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FastTrack

RACING JOURNAL ONLINE

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Harvick Takes the Win at Michigan

Grant Enfinger Becomes 2019 Gander Outdoors Truck Series Regular Season Champion



David Gravel is Big Winner at Knoxville Nationals



Feuds Are Not Wise at Season's End

For the most part, everyone behaved for 400 miles Sunday at the Michigan International Speedway. Nobody was finger-pointing. NASCAR didn't hold anyone for detention. There were no fiery exchanges in front of television cameras or with reporters writing down every word.

As the playoffs approach, it's probably in the best interest of many, especially those already locked into championship field, to get along. Paybacks at 200 mph not only tear up cars, they can ruin the chance of getting a champagne shower following the winner-take-all season finale.

With just three races to go in stock car's regular season, Jimmie Johnson needs to worry more about finding speed and winning races than getting an apology from Ryan Blaney. Kyle Busch should be more aware of creating enemies ahead of the playoffs as winning races. And everyone should take notice that after starting the season slow, Kevin Harvick now is one of the few drivers who's gaining momentum ahead of the postseason.

Stage racing, less horsepower and a bulkier aerodynamic package has created a higher sense of urgency – and frustration. Passing is more trailing cars are too easily affected by the turbulent air created by the leader. To offset that, drivers try to run as close to the side of another car to avoid being caught in dirty air. And when side-drafting gets too close or aggressive, it usually brings the outside wall into play.

"It seems that it is the way you have to race these days," Joey Logano said. "There is a time for it. You don't do it every lap but there is a time that the aggression level will get you forward on the race track. There are times it will put you backwards into the fence. You just have to be smart with what you do and when you do it. I think there is a level that is accepted and there is also a line, just like anything else."

The turmoil of two weeks ago came on the road course at Watkins Glen International. Busch slammed on his brakes entering

the carousel and William Byron suffered damage to his front bumper in the chain reaction. Byron later spun Busch around in retaliation.

Later in the race, Busch swept wide off of a corner and appeared to be running Bubba Wallace off the track. Wallace never flinched and sent Busch spinning off course.

"What's there to be afraid of?" Wallace said. "We're out here to all race and go for the checkered flag and drivers who have been around the sport are obviously (set) in their ways. I'm out there running my own race, running for my life, running for my career."



DON COBLE

NASCAR talked to Bowman, Wallace and Busch and it seemed satisfied there won't be any hard feelings.

Logano said drivers never forget about paybacks.

"I think it is part of sports that you have to kind of keep in mind who you are competing against, not only yourself but other rivalries," he said. "I think it is important to know a little bit of the status of what is going on because you don't want to get caught up in something they are doing just because you were close to it. Being aware of the situations is key. I think it is important to try to keep up with that as much as possible. You don't want to let it consume you. It isn't the most important thing, but it is part of the game that we all need to be aware of one way or another."

If you're Busch, the last thing you want is racing against a handful of drivers during the playoffs who have an ax to grind.

Johnson was upset at Watkins Glen after he was knocked off course by Blaney. His ire intensified when Blaney didn't call him during the week to apologize or offer an explanation. Johnson said the contact was intentional; Blaney said it was a product of hard racing. NASCAR reviewed the accident and sided with Blaney.

Johnson, who finished 34th last Sunday at Michigan, now is 18th in the point standings, two spots and 12 points from the 16th-place cutoff. His last five finishes have been 30th, 30th, 15th, 19th and 34th. Feuding with Blaney is a distraction he doesn't need.

"I think there are so many things



Jimmie Johnson is still on the hunt for his next championship. (MATT THACKER/NKP photo)

that today make us more aggressive than happened during my rookie year," Johnson said. "Stage racing is a big part of it. It's just a different world. What [ticked] me off tremendously was to have the old guy sit me down and say, 'You're racing too hard, you're being too aggressive.' So, I really bite my tongue and try not to go down the road of the veterans that sat me down. I just boils down to the basics, in my opinion. There are times when you get used up and there are times when it's just racing.

There are accidents that happen, and I just try to call it a ball and strike in my mind and try not to get caught up with age or car number or who it might be."

Meanwhile, Harvick is surging. His win at Michigan was his second in the last four races, and it made him the only repeat driver in the last 10 races. His last four finishes are: first, sixth, seventh and first.

Meanwhile, drivers who dominated the first half of the season have cooled off. Busch has gone nine races without a win. Martin Truex Jr. has gone seven races; Brad Keselowski as gone 11; and, Logano has gone eight.

Starting with Saturday night's race at the Bristol Motor Speedway, there are only three races remaining before the playoffs. Bristol is known for accidents and hurt feelings. The race at the Darlington Raceway a week later won't be a joyride, either.

"As you get closer to the playoffs everyone is going to try to find and dig deeper down inside and find that little extra and we are getting to that point in the season where you have to start finding it and be ready to come out guns blazing and start the playoffs ready to rip," Logano said.

The challenge is to do it without making any enemies.

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MENCS - NIGEL KINRADE PHOTOGRAPHY
 NGOTS - STACY REVERE/GETTY IMAGES
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A New Title Contender

Winning your first NASCAR race in any of the top three divisions is an accomplishment. Winning your second career race the following week makes the feat even more amazing.

That's the story for Austin Cindric and the #22 Team Penske Ford the past two weekends. First, Cindric won at Watkins Glen (NY) International. He followed this week with a victory at the Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course in Lexington, Ohio. Ironically, both are road courses.

With his win at Watkins Glen, Cindric became the youngest driver in Xfinity Series history to win on a road course. However, the victory was far from easy.

The 20-year old Cindric gave up the lead at Watkins Glen when he pitted under caution for fresh tires with 13 laps remaining. After a multi-car crash resulted in another caution, the final restart came with only seven laps to go. A tight three-car battle opened the door for Cindric to move from sixth to second, setting his sights on leader A.J. Allmendinger.

The two talented racers battled back and forth for the final two laps

before Cindric was able to pass A.J. in the final turn with one lap to go. Cindric pulled away on the final lap for his first career Xfinity win.

"That finish was nuts," Cindric said.

"I didn't know how that was going to work out, but sometimes the path clears and you've got to take advantage of it. We executed all day today."

"We had discussed the possible scenario throughout the week of pitting if a late caution came out," Crew Chief Brian Wilson stated.

"We saw what tires did for the #7 car last year and it paid off for him to be able to come back through the pack. I don't know if it would have worked without the guys in front of us getting sideways, but, in the end, it did. It's really been a good day."

Fast forward one week to the 13-turn, 2.258-mile Mid-Ohio road course.

For the second consecutive year, Cindric won the pole for the annual event. His goal this year

was to finish one position better than he did in 2018 when he finished second.

Cindric led 46 of the 75 laps and outdistanced Christopher Bell for his second career victory in the Xfinity Series.

"It feels good, two in a row and going for three at Bristol," Cindric stated. "I'll probably go crazy if I win there. Should be a lot of fun. This win is great momentum for our team."

With his victory, Cindric became the seventh different winner in seven Xfinity races at the Mid-Ohio Road Course.

Should Cindric win at the half-mile Bristol Motor Speedway this weekend, he would become the first driver in NASCAR history to capture his first three wins in consecutive races.

With his second win of the 2019 season, Cindric joins "the top three" Tyler Reddick, Christopher Bell, and Cole Custer as the only driver with multiple wins this season. Bell and Custer have five wins each; Reddick, three.

With five races remaining in the "regular season" for the Xfinity Series before the playoffs begin at Richmond, Austin Cindric is quickly establishing his #22 team as a serious threat to join the Big Three of Reddick, Bell, and Custer". And, with good reason.

With another road course, Road America, on the schedule, Cindric could very well add to his win total

as well as earn more playoff points. Then, when the playoffs begin, Austin Cindric, based on his previous record at the tracks involved, could be considered a title contender.

Cindric finished second at Richmond earlier this season, ninth on the Roval event at Charlotte last year, and sixth at Dover earlier in 2019. A similar performance should advance him to the next round.

Cindric has only competed at Kansas once and didn't have a pleasant experience. Last year, he crashed and finished 39th in his only Xfinity race on the 1.5-mile track. Cindric finished 11th at Texas and fifth at Phoenix earlier this season at the two final tracks leading to the Championship race at Homestead (FL). The talented driver started and finished fifth in his only Homestead appearance last season.

Momentum can be a very valuable thing for a young driver in a very competitive ride. Scoring his first two career Xfinity wins in the past two weeks has certainly given Cindric and the #22 Team Penske Ford group the momentum heading into the stretch drive of the season. And, with several favorable tracks on the upcoming Xfinity schedule, Cindric could establish himself as one of the title favorites come playoff time.

So, "Big Three", don't look over your shoulder, another title contender is coming fast!



DENNIS PUNCH



Austin Cindric visited victory lane for the second time last weekend with his win at Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course. Look out he may be in champion form. (RUSSELL LABOUNTY/NKP photo)

Kevin Harvick Closes Out Michigan Weekend with a Win

Recovering from a punctured right front tire that cost him track position early in the race, Kevin Harvick passed Joey Logano on Lap 183 of 200 and cruised to a 1.595-second victory in Sunday's Consumers Energy 400 at Michigan International Speedway.

During a closing 48-lap green-flag run that began with a restart on Lap 153, Harvick charged from seventh to first, recording his second Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series victory of the season, his third at the 2.0-mile track and the 47th of his career.

"It was a day of a little bit of adversity that we were able to overcome," Harvick said. "We had a really fast car all weekend. Our car handled really well today, and with the multiple lanes (thanks in part to the application of traction compound in the high grooves), we were able to run all three lanes pretty well and make our way through traffic.

"They (the team) put a really fast race car on the track, and we were able to capitalize on it, so that's always fun."

When Harvick crossed the finish line, leading his 22nd lap of the afternoon, Denny Hamlin was running second after Logano pitted for

a splash of fuel on Lap 197. Kyle Larson ran third, followed by Martin Truex Jr. and Daniel Suarez, who re-entered the Playoff picture when two drivers on the bubble ahead of him — Jimmie Johnson and Clint Bowyer — had disastrous days in the Irish Hills.

Thirty-one laps into the race, Harvick steered his No. 4 Stewart-Haas Racing Ford onto pit road with a flat right front tire. But with the first 60-lap stage running green from start to finish, Harvick was able to drive up to sixth by the end of the stage.

Martin Truex Jr. won Stage 1 after starting from the rear because of two pre-race inspection failures, but his No. 19 Toyota wasn't as strong in traffic late in the race than it had been early on. Kyle Busch won Stage 2, but his car, like Truex's, wasn't as effective in traffic after pit stops at the end of the stage scrambled the running order.

Likewise, Hamlin's car was best in the heat of the day on a hot, slick track, but the speed in Harvick's car prevailed as the asphalt cooled down.

"Well, it seemed like we generally had the best-handling car when it was really hot and slick, but as the day went on and the track cooled off, the guys that had built more speed into their car, it kind of handicapped it for them. So, we were able to hang on to those



Keelan Harvick retrieves the checkered flag for his dad Kevin, waiting down below on the track, so that the celebration can begin. (NIGEL KINRADE PHOTOGRAPHY photo)

Fords there at the end, and then just got — the 4 (Harvick) was trying to save fuel I'm guessing there, the 2 (pole winner Brad Keselowski) and the 22 (Logano) peeled off.

"Nothing I could really do, just didn't have enough speed. The 4 was about a half second faster than us in qualifying, and when we were holding it wide open there at the end, just couldn't overcome it."

Kyle Busch ran sixth, and Ryan Preece came home seventh, posting his first career top 10 in his 28th series start. The Hendrick Motorsports trio of William Byron, Chase Elliott and Alex Bowman completed the top 10.

Hendrick teammate Jimmie Johnson wasn't as fortunate. On Lap 15, his No. 48 slapped the out-

side wall, severely damaging the right side of the car. Johnson finished 34th, eight laps down.

Bowyer's misfortune came on Lap 137, after contact with the No. 21 Wood Brothers Racing Ford of Paul Menard. Bowyer's car slammed into the Turn 3 wall, and efforts to repair the car proved futile. Bowyer retired from the race in 37th place.

Johnson dropped two places to 18th in the series standings, 12 points behind Bowyer and 12th-place finisher Ryan Newman, tied for the last Playoff-eligible position. Suarez moved past Johnson to 17th in the standings and trails Newman and Bowyer by four points with three races left before the cutoff at Indianapolis Motor Speedway.



Race winner Kevin Harvick sails out in front of the field on his way to victory at Michigan. (NIGEL KINRADE PHOTOGRAPHY photo)

Austin Cindric Collects His Second Consecutive Xfinity Career Win at Mid-Ohio

LEXINGTON, OH - Austin Cindric claimed his second NASCAR Xfinity Series victory in as many weeks – earning an impressive 3.78-second win over Christopher Bell and former Monster Energy NASCAR Cup driver A.J. Allmendinger Saturday afternoon at the Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course in Lexington, Ohio.

The 20-year old Cindric had just celebrated his career first win last week at the iconic Watkins Glen International road course and with a huge smile, effusively wondered what may be next for his No. 22 Team Penske Ford as the series heads to the half-mile Bristol Motor Speedway next week. Should he win at Bristol he would become the first driver in NASCAR Xfinity Series history to earn his first three wins in consecutive races.

"It feels so good," a smiling Cindric said after climbing out of his Ford Mustang. "These guys are the best and thanks for bringing me a great car again this year. And hell of a job by Christopher Bell keeping me honest all day.

"It feels good, two in row and going for three at Bristol. I'll proba-

bly go crazy if I win there. Should be a lot of fun. This is great momentum for our group."

Cindric is the seventh different winner in seven Xfinity Series races at the 2.258-mile, 13 Turn Mid-Ohio course and his day included impressive feats of both maintaining the lead and high pursuit to reclaim it between pit strategies. He won the pole position by a full three-tenths of a second and held "favorite" status before the green flag even dropped.

Much of the race was spent negotiating re-starts and high speed turns with Bell on his bumper or at his door – as well as fending off another road racing star Jack Hawksworth, who actually won in class in an International Motor Sports Association (IMSA) race at Mid-Ohio already this year and made his series debut in the Joe Gibbs Racing No. 18 Toyota.

Hawksworth started from the outside pole and challenged the frontrunners for much of the race, eventually finishing 15th and leading five laps. He actually won the second stage, which finished under caution – one of six yellow flags for 17 laps on the afternoon.

"I enjoyed it, it was a lot of fun," Hawksworth said after the race. "I



Austin Cindric holds up his second NASCAR XFINITY Series trophy in-a-row after besting the field at Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course. (RUSSELL LABOUNTY/NKR photo)

was having a lot of fun out there. I had a great time and would like to come back."

Cindric led 46 of the 75 laps and Bell, the driver of the No. 20 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota, was the only other driver in double digits out front. Bell is second in the championship standings to Tyler Reddick, who finished fourth Saturday. And after the race, the short track superstar conceded he is getting better on the road courses. Bell was second last week to Cindric as well.

"I don't know about that, but I do know we're going to Bristol next week and I can't wait," he said smiling about the road course prowess he's shown with the back-to-back runner-up finishes.

"The last two weeks have been really great for us points-wise and road racing isn't my strong suit."

Reddick, Bell and Cole Custer – who finished eighth Saturday after an eventful day on track – combined to win 13 of the first 18 Xfinity Series races of the season. With Bell's second straight runner-up showing and Reddick's fourth place finish, the defending series champion Reddick maintains a 24-point championship lead on Bell heading to Bristol next week.

Cindric joins this threesome as the only Xfinity drivers with multiple wins in 2019.

Chase Briscoe, defending race winner Justin Allgaier and rookie Noah Gragson persevered for a good day as well. Briscoe won Stage 1 and finished seventh. Allgaier, the defending race winner, rallied to a sixth-place finish after a couple of off-track excursions. And the rookie Gragson, impressed with a fifth-place finish after also being involved in some tight, full contact racing as well.

The series races next Friday night at Bristol Motor Speedway in the Food City 300. Chip Ganassi Racing's Monster Energy NASCAR Cup star Kyle Larson won the Xfinity race last year.



Austin Cindric (22) battles current points leader Tyler Reddick (22), who finished fourth in the race standings. (NIGEL KINRADE PHOTOGRAPHY photo)

Austin Hill's Win at Michigan Helps Matt Crafton Clinch Playoff Spot

BROOKLYN, MI - Austin Hill's victory in Saturday's Corri- gan Oil 200 at Michigan International Speedway provided sweet relief for two-time NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series cham- pion Matt Crafton.

With Hill's second victory of the season, Crafton has a chance to run for a third title, having clinched the final spot in the series Playoffs on points.

The outcome—and Crafton's fate—weren't decided until the final moments of a race that went five laps beyond its scheduled distance of 100 laps. For two nail-biting laps of overtime, Sheldon Creed chased Hill, edging ever closer over the last two miles.

But Hill had the advantage off the final corner and beat Creed to the finish line by .125 seconds, denying Creed the Playoff spot that went to Crafton. A victory by Creed would have knocked the two-time champion out of the postseason.

"It's huge," said Hill, who rebounded from a last-place finish in

the previous race at Eldora Speed- way. "We've had a struggle these last four of five races. We just keep having issues and just can't finish these races."

Hill's winning No. 16 Toyota was brand new, unveiled for this race— appropriately since Hill was racing at Michigan for the first time in the series.

"When we unloaded, we had to work out some bugs in it, but we got it driving really good," said Hill, who also won the season opener at Daytona.

"I was really happy with the speed of it. Man, this race was crazy."

A nine-car wreck moments after a restart with four laps left in regu- lation set up the overtime. Tyler Ankrum, the leader at the time, spun his tires, and a well-inten- tioned push Crafton turned him around and started the melee. The wreck collected Playoff hopeful Todd Gilliland, who had driven up to eighth after pitting for tires on Lap 88.

Needing a victory to qualify for the postseason, Gilliland had led 14 laps to that point, but the wreck



Austin Hill is all smiles as he celebrates with his crew in Michi- gan's victory lane. (QUINN HARRIS/GETTY IMAGES photo)

ended his hopes.

Similarly, Ben Rhodes saw his Playoff chances fall apart when he had to pit under green with a cut tire with 21 laps left. Rhodes had led 15 laps before his ill fortune. He and Gilliland finished 23rd and 24th respectively.

Crafton had some nervous moments before he clinched his Play- off berth. After a restart on Lap 70, three-drivers on win-or-bust mis- sions—Gilliland, Rhodes and Har- rison Burton—were running first through third.

