



JULY 31, 2017

FastTrack

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**Kyle
Busch
Snaps
Drought
at Pocono**



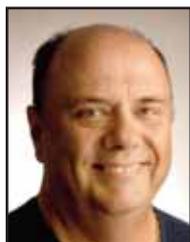
Preece Wins in Iowa



**Christopher Bell
Puts Another
Check in the
Win Column**

We're Back... JGR Rallies Toward the Chase

Not only has Joe Gibbs Racing finally rebounded with two victories in the last three races, the powerhouse suddenly has emerged as a favorite in the upcoming



DON COBLE

Chase for the Championship.

Winless in the first 19 races, the four-team organization went back to work. Gibbs not only closed the gap on the other teams that dominated the first half of the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series season, it passed them.

With the playoffs only a month away, the resurgence couldn't have come at a better time.

"To see them fight over such a long period of time, I hadn't experienced something where you had that many kind of quirky things happen to real fast cars," Gibbs said after Kyle Busch ran away with Sunday's victory at the Pocono Raceway. "You could get discouraged with that. But this team kept fighting."

All the way back to Victory Lane.

Denny Hamlin won at the New Hampshire Motor Speedway on July 16. Busch led a race-best 87 laps a week later at Indianapolis, before he was crashed by Martin Truex Jr. in a battle for the lead.

Busch has led at least 74 laps in each of the past four races.

"We just methodically go about our races, that's our mentality," Busch said.

"When it works for us, we go to Victory Lane. That's how we get to Homestead [for the championship race in the playoffs]."

"It's been a frustrating year and this [victory at Pocono] certainly relieves a little bit of that – I wouldn't say all of it."

The Gibbs resurrection comes as other contenders seem to be falling into midseason swoons. Like:

Kyle Larson. He started the season with two victories and 10 top-10 finishes in his first 15 races. But in the last six races he's finished 26th or worse four times.

Jimmie Johnson. The defend-

ing champion had three wins before June 4, but his current tailspin has led to just two top-10s in his last eight races.

Chase Elliott.

The son of 1988 champion Bill Elliott, started his sophomore season with six top-10 finishes in his first eight races to be as high as second in the point standings. He's cooled off in the past month, falling to seventh in the rankings.

Brad Keselowski. Both of his victories came before April 2. Now he knows his Penske Racing Ford has fallen behind the Toyotas at Gibbs and Truex's Furniture Row Racing. After Sunday's race, he blunted admitted: "We just needed a little bit more speed."

Joey Logano. With his playoff-clinching victory at Richmond taken away after his car flunked post-race inspection, he's fallen well below the cutline to make the 16-driver Chase. The fact he's only had two top-fives in his last 12 races doesn't give him much hope, either."

Kasey Kahne. His victory two weeks ago at Indianapolis got him into the Chase and may have saved his job at Hendrick Motorsports for another year, but it was the only top-10 finish for him in his last 11 races.

Dale Earnhardt Jr. He has no wins and just one top-five this year. Retirement at the end of the season can't come soon enough.

With Busch and Hamlin safely in the Chase, Gibbs now is focused on getting his other two drivers – Matt Kenseth and Daniel Suarez – in the championship hunt as well.

"Our focus is just our entire organization, everybody doing the best they can to put the best cars we can out there each week, and take our shot," Gibbs said.

Since all four Gibbs teams and the two cars at Furniture Row share information, Busch is confident he will have more teammates in the playoffs.

"That's the good thing about our shop, it's one for all," he said. "Everybody that's down on the floor that builds and assembles all these cars, you know, there's no wraps on them until Wednesday or Thursday before they have to get loaded



Kyle Busch brings winning back to the #18 JGR team at Pocono. (NIGEL KINRADE PHOTOGRAPHY photo)

up in order to get in the hauler.

"Daniel is running up front, looking pretty good. Matt has always been fast. He's a sneaky one. One of these days I'm sure we're going to be fighting him for some race wins here in not too long."

Even without a win, Kenseth can still qualify for the Chase as one of the highest-ranking non-winners in the standings. Right now, he's 21

points behind Jamie McMurray for the 16th, and final, spot.

Now that JGR has raised itself back to the elite level in the sport, Gibbs is confident Kenseth soon will join in the celebration.

"We've worked through some tough issues in the past, but I think we've come out stronger," Gibbs said.

And faster.

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MENCs/NXS - NIGEL KINRADE PHOTOGRAPHY
NCWTS - RONDA GREER

Kyle Busch Breaks Winless Drought, Adds Pocono to His List of Winning Tracks

By REID SPENCER

LONG POND, PA - Barely more than three hours after the Pocono crowd greeted Kyle Busch with a chorus of boos during driver introductions, Kyle Busch made converts of the fans in the grandstands – at least a large portion of them – with a spectacular burnout after his long-awaited victory in the Overton's 400.

Benefitting from a splendid pit call by crew chief Adam Stevens, Busch charged through the field after his final stop and pulled away to beat runner-up Kevin Harvick to the finish line by a whopping 6.178 seconds, breaking a career-long 36-race drought and giving Toyota its 100th victory in the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series.

The win was Busch's first at Pocono Raceway, leaving Charlotte Motor Speedway as the only active Monster Energy Series track the driver of the No. 18 Camry hasn't conquered.

Having won his fourth Pocono pole earlier in the day – on the first instance where the Monster Energy Series drivers have qualified and raced on the same day in NASCAR's modern era – Busch recorded the 39th victory of his career when he took the checkered flag.

"It's been a frustrating year, but an awesome day today," Busch said in Victory Lane. "This is also a meaningful win for me in another way. This is the first time I've been to victory lane in a points-paying race since my grandmother passed away. This one's for her, and she's smiling down on us here today, and I appreciate that."

Harvick came to pit road for the final time on Lap 124. Eventual third-place finisher Martin Truex Jr. pitted two laps later, leaving Busch on the track to lead 10 of his race-high 63 laps in clean air.

When Busch finally hit pit lane on Lap 135, he left with fresher tires than those on the cars ahead of him and in short order, picked off Joe Gibbs Racing teammate Denny Hamlin, who finished fourth, and Truex.

Busch and crew chief Adam Stevens had discussed the strategy before the race.

"I knew what he was thinking and that's what it all came down to," Busch said. "We didn't really outsmart anyone today. We just kind of played our race and our own strategy and thought about it a little differently than others, and it worked out for us."

Busch caught Harvick in Turn 3 on Lap 144 of 160, and when Harvick got loose and slowed in the corner, Busch gave the No. 4 Ford an inadvertent shot to the rear

bumper. Busch flashed past Harvick and was gone.

"The only chance that I had was to get into the corner correctly," Harvick explained. "I got in there and was loose all the way through the corner on entry and just kept holding the brake down, holding the brake down, holding the brake down and finally, I'm sure he thought I was going to go and I didn't accelerate."

"I was trying to stay on the bottom to park the thing to get going and he had a good run. Kyle had the class of the field all weekend. His car was really, really fast. He got the pole. Got the win. Pretty much just charged through the field. We definitely have a little bit of work to do. I feel like we got closer and closer. I feel like we raced around all the Toyotas all day."

Busch collected his eighth stage win of the season when he took the

green/checkered flag at the end of Lap 50, and the victory gave him an additional five playoff points, bringing his season total to 13, tied for third in that category with Kyle Larson and Brad Keselowski.

Clint Bowyer collected his first stage win of the season on Lap 100, after Truex, Busch, Harvick and Hamlin all came to pit road just before the end of the stage to set up their prospects for a race win. Bowyer finished sixth behind Keselowski.

Daniel Suarez, Erik Jones, Matt Kenseth (who recovered from a spin in Turn 3 on the first lap) and Chase Elliott completed the top 10.

Notes: Dale Earnhardt Jr. finished 12th in what is likely to be his final run in a Cup car at Pocono... Danica Patrick ran third in Stage 2 and finished 15th, her fourth consecutive top-15 result... The seventh-place finish was the third consecutive top 10 for Suarez.



Kyle Busch is all smiles as he gets back to his #18 Toyota for more victory celebrations on track at Pocono Raceway after winning the Overton 400 Sunday afternoon. This win broke a 36-race drought and was his first win at Pocono. (JOHN HARRELLSON/NKP photo)

Dale Jr.'s

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Ryan Preece Finds Victory Lane at Iowa in Pressure-Packed Performance

By **ROB GRAY**
 NEWTON, IA - Ryan Preece's short-lived, but ambitious 2017 NASCAR XFINITY Series schedule began three weeks ago at his de facto home track, New Hampshire Motor Speedway.

It ended Saturday in the U.S. Cellular 250 at Iowa Speedway — as confetti swirled and soared to highlight his first career series triumph in Victory Lane.

Preece, held off a hard-charging Kyle Benjamin in a green-white checkered finish that came after the third restart in the race's final 17 pulse-quickenings laps.

"I thought this race would never end, that's for sure," an emotional Preece told the NBCSN after finally slowing his fast Joe Gibbs Racing No. 20 car to a stop. "But man, nothing's going to beat today."

No one could beat Preece, who ran full-time in 2016, but chose to funnel his 2017 XFINITY Series re-

sources into this two-race stint with JGR.

That high-stakes gamble clearly paid off — as Preece beamed and raised his arms, his season over, but his future visibly brighter.

"I don't even know what to say," said Preece, who owns 17 career NASCAR Whelan Modified Tour wins, including two this season. "I've got to thank everybody."

So he did.

Benjamin settled for second, which also is his best career finish. Veteran Brian Scott took third in his first start of the season.

"I was very nervous," said Benjamin, who also runs part-time for JGR. "I wanted to make it happen right there."

Preece did just that, from start to finish, with a slight hiccup in between.

He earned his first career Coors Light Pole Award earlier Saturday, powering to a lap of 24.072 seconds at a top speed of 130.857 mph. That dominance carried over into the first stage, which Preece

led in its entirety.

He dropped to sixth off pit road, however, which allowed Justin Allgaier to surge to the front. Allgaier would narrowly hold off Preece to win the second stage and gain a coveted playoff point, but a later gamble would reap misfortune instead of reward.

Drivers faced a dilemma when Spencer Gallagher hit the wall, drawing the caution flag with 80 laps to go. Every top contender eventually dove onto pit road. Everyone except Allgaier, that is, whose team hoped another caution would help the decision pay off.

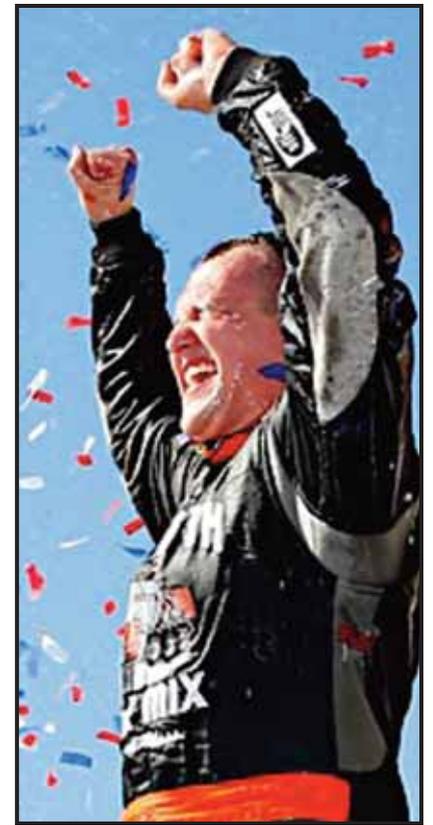
That didn't happen, as Allgaier swiftly dropped from first to seventh, then to 15th — and finally, to a green flag pit stop that came with 25 laps to go. That longed-for caution finally flew shortly after Allgaier returned to the track when Sam Hornish Jr.'s No. 22 Ford hit the wall.

Allgaier's second bad break in as many weeks preceded that nerve-fraying — and caution-filled — finish.

Points leader Elliott Sadler raced near the front most of the day, but ended up 12th. He maintains a 54-point lead over William Byron, who finished ninth.

Preece clearly wasn't racing for points. Only a win.

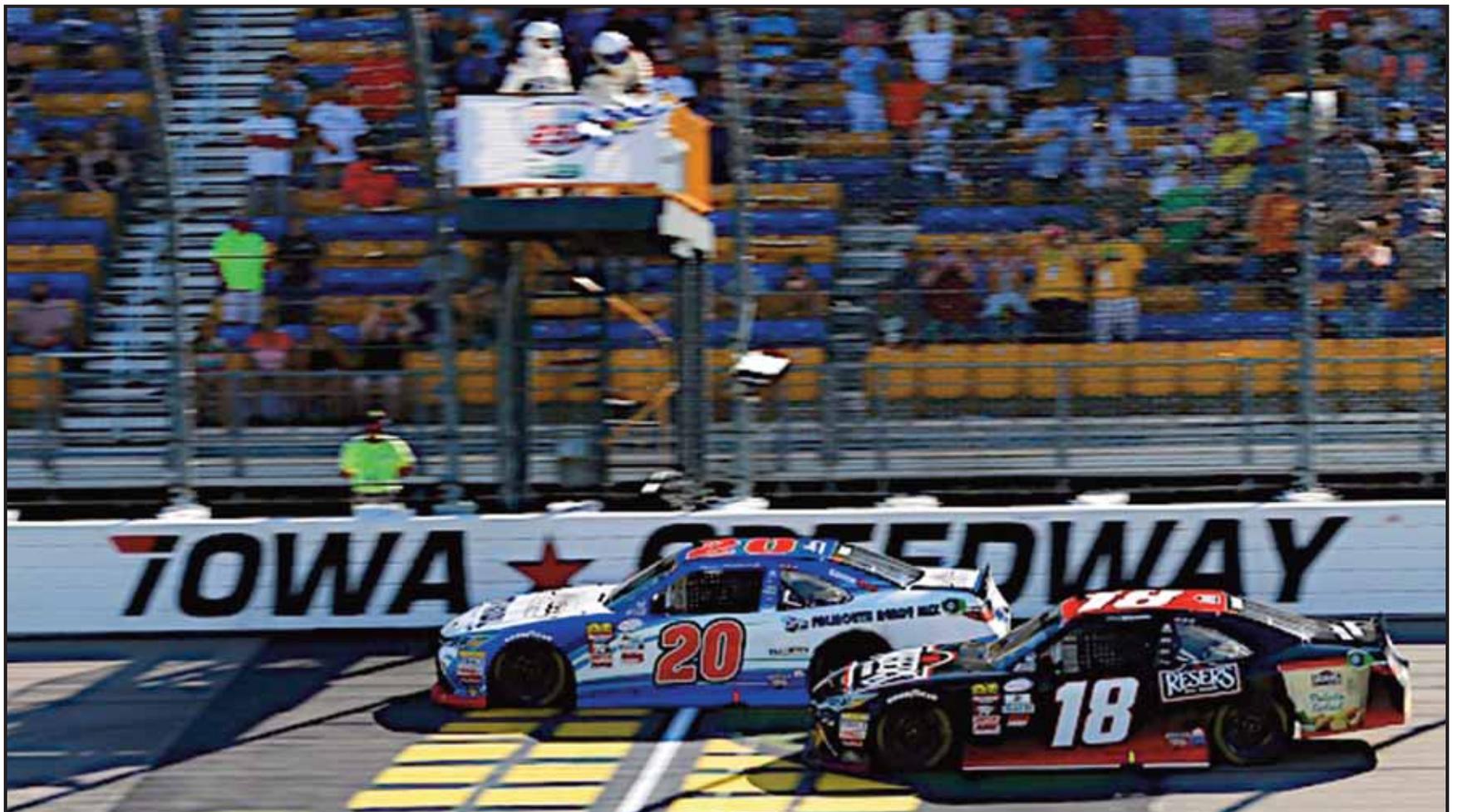
And he edged Benjamin by a



Ryan Preece rejoices in Iowa Speedway's victory lane in his first NASCAR XFINITY Series win. (RUSSELL LABOUNTY /NKP photo)

mere .054 seconds — a fitting margin to conclude a sprint-sized season that ended in happy incredulity.

"I'm so at a loss of words right now," Preece said. "I don't know what to say. This is what emotion is, I can tell you that."



Ryan Preece (20) takes the checkered flag just ahead of a hard-charging Kyle Benjamin (18) at Iowa Speedway in the Cellular 250. (NIGEL KINRADE PHOTOGRAPHY photo)

Christopher Bell Grabs Fourth Win of 2017 with Truck Series Victory at Pocono

By REID SPENCER

LONG POND, PA

- With his boss out of the race, Christopher Bell filled the void, pulling away to win the Overton's 150 NASCAR Camping World Truck Series

race on Saturday at Pocono Raceway.

Bell overtook John Hunter Nemechek on Lap 54 of 60 at the 2.5-mile triangular track and finished 1.964 seconds ahead of runner-up Ben Rhodes, who passed Nemechek for the second position on Lap 56.

One circuit later Ryan Truex took the third spot from Nemechek, who held on to fourth at the finish.

The victory was Bell's first at Pocono, his fourth of the season

and the sixth of his career – and it gave him the series points lead.

Kyle Busch, Bell's team owner at Kyle Busch Motorsports, won the first two 15-lap stages, but moments after the restart that began the green-flag portion of the final stage on Lap 36, Busch's No. 51 Toyota was wiped out by contact from Justin Haley's Chevrolet.

After one more caution and the final restart on Lap 45, it took Bell nine laps to race from fifth to the lead. After battling side-by-side with Nemechek for two laps, Bell gained momentum through the Tunnel Turn and made the winning pass in Turn 3, after struggling to clear the No. 8 Chevrolet down the long frontstretch on the previous circuit.

"The only real passes that I made down the front straightaway were whenever they gave it to me,"

Bell said. "It was pretty tough, because I wasn't good enough with the side-draft to stall the guy beside me and clear him by the time I got to Turn 1. I looked up in my mirror, and whenever I got side-by-side (with Nemechek) we were just bringing all those guys behind us with us.

"I was just trying to figure out where we were going to beat him at, and, thankfully, I showed enough nose to where he couldn't get to the bottom of the Tunnel Turn, and it screwed up his exit out of (Turn) 2."

Ultimately, it was clean air that made the difference for Bell.

"It was definitely who could get in front on the restarts," said Rhodes, who spent the last three laps breaking the draft with the pursuing Truex, taking Truex's line and blocking the No. 16 Tundra.

"I was doing everything in my wheelhouse to keep him behind me," Rhodes said.

Truex was keenly aware of the second-place finisher's tactics but said he would have done the same thing if the positions had been reversed.

"Track position was extremely

big," said Truex, who posted the second-best finish of his Truck Series career, one spot short of the runner-up result he posted in last year's season opener at Daytona. "Once we got single file, it was really hard to pass. There was a lot of blocking.

"It's frustrating that we're this good and this close, but it's great that we're continuing to have good runs like this."

Bell leaves Pocono with an 18-point lead in the standings over defending champion Johnny Sauter, who started from the rear of the field because of unapproved adjustments to his No. 21 Chevrolet and finished fifth.

