DON COBLE

Brad Keselowski, Joey Logano, Kurt Busch and Elliott need to up their games, while Alex

Bowman's consistent stretch in the past eight races suggests he's in a good spot to play the points game if one of the leading contenders stumbles.

Keselowski hasn't finished any better than 13th in the past four races. Logano won two of the first four races, but nothing since.

Kurt Busch clearly is on a late-season surge. He finished in the top 10 in all three second-round races. He also has six top-10 finishes in his last 10 starts.

Harvick still is the odds-on favorite, especially since eight of his victories came on speedways and a short track. The last four races include three speedways and one short track.

His biggest threat was merely getting through the second-round minefield.

"This wasn't a great round for us, so we definitely need to do better," he said. "We need to display that our cars are fast and do a good job on pit road and do the things that we did all year. Definitely two good racetracks for us coming up at Kansas and Texas and hopefully we can get a win in one of those two races and go on with it."

Hamlin has shown tremendous speed most of the season, but other than his crash-marred win at Talladega, he still has three top-three finishes in the last seven races. Other than that, his best race was a 12th-place run at the



Chase Elliott (9) leads the way on the Roval in front of some of his fellow "Round of 8" contenders like Denny Hamlin (11), Kevin Harvick (4) and Martin Truex Jr. (19). MATT THACKER/NKP photo

Richmond International Raceway.

Truex is the biggest anomaly in the Round of 8. He has only one win – and that came four months ago at the Martinsville Speedway. His last seven races have been like a yo-yo: fourth at Daytona, 22nd at Darlington, second at Richmond, 24th at Bristol, fourth at Las Vegas, 23rd at Talladega and seventh at the Charlotte ROVAL.

There also are other factors to consider in the next four races. Kyle Busch will continue to be re-

lentless to extend is yearly winning streak to 16 years. Clint Bowyer, who also was eliminated last Sunday, wants to leave the sport as a winner before stepping into the Fox Sports broadcasting booth. And there's fuel-mileage gambles, pit road gambles and late-race crashes that can send a longshot to Victory Lane -- and turn the Playoff standings upside-down.

The Playoffs have been a wild ride so far. Buckle up. It's only going to get better.

Playoffs for the Championships!

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ON THE COVER:

NIGEL KINRADE PHOTOGRAPHY

Eight Drivers, Four Races

Race fans, we've reached that point in the 2020 NASCAR season for the top three divisions that only eight drivers and four races are left to decide each series champion. The Gander RV & Outdoors Truck, Xfinity, and NASCAR Cup Series have reached their "Final Eight"

who will compete in the next stage of three races to determine the "Championship Four" at Phoenix on the weekend of November 6-8.

The 2020 NASCAR season has been a crazy one to put it mildly. When the world, and the racing season, was brought to a sudden halt in March as a result of COVID-19, no one really knew if there would be a racing season for any division for the remainder of 2020.

The truck series competed on February 21st at Las Vegas and did not return to action until May 26th at Charlotte Motor Speedway. The Xfinity Series raced at Phoenix on March 7th and didn't resume competition until May 19th at Darlington. The NASCAR Cup Series took a break between Phoenix on March 8 until May 17th at Darlington. And, when these three series resumed racing, the schedule had to undergo many changes as well.

Somehow we survived and NASCAR was able to adjust their schedules and run enough races to reach this point in the season. Some tracks received additional races, some tracks even held "doubleheader weekends" in order for NASCAR to get in the scheduled number of races.

Regardless of how we got here, it's on to Kansas, Texas, and Martinsville to determine the "Final Four" Championship contenders who will battle in Phoenix for a title in their respective division. Let's take a look at the competitors and their prospects to survive and advance.

The Gander RV & Outdoors Truck Series final eight drivers are, in order from first to eighth, Austin Hill, Sheldon Creed, Zane Smith, Grant Enfinger, Brett Moffitt, Ben Rhodes, Matt Crafton, and Tyler

Ankrum. The point difference after the points were reset between co-leaders Hill and Creed and Ankrum is only 25 points.

As you would expect, the final eight truck series championship contenders dominated the wins category after 19 of the scheduled 23 races. Creed and Enfinger each have three wins, Hill and Smith, two each, with Rhodes and Crafton earning one victory each. Moffitt and Ankrum are winless this season going into Kansas. That's 12 of the 19 races won by championship contenders.



DENNIS PUNCH

When you take a look at Kansas, Texas, and Martinsville for the truck competitors, I believe you'll see a trend. At Kansas, Matt Crafton has three career wins with Austin Hill one. Both Crafton and Hill won earlier this season at Kansas. At Texas and Martinsville, Matt Crafton is the only title contender who has won at either track. Crafton has two career truck victories at both tracks.

The Xfinity Series final eight title contenders are, first to eighth in standings, Chase Briscoe, Austin Cindric, Justin Allgaier, Noah Gragson, Justin Haley, Brandon Jones,

Ross Chastain, and Ryan Sieg. The point difference between Briscoe and Sieg is 58 entering Kansas. Briscoe leads the series in wins with eight, Cindric has won five, Allgaier and Jones three each, and Gragson and Haley two each. That's 23 wins in 29 events thus far in 2020 by championship contenders.

Looking at the three upcoming races for the Xfinity Series, only two of the title contenders have visited victory lane. Brandon Jones has two wins (the last two races) at Kansas and Austin Cindric has one win at Texas. The Xfinity Series has not raced at Martinsville in recent years, so none of the title contenders has won on the Virginia half-mile.

The NASCAR Cup Series "Final Eight" was determined when the checkered flag waved at the Charlotte Motor Speedway Roval last Sunday. The eight battling for the coveted Cup Series crown are, first to eighth, Kevin Harvick, Denny Hamlin, Brad Keselowski, Chase Elliott, Joey Logano, Martin Truex Jr., Alex Bowman, and Kurt Busch. After the points are reset after Charlotte, the margin between Harvick and Busch is 61. In the 32 Cup Series races thus far in 2020, the final eight title contenders have won an amazing 28 times. Harvick leads the list with nine wins. Hamlin has seven, Keselowski four, Elliott three, Logano two, and Truex Jr., Bowman, and Busch one each. That's correct, all eight title contenders have at least one win this

year.

Looking at the career records for these title hopefuls at Kansas, Texas, and Martinsville is quite interesting.

At Kansas, Hamlin has three career wins, including the last two. Harvick also has three Kansas wins, with Keselowski, Truex Jr., and Logano two each. Elliott has one victory at Kansas.

At Texas Motor Speedway, Harvick and Hamlin lead the way with three career wins each. Joey Logano has one Texas win to be the only other title contender to win in The Lone Star State. At Martinsville, Denny Hamlin sets the mark with five career wins at his "home track". Truex Jr. and Keselowski have two wins each at the historic half-mile. In fact, Truex Jr. has won the last two Cup races at Martinsville. Logano and Harvick have one win each at the track where the "Final Four" for Phoenix will be determined.

So, that's the list of championship contenders left to battle for the title in the Gander RV & Outdoors Truck, Xfinity, and NASCAR Cup Series.

And, you can rest assured that the competition for one of those final four spots at Phoenix will be fast and furious. It's a talented mix of youth and veterans, each hoping to raise the coveted NASCAR championship trophy for their division.

Congratulations to each driver for making the "Final Eight" and good luck chasing that title.



Elliott Advances with Playoff Win at the Charlotte ROVAL

In only his fifth NASCAR Cup Series season, Chase Elliott is proving himself a road course master, easily besting the field Sunday at the Charlotte ROVAL and more importantly, the 24-year old continues to establish himself as a perennial championship contender.

Elliott's win in the Bank of America ROVAL 400 Playoff race was his fourth consecutive road course victory, a mark of excellence shared only with NASCAR Hall of Famer Jeff Gordon, who won six straight road course races. It's his second consecutive win in this race and Sunday's trophy is an automatic qualifier for Elliott into the three-race Playoff Round of 8, which begins next week at Kansas Speedway.

Elliott's No. 9 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet tied teammate William Byron for most laps led – a race best 26 laps on the day including the final 18, as he held off runner-up Joey Logano by a healthy 3.895-seconds to earn his third win of the year.

Erik Jones, Kurt Busch and Ryan Blaney rounded out the top five. Elliott's Hendrick Motorsports teammate William Byron was sixth, followed by Martin Truex Jr., Hendrick driver Alex Bowman, rookie Cole Custer and Clint Bowyer, who was trying to race his way into the next Playoff round but did not move forward despite the top 10 effort.

"Just had another really fast NAPA Camaro and really appreciate the effort," Elliott said. "Road courses have been fortunate to us the last few trips, but I feel like we just try to get a little better every time, tweak on the small things. I feel like I tweaked on small things and got a little better than I was here last year, which was good."

"Just really proud of the effort."

The ROVAL was the second round Playoff cut-off race – sending eight drivers forward and eliminating title hopes for four. None of those four drivers - including reigning NASCAR Cup Series champion Kyle Busch - still needing to gain points to advance, were able to improve positions Sunday afternoon.

Busch, Bowyer, Austin Dillon

and Aric Almirola have dropped out of championship eligibility as the series moves on to Playoff races in Kansas, Texas and Martinsville, Va. before the Nov. 8 championship finale in Phoenix.

The Playoffs standings were reset following the ROVAL checkered flag with regular season champion Kevin Harvick, a nine-race winner, topping the chart by 13 points over Denny Hamlin. Brad Keselowski is 32 points back in third place followed by Elliott, Logano, Truex, Bowman and Kurt Busch, who won his way into the next round with a victory at Las Vegas three weeks ago.

Kyle Busch's exit marks the first time a reigning series champion did not advance to the Round of 8 and it will mark the first time in six years that Busch was not part of the Championship 4 that decides the sport's ultimate trophy.

"Just been the year, nothing has played out or been on our side, it's just been unfortunate circumstances and a lot of bad luck," said Busch, driver of the No. 18 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota.

"These guys on this M&Ms team never give up and they fight all year long, every race, every lap, every pit stop as we can see. But man, this is just one of those off-years, a terrible year for me. But as other sports greats would say, 'there's many other drivers that would love to have the year we're having.'"

Busch entered the race, ranked ninth and needing to make up 21 points to nudge his way into the next round of the Playoffs – but like all drivers faced a challenging afternoon that featured rain tires on the cars for the first time in modern day competition.

Busch's day got especially dramatic, however, after the field changed back to slick tires once the threatening weather cleared shortly before the opening stage completed. His No. 18 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota suffered damage mid-race after a collision with Bowyer. However, Busch's crew chief Adam Stevens kept the two-time series champion calm and ready to rally and he responded – making his way back up through the field.

He was running fourth when the cars in front of him pit during a late

race caution. Busch stayed on track and led three laps, but he was soon passed – his tires 20 laps older than the others who pit. Ultimately, he finished 30th needing to pit on the next to last lap for fuel.

Bowyer was one of only two

driving Jimmie Johnson's No. 48 Chevrolet next year, moving from the No. 88 when the seven-time champion Johnson retires from full-time competition.