"When all three, the 18 (Burton), the 4 (Gilliland) and the 99 (Rhodes)... when all those guys are 1-2-3 at one point, I'm like, 'I better get up on the saddle and dig,'" Crafton said. "I was definitely

doing everything I could to shuffle them out."

Tyler Dippel finished a career- best third, followed by Brett Moffitt and Austin Wayne Self. Bayley Currey, Grant Enfinger, Stewart Friesen, Ray Ciccarelli and Crafton completed the top 10.

Enfinger clinched a spot in the Playoffs when he took the green flag. By the end of the first stage, he had locked up the regular-sea- son title—and accompanying 15 Playoff points—with a sixth-place finish.

Crafton, the only driver with a re- mote chance to catch Enfinger for the regular-season championship, had to start from the rear of the field because of an engine change. The driver of the No. 88 ThorSport Rac- ing Ford climbed to 10th by the end of the first stage, but by then, his chances of unseating his teammate were gone.

Polesitter Ross Chastain won Stage 1 wire-to-wire, but a three- truck accident on pit road cost him dearly. While exiting his stall under caution on Lap 23, Johnny Sauter collided with the No. 9 Chevrolet of Codie Rohrbaugh, knocking Rohrbaugh into the right side of Chastain's Chevrolet.

Chastain, Sauter and Rohrbaugh all spent extra time on pit road dealing with the damage, but Chastain was the primary vic- tim, his race over.

"It was gut-wrenching, for sure," Chastain said after leaving the in- field care center. "It was a shame, but that's part of racing. They can't all be great days... It's tough to lose a race with a truck like we had today."

Eight drivers—Chastain, Hill, Ankrum, Sauter, Enfinger, Moffitt, Friesen and Crafton—will start their potential title runs on Thursday night at Bristol Motor Speedway.



The NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series play-off field is set. Austin Hill, Stewart Friesen, Tyloer Ankrum, Brett Moffitt, Matt Crafton, Ross Chastain, Johnny Sauter and Grant Enfinger are ready to start the run for the title next week at Bristol Motor Speedway. (ISC photo)



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Chase Burda Gets Fourth Straight Custom Trailers CRA Junior Late Model Series Win at Anderson

SALEM, IN - Columbiaville, Michigan teenager Chase Burda worked quickly from his third place starting position to get the lead on the first lap and never looked back in winning his fourth straight Victory Custom Trailers CRA Junior Late Models feature in the five events the series has had to date on the fast ¼ mile at the famed Anderson Speedway. The 25 lap feature was the first green to checker feature of the series inaugural season.

"This is great to get four wins in a row," remarked Burda in victory lane. "The engine had a little miss in the heat, wasn't sure how it would run in the feature, but it was good. We got a great start and were able to get the lead on the first lap and got the win. Thanks to my family for their support of my racing!"

The Victory Custom Trailers

CRA Junior Late Models is a new racing series in 2019 to focus on a youth movement for short track stock car racing that will see 10 to 15-year-old drivers compete amongst themselves for both experience and recognition in full size late models with an economical drive train and suspension alternatives. Saturday's race was the fifth of eight scheduled events for the series in 2019.

The Victory Custom Trailers CRA Junior Late Models teams participated in two practice sessions on Saturday, Burda was the fastest in both practice sessions. Burda claimed his fifth straight MPM Marketing Fast Qualifier Award, beating out Katelyn Hettinger in the group qualifying session. Charlie Keeven got the win in the first heat, ending Burda's heat win streak which had been four straight going into Saturday night. Zach Wilhelm got the win in the second heat.

Keeven ran a great feature finishing second to Burda, his best



Chase Burda celebrates in victory lane after winning at Anderson Speedway, his fourth straight CRA Junior Late Model Series win. (CRA photo)

feature finish to date and picked up the AR Bodies Cool Move of the Race Award. Luke Wilhelm finished in third, his third straight third place finish in the last three series events. Hettinger finished in fourth, Dawson Knaul in fifth place and Zach Wilhelm in sixth place.

Saturday's event was the last event in the series regular season. Burda was the regular season points Champion and earns an automatic spot in the final three drivers who will race for the series Championship in the series final event of the season. The series

2019 Chase for the Championship begins this Friday, August 16th at Corrigan Oil Speedway. Luke Wilhelm locked himself into the Chase with his win in the series season opener. Keeven, Hettinger, Knaul, and Zach Wilhelm all earned a spot in the Chase by their points and participation in the 2019 season.

The next Victory Custom Trailers CRA Junior Late Models event will be this Friday, August 16th at Corrigan Oil Speedway. More information on the Victory Custom Trailers CRA Junior Late Models is available at www.cra-racing.com.

ARCA Menards Series Headlines 2019 Illinois State Fair Racing Weekend

Track Enterprises is proud to partner with the United States Auto Club, the Automobile Racing Club of America and UMP DIRTcar Racing to continue a tradition at the Illinois State Fair that dates back to 1905. One hundred plus years of motorsports continues during the last weekend of the 2019 Illinois State Fair with the USAC Silver Crown Bettenhausen 100 presented by Brandt, the ARCA Menards Series Allen Crowe 100 presented by Lucas Oil and the Sportsman Nationals. These traditional one mile dirt track events are among the most prestigious on the USAC and ARCA schedules and a focal point of the schedules of many race fans.

Auto exhibitions first came to the Illinois State fair as early as 1905 and actual competition followed a few years later. Open wheel, up-

right machines have been a part of auto racing since the early days and stepped into the national spotlight when the Illinois State Fair hosted its first national championship race in August of 1934. The United States Auto Club began sanction of the fair championship race in 1956 and continued when the Silver Crown division was formed in 1971.

USAC brings an outstanding mix of young talent and wily veterans to the Illinois State Fair on August 17 for the annual Bettenhausen 100 presented by Brandt. The Saturday championship race acquired the Bettenhausen name in 1961, honoring two-time national champ and Tinley Park native Tony Bettenhausen and eventually his entire family. The 2018 version became an instant classic as rookie Kevin Thomas Jr. battled with Tyler Courtney for over 80 miles at the front of the pack. 2016 USAC national champion Chris Windom bided his time saving his tires and blew past

the leaders at the end to win his first Bettenhausen. An entry list of 40 plus drivers is anticipated for the 2019 Bettenhausen. Three time national champ Kody Swanson currently leads the USAC Silver Crown points while Courtney won the May Hoosier Hundred at the Indiana State Fairgrounds.

Stock cars first ran on the fair-ground mile in September of 1950 and joined the fair's entertainment lineup in August of 1965. The stock car race was named for the late Allen Crowe, a Springfield native who was a rising star in USAC and at Indianapolis. The Automobile Racing Club of America which has sanctioned the Allen Crowe 100 presented by Lucas Oil since 1985, is known for attracting rising talent as well as a few local drivers attempting to enter Springfield's victory lane. 17 year old Justin Hayley became the youngest driver ever to win a major race at Springfield in 2016 and 18 year old Christian Eckes took the Crowe 100 last year. Eckes returns for a second shot at the Springfield dirt currently third in the ARCA title chase behind Michael Self and Bret Holmes.

Since 1905 numerous local and area drivers have honed their skills

on the Springfield Mile in a variety of events, from sprint cars to midgets to stock cars. Entering year 26, the Sportsman Nationals event has become a signature event of the UMP DIRTcar series.

The action begins Saturday August 17 with practice for the USAC Silver Crown Bettenhausen 100 at 10 a.m. and the 100-mile event slated for 2 p.m. On Sunday August 18 practice for the ARCA Menards Series Allen Crowe 100 begins at 9 a.m. with the Crowe 100 taking the green flag at approximately 1:40 p.m. Heat races for the Sportsman Nationals are slated for Saturday prior to the Bettenhausen 100 with the 20 mile main event Sunday prior to the Allen Crowe 100. Midget racing at Lincoln on Friday night and Macon Saturday night make this a can't miss racing weekend in Central Illinois.

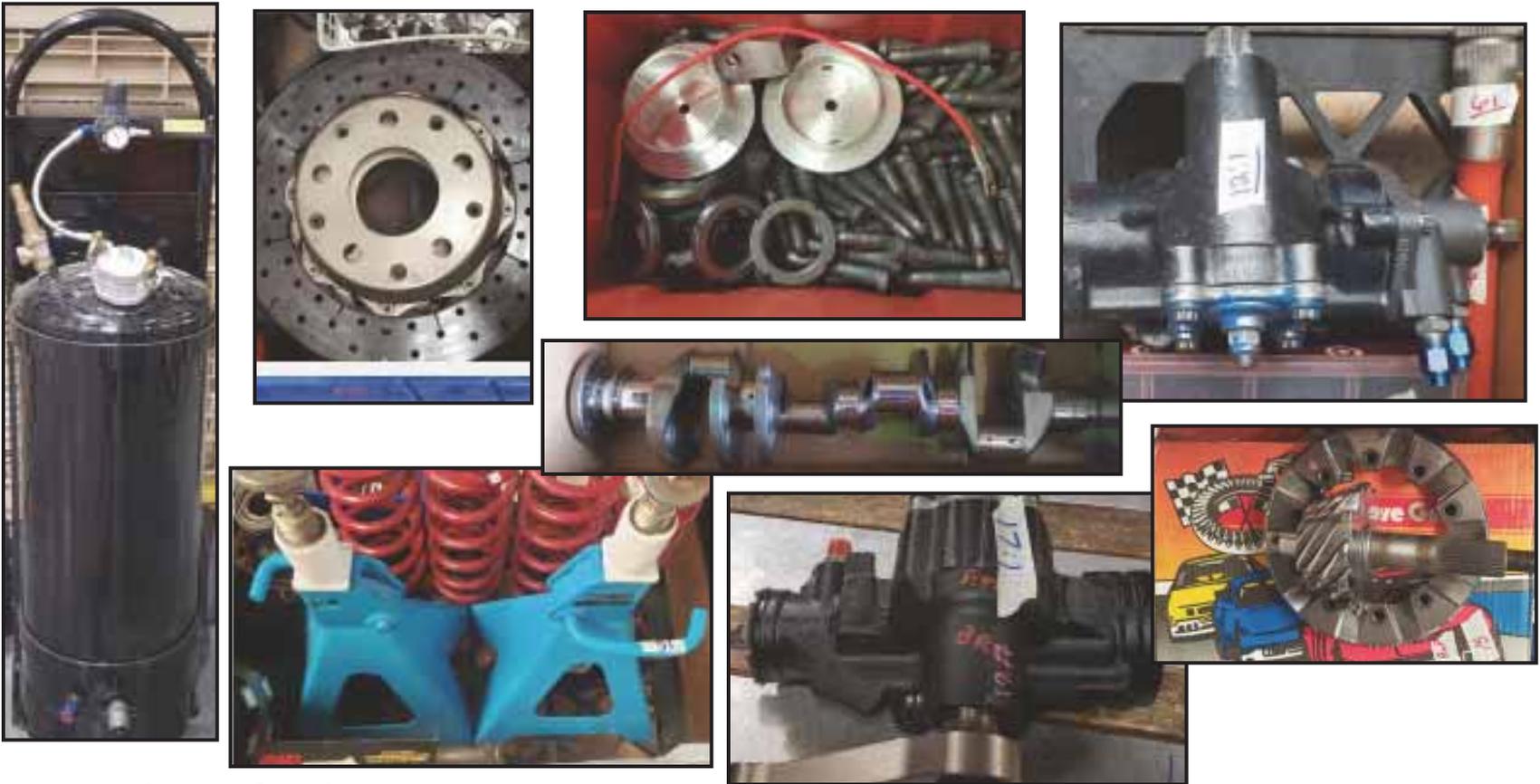
Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 on race day, \$10 for children 11 and under and can be purchased at the Illinois State Fair Box Office, Ticketmaster locations or by calling 217-764-3200. Discounted tickets for the ARCA race can also be purchased at Springfield, IL area Menards locations for \$20.

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David Gravel Wins First Knoxville Nationals

KNOXVILLE, IA - Jason Johnson just wanted to win.

"And we F'ing did it," said a jubilant David Gravel, standing in Victory Lane with his Jason Johnson Racing team as the Knoxville Nationals champion for the first time in his career Saturday night at Knoxville Raceway.

"It just feels amazing," Gravel said. "I don't know what else to say. It feels really surreal. It doesn't feel real at all."

The Watertown, Conn.-native won the 59th annual NOS Energy Drink Knoxville Nationals presented by Casey's General Store in his first year with Jason Johnson Racing. And the pair did it in dominating fashion.

They started off their week in Knoxville, Iowa by winning Knoxville's Capitani Classic. Four days later, debuting a new blue and fluorescent color painted car with Axalta on the side of it for the first time, Gravel won his preliminary race for the Nationals – earning a second-place starting position for Saturday's Feature.

The Jason Johnson Racing team then started their Saturday evening by winning best appearing car and best dressed crew with the entire JJR team looking like rainbow warriors in their red, yellow, orange and blue Axalta gear.

A few hours later, after holding an E-Main, D-Main, C-Main and Last Chance Showdown – which saw Gio Scelzi, Donny Schatz, James McFadden and Rico Abreu transfer to the Feature – it was race time.

The field of 24 cars was set. More than 20,000 people – triple the town's population – filled the grandstands. The crackling of fireworks echoed around the half-mile raceway.

Once the cars filed in two by two, flagman Doug Clark waved the green flag in front of the field for the final time at the Knoxville Nationals. Polesitter Aaron Reutzel launched to the lead past Gravel with Joey Saldana in his tire tracks. Saldana slid to the cushion in turn one in front of Gravel to take second.

Exiting turn four Reutzel hit the inside berm, got out of shape and allowed Saldana to get a run on

him from the high side. Saldana stuck to the cushion in turns one and turn two, finding enough grip and momentum to charge around Reutzel for the lead.

Hugging to the bottom, Reutzel got back in his groove and ran Saldana down two laps later to retake the lead. Their battle wasn't over yet.

After two cautions – including one for Donny Schatz having throttle linkage issues – Saldana found himself back on Reutzel's bumper. The "Brownsburg Bullet" continued to run the cushion, while Reutzel remained low. However, with Saldana closing, Reutzel changed lines in turns three and four, moving to the side high. The lane switch blocked Saldana's run and helped Reutzel extend his lead.

While the two battled, Gravel watched. Waited. He knew there was plenty of time to make a move in the 50-lap Feature.

"I didn't get too excited," Gravel said. "I knew if we fell back to fourth or fifth it would be kind of hard to battle back up there and contend for the win. Just kind of fell into third there."

Once the lead was back in striking distance, Gravel pounced. Running the bottom, he drove past Saldana for second on Lap 10 and then methodically inched his way to the leader. Three laps later, with his front bumper close to Reutzel's tail tank, Gravel threw a slide job at the Texian in turn three and made it stick off four.

When the score board clicked off another lap, Gravel was officially the new leader on Lap 14. From there, he set his Axalta No. 41 on cruise control until the scheduled caution on Lap 25.

"I just let the race come to me," Gravel said. "Just, luckily, I was able to maintain third there early. I think that was huge and kind of see what lines worked where and what was the best place to be."

Before the scheduled caution, Daryn Pittman was on a charge. From his 10th starting spot, Pittman worked his way to third-place, having to fight hard for it with Saldana and Tim Kaeding.

Once the race hit Lap 25, Gravel's lead evaporated. All 24 cars were brought to the infield and teams were given three minutes to make any adjustments. Despite their speed, the Jason Johnson Racing did take the time to make a few tweaks. However, Gravel said



David Gravel celebrates winning the 59th Annual NOS Energy Drink Knoxville Nationals with car owner Jaxx Johnson. It was Gravel's first career Knoxville Nationals in his first year with Jason Johnson Racing. (Paul Arch photo)

with a chuckle, if he told you what they were he "might have to kill you."

Whatever they were, they worked.

Gravel shot to the lead on the restart, immediately putting about a half a straightaway lead between he and Reutzel. A new contender emerged, though. Pittman, continuing his earlier charge, worked his way around Reutzel for second and began to track down Gravel.

The difference in speed was apparent. Pittman was making the high side work better than Gravel, inching closer every lap.

Two years ago, Gravel had a motor blow while leading the Knoxville Nationals. This year, it looked like Pittman might spoil his shot at a win once again.

But Pittman wasn't always consistent against the cushion. At times he would hit it wrong, upset his car and lose time to Gravel. It only took a couple of bobbles by Pittman for Gravel to pull away.

Gravel was back on cruise control. He just wanted to win.

Behind the top-two, Logan Schuchart was in a league of his own. From his 22nd starting posi-

tion, he made his way to ninth by the halfway point. Then found himself in the top-five four laps later. With less than 10 laps to go, he was in third and closing on Pittman. With lapped traffic becoming a factor, Schuchart was able to steal second from Pittman on the last lap.

"To start 22nd and run second at the Knoxville Nationals is pretty awesome," Schuchart said. "There's good and bad second-places. The Kings Royal was a tough one. I wasn't smiling a whole lot on that one. But tonight, I'm smiling."

Pittman admitted there are also good and bad third-place finishes. His falls somewhere in between.

"Pretty frustrated that we lost second on that last lap," Pittman said. "A lapped car just made a mistake in front of me."

"On one hand I'm really happy and really proud of this Roth Motorsports team and the effort we've put into Knoxville Raceway all season long, especially tonight. On the other hand, I'm pretty disappointed that I feel like that's the best car I've ever had here and the best chance

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I've ever had to win this race."

Gravel had his own issues with lapped cars in the closing laps. One bounced off the wall in front of him and others blocked his line. They slowed his pace, but not enough to put him in any danger.

He sped by the duel waving checkered flags with a more than 4.5 second lead over Schuchart.

"I've put myself in position a lot of times after prelim nights and never had anything to show for it," Gravel said. "You know, my best finish is 10th. I feel like I've always been pretty good here, but no results Saturday night. Obviously, the JJR 41 gets around here good and it shows. It's just a dream week. I'm numb right now. I don't even know what is going on."

The win was joyous and emotional for the entire team, especially team owner Bobbi Johnson, Jason Johnson's wife, who made the decision to keep the team going after Jason's death last year.

"I'm still trying the fathom it," Bobbi Johnson said about the win. "You dream of this stuff."

In the back of the JJR trailer is a list of goals. Johnson said the team usually sets goals every year. They weren't going to this year, but then decided to do so. One was to win the Kings Royal. That didn't happen. But there was still one goal on the list – win the Knoxville Nationals.