"That's really special – I'm just so thankful to be able to drive this thing," Bell said of assuming the series lead. "It's a dream come true to be able to compete in the NASCAR series and to be able to drive for Toyota and Kyle Busch Motorsports. It's just a dream come true."

Note: The No. 52 truck of Stewart Friesen, which finished 12th in the race, was found in post-race inspection to be missing one lug nut. Any potential penalties will be announced next week.



Christopher Bell celebrates on the track after winning his first Pocono Raceway NASCAR Camping World Truck Series race. This was his fourth truck win of the season. (RONDA GREER photo)

Gilliland Takes Home The Win at Iowa Speedway

NEWTON, IA - Todd Gilliland only had one true challenge. And even that went away quickly.

The 17 year-old from Sherrills Ford, N.C., had a dominant run in Friday's Casey's General Stores 150 presented by Vatterott College at Iowa Speedway, leading all but the first two laps of the 150-lap race.

It was his second consecutive win in the event, an annual combination race with the NASCAR K&N Pro Series East and West. The NASCAR Next driver has seven wins between the two series this season.

The victory allowed Gilliland to pad his K&N Pro Series West lead while closing the gap on Harrison Burton in the East.

"This was a big win for us," Gilliland said.

Gilliland, driving the No. 16 NAPA Auto Parts Toyota, was fast all day — he had the best lap in the first practice session, and was second-fastest in the second run.

Gilliland, though, started fourth after qualifying, but took the lead from pole-sitter and Bill McAnally Racing teammate Derek Kraus on the third lap and never lost it other than a brief moment to Ben Kennedy late in the race.

Kennedy provided the biggest threat, actually getting around Gilliland with 34 laps left, but Gilliland was able to get the lead back before the start-finish line.

Gilliland then survived two caution flags, pulling away on the final restart.

Kennedy had mechanical issues after a red flag was thrown with 10

laps left to set the lineup during the final caution field. He couldn't get the car refired, and once he got going was moved to the end of the lead-lap cars for not maintaining pace.

Chase Purdy, who started 11th, roared to a second-place finish. Chris Eggleston, who started on the outside of the front row, finished third.

Burton finished fourth, while Chase Cabre was fifth. Michael Self finished sixth. Kennedy was seventh. Will Rodgers, Ronnie Bassett and Jesse Little rounded out the top 10.

Kraus faded after the early start and finished 11th.

With his win, Gilliland now holds an 18 point lead over Eggleston in the K&N Pro Series West standings and trails Burton by only six points in the K&N Pro Series East.

The NASCAR K&N Pro Series East will compete next weekend in the Finger Lakes Wine Country 100 at Watkins Glen (N.Y.) International, while the NASCAR K&N Pro Series West returns to action in the NAPA Auto Parts 150 at Evergreen Speedway at Monroe, Washington, Saturday, Aug. 12.

The Casey's General Store 150 presented by Vatterott College will air on NBCSN on Thursday, Aug. 3 at 7 p.m. ET.

Labbe Lasso The Field In Edmonton

WETASKIWIN, ALB - If Alex Labbe wins the 2017 NASCAR Pinty's Series championship, the trip to western Canada may prove to be the pivotal point in his season.

Labbe started from the pole position after winning the E3 Spark Plugs Pole Award earlier in the day



Todd Gilliland celebrates in Victory Lane after winning the NASCAR K&N Pro Series Casey's General Store 150 at Iowa Speedway on July 28, 2017 in Newton, Iowa. (Daniel Shirey/Getty Images for NASCAR photo)

and led three times for 216 laps en route to the win in the Luxxur 300 at Edmonton International Raceway. It was Labbe's second win in three races on the series' traditional western swing, and gave the St. Albert, Quebec, the points lead in Canada's national stock car championship series.

Labbe's No. 32 Ford paced the field for 192 of the first 193 laps before Donald Theetge got by. Theetge and Lacroix swapped the lead four time before Labbe regained the top spot on Lap 278 just before the seventh and final caution flag of the race was flown on Lap 289.

Labbe, who had dropped back as far as fifth at one point, was able to get a good restart and hold on for

his fourth win of his career and second in three days.

Cayden Lapcevich scored his third podium finish in as many races in third, with Alex Tagliani and L. P. Dumoulin rounding out the top five.

D.J. Kennington was sixth with Mark Dille, Anthony Simone, Kevin Lacroix and Adam Martin completing the top 10.

Lacroix was running in the top five when he got together with Lapcevich, and was given a stop-and-go penalty on Lap 268 ending his chances for a win.

The Luxxur 300 will be televised on TSN on Saturday, Aug. 12 at 1 p.m. ET. The series will return to action on Sunday, Aug. 13 in Trois-Rivieres, Quebec.



Alex Labbe celebrates winning the Luxxur 300 at Edmonton International Raceway on Saturday. The win propelled him into first place in the NASCAR Pinty's Series championship standings. (Matthew Murnaghan/NASCAR photo)

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Haley Holds Off Herbst to Win at Pocono

LONG POND, PA - Three days before the race, Justin Haley had no idea he'd be racing in the ARCA Racing Series presented by Menards at Pocono Raceway. As it turned out, he's glad he did, especially after winning the rain-delayed ModSpace 150 Friday afternoon in the No. 78 Mason Mitchell Motorsports Chevro-

let.

"I got a call from Mason (Mitchell) Tuesday afternoon," said Haley. "He told me to bring my seat over...we mounted it up Tuesday night, and here we are. Just so thankful we could piece it together so quickly."

In the end, Haley had to work hard for it with Joe Gibbs Racing's Riley Herbst in his rearview mirror over the last two laps.

"We knew he was coming," Haley said. "My spotter Kevin Hamlin did a great job keeping my moral boosted but I spent a lot of time looking in the mirror those last few laps."

Haley had to give it all he had to keep Herbst behind him.

"When you're going 200 mph on a flat track you tend to burn off the right front (tire)...I was having to run the car hard to stay up front. Managing lapped traffic was chal-

lenging, and we fired off on a green race track. Fortunately, the General Tires were amazing."

After Herbst cleared Zane Smith for second in the closing laps, he shaved a full second off the leader, catching Haley less than two laps from the finish. But where clean air means everything, Herbst could not find a way around the eventual winner. Herbst had to settle for second, nearly a half-second back.

"Winning's a lot more fun," said Herbst, who won the spring race at Pocono. "I messed up...I didn't get going on a restart and lost all our momentum."

Whatever Herbst lost in the beginning, he made up for it in the end.

"We got back up to fourth with 15 to go and everyone in front of us was getting really tight...I could wrap the bottom a lot better. Once we got by the 55 (Zane Smith) we had a clear shot at the 78...we needed another lap. I just want to thank everyone at Joe Gibbs Racing. They bring great cars every week...that's why we run up front. Second place...we'll take it...go on to Winchester and try to get it done there."

Smith finished third. For a time, and before Herbst passed him for second, Smith was running down the leader.

"We were running down the 78...I think I just went a little too hard and heated up the right front



Justin Haley celebrates in victory lane after a last minute decision to race at Pocono Raceway. (arcaracing.com photo)

and got tight," said a discouraged Smith. "We're coming so close...it's unreal. Honestly, it's so annoying to not get a win. We wanted it for Musselman's so bad. It's been an up and down year to say the least."

The race was initially delayed because of a hard rain that fell just before the scheduled start. After two hours-plus of track drying, the race started under caution before they went under green on the fifth lap. Kaz Grala won the General Tire pole and took off like a rocket at the onset, leading the first 26 laps of the 60-lap race. Then Dalton Sargeant took over under caution for two laps before Grala cycled back into the lead for the restart. Back under green, Haley got a great start on the inside and drove away from Grala, never to be challenged again until Herbst stepped up late in the going.

Grala finished fourth with

Sargeant trailing in fifth. Sheldon Creed was sixth ahead of Gus Dean in seventh. Championship points leader Austin Theriault finished eighth, with Noah Gragson in ninth. Natalie Decker finished a career-best 10th. Codie Rohrbaugh finished 11th, the last car on the lead lap.

The race was finished in one hour and six minutes as just two cautions for 11 laps slowed the pace.

Haley is now three for three in the win column in his last three ARCA starts going back to the Springfield mile dirt in 2016, also driving for Mason Mitchell Motorsports. Haley also won with MDM Motorsports at Talladega Superspeedway earlier this year.

The ARCA Racing Series travels to Winchester Speedway next for the Winchester ARCA 200 Sunday, August 6.

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Craig Outlasts Rain And Competition For 4th PASS Win at Southern National

LUCAMA, NC - Matt Craig survived a 52 minute rain delay and a late restart to score his fourth Pro All Stars Series (PASS) South Super Late Model win of the season Saturday night at Southern National Motorsports Park. In doing so, Craig, along

with fellow podium finishers Dave Farrington, Jr. and Trevor Sanborn, locked up guaranteed starting positions for November's Mason-Dixon MegaMeltdown 300 at Hickory Motor Speedway, which will pay at least \$15,000 to the winner.

"We took off on that one restart after the rain to get a good lead and get to halfway, but we weren't really too worried about it, we knew the radar looked good," said Craig, driving the family-owned C&C Boilers Chevrolet #54. "What makes it easier for me are the guys that work on the car every week. I can't thank them and my dad enough for setting it up. We really want to get to the big races at the end of the year, the Oxford 250 and the MegaMeltdown. These wins mean

a lot, but now we want the big ones."

In qualifying, Tate Fogleman just beat out Craig for his first career quick qualifying time in PASS South with a lap of 15.321 seconds (93.989 MPH). After the top 10 qualifiers redraw, Matt Wallace and Jared Fryar would move to the front row, while Fogleman and Craig would slot into the fourth and fifth starting positions respectively.

At the drop of the green flag, Wallace would move to the point and begin to stretch out to a big advantage over the rest of the field. The caution would not wave until lap 26 when a light mist began to fall over the speedway. After several laps under caution to keep heat in the track, the race went back to green with Craig taking over the top spot from Wallace. But, the caution would wave again after contact in turn three between Fryar and Joe Graf, Jr. sent Fryar for a spin. During the caution, the precipitation would pick up, resulting in a delay to insure that the track was dry.

After the rain had passed, the field went back to green with Craig leading over Wallace and Dave Farrington, Jr. Farrington, along



Matt Craig climbs from his car in victory lane at Southern National Motorsports Park after racing his way to the win and a guaranteed starting position for the Mason-Dixon MegaMeltdown 300. (Andy Marquis photo)

with Fogleman and Kodie Conner, were able to move by Wallace with 57 laps to go to try and track down Craig for the lead.

The caution would wave with seven laps to go when rookie Roy Hayes spun in turn four. On the restart, Fogleman, who passed Farrington for second just prior to the caution, raced hard to try and challenge Craig, but spun exiting turn two and collected Conner. Craig would go unchallenged the rest of the way to sweep the season at Southern National over Farrington, Trevor Sanborn, Fryar, and two-time PASS National champion, Jay Fogleman. Rounding out the top 10 were Graf, Conner, T. Fogle-

man, Sarah Cornett-Ching, and Wallace.

In MASS Street Stock action, Gary Ledbetter, Jr. led flag-to-flag to take the win over polesitter Bobby Tumbleston, Ricky Locklair, Jr., Sonny Schoffen, and Jeff Melton.

The PASS South Super Late Models will be in action again on Saturday night, August 12 at South Boston Speedway, along with Twin 75s for the NASCAR Late Model Stocks and Hornets. Entry forms will be available at ProAllStarsSeries.com. Be sure to "Like" the Pro All Stars Series on Facebook or follow us on Twitter at @PASSSLM14.

Pollard in a League of His Own at Five Flags

PENSACOLA, FL - Five Flags Speedway (FL) hosted its third Southern Super Series presented by Sunoco event of the 2017 season Friday night. A talented field of 25 Super Late Model drivers made their way to the Pensacola half-mile oval, but at the end of the night it was one driver in a league of his own.

Bubba Pollard made the 125-lap race look easy as he cruised under the checkered flag, claiming his 15th career Southern Super Series win.

Pollard took over the lead just before the race reached the halfway mark and never bothered looking back.

"This is actually a different race car than what we've been racing all year," Pollard said. "It just goes to

show you that we have good race cars. We've just got a really good piece right now."

One late-race caution on lap 90 erased the gap between first and second, threatening to end Pollard's dominating performance. Donnie Wilson would have a chance steal back the lead from Pollard as the two restarted side-by-side. The ten-lap shootout proved to be more of the same, however, as Pollard got the jump, once again running away with the show.

Third-place finisher and defending SSS champion Donnie Wilson is another driver still searching for the perfect formula. He took over the lead from Cole Williams just 19 laps into the feature, but ran into some frustration with lapped traffic, allowing Pollard to catch up and contend for lead.

Jeff Choquette finished the night one position short of where he wanted to be. Choquette had



Pollard celebrates in Five Flags Speedway victory lane. (Speed51.com photo)

showed strength earlier that afternoon when he was fastest in both practice sessions, but wasn't able to transfer that momentum into the feature.

"This was a salvage position," Choquette said. "I think we were running fourth there for a while with fifth place running us down. We got a late-race restart and were able to get up through the gears pretty good. We got to second and were just lucky enough that it was a

short enough run to be able to hold [Wilson] off."

Defending Snowball Derby winner Christian Eckes and Casey Roderick completed the top five. Stephen Nasse unofficially took over sole possession of the Southern Super Series points lead with a sixth-place finish.

Next up for the Southern Super Series is a trip to Mobile International Speedway (AL) on August 19 for the Lee Fields Memorial race.

David Gravel Wins Again at Wilmot Raceway in a Thriller

WILMOT, WI - If it was up to David Gravel he would race at Wilmot Raceway every week if he could. At least that's what he jokingly said after winning for the third time in the same number of starts with the World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series at Wilmot on Saturday night in the Badger 40. Gravel remains undefeated in three starts with the Outlaws at the third-mile in Southern Wisconsin.

Gravel used some late race heroics for the second straight night to take the lead with just two laps remaining en route to a thrilling win over Shane Stewart. That pair traded the lead four times officially, but unofficially swapped the lead numerous times in the late-going, with Gravel running the top of the track and Stewart a little lower.

"It's been awesome racing here," said Gravel. "Wisconsin is great. It doesn't matter if we are at Beaver Dam (Raceway) or Cedar Lake (Speedway), the stands are always packed. They are just as good as Pennsylvania fans. It was racing with Shane. We both raced real hard."

Gravel led on three separate occasions on Saturday night for a total of five laps, but for the second straight night, he led the most important one, the white flag lap. Gravel took the lead for the first time on lap-29 when Brad Sweet made contact with an infield tire, which dropped him from the point to third. Shane Stewart also moved up a spot at that point in time.

Stewart took the top spot on the very next lap and would remain out front for six circuits. Gravel got back by on lap-36 and was out front for two laps, before Stewart took the lead again on lap 38. Gravel moved back to the lead on lap-39 and paced the final two laps to secure his 12th win of the season.

"I think I may have been to patient and Shane (Stewart) got by us," shared Gravel. "Luckily Brad (Sweet) got into the infield tire and that gave us track position. I know we had a really good car. The track was awesome. The bottom was good and so was the top. It was even. The curb got out there really gnarly at the end and bit me a couple of times, but I knew that was the

fastest place. I just had to play Russian roulette with the curb those last few laps and it worked out."

Stewart started fourth and was up to third on the second lap and kept pace with Sweet and Gravel in the early going. With six laps to go the caution flag flew, which set up one final double-file restart with Stewart choosing the low side and Gravel up top. Following that unfurling of the green flag, the duo waged war, trading the lead at both ends of the track a number of times.

"It was exciting," said Stewart. "I honestly felt like I drove a little too cautious there at the end. I was trying to block him and hit my lines. That team has been really, really good here lately and we were close. We were a lot closer than we have been lately. My guys continue to work crazy hours to make sure the car is ready each and every night. We just came up a little short tonight, but it was a fun race."

Stewart ran among the top-three for just about the duration of the 40-lap race. Late in the race, Stewart seemed to have an advantage on the lows sides of turns one and two, with Gravel getting the upper hand on the top side of turns three and four.

"I think that race could have gone anyway," noted Stewart. "Obviously the little issue Brad had with the infield tire made it a lot more interesting. We'll keep on digging and hopefully we can click off a few more wins before the Knoxville Nationals."

Sweet took the lead on the opening lap in turns one and two from Paul McMahan, who started on the pole. He was just about to get to lapped traffic, when the first caution flag of the night flew on the eighth lap. Sweet chose the low line for the ensuing double file restart, with Gravel moving up to second and taking a peek for the lead on the high side of turn four. Sweet was able to maintain his lead in lapped traffic near the halfway point of the race. Gravel got a good run on Sweet on lap-28, with Sweet getting out of shape on the next lap, after contact with the infield tire in turn two.

"I'm tired of making mistakes," said Sweet. "The NAPA guys are giving me a great race car each and every night. We are in contention to win every night. This one tonight is on me. It was driver error."



David Gravel raced his way to victory lane at both Wilmot Raceway and Hartford Speedway over the weekend with the World of Outlaws Sprint Car Series. (Paul Arch photo)

I was trying to get through lapped cars. We were setting a good pace. The car felt great and I didn't really have anything to complain about. Once you make a mistake with these guys they do a great job and Shane was right there. They capitalized on my mistake. I'm just happy it didn't knock the front axle out and end out night."

Sweet would end up finishing third, which was his 41st top-five finish of the season, which keeps him tied with eight-time and defending series champion Donny Schatz for the series lead in that department. Following a caution with just six laps remaining, Sweet was nearly three-wide for the lead with Gravel and Stewart going into turn one as he looked to rebound from the mishap earlier in the race.

"We'll take a third and everyone needs to get home and get a break for a minute and regroup," noted Sweet. "We have some of the biggest races coming up. We'll keep our heads up and try to look forward and be positive and try to win some more of these races."

Sheldon Haudenschild finished fourth, after lining up on the outside of the fifth row. Schatz worked his way to a fifth-place showing, after starting 13th. Logan Schuchart continued his recent string of strong finishes with a sixth-place run. Jason Johnson crossed the line seventh, with McMahan in eighth, Daryn Pittman ninth and Brent Marks 10th.

Blake Nimee picked up tonight's KSE Hardcharger award after qualifying for the Badger 40 Feature from the Last Chance Showdown. Nimee started 24th and finished 14th.

The World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series returns to action on Friday, August 4 with the Night Before the Ironman at Federated

Auto Parts Raceway at I-55 in Pevely, Mo., followed by the \$20,000-to-win Ironman 55 on Saturday, August 5.

Patience Pays Off: David Gravel Wins at Hartford Speedway

HARTFORD, MI - Patience was certainly a must on Friday night in the Battle of Michigan for the World of Outlaws Craftsman® Sprint Car Series. David Gravel showed the patience of a true veteran, enduring five cautions and one red flag period en route to winning at the re-configured Hartford Speedway.