Certainly Bowman's work on track this weekend was well-timed



Chase Elliott, winning the Roval at CMS for the second time in a row, celebrates in victory lane. (JARED TILTON/GETTY IMAGES photo)

drivers (also Bowman) to have top-five finishes in both previous races at the track. Bowyer's 10th-place finish ended his Playoff run but it was impressive considering he drove most of the race with no power steering. He was exhausted after the race and went to the infield care center to be checked out.

Almirola's day featured similar struggles. He had a spin and was just never able to sustain a run front-pack. He finished 16th unable to make up ground on the 48-point deficit he started the race with.

"It was tough man," Almirola conceded. "I struggle here, in particular. I'm not the greatest road course racer and specifically here has been a challenge for me."

"Not the day we needed, for sure, to move on. But we've still got four races to go to perform at our highest level."

On the other end of the emotional spectrum, the 27-year old Bowman will be making his first appearance in the Playoff Round of 8. Earlier this week, Hendrick Motorsports announced Bowman will be

success as he prepares for the enviable move next season. At times on Sunday, he was on the verge of elimination. But after climbing out of his car he fully conceded it had been a nerve-wracking drive despite his top 10 performance.

"It's a lot of validation for us to make that round," Bowman said. When you are racing champions of the sport to advance you're never comfortable, especially when it is Kyle Busch."

As for Elliott, the victory and historical significance were a well-timed boost heading into the next Playoff round as he attempts to earn his first ever appearance in the Championship 4 making a run for his first NASCAR Cup Series title. He won the 2018 Playoff race at next week's Kansas Speedway oval.

"Like I've always said, they're way too hard to get [wins] to get picky about when and where and how," Elliott said. "So I'm just glad to be here and like I said, hopefully we can do something with this next round."

Allmendinger Splashes His Way to a Charlotte ROVAL Xfinity Win

A.J. Allmendinger prevailed in a hard-fought NASCAR Xfinity Series Playoff race that ended in overtime on the Charlotte Motor Speedway ROVAL Saturday evening. After a long afternoon negotiating the road course in rainy

weather against a field of drivers with championship hopes on the line, the veteran edged 22-year old Noah Gragson by a mere .446-seconds in a rooster-tail run to the checkered flag.

It marked the second win of the season for Allmendinger in the No. 16 Kaulig Racing Chevrolet and his second career win on the ROVAL.

Daniel Hemric, Alex Labbe and Ross Chastain rounded out the top five. Team Penske's Austin Cindric, Cody Ware, Jade Buford, Michael Annett and Brandon Jones completed the top 10.

The Drive for the Cure 250 was the final race in the Round of 12 of the NASCAR Xfinity Series Playoffs with Chase Briscoe, Cindric, Justin Allgaier, Gragson, Justin Haley, Jones, Chastain and Ryan Sieg advancing to the next three-race round of Playoff competition that begins next week at Kansas Speedway.

Drivers Harrison Burton, Brandon Brown, Michael Annett and Riley Herbst were eliminated from Playoff contention at Charlotte.

With the challenging weather conditions – heavy rain and high winds – it was a victory Allmendinger conceded he would remember for a while – a race the whole field will remember for a while.



A. J.Allmendinger exits his race car in Charlotte's victory lane after a wet and trying Roval race to a win. (JARED TILTON/GETTY IMAGES photo)

"I don't know what we just witnessed," Allmendinger said with a smile. "I was complaining the whole race. Crazy. The 98 Chase Briscoe was doing a fantastic job. I didn't really have anything for him after a couple laps but I knew that final restart I was going to do everything I could."

Allmendinger and Briscoe, the driver of the No. 98 Stewart-Haas Racing Ford, were vying for the win, door-to-door, corner-by-corner in the closing laps which featured five lead changes between the two in just the final 17 laps of the 68-lap overtime thriller.

Briscoe was leading with three laps remaining when a caution flag

came out for Brown, whose car was precariously disabled alongside the track. Racing side-by-side for the lead on the ensuing restart, Briscoe spun out in Turn 1, allowing Allmendinger the opportunity to take control of the race and navi-

recovering from a spin in overtime as well.

Fellow rookie Harrison Burton, a two-race winner this season and Herbst's JGR teammate, also looked strong early in the race contending among the front of the field,

gate the wet track to victory. Briscoe, who led a race best 23 laps, instead finished 18th.

"Driver just made a mistake," said Briscoe, who with eight wins is still the top-seeded Playoff driver heading into the next round.

"In conditions like this you've got to be at 100 percent and I tried going 110 and it bit me. Very unfortunate. That one's going to sting for a long time. I feel like I did my job for about 95 percent of the day, right."

That was a familiar refrain on Saturday in a rare NASCAR road course event that called for rain tires, drivers' patience and resolve. Gragson, for example, was involved in multiple incidents on track.

He and fellow Playoff contender Herbst collided only 28 laps into the race, and later contact between the two further damaged Gragson's No. 9 JR Motorsports Chevrolet. Still he was able to come back and turn in a podium-worthy finish.

The Joe Gibbs Racing rookie Herbst was one of the four Playoff drivers who needed to gain massive points or straight out win the race for an opportunity to advance to the next round. He led seven laps, but finished 12th – ultimately

even if he didn't lead laps. His No. 20 JGR Toyota had a transmission problem and he was scored 33rd of the 38 drivers.

The Georgia native Sieg, who drives the No. 39 RSS Racing Chevrolet for his family-owned team, was able to take advantage of others misfortune Sunday and continue what's been a career season for the 33-year old. He ranks eighth heading to the next Playoff round. His previous best series career championship finish was ninth place in 2016. He was 11th last year.

While Sieg and certainly Allmendinger were on the upside of fortunate, all the drivers climbed out of their cars with a similar refrain.

"It's nothing like I've ever done before," Hemric said. "I'm going to sit back with a cold one and watch [the NASCAR Cup Series race at the ROVAL] tomorrow."

The Xfinity Series resumes the Playoff schedule next Saturday, Oct. 17 at Kansas Speedway (7 p.m. ET on NBCSN, MRN and SiriusXM NASCAR Radio). With the points reset for this round, Briscoe takes a 10-point lead over regular season champion Cindric and is 27 points up on third place Allgaier.



Wet was the theme of the day, with spray behind the cars so high at times that the drivers' vision was difficult. (NIGEL KINRADE/NKP photo)

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Bonsignore Celebrates Second NASCAR Whelen Modified Title

THOMPSON, CT - Twice in the previous four years, Justin Bonsignore won the season finale at Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park, and had his Victory Lane celebration cut short when he had to move out of the way for the crowning of the NASCAR Whelen

Modified Tour champion.

Sunday, they made way for Bonsignore.

The 32-year-old from Holtsville, New York, waited for Sunoco World Series 150 winner Craig Lutz to wrap up before celebrating his second tour championship in three years.

Bonsignore finished fourth behind Lutz, Jon McKennedy and Ron Silk.

It was his ninth top-five finish in nine races in the abbreviated season that included three victories. It also marked Bonsignore's 15th straight top five.

He entered the final weekend needing to finish 2nd to clinch the title. But after winning three of the last four races at Thompson, but watching Doug Coby crowned the champion at the end of the night — including last year's bittersweet race win — Bonsignore looked to take both the race AND the championship.

He led 14 laps and stayed in the top five nearly the entire race, even

after it was mathematically wrapped up.

Bonsignore won the title in 2018 and finished eight points behind Coby last year. He's finished in the top three in points in six of the last seven seasons.

Coby won the Mayhew Tools Pole Award Saturday but had his race cut short by a Lap 97 accident and finished 22nd.

Justin's cousin, Kyle Bonsignore, finished fifth.

Sam Rameau was sixth, followed by Woody Pitkat, Calvin Carroll, Patrick Emerling and Tyler Rypkema.

Rypkema collected his fifth top 10 of the season and the 23-year-old from Oswego, New York, earned the Sunoco Rookie the Year Award.

McKennedy led a race-high 51 laps and edged Coby by five for second place — 40 back of Bonsignore.

Sam Mayer Conquers Monster Mile Again

DOVER, DE - It wasn't the dominating, championship coronation performance of a year ago. But Friday's win at Dover International Speedway was just as satisfying for Sam Mayer.

Mayer drove his No. 18 Vince Lombardi Cancer Foundation Chevrolet past race leader Ty Gibbs with 20 laps to go and rolled to the win in the General Tire 125. The 17-year-old from Franklin, Wisconsin, strengthened his hold on



Justin Bonsignore celebrates in victory lane after winning the 2020 Whelen Modified Championship. (Adam Glanzman/NASCAR photo)

the ARCA Menards Series East championship lead with his second win in three races this season.

He became just the third driver to win back-to-back East races at the Monster Mile, and first since current NASCAR Gander RV & Outdoors Truck Series points leader Austin Hill accomplished the feat in 2013-14.

It is Mayer's ninth win over the ARCA Menards, East and West series since his 2018 debut. Last year's Dover win in the East came under the NASCAR banner.

Mayer entered the day with a one-point lead over Gibbs, who won the General Tire Pole Award in qualifying Friday. The 17-year-old North Carolina driver went out and led the first 105 laps before Mayer was able to significantly close the game. Mayer moved Gibbs out of the way and powered by to take the lead.

Gibbs appeared to have a right front tire down as he slammed into

the Turn 2 wall five laps later, ending his day prematurely and leaving him with a 12th-place finish.

NASCAR Cup Series driver David Gilliland, in a second car for his DGR-Crosley team, finished second — 2.330 seconds back of Mayer.

Mason Diaz capped a strong second-half run to finish third, followed by Max McLaughlin and Drew Dollar.

Corey Heim, Parker Retzlaff, Chase Cabre, Taylor Gray and Chuck Buchanan Jr. rounded out the top 10.

The late-race turn of events allowed Mayer to open up a 13-point cushion on Gibbs, and leads Cabre by 27.

The ARCA Menards Series East will next head to New Hampshire Motor Speedway on Saturday, Sept. 12, as part of the third annual Full Throttle Fall Weekend. Gibbs is the defending East race winner of the event.



Craig Lutz celebrates in victory lane after winning the Sunoco World Series 150 for the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour at Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park. (Adam Glanzman/NASCAR photo)



Sam Mayer celebrates in victory lane after winning the General Tire 125 for the ARCA Menards Series East at Dover International Speedway. (Timothy Nwachukwu/NASCAR photo)

Roberts Gets First CRA Street Stocks Win and The Series 2020 Championship at Winchester Speedway

SALEM, IN - Louisville, Kentucky native Brandon Roberts had his best race of the season Saturday night in the Van Hoy Oil CRA Street Stocks Powered by JEGS Season

Championship event at Winchester Speedway, as part of the Winchester 400 Presented by JEGS. Roberts got by two time series Champion Jason Atkinson on lap 39 to get his first ever series win and claimed the series 2020 Championship as the highest finishing 2020 Chase for the Championship driver.

