



OCTOBER 17, 2016

FastTrack

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**Mike Looney
Finds
That Dreams
Do Come
True at
Martinsville**



**Kevin Harvick
Pulls Out
Classic Win
Over
Carl Edwards
at Kansas**



**Logan Schuchart Proves
Victory at Home is Best**

On to Talladega

Talladega.

Few words conjure more fear in racing than mentioning the 2.66-mile, D-shaped speedway nestled among the Alabama pines and the Talladega Mountain range between Atlanta and Birmingham, Ala.

Known for its bizarre infield atmosphere and even more-bizarre racing, the Talladega Superspeedway presents a lot of risks while being extremely fickle with its rewards.

It's a place where cars too often finish upside-down and backwards. It's where emotions too often evolve into rage. It's where simple fender-benders too often create a lot of overtime work for junk yard operators.

It's a place where more dreams are dashed than realized. For most, just finishing is a daunting challenge. But for a handful of drivers in the Chase for the Championship, it's a place where a victory probably is the only way to qualify for the third round of the playoffs.

In reality, beating LeBron James in a game of one-on-one would be less stressful.

"It's all about the racing gods in that story in Talladega," Kyle Busch said. The elimination format calls for four drivers to be eliminated from the Chase after the third, sixth and ninth races of the playoffs. A victory in a current segment earns a driver an automatic pass to the next round.

Jimmie Johnson won at the Charlotte Motor Speedway on Oct. 9 to punch his ticket into Round 3, and Kevin Harvick's victory Sunday at the Kansas Speedway means he will race another day toward a possible championship.

Gene Haas, who co-owns Harvick's car, was relieved his anxiety was cut in half at Kansas. Now he will only lose sleep trying to get his second driver, Kurt Busch, into the next round.

"I think we were pretty nervous going into Talladega next week," he said. "When you get behind a little bit, all of a sudden you get down to a 'win or go home.' That makes for excitement.

"So obviously we're glad we

don't have to have that excitement at Talladega."

Johnson said his win at Charlotte was "massive" since he won't have to face the pressure of surviving, much less winning, at Talladega.

Matt Kenseth, Kyle Busch, Carl Edwards, Kurt Busch, Martin Truex Jr. and Joey Logano currently are above the cutline, while Austin Dillon, Denny Hamlin, Brad Keselowski and Chase Elliott are on the outside, looking in.



DON COBLE

Barring a massive crash that wipes out many of the drivers atop the Chase standings – something that is entirely possible – the bottom four know their chances realistically rely on winning.

"We've just got to go to Talladega and hope that nothing crazy happens," Truex said.

Want facts? Here's how crazy Talladega can be:

- There were a total of 55 cars involved in accidents last May at Talladega. Since there only are 40 in the lineup, it means a lot crashed two or three times. Drivers involved in the carnage included Chase drivers Edwards, Dillon, Johnson, Truex, Kurt Busch, Kyle Busch, Hamlin, Kenseth, Logano and Harvick. There were 21 cars in one massive pileup and 12 in another.

- A year ago, there was an 11-car crash that involved Hamlin, Kenseth, Harvick and Dillon.

- And in May, 2015, there was a 15 car accident that included Johnson, Logano and Harvick.

Two years ago Keselowski went to Talladega and won, knowing a victory was the only way he could move to the next round. Since he's done it once, he's confident he can do it again.

"We are going to Talladega," he said. "I like Talladega. Talladega has been good to me and I am going to drive my butt off and at the end of the day I have faith that if it is meant to be it is meant to be. We can't get down. There is a long way to go still."

With a victory in the bank, Harvick's crew chief, Rodney Childers, now will focus his attention to the races following Talladega.

"Our focus is going to be on Martinsville and moving forward," he said. "We've got nice stuff to take to Talladega. We were planning on going down there to have to win the race there. We'll definitely go down

there and race hard. It's just nice to be able to focus on the weeks going forward.

"This past week was rough on the whole race team, to be honest. Let those guys go see their kids and families a few nights. It's going

to mean a lot to them. Everybody catch their breath and get ready for Martinsville."

Everyone else will go to Talladega holding their breath, hoping for the best, but expecting the worst.



It is not so much if there will be a "big" one, but when will it happen with such close, fast and competitive racing that happens at Talladega Superspeedway. (Russell LaBounty/NKP photo)

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Kevin Harvick Saves His Chase with Impressive Victory at Kansas

By REID SPENCER

KANSAS CITY, KS — He did it again.

Last in the Chase for the NASCAR Sprint Cup standings and faced with an uphill struggle to make the Round of 8, Kevin

Harvick and his No. 4 Stewart-Haas Racing team did what they do best—win with their backs to the wall.

Moments after a restart on Lap 238 of 267, Harvick cleared Carl Edwards for the lead through Turns 1 and 2 at Kansas Speedway and pulled away to win Sunday's Hollywood Casino 400 by 1.183 seconds.

With his second victory at Kansas, his fourth of the season and the 35th of his career, Harvick joined last week's Charlotte winner, Jimmie Johnson, in the Chase's Round of 8 and erased the specter of racing under pressure next Sunday in the crapshoot that is Talladega.

With his team chanting "I believe that we will win" in unison behind him, Harvick climbed from his car and thrust his fist into the air in triumph.

"These races are hard to win, and these guys are just so good at the details," said Harvick, who won elimination races at Phoenix during his championship season in 2014 and at Dover last year. "You put their backs against the wall, and they get better. Really proud of them..."

"I just got two good restarts against the No. 19 (Carl Edwards). He didn't have a car quite as close to him, and I was able to break that draft before I got to the middle of one and two and get away from him, so that was pretty awesome. I just needed to go for it, and that's really the mind-set we go into every race in the Chase (with)—to go for, and we did."

Edwards, who covets a win at the track closest to his Columbia, Missouri, home, was delighted with the way his No. 19 Toyota ran, but he was frustrated with his second runner-up finish at the 1.5-mile speedway.

"We ran well," Edwards said

philosophically. "That was really fun, getting to race up front. It is really tough for me to finish second here. It's happened twice. Both of them were pretty painful. The bright side is that, yes, we raced up front. Got a lot of support from a lot of people here. Hopefully, they enjoyed that part of it."

"That last restart, Kevin and Jimmie just lined up at the bottom, and they just got far enough ahead, I couldn't hang on the outside. Then I ended up having to race Kyle (Busch) really hard there for a few laps. It let Kevin get out ahead."

"But, man, we'll just move forward. A day or two will pass, maybe the sting will wear off, and I'll be more excited about the points situation going into Talladega, because that's the bright side. We've got two decent races under our belts to go to Talladega with."

Joey Logano ran third in his No.

22 Team Penske Ford, an excellent recovery from last week's 36th-place finish at Charlotte in the open race of the Round of 12. Logano enters the cutoff race at Talladega tied for eighth in the Chase standings with Austin Dillon, who finished sixth on Sunday after gaining track position with a late two-tire call.

Johnson was fourth at Kansas, followed by Kyle Busch, who leaves his former "Waterloo" track 27 points above the cut line for the next round.

Pole winner Matt Kenseth finished eighth behind non-Chasers Alex Bowman and AJ Allmendinger and is 29 points to the good heading to the elimination race. Among other Chase drivers, Martin Truex Jr. ran 11th, Kurt Busch 13th and Denny Hamlin 15th. From that trio, Truex and Busch remained inside the cut line, with Hamlin falling to 10th, six points behind Logano and Dillon.

But the real Chase casualties at Kansas were Chase Elliott and Brad Keselowski. Six laps after passing Harvick for the lead on Lap 169, Elliott returned to pit road after a green-flag stop with his left rear tire down.

That and two subsequent brushes with the outside wall re-

gated the Sunoco Rookie of the Year leader to 31st at the finish, leaving him 25 points behind Logano and Dillon and likely needing a victory at Talladega to advance.

Keselowski was a victim of his own mistake. On Lap 190, he joined the growing club of Chase drivers who have experienced major trouble in the Round of 12.

Roaring through Turn 4, Keselowski moved up the banking in front of Denny Hamlin. But Keselowski's No. 2 Team Penske Ford got loose and slowed exiting the corner, and Hamlin had no room to brake in time to avoid tapping the 2 car.

After repairs, he attempted one futile lap but retired in 38th place, dipping to 11th in the standings, seven points out of eighth.

"I spun and got in the grass and tore the nose off," Keselowski said. "I probably could have raced less hard with a big points gap coming in. With this format, it's probably the smart thing to do, but I don't want to race like that."

"I want to race my guts out and go for wins. I don't want to points-race. I don't care what the damn format is—I'm going to give it my best."



Happy Harvick lives up to his name and his reputation of pulling off a win when needed. Here the race winner celebrates in Kansas Speedway's victory lane after passing Carl Edwards after the last restart to take the Hollywood Casino 400. (Russell LaBounty/NKP photo)

Kyle Busch Wins at Kansas as XFINITY Chasers Have Issues

By REID SPENCER

KANSAS CITY, KS - Kyle Busch's domination of Saturday's Kansas Lottery 300 at Kansas Speedway was about the only predictable thing that happened in the first race of the Round of 8 in the inaugural

NASCAR XFINITY Series Chase.

In winning his fourth XFINITY race at the 1.5-mile track, his ninth of the season and the 85th of his career—extending his own series record—Busch led 150 of 200 laps, passing Joe Gibbs Racing teammate Daniel Suarez after a restart with 13 circuits remaining.

"It was a hard-fought battle," said Busch, who had surged to a lead of 7.961 seconds before the first caution slowed the field on Lap 57. "Seemed like it was going to be easy for us. We had a super-fast car, and when we were out front, I could take it easy on those long runs and we could drive away.

"The car would turn so well. A lot of things were trying to work against us at the end of the race. We were able to persevere and do the right things and have lucky restarts and be in the right grooves and not get caught up in the melee

that was happening."

Suarez had reason to be elated with his eventual third-place finish. An unexplained "popping" sound in his No. 19 Toyota accompanied a loss of horsepower, and Suarez settled for a hard-won result after Elliott Sadler passed him in the closing laps for the runner-up spot.

Because Suarez led laps and Sadler didn't, he and Sadler leave Kansas tied for the Chase lead, but Sadler owns the tie-breaker due to higher finishes.

"I'm proud of my race team," Sadler said. "We just kept working on the car and getting it better and better. I've got to do a better job trying to outrun that 18 car (Busch). He's really good, and he knows how to manipulate the air. But I've got to keep trying."

