

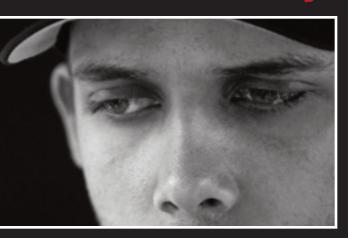
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## Check Another One Off the Bucket List... Hamlin Scores Road Course Victory

Racing World Mourns Death of Bryan Clauson

1989 - 2016



# Fast Forum

## Whew...Road Courses Over for 2016

DON COBLE

Brad Keselowski left Watkins Glen International Sunday with an overwhelming sense of relief.

While he doesn't flinch at the idea of driving 200 mph at the most-treacherous racetracks, even if it comes with the likelihood of a multi-car crash, the 2012

N A S C A R champion's attitude changes dramatically when he thinks of road courses.

"It's funny because a lot of times we end up talking about Daytona and Talladega and they don't ever worry me as much as road courses do, I can promise

you that," he said. "Road courses remain the most dangerous tracks in motorsports for a good reason because of that, but we know that going in.

"The answers I do have is that there's only so many of those hits you're going to take before someone gets killed. It's just the way it is. I know that."

Keselowski has a good reason to be weary of the tracks that require turning both left and right. Two of the hardest crashes in his career came during test sessions at two different road courses.

He destroyed his Penske Ford July 26 while testing at Watkins Glen International ahead of last Sunday's Cheez-It 355. His brakes failed; he slid through a turn; and, he slammed head-on into a tire barrier.

Although his car caught fire and the front end was pushed into the dashboard, Keselowski wasn't injured.

"In general, I'm not comfortable with tracks that have run offs that lead to very harsh angles, and that's certainly the situation that that track has, and always has had it." Keselowski said.

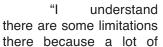
There was one hard crash last Sunday involving cars driven by Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Greg Biffle, Jimmie Johnson and Austin Dillon. Stenhouse lost control of his Ford exiting the carousel and slammed into a steel barrier. He veered across the track and was hit headon by Johnson. While all four cars were destroyed, nobody was hurt.

Keselowski wasn't as lucky when he crashed while testing at Road Atlanta in 2011. Keselowski slid through a corner and into a tire barrier. He was airlifted to a local hospital with a broken ankle.

"At the end of the day I am still standing here," Keselowski said. "Odds are that if 100 people take that hit, one or two are not going to be standing here anymore."

While crashes at road courses aren't as common as massive pile-

ups at Daytona and Talladega, accidents at the twisting layouts often are vicious because high-impact areas generally aren't protected with Steel and Foam Energy Reduction barriers.



these road courses run different series and so forth, and they don't want to get into a situation where a minor spin damages some rich guy's \$300,000 car," Keselowski said. "So there are some trade-offs there, I understand, but that's just part of it."

One of the worst crashes at Watkins Glen came in 1991 when J.D. McDuffie had a mechanical failure and slammed head-on into a tire barrier. The impact at 170 mph was so severe, his car became airborne and rotated before landing upside-down.

He died instantly.

The track reacted by adding a chicane leading into the turn to keep cars from being a full speed in the turn. Watkins Glen also added a large gravel trap between the track and the wall to scrub speed.

In 2009, Sam Hornish was knocked into a steel wall coming to the opening of pit road. His car veered across the track and slammed into cars driven by Jeff Gordon and Jeff Burton. Hornish's car spun like a top; Gordon hit head-first into a steel wall. All three were shaken, but everyone survived without any serious injuries.

"I think there is no doubt that on a road course it's hard to create the best ways to absorb impacts of these angles and things, especially when you have a track that has a set of corners that we don't use, so we are shortening up the circuit," Gordon said.

David Reutimann and David



Keselowski tweeted that he lost his brakes entering the corner off the long frontstretch during a test at the Glen. (Photo: @Keselowski)

Ragan crashed hard on the final lap at Watkins Glen in 2011. Ragan was forced off the track and into a concrete wall. His car came back on the track and struck Reutimann. The collision sent Reutimann on his roof and into a steel barrier. Both miraculously walked away without serious injury.

"To some point we've signed up for a certain level of risk and that's right on the edge of what's acceptable risk," Keselowski said. "I think every driver has their own line and if you're looking at it from that perspective, I think every driver is saying that that's the acceptable risk they've signed up for and it falls within those parameters."

Improvements with Head and Neck Support collars, driver seats and steering wheels that absorb energy have reduced the risk of injuries and death. But the likelihood of a hard impact remains the same.

"We've seen some terrible wrecks there," Matt Kenseth said. "There's just a lot of weird angles there and you're going really, really fast for a road course at that place. So, yeah, if you had to rate them it is certainly one of the more dangerous tracks that you go to just because you're not contained like you are at an oval."

Which gets everyone's attention.

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NSCS - NIGEL KINRADE PHOTOGRAPHY CLAUSON - INDIANAPOLIS MOTOR SPEEDWAY

# Fast forum

## **First Chances**

**DENNIS PUNCH** 

I can remember my parents telling me a very familiar phase whenever I faced a new challenge or opportunity. It may have been the first day of

school and meeting my new classmates and teachers. Or, it may have been the first day of

football, basketball, or baseball practice. Maybe it was the first interview for a job or

the initial day on my new job. The message was the same.

"You only have one chance to make a first impression."

The message might be old in nature, but the same principle holds true today. It's a statement that transcends time and circumstances. How many of you have received this wise advice?

A young NASCAR driver from Catawba County no doubt heard this message in the weeks and days leading to his opportunity last Saturday night.

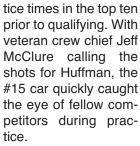
Landon Huffman, 20-year old son of former NASCAR Dash Series Champion Robert Huffman, made his Automobile Racing Club of America (ARCA) debut Saturday driving the #15 Toyota for Venturini Motorsports in the ARCA 200 at Berlin Raceway in Marne, Michigan. It was his first ARCA race and first opportunity to compete in the ARCA Series.

Huffman, who lives in Claremont and studies Marketing at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, has competed in the NASCAR Whelan All-American Series and the CARS Tour this season preparing for his ARCA debut. In thirteen races this season, Huffman has earned four top-five and twelve top-ten finishes. But, Saturday was his first opportunity racing "on the big stage".

"I've traveled with Venturini Motorsports several times throughout the season and have spotted a couple of times," Huffman said. "There's no doubt (spotting) has been helpful. Getting to know the guys and getting a feel for how the team operates at the track has been a great experience. I'm really comfortable with everyone and feel well prepared for the weekend. Billy

(Venturini) has been a huge help prepping me."

It certainly didn't take long for Huffman to adapt to the Berlin Raceway. Huffman had never seen the Michigan short track prior to Saturday morning, but posted prac-



"That second practice went really well," Huffman added. "I thought we were one

of, if not the best cars on long runs. I butchered our mock qualifying run, but I knew we had a good car and would be one of the ones to beat."

Huffman posted a qualifying lap of 17.026 seconds for a speed of 92.611 mph. Starting from the fourth position, Huffman was "pumped" preior to the 200-lap event.

"I've never been in an ARCA car, and I've never been to Berlin," Huffman stated. "I've done quite a bit of late model racing with the major difference being the tires and the power. We made some changes after practice with Jeff (crew chief McClure) tightening up my car. I didn't realize that I was so free until he tightened it up."

When the ARCA 200 took the green flag Saturday night, Huffman quickly jumped into the third position and began his quest for the leaders. When the first caution waved on lap nine, Huffman was in a tight battle for second. By lap 27, Huffman moved into second and chased Venturini teammate and race leader Tom Hessert. When the second caution waved on lap 50, Huffman (second) and the leaders made their first pit stop for two tires and fuel. He would restart third on lap 58.

Huffman would run third until he was passed by John Wes Townley on lap 88. Less than ten laps later, Huffman worked his way past Townley and Venturini Motorsports teammate Dalton Sargeant to move into second. At the halfway point of the 200-lap race, Huffman trailed only Hessert.

The third caution of the race waved on lap 106, and all the leaders took advantage to make their final pit stop of the evening for tires and fuel. Then, on the restart on lap 112, the entire race changed for many of the contenders.

Heading into the first turn on the restart, third-place John Wes Townley hit the left rear of second-place Hessert and sent the two cars into the outside wall. Huffman, who restarted fourth, and four other cars and nowhere to go and crashed into the Townley and Hessert cars. The multi-car accident brought out the red flag and eventually ended the evening for Huffman and Townley.

The final race report will show that Landon Huffman finished 16th, but many competitors, as well as the announcers on the AmericanSportsNet.com broadcast, felt as though he was a strong challenger to win in his ARCA debut.

"Well, not the end story that I was hoping for, but man what an experience," Huffman commented. "I had a bad fast Toyota Camry on long runs, but track position hurt us. Thank you to Venturini Motorsports, Toyota, Catawba Valley Reclamation, Wrench Rags, One

Designs, and each and every person who supported me, not only during the race tonight, but throughout my entire racing career. I learned so much in such a short period of time with this team. I had never sat in an ARCA car, or seen Berlin Raceway before practice, so to compete like we did is all I could ask for, regardless of the end result. I'm hopeful we will get another shot at it."

I was not at Berlin Raceway on Saturday night, but I did watch every lap of the Berlin 200 on AmericanSportsNet.com. From his prerace interview to the final interview after his unfortunate accident, Landon Huffman was a true professional. He showed the maturity and ability to compete at this level and higher. His driving skills were very impressive and his marketability off the track will, hopefully, attract the necessary funding for him to get another chance.

Landon Huffman, you certainly made a great first impression and I hope you get a second chance. You earned it!

## Racing World Mourns Death of Bryan Clauson

INDIANAPOLIS, IN - Bryan Clauson was happiest when he was behind the wheel of a race car. In fact, the happiest day of his life may have been earlier this year on May 29, when he had his best Indianapolis 500 finish in the afternoon and drove a sprint car to the feature victory at Kokomo (Ind.) Speedway that night.

Clauson, 27, died Sunday evening from injuries sustained in a crash the night before at the Belleville (Kan.) Nationals midget race on the half-mile dirt oval. Clauson was airlifted to Bryan Medical Center in Lincoln, Neb., but did not survive.

'This is certainly a sad day for the racing community as a whole, and on behalf of INDYCAR and the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, we send our deepest condolences to the family of Bryan Clauson," said Mark Miles, CEO of Hulman & Co., the parent of IN-DYCAR and Indianapolis Motor Speedway. "Anybody who witnessed Bryan behind the wheel of a race car can attest to his elite ability, relentlessness and unbridled willingness to race anything on wheels. While he'll be remembered most as a legend of shorttrack racing, his participation in the Indianapolis 500 exemplifies his fearlessness, true versatility as a competitor and the pure depth of his talent as a driver."

Clauson, a resident of Noblesville, Ind., was considered the nation's top short-track dirt-car driver with four U.S. Auto Club national championships - two in sprint cars and two in midgets - as well as wins in prestigious events the likes of the Chili Bowl, Turkey Night Grand Prix and Belleville Nationals.

Clauson is survived by his parents, Tim and Di, his sister Taylor and fiancée Lauren Stewart. Funeral arrangements are pending. A memorial service in his honor will take place at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway at a date soon to be announced.

In lieu of flowers, or to make a donation, people may direct their contributions to the USAC Benevolent Fund website at http://usacbf.org/cash-donation/ or checks should be made out to the USAC Benevolent Foundation in the name of Bryan Clauson. The address is 124 E Northfield Drive, Suite F #129, Brownsburg, IN 46112.

Clauson also served as a development driver for Chip Ganassi Racing in 2007-08, winning an ARCA race in 2007. He made 21 NASCAR Xfinity Series starts in 2008, finishing second in rookie points where he teamed occasionally with three-time Indianapolis 500 winner Dario Franchitti.

# NASCAR Sprint Cup

## Hamlin Wins Combustible Classic in Front of Sold-Out Watkins Glen

## By REID SPENCER

WATKINS GLEN, NY - Denny Hamlin, winner of Sunday's Cheez-It 355 at the Glen, entertained a sold-out grandstand with a celebratory burnout that trailed a

plume of smoke the entire length of the frontstretch at Watkins Glen International.

But Hamlin's smoke show—with a bad back, no less—paled in comparison to the fireworks that preceded the checkered flag, Hamlin's first at a NASCAR Sprint Cup Series road course.

The race was in doubt until the final corner, with Martin Truex Jr. pressuring Hamlin, who led the final 10 laps after surging past Brad Keselowski and Kyle Busch in Turn 1 following a Lap 81 restart.

But Truex never got a chance to drag-race Hamlin's No. 11 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota to the finish line. As the cars neared the exit from Turn 7, with Truex running second and Keselowski third,

contact from Keselowski's No. 2 Ford sent Truex's No. 78 Toyota spinning.

Defending race winner Joey Logano took advantage of the melee to finish second ahead of Keselowski and 2014 Watkins Glen winner AJ Allmendinger, who knocked Kyle Larson off the track and into the inside barrier on the way to a fourth-place finish.

Tony Stewart recovered from an early mistake—blowing the inner loop and losing 10 positions in the process—to finish fifth. Kyle Busch was sixth and Truex seventh after the last-lap spin.

Hamlin won the race in pain, with nerve endings on fire in his back.