"I just can't believe it," remarked a jubilant Roberts in victory lane.

"To come to Winchester and get the win and the series Championship is just unbelievable! I have to thank everyone who helps me on this car, my family, my crew, and all these people that came to support us tonight. We worked hard to get better all year, we were not very good in the early races, but be we continued to gain each race and we did it with a lot of hard work. This is a great bunch of drivers to race against, they race you hard, but they race clean. Its an honor to be the series 2020 Champion!"

Atkinson grabbed the early lead after Van Hoy Oil/Allstar Performance Fast Qualifier Jeff Lane drew a five for the events inverted start. Atkinson came in as one of the four Chase drivers with a chance to win

the series Championship along with Roberts, Andrew Teepe and Josh Poore.

Atkinson pulled away in the early laps and looked like he would cruise to the win while the top six battled for position, when Roberts start his march to the front. Roberts would get by Teepe for second and set his sights on Atkinson, finally tracking him down as the race started to wind down.

Atkinson caught the tail of the lead lap cars with Roberts on his back bumper when Roberts made a great move to the inside pinning Atkinson behind the last lead lap car, completing the pass for the lead coming out of turn four on lap 39.

From there Roberts would pull away to get the win by just over a second as the race went green to checkers.

For his pass of Atkinson for the lead, Roberts was awarded the KRJ Race Products Sweet Move of the Race Award. Roberts had already earned the series 2020 Rookie of the Year Award before Saturday night's event and became

the series' first ever Rookie of the Year to also win the series Championship in the series 16 years of racing.

Atkinson would finish in second and second in the series Chase for the Championship. Atkinson was awarded the Van Hoy Oil Halfway Leader Award Bonus.

Teepe finished third in the race and third in the series Chase for the Championship. Calvin Parham finished in fourth place and picked up the AR Bodies Cool Move of the Race for some great passes for position in the late laps of the race to get his top five finish. Josh Poore finished in fifth place and would finish in fourth in the series Chase for the Championship.

Chad Pendleton finished in sixth. Josh Sage finished in seventh. J. J. Schafer finished in eighth. Don Gregory finished in ninth. Buck Purtee came from his 18th place starting position to finish in 10th earning the Van Hoy Oil Hardcharger Award.

More information on the CRA series is available at www.cra-racing.com.

Early Entry List Revealed for CARS Tour Old North State Nationals

MOORESVILLE, NC - Twenty-six cars have filed their early entry as of October 7th for the Heritage Transportation Risk Management "Old North State Nationals" presented by GX5 Wraps at Greenville-Pickens (SC) Speedway on October 24-25th.

Jeremy Burns, Anthony Anders, Matt Cox, and Austin Somero are half of the seven drivers entered that call South Carolina home. In addition to them, defending track champion and current Late Model Stock points leader Taylor Satterfield, had filed his entry for the \$30,000 to win race.

Jeff Fultz has thrown his hat into the mix for the feature event.

Mike Looney will get his second taste of CARS Tour action. Looney made his series debut earlier this season when the series visited Franklin County Speedway.

Josh Berry will return to CARS Tour action for the first time this season after deciding to chase the 2020 NASCAR Weekly Series championship.

Not only will the Old North State Nationals pay out an impressive \$86,875 making it the biggest Late Model Stock race of 2020. Current

championship points leader Jared Fryar will carry a 15 point lead over Layne Riggs and Corey Heim into the final race of the season.

Tickets are on sale now only at www.carsracingtour.com.

General admission tickets to Saturday's race day are \$15.00 in advance and \$22.00 the day of the event for adults thirteen years of

age and older. Kids twelve and under are free with a paid adult.

Sunday afternoon's general admission ticket will be \$23 in advance and \$30 the day of the event for adults thirteen years of age and older. Kids twelve and under are free with a paid adult.

Camping for the event weekend is free.

DJ Shaw is a World Series Winner

Pro All Stars Series Super Late Model point leader D.J. Shaw of Center Conway, NH strengthened his bid for a fourth championship by winning the World Series 75. Shaw, who had finished second five times this year without a victory, started outside pole and got the jump when Brandon Barker had trouble at

the initial green flag.

Rowley, MA's Eddie MacDonald was right behind and looked below Shaw several times before getting around the outside in lapped traffic on lap 29.

Shaw kept MacDonald in his sights, and after a pair of yellows at lap-42, he roared back around him on the outside. MacDonald then fell

into a three-way battle for second with Derek Ramstrom and Ray Christian III. By the time MacDonald escaped their clutches, Shaw

was long gone on his way to the victory.

Christian got around Ramstrom late in the going to take the third spot. Johnny Clark, Ben Rowe, Corey Casagrande, Gabe Brown, Barker, and Kate Re finished fifth through 10th.



DJ Shaw raced his way to victory lane at Thompson Speedway during the World Series weekend. (John Dadalt photo)

Kyle Larson Claims Back To Back Victories at Port Royal

The ink hadn't even dried on the page before Kyle Larson had another accomplishment to be written in his 2020 book of dirt racing records.

Less than 24 hours after winning the opening night of the Nittany Showdown at Port Royal Speedway on Friday, Larson, of Elk Grove, CA, swept the weekend by winning Saturday night's \$15,000-to-win finale, earning his 20th career World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series victory – tying him with Greg Hodnett for 27th on the Series all-time wins list. It was also the third time he's swept a doubleheader weekend with the Series in 2020.

"Another awesome race car," Larson said. "Can't thank everybody enough. There's a lot of people that help (owner and crew chief) Paul's (Silva) team do what we do, and we can't do it without them."

His victory didn't come without a pinch of luck, though. While Larson had the dominate car Friday night, Brent Marks, of Myerstown, PA, did what few have been able to do all year during Saturday night's race; he passed Larson for the lead.

It first took 27 laps of eye widening racing to get to the point.

PA Posse members Lance Dewease, of Fayetteville, PA, and Anthony Macri, of Dillsburg, PA, lined up on the front row, poised to end the Posse's losing streak against the Outlaws this year and not be shutout of a win for the first time since 2008.

When the 30-lap Feature commenced, Dewease pulled ahead with the lead and Larson wasted little time to catapult himself from fourth to second on the opening lap.

Dewease used the clean air to his advantage and gapped Larson by about a second in the opening laps. However, he almost lost everything when he hit the wall in Turn 2.

Keeping his throttle control and steering in line, Dewease was able to recover from his mistake and continue with no issues. The only problem it presented for him was it allowed Larson to close in. And

once Larson had Dewease within reach, his charge was imminent.

Larson and Dewease waged a two-lap war for the lead on Laps 9 and 10 before the Finley Farms #57 prevailed as the victor. The race was now Larson's to lose.

On a restart with 14 laps to go, Marks was poised to be the one to make Larson lose it. He powered around the outside of Sheldon Haudenschild to take third and then made quick work of Dewease to steal second. Larson pulled away to about a second lead, but Marks had the high side mastered and cut a tenth of a second off Larson's lead each lap. And once lap traffic came into play, Larson's reign at the front started crumbling.

Marks, a Posse member that used to be a full-time Outlaw, was on the hunt for his first Series win in 2020 and to end that Posse losing streak. With three laps to go, he held the key to accomplish both feats. But before he could get a grip on it, a caution took it away.

Larson got held up by the lap car of Spencer Bayston while trying to pass him around the bottom, giving Marks a surprising run around the top to power around Larson for the lead down the backstretch. Seconds later, yellow lights flashed around the track for Kerry Madsen, who stopped on the track with a right front issue. With the lap no completed, Larson was able to keep the lead for the restart.

"I'm a little disappointed but it's hard to be disappointed with second with the World of Outlaws, especially against Kyle," Marks said. "For once we had a better car than he did. It just didn't work out. It's all good. I'm really proud of our team."

When the green flag waved for the final time Saturday night, Larson launched ahead of Marks on the start and pulled away to his 12th Series victory of the season in 24 starts and 41st dirt racing victory in 81 starts this year.

"I definitely got really lucky there," Larson said. "Marks surprised me when he ripped around me. Honestly, I thought Lance (Dewease) would be the guy coming. I peeked back and I could see someone was running the middle and I thought it was Lance. I should've peeked at the board I guess and seen the 5 (car of Marks) was coming and I would've known where he was running. I



Kyle Larson swept both nights of the Nittany Showdown at Port Royal Speedway. (Trent Gower photo)

would've been more aggressive when I got to traffic. I got lucky and I'll take it."

Dewease rounded out the podium and championship contender Logan Schuchart finished fourth – earning the KSE Racing Hard Charger Award with his run from 12th to fourth. Schuchart's finish also helped him chip away at reigning champion Brad Sweet's points lead. He's now 32 points behind Sweet – who finished eighth.

"It's nice just to go forward," said Schuchart, of Hanover, PA. "We've been so consistent for so long. And to be at the front of the points, you have to be consistent to be up there. Just says how are team is running."

For the last few weeks, for whatever reason, we've been struggling a little bit. But these Drydene guys they keep working hard and we just keeping working at it. You're going to have good nights and bad nights. Hopefully more good than bad."

Sweet's eighth-place finish was good enough to help his Kasey Kahne Racing team reclaim the points lead for the team championship from Jason Johnson Racing. David Gravel, driving the JJR #41, finished 21st, allowing KKR to move to a 12-point lead ahead of JJR.

With five races remaining this season, there's five more chances for Larson to add a new World of Outlaws record to his book and five more important events to determine the 2020 champion.

UP NEXT: The World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series, on Fri., Oct. 16, returns to Lakeside Speedway in Kansas City, KS. If you can't make it to the track, you can watch all of the ac-

tion live on DIRTvision.

Kyle Larson Wins Nittany Showdown Opening Night

Refill the ink and turn the page. Kyle Larson added another line to his 2020 book of dirt racing records Friday at Port Royal Speedway.

During the opening night of the Nittany Showdown, the Elk Grove, CA driver won his 11th World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series event in 23 starts and his 40th dirt track event in 80 overall starts this year – which includes a Late Model win at Port Royal in August.

"I would've liked to have gotten to 30 (wins). That was probably a more realistic goal," Larson said with a smirk. "But once we got racing... this is the most I've ever raced with Paul. We usually only do 25 to 30 shows. I think with us getting to race more together, days in a row, too, it helped us get into a rhythm. I think that's why we had such a strong summer."

Larson didn't let anyone else have a thought of victory in the 25-lap Feature. He cleared the 26-car field by the exit of Turn 4 on the initial start and extended the rope of time between he and second-place Danny Dietrich each lap. By Lap 5, Larson already had a two second lead on the PA Posse member.

While Larson set sail around the top of the half-mile track, the championship points contenders were hunting for every position they could. Ten-time Series champion Donny Schatz, who started the night setting Quick Time, eventually fell from fifth to seven and David Gravel fell from seventh to eighth.

(Continued Next Page)

Continued...

Further behind them, reigning champion Brad Sweet and Logan Schuchart were trying to fight their way forward, starting 15th and 21st, respectively.