"It's just phenomenal, unreal," said Johnson, slowing her sentences to hold back the emotion. "Words can't say what goes into all of the behind the scenes of something like this. I'm just thankful Jason was a great teacher and leader to me.

"If I wouldn't have known the ins and outs and a lot of the other stuff and have (crew chief) Philip Dietz and these two (crew member) boys that stuck with us after the passing of Jason, there's no way this team could've did it. And it took a whole 'nother army of sponsors to even be here to compete. So, I have to thank everybody that's out there, and all of the fans. There'd be some down nights and I'd read some of the messages, and they're very touching. I don't know if words could every describe it."

They just wanted to see them

win.

UP NEXT: The World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series on Aug. 16 will return to River Cities Speedway in Grand Forks, N.D. Get tickets and more information. And on Aug. 17 the Series be at Red River Valley Speedway in West Fargo, N.D. Get tickets and more information.

As always you can catch all of the action LIVE on DIRTVision.com.

Kerry Madsen Wins Hard Knox Race to Transfer to Knoxville Nationals

KNOXVILLE, IA - A demon was exorcised from Kerry Madsen Friday night.

His relaxed body posture and ability to smile wide proved it. The stress of not being locked in the NOS Energy Drink Knoxville Nationals that possessed him was gone.

He won Knoxville Raceway's Friday night "Hard Knox" race, leading all 25 laps, locking himself into the 21st starting spot for Saturday's 59th annual NOS Energy Drink Knoxville Nationals presented by Casey's General Stores.

"It's a big relief I'll tell you that," Madsen said in Victory Lane. "Not putting her in the show (in the preliminary race) Wednesday night, we just didn't have a great night. We didn't perform and we didn't execute. Come out tonight and the car was a rocket ship all night."

While Madsen was the one that got to do the wing dance and wave the checkered flag Friday night, there were three other drivers in Victory Lane that shared his solace and big smile. Logan Schuchart, Shane Stewart and Dominic Scelzi

also transferred to Saturday's Feature – starting 22nd, 23rd and 24th, respectively – by finishing in the top four.

All four fought to make that happen.

The initial start of the 25-lap Feature was plagued by several cars stacking up on the backstretch – one flipping on its side – due to Brian Brown slowing from a broken part. When the race went back green Madsen held on to the cushion and used the momentum it gave him to accelerate to the lead. He then moved to the bottom and continued to put distance between he and second-place.

Behind him, the Drydene No. 1s of Schuchart rocketed from his eighth-place starting position to second in one lap using the high side of the half-mile track. Scelzi also charged from fifth to third, and Stewart fell to fifth.

However, two laps later Stewart moved into fourth and then began to hunt down Scelzi. He passed him for third eight laps into the Feature. About the same time, Schuchart caught Madsen and attempted a pass underneath him in turn one, but the Aussie switched lanes to the high side and began to pull away again.

"It was a bit confusing early of which line would be dominant," Madsen said. "Watching the B-Main it was the bottom. So, I worked the bottom early. I heard him (Schuchart) up there and thought 'Sweet, right, I can get to the top and go.' So, that was nice."

The top four then acted as an accordion throughout the Feature, closing the gap to each other then extending it. Scelzi passed Stewart for third in the closing laps, but Stewart took the position back the next corner.

Scelzi did the most battling of the night, having to fend of multiple attempts by drivers to steal the final transfer spot from him. Sammy Swindell pulled a slide job on the California driver to take fourth-place, but Scelzi didn't let the veteran keep it for long. He quickly powered back by Swindell and held onto fourth-place for the remainder of the race. Austin McCarl and Spencer Bayston put pressure on him in the closing laps, though.

Stewart's vision of starting up front for the Knoxville Nationals – one he saw possible after setting Quick Time during Thursday's preliminary race – vanished on the first lap of his Heat race that night when he over shot the cushion and flipped, ending his night.

His vision of transferring into the Feature almost vanished with nine laps to go Friday night. A car spun directly in front of him, missing his KI Crossbows No. 5 car by inches when he drove by. And then with four laps to go, his car started to run out of fuel.

"We were completely out of gas coming across the checkered flag, so I wouldn't have made it one last corner," Stewart said. "Very fortunate. Happy that the CJB car is in the show."

Schuchart's second-place run was in a different car than the one he ran during his preliminary Qualifying race. He and his Shark Racing team switched from a new car to the one he finished second with at the Kings Royal.

To Schuchart, a chassis is a chassis. The new one didn't work because of adjustments made to it. But he said he believes confidence is key. So, if the team felt more confident in going to the old car, that's what they were going to do. It worked.

Madsen, the 2005 Knoxville Raceway track champion, found the right set up and cruised to the Hard Knox victory. He couldn't wait for the race to be over, however, and the stress to be gone.

"I think all four of us during the last few laps there were looking going, 'We don't really care about winning, just let this thing end and the checkered come out,'" Madsen said. "I can't tell you how relieving it is."

Now their attention is turned to Saturday. The \$150,000-to-win Knoxville Nationals. With it, a new kind of stress. How are they going to make their way from the rear to the front in the 50-lap race?

For 21st-place starter Madsen: "Honestly, just going to push
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Kerry Madsen celebrates in victory lane with flagman Doug Clark after winning the "Hard Knox" race before the Knoxville Nationals. (Paul Arch photo)

Continued...

hard the whole way. We're going to have to race hard for fifty (laps). There's going to be no kind of strategy, patience or pace yourself. It's going to be go hard."

For 22nd-place starter Schuchart:

"I think we'll keep it pretty similar for the start of the [Feature] tomorrow and have some things ready, our guys will be ready to change if we feel

like we need to change it. I feel like we have a great car and I feel like and hope we'll be able to race our way up there tomorrow."

For 23rd-place starter Stewart:

"It's really two twenty-five lap Features. Starting in the back where we're going to be, you can't settle. You have to get after it and try to race as hard as you can all fifty laps and see how it all shakes out.

"We need to get a little bit more traction. I feel like Logan and the 2 was a little bit better than we were. The thing is there's twenty-four good cars that's going to be in that A-main and every spot is going to be a tough spot to get. Hopefully it works out."

And for 24th-place starter Scelzi:

"I can't go backwards," Scelzi said. "We're going to be plus positions regardless. Just got to be smart, race smart. And, in all honesty, my goal is a top-ten. I think it's realistic. I think it's possible. My goal is to stay on the lead lap for the first twenty-five (laps) and then the second twenty-five. Hopefully we're around fifteenth, sixteenth and see what we can do."

David Gravel Wins Second Qualifying Race for Knoxville Nationals

KNOXVILLE, IA - Knoxville Raceway has been on David Gravel's mind for a while.

Particularly the 59th annual NOS Energy Drink Knoxville Nationals presented by Casey's General Stores.

Before even making a lap in his new No. 41 Jason Johnson Racing ride at the beginning of the 2019 World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series season, Gravel couldn't help but mention his excitement for going to the Iowa raceway with JJR.

"That car is extremely good at Knoxville," Gravel had said.

Six months later, Gravel brought the Knoxville Raceway crowd to its feet Thursday night by claiming his second win in-a-row at the iconic track during the second Qualifying race for Saturday's Knoxville Nationals – which he locked himself into and will start outside pole. He also won the raceway's Capitani Classic on Sunday.

"I really feel good about where we're at," said Gravel, who was also sporting a blue and florescent colors for new sponsor Axalta. "I was nervous drawing the seventy-one today, out of seventy-five, but we've been qualifying well all year and was able to capitalize on that and qualifying good. It was an awesome night."

Gravel and his JJR team have been stellar in Qualifying all year long, with 12 Quick Times, so far this season. He was the third to last car to qualify Thursday night but still managed to break into the top-10, qualifying ninth on the aged track.

That set him up to start seventh in his Heat race. He held the position for about the length of the front stretch before diving to the bottom in the first turn, passing four cars. He worked his way to leader Sye Lynch, but had to settle for second at the end.

The start of the 25-lap Feature mirrored Gravel's performance in the Heat race. He started sixth, but again held the position for about a second. He out powered two cars down the front stretch to take fourth by turn one and then passed Cory Eliason for third exiting turn two. Brock Zearfoss had pulled away with the lead and Brad Sweet held

second-place.

Nine laps into the Feature Gravel put Sweet within striking distance. He looked underneath Sweet going into turn one. Sweet slammed the door, almost making contact with Gravel. The next time around Gravel moved to the high side and found more speed.

With 19 laps to go, he placed his right rear against the outside cushion through turn one and then cut down to the middle of the track through turn two. The move rocketed his car off the corner like he found a secret line of grip, projecting him past Sweet for second-place.

With the fire lit, Gravel continued his strong run into turns three and four looking to end Zearfoss' time up front. He closed to the bumper of the No. 70 car but couldn't match Zearfoss' traction off the corner.

The next circuit around Gravel went low in one and two, then high in three and four.

"You have to search around and find something that nobody else does," Gravel said. "Like when Jason (Johnson) won the Nationals he kind of entered high and turned down. I was kind of able to do that a little bit, but I feel you could spin your tires quite a bit. I feel like on the bottom you kept your tires underneath you the best."

His search for grip put him to the outside of Zearfoss down the front stretch with 18 laps to go. Zearfoss fought back the next corner. He charged into the first turn and slid up in front of Gravel.

The two raced hard the next couple of corners, battling side-by-side, even splitting the lap car of Jacob Allen through turn two and remaining side-by-side off the turn.

A caution with 16 laps to go for Lynch blowing a tire ended their battle. When the race went back green Zearfoss slowed due to an ignition box issue, handing the lead to Gravel.

The race wasn't a sure win for Gravel at that point, though. The 2018 Knoxville Nationals champion was behind him, eager to capitalize on claiming another Knoxville Raceway win and earning as many points as possible.

However, Sweet had to worry about holding off third-place Cory Eliason, first. The two California-natives battled side-by-side for several laps. Sweet prevailed in the end, finding his line and his rhythm. With five laps to go, he was back to Gravel.

The Watertown, Conn.-native's pace had slowed so much it seemed like there was an issue with the Axalta No. 41 car. Sweet was now breathing down Gravel's neck. However, Gravel didn't know it. He didn't want to know. He knew his last few laps weren't the greatest.

"I was just trying not to crash or hit the berm too hard," Gravel said. "The last five laps weren't very good. Just had to get the job done."

Gravel focused on hitting his marks and bringing new sponsor – Axalta, which Jeff Gordon helped JJR secure for the Nationals – to Victory Lane in their first race together.

"We've got all of the Axalta people here, Jeff (Gordon), so it can't get any better than this," Gravel said.

Sweet knew he was closing on Gravel and had visions of challenging him for the lead, but had his own problems in the closing laps.

"I thought we were going to have a run on him late there," Sweet said. "We got close, but he covered his lines and a couple of lap cars messed me up. And I honestly just missed my marks a little bit. I think if I was a little more on my game I could have given him a run for his money there. But it's all about Saturday night."

Gravel and Sweet's performance locked them into the Knoxville Nationals Feature on Saturday, along with 14 other drivers who locked themselves in by collecting enough points on their race night to be in the top 16 of combined points between the two Qualifying races. Aaron Reutzel will be on the poll, with Gravel to his outside.

"Just because we won tonight, and the Capitani, doesn't mean we don't have to improve Saturday

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David Gravel climbs atop his car in victory lane with Jaxx Johnson after winning the second qualifying race for the Knoxville Nationals. (Paul Arch photo)

Continued...

night and get the job done," Gravel said.

"It's fifty laps. You never know what can happen. Anything is possible. I feel like this is as good of a shot we're ever going to have. You never know when your next chance is to win the Knoxville Nationals."

All Gravel is looking for is a shot to win the race. And he knows he has it with his JJR car being "extremely good at Knoxville."

Trey Starks Grabs Important First Knoxville Win

KNOXVILLE, IA - Dozens of people surrounded him. Four women donning silver crowns and white sashes stood directly behind him like statues. To his right, the 2019 360 Knoxville Nationals winner James McFadden. To his left, the 2017 World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series Rookie of the Year Sheldon Haudenschild.

With the microphone up to his mouth Trey Starks admitted with a chuckle, "I don't even know what's going on right now."

The Puyallup, Wash.-native had won his first race at the iconic Knoxville Raceway. Not just any race at the Iowa raceway, either. The Wednesday night event was the opening Qualifying race for the 59th annual NOS Energy Drink Knoxville Nationals presented by Casey's General Stores.

"I absolutely cannot believe it," Starks said.

The victory was not only a celebration, but a relief. He and his team have been dealing with bad luck the past couple of weeks, he said. Recently, he failed to transfer to the Feature for Sunday's Capitani Classic at the raceway, ran out of fuel before the end of Monday's race at Southern Iowa Speedway and then blew the motor in his 360 Sprint Car on Tuesday at the same track.

Wednesday night was a different story.

He started the night qualifying 15th, which put him in the sixth starting position in the Heat race. He raced his way to fourth-place, grabbing the final transfer spot into the Feature – placing him fourth for the starting line-up.



Trey Starks takes the checkered flag for his first Knoxville Raceway win on night one of the Knoxville Nationals racing action. (Paul Arch photo)

When the green flag was presented in the Feature, polesitter Mark Dobmeier pulled away with the lead and extended it through turns one and two riding the low line. Behind him, hugging the cushion, Starks powered around the outside of Haudenschild and McFadden to go from fourth to second in the first corner.

Starks and Dobmeier then traded lines. Dobmeier began running high and Starks down low – a line he said he never runs at Knoxville. However, he was making it work. The black and yellow Buffalo Wild Wings No. 13 was growing bigger in his visor every lap.

Nine laps in to the 25-lap Feature Starks dove underneath Dobmeier into turn three and slid up in

front of him by the exit of turn four. The lead was then officially his on Lap 10.

"I knew Mark was going to like the top," Starks said. "I myself like the top. I hardly ever go to the bottom here. Frankly, I'm awful at it. I did OK tonight I guess."

Starks built a gap between he and Dobmeier, each lap, continuing to run the bottom. And while he pulled away, Dobmeier was had pressure from McFadden for second.

McFadden had a run brewing to drive to the inside of Dobmeier exiting turn four with 13 laps to go, but a caution came out for Scotty Thiel, who spun in turn three.

A few laps after the restart, Dobmeier found himself back on

Starks' bumper. Finding more grip on the high side, Dobmeier went side-by-side with Starks down the front stretch with 10 laps to go.

However, Starks still found enough grip on the bottom to hold off Dobmeier's attack. He changed his line in turns three and four, sliding up to the high side in front of Dobmeier, killing his run, and driving away.

Four laps later McFadden was able to build up a run again to challenge complete the pass. The Australian was then on the hunt for Starks.

While Starks kept his E-Z-GO No. 44 up top, McFadden was slowly gaining on him by placing his Wicked Energy Gum No. 9 on the bottom of the track. However, he hit the inside berm with his left front wheel a couple of times, upsetting the car and hindering his charge for the win.

"We were there if Trey made a mistake, but he didn't," McFadden said. "I feel like if the race was longer we would have had a little bit more of a shot. But could've would've should've."

McFadden ran out of time and had to settle for second. Haudenschild, after having to make a couple of big saves with his car during the race, snuck by Dobmeier in the closing laps to round out the podium. Starks went mistake free and saw the checkered flag for the first time at Knoxville Raceway

His performance in qualifying, the Heat race and Feature earned him enough points – 463 – to be ranked fifth out of the 53 cars entered in Wednesday's race.

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Madden Sweeps North/South Weekend

UNION, KY - Chris Madden continued his recent hot-streak with a \$50,000 victory in Saturday's Sunoco Race Fuels North/South 100 - Presented by Lucas Oil at Florence Speedway.

Madden stormed from his tenth starting spot to sweep the weekend in front of the standing room only crowd. With his win,

Madden became the seventh different driver to win the race in the last seven years.

Madden took the lead from Jimmy Owens on lap 76 and then went uncontested to score his eleventh career Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series victory.

Hudson O'Neal tried to catch Madden in the final four green flag laps, but he had to settle for second with Owens finishing in third. Devin Moran came from the fourteenth starting position to take fourth as Zack Dohm passed seventeen cars to earn the Hard Charger of the Race and rounded out the top five at the stripe.

In a race that saw four lead changes among three drivers, Owens grabbed the lead at the start of the race and led the first eighteen circuits of the 100-lap event. Bobby Pierce then bolted to the point on lap 19. Owens regained the lead on lap 34 and held a comfortable margin for most of the race, until a caution for Bobby Pierce on lap 72.

When the race resumed, Owens and Madden had a side-by-side battle between the two veteran drivers for several laps, until Madden finally managed to take the lead for good on lap 76.

"We knew we had a chance to win tonight," Madden commented in Victory Lane. "We just wanted to stay out of trouble and position ourselves in the top five by halfway; try to gain some positions on the restarts. At this place, you just kind of inch on a guy, you just really don't pass him in one try."

"What an awesome racecar and an awesome team we have," said the winner, who became the 25th different driver to win the event since it began in 1983. "Thanks to all of the fans for coming out this weekend. We appreciate it. Whenever we got into traffic, I knew I had a car capable of winning the race."

O'Neal recorded his best career finish in the event as he earned a \$20,000 payday for second. "We were really good around the bottom all night. We never gave up on it. A couple of times we got shuffled back to fourth or fifth. I tried to search around and find some different angles out there. All-in-all we were good all weekend, we just needed to be one position better in this race. Congrats to Chris, he drove a great race."

Owens led 60 laps but fell short of becoming the first four-time winner of the event. "It's really a racy track. You don't know whether to go high or low or the middle, that's why it's a hard race to win. We were comfortable where we were running. The track just had more grip down on the bottom as the race went on and that is where Madden and those guys were running. Both Chris and Hudson have had a great car all weekend. I am happy to come in third behind those guys."

Madden's Scott Bloomquist Racing, Bloomquist Race Car is powered by a Custom Race Engine and sponsored by: Great America Steak Company, STEEL-IT, Lucas Oil Products, Sorbera Chiropractic, Sweet Manufacturing, Crossfit by Overton, VP Fuels, and Penske Shocks.

Completing the top ten were Tim McCreadie, Ricky Weiss, Kyle Strickler, Brandon Overton, and Scott Bloomquist.

In the \$2,000-to-win non-qualifier's race, former Florence Speedway track champion Jason Jameson took the lead from Frank Heckenast Jr. after a late race restart and pulled away for the victory. Heckenast finished in second, followed by Robby Hensley, Johnny Scott, and Billy Green.