"I just woke up with back spasms this morning," he explained. "Just hits me every three or four months or so. I just wake up and can't move. Really doubted being in the race car today, to be honest with you, but can't say enough about this whole FedEx Freight Toyota team.

"Should've won both road courses (Hamlin was second to Stewart at Sonoma), which is something we never would've predicted going into the year. Sold out crowd, two years in a row, this is a good time. I've finally won at all of the (types of) race tracks, so it's a great accomplishment for us."

For the second straight year, the Daytona 500 champion also has gone to Victory Lane at the 2.45-mile Watkins Glen road course, with Hamlin joining 2015 winner Logano in that accomplishment. The victory was Hamlin's second of the season and the 28th of his career, and though Hamlin was in a mood to celebrate, there were plenty of hurt feelings behind him.

Keselowski took responsibility for the incident with Truex, who expressed his displeasure by banging fenders with the No. 2 car on the cool-down lap.

"I got right up to the bumper of the 78 (Truex) and couldn't do anything there, and he made a move to get by the 11 (Hamlin) on the inside, and the 11 blocked him," Keselowski said. "I went high, and the 78 went high and by then I was already deep in the corner and got into him and turned him. That was really unfortunate, and the last thing I wanted to see.

"This track here, when you drive into the corner, you commit, and sometimes you don't know what will happen when you commit. The last thing I wanted to do was turn him. I'm proud of my guys for a really fast race car and it was another crazy Watkins Glen day."

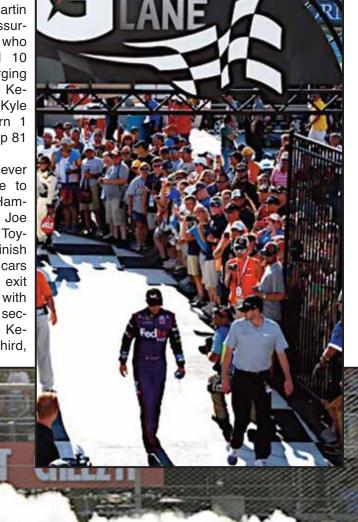
That craziness included eight cautions for 20 laps, four for multicar incidents in the final 38 laps. There were two yellows after Hamlin took the lead on Lap 81, when Kyle Busch and Keselowski ran wide in Turn 1, and Hamlin seized the moment

After the final restart on Lap 87 of 90, Truex stayed close to Hamlin, almost getting to the bumper of the No. 11 in the final corner before the contact from Keselowski turned him. The ensuing chaos allowed Hamlin to cross the finish line 2.065 seconds ahead of Logano for a victory that was nowhere near as comfortable as that margin might seem to indicate.

It was an ending befitting a race track accustomed to wild racing.

"Typical Watkins Glen," Logano said. "I mean, it's just awesome, crazy racing, full contact. Just insane out there. So a lot of fun from the driver's seat and I'm sure the fans loved it as well in front of a sold out grandstand. It was pretty cool when I pulled over for the red flag in front of the grandstands and I could hear just fans screaming and yelling and loving it. I thought, 'Man, this is really cool to be in the driver's seat right now.'"

Notes: With his car obliterated in a four-car wreck on lap 53, Jimmie Johnson finished last (40th) in a Sprint Cup race for the first time in his career. ... Danica Patrick led 11 laps on Sunday, a career best for a single Sprint Cup event, exceeding the seven laps she had led on before at Talladega. ... The victim of an early accident, Jeff Gordon recovered to finish 14th in relief of Dale Earnhardt Jr., who missed his fourth straight race because of concussion-like symptoms.





Race winner Denny Hamlin literally burnt the tires off of his #11 FedEx Toyota after crossing the finish line in the Cheez-It 355 at Watkins Glen International and had to walk to victory lane while the crew put new tires on his racer.(NIGEL KINRADE PHOTOGRAPHY photo)

## Logano Breaks Team Penske Drought with XFINITY Win at Watkins Glen

## **By REID SPENCER**

WATKINS GLEN, NY - Joey Logano finally finished what he started.

The driver of the No. 12 Ford won Saturday's NASCAR XFINITY Series race

at Watkins Glen International from the pole, giving Team Penske its first victory in what has been a disappointing season so far.

The win in the Zippo 200 was the second straight at the 2.45-mile road course for the 26-year-old driver, who led 67 of 82 laps and drove his car to the limit, keeping teammate Brad Keselowski behind him until a broken track bar mount forced Keselowski's No. 22 Ford out of the race after 79 laps.

Keselowski's problem gave Logano some breathing room. Though Paul Menard was making up ground in the closing laps, he finished second, 1.517 seconds behind Logano, who collected the 26th victory of his career.

The win was the sixth for Team Penske in the Zippo 200. In addition to Logano, Kurt Busch won the event twice, and Ryan Newman and Keselowski once each.

"Brad gave me a run for my money, that's for sure," Logano said of Saturday's race. "He was just as fast as me, maybe faster. I never ran so many qualifying laps inside the car. I was running as hard as I possibly could, and I wasn't sure if my car would last, running that hard, but she held together just long enough.

"I couldn't be more proud to be here in Victory Lane. This is big for Team Penske on the XFINITY side of things. Great to get a win for them."

Logano swept the XFINITY and Sprint Cup weekend at the Glen last year.

Kyle Larson ran third on Saturday, followed by Daniel Suarez and Trevor Bayne. Series leader Elliott Sadler, Justin Allgaier, Brendan Gaughan, Ryan Reed and Brennan Poole – all XFINITY regulars – completed the top 10.

Keselowski finished 24th and understandably had mixed feelings about the outcome.

"It looked like a bad weld broke," he said of the track bar issue. "I don't know what to say about that. You can't win races in the garage. Joey and I were both really fast, and if either one of us got in the lead it was obvious we were going to drive away.

"That's something to be really proud of. We had very fast Ford Mustangs today, and congrats to Joey on the win. It's good for the program to see Team Penske get in Victory Lane today. I wish it could have been us, but I am happy for Joey and all those guys."

The race featured six cautions for 18 laps. The most massive incident was an 11-car pileup in the esses on Lap 18 that eliminated Kyle Busch, who is attempting to win a race on all active XFINITY tracks at which he has competed. Currently, he lacks only Watkins Glen and Pocono to complete the feat

Saturday's race also had a healthy dose of the bizarre. On Lap 59, Derrike Cope's No. 70 Chevrolet slowed and came to a stop in the runoff area beside the Inner Loop. After a few seconds, an explosion rocked the car, blowing the hood off its pinions and sending a billow of black smoke skyward. Cope was unhurt in the incident.

Tweeting as he watched the broadcast, NASCAR Sprint Cup Series driver Dale Earnhardt Jr. wrote: "Reminds me of when I used to put M80s in the models I built."

Cope was unhurt in the incident but was baffled as to the cause of the explosion.



Joey Logano takes a selfie of himself and his newly accquired trophy in Watkins Glen International's victory lane after winning the Zippo 200 Saturday afternoon. (Russell LaBounty/NKP photo)





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# NASCAR Touring

## **Burt Myers Scores Win at Bowman Gray Stadium**

WINSTON-SALEM, NC - Burt Myers is no stranger to winning races at Bowman Gray Stadium as the third-generation driver closing in on his seventh track championship, but it had been a long time since he celebrated in Victory Lane after a NASCAR Whelen Southern

Modified Tour race. Not anymore.

Myers took the top spot after leader Kyle Ebersole and Danny Bohn got together on a restart on Lap 161 and held off his brother Jason to win the Strutmasters.com 199 Saturday for his third win of the season and first tour win at the Stadium since 2007.

Myers qualified eighth and slowly made his way up through the field in the first half of the race until he was in the top three after the fifth of six caution flags was given to the field on Lap 156.

Andy Seuss rebounded from being involved in a caution on Lap 57 to finish third with Bobby Measmer Jr. and Gary Putnam completing the top five.

Ebersole won his first Coors Light Pole Award and led the first 67 laps of the race before Bohn, who qualified third, jumped to the lead for the first time on Lap 68. The duo exchanged the lead one more time before their incident on Lap 161.

Bohn, who was going for his third straight win at Bowman Gray in this race, led 77 laps before his contact with Ebersole, who led a race-high 84 laps.

With the win, Myers continues

his quest for a second tour championship with a 17-point lead over Andy Seuss (268-251) with George Brunnhoelzl III third at 243. Brunnhoelzl finished 14th after getting collected in an accident on a Lap 58 restart and was unable to continue the race.

The NASCAR Whelen Southern Modified Tour returns to action on Wednesday, Aug. 17 in the Bush's Beans 150 combination race with the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour at Bristol Motor Speedway in Brostol. Tenn.

## Blewett Grabs Improbable Victory at Stafford

STAFFORD, CT - It was one of the most improbable of victories Friday night, but that didn't make it any less sweet for Jimmy Blewett.

The 35-year-old from Howell, New Jersey, took advantage of fuel issues by NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour championship points leader Doug Coby and Bobby Santos in the closing laps to drive away with the 26th annual Stafford 150.

"You've got to put yourself in position," said Blewett, who has collected four top three finishes in nine races in the No. 4. "We worked all race long to be in position to be there in the end, to have a shot."

Friday marked the sixth career win and first since 2009 for the long-time Modified driver. Blewett sat out of the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour the last two years before getting an opportunity to drive for Bob Garbarino's historic No. 4 Modified.

Justin Bonsignore finished second and Brendon Bock earned his first podium finish. Chase Dowling



Jimmy Blewett and the No. 4 team celebrate in Victory Lane Friday night at Stafford (Conn.) Motor Speedway after winning the Stafford 150. (Mike Ivins/NASAR via Getty Images photo)



Burt Myers (#1) leads his brother Jason Myers (#4) on his way to victory at Bowman Gray Stadium. (Eric Hylton Photography)

and Eric Goodale finished fourth and fifth, respectively.

Coby won his sixth Coors Light Pole Award of the season Friday afternoon, and was trying to join Ted Christopher as the only driver to win four straight at Stafford. Christopher won the Fall Final in 2001 and the first three races of 2002.

Coby appeared well on his way Friday night as he led 140 of the first 143 laps.

But he suddenly slowed on the track, opening up the opportunity for the field to capitalize. Santos inherited the lead, but he too had fuel issues on the restart and the ensuing melee brought out the race's final caution. It also pushed the race to 157 laps.

Coby, who tweeted after the race he suffered a broken fuel pump, wound up 20th and Santos 17th.

Ron Silk finished sixth, followed by Max Zachem, Timmy Solomito, Woody Pitkat and Sunoco Rookie of the Year candidate Craig Lutz.

The late-race shakeup cut into Coby's championship points lead. He now holds a 20-point edge on Bonsignore and 24 over Solomito. Blewett moved to fourth in points, 11 behind Solomito.

The NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour has a quick turnaround, racing Wednesday at Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park, before heading to Bristol Motor Speedway on Wednesday, Aug. 17, for the annual combination race with the NASCAR Whelen Southern Modified Tour.

## Cindric Remains Perfect With WGI Win

WATKINS GLEN, NY - For Austin Cindric, it's deuces wild thus far in 2016.

Two starts, two road courses, two poles, two wins.

This time around, Cindric led all 41 laps of the Bully Hill 100 at Watkins Glen International, going two-for-two in his NASCAR K&N

Pro Series East career.

Cindric's No. 39 held off series points leader Justin Haley, who again played bridesmaid to Cindric. Haley also finished second to Cindric at VIRginia International Raceway on April 30.

With the win, the 18-year-old from Mooresville, North Carolina, became the first driver in series history to win his first two career K&N Pro Series East starts.

Despite the statistically perfect race, Cindric's victory didn't come without a spirited charge from Haley, who padded his series lead of 11 top 10s in as many races this season.

"Most physical race of my career so far," Cindric said. "You gotta work for it and Haley made me work for it every little bit."

In the closing laps, Haley chomped away at Cindric's lead, slicing the deficit to a half second with five laps remaining.

But as the laps waned, so did Haley's hopes. Cindric's advantage ballooned before settling on the margin of victory of .856 seconds.

On lap 31, Haley passed Cole Custer in Turn 1, setting up the 10-lap battle for victory. The two front-runners ran nose-to-tail for a number of laps before Cindric finally pulled away to the win.

Cindric's day ended far better than it began. In Friday morning's final practice, his engine expired, forcing his team to change the motor prior to the afternoon's qualifying session – one in which Cindric captured the 21 Means 21 Pole with a lap of 121.810 mph.

Custer finished third in Friday evening's race, followed by Kaz Grala and Collin Cabre. Kyle Benjamin, Tyler Dippel, Adam Andretti, Hunter Baize and Alex Schutte rounded out the top 10.

Haley leads Benjamin by 36 points with three races remaining.

The NASCAR K&N Pro Series East will return to action on Sept. 5 at South Carolina's Greenville Pickens Speedway.

# ARCA Racing

## Rookie Sargeant Survives Wild One at Berlin; Wins Career-First

MARNE, MI - As difficult as it was for several, Dalton Sargeant kept himself out of trouble for 200 laps and out in front when it counted the most to win the action-packed, spark-filled Berlin ARCA 200 Saturday night at Berlin Raceway.

Sargeant, in the No. 55 Toyota Racing Development-Windows 10 Toyota, drove away from Chase Briscoe over the final 10 laps, denying Briscoe what would have been his fifth consecutive win, but ensuring himself of his career-first ARCA Racing Series presented by Menards victory in his 11th series start.