Blake Koch finished ninth—third among Chase drivers—despite a late flat tire, the adverse effect of which was diminished by a timely caution, one of 10 during the afternoon. Koch is seven points behind the two Chase leaders.

Chaos gobbled up the remaining five Chase contenders. A tap from Brandon Jones turned Chaser Justin Allgaier sideways and ignited a six-car wreck that also eliminated Darrell Wallace Jr., who crashed out in 33rd-place. In a severely



Race winner Kyle Busch celebrates on the track at Kansas Speedway after dominating the Kansas Lottery 300. (John Harrellson/NKP photo)

damaged car, Allgaier soldiered to a 14th-place result and left Kansas tied with Erik Jones for the final transfer spot into the Championship 4 race at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

Jones ran up front through the vast majority of the race, but his No. 20 Toyota was turned into the Chevrolet of Ty Dillon when NASCAR Sprint Cup Series regular Kyle Larson made an aggressive move after a restart on Lap 183.

Jones pitted with a cut tire and finished one position behind Allgaier, one lap down.

"He (Larson) said it was his fault," Jones said after talking to Larson on pit road. "He owned up

to it, got me ran over. It is what it is... He just said he got a good start and there was no hole there, nowhere to go with the run he had just got into my left rear and turned us. It's a shame, we both had fast cars."

Ryan Reed salvaged a 16th-place finish despite a loose plug wire that kept him down on power until his team could troubleshoot the problem on pit road. After contact in heavy traffic on Lap 176, Brendan Gaughan took a wild spin through the infield grass and came home 31st, 18 laps down.

Both Wallace and Gaughan will have yeoman work to do when the Chase resumes at Texas Motor Speedway after a two-week break.



Pole winner Kyle Busch's son Brexton will be very happy to take over this trophy from dad. (Matt Thacker/NKP photo)

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Gilliland Becomes Youngest NASCAR Champ; Partridge Wins K&N West Finale

ROSEVILLE, CA - Todd Gilliland started the season with a historic winning streak. Wrapping it up Saturday night, an eighth-place finish was more than enough for the teenager to add to the record books.

The 16-year-old from Sherrills Ford, North Carolina, clinched the 2016 NASCAR K&N Pro Series West championship with his 13th top 10 in 14 races. Ryan Partridge outlasted defending series champion Chris Eggleston and NASCAR Next driver Julia Landauer in a green-white-checkered finish to the Toyota/NAPA Auto Parts 150 presented by TriCo Welding Supplies at All American Speedway.

Partridge's third win of the season in the No. 9 Sunrise Ford/Eibach Springs/Lucas Oil Ford wasn't enough to catch Gilliland, who won the crown by 13 points over the veteran driver from Rancho Cucamonga, Calif.

In the process, Gilliland became the youngest champion in the history of the NASCAR national or touring series at 16 years, 5 months.

Gilliland breaks the record set last month when Cayden Lapcevich won the NASCAR Pinty's Series championship in Canada at 16 years, 10 months, 16 days. They both eclipsed the previous mark by 2015 Daytona 500 winner Joey Logano (Logano was 17 years, 3 months, 28 days when he won the NASCAR K&N Pro Series East title in 2007).

It was just the latest NASCAR historic mark Gilliland matched or eclipsed in his first full season.

Gilliland's six victories matched the win total posted by Greg Pursley (2011), Brendan Gaughan (2001) and Doug George (1995) as the most in the NASCAR K&N Pro Series West since Jimmy Insolo won nine in 1978.

Gilliland joins Scott Lynch (2003) and Lance Hooper (1996) as the only drivers to win both the Sunoco Rookie of the Year title and the championship in the same year.

The NASCAR Next driver's championship title also marks the second consecutive title for owner, Bill McAnally. It's also Bill McAnally Racing's seventh NASCAR K&N Pro West championship, as Gilliland joined Eric Holmes (2 titles), Brendan Gaughan (2), Sean Woodside (1) and Eggleston (1) as NASCAR K&N Pro West champions for BMR.

Gilliland lost the championship points lead to Partridge halfway through the season after being caught up in a first-lap wreck at Sonoma Raceway and finishing 24th. But he reeled off three straight wins to take the top spot back and he never relinquished it down the stretch.

Partridge was fastest in both practices Saturday morning at All American, and started on the front row after rain washed out qualifying. He dominated the evening's race, which was delayed several hours because of the weather.

Noah Gragson finished fourth and Nicole Behar fifth.

Cole Rouse, Cole Moore, Gilliland, Blaine Perkins and Dan Phillippi completed the top 10.



Todd Gilliland became the third driver to win both the Sunoco Rookie of the Year and NASCAR K&N Pro Series West titles in the same year. (Jonathan Moore/NASCAR via Getty Images photo)

Gilliland opened the season with a win at Florida's New Smyrna Speedway in the NASCAR K&N Pro Series East. His seven total wins surpasses the mark set by NASCAR Sprint Cup Series driver Joey Logano (2007) and Dylan Kwasniewski (2014) of six NASCAR K&N Pro Series wins in a season since the East and West went to a unified rulebook in 2003. Gilliland started his winning ways in the 2015 K&N Pro Series West finale at Phoenix International Raceway, and in winning his first four career NASCAR K&N Pro Series starts, he matched the record set by International Motorsports Hall of Famer Dan Gurney. Gurney won the first four NASCAR Pacific Coast Late Model Series races he entered. The Pacific Coast Late Model, which began in 1954, has evolved into the current NASCAR K&N Pro Series West.

And Gilliland joined his grandfather as a NASCAR champion. Butch Gilliland won the 1997 West crown, while Todd's father David had his best series points finish of third in 2009.

Gilliland, Partridge and other top performers from the NASCAR K&N Pro Series West will be honored on Saturday, Dec. 10 in Charlotte for the NASCAR Night of Champions Touring Awards celebration. The event will be held at the NASCAR Hall of Fame at the Charlotte Convention Center for the seventh consecutive year.

Bonsignore Secures Sunoco Rookie Award

DAYTONA BEACH, FL - Kyle Bonsignore had one goal as he began his first full-time season of competition in the NASCAR Whelen Southern Modified Tour: Improve on his limited number of starts last season and get better every race.

Mission accomplished.

Bonsignore used nine top-10 finishes in 11 races to finish a solid seventh in the final championship standings and as a result walks away as the 2016 Sunoco Rookie of the Year for the southern tour.

Bonsignore and his team never stopped working harder to improve.

"We had some new people on the crew and a lot of learning to do early in the season," Bonsignore said. "We kept working at it and we found a lot of speed at the beginning of the year."

The first thing every race car driver will tell you is that they want speed in their race car and while Bonsignore's car had the speed, there were still several things to work on with a new crew, car and series for the Bay Shore, New York, native.

"We had speed but we needed to work on getting the gremlins out of the way for our team," he added. "Learning how to work well on the pit stops and just getting the car comfortable to drive were some of the things we concentrated on early in the year."

In addition to the Sunoco Rookie of the Year honor, Bonsignore also celebrated his first Coors Light Pole Award as the highest southern tour regular to qualify at Bristol with the combination race in August.

He kept the momentum from that performance at Bristol going and two races later scored his best finish to date coming home second to James Civali at the fall race at Virginia's South Boston Speedway.

Bonsignore finished the season strong with five consecutive top-10 showings and after that performance he wished the season didn't end at Charlotte last week.

"Hopefully we'll pick up right where we left off (at the end of the season)," Bonsignore said. "After learning a lot racing against

(Continued Next Page)



Ryan Partridge celebrated in Victory Lane following his third win of the season at All American Speedway in Roseville, California, on Saturday night. (Jonathan Moore/NASCAR via Getty Images photo)

Continued...

modified veterans like George Brunnhoelzl III, Burt Myers, Jason Myers and others makes me want to get back out there on the track."

Austin Pickens finished second in the Sunoco Rookie of the Year standings, followed by Shawn Baluzo, Lauren Edgerton and Robert Babb.

Rookie points are earned on a 10-to-1 system with the high-

est-finishing first-year driver in a race scoring 10, the second nine, and so on down to one point for the lowest finishers.

Bonsignore will receive the Sunoco Rookie of the Year Award on Dec. 10 as part of the NASCAR Night of Champions Touring Series Awards at the NASCAR Hall of Fame in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Coby Marches To Fourth Championship; Bonsignore Wins At Thompson

THOMPSON, CT - It took 10 seasons, bouncing between full and part-time rides, for Doug Coby to get his second career NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour victory.

Since then, though, the Milford, Connecticut, driver has compiled a resume that puts him among the elite Modified drivers of all-time.

Coby drove his No. 2 Dunleavy Repair/A&J Romano Construction Chevrolet to a sixth-place finish in Sunday's Sunoco World Series 150 presented by XtraMart at Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park to cap off his fourth career championship. He finished 12 points ahead of race winner Justin Bon-



Doug Coby celebrates his fourth NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour championship Sunday afternoon at Connecticut's Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park. (Fran Lawlor/NASCAR photo)

signore to claim the trophy.

In the process, Coby joined NASCAR Hall of Famers Jerry Cook and Richie Evans, as well as NASCAR Hall of Fame nominee Mike Stefanik and Tony Hirschman Jr., as the only drivers in NASCAR Modified 69-year history to win four or more championships.

He also became the first driver in the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour era, which began in 1985, to win three straight titles. All three have come since he teamed up with car owner Mike Smeriglio III. Over the last six seasons, he's collected 21 wins. In the two years he didn't win the championship, he was fifth in 2011 and second in 2013.

Coby won five times this season, to move to seventh all-time on the tour's win list. He entered the finale with a 20-point cushion on Bonsignore and needed to only finish 17th or better to wrap up the title.

Bonsignore qualified seventh and drove his No. 3 Phoenix Communications Inc. Chevrolet to the lead past Coors Light Pole Award winner Timmy Solomito with 21 laps remaining. But Coby, who started second and had drifted as far back as 14th, picked off enough

positions in the closing laps to secure the crown.

Sunday was Bonsignore's fourth win of the season.

Former tour champion and current NASCAR XFINITY Series regular Ryan Preece finished second at Thompson, followed by Jimmy Blewett, Donny Lia and Solomito.

After Coby, Woody Pitkat, Eric Goodale, Matt Swanson and Dave Sapienze rounded out the top 10. Swanson began the weekend having already clinched Sunoco Rookie of the Year honors.

The Sunoco World Series 150 presented by XtraMart will air on NBCSN on Friday, Oct. 21 at 1 p.m. ET.