Several drivers, including Sweet, were involved in an accident in Turn 4 with 10 laps to go. The wreck resulted and Carson Macedo and Lance Dewease's nights coming to an end, but Sweet had minimal damage and was able to continue. He made his way back through the field to finish 11th, while Schuchart

finished 12th.

By virtue of their finishes, Sweet now leads Schuchart by 40 points for the driver points title. Schatz continues to sit third in points, but is now 62 points behind Sweet, closing in on the championship battle for the second race in a row. Sweet's Kasey Kahne Racing team did lose points to Gravel's Jason Johnson Racing team for the team championship title hunt, though. JJR now leads KKR by 14 points.

The Lap 10 wreck was the sole caution of the night, giving Dietrich and third-place Sheldon Haudenschild their best shot at challenging Larson. On the restart, Dietrich tossed his car to the bottom of Turn 1 and pulled even with Larson. However, Larson had the better momentum around the top and

launch ahead of him down the backstretch.

Even with lap cars in his way, Larson didn't let anything slow his march to victory and crossed the finish line having led all 25 laps.

"I felt really good in the (DIRTVision Fast Pass) Dash there. Really really good," Larson said. "The balance of the car felt different in the Feature. But I felt like I could still maintain good grip off and I could slide lappers and not lose too much momentum. I knew my car was good. It always is. As the race went on, I started to slide more but got a good enough start on the restarts to maintain a decent gap. Awesome car again. Can't say enough about everyone who works on it."

Dietrich's runner-up finish is his best showing in 12 races with the

Series this season. It was also the best showing for a PA Posse member. If he or another Posse member is unable to win Saturday night's \$15,000-to-win Nittany Showdown finale, it will be the first time since 2008 that the PA Posse has been shutout of winning in their home territory against the Outlaws.

"He's (Larson) really good on the restarts," said Dietrich, of Gettysburg, PA. "Going to the bottom (on the restarts) was not the place to be but it was the only option if you wanted to try and pass him. Just really happy with the car. We made huge improvements from last week."

Sheldon Haudenschild rounded out the podium – his seventh podium finish in his last 15 World of Outlaws starts.

Brandon Overton Wins Michael Head Jr. Memorial

30 Super Late Models signed in to Senoia Raceway for the 23rd Annual Michael Had Jr. Memorial and the crowd was a witness to some exciting 54 laps.

Joseph Joiner and Brandon Overton led the group qualifying with Overton fastest. It didn't take long for trouble to find Todd Morrow and Michael

Page as the two tangled in turn 3 and 4 with Morrow ending up on his

roof on lap 1. Once the red flag was lifted Overton was being pressured by Joiner for the lead. On lap 16, a major crash on the front straight took out current points leader Billy Franklin along with Dalton Cook, John Henderson and Dalton Poston.

Overton picked up the win and was greeted in Victory Lane by Michael Head Sr. and family members.

The Southern All Stars will finish out the 2020 season on October 16 and 17 as they travel to Smoky Mountain Raceway for the King of the Mountain Double Header.

Hurricane Delta Causes Weekend Cancellations

BATAVIA, OH - This weekend's events at The Red Clay at Woodstock – The Historic Dixie Speedway in Woodstock, GA and Rome Speedway in Rome, GA have been cancelled. After discussions between Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series Officials and track owners, the decision was made that it would be in the best interests and safety of all

due to the forecasted storms with Hurricane Delta.

The Series looks forward to return visits to both venues in 2021. The next scheduled Lucas Dirt event is the \$100,000-to-win, 40th Annual Dirt Track World Championship October 16th – 17th at Portsmouth Raceway Park.

For the latest breaking news concerning the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series, including the latest series standings, 2020 tour schedule, driver information, and more visit the official website at: www.lucasdirt.com.

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Kyle Jones Wins 2020 ASCS Elite Non-Wing Finale at Big O Speedway

ENNIS, TX - Taking the win in the final round of the 2020 season with the ASCS Elite Non-Wing Series presented by Abilene Powder Coating, Kyle Jones was unstoppable at Big O Speedway on Saturday night.

The quickest out of the 20-car field in Qualifying, Jones did not stop there. Adding a Heat Race win to the evening, the driver of the No. 04 went on to lead 17 of the night's 20 lap A-Feature. Winning by 0.679-seconds over Justin Zimmerman, the runner-up performance by Zimmerman secured the 2020 Championship for the Athens, Texas shoe.

Keith Martin crossed third with Mason Smith and Stephen Smith completing the top five.

Ryan Hall crossed sixth with Ryan Padgett moving to seventh from 11th. Taylor Cade, from 14th, made it to eighth with Scott Evans and Dalton Stevens completing the top ten.

The 2021 season is in the works with updates coming soon.

For other news, notes, and information on the American Sprint Car Series, from the National Tour to any of the nine Regional Tours that make up ASCS Nation in 2020, log onto www.ascsracing.com, follow on Facebook, on Instagram, and Twitter (@LucasOilASCS).

Seth Bergman Cruises at Caney Valley Speedway with ASCS Sooner Region

CANEY, KS - Putting on a dominating performance at Caney Valley Speedway, Washington's Seth Bergman captured his sixth overall victory of the season on Saturday night, and 10th of his career with the American Bank of Oklahoma ASCS Sooner Region presented by Smiley's Racing Products.

Chasing Oklahoma's Brandon Anderson the opening pair of laps, Seth shot to the lead off the second turn on Lap 3.

Steadily pulling away from the field, Bergman began working through slower traffic on Lap 10.

Doing little to slow the Evergreen Coffee, Co. No. 23, Bergman

stretched his advantage to 6.221-seconds before the caution flew on Lap 23 for the spun No. 90 of Lance Norick.

Restarting with a pair of slower cars in the mix, Seth was able to make it to the finish with a 4.117-second buffer over California's Justin Sanders.

Picking up several positions following the Lap 23 restart, Blake Hahn made the final podium step with Sean McClelland fourth.

The fourth spot originally went to Brandon Anderson, but the No. 55b was disqualified for failing to report to the scales after the races.

Canada's Dylan Westbrook was scored fifth. Matt Covington ended



Kyle Jones celebrates in victory lane after winning the ASCS Elite Non-Wing Finale at Big O Speedway. (Rudy Garcia photo)

up sixth with Andrew Deal climbing from 11th to seventh.

Ryan Timms made it to eighth with Alex Sewell making up 10 positions to finish ninth. Jeremy Campbell completed the top ten.

Keeping things close for the 2020 Sooner Region Championship, Sean McClelland's top five run moved him from a 13-point deficit to a 7-point advantage over Jeremy Campbell with three races left.

The tour's next outing is Saturday, October 24 at Longdale Speedway.

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



Seth Bergman celebrates with family and crew in victory lane after winning with the ASCS Sooner Region at Caney Valley Speedway. (Richard Bales photo)

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Aaron Reutzel Concludes 2020 All Star Championship Season with Ford Classic Triumph

FREMONT, OH - For the third time in as many tries, Clute, Texas-native Aaron Reutzel is an Ollie's Bargain Outlet All Star Circuit of Champions presented by Mobil 1 champion, concluding his third consecutive title with a victory during Fremont Speedway's annual Jim and Joanne Ford Classic finale on Saturday, October 10. The \$10,000 victory, accomplished aboard the familiar Baughman-Reutzel Motorsports/Folkens Brothers Trucking/Fischer Body Shop/Hollywood Blasting and Coating/No. 87 sprint car, bumped Reutzel's season win total to 11, concluding his championship run with a final points cushion equaling 110 markers over Rudeen Racing's Cory Eliason. The 2020 All Star title earned Aaron Reutzel and Baughman-Reutzel Motorsports a \$65,000 top prize, increasing the evening's total value to \$75,000.

In addition, Reutzel has now won the season finale in each of his championship attempts.

"I can't say enough about the Baughmans for giving me such an incredible opportunity to drive their cars. I couldn't be more proud of this entire team. It's absolutely incredible what we've been able to do in such a short amount of time," Aaron Reutzel said in Fremont Speedway victory lane. "What we've accomplished, I never would have dreamed. Everyone plays a massive part."

Certainly padding the All Star Circuit of Champions history books, Reutzel's path to Jim and Joanne Ford Classic victory lane was a dominant one, eventually leading all 40 circuits of the historic program while lapping a substantial amount of the running order. Although slower traffic was in full force during much of the contest, entering the picture as early as lap six, Reutzel never faltered, maintaining control during each wave of lappers, which were separated by a caution on lap 13. A blessing, perhaps, the event's second and final pause kept Reutzel from having to navigate a moving wall of traffic comprised of cars two and three wide.

From that point forward, Reutzel was untouchable, ultimately escaping to a commanding lead while keeping upwards of five lapped cars between himself and second-place running, Cap Henry. In hot pursuit of a Jim and Joanne Ford Classic weekend sweep, Henry would eventually fade to third, losing a last lap battle to a hard-charging Cole Duncan who surged ahead from 18th.

"Tonight just went our way," an elated Aaron Reutzel continued. "When you qualify well and get into the dash, you are able to try things. Last night, the rutts never went away. It got slick all around them, but the rutts never went away. I figured tonight was going to be a repeat of that, so I told (crew chief) let's go for it. Let's live or die by the rutts. It played out good and it was definitely a gamble. But I wanted to make \$10,000 on top of that \$65,000. Fremont Speedway was bad ass today."

As previously stated, Visalia, California's Cory Eliason ended his 2020 All Star campaign second in the final driver standings, earning three victories along the way including one during Huset's Speedway's \$20,000 Grand Re-Opening. Zeb Wise, the 2020 All Star Rookie of the Year, concluded his season third in the All Star driver standings, followed by Paul McMahan, Skylar Gee, Greg Wilson, and Josh Baughman.

Cap Henry Claims Jim and Joanne Ford Classic Opener at Fremont Speedway

FREMONT, OH - Forced to chase race-long leader and polesitter, Ian Madsen, for the first 26 circuits, it was a true test of patience and persistence for Republic, Ohio's Cap Henry on Friday evening at Fremont Speedway, and with a little help from slower traffic, the now three-time Ollie's Bargain Outlet All Star Circuit of Champions presented by Mobil 1 main event winner in 2020 was able to sneak by the Baughman-Reutzel Motorsports entry and score the Jim and Joanne Ford Classic Opener at the "Track That Action Built" for a \$5,000 payday.

"This has been a real good year



Aaron Reutzel celebrates with wife Shelbey, car owner Josh Baughman and the Baughman Reutzel Motorsports team after winning the Ford Classic feature race and the season championship with the All Star Circuit of Champions. The team took home \$75,000 for the race win and the season championship. (Paul Arch photo)

for us," Cap Henry explained in Fremont Speedway victory lane, driver of the Lane Racing/Beer Barrel Bourbon/No. 4 sprint car. "My guys keep working on this thing and they keep making it better and better. This thing was a little bit of a handful at times, but I was confident in my team's decision making. I'm just so proud of this whole race team. Nobody ever gives up. We can say we won another one at Fremont."