"This is amazing," Sargeant said. "I can't thank my guys enough at Venturini Motorsports...they killed it tonight."

Sargeant, who led twice for 28 laps, got a little help on lap 181 of the 200-lap race when leaders Josh Williams and Briscoe spun off the backstretch after making contact with one another. Briscoe was able to restart despite the frontend damage to his No. 77 Big Tine Ford while Williams found his No. 6 Musselman's Apple Sauce Chevrolet stuck between styrofoam blocks off turn three.

"It was pretty crazy out there," Sargeant continued. "I knew how this race was going to unfold. I saw how rough the 6 was being with the 77 in front of me. The 6 car was really rough on a restart before that. Still, we were strong on that final restart and showed how good our Venturini Motorsports car was. I just had to pace myself, be smart with my tires and expect that the race would turn out like it did. Hats off to this team. We've been so close so many times. It feels so good to come out and finally get the win."

After the incident, Briscoe's car didn't have the same get-up-andgo and he had to settle for second, about five lengths behind the winner.

"At the beginning of the race, we really struggled battling a tight issue. But when we came down for four tires on that second stop and took some swings with the chassis, it freed up the car and it started to come to life.

"Disappointed in the outcome. I got into (turn) three too hot...got into his (Williams) door and passed him, but I gave it back to him. Got into him again and gave the spot right back. At the end there, I was completely under him. Once I passed him, I knew I was going to get hit down in one and two. Then coming off two, I felt like he ran me out off the track. It's unfortunate...you have two guys going for the championship that have two wrecked cars now."

Williams was scored in the 10th position despite not being able to finish the last 19 laps.

"He (Briscoe) didn't want us to win," Williams said. "They can build new racecars every week; we can't. We'll be at the dirt track (Springfield) though in a steel bodied 105 (inch wheel base) car."

Matt Kurzejewski survived the carnage and finished third in his No. 52 Ansell-Menards Toyota.

"We got lucky tonight," Kurze-jewski said. "We didn't have a third-place car, but we had a third-place team tonight and a third-place crew. They never give up...just an amazing bunch of guys here at Ken Schrader Racing. Brought our Ansell-Menards Toyota home unscathed. There are a lot here tonight that can't say that."

Kurzejewski was no doubt also referring to an earlier incident on a restart that took out several leaders including Tom Hessert, John Wes Townley, Quinnton Bear, Clayton Weatherman and Landon Huffman.

The crash happened on lap 113 when Townley got into the left-rear corner of Hessert's machine which sent both cars careening up into the wall in turns one and two. Once Townley and Hessert were hooked, Bear, Weatherman and Huffman, with nowhere to go, piled in behind. Hessert, Weatherman and Bear were able to restart, albeit with heavily-damaged cars. Townley and Huffman were through for the night.

As disappointing as it was for all involved, it had to be especially heart-wrenching for Hessert, who dominated the front half of the race in the No. 25 So Good! Entertainment-Relax Wraps Toyota, leading the first 108 laps before the incident. Hessert also earned a new one-lap track record earlier in the day, winning his fourth career Menards Pole presented by Ansell.



Dalton Sargeant celebrates his first career ARCA Series win in victory lane at Berlin Raceway. (arcaracing.com photo)

Once the wreck was cleaned up, Williams took control, leading 63 laps before he and Briscoe locked horns

Bret Holmes finished a careerbest fourth in the No. 23 Holmes II Excavation Chevrolet.

"We learned a lot tonight," Holmes said. "This is a challenging track and we came out with our best finish. We just need to keep our heads up and keep going, and that first win will come."

AJ Fike finished fifth in the No. 27 MatrixCare-Consonus Health-care-RD McMillen Ford.

"Stayed out of trouble and got a good finish out of it. That's about all you can say about this one tonight.

We'll take it and go on to Spring-field."

Clair Zimmerman finished a career-best sixth in the No. 30 Huntilar Ford, the last car on the lead lap. Hessert battled back to finish seventh. Thomas Praytor was eighth in the No. 9 DK-LOK Ford. Ed Pompa finished a career-best ninth in the No. 10 Milwaukee Crusher-Double H Ranch Chevrolet

The next event for the ARCA Racing Series presented by Menards is the 54th running of the Central Illinois SuperChevyStores.com 100 at the Illinois State Fairgrounds mile dirt Sunday, August 21.

## arca/cra all stars t'ou

## Braden Wins Bud St. Amant Memorial 125 at Spitzer Motor Speedway

SALEM, IN - 2013 and 2014 ARCA/CRA Super Series Champion Travis Braden dominated in leading all 125 laps in winning Saturday night's Bud St. Amant Memorial 125 Presented by JEGS.com at Spitzer Motor Speedway with the JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour Presented

by Chevrolet Performance. The win didn't come easy as Braden had to fight off challenges over 10 restarts to secure the win. Braden was the winner of the first Bud St. Amant Memorial event in 2014 at Columbus Motor Speedway and got the win in what was announced as the last Bud St. Amant Memorial Saturday night.

"To come back and win tonight in the last ever Bud St. Amant Memorial really means a lot to me and to be able to honor the whole St. Amant family with this win is awesome," remarked Braden in victory lane. "My whole team and I have really worked hard to get this car better each time we race and it was great tonight, especially on the long runs. I have to thank everyone at Bill Burba Motorsports for giving me this great opportunity!"

Braden got to start the event on the outside pole after Boyne Machine Company Fast Qualifier Tristan Van Wieringen drew a six for the events inverted start. Braden got the jump on the start from pole sitter Brandon Oakley to grab the lead that he would never surrender. Braden battled Oakley on several early restarts, NASCAR Camping World Truck Series driver John Hunter Nemechek on several restarts in the middle of the event, then Trevor Noles on several late restarts, but each time Braden was able to pull away to take the lead and the eventual win.

(Continued Next Page)

# ARCA/CRA All Stars Tour

### Continued...

The winners share of the Bud St. Amant Memorial purse was a series record \$8000. The win was the first CRA win for Bill Burba Motorsports who won the 2015 Owners Championship with the JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour, with Mike Stacy running the first two events of the season before Braden took over and completed the season.

Trevor Noles would finish in second and take the FLUIDYNE High Performance Cool Under Pressure Award for battling to stay in the top five throughout the event. 2013 series Champion and current series points' leader Cody Coughlin would finish in third. Coughlin was involved in an early

caution but his team was able to make repairs and Coughlin was able to come through the field and get the third place finish. Coughlin's crew was awarded the Pit-Boxes.com Pit Crew of the Race Award for their efforts. With the second through sixth place teams in points all having issues and not finishing the race, Coughlin further extended his points lead Saturday night.

Stephen Nasse finished in fourth place after starting 11th, which earned a Great Lakes Tire/Hoosier Racing Tire Performance Award. 13 year old Carson Hocevar finished in fifth place after having to go to the tail of the field after an early spin. Hocevar's passes to get through the field earned him the Sweet Move of the Race Award. Dakota Stroup came from his 17th place starting position to finish in sixth place, earning Hardcharger Awards from Ilmor Engineering, T & K Trucking and Racing Electron-



Travis Braden celebrates his hard fought win in victory lane at Spitzer Motor Speedway. Braden led all 125 laps in the Bud St. Amant Memorial 125. (Scott Mcilwain/CRA photo)

ics plus a Great Lakes Tire/Hoosier Racing Tire Performance Award thanks in part to help from Crew Chief Gary St. Amant.

Jack Dossey III came from his 19th place starting position to finish eighth and earned the VanDoorn Racing Development Rookie of the Race Award. Jack Smith was awarded the KRC Steering Hard Luck Award after contact on the events start caused him to make hard contact with the turn three wall, ending his night before the event officially started.

The next series event will be this Saturday, August 13th at Auto City Speedway in Clio, Michigan. More information on the JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour Presented by Chevrolet Performance is available at www.cra-racing.com.

## iffTrack

## Austin and Ty Dillon to Host Celebrity-Fueled Charity Basketball Tournament

WINSTON-SALEM, NC - Richard Childress Racing drivers Austin and Ty Dillon are hosting a 3-on-3 Celebrity Basketball Tournament presented by The Dow Chemical Company to benefit the Childress Institute for Pediatric Trauma at Wake Forest Univer-

sity's Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial (LJVM) Coliseum on Wednesday, Aug. 31. The 16-team, double-elimination tournament will start at 4 p.m.

General admission and parking at LJVM for the event are free. There are limited opportunities to purchase VIP seating and suite access. Autographed memorabilia and other items will be available for auction at the event. Concessions will be available for purchase.

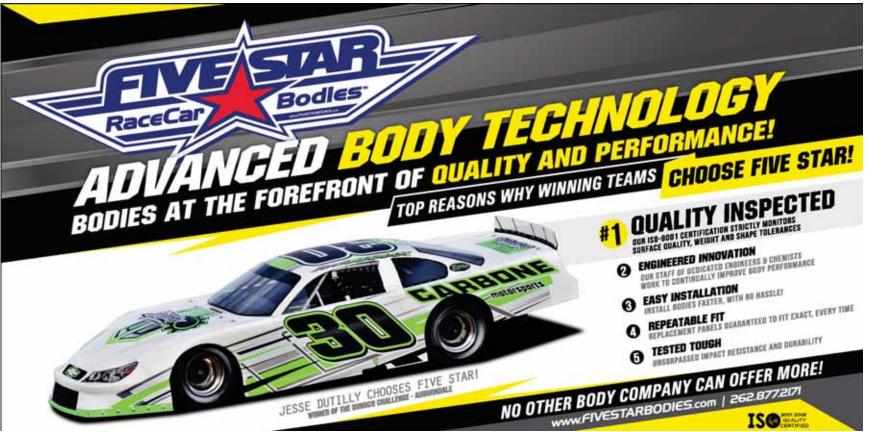
Expected celebrity team cap-

tains include:

- · Austin Dillon, NASCAR driver
- Ty Dillon, NASCAR driver
- Kenny Beck, WXII 12 news anhor
- · Ryan Blaney, NASCAR driver
- Ben Brust, former NCAA basketball champion (University of Wisconsin-Madison)
- Jason Capel, former NCAA basketball player (UNC Chapel Hill)
  - · Colt Ford, country singer
- Brendan Gaughan, NASCAR driver
  - Denny Hamlin, NASCAR driver
  - Brad Miller, former NBA player
  - · Dee Jay Silver, DJ
- Marty Snider, NBC Sports media

Additional celebrity team captains will be announced soon.

For more information and tournament updates please visit saveinjuredkids.org/basketball/, or on social media at facebook.com/ChildressPediatric-Trauma/ or Twitter @injuredkids.



# OnTrack

## Charlotte Motor Speedway

CONCORD, NC -A star-studded lineup of top driver appearances, smoke-billowing show exhibitions and highflying motocross demonstrations highlighted a thrilling Parade of Power on Wednesday at Charlotte Motor Speedway, as the speedway kicked off its Fall Season of Speed with appearances featuring NASCAR stars Clint

Bowyer and Bubba Wallace as well as motocross sensation Phil Nicoletti, among others.

More than two dozen high-powered show cars — including two NASCAR stock cars, a ground-pounding NASCAR Modified, an MXGP dirt bike, an NHRA Pro Mod, two dirt late models, a trophy truck, a Legend Car, motorized lawn-mowers and a monster truck — paraded two miles from Concord Mills down Bruton Smith Boulevard in front of hundreds of fans to show-case the diverse assortment of machines coming this fall.

Bowyer, the 2012 Bank of America 500 winner, said the parade was a fun experience that fueled his desire to win the 2016 edition on Oct. 8 at the iconic 1.5-mile superspeedway.

"Look at the list of stuff that's coming up at the race track," Bowyer said. "You can't ask for a better lineup of entertainment right here in our own backyard. I know if I can't be home, I'm going to be here. To see all these events is fun, and any time you can come back to the track as a past winner is an extra element of confidence as you roll in."

Wallace's bid for his first NASCAR XFINITY Series championship would receive a tremendous boost if he triumphs in the Drive for the Cure 300 presented by Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina on Oct. 7.

"Every race is big for us, but especially the one coming up at Charlotte," said Wallace, a Concord, North Carolina, native and 2011 Northwest Cabarrus High graduate. "This is everybody's home track, really, and it would be exciting to win one of these deals in front of my hometown crowd, since I grew up here."

For Nicoletti, a world-class motocross and supercross rider for Joe Gibbs' JGRMX team, his first



NASCAR driver Clint Bowyer smokes his tires during a burnout at Charlotte Motor Speedway's Parade of Power on Wednesday. (HHP/Andrew Coppley photo)

race at the speedway will come on two wheels at The Dirt Track at Charlotte, when the international motocross superstars take on Americans like Nicoletti and Eli Tomac in the Monster Energy MXGP of the Americas Sept. 2-3.

TICKETS: Fans interested in attending any of the fall events can call the speedway ticket office at 1-800-455-FANS (3267) or visit www.charlottemotorspeedway.com

KEEP TRACK: Connect with Charlotte Motor Speedway on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram or get all the latest news and information with the Charlotte Motor Speedway mobile app.

## **Darlington Raceway**

DARLINGTON, SC - Three-time NASCAR Sprint Cup Series champion Tony Stewart, who will be making his final NSCS start at Darlington Raceway on Sept. 4, has been confirmed for an appearance in Darlington Stripe Zone Fan Hospitality.