Coby, Bonsignore, Swanson and other top performers from the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour will be honored on Saturday, Dec. 10 in Charlotte for the NASCAR Night of Champions Touring Series Awards celebration. The event will be held at the NASCAR Hall of Fame at the Charlotte Convention Center for the seventh consecutive year.

Swanson Collects Sunoco Rookie Award

DAYTONA BEACH, FL - Matt Swanson is unique among his high school peers.

While the other student-athletes at his school participate in a multitude of sports, Swanson is the only one who is a full-time race car driver. And Swanson has excelled in his first season on the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour. So much so that he's clinched the tour's Sunoco Rookie of the Year honors with a race remaining.

The Acton, Massachusetts, teenager finished fourth at New Hampshire Motor Speedway in September and eighth at the NAPA Fall Final at Connecticut's Stafford Motor Speedway to pull away from

Craig Lutz and secure the honor for first-year competitors.

Heading in to the season final this Sunday at Connecticut's Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park, Swanson has won 12 Sunoco Rookie of the Race honors in the first 16 events.

"We set goals for this season and one of them was to win the Sunoco Rookie of the Year Award in the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour," Swanson said. "We started the season just wanting to run well and things fell into place where we now can celebrate this honor."

Swanson added that his team was also looking to use this year as a learning one to build on for the future.

"The guys on the team worked hard all year and we began the season building our notebook of notes for each track we race at on the schedule," Swanson said. "We were concerned more with that to start the season and didn't really worry about finishes until later in the season when we realized we could lock up the ROY award."

Swanson's best finish this season so far is a third-place at Thompson in June, but it was his most recent finishes that made the difference for the teenager.

"The third-place finish we had at Thompson was great and that one along with coming from 20th to fourth at New Hampshire and coming home strong at Stafford last weekend helped us a lot.

"I just want to thank Sunoco for this honor and award each week and at the end of the season because it gives new drivers coming in to the series something to race for and as hard as it is to get sponsors in racing these days, every bit of help we get is appreciated," Swanson said. "This is something I'll always remember and hope we can build off of this honor like many others have done on the tour and went on to win races and contend for championships."

Heading into the final race, Swanson leads Lutz 154-134. Andrew Krause, Nick Salva and Walter Sutcliffe, Jr. rounding out the top five.

Rookie points are earned on a 10-to-1 system with the highest-finishing first-year driver in a race scoring 10, the second nine, and so on down to one point for the lowest finishers.

Swanson will receive the Sunoco Rookie of the Year Award on Dec. 10 as part of the NASCAR Night of Champions Touring Series Awards at the NASCAR Hall of Fame in Charlotte, North Carolina.



Justin Bonsignore collected his fourth NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour win of the season on Sunday in the Sunoco World Series 150 presented by XtraMart at Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park. (Fran Lawlor/NASCAR photo)

Glen Luce Wins PASS Super Late Model Finale, DJ Shaw Wraps Up North SLM Series Championship

OXFORD, ME - Glen Luce of Turner earned a trip to victory lane the hard way, driving from 29th starting position to victory lane Saturday on Pro All Stars Series North Super Late Model Championship Day at Oxford Plains Speedway.

Luce ran afoul of tech inspectors after a heat race and was forced to the consolation rounds, where he charged from the back of the field to finish fifth. He made most of his progress during a 100-plus lap green flag stretch in the remarkably-competitive race.

Luce took the lead away from Travis Benjamin, the HP Hood Oxford 250 runner-up this year, after Benjamin looked like the man to beat. Benjamin had started from 11th position, and it took quite awhile for the 7 to chase down nine-time track champion Jeff Taylor of Farmington, clearly the dominant force as the race first unfolded.

Taylor, racing rarely these days, last visited Super Late Model victory lane at this event last season. Back-to-back triumphs were not to be for the track's most prolific top-class kingpin. Benjamin was again

the runner-up, following his HP Hood Oxford 250 finish in that same position. Berwick's Joey Doiron, who swapped the early race lead with Taylor, claimed a third-place finish.

Four-time series champion Ben Rowe of Turner picked up a fourth-place finish after a slam-bang battle for the spot on the final lap with Taylor, who failed to complete the final circuit. Local racing legend Scott 'Kernal' Mulkern of Falmouth made a rare appearance in the cockpit and claimed an impressive top-five finish.

Mulkern finished one spot in front of a car that he is an associate sponsor on, the Precision JLM 60 driven by DJ Shaw of Center Conway, New Hampshire. Shaw's



Glen Luce climbs from his car in victory lane at Oxford Plains Speedway after winning the PASS Super Late Model Finale. (PASS photo)

sixth-place finish was enough to win a second Pro All Stars Series North Super Late Model championship. Shaw succeeds Hall of Famer Mike Rowe as Pro All Stars Series champion. Shaw was the t-list in the year prior to Rowe's title.


Cole Butcher of Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, the 2016 Parts For Trucks Maritime Pro Stock Tour

champion, raced with the frontrunners all afternoon and was seventh underneath the checkered flag. Derek Griffith of Hudson, New Hampshire; Dave Farrington of Jay and six-time series champion Johnny Clark, of Farmingdale rounded out the top ten.

Ryan Robbins of Dixfield
(Continued Next Page)




DJ Shaw celebrates clinching the 2016 North SLM Championship at Oxford Plains. (PASS photo)



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Mike Looney Pulls the Upset; Wins the ValleyStar Credit Union 300 at Martinsville Speedway

MARTINSVILLE, VA - After winning the pole for the ValleyStar Credit Union 300 at Martinsville Speedway on Saturday, Mike Looney said he felt like he was dreaming. After he took the checkered flag in Sunday's race, he said it better be real life.

Looney, who drives for an underfunded team, started the 200-lap feature race on the pole and held off a pair of former champions, former national champion Lee Pulliam and former Tennessee state champion Kres Van Dyke, for the win.

"If I wake up and this didn't happen, I'm going to be so mad; so mad," Looney said of his improbable run to the checkers in NASCAR's biggest, richest and most prestigious Late Model Stock Car race. "Somebody pinched me pretty good down there (in victory lane) so I think I'm awake."

C.E. Falk III finished fourth and Austin Thaxton came home fifth.

Unlike many of the teams expected to contend for the win in NASCAR's biggest, richest and most prestigious Late Model Stock Car race, Looney is a throwback. He doesn't have a race shop, just a garage in his backyard. He doesn't have a paid crew, just some guys that volunteer free time to help him out. And, when you talk to the crew chief, you're also talking to the driver.

So, to walk out of Martinsville with not only the iconic grandfather clock trophy, but also \$26,000 by virtue of the \$25,000 check to the winner and the \$1,000 Sparks Oil Pole Award, Looney is hoping he can run a full Late Model season at a track for the first time in his more than 20 years of racing.

"It means we get to race," Looney said. "It means we may get to run some other big races this year. It means we get to buy a new motor this year. It's possible, if a sponsor comes on, we could maybe make a run for a championship at a local track next year."

"What money we've had, we've really prioritized where to spend it," Looney said. "Billy (Martin the car owner) and I were joking, I did a little bit of a burnout there for my gang back home, and I was thinking 'man, these tires don't have but about 15 laps on them. I ought not do this burnout.' We should save them and go somewhere with them."

Pulliam, who finished in the top-3 for the third year in a row, said he wouldn't have wanted to finish second to anyone else.

"The first thing I did was run across pit road to congratulate him," Pulliam said. "Mike Looney, he's a hell of a guy. I love him to death. He's an underdog and, you know, he's got great equipment now, driving for Billy Martin. The guy's never been a position like this and I'm proud of him."

Martin, Looney's car owner, had tried for 25 years to make the race,



Mike Looney celebrates in victory lane at Martinsville Speedway after winning the ValleyStar Credit Union 300 from the pole. (Drew Hierwarter photo)

coming up short each time. On Saturday, he made the race the first time by having his car start on the pole. The weekend ended with the same car in victory lane.

"I might just have a heart attack," Martin said. "You just don't know what it means. I've never been a big winner. I've won a few races, but Mike, he's just a hard worker."

"I'm so old I can't really do much, but Mike is just a hard worker."

Mike Darne finished sixth, followed by NASCAR Whelen All-

American Series National Champion Matt Bowling.

Justin Carroll, Ryan Repko and Brenden Queen rounded out the top-10.

The race was slowed by caution 13 times for a total of 70 laps.

NASCAR racing returns to Martinsville Speedway for the Goody's Fast Relief 500 race weekend, October 28-30. Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased by calling 877.RACE.TIX or online at www.martinsvillespeedway.com.

P.A.S.S.

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climbed past seven-time and reigning PASS Modified Champion Andy Shaw of Center Conway, New Hampshire in the championship standings, claiming both the 40-lap feature race and 2016 championship with an impressive victory.

Starting tenth, Robbins avoided a first-lap incident that cost Shaw valuable track position, then methodically worked his way to victory lane, netting the series title in the process after entering the afternoon with a four-point deficit.

Ben Tinker earned runner-up honors in the race, and a third-place ranking for his first PASS Modified campaign. Bruce Helmuth of Wales led the first part of the race and racked up yet another podium finish, crossing the finish line in third position. Ron Henry was fourth, followed by Jarjet Harrison.

Newly-crowned Allen's Coffee Flavored Brandy Street Stock division champion Calvin Rose, Jr. prevailed in a special, 75-lap Open Competition Street Stock Special. Rose inherited the lead when his

closest rival for the 2016 track title, Matt Dufault encountered problems after leading the early stages of the race by a large margin.

Rose went on to outrun David Whittier to the checkered flag, with Zach Emerson claiming yet another third-place trophy this year. Jordan Russell had one of his best runs against the stout field, finishing fourth. Richard Spaulding rounded out the top five.

Geoff Rollins led the early stages of the 75-lap Street Stock Open en route to a sixth-place finish. Super Late Model regular Kyle Treadwell was seventh. Nathan Leavitt, Jonathan Emerson and Andrew Breton rounded out the top ten.

Ryan Kuhn won the 25-lap Legends Cars main event by a healthy margin over 14-year-old Austin Teras, the division's top winner and points champion for 2016 at Oxford Plains Speedway. Charlie Buxton claimed the third-place trophy. Roger Edgecomb was fourth followed by Casey Call.

Cody Childs dominated the action in the 40-lap race for Runnin' Rebel division competitors, but it was a wildly-entertaining event behind the winner. Matthew Mahar of Buckfield earned runner-up honors in front of an ultra-competitive Gerard Cote of Oxford.