Although a bridesmaid for over half of the non-stop, 35-lap program, Henry, who started third on the feature grid, was in a position to pounce the entire distance, never allowing Madsen to stretch his legs on Fremont's slick, yet tricky surface. By lap 12, Madsen found himself amongst a gaggle of slower cars, ultimately giving Henry an opportunity to show his nose on lap 14. Despite missing the opportunity to overtake, Henry kept his focus, continuing on without allowing more than one lapped car to separate himself from the leader for the next 14 circuits.

Seemingly in control, Madsen's

reign at the top of the leaderboard would falter on lap 27, as a slower car would hold up the familiar No. 17 allowing Henry to capitalize. With the aforementioned lapped car forcing Madsen to enter turn one off of his preferred line at the bottom of the speedway, the door was open for Henry, eventually driving underneath Madsen before winning a drag race at the exit of turn two.

Forced to settle for fourth at the final checkers, Madsen would also get overtaken by Cole Duncan and Cory Eliason, who battled for much of the 35-lap contest, exchanging third and fourth on six occasions before settling into second and third, respectively. Shane Stewart, who started fourth, would cross the line fifth.

"As soon as we got into traffic, I knew I was going to have to search around to see what we could find to be better than Ian (Madsen)," Henry continued. "Turn two kind made the difference for us tonight. Ian was pretty committed to what he had to do and we were able to get down and get a run."



Cap Henry celebrates in victory lane after winning the opening night of action at Fremont Speedway. (Paul Arch photo)

Finalists Announced for Betty Jane France Humanitarian Award

DAYTONA BEACH, FL - The NASCAR Foundation announced today the four finalists for its 10th Annual Betty Jane France Humanitarian Award, initiating a nearly month-long online fan vote to determine the award winner.

The award, named in honor of the foundation's late founder and chairwoman, is presented to a NASCAR fan who has done exceptional volunteer work on behalf of children in their community. This year marks the 10th annual presentation of the award, which to date has recognized 36 finalists with a total of \$1,575,000 in contributions to the causes they represent.

The finalists include:

- Daryl Farler of Franklin, Tennessee, a NASCAR fan for 35 years, represents Amputee Blade Runners of Tennessee, an organization that provides free running and sports prosthetics to lower-limb amputees seeking a more active lifestyle. He is a founder and volunteer for 10 years helping interview and mentor the children who seek their services.

- Charlene Greer of Ormond Beach, Florida, a lifelong NASCAR fan, represents the Boys and Girls Clubs of Volusia / Flagler. Greer has volunteered and advocated for the organization for nine years and now serves on its Board of Directors. She helps to organize and fund its annual Honor Roll Banquet and Christmas celebration.

- Larry Jordan of Dacula, Georgia, a NASCAR fan for 21 years, represents Angel Flight Soars, Inc., the original volunteer pilot organization that helps to strengthen families in crisis by eliminating the transportation concern for necessary medical care. Jordan has donated his time as a volunteer pilot for 21 years and flown over 115 mission flights for children and adults needing distant, specialized medical treatment.

- Rich Langley of Virginia Beach, Virginia, a NASCAR fan for over 45 years, represents Roc Solid Foundation of North Carolina, an organization devoted to use the power of 'play' to defeat pediatric cancer. Langley has volunteered and led fundraising efforts for nine years

while building 120 playsets and completing 25 travel projects across the U.S.

Results of the fan vote – which runs through Nov. 4 at 12 p.m. (ET), conducted at NASCARfoundation.org/Award – will be announced virtually.

To learn more about The NASCAR Foundation's Betty Jane France Humanitarian Award and the 2020 finalists, visit NASCARfoundation.org/Award.

NASCAR Hall of Fame to Postpone Class of 2021 Induction Ceremony

CHARLOTTE, NC - The NASCAR Hall of Fame announced today that it will postpone the Induction Ceremony and Induction Week events for the Class of 2021. The decision was made in partnership with NASCAR after very thorough and thoughtful conversations regarding how best to plan and execute one of the sport's most cherished moments while facing the ongoing uncertainties of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Induction Ceremony, which was set to take place on Friday, February 5, 2021, is now anticipated for early 2022. The Class of 2021 consists of Dale Earnhardt, Jr., Red Farmer, the late Mike Stefanik and Landmark Award recipient Ralph Seagraves.

It is anticipated that the new date for the Class of 2021 Induction Ceremony and Induction Week events will be announced sometime in summer 2021. In addition, events celebrating both the class of 2020 and 2021 are hopeful for later in 2021. The Class of 2020 exhibit in the museum's Hall of Honor will remain on display until the Class of 2021 is enshrined in 2022.

To learn more about the NASCAR Hall of Fame, the Class of 2021 and current exhibits visit nascarhall.com.

NASCAR Drive for Diversity Awards Celebrate Leaders Championing Inclusion

DAYTONA BEACH, FL - NASCAR will host the 13th annual NASCAR Drive for Diversity Awards today in celebration of the sport's diversity and inclusion trail-

blazers. NASCAR executives, drivers, pit crew members, partners and other industry leaders will gather virtually to recognize the contributions of 10 deserving awardees who are setting an example by advocating for diversity and inclusion across the NASCAR industry.

The 2020 NASCAR Drive for Diversity Award recipients are as follows:

- Diverse Driver Award: Hailie Deegan, DGR-Crosley – Deegan became the first female to win a race in the former NASCAR West Series and the first female to earn Rookie of the Year (2018). Her third-place finish among 2019 championship standings was the highest for a female driver in series history. In the ARCA Menards Series this season, Deegan has already matched the highest finish in a race by a female (second, twice) and currently leads the series' Bounty Rookie of the Year standings.

- Young Racer Award: Isabella Robusto, Rev Racing – Robusto is in her fourth season with Rev Racing and the NASCAR Drive for Diversity Program. She competed as a youth driver in the Legends division during her first three seasons with the team. Robusto currently competes full-time in a Late Model Stock car. She uses her voice to support The NASCAR Foundation, most recently by participating in the #GivingTuesdayNow campaign to bring awareness for efforts to help children dealing with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Crew Member Award: Brehanna Daniels, Independent Contractor - Daniels made history in 2019 when she became the first female African-American graduate of the NASCAR Drive for Diversity Pit Crew Development Program to pit in the DAYTONA 500 at Daytona International Speedway. Daniels currently works with aspiring pit crew members as a mentor and coach helping them to pursue their career dreams.

- Outstanding Intern Award: Monon Rahman, Rick Ware Racing - Rahman was a member of the 2019 NASCAR Diversity Internship Program class working at the NASCAR Research & Development Center in Concord, N.C. Upon completing his internship, he was hired as lead engineer at Rick Ware Racing working on the NASCAR Cup Series, NASCAR Xfinity Series and IMSA teams. Monon graduated from the University of Kentucky at age 19 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering.

- Partner Award: The Coca-Cola Company - In 2019, Coca-Cola brought together a collective of industry partners to establish Daniel's Amigos, a fan-facing initiative to welcome new fans into NASCAR by connecting around shared cultural passion points of sports, racing, music, family, food and togetherness.

- Institution Award: Urban Chamber of Commerce, Las Vegas – The Urban Chamber of Commerce in Las Vegas is being recognized for its efforts to help educate the local community about NASCAR and its diversity and inclusion initiatives. Urban Chamber members helped turn their memorable experience during a 2018 NASCAR Cup Series race – part of a NASCAR Opinion Leader Initiative activation at Las Vegas Motor Speedway – into a three-day outreach event surrounding the race weekend a year later.

- Industry Ambassador Award: Jennifer Satterfield-Siegel, Rev Racing – Satterfield-Siegel is the first African-American female team owner and sponsor in the NASCAR Touring Series. She and her husband, Max Siegel, co-own and manage Rev Racing. An Indianapolis native, Satterfield-Siegel has made a national impact with her involvement in the NASCAR Drive for Diversity Program.

- National Series Driver Award: Jimmie Johnson, Hendrick Motorsports - On the track, Johnson is known as a seven-time NASCAR Cup Series champion. More than a decade ago, Jimmie and his wife established the Jimmie Johnson Foundation which has impacted diverse youth and communities through \$12 million in support to various organizations.

- Track Award: World Wide Technology Raceway – The raceway partnered on a youth outreach program with the Jackie Joyner Kersee Foundation, NASCAR Diversity & Inclusion and NASCAR Acceleration Nation. More than 120 children and their families were treated to a day at the NASCAR Gander RV & Outdoors Truck Series race.

- Team Award: Richard Childress Racing (RCR) - Richard Childress Racing is a team that engages drivers, manufacturers and sponsors to effectively reach fans on and off the track in support of NASCAR's diversity and inclusion goals. Additionally, the team recently named its first woman vice president and currently has a total of four women serving in director-level or higher roles.

Charlotte Motor Speedway

CONCORD, NC - In advance of seven-time NASCAR Cup Series Champion Jimmie Johnson's final race at Charlotte Motor Speedway, the Bank of America ROVAL™ 400, speedway officials honored the career of the future Hall-of-Famer with legacy gifts both at the legendary superspeedway and in the Cabarrus County community.

Speedway Motorsports President and CEO Marcus Smith unveiled a 207-square-foot historical mural featuring memorable scenes from Johnson's victories at America's Home for Racing. The mural, which recognizes Johnson as the winningest NASCAR Cup Series driver in Charlotte Motor Speedway history, is located on the frontstretch concourse for fans to enjoy for years to come.

"Jimmie Johnson's impact on our sport is immeasurable, and there is no track on the circuit where he's had a more dominant impact than at Charlotte Motor Speedway," said Smith. "With an amazing 12 career wins at Charlotte to his credit, Jimmie demonstrated a mastery over the competition that is unmatched in our illustrious 61-year history. When it comes to Charlotte, Jimmie Johnson has been THE man to beat."

Johnson tallied four wins in the Bank of America 500 (2004, 2005, 2009, 2016), four NASCAR All-Star Race wins (2003, 2006, 2012, 2013) and four wins in one of NASCAR's crown jewels, the Coca-Cola 600 (2003, 2004, 2005, 2014). Among active drivers, Kevin Harvick is currently second on the all-time Cup Series win list at Charlotte with five total victories (two Coca-Cola 600s; two NASCAR All-Star Races; one Bank of America 500).

As accomplished as Jimmie Johnson has been on the track, perhaps his greatest legacy will be the charitable influence that he and his wife, Chandra, have had in the community through the Jimmie Johnson Foundation. Mirroring the foundation's support of public education, Charlotte Motor Speedway established a \$48,000 Jimmie Johnson Scholarship Fund to benefit deserving Cabarrus County high school seniors. CMS Execu-



Seven-time Cup Series champion Jimmie Johnson was honored with a giant mural recognizing his historic success at Charlotte Motor Speedway as well as the establishment of a \$48,000 scholarship fund in his name during a special presentation Sunday. Making the presentation were Marcus Smith, CEO of Speedway Motorsports; Greg Walter, executive vice president and general manager of Charlotte Motor Speedway and Dr. Chris Lowder, superintendent of Cabarrus County Schools. (CMS/HHP photo)

tive Vice President and General Manager Greg Walter announced the scholarship fund alongside Cabarrus County School Superintendent Dr. Chris Lowder.