Gravel, who started third, was able to get by Brad Sweet in lapped traffic with just three laps remaining, after erasing a sizeable lead that Sweet had as the laps wound down in the 30-lapper. For Gravel, it was his 11th win of the season for the CJB Motorsports team. He credited the changes his team made during a lap-17 open red flag to helping him reach victory lane.

"I think it was better running second," said Gravel. "It was a lot of fun. We raced real hard, even with how slick it was. It was very technical out there. We had the red flag and I think we made the car better during it. We were really tight, but you needed to be on a slick track like this. Thanks to my guys for busting their butts and I'm happy we could get another one."

Brad Sweet jumped out to the lead on the start, after lining up on the outside of the front row. He paced the field for the first eight laps, with Gravel taking the lead on the top side of turn two. Sweet returned to the point on a lap-11 restart using the high groove. Gravel ran side-by-side with Sweet through three and four with four

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laps to go and took the top spot on the very next lap.

"When I was second, I had a really good restart and got the lead," explained Gravel. "Then when I was leading, I lost the lead on a restart, so they went both ways tonight. It was tough to get going on the starts. You kind of had to ease on the throttle on the straightaway to get into turn one."

Sweet, who led 25 total laps in the 30-lapper, finished second to earn his 40th top-five finish of the season, which is tied for the series lead in that category with eight-time and defending series champion Donny Schatz.

"I got a little free at the end and just didn't cover the lines well enough in traffic," said Sweet. "I got to the first lapped car and we just weren't good enough to pass him. If I could have moved around, I think I could have held David (Gravel) off. It just got super technical and line-sensitive. I just made too many mistakes and gave the race away late. We'll keep fighting and hopefully we can get this NAPA Auto Parts car to victory lane where it belongs. The car is good enough to win, we just need to make it happen."

Logan Schuchart followed up a win earlier this week at Ohsweken Speedway in Canada with a third-place finish. The Pennsylvania native battled for a large portion of the race with Gravel, while the eventual winner was running second. Since debuting a new car, the driver of the No. 1S for Shark Racing hasn't finished off the podium.

"We wanted a better car about a month ago," said Schuchart. "The one we were running was worn out. This one is brand new and has a first and a third. I can't say enough about the guys who put this car on the race track. It was a fast race car when we got it and its rolling good. This is a good time of the year to be rolling good and be fast. We just have to keep it up and make the right changes at the right times."

Brent Marks, one of the contenders for the Kevin Gobrecht Rookie of the Year Award, finished a season-best fourth at Hartford Speedway. For the Pennsylvania native, it was his first top-five finish of the season.

Kraig Kinser crossed the line

fifth, with Donny Schatz sixth. Daryn Pittman recovered from a trip to the work area on the 11th lap to weave his way back through the field to finish seventh.

Sheldon Haudenschild was eighth with fellow Ohioan Greg Wilson ninth. Wilson was the KSE Hard Charger, after taking a provisional to start 25th. Shane Stewart rounded out the top-10.

Logan Schuchart Takes a Bite Out of Schatz for Win at Ohsweken

OHSWEKEN, ONT - Logan Schuchart hunted down Donny Schatz in heavy lapped traffic and then dominated the second half of the Six Nations Showdown at Ohsweken Speedway for his fourth World of Outlaws Craftsman® Sprint Car Series win of 2017 on Tuesday night.

The victory was a much-needed confidence boost for Schuchart and his Shark Racing team who had struggled of late. The slick Ohsweken surface was exactly to the liking of the Hanover, Pa. native in the Outlaws only visit to Canada this season.

"I love these type of racetracks, not just because we ran well on it tonight. I love slick racetracks," Schuchart said in Victory Lane. "I love when you have to drive the car straight and smooth. I feel like it makes it fun. Obviously if you're not running good it's not fun, but if you can glide around the racetrack, be smooth and have forward drive, it's fun."

Schuchart had all of those ingredients at Ohsweken. While Schatz grabbed an early lead from the pole

and drove away from the majority of the field, Schuchart was the only driver able to keep pace.

The top duo wandered into heavy lapped traffic by lap nine and as Schatz was forced to give up his preferred line on the bottom to move past a slower car, Schuchart capitalized when he found room on the bottom of turn two and down the backstretch to take the lead.

"I was having trouble catching Donny when we were in an open run," Schuchart admitted.

"It wasn't until we got to lapped traffic, I felt like, that some lapped cars made him go where he didn't want to. I could just move around a little bit more than he could and go through the middle. When some lapped cars took his line away, I just felt like I was able to get the forward drive off the corners to get by him."

One lap after Schuchart took the lead, the caution flag waved for Sheldon Haudenschild, who suffered a flat right-rear tire. He made the repairs in the work area and returned to the rear of the field. Schuchart held the point on the lap nine restart while Greg Wilson and Kyle Larson battled tooth and nail for the third spot.

Schuchart led the top-five into traffic again on lap 16 of the 30-lap main event, but was able to run the bottom the lane the whole time to continue pulling away from Schatz. His advantage with 10 laps to go was 2.6 seconds but grew each lap until he achieved the eventual 5.984-second margin of victory.

Schatz was openly disappointed he was not able to capitalize on his pole starting position to claim his 16th win of the season. His runner-up finish was his 40th top-five fin-

ish of the season.

"We got beat," Schatz stated bluntly. "Logan was really good. He could go all over. Obviously, we got to traffic and you have to move around. We did that a little bit and he found the better groove. Those guys rolled pretty good and I couldn't stay down there very well. I had to roll the middle and do what I could. These guys did a great job, Logan was just that good tonight."

Schuchart was ecstatic to score his fourth Outlaw win of the season and to beat the current Series point leader to achieve the feat.

"Anytime you can beat Donny Schatz on any type of racetrack, but especially a slick racetrack, it's saying something," Schuchart said. "We've had a car for a while that's given us some trouble and this is the first night on this new XXX (chassis) and it was hooked up on this slick surface. I felt like it was just gliding around the racetrack and I was just guiding it."

Wilson rounded out the podium finishers after holding off Kyle Larson in the second half of the race. It was Wilson's fifth top-five finish of the season on a surface he raved about in his post-race interview.

"We've been struggling pretty bad lately, so I can't thank the folks at Hercules Tires, Ohio Logistics, DNC Hydraulics, Gear Alloy and Weikel Sportswear for staying with us," Wilson said.

"This is always an amazing show. (Track Owner) Glenn (Styres) and the whole crew gave us an excellent racetrack. It's fun. I wish some other tracks in the country would take a look at this. I realize we're not going 100mph, but there's racing all over the racetrack and that's what it's about."

Larson settled for a fourth-place finish and 19-year-old Dylan Westbrook, who was making his first career Outlaw start in his first night with a 410ci motor, rounded out the top-five after starting 16th. Jacob Allen was the KSE Hard Charger award winner after he advanced 13 positions from 24th to 11th.

Brad Sweet was the night's fast qualifier with a lap of 12.280 seconds. Sweet, Schuchart, Larson and Wilson all won heat races in some of the most thrilling qualifying action all season.

Schatz won the Craftsman Club Dash from the pole, but had to take the lead back from Brent Marks midway through the race to gain the pole. Kraig Kinser came out on top of a three-car battle for the lead with Jared Zimbardi and Steve Lyons to win the Last Chance Showdown.



Logan Schuchart raced his way around Donny Schatz for the victory in the Six Nations Showdown at Ohsweken Speedway. (Paul Arch photo)

Sheppard Reigns During the 28th Annual Prairie Dirt Classic

FAIRBURY, IL - The World of Outlaws Craftsman® Late Model Series and the team at Fairbury American Legion Speedway made history on Saturday night during the 28th annual Prairie Dirt Classic as the highest paying race to ever take place in the state of Illinois

with a \$30,000 payout. Brandon Sheppard wheeled his way to victory on Saturday night ultimately breaking a three-year winless streak for Illinois-drivers at the event.

The two-day show saw 65 of the nation's best Dirt Late Model drivers compete on the Fairbury, Ill stage. The standing room only crowd nearly tripled the size of the all-American city as fans traveled from far and wide to experience one of the most anticipated Dirt Late Model events of the year.

The 28th annual Prairie Dirt Classic did not disappoint as the semi-banked quarter-mile dirt oval produced multiple lanes of racing every time cars hit the track. The 100-lap feature event was no exception, as three different drivers took command of the lead during the race including Shane Clanton, Ryan Unzicker, and eventual winner, Brandon Sheppard.

"This car is awesome every night we take it out of the box," said Sheppard on his 11th win with the World of Outlaws Craftsman Late Model Series. "I have to thank my crew Dan, Austin, Joel, Mark, little Brian, everyone at Keyser Manufacturing, Durham Racing Engines they all keep this thing going night in and night out. I have to also thank my Dad and my Grandpa. I wouldn't have a racing career if it wasn't for them."

Sheppard led 69 laps of the 100-lap event, taking total control over the lead on lap 40. He was even able to defend his lead after three restarts.

Several cars juggled positions behind the Rocket1 often battling four-wide for the final two podium positions including Unzicker, Clanton, Devin Moran, Jason Feger, Chris Simpson, Brian Shirley, and Mike Marlar.

The fight for second and third came down to the last lap as Un-

icker passed Moran on lap 99 to finish second in the 29-car feature.

"I tell you what, this feels freaking awesome running second to these guys," said Unzicker. "It feels like I'm winning a million."

Earlier in the day during the redraw, Unzicker was explaining to Series Announcer, Rick Eshelman, that he would be satisfied with a top-five finish because he had not made the show the past three years he entered into the Prairie Dirt Classic.

"This thing ran great tonight," said Unzicker. "I was just thankful to be up there and running with these guys. Our car was pretty decent but these guys are damn good. It was a hell of a racetrack and it was 'falsy'".

Devin Moran finished two spots shy of sweeping the weekend. On Friday, Moran turned the fastest lap during qualifying with a 12.627-second lap. The Rookie of the Year Contender then went on to lead every lap of the first of four Showdown Features to claim the win, ultimately placing him in the redraw for the 100-lap main event. Moran's luck continued on Saturday as he pulled the no. one wrench from the Craftsman tool box putting him on the pole for his first time at the Prairie Dirt Classic.

Moran was passed on the first lap by Clanton who started directly behind him in third. Clanton led the first 23-laps of the 100-lap feature before getting passed by relentless track-regular, Unzicker. Within the first six-laps Moran had fallen outside of the top-five but the long-distance race granted him time to find his way back to the front of the pack.

"I wasn't quite patient enough," said Moran. "I kind of blew the deck out of it there at the end but congrats to [Sheppard and his crew] they've been on their own speed level this year and we are still just trying to play catch up. We got close there tonight but we just fell back too far early in the race and that just killed us. It's our first time at FALS so we will definitely take a third-place finish."

The World of Outlaws Craftsman Late Model Series heads to Wisconsin for the toughest stretch of the season: five races in five days. The Wisconsin swing with kickoff at OshKosh SpeedZone Raceway on Aug. 1 before heading to Shawano



Brandon Sheppard raced his way victory lane at Fairbury American Legion Speedway for the 28th annual Prairie Dirt Classic. (Paul Arch photo)

Speedway on Aug. 2. The swing will conclude with the highest-paying Outlaw event of the season, the \$50,000-to-win USA Nationals at Cedar Lake Speedway on Aug. 3-5.

Four Showdown Features Set the Stage for The 28th Annual Prairie Dirt Classic

FAIRBURY, IL - One of the most anticipated Late Model events in the country kicked off Friday evening at Fairbury American Legion Speedway with the running of the 28th annual Prairie Dirt Classic.

Friday's portion of the two-day show topped the charts of the 2017 season with the most cars entered in a World of Outlaws Craftsman® Late Model Series event with 65 Late Models in attendance. Late Model drivers from across the nation collided on the Fairbury, IL stage in hopes of walking away with a portion of the \$93,000 purse.

Friday's portion of the two-day show set the stage for the 100-lap main event on Saturday with four showdown features taking place. The top four drivers from each showdown secured their position in the Prairie Dirt Classic with the top two finishers headed to the redraw.

On Saturday, two Last Chance Showdowns will take place allowing six additional drivers to fight for their spot in the main event alongside four provisional positions to create a 26-car field for the 100-lap program.

Dyer's Top Rods Showdown Feature No. 1: Devin Moran was a man on a mission during the first of four showdown features. He led every lap of the 25-lap feature over Jason Feger who was relentlessly trying to reel the Rookie of the Year contender in. By the time the checker flag fell, Moran had cre-

ated 4.703-seconds between him and the rest of the field. Moran's dominating performance proved he remained the fastest car on the track after grabbing quick-time earlier in the day.

McKay Wenger and Michael Kloos finished third and fourth respectively to secure the final transfer spots from the Dyer's Top Rods sponsored Showdown.

Pontiac RV Showdown Feature No. 2: Shane Clanton and Shannon Babb started in the front row of the Pontiac RV showdown where they ran side-by-side around the track in what looked like was going to shape up to a great battle for 25-laps. Unfortunately for Babb, he climbed the wall in turn two on lap two and was forced to retire from the race.

Tyler Erb was next to battle Clanton before he followed in Babb's misfortune ultimately leaving the race due to mechanical failures. Clanton then controlled the feature for the remainder of the event over a battle for second between Ryan Unzicker and Brian Shriey.

"That was a work out right there," said Clanton. "Our car is as good as it is ... I hope tomorrow night we have a good enough car to last 100 laps here. 100 laps is a long time around here."

Dennis Erb Jr. wheeled his way from a 10th place start to claim the final transfer position from the second 25-lap feature.

FK Rod Ends Showdown Feature No. 3: Chris Madden led the way for the first 17-laps of the 25-lap feature over a juggling match between five cars for the remaining three transfer spots involving Chris Simpson, Gordy Gundaker, Brandon Sheppard, Bobby Pierce, and Frank Heckenast Jr.

Sheppard patiently waited to
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make his move on Madden and on lap-18 he saw the opportunity to slide pass the race long leader on the high side of the track nearly clipping the nose of the no.44 machine in the process.

"The track was a little bit treacherous up there but you know it's FALS, if you can get up there to make it happen, you can make it happen." said Sheppard. "Hats off to

both Chris' they did a good job and had some smooth lines running. They also probably don't have as much stuff tore up as I do but we got it done and we got in the redraw. That's the biggest thing. Getting in the redraw."

With only four laps remaining, Pierce was able to pass Madden for the final spot in the redraw. Madden ended up finishing third and Simpson fourth.

WEHRS Machine Showdown Feature No. 4: Mike Marlar led all 25-laps of the qualifying feature despite one mistake that almost cost him his victory. On lap 17, Marlar jumped the cushion ultimately losing his momentum on the backstretch. It was then Don O'Neal who paid the price as he was hit from behind bringing out the caution on the same lap.

Rick Eckert had been steadily running second behind Marlar while fending off multiple charges from Tim McCreddie. On lap 20, McCreddie was able to pass Eckert followed by Jimmy Owens and Chris Ferguson who also found their way around the No. 7 by the time the checkers fell.

Sheppard Outduels Madden at Fayette County

BROWNSTOWN, IL - The statistical report from the World of Outlaws Craftsman® Late Model Series shootout at Fayette County Speedway shows Brandon Sheppard leading every lap of the 40-lap feature. The feature event was anything but in the bag for the dominate Late Model driver as Sheppard had to fend off multiple charges from Shane Clanton and Chris Madden before claiming his 10th Outlaw win of the 2017 season.

Being in Victory Lane at Fayette County Speedway was a familiar

flashback for Sheppard, who had visited the quarter-mile track at the beginning of July with the DIRTcar Summer Nationals where he claimed his fifth win in a row with the tour.

"I've always liked this track a lot and we've always found a lot of success here. I guess it just fits me well," said Sheppard. "I couldn't do this deal without all of my guys-Dan, Austin, Joel, Mark, little Brian, everyone at Keyser Manufacturing, Integra Shocks and Springs, and Rocket Chassis. You know I got to thank [Rocket] for giving me this opportunity and putting me in this thing and going out on a limb for me. It's really worked out in my favor, for sure. I've really come a long way. I have to thank Mark and Steve for that. I also have to thank all of my sponsors... and all of the fans for coming out tonight too."

Sheppard started the feature on the outside of pole-sitter Clanton and found his way to the lead on the first lap. In 20-laps time, Sheppard had created nearly three-seconds between him and Clanton who was still holding on to second from a hard charging Madden. By lap-25 Madden found his way past Clanton and was headed for Sheppard.

As Madden was slowly trying to reel in race long leader Sheppard, the first caution fell on lap 28 for Bobby Pierce who suffered from a flat tire. Subsequently, Sheppard's three-second lead was lost. Sheppard and Madden remained in their respective positions after the restart but Rick Eckert was able to capitalize on Pierce's misfortune. Eckert bypassed Clanton for the final podium position.

For five laps, Eckert and Madden battled side-by-side for second. Eckert controlled the bottom of the racetrack and Madden held down the middle lane all the while Sheppard continued to pull away.

Unfortunately for Sheppard, his unwavering effort to create distance between him and the rest of the pack would soon again be thrown away with second and final caution of the evening on lap 36 for Devin Moran who got turned around after battling three-wide out of a corner. Moran was running fifth at the time.

The restart allowed Madden to make his much-anticipated move on Sheppard. For the remaining four laps of the feature the pair put on a show for the crowd as Madden nearly passed the race-long leader on several occasions. The most wrenching moment was on the last lap of the feature. As the

pair was coming into the final turn of the race, Sheppard got too high and into the wall of turn three allowing Madden to command the lead. The Rocket1 driver quickly recovered as he shot out of cannon coming out of turn four passing Madden just before the finish line.

"I love racing and I love racing like that side-by-side," said Madden. "Me and Brandon always have a good time racing each other and we put on a good show for the fans. That's the main thing. We work too hard not to enjoy this. Tearing people's stuff up and the things like that that has been going on, you know, is just unnecessary. You can race like we just raced and have a good time. We look forward to going to the next one."

Eckert held off a podium-hungry Clanton to finish third.

The Push Toward Pennsylvania: Port Royal Speedway and Eriez Speedway

CONCORD, NC - Only two drivers remain from the World of Outlaws Craftsman® Late Model Series original Dirty Dozen formed in 2004: Rick Eckert and Chub Frank. For 14 years the pair has traveled countless of miles around the nation visiting different tracks with the Series. On August 19 and 20 the Series will return to their homestate of Pennsylvania for the second time this season for back-to-back races at Port Royal Speedway and Eriez Speedway.

"We usually have no help out on the road, so it is nice that when we race near home we will actually have a little more help than usual," said Eckert. "It's only about an hour and 10 minutes from my house, so that is the closest race we will run near home with the Series."