Several cars pile up during one of 13 cautions during the ValleyStar Credit Union 300 at Martinsville Speedway. (Jason Hierwarter photo)

2016 Champions: Congrats Chase Briscoe, Cunningham Motorsports, Big Tine

TOLEDO, OH - All Chase Briscoe needed to do to secure the 2016 ARCA Racing Series presented by Menards national championship was to power up onto the track at Kansas Speedway in practice.

That seemed simple enough, but the season-long pursuit of ARCA's coveted crown was anything but.

"It's been a whirlwind for sure," said Briscoe, driver of the No. 77 Big Tine Ford. "What a learning curve it's been for me. I had no idea how to save my stuff with these longer races. I've never learned more in any one season. The season we had doesn't come every year...it's life changing. This Cunningham Motorsports team is like a second family to me."

It wasn't just the long season and all the hard work that goes into a championship team. Briscoe is still pinching himself that he ever got the opportunity to begin with.

"Last year I was just going to the shop as a volunteer, trying to get my foot in the door. Chad (Bryant/crew chief) was the one guy that took me under his wing. I had no idea what I was doing...I still don't. I was volunteering my time, catching tires whatever I could do to help. Somehow I landed with a full-time ride. I have no idea how or why. I'm definitely fortunate...just so blessed."

Briscoe's journey with Cunningham Motorsports started with two open tests at Mobile and the Nashville Fairgrounds in 2015.

"After the Mobile test, I thought I blew it. I was overdriving it so bad," Briscoe said. "After the Indy race, I thought I blew that one too. I thought it was over."

If Briscoe thought it was over, Cunningham Motorsports co-owners Briggs Cunningham and Kerry Scherer saw it differently.

"I'll be honest...I didn't know who Chase Briscoe was last year," Cunningham car owner Kerry Scherer said. "Then, over a two week period, all of a sudden I started hearing his name. We all came to learn that Chase is the complete package. What he's got, he's earned...he's got it all. I saw the

likeability right away...then it didn't take long to see the drivability."

Briscoe did for Cunningham Motorsports what no other driver has done in the 21-year history of the company - win a national championship.

"I feel like an overnight sensation that took 21 years," Scherer continued. "This is so special. It's so hard to win one...that's why this stands out so much. We've tried for so long. Finally getting here just adds to the value."

Crew Chief Bryant wrapped up his first championship, yet it was his third Cometic Crew Chief of the Year title.

"This is a season you only dream of as a little boy," said Bryant. "It's a huge honor to be the Cometic Crew Chief, especially as champions. I'm just fortunate to get the credit for what's a total team effort. I'm going to cherish this for a long time."

Bryant understands how important it was to have Briscoe in the driver's seat.

"First and foremost, Chase is a person of good character. I didn't see the talent at first, but after that first test, you could see right away how he was able to hit his marks each lap. We could all see what a good person he is...the kind of kid you want to see succeed. But once I saw him test, we all knew that we had something really special."

Briscoe won a season-high six races beginning with his first at Winchester Speedway in late June.

"When that first win came, I thought to myself, 'finally', but in reality it was only my ninth or 10th time on pavement," Briscoe said.

The win at Winchester started a streak for Briscoe during which the Mitchell, Indiana rookie won four consecutive at Winchester, Iowa, Lucas Oil and Pocono. Briscoe also won in his first mile-and-a-half start at Chicagoland, then wrapped the season with a victory in the Kansas 150 finale Friday night, and the national championship.

"After that first win, they just kept coming. Looking back now we think we should have 12 or 13 wins. We gave a lot away. I'm just so honored to give Briggs (Cunningham) and Kerry (Scherer) their first championship. It's a small payment on my



Chase Briscoe celebrates the 2016 ARCA Racing Series Championship with his crew at Kansas Speedway. (arcaracing.com photo)

end but a great way to pay them back."

Through it all, Briscoe was virtually unstoppable, earning an impressive 14 top-five finishes and 18 top-10s over the 20-race season, twice as many top-fives as runner-up championship driver Tom Hessert.

Briscoe also led in several special award categories, including the Valvoline Lap Leader award (949 laps led), the Short Track Challenge presented by Protect Plus title, the Bill France 4 Crown championship, the Menards Pole Award presented by Ansell (6 poles) and

the S&S Volvo Laps Completed award.

Briscoe and the Cunningham Motorsports team will officially be crowned ARCA's national champions at the championship award banquet at the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis Saturday night, December 10.

Briscoe Wins Kansas 150

KANSAS CITY, KS - Chase Briscoe ended the season with an exclamation point, winning the Kansas 150 Friday night at Kansas
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Speedway and the 2016 ARCA Racing Series presented by Menards national championship, all in his rookie year on the job.

"It's so cool to finally reward Cunningham Motorsports with their first championship," said Briscoe. "They've been in this sport for so long. The guys on this team work so hard...a lot of sweat and tears. They

earned every bit of this championship. Really great to get Big Tine their first ever championship in racing."

Briscoe, in the No. 77 Big Tine Ford, capitalized on the misfortunes of race leader Dalton Sargeant, who fell off the pace just 24 laps from the finish with ignition issues. With Sargeant out of the way, Briscoe sailed away to his sixth career ARCA Racing Series victory.

"The championship is obviously important, but we wanted the win tonight more than anything. We wanted to show everyone what this championship team is made of, going out on a win. Our car was really free tonight, and the further back in the pack we got, the freer the car got. But once we got out in clean air, the car tightened up. From there, it was just a matter of hitting our marks."

Austin Cindric, in the No. 99 Menards Ford, got within a few lengths of Briscoe late in the going, but fell back by a second-and-a-half in the end, finishing second.

"It was up and down and back again for us tonight," said Cindric. "We worked our way from the back and then we got a little tangled up on that restart. I had the choice of dumping my teammate or getting out of it. But, all's well that ends well. I had a ton of fun racing these guys. It was great to get Menards a good night. ARCA's a great place to learn and provided a great platform for me."

Cindric was referring to a six-car crash that he barely avoided after Myatt Snider found himself sideways in the middle of turn three.

"We got four-wide down there, and they just took the air off of us and the car came around," said Snider. "I'm fine, but I feel bad for all those guys that got tore up."

Snider and Kyle Weatherman got the worst of it when Weather-

man, after contact with Bret Holmes, shot up the track and slammed into the left-front corner of Snider's car. Nick Higdon, Morgen Baird and Mike Basham were also involved. Snider and Higdon went to the infield care center, and were examined and released. Weatherman, who exited his car under his own power, was transported to a local hospital for further evaluation. The crash brought out the red flag for 20 minutes.

Michael Self, in the No. 28 Sinclair Oil Chevrolet, finished third in his first race in more than a year.

"It was a fun day," Self said. "It was also a little worrisome out there with so little practice. This is a new deal for me having never driven this body...trying to get the feel back on these mile-and-a-halves. A big thanks to Ranier Racing for the awesome race car. I've been talking to Sinclair for a year. ARCA's a great place for them to get the representation and exposure they deserve."

Brandon Jones, also in a Ranier Racing Chevrolet, finished fourth in the No. 8 Valvoline-Menards Chevy.

Eighteen-year-old rookie Noah Gragson finished fifth in his superspeedway debut in the No. 15 SpeedVegas-Alert ID Toyota.

"This has been a dream come true...to get the opportunity to race here," said Gragson. "I have a lot to learn that's for sure. I'm new to this mile-and-a-half stuff. Still getting the feel of dirty air and the changing attitude of the cars. I felt like I adopted pretty good, but I need to learn more on the aero deal. We fell back, worked on the race car on pit stops, and I stayed focused. Had a lot of fun out there."

With qualifying rained out and the field set by car owner points, Briscoe started from the pole and led the first 44 laps before a caution flag sent Briscoe and most of the leaders to pit road for new General Tires and service. However, Sargeant who changed tires on lap 15, took fuel only and beat Briscoe off pit road. Back under green, Sargeant got the jump on Briscoe and led the next 32 laps, keeping Briscoe at bay all the way before his car suddenly fell off the pace.

"It was disappointing," said Sargeant. "We were running second and first both times I had issues with the car. It didn't turn out like we wanted but still managed to win the General Tire Superspeedway championship for Venturini Motorsports and the SCOTT Rookie of the Year. So, all in all, a really good year. This has been, by



Chase Briscoe celebrates his win at Kansas Speedway in victory lane. This win clinched the 2016 Championship for Briscoe and his crew. (arcaracing.com photo)

far, the best learning year of my life. The ARCA Racing Series did a lot for me being able to improve as a driver. Feel like ARCA really prepares you for that next level."

Matt Kurzejewski, John Wes Townley, Shane Lee, Tom Hessert

and Mason Mitchell completed the top-10 finishers respectively.

The next activity for the ARCA Racing Series presented by Menards will be the championship awards banquet in Indianapolis December 10.

CARS Tour Will Make First Stop At South Boston Speedway In 2017

SOUTH BOSTON, VA - South Boston Speedway revealed one piece of its 2017 racing schedule today, and if it's any indication of the full slate, it's going to be an impressive season.

For the first time, the popular CARS Tour will be making a stop at the .4-mile oval on Saturday, September 30.

The CARS Tour offers a unique two-race format, featuring Super Late Models in one race, and Late Model Stock Cars in the other.

"We are excited about the CARS Tour coming to South Boston. It's going to be a great night of racing. The CARS Tour events always have great car counts and exciting racing," said Cathy Rice, general manager of South Boston Speedway.

"We are always looking for the best possible racing for our fans and we believe this is something our fans will love."

"When you think of Late Model Stock racing, the two tracks that come to mind are Hickory and South Boston. We have been fortunate enough to race at Hickory ever since beginning operation and

now we get to compete at the other legendary venue," said Jack McNelly, owner of the CARS Tour. "All of us are super excited to be able to bring our show to such an amazing facility. The fans at SoBo are in for a treat as our Late Model field features many of the best Late Model drivers in the area. In addition, our Super Late Model fields are competitive as any in the country."

CARS Tour events typically feature fields of about 20 cars for each of the two races. It is not unusual for the Late Model race to attract competitors from the track they are visiting.

The CARS Super Late Models feature 600 horsepower engines on a chassis weighing on 2,750 pounds. The CARS Late Models are very similar to the NASCAR Late Models that run regularly at South Boston.

Rice and her staff are working to put the finishing touches on the full 2017 schedule and expect to announce the entire slate in the next few weeks.

"We think we have put together a great schedule for 2017," said Rice. "2016 was a great season for South Boston, but 2017 is going to be bigger and better for our fans and competitors."

