



OCTOBER 26, 2020

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Finally



Kyle Busch Wins First in 2020

Texas Race Finishes on
Wednesday



Starting a New Team; Diversion Hamlin Needs to Win Championship?

Denny Hamlin is one of the best drivers in the NASCAR Cup Series to not win a championship.

His 44 victories are second only to Hall of Fame driver Junior Johnson (50 wins) for

career victories without a championship.

So how did he try to improve his chances this year? He created a diversion like no other by starting a new race team for 2021.

As he tries to earn a spot in the Championship Four before taking his chances in a winner-take-all finale at the Phoenix International Raceway on Nov. 8.

In addition to final two races at the Martinsville Speedway and Phoenix, Hamlin also is tasked with putting together all the pieces of starting a team from scratch. Early November generally is considered a late starting point, so it only adds to the pressures during the Playoffs.

In the next few weeks, Hamlin and co-owner Michael Jordan have to settle on a manufacturer, although it's widely accepted it will be Toyota. They have to continue to assemble a management, fabrication and race day teams. Sponsorship deals have to be completed and travel plans have to be made. And Hamlin also said he's scheduling offseason surgeries to repair aching joints.

Cut for now, Hamlin is racing for a championship. While car owner Joe Gibbs expects his driver to keep his attention focused solely on his No. 11 Toyota, Hamlin said any diversion actually works in his favor since it vents the pressures, real and imaged, of the Playoffs.

"I'll tell you regardless of the race team, I've been trying to find distractions for years in the Playoffs," Hamlin said. "I think that it's a benefit to have distractions because you don't overconsume yourself with what ifs and you end up second-guessing yourself.

"I have the same preparation that I had for the fifth race of the season that I had this weekend. I

don't change anything. If anything during the Playoffs, I try to golf more. I'll just do anything I can to be normal, and I have time set aside each week to prepare and to get ready for an event and I don't change from that. I don't change anything that I do.

"So, if I have six hours of open time on a Wednesday that it's not preparation time for me, I'll work on the race team, or I'll go golf, or I'll go hang out with friends. I don't really designate anytime differently or try to weed out distractions. Distractions for me are a good thing, not a negative."



DON COBLE

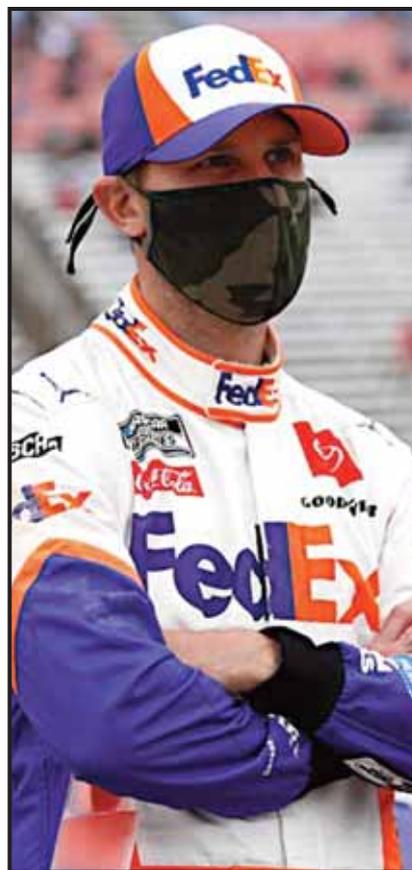
Hamlin was so relaxed, as soon as Sunday's race was rained out after 53 laps at the Texas Motor Speedway, he sat in the bleachers in Game 5 of the World Series between the Tampa Bay Rays and Los Angeles Dodgers.

Talk about playing it cool. Other than selecting Bubba Wallace as the team's driver, Hamlin and Jordan made an important decision last week by naming their new team 23XI. Jordan wore No. 23 during his stellar NBA career; XI is a Roman numeral for No. 11 – Hamlin's number at Joe Gibbs Racing.

"We just kicked around a lot of different ideas and names and logos and things like that," Hamlin said. "Some that were way out of the box, and some that directly in the box and we kind of found somewhere in between. We found that it was something that – Roman numerals are something that he has in his other ventures, whether that be his golf course and the 23 is very iconic to him. It doesn't matter if we are multiple cars down the road the 23 will always represent him. The 11 will always represent me. It has been my number my entire racing life.

"But I also wanted to be respectful of Joe Gibbs Racing and not actually have the number 11 in the logo, being that they have that number. It's just kind of a balance of all of that."

Persistent rain and delays, along



Denny Hamlin waits for the race to start on Sunday. Unfortunately his first 52 laps hurt his continued race on Wednesday. (MATT THACKER/NKP photo)

with the pending threat of Hurricane Zeta, only added to the frustrating and anxiety for the eight drivers trying to make the Final Four cut.

But not for Hamlin. He's proving he can walk and chew gum at the same time by dealing simultane-

ously with multiple demands.

"I'm not really overwhelmed," he said. "I've got a great team of people that are working on things, checking off checklists of things that we've got to get done between now and three months from now. It's rapidly coming upon us, but I'm more working towards the future, '22, '23, personally, right now. So, I think that as far as the race team is concerned, the immediate projects I already have a great team of people that we have hired that are working on that stuff."

Dale Earnhardt was the last driver to work for one team and own cars for other drivers. But he wasn't making deals in the championship stretch. Maybe it's why he won seven championships.

A variety of challenges is what Hamlin said he needs to finally win a championship. So far, nothing else has worked.

And like Earnhardt, he has no current plan to leave Gibbs and drive for his own team.

"I think my role with the team will grow over time," Hamlin said. "What makes Joe Gibbs Racing successful is he is hands-on. If you drive by their shop at 8 a.m. each morning, it doesn't matter what day of the week, his car is usually sitting out front and he's working."

One thing's certain, Denny Hamlin's day will be just as busy. Along the way, he also has to devote whatever time – and attention – it takes to win the championship.

Playoffs for the Championships!

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#18 & #95 RACING - SEAN GARDNER/GETTY IMAGES
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Kyle Busch Salvages Winning Streak with Victory in Marathon NASCAR Cup Race at Texas

After winning the three-time-weather-delayed Autotrader EchoPark Automotive 500 at Texas Motor Speedway on Wednesday, Kyle Busch climbed from his car and pointed to the image of a zombie on his helmet.

“This is what we’ve all looked like around here for the last three days,” Busch quipped. “Everybody just zombied into their phones.”

In reality, 72 hours, 28 minutes and 34 seconds elapsed between the time NASCAR red-flagged the NASCAR Cup Series Playoff race on Sunday and lifted the red at 5:03 p.m. ET on Wednesday afternoon after many attempts to dry the track and complete the event on Monday and Tuesday.

Using every trick in his arsenal, and with constant direction from crew chief Adam Stevens, Busch saved enough fuel over the last green-flag run to get 66 laps out of his last tank of gas. Busch’s No. 18 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota ran out of fuel during the celebratory burnout on the frontstretch.

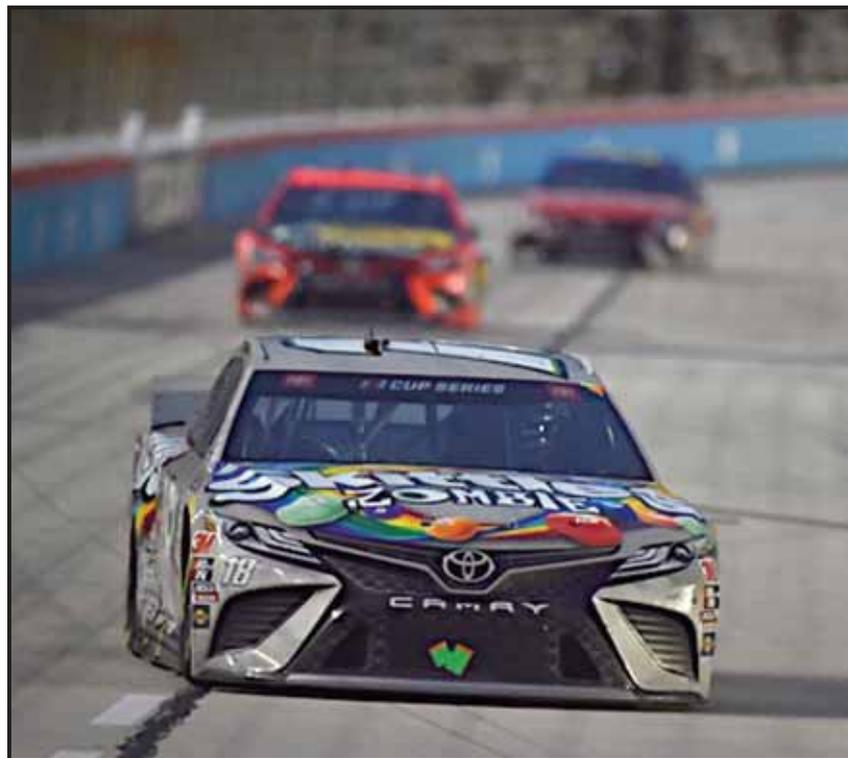
The victory was Busch’s first of the season, preserving a 16-year streak of winning at least one race per season, starting with his rookie year in 2005. It was his third win at the 1.5-mile speedway in Fort Worth and the 57th of his career.

“We finally got it,” Busch said. “I was so nervous... I was nervous the whole last run. I’ve been in this position so many times. The last three laps, though, that’s like winning the championship. That’s how nervous I was.

“I can’t believe it, but just so proud to be here. My team guys, awesome pit stops, they were phenomenal. We’re ready to fight next year—we’ll be back.”

The victory also was welcome consolation for the reigning series champion, who was eliminated from the Playoff in the Round of 12.

By winning, though, Busch frustrated teammate and Playoff driver Martin Truex Jr., who likely needed a victory at either Texas or next Sunday at Martinsville to advance to the Championship 4 event at Phoenix Raceway. After his final green-flag pit stop on Lap 276 of 334—eight laps after Busch came



Kyle Busch (18) keeps Martin Truex Jr. (19) in his rear-view mirror so that he could finish the EchoPark Automotive 500 in first place and keep his winning streak alive. (JOHN HARRELLSON/NKP photo)

to pit road for the last time and packed his Camry full of fuel—Truex chased his teammate, trim-

ming a deficit of more than five seconds to .468 seconds at the finish line.