"Jimmie and Chandra have generously supported those in need through their foundation, and this scholarship will assist a deserving area student in pursuit of a college education each year for the next decade," said Walter. "Charlotte Motor Speedway will proudly provide a \$4,800 annual scholarship in Jimmie Johnson's name to a deserving senior with career pursuits in fitness, nutrition or exercise science, passions that Jimmie has championed as much as he has racing."

The student will be selected by the Cabarrus County School System.

"Charlotte Motor Speedway will always have a special place in my heart," Johnson said. "I've have shared so much success here across my career. To think that the scholarship will help individuals for years to come means so much to me, to my family and to the Jimmie Johnson Foundation."

FOLLOW US: Keep track of all of Charlotte Motor Speedway's events during its 60th anniversary season by following on Twitter and Instagram or become a Facebook fan. Keep up with all the latest news and information with the Charlotte Motor Speedway mobile app.

Texas Motor Speedway

FORT WORTH, TX - The highly anticipated 2020 NASCAR Playoffs at Texas Motor Speedway now goes nonstop Sunday, Oct. 25, with the addition of the Texas Lottery No

Limits Live! Pre-Race Show leading up to the green flag for the NASCAR Cup Series Autotrader EchoPark Automotive 500 (2:30 p.m. CT on NBCSN, PRN, KFWR 95.5 The Ranch).

The Autotrader EchoPark Automotive 500 caps off a doubleheader of intense late playoffs-season action on the 1.5-mile tri-oval that begins with the NASCAR Gander RV & Outdoors Truck Series SpeedyCash.com 400 (11 a.m. CT on FS1, MRN, KFWR 95.5 The Ranch).

Texas Lottery No Limits Live! Pre-Race Show co-hosts Monica Palumbo and Jose Castillo will present a one-hour program of full throttle fan entertainment from a news desk stage directly in front of the main grandstands and shown for all in attendance to see on Big Hoss TV as well as livestreamed at www.texasmotorspeedway.com. Vignettes will include interviews with 2020 NASCAR Cup Series title contender Kevin Harvick (No. 4 Stewart-Haas Ford), a hauler tour with 2020 NASCAR Xfinity Series title contender Justin Allgaier (No. 7 JR Motorsports Chevrolet) and a special live presentation with seven-time NASCAR Cup Series Champion Jimmie Johnson (No. 48 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet), making his final full-time series start at No Limits, Texas.

"The Texas Lottery is proud to continue our work with Texas Motor Speedway by collaborating on this fantastic live pre-race show for spectators," said Gary Grief, executive director of

the Texas Lottery. "Since our partnership began in 2015, Texas Motor Speedway has proven to be an innovative and reliable partner that focuses on unique promotional opportunities, like No Limits Live, and we look forward to expanding our partnership in 2021 by providing fans with 50X Speedway Riches – the first Texas Motor Speedway scratch ticket game from the Texas Lottery."

Texas Motor Speedway's Big Hoss TV features 22,704.64-square feet of HD LED display and has the distinction of holding the Guinness World Record as the World's Largest HDTV.

"Having race fans back at Texas Motor Speedway for the Autotrader EchoPark Automotive 500/SpeedyCash.com 400 doubleheader will be great to see so, working with a great partner in the Texas Lottery, we decided to provide them something special to keep their fantastic energy high between races," said Texas Motor Speedway President and General Manager Eddie Gossage. "Big Hoss TV allows us to produce the Texas Lottery No Limits Live! Pre-Race Show for fans in the grandstands similar to what those watching at home can see on NBCSN and FS1."

Tickets for the Oct. 25 NASCAR Cup Series Autotrader EchoPark Automotive 500 and NASCAR Gander RV & Outdoors Truck Series SpeedyCash.com 400 doubleheader are available starting at \$48 at <http://bit.ly/Fall20EventPage>. Tickets for kids 12 and under are just \$10. Further details can be found on the Texas Motor Speedway website.

The NASCAR Xfinity Series O'Reilly Auto Parts 300 (Saturday, Oct. 24 at 3:30 p.m. CT on NBCSN, PRN, KFWR 95.5 The Ranch), the fifth of seven races of the 2020 NASCAR Xfinity Series playoffs, will be run as a non-spectator event.

Visit <https://www.texasmotorspeedway.com/events/2020-event-return-guide/> for a comprehensive list of answers to frequently asked questions about the Autotrader

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EchoPark Automotive 500/SpeedyCash.com 400 doubleheader.

Tickets for Texas Motor Speedway's 25th major event season in 2021 on are sale now at <https://www.texasmotorspeedway.com/nascar-indycar-tickets/>.

Keep track of all of Texas Motor Speedway's events by following on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Keep up with all the latest news and information on the speedway website and TMS mobile app.

Kansas Speedway

KANSAS CITY, KS - Since its inception in 2006, The NASCAR Foundation has undertaken numerous initiatives which positively affect the lives of children throughout the United States. This is especially true for the markets in which the sport hosts events. These efforts will be highlighted next weekend as NASCAR descends upon Kansas Speedway for four races over the course of three days, October 16-18.

The ARCA Menards Series Championship race on Friday, October 16 at 7:30 pm CT – the first of the quartet of races - will be named the Speediatrics 150 presented by The NASCAR Foundation. The race will be televised on either FS1 or FS2 (TBD). This comes in an effort to boost awareness for children's health and medical needs across the country through the Foundation's Speediatrics Children's Fund.

This marks the second-ever entitlement sponsorship for Speediatrics, the Foundation's program that provides support to hospitals, specialty clinics, camps and other organizations offering children's medical and health care services.

"The NASCAR Foundation has done tremendous work in our communities for two decades, and having them as the entitlement partner for our ARCA Menards Series Championship race makes it even more special," said Kansas Speedway President Pat Warren. "The contributions that the Speediatrics Children's Fund has made in just a few years have been extensive, and they have made a huge difference in the lives of many children, including right here in the Kansas City Metropolitan Area."

In 2016, The NASCAR Foundation launched the Speediatrics Children's Fund to deliver high quality care to needy children. To date, the Speediatrics Children's Fund has contributed more than \$8 million to impact the lives of more than 725,000 children.

Fans are encouraged to visit NASCARfoundation.org/Speediatrics150 to learn how they can get involved and help children survive and thrive, through their support of The NASCAR Foundation and its health and wellness programs for children.

For the latest news on everything Kansas Speedway please visit www.kansasspeedway.com.

Fans can follow Kansas Speedway on Facebook at www.facebook.com/kansasspeedway, Twitter (@kansasspeedway) and Instagram (kansasspeedway).

Charlotte Motor Speedway

CHARLOTTE, NC - Larry McReynolds, who won 23 NASCAR Cup Series races as crew chief for drivers such as Hall of Famers Davey Allison, Dale Jarrett and Dale Earnhardt, received the prestigious Smokey Yunick Award Monday ahead of the third running of the Bank of America ROVAL™ 400 at Charlotte Motor Speedway.

Legendary car owner and mechanic Henry "Smokey" Yunick instituted the award in 1997 to annually recognize an individual who rose from humble beginnings to make a major impact on the motorsports industry. Yunick passed away on May 9, 2001, and Charlotte Motor Speedway has continued the award in his memory.

McReynolds was surprised with the award, a golden wrench, during a special presentation by Speedway Motorsports President and CEO Marcus Smith on FOX's "Race Hub."

He joins a long list of NASCAR greats in receiving the honor, including Cotton Owens, Banjo Mathews, Ralph Moody, Ray Evernham, Dale Inman, Richard Childress, Rick Hendrick and Wadell Wilson, among others.

"That list has a lot of great names and I think a lot of creative genius," said Smith. "The ingenuity and the ideas that drive championship racing are what it takes to get this wrench and I'm so excited to be able to give it to you."

"You have absolutely swept me off my feet," McReynolds said. "Just to have my name in the same paragraph as a Dale Inman or Leonard Wood, people like that, is

quite overwhelming. It starts with the people that I work with. We all know it's about people..."

"The one thing about looking at that list that makes it so fulfilling is to know that I'm on there with Hall of Famer, my best friend, Robert Yates. Honestly, if it wasn't for Robert Yates, I probably wouldn't be here accepting this. He taught me so much."

Born in Birmingham, Alabama, McReynolds became enthralled with the mechanical side of the local racing scene. He moved to North Carolina in 1980 to begin a NASCAR career and eventually worked his way up to crew chief.

McReynolds' first full season as a NASCAR Cup Series crew chief was in 1986 when he called the shots for the No. 26 King Racing Buick owned by drag racer Kenny Bernstein and driven by Joe Ruttman. His first victory came at the Watkins Glen International road course in 1988 with Ricky Rudd driving the King Racing entry.

In 1991, McReynolds teamed with Yates and Allison to form one of the sport's most potent combinations. Together, they won 11 races, including the 1991 Coca-Cola 600 at Charlotte Motor Speedway, before Allison died on July 13, 1993, from injuries suffered in a helicopter crash.

Robert Yates Racing and the No. 28 team eventually rebounded from the devastating loss and McReynolds returned to Victory Lane with Ernie Irvan (seven times) and Dale Jarrett (once) before moving to Richard Childress Racing for the 1997 season.

At RCR, McReynolds was on top of the pit box in 1998 when Dale Earnhardt finally won the Daytona 500 and he spent more than two-and-a-half seasons working alongside driver Mike Skinner.

"People ask me, what are my most special wins," McReynolds said. "Well, all of them. I won 23, but I lost 457 of them, so they're all really special. Two Daytona 500s, and, you know there's only one first. To get that very first win at Watkins Glen with Ricky Rudd in 1988. Donnie Allison told me when I left Birmingham; he said, it's going to be a long time before you see a checkered flag. Well he was right, it took about eight and a half years before I got to see a checkered flag. But, they're all special because they're hard to come by."

Stepping into the FOX broadcast booth in 2001, McReynolds

was originally paired with legendary driver Darrell Waltrip and veteran broadcaster Mike Joy, a combination that remained for 15 years. His broadcasting role eventually evolved and today McReynolds offers his unique perspective on everything from rule infractions to pit strategy during each race.

Michigan Int'l Speedway

BROOKLYN, MI - FireKeepers Casino will return as the entitlement sponsor of the track's NASCAR Cup Series race, as a new three-year contract will ensure the partnership through 2023. The 2021 race will be held on August 22. FireKeepers Casino Hotel, which is located in Battle Creek, Mich., has been an entitlement partner for a Michigan International Speedway NASCAR Cup Series race each year since 2016.