Eckert only has one full-time crew member this season: Robert Miller. To put that into perspective, current points leader Brandon Sheppard has three full-time crew members (Danny White, Austin Hargrove, and Joel Rogers), as well as team owner and President of Rocket Chassis Mark Richards.

Not only is Eckert looking forward to having more crew members at the event, he is also looking forward to heading back to the home of one of his early victories this season. In April, while running with the Lucas Oil Late Model Series, Eckert wheeled his way to his fourth career win at Port Royal Speedway. During his Victory Lane interview, Eckert praised the excellent track conditions at the half-mile

dirt oval.

"It was an awesome race track tonight. You could run low, middle, or high," said Eckert after his victory. "This facility has turned out to be one of the best in the nation. It's one of the best kept secrets out there ... This is why people keep coming back here. Not only is the facility nice, but they run an efficient program, and the track is raceable from start to finish the entire night. All I can say is that things are going to keep getting better and better for this place."

The Series will hit the track at Port Royal on August 19 for the first time in 10 years. The last Series race at the half-mile was in 2008, when Clint Smith took the checkers over Frank and Steve Francis.

The following night the Series will head 220 miles northwest to the very track that Frank planted his roots in- Eriez Speedway.

"My dad and my uncle and two other guys built Stateline [Speedway] and Eriez [Speedway] back in the 50s, and they owned them until the early 80s; then they sold them," said Frank. "We raced there, but hell, I grew up at both tracks doing whatever- painting, garbage picking, water truck. It didn't matter what it was; whatever maintenance needed to be done I helped out. That's also how I ended up out on the road. The promoter at the time and I didn't see eye-to-eye, and he told me if I didn't like it, I could leave; and that's exactly what I did. I raced with STARS, and then I joined the Outlaws when they first started."

Frank started racing street stocks back in 1978 before moving up the racing ladder to eventually sit behind the wheel of a Late Model. Frank developed into a dominant Late Model driver around his hometown, winning the Stateline and Eriez circuit Limited Late Model titles from 1983-1987 and capturing the Stateline Super Late Model championship in 1989 and 1990. Frank now sits as one of the most decorated drivers in the industry.

The 2017 visit to Eriez Speedway is the Series' ninth appearance at the track. The Series has visited the track consecutively since 2007, with the exception of 2013 and 2014.

For more information on the World of Outlaws Craftsman Late Model Series event at Port Royal Speedway on August 19 visit the track website.

For more information on the upcoming event at Eriez Speedway visit the Eriez website.

Josh Richards Victorious in First Appearance at Macon

MACON, IL - Making his first-ever appearance at Macon Speedway, the current Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series points leader, Josh Richards took the lead on lap 60 and held off Shannon Babb in a one-lap shootout to win the St. Louis U-Pic-A-Part 100 on Tuesday night. For Richards, it was his eighth series win of

the season extending his lead in the championship chase.

Babb finished in second, with Darrell Lanigan coming home in third. Jason Feger and Jimmy Owens completed the top-five finishers.

Scott Bloomquist led the first 32 laps of the race until he relinquished the lead to Babb. Babb then held the point until Richards took over the top spot on lap 60. Babb hounded Richards for the

next 39 laps before caution with one lap to go set up a one-lap dash to the finish in which Richards prevailed.

"When you are at Macon and you have Shannon Babb on your bumper it makes you nervous even so with one lap to go. I can't thank these guys enough. It was my first time here and it was a fun track to race at. It might be one of my favorite tracks to run on now. I didn't know quite what to do in hot laps. So, we went back and made some changes for the heat race and feature. He [Babb] was getting better and better and before that caution came out I was sweating it for sure," said the 29-year-old Richards.

Richards, who started ninth gave Babb credit for his win. "Every time I am at his shop he makes me watch video of Macon. It's a great place to be. We just did what we thought would work best. The bottom was good there early and then it developed a black streak. I went



Josh Richards (#1) passed the #18 of Shannon Babb with one lap to go for the win at Macon Speedway. (LOLMDS photo)

to the top there for a while and got up there where he [Babb] was running. I just tried to ride it out and find a good pace and it worked out."

Babb who was trying to win his second LOLMDS event of the season drove hard in front of his hometown fans. "It was a heckuva race for sure. He got me down on the bottom. It looked like Josh was good everywhere on the track. Darrell [Lanigan] was right in there as well. Congrats to both of those

guys on a good run."

"We grew up right here and have made a lot of laps around this track no doubt. It's action-packed, everybody saw that tonight. Every lap is intense you, have to be up on the wheel for every lap," Babb added.

Lanigan finished third in the race with his car owner, Clint Bowyer watching.

Completing the top ten were Hudson O'Neal, Earl Pearson Jr., Dennis Erb Jr., Tim McCreadie and Scott Bloomquist.

Brad Rouse Dominates for Ohsweken Win

OHSWEKEN, ONT - The DIRTcar Sportsman tour rolled into Ohsweken 33 cars strong for the first race on the Western Region's schedule. Brad Rouse of St. Catharines, Ont. dominated the 30-lap Feature, leading 28 laps after starting on the pole to score the victory.

"The luck of the draw and starting up front really helps with these guys," Rouse said in Victory Lane. "Like I said before, we have the best in the business around here. The guys put a great car underneath me again tonight and I want to thank everybody for that."

Rouse and Rob Knapp brought the field to the green flag for main event. Knapp led the opening two circuits before Rouse pulled alongside him and drove off with the lead.

The polesitter didn't get very far thought before he was slowed by a lap four caution when Luke Carleton spun in turn four. On the ensuing restart, Rouse got a much better jump than the initial green flag and pulled away from the field

while James Henry and Matt Farnham battled for second.

Rouse pulled away to a lead of more than two second by the halfway point while Farnham and Henry couldn't separate for each other and continued their battle. Rouse worked into some lapped traffic on lap 14, but a caution on lap 15 when Tyler Puchalski spun in turn three gave him a clear track once again.

That was bad news for the rest of the field as Rouse anchored his right on the bottom of the racetrack against the infield wall to take the short way around the very slick track. Jay Mallory raced into the top-five from the 10th starting spot on lap 16 and battled with Darrell Farrway, who made his way up front as well after starting 15th.

Over the final 10 laps, the race ran caution-free and Rouse drove to the win by 2.678 seconds, or what looked like a straightaway. Henry claimed the second position and Farrway was a strong third-place finisher.

Racing alongside the World of Outlaws Craftsman® Sprint Car Series meant the Sportsman drivers enjoyed the opportunity to race in front of a packed crowd.

After starting in the middle of the

pack, Farrway was ecstatic about his third-place effort.

Farnham and Mark Chiddy rounded out the top-five.

The DIRTcar Sportsman tour's Western Region will next be in action with a busy tripleheader weekend September 8-10, 2017. The

tour makes stops at Ransomville Speedway on September 8, Merrittville Speedway on September 9 and at Humberstone Speedway on September 10. For the complete DIRTcar Sportsman tour schedule, visit www.dirtcarump.com/schedules/.

Dirt Indoor Racing Comes to Sun Nat'l Bank Center

TRENTON, NJ - Indoor dirt track auto racing is coming to the northeast in December of 2017!

Len Sammons Motorsports Productions will be offering two days of Indoor Auto Racing on a dirt oval to be constructed

inside the Sun National Bank Center in Trenton, N.J., on Friday and Saturday, December 1-2.

With many tracks racing Micro Sprints weekly in the region, the pool of potential entrants is huge.

The logistics of building a dirt track inside the Sun National Bank Center will include trucking in a large quantity of high quality clay, packing it, and watering it to keep it moist.

Complete programs of qualifying events and feature for the Micro Sprints will take place on both

nights.

Oliver Communications has already signed on as a presenting sponsor of the event.

The Trenton Dirt Indoor race, will be the first of four Indoor Auto Racing Series Fueled By VP Racing Fuels races that comprise the most ambitious Indoor racing season yet. The race will not be a point's race for the series title.

The 'hard surface' opener comes in a return to the PPL Center in Allentown, Pa., with a two-race weekend planned Friday and Saturday, January 5-6, 2017.

That is followed on January 26-27, 2017 for the sixteenth annual Gambler's Classic inside Atlantic City's historic Boardwalk Hall.

A first time, new event has been scheduled for the Times Union Center in Albany, N.Y., for February 9-10.

Information can be found at www.indoorautoracing.com.

Bakker Perfect For Lucas Oil ASCS Victory At Mason City Motor Speedway

MASON CITY, IA - Gregg Bakker has been close over the years, but Sunday night at Mason City Motor Speedway, the South Dakota driver finally rolled to the checkered flag first with the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series National Tour presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network.

"Getting to start in front like that with the track the way it was helps. This is Stock Car country and that kind of track is what they like," said Bakker who became the 138th driver to win a Lucas Oil ASCS National Tour event, Gregg Bakker is also the second first time winner on the 2017 season; joining Jake Bubak who topped the series at West Texas Raceway on June 9.

Testing the top of the track before the drop of the green, Bakker never ventured up the banking again once the race began.

"I was watching the track earlier and the Street Stocks and Modifieds started moving to the top and I thought that might come in so on my warm up lap, I went to the top and thought this isn't the place to be, but when you get into traffic, you don't know how much the guys behind you are moving around and if the rubber is getting wider to where they can sneak by."

Leading start to finish, the win was not an easy one for the Bakker Crossing No. 11x as Matt Covington was all but glued to his back bumper as the pair rolled the bottom of the half-mile oval. Working to traffic at the race's mid-point, Gregg dare not miss a mark as Covington was joined by Sam Hafertepe, Jr. and Wayne Johnson with all three looking for a chance to roll by.

Finally clearing the slower car of Chris Masters with less than five laps to run, Bakker quickly put distance over the No. 95. With victory coming into view, the race's lone caution flew as the field raced to the white flag for Carson McCarl who spun in the fourth turn.

Back to the last fully completed lap for the restart, Bakker was able to keep Matt Covington at bay as the field raced to the final lap. Racing off the final turn for the win, things behind the State Bank of

Fairmont No. 11x got dicey as Matt Covington's engine let go rolling into the third turn.

With Sam Hafertepe, Jr. and Wayne Johnson bearing down on the T&L Foundry No. 95, both drivers were on the binders to keep from ending up in a smoldering pile. Able to shoot under Matt off the final turn, Hafertepe rolled across the line second with Johnson third.

Taking his struggling mount all the way to the checkered flag, Matt Covington was edged out at the line for fourth by Johnny Herrera by a few feet. Josh Baughman sixth was chased by Thomas Kennedy with Blake Hahn in tow. Iowa's Chris Martin was ninth with Aaron Reutzel moving up six spots to tenth.

A field of 26 drivers was in attendance at the Mason City Motor Speedway for the series' first trip. Heat wins went to Gregg Bakker, Matt Covington, and Ryan Bickett. A B-Main was on the docket, but with a driver scratching from competition following Hot Laps, Mason City Motor Speedway officials opted to advance all remaining teams into the A-Feature.

Up next for the Lucas Oil ASCS presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network is the 27th annual 360 Nationals presented by Great Southern Bank at Knoxville Raceway in Knoxville, Iowa. Events kick off on Thursday, August 3 and run through Saturday, August 5.

For continued updates on the American Sprint Car Series, from



Gregg Bakker celebrates in victory lane at Macon City Motor Speedway. (ASCS photo)

the National Tour to any of the seven regional tours that make up the over 150 races across the ASCS Nation in 2017, log onto <http://www.ascsracing.com>.

McCarl Victorious at Knoxville With Lucas Oil ASCS National Tour

KNOXVILLE, IA - Able to hold off several restart attempts at his lead, Iowa's Terry McCarl picked up the win with the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network at Knoxville Raceway for Weiler Night at the Races in the No. 24

Leading Saturday's 25 lap A-Feature start to finish, McCarl would double up his weekend for the fourth time in his career at Knoxville Raceway with a run to the win in the 410cid division. McCarl's seventh overall win of the 2017 season, and seventh in ASCS 360cid competition at the Knoxville Raceway, the win is Terry's 12th Lucas Oil ASCS National Tour triumph.

"When you're leading like that,

even with a good car you throw Ian Madsen, Brian Brown, and guys like that behind you; it's tough," said McCarl of the win. Speaking on restarts, McCarl said he kept trying to change things up so no one could build a run on him and also said there was concern about the nose wing, as it got beaten up avoiding a crash on the initial start.

Getting the lead over Ian Madsen on the start, McCarl would quickly be joined by National Tour point's leader, Sam Hafertepe, Jr. who rocketed the low line from the ninth starting spot. Into slower traffic on the eighth round as Terry pulled to over a two-second advantage, the caution would come out with 12 laps complete when Carson McCarl spun to a stop off the fourth turn.

Restarting with Brian Brown now in tow, the Casey's General Store/FVP No. 21 was not able to grab the top spot and would see his night end on Lap 15 with an expired engine. Advancing Sam Hafertepe, Jr. back to the show position the Heidbreder Foundation No. 15h would go toe to toe with Ian Madsen on the ensuing restart with the No. 18m grabbing second while Hafertepe worked to hold off Tim Kaeding, who nearly ran the pair into the fence. Caution a scramble with the pair of cars nearly going for a ride, Seth Bergman capitalized and rushed the bottom side to grab third.

One final single file run to the green on Lap 22, Ian Madsen gave Terry McCarl all he could but would come up 0.823 seconds short. Seth Bergman third was followed by Sam Hafertepe, Jr. with Tim Kaeding ending his night fifth.

Jamie Ball sixth was tailed by Wayne Johnson who was the night's CP-Carrillo Hard Charger with a run from the 24th starting spot. Clint Garner, Ryan Giles, and Jason Martin made up the top-ten.

(Continued Next Page)



Terry McCarl is all smiles in victory lane at Knoxville Raceway after winning the Weiler Night at the Races. (ASCS photo)

Continued...

A field of 62 drivers was on hand. Qualifying was utilized with split groups at play. Brian Brown at 16.160 was fastest in Group A. McKenna Haase was fastest in Group B at 16.745 seconds. Heat Races were topped by Sam Hafertepe, Jr., Tim Kaeding, Jason Martin, Rager Phillips, Matt Egel, and Calvin Landis. A pair of B-Mains went to Dusty

Zomer and Carson McCar.

Traffic Plays Well For Carney With ASCS Southwest In New Mexico

LAS CRUCES, NM - Picking up his sixth victory of the 2017 season, El Paso's John Carney II piloted the MVT/Lubbock Wrecker Service No. 11x to a \$2,500 payday to open up the Summer Sizzle at the Southern New Mexico Speedway with the ASCS Southwest Region.

Through several opening race cautions, each restart saw Carney moving forward with the No. 11x up to third from eighth by the second lap.

Chasing Wes Wofford throughout Friday's feature event, the leaders raced into traffic with 16 laps to go. Caution again as the No. 11x lineup for the pass, the pair would

again have to race into traffic before the chance to win presented itself.

Rolling into traffic once more with ten laps to run, Carney peddled the bottom through the third and fourth turn as Wofford lost momentum racing around the back markers, Carney was even with the No. 19 entering three, only to pull away off turn four on Lap 17.

From there, John went unchallenged with Royal Jones also taking advantage of slower traffic to grab second in the MVT No. 131. Kyle McCutcheon worked to third after starting 11th with 10th starting Derek DeMartino fourth. Wes Wofford would end up slipping back to finish fifth. James Mosher, Rick Ziehl, Colt Treharn, Robert Herrera, and Josh Shipley made up the top-ten.

Jonathan Cornell Leads It All At U.S. 36 Raceway With ASCS Warrior Region

CAMERON, MO - Holding off Wayne Johnson on both attempts at a green flag, Jonathan Cornell picked up his 34th career win with the Speedway Motors ASCS Warrior Region presented by Impact Signs, Awning, and Wraps with a flag to flag victory at U.S. 36 Raceway.

While Cornell pulled to a half straightaway lead, the race for second was almost non-stop between Wayne Johnson, Danny Lasoski, and Jordan Boston. Battling back and forth with Lasoski, Boston



Ned Powers swept the weekend events with the ASCS Frontier region winning at Gillette Thunder Speedway and Black Hills Speedway. (ASCS photo)

would relinquish the show position in traffic with Lasoski working the low-side the U.S. 36 Raceway.

Stalking the No. 2c to the final laps, Lasoski would end up getting the last lap pass for the runner-up spot while Jonathan Cornell went unchallenged to the win. Johnson in third was trailed by Jordan Boston with Miles Paulus fifth.

Blake Hahn sixth was followed by J.R. Topper and Brian Beebe to round out the field. Danny Thoman drew in but was not able to start following a flip in Hot Laps. A Heat and Qualifier were run with Jonathan Cornell and Miles Paulus pocketing \$250 for their wins.

The Speedway Motors ASCS Warrior Region presented by Impact Signs, Awning, and Wraps races again on August 18 with the series returning to U.S. 36 Raceway.

Gillette Thunder Victory Goes To Ned Powers With ASCS Frontier Region

GILLETTE, WY - Doubling up his weekend with the Brodix ASCS Frontier Region, South Dakota's Ned Powers found his way to victory once more as the series took on the Gillette Thunder Speedway on Saturday night in a non-stop, 25 lap A-Feature.

Able to hold off Wyoming's Shad Peterson for his third career victory with the Brodix ASCS Frontier Region, the two were joined on the podium by David Hoiness with Eric Lutz coming to fourth to eighth. Jeremy McCune crossed fifth with Eric Flatmoe, Clint Anderson, Rich Martin, Anthony Farnsworth, and Mindy McCord making up the top-ten.

The Brodix ASCS Frontier Region races next at Gallatin

Speedway in Belgrade, Mont. on Friday, August 4. For continued updates on the American Sprint Car Series, from the National Tour to any of the seven regional tours that make up the over 150 races across the ASCS Nation in 2017, log onto www.ascsracing.com.

Ned Powers Named Winner Of ASCS Frontier at Black Hills

RAPID CITY, SD - In a race riddled with cautions and red flags, South Dakota's Ned Powers was eventually declared the winner Friday night at Black Hills Speedway with the Brodix ASCS Frontier Region.

Ending three laps of the original 25 lap distance, the race was called when a massive crash was triggered by the spinning No. 27dd of David Hoiness, who was battling for the lead. Resulting in a driver needing to be transported for medical attention, a replacement ambulance was not going to be unavailable for over an hour so, for the safety of the drivers, crews, and fans the race was called.

Power's fifth overall ASCS triumph, with a trio of wins coming in the former ASCS Rocky Mountain Region, Powers was joined on the podium by Rich Martin and 13th starting, Jeremy McCune, with Clint Anderson and Eric Flatmoe making up the top-five.

March Chisholm, Shad Peterson, and David Hoiness were all involved in the race ending crash and were scored to the tail of the lead lap. Ben Holmberg and Mike Sires made up the top-ten.