“We knew he was close (on fuel),” Truex said. “The only thing we could do at that point is what we did all day anyway, which is try to run flat-out. Hell of an effort by the guys... It seems like one of those years when we’re second, third, fourth. We’re there a lot. We just needed a little bit more to be better.”

Sunoco rookie Christopher Bell ran third, followed by Ryan Blaney and Playoff driver Alex Bowman. Brad Keselowski, Kurt Busch, Matt DiBenedetto, Denny Hamlin and Joey Logano completed the top 10.

Logano already has qualified for the Championship 4 with a victory Oct. 18 at Kansas Speedway. Kevin Harvick finished 16th after suffering damage from a brush with the wall on Sunday (when 52 laps were completed), but the driver of the No. 4 Stewart-Haas Racing Ford remained 42 points above the Playoff cut line.

Hamlin and Keselowski are 27 and 25 points, respectively, above the cutoff heading to Sunday’s elimination race at Martinsville. Chase Elliott had to make an unplanned pit stop to change a corded tire, lost a lap and finished 20th. Both he and Bowman, his Hendrick Motorsports teammate, are 25 points behind Keselowski in the standings, in danger of falling out of the Playoff.



Kyle Busch exits his #18 Toyota after winning at the Texas Motor Speedway. He was not only happy with winning his first time in 2020 but was glad he conserved enough fuel to stay out front and win. (JOHN HARRELLSON/NKP photo)

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Harrison Burton Wins NASCAR Xfinity Race at Texas with Thrilling Pass Off Final Corner

With a dramatic pass of the final corner in Saturday's O'Reilly Auto Parts 300 at Texas Motor Speedway, Harrison Burton stole the victory from Noah Gragson, who would have clinched a

spot in the NASCAR Xfinity Series Championship 4 Round with a win.

Having recovered from a spin that caused the sixth of 10 cautions on Lap 107, Burton passed Anthony Alfredo for the second position on Lap 198 of 200 and took off in pursuit of Gragson, who had taken the lead on Lap 186.

Burton, who had run down Gragson to win the second stage of the race—his first stage victory of the season—closed quickly on the final lap and shot past Gragson's No. 9 JR Motorsports Chevrolet off Turn 4. Burton's No. 20 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota streaked across the finish line .445 seconds ahead of Gragson's Chevy.

"We had such a fast race car," Burton said after climbing from his car on the frontstretch. "I've never driven anything harder than that last corner in my life. I don't know how it stuck. I lost my voice—I was

screaming. Gosh, that's special. I've never spun out and come back and won, so that's cool.

"We were obviously pushing the limits all day... of speed. That's kind of what we came to do, to be fast, to win our first stage of the year, which was a good sign, and our speed—what we did on that last lap was incredible. I don't know how it happened, but I'm pretty damn glad it did. What a cool place to win. We're going home with cowboy hats."

After a four-car wreck that KO'd the entries of Playoff contenders Justin Allgaier, Brandon Jones and Ross Chastain, Gragson grabbed the lead from Austin Cindric on the restart lap when Cindric's No. 22 Ford broke loose in the outside lane. Alfredo took second and Burton followed into third.

Though Burton, who was eliminated from the Xfinity Playoff in the Round of 12, had the fastest car on the track at the time, he had difficulty overtaking Alfredo. But once he took second with two laps left, he closed rapidly on Gragson.

"I feel like we had a fast car there," said a dejected Gragson. "I was a little tight on exit all day. Just frustrated at myself. I was pretty



Race winner Harrison Burton is all smiles under that mask as he celebrates in Texas Motor Speedway's victory lane. (NIGEL KINRADE PHOTOGRAPHY photo)

tight there at the end. I saw Alfredo holding Harrison off and thought we were getting away, I saw the 20 get by the 21 (Alfredo) and he ran me down in like two laps.

"I knew he was coming. I just didn't expect him to get there. I don't know. Frustrated. But thankful for my guys, (crew chief) Dave Elenz, and the rest of this team. We'll go to Martinsville (next Saturday), I like that track. It had to be make or breaking your season right there."

The race fell apart for Allgaier, Jones and Chastain after the Lap 186 restart. Six Playoff drivers

restarted in the top six positions, but, moments later, they were strewn through the field after Allgaier broke loose underneath Chastain to start a wreck that also collected Jones and Jeremy Clements.

"I tried to leave the 10 (Chastain) as much room as I could, but when he got to my quarter panel, I got loose, said Allgaier, who has had an antagonistic relationship with Chastain in the past. "(Then) he just decides to hang a left because he's aggravated and wrecks the whole field."

Jones and Allgaier were eliminated from the race and finished 25th and 26th, respectively. Chastain was able to continue and came home 16th.

But the wreck had a dramatic effect on the Playoff standings.

Allgaier in third place is just eight points ahead of Jones in fifth, with seventh-place finisher Justin Haley between them. Chastain is 15 points below the cut line in sixth.

Chase Briscoe, who secured a spot in the Championship 4 with his win last week at Kansas, finished 24th after a shock mount broke on his No. 98 Ford. Gragson is seventh, 24 points behind Haley, likely needing a victory in the elimination race at Martinsville. Ryan Sieg, who suffered suspension problems and finished 31st, is 43 points behind Haley.

Cindric finished fourth behind Burton, Gragson and Alfredo, with Brandon Brown rolling home in fifth. Michael Annett, Haley, Ryan Vargas, Josh Williams and Tommy Joe Martins completed the top 10.



Harrison Burton (20) takes the checkered flag just ahead of Noah Gragson (9) after passing him on turn 4 of the final lap. (JOHN HARRELLSON/NKP photo)

Sheldon Creed Puts Second GMS Racing Truck into Championship Mix with Texas Win

Brett Moffitt gave GMS Racing teammate Sheldon Creed a forceful invitation to the NASCAR Gander RV & Outdoors Truck Series championship party.

Already qualified for the Championship 4 race at Phoenix, Moffitt pushed Creed's No. 2 Chevrolet clear of Austin Hill's Toyota as the trucks approached the start/finish line for the white-flag lap in overtime. That was the impetus Creed needed to win Sunday's SpeedyCash.com 400 at Texas Motor Speedway and join Moffitt in the season finale at Phoenix Raceway with a chance to win the title.

"Man, what a good truck my guys put together," said Creed, who picked up his fourth win of the season, the fourth of his career and his first at the 1.5-mile Fort Worth Track. "We've been inconsistent here, but we've always had speed,

and today, man, just awesome. I finally won in front of my mom and dad. They're here today..."

"Two trucks locked in for the organization—that's awesome—and hopefully we can get the other two (Zane Smith and Tyler Ankrum) or at least one more next weekend. Hard racing today. Man, it's crazy. We've just been working for this all year, and I feel like I've improved so much and put so much work into this. Man, going to Martinsville stress-free is so nice."

Ben Rhodes' retaliation against Christian Eckes on Lap 146 of a scheduled 147 forced the overtime and sent the race five laps beyond its scheduled distance. Miffed that Eckes had forced him up the track in a battle for position late in the race, Rhodes clipped the right rear quarter of Eckes' Toyota as the trucks entered the tri-oval and sent Eckes spinning hard into the wall.

Rhodes simultaneously threw away his winning chances and now must win next Friday at Martinsville

to secure a spot in the championship race. GMS Racing's Ankrum is in the same position after running 16th at Texas.

In a race that produced 10 cautions, there was action throughout, but none more dramatic than the catastrophic battle for the lead between Stewart Friesen and Johnny Sauter, both of whom are winless this year.

After a restart on Lap 125, Friesen forced Creed up the track and grabbed the lead on Lap 127, with Johnny Sauter following into second place. Three laps later, Sauter tried a similar move on Friesen, with disastrous results.

Sauter's No. 13 Ford broke loose under Friesen's No. 52 Toyota and carried both trucks into the outside wall, adding misery to star-crossed seasons for both drivers. The wreck restored Creed to the lead for a restart on Lap 136.

Creed won the first stage wire-to-wire, but three-time series champion Matt Crafton passed him for

the lead with five laps left in Stage 2 and held the top spot to the finish of the 35-lap segment.

The first Playoff driver to suffer serious issues was ThorSport Racing's Grant Enfinger, whose engine expired in a cloud of smoke on Lap 92. Enfinger, who entered the race seven points below the cut line, now must claim victory in next Friday's night race at Martinsville to advance to the Championship 4.

"We just blew up," Enfinger said. "It just wasn't meant to be. On to Martinsville next week—must-win. Looking forward to the challenge."

Hill held the runner-up spot at the finish, followed by GMS Racing's Zane Smith. Those two Playoff drivers remained above the current cutoff for the Championship 4. Raphael Lessard ran fourth, followed by Moffitt.

Crafton, Austin Wayne Self, Dylan Lupton, Derek Kraus and Tanner Gray completed the top 10. Crafton remains 12 points below the cut line heading to Martinsville.

In his first race in more than five years, 2012 series champion James Buescher went a lap down during the first 35-lap stage but recovered to finish 15th in his debut in the No. 42 Niece Motorsports Chevrolet.



Flames and Texas Stars greeted Sheldon Creed to Texas Motor Speedway's victory lane Sunday morning. (NIGEL KINRADE PHOTOGRAPHY photo)

Taylor Gray Wins at Kern For First ARCA Victory

BAKERSFIELD, CA - Taylor Gray entered the Friday-Sunday doubleheader weekend making his third and fourth ARCA Menards Series West starts. He had never raced at All American Speedway or at Kern County Raceway Park.

The results represented much more than beginner's luck.

A couple days after leading 116 laps of Friday night's race in Roseville, California, and earning a top-10 finish, the 15-year-old from Artesia, New Mexico, won Sunday's NAPA ENEOS 125 presented by the West Coast Stock Car Hall of Fame at the half-mile oval in Bakersfield, California.

"Every race I go, I set myself to a high standard of winning," said Gray after leading a race-high 72 laps Sunday and landing the No. 17 Ford Performance Ford in Victory Lane for his first ACRA Menards win. "That's the goal at the end of the day. If you not winning, then you gotta work towards it."

"At the end of the day, all you have is how many wins you have in your results."

He now has one of those after four West Series starts for DGR-Crosley.

Gray's age limited the amount of ARCA Menards races he could run in 2020. He also ran 12 ARCA Menards Series races, notching eight top-five finishes and 11 top-10 finishes, and picked up a pair of top-fives and five top-10s in five ARCA Menards Series East starts.