"As we begin the process of ushering in the 2021 season, we are excited that we have the opportunity to continue our partnership with FireKeepers Casino for another three years," said Michigan International Speedway President Rick Brenner. "They have been a tremendous partner since 2016, as working in tandem we have been able to provide numerous unique experiences for our fans. We look forward to creating many more ways in which we can make a visit to Michigan International Speedway a memorable one for the entire family."

Consumers Energy, a partner of Michigan International Speedway since 2012, including entitlement for the NASCAR Cup Series Consumers Energy 400 from 2018-20, will remain an active partner of the track.

"We have enjoyed sponsoring races for the last three years and using this relationship to connect with our customers in a new, exciting way," said Brian Rich, Consumers Energy's chief customer officer. "Michigan International Speedway is a world-class venue for sports entertainment, and we will continue working with them to maximize the fans' experience."

Tickets for the August 2021 race weekend at MIS are available at mispd.com/tickets.

For more information, fans can call 888-905-RACE (7223).



Kingsport Speedway

KINGSFORT, TN - Kres VanDyke continues to re-write the record books at Kingsport Speedway.

The Abingdon, Va., driver extended his record with a 14th consecutive Late Model Stock victory on the 3/8-mile concrete track. It was his 15th win overall, breaking the previous record for overall wins in a single season set by his sometime crew chief Wade Day in 2000.

VanDyke had to work hard the first part of the 60-lap feature. He drove his red No. 15 Chevrolet to the lead after a lap 17 caution. Once out front, there was no getting back by VanDyke, who has wrapped up his third track championship.

Hayden Woods took second place in his No. 6 Chevy after battling much of the race with Nik Williams. Mechanical issues plagued Williams, who suddenly slowed and pulled into the pits. In his absence, Woods motored to the runner-up spot.

Brad Housewright, who started on the pole, finished third. He and Wayne Hale ran side-by-side the opening two laps before Housewright took the lead. Housewright stayed up front until a nudge by Hale's Toyota allowed both Hale and Woods to get by.

Housewright recovered to finish third in his Chevy with Hale fourth. Keith Helton in a Ford rounded out the top five.

SPORTSMAN

Kyle Barnes and Derek Lane thrilled the speedway crowd with an exciting battle for the lead. With \$500 going to the winner of the race, Barnes found his way out front with the No. 00 Chevrolet.

Barnes reached double digits with his 10th win of the season. Lane raced to the runner-up finish with Rusty Clendenin, Jenna Wagner and Austin Brooks in the third through fifth positions.

MOD 4

Kevin Canter kept his perfect record for the season intact, capturing his 12th win, but it didn't come easy.

Canter was driving his grandfather Hershell Robinette's No. 9 Ford for the second straight week as his own No. 3 car undergoes repairs. Canter made his winning



Kingsport Speedway's victory lane has become a familiar place for Kres VanDyke this year after winning 15 time in the Late Model Stock Series. (KS photo)

pass of second-place Dennis Arnold with just three circuits remaining in the 30-lap race.

Arnold motored on to finish second with Billy Duty, Tristen Barnes and Chris Amburgey the rest of the top five.

PURE 4

Kenny Absher worked his way around John Ketron for the lead and later held off his teammate Billy Byington to capture his fourth win of the season.

Byington strengthened his grip on the track points lead with his second-place finish. Ketron took third with Bucky Smith fourth and Craig Phelps fifth.

PURE STREET

Rob Austin held off Tony Dockery to take his fourth win of the 2020 campaign. Dockery rolled on to finish second. Jay Swecker was third, while Billy Walters and Brian Eggers comprised the rest of the top five.

Championship night will be set for Friday, October 16th.

For more information on Kingsport Speedway, visit our website at www.kingsportspeedway.com. Fresh content and updates can also be found on the tracks Facebook page (@KingsportSpeedway), Twitter (@KpSpeedway), Instagram (@KingsportSpeedway), Snapchat (@KptSpeedway), and YouTube (@KingsportSpeedway).

South Boston Speedway

SOUTH BOSTON, VA - Mike Trenor and Troy Fitzgerald have distinctly different racing backgrounds and are hoping their blend of backgrounds will lead to their becoming a competitive two-car Limited Sportsman Division team.

The two Salem, Virginia residents recently tested their cars at South Boston Speedway, looking at

the possibility of competing at "America's Hometown Track" next season.

"It's a nice facility, very nice," Trenor said of South Boston Speedway.

"We want to get down here and get in as much practice time as we can. I need to knock the rust off, and Troy needs to learn the line and how to get around here a little bit. We'd love to come back here and race next year."

Trenor, 62, started his short track racing career at Motor Mile Speedway, and competed there for seven seasons.

"I ran Late Model Trucks up there," Trenor explained.

"When I first started, we had a real good field, but towards the end the trucks started going away and we had only six or eight in the class. Before that we had 16 or 18 trucks in the class."

Trenor then got involved in road racing at Carolina Motorsports Park in Kershaw, South Carolina.

"We started doing the 24 Hours of Lemons, a 24-hour race at Kershaw, South Carolina," he noted.

"It's a real wide, safe track, with a lot of places where if you run off (of the course) you don't hit guard rails and ditches."

Fitzgerald, 47, also has a combination of racing experiences.

"I did some road racing with Mike," Fitzgerald pointed out.

"I originally started dirt track racing and have done dirt track racing most of my career."

Fitzgerald said he enjoyed his experience on an asphalt short track testing the Limited Sportsman car at South Boston Speedway.

"It's kind of cool," Fitzgerald said.

"The dirt's like all-out all the time. This is go as fast as you can. The road course thing with an enduro (race) is you've got to pace your-

self. I'm looking forward to getting back to something where you can go hard and fast. I know it's going to be way faster than dirt. I'm kind of excited about that."

Trenor said the test session was about getting some track time, shaking down the two cars and getting used to the .4-mile South Boston Speedway oval. He noted they did not pull out their stop watches during the day.

"I thought it was a successful day," Fitzgerald said after the test session.

"We didn't know much about these cars, so we ran a few laps and they stayed together. I know we didn't go as hard as we need to, but we got a pretty decent pace, and everything felt good."

Fitzgerald is excited about teaming up with Trenor in the Limited Sportsman Division.

"We feed off of each other," Fitzgerald pointed out, "and Mike can teach me some things. I'm real excited to learn and get out there."

South Boston Speedway is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. for teams wishing to schedule testing sessions. The track is available for testing from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. each day. Teams wishing to schedule testing sessions should contact the speedway office at 434-572-4947 at least a day ahead to schedule a testing date.

For the latest information and announcements about South Boston Speedway and its events go to the track's website at www.southbostonspeedway.com and follow South Boston Speedway's social media outlets.

Stafford Motor Speedway

STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT - Stafford Speedway hosted its final Friday night race program of the 2020 season with NAPA Auto Parts Championship Night on October 9. Taking down feature wins on the night were Keith Rocco in the SK Modified® feature, Ryan Fearn in the Late Model feature, Jonathan Puleo in the SK Light feature, Alexandra Fearn in the Limited Late Model feature, and Frank L'Etoile, Jr. in the Street Stock feature. With NAPA Championship Night serving as the final night to earn track championship points in 2020, Adam Gray clinched his third career Late Model crown at Stafford, Brian Sullivan clinched the SK Light championship, Andrew Durand scored his second career Limited Late Model title at Stafford, and Zack Robinson went back to back

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by securing the Street Stock championship. Keith Rocco had already clinched his fourth career Stafford SK Modified® title last week.

In the 40-lap SK Modified® feature, Marcello Rufrano took the lead at the green flag on the outside of Tyler Leary with Tony Membrino, Jr. third and Bryan Narducci in fourth. Membrino spun in turn 2 to bring

the caution out with 2 laps complete.

Rufrano took the lead back under green with Narducci moving up to second. Leary was third while Michael Gervais, Jr., Teddy Hodgdon, and Keith Rocco briefly went 3-wide with Gervais emerging in fourth and Hodgdon and Rocco were side by side for fifth place. Gervais got by Leary to move into third on lap-7 and Rocco was looking to follow him by Leary. Gervais cleared Leary on lap-9 and Rocco took fourth with Leary sliding back to fifth with Narducci still giving chase to Rufrano for the race lead.

Rocco got around Gervais to move into third and he took second from Narducci on lap-14. Rufrano was still in the lead with Gervais in fourth and Leary still in fifth. Rocco took the lead from Rufrano on lap-16 with a pass coming out of turn 4 which allowed Narducci and Gervais to close back in on the two lead cars.

Gervais was applying heavy pressure to Narducci for several laps and he was finally able to make a pass to move into third on lap-21. With 10 laps to go, the order was still Rocco followed by Rufrano, Gervais, Leary, and Ronnie Williams. Williams made a move to take fifth from Leary on lap-33 and he was looking to the inside of Rufrano for second when the two cars touched and Rufrano spun to bring the caution out with 34 laps complete. Gervais was sent to the rear of the field for the contact with Rufrano.

Rocco took the lead on the restart with Todd Owen taking second. Williams was third in line with Michael Christopher, Jr. and Leary side by side for fourth place. Membrino, Matt Vassar, and Tyler Hines got into the turn 2 wall to bring the caution back out with 36 laps complete.

Rocco took the lead on the



2020 Stafford Motor Speedway Champions: (left to right) Limited Late Model - Andrew Durand; Late Model - Adam Gray; SK Modified - Keigh Rocco; Street Stock - Zack Robinson; SK Light Modified - Brian Sullivan. (SMS photo)

restart with Owen and Williams side by side for second. Owen quickly cleared Williams for second with Christopher and Leary side by side for fourth. Rocco led Owen to the checkered flag to pick up his sixth win of the 2020 season. Williams finished third with Christopher and Leary rounding out the top-5. Rocco wrapped up his fourth career SK Modified® championship one week ago.

In the 30-lap Late Model feature, Paul Varricchio, Jr. took the lead at the green flag with Dave Wray, Tom Fearn, Paul Arute, and Michael Bennett lined up behind him. Marc Curtis took a trip through the backstretch grass on lap-3 but he was able to keep going and the race stayed green.

Fearn and Arute both got by Wray on lap-5 to move into second and third behind Varricchio with Al Saunders up to fourth and Darrell Keane fifth as Wray slid back to eighth place. Fearn was applying heavy pressure to Varricchio for the lead and he was able to make a pass for the lead on lap-9. Arute looked to follow Fearn by Varricchio, but Varricchio was able to fend off his challenge for now and remained in second. Arute came back on lap-10 the inside of Varricchio and this time he made the pass stick and he took over second place. Adam Gray was on the move, working his way into fifth place behind Fearn, Arute, Saunders, and Keane.

With 10 laps to go, the top-3 of Tom Fearn, Arute, and Saunders remained the same while Gray was now up to fourth and Ryan Fearn was up to fifth place. Ryan Fearn took fourth from Gray on lap-21 while Tom Fearn was starting to stretch out his lead over Arute. Saunders began to slide backwards and Ryan Fearn took second from Arute on lap-26 while

Gray was all over Arute for third place. Gray made the move to take third on lap-29 while Ryan Fearn was all over the back bumper of Tom Fearn for the lead and the win. Ryan made his move to the inside of Tom in turns 3+4 on the final lap and he beat Tom to the checkered flag by inches to take his second win of the 2020 season. Gray finished third, which made him the Late Model champion for the third time in his career at Stafford. Arute finished fourth with Keane rounding out the top-5.