Tony Stewart, a Coca-Cola Racing Family member, will join fellow members, Denny Hamlin and Joey Logano, for 15-minute question and answer sessions in the popular fan hospitality area on Sunday, September 4 prior to the Bojangles' Southern 500. NASCAR Hall of Famer Darrell Waltrip will also participate in a Q&A session in Stripe Zone Hospitality as well.

For fans that have not yet purchased a Stripe Zone hospitality package, it is the perfect opportunity to see NASCAR stars in person, while enjoying the amenities the all-inclusive Stripe Zone has to offer.

From now until August 10, in partnership with Coca-Cola, special pricing for Stripe Zone packages are being offered in celebration of Stewart's special Bobby Allison tribute Coca-Cola paint scheme he will

run at the Lady in Black in his final start.

For \$125 per package (plus the cost of a grandstand ticket), fans receive a pre-race pit pass (shirt and shoes required), full meal and snacks, unlimited non-alcohol beverage service until the scheduled race start, four beer coupons to guests 21 years of age and older, a Darlington-branded gift, event program and live entertainment. The package is originally \$140.

In addition to the Stripe Zone, Darlington Raceway continues to offer race fans a hospitality option on Saturday, Sept. 3, prior to the NASCAR XFINITY Series VFW Sport Clips Help a Hero 200. The T4 Zone hospitality package offers a similar all-inclusive experience with scheduled driver appearances to be announced at a later date.

Each T4 Zone package consists of limited pre-race pit pass access, full meal and snacks, unlimited non-alcohol beverages until the scheduled race start time, two beer coupons for guests 21 years of age or older, Darlington-branded gift and souvenir program, all for \$80 per package (plus the cost of a grandstand ticket).

All hospitality packages and tickets can be purchased by calling 866-459-7223 or visiting www.DarlingtonRaceway.com.

\*Times and appearances are subject to change. No autographs please.

The Tradition Continues on Labor Day weekend as the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series Bojangles' Southern 500® is set for Sunday, Sept. 4, 2016. The NASCAR XFINITY Series VFW Sport Clips Help A Hero 200 will race on Saturday, Sept. 3, 2016.

You can keep up with all of the latest news from Darlington Raceway at DarlingtonRaceway.com, on Facebook at Facebook.com/DarlingtonRaceway and on Twitter at

Twitter.com/TooToughToTame. Fans are encouraged to post their Bojangles' Southern 500 stories and memories at #TraditionContinues, #BojanglesSo500 and #Sport-Clips200.

### Pocono Raceway

Pocono Raceway is hosting the 21st Annual Pennsylvania Wing Festival on Saturday, August 13 and a host of great prizes are being offered to those who purchase tickets in advance. Those who have already purchased tickets and new customers who buy before August 12 will be entered for the chance to win three great packages.

- Grand Prize: Two (2) 300 Level Tickets that include Pit/Paddock Passes to a 2017 Pocono Raceway race of your choice.
- Second Prize: Two (2) 100 Level Tickets and Pit/Paddock Passes to a 2017 Pocono Raceway race of your choice.
- Third Prize: Two (2) 100 Level Tickets and Pit/Paddock Passes to a 2017 Pocono Raceway race of your choice.

To purchase your tickets today, please visit www.poconorace-way.com/wingfest.

### Iowa Speedway

NEWTON, IA - Last weekend, the NASCAR XFINITY Series U.S. Cellular 250 closed out the 2016 season of racing at lowa Speedway but plans are well underway for the 2017 race season in central lowa.

Starting now and continuing through March 3, 2017 – the Friday after the 59th running of the Daytona 500, Season Tickets are available for renewal online and through lowa Speedway's Box Office. Fans looking to become first-time Season Ticket Holders can also purchase tickets beginning August 2.

Season Ticket Holders will continue to have opportunities to win Fans With Benefits upgrades including garage passes, pace car rides, photographs in Casey's General Stores Victory Lane with winning drivers, Newton Club passes, premium parking, signature food vouchers, suite upgrades and driver meet 'n greets.

- Tickets are available 24 hours per day, seven days per week. Head to www.lowaSpeedway.com to get our exciting slate of racing on your 2017 calendar
- Phone: call the Iowa Speedway Ticket Office at 866.787.8946
- In Person: visit the Iowa
   Speedway Ticket Office between 9
   a.m. 5 p.m. (CT), Monday
   through Friday

## Rico Abreu the Strongest Man in Ironman 55 Win

PEVELY, MO - Rico Abreu proved to be the strongest man Saturday night at Federated Auto Parts Raceway at I-55 as he powered forward and battled to the lead scoring his first World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series victory of the season and the Federated Auto Parts Ironman 55 presented by Walker.

Abreu, a NASCAR Truck Series regular, slipped back to fifth early but battled back into the top three after a lap 26 restart. He worked his way around the No. 9 of Daryn Pittman then set his sights on the No. 49 of Brad Sweet. Sweet bobbled coming off of turn four and Abreu raced past him onto the front straight.

Through traffic, the then leader Kerry Madsen lost ground to Abreu and Sweet. On lap 38 Abreu threw a slider on Madsen through turns three and four, but Madsen held. What commenced though was a two-lap, three-way battle for the lead. Abreu eventually got around and through restarts, traffic and a brush with the wall on the final lap, Abreu cruised to the Ironman 55 win.

"It's really important. These big ones is what it comes down to. All that hard work all year that these guys have done," Abreu said. "I raced my ass off. It's fun, it all pays off."

Abreu is the 16th different winner of the season and the sixth different driver to score the Ironman 55 title. Since 2009, Craig Dollansky is the only driver to repeat.

Sweet kicked off the night with his second straight quick time award in qualifying. His 11th quick time made him the season's leading qualifier, surpassing Joey Saldana who held the distinction through much of the year.

Madsen, the 2014 Ironman 55 winner, started on the feature pole with with 2015's Ironman winner, Shane Stewart, on his outside.

When the green flag fell, Sweet, who started fourth, battled forward, taking over third on the initial start and then racing Stewart, side-byside on lap 10 for second. Two laps later, as Madsen worked his way through traffic, Sweet closed the gap on the leader and began challenging him for the lead.

A caution flew and on the restart Madsen pulled away, this time maintaining his top spot through the traffic. When the next caution flag fell on lap 26, Madsen had lapped up to 16th position.

Abreu, who had been sitting in fourth through much of the feature, got his chance on the restart, as he took over third from Pittman and then took advantage of Sweet's mistake on the exit of four to take over second.

On lap 39, again slowed by traffic, Abreu caught Madsen and slid him through turns three and four. It was not enough that lap, but setup a three-way battle for position with Sweet mixing it up, nearly side-by-side-by-side across the line on lap 40. Abreu displayed masterful maneuvering across the track as he took over the lead and, in spite of the strong challenge from Madsen and near disaster at the end, crossed the finish line in first.

To chants of, "Rico, Rico, Rico," from a packed Federated Auto Parts Raceway at I-55, Abreu hoisted the coveted dumbbell trophy and claimed the \$20,000 prize.

"We started off pretty tight in the beginning of the race. The tighter our car is, it tends to bog our engine which makes it confusing to know what to do," Abreu said. "I was just trying to maintain my tires underneath me. When I got to those guys I made sure I didn't race them too hard. You can get in an intense battle and heat your tires up



Rico Abreu raced his way to his first WoO Craftsman Sprint Car Series victory of the season and scored the Ironman 55 at Federated Auto Parts Raceway at I-55. (Paul Arch photo)

and end up running fifth or sixth. I just made sure I hit my marks. The restarts were really important tonight."

Abreu ended the two-year run of Kings Royal winners also taking the Ironman victory. The win is his fourth career series win.

Madsen, who looked to become just the second repeat winner of the Ironman 55, led the first 40 laps of the grueling 55-lap feature. In the end though, Abreu had the edge.

"The guys gave me a fantastic racecar. Just got into traffic there and I just - guy had been running the top and I thought I had him and then he chopped the front and Rico was there to take advantage. This race is always one of our favorites of the year - the fan interaction is fantastic."

Stewart battled past Sweet through the closing laps and took home the final spot on the night's podium. He said the podium finish was needed for his Larson Marks crew as their performance has not been where they want it to be.

"We've been on struggle street really badly lately," Stewart said. "It was a really great race. Normally you try to pace yourself a little but there was no pacing. This is a great event, it's a special race to win. Hats off to Rico, he does a great job."

"Hopefully we can carry this momentum, not only into Knoxville, but into the rest of the season."

Joey Saldana was the KSE Racing Hard Charger, advancing nine positions to finish fifth.

(Continued Next Page)



## World of Outlaws Braftsman Sprint Car Series

### Continued...

The World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series rolls into the biggest week of the season as the series takes on the 5-**ENERGY** Hour Knoxville Nationals presented by Casey's General Store at Knoxville Raceway, Wednesday, Aug. 10 to Saturday, Aug. 13.

To learn more about the Knoxville Nationals, visit

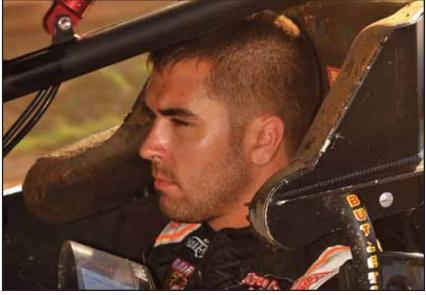
WoOSprint.com/Knoxville-Nationals

Follow the World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series on Twitter at Twitter.com/WorldofOutlaws, like it on Facebook at Facebook.com/WorldofOutlaws, or check out the latest videos on YouTube at YouTube.com/WorldofOutlaws.

## Gravel Battles Rain, Restarts for Prelude to the Ironman Win

PEVELY, MO - Neither rain nor restarts could dampen David Gravel's Friday night as he dominated the Monroe Shocks and Struts Prelude to the Ironman at Federated Auto Parts Raceway at I-55 and scored his second straight and seventh overall World of Outlaws Craftsman® Sprint Car Series victory of the season.

Off-and-on light rain fell on the



David Gravel battled rain and numerous restarts to win the Prelude to the Ironman Friday night. (Paul Arch photo)

1/3 mile, bullring in Pevely, Mo. throughout the feature, but Gravel was the class of the field in his No. 5 Big Game Treestands machine. Multiple restarts hit in the middle of the 35-lap main event, but Gravel held off the competition behind and cruised to the finish. He has led the last 75 laps of World of Outlaws competition.

"We're really rolling right now," Gravel said in victory lane. "It was a really fast race track around the top and the rain made the top even better and tighter as the race went on... We've won a rain-shortened race so you don't want to get too many of those. You want to earn them. You needed that 35-lap workout because 55 laps tomorrow is going to be tough, for sure."

Brad Sweet helped kick off the night by claiming his 10th quick

time award, for being the fastest qualifier, this season. He and Joey Saldana are now tied for the most in 2016.

Gravel was the beneficiary of the Dash inversion draw and started on the Dash pole next to Jacob Allen. The two drivers finished first and second and started in the same positions in the feature.

When the green flag waved, Gravel quickly built up a lead as Allen held off Donny Schatz. When Gravel caught the tail end of the field, he had 1.5 second lead.

The first caution flag of the night flew on lap 9 as James McFadden spun through turns one and two. On the restart, Gravel jumped forward, but the next five positions behind jumbled up as Allen and Sweet made contact, opening the door for Donny Schatz and Daryn Pittman. Schatz quickly took over second as Pittman battled Allen side-by-side through turns one and two and took over third as they entered on to the back straight.

Through a spate of cautions in the middle of the feature, Daryn Pittman, who nearly lost third to his Kasey Kahne Racing with Mike Curb teammate, Brad Sweet, battled past Schatz for second as Sweet and Schatz engaged in a multi-lap battle for the third position.

"Once Donny took a few slide jobs at me and I got my momentum going and cleared him," Sweet said. "I'm sure he was right there with me, but there wasn't much you could do with the lapped cars on the bottom."

Sweet eventually took over the position in his No. 49 Ollies Bargain Outlet car.

Through the closing laps, Pittman tried to find a line around Gravel in his No. 9 Great Clips car but was only able to slightly lessen the gap.

Sweet said Schatz made it challenging through the middle portion of the race but once he got on the high line, he felt good about his position.

"There were a lot of restarts. It was just a matter of some worked for me and some didn't," Sweet said.

"If we had anymore yellows or lapped traffic to get in the way of Daryn and David for us to have a shot at them - just a tricky, rough track. Glad we came out in third. We'll come back tomorrow and hopefully run a good 55 laps."

## osier Tire Midwes sprint Car Series

## A.J. Hopkins Takes First MSCS Feature at Lincoln Park

PUTMANVILLE, IN - The Hoosier Tire Midwest Sprint Car Series completed its annual August "Return to Putnamville" Saturday night with a strong field of 28 cars present. Twenty-one drivers would start the 30 lap feature. The lineup was packed with competitive drivers, some rows back with a long way to go! The race to

the front was on but up front there were 5 starters whose intention was to stay there. Brent Beauchamp and A.J. Hopkins started in row one. Beauchamp led the first 4 laps before Hopkins could pass him. A.J. Hopkins had all the speed he needed at the top

of the 5/16 mile oval and Beauchamp moved up to give chase. The race stayed green all 30 laps.