Jimmy Owens on Sunoco North/South 100 Pole

UNION, KY - Friday night's portion of the Sunoco Race Fuels North/South - Presented by Lucas Oil kicked off with 53 of the nation's top dirt late model drivers battling in twelve heat races of passing points.

In the first round, heat one was won by Mike Marlar. He led all the way to pick up the victory. Marlar stayed in front of a fantastic battle for second that lasted for the entire distance. Ultimately, he was followed to the line by Michael Norris and Ricky Weiss.

In the second heat, Zak Blackwood led all the way to win. Dale McDowell charged from the fourth starting position to take the runner-up spot. Scott Bloomquist took the third spot.

In heat three, Frank Heckenast Jr. passed Billy Moyer Jr. on the

white flag lap to win an exciting battle between the two. Moyer Jr. would cross the line in second over seventh-starting Stormy Scott.

Hudson O'Neal made a daring move early in heat four as the 18-year-old went on to win the heat after starting in eighth, collecting the most passing points in round one with his winning effort. Duane Chamberlain would finish in second followed by Florence first-timer Chris Garnes.

The fifth heat race saw a torrid battle between the top three finishers. Jimmy Owens, Jonathan Davenport and Bobby Pierce ran away from the rest of the field over the last half of the race. Jonathan Davenport, who started seventh and Bobby Pierce, who started eighth rocketed through the field to finish second and third.

The sixth and final heat race of round one saw Kyle Bronson use his outside front-row starting spot to take the win as a hotly contested battle for second took place, with Nick Hoffman finally edging Brandon Overton for the second spot.

In the second round, heat one turned out to have a battle of number 8 cars as Mike Benedum took the lead at the start and stretched it out from the other number 8, Kyle Stickler. Strickler trailed at the line in second position, and eighth-place starter Devin Gilpin finished in third.

The second heat went to outside
(Continued Next Page)



Chris Madden climbs from his car in victory lane after winning the Sunoco Race Fuels North/South 100 at Florence Speedway. Madden also won on Thursday night for the North/soth Shootout. (Michael Moats photo)

Continued...

front row starter Bobby Pierce as he had to contend with youngster Billy Green for the first half of the race. Robby Hensley, the two-time Florence Speedway track champion finished in third.

Earl Pearson Jr. fought off the field for the win in the third heat, followed to the checkers by Ricky Weiss and Jonathan Davenport.

The fourth heat saw Scott Bloomquist come from the seventh starting spot to take the win. Devin Moran edged out Donald McIntosh at the stripe for second.

The fifth heat in round two saw Stormy Scott take the victory over Chris Madden and Tim McCreadie.

The sixth and final heat saw Jimmy Owens advance from the sixth starting position to take the win.

With the victory, he earns the pole position for tomorrow night's Sunoco Race Fuels North-South 100. Zack Dohm came from the same row as Owens to finish in second. Tyler Erb was third.

Madden Scores First Florence Victory

UNION, KY - Chris Madden found his way to Victory Lane on Thursday night in the Sunoco North/South Shootout at Florence Speedway.

The win marks the South Carolina native's first Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series win of the season and his first ever at Florence Speedway. Madden becomes the thirteenth different winner on the Series in 2019.

Madden started on the pole and faded as far back as fifth in the running order early in the race. Zack Dohm led the first fifteen laps of the 50-lap race before Owens charged to the lead on lap sixteen. Owens went on to hold a comfortable lead until contact with a lapped car sent him spinning out of the lead with 43 laps scored.

Madden inherited the top spot on the restart and pulled away from Tim McCreadie in the closing laps to pick up the win.

The defending North-South Shootout winner, Tim McCreadie, was second with Dohm registering his best career LOLMDS finish, in third place. Stormy Scott claimed

the fourth spot ahead of Kent Robinson who rounded out the top five drivers.

In Lucas Oil Victory Lane, Madden was worried at the start of the race. "I went too far on my adjustments for sure. The first 20 laps, I wasn't as comfortable as I should have been and then searched and found a line that was working. We just hustled the car and got back up there in the thick of things. I got back into second and then Jimmy had a lead on us. I hated to see that happen to him but am thankful for the win."

"We have been really good in this car," Madden added. "We now have two wins and a second-place finish. There are a lot of crown jewel races coming up. We got one last week at Cedar Lake and we hope to get one here on Saturday Night."

"The track was really good

tonight. There's definitely going to be some awesome racing here the next two nights. I want to thank Cody Sommer and Scott [Bloomquist] for giving me this opportunity. Thanks to all of the fans for coming out and supporting us tonight," said the 44-year-old Madden.

McCreadie came home in second. "This surface and the tire rule just suit me really well here. You just can't run it through the middle, you just have to maneuver it. Jimmy was doing that; he was running half-way through the middle and then on the bottom. Chris was just a little bit better there at the end. We tried to run that top, but we just couldn't make up much time on him."

Dohm, whose father Tim owns one-career LOLMDS win, was looking for his first-ever series triumph. "We seem like we always

run good here, but we never have started up front like we did tonight. I was a little shocked when I drove by Chris there at the start and I thought we were setting a pretty pace. I could feel the right rear tire getting hot and it was shoving the car across the track. Coming out of here with a third is awesome. It was just myself and my brother Nick, so we feel pretty good to run like we did against this caliber of competition."

The winner's Scott Bloomquist Racing, Bloomquist Race Cars chassis is powered by a Custom Race Engine and sponsored by: STELL-IT, Great America Steak Company, Petroff Towing, Lucas Oil Products, Sorbera Chiropractic, and Crossfit by Overton.

Completing the top ten were Dale McDowell, Jonathan Davenport, Hudson O'Neal, Tyler Ern, and Michael Norris.

Evan Seay Becomes Seventh Different iRacing World of Outlaws Late Model Winner at Knoxville

Team VLR's Evan Seay outdueled points leader Kendal Tucker of Swindell SpeedLab Esports to win Monday night's iRacing World of Outlaws Morton Buildings Late Model World Championship race at Knoxville Raceway.

Seay became the seventh different winner in seven races to start the 2019 season, denying Tucker a handful of all-important points as the championship chase winds down.

"That was a fun race!" said Seay. "It was awesome to finally get that win. I've been so close to winning a couple of races, and we needed a good race to bounce back in points because I've had some bad luck. It was awesome for all the Team VLR guys—our car had a great run."

Top qualifier and first heat winner Howard Weaver lined up alongside previous Knoxville winner Alex Bergeron on the first row, but although the duo were second and third in last year's championship standings, neither would be a factor for the win. Weaver yielded the lead in the race's early laps before settling for fifth at the finish, while Bergeron clipped Tucker trying to throw a slider on the final restart of

the race and slid back through the pack to 12th.

Instead, it was Tucker and Seay who would dominate most of the 50-lap final, with Tucker jumping to an early lead and holding it for most of the race. After more than 10 laps of running hot on Tucker's tail, Seay capitalized on the second restart of the night and Tucker's misfortune to take the lead for good on lap 36.

"We were pretty good for the first 15 or so laps, and then the slicker (the track) got, the more it went away," explained Tucker. "I could feel it lap by lap when I had the lead, and I was just thinking 'oh, no' when I had it built up like that. On that restart, I knew I had to do something different, because Evan had been more than patient enough with me, and he had every right to move me out of the way because he had a car to win. I tried a different line, we were even going into 3, and he beat me into the corner."

Behind them, Tucker's teammate Blake Matjoulis recovered from a last chance qualifier appearance to climb from 17th to third in the final results. Matjoulis came out

on top of a dramatic battle to settle the final podium spot that saw drivers trying all sorts of lines around the track.

"I had a feeling that if I had qualified and even started 10th or so, I would've had a chance to go for the lead there," admitted Matjoulis. "But I'm not disappointed in third at all, especially from starting 17th."

Point standings through seven of 10 races are as follows:

1. Kendal Tucker, 484
2. Blake Matjoulis, 449
3. Alex Bergeron, 443
4. Evan Seay, 437
5. Blake Cannon, 412
6. Kevin Dedmon, 394
7. Steven Wilson, 325
8. Dylan Houser, 321
9. Zach Leonhardi, 289
10. Dylonn Fox, 263

The iRacing World of Outlaws Morton Buildings Late Model World Championship continues next Monday with a visit to Williams Grove Speedway for the only time this season. Weaver was last year's winner at Williams Grove, while fellow 2019 series returnees Austin Carr and defending series champion Zach Leonhardi completed the podium.



Chauncey Filler Breaks Through With ASCS Frontier at Sweetwater Speedway

ROCK SPRINGS, WY - Becoming the 34th driver to lay claim to victory with the Brodix ASCS Frontier Region, Utah's Chauncey Filler finally took home the winner's check at Sweetwater Speedway on Saturday night.

Racing to the green from the front row, Filler chased third starting, Jeremy McCune, the opening four revolutions before McCune's night was cut short. Unable to avoid the spinning No. 56 of Butch Capshaw who spun in front of the No. 0j, Jeremy was tagged by the No. 88 of Travis Reber, who likewise had nowhere to go. Travis was able to continue.

Taking command of the field, Filler had smoothing sailing until the final lap.

Under siege from the Pirate Motorsports No. 77 of Damon McCune, the run from 11th put the Montana shoe all over Filler for the lead in turns one and two. A drag race off the second turn, the pair split rank into the final two turns with McCune taking the hub. Blocked by a slower car, the move left the top wide open with Filler racing to the line 0.368 seconds ahead of McCune.

Posting his best finish of the season, Shad Petersen placed third with Robert DeHaan and Willie Hernandez, Jr. completing the top five. Zac Taylor in sixth had Randy Dolberg in tow with Mindy McCune coming from 14th to eighth. Mike Manwill crossed ninth with Travis Reber coming back to

finish tenth.

The Brodix ASCS Frontier Region has one more round of competition to go with the series back at Gallatin Speedway on Friday, September 6.

For other news, notes, and information on the American Sprint Car Series, from the National Tour to any of the nine Regional Tours that make up ASCS Nation in 2019, log onto www.ascsracing.com, follow on Facebook, on Instagram, and on Twitter (@LucasOilASCs).

Jeremy McCune Returns To ASCS Frontier Victory Lane at Sweetwater

ROCK SPRINGS, WY - Making his return to Victory Lane almost two years to the day with the Brodix ASCS Frontier Region, Montana's Jeremy McCune parked the No. 0j on the front stretch of Wyoming's Sweetwater Speedway on Friday night.

McCune's third ASCS Regional victory, and second with the Brodix ASCS Frontier Region, most of the race was spent chasing the top spot. Battling in the closing laps with Zac Taylor and Travis Reber for several laps, the trio raced into traffic with Reber trying for the lead, but the slide was too short to clear the lapped car. Collecting Taylor in the process, McCune was able to keep rolling.

Patient around the bottom, McCune was able to hold off the last lap charge of Robert DeHaan through the final two turns. Chauncey Filler worked to the final podium step from 10th with Shad



Chauncey Filler celebrates his ASCS Frontier win at Sweetwater Speedway in victory lane Saturday night. (Nick Whalen photo)

Petersen and 12th starting Mindy McCune completing the top five.

Randy Dolberg from 11th made it to sixth with Willie Hernandez charging from 15th to seventh. Damon McCune grabbed eighth with Travis Reber coming back to finish ninth after a visit to the work area. Mike Manwill completed the top ten.

Justin Zimmerman Tops ASCS Elite Non-Wing at Devil's Bowl Speedway

MESQUITE, TX - Picking up his fifth career victory with the ASCS Elite Non-Wing Series presented by Abilene Powder Coating, Justin Zimmerman picked up the win in the fourth annual Johnny Suggs Memorial victory at the Devil's Bowl Speedway.

Justin's first win of the season with the ASCS Elite Non-Wing Series presented by Abilene Powder Coating, Zimmerman climbed to the top of the leaderboard from the fifth starting spot. Making a late-race move on Paul White for the lead in traffic as the leaders moved

to the back straightaway with two laps to run.

Keeping pace through the final lap, Zimmerman held off Paul White with Weston Gorham taking the final podium step. Justin Fifield grabbed fourth with Craig Carroll in fifth. In the hunt for the win going into the final couple laps, Kyle Jones tried the low side of the Speedway with the No. 04 slipping to sixth. Stephen Smith from tenth came up to seventh with Gary Floyd in eighth. Chase Parson and Michelle Melton completed the top ten.

The ASCS Elite Non-Wing Series presented by Abilene Powder Coating races next on Saturday, August 17 at 281 Speedway in Stephenville, Texas.

Shebester Grabs First Career ASCS Elite Non-Wing Victory at RPM Speedway

CRANDALL, TX - Wheeling the Ray Williams/City Vending No. 22x this past Friday night, Oklahoma's Steven Shebester added his name

(Continued Next Page)



Justin Zimmerman celebrates in victory lane with his family after winning with the ASCS Elite Non-Wing Series at Devil's Bowl Speedway. (Rudy Garcia photo)



Steve Shebester raced to the ASCS Elite Non-Wing win at RPM Speedway. (Mike Petty photo)

Continued...

to the record books with this first career victory with the ASCS Elite Non-Wing Series presented by Abilene Powder Coating at RPM Speedway.

Fifth the first in the opening Heat Race, Shebester drew the right of the third row for the A-Feature.

Up to third before a caution, and eventually a red working Lap 2, the No. 22x threaded the needle

for the runner-up spot as Jason Howell shot by Stephen Smith for the lead. Trying the lower groove briefly the following lap, Shebester returned to the cushion with the pass for the point on through turns one and two with five laps complete.

Keeping pace through the remainder of the A-Feature, Shebester was chased to the line by Raven Culp, who worked to the runner-up spot from eighth. Jason Howell slipped back to third with Paul White fourth and Stephen Smith fifth.

Scott Evans was sixth, followed by Justin Zimmerman. Justin Fifield in tow was followed by Chase Parson with Gary Floyd making up nine spots to finish tenth.

Johnson Prevails In Sage Fruit Ultimate Challenge With The Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series

OSKALOOSA, IA - Notching his 54th career victory with the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network, Oklahoma's Wayne Johnson topped Tuesday's Sage Fruit Ultimate Challenge at the Southern Iowa Speedway.

"First of all, I know a lot of you have heard about my little buddy, Grady Chandler. This race is for him. That Polish Victory Lap was for him...Get well buddy, we're praying for you," stated Johnson in Victory Lane.

Taking his place in seventh for the 25-lap SawBlade.com A-Feature, Johnson advanced to fifth on the grid after the initial start was nullified when Jon Agan and Shawn Murray flipped wildly down the back straightaway. Both drivers were unharmed. Rolling to the runner-up spot as the field completed



Wayne Johnson raced his way to his 54th career ASCS victory winning the Sage Fruit Ultimate Challenge at Southern Iowa Speedway. (Paul Arch photo)

the fourth circuit, Johnson trailed California's, Willie Croft.

Moving out on the field in the early laps, the driver of the Outlaw Wings No. 2c started moving his line around. Picking up steam on the Holley Smokes BBQ No. 29, Johnson pulled a nearly half straightaway disadvantage to a handful of car lengths as the pair reached Lap 10.

Working the top shelf of the Southern Iowa Speedway as Croft rolled the hub, the pair went head to head for the lead on Lap 12. Diving under the No. 29 through turns one and two, Croft answered the pass down the back straightaway; turning under Wayne retake the point.

Coming after Croft again a lap later, Johnson adjusted his line and raced back into the lead off the fourth turn. Caution working Lap 16, that quickly turned to red as Matt Covington caught fire, the field went under an open red.

On the race for the lead, Johnson stated, "We had a really good car and just needed to take my time. I just about crashed the thing coming off turn two trying to hard and I hit those damn tires they have there. After that, I just told myself to calm down a little bit...I don't know what he [Croft] did there off of two. Looked like he just got really loose and I had a big run. That was my time. I don't know how far I cleared him, but my hats off to Slippy, John, Kenny, and the Chick Magnet. They had this thing on a rail."

With adjustments made, the field refired with Wayne glued to the bot-

tom of the track at the wave of the green. Leaving Croft to deal with the charging No. 15h of Sam Hafertepe, Jr. the Hills Racing entry grabbed second on Lap 18. The

only driver at the front of the field to vacate the preferred low groove in turns three and four, Hafertepe was making up ground quickly on Johnson. Pulling to within six car lengths of the No. 2c at one point, that was as close as Sam would get as the checkered flag greeted the wily veteran 0.863 seconds before Hafertepe.

Willie Croft held on for third with Tucker Doughty posting his first career top-five finish with the series with a fourth-place run. Moving up from 12th, Scott Bogucki completed the night's top five for the eighth time this season. Blake Hahn crossed sixth with Dusty Zomer in tow after starting 11th. Winning the night BMRS B-Feature, Mason Daniel moved through the field from 17th to finish eighth. John Carney II was ninth with Jack Dover in tenth.

A field of 34 drivers converged on the Sage Fruit Ultimate Challenge with SCE Gaskets Heat Race wins going to Tucker Doughty, Shawn Murray, Willie Croft, and Blake Hahn. The BMRS B-Feature went to Mason Daniel. Two drivers, Robbie Price and Jordan Mallett, utilized Provisionals.

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Michael Page 10th Different Southern All Star Winner In Talladega Governors Cup

SUMMERTOWN, TN - The Southern All Star Dirt Racing Series presented by Max Fab made its second stop of the season at the Talladega Short Track for the 2nd Annual Governors Cup and Michael Page of Douglasville, GA., made it two in a row as he passed pole sitter Dallas Cooper on lap 17 then held off challenges from Ashton Winger and Jason Hiett to get the \$10,000 first place check.

Page started third and then worked for 17 laps to get by Cooper who battled for the top spot for several laps with Page getting the advantage, then Winger took to the high side and got by Page for the top spot but then had to retire with mechanical problems, then Page's third battle was with Hiett who ran him down and was on his tail till the caution came out.

On the ensuing restart Hiett and Riley Hickman both seemed to not want to give up the second spot and the two made contact with each other and then into the front stretch wall crashing s the rest of the field had nowhere to go and the big one at Talladega happened, knocking several cars out of con-

centration.

Page then led the final nine laps to capture his 2nd Governors Cup with Aaron Ridley finished in the second spot, third went to Dallas Cooper, fourth to Zach Leonhardi and fifth to Forrest Trent.

Austin Smith finished in the 6th spot, David Breazeale 7th, Eric Cooley 8th, Cruz Skinner 9th and Billy Franklin 10th.