Daytona Int'l Speedway

DAYTONA BEACH, FL - Tickets for the 59th annual Coke Zero 400 Powered By Coca-Cola NASCAR Cup Series race scheduled on Saturday, July 1 are on sale starting today.

Race fans will have the opportunity to celebrate the Independence Day holiday weekend with the stars of NASCAR battling underneath the lights in the 160-lap,

400-mile race. Guests will also enjoy all the unprecedented amenities that come with the world's only motorsports stadium including 101,500 new, wider seats, thousands of premium club seats, 40 escalators and 17 elevators, 60 luxury suites, social "neighborhoods" and three concourse levels that span the nearly mile-long frontstretch.

Tickets for the Coke Zero 400 start at \$60. Children 12 and under are only \$20 in reserved stadium seating. Those wishing to attend should make their plans early:

- Tickets can be purchased by calling 1-800-PITSHOP or visiting www.daytonainternationalspeedway.com.

- Hospitality and premium seat packages, including the Rolex 24 Lounge, Harley J's, Trioval Club and FANZONE/Pre-race wristbands are also available.

- Tickets are also on sale for the Subway Firecracker 250 Powered By Coca-Cola NASCAR XFINITY Series race on Friday, June 30. Tickets start at \$35 and children 12 and under are \$10 in reserved seating and free in general admission areas.

As part of the Coke Zero 400 Weekend Powered By Coca-Cola, in addition to the action on the track, Daytona International Speedway will celebrate the July Fourth holiday by recognizing Congressional Medal of Honor recipients and showcasing one of the largest fireworks shows in the Southeast.

Homestead-Miami Speedway

MIAMI, FL - With fans from more than 20 countries in attendance for Ford Championship Weekend at Homestead-Miami Speedway, NASCAR's championship event truly has an international flavor. That taste will be enhanced this year as the track and Presidente Beer announced a new partnership

that will commence during next month's Ford Championship Weekend, which will be held November 18-20.

As part of the partnership Presidente will have the naming rights for the pavilion at Homestead-Miami Speedway's display area, as it will now be referred to as The Presidente Caribbean Café. Presidente will also have an expanded presence at various locations around the track during Ford Championship Weekend.

"The pavilion area has always provided our fans a tremendous entertainment option prior to each of our three championship races," said Homestead-Miami Speedway President Matthew Becherer. "The music and other festivities in that area are just some of the things that make Ford Championship Weekend an outstanding experience. With Presidente now being a key part of it, it should create an even better atmosphere."

Tickets for 2016 Ford Championship Weekend are now available and can be purchased by calling (866) 409-RACE (7223) or visiting www.HomesteadMiamiSpeedway.com.

Talladega Superspeedway

TALLADEGA, AL - When Tony Stewart makes his way to Talladega Superspeedway for the Alabama 500, Oct. 23, it will mark the end of an era. It will be the final race around the 33-degree high banks for the driver retiring at season's end who has definitely had a "love-hate" relationship with the mammoth venue.

From the first time he competed at NASCAR's Most Competitive track, Stewart served notice that he would be a threat to win each time he climbed behind the wheel.

As a NASCAR Sprint Cup rookie in 1999, the Columbus, IN native came to the 2.66-mile venue where he started eighth, led 10 laps and came home fifth behind some of Talladega's best ever - Dale Earnhardt, Dale Jarrett, Mark Martin and Bobby Labonte.

During his first 15 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series races at the biggest and baddest track on the planet, he was a constant frontrunner, recording six runner-up finishes and 14 top-10 results. In fact, his six second-place efforts came in an 11-race stretch.

"Anytime you can finish in the top two here it is like a win," said Stewart in 2006 after tying Buddy Baker as the track's leader in bridesmaid finishes. "As volatile as this place can be with getting in a

wreck and this or that, for us to say in the last 11 races that we've finished second six times is something in all reality to be proud of because this is not a race track that you can do it all on your own. So to be able to get second, I feel like we have a lot to be proud of."

The year 2008 ended up being special for Stewart at Talladega. Starting that spring from the pole position, he won the NASCAR XFINITY Series race, then continued his prowess in the fall with his first - and only - NASCAR Sprint Cup Series win in the Alabama 500. To say he was happy was an understatement.

"It's one thing to get back to victory lane, but to do it at Talladega, people don't understand what that means," said a jubilant Stewart in Gatorade Victory Lane. "This is one of a few tracks I haven't won a Cup race at and talk about one to win. I've wanted to win here for so long. It was very important for me to win here. Winning the (XFINITY) race this year was huge to me. Now winning the Cup race, somebody is going to lose their vocal cords of how happy they are. Man, it's just an awesome feeling to finally win here. We finally had one of those days where everything went right for us. I have so many friends down here (in Alabama) - Red Farmer and Donnie Allison (both of the famed Alabama Gang) and all these fans."

Since that triumph, however, the driver of the No. 14 Stewart-Haas Racing Chevrolet has struggled with only two top-10 finishes. One of those came in this past spring when Ty Dillon was called upon to relieve Stewart after he started and ran the car until the first caution period.

His best shot at another Talladega win went awry on the last lap in the 2012 fall race when he, while leading, made contact with Michael Waltrip in between turns three and four, igniting a 25-car pile-up. "A mistake on my part," Stewart said that day. "I was trying to win."

His philosophy, however, remains the same at the 33-degree banked venue.

"It's the same (philosophy) as it always has been....drivers knowing what to do and knowing what to look for with their car," said Stewart at Talladega in May. "It's learning what their cars can do in practice and how to pass.

Some have figured it out - to get your car with momentum without the car stalling out. Then, hope to avoid trouble."

Overall, the three-time NASCAR Sprint Cup Series Champion's resume is a good one at Talladega. In 34 NSCS races, he has 14 top-10 finishes and has led 328 laps in 21 races, in addition to his lone victory and six runner-up results. He has finished on the lead lap in 22 events. His best start is second on two occasions.

So, how will the final chapter of Stewart's novel on Talladega turn out? Could it be something right out of a Hollywood script with a long-overdue victory? Maybe, but he'll have 39 other drivers who will want to write their own piece of Talladega history.

Talladega Superspeedway's action-packed weekend kicks off on Friday (Oct. 21) with practice sessions for both the Fred's 250 Powered by Coca-Cola NASCAR Camping World Truck Series (NCWTS) race and the Alabama 500. Saturday's schedule includes qualifying for the NCWTS Fred's 250 Powered by Coca-Cola (9:30 a.m. CDT), the Fred's 250 Powered by Coca-Cola (the Round of 8 Elimination race in the NCWTS Chase), which gets the green flag at 12 Noon CDT, and Foodland/Food Giant Qualifying for the NSCS (3:00 p.m. CDT). Sunday's Alabama 500, which will see the field of 12 contenders for the title be reduced to eight at the checkered flag, is set for a 1 p.m. CDT start on Sunday, Oct. 23.

Phoenix Raceway

PHOENIX, AZ - Fans will enjoy a full weekend lineup of entertainment for the Can-Am 500 race weekend at Phoenix Raceway, Nov. 11-13. This fall will feature a new post-race Phoenix Raceway After Dark show with Christopher Shayne on Friday, Nov. 11. PIR mainstays like Harry Luge and METALHEAD will return to Busch Garage all weekend long, while NASCAR's favorite DJ Michaelis will be back to add his unique spin

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on driver introductions before the Can-Am 500 on Sunday, Nov. 13.

Famous for deconstructing popular music, PIR fans know DJ Michaelis for putting his own twist on the traditional driver introductions before the NASCAR Sprint Cup races. The West Coast DJ holds big room residencies in cities around the world including Los Angeles,

Las Vegas, Chicago, Moscow and Bali, and has recently released new Trap and Progressive House music.

Arizona's own Christopher Shayne will highlight Friday's entertainment as he will be performing a post-race concert at the Fan Midway stage immediately following the Lucas Oil 150 NASCAR Camping World Truck Series Semi-Final Race on Nov. 11. Nationally known for his hard rock band Whiskey Six, Shayne introduces a new line-up in concert at PIR. The band brings southern-tinged desert rock with Christopher on lead vocals and guitar, playing songs with infectious hooks inspired by American music greats ranging from ZZ Top to The Black Crowes to Johnny Cash. A grandstand ticket to the Lucas Oil 150 includes access to the show.

Shayne is offering his track "Home" as a free download to the fans of PIR - just go to: www.ChristopherShayneMusic.com.

Prior to the Can-Am 500, multi-platinum rock band Hinder will also be performing a free concert for any fan with a grandstand ticket. The anthemic rock group known for their 2005 album *Extreme Behavior* featuring hit singles like "Lips of an Angel," will entertain fans in the midway area at 10:30 a.m. MST.

Race weekend entertainment officially kicks off at the Busch Garage with The Crown Kings on Thursday, Nov. 10 at 7 p.m. Rocking the stage at PIR for over a decade, the Phoenix-based group of five have been performing together since 1998 and perform both original music and high-energy covers.

Hitting the Busch Garage on Thursday night, Harry Luge will take the stage at 9 p.m. and will also close out the weekend at Busch Garage with a performance

on Saturday night also at 9 p.m. The Arizona-born singer/songwriter is a favorite on the country music scene throughout the Southwest and has become a regular on the Busch Garage stage during PIR's NASCAR weekends since 2005.

Georgia Chrome will light up the stage at the Busch Garage on Friday beginning at 7 p.m. The Arizona-based group consists of a bassist, guitarist, drummer, a male and female lead vocalist, one of which also plays a mean fiddle, and is well-known for their high-energy performances around the Valley.

Also performing at the Busch Garage on Friday will be Arizona's original and best hair band rock show, METALHEAD, who will entertain fans at 9 p.m. The group of four have been performing across the state since 2003 and will be playing at PIR for the fourth-straight year.

Returning to PIR, the local Donny Grubb Band will kick off Saturday evening at Busch Garage with a concert starting at 7 p.m.

Tickets for the Can-Am 500 start at just \$35, and are available online at PhoenixRaceway.com, by phone at 1-866-408-RACE (7223) or in person at the PIR ticket office.

Talladega Superspeedway

TALLADEGA, AL - The Freedom Trophy, one of Talladega Superspeedway's unique patriotic traditions, will be presented to the winner of the Alabama 500 - the Chase for the NASCAR Sprint Cup Round of 12 elimination race - on Sunday, Oct. 23, by United States Coast Guard representatives MK2 Ruben D. Cabrera-Matos and Seaman Casey Raines.

The Freedom Trophy, introduced in the spring of 2014, has quickly become a mainstay at NASCAR's biggest and baddest track and is presented to each NASCAR Sprint Cup Series winner by a member of one of our country's military branches.