The feature win was a first in MSCS competition for Danville, IN, driver A. J. Hopkins. In five seasons of racing sprint cars he has been one of the regular participants at the Lincoln Park Speedway. The DRC he races is owned by Fred and Sandy Hopkins. Sponsorship includes Nalon Racing Engines, Banning Engineering, CSI Shocks, and Dan Pace Dyno.

Chad Boespflug would finish third behind the two leaders. Kyle Cummins was fourth and C.J. Leary ran fifth. The top five remained formidable. Robert Ballou moved up through the pack to finish in sixth. Ballou, Jon Stanbrough, and Carson Short along

with Brandon Morin, Kevin Thomas Jr., and Jimmy Light formed a string of drivers that made substantial gains after starting in the back half of the field. Ballou earned the Keizer Aluminum Wheels Hard Charger of the Race Award for MSCS.

Jon Stanbrough moved up to seventh after starting thirteenth. Brady Short, Max McGhee, and Kevin Thomas Jr. rounded out the top ten. Thomas was the night's overall fastest qualifier with a run of 12.669 seconds in the second group. Carson Short took the Wilwood Tuff Brakes Award with an eleventh place finish in the A. Short did not complete his run in heat two. He would start in the last row of the B Main and transfer by finishing second to winner Jimmy Light.

The three heat races were won by C.J. Leary in the Amati Racing sprint, Shane Cottle in the Hazen sprint, and Chad Boespflug in his Nine Eight Motorsports ride. In the second heat race Jadon Rogers started last. He then moved up two more positions looking for a fifth place transfer before flipping to bring out a red flag. Repairs were made in time for Jadon to report for the B. Brandon Morin brought out a yellow flag earlier in that same heat. The B Main brought out three yellow flags. A poor initial start was recalled. Then there were two spins. One was by Jadon Rogers and the other by Jacob Henderson.

The Midwest Sprint Car Series will race twice the weekend of August 13th and 14th. First up on Saturday is the 12th annual Hoosier Sprint Nationals at Tri-State Speedway which pays \$5,000 to the winner. Sunday evening MSCS will have an opportunity to make up the Spring Fling at the Terre Haute Action Track which was rained out and rescheduled for August 14. The Fling will pay \$3,000 to win and \$300 to start.

## Richards Wins No. 13 at Cedar Lake

NEW RICH-MOND, WI - Josh Richards won his second career USA Nationals finale Saturday night at Cedar Lake Speedway. The victory marked his 20th of the season (13th in the series) and 71st of his career in the World of Outlaws Craftsman® Late Model Series one win from tying for the all-time series

record.

"I don't know what to say... I'm speechless," said Richards, winning the \$50,000 purse. "I can't thank everyone enough for coming out. This car has been so fun to drive. This is awesome."

The caution-filled night began with the 100-lap feature's first on lap 10. Jonathan Davenport, who started runner-up to Shane Clanton, suffered a flat right rear tire. It seemed "Superman" had found his Kryptonite, as he veered-off into the pits. The other 30 cars moved-up for the restart; Richards and Mason Zeigler shared the podium with Clanton.

On the restart Clanton and Richards separated from the rest of the field. Zeigler and Eric Wells paired-up and dueled for the third spot. Wells was the weekend's fast time winner, a first for him since his rookie year in 2013. He continued his hot streak; however, Zeigler briefly extinguished his chances of passing him.

Zeigler moved to Richards, sweeping the nose of his bumper through the backside of his No. 1 Valvoline/ Seubert Calf Ranches Rocket racecar. A three-wide battle between Clanton, Richards and Zeigler had the packed crowd on their feet for half of lap 12. Zeigler managed to get by Richards in turn four before another caution flag waved.

On the race's third restart - one lap later - Richards reclaimed the second spot from the top of the cushion. Richards closed the gap between him and Clanton to as little as 0.455 seconds, but could not capitalize.

Zeigler could not take advantage of starting third in the feature, when mechanical issues ended his night early on lap 18. Dennis Erb. Jr. took his place in third spot momentarily until mechanical issue scrapped his chances seven laps later. Wells replaced the crippled cars in the third position; he went on to challenge Clanton on the restart, side-stepping Richards who took the outside.

Within two more cautions both Richards and Wells challenged Clanton for the top spot, staying within a second of him. Though Clanton blocked Richards' inside attempt entering turn one, it only took two more turns for him swoop into the lead on lap 31. Richards diminished Clanton's 0.8-second lead to 0.088 seconds in that sequence.

As for "Easy E" and his pursuit, it seemed to be the opposite. Through a series of cautions, Wells took to the lowest groove of the track with his No. 18 Allstar Performance/ Penske Racing Shocks Longhorn machine. At turn two of each of the three following cautions, Wells cut the corner. Though he compromised momentum exiting the corner - while Clanton built momentum on the top cushion - he ended up making the pass with 35 laps remaining. Clanton finished seventh on the night.

At first, Davenport seemed to be taken out of contention in the feature with his early troubles. But, throughout the race, he gained ground. By the halfway point, Davenport was back into the top 10. By the time Wells made the pass into second place, Davenport's No. 6 Baird Transport/ Elite Concrete Longhorn car had him in his sights.

By this time, Davenport maintained a 0.45-second margin between him and Wells, biding his time. Davenport sailed on the top cushion, wildly flirting with the outside walls of each of the turns - at times kissing them with his right rear fender.

"We were reeling them in," said Davenport, who charged hard from the back of the pack. "I thought, 'Here we go, we have a shot.' All I had to rely on was the cushion, and I was rolling on it decently."

With 20 laps remaining, Davenport took his shot at Wells. In turn four, he was able to pass Wells for second place. Richards increased his lead to a tick shy of two and a half seconds. Davenport began to close the gap slightly, but it was not until the race's final caution when he saw his chance. With 9 laps remaining, Richards and Davenport had a shootout for the lead.

Richards stayed low on the track while Davenport stuck with his



Josh Richards celebrates his 13th win of the season with the WoO Craftsman Late Model Series at Cedar Lake Speedway. (www.twitter.com/Josh\_Richards1 photo)

bread-and-butter up-top. A strong restart from Richards reopened more than a two-second gap, and the final dagger was when Davenport clipped the turn two wall. Davenport held his ground for second place even so, with Wells rounding out the podium.

"We had a shot at it with 10 [laps] to go," Davenport said. "I made a run on him, jumped the cushion one time and that's all we had for him."

Wells finished the weekend recording his first fast time and fourth top five finish in 29 feature events this season. Wells said he stuck with the same setup all weekend, which proved to suit the track well

"It was really good, and we got to stay out of trouble," said Wells, who felt he was strongest in the middle of the track. "I saw Davenport coming up on me from the scoreboard and where he was, and it was fine by me. We stuck to the middle. We came home with third, but it felt good."

Richards picked up his 13th win of the season, the same number of wins World of Outlaws Craftsman® Sprint Car Series points leader Donny Schatz had after the series made its stop at Cedar Lake Speedway in July.

Follow the World of Outlaws Craftsman® Late Model Series on Twitter at Twitter.com/WoOLate-Models, like it on Facebook at Facebook.com/WorldofOutlawsLateModelSeries, or check out the latest videos on YouTube at

Youtube.com/WorldofOutlaws.

## Feger Pulls Away for Win at Cedar Lake

NEW RICHMOND, WI - Jason Feger ran away with the FANS-Fund Dash Friday night at Cedar Lake Speedway. Feger started the day from qualifying toward the back of the pack to placing third in his heat. He heated up as the night went on, capitalizing when it mattered the most to win the \$2,500 purse.

Feger led the 12-driver field into the green flag for the 12-lap shootout. Rookie of the Year contender Tyler Erb was to start 13th in the show, but mechanical issues prevented him from competing. Once the green flag waved the field in, the "High-side Hustler" did what he does best, rising to the top of the track with his No. 25F Cheap Cars/Floyd's Waste Systems Black Diamond racecar.

"It's the fastest track we've been on all weekend," said Feger, who took advantage of the track preparation before the race. "We were able to get to the top of the track there on the cushion, and it was pretty easy to run on. I just held it on the floor for 12 laps and made sure I didn't jump over the berm."

Feger began to pull away within the first couple laps, extending his gap between the field by one-half of a second with each lap; he led by a 1.174-second margin with 10 laps remaining. Meanwhile, full-time

(Continued Next Page)

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World of Outlaws Craftsman® Late Model Series driver Brian Shirley began his pursuit toward the top. Shirley's No. 3s Bob Cullen Racing/Arnie Ranta Motorsports Longhorn machine challenged Tyler Bruening for the second spot early-on.

With seven laps remaining, Shirley succeeded. In turn three, Shirley plummeted under Bruen-

ing's No. 16b Bruening Rock Products/ Minnowa Construction Capital car. Bruening had nothing for Shirley at this point, forfeiting the spot.

"Listen, we just threw some stuff out there," said Shirley, his sights set on the finale. "That's all we did was use it as a test session. Hopefully we get the hot lap tomorrow and be better than what we were tonight."

From there, the top three was smooth-sailing. Feger ultimately won the show by a 4.435-secnd margin, dominating the field. Shirley finished second, while Bruening rounded-out the podium.

"We got the car a lot better there," said Bruening, who said his car has struggled so far in the weekend. "I wouldn't say I was sleeping on that start. It was just one of those deals where [Shirley] got a good start on me. Once the race got started, our car got better

Car Racing

and better. We hit the holes in turn one and two there and got the skid-plate up there into the steering arm, and that's how Shirley got by me. We were running him back down. I just wish it was 100 laps."

## Josh Richards Captures His 12th Win of the Season

NEW RICHMOND, WI - Josh Richards got his golden egg Thursday night, reaching one dozen wins at Cedar Lake Speedway's USA Nationals preliminary show. It was Richards' 70th career World of Outlaws Craftsman® Late Model Series win.

"From 2013-15 the track changed," said Richards, who won the \$6,000 purse. "But from last year to this year, the track was quite a bit different - with the surface and everything. We could race on it really well. I want to thank all the track guys for putting on this event and working hard on the track. This is the track to race on. Thanks to all the fans for coming out."

Richards, who won his heat race earlier in the night, caught fire in the 30-lap feature. He was supposed to start fifth in the A-Main, but electrical failures in Jonathan Davenport's car forced him to forfeit third position. This moved everyone up by one position. Davenport won the show last season, but helped others' cases to win this time around.

Local hero A.J. Diemel led the 27-car field into the green flag, and he held his own against regional favorites and national studs. This was while drivers began to fight for track position. Richards made quick-work of Jason Feger, moving into a podium spot. This set up a three-wide battle for the lead following the race's first caution. It was not until lap 10 when Eckert managed to get under Diemel in turn two for the lead. One lap later, Richards followed suit from the top of the front straightaway. The night's second caution called-off his advances but for a short time.

Diemel began to fade; he finished eighth. This rekindled a regular battle between two former series champions, who are also in the top three in the 2016 series championship race. Richards, wheeling his No. 1 car, quickly gained on Eckert; he closed more than a one-second gap to a 0.886-second margin with 11 laps remaining. The race's third caution diminished what cushion Eckert had left, but Feger returned to challenge Richards on the restart.

Barreling into turn four, Feger got inside Richards but within that lap, another caution prevented any position changes. Eckert, Richards and Feger maintained their podium spots respectively. In this restart, Eckert left a window of opportunity for Richards at the bottom of the track. With 10 laps remaining, Richards swept under Eckert's No. 7 Monumental Paving & Escavating/ P-J Contracting Co. Longhorn machine.

"Rick put on one heck of a battle up there," Richards said. "The car just went, and I just had to go for it. I grew up watching Rick win races here when I was little, so passing him there was pretty cool. He wanted to win it, but I was going to give it all I had."

Richards would go on to extend his lead to 0.945 seconds, until the fifth caution regrouped the field. Though this restart was uneventful, the sixth and final caution was not. Richards and Eckert separated themselves from the rest of the pack by more than one second with six laps remaining. Eckert made one last attempt at Richards.

"It was a good run," Eckert said.
"I could just not get going on those restarts. [Josh] had a little more traction, and he could drive up off the corner better than I could. That's the way he's been. They've been the team to beat for sure. We can see him now, so we're getting closer - as awful as that is to say. Here, we could finally see him."

Richards was too strong. Eckert, though he has not won since February 13, recorded his ninth top five finish of the season. Feger's No. 25F Cheap Cars/ Floyd's Waste Systems Black Diamond car rounded-out the podium.

"We were pretty good up there for a few minutes," said Feger, who used the top of the track to his advantage throughout the night. "We made a few changes with the gears before the feature that hurt us on the top-side. We geared it wrong, and if we changed it down I think we would've been a lot faster on the top. We were good through the middle, and I thought we would've had something for [Rick]. It felt like we both lost right-rear grip there, and Josh didn't seem like he did that. He's been on fire."

## World Short Track Championships Takes Center Stage at the Dirt Track at Charlotte

CONCORD, NC The World Short Track
Championships, an
all-new, three-day
event featuring the
best weekly racers
from throughout the
United States, was announced today by
DIRTcar Racing.