Mason Diaz, who led 23 laps Sunday, finished second.

Blaine Perkins finished third ahead of his Sunrise Ford teammate Trevor Huddleston in fourth. Perkins entered the race 17 points behind championship standings leader Jesse Love, and his third-place run was good enough to draw within 14 points of Love heading into the Nov. 7 season finale at Phoenix Raceway.

"We did what we had to do," said Perkins. "We cut into the points lead this weekend. So it's definitely not out of (our) hopes yet, and who knows?"

"There's going to be a lot of cars at Phoenix, and anything can happen."

Gracie Trotter finished fifth at Kern County after a late-race incident with her Bill McAnally Racing teammate Love. The championship points leader salvaged an eighth-place finish behind Kyle Keller and Todd Souza.

Gio Scelzi, who picked up his first ARCA Menards win Friday at All American and battled issues with his car throughout much of Sunday's race, finished ninth at Kern County. Jack Wood rounded out the top 10.

A replay of Sunday's race at Kern County will air on NBCSN at 5:30 p.m. ET on Thursday, Oct. 29.

The ARCA Menards Series West season finale is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 7 at 11 a.m. PT / 2 p.m. ET. The championship race will air live on TrackPass on NBC Gold.

Gio Scelzi Earns First ARCA Menards Win With Aggression at All American

ROSEVILLE, CA - Gio Scelzi figured he had not been aggressive enough in his eight ARCA Menards Series West starts prior to Friday night's NAPA Auto Parts 125 presented by CashInTheCan.com.

The 18-year-old from Fresno, California, certainly made up for his perceived shortcomings on the last lap at All American Speedway in Roseville, California.

Coming to the white flag, Scelzi saw what he described as a "bobble" from then-race leader Taylor Gray, and the driver of the No. 16



Taylor Gray, driver of the #17 Ford Performance Ford, wins the NAPA 125 held at Kern County Raceway Park for the ARCA Menards West Series. (Meg Oliphant/ARCA Racing photo)

NAPA Auto Parts / Curb Records Toyota took advantage. Scelzi drove underneath and wrestled the lead away from Gray crossing the stripe, a move that sent the No. 17 Ford Performance Ford spinning and sent Scelzi to Victory Lane.

"I had such a good car the whole time," said Scelzi, a rookie who picked up his first ARCA Menards win in his ninth West start. "I can't thank my guys enough. I've never had a car where I could run guys down and pass them like that. It was unreal."

"I knew [Gray] was struggling. I didn't pass him on the outside; I didn't know if I was going to be able to get him. And then he bobbed there, and I just, you know, kind of slammed through the door."

Scelzi's victory gave Roseville-based Bill McAnally Racing its 104th overall win in ARCA Menards

Series East/West competition. Scelzi also became the third BMR driver to win in 2020, joining Jesse Love and Gracie Trotter.

Gray, who started Friday night's race up front after earning the General Tire Pole Award in qualifying, finished seventh after leading 116 of 125 laps on the 0.333-mile oval. The 15-year-old DGR-Crosley driver was making his third ARCA Menards Series West start of the season and had never competed at All American.

Todd Souza, the 55-year-old from Watsonville, California, was, in his words, in "the right place at the right time" to earn his second-place finish. The one-time West Series race winner (2008) picked up his best finish of the 2020 season.

Trevor Huddleston took third as the highest finishing Ford in the race.

Love, the 15-year-old ARCA Menards Series West points leader who struggled for much of Friday night's race, salvaged a fourth-place finish.

Blaine Perkins, the driver who is chasing Love in the championship standings, rounded out the top five at Roseville.

Trotter entered the All American race third in ARCA Menards Series West points and finished 10th Friday after a late incident. That finish, combined with her BMR teammate Scelzi's win, moved the two into a tie for third in the standings with 408 points apiece.

Love now has a 17-point advantage over Perkins for the lead with two races remaining.

Trotter on Friday finished behind Holley Hollan, Gray, Jack Wood and Takuma Koga to round out the top 10.



Gio Scelzi, driver of the No. 16 NAPA Auto Parts/Curb Records Toyota, celebrates his win in the NAPA Auto Parts 125 presented by CashInTheCan.com for the ARCA Menards West Series. (Michael Urakami/ARCA Racing photo)

Gerry for the Win Again, DJ Shaw Sews Up 5th North SLM Championship

OXFORD, ME - Second verse same as the first verse. Waterboro's Curtis Gerry scored his 2nd Pro All Stars Series (PASS) victory in the last six days at Oxford Plains Speedway (OPS) in the Coastal Auto Parts 150 Saturday afternoon. Gerry was

equally as dominant as his previous win, taking the lead from Travis Benjamin on lap 67 and never looking back as he paced the field for his 10th career PASS victory.

Driver 7G started off a little slow only picking off a few cars before lap 15 and for a moment it appeared perhaps it was not his day. Once the tires were warm, and other drivers began to fall off, Gerry began his rumble to the front weaving high and low like scenes from the movie Days of Thunder. Thirty cars took the green flag for the 150 lap contest as they went clean and green well past the halfway point, making the his run to the front from his 16th starting spot even more impressive.

The day's best battles were for the runner-up spot and beyond as no less than a dozen drivers challenged for a podium spot two and three wide for multiple laps at a time and the longer the race progressed the wider people began to run making full use of the "Angel's Expressway."

In the end, Joey Doiron beat all challengers, other than the aforementioned Gerry, to secure the 2nd place trophy. Finishing out the podium in third, and securing the championship runner-up, was Halloween's Johnny Clark. Clark was seeking his 7th PASS championship but fell only a few points shy. Rounding out the top 10 were Travis Benjamin, Nick Sweet, early race leader Scott Robbins, Roland Robinson, Dave Farrington Jr., Garrett Hall, and Kyle Desouza.

DJ Shaw came into the day with a 69 point advantage on Johnny Clark, and as it would turn out, he would need just about that entire advantage before the day ended. Shaw went off turn 3 after a front suspension failure to bring out the first yellow on lap 82 - followed by a lengthy pit stop that placed the New Hampshire Driver some 45

laps in arrears. Shaw returned to the speedway and was able to limp home to a 28th place finish to secure his 3rd title in a row and 5th overall by less than 20 points.

Ben Ashline finished 2020 as the PASS leading rookie.

Dan Brown Races to First PASS Feature Mods Win

OXFORD, ME - Dan Brown used his pole position starting spot and a whole lot of veteran driver savvy to secure his first career PASS MODS feature win in the Coastal Auto Parts 50 Saturday Afternoon. Brown, who was driving a metric chassis that is over a quarter of a century old, had a mirror full of several different drivers, and survived 5 late race yellows to secure the triumph.

After starting 1st in the feature, Brown was able to keep the silver 83 at the point early on through a long green flag run that took the 21 car filed past the halfway point. It was no easy task as brown had a mirror full of Mike Nichols, who applied constant pressure and nearly slipped under Brown more than once. Brown, who is a veteran competitor in the street stock division and this year's runner-up, used every bit of that experience to hug the low line and fight off all challengers even as he survived 5 late race yellows.

Spencer Morse rallied from an off track excursion early in the race to come back to challenge Brown over the waning laps. The 2019 champion started 15th and, after his brief off, exercised patience and was able to benefit from several end of race incidents from early



Curtis Gerry celebrates in victory lane after winning for the second time in two races at Oxford Plains Speedway. (Norm Marx photo)

front runners to snag the trophy.

Justin Larsen finished out the season with his second straight podium finish as he ended his 2020 campaign as the 2nd place points runner. Rounding out the top 10 were Billy Dixon who started shotgun on the field, Gary Dwinal, Tyler King, Spencer Vaughn, Troy Morse, Rookie of the year Kevin Durgin, and Garrett Lamb in his debut.

Tyler King wrapped up his first PASS MODS championship with his 6th place finish. King, who joined the MODS ranks part way through the 2019 season, won five races and secured 13 top 5's in route to the title. King's consistency was key to the 2020 campaign, "This (6th place) was actually our worst finish of the year," he said in victory lane, "it has been a great season for us and we have been lucky to be able to finish up front every week."

Kevin Durgin prevailed over Gary Dwinal and Ashley Beyea in the rookie of the year battle.

7G for the Win at Oxford Plains

OXFORD, ME - Curtis Gerry spent most of his 2020 season in a heated battle for the points cham-

pionship at Oxford Plains Speedway (OPS) with Dave Farrington Jr. That was a battle that the Waterboro driver came out on the losing end of at the conclusion of the season. Sunday's battle was no different, only this time, Gerry reigned supreme taking his second Pro All Stars Series (PASS) event of the year in the Lee's Family Trailer Sales PASS 150.

Gerry started the main event in the 13th spot but wasted no time charging to the front. By lap 38 Gerry had the familiar black 7g at the point of the field and was able to turn away all challengers as he clinched his eighth career PASS victory at the famed 3/8th mile oval in Oxford. Gerry survived four cautions in his pursuit of victory, and while he was never seriously challenged, several suitors took turns laying chase to the veteran driver. When the dust settled, Sabattus driver and 2020 OPS Super Late Model Champion, Dave Farrington Jr. came home with runner-up honors. Vermont's Nick Sweet, a five time tour winner in 2020 including a win in June at OPS, brought home the third place trophy.

While Gerry paced the way over the last 112 laps, a war was being waged among no less than a dozen drivers all vying for a podium finish. Ryan Robbins, Alan Wilson, Scott Robbins, and Rusty Poland among others all took turns in the top 10 putting on a show for the fans. Some drivers were committed and stuck to the traditional bottom groove of the racetrack while others liked to rim ride around the very top. With so much room to move and find lines, the battle for second through 25th was routinely stacked up with 3 wide racing action.

At race conclusion, Johnny Clark, Josh Childs, Ben Ashline, Ben Rowe, Joey Doiron, DJ Shaw and Garret Hall rounded out the top 10.



DJ Shaw celebrates with his crew after clinching the 2020 PASS SLM Championship after finishing 28th at Oxford Plains. (Norm Marx photo)

Sheldon Haudenschild Excites With Kokomo Win in His 300th Start

A raise of his NOS Energy Drink can to the crowd and a delighted sip from it was all Sheldon Haudenschild needed to do to acknowledge his career milestone Saturday night at Kokomo Speedway.