RACE TIDBITS: Power problems caused a delay in the program as the power company had to called into service to take of the problem so then the program was delayed as well as some transponder issues came up, but after that was corrected program ran as fast as was possible.

Dillon Tidmore & Austin Horton battling for the top spot in heat race action got together with both cars spinning and forcing them to the B mains.

Talladega Short Track was very race as heat race action was top and bottom lane use and in the fea-

ture three wide action at time kept the fans excited and there were battles all throughout the field during the race.

First time starts with the series this year Aaron Ridley, Eric Cooley, Forrest Trent, Cruz Skinner, Michael Arnold, Sam Seawright, and Ryan King

Next race will be August 24th at the Senoia Raceway in Senoia, GA., for the rain out make-up of the Michael Head Jr Memorial.

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



Michael Page celebrates in victory lane after winning the 2nd Annual Governors Cup at the Talladega Short Track. (SAS photo)

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Bristol Motor Speedway

BRISTOL, TN - As sparks fly and tempers flare under the lights at The Last Great Colosseum, it can only mean one thing: the short track tradition of the Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race is back in full force.

NASCAR's best will descend upon Bristol Motor Speedway next weekend, Aug. 15-17, for one of the toughest battles in racing: 500 laps

around the high-banked, half-mile oval under the August night sky. Fans from all 50 states and over 20 foreign countries will be on-hand to see drivers try to tame the facility that was once likened to "flying a jet fighter through a gymnasium" at a race that has been home to some of the most iconic moments in the sport.

"When you think of action under the lights, you think of Bristol," said Jerry Caldwell, executive vice president and general manager at Bristol Motor Speedway. "The Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race is short track racing at its best. Whether it's the iconic 1999 Night Race clash between Dale Earnhardt and Terry Labonte that celebrates its 20th anniversary, or the incredible racing that continues to this day, you know fans are in for a treat with incredible short track action. Add on all the great things to see and do, both in the region and at the track, and it truly becomes an experience to remember."

To view a schedule of all events and activities during the Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race week, check out the BMS Fan Schedule at www.bristolmotorspeedway.com/fans/fan-schedule/.

Highlights of the race week include:

Short Track Racing Action: Some of the best drivers in the world hit the high banks under the lights at one of the most demanding circuits in the racing world with action in the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series (Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race and Pinty's Qualifying), NASCAR Xfinity Series (Food City 300), NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series (UNOH 200 presented by Ohio Logistics) and the NASCAR K&N Series (Bush's Beans 150).

Celebrating the 20th anniversary of the famed Earnhardt/Labonte Clash: The 1999 Night

Race finish remains one of the most iconic moments in NASCAR history as Earnhardt's attempt to "rattle the cage" of Labonte on the final lap ended with Labonte's No. 5 Chevy Monte Carlo spinning in a plume of smoke and a chorus of boos raining down on the Colosseum. The final few laps continue to be water-cooler talk to this day and will be celebrated in multiple ways:

- Labonte, who had come out on top of their previous 1995 clash, will be a guest at the Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race and will be honored during pre-race ceremonies

- The 2019 Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race commemorative program features the iconic Garry Hill painting of the clash; the painting was used on a Bristol program cover once before at the 2000 Night Race. Fans can pick up a souvenir program and a commemorative 1/64 diecast car for \$15.

MRO Children's Choir 20th Anniversary: This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Motor Racing Outreach kids singing the National Anthem before the Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race. MRO has invited every kid who has participated previously to come back and sing with the group. Former participants include NASCAR Cup Series star Chase Elliott and many kids of today's NASCAR stars, including Clint Bowyer and Kevin Harvick.

Race Week Parties: The excitement of the Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race weekend doesn't begin when the gates open and cars go on-track. The entire region is getting together to welcome race fans and get everyone excited for a great weekend ahead:

- Kingsport: Join the fun at the MeadowView Conference Resort from 6 to 10 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 12. The free event will coincide with the conclusion of the World Long Drive Championship and will include NASCAR personality Jeff Hammond, show cars, food and beverage vendors, driver appearances and more! Details at <http://bit.ly/33uuzEa>

- Johnson City: The party heads to Founders Park for entertainment from 6 to 10 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 13. The free event will feature a Trek bike ride, an appearance by NASCAR on NBC personality Kyle Petty, music from the Dimestone Cowboys, show cars, food and beverage vendors and more. Details at <http://bit.ly/2ZTkEWk>

- Bristol: Food City Family Race Night returns to State Street on Wednesday, Aug. 14 from 1 to 9 p.m. The free fanfest will host the

official autograph session for the playoff contenders in the NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series as well as the NASCAR K&N Series. Details at <http://bit.ly/2OPe6a0>

Neighborhood Heroes: Prior to Saturday night's race, fans from all 50 states and over 20 foreign countries will be on-hand to help Bristol Motor Speedway honor the 2019 recipients of the BMS Neighborhood Heroes program. The program is designed to honor first responders who have gone above and beyond in the line of duty and all four will be honored during pre-race ceremonies. The 2019 Neighborhood Heroes are:

- Chattanooga police officer Joseph Coleman: flagged down at a stoplight and calmly helped resuscitate a four-month-old girl by putting her into the rescue position

- Tennessee National Guard SFC Daniel Cole: efforts exceeded his superior's expectations during a 10-month deployment mission in Kosovo

- Hampton Valley Forge volunteer firefighter Chris Russell: saved a woman from a burning mobile home fire in Carter County, Tenn. on the morning of Christmas Eve

- Knoxville Assistant Fire Chief Robert Roche: saved a woman confined to a wheelchair from an apartment fire by putting her on his back and crawling out

Playoff Intensity Comes to BMS for the UNOH 200 presented by Ohio Logistics: Eight NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series drivers will be eligible to compete in the 2019 playoffs, which begins with the UNOH 200 presented by Ohio Logistics on Thursday, Aug. 15. A quick start is crucial as one of the playoff drivers can clinch their spot in the next round of the playoffs with a win under the lights at Bristol.

Musical Entertainment: Georgia native and upcoming country music sensation Travis Denning will get the crowd going during the official Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race pre-race concert. The rising star is best known for his hits "Ashley Parker David from Powder Springs" and "After a Few". He will be joined during the pre-race concert by special guests Tim Dugger and Corbette Jackson and the festivities will kick-off at 2:30 with Denning headlining at 5:45 p.m. Fans can purchase a Pre-Race Pit Stop pass to get stageside access to the concert and pre-race driver introductions.

Friday Night Foam Party: Following the conclusion (approximately 10 p.m.) of the Food City

300 NASCAR Xfinity Series event on Friday, Aug. 16, head on over to the Trackside Live stage in the Fan Zone for the Friday Night Foam Party, the official post-race party at BMS. Fans will get to party the night away at this rave complete with a DJ, strobe lights, and the star of the evening....gallons upon gallons of foam.

Weather Guarantee: The forecast is looking great for the Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race weekend with sunny skies and temperatures in the mid-80's. But in the unlikely event that the forecast changes greatly, the BMS Weather Guarantee is here to protect race fans. Ticketholders who purchased through the BMS Ticket Office or Ticketmaster can either use their tickets on the rescheduled date or use them towards a credit at any NASCAR race at all eight SMI facilities within a year. Those who are interested in taking advantage of the Weather Guarantee are required to contact the BMS Ticket Office within 60 days of the original ticketed event.

Kids/Teens Can Join In The Show: BMS is the perfect place to bring the family as kids can enjoy the whole weekend for only \$10! Kids 12-and-under can get in free to Thursday's UNOH 200 presented by Ohio Logistics / Bush's Beans 150 doubleheader and Friday's Food City 300 and Pinty's Qualifying and are only \$10 for Saturday's Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race. All children must have a physical ticket to enter. Teenagers aged 13-19 are also eligible for half price tickets with the purchase of an adult ticket to BMS' NASCAR events.

Tickets for the Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race are still available. Fans can grab tickets at their neighborhood Food City for only \$60 while buying their race essentials. But act fast, in-store sales end at store closing time this Tuesday, Aug. 13. A two-day weekend package is also available through the BMS ticket office, beginning at just \$95. Visit BristolTix.com or call 423-BRISTOL.

Talladega Superspeedway

TALLADEGA, AL - Fans can experience Talladega Superspeedway in style and crank up their race weekend with premium seating upgrade options such as Premium Boxes and Fan Suites for the upcoming doubleheader NASCAR Playoffs weekend, Oct. 11-13, featuring the 1000Bulbs.com 500 and the Sugarlands Shine 250.

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Not only do these premium seating upgrades provide fans with the ultimate views along the track's frontstretch, but each also offers a host of amenities, including admittance into the brand-new Talladega Garage Experience, set to open this October. The Talladega Garage Experience will take fan access to a new level where they can be under the same roof that houses the race cars, teams and drivers as they prepare their machines throughout race weekend.

Fans can entertain their closest friends, family, or colleagues in the covered open-air seating Premium Boxes. The private fenced Premium Boxes, located above select lower grandstands, are equipped to accommodate groups of 12 to 24 people, or fans can keep it simple with smaller groups or single seating options which are also available. For pricing options, log onto www.talladegasuperspeedway.com/upgrades.

Guests will be able to relax and enjoy the incredible racing on the 33-degree banks in their 23-inch wide fold-down stadium seats (some with drink holders). For a 2-Day package, guests receive admittance to the Garage Experience for Saturday and Sunday, an official Souvenir Program, and food and beverage vouchers for the weekend (voucher amount varies with group size).

The enclosed, climate-controlled Fan Suites offer four levels of seating, with incredible track views. Sit at the countertop or bar and enjoy delicious food and unlimited drinks while watching three days of on-track activity. The 3-Day weekend package is available for \$749 per person and includes 3-Day Talladega Garage Experience access, one suite parking pass (per 2 suite passes), flat-screen TVs and an official Souvenir Program.

In addition to the incredible amenities listed above, guests with Garage Experience access also receive FREE Wi-Fi presented by Xtreme Concepts, Inc., reserved area at Gatorade Victory Lane to witness the winner's celebration, entertainment stage for local music, Driver Q&A's and other interviews, social areas and the opportunity to take part in Sunday

pre-race ceremonies and Driver Introductions at the Start-Finish line and much more!

For information on all of Talladega Superspeedway's premium upgrade opportunities, visit www.talladegasuperspeedway.com/upgrades or call 855-518-RACE (7223). For ticket information on the track's NASCAR doubleheader playoffs weekend and the Talladega Garage Experience, log onto www.talladegasuperspeedway.com or call 855-518-RACE (7223). The Sugarlands Shine 250 for the NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series is set for 12:30 p.m. CDT on Saturday, Oct. 12, while the green flag for the 1000Bulbs.com 500 for the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series is set for 1 p.m. CDT on Sunday, Oct. 13. Both races are sure to have huge playoff ramifications.

Fans can learn more about the Transformation Infield Project presented by Graybar and view the progress 24/7 via the construction cam by visiting www.talladegasuperspeedway.com/transformation.

Darlington Raceway

DARLINGTON, SC - Visiting Darlington Raceway today to support the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Bojangles' Southern 500, Darrell "Bubba" Wallace, Victory Junction and Richard Petty Motorsports unveiled the No. 43 Chevy that Wallace will drive in the race on September 1.

The 2019 throwback design honors the late Adam Petty, son of Kyle and grandson of Richard. Both Petty's were on hand for the unveil.

"It's truly an honor and top throwback that I've been a part of and knowing the history behind the Petty family and Adam's vision and

seeing it come to life at Victory Junction," Wallace said. "I think this really speaks for Adam and what his vision was and I was too young to know him and I feel like we would have had a great time, to grow together and to bring this organization back to where it needs to be."

Wallace's No. 43 Chevy will feature a Victory Junction throwback paint scheme honoring Petty. The scheme is a tribute to Adam's ARCA Racing Series victory at Charlotte on Sept. 20, 1998. It was his only career win in the series. Adam passed away in a practice crash at New Hampshire Motor Speedway in 2000. Both Kyle and Richard were in attendance at the car unveil.

"To be here, to have Bubba drive the car and for it to be my dad's car and with Victory Junction on the car, it's our 15th anniversary, it's hard to believe that he would have been 39 years old this year, so it's hard to believe it's been that long," Kyle said. "But to have this car here, to have it at Darlington and for everything that Darlington means to our family, what it means to this sport, it was just the perfect time."

This is the 70th running of the Bojangles' Southern 500, with this season's throwback weekend paying tribute to the years 1990-94.

This will be the fifth season Darlington Raceway has hosted throwback weekend, with the event having grown into the official throwback weekend of NASCAR and of the most prized weekends on the circuit.

"To have Bubba Wallace and both Richard and Kyle Petty, and the folks at Victory Junction, here today with us, it's an honor," said

Kerry Tharp, President of Darlington Raceway. "We're closing in on our race weekend and this will be the fifth year of our throwback weekend and there is no better way to then to throw it back then to have Richard Petty Motorsports here today to honor the legacy of Adam Petty."

Wallace also paid a visit to the Boys and Girls Club of the Pee Dee in Florence, SC. Wallace conducted a question and answer session for nearly 150 kids in attendance and also visited with family members of Florence Police Sgt. Terrence Carraway.

The Boys and Girls Club of the Pee Dee was a special place for Sgt. Carraway, who was a lifelong resident of Darlington and 30-year veteran of the Florence Police Department. He was killed in the line of duty on October 3, 2018. He was a dedicated servant to the Darlington and Florence communities having been involved in a variety of community activities that benefited many residents, including children and teenagers. Carraway devoted countless volunteer hours to the Boys and Girls Club of the Pee Dee.

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

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

Kansas Speedway

KANSAS CITY, KS - In an effort to showcase the leadership of women in the NASCAR industry and in Kansas City companies, Kansas Speedway is introducing Beyond the Checkered, a new female-focused infield hospitality option that will include Q&A sessions with women inside the NASCAR industry and Kansas City-based female executives.

Currently committed to participating in the Q&A sessions are Jill
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Bubba Wallace is with Richard and Kyle Petty while unveiling his special throwback paint scheme honoring the late Adam Petty (Harrelson Photography photo)

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Gregory, NASCAR Executive Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer; Sherry Pollex, longtime girlfriend of Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series driver, Martin Truex Jr, ovarian cancer survivor, owner of Lavelar Boutique, founder and Vice President of the Martin Truex Jr Foundation, and creator of Sherry-Strong.org, a website designed to empower women about their health; Samantha Busch, wife of Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series driver Kyle Busch, mom, entrepreneur, lifestyle blogger, IVF advocate, philanthropist and race team co-owner; Julie Giese, President of ISM Raceway; Kim Coon, MRN reporter and co-host of Glass Case of Emotion podcast with Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series driver Ryan Blaney; Amy Walsh Stock, public relations representative for Jimmie Johnson and Charlotte Candle Company co-owner; Kirsten Krug, Kansas City Chiefs Vice President of Administration; Kathy Nelson, Kansas City Sports Commission and WIN KC – President and CEO; and, Sara Panek, Hollywood Casino at Kansas Speedway Vice President of Marketing. Additional Q&A participants will be announced later.

In addition to the Q&A participants, women executives will be in attendance to mingle with attendees.

Beyond the Checkered, will take place in the driver/crew chief meeting tent located inside FanWalk in the infield and will be on Sunday, Oct. 20, 2019, from 8 AM – 10:30 AM. In addition to the Q&A sessions, where fans will have the opportunity to ask questions, a light brunch will be provided, along with a gift bag, cold garage access, FanVision, opportunity to watch the pre-race concert and driver introductions from the infield, and the opportunity to watch the driver/crew chief meeting. Tickets for Beyond the Checkered are \$50 and must be accompanied by a grandstand ticket or RV admission. Tickets may be purchased at <https://secure.racetickets.com/KansasSpeedway/ft/util/launcher/Launcher.cfm?gatewayPass=1&VenueID=T5&filter=15808&action=PublicPkg&TixEventID=5451> or by calling 866.460.7223.

"This is a great opportunity for

fans to participate in a non-traditional hospitality and Q&A session during the race weekend," said Kansas Speedway President Patrick Warren. "Each of these women have great stories to tell and I think our fans will enjoy participating in this event."

Kansas Speedway, a premier motorsports facility in the Midwest, hosts two NASCAR race weekends a year, in addition to hosting approximately 200 other events throughout the year. Kansas Speedway's first race weekend of the season is in May with the NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series and Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series under the lights. In the fall, the NASCAR playoffs return in with the NASCAR XFINITY Series and Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series. To purchase season or single day tickets, call 866.460.RACE (7223) or log onto www.kansaspeedway.com.

General parking is always free at Kansas Speedway and fans can bring in one 14x14x14-inch soft-sided cooler with their favorite food and beverages.

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

Talladega Superspeedway

TALLADEGA, AL - Camping in Talladega Superspeedway's legendary infield is as popular as it gets in sports, and the proof is in the pudding. As a result of fans' excitement for the historic track's upcoming doubleheader NASCAR Playoffs weekend, Oct. 11-13, the coveted real estate's Reserved Infield RV spots are filling up fast, and a limited number remain.

Fans are encouraged to call 855-518-RACE (7223) to reserve their space, or visit www.talladega-superspeedway.com/camping. The weekend for NASCAR's Most Competitive venue, which is celebrating its 50th Anniversary, features the 1000Bulbs.com 500 Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series (MENCS) race and the Sugarlands Shine 250 NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series event, and both will have huge playoff ramifications in determining season-long champions.

Below are some of the reserved RV spots available in the iconic infield where families and friends will make memories of a lifetime:

- NEW! Alabama Gang Superstretch RV – On the inside of the track along the famed Alabama

Gang Superstretch, perfect for motorhomes, fifth wheels and pull-behinds. Provides power and water hookups.

- GECKO Frontrunner's Club I – A prime area inside Turn 4 for fans to catch all the action as drivers peel off the 33-degree banking and head toward the Tri-Oval. This reserved area is for motorhomes only.

- GEICO Grounds Yellow RV – These spots are in close proximity of Turn 3 and the iconic Talladega Blvd., near the end of the famed Alabama Gang Superstretch.

- GEICO Grounds Green – Located near Turns 3 and 4, this is a great area for fans to get a glimpse of the drivers coming off the Alabama Gang Superstretch.

In addition, the infamous infield has reserved areas available for cars and tents, which include:

- GEICO Grounds Blue – Located close to Turns 1 and 2, this is the perfect spot for fans to watch the 3-and 4-wide racing action on the high banks.

