



AUGUST 5, 2019

# FastTrack

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# Chase Elliott Doubles Up at the Glen

# The Clock's Ticking

It's no secret this has been Jimmie Johnson's most-challenging season as a driver. But nobody ever thought it would get to the point where the seven-time champion is forced to make radical changes in stock-car's stretch drive just to sneak into the NASCAR Playoffs on points.

The driver who only trails five Hall of Fame drivers in career victories has been relegated to talking about stage points and bubble drivers. Although one more win would vault him into a tie for fourth on the all-time wins list with Bobby Allison and Darrell Waltrip, Johnson now has been forced to calculate the risks and rewards of every move during the last four races of the regular season.

It's so desperate, Johnson's team changed crew chiefs ahead of last weekend's road course race at Watkins Glen International with hopes of finding some new magic to break Johnson's 81-race winless streak.

"The championship would probably be tough to weigh-in on right now, but we still have a lot of racing left," Johnson said before starting eighth and finishing 19th last Sunday. "We've got to crawl before we walk with Cliff (Daniels, who replaced Kevin Meendering as crew chief). And I definitely think we can make the playoffs and I feel that with Cliff new to this role and the changes he will make, I think we will continue to grow as the year wears on. At what rate? We can all argue that until we're blue in the face and that's where we're hopeful that Cliff can speed-up in this position as crew chief."

Johnson managed to earn bonus points as a top-10 finisher in the first two stages, but a run-in with Ryan Blaney in the final 30 laps sent Johnson to a place that's become far too-familiar – deep in the pack.

Johnson now is tied with Ryan Newman for 16th in the standings, but Johnson currently would earn the final transfer spot into the playoffs on a tiebreaker. Clint Bowyer, Kyle Larson, Daniel Suarez and Paul Menard also are lurking around the playoff bubble.

Meanwhile, seemingly a mile ahead, Hendrick Motorsports teammate Chase Elliott ran away for one of the most-dominating performances in Watkins Glen's history. The son of 1988 NASCAR champion and Hall of Fame driver Bill Elliott started on the pole and led 80 of 90 laps. Elliott won his first Cup Series race at The Glen a year ago, and he's sandwiched three other victories in between the road course starts.

"I just feel like that to me is I feel like the biggest piece of the whole weekend is just knowing that we're the type of team and the caliber of team that can go and put on those kind of performances, and those are the kind of performances you have to put on to compete with those guys that win often," Elliott said. "We just need to go do that more often, and I think at the end we can run with them."

It wasn't that long ago when Johnson said the same thing on a regular basis.

"There are a lot of moving pieces to it, and I still feel like I've got it," Johnson said. "I still feel like I'm doing my job in the car. I think Hendrick Motorsports is still playing a little catch-up. I think Chevy is playing a little catch-up. We have to do everything we know we can do in our hearts to make this team as strong as it can be. A year from now, I might have a different opinion of myself and might say hey, I don't have it, so I'm handing the wheel over to a young guy and the let someone else have a shot at this thing. But, the amount of time and work and effort I've put into this; my heart & soul is in it, I've never worked so hard in the last five years to try to stay on top of my game. But, I'm having a huge moment in recognizing just how important every individual is on the team.

"And then also, the timing of all the big pieces that it takes to be successful. I was at Hendrick Motorsports at the right point in time. I was in Chevys at the right point in time. I had Chad Knaus (as his crew chief for all seven championships), who I will fight until the end of the world to say is the best crew chief to ever walk through this garage area. So, the timing of all that together gave us the opportunity to harness lightning."

Elliott's success shows even



**DON COBLE**

with the dramatic reduction of horsepower and additional downforce, the car can't be blamed for all the problems at Hendrick.

"I think if you look at the stats, as a group, Hendrick has been much more competitive on tracks that require a lot of downforce and essentially, drag. When we get to the tracks where we trim out more, we seem to lose our competitiveness. We have completely gone to the drawing board as well, and are bringing some big changes ourselves. We won't know until about 30 or 40 minutes into practice how it stacks-up. But I think the No. 22 car (Joey Logano) put it on everybody with the level that they took it to in trimming their car out, and made it work on that big track."

Other tracks remaining in the regular season include Bristol, Indianapolis and Darlington.

Bristol is a short track known for calamity, while Indianapolis and Darlington present the same downforce issues that have given the engineers at Hendrick fits.

If Daniels is going to get Johnson back on track, he doesn't have a lot of time to do it. Johnson's level of anxiety was made clear when his team decided to back up start over with so little time remaining in the regular season. Johnson said the move was as much about pumping new energy into the team as turning wrenches.

"Right now, we're rebuilding on a lot of fronts and unfortunately, it's just going to take a little bit more time," Johnson said. "We're still working really hard, but we have a lot of variables that aren't where they were in the mid-2000s when

we had our dominance."

If Johnson manages to qualify for the playoffs, he knows he will need more than points to stay alive after the bottom-four drivers are eliminated after the third, sixth and ninth race in the 10-race championship.

"I would love to win; I need to win every week," he said. "It's, I think, just wired into me. Of course, it's the safest way to transfer. So, that's first and foremost always there. But, I can't expect us to go from being a top-five car to a dominant winning car in just a few short weeks."

Three top fives and a battle to be a wild card in the playoffs isn't what Johnson likes. He's used to accomplishing so much more. His team moved Knaus to another team after Johnson didn't win a race last year. Now the team is making changes in the heat of the playoff push.

There isn't much left to change.

"I'm here through next season and that's when my contract will run out," Johnson said. "I've got to make a decision at that point if I want to continue on. If my fire goes out or I feel like I'm not competitive, I think any driver would say that. If you feel like you're not competitive, it's time to walk away. It's just the reality that I'm only under contract through next year. And, I certainly have less years ahead of me than I ever had in my career. So in part of my decision-making process, that will play a role if I feel like I'm doing my job right behind the wheel."

The clock's ticking. And at 44, there's no time – or patience – to turn this into a rebuilding year.

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**BRIAN LAWDERMILK/GETTY IMAGES**

## Chase Elliott Goes Back-to-Back at Watkins Glen

WATKINS GLEN, NY - It was a striking case of déjà vu.

In a replay of Last year's GoBowling at the Glen, Martin Truex Jr. chased pole winner Chase Elliott lap after lap around the 2.45-mile road course, using everything in his

arsenal to try to deprive Elliott of his second straight victory at the track.

Nothing worked for Truex, who crossed the finish line in the wake of the winning No. 9 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet, .454 seconds in arrears.

Elliott logged his second victory of the season, his second at The Glen and the fifth of his career, becoming the first Chevrolet driver to win multiple races this season.

"This is wild," exulted Elliott, who outran Truex last year at WGI to pick up his first Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series victory. "Thank you, guys, that was pretty awesome. I've never been so far from home and thought I was at my house. Thank you. What a day!"

"We had such a bad fast Camaro, and we stayed mistake-free. Martin was a little quicker those last two runs, but track position was king, and I didn't mess up in (Turn) 1 this time, so that was good."

In fact, nothing went wrong for Elliott until he ran out of fuel after his celebratory post-race burnout—

same as last year.

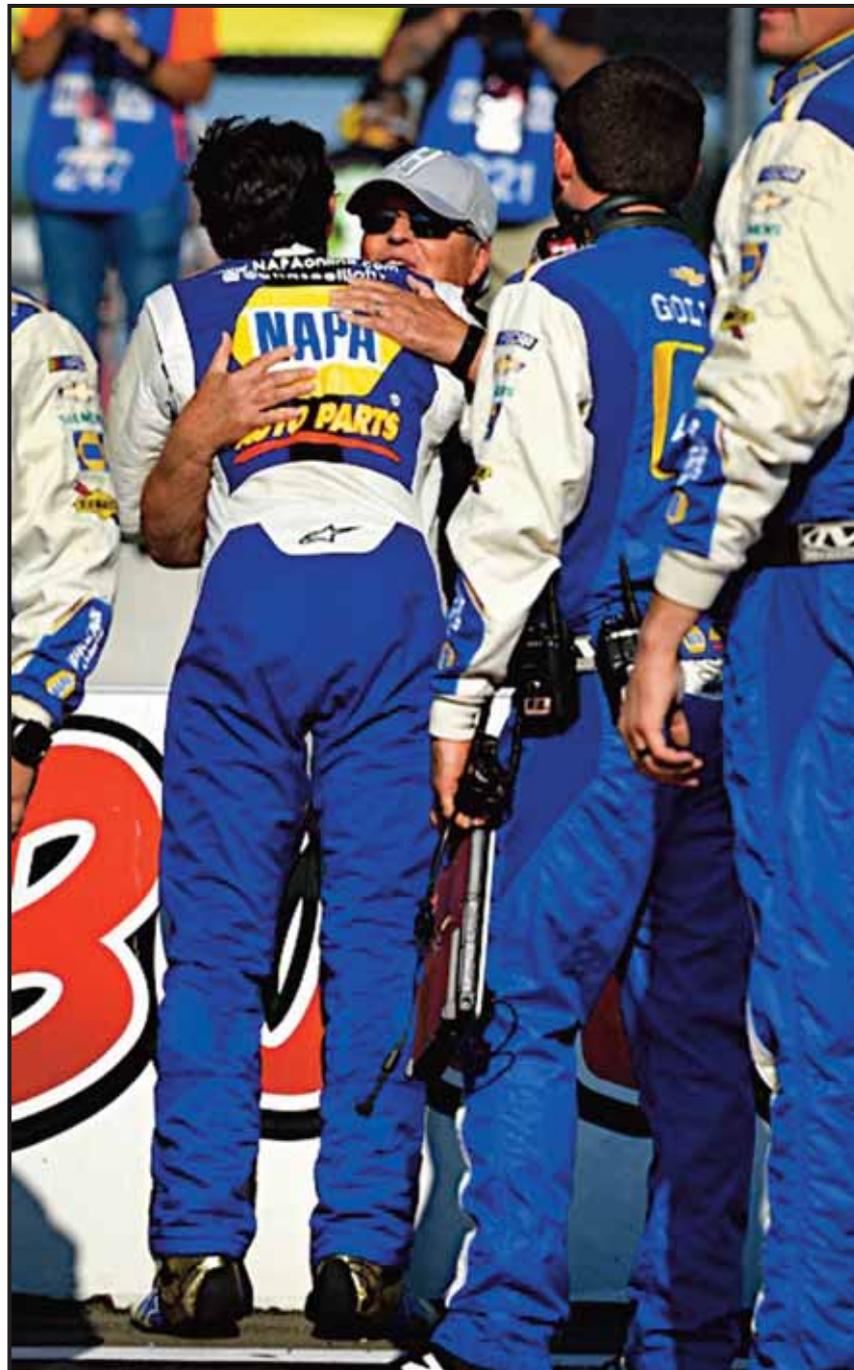
"Sorry I ran out of gas again," Elliott said.

Elliott swept the first and second stages and led 81 of the 90 laps, surrendering the top spot only during pit stop cycles. Truex, who led one lap by pitting one circuit later than Elliott on Lap 60, got tantalizingly close to Elliott's rear bumper at several points during the final 25-lap green-flag run, but the 2017 series champion couldn't mount a serious threat to overtake the winner.

"I tried to do all I could," Truex said. "Chase did an excellent job, just not making mistakes, and really all I could do was get to two car lengths—one-and-a-half at the closest in braking—and just try to force a mistake. But he hit his marks. His car was really fast in the key areas that you need to be, leaving a few of the key corners.

"I just couldn't get a run on him, and we just were kind of stuck there. Unfortunate, but our Bass Pro Camry was really, really fast today. We passed quite a few cars there that were fast and finished up front, just couldn't pass that last one."

Denny Hamlin ran a consistent-if-distant third, 11.229 seconds behind Elliott at the finish. Erik Jones started 14th and came home fourth, posting his fourth straight top-five result and solidifying his position in the standings with four



Race winner Chase Elliott gets a congratulatory hug from his car owner Rick Hendrick before going to Watkins Glen's victory lane. (NIGEL KINRADE PHOTOGRAPHY photo)

races left before the cutoff for the

Playoffs. Jones is 13th, 54 points to the good.

Ryan Blaney ran fifth on Sunday, followed by Matt DiBenedetto, Kevin Harvick, Kyle Larson, Brad Keselowski and Kurt Busch. Kyle Busch finished 11th, recovering from a pit road speeding penalty and on-track dust-ups with front-row starter William Byron (21st on Sunday) and Bubba Wallace (28th).

Scoring points in both the first and second stages, Jimmie Johnson finished 19th in the debut of new crew chief Cliff Daniels and made up 12 points on Ryan Newman, who ran 25th after a flat tire forced an unscheduled pit stop, and a subsequent loose wheel compounded the problem. Newman and Johnson head for next Sunday's race at Michigan tied for 16th, the last Playoff-eligible position.



For a second year in a row, Chase Elliott (9) holds off Martin Truex Jr. (19) lap after lap to win the Go Bowling at the Glen race Sunday afternoon. (NIGEL KINRADE PHOTOGRAPHY photo)

# Austin Cindric Gets First NASCAR Xfinity Series Victory in Duel at The Glen

WATKINS GLEN, NY - Opportunity knocked for Austin Cindric after a mechanical failure knocked Kyle Busch out of Saturday's Zippo 200 at Watkins Glen International.

And after Cindric and road course ace AJ Allmendinger traded knocks on the final two laps of the NASCAR Xfinity Series race, Cindric—on fresher tires—emerged the winner for the first time in his career.

Following post-race inspection, Allmendinger's No. 10 Kaulig Racing Chevrolet was disqualified for a rear height violation, dropping Allmendinger to last place in the running order. But fans left the track with the memory of an intense battle over the closing laps.

When NASCAR called the sixth caution on Lap 69 of 82, Brian Wilson, crew chief on Cindric's No. 22 Team Penske Ford, made a courageous call that later proved decisive.

Wilson brought Cindric from the lead to pit road for fresh tires, dropping the 20-year-old driver to ninth in the running order for a restart on Lap 73.

An immediate caution for a pile-up in Turn 1 left Cindric in sixth for the next restart on Lap 76. When Christopher Bell was knocked sideways in Turn 2, and Justin Allgaier and Tyler Reddick lost momentum while fighting for the second spot, Cindric charged around the outside into second place and chased Allmendinger.

It took three laps for Cindric to trim Allmendinger's advantage from 1.714 seconds to .521 seconds,

and from that point, the game was on. On Lap 81, Cindric nudged Allmendinger up the track in the carousel and took the lead. Allmendinger returned the favor approaching Turn 7 and regained the top spot as Cindric was forced wide.

But Allmendinger entered Turn 7 too wide and Cindric drove back underneath to lead Lap 81. On the final circuit he pulled away to win by 1.168 seconds and clinched a spot in the Xfinity Series Playoffs.

Cindric and Wilson had discussed the possibility of a late pit stop before the race.

"I've been on the other side of it," Cindric said. "(Bell) had been pretty good all day, so it was going to be hard to hold him off depending on which lane he had on the restart."

The only thing that went wrong was Cindric's celebratory burnout. But it was helpful that pole winner Kyle Busch had critical issues during the race itself.

"I was kind of bummed," Cindric said. "I broke the clutch out of it trying to do a burnout, so my guys are going to have to do a little extra work and I'll have to buy them an even bigger dinner. We talked before the weekend, and we knew

something would have to go wrong with (Kyle Busch), but I'm so blessed to be able to be here."

After winning the first stage and pitting thereafter, Busch had just passed Ryan Blaney for the lead entering the inner loop when the upper control arm on the left front of his No. 18 Toyota broke. Busch retired from the race and opened the door for Cindric.

"As soon as KB went out, everybody's eyes opened up, and it was like, 'OK, here we go,'" Allmendinger said. "When you take tires like that, it's all about getting lucky. If you get a restart where you get by a chunk of cars, it makes that strategy work—and he did it."

"Congrats to Austin. He went in there and nudged me, and that was fair. I nudged him—you race how you get raced—but that's what racing's all about. He deserved it. He was on it the whole race."

With the Allmendinger disqualification, Bell inherited the runner-up spot, followed by Allgaier, who traded hard knocks with Ross Chastain, eliminating Chastain from the race after hard contact with the barrier in the carousel. Blaney and Reddick ran fourth and fifth.



Austin Cindric celebrates his first NASCAR XFINITY Series win in victory lane at Watking Glen. (MATT SULLIVAN/GETTY IMAGES photo)

# Stewart Friesen Gets His First Truck Win at Eldora

ROSSBURG, H - First at last.

Canadian Stewart Friesen held off Sheldon Creed by .728-seconds in the Eldora Dirt Derby at Eldora Speedway to earn his first career NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series victory

Thursday night.

It was a typical Eldora night of close racing, hot tempers, and high drama on the Rossburg, Ohio half-miler. Friesen, the driver of the No. 52 Halmar Friesen Racing Chevrolet took the lead on Lap 95 of the 150-lap race and held off the field despite multiple caution periods and restarts – before prevailing in a two-lap shootout to the checkered flag.

Championship points leader Grant Enfinger finished third, followed by Mike Marlar and Todd Gilliland. Defending Eldora winner Chase Briscoe, who led a race best 94 laps, finished seventh. Briscoe and Friesen were the only two race leaders.

“Oh man, thank you to all the race fans that stuck with us,” Friesen said in Victory Lane. “Today, this is the day. This is the week. Thanks to everybody. This is meant to be. We needed to get it

done on the dirt. Thanks to everyone. What a special event.”

The race certainly had its share of excitement.

Briscoe, last week’s NASCAR Xfinity Series winner at Iowa, won both the first and second stages and was caught up in multiple incidents on the night. However, he managed to keep his truck racing to take a hard-earned top-10 finish.