The event, hosted at the Dirt Track at Charlotte (N.C.), Thursday, Oct. 20 to

Saturday, Oct. 22, 2016, will put on the center stage nine divisions in pursuit of a purse in excess of \$120,000

The mega event takes place the weekend before the Bad Boy Off Road World of Outlaws World Fi-

nals, creating two-weeks of can't miss, season-ending action featuring all of dirt racing's top drivers, series and divisions.

"The World Short Track Championships is sure to be 'lots of laps' and 'lots of fun' giving weekly drivers from nine different divisions the chance to stand on the big stage at Charlotte," said World Racing Group CEO Brian Carter. "This massive event will make Charlotte the epi-center of dirt track racing in the United States and bring the best and brightest from around the country together for two incredible weeks."

Participating divisions at the World Short Track Championships are:

1. DIRTcar/SECA Pro Late Mod-

els - A full-bodied late model with a Chevrolet Performance 604 engine

- 2. DIRTcar UMP Modified Open wheeled modifieds as raced in all of North America
- 3. DIRTcar Sportsman Modifieds Northeast open-wheel modified with center steer Northeast modified body style with Chevrolet Performance 602 engines
- 4. DIRTcar/SECA Pro Modifieds Open wheel Modifieds with a Chevrolet Performance 602 engine.
- 5. 360 Sprint Cars -Winged Sprint cars with 360 cubic inch engines
- 6. DIRTcar Pro-Sprints Winged sprint cars with Chevrolet Performance 602 engines
- 7. SECA Crate Sportsman - Full-bodied American stock car with Chevrolet Performance 602 engine

- 8. MMSA Mini-Stocks Monster Mini Stock Association 4-cylinder stock cars
- 9. FWD/Hornets Front wheel drive sports compacts modified for dirt track racing

Each entry will receive a free pit camping permit in the pit area for the entire weekend and an invitation to the Friday night bonfire worthy of a true homecoming. Competitor registration for the World Short Track Championships opens on Thursday, Oct. 20 at noon.

Complete competitor information, including division payouts, will be available on Aug. 22 by visiting DIRTcar.com.



## Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series

## Skylar Gee Sweep Valentine Speedway With The Brodix ASCS Frontier Region

GLENROCK, WY
- One for the thumb
came on Saturday
night for Skylar Gee,
as the Carlan Services
No. 99 made it win No.
5 on the season with
the weekend sweep of
Deer Creek Days at
the Valentine Speedway with the Brodix
ASCS Frontier Region.

Coming from third to get the win, Gee was chased to the line by Trever Kirkland with David Hoiness taking the final podium step. Damon McCune and D.J. Brink completed the top five at the Valentine Speedway.

Mark Chisholm from 12th came to sixth with Nate Maxwell seventh. Mark Walinder in his first Frontier Region start of the season came from 15th to eighth with Bryan Brown ninth. Shad Peterson from 19th completed the top-ten.

The Brodix ASCS Frontier Region continues their season on Friday, August 12 at Black Hills Speedway in Rapid City, S.D. with the Gillette Thunder Speedway hosting the series the following night in Gillette, Wy. For continued updates on the Brodix ASCS Frontier Region, log onto http://www.ascsracing.com.

## Gee Remains Dominate With ASCS Frontier Win at Valentine Speedway

GLENROCK, WY - Making it win No. 4 on the season, Skylar Gee added the Valentine Speedway to his resume of winning ovals on Friday night, opening up Deer Creek Days at the Glenrock, Wy. oval with the Brodix ASCS Frontier Region.

The win is the third in as many nights for Gee and the Carlan Services No. 99 team with the Brodix ASCS Frontier Region.

Gridding the field runner-up, Gee spent little time in the silver position as the No. 99 grabbed the win over David Hoiness with ninth starting, Jeremy McCune, coming through the field to complete the night's podium. Washington's Darren Smith gained 10 spots to finish fourth with Damon McCune wheeling the Pirate Motorsports No. 77 from 19th to complete the top-five.

Trever Kirkland was another big mover from 18th to sixth with Ben Holmberg from 12th to seventh. Bryan Brown crossed eighth from 11th with Shad Peterson ninth. Making the drive from the deserts of Arizona, Cody Sickles ran from 20th to complete the top-ten.

## Swindell Wins the 26th Annual Knoxville 360 Nationals

KNOXVILLE, IA - For the second time in Knoxville Raceway history, a driver has added the 360cid and 410cid Nationals Championship to their Trophy Case as Sammy Swindell parked the A.G. Rains / Acme Graphix No. 3s in Victory Lane to claim the \$15,000 top prize in the 26th annual Arnold Motor Supply ASCS 360 Knoxville Nationals presented by Great Southern Bank.

Joining Danny Lasoski as the only other driver to win both crown jewel events at the Marion County oval, Swindell is the fourteenth different winner of the 360 Nationals since 1991. The win is also the first as a car owner for West Memphis, Arkansas native, A.G. Rains.

"Praise the Lord, I've just been so blessed here lately with things going a lot of different directions," said Sammy in Victory Lane after his fifth career 360 win at Knoxville.



Skylar Gee celebrates in victory lane at Valentine Speedway. Gee swept the weekend at the speedway winning both features. (www.ascsracing.com photo)

"I'm still out here doing this, getting to do what I love to do driving these cars and they gave me a perfect car tonight. All the things we did yesterday, they were all right. We hit it on the head and I couldn't ask for anything any better."

"When I was on the bottom there, I thought I was okay there. Then Clint [Garner] got around, and I just had to wait for my turn to get a shot and see where he was good at, and where he wasn't to make my move; but the car just got better and better throughout the race."

Taking off from the front row, Swindell took off into the race lead with Clint Garner, quickly taking over the point on the second lap. Stalked by the Acme Graphix No. 3s, the pair rolled top and bottom on the Knoxville Raceway with Swindell finally able to reclaim the lead on Lap nine.

The wily veteran began distanc-

ing himself from the current Knoxville 360cid point's leader as the race through the top-five heated up, with Lasoski up to third and closing. Taking over the runner-up spot on the 13th trip around the half-mile, the 1995 winner of the 360cid Nationals came to Swindell's back bumper as the caution flew on Lap 16 for Josh Baughman whose engine expired.

On the restart, the mover was Brian Brown. After fading to ninth early on, the FVP/Casey's General Store No. 21 was back up to fourth. Stealing away third on Lap 20, the pass for the runner-up spot on Lap 22 would be Brown's last pass of the night as the engine let go under the bonnet of the No. 21. That nearly wadded up Lasoski who barely got the Mark Burch No. 1m turned down the track.

Setting up a three lap dash to (Continued Next Page)



## Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series

### Continued...

the finish, Lasoski got close but was never close enough as Swindell finished 1.078 seconds ahead of "The Dude".

Challenged by Dusty Zomer on the final restart, Clint Garner rebounded to hold onto third with Terry McCarl coming from eighth to fourth. Ian Madsen from 14th came up to complete the top-five in the last corner.

Challenging for the third spot on the restart, Dusty Zomer faded to sixth with Jack Dover advancing twelve spots as the night's Hard Charger. Friday's preliminary A-Feature winner, Jamie Veal crossed eighth, with Brooke Tatnell and Tony Shilling making up the top ten

Saturday night began with Ecompetition. Feature Colby Copeland grabbing that win. The night's D-Feature was topped by Billy Butler after race winner, Tim Shaffer, was disqualified for the Wickerbill being too tall on the No. 49x. Sam Hafertepe, Jr. was the winner in the C-Feature. In the first three feature events, Colby Copeland and Logan Forler were able to advance from the E to the C. Forler was a DNF in the C, with Copeland finishing 15th. Jack Dover was able to grab the B-Feature.

The next event for the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network will be the debut for the National Tour at the St. Francois County Raceway in Farmington, Mo. on Saturday, August 20, followed by the \$15,000 to win, second annual High Roller Classic at the Missouri State Fair Speedway in Sedalia, Mo. on Sunday, August 21.

For continued updates on the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network, log onto www.ascsracing.com.

## Jamie Veal Breaks Through on Night Two of the 360 Nationals

KNOXVILLE, IA - He may have lead start to finish, but it was a thriller of an A-Feature at the Knoxville Raceway as Australia's Jamie Veal found Victory Lane for the first time in his career at the

famed half-mile; winning night two of the 26th annual Arnold Motor Supply 360 Knoxville Nationals presented by Great Southern Bank.

Veal's first Knoxville Raceway victory also goes down as his first with the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network, making Jamie the 135th overall winner in Lucas Oil ASCS National Tour competition, and 13th on the season.

"All those starts helped me heaps. I got the jump there three or four times but I got a bit nervous those last few go-rounds with [Brian] Brown picking up a few, and [Clint] Garner picking up a few there, so it didn't leave much buffer," said Jamie on his victory at the famed half-mile. "Their experience around here is second to none, but I can't thank this Indy Race Parts team enough to give me to me the opportunity to race here."

Asked about his progression through the season at the Knoxville Raceway, Veal commented, "We've had a good car here the past three or four times here, and it's good to finally get a win at Knoxville, especially during the 360 Nationals, so we'll just go from here."

Three times to get the race rolling, Veal was able to get the jump all three times over the Go-Muddy.com No 1H of Dale Blaney. Moving away from the field, Veal built a comfortable two second advantage before the caution flew on Lap 12 for Matt Moro. Prior to the caution, the race on the track was for fourth as Brian Brown, Davey Heskin, and Clint Garner attached the position.

Taking over the show position on the restart from Brooke Tatnell, the Casey's General Store/FVP No. 21 of Brian Brown set sights on Dale Blaney for second. Diving low into the third turn, Brown broke loose from the bottom, sliding Nerf bar to left rear on Blaney, with both somehow able to roll away.

Caution with 13 laps complete, the cast of challengers continued their march to the front as the Midwest Excavating No. 40 of Clint Garner set sights on Brown for the runner-up spot.

With everyone still chasing Jamie Veal, the bottom side worked to Garner's favor as the night's quick timer rolled to second on the final lap. Running down Jamie Veal into the final two turns, the driver of the Indy Race Parts No. 71 would not be denied; crossing 0.435 seconds ahead of the current Knoxville Raceway 360 points' leader.

Brian Brown crossed third after starting fifth with Dusty Zomer coming home fourth. After challenging for the lead early, Dale Blaney slipped back to complete the top-five. Brooke Tatnell finished sixth with Jack Dover coming from 14th to seventh. Hard Charging from 20th, Johnny Herrera advanced to finish eighth with Davey Heskin winding up ninth. Tasker Phillips from 21st completed the top-ten.

Quick time went to Clint Garner on Friday night with a time of 16.017 seconds. Five Heat races were topped by Don Droud, Jr., Calvin Landis, Rager Phillips, Dale Blaney, and Jamie Veal. C-Feature honors went to John Schulz. The night's B-Main was topped by Tasker Phillips.

The Friday night program saw 52 drivers checking in, bringing this year's total to 93 competitors. With points tallied through the two preliminary nights, Clint Garner, with 492 points, has earned the pole in Saturday's \$15,000 to win feature event. He will share the front row with fellow South Dakota driver, Justin Henderson, who tallied 481 markers.

## Ball Leads It All to Win Night One of the 360 Knoxville Nationals

KNOXVILLE, IA - For the third time in his career at the Knoxville Raceway, Jamie Ball wheeled his J.J. Kane Auctioneers No. 5J around the Marion County half-mile perfectly for 20 laps for victory on night one of the 26th annual Arnold Motor Supply ASCS 360 Knoxville Nationals presented by Great Southern Bank.

Timing in 13th, Ball was able to run to the final transfer in the third Heat Race, setting Jamie on the pole of Thursday's preliminary A-Feature.

"I'd rather be lucky that good any day," chuckled Jamie when asked about his night and the way everything shook out. "Our qualifying numbers lacked a little bit because of a bad draw, but these guys are the best here. I'd put them up against anyone. We are so pre-

pared, you know, you win races in the shop and our hours of hard work show it, and I know our wives can attest that we've put a lot of work into this."

Ball's first Preliminary Night victory in the \$15,000 to win Arnold Motor Supply 360 Knoxville Nation-

als presented by Great Southern Bank, the win is also the Iowa native's first with the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network, making Jamie the 134th different winner in National Tour competition

Outdueling Bryan Clauson twice on the start following a red for Kade Higday, the No. 5J was challenged the first couple before starting to pull away only to see a caution on the third round as Nate Van Haaften slowed off the fourth turn.

With Clauson in tow on the restart, Ball built his advantage quickly as Clauson worked to hold off the No. 17x of Josh Baughman, who eventually worked to the runner-up spot on Lap 5. Stalking Jamie Ball as the pair approached slower traffic, the gap closed very little as the No. 5J weaved through the back-markers.

Shuffling the remainder of the top-five as the race worked past the half-way point, the race on the track brewed for second as Sammy Swindell wheeled the Acme Graphix No. 3s around Baughman on the sixteenth lap.

Closing slightly on Jamie, laps would run out as the No. 5j crossed 1.533 seconds ahead of Sammy Swindell.

Josh Baughman held on for third with Terry McCarl grabbing the fourth spot. Having to advance out of the B-Feature, Danny Lasoski rocketed from 21st to complete the top-five in the Parker Burch Motorsports No. 1m.

Ian Madsen from ninth came to sixth with Tony Shilling seventh. After contending for the lead early, Bryan Clauson slipped to an eighth place run with Justin Henderson and Ryan Giles making up the topten.