- GEICO Grounds Yellow – Near Turn 3, this area gives fans a great spot to relax for the weekend and enjoy all the additional items the infield has to offer.

The fun-filled infield provides a second-to-none social atmosphere for fans with featured events such as the Friday Night "Big One on the Blvd." driver/fan event where some of the top stars of the sport parade down the world-famous Talladega Blvd. before overseeing fan competitions, as well as the traditional Saturday Night Infield Concert. Set to headline this fall is Alabama native and country music artist Riley Green.

All infielders also have the opportunity to purchase admissions to the brand-new Talladega Garage Experience, part of the culmination of Transformation – The Talladega Superspeedway Infield Project presented by Graybar. The unmatched Garage Experience will provide fans access where they will be under the same roof where the race cars are being prepped by the race teams throughout race weekend. It will also offer incredible \$4 or less Value-Priced Concessions (except for the \$9 Big One Meatball), FREE Wi-Fi presented by Xtreme Concepts, Inc., reserved area at Gatorade Victory Lane to witness the winner's celebration, entertainment stage for local music, Driver Q&A's and other interviews, social areas and the opportunity

to take part in Sunday pre-race ceremonies and Driver Introductions at the Start-Finish line.

Talladega Superspeedway's anticipated weekend kicks off on Friday with two practice sessions each for the Sugarlands Shine 250 and the 1000Bulbs.com 500. Saturday's slate includes the running of the Sugarlands Shine 250 (12:30 p.m. CDT), followed by Foodland/Food Giant Qualifying for the 1000Bulbs.com 500. The 1000Bulbs.com 500 is set to get the green flag on Sunday at 1 p.m. CDT.

Bristol Motor Speedway

BRISTOL, TN - Race fans in Northeast Tennessee and Northeast Texas can now experience the thrills of Bristol Motor Speedway and Texas Motor Speedway easier than ever with a new American Airlines route between the Tri-Cities, Tenn. region and the Dallas/Fort Worth metropolis.

American will begin daily non-stop flights between Tri-Cities Airport (TRI) and Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport (DFW) on September 4, 2019. However, the airline will introduce special service early, coinciding with the Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race weekend, Aug. 15-17. Race fans in Texas and beyond will now have the chance to see the one-of-a-kind short track racing under the lights that Bristol Motor Speedway provides as drivers fight for a spot in the 2019 Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series playoffs.

"American's new daily non-stop flights between Bristol and Dallas allow race fans the opportunity to have an easier trip to see great racing at two iconic motorsports venues," said Jerry Caldwell, executive vice president and general manager at Bristol Motor Speedway. "We're looking forward to seeing our great friends from Texas head this way for the Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race weekend and we encourage our race fans to return to the favor and make a visit for the AAA Texas 500 weekend in late October/early November."

American flight 3722 will service the route during the Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race weekend. The flight, offered from Thursday, Aug. 15 through Tuesday, Aug. 20

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(minus Saturday, Aug. 17) will depart DFW at 12:25 p.m. and arrive at TRI at 3:57 before turning around at 4:22 and arriving back at DFW at 6:04. The extension of the route through Tuesday allows race fans the opportunity to extend their trip and to see the great attractions that East Tennessee has to offer.

Following the Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race weekend, race fans from the Tri-Cities region can head to the Lone Star State to see the playoff action of the AAA Texas 500 weekend, Oct. 31-Nov. 3. The AAA Texas 500 serves as the second of three races in the Round of 8, meaning a win could automatically launch a playoff-eligible driver into the championship finale in Miami.

"These new flights provide a great opportunity for fans of Texas Motor Speedway and Bristol Motor Speedway to be part of the excitement at both the AAA Texas 500 and the Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race," said Eddie Gossage, president of Texas Motor Speedway. "Track staffs working together to benefit race fans as well as the tracks is what it's all about so we really appreciate the efforts of American Airlines working with us to make it happen."

To book a flight on the TRI-DFW route, visit AA.com.

Bristol Motor Speedway

BRISTOL, TN - Chase Elliott will no doubt look back on the first week of August 2019 with fond memories.

On Wednesday he had the privilege of taking a ride aboard a Tennessee Army National Guard UH-60 Blackhawk Helicopter as he was the featured driver in Bristol Motor Speedway's media day in Nashville. Then, a few days later, he raced to the pole position at Watkins Glen. On Sunday, he showed off in his Hendrick Motorsports Chevy Camaro ZL1 by leading 80 of 90 laps and claiming his second straight victory at the New York road course.

It was quite a week's work for NASCAR's most popular driver.

Elliott will look to keep the momentum going when he arrives at The Last Great Colosseum, August 15-17, for the Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race.

Elliott has shown flashes of brilliance at Bristol in his seven Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series starts at the all-concrete bullring. Elliott has completed an incredible 99 percent of his laps run at Bristol and has posted two top-fives and three top-10s.

He finished third and led 112 laps in last year's Night Race, a thriller that many are calling an 'Instant Classic' for the many plot twists and turns that unfolded over 500 laps that evening. In another of his Bristol highlights, he claimed the pole for this April's Food City 500.

His finish last August remains his best at Bristol, but Elliott is focused on improving his overall performance at the track known for producing dramatic finishes.

"I always look forward to going to Bristol, it's a cool place," Elliott said. "I was able to get a pole there at the beginning of the year, which was nice. We've had some hit or miss runs there. It's been kind of odd. Unfortunately, I haven't found a lot of consistency."

In addition to his win at Watkins Glen, Elliott also won earlier this year at Talladega so he's locked into the NASCAR Playoffs and won't be one of the drivers desperately needing a Bristol victory to secure a spot in the post season.

Elliott says he would love to grab a win at Bristol, an historic old-school type of track that reminds him of some of the short tracks he cut his teeth on coming up through the racing ranks.

"There's always been a magic about that Night Race at Bristol," Elliott said. It's a cool event that only happens once a year. With the atmosphere at the track, it's really not like anywhere else."

Next weekend, NASCAR fans will once again be able to cheer on their favorite drivers and watch some amazing finishes as the greatest stock car drivers in the world battle on the all-concrete high banks. In addition to Elliott, Bristol dominator Kyle Busch, his brother and defending Night Race winner Kurt Busch, Martin Truex Jr., Kevin Harvick, defending series champion Joey Logano, Brad Keselowski, Jimmie Johnson and Ryan Blaney will all be looking to take home the Gladiator sword from The Last Great Colosseum during the Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race.

During the Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race weekend you'll definitely want to take advantage of so many activities to make a complete weekend of family fun, including

great video entertainment provided by Colossus TV, the world's largest center-hung video screen, premium VIP experiences like the Chairman's Experience, tailgating, a visit to the Kids Zone, on-site camping, concerts, great food and beverages in the concession stands throughout the property, and so much more.

If you want to bring the entire clan out to experience the amazing fun that is America's Night Race, Bristol Motor Speedway officials are making it easier than ever for families to enjoy the weekend. Kids' tickets (12 and under) are free and adult tickets are \$35 for Thursday's (Aug. 15) UNOH 200 and Bush's Beans 150 doubleheader. On Friday (Aug. 16), kids' tickets are free and adult tickets start at \$35 for the Food City 300 NASCAR Xfinity Series race and Pinty's Qualifying for the Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race. On Saturday night (August 17) adult tickets start at \$70 for the Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race and kids' tickets are \$10. For all races, each child must have a physical ticket in hand to enter the gates. The Bristol Motor Speedway ticket office is the only authorized location that can produce the free kids' tickets.

To purchase tickets to the Bass Pro Shops NRA Night Race, please call 423-BRISTOL or buy them online at www.BRISTOLTIX.com. For a limited time, tickets can also be purchased directly from any neighborhood Food City store.

Indianapolis Motor Speedway

INDIANAPOLIS, IN - It will be easy for visitors to downtown Indianapolis and the Indianapolis International Airport to know NASCAR, Florida Georgia Line and USAC are roaring into town in early September at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, as a major signage and décor campaign is underway to promote the Big Machine Vodka 400 at the Brickyard event week.

The campaign is similar to the successful promotions surrounding the Indianapolis 500 presented by Gainbridge in greater Indianapolis leading into the Month of May. The 26th annual NASCAR weekend at IMS includes the Driven2SaveLives BC39 Powered by NOS Energy Drink for the USAC National Midget Series on Wednesday, Sept. 4 and Thursday, Sept. 5 at The Dirt Track at IMS; the Indiana 250 for the NASCAR Xfinity Series and the FGL Fest concert Saturday, Sept. 7; and the Big Machine Vodka 400 at the Brickyard Powered by Florida Georgia Line for the

Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series on Sunday, Sept. 8 on the IMS oval.

"Indianapolis is the greatest racing city in America, and we're proud to work with our community partners to promote one of the crown-jewel events of NASCAR throughout downtown and at the airport," IMS President J. Douglas Boles said.

The most visible downtown Indianapolis signage is on the base of the JW Marriott Indianapolis hotel. The sign - which measures 154 feet wide and 42 feet high - stands tall over the left-field bleachers at Victory Field, the home of the popular Indianapolis Indians' baseball team, and is visible to all fans at the ballpark.

Other bold Brickyard signage, including slogans such as "THE STAGE IS SET. LET'S ROLL," is featured on many buildings in popular downtown Indianapolis restaurant, bar and entertainment districts. One of the largest signs is on a wall at the popular Pan Am Plaza, located on West Georgia Street between Capitol and Illinois Streets.

Signage also is on light posts throughout downtown Indianapolis.

Decals for the Big Machine Vodka 400 at the Brickyard Powered by Florida Georgia Line and Driven2SaveLives BC39 Powered by NOS Energy Drink also will be featured on a number of electric cars available for rent downtown from BlueIndy.

The popular street sign takeover also will continue this month. Major streets and avenues in downtown Indianapolis will be renamed after popular star drivers in this year's NASCAR races at the Speedway, with IMS President J. Douglas Boles hanging the first sign - honoring reigning Brickyard winner Brad Keselowski - on Meridian Street at the South Spoke of Monument Circle on Wednesday afternoon, Aug. 7.

Visitors who fly to and from the Indianapolis International Airport also will be greeted by numerous Brickyard signs. The focal point of the campaign at the airport is a huge decal on the window of the beautiful central atrium, similar in size to the decals promoting the Indy 500 in April and May.

Other NASCAR and USAC event signage is featured on the moving walkways and catwalk at the airport.

Visit IMS.com to buy tickets or for more information about all Big Machine Vodka 400 at the Brickyard.

Bowman Gray Stadium

WINSTON-SALEM, NC - The stage was set for excitement on Saturday at Bowman Gray Stadium.

The points races grow tighter each week. Jonathan Brown and Jason Myers were returning to race. Cup Champion Bobby Labonte was slated to compete. And rookie John Holleman of Winston-Salem made the move up from the Sportsman Division to start in his first ever Modified race at the Stadium.

Lee Jeffreys of Wallburg turned the fastest lap for the Brad's Golf Cars Modified Series. Amazingly, John Holleman qualified third fastest – an impressive accomplishment for his first time competing in Modifieds. And Holleman added a little luck to the mix: when the top six competitors drew for starting position, Holleman drew the pole to start the race. Brandon Ward of Winston-Salem started outside of him in second.

Holleman grabbed the initial lead, but a quick caution on the second lap gave Ward the opportunity to challenge again.

Ward raced for a few laps on the outside of Holleman before finally completing the pass and taking the lead.

A series of cautions gave Holleman attempt after attempt to reclaim his spot. During the fifth try, Holleman turned the tables and was able to power ahead of Ward from the outside.

With less than 10 laps to go, Ward had to lay it on the line if he were to take the victory. Ward began to pressure the bumper of Holleman until finally sending Holleman spinning on lap 43. Ward went on to win with Tim Brown of Tobaccoville finishing in his rearview mirror.

"We struggled for about five laps, and then we had the best car," said Ward. "[Holleman] got a run on us on a restart. We got together down there and he got loose. The last couple times I've stopped, I got myself wrecked - so I just had to stay in the gas."

"I feel like we had the first race won," said Holleman. "I understand Brandon got into me and he tried to let me save it. He said if he hadn't have got back in it that he would've got run over, and he's probably



John Holleman (69) is spun out of the lead by Brandon Ward (04) during Saturday's first Modified race. (ERIC HYLTON PHOTOGRAPHY photo)

right. I just wish there had been a little more slack there. Hey – I'm a rookie, and I've got to earn it. We're still thrilled to run as good as we did."

The start of the second Modified race was a battle for the lead between John Smith of Mount Airy and Danny Bohn of Huntersville. But quickly into the race, a massive wreck took out much of the field.

That allowed Jonathan Brown of Winston-Salem to move up to the outside to challenge Bohn for the lead. Brown made a smooth pass to steal away the top spot, going on to win the second 50-lapper.

It was a gratifying win for the team who had been battling mechanical issues for days and hadn't even had a chance to practice. "I rebuilt this racecar, had the motor torn in half, put it back together, showed up on an open trailer, and passed more cars than anybody has all season in one night," said Jonathan Brown. "I just can't believe we're in Victory Lane right now."

Danny Bohn ended up finishing second, with John Holleman finishing third.

NASCAR Hall of Fame Inductee and former Cup Champion Bobby Labonte also competed on Saturday. The legend held his own, finishing 10th in the first race and 19th in the second race after getting caught in a collision with nowhere to go.

In the McDowell Heating & Air Sportsman Series, Tommy Neal of Walkertown held off the stout pressure from Justin Taylor of Kernersville to claim victory in the first 20-lap race. In the second 20-lapper, Amber Lynn of Walkertown won – her third victory of the season.

Billy Gregg of Lexington brought home the win in the Law Offices of John Barrow Street Stock Series. And in the Q104.1 Stadium Stock Series, Chuck Wall of Lexington and Daryl Bryant of Pilot Mountain each won a 15-lapper.

Hickory Motor Speedway

The thunder rolled in the Catawba Valley on Saturday, not in the skies, but on the track with the running of 84 Lumber Night at the Races at Hickory Motor Speedway!

Leading off the evening's activities would be the NASCAR Whelen All American Series Late Models for 40 laps in the first of their double-header on the night. Gage Painter in the #12 would set the fast time in qualifying to take the pole position with Ryan Repko in the #71 to his outside. Row two would be made up of Hickory Motor Speedway points leader Thomas Beane in the #31 and Cole Glasson in the #5. The front row would battle door to door until Painter would nose ahead with Repko close in his tire tracks. The battle for third would see Glasson and Beane jockeying for position until Glasson would take the spot. Charlie Watson in the #41 would take the opportunity and also move under Beane to take the fourth spot. This would leave first, Beane, and second, Chris Hudspeth in the #28 in Hickory Motor

Speedway points running nose to tail in fifth and sixth. Hudspeth would pressure Beane and take the position around the halfway point. Back up front the lead duo of Painter and Repko would give themselves a comfortable cushion on the field but start to battle amongst themselves for the top spot. Repko would pressure, the 14 year old, Painter over the last ten laps with them going side by side for the last seven. The last lap would see the pair make slight contact, but come off of turn four side by side to the checkered flag. The finish would see another epic Hickory Motor Speedway Photo Finish with the youngster Painter winning by just .015 thousandths of a second. Repko would have to settle for 2nd and Hudspeth would work his way up to 3rd. Beane would finish 4th and Watson would round out the top five in 5th.

The Carolina Custom Golf Cart Super Trucks would roll off next for their 35 lap feature. Allen Huffman in the #51 would set fast time and start from the top spot with Travis Baity in the #70 to his outside. Charlie Watson in the #6 and Robert Tyler in the #88 would make the second row for the start. Huffman would move to the lead coming off of turn two on the first lap and bring Watson with him as they would move around Baity. Caution would come out for the first time for a spin from the #97 of Zach Hale on lap 2. The restart would see Huffman and Watson side by side until turns three and four when Watson would drive hard and deep

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Photo finish would leave Gage Painter (12) winning over Ryan Repko (71) in the first of two 40-lap late model features. (SHERRI STEARNS photo)

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into the corner on the high side and make it spot. The front three would settle down with Watson, Huffman, and Baity leading the way while Joey Shuryan in the #30 would pressure Tyler for fourth and take the spot after several laps. Lap 24 would see Huffman chase down Watson and move around for the top spot, bringing Baity with him for second. Watson would

slow on the track and come to pit road with a cut tire. Lap 28 would see the caution fly as Hale and the #17 of Terry Absher would spin in turns one and two. The restart would see Huffman and Baity pace the field with Huffman moving to the lead. Contact between the leaders would send both spinning in front of the field. Huffman would continue but Baity would be done for the night. The restart would see Shuryan and the #28 of Dennis Trivette leading the field to the green. Shuryan would pull to the lead as Trivette would have problems going into turn one. Trivette would bring out the caution with a spin on lap 31. Shuryan and Tyler would be the front row for the start. The front duo would battle hard for the top spot as caution would fly after a spin involving Trivette and Hale. Shuryan and Tyler would once again pace the restart. Both drivers would be dead set on taking the win and drive accordingly. Neither would give an inch and set the fans up for the second great finish of the night in only the second race. Tyler would take the win, his second at Hickory in 2019. Absher would overcome an early spin and finish 2nd while Shuryan would press the leader hard and spin coming to the checkered flag, slide across the finish line and finish 3rd. Trivette would finish 4th and Hale would round out the top five in 5th.

Next up would see the 4 Cylinders light up the track in their 25 lap event. Brian Mundy in the #6 would set fast time and start from the top spot with Allison Houston in the #29 to his outside. The start would see the front row side by side but by turn two Mundy would pull ahead. Curtis Pardue in the #17 would follow Mundy's lead and move to second with Houston hot on his heels wanting the spot back. Ashton Trivette in the #21 and Robert Trivette in the #11 would have a family bat-

tle for fourth with Ashton Trivette taking the spot early. Lap 10 would see Houston make her move back around Pardue and set sail to try to catch the leader Mundy. Houston would make up some time but Mundy would drive on to the win and retake the Hickory Motor Speedway points lead. Houston would settle for 2nd while Pardue would finish 3rd. Ashton Trivette would finish 4th and Cody Combs in the #9 would round out the top five in 5th.