The Wooster, OH driver claimed his seventh win of the 2020

World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series season in his 300th start. He entered the year with seven wins in total through his three years as a full-time driver.

"I feel like having the crew and the team behind you gets your confidence to a whole nother level," Haudenschild said. "I feel like I'm just getting a glimpse of what Donny (Schatz) has had for a long time. Just trying to keep the same guys together and keeping the team together and growing as a team. Not just as myself. That's been my biggest goal this year, just work good with my guys and work on myself as a driver and just try to get the whole package together."

To claim the win in the Series first time back to Kokomo since 2015, he had to beat the driver he mention – 10-time Series champion Donny Schatz.

The two started on the front row for the 40-lap Feature, and each had a milestone to try and achieve. Haudenschild was looking to win in his 300th career start, while Schatz was on the hunt for his 300th career win.

Haudenschild wasn't shy about the onslaught he was willing to put on to achieve that milestone either. While mixed in a three-way battle for the lead on the final lap of the DIRTVision Fast Pass Dash, Haudenschild threw the slide job of the year on Aaron Reutzel and Schatz to steal the Dash win in the final corner.

That set him up as the early favorite to conquer the quarter-mile speedway for 40 laps. And when the Feature commenced, he didn't let that theory down. Haudenschild led the opening lap and pulled away from Schatz in the early stage of the race.

However, Haudenschild was already in heavy traffic by Lap 6. That allowed Schatz to reel in the NOS Energy Drink #17. While Hauden-

schild tried to navigate his way through traffic around the high side of the track, Schatz worked the bottom.

Schatz snuck underneath Haudenschild on Lap 8 and the two raced side by side for about the entire circuit. With a slower car blocking Haudenschild's lane off Turn 4 and Schatz gifted clean air on the bottom, the Tony Stewart/Curb-Agajanian Racing CARQUEST #15 pulled ahead to officially take the lead on Lap 9.

With Schatz out front, Haudenschild broke out his notebook and pen and went to school. He studied what Schatz was doing; what lines he was running. Haudenschild could make the most speed up top, but at times he overstayed his welcome along the cushion. At times he bounced off of it, allowing Schatz to pull further away.

After three cautions, Haudenschild had gathered enough notes to put his newfound knowledge to the test.

On the restart with 17 laps to go, Haudenschild placed his car up high in Turns 1 and 2 to build a run that would rocket him down the backstretch. He used that momentum to sneak underneath Schatz the next corner and drag race with him down the front stretch. When they found their way back to Turns 1 and 2, Haudenschild and Schatz ran side by side, inches apart, in perfect tandem through the corner.

They remained that way down the back stretch before Haudenschild made better work of the low lane than Schatz could of the top and reclaimed the lead on Lap 25.

"I got the lead there early and Donny got by us," Haudenschild said. "I just tried to watch Donny there. You can learn a lot from watching him. He is so smooth and makes it look so easy. He was just running a little bit higher and keeping his speed up. I kind of slowed her down in (turns) three and four and just started to hit the bottom a little slower and started to get off the corner. I got under him and ran beside him for a couple laps there and was able to clear him."

Once Haudenschild reclaimed the lead from Schatz, he never relinquished it. Schatz maintained the runner-up finish – his second podium in a row.

While Haudenschild pulled away with the victory in the final five laps,



Sheldon Haudenschild raced his way to victory lane at Kokomo Speedway. (Paul Arch photo)

reigning champion and current points leader Brad Sweet captured most of the attention. He was in position to finish fourth, but a cloud of smoke, laced with oil, began to billow from his engine. The smoke blew the entire way around the track and worsened as he went. Sweet slowed and fell to an 11th-place finish.

With two races remaining this season, that helped Schatz, Haudenschild and Logan Schuchart, who finished third after starting ninth, chip away at Sweet's lead.

Entering the Nov. 6-7 season ending World of Outlaws Last Call at The Dirt Track at Charlotte, Sweet now holds a 46-point lead over Schuchart, a 64-point lead over Schatz and a 128-point lead over Haudenschild. And for the team championship, Kasey Kahne Racing holds a 30-point lead over Jason Johnson Racing.

World of Outlaws Last Call Replaces World Finals as 2020 Season-ENDER

CONCORD, NC - With continued COVID-19 restrictions impacting the sports and entertainment world, officials at the World of Outlaws and The Dirt Track at Charlotte have announced that the Can-Am World Finals, originally scheduled for Nov. 5-7, has been postponed to 2021. However, the two premier dirt racing series will still end the 2020 season at The Dirt Track at Charlotte, with the World of Outlaws Last Call featuring the World of Outlaws Morton Buildings Late Models on Wednesday and Thursday, Nov. 4-5, and the World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Cars on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 6-7, for a four-day

show this year. Due to N.Y. State travel restrictions, the Super DIRT-car Series will not participate.

Limited two-day Late Model and Sprint Car event tickets and Pit Passes for the World of Outlaws Last Call will be available on worldofoutlaws.com. CDC protocol and social distancing will be required. All grandstand tickets will be General Admission, and there will be no cross-over between Pit Area and Grandstands. Single-day tickets, if still available, will go on sale on Oct. 28.

Current Can-Am World Finals ticket holders will have the first opportunity to secure tickets to the 2021 World Finals or may elect to receive a full refund. Ticket holders and campers for the original event are encouraged to visit Charlotte-MotorSpeedway.com for further details regarding renewals for 2021 or refunds.

"We've been hopeful for the past several weeks that North Carolina's pandemic restrictions would lift, enabling us to fill the grandstands for the very best in dirt track championship racing," said Charlotte Motor Speedway Executive Vice President and General Manager Greg Walter. "Unfortunately, the current limitations prohibit us from executing the Can-Am World Finals in the manner that fans from around the world have come to expect. Our efforts are focused on making 2021 the best yet."

FOLLOW US: Keep up with all the latest news and information with the Charlotte Motor Speedway mobile app. Follow on Twitter and Instagram or become a Facebook fan.



Hahn Prevails in ASCS Sooner Competition While O'Neil and Elliott Thrill The Modifieds

LONGDALE, OK - Wrapping up the second night of action at Longdale Speedway, a total of 67 drivers graced the clay of the three-eighths-mile oval on Saturday night between the American Bank of Oklahoma ASCS Sooner Region

presented by Smiley's Racing Products, USRA Modifieds, and Limited Modifieds with Blake Hahn topping Sprint Car action while the Modifieds each came down to the final 100' feet to determine the winner.

Three wide for the lead on the start with the American Bank of Oklahoma ASCS Sooner Region presented by Smiley's Racing Products, Blake Hahn rolled to the top spot as Whit Gastineau and Brandon Anderson battled for second. Advantage to the No. 55b, the chase was stalled as the caution lights came while working Lap 3. Back to the last fully completed lap on the restart, Hahn pulled the field with Anderson keeping pace for several laps.

Into traffic by Lap 9, the DriveWFX.com No. 52 continued to pull away before the red flag flew working Lap 13 when Rick Wright,

Jr. went upside down in turn three. Wright was ok.

Back to green, the laps ticked by with Hahn pulling away to a comfortable victory over Brandon Anderson. Rolling the cushion through the final half of the A-Feature, Jeremy Campbell shot from 12th to third with Sean McClelland in pursuit. Jeff Stasa completed the top five.

Red on the start of the USRA Modified A-Feature, the restart saw Derek Ramirez take off with the lead. Pacing the first three revolutions, Minnesota's Lucas Schott soon rolled by the No. 4r. Looking like the No. 69 was untouchable, the race went under red again on Lap 12 for RC Whitwell who had been running third before the car caught fire.

Moving Jake O'Neil into the mix the Mesilla Valley Transportation No. 0 took over second as Ramirez pulled to the infield shortly after going back to green. Keeping pace with Schott, a misstep by O'Neil gave the No. 69 plenty of room to breathe as the laps clicked by.

Moving to under five to go, O'Neil trailed by just over 1.5-seconds. Running through the cushion in turn four, Schott's advantage was cut drastically with the race rolling into the final two laps.



Blake Hahn climbs atop his car in victory lane after winning with the ASCS Sooner Region at Longdale Speedway. (ASCS photo)

Just under a second to spare at the white flag, Schott powered to the back stretch with victory in sight. Missing the line through the third turn, Lucas again rolled over the cushion. Working the hub off the final turn, O'Neil buried the throttle off the final turn to win by 0.059-seconds. Fighting back from engine woes on Friday, Lance Mari crossed third with Jon Herring, Jr. and Joe Duvall making up the top five.

To the green in the Limited Modifieds, James Lott took the lead with Timmy Johnson and Daylon Bergeron in pursuit. Holding pace over the field until Lap 9, Friday night's winner Brandon Kenny took over the top spot.

Working through numerous cautions through the rest of the A-Feature, Kenny held off the charge of Robert Elliott. Final caution with two laps to run, the restart put Race Elliott in the hunt.

Working to the bottom of the

three-eighths-mile oval, Elliott pulled even for the lead as the pair raced to the white flag. Trying to block the charge through the final two turns, Kenny pushed up the track entering the fourth turn; giving Race Elliott a clear shot. Wheel to wheel at the line, it was the No. 09r by 0.001-seconds. Brandon Kenny, Daylon Bergeron, Timmy Johnson, and Jeffrey Kaup made up the top five.

The American Bank of Oklahoma ASCS Sooner Region presented by Smiley's Racing Products races next at Creek County Speedway for the Fall Fling on Friday, October 30 and Saturday, October 31.

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

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2021 All Star Campaign to Begin with Six-Race Swing Through GA and FL

BROWNSBURG, IN - Although the off-season has officially commenced, Ollie's Bargain Outlet All Star Circuit of Champions presented by Mobil 1 officials have been hard at work preparing the 2021 Series schedule, set to kick-off, officially, with six nights of non-point

competition stretched across Georgia and Florida in late January and early February.

The entire 2021 All Star Circuit of Champions schedule is nearing completion and will be unveiled in November.

Chasing a total winner's share equaling \$42,000, the traveling All Stars will launch their 2021 campaign with six starts in seven days spanning January 29 through February 4, igniting their annual southern invasion with a two-day pit stop at the Screven Motor Speedway in Sylvania, Georgia, on Friday and Saturday, January 29-30. The two-day spectacle, featuring Tony Stewart's All Stars at Screven for the first time since 2012, will be the richest two days of the southern swing awarding a total winner's share equaling \$18,000; \$8,000 on Friday and \$10,000 on Saturday.