For many of the usual frontrun-

ners, the unique Eldora challenge presented new obstacles. It was the dirt debut for several fulltime drivers, including three-race winner Ross Chastain, who ran impressively among the top five early in the race, spun out on his own after the Stage 2 restart but rallied to a 12th-place finish.

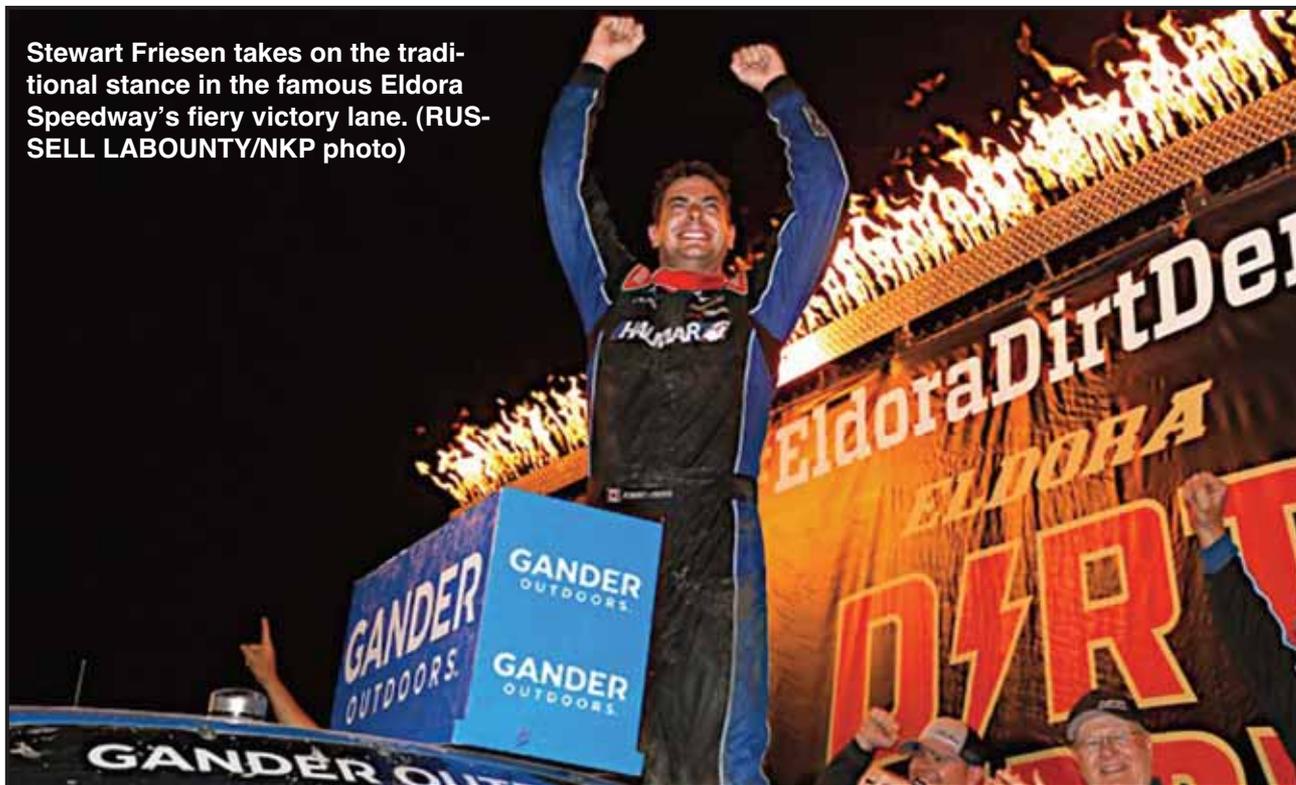
Sunoco Rookie Harrison Burton, who was making his Eldora debut, dealt with over-heating during the brief break following the opening stage. He was running eighth when he spun and brought out the fourth caution flag of the night and then was collected in another multi-truck accident. He eventually had to retire his No. 18 Kyle Busch Motor-

sports Toyota and suffer a 31st-place finish in the 32-truck field.

As for Friesen, who had been a symbol of “coming so close” to victory, this was finally his career highlight night. He has six runner-up finishes in the last three seasons – including two earlier this year. A last place finish last weekend at Pocono (Pa.) Raceway had really put him in championship peril – dropping him to last among the current eight eligible drivers. Instead, with Thursday’s win, he has an automatic berth to contend for the title.

The series moves to Michigan International Speedway for the regular season finale next Saturday.

Stewart Friesen takes on the traditional stance in the famous Eldora Speedway’s fiery victory lane. (RUSSELL LABOUNTY/NKP photo)



Stewart Friesen (52) battles to keep Matt Crafton (88) in his rear-view mirror as the pack tries to keep up. (MATT SULLIVAN/GETTY IMAGES photo)



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## Max McLaughlin Claims First Career Victory at Watkins Glen

WATKINS GLEN, NY - Not bad for a first timer.

After setting quick time in practice and earning his second career pole, Max McLaughlin led every lap before Mother Nature forced the premature ending of the Great Outdoors RV Superstore 100 at

Watkins Glen International, declaring the driver of the No. 1 the winner.

"It's awesome. I can't believe it—I've never even raced on a road course before," he said in disbelief. "We come here, fastest in practice—sweep the weekend. It's beyond words, man. My dad won here, it's always been my favorite track as a kid. To get my first NASCAR win here. This is priceless. Coming to 10 to go or whatever, I had tears in my eyes, 'oh my god, this ain't really happening, is it?' [...] I love this place, really looking forward to getting back here soon."

With weather in the area, what would be the final restart was a bit hairy for McLaughlin. He briefly lost the lead to Tanner Gray, but quickly regained it before a lightning strike delayed the event.

Then, the rain began to fall. After about 30 minutes, NASCAR deployed the track drying team in an attempt to go back racing. But shortly thereafter, the rain picked back up, forcing NASCAR to call the event six laps before it's full distance.

The win was Hattori Racing Enterprises' second consecutive in the event, as Brett Moffitt earned the checkered flag last season in this very car. The year prior, Ryan Truex led 26 laps from the pole before being sidelined due to an accident.

Two-time winner in 2019 Chase Cabre, championship points leader Sam Mayer, Ty Gibbs and Ruben Garcia Jr. rounded out the top five, with Dylan Murry, Spencer Davis, Dale Quarterley, Derek Kraus and Colin Garrett completing the top 10.

The Great Outdoors RV Superstore 100 is scheduled to be broadcast on NBCSN on Wednesday, August 7 at 6 p.m.

The next K&N Pro Series East event, the Bush's Beans 150, will take place in two weeks on Thurs-

day, August 15 at Bristol Motor Speedway. Mayer won earlier this season at "The World's Fastest Half-Mile."

### Ron Silk Survives Chaotic Overtime Restart For Second Straight Win

STAFFORD, CT - Perfect timing for one, worst timing for another.

Doug Coby dominated the Stafford 150 at Stafford Motor Speedway, leading the first 147 laps before a caution flew for the first time. After a chaotic overtime restart, Ron Silk was the beneficiary of some fresh tires and a daring three-wide move to the take the lead and the win.

The former series champion earned his second consecutive NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour checkered flag — which was also his 13th career and second at the Connecticut half-mile.

"We are just continuously putting ourselves up towards the front, in position to have things happen like what happened tonight," Silk said. "A lot of times, you make your own luck. My team has improved dramatically and the guys are doing a great job."

It was Doug Coby's night before a crash in turn three suddenly changed the complexion of the race. Coby was fastest in practice, earned his sixth Mayhew Tools Dominator Pole Award in qualifying, and drove away with the race early. It was looking like Coby was



"Mad" Max McLaughlin earned his first career NASCAR victory on Friday afternoon at Watkins Glen. (Logan Whitton, NKP/NASCAR photo)

going to celebrate a complete sweep of the night and his 13th career Stafford win.

But the caution changed everything.

With only six cars on the lead lap, pit strategy was key in the finishing order. Teams are only allowed to take one tire per pit stop under caution, but most of them made their way down pit road more times than one during the yellow. Coby's Mayhew Tools team elected to take three tires, but he was also down pit road another time for fuel only. After four stops, he restarted sixth for the final dash.

Matt Swanson and Justin Bonsignore took the green flag on the front row, but it wasn't long before Silk took the top spot with a daring three-wide move off turn two. From there, it wasn't quite clear sailing, as Jon McKennedy was on the back bumper looking to pounce. But Silk was able to hang on for his third Whelen Modified Tour win of

the season.

"I knew there were only six of us on the lead lap at that point and I thought you had to take the tires," Silk said of the mindset during the yellow. "There were 146 green flag laps, our tires were shot."

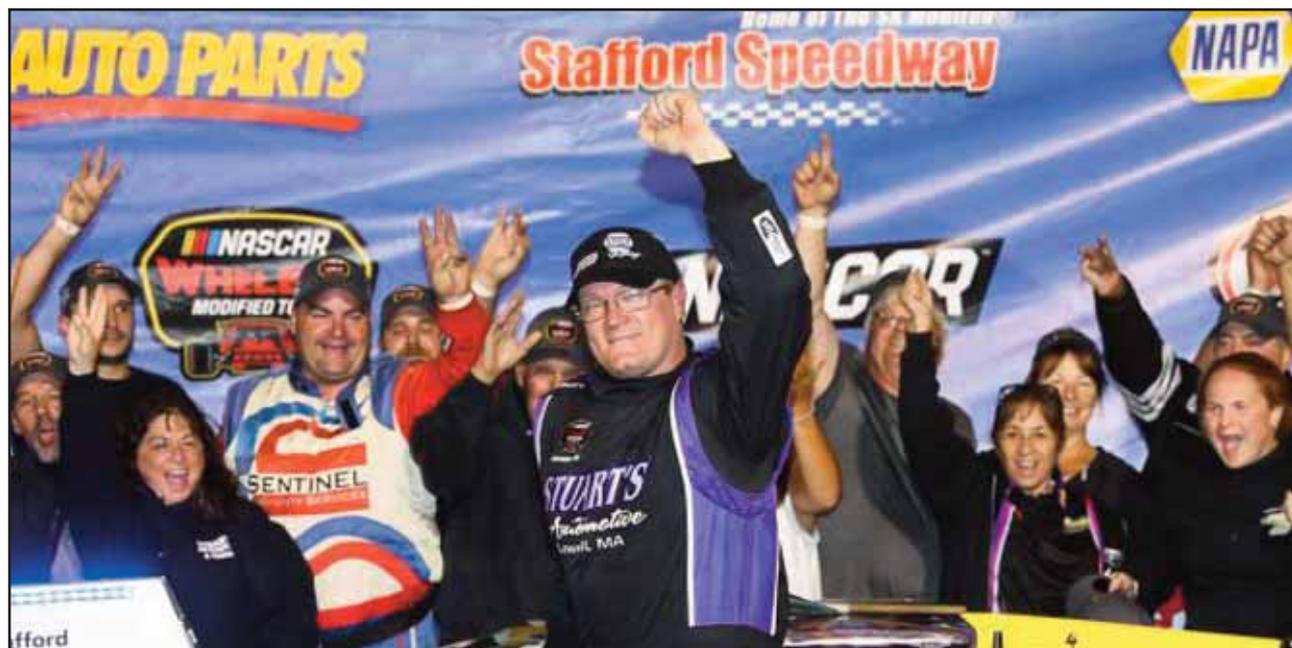
After restarting sixth, Coby managed to charge back to a third-place finish, while Swanson was fourth, and Craig Lutz fifth.

Justin Bonsignore was sixth, followed by Jimmy Blewett, Bobby Santos III, Sam Rameau and Patrick Emerling.

Coby leads by 24 over Silk in the championship point standings, while defending series title holder Bonsignore is third, 42 back.

The Stafford 150 will air on NBCSN on Wednesday, August 7, at 7 p.m.

The NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour returns to the track on Wednesday, August 14, at Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park for the Bud 'King of Beers' 150.



Ron Silk climbs from the car after winning the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour Stafford 150 at Stafford Motor Speedway. (Adam Glanzman/NASCAR photo)

## Dave Marcis & Robert Hamke Visit Victory Lane in Throwback 276 Via CARS Tour Drivers

NEWTON, NC - Magic was in the air on Saturday night as the cars of Dave Marcis and Robert Hamke both returned to Edelbrock Victory Lane at Hickory Motor Speedway. Drivers Ryan Repko (Marcis) and Matt Craig (Hamke)

drove their respective throwback liveries to wins in the 3rd Annual Throwback 276 by Baker Distributing, each with their honorees in attendance at the event.

**SUPER LATE MODEL RECAP:** Matt Craig rocketed to the Mahle Pistons Pole Position in qualifying and earned the right to control the field for the opening lap, but Bubba Pollard beat Craig to the stripe on lap 1 and led the opening handful of laps.

A crash in turn two on lap 15 eliminated Gus Dean, Harold Crooms and Justin Crider from competition and regrouped the field for an early restart. Matt Craig stole the lead back from Pollard just four laps later until Donnie Wilson took over on lap 27.

Craig proceeded to dominate the middle stages of a rather calm feature, pacing the field through two competition cautions (laps 55 and 95) until Pollard returned to

haunt the No. 74 Chevrolet's rearview mirror. Pollard nosed ahead on lap 114 but Craig continued to fight for the top spot, edging back ahead of the Georgia driver on lap 115.

The two continued to duel through the final 20 circuits, while Pollard nearly made contact with Craig's rear bumper on multiple occasions. The fight allowed Brandon Setzer to close in and pass Pollard for second in the final two laps, but Craig was unstoppable and claimed his first Throwback 276 by Baker Distributing. Setzer, Pollard, inaugural winner Tate Fogleman, and Donnie Wilson rounded out the top five.

"Bubba is one of the best there is out there right now and I had to drive it for everything it was worth," Craig said in Edelbrock Victory Lane. "My car was a little tight center and loose in, but I didn't care. If I wrecked it by myself, it was going to be all right because I was hanging it out almost like a dirt car I felt like.

"This race has turned into a crown jewel in super late model racing, and I'm so glad I got one," he continued enthusiastically. "With Robert's car, his name on the roof and number on the side, I knew how those guys raced back in the day. They probably raced like that

every weekend. If we race like that one weekend, we're like, 'man, that was hard racing,' but it was a lot of fun. I'm really proud and glad that Robert got to ride along with me this weekend and win with us."

**LATE MODEL STOCK RECAP:** Driving a car that was originally supposed to debut at Hickory in 1996 with his car owner Dale Earnhardt, Jr., Josh Berry claimed the Hedgecock Racing Pole Position during qualifying and led the opening ten circuits of the late model stock portion of the Throwback 276. Ryan Repko, driving a Dave Marcis No. 71 car, passed Berry for the lead when he began to slow his pace on lap 11.

Following the first competition caution on lap 40, Craig Moore took Stroker Ace and the Clyde Torkel Chicken Pit Special to the front of the field and led the middle stage of the race including through a second and final competition caution which came on lap 80.

Moore and Repko pulled away from the field and on lap 111, Repko darted to the inside of Moore for the race lead in turn three. Moore's car visibly was beginning to lose the handle, while Bobby McCarty, Josh Berry and Layne Riggs began to reel in the top pair.

An incident-free event meant the race ran to its completion in nearly record time, and Repko was able to fend off a late challenge from Bobby McCarty as he caught the top two with less than ten laps to go, giving the teenager his first CARS Tour victory. Repko was followed to the line by Moore, McCarty, Riggs, and

Sammy Smith.

"It's great, I tell you what!," Marcis, who was a guest of the series and met fans earlier in the day, exclaimed while waiting for Repko to exit the car after the race. "He did a fantastic job. He used his head, took care of the tires and let the other guy drive hard and just drove by him."

Marcis was the first to greet Repko once the car stopped on the frontstretch and imparted his words of appreciation and congratulation to the driver from Denver, North Carolina.

"It's an honor. This is a pretty prestigious event," Repko said between breaths in Edelbrock Victory Lane. "It's about the only one you can win with an absolutely packed house. To win a CARS race, that's huge. That's pretty much the pinnacle of short track racing right now, and I don't even know what to say, it's awesome! To be able to honor Dave Marcis, that's just great.

"I had a car similar to when I won the Bobby Isaac, and I just drove straight up off the corner. I knew I wasn't burning up my stuff," he concluded with an old-school, sly smile before celebrating with Marcis and his crew.

The next event for the CARS Racing Tour will take place August 24 at Orange County Speedway for the 3rd Annual Mid-Atlantic Classic paying \$10,000 to win in the super late model feature, with late model stocks also on the card.

For more information on the CARS Tour, visit their website at [CARSRacingTour.com](http://CARSRacingTour.com).

## Speedway 51 & PASS Agree to Postpone NAPA 151 PASS Events Until Spring 2020

Pro All Stars Series President, Tom Mayberry and Speedway 51's Promoter Dick Therrien have agreed to postponing the NAPA 151 Pass Super Late Model race scheduled for Saturday, August 10th.

"Both parties agree that the timing isn't quite right to run the event at Speedway 51 on August 10th, as the prestigious Oxford 250 is just around the corner and so many teams are preparing for the giant event," stated Therrien. "This is a rebuilding year for us at Speedway 51, and we want to be able to host

a quality show that PASS has always been known for. We are now looking ahead to 2020 where we can open our season in May with the PASS North event like we were supposed to do in 2019 but were rained out."