50 laps in round #8 of the Paramount Kia 'BIG 10' Chase for the Championship for the Paramount Auto Group Limited Late Models would be next in store. Josh Kossek in the #44 would start from the point after pacing time trials with Ashley Huffman in the #17 to his outside. Mitch Walker in the #43 and Cody DeMarmels in the #18 would start in row two. The green flag would see the front row duel for the top spot with both Kossek and Huffman seeming to be evenly matched. Kossek would finally move to the top spot on lap 4 but with Huffman close behind. DeMarmels would get around Walker for third but they would continue to battle for the spot. Walker would

would pace the field on the restart. Kossek would nose ahead to take the top spot. Huffman and DeMarmels would battle it out for third with Huffman pulling ahead after several laps of a side by side battle. Kossek would hold off all challengers and take the win. Walker would have to settle for 2nd and Huffman would finish 3rd. DeMarmels would finish 4th and Jones would score a top five in 5th.

Donnie Allison would bring his Allison Legacy Series to America's Most Famous Short Track for a 35 lap feature. Luke Akers in the #13 would start from the pole position with Cole Wagner in the #04 to his outside. Akers would take the early lead. A spin by Wagner would bring out the caution on lap 4. The restart would see Aker move back to the lead with the field battling for positions on back. The caution would fly on lap 6 when Logan Drumheller in the #54 would spin in turn three. Akers would move back to the top spot with field in tow. Lap 29 would see the caution fly as the #95 of Laith Trabelsi would spin while trying to pass the #11 of Kayla Lyons coming off of turn two. Drumheller would also get into the wall and sustain race ending damage. Akers

would make up row two. Cox and Sparks would race hard in the opening laps with Cox finally nosing ahead. Clark and Eby would battle it out for third over the first half of the race with Eby nosing just ahead on lap 16. However, the battle would not be over as the two drivers would continue working hard for position with Clark regaining the spot on lap 22. Cox would prove too strong and drive on to the win. Sparks would finish 2nd with Clark finishing 3rd. Eby would settle for 4th and Jonathon Smith in the #77 would finish 5th.

Closing out the night's show would be the final 40 lap feature of the NASCAR Whelen All American Series Late Model doubleheader. After the invert from the race one finishing order Nolan Pope in the #1 would start from the top spot while Connor Mosack in the #18 would start to his outside. Charlie Watson in the #41 would roll off in 3rd and the #5 of Cole Glasson would start 4th. Pope and Mosack would lead the field to the green flag. Pope would take the early lead. Lap 7 would see Watson make the move for the lead getting under Pope for the top spot. The #31 of Thomas Beane would get a run on the leaders and move under Watson for the top spot in turn three. Contact would send Watson spinning and the caution would fly. The restart would see Pope and Beane bringing the field to the green flag. Beane would move to the top spot after a couple laps, but Pope wasn't giving up quite yet as they would go side by side once again. Pope would regain the lead on lap 12 and bring Repko with him to second. Lap 20 would see the #28 of Chris Hudspeth move around Beane for third. Two laps later Hudspeth would also power around Repko for second, setting his sights on Pope and the lead. Repko would have a different plan and get back around Hudspeth with ten laps to go. The caution would fly on lap 31 as Glasson would spin on the backstretch. Pope and Repko would make up the front row for the restart. Pope would nose ahead and Hudspeth would look under Repko for second. Hudspeth would make the pass and Beane would also move around Repko. Going down the backstretch on lap 35 Painter would move under Repko and make contact. Repko would save the car. Going into turn three Repko would make contact with Painter sending the first race winner hard into the turn four wall. Repko would be sent to the rear of



Thomas Beane lands in Hickory Motor Speedway's victory lane after winning the second 40-lap late model feature Saturday night. (SHERRI STEARNS photo)

move back around for third on lap 14. Kossek would put his racer on cruise control and knock off some blistering laps. Fifth place would see a tight battle between past winner Mason Ludwig in the #12 and 13 year old Conner Jones in the #2. Walker would catch Huffman and pressure him for the second spot. Jones would make the pass on Ludwig for fifth place on lap 30. Walker would finally make the pass for second, moving around Huffman, on lap 34. As the caution would fly on lap 39 as Kosma Guznyakov in the #33 would spin off of turn four. Kossek and Walker

would lead the pack to green but the Trabelsi would spin in turn one bringing out another caution. Akers would take the lead once again on the restart and this time he would drive on to the checkered flag, taking the win with the #08 of Ethan Elder finishing 2nd. Lyons would finish 3rd, Wagner would finish 4th, and Trabelsi would round out the top five in 5th.

The Street Stocks would be next up for their 30 lap battle. Drew Cox in the #21 would take the top spot in qualifying with the #7 of Jeff Sparks to his outside. Kevin Eby in the #03 and Jesse Clark in the #5

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the field as Painter's heavily damaged car would be towed back to the pits. Pope and Hudspeth would lead the field back to the green flag. Hudspeth would nose ahead on the start but Pope would fight back hard for the lead. As the front pair would battle side by side making contact through turn one Beane would make a bold three wide pass for the top

spot. As that was happening Pope would spin in turn one after contact with Mosack, bringing out the caution. Hudspeth and Beane would make up row one for the restart on lap 36. Hudspeth would nose ahead for a split second, but Beane would dive back under to challenge for the win. The front pair would go side by side for an awesome finish over the last four laps. As both drivers would come off of turn four door to door on the final corner when the checkered flag would fly Hudspeth would take the win by the width of his front bumper. Beane would finish 2nd and Bradley McCaskill in the #18 would finish 3rd. Annabeth Barnes Crum in the #12 would finish 4th and Glasson would round out the top five in 5th.

Next week will see the annual Sundown Audio Competition come to Hickory Motor Speedway. Gates will open from 9:00-6:00 Admission is \$25.00 per car and driver or \$5.00 per person. Come out and see some of the nicest stereo systems around. The NASCAR Whelen All-American Series will be back in action on August 24.

For more information check us out at www.hickorymotorspeedway.com, on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or you can give the track a call at 828-464-3655.

Jennerstown Speedway

JENNERSTOWN, PA - The second annual "Motor Mountain Masters" race at Jennerstown Speedway Complex for Martella's Pharmacies Late Models attracted competitors from ten states, and Todd Stone, of Middlebury CT, was the winner. For winning the 150-lap crown jewel event presented by Arsenberger Trucking and sponsored by Dale Oxygen, Stone was paid \$10,000 for his night's work. Also celebrating in Stoney's Beer Victory Lane were R.J. Dallape,

who won the Stoystown Auto Wreckers Modified race - collecting \$3,000 courtesy of StoystownAuto.com, and Dale Kimberly, winner of the Farmers Union Co-Op Chargers' event.

Four different drivers led laps during the second annual Motor Mountain Masters event, over the course of three separate segments of racing for the Martella's Pharmacies Late Model division's biggest race in over 25 years. Officially, six lead changes were recorded, and the first driver to move into position number one, was fastest qualifier Ray Christian. The young Connecticut driver led the most laps, holding the top spot three different times in two different segments.

Josh Brock, of Corbin, KY, placed second in the 2018 running of the "Masters," and he won segment two of three on Saturday. Brock, is a former Champion of the CRA touring series, but immediately dropped back several positions in segment two. Todd Stone won the second segment, leaving 60 laps to decide the "Masters" winner in segment three. Tenth place starter, Mike Hopkins, of Hermon, ME, grabbed the lead from Christian on lap 108 of 150, as Stone cruised in third place. On lap 114, Stone took the second position from Christian and a memorable battle for the lead soon developed. For several laps, leader Hopkins and Stone raced side by side, and more than once the duo rubbed fenders and nudged bumpers. On lap 140, Stone claimed the lead, then masterfully worked lapped traffic to earn the Motor Mountain Master title and the red sportcoat, massive trophy, and \$10,000 check.

"This is the biggest race I've ever won. For our team, winning

against this field of drivers is like winning the Daytona 500," Stone proclaimed, standing in Stoney's Beer Victory Lane. Hopkins placed second, Christian finished third, with fellow Connecticut driver Cory Casagrande earning fourth place. Brock claimed fifth place, and current Jennerstown Speedway point standings leader Teddy Gibala finished in sixth position. Recent winner and former Jennerstown Champion Garry Wiltrout started 17th and advanced to a seventh place finish at his home track. Ben Rowe, a former Champion of the PASS tour was eighth, among a field of 38 drivers. The list of competitors included "top ten racers" from four different national touring series. Race winner, Stone, as an example, competes on tour with the Granite State Pro Stock Series in the Northeast. Another Granite State tour racer, Jimmy Renfrew was ninth, and Jennerstown's own, Jarred Barclay was tenth. Barclay, a rookie, earned the "Hard Charger Award" by passing the most cars, after starting 23rd to land in the top ten. Brock, Stone, Rowe, and North Carolina's Matt Wallace won heat races. Albert Francis won the "B-Main" race and Todd Price won the non-qualifiers race.

Adam Kostelnik was the fastest qualifier for the Stoystown Auto Wreckers Modifieds' 50-lap feature race. Kostelnik also won a heat race, and led the most laps in the feature. Pete Rech won the other heat race and took the feature race lead when the green flag waved. Kostelnik grabbed the top spot from Rech on lap eight, and remained at the front of the field until a restart with eight laps to go. The incident that caused the racing to be halted, was a serious collision between

Rech and former Champion Chris Brink. Both drivers walked away from the crash, but three-time winner Rech declared that his Modified is beyond repair. With seven laps to go, sophomore driver R.J. Dallape passed Kostelnik for the lead. That winning pass occurred just two laps before Kostelnik's engine malfunctioned, sending him to the pits in a cloud of smoke. Dallape held off defending Jennerstown Modified Champion Anthony Aiello for the biggest win of his young career. The official top five finishers were: Dallape, Aiello, "Racin' Jason" Busch, who recovered from an earlier spin, Ohio invader Jeff Dunfee and Mike Carlson, who placed fifth after sitting out the early part of the 2019 season.

Dale Kimberly put on a driving clinic, winning the Farmers Union Co-Op Chargers' main event. Kimberly haunted the rear bumper of Scott Mitchell for many laps, before making the winning pass on lap 17 of 35. The two most veteran drivers in the field have both won in 2019, and they finished first and second. Kimberly is the leading winner in the division for 2019, as he was, also in 2018. Casey Fleege, Dan Jackson, and Chase Payton finished third through fifth. Jackson and Mitchell won the heats.

Saturday, August 17th, Jennerstown Speedway Complex presents five division racing, and Autograph Night. All fans in attendance will be invited on to the speedway surface to meet the drivers, touch the cars, collect autographs, and take photos in a pre-race celebration. For more information visit www.jennerstown.org.

Kingsport Speedway

KINGSPORT, TN - Kres VanDyke avoided Kingsport Speedway's version of the "Big One" to sweep twin Late Model features Friday night.

After rolling to the win in the first of two 35-lap races, VanDyke weaved his way through a multi-car accident in the second feature to come away with his red No. 15 Chevrolet unscathed. VanDyke, who had been sent to the rear of the field after earlier contact with points leader Nik Williams, wound up third after the chaos.

From that point, there was no holding him driver back on the 3/8-mile concrete oval.

"I hate the crash happened. I was coming down the backstretch and I was really being alert," said

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Todd Stone enjoys a big payday after winning the Motor Mountain Masters race at Jennerstown Speedway. (PIT ROW MEDIA / BLAKE HARRIS photo)

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VanDyke, a two-time track champion from Abingdon, Va. "I saw it happening coming into (turn) three and everybody was starting to accordion a little bit.

"I saw one of the cars starting to break loose and knew what was going to happen. I got on the brakes. When I saw one car starting to yaw out, I went to the outside, followed through and kept it in the wood."

With the pedal to the metal, VanDyke avoided the accident that collected six of his competitors, and was positioned behind Wayne Hale and Bryson Dennis on the restart. Dennis passed Hale for the lead on lap 5 and VanDyke moved into second on lap 7.

With former track champion Robbie Ferguson as a spotter, VanDyke pressured Dennis over the next several laps before taking over the lead on lap 22. Dennis was pleased with the race with VanDyke and his own second-place finish.

"It was a good run. I knew we were faster than the cars in front of us and I took my time to get around them," Dennis said. "When that caution came out on lap 4, I was able to get around them and lead about half the race. I saw Kres closing on me. His car had a better roll in the center (of the corners) and I figured he would get by me.

"I appreciate that he ran me clean. We had a good battle for a few laps. He could have nudged me and took me out, but he ran me good.

With Friday's feast, VanDyke has five wins in six Kingsport starts this season.

He led all 35 laps of the first race, holding off defending track champion Zeke Shell of Johnson City for the win. But, the day had a few tense moments after VanDyke ran over a piece of debris during practice.

"We were late getting here, got a piece of metal in the right front tire and ended up having to plug the tire," VanDyke said. "We were worried to death that thing was going hold in there, but it held. Other than that, everybody worked hard and it was one of the best handling cars we had down here in a long time."

Two-time track champion Ronnie McCarty finished third behind



Kres VanDyke waves to the crowd at Kingsport Speedway after winning the late model feature. (DREW HIERWARTER photo)

Dennis in the second feature. Hale and Chase Dixon rounded out the top five after the wheel completely broke on Shell's car on the final turn of the final lap.

Shell was running third when the wheel came apart. He finished sixth, costing him valuable positions in his track championship battle with Williams.

"Honestly, we're not that disappointed," Shell said. "Everything that happened was racing. Nobody really got into us. It was parts failure and I can handle that. We will go home and make it better."

Shell was coming off a runner-up finish to VanDyke in the opening race with Williams, McCarty and Dennis the rest of the top five. Shell said he was pushing hard with a track rule that only allows full-time Kingsport drivers to get two new tires per race. He bounced the No. 1 Ford off the wall, which he felt led to his problem in the nightcap.

"I got into the wall and messed up the stagger a lot," Shell said. "That slowed us down. We had a disadvantage with tires again, but there's nothing you can do about that. It's racing. We had the parts break about lap 10, luckily it didn't come all the way off the car until the last turn."

TOUGH NIGHTS FOR LOONEY, TRENT: Mike Looney, a regular competitor at Motor Mile (Va.) Speedway, made a visit to Kingsport trying to build on his lead in the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series national points.

It was a tough night for Looney in the white No. 87 Chevrolet. Slowed by brake problems, he finished 10th out of 16 drivers in the first race. Looney didn't start the second feature.

Gray driver Joey Trent, who en-

tered the evening battling Shell for second in the track championship standings, finished eighth in the first race. With an inversion of finishers, he started on the pole for the second race.

After Hale and Williams bolted in front of him at the start of the race, he was sent to the back of the field along with VanDyke after Williams' spin. Trying to make his way through the field, he was collected in the big accident on lap 4 and finished 13th in the second feature.

FAST LANES STRIKE AGAIN: Trey Lane raced to his seventh win of the season in the No. 9 Dodge Challenger in the Mod Street division. He powered from a fifth place starting spot to pass defending division champion Royce Peters for the race victory.

It was the 10th win overall for the No. 9 car with Trey's brother, Derek, driving it to the other three victories. Peters finished second with Rusty Clendenin, Colby Higgins and Paul Shull rounding out the top five.

NEW RIDE FOR HELTON: Keith Helton raced a black No. 29 Honda instead of his usual orange No. 9 Saturn in the Pure 4 division.

It proved to be a successful ride for the Kingsport driver, who won the first of two features for the Pure 4 division. There was wild racing throughout the 25-car field as Helton made a four-wide move through traffic to maintain his lead over Josh Detwiler late in the race. It was Helton's ninth win of the season.

Detwiler finished second, followed by Bucky Smith, Kenny Absher and Billy Byington.

Absher and Smith got the best of Helton on a pair of late restarts to finish 1-2 in the second Pure 4 fea-

ture. It marked the first win of the season for 2017 division champion Absher.

Helton finished third with William Hale and Byington rounding out the top five.

HOT STREAKS CONTINUE: Kevin Canter continued his season-long domination of the Mod 4 division winning for the 13th time in 14 starts. Driving the Dale Earnhardt-inspired black No. 3, the Abingdon, Va., driver moved to the lead on lap 7 and led the rest of the 25-lap feature.

Dennis Arnold, the only driver to beat Canter this season, finished second. Chris Amburgey, Billy Duty and Canter's grandfather, Hershell Robinette were the other high finishers.

Tony Dockery of Dungannon, Va., scored his third consecutive victory in the Pure 4 division holding off Bruce Blessing over the 25-lap race. Points leader Doug Austin finished third with Ricky Payne and Kevin Darnell the other top-five finishers.

Selinsgrove Speedway

SELINGSGROVE, PA - Jared Miley of Pittsburgh extended his points lead in the Ultimate Northeast Late Model Series with his \$3,000 win in Saturday night's 30-lap Showdown on Sand Hill at Selinsgrove Speedway.

The victory was Miley's second of the season in the series and his first career at Selinsgrove Speedway. He became the 11th different winner in 12 races this season in the super late model division, making it one of the most competitive seasons in late model history at the track.

Jason Covert of York was the night's fast qualifier over the star-studded 33-car field with a lap time of 19.255.

Lebanon's Devin Adams won the 20-lap PASS/IMCA 305 sprint car feature.

Brandon Moser of Middleburg won the 15-lap pro stock race and Jake Jones of Hunlock Creek was the winner of the 12-lap roadrunner race.

Selinsgrove Speedway is back in action at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 17, with the 360 sprint cars, limited late models, pro stocks, and annual Roadrunner 20 championship race. Track gates will open at 5 p.m.

Dylan Yoder and Greg Satterlee led the field to the start of the Ultimate Northeast Late Model Series feature, with Satterlee rocketing to the lead. Jason Covert, Gene

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Knaub, and Jared Miley were in the top five.

Satterlee, who won on Friday at Path Valley Speedway, saw a nice lead wiped out on lap eight when Billy Wampler stopped on the speedway.

Using the Delaware restarts, Satterlee chose the outside and maintained the lead when the race resumed.

Miley and Jeff Rine found something on the bottom of the track and moved into the top five. The yellow flag flew again on lap 10 for debris on the speedway.

Yoder drifted high on the restart and Miley, Covert, Rine, and Shaun Jones got by.

Miley turned on the afterburners, went after Satterlee, and blew by him coming off turn four on lap 12.

Track points leader Coleby Frye slowed with a blown tire on lap 22 wiping out a sizable points lead going into the night.

Satterlee pressured Miley high and Yoder drove back into third. With five to go Miley was able to gain some breathing room but a third turn spin tightened the field for a green-white-checked finish.

Miley led the rest of the distance winning over Satterlee, Yoder, Cosner, and Jason Covert.

"I was nervous on that last restart," Miley said in Victory Lane. "We had four or five of the best drivers on the east coast here and to beat them is amazing. This is an all new car tonight but we learned a lot from before and put that setup in the car."