After the Alabama 500 trophy presentation, the track will have recognized all five United States' military branches - Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard - as presenters of the one-of-a-kind trophy to each NASCAR Sprint Cup Series Talladega winner since the trophy's inception.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Cabrera-Matos currently serves at Coast Guard Station Gulfport, Mississippi as a Machinery Technician. Cabrera-Matos, born in San Juan, Puerto Rico and raised in West Palm Beach, Florida, enlisted in the Coast Guard in 2007. He is also

part of a unit conducting law enforcement missions, some of which includes narcotics interdiction, fishery enforcement and safety inspections aboard recreation and commercial vessels. He is well-admired for his professionalism, specialty knowledge and his work in the Gulfport community.

SN Raines, an Atlanta, Georgia native who enlisted in the Coast Guard in 2015, serves at Coast Guard Station Pensacola, Florida as a member of the search and rescue and law enforcement teams. Raines would like to further his career and serve in the Coast Guard as a Health Services Technician. A well-known volunteer and member of the Pensacola community, he was awarded the "Sailor of the Quarter," which represents his commitment and hard work to his station. Raines, like Cabrera-Matos, is proud to represent the men and women of the U.S. Coast Guard.

The U.S. Coast Guard is the only military organization within the Department of Homeland Security, and has protected our Nation's maritime interests and environment around the world since 1790. Nearly 42,000 men and women are on active duty in today's Coast Guard, which is an adaptable, responsive military force of maritime professionals. Their wide-range of legal authorities, capable assets, geographic diversity and expansive partnerships provide a persistent presence along our rivers, in the ports, coastal regions and on the high seas, where the impact and presence is felt locally all the way to an international level. The Coast Guard's motto is *Semper Paratus*, meaning "Always Ready."

"We are excited to have Petty Officer 2nd Class Cabrera-Matos and Seaman Raines from the U.S. Coast Guard to present the Freedom Trophy to the Alabama 500 winner," said Talladega Superspeedway Chairman Grant Lynch.

"We are pleased to have recognized all five of our military branches since this unique trophy was created in spring of 2014. It will be an extreme honor for all of our fans in attendance to show their appreciation to these fine Coast Guard representatives and all of our military. There's nothing we like more than showing support for those who fight for our freedom so that we can put on NASCAR events here."

Talladega Superspeedway takes

pride in showing support for our nation's military through various acts of patriotism, celebrating our military and working closely with numerous military bases. In addition to recognizing the military through the Freedom Trophy, Talladega Superspeedway is proud to offer special ticket prices for all members of the military and their families for its race weekends. For more information, visit www.talladegasuperspeedway.com/military.

Four drivers have had the distinguished honor to win the Freedom Trophy at Talladega Superspeedway - Denny Hamlin, Dale Earnhardt Jr., Brad Keselowski (twice) and Joey Logano (defending Alabama 500 Champion).

While he won't be competing in the Alabama 500, Earnhardt Jr. will be at Talladega Superspeedway and will be interacting with fans as part of the track's Fan Driver Question & Answer session on Sunday morning at the start-finish line (Q&A will also feature Chase drivers Carl Edwards and Logano, along with Brian Scott, Michael Annett and 1989 NASCAR Champ Rusty Wallace).

To be a part of this event, fans can purchase Talladega's "Pre-Race Pit Pass Upgrade" for \$75 (must also purchase a Sunday admission ticket). The "Pre-Race Pit Pass Upgrade" will be in effect on Sunday, Oct. 23, from 8 a.m. until the conclusion of Driver Introductions.

The Alabama 500 gets underway at 1 p.m. CDT. To purchase, simply visit www.talladegasuperspeedway.com or call 855-518-RACE (7223).

Talladega Superspeedway's action-packed weekend kicks off on Friday (Oct. 21) with practice sessions for both the Fred's 250 Powered by Coca-Cola NASCAR Camping World Truck Series (NCWTS) race and the Alabama 500. Saturday's schedule includes qualifying for the NCWTS Fred's 250 Powered by Coca-Cola, which gets the green flag at 12 Noon CDT, and Foodland/Food Giant Qualifying for the NSCS. Sunday's Alabama 500, which will see the field of 12 contenders for the title be reduced to eight at the checkered flag, is set for a 1 p.m. CDT start on Sunday, Oct. 23.



Schuchart Slides into Victory Lane at Port Royal

PORT ROYAL, PA - Unlike the others, Logan Schuchart did not scale his car right away in victory lane. Rather, the Hanover, Pa. native took the time to hug his family in front of a local crowd. Schuchart won his second World of Outlaws Craftsman® Sprint Car Series race of the season Saturday night at Port Royal

Speedway - less than 100 miles from his hometown.

Thereon, Schuchart jumped on the back of his racecar and began to climb to the wing and the confetti waiting for him at the top. Schuchart slid down the front of the wing as hundreds of fans applauded his dominant performance in the 30-lap feature. He led 28 laps, starting the feature on the outside of the first row in second.

"It means a lot to win here," Schuchart said. "Port Royal is where we started so to win here at home, we're proud. We're still from P.A. no matter what anybody says."

The qualifying flights earlier in the night foreshadowed the battle between pole-sitter Lucas Wolfe and Schuchart. Wolfe recorded the night's quick time with a 15.278; he established the track record for 410-sprints with 15.168 on July 5, 2014. Schuchart was second fastest in qualifying, just .02 seconds off his pace. Together, the feature showcased the two drivers' quickness around the half-mile oval.

Schuchart wasted no time, challenging Wolfe in the opening lap of the race. Though Wolfe slammed the door on his attempts in turns two and four, a caution the following lap essentially gave Schuchart a do-over.

Schuchart took advantage of the early-caution, finally making the pass low in turn two. In the next four laps, Schuchart extended his lead to a 2.316-second margin. By this time, the front of the 25-car field reached lapped traffic. However, his buffer did not last long as the race's second caution compromised his lead.

"It felt like the longest 30 laps ever," Schuchart said. "We've had races where we've been out front and have slowed down in lapped traffic. I got a little nervous. But once I got the top rolling, I could

kind of pull the wing back and get my speed back. It felt pretty good. We're just really proud of this whole Shark Racing team."

On the restart, Wolfe reclaimed the lead but only momentarily. Schuchart answered back, soon reestablishing a comfortable cushion between him and Wolfe. Wolfe did not get another chance to challenge him. Within the final 10 laps of the feature, Wolfe began to fade while Greg Hodnett and Donny Schatz took a similar route to the podium. Wolfe held onto fourth position.

"Donny showed me the bottom off two and four and we moved down," said Hodnett, who finished second. "I got going on the bottom but Logan was gone. He was in another zip code. We were just lucky to be able to come up to second. It was a great field of cars and great fans."

Schuchart increased the spread to nearly four seconds in the closing laps of the race and ultimately won by a 4.705-second margin. Schuchart said the second half of the year is when the team really started to click. But, he owed his quick lap times and overall success to car owner Bobby Allen, who is also his grandfather. Allen was inducted into the National Sprint Car Hall of Fame in 1998.

"He's been doing it himself lately," Allen said. "He has a different car a little bit - different motor that seemed to work pretty well. It's



Logan Schuchart celebrates in victory at Port Royal Speedway after winning his second race of the season. (Paul Arch photo)

great to get [a win] anywhere you can get them, but it was great to get it here. He had the car working good and was driving it very well."

Schatz, rounding out the podium, recorded his 58th top five performance of 2016. With five races left in the season, Schatz is two top five finishes shy of tying his total from last season.

"Obviously you want to win when you come out. That's how you get the 'Champion' status," Schatz said. "When you don't, you have to figure out why. So, we have a little work to do there. It was fun. [The track] did a great job giving us a great surface to race on top to bottom. You get to go to a lot of places in the country, and to see the pride that goes into what everyone has done here...it's just crazy how much pride the fans take in it. A lot of racetracks in the country people take for granted, but it's great to see [the pride] right here."

Dietrich with Dream Win at Williams Grove

MECHANICSBURG, PA - A late push to the top Friday night ended in a victory lane celebration on the front stretch for Danny Dietrich, who won the World of Outlaws Craftsman® Sprint Car Series Champion Racing Oil National Open at Williams Grove Speedway. The Gettysburg, Pa. driver hoisted the \$25,000 check in the air in front of a local crowd.

"This is pretty incredible," Dietrich said. "This may have been one of the toughest races I've ever ran. They were setting a heck of a pace. It was no easy win. Props to those guys for racing me clean. I hope the fans got their money's worth. These are the toughest guys to race against - ever. This is the National Open and people dream about winning this. But, dreams do

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come true."

Dietrich, who finished on the podium in the series' previous show at Fulton Speedway (N.Y.), finished mid-pack in qualifying earlier in the night's program. Tim Wagaman recorded the fastest lap time at Williams Grove all season with a 16.314 in qualifying. Logan Schuchart, who set the track record at Fulton, was two-thou-

sandths of a second slower than Wagaman in the following group.

It was Dietrich's second place finish in the third heat that gave him a favorable starting spot for the feature. Dietrich finished sixth in the Craftsman Club® Dash and started in the spot for the 40-lap A-Main. However, he was not an outsider looking into the top five for long. When the green flag waved the 26-car field into the feature, Dietrich's No. 48 car sprang into action.

In the opening lap, second place starter Brad Sweet moved to the inside of the half-mile oval; Dietrich followed suit, eventually challenging seven-time Series Champion Donny Schatz for fourth position in turn three of the second lap. Platinum driver David Gravel, who beat Dietrich in the heat race, was also in the mix.

Entering lapped traffic by the sixth lap, Gravel swapped third position with Schatz while Sweet briefly overtook pole-sitter Joey Saldana for first. Both Saldana and Schatz avenged their battles, and Schatz moved by Sweet with 21 laps remaining. On lap 23, Dietrich knocked Sweet's No. 49 car out of his podium position before the feature's first caution.

"We had the speed," Sweet said. "You just need to get the track position. Things went right for us there. We were off the front row. I'm a little disappointed because I thought we had a car capable of winning the race. I felt like the driver gave it away a little there."

The field endured an open red that allowed teams to refuel their winged-sprints. On the restart, Dietrich powered through Schatz into second position before the race's second caution on lap 24. Including another yellow flag on lap 26, Saldana strung together a series of strong restarts to retain first position. Even so, Dietrich gained on Saldana with each lap. Dietrich



Danny Dietrich climbs atop his car in celebration of his win at Williams Grove Speedway. (Paul Arch photo)

consistently cut the corner in turn three, shaving seconds off Saldana's half-second lead. Dietrich momentarily passed Saldana until the fourth caution on lap 27.