In terms of points following Thursday's opener, Justin Henderson sits atop the points with 481. Sammy Swindell and Tony Shilling sit at 480 each with the nod going to Swindell had a better finish in the A main. Josh Baughman in fourth in standings with 479 points followed by Danny Lasoski with 476 to complete the top-five.



# ShorTrack

## Hickory Motor Speedway

NEWTON, NC -The always exciting Sams Club Night @ the Races presented by Burger Fi made its annual stop at Americas Most Famous Short Track with music, racing, fireworks, and raising money for a good cause with the Children's Miracle Network on Saturday night.

Leading off the night would be Twin #1 of the night for the NASCAR Whelen All American Series Bojangles Late Models. Dexter Canipe Jr. in the #5 would start from the point after pacing qualifying with the #17 of Ryan Millington just to his outside. The second row would be made up of the #9 of Charlie Watson and the #87 of Hayden Woods. At the drop of the green flag the Canipes engine would go south and Canipe would drop back through the field. Millington would work his way to the point with Watson and Woods looking to chase him down. Canipe would drop to the back of the pack but begin working his way towards the front. Millington would hold off the challengers in the caution free feature for his 2nd win on the year with Watson finishing in 2nd. Woods would grab the 3rd spot, Canipe would fight back for a 4th place finish, and Andrew Garcia in the #12 would round out the top 5.

The Limited Late Models were next to roar to life with the #51 of Jeremy Pelfrey pacing the field and the #18 of Evan Swilling to his outside. The front row duo would do battle for several laps until a scuffle in turns 1 and 2 would see Pelfrey to the point and Swilling drop back to 4th. Monty Cox in the #21 and Dawson Cram in the #11 would find themselves in the middle of the battle for the lead with Pelfrey. Over the next 20 laps Swilling would patiently but methodically move his way back to Pelfrey's rear view mirror. Pelfrey would prove to be too much to handle on the evening and drive on for the victory with Swilling bouncing back for 2nd. Cram would move up to 3rd, Cox would hold on for 4th, and Alex Reece in the #18 would round out the top 5.

The NASCAR Whelen All American Series Bojangles Late Models would roll off next for Twin #2 on the night. Race one winner Ryan Millington in the #17 would start



Ryan Millington sails under his first checkered flag of the night at Hickory Motor Speedway. By night's end he had won both 40-laps Bojangles Late Model Series races. (Sherri Stearns photo)

from the pole, the #87 of Hayden Woods to his outside, Dexter Canipe Jr. in the #5 and Charlie Watson in the #9 making up row 2. Woods would grab the early lead and look to set the pace. Millington would work his way back to the front and bring Watson and Canipe with him as they make the move on Woods. Millington would drive on to the win for his 3rd on the year and 2nd on the night. Watson would take the runner up position sweeping 2nd in both races. Canipe would finish 3rd, Woods would hold on for 4th, and Andrew Garcia in the #12 would get his second 5th place finish on the night.

Finishing out the night's racing action would be the Street Stocks. Cody DeMarmels in the #18 would grab the pole position with Kevin Townsend in the #9 to his outside. DeMarmels and Townsend would battle for the point position before DeMarmels would finally pull ahead. Kevin Eby in the #03 would work his way around Townsend and make his way toward the leader. Several laps would see Ebv to the inside of DeMarmels with each wanting the lead. DeMarmels would finally clear the position while Townsend would challenge Eby for 2nd. Townsend would make his way around Eby and look to take the top spot. The closing laps saw **DeMarmels** Townsend side by side battling for the win. At the checkers Townsend would nose ahead and grab the victory with DeMarmels having to settle for 2nd. Eby would hold on for 3rd, Marshall Sutton in the #64 would grab 4th, and Mark Whitten in the #33 would finish 5th.

## Bowman Gray Stadium

WINSTON SALEM, NC - Win-

ston-Salem, NC) Friday night started off on a near-catastrophic note for Tim Brown of Tobaccoville. A little while later, he was claiming the checkered flag.

Brown pulled out on the track in pre-race qualifying sessions but didn't complete a single lap. Mechanical issues required him to be towed back to the pits. "I think we showed tonight how strong of a team we have for the car to break really important suspension parts when I leave to go qualify," said Brown.

Rookie Scott Gordon of Lewisville started on the pole after the field randomly drew for position. Burt Myers of Walnut Cove started in second. As the green flag dropped, Gordon couldn't get up to speed quick enough, allowing third-place-starter Jeremy Gerstner of Wesley Chapel, FL to dash into the lead. Gerstner was, however, passed by Burt Myers within 10 laps.

Myers defended the lead against a few double-file restart challenges, until Tim Brown pulled up beside him. Brown had made his way up from 10th and grabbed the lead from Myers on lap 72. Four laps later, the rain clouds opened up and the checkered flag waved.

"I held him down, and he hit the dirt and spun a little bit," said Brown about passing Myers. "Tonight, it was my night."

"I really thought that this was our race to lose, and unfortunately we lost it," said Burt Myers. "There was a little bit of dirt on the bottom of both ends, and I happened to get in it."

"I take responsibility for it. We'll come back tomorrow night and bring a car over here that's got 65 wins on it and 6 championships -

and see if we can't win," said Myers. "We're not going to sit at home tomorrow night like some guys, and we'll be back tomorrow night. Maybe if I can win, I'll get it off my mind."

## **Grandview Speedway**

BECHTELSVILLE, PA - After three separate showers went through the Grandview Speedway grounds late Saturday afternoon racing was delayed for an hour until the track was race ready for an action-packed night of three division NASCAR stock car racing in the activities sponsored by Bernheisel Race Cars.

The last time the Modifieds were in action, Jeff Strunk finished third, but was disqualified due to an illegal carburetor placing him last. He redeemed himself Saturday night when a restart work3ed to his advantage, he moved into second and became the new leader on lap 24. The ten-time champion went on to score his second 30-Lap T.P. Trailers NASCAR 358 Modified All-American Racing Series feature of the season. Strunk also received \$250 from T.P. Trailers and \$150 worth of product from VP Racing Fuels provided he was carrying the proper decals.

Ron Kline was contacted by Junior Grebe and Wanda Brown on Thursday to see if he wanted to take over the Late Model ride normally driven by Dave Ogin. He accepted the offer, relettered the car to his familiar No. 3 and was back in action for the BRC Late Model feature. He led all 30 laps of the event and finished by a considerable margin over runner-up Bryon Sipe. Kline had not been in the winner's circle since June 7, 2014. He also picked up an additional \$100 from T.P. Trailers.

Rookie racer Brian Papiez collected his third 25-lap NASCAR Sportsman feature after a close battle with second-place finisher Brett Gilmore. His efforts earned him \$100 from T.P. Trailers.

Coming up on Saturday, August 13th is one of the biggest and most prestigious events of the season for the T.P.Trailers NASCAR 358 Modifieds when the annual Pioneer Pole Buildings Forrest Rogers Memorial is presented. The 50-lap race for the Modifieds offers \$10,000 and often attract some outsiders to test their skills against the outstanding talents that regularly race at Grandview Speedway. In addition there will be racing for the BRC Late Models and Sportsman stock cars.

# Shortirack

## Kingsport Speedway

KINGSPORT, TN-Robbie Ferguson used a lap 46 restart to claim his first win at Kingsport Speedway since 2002 in a dramatic finish.

Ferguson and Wayne Hale were on the front row for 60 laps of NASCAR Whelen All-American Series action.

Hale would quickly pull to the lead, with Kres VanDyke and

Ronnie McCarty charging hard for second place real-estate. McCarty would push up the track at the exit of Turn 4, sliding him into fourth place.

VanDyke would settle into third, with Ferguson hanging into second and Hale staying in the lead. The first caution of the race would wave on lap 14 when the No. 51 of Nick Williams spun exiting Turn 2.

Hale and Ferguson again were on the front row for the restart. Hale would again jump to the lead, as VanDyke began getting pressured hard from Zeke Shell.

Shell and VanDyke would battle door to door for the third position, with Hale pulling away out front. Trouble for Rick Pannell would send his car spinning around in Turn 4, bringing the caution out once again.

Back under green, Hale would regain the lead and VanDyke would take over second place. Shell and Ferguson would make contact briefly, as Ferguson settled back into third and Shell in fourth.

Shell would pull to the inside at the exit of Turn 2 at halfway to take over third position from Ferguson. Out front, Hale would continue to lead, with VanDyke pressuring hard from second.

The caution would wave again on lap 32 when Joey Trent's car blew a radiator cap, spraying water all over the backstretch.

With Hale on the inside and VanDyke on the outside for the restart, the duo would battle side by side. VanDyke would take the lead on lap 35 on the outside of Hale, exiting Turn 4.

Trouble for Hale on lap 45 when contact from Shell would cause the left front tire to go flat. The issue would force Hale to stop in Turn 4, forcing the yellow out once again.

For the restart, VanDyke chose the outside, placing Shell on the inside. VanDyke would rocket to the lead over Shell. Only one lap under green, the caution would wave again when Austin Peters went spinning off of the nose of Derek Lane's No. 28.

Set for what would be the final restart of the race, Shell would jump straight to the lead over VanDyke.

A major battle would ensue after, as VanDyke would battle back and Ferguson would join the mix. The trio would go three wide entering Turn 1, with Ferguson taking over the lead in dramatic fashion.

With Ferguson in the lead, the dust still had not settled, as Shell, VanDyke, McCarty and Peters would engage in a four-car battle. The four would battle hard, making contact multiple times before the checkered flag waved.

Ferguson would take the win, his first Late Model Stock Car victory at any track since 2008. Shell, McCarty, VanDyke, and Hale would round out the top five.

"Chalk this one up for the old guys," said Ferguson. "We don't

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Robbie Ferguson ends a long winless streak at Kinsport Speedway Friday night after a long battle with Kres VanDyke, Ronnie McCarty and Zeke Shell. (Randall Perry photo)

give up; we just keep digging."

Ferguson was sure to thank his crew and sponsor Dalton Direct Carpets after the thrilling win.

"All of these guys at J and J Racing and Ken Daffron, I can't thank them enough," Ferguson. "It's these guys, I just drove [the car]."

## **Lonesome Pine Raceway**

COEBURN, VA - Ben Ebeling made his debut and claimed his first series victory Saturday night in the Super Cup Stock Car Series at Lonesome Pine Raceway.

Brent Nelson and Brandon Harrison made up the front row for the 75-lap Super Cup Stock Car Series main event.

On the opening lap, Nelson would rocket to the lead. Just after the completion of the first circuit, the caution would be displayed as Steve Harvilla slowed in Turn 1 with a flat tire.

Back under green, Nelson would race into the lead, but just three laps later, Harvey Harrison would take over the top spot.

Harrison would hold the lead through the halfway point, as Ebeling and Steve Cox made their way into second and third, respectively.

The second caution of the race would wave on lap 48 when the No. 18 of Jeff Zillweger spun in Turn 2.

On the restart, Harrison would regain the lead. Another spin by Zillweger would force the caution out again one lap later but not before collecting the No. 21 of Tim McGaughlin.

With the green flag back in the air, Harrison would retake the lead. Charging hard from second was Ebeling, who would take over the lead on lap 54.

Ebling would feel pressure from Trent Gossar at the lap 63 mark. Ebeling would continue to pull away at the entrance of each straightaway.

Gosser's charge from second would not be enough, as Ebeling would claim his first Super Cup Stock Series victory.

"This is my first time at Lonesome Pine," said Ebeling. "Before the race started, I had about 20 laps [around the track]."

It was also a special win for Ebeling for another reason. Ebeling's mother witnessed her son's first win.

"This is the first time my mom has been around for one of my wins in 20 years of racing."

Kres VanDyke qualified on the pole for the first 35-lap NASCAR Whelen All-American Series Late Model Stock Car feature.



Ben Ebeling celebrates his first win at Lonesome Pine Raceway. (LPR photo)

VanDyke took the lead over outside pole sitter Wayne Hale on the first lap at the exit of Turn 2.

VanDyke would lead the first half of the race until Hale closed in on his rear bumper. Hale would race to the inside of VanDyke on lap 20.

On lap 22, Hale would complete the pass over VanDyke and take the lead. Hale would lead the remaining laps and capture his sixth win of the season.

"Thanks to all of the fans for coming out," said Hale "We put on a pretty good show with Kres [VanDyke] there."

Hale also currently leads the Late Model Stock Car championship standings.

"We had another good points night tonight. [We need] to just continue this on."

Nate Monteith and Steve Deskins were on the front row for the second Late Model Stock Car feature

Hale would move into second over Monteith on lap 11 and set sail for VanDyke.

Hale's run would not be enough, with VanDyke leading all but five laps to claim his second win of the season at Lonesome Pine Raceway.

"The car was pretty consistent," said VanDyke. "We stayed on point the entire time and finally had what it took to get that first position."

VanDyke was sure to give credit where it was due following his win.

"[My crew] does their job and everything works out the way it's supposed to be every now and again."

# ShorTrack

## Carteret County Speedway

SWANSBORO. NC - Eric Winslow stormed to victory in Saturday night's NAPA/Walker Auto Parts Southern All-Star Showdown at Carteret County Speedway, making a last lap pass for the lead before being taken out after the checkered flag.