Satterlee, Miley, Knaub, and Yoder won the late model heats. Tim Wilson won the consolation.

Devin Adams led the first lap of the 305 sprint car feature but all eyes were on Garrett Bard who rode the rail to second. Dylan Proctor, Zach Newlin, and Jaremi Hanson followed.

Bard, a relative newcomer to sprint car racing, challenged Adams after a few restarts but Adams was able to horsepower away to maintain the lead. Newlin soon challenged and passed Bard for second.

Jake Waters stopped on the front stretch to bring out a lap 13 caution.

Newlin and Hanson started a battle for second with Hanson tak-

ing over on lap 15 as Ken Duke moved forward to the fourth spot.

Hanson, using the high groove, put the Ort Racing 36 sprinter beside Adams but could not get past for the lead.

Adams won by .597 seconds over Hanson, Newlin, Duke, and Bard.

"I knew I was going to have to deal with Duke, sooner or later," Adams said of the winner of the last two events at the speedway. "Each time the caution came out there was somebody different in second and I kept looking for him."

305 sprint car heats went to Bard, Adams, and Kenny Heffner.

Brandon Moser grabbed the early lead in the pro stock feature followed by, Kyle Bachman, Corey Long, Shaun Lawton, and Jason Smith followed.

Moser opened a big lead as Bachman and Lawton battled for second.

Moser led the entire distance for his second consecutive win followed by Bachman, Lawton, John Schoch, and Corey Long.

The pro stock heat went to Corey Long.

Dustin Snook drove away from the traffic jam at the front of the roadrunner feature followed by Bob Bussey, Jake Jones, Will Brunson, and Tom Underwood.

Jones used a restart to draw even with Snook as Curtis Lawton joined the party. Jones slid into the lead on lap five as Snook and Lawton made contact Keith Bissinger challenged the pair.

Jones led the rest of the distance for his fourth win of the season over Snook, Lawton, Underwood and Smith Cope.

Snook and Jones were victorious in the roadrunner heats.

South Boston Speedway

SOUTH BOSTON, VA - Lee Pulliam is now the driver with the hot hand at South Boston Speedway.

The four-time former NASCAR Whelen All American Series national champion swept Saturday night's pair of 75-lap NASCAR Late Model Stock Car Division races, the main event of the Davenport Energy NASCAR Late Model Twin 75s racing program.

Saturday night's sweep gave Pulliam three wins in a row and a total of five victories this season at "America's Hometown Track."

The Alton, Virginia resident started on the pole and scored a flag-to-flag win in the first 75-lap race, edging former NASCAR Whelen All American Series national champion Peyton Sellers of

Danville, Virginia by 1.317-second.

Due to an invert of the top finishers of the first race, Pulliam started eighth in the nightcap, but quickly sped go the front of the pack. A caution on lap 13 allowed Pulliam to restart the race on the front row beside race leader Mike Jones of South Boston, Virginia.

Pulliam and Jones battled hard for the lead for nine laps before Pulliam was able to make the pass for the lead on lap 22. The race's third caution flag set up a second side-by-side restart for Pulliam and Jones. A good launch on the restart allowed Pulliam to clear Jones, and once in front, Pulliam never relinquished the lead.

Sellers took over second place from Austin Thaxton of South Boston, Virginia on lap 47 and set sail after Pulliam. Pulliam began inching away from Sellers in the closing laps and edged Sellers by 1.209-second at the finish.

Thaxton finished third in both races. Jeb Burton of Halifax, Virginia, driving a team car to Sellers, finished fourth in the first race with Daniel Silvestri of Great Falls, Virginia rounding out the top five finishers.

Thomas Scott of Efland, North Carolina finished fourth in the second race, with Burton rounding out the top five finishers.

Four caution flags dotted the first race, and three caution flags slowed the pace in the second race.

WILLIS WINS LIMITED SPORTSMAN DIVISION RACE: Danny Willis of South Boston, Virginia slipped past teenager Jacob Borst of Elon, North Carolina with seven laps to go and held on to win Saturday night's 50-lap Limited Sportsman Division race.

Willis edged Borst by a slim .313-second margin at the finish to score his fifth win of the season and lead the division in wins for the season.

Borst finished second with Drew Dawson of Nathalie, Virginia, J.D. Eversole of North Chesterfield, Virginia and teenager Landon Pemberton of Amelia, Virginia complete the top five finishers.

CREWS EARNS WIN IN BUDWEISER PURE STOCK DIVISION: Nathan Crews of Long Island, Virginia rallied from his fifth starting position to take the lead from Johnny Layne of Nathalie, Virginia on the seventh lap and went on to win the the 30-lap Budweiser Pure Stock Division race.

A late caution period set up a seven-lap dash to the finish, with Crews taking the win over Randy Hupp of Halifax, Virginia by .574-second. The win was Crews' seventh victory of the season.

Bruce Mayo of Halifax, Virginia, Justin Dawson of Nathalie, Virginia and Jimmy Wade of Halifax, Virginia rounded out the top five finishers.

CURRIN TAKES WIN IN BUDWEISER HORNETS DIVISION: Division points leader Kevin Currin of Chase City, Virginia took the lead from Tyler Stanley of South Boston, Virginia on the seventh lap and held on to win the night's 15-lap Budweiser Hornets Division race.

The win was the third of the season for Currin, and it allowed him to pull into a tie with Steven Layne of Nathalie, Virginia for the most wins in the division this season.

Layne finished second with Andrea Ruotolo-Sarnataro of South Boston, Virginia finishing third. Stanley finished fourth and new-

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Lee Pulliam visited South Boston's victory twice Saturday night after sweeping the late model portion of the program. (SBS photo)

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comer Bobby Talbard rounded out the top five finishers.

NEXT RACE AT SOUTH BOSTON SPEEDWAY: Six action-packed races are slated when NASCAR racing returns to South Boston Speedway on Saturday night, August 24, with the 7 p.m. running of the NASCAR Late Model 100 racing program.

A 100-lap race for the NASCAR Whelen

All American Series Late Model Stock Car Division competitors will highlight the six-race program. Also included in the night's action are twin 25-lap races for the Limited Sportsman Division, a 30-lap race for the Budweiser Pure Stock Division, a 15-lap race for the Budweiser Hornets Division and a 25-lap race for the competitors of the regional touring Southern Ground Pounders series.

Registration and pit gates open at 2 p.m., practice runs from 4 p.m. until 5 p.m. Grandstand gates will open at 5:30 p.m. and qualifying starts at 6 p.m. The first race gets the green flag at 7 p.m.

Admission is \$10 for adults. Kids ages 12 and under are admitted free when accompanied by a paying adult.

For additional information about the NASCAR Late Model 100 racing program or any other events at South Boston Speedway, please visit the speedway's website at www.southbostonspeedway.com or telephone the speedway at 434-572-4947 or 1-877-440-1540.

Stafford Motor Speedway

STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT - Stafford Speedway returned to NASCAR Whelen All-American Series racing action with a NASCAR Weekly Racing program on Friday, August 9. Ronnie Williams was the winner of the SK Modified® feature, Adam Gray won the Late Model feature, Mark Bakaj won the SK Light feature, Jeremy Lavoie won the Limited Late Model feature, and Meghan Fuller won the Street Stock feature.

In the 40-lap SK Modified® feature event, David Arute took the early lead from pole position but the field completed only one lap before the caution flew as point leader Todd Owen got into the turn 3 wall and came to pit road with heavy damage to his right front suspen-

sion.

Michael Christopher, Jr. took the lead on the restart with Arute and Marcello Rufrano side by side for second. Eric Berndt was up to fourth with Michael Gervais, Jr. fifth in line. Rufrano took second from Arute on lap-7 and immediately began to apply pressure to Christopher for the lead.

With 15 laps complete, Christopher was still leading Rufrano and Arute with Ronnie Williams up to fourth and Glen Reen fifth. Keith Rocco was now sixth with Gervais back to seventh in line. The caution came out with 26 laps complete for a spin in turn 2 by Dan Wesson with Christopher still leading Rufrano, Arute, Williams, and Reen.

Christopher took the lead back under green with Rufrano in second. Arute and Williams were side by side for third with Williams taking third on lap-29 with a pass in the outside lane. Rocco was fifth right behind Arute as the field completed 30 laps.

Williams got a good run to the inside of Rufrano on lap-31 and he took second with a pass going into turn 3. Williams was right on Christopher's back bumper as they completed lap-33 with Rufrano, Arute, Rocco, Reen, and Gervais lined up behind them. Williams was looking high and low and he made a move to the inside of Christopher in the middle of turns 3+4 to take the lead on lap-35. Christopher came right back with a crossover move to retake the lead on lap-36.

The two leaders took the white flag with Christopher leading Williams into turn 1. Williams got a good run through the first two corners and as the cars headed into turn 3 Williams sent it in deep to the

inside of Christopher and the two cars touched with Williams coming off turn 4 to take the checkered flag by a nose in front of Christopher with Rufrano nearly making it a 3-wide finish. Arute finished fourth with Reen rounding out the top-5.

In the 30-lap Late Model feature event, Darrell Keane took the lead from pole position with Paul Arute in second. Tyler Leary was third in line with Kevin Gambacorta taking fourth before Al Saunders went 3-wide with Gambacorta and Michael Bennett to move into fourth on lap-3. Adam Gray followed Saunders through to take fifth as Gambacorta fell back to seventh with Bennett in eighth as Ryan Fearn was sixth.

Gray took fourth from Saunders on lap-6 and that move opened the door for Ryan Fearn to follow him through and drop Saunders back to sixth as Arute was applying heavy pressure to Keane in the fight for the lead. With 13 laps complete, Arute was still hounding Keane for the lead with Leary and Gray now lined up behind Arute to make a 4-car train for the lead.

Gray got around Arute to move into second on lap-19 and he took the lead from Keane on lap-21 with a pass going into turn 3. Arute was now third in line with Leary fourth and Tom Fearn up to fifth.

Gray led Keane to the checkered flag to pick up his first win of the 2019 season. Arute finished third with Leary and Tom Fearn rounding out the top-5.

In the 20-lap SK Light Modified feature event, Robert Bloxsom, III and Amanda West were side by side on the first lap fighting for the lead with Bloxsom getting clear on lap-2. Chris Matthews was third in the early going with Alexander Pearl fourth and Jonathan Puleo in fifth. The caution flew with 5 laps

complete for a spin in turn 4 by Rit Dulac.

The field completed one lap with Bloxsom still in the lead before the caution came back out for Charlie McDougall, who came to a stop in the mini mile off of turn 4.

Back under green, Pearl took the lead with Bryan Narducci quickly moving up to second. Mark Bakaj was third in line with Bloxsom falling back to fourth with Puleo in fifth. Narducci took the lead from Pearl on lap-11 and that move opened the door for Bakaj to pull alongside Pearl for second. Cassandra Cole spun coming off turn 4 to bring the caution back out with 11 laps complete.

Narducci took the lead back under green with Bakaj right behind him in second. Pearl was third with Bloxsom fourth and West in fifth. Wesley Prucker spun coming out of turn 2 to bring the caution back out with 14 laps complete.

Things got bottled up on the restart and Pearl and Joey Ferrigno touched and got into the turn 1 wall to bring the caution out before a lap could be completed. Narducci's car didn't come up to speed on the restart and he brought his car to pit road under the caution period and was done for the evening. This put Bloxsom and Bakaj on the front row for the restart with West and Puleo in the second row.

Bakaj powered his way into the lead on the outside of Bloxsom on the restart with Puleo taking second in the high line. Glenn Bartkowski spun coming out of turn 4 to bring the caution back out with 15 laps complete.

Bakaj selected the outside lane for the restart as the leader and he and Puleo were side by side for the lead. The two cars were still side by side as they came to the white flag but the caution came out for a spin in turn 2 by Teddy Hodgdon to set up a green white checkered finish. Bob Charland was black flagged and sent to the rear of the field for making contact with Hodgdon.

Bakaj got a great restart and charged into the lead with Puleo and Bloxsom side by side for second. Puleo got clear on the final lap and pulled to the outside of Bakaj going down the backstretch and into turns 3+4. Bakaj was able to beat Puleo to the checkered flag by a half car length to pick up his second win of the 2019 season. Steven Chapman finished third with Mikey Flynn and Bloxsom rounding out the top-5. Chapman's car was found to be 2 pounds underweight

(Continued on Next Page...)



Megan Fuller was happy to visit Stafford Motor Speedway's victory lane again for winning the Street Stock feature. (STAFFORD MOTOR SPEEDWAY photo)

(Continued...)

in post race inspection and he was penalized two positions back to fifth, promoting Flynn to third and Bloxsom to fourth.

In the 15-lap Limited Late Model feature event, Duane Provost led the field to the green but it was Jeremy Lavoie who took the lead on the first lap of the race. Provost slid from the pole back to fifth in line as Gary Patnode was

second, Alexandra Fearn third, and Matt Clement fourth.

Lavoie began to slowly stretch out his lead over Patnode while Clement and Provost got around Fearn to move into third and fourth and drop Fearn back to fifth.

The order shifted again on lap-11 as Clement and Patnode touched while dueling for second with Clement taking second and Provost moving into third as Patnode slid back to fourth in front of Fearn as Lavoie continued to slowly pull away.

Lavoie led Clement to the checkered flag to pick up his fourth win of the 2019 season. Provost finished third with Patnode and Fearn rounding out the top-5.

In the 20-lap Street Stock feature event, Meghan Fuller took the lead at the drop of the green flag with Zack Robinson quickly working his way into second. George Bessette, Jr. was side by side with Adrien Paradis, III for third and he took the spot on lap-6. Tyler Trott was fifth when the caution flew with 7 laps complete as Paradis and Trott both spun in turn 3.

Travis Hydar got a good run to the inside of Fuller on the restart but Fuller still had the lead at the line to complete lap-8. The two cars were still side by side on lap-9 with Fuller still in the lead by a nose. Bessette was third in line with Robinson fourth and Marvin Minkler in fifth.

Hydar and Fuller were still side by side on lap-10 with Fuller again leading by a nose at the line. Minkler spun in turn 2 to bring the caution back out with 11 laps complete.

Fuller took the lead with Hydar slotting into second behind Fuller on the restart. Robinson was third in line with Bessette fourth and Paradis was back up to fifth. With two laps to go, Fuller was still in command of the race with Hydar, Robinson, Bessette, and Paradis

giving chase.

Fuller led the field to the checkered flag to pick up her third win of the 2019 season. Hydar finished second with Robinson, Bessette, and Paradis rounding out the top-5.

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

Volunteer Speedway

BULLS GAP, TN - The National Weather Service predicted hot temperatures in the 90s Saturday around East Tennessee, and the action was also heated on the legendary high banks at Volunteer Speedway as yet another big crowd packed the grandstands for the American Crate All-Star Series presented by PPM Food City 40.

Ross White of Knoxville, the 2017 Crate Late Model track champion at "The Gap," powered around early race leader Andy Ogle on lap 12 and once out front never looked back en route to capturing the \$2,000 Food City 40 victory.

Chris Coffey of Morristown led flag-to-flag in winning the Sportsman Late Model feature, while Kaleb Trent of Rogersville captured his first-ever Modified Street victory.

John Stevens of Wallins Creek, Kentucky, sped to yet another Classic victory, while Austin Atkins grabbed the Street Stock win and John Byers took the Mini Stock victory.

Andy Ogle was fastest in American Crate All-Star Series qualifying at 13.883 seconds to narrowly edge out Ross White's quick lap of 13.889.

The Quick 6 Dash determined starting positions for the first three rows. Ogle recorded the win over White, Tim Byrd, Heath Alvey, Rusty Ballenger and Zach Sise. Trevor Sise and Eli Beets each picked up heat race wins.

Ogle and White raced side-by-side down the front straightaway into the first turn on the opening lap, with Ogle powering into the lead as they sped off turn two down the backstretch, followed by Byrd, Alvey and Trevor Sise. The action that followed involving Rusty Ballenger, Zach Sise, Beets, Clay Coghlan, Tyler Arrington, Adam Ahl, Blake Craft and Aaron Guinn was well worth the price of admission as they battled two- and three-wide in the high-banked turns.

Ogle was being pressured for the lead by White, while Byrd was sticking his nose underneath White



Ross White proudly displays his \$2,000 check for winning the Crate Late Model feature during the American Crate All-Star Series race at Volunteer Speedway Saturday night. (SARAH OSBORNE photo)

in the corners looking for an opening. White got alongside Ogle on lap 12 before taking the lead, leaving Ogle to try hold off advances from three-time Crate Late Model track champion Byrd.

Once out front White quickly began putting some distance between his car and closest challengers Ogle and Byrd. While positions back through the top 10 in the running order changed as the laps clicked off, White was in command out front as he cruised to his first American Crate All-Star Series victory over Ogle, Byrd, Ballenger and Trevor Sise.

Completing the top 10 finishers were Ahl, Craft, Arrington, Guinn and Alvey.

Jesse Helton was fastest in Sportsman Late Model qualifying at 14.118 seconds to earn the pole position for the 25-lap feature. Helton and Chris Coffey led the 19-car field to green from the front row and battled on the opening lap before Coffey grabbed the lead over Helton and Adam Mitchell.

Helton, a two-time winner this season was glued to Coffey's rear bumper through the first half of the race before Coffey began to gradually pull away. Coffey hit his marks lap-after-lap and never gave Helton an opportunity to close back in as he captured his second victory in

2019 over Helton, Mitchell, Vic Chandler and Joshua Sneed.

When a driver first straps on the helmet and tightens the belts, the dream is to someday park in victory lane and celebrate. They say that dreams do come true when you aim for the shooting star, and Kaleb Trent was indeed shining brightly as he drove to an impressive flag-to-flag win in the 20-lap Modified Street feature for his first-ever victory. Trent was chased to the checkered flag by defending division champion Gary Blanken, David Clark, Dustin Ratliff and Kurt Owens.

John Stevens definitely has the bull's-eye across his back in the Classic division, but yet none of his fellow competitors have been able to hit the target and shoot him down. Stevens rolled to his division-leading eighth feature win over Charles Bates, Richie Overholser, Chuck Kilian and Chad Manning.

Austin Atkins outran Tony Trent, Jason Rollins, Marvin Green Jr. and Dan Smith to capture his fourth Street Stock win on the season.

John Byers grabbed the lead at start of the 20-lap Mini Stock feature and sped to his second straight win over Chad Manning, Mitchell Fox, Greg Everhart and Richard Allen.