"PASS has always enjoyed coming to Speedway 51 and racing for many, many years," Mayberry concluded. "We were really looking forward to kicking off both Speedway 51 and the PASS North Series schedules with a big event which would give both parties a lot of momentum heading into the 2019 race season. Unfortunately the weather did not cooperate, and we had to

pull the plug early."

### Entry List For 46th Oxford 250 Reaches 50th Entry Milestone

NAPLES, ME - The entry list for the most prestigious asphalt short track race in America reached a major milestone. With just under a month to go before the green flag drops, there are now 50 Pro All Stars Series (PASS) Super Late Model entries for the 46th Annual Oxford 250 at Oxford Plains Speedway in August. Multi-time Oxford Plains Speedway track champion, Jeff Taylor officially becomes the 50th entrant for the 250. Competitors will have the opportunity to race for one of the richest winner's purses in asphalt short track racing, with \$25,000 to win, plus an additional \$25,000 in lap leader money. Last year's winner, Bubba Pollard took home over

\$28,000 last year for his efforts in coming the first southern driver to win the Oxford 250 since 1983.

This year's entry lists features some of the best short track racers, including former Oxford 250 winners, Mike and Ben Rowe, Travis Benjamin, Joey Polewarczyk, Curtis Gerry, Bubba Pollard, and Scott Robbins. Former PASS champions, Johnny Clark, DJ Shaw, and Cassius Clark have also entered, along with defending PASS National champion, Derek Griffith and 2019 national title contenders Mike Hopkins, Ray Christian, III, and Jake Johnson. The Canadian Maritimes are also being represented by Cole Butcher and Ashton Tucker, while Northwest racing legend Garrett Evans will be returning to make his second attempt at the 250.

Entry forms for the 46th Annual Oxford 250 are available at [ProAllStarsSeries.com](http://ProAllStarsSeries.com).

## Alsip Makes it a Clean Sweep at Kil-Kare Raceway

SALEM, IN - Germantown, Ohio racer Justin Alsip doesn't get to race as much now as he would like, but he put on a show in Sunday's first ever Vore's Welding CRA Late Model Sportsman versus the Shadybowl Speedway Late Models Challenge at Kil-Kare Raceway, located just outside of Xenia,

Ohio. Alsip was the fastest in both early afternoon practice sessions and was the Allstar Performance Fast Qualifier out of the 22 late models on hand for the event. Alsip would then charge through the field from his eighth place starting position and hold off Brandon Oakley on several restarts to claim the win and the \$1,200 first place money.

"You never know if you'll ever get to win a race again, this one is pretty special," remarked a very jubilant Alsip in victory lane. "With my job, I just don't get to race much anymore, but the Platinum Motorsports guys help me get this thing ready for this race and it was a rocket ship right off the trailer, one of the best cars I've ever had here at Kil-Kare. I want to thank everyone at Platinum, all the guys who helped me get to race here today and my family for always supporting me. All those restarts made it tough, Brandon (Oakley) was right there on each one and made me work for it!"

Ryan Fleming grabbed the early lead at the drop of the green flag from his outside pole starting position. Alsip began his march to the front, gaining several spots using the outside groove. Alsip caught Fleming and made the pass on lap 20 and pulled away with Oakley right behind him. Alsip and Oakley battled through several restarts during the event which was slowed for eight cautions and one red flag.

Both Alsip and Oakley are former regular competitors at Kil-Kare and both wanted to grab just one more win at that track, but Alsip's car was just too good to hold back on the restarts as evident on the last restart with eight laps to go after an incident in turn three that took out the cars of Donnie Hill and Shawn Szep. Alsip would grab the lead on that last restart and not look back. The win was Alsip's fifth

series win, he won three events during the 2008 season and one during the 2009 season when he was a regular competitor with the series. Alsip picked up the Spillers Towing Hardcharger Award as well as the AR Bodies Cool Move of the Race for his good restarts.

Logan Runyon made his first ever Vore's Welding CRA Late Model Sportsman series start on Sunday, coming away with a hard fought second place finish, passing Oakley on the last restart with some contact between the two racers. Runyon and Hill also had several side by side battles through out the 75 lap event.

Oakley would hold on to get third place. Van Hoy Oil CRA Street Stocks Kil-Kare event winner Chad Pendleton also made his first series start and got a fourth-place finish. Zachary Tinkle was the highest finishing Vore's Welding CRA Late Model Sportsman regular in fifth place. Tinkle fought back from having to restart at the tail of the field after contact caused him to spin earlier in the race bringing out one of the yellow flags. Tinkle was awarded the KRJ Race Products Sweet Move of the Race Award for his charge through the field to get a top five finish.

The next Vore's Welding CRA Late Model Sportsman Powered by JEGS event will be the second event of the series Triple Crown Miniseries at Anderson Speedway on Saturday, August 17th. More in-

formation on all the CRA Series is available at [www.cra-racing.com](http://www.cra-racing.com).

## Amonett Races to Four Crown Win at Mt. Lawn Speedway

NEW CASTLE, IN - The Van Hoy Oil CRA Street Stocks Powered by JEGS racers stormed into Mt Lawn Speedway for the postponed Bob Fields Memorial 200 on Sunday, July 28th where driver Ryan Amonett led all 200 laps but never had a lead of more than 1.5 seconds any-time during the race, Jason Thompson finished in second with Phil Jenkins a close third. The event was the second race of the Four Crown mini-series for the Van Hoy Oil CRA Street Stocks.

"Finally got this race in!" Amonett exclaimed from Victory Lane. "This is two races in row that we have been to that we have won. I have to thank everyone for racing clean, Jeff Lane, Jason Atkinson and Jason Thompson were great to race with. We are a low budget team and a win like this really helps."

Bob Fields is synonymous with racing in central Indiana, dominating the short tracks for decades and is one of winningest drivers in Mt Lawn Speedway's long history. He raced hard on the track and helped many drivers make it to the track each week by sponsoring many of them through Fields Auto Parts. Sunday was the fourth attempt to have the Bob Fields Memorial 200 at Mt. Lawn Speedway. Weather had stopped the event from taking place twice in 2018 and

this past May.

Jenkins took the All-Star Performance Fast Qualifier Award and drew a six for the invert putting Amonett on the pole with Lane on the outside of the front row. Jumping out the lead at the drop of the green flag, Amonett drove a flawless race, he was challenged by Lane, Atkinson, and Thompson with each of them racing on Amonett's bumper at some point during the 200 lap grind. For leading all 200 laps and holding back all challengers, Amonett was awarded the KRJ Race Products Sweet Move of the Race Award. Amonett is the first driver to have two wins with the Van Hoy Oil CRA Street Stocks in 2019.

Trading second place, Lane fell back to third at the start, regained second on a restart, and kept within striking distance but could not get past Amonett. On a restart at lap 109, Lane had a suspension problem and was forced to pull off, leaving Thompson to chase Amonett.

Jenkins had worked his way to third by the halfway break had to restart on the tail due to a problem during the break. He worked his way back to third and was faster than the leaders the last several laps but could not catch them as the laps ran out. For his efforts in racing back through the field, Jenkins was awarded the AR Bodies Cool Move of the Race Award.

This is the longest race at Mt. Lawn in over 25 years. "No one knew how to pace themselves for 200 laps here." Thompson stated. "So, we all just did what we had to do."

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## Sheldon Haudenschild Blows Away Competition at Ironman 55

PEVELY, MO - Ironman; a title earned, not given.

Earned with the display of great strength. Earned with the display of great endurance. And earned with the display of great will power.

Sheldon Haudenschild displayed all three traits during Saturday's World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series Ironman 55 event at Federated Auto Parts Raceway at I-55.

On the 70-degree night with 90% humidity, Haudenschild led 45 of the 55 laps in the caution free Feature, sprinted to the finish with an unprecedented 10.3 second lead over runner-up Donny Schatz and lapped up to fifth-place – including Series points leader and Friday night's winner at the raceway Brad Sweet.

"That right there was just a great car, me feeling comfortable and having a lot of fun," Haudenschild said.

The fun started for the Wooster, Ohio-native and his Stenhouse Jr.-Marshall Racing team Friday night with a runner-up finish to Sweet in the Night Before the Ironman 35-lap event. Haudenschild then

backed up his performance with a second-place finish in his Drydene Heat race, coming to the finish side-by-side with Daryn Pittman. He then charged from fifth to the win in the DIRTVision Fast Pass Dash – a victory he initially didn't want.

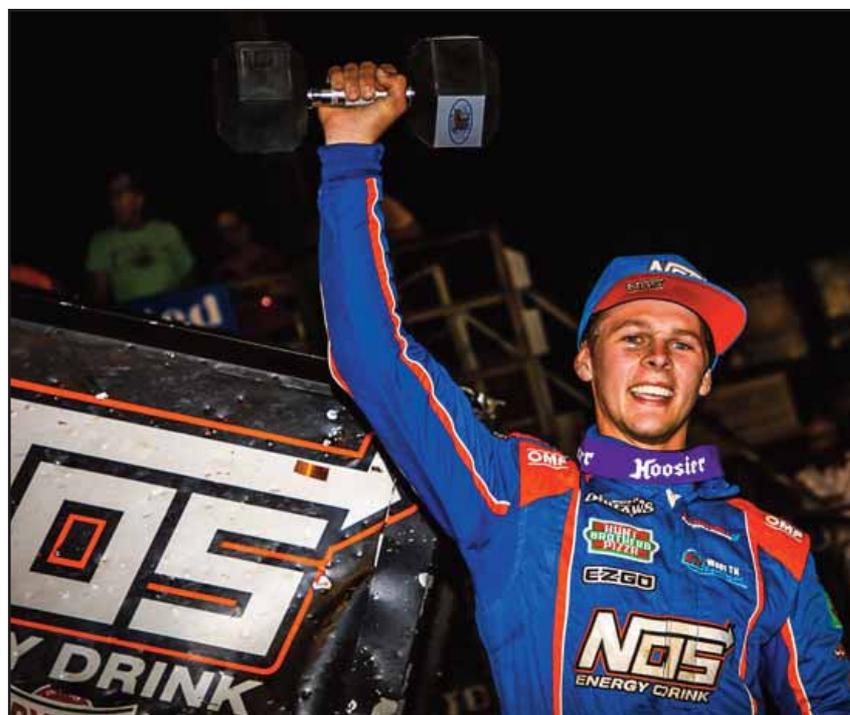
"I wanted to win the Heat race to get a better draw," Haudenschild said. "Once I didn't win the Heat my mindset kind of changed starting in the back of that Dash. I really didn't want to win the Dash. I was thinking a third-place start would be good to see what they (the leaders) were doing.

"But after the track prep, I think winning the Dash was a good move."

The entire 1/3-mile track was worked on before the 55-lap Feature, creating a new tacky racing surface.

When the 55-lap Feature went green, Schatz rocketed around the outside of Haudenschild on the exit of the first corner to take the lead. Tim Shaffer did the same the next corner, moving Haudenschild to third.

Five laps into the race – which saw lap times in the low 11 second bracket for the majority of it – Schatz caught lap traffic. At the same time, Haudenschild found his rhythm and charged his way back by Shaffer for second.



Sheldon Haudenschild holds up the iron in victory lane after winning the Ironman 55 at Federated Auto Parts Raceway at I-55. (DB3Inc photo)

Then, in the time it takes to snap your fingers, the NOS Energy Drink No. 17 was on Schatz's bumper. No matter where Haudenschild placed his car on the track he found grip. The 10-time Series champion was prey with no protection.

On Lap 10, Schatz covered the high side into turn one, while Haudenschild launched his car to the middle lane. Haudenschild's tires held the better relationship with the clay surface and powered him by the Toco Warranty No. 15 car.

"I was really worried once [Shaffer] and Donny got by me," Haudenschild said. "I didn't quite know what to do. Once we got into traf-

fic, I had the mindset I was going to get around them and run consistent laps."

From there, Haudenschild showed his strength. Showed his endurance. And showed his will power. He was the man without fear. His charge through lapped cars looked more like a game than a challenge. Whether it was a slide job to drive by several cars at a time or going three-wide between two lapped cars, Haudenschild didn't hesitate to make the move.

Once he lapped his way to the top-10, Sweet gave him his biggest challenge of the night. The two

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dueled for laps, with Sweet aggressively charging his way back by Haudenschild several times to remain on the lead lap. However, no one could match the No. 17 car.

Haudenschild eventually slid his way by Sweet with 17 laps to go and continued his hunt through the field. Schatz and Pittman's battle for second-place was quickly going from

being a battle behind Haudenschild, to one in front of him.

The two series champions dueled for the position throughout the race, but Schatz prevailed with Pittman never finding a strong enough run to get by the reigning champion. However, with Haudenschild out of sight, they thought they were potentially battling for the win.

"I thought I actually won; I couldn't see him," Schatz said. "I thought maybe he had run out of fuel or pulled off or something. I can't believe it went green to checkered."

He added all he could do was commend Haudenschild on his performance and applaud him.

"That was a whoopin' right there," said Schatz, who is now two points behind Sweet in the Series point standings.

Pittman also stated he thought he was battling Schatz for the win at the end. He was happy with the result, though, after a few weeks of undesired finishes.

Nothing surprised Haudenschild. The heat didn't get to him. The long duration of the race didn't get to him, and he knew he had a good car underneath him.

"Really, it wasn't that physical at all," Haudenschild said. "Keeping your mind right, making smart moves. I looked up at the board on Lap 51 and I probably shouldn't have, 'cause I think I did make one mistake after that. When the board is right in front of your face it's hard not to. Especially in this long of a race. I was trying to play it cool and wanted to get it over with. Fifty-five laps is a long race."

Haudenschild's victory earned him a \$20,000 payday and his second win of the season – seventh career World of Outlaws win overall. After some struggles in the first half of the season – missing five Features – he and his team have been building momentum in the

summer months.

He's leaving Missouri not only with the confidence of another win, but the prestige of a new title.

He earned it by showing his strength. Earned it by showing his endurance. And earned it by proving his will power.

Sheldon Haudenschild is the new Ironman.

UP NEXT: The World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series from Wednesday, Aug. 7, to Saturday, Aug. 10 will be at Knoxville Raceway in Knoxville, Iowa for the NOS Energy Drink Knoxville Nationals presented by Casey's General Stores.

As always, you can catch all World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series and Knoxville Nationals action on DIRTVision.com.

## Brad Sweet Earns First Federated Auto Parts Raceway Win

PEVELY, MO - Brad Sweet's 2019 World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series "dream season" has so far seen the Grass Valley, Calif.-native lead laps, take home big paychecks and now earn a first win.

Leading all 35 laps of the Night Before the Ironman Feature at Federated Auto Parts Raceway at I-55 Friday night, Sweet rolled into Victory Lane at the Pevely, Mo. track for the first time in his career – his 12th win of the season.

"Pevely is a really awesome race track," Sweet said. "I remember the first time I came here I was just in awe of the place. I've led a lot of laps here. I either stuff it in the fence or we got beat at the end. It's nice to get the first one out of the way."

While he led every lap en route to the victory, the Kasey Kahne Racing driver was not handed the victory with ease.

Hunter Schuerenburg started on the pole for the Feature, after winning his Drydene Heat race and the DIRTVision Fast Pass Dash and rocketed to the lead on the initial start. However, he hit the launch button too early. That forced the race to be restarted with Donny Schatz moved up to the front row and Schuerenburg moved behind him in the second row.

The front row was now Schatz and Sweet – the top two in the point standings. The two have been almost inseparable on the race track, having to race each other for position every week.

Schatz darted to the lead on the

restart. Going into turn one, he chose low, while Sweet chose high. The Toco Warranty No. 15 car slid up the track exiting turn two, allowing the NAPA Auto Parts No. 49 of Sweet to charge off the high side and bolt underneath Schatz down the backstretch.

Sweet then launched his car into turn three, sliding past Schatz and up in front of him exiting turn four. Like Sweet's corner before, Schatz had the momentum on the high side and snuck underneath Sweet for a drag race down the front straightaway. The lap went to Sweet, but only by inches.

The 10-time Series champion went side-by-side with Sweet into turn one and, again, was beat by the speed Sweet could maintain running the high line. Sweet's lead went from inches to feet to yards over the reigning champion. Schuerenburg also pulled a slide job on Schatz to take second the next lap.

Five laps into the race, the first caution came out for Joe B. Miller coming to a stop on the track. On the restart, Schuerenburg went for the lead, attempting to pull off a slide job on Sweet into the first corner. However, his dive bomb was still not enough to clear Sweet before the No. 49 charged off the turn with a head of stream around the high side.

Before being able to get into a rhythm, the caution came out again. This time for Cale Thomas landing on his side in turn four.

When the green flag flew again, Sweet wasted no time stretching his lead over Schuerenburg. Schatz found his way around the No. 11 for second-place the next lap, too.

The top three remained in their running order for the remainder of the first half of the race. Behind them, though, Logan Schuchart and Sheldon Haudenschild were making their trek to the front. By the halfway point, Schuchart found his way to fourth – from fifth – and Haudenschild fifth – from eighth.

After a caution at the halfway point, both Schuchart and Haudenschild made their way by Schuerenburg to move up a position. Haudenschild didn't just use his run to put Schuerenburg behind him, though. He threw a daring slider at Schuchart into turn one and made it work. With 16 laps to go, he found himself in third and closing on second-place Schatz.

With 12 laps to go, Haudenschild threw a slide job at Schatz in turns three and four, and again made it work. Schatz couldn't make

the top work as well as Sweet and Haudenschild to challenge for the position back.

"Trying to hit a little one-inch spot with your right rear... is tough to do," Schatz said. "Obviously, Brad and Sheldon are good at that kind of stuff. Me, I try to stay in a little bit more control."