In the 20-lap SK Light feature, Norm Sears took the lead from Bob Charland on the opening lap. Chris Matthews was third and he quickly went by Charland for second just before Jonathan Puleo spun on the frontstretch and collected the car of David Webb to bring the caution out with 2 laps complete.

Matthews took the lead from Sears on the restart with Charland and Amanda West side by side for third place. Tyler and Steven Chapman were side by side for fifth behind Charland and West with George Bessette, Jr. right behind the Chapman brothers.

Steven Chapman made a move to get by West on lap-6 to move into third with Bessette and West now side by side for fourth place while Matthews was still out front with Sears giving chase. Sears made a move to the inside of Matthews for the lead on lap-10 while Chapman and Bessette were side by side for third behind them, making for a high speed pace lap with cars lined up two by two. Sears got clear to the lead on lap-13 with Chapman in second. Chapman took the lead from Sears on lap-14 while Puleo was back up to third with Derek Debbis in fourth. Matthews slid back to fifth in line.

With 5 laps to go the order was

Chapman in the lead with Puleo, Debbis, Sears, and Matthews behind him. Puleo went to the outside of Chapman for the lead on lap-16 and they ran side by side for 2 laps before Puleo took the lead on lap-18. Debbis moved up to second with Chapman falling back to third. Puleo held Debbis off to the checkered flag to pick up his third win of the 2020 season. Chapman finished third with Bessette and Sears rounding out the top-5. Brian Sullivan finished the race in 10th place which was good enough to make him the 2020 SK Light champion despite missing two races during the season.

In the 20-lap Limited Late Model feature, Rich Hammann took the lead at the green flag with Alexandra Fearn quickly taking second. Andrew Durand was also on the move in the early going, streaking his way into third behind Fearn. Jeremy Lavoie was fourth with Matt Clement in fifth. Fearn took the lead from Hammann on lap-3 and Durand took second from Hammann on lap-4. The caution came out with 7 laps complete for Devon Jencik, who did a half spin in turns 1+2 and collected the car of Damian Palardy.

Fearn and Durand went side by side for the lead on the restart with Fearn getting clear of Durand as they hit the line to complete lap-8. Lavoie was third in line with Clement applying heavy pressure from fourth and Lucas Leone was fifth in line. Clement took third from Lavoie on lap-10 with Fearn starting to stretch out her lead over Durand.

Fearn pulled away from Durand over the closing laps and took down her third win of the 2020 season. With Durand finishing second, Fearn and Durand finished the season tied in the points standings, but Durand held the tiebreaker over Fearn with 7 wins to Fearn's 3 wins this season. Clement finished third with Leone and Lavoie rounding out the top-5.

In the 20-lap Street Stock feature, Brandon Michael took the early lead at the green flag with Nickolas Hovey, Adrien Paradis, III, Chris Meyer, Zack Robinson, Frank L'Etoile, Jr. and Meghan Fuller lined up behind him. Meyer went by Paradis to take over fourth place on lap-4 with Robinson following him through to take fourth and drop Paradis back to fifth. L'Etoile got by Paradis to move into fifth on lap-6 and Fuller took sixth with Paradis falling back to seventh.

At the halfway point of the race,
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Michael was still in the lead with Hovey, Meyer, Robinson, L'Etoile, and Fuller lined up behind him. Robinson made a move to the inside of Meyer to take over third place on lap-12 while Fuller fell back to seventh place as Travis Hydar took over sixth place.

Robinson took third from Meyer on lap-14 and he took second from Hovey on lap-15. With 5 laps to

go, Fuller was one position away from where she needed to be to clinch the championship while Robinson was right where he needed to be to win the title. The caution came out with 16 laps complete for a spin by Daltin McCarthy in turn 4.

Michael took the lead back under green with L'Etoile and Robinson side by side for second. L'Etoile took second on lap-18 while Meyer was third and Fuller and Robinson were side by side for fourth place. Fuller took fourth from Robinson on lap-18 just before Jason Lafayette spun in turn 2 to bring the caution out with 18 laps complete and set up a green white checkered finish.

Michael took the lead on the restart but contact from Meyer got him loose in turn 3 which allowed L'Etoile to move to the lead and Fuller to take second. Going into turn 3 on the final lap, Michael made contact with Fuller with Fuller spinning and falling to the rear of the field while Robinson finished second to claim his second consecutive Street Stock championship and L'Etoile scored his first win of the 2020 season. Michael was disqualified from the race, moving Meyer up to third with Hovey and Paradis rounding out the top-5.

For more information contact the Stafford Motor Speedway track office at (860) 684-2783, or visit us on the web at www.staffordspeedway.com.

Stafford Motor Speedway

STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT - Nickolas Hovey came into the 2020 season at Stafford Speedway as a 14-year old rookie driver with no prior experience either at Stafford or in a full size racecar. Those facts didn't deter Hovey from going out and earning R.A.D. Auto Machine Rookie of the Year honors in

Stafford's Street Stock division. The Chaplin, CT native and driver of the #16 Busy Bees Learning Center Chevrolet recorded a best finish of third to go along with 11 top-10 finishes in 13 races to clinch the rookie title with one race remaining on the 2020 calendar of events.

"This feels pretty great," said Hovey. "I'm obviously one of the youngest guys out there racing against adults so it's pretty nice. Coming into the season I had some questions as to how I would do and there were some nerves, but I didn't doubt anything. I had driven quarter midgets and bandoleros which doesn't really help driving-wise but I knew how to hold my line and things like that. Our goal was to keep the car in one piece, gain laps, and maybe get a top-10 finish or two. I think we exceeded our expectations by a lot. I didn't really think we'd have a great car this year obviously with me not having run a full size car before. We weren't able to contend for wins necessarily, but we ran towards the front for most of the races. I have to thank our sponsors R & G Sealcoating, Chris' Automotive, Busy Bees Learning Center, Iron Horse Equipment, and obviously my Mom and Dad. Without their support, none of this would have been possible."

Hovey and the #16 team got their season off to a slow start with 13th and 16th place finishes in his first 2 starts. Since then, Hovey has been one of the most consistent drivers in the Street Stock division, recording 11 consecutive top-10 finishes. If not for a mechanical issue and a wreck in those first 2 races, Hovey may well have finished all 13 races run thus far in the top-10.

"We've been consistent this year and I've definitely been surprised with how well we've run," said Hovey. "If you look at our first 2 races this season, we were running up front in both races and we blew the clutch in one race and the second race we got wrecked on the last lap.

"I was kind of expecting to run mid-pack but we were in the top-10 in both of those races. If not for those 2 issues, we probably could have finished all the races this season in the top-10. It was a good feeling because you have to have realistic expectations and being a rookie driver, I didn't think we'd go out and have a shot at winning races. Knowing how well we ran to start the season off, I felt pretty good about our chances."

The highlight of Hovey's rookie campaign came on Aug. 21 when he recorded his first career podium finish in third place. Hovey held the lead for roughly half of that race before falling back to third where he finished the race.

"That podium finish was definitely the highlight of our season," said Hovey. "I think we led about half of that race and I lost a couple spots on a restart. We've had more opportunities to get back on the podium since then but we've just had small things like last week when we lost the brakes while running in fourth that blew our chances."

With a year of experience in the Street Stock division, along with working with his father Walt, a former Street Stock champion at Waterford Speedbowl, Hovey is ready to head into the 2021 season full of excitement for better things to come to him and the #16 team.

"Working with my Dad has been a huge help for me," said Hovey. "He sets the car up and does most of the work on the car. I try to help him out the best that I can and he knows how to give me constructive criticism and how to build on what we did in previous races. I think the biggest thing for me was being content with the car that I have and to not overdrive the car. I've done that a lot this year where I've tried to get an extra tenth of a second or two and it's screwed me up. I think by the end of this year I'll have about 20 races so next season should be easier just from knowing how the car reacts to certain things and knowing what works and what doesn't work."

For more information, visit www.staffordspeedway.com, checkout Stafford Speedway on Facebook or Twitter, or contact the track office at 860-684-2783.

Williams Grove Speedway

MECHANICSBURG, PA - Freddie Rahmer of Salfordville was crowned the 2020 Williams Grove Speedway Lawrence Chevrolet 410 sprint car track champion on Saturday night during an on-track presentation during the 58th annual National Open.

Rahmer, who is celebrating his second career track crown after also taking the title in 2017, took the track championship aboard his father's No. 51 machine, just as he did in 2017.

And the elder Rahmer likewise has now recorded the 2020 car owner track title.

Young speedster Freddie Rahmer scored a total of three victories

during the abbreviated 2020 Williams Grove season although not getting his first until August 21.

Other wins came on September 4 and on September 25.

Rahmer also walked off with the 2020 Williams Grove Diamond Series championship, again just as he did in 2017.

The 2020 Diamond crown was also the second of Freddie Rahmer's oval career.

Following Rahmer in the final 2020 Williams Grove Speedway 410 sprint point standings was one-time winner Brent Marks of Myerstown; Anthony Macri, Dillsburg; one-time winner Danny Dietrich, Gettysburg; and TJ Stutts, Liverpool.

Sixth through 10th went to Lucas Wolfe, Brian Montieth, Lance Dewease (1 win), Brock Zearfoss and Kyle Reinhardt.

Other winners during the season were Kyle Larson (2), David Gravel (2), and one-time winners Carson Macedo, Steve Buckwalter, Shane Stewart, Aaron Reutzel and Donny Schatz.

Special award winners in the 410 sprint division were Brent Shearer, Rookie of the Year; Chad Trout, Sportsmanship; Anthony Macri, Most Improved; and Freddie Rahmer, Mechanic of the Year.

Derek Locke of Carlisle recorded the 2020 Williams Grove Speedway HJ Towing & Recovery 358 sprint track title,

Locke scored fifty-percent of the 358 sprint races run during the season, taking three of six events.

The season was momentous for third generation driver Locke who not only recorded his first career track title in the division but he did it while winning his first career speedway events as well.

Locke took victories on July 31, August 14 and September 25.

Following Locke in the final point standings was two-time winner and five-time track titlist Kevin Nouse, Dylan Norris and Matt Findley/Scott Fisher (tie).

Sixth through 10th in points went to Brett Wanner, Chris Frank, one-time winner Zach Newlin, Justin Foster and Steve Owings.

Zach Newlin, whose win on September 4 was the first of his 358 sprint career at the track, was honored as Rookie of the Year.

Brett Wanner was honored for Sportsmanship.

Keep up to date on all the latest speedway news and information by visiting the oval's official website located at www.williamsgrrove.com or by following the track on Twitter and Facebook.