John Carney II raced his way to victory lane at the Southern New Mexico Speedway. (ASCS photo)

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Danny Dietrich Leads All 25 for \$7,000 Top Prize at The Valley of Speed

WEST LEBANON, NY (July 30, 2017) - Wrapping up a week-end that included double round trips from Pennsylvania to New York, "Double-D" Danny Dietrich is now a two-time main event winner with the Arctic Cat All Star Circuit of Champions in the state of New York,

leading all 25 laps around the Lebanon Valley Speedway half-mile to score \$7,000 for his part-time car owner, Tom Buch.

Dietrich's dominating performance, crossing under the final checkers two seconds ahead of the running order, concluded a productive weekend in the Empire State for the Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, native; two podium finishes including a fourth place performance at Outlaw Speedway on Friday. The pilot of the Apex/Sweeney Cars/Pace Performance/DKW Transport/No. 13 is now an eight-time winner during Arctic Cat All Star Circuit of Champions competition over the course of his young career; his first in New York since 2013.

"Man, this is such a big win for this team," Danny Dietrich explained in victory lane. "This is Tom Buch's first All Star win as a car owner, so this is obviously really special. It has been a long week-end; a lot of running around and covering a lot of miles. Luckily for me, I have great people who stand behind me. I can't thank Tom enough for his opportunity. Unfortunately, I have to work tomorrow so there won't be much celebrating tonight."

After a caution during the opening circuit which forced a complete restart, it was "Double-D" Danny Dietrich earning the early advantage, driving by the flagstand for the first time with Caleb Armstrong and Chad Kemenah in tow. Despite an additional caution on lap three, as well as traffic coming into play as early as lap nine, Dietrich maintained a strong command, extending his advantage to nearly a half-straightaway before caution flags waved again on lap 14.

After a quick fuel stop, Dietrich brought the field back to life, quickly returning to his lengthy lead over Armstrong, Swindell and Kemenah.

Dietrich's advantage quickly grew to two seconds, but caution flags flew again on lap 18 erasing all of his momentum.

From that point forward, it was all Danny Dietrich at the front of the running order, quickly returning to his familiar half-straightaway command during the course of the final eight circuits, ultimately crossing under the final checkers two seconds ahead of Caleb Armstrong, Sammy Swindell, Chad Kemenah, and "Smoke" Tony Stewart.

"I figured we were in pretty good shape even after that fuel stop," Dietrich said. "I felt comfortable the entire race, even after we got into some heavy traffic. Hopefully I can carry this momentum into August. We'll be heading west in a few days."

The Arctic Cat All Star Circuit of Champions will not return to competition until Thursday evening, August 17, when the Series reunites with the notorious Pennsylvania Posse for a four-pack of events over four straight days. The return to Central Pennsylvania will include visits to Grandview Speedway in Bechtelsville on Thursday, August 17; Williams Grove Speedway in Mechanicsburg on Friday, August 18; Lincoln Speedway in Abottstown on Saturday, August 19; and Susquehanna Speedway near York Haven on Sunday, August 20.

More news and notes pertaining



Danny Dietrich (center) celebrates in victory lane after winning at Lebanon Valley Speedway along with second place finisher Caleb Armstrong (left) and third place finisher Sammy Swindell (right). (All Star Media photo)

to the Arctic Cat All Star weekend in Central Pennsylvania will be posted in the near future. Fans are encouraged to stay tuned online at www.allstarsprint.com.

Sammy Swindell Earns \$10,000 at Orange County Fair Speedway

MIDDLETOWN, NY - Adding to his already illustrious career, Germantown, Tennessee's Sammy Swindell became the first Arctic Cat All Star Circuit of Champions main event winner at Orange County Fair (NY) Speedway on Saturday night, leading all 25 circuits around "The Legendary House of Power" to score \$10,000, as well as a 26th career Arctic Cat All Star main

event victory. The pilot of the Jared Zimbardi-owned/Bundle of Warmth/Performance Powder Coating/No. 35s nearly swept the evening program; setting the fastest time of the night during Lincoln Electric Time Trials, as well as earning JE Pistons Dash and A-main victories.

"This car was a pleasure to drive. We learned some things last night and capitalized on them today," Sammy Swindell said. "With a deal like tonight, all you can do is drive as straight as you can and keep the tires underneath you. Luckily for us, we were able to hang on. We hope to continue this trend tomorrow at Lebanon Valley."

Swindell withstood four cautions during his campaign at the front of

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the running order, and unfortunately for those involved, all four cautions included competitors racing within the top-ten; Tyler Esh, Justin Barger, and Arctic Cat All Star point leader, Chad Kemenah, to name a few. Esh was racing second when his right rear tire went flat, erasing a potential career high finish with "America's Series."

Findlay, Ohio's Caleb Helms, who started ninth on the main event grid, gave Swindell is only true challenge during the 25-lapper, actually driving around the former World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series champion at the entrance of turn one on lap 22. The pass was ultimately negated due to a full lap not being completed. Swindell returned to the point position and remained there for the final four circuits with Helms in tow.

Arctic Cat All Star Circuit of Champions Rookie of the Year contender, Brandon Spithaler, worked his way forward from tenth to finish third during his first ever Orange County Fair Speedway start, followed by Paulie Colagiovanni and Stewart Friesen. Friesen was also a victim of tire issues, restarting at the back of the field after coming to a stop with nine laps in the books.

The "Kunkletown Kid" Opens New York All Star Weekend with Victory at Outlaw Speedway

DUNDEE, NY - Nearly sweeping the entire Arctic Cat All Star Circuit of Champions program, the "Kunkletown Kid" Ryan Smith opened his weekend trek through the Empire State with a victory at Outlaw Speedway. The \$5,000 triumph, Smith's first in the state of New York, was his first of the 2017 season during Arctic Cat All Star Circuit of Champions competition, increasing his career win total to four with the Series, also ending a near-two year victory lane hiatus.

Despite his near-sweep during the Arctic Cat All Star Outlaw Speedway debut, Smith's victory was not conducted in easy fashion. The Kunkletown, Pennsylvania, native survived multiple challenges from former World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series cham-

pion, Sammy Swindell, during the 30-lap program, actually exchanging positions with the National Sprint Car Hall of Fame inductee on three different occasions before settling into the top spot for the final time on lap 20.

To make matters more dramatic, Smith was forced to withstand not just one, but two main event restarts with a pair of laps remaining. Smith held on, followed to the final checkers by Alvada, Ohio's Chad Kemenah.

"Feels great to get the monkey off of our backs and get this first win out of the way," Ryan Smith explained in victory lane.

Ryan Smith and Sammy Swindell led the field to green on Friday night at Outlaw Speedway. Swindell earned the early advantage, leading Smith and Caleb Helms by the flagstand for the first time. Swindell stayed in control at the front of the field for the first 12 circuits, encountering traffic as early as lap five.

Smith, who never lost track of Swindell in traffic, made his first bid for the top spot on lap 13, driving under Swindell at the entrance of turn three. Swindell eventually returned the favor on lap 18 with a move under Smith at the entrance of turn one. Despite Swindell's attempt at running away from Smith in traffic, the "Kunkletown Kid" never allowed Swindell to extend his advantage, ultimately getting back by the Jared Zimbardi-owned No. 35S as the pair drag raced toward the start/finish line on lap 20.

The main event's first caution appeared on lap 29 which set up a two-lap dash to the finish. A caution during the first restart attempt would force the field to try again. It was then when Chad Kemenah made a run on Sammy Swindell to takeover the second position. The five-time and defending Arctic Cat

All Star champion attempted to make a bid for the lead one lap later, but time was out.

"Hats off to Ryan Smith and his whole team. Those guys work really hard and they deserved this one," Hunter Racing's Chad Kemenah explained.

"We tried to get a run on Ryan there with a lap or so to go. I got around Sammy [Swindell], so I figured I had a chance. We'll take this and move forward."

Smoke Earns I-79 Summer Shootout Finale Victory at Pennsylvania

IMPERIAL, PA - For the first time since February 11, 2012, and for the second time during his famed career, "Smoke" Tony Stewart is an Arctic Cat All Star Circuit of Champions main event winner, this time taming "Dirt's Monster Half-Mile" at Pittsburgh's Pennsylvania Motor Speedway to help end the 2017 edition of the I-79 Summer Shootout.

Stewart, who started third on the feature grid, took command officially during a lap 23 restart and never looked back, ultimately crossing under the final checkers nearly three seconds ahead of Lemoore, California's Carson Macedo, and Dalton, Ohio's Lee Jacobs. Fortunately for Stewart, lapped traffic also factored in as an advantage, as race leader Tim Shaffer would become tangled with a lapped car, surrendering the point position to the former NASCAR Cup Series champion.

"Man, this is a fun race track; so wide and so racey," Tony Stewart said in victory lane. "To be rim-riding like that, a foot off the wall, is pretty intense around here. I watched Christopher Bell race from 20th to second at the Kings Royal,

so I figured it was my turn to do something special."

Carson Macedo and Tim Shaffer led the field to green on Monday night at Pittsburgh's Pennsylvania Motor Speedway. Shaffer earned the initial advantage, soon flanked by Macedo, Danny Holtgraver, Chad Kemenah, and Tony Stewart. Shaffer opened his advantage instantly, climbing to a near-three second lead before the main event's first caution appeared on lap six.

Green flag conditions resumed with Tim Shaffer returning to the top spot, soon followed by Tony Stewart, who made a big jump to second after passing two cars on the restart. Traffic came into play for the first time on lap 11 allowing Stewart to reel in Shaffer. Soon joined by Holtgraver, the top three cars raced nose-to-tail and side-by-side through traffic for three circuits until caution flags reappeared on lap 14, this time for Danny Holtgraver. The nearby Pittsburgh native made incidental contact with Tony Stewart while attempting a slide job for the second position. Holtgraver did not return.

Once again, green flag conditions returned with Shaffer setting the pace, now followed by Tony Stewart and Carson Macedo.

By lap 20, traffic returned in full force allowing Stewart to track down Shaffer once again. A two car battle soon commenced into a three car battle as Chad Kemenah entered the picture, now tracking down the top pair after taking control of the third position on lap 21.

Unfortunately for Tim Shaffer, his tenure at the top of the running order would come to an end eight laps sooner than intended. Contact with a lapped car while attempting to run away from Tony Stewart in traffic forced an early retirement for the former Arctic Cat All Star champion, ultimately surrendering the top spot to the eventual winner on lap 23. "Smoke" cruised on to score the \$5,000 victory.

Carson Macedo chased Stewart to the line, followed by Lee Jacobs, Chad Kemenah and Ryan Smith.

Macedo and Jacobs each raced by Chad Kemenah during the final circuits to secure the final podium positions. Macedo was the evening's pole sitter, dropping as far back as fourth in the running order before finally charging back second on lap 25.

Jacobs, who started eighth on the feature grid, battled within the top-five during most of the 30-lap feature program, making a bid for a podium position as early as lap 15.



Tony Stewart celebrates in victory lane at Pennsylvania Motor Speedway after winning his second career Arctic Cat All Star Circuit of Champions victory. (Paul Arch photo)

Sheppard Wins an Historic Super DIRTcar Series at Autodrome Drummond

D R U M - MONDVILLE, QC - Always looking forward to the Quebec swing at the end of July, the Super DIRTcar Series regular went into battle with the top local runners of Autodrome Drummond as Matt Sheppard brought out the broom as he swept both races, as the other two steps of the podium at Drummond were occupied by local talent.

Matt Sheppard was all smile in the Victory Lane, "It seems that I'm always fast in Quebec, always had success up here in Drummond and Granby," said Matt Sheppard. "We had a great car and had so much fun up here this week."

Sheppard had to work hard for his win with local runner giving him quite a challenge, "I saw the bottom starting to rubber up and could feel that my car was hooking up and this help me keep my first position," added Sheppard

History was made tonight as for the first time, two Drummond regulars took finished on the podium with Steve Bernier in second.

Suffering engine issues last night at Granby, third-place finisher Steve Bernard had a very eventful day.

"It was a crazy day today," said Steve Bernard. "I broke the engine last night, borrowed an engine from Dean Billings at 11am this morning, I got here late but had fun tonight started seventh and finished third. I congratulate Bernier for a great run."

Polesitter Carey Terrance led the field of 31 cars to the green as Steve Bernier was the early leader with David Hebert in third. Terrance was able to the lead back from Bernier as the hard charging Hebert was challenging Bernier for second with Peter Britten and Steve Bernard in the top-five with the first 10-laps being completed.

There was a great battle for the lead between Terrance, Bernier and Bernard as they swapped the top spot when Mike Maresca slowed the field down on lap 15 when he hit the wall in turn 4. Terrance kept the top position as Bernard challenged Bernier for second with Brandon Walters bringing the second caution on lap 27 with a right rear flat.

Bernier jumped to the lead on the restart and grabbed the lead on lap 32, Phelps and Corriveau brought the caution on lap 38.

Bernier stayed out front as Bernard was able to get second with Terrance holding third on lap 45. Billy Decker had a flat tire on the No. 91 when he was in a tight battle for a top-five position with 47 laps in the record books.

On a lap-53 restart, Sheppard had a strong run as he challenge for the second position of Bernard. Sheppard found some grip on the inside lane and took second from Bernard on lap 64. The driver of the No. 9s machine attacked Bernier and took the lead on lap 70 using the inside lane, Bernard used the same strategy a few laps later and took second from Bernier.

The three leaders went into battle for the lead for the last portion of the feature with Sheppard using the

low lane and never looked back to complete the sweep in Quebec with a second win in a row over Bernier, Bernard, Britten and Larry Wight!

Max McLaughlin was the fastest during the time trials session being the best of 39 registered cars. Peter Britten, Stewart Friesen, McLaughlin and David Hebert won the heat races as Kevin Hamel and Michael Parent were the winners in the Last chance qualifiers.

The Super DIRTcar Series will be back in action on Monday, August 7 at Merrittville Speedway in Thorold, ON, CAN for the Bob St. Amand Memorial 100. Race time is 7:00pm. For additional event information, visit www.merrittvillespeedway.com. The Series will then travel to nearby Ransomville Speedway on Tuesday, August 8 for the Alex Friesen Memorial. Race time is 7:15pm for that event. Additional information is available at www.ransomvillespeedway.com.

Sheppard Dominates Super DIRTcar Series at Autodrome Granby

GRANBY, QC - In front of a packed house and clear skies, the Super DIRTcar Series started a successful Quebec swing at Autodrome Granby as Matt Sheppard had a dominant run to get his second win of the season on the tour.

"It feels good," Sheppard said in the Winner's Circle. "I always seem to have success when I come up in Quebec. I think these tracks are made for me and it is always fun to race in front of these great fans," added Sheppard in front of the packed Autodrome Granby stands as the always are for the Series' Quebec swing.

Challenging Sheppard on a few occasions was Ward, who finished second. Completing the podium

was Brett Hearn.

The original start saw Tim Fuller lead as Brandon Walters stopped in the backstretch. On the restart, Fuller remained in front with David Hebert and Larry Wight in third. Hebert was strong on the high side and grabbed the lead on lap 5. Stewart Friesen slowed and brought out the caution on the following lap.

Hebert and Fuller swapped the lead on a lap 11 restart as the driver of the No.19 was back in front with Hearn in third. Hebert was back in front on lap 20 after he made a great pass on Fuller using the inside lane. Hearn made a similar move to take second from Fuller just as the leaders got into lapped traffic on lap 25.

Hearn had a great restart on lap 29 to take the lead from Hebert as Sheppard ran in third. Hebert started to fade and gave third to Ward on lap 36. Sheppard had a dominant ride as he took the lead on lap 44 from Hearn and quickly pulled away from the field.

Max McLaughlin slowed the field down on lap 51. When the green lights were back on, Sheppard stayed on top as Larry Wight drove to fourth and Peter Britten cracked the top 5. Ward started to challenge Hearn for second and he was able to take the second spot on lap 57.

A few cautions slowed the final portion of the feature as Sheppard had to resist a few charges from Ward in the closing laps with Hearn completing the podium.

Steve Bernard won the Pole Position Raceway Fast Qualifier Award with a time of 18.399 seconds. Heats races were completed quickly with polesitters Steve Bernard, Max McLaughlin, Larry Wight and Jimmy Phelps dominating their sessions. Local runners Yan Bussiere and Kevin Hamel won the Last Chance Qualifiers.

Kids Drive NASCAR Returns to Celebrate the Sport's Young Fans

D A Y T O N A BEACH, FL - For the next three weeks, Kids Drive NASCAR will celebrate the next generation of NASCAR® fans by engaging children and their families with fun and interactive social content, kids' takeovers and at-track events and activities, NASCAR announced

today. Beginning today, kids will go head-to-head with some of the sport's top drivers in Kids vs. Drivers, a series of timed activity challenges on social media. Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series™ driver Kyle Busch kicked off Kids vs. Drivers with the 18-second toss challenge on AccelerationNation.com. Parents can share their children's video responses to Busch,

Kyle Larson and Joey Logano via Twitter or Instagram tagging #KidsDriveNASCAR and #Promotion, or upload them to the web site for a chance to have the drivers share the content.

Beginning this past weekend at Iowa Speedway and Pocono Raceway and culminating Aug. 13 at Michigan International Speedway, children attending NASCAR national series races will take part in live Kids vs. Drivers challenges, attend driver and crew chief meetings and autograph sessions, and receive behind-the-scenes garage tours.

Kids will also take over race weekend roles usually reserved for

adults. NASCAR and participating tracks – which also include Watkins Glen International and Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course – will host children as honorary race officials, green-flag wavers, reporters and photographers.

NASCAR's social media channels will share Kids Drive NASCAR content throughout the three weeks, including videos and Snapchat takeovers featuring young drivers. In addition to participating in the Kids vs. Driver video challenges, fans are encouraged to share pictures and videos of their families and children enjoying NASCAR races using #KidsDriveNASCAR.

Charlotte Motor Speedway

CONCORD, NC - Fans feeling mixed emotions about Dale Earnhardt Jr. making his final Monster Energy Cup Series start at Charlotte Motor Speedway have reason to smile with news of the speedway's latest promotion, which is sure to leave avid supporters nodding their heads in delight.

For every two adult tickets purchased for the Oct. 8 Bank of America 500 – Earnhardt Jr.'s final chance at an elusive Monster Energy Cup series points victory at his home track – buyers will receive a commemorative keepsake bobblehead of NASCAR's 14-time most popular driver, while supplies last.

The speedway commissioned the bobbleheads to help fans celebrate one of the sport's biggest names and his career at the famed 1.5-mile superspeedway, where he captured the 2000 NASCAR All-Star Race win in his rookie season and has wowed race fans for nearly two decades since.

"We wanted to do something special to celebrate with our fans all that Dale Jr. means to our sport," said Greg Walter, executive vice president of Charlotte Motor Speedway. "These keepsakes will be a must-have for collectors and avid fans alike, and a tremendous way to commemorate his last home race here in Charlotte."

Qualifying ticket purchasers, including fans who have already purchased tickets, will receive a voucher to pick up their commemorative bobblehead during the Bank of America 500 race weekend. The promotion runs through Oct. 1 or while supplies last.