With Schatz behind him, the Wooster, Ohio-native was now in second-place and eager to hunt down his second win of the season.

Lap traffic plagued Sweet's quest for victory. The slower cars forced him to move around and break out of his rhythm to find his way around them. That allowed Haudenschild to slowly work his way toward Sweet.

Haudenschild had Sweet in sight with five laps to go. But Sweet was strong every time he ran the high side, able to carry enough momentum around the track to leave a few cars lengths distance between he and the NOS Energy Drink No. 17 car.

With three laps to go Haudenschild was building a run to catch Sweet. However, before he could fully execute on it, the caution came out for Carson Macedo flipping in turn two.

On the final restart, Sweet chose the middle of the track in the first corner, trying to block a big run by Haudenschild. It worked. The Stenhouse Jr.-Marshall driver looked underneath Sweet, but couldn't put anything together to challenge him in the remaining laps.

"I thought with the restart we would have a little bit better of a shot," Haudenschild said. "I knew I was running out of laps there. I didn't really care either way with the caution or not. Brad was a little bit better than us. I feel like I got by Donny at the right time to make some ground up on Brad, but just finished second."

Sweet sped off to his first Federated Auto Parts Raceway at I-55 win and 46th career win overall.

"The restarts were making me the most nervous," Sweet said. "Didn't know if I should be choosing the bottom or the top, you're just real vulnerable into (turn) one there. Kind of found that line where I was driving across into one and felt a little better about the restarts. I could get to the cushion off (turn) two and as long as I could get a good run, I felt like I was pretty good on top of turns three and four."

His win also helped his extend his points lead on Schatz – who finished third – after losing points to the Fargo, N.D. driver last weekend.

## Madden Gets First USA Nationals Victory, Sliding Sheppard to Win

NEW RICHMOND, WI - With six laps remaining in Saturday night's USA Nationals Feature at Cedar Lake Speedway, it appeared as though defending event winner Brandon Sheppard was going to repeat. But there was one driver behind him who had never

been so hungry for his first win in the prestigious event – Chris Madden.

"Smokey" slid his Scott Bloomquist Racing "Team Zero" #0M right up in front of Sheppard's Rocket Chassis house car in turn two to take the lead, which he held onto through a green-white checkered finish to claim his first USA Nationals title over Tim McCreadie and Brandon Sheppard.

"It's pretty awesome to come back home," Madden said. "We drove our first race with Scott back at I-80, had a shot to win that race and wound up second. So, to come here and back it up with a win, it's pretty awesome. It says a lot for Team Zero."

That's right – Saturday night was only Madden's second event behind the wheel of his Great America Steak Company machine. What an adaptation "Smokey" has made so soon into the seat.

Put simply, Madden had the most consistent car on the race-track on Saturday night. Never dropping below fourth over 100 laps, he spent the better part of the race's final quarter battling door-to-door with Sheppard. Madden dominated the bottom lane, while Sheppard preferred the top.

The two played cat-and-mouse until the race's deciding moment with six laps to go. Sheppard bobbled on the cushion coming out of turn two, allowing Madden to get a run on him down the backstretch. Madden patiently waited for the right moment and pulled the trigger as they came back around into turn one, driving it in deep to slide directly into Sheppard's line on the top.

"I knew I wasn't going to catch Sheppard at the pace I was running," Madden said. "So I just slowed down my pace a bit, got in a rhythm. I said, 'if I catch him right here, I've got to go by him.'"

When Sheppard got to the exit of turn two, the hole had already closed and he was forced to get on the binders, giving up the top spot to Madden. A green-white-checkered finish put a tiny bit on extra pressure on Madden out front, but he got a great restart and persevered to seal the deal.

New to SBR in 2019, Madden and Bloomquist have previous history together. Several years of driving Sweet-Bloomquist Chassis cars under Scott's tutelage helped foster a relationship that has been rejuvenated at just the right time in 2019. But after Team Zero's announcement back in March that Bloomquist would be sidelined due to injury, their massive fanbase began to worry about the direction of the operation.

The team eventually found their new pilot in Madden at the beginning of last month, right as he was looking for a new home himself. Madden departed the team he began his World of Outlaws championship campaign with back in mid-June, Skyline Motorsports, and set out on a mission to find a new home at which to hone his craft.

Now, it's all come together, and SBR has \$50,000 and a brand-new wooden eagle trophy to show for it. In Victory Lane, Madden was almost instantly overcome with emotion. \$50,000 stands as the biggest payday of his career, and he made every lap count on his way to victory.

The USA Nationals title also serves as SBR's very first win in 2019 under new part-owner Cody Sommer, and first with the World of Outlaws Morton Buildings Late Model Series.

"Cody is a great guy. I didn't really know him that well until I came to do this. But he puts a lot of effort in to this, and he works as hard on these cars as anybody else does in the pit are does," Madden said.

After all was said and done on Friday night, Sheppard settled for a solid third-place finish, while Wassertown, New York's own Tim McCreadie got by Sheppard on the green-white-checkered restart and drag-raced him to the stripe to claim the runner-up spot. Running inside the top-five nearly the entire race, the K&L Rumley #6M had a great turnaround from last weekend's non-qualifying PDC effort at Fairbury.



Chris Madden slides by the #1 of Brandon Sheppard en route to the USA Nationals Feature win at Cedar Lake Speedway. (Jacy Norgaard photo)

A winner of the World of Outlaws' first crown jewel race back in June, the Firecracker 100 at Lernerville Speedway, McCreadie knows exactly how tough the competition was in the pits this weekend and was pleased with the efforts by he and the Longhorn Chassis house car team.

"To be up there with [Madden and Sheppard] on the stage is truly amazing," a grateful McCreadie said after the race. "These guys are some of the best in the business. Just to be a part of it, fighting hard for wins is fun – that's why we all do it."

World of Outlaws Rookie of the Year contender Cade Dillard had a very impressive night on track in his very first start at Cedar Lake in a Dirt Late Model, leading the first 60 laps of the race before fading back to a 13th-place finish.

"When you're out front, you don't really know where to run it or how hard," Dillard said. "I was just running what I felt best. I felt like I had I really good car at the beginning... I guess it was too good at the beginning and not good enough at the end."

Despite not getting the finish he had hoped for, Dillard took a lot away from his experience in a Late Model at Cedar Lake and said it all adds to how much he feels he's improved over the season.

"I'm still happy to even have the chance to be here," he said. "More or less, make the race, sit on the pole, and lead the majority of it."

UP NEXT: The World of Outlaws are heading back to the birthplace of the Series, Williams Grove Speedway on Thursday, August 16! Be there as the Outlaws take on the local Pennsylvania field before two more days in The Keystone State, following up at Port Royal

Speedway on Saturday and Eriez Speedway on Sunday.

### Tyler Erb Claims The Pole for 32nd Annual USA Nationals

NEW RICHMOND, WI - It's been a slow start for Tyler Erb in 2019 World of Outlaws Morton Buildings Late Model Series crown jewel competition. After jumping ship to the Best Performance Motorsports team in the winter of 2018, the New Waverly, Texas-native grabbed his newfound racing home by the horns and clicked off a bunch of wins to get his 2019 campaign started. But after failing to qualify for the two previous World of Outlaws crown jewel events at Lernerville Speedway (Firecracker 100) and Fairbury Speedway (Prairie Dirt Classic), "Terbo" has secured the pole in this Saturday's 100-lap, \$50,000-to-win USA Nationals Feature.

Accumulating a total of 120.56 passing points across two rounds of Drydene Heat Races with finishes of third and first, Erb earned himself a spot in the redraw, where he pulled the pole for the ensuing eight-lap Dash event. From lap one, Erb seemed to be on rails, flying around the 3/8-mile and turning in the fastest lap of the race.

He took the checkered after leading each lap, going virtually unchallenged for the top spot. He and his new team are firing on all cylinders, and it really shows. On Saturday night, they'll go for \$50,000 against most of the best Dirt Late Model competition in the country, and knowing they'll lead the field to the green will certainly allow Erb to sleep a little better the night before.

"Drawing the pole was a big part (Continued Next Page)

Continued...

of it," he said. "I don't know what it looked like behind me, but to pass here, you've kind-of got to bonzai people. And it's exciting to watch, but driving and being around it, you're just kind-of on eggshells the whole time."

It's 100 laps in distance, and anything can happen in that time. But the big 'pole-sitter' target on Erb's back certainly doesn't

have him worried.

"It's nothing new, it's another race. We race all of these same guys for \$5,000 or \$50,000. Sometimes, it'll bring out the best or worst in people. But we're going to race tomorrow just as we would any other night," he said.

Rookie of the Year contender Cade Dillard seems to be shedding his 'rookie' stripes already, putting his #97 to Erb's outside for Saturday's big dance. Finishes of second and fourth in his Drydene Heats accumulated 109.04 passing points, good enough to earn him the final spot in the Dash.

Redrawing P2, Dillard kept up his momentum in the sprint race to ensure himself a front-row starting spot for Saturday's main event as the highest-starting full-time World of Outlaws driver.

Frank Heckenast Jr. had arguably the fastest car in the pit area on Friday night, setting a new event record for most passing points accumulated in two rounds of Drydene Heat racing and being the only driver on the roster to win both Heats he competed in.

The Frankfort, Illinois-native was riding a wave and showed no signs of falling off on Friday night. After a third-place draw and Dash finish, Heckenast will take his Rocket XR1 into tomorrow's main event with a load of confidence and great feelings about his driving and his team that backs him.

All of that Summer Nationals experience he acquired in the last two seasons, racing a different track every single night, has really helped his skillset behind the wheel and his crew's ability to make the right changes when necessary. The #99jr team cashed in on that this weekend, and Heckenast is grateful for every minute he spent on the road, learning the ins-and-outs of his new ride.

Fellow Summer Nationals vet-

eran and 2010 Champion Jason Feger claimed a guaranteed-starter spot in Saturday's main event with his victory in the FANSFund Dash event over Chris Simpson, Ricky Weiss, Chris Ferguson and Brian Shirley. "The Highside Hustler" led all 12 laps and became a two-time winner of the event.

## Davenport Gets First Outlaws Win in Four Years at Cedar Lake

NEW RICHMOND, WI - One thousand, three hundred sixty-eight days ago on Nov. 7, 2015, Jonathan Davenport emerged from his K&L Rumley-owned Longhorn Chassis #6 at The Dirt Track at Charlotte Motor Speedway to claim the sixth World of Outlaws Morton Buildings Late Model Series win of his career. Fast forward to Thursday night at Cedar Lake Speedway, and "Superman" has done it once again, leading all 30 laps en route to a big win on night one of the 32nd annual USA Nationals over Brian Birkhofer and Tyler Bruening.

It certainly didn't come easy for the Blairsville, Georgia-native. He jetted out to the early lead but faced heavy pressure from Bruening and Birkhofer behind him once he reached lapped traffic. Davenport worked the high side for almost the entire race, while Bruening stuck to the bottom. At one point, lapped traffic was holding Davenport up enough for Bruening to stick a nose underneath the Nutrien Ag Solutions #49.

"I was sort-of at the lapped cars' mercy," Davenport said. "There were a couple of times that they would actually pull back by me on the bottom, so tried the bottom a couple of times. I just wasn't as good down there and couldn't judge off of anybody else to know how to run it."

But Davenport was just too strong on the top side for Bruening to make the move, before a caution came out on lap 19. This reset the field, giving Davenport a clear track ahead, which seemed to be the key for him over 30 laps.

"Being in clean air was the biggest thing," he said. "I could see the cushion better than somebody behind me."

The ensuing restart gave Birkhofer the opportunity he needed to advance another spot, getting a great run out of turn four and diving deep into turn one to put a slidejob on Bruening. "Birky" gave it all he had in the final 10 laps to catch the leader, but Davenport was simply not going to be denied on Friday

night.

In the final circuits, however, it got exciting. Coming to the line to complete lap 48, Davenport got a bit out of shape as he rode the high line out of turn four. That allowed Birkhofer to close the gap, but Davenport was too far ahead. He knew he had it covered on the top, despite its risk.

"The cushion got treacherous in a couple different places, in a couple different ways. There were a couple of holes and it was really oddly shaped, but, finally, I just learned to run around it and be halfway consistent," Davenport said.

"I don't know that if he'd have made one more mistake, I would have been beside him, with the caliber of talent he has," Birkhofer said. "But we've got something to work with. The car's pretty good, obviously needs to be better. The more laps I get, I get a little bit less rusty."

It's been quite a while since the World of Outlaws has seen Brian Birkhofer on the podium. After taking a few years off from regularly scheduled Super Late Model competition around the upper Midwest, the Muscatine, Iowa-native could be seen in a few different rides on part-time schedules since 2014. Most recently, he's hooked up with driver Jason Rauen to field a car this weekend at Cedar Lake.

The pair also started a race with the Outlaws back on July 24 at Davenport Speedway in Iowa. Birkhofer had a great showing, sitting on the pole of the 40-lap Morton Buildings Feature but dropped out early due to mechanical problems. Friday night was much different, as he qualified in the top five of his group, won his heat and earned the runner-up spot in the main event. And Birkhofer was very satisfied with that podium spot.

"I'm really glad. I wanted to finish a race in the top-five. That's just how my mentality was when I raced for all those years - I want to run top-five," he said.

Things have changed just a bit since the last time Birkhofer raced a Late Model full-time, and he's definitely taken notice to some of the younger stars on the circuit and how much they have to keep up with, week-in and week-out. But what a statement he made in night #1, showing he can still run with the best of them, even against such stout competition.

"Those guys are going to race hard from lap one to lap 100," he said. "Older guys like me, out of it for a while and then coming back, I

definitely feel my age a little bit."

Tyler Bruening collected the best World of Outlaws finish of his career, claiming the final podium spot after 30 laps and some very impressive qualifying event runs. Picking up his very first PFC Brakes Fast Time Award in Qualifying, Bruening also won his heat race and redrew the pole for the Feature. He followed Davenport through traffic a bit in the Feature before losing a spot to Birkhofer after halfway, but fended off the hungry field behind him to earn his first podium finish.

Tyler's father, Greg, owns Skyline Motorsports and fields the car for full-time World of Outlaws driver Shane Clanton. Clanton has come up big this year, getting the team their first two Outlaws victories, and how great it is to see Tyler following that up with a strong finish against the heavy competition at Cedar Lake this weekend. The team has been firing on all cylinders, and what a rebound it's been for them since their DNF at Plymouth earlier this week.

## Clanton Outruns Sheppard in Traffic at Shawano

SHAWANO, WI - Just 17 days after getting his first World of Outlaws Morton Buildings Late Model Series win for his new team at Skyline Motorsports, Shane Clanton has done it again.

Leading all but one lap in the Sundrop Shootout at Shawano Speedway on Tuesday night, the Zebulon, Georgia-native did what he hasn't done since his last Series win at Ogilvie Raceway - outrun the 15-time World of Outlaws winner this year, Brandon Sheppard.

"It was phenomenal from the word 'go,'" Clanton said. "We hot lapped well, we qualified well, we heat raced well and then we Feature raced well. To have a night like tonight feels really good."

In what was almost a perfect event, "The Georgia Bulldog" set quick time in Qualifying to pick up his second PFC Brakes Fast Time Award of the season, setting him up for a win in Drydene Heat Race #1 and a third-place redraw. It only took 1.5 laps of the Morton Buildings Feature to make the move on then-leader Boom Briggs and Chase Junghans for the top spot, as Clanton got a great run out of turn two after sticking to the very bottom line in turn one and launched his car down the backstretch to grab command of the

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race.

"I was trying to go anywhere I needed to go," Clanton said. "I passed a couple of cars on the outside, and I thought I could get up there and go, but I was afraid that it might hurt my tires up there. So, I just stayed on the bottom and made it pull hard leaving the corner and it worked out."

But Clanton's work was only getting started. Sheppard was a man on a mission to get that 16th win of 2019 and first at the Shawano County Fairgrounds. Passing one car every other lap from his sixth-place starting spot, Sheppard used the high line to advance to the runner-up spot by lap eight.

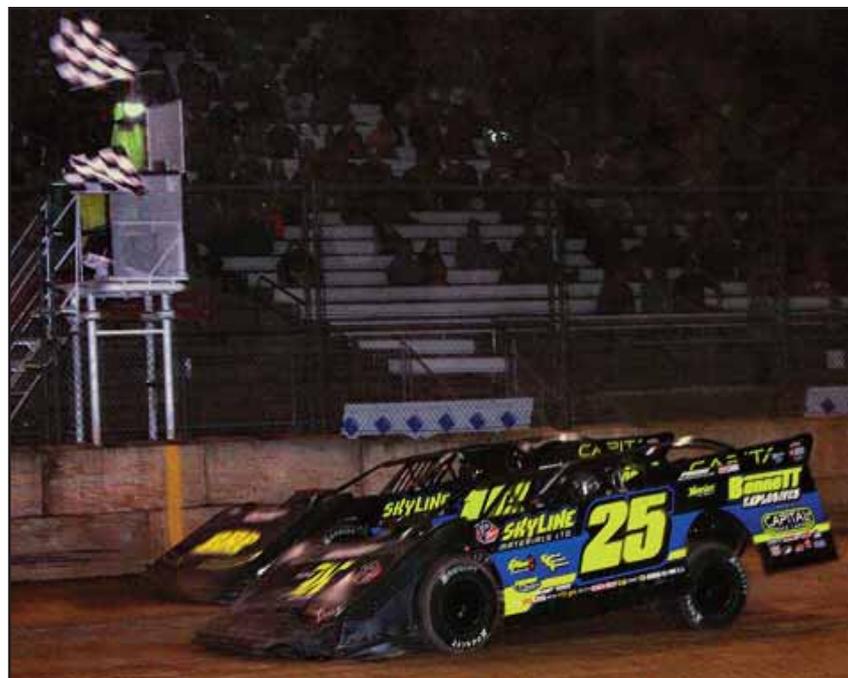
"That actually wasn't the plan. My plan was to run just a few laps up top, pass a few cars and get down to the bottom," he said. "I just felt pretty comfortable up there, and the bottom of the racetrack – everybody was in it."