After a designated travel day on Sunday, January 31, the All Stars will resume their trek through the South with a visit to the Sunshine State, this time invading East Bay Raceway Park just south of Tampa, Florida, on Monday and Tuesday, February 1-2. Right in the heart of their annual Winternationals schedule, the East Bay doubleheader will award back-to-back \$6,000 top prizes.

A two and a half hour jaunt northeast will lead the All Stars from Tampa to Barberville where the Series will continue their Florida stretch with a two-day stint at Volusia Speedway Park on Wednesday and Thursday, February 3-4. Continuing a longstanding tradition of All Star action opening the five-day sprint car segment of Volusia's DIRTcar Nationals, the midweek appearance will award another pair of \$6,000 top prizes.

East Bay and Volusia were each visited by the traveling All Stars in 2020 with now three-time Series champion, Aaron Reutzell, winning

two of the four contested main events. The Clute, Texas-native scored his pair of \$5,000 triumphs at Volusia on February 6 and East Bay on February 10. Brad Sweet, who is chasing a second consecutive World of Outlaws title in 2020, opened the 2020 All Star season with a victory at Volusia Speedway Park on February 5.

Kyle Larson, the leading All Star winner during the most recent season with 14 Series victories, capped East Bay action last Febru-

ary with a win on February 11.

Additional news and notes pertaining to these events, such as gate times, ticket prices and reserved seat information, can be found online, as well as at each of the tracks' respective social media outlets. Visit Screven Motor Speedway, East Bay Raceway Park and Volusia Speedway Park today: <http://www.screvenmotorsports.com/SMS/home.html>, <https://ebrp.co/>, and <https://volusiaspeedwaypark.com/dirtcarnationals/>.

For those who can not make the journey to Florida for the seven-day/six-race All Star blitz, FloRacing, the official media partner and live broadcast provider of the All

Star Circuit of Champions has you covered. Each and every event on the 2021 Ollie's Bargain Outlet All Star Circuit of Champions presented by Mobil 1 schedule will be broadcast live exclusively at www.floracing.com. To access live and on-demand racing action from the All Star Circuit of Champions, visit www.floracing.com and become an annual PRO subscriber. The subscription unlocks access to premium content across the entire FloSports network. Watch the events across all screens by downloading the FloSports app on iOS, Android, Apple TV, Roku, Amazon Fire and Chromecast. To check out exclusive content, visit <https://bit.ly/2XR863e>.

ULTIMATE Super Late Model Series

ULTIMATE Super Late Model Series Adds a Pair of Events for November

CARNESVILLE, GA - The ULTIMATE Super Late Model Series has added a pair of events at a pair of historic Carolinas tracks. On Friday, November 6th the series will make its way to the big half mile Lancaster Motor Speedway in Lancaster, South Carolina. Then

on Saturday, November 7th they will move just up the road to the Carolina Speedway in Gastonia, North Carolina. Both events will pay \$5000 to win and \$400 to start.

The events were added in the wake of the cancellation of the World Finals at Charlotte.

"With the number of cancellations that we have dealt with this year we are glad to be able to add 2 more events to our schedule. And I am excited to be going to these 2 venues as well. Both are fan favorites and always have such great support from their fanbase." said ULTIMATE Series Director Kelley Carlton.

"It just made sense for us." said BAM and Lancaster promoter Shannon Munn. "We were going to take the weekend off at Lancaster but we feel like this is a good op-

portunity to get in another good Super Late Model event. It will be a little different for us racing on Friday night. But Carolina had already scheduled on Saturday and we wanted to work with them. I already heard from Jonathan Davenport that he is coming to both shows. And Brandon Overton will for sure be at Lancaster on Friday. ULTIMATE has a good following of drivers and we have some good ones in our area, so I expect strong fields for both nights." Munn added.

For more information on the ULTIMATE Super Late Model Series visit www.ultimatesupers.com or call (864) 871-1442. Also find us on Facebook at ULTIMATESupers and follow us on Twitter @ULTIMATESupers. For information on tickets and gate times please visit www.lancastersuperspeedway.com or www.carolinaspeedway.net.

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McDowell Goes Back to Back in the Smokeys

MADISON, AL - RACE 1 RECAP: The Southern All Stars closed out their 37th season of racing in the foothills of the Smoky Mountains. Calera, AL driver Billy Franklin joins many drivers that are Champions for the longest running dirt racing series in the south.

34 Southern All Star drivers signed in on night one of a two night double-header at Smoky Mountain Raceway in Maryville, TN on October 16. Just as the season started in March, Chickamauga, GA driver Dale McDowell wins the last 2 races of the season as he did the first 2 events in 2020.

In qualifying, fastest in group 1 was Ricky Weiss and group 2 was Donald McIntosh. At the start of the feature Weiss jumped out to the lead of the 30 lap event. McDowell worked his way around Ashton Winger and eventually passed Weiss for the lead.

McDowell would win his 3rd SAS event of the year in as many races he has raced in. Mosheim, TN driver Weiss finishing 2nd. 3rd went to Cruise with the Champion / Dirt on Dirt 2020 Rookie of the Year Sam Seawright from Ft. Payne, AL. 4th went to Hampton, GA driver Ashton Winger and hometown favorite Tommy Kerr rounding out the top 5.

SUNOCO RACE FUELS GROUP QUALIFYING: Group A: Ricky Weiss, Group B: Donald

McIntosh

Knowles Race Parts Fast Qualifier: Donald McIntosh

PPM Racing Parts B-main winners: Race 1. Sam Seawright, Race 2. Jordan Rodabaugh

AR Bodies Last Car Lead Lap: Billy Franklin

COR Suspensions 10th Place Finisher: Jake Knowles

Cale Finley Racecars and Parts Hard Charger: Robby Moses

BrakeOMeter 4th Place Finisher Award: Ashton Winger

Rugged Radios Communications 5th place Award: Tommy Kerr

Results Pending Tire Test: 1. Dale McDowell 2. Ricky Weiss 3. Sam Seawright 4. Ashton Winger 5. Tommy Kerr 6. Donald McIntosh 7. Jensen Ford 8. Robby Moses 9. Michael Page 10. Jake Knowles 11. Stacy Boles 12. Zach Leonhardi 13. Billy Franklin 14. Jordan Rodabaugh 15. Ben Watkins 16. Mark Dodson 17. Travis Fultz 18. Dalton Cook 19. Austin Smith 20. Riley Hickman 21. Clay Coghlan 22. David Crabtree 23. Dusty Carver 24. Cory Hedgecock

DNS: Will Roland, Craig Greer, Lamar Winkle, Phil Helton, Drew Kennedy, Steve Smith, Jeff Wolfenbarger, Mack McCarter, Eddie King and Derek Ellis

RACE 2 RECAP: As the previous night there was 34 drivers signed up for night 2 but not all the same drivers were in attendance. Everyone was looking forward to the Dale and Ricky show for night 2 and once again both drivers delivered. Both drivers were in group 2



Dale McDowell celebrates in victory lane after winning both nights at Smoky Mountain Raceway. (Michael Moats photo)

for qualifying with McDowell once again laying down the fastest lap but with Weiss 2nd quickest and upcoming heat races for the nights \$7,000.00 to win event, both knew winning their heats was top priority.

And both did which lined up McDowell on the outside front row with Weiss starting on his bumper. Fastest qualifier for group 1 was Smith Stations, GA driver Dalton Cook. In heat race 1, Cook and Hampton, GA Ashton Winger made up the front row. Winger would take the win to start him on the pole for the 50 lapper. Winning heat race 3 was Seawright with put him 3rd in the A-main.

Those 4 drivers were busy the whole racing battling for positions until lap 23 saw Winger go for the lead up high but could not make it stick and ended his night in the wall. McDowell would take the checkered flag for bookend wins. Finishing 2nd was Weiss and Seawright in 3rd for mirror top 3's both night. 4th went to Villa Rica driver Michael Page and rounding out the

top 5 was Harrisburg, NC driver Austin Kirkpatrick.

SUNOCO RACE FUELS GROUP QUALIFYING: Group A: Dalton Cook, Group B: Dale McDowell

Knowles Race Parts Fast Qualifier: Dale McDowell

Hoosier Tires qualifying heats winners: Race 1. Ashton Winger, Race 2. Dale McDowell, Race 3: Sam Seawright, Race 4: Ricky Weiss

AR Bodies Last Car Lead Lap: Riley Hickman

COR Suspensions 10th Place Finisher: Riley Hickman

Cale Finley Racecars and Parts Hard Charger: Billy Franklin

BrakeOMeter 4th Place Finisher Award: Michael Page

Rugged Radios Communications 5th place Award: Austin Kirkpatrick

Follow the Southern All Star Dirt Racing Series @:www.sasdirt.com, www.facebook/southernalldirttracingseries.com, and on twitter @sasdirt.



Billy Franklin was crowned the 2020 Southern All Star Dirt Racing Series Champion at Smoky Mountain Raceway. (Michael Moats photo)



Sam Seawright raced his way to Rookie of the Year honors for the Southern All Star Dirt Racing Series for the 2020 season. He finished third at Smoky Mountain Raceway. (Michael Moat photo)

Texas

Motor Speedway

FORT WORTH, TX - Seven-time NASCAR Cup Series Champion Jimmie Johnson and fellow series driver Clint Bowyer, both making their final fulltime series starts at Texas Motor Speedway, were honored prior to the start of the Auto-trader EchoPark Automotive 500.

During the speedway's Texas Lottery® Pre-Race Show, Johnson unveiled a "Jimmie Johnson Winner's Circle" sign above the entry gate to SpeedyCash.com Victory Lane. He was also presented with a one-of-a-kind pair of cowboy boots from Lucchese Boots.

Johnson, the No Limits, Texas all-time NASCAR Cup Series win leader with seven, will conclude a fulltime NASCAR premier series career which began in 2002 but will continue his professional racing career by running a partial schedule of the 2021 NTT INDYCAR SERIES season.

Bowyer twice finished runner-up (Spring 2011, Spring 2019) in 29 starts at Texas Motor Speedway. He was presented with a cowboy hat but, instead of a pair of Smith & Wesson 629 Deluxe six-shooters traditionally given for winning a NASCAR Cup Series race at the Great American Speedway, he was presented with a kid's pair of cap-gun pistols.