The Bank of America 500 marks the final start for Earnhardt Jr., a native of nearby Kannapolis, North Carolina who often reminisces about how many of his early childhood memories at the track revolve around watching his father, NASCAR Hall of Famer Dale Earnhardt, race. His grandfather owned a home less than a quarter of a mile from Turn 1 and Earnhardt attended school in Mooresville, North Carolina, dubbed Race City USA.

Despite having already amassed a Hall of Fame worthy career of his own, Earnhardt Jr. has said tasting victory at his home track remains on his bucket list.

This year's Bank of America 500 will return to its original Sunday afternoon timeslot, with a scheduled green flag shortly after 2 p.m. on Oct. 8. Charlotte's iconic 1.5-mile superspeedway hasn't scheduled a daytime Bank of America 500 since 2002, but a return to the traditional Friday-Saturday-Sunday format offers families an unmatched opportunity to enjoy two sun-drenched afternoons of what Earnhardt Jr. said he expects to be action-packed racing.

"You've got a better opportunity for a good race during the day," said Earnhardt Jr. "There's a bit of a science to it - the track surface is hotter, the track is slicker and the groove is wider. You want guys sliding around, having to get out of the gas and able to move around."

"That's why I think Charlotte races better during the day. In practice during the day, you see us running against the wall and moving all over the place. That's what you'd see in the race. I think this is a good move for Charlotte."

TICKETS: Affordable adult tickets to the Bank of America 500, the opening race in the second round of NASCAR's playoffs, start at just \$49. Fans can also take advantage of a two-for-\$88 special ticket office for the Oct. 8 Bank of America 500. Kids 13 and under get in for just \$10. Tickets are available online at www.charlottemotorspeedway.com or by calling the ticket office at 1-800-455-FANS (3267).

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

Talladega Superspeedway

TALLADEGA, AL - Talladega Superspeedway is pleased to honor all active and retired First Responders with its new "First Responder Appreciation" ticket program, which will debut during the track's NASCAR Playoff "Wildcard" weekend Oct. 13-15, featuring the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Alabama 500.

The program allows First Responders to take advantage of excellent savings of up to a remarkable 50% on a 2-day ticket option (which features Saturday's fred's 250 Powered by Coca-Cola NASCAR Camping World Truck Series race and Sunday's Alabama 500), a Sunday Only ticket option and Pre-Race Pit Passes (Sunday's Alabama 500).

Police Officers, Firemen, and

EMT's can be verified to purchase tickets through the First Responder Ticket Appreciation ticket program online at www.talladegasuperspeedway.com/firstresponder. For any additional information, First Responders can call the track's ticket office and speak directly to Ticket Sales Account Executive, Joshua Keyes at 256-315-4546.

The First Responder Appreciation ticket program offers incredible savings that include:

- 2-Day Package in Tri-Oval Tower Seats for Saturday & Sunday – (\$90): Saturday, October 14: NASCAR Camping World Truck Series fred's 250 Powered by Coca-Cola, along with Foodland/Food Giant qualifying for the Alabama 500 and time trials for the fred's 250 Powered by Coca-Cola AND Sunday, October 15: Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Alabama 500 (Ticket also gives admission to the track's traditional Saturday Night Infield Concert)

- Sunday Only in Anniston or Lincoln Seats – (\$35): Sunday, October 15: Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Alabama 500 (Ticket also gives admission to the track's traditional Saturday Night Infield Concert)

- First Responders Pre-Race Pit Pass - (\$30): Fans can see the cars and crews up close before the start of the anticipated Alabama 500 on Sunday: walk up and down pit road, watch as drivers and crew chiefs make their way down the red carpet into the Drivers Meeting and MORE!

"To honor those that selflessly take on this challenge for the safety of the public day in and day out, we are extending a small token of our gratitude with this special ticket offer to all the First Responders." Said Talladega Superspeedway Chairman Grant Lynch. "We want every First Responder to know how much we appreciate them and what they do for our communities."

Both races will have NASCAR playoff implications so it will be a guaranteed pressure-packed weekend. At the drop of the checkered flag for the fred's 250 Powered by Coca-Cola, the field of championship contenders will be reduced from eight to six while in Sunday's Alabama 500 (the second race in the Round of 12), every position will be pivotal for drivers to gain valuable points in the championship battle.

The weekend

kicks off on Friday, Oct. 13 with a full slate of practice sessions for both the fred's 250 Powered by Coca-Cola and the Alabama 500. Need more information or want to order tickets? Visit www.talladegasuperspeedway.com or call the Talladega Superspeedway's Ticket Office at 855-518-RACE (7223).

Homestead-Miami Speedway

MIAMI, FL - South Florida's most popular drag racing event, Fast Lane Friday presented by The Ticket Clinic, is returning to Homestead-Miami Speedway on August 4. As part of the event, there will be two new elements featured. Guests will now have the option of purchasing their tickets online prior to entering Fast Lane Friday. In addition, in the spirit of the new school year, Homestead-Miami Speedway will be holding a school supplies drive for underprivileged students in which all participants can donate.

For the first time ever, competitors and spectators can purchase their tickets in advance to Fast Lane Friday by visiting www.HomesteadMiamiSpeedway.com/FastLaneFriday. Those who purchase their tickets online will be able to enter the facility using their own designated route. Guests who would like to purchase their tickets at the event will enter the facility through a separate route. The new traffic pattern can be viewed by visiting the "Fast Lane Friday" page on the Homestead-Miami Speedway website.

Tickets for Fast Lane Friday, which runs from 6 p.m. to midnight, are \$20 for competitors and \$10 for spectators, while children 12 and younger get in for free. All competitors must be 18 and older and have a valid driver's license and proof of registration/insurance. Homestead-Miami Speedway's cooler policy applies, which allows fans to bring in soft-sided coolers measuring up to 14x14x14 inches, as well as lightweight backpacks. Concessions will be available for purchase.

In addition to drag racing, Homestead-Miami Speedway is teaming up with "Take Stock in Children," a

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nonprofit organization that focuses on under-privileged students, to collect school supplies for the upcoming school year. Homestead-Miami Speedway's charitable outreach program, Driving for a Cause, will be donating 25 backpacks as part of the drive. Guests attending Fast Lane Friday in August are encouraged to bring any of the following

items:

- Composition books
- Pens/Pencils
- Notebooks
- Binders
- USBs
- Highlighters
- Copy paper
- College-rule paper

To keep up with the most up-to-date Fast Lane Friday information, including weather alerts, competitors and spectators may text "HMS-FLF" to 69050 to receive text alerts. Message and data rates may apply. Also, stay connected with Homestead-Miami Speedway news via social media on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat by following @HomesteadMiami. Fast Lane Friday and Homestead-Miami Speedway information is also available on the official Homestead-Miami Speedway mobile app, downloadable on Apple and Android smart phones.

The Dirt Track at Charlotte

CONCORD, NC - An aerobatic assortment of monster trucks and Mega Trucks join "Megasaurus," the vehicle-eating, fire-breathing, robotic dinosaur, as part of the monster mash of entertainment awaiting fans in the Circle K Back-to-School Monster Truck Bash on Aug. 19 at The Dirt Track at Charlotte.

The world's most spectacular display of metal-crushing madness visits The Dirt Track for an exciting evening of monster mayhem including 10 monster trucks battling in a no-holds-barred freestyle competition as well as a series of one-on-one elimination races over a radical, outdoor obstacle course. Children 13 and under get to see the 10 trucks and their 2,000-horsepower engines tangle for just \$10 plus tax.

Monster trucks ready to mash metal include: Bigfoot, Avenger,

Wrecking Crew, Saigon Shaker, Heavy Hitter, Basher, Hooked, Stone Crusher, Dirt Crew and Quad Chaos.

Additionally, Mega Trucks – smaller-scaled, high-flying versions of monster trucks – make their long-awaited debut at The Dirt Track during the Monster Truck Bash.

Among the Mega Trucks ready to kick up dirt are Invader, Intruder 2.0, Slimetime, Monsterado, Stand Up and All In.

Festivities begin with the Circle K Pre-Race Pit Party from 4-6 p.m., where fans can meet the monster truck drivers, get autographs and have their pictures taken with the enormous vehicles.

Gates open at 4 p.m. with opening ceremonies kicking off at 6:45 p.m.

Atlanta Motor Speedway

HAMPTON, GA - With highly coveted championship points on the line in the penultimate week of the 2017 Thursday Thunder Legends Series presented by Papa John's Pizza, the on-track action was non-stop Saturday evening, as drivers jockeyed for position leading into next week's decisive championship night.

Plemons Young Lions Division: Opening up the evening's action with the Plemons Young Lions Division feature, Cumming's Harrison Halder held a comfortable 19-point lead over second-place DJ Canipe of Fallston, North Carolina but saw it all but disappear after turning in an eighth-place finish, his second-worst on the season, and watching Canipe win his third on the year. Heading into next week's finale, Halder's lead is down to just one over Canipe, and it's anyone's title to win.

Finishing behind Canipe Saturday night were Hunter Johnson of Hampton, Sammy Smith of Des Moines, Iowa and Clay Thompson of Bowersville. Valdosta's Ryan Rackley rounded out the top-five.

Ricky Sanders Racing, Inc. Bandits Division: Next, Grant Thompson of Mobile, Alabama led each of the final 12 laps in the Ricky Sanders Racing, Inc. Bandits Division feature to secure his fourth win on the season and increase his lead in the standings to 41 points. After Thompson, Colsen Cochran, Max Hennebaul, Keaton Hendrix and Ryan Younginer rounded out the top-five in order.

Wallace Electric Rookie Bandoleros Division: In the Wallace Electric Rookie Bandoleros Division feature, Carter Griffis of used a

last-lap pass on the backstretch to edge out newcomer Luke Cooper and score his first victory of the season. The pair traded the lead no fewer than four times before it was all said and done in a high-intensity race that featured plenty of door-to-door action.

Behind Cooper, Maddox Langham, Baily North, Cole McKeegan and Lee Brown rounded out the field in order.

Semi-Pro Division: In a wild and ruckus Semi-Pro Division feature, Hudson Halder of Cumming, who entered the night ranked second in the standings and just two points behind the leader, was able to avoid the chaos happening behind him and finished in the same place he started: the lead. That enabled him to leapfrog previously first-ranked Rafe Slate of Eatonton, who falls to second heading in to next week's finale, 16 points back, after finishing eighth Saturday night.

Connor Younginer of Stockbridge, the Week 3 winner, finished second behind Halder for his third top-two of the season, while Christopher Clanton of Brooks, Brandon Brock of Hampton and Cody Hall of Griffin finished third through fifth in order.

Outlaws Division: Woodstock's Hayden Swank led flag-to-flag in the Outlaws Division feature to pick up his first victory of the season. Meanwhile, Senoia's Joshua Hicks, who entered the night 20 points up in the overall division standings, finished second – his seventh top-two performance of the season – and increased his lead to 26 over second-ranked Blaise Maddox of Locust Grove, going into next Saturday's Week 10 finale.

Nathan Jackson of McDonough, Maddox and Michael Gannon of Canton rounded out the top-five finishers in order.

Plemons Investments Masters Division: After getting caught up in a Lap 1 incident and being sent to the rear of the field, McDonough's Scott Moseley, who had three wins on the season and a nine-point lead in the standings entering the evening, had his work cut out for him if he was to maintain his points lead in the Plemons Investments Masters Division and position himself for a shot at his second consecutive season championship next week.

But with the speed and proficiency he had shown through the first eight weeks of the season in 2017 – and with a couple of timely cautions that bunched the field in front of him – it was little surprise

that he was back in the lead just 12 laps later after a brief battle for the top spot with three-time winner and second-ranked driver heading in to the night, Robbie Woodall, also of McDonough.

Moseley was able to hold Woodall off down the stretch and took the checkered flag on the final lap, notching his fourth victory on the season and upping his lead to 12 going into the championship night.

Woodall indeed finished second, his eighth top-three finish in as many weeks, and is the only driver with a conceivable shot at preventing Moseley from winning back-to-back titles in 2016 and 2017, as third- and fourth-place drivers, Mark Swan of Atlanta and Tony Armbruster of Covington, sit 48 and 70 points back respectively heading in to next Saturday's finale.

Racing Radios Pro Division: After winning four of the first five races on the season, Stockbridge's Jensen Jorgensen was in a bit of a mid-season slump entering Saturday night's second playoff race in the Racing Radios Pro Division.

With an eighth-place finish in Week 6, an 11th in Week 7 and a fourth last week, Jorgensen needed a confidence-building race Saturday night to boost his momentum going into next week's championship-deciding showdown between the division's top-six eligible drivers. And that's exactly what he got.

Jorgensen won the pole with the fastest qualifying time of the night and led each and every lap in the 25-lap feature, holding off last week's winner, William Martin of Douglasville, the whole way to get back into the Win Column and join Martin as the two drivers automatically eligible for next week's championship race.

Martin finished the race in second for his fifth top-three on the season, while Corey Heim of Marietta, Josh Hicks and Canon Cochran rounded out the top-five in order, each scoring enough points in the standings to secure their eligibility in next week's championship race. Russell Fleeman, who finished eighth Saturday night, also squeaked into eligibility for the championship based on points, and represents the sixth and final driver with a chance to win it all.

With those six drivers' points all rounded up to an even 3,000 for the Week-10 finale, Jorgensen, now without his normal cushion in the standings, knows that despite his five wins so far in 2017, it's anyone's title to win next week.

Antioch Speedway

MORGANTON, NC - John Reynolds #55 from Mrganton LED flag2flag easily winning the caution free Heintz bros performance Renegade V8 event. Joey Barker #16 finished a distant second, Freddie Frady #W2 third, Isaiah Manis #8 fourth and Buddy Daihl #57 rounded out the top five.

Shane Harris #47 from Marion one a caution riddle highly competitive Thunder bombers/pure stock V8 race. Harris took the lead at the drop of the green with Tim Moretz #44 and John Mcelrath #63 in Hot Pursuit the three battle hard until Moretz broke a lower ball joint on his racer sending him into the outside retainer wall going into turn one ending his change for victory. Mcelrath pressured Harris to the checkered flag but had to settle for second, Billy Smith #26 overcame an early race spin to finish third, A J Lynch #31 fourth and Mike Brown #11 fifth.

Shaun Robinson #37 from West Jefferson lead the entire Heintz bros performance 602 modified caution free event. Joel Bray #25 finished second, Cody Cook #2C third, Chris Stowe #52 fourth and Kenny Wilson #26 fifth.

Trent Chatham #9 from Taylorsville took the lead on the second lap and went on to easily win the caution free James Wagner welding super stock 4 race. Paul Butler #B4 passed Trevor Chatham #00 with four laps remaining to finish second, Trevor third, Richard Vasser #8 fourth and Eddie Brittan #57 fifth.

Chris Butler #B9 from Morganton won his third consecutive RPM graphics Pure Stock 4 race. Phillip Benfield #60 passed Riley Dunford #18d on lap four [in yet another caution free event] to finish second, Dunford third, Scott Jones #4 fourth and Patrick Annas #6p fifth.

Alexis Motes #12 from Fort Mill SC made it look easy taking home the trophy in the Maddox energy drink Young Guns event. Jacob Hayes #0 cross the line second but was disqualified for being light at the scales, that relegated Riley Miller #88 to second, Trace Chatham #21 third, Marion Johnson #58 fourth and Michaela Bradshaw 319 fifth.



John Reynolds (center with trophy) surrounds himself with friends and family in Antioch Speedway's victory lane Saturday night after winning the Heintz Bros. Renegade V8 event. (ANTI-OCH SPEEDWAY photo)

South Boston Speedway

Philip Morris added to his lead in the win column in the NASCAR Whelen All American Series Late Model Stock Car Division at South Boston Speedway Saturday night, speeding away from Bobby McCarty after the race's final restart with 19 laps to go to win the NASCAR Late Model 100.

Morris quickly opened a gap on McCarty after the last restart and drove away to a 2.041-second win. It was the fifth win of the season at South Boston Speedway for the former multi-time NASCAR Whelen All American Series National Champion and South Boston Speedway NASCAR track champion. Saturday night's win was Morris' 62nd career win in the NASCAR Whelen All American Series Late Model Stock Car Division at South Boston Speedway.

Former NASCAR Whelen All American Series National Champion and South Boston Speedway NASCAR Track Champion Lee Pulliam of Alton, Virginia finished third after falling to 14th place in the field as the result of having to spin his car to avoid colliding with another driver who had spun in front of him on lap 20 of the 100-lap race.

Brandon Pierce of Oak Ridge, North Carolina finished fourth and Danny Willis Jr. of South Boston, Virginia rounded out the top five finishers. Stuart Crews of Long Island, Virginia, Josh Oakley of Rougemont, North Carolina, Raymond Pittman III of Amelia, Virginia, Charles Barnes of Chase City, Virginia and Jason Pittman of Chester, Virginia completed the top ten finishers.

South Boston Speedway points leader Peyton Sellers finished 11th after having to make a lengthy pit stop to have his team take care of a broken gear shifter.

Morris led 99 laps of the race that was slowed by three caution periods that consumed 22 laps.

Jones, Latour score victories in Limited Sportsman Division twinbill: Mike Jones of South Boston, Virginia and David Latour Jr. of Clemmons, North Carolina split wins in Saturday night's twin 25-lap Limited Sportsman Division races.

Jones took the lead from Trey Crews of Halifax, Virginia on lap 13, right after the race's final restart, and edged Crews by .606-second to score his third win in a row. Latour finished third, with Colin Garrett of South Boston, Virginia and Chris Elliott of Bullock, North Carolina rounding out the top five finishers.

Latour started on the pole in the nightcap and was in the right place at the right time to take advantage of a mishap when Crews and Garrett, battling for the win, made contact, with Crews spinning to bring out a caution flag with three laps to go.

Garrett was placed at the rear of the field for the restart with three laps to go, a move that put Latour on the front row with Jason Myers of Hurt, Virginia for the final restart.

Latour bolted into the lead on the restart and held off a big charge by Crews, edging Crews by .700-second to take the win. Garrett rallied to finish third, Myers finished fourth and Jones, who was involved in a crash on the second lap, rebounded to finish fifth.

Autry sweeps Pure Stock Divi-

sion twinbill: Former South Boston Speedway Budweiser Pure Stock Division Champion Greg Autry of Alton, Virginia had a big night Saturday night, sweeping the night's pair of 15-lap Budweiser Pure Stock Division races.

The pair of wins gives Autry three wins in the division this season, tying him with Walker for the most wins in the division this season.

Autry edged Jared Milam of Danville, Virginia in both races, scoring a flag-to-flag victory in the first race, and then rallying from his fourth-place starting spot to muscle his way under Milam to take the lead with two laps to go in the nightcap to complete the sweep.