"These guys are really good out here when you come here to race," Saldana said. "[Dietrich] snickered me on that restart there, and I just got lucky. We did have a good car. You have to come out here and perform."

One more near-perfect restart from Saldana kept his No. 83 car in front of the field; however, Dietrich resumed his strategy by sticking to the inside groove. On lap 34, Dietrich was able to get under Saldana exiting turn four for the lead. Saldana fought back. In a back-and-forth, Saldana was back out front.

"I kept working the bottom there," Dietrich said. "I really wasn't good anywhere but the bottom, so I just kept working it. I felt I could keep-up better down there than running on the top. I was a little too

loose to be running around the top. I just couldn't get to the exit with speed like I needed to. If you told me by lap 10 I'd be standing up here [in victory lane], I would've laughed."

In the final laps, Saldana moved to the bottom of the track to block a hard-charging Dietrich. With four laps remaining, Dietrich overpowered Saldana for the lead. Dietrich ultimately won the battle, while Saldana and Sweet rounded-out the podium. In victory lane - removing the storied Outlaws-PA Posse rivalry from the picture in that moment - the three joked and laughed. Surrounded by a packed front stretch, the crowd applauded the three for another instant-classic to be added into the event's 54-year history.

Saldana, who won the dash and led the field into the green flag, was in position to win his 100th series race of his career. He was in contention to join Steve Kinser, Sammy

Swindell, Donny Schatz, Mark Kinser and Doug Wolfgang as the only series drivers to record 100-plus series wins.

"That's something I want to accomplish before I'm done is to get at least 100 [wins]," said Saldana, who was not even thinking about his milestone during the race. "We were close tonight, just couldn't get it done."

'PA Posse' Looks to Round up Outlaws at Bad Boy Off Road World of Outlaws World Finals

CONCORD, NC - The sprint car spotlight is less than two weeks from shining on The Dirt Track at Charlotte. The stars of the renowned PA Posse - including Logan Schuchart, Greg Hodnett, Jacob Allen, Lucas Wolfe and Danny "Double-D" Dietrich - take on the World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series' best in the Oct. 27-29 Bad Boy Off Road World of Outlaws World Finals.

The unmatched excitement features three days of full-throttle, dirt-flying daredevilry among Outlaw champion Donny Schatz, perennial contenders Shane Stewart, Joey Saldana and Daryn Pittman and the biggest names in winged sprint cars tackling Charlotte's lightning-fast, four-tenths mile clay oval.

The Outlaws will particularly have their hands full with Schuchart, a 23-year-old native of Hanover, Pennsylvania, who finished sixth in last year's World Finals and rocketed to his first Outlaw victory in July. If a non-Posse driver is to take home The Dirt Track at Charlotte's biggest prize, he'll have to do it with Hodnett, Schuchart and the rest of the Posse right on his tail after 30 laps of wheel-to-wheel action unlike anything the Outlaws see all year.

"It would be huge (for a PA Posse driver to win)," said Jeremy Elliott, the motorsports beat writer for PennLive and The Patriot-News in Pennsylvania. "Any kind of win on that stage against the best drivers in the nation - in NASCAR country - is a big win. It also closes out the season so you can take a lot of momentum into next year if you win."

Fans can buy tickets to the Oct. 27-29 Bad Boy Off Road World of Outlaws World Finals by calling 1-800-455-FANS (3267), or visiting www.charlottemotorspeedway.com/tickets/. Tickets are also available at the speedway ticket office.



Danny Dietrich (#48) goes around the outside to try and pass the #83 of Joey Saldana at Williams Grove. (Paul Arch photo)

Sheppard Sensational in Rhino Ag Dirt Track World Championship

PORTSMOUTH, OH - Brandon Sheppard charged from the 21st starting position to win his second career Dirt Track World Championship Race at Portsmouth Raceway Park on Saturday night. Sheppard earned a career-best \$100,000 as he drove the Eric Brock-owned

Best Performance Motorsports Team/Rocket Chassis to the victory.

Sheppard was third different leader of the event - taking over the top spot from Josh Richards on lap 72. Richards forged ahead again on lap 73 before Sheppard cleared Richards for good on lap 77, and never looked back in the final Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series event of the season. Earl Pearson Jr. in the Dunn-Benson Ford/Lucas Oil Racing TV/Longhorn charged to second at the finish ahead of Richards, Gregg Satterlee, and Darrell Lanigan.

The 2016 LOLMDS National Champion, Scott Bloomquist, led the first 45 laps of the race until Richards passed him for the lead. Bloomquist, who came into the event seeking his third straight DTWC win at Portsmouth, fell to second and then six laps later

yielded the spot to Sheppard.

Richards appeared to be pulling away from the field as he opened up his lead, but Sheppard slowly started to track down Richards and with 23 laps to go he had taken the lead away from him for the final time.

"I never ran the cushion to get to the front," said the 23-year-old in Lucas Oil Victory Lane, "We had a very good car. This Rocket XR1 Chassis with Integra Shocks and Dargie Racing Engine was just on point tonight. We haven't finished a race in four weeks. To come out and get progressively better all weekend and then to get the win in the last Lucas Oil race of the year means the world to me."

Sheppard had to pass the current DirtOnDirt.com Top-Two drivers in the country to get the win. "That shows you if I have a good enough race car, then I can make something happen. I have all the respect in the world for Josh and Scott and all of the guys on this tour. We made the right tire call and had our car right all night."

"I had a pretty soft left rear tire on. I didn't know if it was going to last the whole time. I was kind of biding my time out there. I was passing guys and I wasn't abusing the tires. I got to second and I was just looking for some brown on the track where I could get some grip. I



Brandon Sheppard celebrates his win at Portsmouth Raceway Park after charging from the 21st position for the win. (LOLMDS photo)

finally got around Josh, and he folded the nose under. It would have been harder to pass him, if it wasn't for him folding his nose under."

Pearson tried valiantly to catch Sheppard in the closing laps, and settled for second. "For a while, I thought this might be the race of the year. There were four of us battling for the lead. On the restarts, I couldn't do anything with him [Sheppard]. We needed for the race to stay green. Congratulations to Brandon, he did a heck of a good job. What's interesting about the race was that he was on the bottom and I was racing up on the top. Usually it's the other way around."

Richards was looking for his first career DTWC win, but came home in third. "It was definitely the nose-piece that cost us this race. Once it folded back I knew we were in trouble. Brandon did a great job tonight. It was a lot of fun racing with those

guys. At the end, I was just holding on for a podium finish. He [Sheppard] is a fellow Rocket driver. He is an awesome kid and driver. He doesn't get enough credit, so it's awesome to see him win."

Completing the top ten were Don O'Neal, Devin Moran, Doug Drown, Tim McCreddie, and Rod Conley.

In preliminary action, Jackie Boggs, Rod Conley, Josh Richards, Scott Bloomquist, Brandon Fouts, Dale McDowell, Rick Eckert, and Nick Hoffman won their respective first round heat races. Doug Drown, Steve Francis, Dale McDowell, Tyler Carpenter, Tim McCreddie, Gregg Satterlee, Earl Pearson Jr., and Chubb Frank won their respective second round heat races. Eric Wells, Dustin Linville, and RJ Conley won their respective B-Mains. Devin Moran won the Jim Dunn Memorial Non-Qualifiers Race.

ULTIMATE Series Heads Back to Senoia Raceway October 22nd for Fall Brawl 40

SENOIA, GA - The drivers of the ULTIMATE Super Late Model Series are headed back to the gumbo of Senoia Raceway this Saturday night, October 22nd for the \$4000 to win Fall Brawl 40. Senoia Raceway has been heralded all season long for superb racing top to bottom on their gray gumbo surface. When the ULTIMATE Series made its first ever visit a few weeks back it was local favorite Michael Page who picked up the dominant win.

Series point leader Dennis

"Rambo" Franklin is raring to get his M&W Transport machine back to Senoia. "We had a pretty good race car the last time we were there. We were just a little off of where we needed to be to get closer to the front. But I am pretty pumped up about going back over there. We have this new Longhorn car and I feel like we have made some gains with it. Plus we have a better idea of what to expect with that slick surface they have. We need to get us a win and Senoia would be a good place to do it." Franklin said.

"Senoia has been one of the most talked about tracks this season. What the Massey family has done there is pretty remarkable.

They definitely went out on a limb when they brought in the gray gumbo clay but I think it has paid off for them in a big way. They have had some of the best races week in and week out as any track in the country. So I am sure looking forward to the Fall Brawl. We should have a really interesting mix of drivers and I am sure the great Senoia fans will show up in droves." said ULTIMATE Series Director Kelley Carlton.

Some of the series drivers expected include Franklin; Colbert, Georgia's Kenny Collins; Glenn Elliott of Sikesville, Maryland; Casey Roberts of Toccoa, Georgia and Chris Ferguson of Mt. Holly, North Carolina. Leading the charge of Senoia's locals expect hometown drivers Clint Smith, Joe Armistead, Jr. and Ashton Winger along with Page of Douglasville, Georgia. Also expected are regional standouts such as Jimmy Sharpe, Jr. of Soperton, Georgia and Hunter Peacock

of Macon, Georgia among several others.

Drivers meeting is set for 5:30 PM with Hot Laps to follow at 6. You can find ticket information for at www.senoiaraceway.com, find them on Facebook and follow them on Twitter @SenoiaRaceway. You can keep up with the latest news and happenings with the ULTIMATE Super Late Model Series by following all of our social media outlets. You can find ULTIMATE Super Late Model Series on Facebook. You can also follow us on Twitter @ULTIMATESupers. You can also follow us on Instagram @ULTIMATESupers.

The ULTIMATE Series tire rule for the event is as follows: All four corners choose from American Racer compounds 48 and 56 or Hoosier compounds 1350 and 1600. For complete rules and other series information visit www.ultimatesupers.com or call (864) 871-1442.

Sweet Victory For Carney at The Devil's Bowl

MESQUITE, TX - "To finish first, you must first finish" is very applicable quote from legendary driver, Rick Mears, when talking about the race Saturday night at the Devil's Bowl Speedway as John Carney II held off several attempts from Sammy Swindell for the win in the 43rd annual Winter Nationals with the

Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network.

With the rubber down on the Devil's Bowl, the race was about patience. Falling to second on the initial start, the caution brought the field back to a complete restart as four cars tangled on the front stretch.