Bowyer, one of the all-time great personalities in the sport, will conclude a 16-year NASCAR Cup Series career that includes 10 premier series victories as well as the 2008 NASCAR Xfinity Series championship. He will move into the Fox NASCAR broadcast booth next year.

"Jimmie and Clint are tremendous ambassadors of our sport, both on and off the track, so we wanted to do something special for their final time here behind the wheel of a NASCAR Cup Series car," said Texas Motor Speedway President and General Manager Eddie Gossage. "Jimmie knows his way to SpeedyCash.com Victory Lane better than anyone so it was appropriate to do something special for him there. We decided to have some fun with Clint because there's no one better than him in the NASCAR garage to define fun. The great thing with both is they will continue to make great contributions to the sport in their new roles."

TICKETS: Adult season tickets for Texas Motor Speedway's 25th season in 2021 season start at just \$169 with season tickets for kids ages 12 and under starting at just \$30 and can be obtained at www.texasmotorspeedway.com or by calling (817) 215-8500.

MORE INFO: Keep track of all of Texas Motor Speedway's events by following on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Keep up with all the latest news and information on the speedway website and TMS mobile app.

Atlanta Motor Speedway

HAMPTON, GA - Anyone can follow the tire tracks of racing legends who've driven on Atlanta Motor Speedway's high banks and help a good cause at the same time.

Speedway Children's Charities Atlanta is hosting Laps for Charity on the famous 1.54-mile oval under the lights on Friday, November 6. The event provides an opportunity for anyone to take their personal vehicle onto the track to make three laps on the 24-degree banked turns. Proceeds will benefit the Atlanta Chapter of Speedway Children's Charities and its ongoing mission to help children in need.

"Driving on the same steep turns that the greats like Petty, Earnhardt, Johnson, and Elliott have raced on is a one-of-a-kind thrill," said AMS Executive Vice President and General Manager Brandon Hutchison. "Laps for Charity is a fun and safe event the whole family can enjoy while providing assistance to kids in the Atlanta area."

Admission will be \$40 per vehicle for three laps around the Speedway. A limited number of private, exclusive experiences featuring five solo laps behind the AMS pace car are available for \$125.

Gates will open for the event at 4:30 p.m. Private experiences will take place from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., followed by general public laps under the lights at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets for the event must be purchased online; admission will not be sold on-site. Additionally, drivers will be required to complete a waiver and present it upon arrival. Seatbelts must be worn by all participants.

Attendees will access the event by entering the track through the main tunnel located off Speedway Boulevard. Participants will then follow signage to the Xfinity Series garage for check-in.

Throughout the event attendees will be required to remain inside their vehicles and observe guide-

lines for safety and social distancing.

To learn more about Laps for Charity and to purchase tickets to the event, go to <https://www.speedwaycharities.org/events/atlanta/laps-for-charity/>.

Keep track of all of Atlanta Motor Speedway's events by following on Twitter and Instagram or become a Facebook fan. Keep up with all the latest news and information with the Atlanta Motor Speedway mobile app.

Circuit of The Americas

CONCORD, NC - If everything's bigger in Texas, it's only appropriate that the inaugural NASCAR weekend at Circuit of The Americas (COTA) just got bigger. Speedway Motorsports officials today announced that the NASCAR Xfinity Series and the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series have been added to the weekend lineup with the NASCAR Cup Series at COTA in Austin, Texas, May 21-23, 2021.

"When NASCAR rolls into Austin for the first time, it's going to be exactly what Speedway Motorsports always presents, and that's the biggest, baddest events that we see throughout all of NASCAR," said Daniel Hemric, NASCAR Xfinity Series driver of the No. 8 Chevrolet for JR Motorsports. "Bruton and the entire Speedway Motorsports family always do the utmost job of bringing the best experience for the fans, the best show for the fans, and we look forward to doing that as drivers as well."

Three-day weekend packages are on sale now at NASCARatCOTA.com with general admission access starting at just \$99 and reserved seating starting at just \$125. Fans can save an additional 20 percent on adult weekend packages by purchasing during the NASCAR Playoffs. This offer will expire at midnight on Nov. 8.

"Anytime we go road racing, it seems like there's a lot of beatin' and bangin'," said current Xfinity Series point leader Chase Briscoe, who will take over the cockpit of the No. 14 Ford for Stewart-Haas Racing in the NASCAR Cup Series in 2021. "I can't wait to be a part of it."

Fans will get their first glimpse of the weekend action as the Xfinity and Camping World Truck series take their first practice laps on the world-renowned road

course on Friday, May 21.

On Saturday, May 22, the on-track action will heat up with practice and qualifying sessions for each series as well as the NASCAR Xfinity Series and Camping World Truck Series races. The weekend will conclude with the NASCAR Cup Series race on Sunday, May 23.

Fans who have already made deposits for weekend ticket packages will be contacted directly to finalize their seat selections, while new purchases can be made at www.NASCARatCOTA.com.

Three-day weekend ticket packages are the most affordable way to catch all the action for the May 21-23 event. Single-day tickets will go on sale Feb. 1.

Announcements regarding race length, course selection and the complete weekend schedule will be made at a later date.

TICKETS: Fans can purchase a three-day weekend general admission pass starting at \$99 and a three-day reserved seat starting at \$125 for all race events online at www.NASCARatCOTA.com. Fans can save an additional 20 percent on adult weekend package purchases through Nov. 8.

MORE INFO: Fans can connect with NASCAR at COTA and get the latest news by following on Twitter and Instagram or becoming a Facebook fan.

Texas Motor Speedway

FORT WORTH, TX - The Texas Lottery® has created a unique scratch ticket for race fans throughout the state and especially fans of Texas Motor Speedway.

The Texas Lottery 50X Speedway Riches scratch ticket will be racing into stores across Texas in April 2021. Along with opportunities to instantly win cash prizes up to \$50,000, players can enter second-chance drawings for Texas Motor Speedway merchandise prize packages and VIP experiences.

In 2020, the Texas Lottery was proud to generate more than \$1.6 billion for the Foundation School Fund and \$22.2 million for the Fund for Veterans' Assistance.



Carteret County Speedway

PELETIER, NC - Track surface repairs have been completed at Bobby Watson's Carteret County Speedway and practice has resumed. Now, the track is waiting for approval from the State of North Carolina to resume the 2020 season in strict compliance with COVID-19 guidelines.

While the track was already prepared to halt the season for track repairs, an order of abatement was issued by North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) secretary Mandy Cohen forcing Carteret County Speedway to suspend the season. The abatement order has since been dismissed and track owner Bob Lowery is working with Governor Roy Cooper and Secretary Cohen's office on a plan to resume racing before the year ends.

"We would like to thank all of the sponsors, fans, and racers that have stuck by us this year and continue to stick by us during this tough 2020 year," Lowery said. "It is our goal to provide a safe, competitive and family-oriented event venue as soon as allowed. Being forced to shut down, not only for track repairs, but also by the state, we will continue to adhere to all the CDC and NCDHHS regulations and we look forward to not only finishing up the 2020 season but moving full steam ahead in 2021."

Repairs were made to the track surface in turns one, two, three, and part of turn four. The repairs were one in a series of improvements that have been or will be made at the Carteret County Speedway entertainment complex. With the season on hiatus, more time and resources were able to be exhausted into more comprehensive repairs instead of making a quicker repair in-between races.

"We would also like to take this opportunity to thank our team of employees and volunteers for what they've done this year for going the extra step," Lowery continued. "We are continuing to maintain and upgrade the track during this closure to maintain our standing as the nicest short track in the country."

Carteret County Speedway will work with NCDHHS, Governor Cooper's office, and other local and state authorities on a plan to re-

open the track for racers and fans within the guidelines and restrictions put in place to combat the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. The speedway is open to racers for practice on Wednesdays and Fridays with social distancing requirements in effect. The track is also available for rental by race teams, which they can do by calling the track office at (252) 436-7223, and the speedway's Fast Track Ride Along program will resume, by appointment only, which can also be reserved by calling the speedway office.

"We are eagerly awaiting the opportunity for fans to hear the most famous words in racing, 'drivers start your engines,'" Lowery stated. "We all await the return to racing."

Earlier this year, Carteret County Speedway made the decision not to award championship points in anticipation of the possibility of having to suspend the season at any point of time due to the coronavirus pandemic. While Carteret County Speedway does plan to reopen in 2020, the track is also working on plans for the 2021 season and further facility enhancements.

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

Hickory Motor Speedway

NEWTON, NC - The long strange season at Hickory Motor Speedway would come to a thunderous culmination with the running of the Calico Coatings FALL

BRAWL on Saturday night with 430 laps of exciting racing action.

Leading off the night would be the Street Stocks for 30 laps of battle. Mark Johnson in the #29 would set fast time and start from the pole position with Gary Ledbetter in the #32 starting outside front row. Drew Cox in the #21 and Mark Whitten in the #77 would make up row two. Ledbetter would use the upper groove to pull to the early lead with Johnson close behind. After starting fifth, 2020 track champion Marshall Sutton in the #64 would start moving forward early, as he would make the pass for fourth and close in on third. Cox would close in on the leaders and make it a three way battle for the top spot. Ledbetter would go on to take the win. Johnson would finish 2nd with Cox taking 3rd. Sutton would come home in 4th with Whitten finishing 5th.

The Paramount Auto Group Limited Late Models would be next up for a 100 lap feature. Zack Clifton in the #81 would pace qualifying and start from the top spot with Joshua Gobble in the #88 to his outside. Chase Janes in the #47 and Whitney Meggs in the #22 would make up row two for the start. Clifton would pull to the early lead with Gobble giving chase. Janes would pull to the pits on lap 5 with flames bellowing out of the rear of his vehicle. The Hickory Motor Speedway Fire & Safety crew would quickly extinguish the flames.

James would rejoin the race at the rear of the field after what appeared to be a piece of tire rubber catching fire in the rear. The restart would see Clifton and Gobble door to door for the green flag. Gobble

would use the high line to move to the lead spot. Clifton would roll to a stop on lap 8 and bring out the caution. The restart would see Gobble and Kyle Mansch, who started the race sixth, in the #17 side by side for the restart. Gobble would move back to the lead. The #44 of Josh Kossek would move around Mansch for second, but the battle would be far from over. Mansch would work his way back around Kossek for second on lap 14.