Harrison Walker of Buffalo Junction, Virginia finished third in both races, with Bruce Mayo of Halifax, Virginia and defending division champion Johnny Layne of Nathalie, Virginia finishing fourth and fifth respectively in both races.

Priest Wins Hornets Division Race: Conner Priest of DeWitt, Virginia earned his second victory of the season, scoring a flag-to-flag win in the 15-lap Budweiser Hornets Division race.

Kenny Mills Jr. of Alton, Virginia charged from the rear of the field to finish second, with Jared Dawson of Nathalie, Virginia, Tyler Crute of Alton, Virginia and Kevin Currin of Chase City, Virginia completing the top five finishers.

NEXT RACE AT SOUTH BOSTON SPEEDWAY: The stars and cars of the PASS South Super Late Series will return to South Boston Speedway on Saturday night August 12, with the 7 p.m. running of the PASS Super Late Model 150 racing program.

A 150-lap race for the PASS South Super Late Models and twin 75-lap races for the NASCAR Whelen All American Series Late Model Stock Car Division competitors will headline the night's racing action. The four-race event will also include a 15-lap race for the Budweiser Hornets Division.

Advance adult general admission tickets are priced at \$10 each and may be purchased at the South Boston Speedway office until 5 p.m. on Friday, August 11. Adult general admission tickets will be priced at \$15 each at the gate on race day. Youth ages 7-12 will be admitted for \$5. Kids ages six and under will be admitted free with a paying adult.

For additional information about the PASS Super Late Model 150

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racing program or any other events at South Boston Speedway, please visit the speedway's website at www.southboston-speedway.com or telephone the speedway at 434-572-4947 or 1-877-440-1540.

Bowman Gray Stadium

WINSTON-SALEM, NC - Lee Jeffreys of Wallburg gave it all he had to claim

the checkered at Bowman Gray Stadium on Saturday. But the tears started flowing once in victory lane.

The last few months have been hard for the Jeffreys team after Lee lost his father, Robert Jeffreys, to cancer earlier in the year. Robert was a former champion, a veteran racer, and a fixture in the race shop. So to honor his passing, Lee Jeffreys has been competing in his father's iconic number 75 car this season. "Back in the winter, me and my dad had talked. He said he wanted the 75 back in Winner's Circle" said Lee Jeffreys.

Taking the 75 car to the win has been the goal of the Jeffreys team all year. They've had some strong performances but never landed the victory. That is, until last night when Jeffreys qualified on the pole and led the way to win the first 25-lapper for the Brad's Golf Cars Modified Series.

"On the twin 25s, the first job is to get the pole," said Lee Jeffreys. "The second job is to make sure you get a good start." And Lee would have his work cut out for him as points leader Burt Myers of Walnut Cove was lined up beside him on the outside row.

"Burt and I had a good start, and he stayed on the outside for a couple laps," said Jeffreys. "We gave each other room. I needed to make sure I kept him on the outside until I got the lead."

Jeffreys was able to successfully hold off Myers to claim the checkered. Myers finished in second, with Jason Myers of Walnut Cove taking third. It was an emotional victory celebration for Jeffreys. "It was a tough one. We wanted to see the 75 back in Victory Lane, but once you get there emotions take over. We worked hard all year to make sure we've got there," said Jeffreys.

The "Madhouse Scramble" put Mike Norman of Lewisville on the

pole for the start of the second race, with Junior Miller on the outside pole. Norman and Miller played mind games with each other during the start – but as the green flag waved, Miller shot out into the lead.

He then held on to grab the checkered - his 74th win at the Madhouse. Miller hinted at possibly retiring after this race and ending

Selinsgrove Speedway

SELINGROVE, PA - Mark Smith of Sunbury started off the Mach 1 Chassis National Open weekend with a dominating performance in the 360 Sprint Cars. Smith won the 25-lap preliminary event worth \$3,000 and set a new track record for the distance in 7:54.603. Smith's new record was more than 15 seconds faster than

Rine caught and passed Shick.

A yellow flag gave Shick a second chance, but Rine would complete the pass after the restart to take the lead away for second time. Rine led the rest of the way for his 106th career Selinsgrove Speedway win.

Rine took the checkered flag over Schick, Bryan Bernheisel, Gene Kanub, and Tony Adams. Hayes Mattern was the sixth car across the line with Steve Campbell, Kenny Treveitz, Luke Hoffner, and Dan Green the top ten.

Bernheisel and Rine won the heat races for the Late Models.

Jake Buck brought the A&A Auto Store Pro Stock feature to the green flag on Saturday night. Shaun Lawton was able to wrestle the top spot away from Buck to lead lap number two. Once out front it looked like Lawton was going to drive to his third win of the season.

A yellow on a lap five restart reset the field nose to tail and allowed point leader Tommy Slanker to go to work. Slanker restarted fourth, but soon went past runner up Kyle Bachman to give chase to Lawton. On lap eight Slanker made an outside move around Lawton to secure the lead for good. Slanker drove to his fifth win of the season.

Lawton, Bachman, Dustin Snook, and AJ Stroup were the top five finishers. Johnny Bouse crossed the line in sixth followed by Brandon Moser, Jake Buck, Peanut Heintzelman, and John Schoch.

Heat races for the Pro Stocks were won by Bachman and Lawton.

Next Saturday, Aug. 5, the speedway kicks off the final full month of racing this season with the Sunbury Eagles Club Night and the Eastern Museum of Motor on-hand for the rescheduled Firecracker 30 for the 360 Sprint Cars plus Super Late Models, Pro Stocks, and Econo Late Models.

Grandview Speedway

BECHTELSVILLE, PA - Craig VonDohren, the nine-time and defending Grandview Speedway

Modified point champion, hadn't been to victory lane at the 1/3-mile banked clay oval since August 20, 2016. Saturday night, VonDohren, who regained the point lead by 14 points over 10 time champion Jeff Strunk, passed Kenny Gilmore on the 13th lap restart of the TP Trailers 358 NASCAR Modified 30-lap feature and went on to park his self-owned, Keith Harring/V&M Towing sponsored No. 1C mount

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After taking the checkered in the first Modified race, Lee Jeffreys smiles in Winner's Circle. (ERIC HYLTON PHOTOGRAPHY photo)

his career on the high point of a victory. "I thank the good lord for blessing me with another win," said Miller. "Thank him for me having good health over here for 43 years. My career's ending. Anybody want to buy a good race car, here it is."

In the Texas Steak & Tap House, the wild conclusion to the Colors Edge Sportsman 100 had the fans on their feet cheering. John Holleman of Winston-Salem led for over 90 laps, but Michael Adams of Yadkinville made a daring move at the end of the race to dip to the inside of Holleman to pass.

Derek Stoltz of Walkertown was also involved in the mix as the three battled for position. Holleman fell back and Adams went on to take the checkered.

"That was the most fun race I've ever been in," said Adams. If anybody wants to be mad at me, I'm sorry – that's racing baby."

In the Q104.1 New Country Street Stock Series, Bryan Sykes of Winston-Salem grabbed the checkered in the 20-lapper – his first Street Stock win at the Madhouse. In the Law Offices of John Barrow Stadium Stock Series, Chuck Wall of Lexington and K.C. Myers of Winston-Salem each brought home a win.

the standing record coming into the night. The win also locks Smith into the feature event for this Sunday night's 17th Annual National Open Finale.

Smith took the top spot on lap three from Steve Collins in the non-stop feature event. Davie Franek moved to second on lap ten and began to try to close the gap on Smith. The lead would only shrink for a small time before Smith drove back away to the five second advantage he had at the end of the event.

Franek came home second while Cody Keller, Nate Snyder, and Steve Collins were the top five game. Curt Michael was sixth followed by Robbie Stillwagon, Josh Weller, Jason Schultz, and Ryan Kissinger.

Heat races for the 360 Sprint Cars were won by Michalski, Franek, Eric Tomecek, while Chris Coyle won the B-Main.

Donnie Schick led the first half of the Jeff's Auto Body and Recycling Center Super Late Model feature. Schick had opened up an impressive lead over Jeff Rine once Rine got to second on lap ten. Rine then began to close the gap on Schick. Schick's straightaway lead dwindled over the next ten laps before

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in the winner's circle for his first triumph of the year and also became the 11th different winner.

Two weeks ago in the BRC NASCAR 20-lap Late Model feature Bryon Sipe was one lap shy of capturing his first win of the year. This time the Shoemakersville speedster made a bold move to pass leader Brian Shuey in lap traffic on the 14th lap and didn't

make any driver errors to score his season first win since May 28, 2016 to become the sixth different winner.

Brad Grim claimed his first career victory in the 25-lap NASCAR Sportsman feature on July 8, 2017 and two races later he put the Mike Stringer Collision No. 23 in victory lane for a second time.

All feature winners received monetary awards from TP Trailers and also product certificates from VP Racing Fuels providing they met the necessary requirements.

Joe "Geezer" Fanelli set the pace of the Modified feature for seven laps before Kenny Gilmore, who recently became the new driver of the Dennis Bailey-owned No. 81 replacing John Willman, took over the top spot.

While Gilmore showed the way the battle behind him for the remaining positions was hot and heavy between Fanelli, Von Dohren, Duane Howard and Frank Cozze.

VonDohren, who started 12th and Cozze, eighth-place starter, advanced to second and third respectively on lap ten to pressure Gilmore.

A three-car, fourth turn tangle brought out the yellow on the 12th lap. It didn't take Von Dohren long on the restart to shoot to the outside and overtake Gilmore for first. Gilmore hung right there with Von Dohren for several laps trying to recapture the lead, but soon Von Dohren pulled away from his fellow competitors.

No more restarts were needed once Von Dohren gained control to allow anyone the chance to overtake him and when the checkered unfurled it was his 101st Saturday night career win. Finishing second was Gilmore trailed by Cozze, Howard and Tim Buckwalter, who posted his best finish of the year since returning a few weeks ago.

Heats were won by Colt Harris, Addison Meitzler and Fanelli. Kevin Hirthler won the consi.

Before any laps could be completed in the Late Model feature something broke on the front end of Kyle Merkel's car causing him to spin coming off turn two and out of competition. Once green flag action resumed Shuey was the early pacesetter with Sipe, Steve Todorow, Danny Snyder and Wayne Pfeil in pursuit.

Sipe, Todorow and Snyder had their own battle for second which allowed Shuey some breathing room.

Lapped traffic enabled the cars behind Shuey to close in on him and attempt to take the lead away.

On the 14th lap with a lapped car, Shuey and Sipe three-wide, Sipe shot past both of them and into the lead.

Sipe was determined not to make any mistakes and keep everyone behind him. He did just that and captured his second career win followed by Shuey, Snyder, Todorow and Chuck Schutz.

In the Sportsman feature pole-sitter Steve Young set the pace for two laps before Loudon Reimert and Craig Whitmoyer tangled on the backstretch for the yellow. Whitmoyer could continue, but Reimert had to be towed back to the pits. On the restart Young, Derrick Smith and Joe Funk III went three-wide and Funk III emerged as the new leader.

Jim Housworth and Grim diced four the runner-up position several laps before Grim overtook him on the seventh lap to take chase after Funk III.

Andy Clemmer brought out the final yellow on the 13th lap when he slowed his pace with a flat tire in the fourth turn. When action resumed Grim took over first with Mark Kemmerer, Funk III, Housworth and Brian Hirthler, the current point leader, battling for the remaining positions.

Grim kept everyone behind him and continued until he became the eighth different winner trailed by Kemmerer, for his best finish, Funk III, Housworth and Whitmoyer, who was on the move after the early lap incident.

The heats were won by Kenny Bock, Mike Lisowski and Young while Caleb Ross won the consi.

Defending Sportsman point champion Jordan Henn, who was injured in the horrendous home-stretch crash on April 29, was back in competition and garnered a seventh place finish.

Next Saturday Grandview pres-

ents one of its most prestigious events, the annual Pioneer Pole Buildings Forrest Rogers Memorial. This will be a 50-lapper for the TP Trailers NASCAR 358 Modifieds paying at least \$10,000 to the winner. Also included in the night of excitement will be the BRC Late Models and Sportsman. Gates open at 5:30 p.m. with racing at 7:30 p.m. Adult admission is \$25 while youngsters 6 through 11 pay just \$5. Children under 6 are admitted free.

The Low Down and Dirty Meet & Greet will feature Pioneer sponsored racers Craig VonDohren, Chuck Schutz, Kevin Hirthler and Brian Hirthler. It takes place at 5 p.m. Rain date for the Forrest Rogers Memorial is August 12th.

Dodge City Raceway Park

DODGE CITY, KS - Zach Blurton outlasted reigning track champion Taylor Velasquez to post his first Precise Racing Products DCRP Sprint Car feature win of the year before a crowd in excess of 5,000 people to cap off Friday night's Driver Appreciation Night at the 3/8-mile Dodge City Raceway Park clay oval.

While Blurton finally took command on the 15th of 20 rounds after a handful of lead changes, Mike Petersilie broke a DCRP victory drought by taking IMCA Modified honors, Brandon Kenny scored the IMCA Sport Modified win, Angel Munoz notched his fifth IMCA Stock Car win of the season and Reagan Sellard landed his second IMCA Hobby Stock triumph.

In the 20-lap Precise Racing Products DCRP Sprint Car feature, Jetmore native Zach Blurton took the lead for the third and final time on the 15th lap en route to landing the Midwest Ag

Professionals/Wheat State Roofing No. 2J entry in entry lane.

"That was an awesome race," Blurton proclaimed to the massive crowd. "The top was slowing down a little and the bottom was starting to take a little rubber here and there, we were able to find it a couple of times coming off four and some in two."

While Blurton started the feature inside row two, Velasquez gunned into the lead at the outset from the second row outside in his bid for a second consecutive win. Blurton was on the march though, surging past Ray Seemann for second on the third round and then closing in to challenge for the point.

With Velasquez ripping the top-side and Blurton catfishing the bottom, the latter got a run off of turn four to edge ahead on the eight circuit. Velasquez battled right back out front in the next pair of corners only to surrender the point again a lap later.

Traffic worked to Velasquez' advantage to regain the lead on the 12th round, with him moving the No. 21x to the bottom to protect the lead. But, when he slipped off the bottom exiting turn two on the 15th round, Blurton was there to take quick advantage by shooting back out front as Koby Walters made an effort to join in on the lead mix.

Approaching a gaggle of lapped cars in the final circuits with the top three in close contact, one of those lapped cars (Cody Lampe) slapped the turn two wall directly in front of the leaders to bring out the race's only caution with three laps to go.

With clear track ahead, Blurton raced on to the stripe unabated with Walters taking advantage of another Velasquez slip off the bottom of turn two on the restart to

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Mike Petersilie made it to DCRP victory lane Friday night. (DCRP photo)

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claim runner-up honors. Velasquez settled for third with Seemann and Keefe Hemel rounding out the top five.

In the 20-lap IMCA Modified feature, 2007 track champ Mike Petersilie raced around Randy Wilson for the lead on the seventh lap en route to his first DCRP win in several years. "We were overdue to get one here," the Hoisington racer

said afterward.

While Wilson gunned into the lead at the drop flag from sixth, Petersilie needed just one lap to move his No. 25p into second from the eighth starting position.

Petersilie reeled Wilson in before racing by for the lead on the seventh round. Tenth-starter Clay Sellard and 12th-starter Brendon Gemmill followed suit soon after and tried to chase down the win with Sellard closing Petersilie's rear bumper and trying to challenge, but to no avail.

Petersilie slipped away to take the checkered flag by a handful of car-lengths with Sellard and Gemmill filling out the podium. Wilson was fourth after leading early while Jesse Smith batted into fifth in the closing circuits.

Brandon Kenny became the fourth different leader of the 20-lap IMCA Sport Modified feature with a handful of laps to go and then held off fellow Woodward, OK, shoe Jeff Kaup to post the win in his first DCRP visit of the year.

While Kenny worked forward from the ninth starting position, Bart Baker paced the opening four rounds before an incident handed the lead over to current points leader Kaup. Kaup had his hands full though with the duo of Robert Elliott and Kenny pressuring to take command.

Elliott powered into the lead on 11th round before Kenny surged to the front on the 15th lap with Elliott retiring to the pits under a caution period with five laps to go.

Kenny fought off Kaup over the remaining handful of laps to secure the win with Dustin Donley taking advantage of a Kaleb Roach spin in the final corner to nab the third spot behind the lead duo. Jeremy Sigler crossed the stripe in fourth with Jarett Lunow rounding out the top five.

In an evenly-matched 15-lap

IMCA Stock Car feature, Lamar, Colorado's Angel Munoz denied Tyler Tipton's bid for two in a row by taking his fifth DCRP triumph of the season.

With Tipton gridding the field sixth and Munoz in seventh, it was Munoz winning the race through traffic to get to second behind early leader Chris Oliver. Munoz charged into the lead on the third round with Tipton right on his heels in pursuit of the lead.

The duo battled for the lead the rest of the way, with Tipton pulling alongside on several occasions. Munoz was unflappable however, putting together 15 flawless circuits to take the win ahead of Tipton with Ondre Rexford, Cole Traugott and Ron Hartman rounding out the top five

Bucklin's Reagan Sellard rounded out the night's feature winners by fending off Matt O'Hair for his second 15-lap IMCA Hobby Stock victory of the year.

While Sellard and O'Hair worked forward from their row three starting positions, Brett Copeland led in the early going as he made a run at two wins in a row.

Sellard and O'Hair closed in though, with both slipping by on the eighth round to move into first and second, respectively. O'Hair pressured Sellard the rest of the way, but Sellard was up to the task.

Sellard took the checkered flag ahead of O'Hair with Tathan Burkhart a close third. Duane Wahrman rebounded from an early incident to salvage a fourth-place finish with Bryan Habiger rounding out the top five.

In the giveaways, IMCA Hobby Stock shoe Duane Wahrman won the grand prize Hinchman Racing suit while IMCA Modified racer Jesse Smith picked up a \$250 bonus in the drawing among the six drivers that had the most tickets turned in at the front gate. The other five drivers each picked up \$100 including Danny Schulte (IMCA Hobby Stocks), Jacob Huse (IMCA Hobby Stocks), Joey Maupin (IMCA Sport Modifieds), Kevin Tabor (IMCA Sport Modifieds) and Tanner Brunson (IMCA Sport Modifieds). All 93 drivers on hand walked away with something in hand courtesy of Precise Racing Products, BMI, Pistons Auto/Diesel Repair, A&J Trucking, Quint Transportation, Carquest and more.

Action resumes at Dodge City Raceway Park on Saturday night, August 19, with the Fourth Annual Sport Modified Mayhem that features IMCA Sport Modifieds along with Precise Racing Products

DCRP Sprint Cars, IMCA Modifieds and IMCA Hobby Stocks.

Hickory Motor Speedway

The NASCAR Whelen All-American Series roared to life Saturday at Hickory Motor Speedway with Sam's Club Night at the Races.