The gap Sheppard walked into between he and Clanton at that point was growing, which looked massive on the half-mile of Shawano. Clanton's lead stretched to nearly three seconds at one point before Sheppard got into clean air.

Equipped with that 900HP Durham Racing Engine under the hood, the Rocket Chassis house car turned its fastest lap of the race immediately after clearing Chase Junghans for second. Sheppard locked onto his target of the black-and-blue #25, a half-straightaway ahead, and turned on the Rocket boosters, closing the gap to just over 1.5 seconds by lap 20.

Sheppard continued to hammer the cushion until just after the halfway point, when he suddenly switched to the popular bottom lane through the corners and cut the deficit to just .7 seconds. But the leaders were deep into lapped traffic, and it only took two corners of racing behind a slower car for Sheppard to lose a bit of ground he gained and move back up to the top.

Through the final 15 laps of the caution-free event, Clanton made perfect moves in traffic to keep Sheppard at bay, always at least one full second behind. By the time the checkered flag fell over him for the third time this season, his ad-



**Shane Clanton crosses the finish line for the win over Brandon Sheppard at Shawano Speedway for the Sundrop Shooutout. (Jim DenHamer photo)**

vantage over the Rocket1 Racing car was back to where it was originally – 2.7 seconds.

"It's a testament to this crew," Clanton said. "We worked all day today to rebuild this thing from last night."

Northern regional veteran Jimmy Mars once again tied his best World of Outlaws finish this season on Tuesday night, grabbing the final podium spot to the inside of Junghans with two laps remaining.

Racking up his third third-place finish of the season against the Outlaws, Mars had actually been struggling with equipment failures in his recent starts. But, "The Ice-man" and his crew worked hard all week to correct the problems and were able to bounce back with a strong finish in the end.

### **Sheppard Bags Another Victory at Plymouth**

PLYMOUTH, WI - It just keeps getting better for Rocket1 Racing. Just two days after an incredible last-lap pass to take the \$30,000 victory in the Prairie Dirt Classic at Fairbury Speedway, Brandon Sheppard has won yet again. This time, leading all but two laps of the 50-lap finale at Plymouth Dirt Track to collect his 15th World of Outlaws Morton Buildings Late Model Series Feature win of 2019 over Chase Junghans and Ricky Weiss.

"The Rocket Shepp" kicked off the night by setting a new Plymouth track record with a lap of 13.709, beating the fast time set last year by almost .8 seconds. That PFC Brakes Fast Time Award paved the

way for his 20th Drydene Heat Race win of the season and a fourth-place redraw, setting him up for an incredible move on the second lap of the Morton Buildings Feature to go from fourth to the lead.

"I knew from last year that if the top was going to be good, it was only going to be for a lap or two," he said. "Those other guys, they were fighting for the bottom. I really didn't want to join that fight behind them, so I just went to the top and floored it and I was able to get the lead."

Sheppard held onto that lead through a whopping nine caution flags and restarts, most of which were spent with Junghans and Weiss right on his tail.

Junghans' best opportunity to claim permanent command of the race came while following Sheppard through heavy lapped traffic on lap 29.

Sheppard got stuck behind Jason Feger on the top side, while Junghans used the very bottom lane to get by Weiss for second and start a charge for the lead. Racing behind some lapped traffic of his own, Junghans stayed side-by-side with Sheppard for two whole circuits before a good run out of turn four earned him the lead as he crossed the start/finish line.

Sheppard took the lead back on the high side just two corners later before another caution flag was thrown, and Junghans joked that things may have turned out a bit different had the yellow not come out when it did.

"We were just all bottled up with the lapped cars, and the track just became bottom-dominant," Jung-

hans said. "Somehow, I luckily got by Sheppard. I guess the caution should have fell while I was leading and then it might have been a different story."

From his eighth-place starting position, Junghans actually made a few of his first passes on the top side on his way to the front and said he considered using that lane to try and make a move on Sheppard in the closing stages, but deemed it too risky.

"Once I started seeing crumbs all over the track, I knew it was going to be hard to get up there and do it," he said. "Maybe if we were on bubblegum tires, we could do it."

Overall, it was a very clean battle between two Dirt Late Model heavyweights. Much respect between the two can be seen in the way they race each other at each track all over the country, providing wholesome racing action for everyone watching.

"Chase and I ran each other clean," Sheppard said. "If there's anybody that I like racing with on this tour, it's Chase. If anybody was going to beat me tonight, I'd just assume it was going to be Chase. He and I are buddies, so it definitely was cool to see him run well too."

In the end, Sheppard and the Rocket Chassis house car persevered through the five remaining restarts, leading every lap from that point to claim his second World of Outlaws win in-a-row, making it two wins at Plymouth in back-to-back years.

Ricky Weiss also had another great night, coming from fifth to take the final podium spot – his eighth of the year. He ran second for much of the race but fell back to third after Junghans made the move to his inside. His best shot at the lead came just as soon as Sheppard acquired it in the first five laps. Weiss got a great run down the backstretch and dove hard into turn three underneath the leader, but Sheppard was ready for it and slammed the door.

"I think we had the car to win," Weiss said. "We tried to make the move early and Sheppard came down just in time, and then the caution came out, which I really didn't want to see."

"I saw Ricky down there and I knew I needed to get down there quick at that point," Sheppard said. "When you pass cars on the top, until someone shows you a nose, you don't really know what to do. So, Ricky and I got together there a little bit, but it was just a racing deal – me trying to get to the bottom and him trying to pass me."

## Bubak Banks Second Consecutive Belleville 305 Sprint Car Nationals Triumph

BELLEVILLE, KS - Jake Bubak kept his Belleville 305 Sprint Car Nationals perfection alive by storming to a \$7,000 payday in Saturday night's United Rebel Sprint Series-sanctioned Second Annual Belleville 305 Nation-

als 30-lap finale atop the ½-mile Belleville High Banks clay oval.

It completed an improbably duplication of last year's Belleville 305 Sprint Car Nationals two-night sweep with the Arvada, CO, shoe now four-for-four in event competition aboard the Coyote Candle Company No. 74x Sprint Car.

While Bubak didn't wire the field this time around, he bettered himself in the lapped cars department by leaving just six other cars on the lead lap after lapping all but seven other cars in last year's inaugural event.

This time, Eagle, Nebraska's Tyler Druke earned the pole position for the feature with Bubak alongside. But it was fourth-starter Jason Martin gunning into the lead on the initial circuit ahead of Bubak, Jed Werner and Druke.

Martin held off Bubak for a half dozen rounds before Bubak powered by for the point. Martin tried to fight back, but Bubak began to slip away as the laps clicked off.

Bubak reached traffic in short order and spent the last two-thirds of the feature event slicing through the field. By the time the checkered flag flew, Bubak held more than a half-lap advantage over Druke, who made a late move past Martin to snare runner-up honors.

Martin settled for the show position behind Bubak and Druke with Luke Cranston picking off several positions in the closing circuits to snare fourth. J.D. Johnson rounded out the top five with Joe Wood, Jr. and Jed Werner the final cars on the lead lap. Ty Williams was eighth with Shane Sundquist and Buddy Tubbs completing the top ten.

The original start to the feature was waved off when Jeremy Huish got into the turn one guardrail and suffered race-ending damage.

One lap later, Trey Gropp took

a wild ride in turn one that precipitated a red flag. Gropp walked away from the damage, picking up Hard Luck honors.

Cranston, Bubak, Druke, J.D. Johnson and Werner topped heat race action with Druke, Zach Blurton, Bubak and Williams winning the qualifying races. Before Gropp's "A" Main tumble, T.J. Cain became the weekend's first flip victim when he tumbled down the backstretch on the opening lap of the fifth and final heat race.

Nebraska's Shayle Bade and Arkansas' Tim Crawley, who suffered ignition box woes that sidelined him from heat race action, both earned "B" Main wins. Both "B" Mains featured spirited battles for the fourth and final transfer position with Kyler Johnson battling past Blake Scott in the first "B" Main and then Todd Plemons edging Dalton Stevens in the second "B" Main.

### ***Bubak Shines Again in Belleville 305 Nationals Preliminary***

BELLEVILLE, KS - Jake Bubak continues to find the Belleville High Banks to his liking.

That was evident with his \$2,500 triumph in Friday night's United Rebel Sprint Series-sanctioned Second Annual Belleville 305 Sprint Car Nationals preliminary atop the lightning-fast half-mile clay oval aboard the Coyote Candle Company No. 74b entry.

It marked the Arvada, Colorado racer's fourth consecutive score atop the High Banks including a sweep of last year's Inaugural edition of the Belleville 305 Sprint Car Nationals.

After earning the pole position for the feature, Bubak had his hands full throughout with Jason Martin pushing him to the limit.

In fact, Martin gunned into the lead from the front row outside upon the drop of the green flag and paced the initial four laps before Bubak battled by on the top side. Bubak began to slip away from Martin's grasp after several laps and encountered traffic on the 12th round just as a caution flew for Craig Dollansky, who slowed just three laps after taking third away from Jed Werner.



**Jake Bubak celebrates with his crew and family in victory lane after winning the Belleville 305 Sprint Car Nationals. Bubak won the night before in preliminary action as well. (L. Wheatley photo)**

Martin made a bid for the lead on the restart with the duo side-by-side for nearly a lap before Bubak reestablished command. The same scenario played out again four laps later when a final caution flew for Luke Cranston's stalled mount.

Bubak fought off Martin over the closing circuits with Arkansas' filling out the podium in third. Werner was fourth with J.D. Johnson rounding out the top five. Ty Williams advanced a half-dozen positions to

claim sixth with Tyler Druke turning in the night's top passing performance by rallying from 18th to seventh. Joe Wood, Jr., was eighth with Zach Blurton and Brett Becker completing the top ten.

Cranston, Bubak, Martin, Werner and Andy Shouse topped heat race action for the 41-car field with Dollansky, Bubak, Williams and Buddy Tubbs victorious in the qualifying races. Todd Plemons and Druke bested the twin "B" Mains.

## Lucas Oil Late Models Target North/South 100

BATAVIA, OH - In just one week, the stars of the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series will converge in Union, Kentucky for one of the biggest events of the 2019 season.

The Sunoco Race Fuels North/South Shootout - Presented by Lucas Oil will take place on Thursday, August 8. The event will feature a complete program of: Miller Welders Time Trials, Heat Races, and B-Mains - highlighted by the 50-lap, \$10,000-to-win main event. The Open Wheel Modifieds will also compete in a full program for \$1,000-to-win.

Friday's action includes preliminary events for the 37th Annual Sunoco Race Fuels North/South 100 - Presented by Lucas Oil - highlighted by two thrilling rounds of heat race action for the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series.

Passing points from each round will determine Saturday night's B-Main and Feature starting grids.

The Heat Races and B-Mains for the Modified division will also be contested on Friday night.

The 2019 National Dirt Late Model Hall of Fame induction ceremonies will kick off the festivities on Saturday, August 10 beginning at 1:00 pm. A Dirt Racing Outreach service will take place at 3:30 pm, followed by a driver autograph session from 6:00 pm until 6:45 pm.

The on-track action on Saturday will begin with the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series B-Mains at 7:30 pm. Afterwards, the Modifieds will compete in their \$2,000 to win feature, before the 100-lap, \$50,000 to win Sunoco Race Fuels North/South 100 main event takes center stage.

The 30-lap, \$2,000 to win non-qualifiers race will cap off the weekend.

Additional information can be obtained by visiting [www.florence-speedway.com](http://www.florence-speedway.com) or by calling the speedway office at (859) 493-0034.

For the latest breaking news concerning the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series visit the official website at: [www.lucasdirt.com](http://www.lucasdirt.com).

## James McFadden Wins The 29th Annual My Place Hotels ASCS 360 Knoxville Nationals

KNOXVILLE, IA - Becoming the 16th different winner of the My Place Hotels ASCS 360 Knoxville Nationals presented by Great Southern Bank, and first from Australia, James McFadden added \$15,000 to his pocket

on Saturday night in the Wicked Energy Gum No. 9m.

McFadden's second Saw-Blade.com A-Feature triumph with the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network, the 2019 My Place Hotels ASCS 360 Knoxville Nationals presented by Great Southern Bank winner is also the event's Rookie of the year. Picking up a \$500 bonus courtesy of JetCo and Pace Performance, McFadden joins 1998 winner Gary Wright, and 2002 winner Jeff Swindell, as the third event Rookie to win the ASCS 360 Knoxville Nationals.

"I'm over the moon!" said McFadden in Victory Lane beside the Kasey Kahne Racing No. 9m.

"I have to thank Mike Heffner for loaning us the motor for the weekend. Obviously, this thing ripped. That was a hard race. It felt like 40 laps, not 25! I'm just pumped! I was watching the big screen. I knew [Brown] was going to run the top. The bottom was fast; I just kept missing it a little bit, and that was enough for him to get next to us. I decided to pound the top and it worked out."

Taking off with the lead from the start, McFadden was pursued by Brian Brown every step of the way. Taking the lead on Lap 3, the Casey's General Store/FVP No. 21 dropped back to second as the pair rounded the first and second turn. Railing the cushion of the Knoxville Raceway, the pair went head to head again on Lap 7 with Brown leading the way, but the move was not enough as McFadden swapped up his line to the cushion to retake the point.

Building his advantage as the pair worked into slower traffic on Lap 13, Brown began to close.

Closing rapidly as the final five laps came into view, the pair began swapping up lines through traffic with Brown taking a massive head

of steam to the white flag. Bumper to bumper racing into the first two turns, Brown tried to peel low, but couldn't make move. Putting five car lengths on the No. 21 as they hit the backstretch for the final time, McFadden hugged the berm with Brown giving it everything he had on the cushion, but it wasn't enough as McFadden crossed 0.296 seconds ahead of Brown.

"I'm just so proud of my team," said Brown, whose team had to leave the track and replace their engine after not getting hot laps in. "Races are won, and teams are made over adversity. We went 25 laps as hard as we could go and got beat. Hat's off to James. He moved when he saw me there, and he did a good job."

Peddling from seventh, Wayne Johnson crossed third with Aaron Reutzler coming from sixth to fourth. Joey Saldana completed the top five.

Making up five positions, Davey Heskin crossed sixth, followed by Cory Eliason from 13th. Thomas Kennedy in eighth had Dusty Zomer in pursuit. From 19th, Matt Juhl completes the top ten.

A field of 97 drivers made up the 29th annual My Place Hotels ASCS 360 Knoxville Nationals presented by Great Southern Bank. Starting with the E-Feature, Robbie Price grabbed the win with Spencer Bayston winning the D-Feature. Jack Dover won the C-Feature with the BMRS B-Feature going to Giovanni Scelzi. The biggest mover through the alphabet was Robbie Price who raced from the E-Feature to 17th in the C-Feature.

The next event for the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network is Tuesday, August 6 at Southern Iowa Speedway with the Sage Fruit Ultimate Challenge. The night includes the POWRI Lucas Oil Wingless Auto Racing League. Tickets are on sale by calling (515) 957-0020. There will not be an internet broadcast.

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 2019, log onto [www.ascsracing.com](http://www.ascsracing.com), follow on Facebook, on Instagram, and on Twitter (@LucasOilASCs).



James McFadden climbs atop his car in victory lane after winning the 29th Annual My Place Hotels ASCS 360 Knoxville Nationals. McFadden also brought home the win in qualifying action the night before. (Paul Arch photo)

### McFadden Harvest Iowa Corn Growers Qualifying Night Victory at Knoxville

KNOXVILLE, IA - Becoming the 150th different winner with the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network, Warrnambool's James McFadden utilized a restart on Lap 16 to rocket past Davey Heskin and Brian Brown for Friday's Iowa Corn Growers Qualifying Night victory in the 29th My Place Hotels ASCS 360 Knoxville Nationals presented by Great Southern Bank.

"We stuck to the bottom there and tried to roll it as good as we could," stated McFadden in Victory Lane. "(Heskin) kind of missed the bottom there, and it was enough to get by him. We've struggled here at Knoxville the last couple of weeks, so it's good to get a win. It's a big confidence booster going into tomorrow night."

The fifth Australian born driver to top action with the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network, McFadden will take the green from the pole of Saturday's \$15,000 to win A-Feature.

Gridding the field seventh, McFadden move into the top five on Lap 3, where the Wicked Energy Gum No. 9m rode until Lap 9 as Davey Heskin led the way. Taking the led from the right of the front row over Harli White, the No. 17w trailed the Minnesota racer until Lap 8 as Brian Brown worked into the runner-up spot with Giovanni Scelzi in pursuit.

Into traffic on the tenth circuit, Heskin held a nearly two-second advantage over the No. 21 of Brown.

Closing bit by bit as traffic began to thicken, Brown found the back bumper Heskin on Lap 15. With a run off the fourth turn to complete Lap 16, four-hundredths of a second separated the pair with Brown taking the top spot into the first turn, but the caution would strip the lead from the Casey's General Store/FVP No. 21 as Giovanni Scelzi made contact with James McFadden battling fourth down the back straightaway. Hard into the wall in turn three, Scelzi was unharmed.