The caution would fly on lap 15 as the #72 of Pete Johns would spin on the backstretch. The restart would see Gobble and Mansch pacing the field back to the green. Gobble would pull back to the lead with Mansch close behind. Lap 47 would see the caution for a spin on the backstretch involving the #57 of Ashton Trivette and the #43 of Kenneth Pardue. The restart would see Gobble and Mansch pacing the field to the green flag. Gobble would pull to the lead as Meggs would spin in turn three and make hard contact with the outside wall. Gobble and Mansch would lead the field back to the green flag. Mansch would use the high groove and pull to the lead on lap 48. Ryan Walker in the #8 would get into the outside wall and bring out the caution on lap 63. Mansch and Gobble would lead the field back to the green. Mansch would pull back to the lead while Gobble would face a challenge by the #32 of Zack Miracle for second. Gobble would nose ahead for the position as he would try to run down Mansch for the lead.

Lap 80 would see Miracle move back around Gobble for second
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Fall Brawl race winner Josh Berry sewed up the NASCAR National Championship for a fantastic 2020 season. (SHERRI STEARNS photo)

(Continued...)

and bring Cody DeMarmels in the #18 to third. Lap 91 would see Mansch and Miracle side by side for the lead. The pair would battle hard and it come to a head on lap 96 when Mansch would spin after contact with Miracle in turn two, bringing out another caution. Janes and DeMarmels would bring the field to the green flag for a four lap shootout. Janes

would pull to the front and lead the final four laps and take the win after a fiery start to the race. DeMarmels would finish 2nd with Kossek finishing 3rd. Clifton would bounce back from early problems to finish 4th while Kade Brown in the #99 would bring it home in 5th.

The NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Series Late Models would roll off next for their 200 lap heavyweight battle with a \$25,000 Nitro Lubricants National Championship Challenge up for grabs. The National Points leader, Josh Berry in the #88 would set fast time and start from the point with Sam Butler in the #81 to his outside. Ryan Millington in the #15 and Shane Lee in the #77 would start from row two. Berry would nose ahead briefly, but Butler would sail the high line and take the lead at lap two. Millington would follow Butler around Berry on the high line to take second. Mike Darne in the #6 and Gracie Trotter in #20 would move around for third and fourth. Millington would move to the top spot on lap nine as he would get around Butler. Lap 17 would see Trotter move to second around Darne.

The #6 of Bryson Dennis would make his move to third on lap 19 after starting ninth. The caution would fly on lap 28 as Akinori Ogata in the #14 would spin in turn three. Millington and Trotter would lead the field to the green flag on the restart. Millington would pull to the lead as Trotter would face a challenge from Dennis. The caution would fly on lap 35 as Ogata would come to a rest sideways in turn three. The restart would see Millington and Trotter on the front row for the green. Justin Johnson in the #08 would move up to fourth from his twelfth starting position.

Lap 45 would see Johnson move to third around Dennis. Lap 50 would see Millington, Trotter,

Johnson, Dennis, and Darne as the top five. Lap 82 would see Johnson make the pass on Trotter for second. After starting on the pole and dropping back as far as twelfth, Berry would work his way back to the top five on lap 86. Millington would lead the field to the halfway break with Johnson in 2nd. Trotter, Dennis, and Berry would round out the top five at the halfway break.

After a ten minute break and two fresh Hoosier F-45s, Millington and Johnson would lead the field back to the green flag for the final 100 laps. Millington and Johnson would battle for the top spot with Johnson nosing ahead after several side by side laps. Berry would move around Dennis for fourth and pressure Trotter for third. Lap 108 would see Trotter get by Millington for second and bring Berry to third. Trotter would drive to Johnson's bumper on lap 112 and make the pass for the lead on lap 113. Berry would move to second just behind Trotter. After falling back several spots Millington would pass Johnson for third on lap 117. Lap 139 would see Berry move around Trotter for the top spot.

The caution would fly on lap 141 as Ogata would spin in turn three. Berry and Trotter would lead the field back to the green flag. Berry would pull back to the lead as Trotter, Johnson, and Millington would do battle for second. Lap 153 would see Millington challenge Trotter for second. Millington would make the pass on lap 155. Lap 166 would see the #77 of Trevor Ward spin in turn two, bringing out the final caution. The restart would see Berry and Millington pace the field back to the green flag. After a five lap door to door battle Berry would move back to the lead. Lap 180 would see the #77 of Shane Lee move to third around Trotter and Johnson. Berry would prove too strong on the night and drive on to the victory and the NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Series National Championship. Millington would finish 2nd with Lee finishing 3rd. Johnson would take 4th while Austin McDaniel in the #12 would take 5th.

Ending the night's racing would be the Carolina Pro Late Model Series for 100 laps. After the invert the top five for the start would be Amber Lynn in the #2, Lee Tissot in the #27, Tyler Church in the #1X, Nick Loden in the #43, and Michael Pilla in the #4. Lynn would pull to the early lead with Tissot close behind. The caution would fly on lap 8 as the #61 of Gabriel Fogg would lose control coming out of turn four

and get into the outside wall.

The restart would see Lynn and Tissot lead the field to the green flag. After a side by side battle with Tissot, Lynn would move back to the front on lap 10. Carson Kvapil in the #35 would start last on the field, but move to sixth on lap 15. Church would move around Tissot for second on lap 16. The battle for second would be a four car battle between Church, Loden, Kvapil, and Kyle Campbell in the #45. The caution would fly on lap 30 as the #5 of Max Gutierrez would spin on the backstretch.

Lynn and Church would lead the field back to the green flag. Lynn would pull back to the lead with Church close behind. Kvapil would move to second around Church on lap 35. Lap 41 would see Kvapil complete the journey through the field as he would pass Lynn for the lead. The caution would fly on lap 52 with a multi-car incident on the front stretch. The cars of Pilla, Toni Breidinger in the #80, and Grayson Ward in the #9 would all be involved. The restart would see Kvapil and Campbell side by side. Campbell would move to the lead while Kvapil's car would trail a stream of sparks all the way around the track. Kvapil would come to a stop on the backstretch and bring out the caution on lap 53.

Campbell and Lynn would bring the field back to the green flag. Campbell would pull to the lead with Lynn in second. The caution would fly on lap 55 as Church would get hard into the backstretch wall after contact with Tissot. Campbell and Lynn would lead the field back to the green flag. Campbell would move back to the front with Lynn close behind. Kvapil would move back to the top five on lap 65. Lap 73 would see Kvapil pass Lynn for second and look to run down the leader, Campbell. Lap 84 would see Kvapil make the pass for the lead, however he would spin coming off of turn four after tangling with Campbell as lap traffic would bottleneck the race for the lead. Campbell and Lynn would bring the field back to green flag.

The caution would quickly fly as Tissot would spin in turn two and Kvapil would cut a right rear after getting collected as he tried to drive through the incident. Campbell and Lynn would pace the field once again. After a spirited battle with Lynn, Campbell would move back to the lead. Campbell would hold on and drive on to the win. Lynn would finish 2nd with Jacob Perry in the #21 grabbing 3rd. Loden would take 4th and Kvapil would

fight back for 5th.

Hickory Motor Speedway would like to thank all of our fans, sponsors, competitors, officials, and workers for all of their support in 2020. It was a discouraging season for many of us, but with a team effort we continued the tradition of making Hickory Motor Speedway Americas Most Famous Short Track. With Facebook Live we hope that everyone at the track and home enjoyed the competitive racing provided at Hickory Motor Speedway. General Manager Kevin Piercy stated "We are working hard and looking forward to the opportunities ahead in 2021, and we want our loyal Hickory Motor Speedway fans safely back at the track" We have already began working on our 2021 season schedule.

Hickory Motor Speedway will remain open year around for practice opportunities for our teams.

Information on our banquet will be upcoming.

For more info check us out at www.hickorymotorspeedway.com, Twitter, Instagram, or call us at 828-464-3655.

South Boston Speedway

SOUTH BOSTON, VA - Over the past 15 years Jason DeCarlo has developed a love for racing. He worked with Limited Sportsman Division and Late Model Stock Car Division driver Charles Barnes while Barnes was racing at South Boston Speedway. More recently he has worked with South Boston Speedway Hornets Division champion Kevin Currin.

"It (working with Barnes) got me down here in the pits with him, and I learned a lot helping him," DeCarlo explained.

"I got to spotting for him and spotting for Kevin Currin in the Hornets Division. I had wanted to drive, but I just haven't had the time, the opportunity or the money to build a car. I finally had a chance to build a car and come out racing. Of course, we haven't been able to race here at South Boston this season, but I've been here at South Boston Speedway practicing."

It took the Chase City, Virginia resident some time to build his Hornets Division car and reach the point where he could take his car to the track for the first time.

"I started on the car in September last year and got it buttoned up to where we were planning to come to Open Practice in March," he explained.

"I think we practiced once at the
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Chase City, Virginia resident Jason DeCarlo is pictured with the Mazda 3 Hornets Division car he will compete in at South Boston Speedway in 2021. (SBS photo)

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end of February to check over the car.”

When asked about being behind the wheel he said “it’s an absolute blast” while acknowledging the car is somewhat hard to drive.

“Considering this is the only racecar I have ever driven, it’s a handful,” he remarked.

“They are not made to do what we do with them.”

The opportunities to test his car at South Boston Speedway this season will pay dividends for DeCarlo in 2021.

“Seat time is the biggest thing,” DeCarlo pointed out, “getting into a routine, learning the lines, feeling what changes we can make to the car. It helps a lot.”

DeCarlo has found a couple of opportunities to race this season as he continues his learning process.

“I have plans to maybe race another time or two before the year ends,” he noted.

“With the circumstances the way they are this year I’m trying to find something to do a little racing.”

For DeCarlo, racing is all about having fun.

“I come up here (to South Boston Speedway) to have a good time,” DeCarlo explained.

“What I really enjoy about the Hornets Division is the people we are racing with. You don’t win anything racing in the Hornets Division. It’s about the good time, having fun racing, and having fun racing with the people you race with.”

DeCarlo says South Boston Speedway will be his home track in 2021. His goals for next season are modest.

“My main goal is to just finish some races,” he said.

“I want to try to stay out of trouble and do the best we can. I want

to win some races, but we will see how things go.”