Winslow made the pass to the inside of race leader Zachary

Marks, after an intense four-way battle for the lead, heading into turn one. Winslow and Marks raced side-by-side coming out of turn four. Winslow crossed the stripe first to score the victory and then ended up being taken out by Marks at the stripe in a finish reminiscent of the 1995 Goody's 500 at Bristol Motor Speedway.

For Winslow, the victory is bittersweet. While he may have the trophy, he also has a totaled racecar after the postrace contact from Marks.

"I backed her into the wall really really hard," Winslow said after the race. "This is one of those things you never give up. My car is destroyed. It pays \$1,200 to win this race. I busted my ass to win it, came from the back twice, and I have a destroyed racecar. That's bad. I drove four hours and slept in my trailer to race here but that's not the track's fault.

"The track produces great racing. It is a challenge to get around it. That's why I come back."

The race was anything but easy sailing for Winslow.

Winslow started on the pole in the race but was spun early in the second half of the 60 lap race, relegating him to the rear of the field. He had to race his way back up to the front but was penalized after initiating contact with Joshua Yeoman which ended Yeoman's race.

"I did get off him but it was too much that he spun and wasn't able to save it," Winslow explained. "I'll admit I did that. That's my fault. I really gave up. I get upset in the car and mad. I tend to drive a little hard."

Despite the damage to the racecar, Winslow was proud of the hard work on and off the track that went to scoring the victory.

"I'm so proud to come here from Sellers. I work all week until 4am to get the car here and we won this



Eric Winslow (22) beats Zachary Marks (17) to the line in a thrilling finish at Carteret County Speedway. (Alicia Hackett/Frameworks Photography photo)

thing. I can't explain it. It's what fairy tales are made of right here, coming here to do this. And I hope to god you were live and people saw it."

We were.

The battle between Winslow and Marks was the climax of the intense race which saw numerous lead changes in the second half. Chris Burns, Alex Fleming and Zachary Marks traded the lead among themselves several times in the closing laps of the race – but a caution with 12 laps to go put Winslow in the picture.

Winslow rocketed to the second spot prior to a caution coming out with five laps to go setting up the showdown for the finish.

Zachary Marks ended up finishing in the second position. Marks declined comment after the race.

Chris Burns finished in the third position, his third top-five finish of 2016.

"Yesterday, at 10am, we didn't even have a motor," Burns commented. "We didn't get to test last night so I think we were a little behind the eight ball. Overall, I'm happy with how we ran. We definitely showed we had a strong car and it felt good to be back up front."

Burns had a front row seat to the thrilling finish and the extracurricular activity that took place after the checkered flag waved.

"I wish, a couple more laps and I would've liked to have seen what would have happened. We got stuck on the outside the last two restarts and that kind of hurt us. A couple more laps, we might have won after the battle royale. I know the fans loved it because it was pretty interesting from my seat."

Tyler Horne finished fourth in his Carteret County Speedway debut while Alex Fleming, also making his Carteret County Speedway debut, finished fifth

Winslow is the fifth different Late Model winner in Carteret County Speedway history and the fourth different winner in 2016. The track has never had a repeat winner in the Late Model division.

## **Selinsgrove Speedway**

SELINSGROVE, PA - Mark Smith of Sunbury scored his fourth win of the season in Saturday night's 25-lap 360 sprint car feature at Selinsgrove Speedway driving Canada's Patrick Vegneault's No. 55 entry.

Danville drivers Jeff Rine and Steve Campbell each scored a win in the twin 25-lap features for the super late models.

AJ Hoffman of Richfield took the checkered flag in the 15-lap pro stock feature, while Keith Bissinger of Orangeville won the 12-lap roadrunner race.

Selinsgrove Speedway swings back into action with a rare Saturday night 410 sprint car race this coming weekend, Aug. 13, plus super late models, pro stocks, and roadrunners at 7:30 p.m. Track gates will open at 5:30 p.m.

Mallie Shuster looked like a winner for the second race in a row in the 360 Sprint Car feature event presented by the Newville Family of Companies. Shuster led right out of the gate after passing Brett Michalski as the field jockeyed for positions. A lap five restart saw Nate Snyder throw a slide job on Shuster for the race lead before Shuster drove back into the top spot.

At the half way mark, Davie Franek and Mark Smith had worked into the thick of the battle coming into the top three. Franek started to develop a damaged wing, which allowed Smith to take second. Smith then used lap traffic to work by Shuster into the top spot for good.

Smith collected his fourth win of the year. This win came in the car Smith usually races with the Empire Sprint Series in New York and Canada after his weekly ride needed an engine change. With the win, Smith adds to his point lead after wondering if he would even compete Saturday night. Franek, Shuster, Derek Lock, and last place starter Jason Shultz rounded out the top five.

Shultz was credited with the night's IBEW hard charger award. Larry Kelleher, Nate Syder, Eric Tomecek, Ryan Kissinger, and Mike Walter were the top ten across the line. Cody Keller and Mallie Shuster won heat races for the 360 Sprint Cars.

Jeff Rine returned from a rained out event last week to kick off the night's Late Model racing with a win. Rine shook off any rust he had very quickly in the makeup feature from July 16's Jeff's Auto Body and Recycling Center fan appreciation night. Dave Stamm showed the way early on until a mid race yellow flag bunched the field back up. Jason Smith worked by Stamm while Rine used a battle between Gene Knaub and Stamm to go by both drivers for second.

Once in second Rine was able to catch and pass Smith for the race lead before Smith retired later

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# ShorTrack

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in the event with an apparent engine issue. Rine had some excitement at the end of the event with a caution flag that put Knaub and Bryan Bernheisel on his rear bumper. Rine ran his best laps of the race after the yellow driving to his sixth win of the season. Knaub was second and Bernheisel was third.

In the regularly scheduled late model

feature later in the night, a big wreck shuffled the starting line up in a big way for the feature restart. Hayes Mattern led the first five laps before his car broke at the end of the back stretch and hit the outside wall destroying his car. He was ok.

The wreck handed the lead over to Donnie Schick who led Steve Campbell until a lap 14 yellow flag. The yellow flag interrupted a battle for the lead as Campbell had just pulled out to pass Schick. Campbell wasn't going to settle for second on this night as he drove by Schick into the race lead on lap 16. Campbell finished second three times to start the season, but on Saturday night he was able to hold off the field to the checkered flag.

Jeff Rine ran second until the final lap when he broke. Luke Hoffner quickly drove into second holding off a hard charging Dave Stamm. Matt Cochran and Dave Zona rounded out the top five. Jason Smith came from deep in the field to finish sixth followed by Rine, Dick Houtz, Donnie Schick, and Danny Snyder. Heat races for the Late Models were won by Snyder, Rine, and Gene Knaub.

## Stafford Speedway

STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT -Stafford Speedway returned to NASCAR Whelen All-American Series racing action with the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour in the house for the Stafford 150. Taking down NASCAR Whelen All-American Series weekly feature wins on the night were Rowan Pennink in the SK Modified® feature, Tom Fearn in the Late Model feature, Marcello Rufrano was a first time winner in his very first career SK Light start, Justin Bren won the Limited Late Model feature, and Ryan Fearn scored the DARE Stock feature win.

In the 40-lap SK Modified® feature event, Tyler Hines took the

lead at the start with Stephen Kopcik slotting into second. Michael Gervais, Jr. was third with Tom Bolles fourth and Keith Rocco was fifth. Rigth behind Rocco was Eric Berndt and Woody Pitkat. Kopcik moved to the lead on lap-5 and he brought Gervias and Rocco with him as Hines slid back to fourth. Berndt was side by side with Hines and he took fourth on lap-9 as Gervais got around Kopcik to move into the lead. The caution came out with 13 laps complete for spins in turn 3 by John Montesanto and Tommy Membrino, Jr.

Ed Spiers spun on the restart along with Payton Henry to bring the caution right back out. Gervais took the lead with Rocco on his bumper on the next restart. Berndt made a strong move 2 laps after the restart to move into third with Kopcik fourth and Rowan Pennink was up to fifth.

Rocco was hounding Gervias for the lead while behind them Pennink was on the move as he took third place from Berndt on lap-21. Bolles spun in turn 4 to bring the caution out with 21 laps complete.

Gervais took the lead on the restart with Pennink and Rocco side by side for second. Pennink took the spot and beganto set his sights on Gervais for the lead. Pennink took the lead from Gervais on lap-26 and he immediately began to pull away as Rocco was now hounding Gervais for second. Right behind Rocco was Danny Cates and Pitkat.

Pennink led Gervais to the checkered flag to pick up his fourth win of the 2016 season. Rocco finished third with Cates and Pitkat rounding out the top-5.

In the 30-lap Late Model feature event, Tyler Leary took the early lead with Joel Monahan in second and Tom Fearn in third. Rich Hamman was fourth with a wild scramble going on for fifth between Kevin Gambacorta and Michael Wray. The caution came out with 2 laps complete for a spin in turn 2 by Peter Thickett.

Monahan took the lead on the restart with 3-wide action behind him as Fearn moved into second with Hammann taking third. Gambacorta and Leary were side by side for fourth place. Gambacorta took the spot with Tom Butler following him through to drop Leary back to sixth.

Monahan held the lead until lap-7 when Fearn moved to the front of the pack. Gambacorta got around Hammann for third and Hammann began to slide backwards as Butler moved into fourth and Michael Wray took fifth.

The top-5 cars ran unchanged to the finish as Fearn took down his division leading fifth win of the 2016 season and his second consecutive win.

In the 20-lap SK Light feature event, Ted Cain took the lead at the green with Wesley Prucker glued to his back bumper. Vinny Anglace was third with David Arute and Jay Goff fighting side by side for fourth. Joey Ferrigno and Tony Membrino, Jr. were side by side behind Arute and Goff. Prucker got shuffled out of line and Arute moved into second with Ferrigno and Anglace side by side for third with Membrino in fifth as they completed lap-7.

Ferrigno made a move to the inside of Arute on lap-9 to move into second but Arute was hanging tough in the outside lane and the duo ran side by side as Cain continued to lead. Everything changed in turn 2 on lap-12 as Ferrigno and Cain went around and brought the caution out. Arute was now the race leader with Daniel Wesson in second, Membrino in third, and Joe Graf, Jr. was now fourth for the restart.

Wesson took the lead from Arute on the restart but the field could only complete one lap before the caution came back out for spins by Cain and Mark Alkas in turn 4.

Graf and Wesson were side by side for the lead on the restart but Cain had spun in turn 1 to bring the caution right back out.

Wesson took the lead back under green but before the field could complete a lap there was a pileup of cars in turn 4 to bring the caution out.

The next restart saw Sean Mandel spin on the frontstretch to bring the yellow back out before a lap could be completed.

Wesson took the lead on the restart but he was only able to hold the lead for one lap because Marcello Rufrano took over the lead on lap-14 after starting the race at the rear of the field. Goff was third with Ferrigno and Arute side by side for fourth place. Rufrano slowly stretched out his lead over Wesson and he took the checkered flag in his very first SK Light start at Stafford. Ferrigno finished third with Goff and Arute rounding out the top-5.

In the 20-lap Limited Late Model feature event, R.J. Surdell took the early lead with Frank L'Etoile, Jr. and Justin Bren lined up behind him. Robert Bloxsom, III was fourth with Jeremy Lavoie in fifth. Al And Cliff Saunders were fighting for sixth with Paul Arute right on their

bumpers in eighth place.

Al Saunders won the battle with Cliff for sixth and Arute also got by Cliff to move into seventh. L'Etoile moved by Surdell on lap-7 in turn 1 to take over the race lead. L'Etoile's pass opened the door for Bren to follow him through and drop Surdell back to third place. Lavoie was now fourth with Bloxsom in fifth.

As the race hit the halfway point, L'Etoile and Bren were starting to pull away from Surdell in third. Bren made a move to take the lead from L'Etoile on lap-12. Al Saunders was now fourth behind Bren, L'Etoile, and Surdell with Arute in fifth.

Bren led L'Etoile to the checkered flag to pick up his second win of the 2016 season. Surdell finished third with Al Saunders and Arute rounding out the top-5.

In the 15-lap DARE Stock feature event, Nicole Chambrello led the field to the green flag and she took the early lead with Michael Hopkins moving into second. Dan Dembek settled into third with Chris Bagnall and Ryan Fearn dueling for fourth place. Chambrello spun in turn 3 after contact from Hopkins to bring the caution out with 1 lap complete. Hopkins was sent to the rear of the field for the contact with Chambrello.

Dembek took the lead back under green while Fearn was applying heavy pressure for the lead. Tyler Trott was up to third with Bagnall fourth and Johnny Walker was up to fifth.

As the field rumbled off turn 4 to complete what would have been lap 4, Dembek's car got out of shape and shot into the wall to bring the caution back out with 3 laps showing on the scoreboard.

Trott was able to keep pace with Fearn for half a lap on the restart before Fearn got clear to the lead. Walker was now alongside Trott for second with Alexandra Fearn up to fourth after starting at the back of the pack and Bagnall was running fifth.

On lap-11 Alexandra Fearn's car spun to the infield and she brought her car to pit road while her brother Ryan continued to hold the race lead with Walker in second and Trott in third. Brandon Michael was now in fourth with Zack Robinson in fifth.

Walker wasn't able to get close to Ryan Fearn as he took the checkered flag for his second win of the 2016 season. Walker and Trott followed him to the line with Michael and Robinson rounding out the top-5.