To the green for the final four laps, the dive to the race lead came in the first turn as McFadden rushed from third to first and quickly opened his advantage with the checkered flag dropping with James beating Brian Brown by 2.272 seconds. Making a late-race charge from the sixth position, Joey Saldana came across the line third, but not without having to hold off the No. 17a of Austin McCarl who clawed his way through the field from 14th for fourth. Davey Heskin slipped to fifth in the closing laps.

Paul McMahan in the Tony Stewart Racing No. 14 crossed sixth with Clint Garner making up 11 positions to finish seventh. The night's Hard Charger was Matt Juhl, who from 22nd after transferring out of the BMRS B-Feature, picked up 14 positions to finish eighth. Colby Copeland crossed ninth with Terry McCarl in tenth.

A field of 55 drivers on hand for the Iowa Corn Growers Qualifying  
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Night, the 29th My Place Hotels ASCS 360 Knoxville Nationals presented by Great Southern Bank roster includes 97 drivers. Five SCE Gaskets Heat Races were won by Joey Saldana, Josh Baughman, Clint Garner, Kyle Bellm, and Roger Crockett. Hoosier Tire C-Feature was won by Randy Hannagan with BMRS B-Feature victory going to Scott

Bogucki.

## Ryan Giles Smooth To Victory On Dingus Lounge Qualifying Night

KNOXVILLE, IA - The My Place Hotels ASCS 360 Knoxville Nationals presented by Great Southern Bank got underway Thursday with Iowa's Ryan Giles leading start to finish to win Dingus Lounge Qualifying Night.

Giles ninth career victory at the famed Knoxville Raceway, the win is his first SawBlade.com A-Feature win against the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network. Overall, Giles is the 12th Iowan and the 149th different winner with the National Tour.

"I have to give a big shout out to my wife. She's six months pregnant with our baby girl, and she was in the hospital this morning. I felt like I abandoned her and had to work all day. She told me to go have fun,

so...this one's for her. I definitely have to thank Gary Isom. This is all his deal."

Getting the jump on Rob Kubli on the start, Giles stuck his Midwest Basement Systems No. 9 to the hub of the Knoxville Raceway as Thomas Kennedy moved up one spot to pursue. Putting several car lengths on the No. 21k, the race through the top five saw Aaron Reutzel taking the fifth spot on Lap 7 with the caution following the next lap for Lee Grosz. As the caution flew, Dominic Scelzi shredded a right rear tire. Both drivers were able to continue.

Caution on the restart, Rob Kubli, and Aaron Reutzel came together racing for fifth through the fourth turn as Reutzel drove up and Kubli came down. Meeting in the middle, Kubli made hard contact with Aaron's right rear; sending the No. 83 into the wall. Unharmed, the damage as too much to continue.

Caution again on the restart for Calvin Landis, the field finally went back to green with Giles easy on the throttle to pull away from the race for second with Wayne Johnson working to the runner-up spot. Falling to fourth on Lap 14, Aaron Reutzel worked to the show position.

Into traffic with three laps to go, Reutzel fought to second with time running out for a shot at the lead, but just as Giles was cruising easily to victory, the caution flew in place of the checkered flag.

Into the green, white, checkered finish, Reutzel peeked wide on the No. 9, but would not take away Giles' victory. Aaron Reutzel in second was trailed by Wayne Johnson to complete the podium. California's Cory Eliason made up five po-



Kelly Miller celebrates in victory lane after winning at Big Sky Speedway with the ASCS Frontier Region. (Nick Whalen photo)

sitions to cross fourth with Thomas Kennedy slipping back to fifth.

Making up six spots, Justin Henderson was sixth. Racing into the top five at one-point, Dusty Zomer ended up seventh with Carson McCarl eighth. The night's Hard Charger, after coming out of the B-Feature, Parker Price-Miller dug from 21st to ninth. Sam Hafertepe, Jr. made up the top ten.

A field of 42 drivers was on hand for Thursday's Dingus Lounge Qualifying Night with five SCE Gaskets Heat Races going to Devon Dobie, Thomas Kennedy, Mason Daniel, Jack Dover, and Justin Henderson. The BMRS B-Feature was won by Parker Price-Miller.

## Kelly Miller Continues ASCS Frontier Winning Streak at Big Sky Speedway

BILLINGS, MT - Picking up his fourth victory of the 2019 season, and third, in as many races with the Brodix ASCS Frontier Region, Canada's Kelly Miller parked the Prevost Racing No. 2jr in Victory Lane Saturday night at Big Sky Speedway.

Bringing his overall win total with the Brodix ASCS Frontier Region to 11, Miller climbed to the top of the leaderboard from the right of the second row. Pole Sitter Trevor Kirkland ended up second with Jeremy McCune moving up three positions to complete the podium. Damon McCune and Willie Hernandez, Jr completed the top five.

Moving up from 14th, Kory Wermling's return to the three-eighths-mile oval was a much better result in sixth. Trevor Plambeck, Travis Reber, Jordan Milne, and Robert DeHaan made up the top

ten.

The Brodix ASCS Frontier Region races again at Sweetwater Speedway in Rock Springs, Wyo. on Friday, August 9 and Saturday, August 10.

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 2019, log onto [www.ascsracing.com](http://www.ascsracing.com), follow on Facebook, on Instagram, and on Twitter (@LucasOilASCs).

## Pringle Defends Home Turf Against ASCS Elite Non-Wing at I-30 Speedway

LITTLE ROCK, AR - Taking off from the pole, Zach Pringle added his name to the list of winners with the ASCS Elite Non-Wing Series presented by Abilene Powder Coating on Saturday night with victory at I-30 Speedway.

The 27th driver to top the ASCS Elite Non-Wing Series presented by Abilene Powder Coating, Pringle crossed ahead of Jason Howell, who worked from fifth to claim the runner-up spot. Anthony Nicholson grabbed third with Paul White making up two spots to fourth. Jeremy Middleton was fifth.

Jarrod Jennings crossed sixth, followed by Missouri's Brian Beebe. Eighth went to Joshua Hanna with Case Parson and Kevin Hinkle to complete the top ten.

The ASCS Elite Non-Wing Series presented by Abilene Powder Coating returns to the Lone Star State for a double shot weekend with RPM Speedway in Crandall, Texas on Friday, August 9 and Devil's Bowl Speedway on Saturday, August 10.



Ryan Giles takes the checkered flag in the Dingus Lounge Qualifying Night for The My Place Hotels ASCS 360 Knoxville Nationals. (Paul Arch photo)

## Ashton Winger 9th Different Winner In Southern All Stars This Year

SUMMERTOWN, TN - The Southern All Star Dirt Racing Series presented by Max Fab made its second stop of the season at the Thunderhill Raceway in Summertown, TN., and as in the previous visit the rain make its appearance and delayed the program for a couple of

hours but for Ashton Winger of Senoia, GA., it was worth the wait as he took the lead on a restart from Dane Dacus and went on to get his first career Southern All Star win in the King of the Hill 40. Winger was making 16th career start with the series that was worth \$4,000.

The battle for spots two through five was the whole race as Dane Dacus, Josh Putnam, David Breazeale and Riley Hickman all put on a show for the crowd as these four drivers battled top to bot-

tom the fast ¼ mile with Dacus coming in second Putnam third, Breazeale fourth and Hickman fifth.

Christian Hanger finished in the 6th spot, Billy Franklin 7th, Scott Cook 8th, Ray McElhiney 9th and Austin Arnold 10th.

**RACE TIDBITS:** As usual for the series this season weather was a factor as showers were present during the afternoon and evening delaying the start of the program 2 hours but with the work of Jason Walker and Ricky Spurgeon and all the crew at Thunderhill Raceway the show went on and the fans got to a very entertaining race.

The Southern All Stars have completed nine races this season and there have been nine different winners.

Cruise with the Champions/Dirtondirt.com rookie leader Zach Leonhardi has a motor let go after qualifying, so he started the Billy Franklin back up car as he and Billy are battling for rookie of the year honors.



Ashton Winger celebrates in victory lane after winning at Thunderhill Raceway for his career Southern All Star win in the King of the Hill 40. (Connie Putnam photo)

Austin Arnold started off the year running with the series but had to back off due to work commitment but was back this weekend

First time starts with the series this year John Minon, David Bran-

non, Steve Stehle, Derrick Hill, Scott Spurgeon.

For more information concerning the Southern All Stars contact Lynn Acklin - General Manager: 256-924-4546 www.sasdirt.com.

## RCR Fuels Fundraiser to Save Injured Kids

WINSTON - SALEM, NC - Richard Childress Racing is supporting a NASCAR-themed celebration at Victory Junction and launching an online auction on Tuesday, July 30. Proceeds will benefit programs of the Childress Institute for Pediatric Trauma, including a \$20,000

grant to Victory Junction that will support camp experiences for eight pediatric trauma survivors.

"We are excited to celebrate the lives of all seriously injured children by participating in NASCARnival night at Victory Junction," said Richard Childress, Chairman and CEO of Richard Childress Racing and co-founder of the Childress Institute. "The Childress Institute is dedicated to funding programs that improve the care injured kids receive throughout the U.S., and this event will raise funds to send injured children to a special camp that helps them get back to being kids after a life-changing injury."

NASCAR Hall of Famer Richard

Childress, RCR drivers and pit crew members are scheduled to attend NASCARnival on July 30.

In continued celebration of RCR's 50th anniversary and the Childress Institute's 11th anniversary, the event coincides with the launch of an online auction of autographed memorabilia and VIP fan experiences benefiting the Childress Institute, hosted by The NASCAR Foundation at <https://www.nascarfoundation.org/RCR50>. Items include an autographed guitar, VIP suite passes, race-worn firesuits, sheet metal and much more.

Additional items will be added throughout the week, and the auction will end at 9 p.m. ET on Sunday, August 11.

The fundraiser is made possible by sponsors, including: AlSCO, Bass Pro Shops, Caterpillar, Cometic Gaskets, ECR Engines, Fox Sports, Klotz Synthetic Lubricants, NASCAR, RCR, South Point Hotel and Casino, Sparco and UNOH.

For more information please visit <https://saveinjuredkids.org/carnival/>, or follow on social media at <https://www.facebook.com/SaveInjuredKids/> or Twitter @injuredkids.

## **Bristol Dragway**

BRISTOL, TN - Mountain Music will be ringing through the air on Friday, Sept. 6 when ALABAMA takes the stage for their rescheduled show at the Thunder Valley Amphitheatre presented by Ballad Health. And good news for those who weren't able to grab a seat, the venue is opening additional sections to meet consumer demand for the concert.

"We're thrilled that ALABAMA will be here in Bristol under the lights on Friday, Sept. 6 to entertain the fans of this region," said Jerry Caldwell, executive vice president and general manager of the Thunder Valley Amphitheatre. "We all have had Randy Owen in our thoughts as he continues to recover from some health issues. We're glad we were able to work together to find an alternative date and add a few additional seats for this show. We are all looking forward to a great night of music and seeing ALABAMA put on an amazing show."

All previously purchased tickets will be honored for the show. Parking lots open at 4:30 p.m. and all previously purchased parking passes will be accepted. Gates open at 6 p.m. with the show beginning at 7:30 p.m. with special guest John Michael Montgomery. Following the event, the night sky will light up with the Food City fireworks spectacular in a fitting end to a great night of entertainment.

Those who are unable to attend the rescheduled date and purchased their tickets through the Thunder Valley Amphitheatre or Ticketmaster may contact their point of purchase for a refund by Monday, Aug. 12. To purchase tickets to the show, call 423-BRISTOL or visit ThunderValleyMusic.com.

For more information on how to be prepared for the ALABAMA show at the Thunder Valley Amphitheatre presented by Ballad Health, please visit ThunderValleyMusic.com.

## **Darlington Raceway**

DARLINGTON, SC - Darlington Raceway and the Motor Racing Network, will be celebrating MRN's 50th anniversary by giving away some very special opportunities for fans that attend the track's Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Bo-

jangles' Southern 500.

All fans that have purchased the track's Stripe Zone Hospitality package for the Bojangles' Southern 500 on Sept. 1, will be automatically entered to win some experiences of a lifetime courtesy of MRN.

The experiences are as follows (all on Sept. 1):

- Hot Laps on race day with MRN Analyst and NASCAR Hall of Famer Rusty Wallace – your opportunity to ride shotgun with a living legend and make laps hours before the green flag drops on the Bojangles' Southern 500 at Darlington Raceway.

- Honorary MRN Pit Reporter – Shadow an award-winning pit reporter for Stage 1 of the Bojangles' Southern 500 and get up close to the cars and stars of NASCAR like never before.

- MRN Booth Visit – Get a behind the scenes look at the Motor Racing Network's coverage of the Bojangles' Southern 500 from high atop Darlington Raceway in the race control tower and watch Rusty Wallace, Jeff Striegle and Alex Hayden call the action.

- Turn 3 with Mike Bagley – Soak up some non-stop racing from the best seat in the house! Join MRN's Mike Bagley for a few laps as he calls the race above the action in turn 3 at the track Too Tough To Tame.

"I can't think of a better place to celebrate MRN's 50th anniversary than at the legendary Darlington Raceway," said Chris Schwartz, President of MRN. "We are so excited to partner with Kerry and the team at Darlington to present these exclusive experiences to a few lucky Stripe Zone fans."

On August 16, 2019, a random drawing will take place among Darlington's Stripe Zone hospitality customers with the winners being contacted prior to the Bojangles' Southern 500 on Sept. 1.

Additionally, several members of the MRN's broadcast team, including Wallace, Bagley, Striegle and Hayden, among others, will make an appearance on race day in the Stripe Zone hospitality tent. The MRN group will conduct a question and answer session for fans that day.

"We appreciate the wonderful relationship we have with MRN and appreciate their efforts in providing a few of our lucky hospitality customers these unique experiences," track President Kerry Tharp said. "Congratulations to MRN and their 50 years of broadcasting NASCAR races to fans all over the United

States and throughout the World."

For complete contest rules and information visit [www.DarlingtonRaceway.com/MRN50th](http://www.DarlingtonRaceway.com/MRN50th).

Darlington Raceway's award-winning throwback campaign is The Official Throwback Weekend of NASCAR featuring the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Bojangles' Southern 500® on Sunday, Sept. 1, 2019 at 6 p.m. on NBCSN and MRN. The NASCAR XFINITY Series Sport Clips Haircuts VFW 200 will race on Saturday, Aug. 31, 2019 at 4 p.m. on NBC and MRN. Tickets are on sale now by calling 866-459-7223 or visiting [DarlingtonRaceway.com](http://DarlingtonRaceway.com).

You can keep up with all of the latest news from Darlington Raceway at [DarlingtonRaceway.com](http://DarlingtonRaceway.com), on Facebook at [Facebook.com/DarlingtonRaceway](https://www.facebook.com/DarlingtonRaceway) and on Twitter at [Twitter.com/TooToughToTame](https://twitter.com/TooToughToTame). Fans are encouraged to post their Bojangles' Southern 500 stories and memories at, #BojanglesSo500 and #SportClips200.

## **Talladega Superspeedway**

TALLADEGA, AL - Get ready Talladega Superspeedway fans! The fall schedule for the greatest race track in the world has been set for its doubleheader NASCAR Playoffs weekend (Oct. 11-13) as well as for one of the sports' most anticipated grand openings with the one-of-a-kind Talladega Garage Experience.

In addition to the nail-biting action on the track that will have playoff ramifications for both the 1000Bulbs.com 500 for the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series and the Sugarlands Shine 250 for the NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series, there's a lot in store for fans off the track once they arrive at the 2.66-mile venue. Here's what fans can expect to find at the iconic track, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary:

Friday, Oct. 11

- The weekend kicks off on Friday at 9 a.m. CDT with the ribbon cutting and opening of the infield Talladega Garage Experience, which will give fans incredible "locker room" access to the sport of NASCAR. Fans with a Talladega Garage Experience admission will receive access inside all four Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Garages, where they will be under the same roof as their favorite teams and drivers as they prep their

car throughout race weekend. Guests will also be able to relax in the mammoth Open Air Social Club that will feature a massive bar, 41-foot diagonal video screen, and many lounging areas. The Garage Experience will offer incredible \$4 or less Value-Priced Concessions (except for the Big One Meatball) as well as FREE Wi-Fi presented by Xtreme Concepts, Inc.

- Grandstand gates open at 11 a.m. for fans to catch two practice sessions each for the Sugarlands Shine 250 and the 1000Bulbs.com 500 throughout the morning and afternoon. The finale of the day is the traditional "Big One on the Blvd." driver parade/fan competitions. The festivities are scheduled to start at 7 p.m. and are open to all Renewal Guest ticket holders, infield camping guests and those who purchase an infield wristband.

Saturday, Oct. 12

- Fans can begin entering the Talladega Garage Experience at 8 a.m., while the grandstands open at 9 a.m. On-track activities kick off at 9:35 a.m. with qualifying for the Sugarlands Shine 250 that will determine the starting lineup for the event set to get the green flag at 12:30 p.m. It is the first race in the Round of 6 in the Gander Truck Series Playoffs, where, with a win, an eligible playoff driver could guarantee a spot in the Championship 4 finale.

- The victor of the Sugarlands Shine 250 will drive to the new winner's circle in Gatorade Victory Lane, located in the Garage Experience, where guests with an admission will gain access to a reserved area and get the chance to witness the winner's celebration.

- Foodland/Food Giant Qualifying for the 1000Bulbs.com 500 concludes the track action for the day and will determine who will lead the field to green on Sunday.