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

Stafford Motor Speedway

STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT - Stafford Speedway hosted the Tri-Track Open Modified Series for the Call Before You Dig 81 with Stafford’s SK Lights and Street Stocks also in feature action. Tyler Chapman held off his brother Steven to win the SK Light feature while Frank L’Etoile, Jr. continued his late season hot streak at Stafford by winning the Street Stock feature.

In the 25-lap SK Light feature event, Brian Sullivan took the lead at the green with Tyler Chapman taking second. Jonathan Puleo was third followed by Steven Chapman but the caution flew with 1 lap complete for a spin in turn 3 by James Houghton.

Tyler Chapman took the lead back under green with Sullivan slotting into second. Steven Chapman was third followed by Puleo and Buddy Charette. Charette had a host of cars lined up behind him including Peter Bennett, Norm Sears, George Bessette, Jr., Robert Bloxson, III, and Derek Debbis. Bennett took fifth on lap-7 while up front Steven Chapman was applying heavy pressure to Sullivan for second place. The caution came back out with 11 laps complete for Anthony Forino, who spun in turn 1.

Tyler Chapman took the lead on the restart with his brother Steven taking second. Sullivan fell back to third in line with Puleo fourth and Bennett and Sears side by side for fifth place. With 5 laps to go, it was still Tyler and Steven Chapman out front followed by Sullivan, Puleo, Debbis, Bennett, Sears, and Bloxson.

Steven was able to get to Tyler’s bumper but couldn’t find a way around as Tyler picked up his first modified feature win at Stafford. Sullivan, Puleo, and Debbis rounded out the top-5.

In the 25-lap Street Stock feature event, Frank L’Etoile, Jr. shot into the lead at the drop of the green flag with Brandon Michael taking second place. Nickolas Hovey slotted into third place with Adrien Paradis, III and Brent Gleason rounding out the top-5. Jason Futoma spun on the frontstretch with 1 lap complete but was able to get moving again but the caution flag did fly with 4 laps complete for Jason Finkbein, Thomas Hanley, and Larry Barnett, who all spun and hit the turn 3 wall.

L’Etoile took the lead on the restart with Paradis moving into second. Michael was third with Gleason fourth and Hovey fifth. Travis Hydar took fifth place from Hovey on lap-6 while Michael held off a challenge from Gleason for third. Hydar made a move to take fourth from Gleason on lap-10 while L’Etoile was still in the lead with Paradis and Michael giving chase.

Hydar continued his charge towards the front as he took third place from Michael on lap-15 and he was looking to take second from Paradis when the caution flew with 16 laps complete for Hanley, who spun in the middle of turns 1+2.

L’Etoile took the lead back under green while Hydar got by Paradis on lap-18 to take over second place. Michael was fourth in line with Hovey and Gleason behind him. Hovey drifted up the track in turn 4 on lap-21 which allowed Gleason to move into fifth while Hovey got back in line in sixth place. Hanley spun in turn 4 to bring the caution back out with 23 laps complete and set up a green white checkered finish.

L’Etoile and Hydar were side by side on the restart with L’Etoile taking the lead on the backstretch on the final lap. Hydar and L’Etoile touched going through turn 4 on the final lap which got L’Etoile loose and almost gave Paradis an opening to go from third to the lead and the win but L’Etoile was able to

hold on and he took the checkered flag for the win. Paradis edged out Hydar at the line for second place with Gleason fourth and Hovey rounding out the top-5.

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

Stafford Motor Speedway

STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT - Stafford Motor Speedway welcomed the Tri-Track Open Modified Series to the track for their first visit to Stafford for the \$10,000 to win Call Before You Dig 81. With 51 cars on hand to qualify for 32 starting positions, there was also a 25-lap B-Main feature that sent the top-2 finishers to the main event and paid a purse of nearly \$10,000 to the non-qualifiers. Chase Dowling held off Matt Hirschman through a host of mid-race restarts before pulling away from the field in the closing laps to win the race and the \$10,000 payday. Noah Korner won the B-Main and Dylan Izzo finished second to advance into the CBYD 81 main feature.

The Call Before You Dig 81 took the green flag with Ronnie Williams going outside Burt Myers to take the early lead. Ryan Preece went from fourth to second on the start with Chase Dowling taking third. Myers slotted into line in fourth, just in front of Woody Pitkat. Pitkat got around Myers to take fourth place on lap-4 and Keith Rocco took fifth on lap-5 as Myers was sliding backwards to ninth place. Dowling took the lead from Williams on lap-12 just before the caution came out for Marcello Rufrano who spun into the frontstretch grass.

Dowling took the lead back under green with Williams, Pitkat, Preece, and Tommy Barrett, Jr. lined up behind him. Matt Hirschman was up to sixth place and he took fifth from Barrett on lap-15 while up front, Pitkat and Preece both got by Williams to move into second and third. Preece took second from Pitkat on lap-20 while Dowling was starting to stretch out his advantage up front.

With 25 laps complete, the running order was Dowling, Preece, Pitkat, Hirschman, Williams, Doug Coby, Joey Cipriano, Barrett, Jon McKennedy, and Michael Christopher, Jr. The caution flew with 30 laps complete for a spin in the middle of turns 3+4 by Noah Korner. Under the caution period, the majority of cars came to pit road for

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service. The cars that stayed out were Preece, Coby, Christopher, Eric Goodale, Dylan Izzo, and Matt Swanson. The order for the restart was Preece and Coby on the front row, Christopher and Goodale in row 2 and Izzo and Swanson in row 3. Several cars piled up on the restart in turn 1 involving Marcello Rufrano, Dave Etheridge, Matt Galko,

Anthony Sesely, Brian Robie, and Ryan Doucette, while on the backstretch Jon McKennedy and Woody Pitkat came together and collected the car of Sapienza to bring the red and yellow flags out as Pitkat's car was pinned on its side against the backstretch wall.

Preece took the lead on the restart with Christopher in second. Izzo was third but on lap-32 Dowling went 3-wide with Izzo and Swanson to move into third and then he took second from Christopher. Izzo got into the backstretch wall on lap-37 and he limped back to pit road but his car came to a stop just at the entrance to pit road to bring the caution out.

Swanson spun on the restart coming out of turn 2 to bring the caution flag right back out. Goodale spun on the frontstretch to bring the caution out again before a lap could be completed on the next restart. The third restart saw Dowling power his way around

Preece in the outside lane to take the lead. Hirschman followed suit and moved into second with Joey Cipriano taking third, Ronnie Silk fourth, and Christopher fifth. Preece slid back to sixth place but he would lose that place to Williams on lap-41. Rufrano spun in turn 3 with 45 laps complete to bring the caution out.

Dowling took the lead on the restart with Hirschman in second. Cipriano was third followed by Silk and Williams but the caution came back out with 46 laps complete as Preece and Coby both got into the turn 3 wall and were done for the night. Dana DiMatteo was black flagged and parked for the remainder of the race by Tri-Track officials for making contact with Preece and Coby.

Hirschman and Dowling went side by side for the lead for 2 laps after the restart with Dowling getting clear to the lead on lap-49. Cipriano was third in line followed by Silk, Williams, Korner, Owen, Goodale, Rufrano, and Pasteryak. The caution came back out with 52 laps complete for a spin by Pasteryak in turn 4 that also involved Rufrano.

Dowling took the lead back under green with Hirschman right behind him in second. Cipriano and Silk were side by side for third place with Williams and Owen side by side for fifth. Noah Korner spun on the backstretch to bring the caution back out with 56 laps complete.

Dowling again took the lead on the restart with Hirschman slotting into second. Williams and Cipriano were side by side for third place

with Goodale in fifth. Cipriano got clear of Williams for third on lap-58 before the caution came back out with 59 laps complete for spins in turn 3 by Andy Jankowiak and Christopher.

The restart was called back by officials and the second restart saw Cipriano spin through the frontstretch grass to bring the caution right back out. The next restart saw Dowling again take the lead with Hirschman right on his bumper for 2 laps before Korner spun in turn 4 to bring the caution back out with 60 laps complete.

Dowling shot back into the lead on the restart with Williams pulling alongside Hirschman for second. Justin Bonsignore was up to fourth and Swanson and Goodale were side by side for fifth place. Williams was able to clear Hirschman for second on lap-63 while Goodale's car dropped off the pace and he pulled behind the pit wall. This made the running order Dowling, Williams, Hirschman, Bonsignore, and Swanson with 18 laps to go.

With 5 laps to go it was still Dowling in command with Williams, Hirschman, Bonsignore, and Swanson giving chase. Hirschman and Williams were fighting hard for second place, which was allowing Dowling to slowly build up a lead lap by lap as the field closed in on the checkered flag.

Dowling led the field to the checkered flag to win the race and the \$10,000 payday that came with the victory. Williams finished second with Hirschman, Bonsignore, and Swanson rounding out the top-5.

The 25-lap B-Main feature took

the green with Noah Korner setting the early pace followed by Blake Barney, Joey Mucciacciaro, Max Zachem, and Tommy Membrino, Jr. Membrino spun in turn 3 and collected the cars of Brett Gonyaw and Paul Kusheba to bring the caution out with 3 laps complete.

Barney nearly took the lead from Korner on the restart but Korner was able to maintain the lead. TJ Bleau spun in the middle of turns 3+4 and collected the cars of Walt Sutcliffe, Jr. and Anthony Flannery to bring the caution back out with 5 laps complete.

The field completed one lap before the caution came back out for Membrino, who got into the turn 3 wall. Korner again took the lead on the restart with Barney right on his back bumper in second. Zachem was third in line followed by Mucciacciaro and Dylan Izzo. Calvin Carroll brought the caution back out with 14 laps complete with a spin in the middle of turns 1+2.

Korner took the lead on the restart while George Sherman spun in turn 3 but was able to get going and the race stayed green. Izzo got around Zachem to take over second place on lap-17 with Barney third in line. Mucciacciaro and Zachem were side by side for fourth place but Mucciacciaro got loose in turn 4 and fell back to 13th place before pulling his car on to pit road.

Korner took the checkered flag to win the B-Main and advance to the Call Before You Dig 81. Dylan Izzo finished second and earned the second transfer spot. Barney finished third with Zachem and Gonyaw rounding out the top-5.



Chase Dowling held on to win the feature event in the Tri-Track Open Modified Series Call Before You Dig 81 at Stafford Motor Speedway. (SMS photo)