The One Design Super Trucks would lead off the evening's festivities with their 35 lap feature. Sheflon Clay in the #15 would lead the field to the green flag with Tyler Dayton in the #36 to his outside. Clay would take the early lead and hold the top spot until a caution would fly at lap 13. For the next several laps the pair would exchange the lead multiple times and the cautions would fly often. The last restart would fly on lap 20 and Clay would get around Dayton for the top spot and lead the final 15 laps to take the win with Dayton coming home in 2nd. Allen Huffman would battle back from repeated issues, a visit to pit road, and a loss of power steering to finish in 3rd, Charlie Neill would finish 4th, and Joey Shuryan in the #30 would round out the top 5.

Next to hit the track would be the 4-Cylinders and their 25 lap battle. The #17 of Curtis Pardue would start from the top spot with the #09 of Shane Canipe to his outside. Pardue would take the early lead but Canipe would work his way to the front around the midpoint of the race. Canipe would hold on for the win as Pardue would finish 2nd. Robert Trivette in the #11 would come home in 3rd, Allison Houston in the #29 would finish 4th, and Brian Mundy in the #6 would round out the top 5.

Round #8 of the Paramount Kia 'Big 10' Chase for the Championship would see 50 laps for the Paramount Auto Group Limited Late Models. Alex Reece in the #18 would set the fast time in qualifying and pace the field to the green flag with the #51 of Jeremy Pelfrey to his outside. Reece would move to the early lead and face an early challenge from the #21 of Monty Cox who would move briefly to the front. Reece would prove too strong on the night and drive on to the checkers and another win. Pelfrey would move around Cox for 2nd as he would suffer mechanical failure coming off of turn 4 on the final lap. Mitch Walker in the #29 would finish 3rd, Dylon Wilson in the #1 would snatch 4th, and Pat Rachel's in the #34 would round out the top 5 in a tough 16 car field.

The Cosmo Motors Street Stocks would thunder out onto the famed 3/8 mile oval next for their



Race winner Charlie Watson has some special people to celebrate with in Hickory Motor Speedway's victory lane. (SHERRI STEARNS photo)

35 lap feature with Cody DeMarmels in the #18 at the point. DeMarmels would take the early lead as Mark Whitten in the #77, Kevin Eby in the #03, Marshall Sutton in the #64, and Trey Buff in the #69 would all vie for the second spot and the first opportunity to chase down the leader. DeMarmels would hang on for the win with Sutton coming home to finish 2nd. Eby would finish in 3rd, Whitten in 4th, and Buff would take home 5th.

100 laps for the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series Bojangles Late Models would headline the night's racing action. Ryan Repko in the #14 would make his first 2017 appearance and make the most of it by snatching the pole position with the top qualifying speed. Ryan Millington in the #76 would start outside the front row with Kres VanDyke in the #15 and Charlie Watson in the #9 making up row two. Repko would lead early but Millington would pressure for a shot at the point. Neither would be able to hold off the hard charging Watson, who won a pair of NASCAR Whelen All-American Series Bojangles Late Model features last week, as he would come roaring around to take his turn at the top spot. As the battle would rage behind him Watson would drive hard to put some distance between himself and the field. As the dust would settle in the battle for second VanDyke would take the spot and set sail for the leader. Even though VanDyke made up some serious time in trying to catch the leader he would come up a little short as Watson would take the win and the trip to Victory Lane. VanDyke would finish

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off the night with 2nd place. Repko would hold on for a hard fought 3rd. Sam Mayer in the #41 would finish 4th and Millington would take home 5th.

Closing out the evening's events would be the Renegades and their 20 lap slugfest. Darren Dickinson in the #6 would lead the field to the green flag with Justin Austin in the #1 to his outside. Dickinson

would lead early but face a tough challenge from Kyle DiVanna in the #71. DiVanna would move around and take the top spot with Dickinson and Austin hot on his heels. Contact between the leaders would send DiVanna spinning and Dickinson to the rear. Dickinson would sustain enough damage that he would end his night in the pits. Austin would capitalize on the opportunity and drive on to the win with DiVanna giving chase and finishing 2nd. Robbie Hollifield in the #51 would grab his best finish with a 3rd. Casey Meyer in the #18 would finish 4th and Robert DiVanna in the #71D would round out the top 5.

The NASCAR Whelen All-American Series will take next week off at the the Birthplace of the NASCAR Stars as the CARS Tour rolls in for the Throwback 276. 138 laps for the CARS Tour Late Models and Super Late Models. Grandstands open at 5pm, Qualifying at 5:05pm, Fan Fest starting at 6pm, and Racing at 8pm.

In 2 weeks the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series returns to action with a full slate of weekly racing action including the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series Bojangles Late Models, Paramount Auto Group Limited Late Models, One Design Super Trucks, Cosmo Motors Street Stocks, and Renegades.

For more info check us out at www.hickorymotorspeedway.com, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Rockford Speedway

Brian Gerster kept his roll going by winning the Must See Racing 50-lap feature Saturday night at Rockford Speedway. It was his second consecutive win in as many nights and finished off the weekend with a sweep of Must See Racing's western swing through Wisconsin

and Illinois.

Gerster finished the night off in convincing fashion by taking the checkered flag by nearly a straight-away lead after setting quick time in qualifications earlier in the day with a lap of 11.597 seconds. He appeared aggressive with lapped cars after taking the lead on lap 8 from early leader Anthony McCune and wasted no time building a sizeable lead early. He nearly lost the race one night earlier when he struggled with lap cars with two laps to go and second place finisher Jimmy McCune took advantage of his struggles to momentarily take the lead, but still managed to hang on for the win. Gerster would have none of that on this night and lapped cars as quickly as possible en-route to a dominating performance.

The win also showed the competition that his Dick Meyers owned machine is now a threat after early season struggles. The car was heavily damaged in an accident last August at Owosso, MI. The entire rear end of the car had to be reconstructed and the team appears to have figured the car out.

In victory lane Gerster alluded to the fact the team has figured the reconstructed car out. "This weekend is sort of a culmination of recovering from our car getting crashed at Owosso last year" explained Gerster. "The back of this thing was completely destroyed. A lot of work went into getting it fixed. The notebook on this thing is fifteen years old or something like that and we kinda had to start over because things are different now. The car has been wanting a different set-up than what we're used to. We found some things the car likes. Hopefully we can keep rolling".

Gerster reasoned his aggressive driving style was due to the fact Jimmy McCune would be there at the end. "I figured Jimmy would be there. He really excels at little race tracks like this. I'd come off of two and glance at the main straight-away and could never see him. I figured he was close. Last night I felt like I had a little bit of a lead and then I got hung up with a couple lapped cars with two to go, and he got next to us and almost stole one from us. Just trying to get through lapped traffic as quick as possible. It worked out and we got the win" concluded Gerster. Jimmy McCune finished second while his nephew Anthony McCune finished third after leading the opening 8 laps of the event. Chris Nuenschwander was third and Charlie Schultz rounded out the top five.

Racing as the undercard to the Must See Racing Sprint Cars during Saturday night's 'Sprint Car Spectacular' at Rockford Speedway, the Miller Lite American Short Trackers, Kickstart Roadrunners and Northern Vintage Racing Series did not disappoint, as each feature was decided in the waning laps and including a variety of close racing and thrilling action which kept an enthusiastic crowd hanging on the edge of their seat at every turn.

In the 25 lap main event for the Miller Lite American Short Trackers, an incredible five-car battle took place for nearly the entire distance of the feature, with the only halt coming at lap 23 when contenders and point leaders Zach Rodriguez and Nick Cina Jr tangled coming off the fourth corner. The tangle brought out the yellow flag and sent both drivers to the tail of the field. Remaining at the front was leader Aaron Rude and Franc Beldowski along with Justin Pearson and David Russell. Each had either contended for the top spot or held it at one point in the race. When the field took the green on the ensuing restart, Rude ran away while Beldowski settled in for second. The duo crossed the line in that fashion, with Rude pocketing his third win of 2017. Veteran racer Steve Rubeck hopped back in a Short Tracker Saturday night and collected a third place finish for his efforts. Russel was scored fourth, while Pearson rounded out the top five.

The 20 lap Kickstart Roadrunner feature race was closely contested, with most of the eight-car field staying within striking distance of one another most of the way. Chicago's Pat Ligue led most of the race and appeared to have just enough to pocket his first Rockford Speedway win, but a slight slip opened the door late for Chad Lounsbury, who made his move for the lead with under five laps to go. Meanwhile, as Lounsbury tried to rip the lead away from Ligue, point leader Josh Thiering worked some late-race magic to gain on the top two cars and had just enough left to pressure Lounsbury for the win on the final lap. Thiering came up just short at the line, settling for second place while Lounsbury took the win and also swept the night after winning the Fast Dash and his Heat Race. Ligue settled for third, while Kevin Memoli came home in fourth and Austin Fowler rounded out the top five.

For the first time ever, the Northern Vintage Stock Car Series hit

the track on Saturday night, making their debut at Rockford Speedway. When the dust settled on their 15 lap feature race, Dyer Indiana's Pat Echlin took the win, holding off a last lap challenge from Joe Darnell. Howie Ware won the Vintage Heat Race and took third in the feature, with Tony Brutti fourth and Nick Letsinger fifth.

This message was sent to FAS-TRACK01@aol.com from speedwayeric@gmail.com

Rockford Speedway | Rockford Speedway | P.O. Box 1000 | Rockford, IL 61105.

Selinsgrove Speedway

SELINGROVE, PA - Mark Smith of Sunbury started off the Mach 1 Chassis National Open weekend with a dominating performance in the 360 Sprint Cars. Smith won the 25-lap preliminary event worth \$3,000 and set a new track record for the distance in 7:54.603. Smith's new record was more than 15 seconds faster than the standing record coming into the night. The win also locks Smith into the feature event for this Sunday night's 17th Annual National Open Finale.

Smith took the top spot on lap three from Steve Collins in the non-stop feature event. Davie Franek moved to second on lap ten and began to try to close the gap on Smith. The lead would only shrink for a small time before Smith drove back away to the five second advantage he had at the end of the event.

Franek came home second while Cody Keller, Nate Snyder, and Steve Collins were the top five game. Curt Michael was sixth followed by Robbie Stillwagon, Josh Weller, Jason Schultz, and Ryan Kissinger.

Heat races for the 360 Sprint Cars were won by Michalski, Franek, Eric Tomecek, while Chris Coyle won the B-Main.

Donnie Schick led the first half of the Jeff's Auto Body and Recycling Center Super Late Model feature. Schick had opened up an impressive lead over Jeff Rine once Rine got to second on lap ten. Rine then began to close the gap on Schick. Schick's straightaway lead dwindled over the next ten laps before Rine caught and passed Schick.

A yellow flag gave Schick a second chance, but Rine would complete the pass after the restart to take the lead away for second time. Rine led the rest of the way for his 106th career Selinsgrove Speedway win.

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Rine took the checkered flag over Schick, Bryan Bernheisel, Gene Kanub, and Tony Adams. Hayes Mattern was the sixth car across the line with Steve Campbell, Kenny Treveitz, Luke Hoffner, and Dan Green the top ten.

Bernheisel and Rine won the heat races for the Late Models.

Jake Buck brought the A&A Auto Store Pro Stock feature to the green flag on Saturday night. Shaun Lawton was able to wrestle the top spot away from Buck to lead lap number two. Once out front it looked like Lawton was going to drive to his third win of the season.

A yellow on a lap five restart reset the field nose to tail and allowed point leader Tommy Slanker to go to work. Slanker restarted fourth, but soon went past runner up Kyle Bachman to give chase to Lawton. On lap eight Slanker made an outside move around Lawton to secure the lead for good. Slanker drove to his fifth win of the season.

Lawton, Bachman, Dustin Snook, and AJ Stroup were the top five finishers. Johnny Bouse crossed the line in sixth followed by Brandon Moser, Jake Buck, Peanut Heintzelman, and John Schoch.

Heat races for the Pro Stocks were won by Bachman and Lawton.

Next Saturday, Aug. 5, the speedway kicks off the final full month of racing this season with the Sunbury Eagles Club Night and the Eastern Museum of Motor on-hand for the rescheduled Firecracker 30 for the 360 Sprint Cars plus Super Late Models, Pro Stocks, and Econo Late Models.

Stafford Speedway

STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT - Stafford Speedway returned to NASCAR Whelen All-American Series racing action with Five-Star Series program on Friday, July 28th with the Senior Champs from the Monday Night Wild Thing Kart Series joining Stafford's five NWAAS divisions in action. Taking down feature wins on the night were Chase Dowling for a division leading fourth time this season in the SK Modified® feature, Tyler Leary was a first time career winner in the Late Model feature, Marcello

Rufrano in the SK Light feature, Robert Bloxsom, III in the Limited Late Model feature, Trace Beyer in the DARE Stock feature, and Nick Hadden was the winner of the special Wild Thing Karts Senior Champs feature.

In the 40-lap SK Modified® feature event, Stephen Kopcik took the lead at the green but the field could only complete one lap before the caution came out for spins on the frontstretch by Brendon Bock and Tommy Membrino, Jr. with Austin Pickens and Eric Berndt also involved.

Kopcik again took the lead back under green but not before Michael Gervias, Jr. nearly made it 3-wide with Kopcik and Cam McDermott. Tom Abele, Jr. was fourth and Tyler Hines was fifth with Ronnie Williams and Matt Galcko side by side for sixth.

McDermott took the lead from Kopcik on lap-5 with Gervais and Abele now side by side for third and Hines and Galcko side by side for fifth. The caution came back out with 6 laps complete for a spin in turn 3.

Back under green, McDermott took the lead but Galcko was able to pull alongside and they were side by side with Todd Owen and Kopcik side by side behind them. Hines and Keith Rocco were also side by side, making the front of the field look like a 3 row deep pace lap at race speed. Galcko emerged with the lead on lap-9 with Owen taking second. McDermott slotted into third with Hines fourth and Rocco fifth. Kopcik was sixth with Chase Dowling right on his bumper in seventh.

Rocco took third from McDermott on lap-21 and Dowling followed him past to drop McDermott back to fifth in the order as Galcko continued to lead Owen. Dowling took third from Rocco on lap-27 while Owen was looking high and low for a way to get around Galcko for the race lead.

Dowling continued his charge towards the front as he took second from Owen on lap-33 and was now right behind Galcko for the lead. Dowling took the lead from Galcko on lap-35 with a pass in turn 2. Owen was third with Rocco in fourth and McDermott in fifth with 5 laps to go.

Once he got out front, Dowling began to pull away from Galcko and he scored his division leading fourth win of the 2017 season. Owen finished third with Rocco and McDermott rounding out the top-5.

In the 30-lap Late Model feature event, the field took the green and

a melee erupted in turn 2 that involved the cars of Josh Wood, Glen Reen, Michael Wray, Tom Fearn, Paul Arute, Rich Hammann, and Kevin Gambacorta that brought the caution out. Fearn came to pit road with an overheating issue, Wood's team was working on his front end suspension and Mike Quintiliano was penalized to the rear of the field for over aggressive driving by NASCAR Officials.

Michael Wray took the lead on the restart with Reen, Tyler Leary, Michael Bennett, and Matt Vassar making up the top-5. Reen took the lead from Wray on lap-3 and Bennett moved by Leary to move into third on lap-4. Behind them, Gambacorta had gotten around Vassar to move into fifth.

Reen got loose on lap-10 and lost the lead to Bennett and he fell back to third as Wray moved into second and then Reen spun in turn 2 to bring the caution out with 10 laps complete.

Bennett and Wray were locked in a side by side duel for the lead with Bennett getting clear at the line to take the lead. Wray was second but Reen moved into second on lap-13 with Leary third and Gambacorta got around Wray for fourth place on lap-14. Reen was making a move to the inside of Bennett for the lead on lap-20 when the two cars made contact and Bennett spun to bring the caution out.

Leary took the lead on the restart with Wray slotting into second. Bennett was back to third with Reen already back up to fourth and Gambacorta was in fifth. Bennett made a move for second on lap-24 with Reen following him through and then on lap-25 Reen took second from Bennett as the two cars leaned on each other once again. Bennett used a bump and run to get back by Reen on lap-26 and move into second. Leary was continuing to stretch out his lead with Bennett and Reen fighting for second with Wray in fourth and Gambacorta in fifth.

Reen returned the bump and run on lap-29 and he got back by Bennett to move into second but he was given the black flag to remove him from second. Leary took down his very first Late Model win at Stafford with Bennett, Wray, Gambacorta, and Vassar rounding out the top-5. Reen was penalized back to seventh place, the last car on the lead lap.

In the 20-lap SK Light Modified feature event, Brett Gonyaw quickly took the lead at the drop of the green with Marcello Rufrano right on his bumper in second.

Glen Korner was third with Wesley Prucker fourth and Daniel Wesson fifth in the early going. The caution came out with 7 laps complete for a spin in turn 2 that involved the cars of Tony Santangelo, Chris Matthews, and George Nocera, Jr.

Gonyaw took the lead on the restart but he had to contend with Rufrano on his outside. The duo ran side by side for a lap and then it was nearly 3-wide for the lead with Cory DiMatteo sticking his nose in the action before settling back into third. Rufrano took the lead from Gonyaw on the outside groove while Prucker was still fourth and Dan Wesson was fifth.

With 5 laps to go, Rufrano had pulled away by several car lengths from Gonyaw with DiMatteo third, Prucker fourth, and Wesson in fifth. David Arute was applying heavy pressure to Wesson for the fifth spot and he took it on lap-18. Rufrano ran unchallenged to the checkered flag to pick up his first win of the 2017 season. Gonyaw finished second with DiMatteo, Prucker, and Arute rounding out the top-5.

In the 20-lap Limited Late Model feature event, Matt Clement took the lead at the green but the caution came out before a lap could be completed for a spin in the middle of turns 3+4 by Alexandra Fearn. Tyler Trott was sent to the rear of the field for overaggressive driving by NASCAR Officials.

Robert Bloxsom, III took the lead on the restart and took the lead with Clement slotting into second. Duane Provost was third with Bryan Narducci in fourth and Cliff Saunders was fifth. Provost took over second on lap-3 and Narducci and Saunders were now side by side for fourth place. Lavoie got clear of Saunders on lap-6 but he now had Jeremy Lavoie to his inside in a fight for fourth. Narducci took the spot and Lavoie fell back into fifth as Bloxsom continued to lead Provost.

Bloxsom was still in command with Provost right on his back bumper. Provost couldn't get close enough to Bloxsom to make a move for the lead as Bloxsom took down his first win of the 2017 season. Lavoie finished third with Al Saunders and Clement rounding out the top-5.

In the 15-lap DARE Stock feature event, Chuck Harrison took the lead at the green and he led the first lap before Chris Bagnall moved to the lead on lap-2. Bagnall's pass opened the door for Trace Beyer, Johnny Walker, and Zack Robinson to follow.