- Once the sun goes down, Jacksonville, AL native and country music artist Riley Green will hit the stage and headline the Saturday Night Infield Concert. The event, located at the intersection of Eastaboga and Talladega Blvds., is

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scheduled to start at 7 p.m. and is FREE to all infield guests and anyone who purchases a ticket to the 1000Bulbs.com 500. Sunday, Oct. 13

• The weekend's anchor event, the 1000Bulbs.com 500, is the "Wildcard" race in NASCAR's premier series playoffs and is the second race (of three) in the Round of 12. Aric Almirola is the defending champion

of the fall event. Grandstand gates open at 9 a.m. and the race is set to start at 1 p.m.

• The Talladega Garage Experience opens earlier in the day (8 a.m.), and as part of the experience fans will also receive access to Celebration Plaza for the Fan Q&A session (participating drivers to be announced soon) that morning, along with the opportunity to attend Driver Introductions at the start-finish line, prior to the green flag. Once the winner takes the checkered flag, fans in the Garage Experience can be a part of the Gatorade Victory Lane celebration.

Over the course of the weekend, a variety of drivers and personalities will be a part of Fan Q&A sessions in Celebration Plaza as well as other entertainment options. Talladega also offers plenty of fan-friendly activities including the Kids VIP Experience presented by Children's of Alabama and VIP opportunities.

To purchase tickets or for more information, visit [www.talladegasuperspeedway.com](http://www.talladegasuperspeedway.com) or call 855-518-RACE (7223). Fans can learn more about the entire Transformation Infield Project presented by Graybar by visiting [www.talladegasuperspeedway.com/transformation](http://www.talladegasuperspeedway.com/transformation).

### Atlanta Motor Speedway

HAMPTON, GA - Atlanta Motor Speedway and the American Red Cross are racing to save lives and collect blood donations during the "Drive For Life Blood Drive" on September 11.

With blood supplies dangerously low, the American Red Cross is urging anyone who is able to donate blood to do so. The Drive For Life Blood Drive is an opportunity to do just that, with donation times available between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. in the Marcy Scott Media Center, located in the Speedway's infield.

"Atlanta Motor Speedway is always looking for opportunities to give back to our community," said AMS Executive Vice President and General Manager Brandon Hutchison. "When the American Red Cross told us about the urgent need for blood, partnering with them and offering our support to get life-saving donations was a no-brainer."

Furthermore, all donors will receive a Red Cross T-Shirt, all donors 18 and over will be given a pace car ride around Atlanta Motor Speedway's famous 1.54-mile oval, and donors will be entered into a raffle giveaway of prizes including 2020 NASCAR weekend race tickets.

"Our volunteer donors and sponsors, like Atlanta Motor Speedway, are the only source of blood for patients," said Ronnika A. McFall, external communications manager for the Red Cross Southern Services Region. "We appreciate the Atlanta Motor Speedway team for partnering with us to create this fun tradition of rolling up a sleeve at the track and helping to ensure a stable blood supply."

To donate please visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter sponsor code "atlantaspeedway" and choose the donation time that works best for you. Registration can also be completed by calling 1-800-RED CROSS or by using the Blood Donor App.

### Bristol Motor Speedway

BRISTOL, TN - In Bristol, the traditions of music and racing run generations deep. Thousands of fans flock to the Tri-Cities each year to cheer their favorite drivers at Bristol Motor Speedway, the world's fastest half mile, and to trace the steps of the legendary Carter Family and Jimmie Rodgers in the town that catapulted them to stardom with the 1927 Bristol Sessions recordings. It's Bristol, baby—and just when you thought it couldn't get better than that, it does.

For the first time in history, the worlds of racing and music combine for the ultimate 10-day experience for fans. It's all happening throughout Northeast Tennessee and Southwest Virginia next year—September 10 - 19, 2020.

During a press conference this morning, officials from Bristol Motor Speedway (BMS) and Birthplace of Country Music (BCM), the parent nonprofit of the Birthplace of Country Music Museum, the annual Bristol Rhythm & Roots Reunion music festival, and WBCM Radio Bristol,

announced the new Rhythm and Racing Super Ticket, which will give music and race fans the opportunity to experience 10 days of fun, music, racing, and lots of excitement.

Earlier this year, BMS and BCM both announced new dates for 2020 with the exciting news that NASCAR would be bringing a trio of championship playoff races to Bristol for the first time in 2020. The Bristol Rhythm & Roots Reunion music festival will be held on September 11 - 13, 2020, followed by race week kicking off on Monday, September 14 with events throughout the region and ending with the night race on Saturday, September 19, 2020.

The new Rhythm and Racing Super Ticket will offer music and race fans the opportunity to experience two of the region's biggest events in 10 days. The Super Ticket includes a three (3) day weekend wristband to the Festival and a three (3) day ticket to all the races at Bristol Motor Speedway, including the Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race. The cost of the ticket package begins at \$150 per ticket.

"This Super Ticket package pairing of back-to-back September weekends of Bristol Rhythm & Roots Reunion festival followed by a pivotal 2020 NASCAR Cup playoff elimination race at Bristol Motor Speedway will strike the perfect chord for music and racing enthusiasts alike," said Jerry Caldwell, executive vice president and general manager of Bristol Motor Speedway. "No other NASCAR race kicks off their event experience a whole week early with a mega music festival and nightly entertainment leading into some of the most competitive racing on the circuit. This is an amazing experience in a beautiful region that we think fans of racing and music will love."

The Rhythm and Racing Super Ticket will go on sale this afternoon, August 2, 2019. For existing BMS 2020 Season Ticket Holders, call the ticket office for information on adding this new option to your package.

"Bringing together two of the largest events in the Southeast, the Bristol Rhythm & Roots Reunion music festival and a playoff race at Bristol Motor Speedway, is an incredible opportunity for our community," said Leah Ross, BCM Executive Director. "The merging of these events will bring nearly two

weeks of entertainment to our region for locals and travelers to enjoy, and for the first time music and race fans traveling long distances won't necessarily have to choose between the two. The price of the Super Ticket is a fantastic deal, and we are thrilled to partner with BMS to offer the ultimate racing and music experience next September."

Bristol Rhythm and Roots Reunion and the races at Bristol Motor Speedway will bookend an incredible week of activities taking place around the region, which details will be announced in full at a later date. From race events in Kingsport, Johnson, and Bristol, to a special concert on Thursday night, September 10, to kick off the festivities, Rhythm and Racing Week promises to be an unforgettable experience that places the region's very best assets on the same stage.

In 2020, Bristol Rhythm & Roots Reunion will be held Friday - Sunday, Sept. 11 - 13, 2020. Events at BMS will take place Thursday - Saturday, Sept. 17 - 19, 2020.

For those who love to camp for music festivals and race weekends, Bristol Motor Speedway also will make select camping options available to the public beginning Thursday, Sept. 10 through Sunday, Sept. 13, 2020. Enthusiasts are encouraged to come early and setup basecamp in Bristol for 10 days of Rhythm and Racing festival fun. For more information about the Rhythm and Racing visit [RhythmAndRacing2020.com](http://RhythmAndRacing2020.com).

### Charlotte Motor Speedway

CONCORD, NC - Race fans visiting Charlotte Motor Speedway on Sept. 29 will party in the fast lane prior to the second running of the historic Bank of America ROVAL™ 400. Chris Lane - PLATINUM-selling Country hitmaker and a native of Kernersville, North Carolina - will crank up the excitement for the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Playoffs with a must-see concert at 12:30 p.m. on the speedway's frontstretch.

The Big Loud Records artist, who attended college and played baseball just miles from the race track at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte, will bring to America's Home for Racing songs from

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his latest chart-topping album, "Laps Around the Sun" including PLATINUM-certified smash hit "Take Back Home Girl" (featuring Tori Kelly) and his current single "I Don't Know About You" – now closing in on Country radio's Top 15.

"I'm always excited to come home and perform in North Carolina, but this show will be a special one," said Lane. "Growing up here, there is an energy and thrill around the Charlotte Motor Speedway and it means a lot to be a part of it. I can't wait to see everyone there."

Lane's performance will set the stage for Kyle Busch, Chase Elliott, Joey Logano and the rest of NASCAR's biggest names to electrify Charlotte's 2.28-mile ROVAL™ in a sun-lit September showcase of speed and strategy.

Lane's star continues to rise with more than 1 BILLION combined streams. He has scored nominations at the iHeartRadio Music Awards, ACM Awards and Radio Disney Music Awards and appeared on TODAY, The Bachelor, The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon, and Late Night With Seth Meyers. Previously landing coveted opening slots on tours with Florida Georgia Line, Rascal Flatts and Dan + Shay, he is currently on the road as direct support for Brad Paisley's 2019 WORLD TOUR. Prior to his pre-race concert, Lane will join Paisley and Riley Green in their Charlotte leg of the Brad Paisley World Tour on Saturday, Aug. 24 at PNC Music Pavilion.

**TICKETS:** To purchase Sept. 29 Bank of America ROVAL™ 400 race tickets – which include admission to the Chris Lane concert – fans can call the 1-800-455-FANS (3267) or shop online at [www.charlottemotorspeedway.com](http://www.charlottemotorspeedway.com).

**MORE INFO:** Fans can connect with Charlotte Motor Speedway and get the latest news by following on Twitter and Instagram, becoming a Facebook fan or downloading the Charlotte Motor Speedway mobile app.

**ABOUT CHRIS LANE:** Since bursting onto the scene with his breakout #1 smash "Fix," Chris Lane's star continues to rise with GOLD and PLATINUM level single certifications, two Top

10 albums, and more than 1 BILLION combined streams. His latest irresistible single "I Don't Know About You" is closing in on Top 15 at Country radio, following the success of hit collaboration "Take Back Home Girl" featuring Tori Kelly. Both songs are featured on Lane's Big Loud Records sophomore album – LAPS AROUND THE SUN – that made a chart-topping debut, landing at #1 on the iTunes Top Country Albums chart and inside the Top 10 of Billboard's Top Country Albums chart for the second time in his career. Gaining recognition, Lane was named one of MusicRow Magazine's 2017 Next Big Thing Artists, has scored nominations at the iHeartRadio Music Awards, ACM Awards and Radio Disney Music Awards and appeared on TODAY, The Bachelor, The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon, Late Night With Seth Meyers and CONAN. Previously landing coveted opening slots on tours with Florida Georgia Line, Dustin Lynch, Garth Brooks, Tim McGraw + Faith Hill, Rascal Flatts and Dan + Shay, the Kernersville, NC-native closed out his second headline run – the LAPS AROUND THE SUN TOUR – in January. He is currently on the road as direct support for Brad Paisley's 2019 WORLD TOUR. Lane recently became engaged to Lauren Bushnell, popping the question with "Big, Big Plans" – a song he penned for his fiancée.

**ABOUT CHARLOTTE MOTOR SPEEDWAY:** For 60 years, Charlotte Motor Speedway has set the standard in motorsports entertainment for fans of all ages. Through every event and every decade, Charlotte Motor Speedway puts FANS FIRST.

### Darlington Raceway

DARLINGTON, SC - Darlington Raceway and the United States Auto Club (USAC) .25 Series have announced that the popular quarter midgets will compete in Darlington during the track's famed Bojangles' Southern 500 race weekend on August 30-September 1, 2019.

It will be the first time in the USAC .25 Series' 11-year history that it has competed in conjunction with the historic South Carolina race track's NASCAR event.

All race activities for the USAC .25 Series will take place just East of Darlington Raceway at the Retail Reconditioning Lot at Manheim Darlington on Race Track Road. Manheim Darlington has been a long-time valued neighbor and corporate partner with the race track.

Fans wanting to catch some of the sport's future stars in action can enter via Race Track Road or Odom Street.

Admission is free and the racing schedule is as follows:

Thursday, August 29 – Practice Day (Time TBD)

Friday, August 30 – 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Saturday, August 31 – 8 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Sunday, September 1 – 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

"We're excited to be hosting the USAC .25 Series here at Darlington Raceway for the very first time," said Darlington Raceway President Kerry Tharp. "The series will be competing on the grounds of Manheim Darlington at the Retail Reconditioning Center Lot on Race Track Road each day and we encourage all of our guests to head over and take in some of this exciting action featuring a host of young, talented drivers. We are grateful to our terrific partners at Manheim Darlington and we appreciate that USAC has decided to make Darlington Raceway one of their destinations on their 2019 schedule."

Many former and current NASCAR drivers began their racing careers in the USAC .25 Series. The popular quarter midget series started the careers of NASCAR Hall of Famers such as Jeff Gordon and Bobby Labonte, and also current stars like Alex Bowman, Joey Logano and Justin Haley.

Quarter midgets are kid-size cars that are approximately 1/4 of the size of a full-size open-wheel midget. Although quarter midget racing dates back over 60 years, the USAC .25 Series is just 11 years old. The sport involves children, boys and girls ages 5 years old and up.

Many of the teams competing at Darlington Raceway this year will be supporting the track's award-winning Throwback Weekend, by running special throwback paint schemes on their quarter midgets. It is similar to the 70+ cars that run special schemes for Darlington's NASCAR Xfinity Series Sport Clips Haircuts VFW 200 and Bojangles' Southern 500 events each year.

Additionally, race officials for the USAC .25 Series events will be wearing throwback 1970's-style uniforms during the weekend as well.

"This is a tremendous opportunity for us to be involved with Darlington Raceway and its popular throwback weekend," National Director of the USAC .25 Series

Danielle Fry said. "Many of the race teams and officials will feature throwback paint schemes and uniforms, which we thought would be a nice tribute to the popular weekend. It will be a lot of fun for everyone involved."

In addition to racing at Darlington, the 2019 national schedule also features iconic venues such as Daytona International Speedway, Charlotte Motor Speedway, Indianapolis Motor Speedway and the Circuit of the Americas. For more information regarding the USAC.25 Series, please visit [www.usac25.com](http://www.usac25.com).

### Atlanta Motor Speedway

HAMPTON, GA - Atlanta Motor Speedway has completely transformed [atlantamotorspeedway.com](http://atlantamotorspeedway.com) into a new, more fan-friendly web experience.

The redesign is the fifth improvement announced in the Speedway's 20 in 20 initiative, focusing on improving the menu and navigation of the website. For fans this means making informed decisions as they plan their 2020 NASCAR weekend at AMS will be simpler and quicker than ever before.

In particular, finding information about race weekend tickets and camping options are just a click away – literally. Featured prominently in the menu at the top of the new web page are links to "Tickets" and "Camping". When selected, each item brings users to a section of the website dedicated to providing all of the details on either the Speedway's seating options or its variety of camping areas to choose from. These comprehensive materials will enable fans to confidently book the best race weekend experience that fits their budget.

Along with the revamped navigation, [atlantamotorspeedway.com](http://atlantamotorspeedway.com) will continue to be the home for news, photo galleries, videos, and announcements fans have come to expect.

The new web layout is the fifth improvement to come from Atlanta Motor Speedway's "20 in 20" initiative. All told the Speedway will be announcing 20 fan enhancements to increase our customer's value and the overall enjoyment of the Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500 NASCAR weekend on March 13-15, 2020.

Tickets and camping locations for the 2020 Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500 weekend at Atlanta Motor Speedway are available now. Call 877-9-AMS-TIX or visit [www.atlantamotorspeedway.com](http://www.atlantamotorspeedway.com).

## Volunteer Speedway

BULLS GAP, TN - Big crowd, along with great racing at "The Gap" is a guaranteed winning combination!

Arguably one of the biggest crowds in recent history gathered Saturday at the legendary Volunteer Speedway for Fan Appreciation Night presented by 96.3 FM The Possum, and fans were entertained with an action-packed six division racing program that was fully completed at 10:35 p.m.

Tim Byrd of Jonesborough led flag-to-flag in winning the Crate Late Model feature, while Jesse Helton of Rogersville captured the Sportsman Late Model victory on the high banks.

Wayne Rader of Parrottsville captured the Modified Street victory of the season, while John Stevens of Wallins Creek, Kentucky, sped to yet another Classic victory.

Austin Atkins recorded the Street Stock win, with John Byers of Knoxville taking the Mini Stock victory.

Tim Byrd set fast-time at 13.887 seconds in Crate Late Model qualifying, with Gary Crittenden second quickest. Byrd powered into the lead on the opening lap over Crittenden, Layne Clifton, Rusty Webb, Rusty Ballenger, Taylor Coffman and Taran Hurst. But eyes were focused on Tim Maupin, who had set third-fastest time in qualifying but came up light at the scales and was forced to start the 30-lap feature from rear of the field.

Byrd was in command out front showing the way over Crittenden and Webb, who had worked his way past Clifton for the third spot. Maupin closed behind Ballenger on lap 8 and over the next few laps both Ballenger and Maupin gained positions by passing Clifton and Webb. A strong run in second ended for Crittenden with mechanical issues on lap 24.

But the race belonged to three-time Crate Late Model track champion Byrd as he easily captured his third victory on the season over Ballenger, Maupin, Webb and Clifton.

Jody Horton and Jesse Helton led the impressive 23-car Sportsman Late Model starting field to green from the front row. Horton and Helton raced side-by-side over the opening lap before Helton



**Fan Appreciation Night brought out a huge crowd at Volunteer Speedway Saturday night to enjoy all of the racing. (VOLUNTEER SPEEDWAY photo)**

moved ahead between turns three and four. Behind the front-running duo the action was two- and three-wide around the high banks with Joshua Sneed, Adam Mitchell, Brad Dyer, Chris Coffey, Kip Sawyer, Warren McMahan, Rex Coffey and Ray Jarnigan battling for real estate. Horton dropped out of the race on lap 11, giving Helton a little breathing room.

Hitting his marks lap-after-lap, Helton went on to record his second Sportsman Late Model feature win on the season over Chris Coffey, Mitchell, Sneed and Rex Coffey. ... The competitive race saw the top 13 finishers on the lead lap at the checkered flag.

Wayne Rader grabbed the lead at start of the 20-lap Modified Street feature over Dustin Ratliff, while Kurt Owens and Gary Blanken raced side-by-side battling for the third spot. Owens took the position and began working on Ratliff for second. Just past halfway Owens moved into second place and set his sights on leader Rader. But there would be no catching Rader as he captured his second victory of the season over Owens, Ratliff, Logan Hickey and Blanken.

John Stevens and Chuck Kilian battled for the lead on opening lap of the Classic feature before Stevens moved to the point. Once in the lead Stevens never looked back en route to capturing his division-leading seventh victory over Chris McKinney, Charles Bates, Kilian and Chad Manning.

Austin Atkins outran Tony Trent, Tony Trent, Coby Scott and Dan Smith to record his third Street Stock win on the season.

John Byers raced to his first Mini

Stock win on the season over Chad Manning, Chuck McMahan, Tommy Cameron and Mitchell Fox.

## Stafford Motor Speedway

STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT - Stafford Speedway was back in action on Friday, August 2nd with the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour on hand for the 29th Annual Stafford 150. Scoring Whelen All-American Series feature wins were Keith Rocco in the SK Modified® feature, Tom Fearn in the Late Model feature, Teddy Hodgdon in the SK Light feature, Matt Clement in the Limited Late Model feature, and Zack Robinson in the Street Stock feature.

In the 40-lap SK Modified® feature event, David Arute led the field to the green and he led the first 3 laps before Michael Christopher took the lead on lap-4. Eric Berndt followed Christopher by Arute to move into second while Tyler Hines took third. Berndt then took the lead from Christopher on lap-6 but Christopher came back and retook the lead on the same lap. The caution flew with 7 laps complete as Arute came to a stop against the turn 1 wall.

Berndt took the lead on the restart with Andrew Molleur coming up to second and Keith Rocco to third. Christopher was fourth with Glen Reen up to fifth. This was the order when the caution flew with 12 laps complete for a spin coming out of turn 2 by Dan Wesson.

Berndt took the lead back under green with Rocco coming up to second. Molleur slotted into third in line with Glen Reen fourth and Christopher fifth. Rocco took the lead from Berndt on lap-16 but

Berndt came back to Rocco's inside on lap-18 to retake the lead. Not to be outdone, Rocco steamed his way back past Berndt in turn 3 on lap-19 to take the lead at the line. Rocco cleared Berndt on lap-20 while Molleur and Reen were side by side for third. Reen finally got clear of Molleur on lap-24 and Christopher followed him by Molleur to take fourth and drop Molleur back to fifth place.

With 10 laps to go, Rocco was still in command with Berndt, Reen, Christopher and Cory DiMatteo in the top-5. Molleur had slid back to eighth as Ronnie Williams was up to sixth and Owen was seventh. Reen got by Berndt with a pass in turn 4 on lap-34 to move into second with Christopher right behind Berndt in fourth.

Rocco led Reen to the checkered flag to pick up his third win of the 2019 season. Berndt finished third with Christopher and DiMatteo rounding out the top-5.

In the 30-lap Late Model feature event, Tyler Leary took the early lead from pole position with Paul Arute right behind him in second. Michael Bennett and Kevin Gambacorta were side by side for third with Cliff Saunders in fifth, Al Saunders and Michael Wray side by side for sixth, and Tom and Ryan Fearn side by side for eighth. Tom Fearn quickly sliced his way through traffic and on lap-7 he took fourth from Cliff Saunders. Fearn then took third from Bennett on lap-9 as Leary was pulling away from Arute in second.

Fearn chased Arute down and he took second on lap-16. Fearn's move opened the door for Bennett

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to take third and Ryan Fearn fourth as Arute slid back to fifth in line. With 10 laps to go, Leary had a comfortable margin over Tom Fearn, Bennett, Ryan Fearn, and Wayne Coury, Jr.

Ryan Fearn's great run came to an end on lap-21 as he dropped off the pace and limped back to pit road with a flat right front tire. Richard Ciriello spun coming

out of turn 4 to bring the caution out with 25 laps complete and erase the large lead that Leary had built up over the field.

On the restart, Bennett made contact with Leary fighting for the lead and Leary spun coming out of turn 2 to bring the caution back out with 26 laps complete. Bennett was held for a one lap penalty for the contact with Leary.

Fearn was now the leader on the restart with Coury in second. Cliff Saunders was third with Gambacorta and Arute fighting for fourth place. Fearn led Coury to the checkered flag to pick up his seventh win of the 2019 season. Arute and Gambacorta made contact on the last lap with Gambacorta spinning. Arute was penalized to the last car on the lead lap, making Cliff Saunders, Al Saunders, and Wray the remainder of the top-5.

In the 20-lap SK Light feature event, Teddy Hodgdon streaked into the early lead with Joey Ferrigno, Jonathan Puleo, Alexander Pearl, and Mark Bakaj lined up behind him. Puleo pulled to the outside of Ferrigno on lap-5 and he took second on lap-7. Bakaj's car was smoking from the right front of his car and he was black flagged on lap-8.

Hodgdon still had the lead at the halfway point of the race with Puleo, Ferrigno, Pearl, and Bryan Narducci making up the top-5. The caution came out with 12 laps complete as Robert Bloxsom, III spun coming out of turn 4.

Hodgdon took the lead back under green with Puleo right behind him in second. Ferrigno and Pearl were side by side for third with Narducci and Wesley Prucker right behind them in fifth and sixth. Narducci got around Pearl to move into fourth on lap-17 and he was challenging Ferrigno for third on the outside on lap-18.

Puleo couldn't get close enough

to Hodgdon to make a move as Hodgdon took down his third win of the 2019 season. Narducci finished third with Ferrigno and Pearl rounding out the top-5.

In the 15-lap Limited Late Model feature event, David Tefft took the lead from the pole. Alexandra Fearn was second but she lost second to Matt Clement on lap-2. Jeremy Lavoie was fourth and Duane Provost was fifth in line. The cars ran in line until lap-4 when Provost took fourth to drop Lavoie back to fifth. Provost continued his charge to the front as he took third on lap-6 with Fearn taking fourth and Lavoie fifth as Tefft and Clement were still out front. The caution came out with 9 laps complete for a spin in turn 2 by Kevin Crosby.

Clement charged into the lead on the restart with Tefft and Fearn fighting for second. The two cars touched with Fearn getting into the backstretch wall to bring the caution back out with 10 laps complete. Tefft was sent to the rear of the field for the contact with Fearn.

Clement took the lead on the restart with Lavoie and Provost side by side for second. Gary Patnode was fourth with R.J. Surdell in fifth. Lavoie got clear from Provost and Patnode then took third from Provost on lap-13. Lavoie couldn't get close enough to Clement to make a bid for the lead as Clement took down his sixth win of the 2019 season. Patnode finished third with Provost and Surdell rounding out the top-5.

In the 20-lap Street Stock feature event, the caution flew at the start as Paul Bourdon, Jr. and Tess Beyer spun in turn 1. Dave Secore set the early pace on the restart with Meghan Fuller, and Adrien Paradis, III lined up behind him. Nicole Chambrello and Zack Robinson were side by side for fourth. By lap-4 Robinson had gotten around Paradis for third and was applying heavy pressure to Fuller for second. Robinson made the move to take second on lap-7 with Secore still out front. The caution flew with 7 laps complete as Beyer spun in turn 4.

Robinson streaked into the lead on the restart with George Bessette, Jr. coming up to second. Secore fell from the lead back to third with Chambrello fourth and Travis Hydar up to fifth. Hydar took fourth from Chambrello on lap-11, opening the door for Fuller to move into fifth and drop Chambrello back to sixth.

Hydar went to the outside lane on lap-13 to overtake Secore for third and Fuller followed suit in the

outside lane to move into fourth and drop Secore back to fifth in line. Bessette made a move to the inside of Robinson on lap-17 but Robinson was able to fend off the challenge and maintain the lead. Bessette wouldn't get close enough over the final 3 laps to make a move as Robinson scored his fifth win of the 2019 season. Hydar finished third with Fuller and Secore 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](http://www.staffordspeedway.com).

## Selinsgrove Speedway

SELINSGROVE, PA - Ryan Kissinger of Bloomsburg found something in the top groove of the fast and smooth Selinsgrove Speedway Saturday night to win his second 360 sprint car race of the season. Bryan Bernheisel of Lebanon found the fast lane around the top too and used it for his first win of the year in the super late model main event.

Kissinger earned \$2,000 for his fifth career sprint car win at the track behind the wheel of the Sunbury Motors Ford-powered No. 66. For Bernheisel, the \$2,500 victory was his ninth career at the Snyder County oval.

Middleburg drivers Brandon Moser and Will Brunson won the 15-lap pro stock and 12-lap roadrunner features, respectively.

Selinsgrove Speedway is back in action at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 10, with the Northeast Ultimate Super Late Model Series, PASS/IMCA 305 sprint cars, pro stocks, and roadrunners on Fairfield Chevrolet Night. Track gates will open at 5 p.m.

Thomas Radivoy rocketed to the lead of the sprint car race over Jake Hummel, Ryan Kissinger, Adam Carberry and Kyle Reinhardt. On the next lap Kissinger blew by Radivoy and Carberry followed into third. The caution flew on lap three when Mike Walter slowed on the speedway.

Carberry used the restart to take second and Jason Shultz to third.

Kissinger looked unstoppable until the final lap when the red flag came out. David Quackenbush flipped wildly end over end and out of the speedway in turn four. Quackenbush was uninjured.

Kissinger took off after the restart with Schultz shooting to the inside of turn one. Shultz tried again in turn three but Kissinger held on for his second win of the season. Reinhardt, Derek Locke

and Cody Keller were the top five finishers.

"I knew I could run the top wide open with very little brake," Kissinger said. "When Schultz and Reinhardt are on your tail you have to hit everything just right."

Sprint car heats were won by Carberry and Hummel.

Brett Schadel starting on the front row was the early late model feature leader. Hayes Mattern, Bryan Bernheisel, Donnie Schick, and Kenny Trevitz followed.

Jake Buck stopped on the track on lap two and the yellow came out slowing the field.

Mattern tested Schadel on the restart trading paint in the fourth turn. Lapped traffic soon came into play with Mattern getting beside Schadel but he was able to hold on to the lead.

Schadel again hit lapped traffic with ten to go but this time things went smoother and he cleared it quickly.

Danny Snyder slowed in turn four bringing out the caution again.

Bryan Bernheisel executed a picture perfect slide job to take the lead on the restart in turn one but the race again stalled on lap 22 when Meade Hahn, Jim Bernheisel and Trevitz got together in the first turn after Bernheisel's engine reportedly blew and the others spun in the oil.

Mattern pulled up beside Schadel and tried to get by when the pair touched leaving Schadel backward in the fourth turn. Schadel was able to continue.

Mattern tried a slider on the restart, got high allowing Schick and Frye to get by. "I tried to run him clean but we may have made some contact," Bernheisel said. "It's way too late for this to be the first win of the season."

Bernheisel took his first win of the season over Schick, Frye, Trevitz and Mattern.

Late model heats went to, Bryan Bernheisel, Trevitz and Mattern.

Kyle Bachman blasted to the lead in the pro stock race followed by Shaun Lawton, Brandon Moser, Corey Long, and AJ Stroup.

Moser slid to the outside getting by Lawton and Bachman for the lead on the second lap. As Lawton and Bachman battled for second, Moser took off. Action slowed on lap seven when Lawton rolled to a stop on the backstretch.

Moser and Bachman took off on the restart with Bachman testing the high side of the speedway but it was Moser picking up the win. Bachman, Long, John Schoch and

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Jason Smith rounded out the top five.

The pro stock heat was won by Moser.

Dustin Snook led the first lap of the road-runner race with Keith Bissinger on his tail. Will Brunson, Smith Cope, and Brad Mitch were in tow.

Brunson took second when Bissinger tried an outside pass and slid high. Bissinger and Snook made contact in turn

four and Brunson slid through the middle for the lead. Curtis Lawton spun and brought out the yellow.

Bissinger continued to stalk Brunson but soon had to contend with Mitch on his tail. Smith Cope and Snook spun in turn two bringing out the caution again.

Mitch took over second on the restart and was all over Brunson. The pair exchanged slide jobs at both ends of the track. Coming for the checkered flag Mitch's car slowed and stopped on the speedway.

Mitch and Snook won the road-runner heats.

### Kingsport Speedway

KINGSPORT, TN - With heavy rain predictions for the entire day and evening, we have decided it best to cancel today and tonight's (Friday, August 2nd) racing activities.

We have postponed all activities until August 9th for, "Back to School Night." We hope everyone has a safe weekend. We will see everyone back on Friday, August 9th

The next race is scheduled for Friday, August 9th. Spectator gates will open at 5 p.m. and racing at 8 p.m. Full race day schedule is coming soon. Adult grandstand admission Friday \$12, with kids 12-and-under admitted FREE. Adult tier-parking admission \$12 per person (plus a \$12 vehicle parking spot fee), with kids 12-and-under admitted free.

For more information on Kingsport Speedway, visit our website at – [www.kingsportspeedway.com](http://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).

### Bowman Gray Stadium

WINSTON-SALEM, NC - "I really think I drove harder tonight than I have in years."

That's how Burt Myers summed up Saturday night's FOX8 WGHP 100 for the Brad's Golf Cars Modified Series. Myers left with the checkered, but it took all he had to earn it.

The night started off with Myers opting not to take the Fans' Challenge – which would have him starting in the rear for a chance to make \$6,000 if he made it back up to a top-four finish. However, the Fans' Challenge was accepted by James Civali of Davidson, Brandon Ward of Winston-Salem, and fastest qualifier Lee Jeffreys of Wallburg.

When the competitors drew randomly for starting position, Myers drew fifth. John Smith of Mount Airy started on the pole – but an early caution gave Myers the opportunity to move to the outside row. It took Myers several laps of working slowly around John Smith from the outside, but eventually the 1 car of Myers moved into the lead.

Lapped traffic from Myers' own team unintentionally blocked him, allowing John Smith to reclaim the lead on lap 23. But the next caution saw Myers head to the outside again – taking the top spot back from Smith.

A flurry of cautions over the next few laps put Myers to the test as he defended his position against the repeated challenges from Smith. But Myers's greatest challenge came when Joseph "Bobo" Brown made his way up to second.

One week prior, Jason Myers (brother to Burt Myers) had tangled with Jonathan Brown (brother to Joseph Brown). The two sets of brothers have a long history of rivalry at the Stadium, so all eyes were on Joseph Brown and Burt Myers as they prepared to battle for the lead.

Joseph Brown's car seemed stout, and he gave Myers a handful as they fought double-file. After falling back to second, Brown delivered some stiff shots to the bumper of Myers. The crowd



**Burt Myers (1) maintains the lead despite the furious pressure from Joseph "Bobo" Brown (2). (ERIC HYLTON PHOTOGRAPHY photo)**



**The Myers family smiles in Winner's Circle once again – this time after Burt Myers's victory in the FOX8 WGHP 100. (ERIC HYLTON PHOTOGRAPHY photo)**

roared as Myers slid through the turns, steering back into the groove and maintaining the lead.

Joseph Brown fell back, with Tim Brown of Tobaccoville taking over second. After an unsuccessful outside row challenge from Tim Brown, James Civali took over second place behind Myers's bumper. Civali couldn't shake Myers either.

Myers ended up claiming the checkered after an exhausting 100-lapper, his fifth win of the season. "They call it the greatest show on Earth. I've been coming over here a long time, and I've been through just about every scenario possible," said Myers. "We didn't know what to expect coming into tonight. We knew we didn't have anything to do with the drama that's been going on, but you also can't control other people's actions."

"I was just trying to keep it pointed straight," said Myers about the shots from Joseph Brown on his rear bumper. "I about didn't – just trying to go and get away and get going."

"You have 10 good restarts – all it takes is one bad one there with a handful of laps to go – and you lose the race," said Myers. "Every time there's a caution it's like someone dumps a bucket of dirt on the inside. Everything plays into the fact

that you have to be perfect every time. I don't care who you are – being perfect every time is not easy. And I about gave it away a couple times, and a couple times I got a really good start. It's just one of those nights where you really just hunker down. I just gritted my teeth and went after it – and we came out on top."

While Civali didn't take the checkered, he did have reasons to celebrate – 6,000 reasons. Finishing in the top four earned him the \$6,000 Fans' Challenge bonus. "I made some big moves and got restarts – I drove pretty hard, pretty aggressive," said Civali. "This was absolutely the best the car has been on a hundred lap race."

"I was actually pushing Burt coming to the green," said Civali about the final restart as he fought Myers for the lead. "The carburetor loaded up, and it skipped all the way down the straight away. He just pulled away. Once you get a car-length in front of me, I can't stay with him – that's just the way it works here."

In the McDowell Heating & Air Sportsman Series, Amber Lynn of Walkertown took the checkered after holding off former champ Tommy Neal of Walkertown. Dylan Ward of Winston-Salem adds again to his win total – this time for claiming victory in the second Sportsman race.

Jacob Creed of Dobson and father David Creed of Mount Airy finished first and second in the 20-lap race for the Law Offices of John Barrow Street Stock Series. And in the Q104.1 Stadium Stock Series, both Brandon Brendle and Billy Cameron Jr. each brought home a win.