Gluing the Lubbock Wrecker Service No. 11x to the hub, Carney was chased the first lap by Sammy Swindell before the caution flew upon completion of the opening lap for Travis Rilat who rolled to a stop exiting the third turn.

"I pretty much knew after I messed up on the first start, that if I ever gave him [Sammy] the bottom, he'd be able to beat me," said Carney. "With the track conditions like this, the win is pretty much a gift to myself but I'll take it either way."

At speed, Swindell all but pushed Carney around the famed half-mile. Never falling more than three car lengths from the No. 11x, Swindell's biggest opportunity to advance came on Lap 10. Missing the line, Carney slide wide off the second turn. With a haze of blue following, Swindell ran the nose of the Acme Graphix No. 3s to Carney's left rear but would have to roll out of the throttle to avoid the Hoosier climb.

All but beating the bumper off the No. 3s trying to rattle the El Paso native, Carney would not be shaken for his first career Lucas Oil ASCS presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network A-Feature win. Carney is the 136th overall winner in Lucas Oil ASCS competition and fifth first time winner in 2016.

"It's a shame, we showed him where the line was. I had it on the start, and I knew what to do and where to go but we definitely had a faster car," said Swindell who

crossed the checkered flag 0.388 seconds behind Carney.

"My corner speed was so much better, and to be able to run up behind someone that close, you usually lose the front end real bad but our car was able to just stay there and run with him. I was surprised at how good it was being that close too, but if we could have ever gotten out in the open; I was gone."

Riding third start to finish was Johnny Herrera.

"It was 25 laps, and I knew it was going to be hard on tires so I could have run up there and been on their back bumpers and ran third, or stayed conservative and been there if they bumped wheel and missed the rubber so I just rode."

Sam Hafertepe, Jr. trailed Herrera to the line with Aaron Reutzel coming across fifth. From ninth, Tony Bruce, Jr. was able to get to sixth with Andy Shouse digging his way from 17th to seventh. Brandon Long crossed eighth with Logan Forler mounting an impressive charge from 18th to ninth. Joe Wood, Jr. ended up rounding out the top-ten. Wood was one of the few drivers to try the high line.

Saturday's finale of the 43rd Devil's Bowl Winter Nationals saw 45 drivers checking in. Five Heat Races were topped by Josh Baughman, Alex Hill, Sam Hafertepe, Jr. Jamie Ball, and Kevin Ramey. Qualifiers were won by Scottie McDonald, Tony Bruce, Jr. and Brandon Long. A pair of B-Features saw Andy Shouse and Logan Forler with wins. The night's only provisional was used by Brandon Hanks.

The next event for the Lucas Oil ASCS presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network will be the Fall Fling at Creek County Speedway in Sapulpa, Okla. on Friday, November 4 and Saturday, November 5.

For continued updates on the Lucas Oil ASCS presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network, log onto www.ascsracing.com.

Herrera Unstoppable at The Devil's Bowl

MESQUITE, TX - With the engine going south under the bonnet of his machine just over half of Friday's feature event, Johnny Herrera was a man on a mission; parking his Mesilla Valley Transportation No. 45x in Victory Lane to



John Carney II celebrates his win at the Devil's Bowl Speedway after holding off Sammy Swindell for the the victory. (Pat Grant/ASCS photo)

open up the 43rd annual Devil's Bowl Winter Nationals with the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network.

Herrera's third career National Tour triumph at the famed half-mile, the win puts Johnny at six victories on the season with the Lucas Oil ASCS.

Taking the lead with a high-side pass on Josh Baughman off the fourth turn on Lap 14, Herrera was the second to challenge Baughman during the A-Feature as the No. 17 was challenged early by Martin Edwards who ran the Lanny's APCO No. 13 in honor of his grandfather, Lanny Edwards.

Going wheel to wheel through the third and fourth turns on Lap 2, the contact sent Edwards spinning. Dropping debris on the track in the process, Martin was sent to the tail.

With Herrera moving to second on the restart, it was a game of chase as the pair worked to traffic near the race's half-way point.

"She started laying down right when I started racing with Baughman when I was running the bottom there, and it didn't seem to hurt

me at that point. I just kept running it and when that red came out, I just kept hoping it would take off again."

Speaking of the red for Josh Baughman that came with 21 laps complete, the big question was whether or not the No. 45x would even start again. With a small fire erupting from the oil that now covered the brakes, the flames soon extinguished themselves.

"The only way I'm pulling off is if she blows up," stated Herrera from the cockpit of the No. 45x at the time.

Stumbling and half running to the green, the engine finally cleaned out enough to get back to speed as Herrera restarted with a lapped car between himself and Aaron Reutzel. Unable to clear the slower car through the first two turns, it proved just enough to allow Herrera the advantage needed to hold onto the win.

"It didn't take off very good at all," explained Herrera. "Once I got it wound up, it came back but she's definitely hurt right now, but we got the win. We'll come back with a new bullet tomorrow and go again."

(Continued Next Page)

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Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series

Continued...

Locking the No. 87 into the show, Aaron Reutzel had his hands full most of the race as well with the track every changing.

"I wasn't expecting that one bit. Luckily I was able to the wing back and get a handle on it, but at the beginning, I thought I was just going to go backwards fast," said Aaron. "It took about half the race to get it figured out, then my

throttle was sticking the first part of the race as well. I don't know if something got in it or what, but I just about ate the front stretch wall a few times. It made it hard to race people, but luckily it played out."

Taking advantage of the late race restart, John Carney II sailed

the Lubbock Wrecker Service No. 11x from sixth to the final podium step after nearly getting tangled up in Baughman's flip.

"I was just glad I didn't get caught up in that deal. He turned right around in front of me and I almost didn't see him. He was backwards before I ever saw him, but on that restart, if they went low, I was going high or vice versa it didn't matter."

Also taking advantage of the restart was Sammy Swindell, who threaded the needle to take the final transfer into Saturday night. Matt Covington was one of the driver Sammy had to pass, and ended up completing the top-five.

Racing into the top-four just prior to the red, Blake Hahn slipped back to sixth with Danny Jennings advancing nine positions to seventh. Travis Rilat crossed eight with Wayne Johnson ninth. Zane Lawrence from 14th came up to round out the top-ten.



Johnny Herrera was unstoppable in the opening night of the Devil's Bowl Winter Nationals. (Pat Grant/ASCS photo)

The opening night of the 43rd Devil's Bowl Winter Nationals saw 47 drivers draw in. Split into six Heat races, wins went to John Carney II, Chance Morton, Danny Jennings, Johnny Herrera, Wayne Johnson, and Josh Baughman. With the number of cars greater

than 40, Qualifiers were run. Travis Rilat, Martin Edwards, and Matt Covington all scored wins. Twin B-Mains went to Andy Shouse and Kade Morton. Provisionals were utilized by Logan Forler and Kyle Bellm. The regional provisional was awarded to Brandon Hanks.

Hoosier Tire Midwest Sprint Car Series

Thomas Number One in the Harvest Cup at Tri-State

HAUBSTADT, IN - The "Harvest Cup" for the Hoosier Tire Midwest Sprint Car Series at Tri-State Speedway provided an exciting climax to the 2016 racing season.

The 30 lap feature event for the sprint cars stayed green from beginning to end. Those drivers dropping out eased their cars into the infield.

The drivers continuing performed exceptionally and there were not any incidents. No yellows! No reds! Just continuous racing action!

Kevin Thomas Jr. had the fastest car and proved it in leading all qualifiers with a 13.255 second lap to begin the evening. The Alabama driver also won the third heat and wrapped up the evening in winning the \$3,000 Harvest Cup first place money. Thomas was piloting the Jeremy Ottinger owned entry sponsored by Franklin Equipment and CEP Concrete. It was Thomas' first MSCS win this season and fifth MSCS all time victory.

Chase Stockon would start on the pole for the feature alongside 2016 MSCS Rookie of the Year Tyler Hewitt. Thomas started in the second row. Stockon took the early lead but Thomas began diving into the turns and had the lead in a half dozen laps. From that point on he

sped away as packs of drivers behind him fought to improve their positions. Thomas flew around any lapped traffic and the race for second was well behind him.

Kyle Cummins was persistent and took second place honors in the feature. Earlier he won a heat race with a fourth turn last lap pass that virtually threaded the needle. Carson Short would finish third in the feature. Jarett Andretti was fourth after being at the center of the battle for second and third. Critter Malone not only finished fifth but took the Keizer aluminum Wheels Hard Charger of the Race Award after gaining 11 positions!

The second five included Chase Stockon, Brady Short, Aaron Farny, second heat winner Brian Karkaker, and Tyler Hewitt. J.T. Stapp took the Wilwood Tuff Brakes Award with an eleventh place finish.

Critter Malone won the MSCS B Main. He also came from the back in this one after experiencing some misfortune in a heat race that he had been leading. Veteran Ted Hines was second. Brandon Morin was third. Twenty six sprint cars were on hand to compete. The field included three drivers who were competing for the first time with the series.

Brady Short protected his points lead with steady finishes during the night's events and received the MSCS Championship Trophy at a



Kevin Thomas Jr. celebrates his Hoosier Tire Midwest Sprint Car Series "Harvest Cup" victory. (MSCS photo)

brief awards ceremony after the feature was completed. It was the Bedford Blaster's third MSCS Championship and second series title in a row. The Championship car owner this season was Cam Pottorff of Martinsville, IN. Tyler Hewitt of Marion, IN, was awarded the Rookie of the Year Award prior to heat racing action.

Sunday night's event was a big triple header. Two other divisions of race cars were in competition. The open wheel modified and MMSA Mini Sprints were also on the race card. Trent Young of Hopkinsville, KY, won the 25 lap make up feature for the UMP Modifieds. That event was first on the program. Young fished ahead of Paul Miles, Stephen Schnapf, and Josh Harris. Young then won the 30 lap feature for the AMS Modified Series on

hand in a special appearance. The two feature wins in one night at one track is a rare occurrence in racing!

The AMS victory was his seventh in the series this season in a trek that included victory lanes in four states. And once again he certainly had formable competition. Tyler Nicely ran second, Josh Harris third, Lucas Lee fourth, and Dustin Beck was fifth.

Nicely and Young also won heat races as did Clay Lane and Everett Bradhan. Zach Fair, and Stephen Schnapf won the two B Mains.

Ty Tilton of Lima, OH, won the feature for the Midwest Mini Sprint Association. The 30 car mini sprint field competed without wings during this event. Justin Lewis won the B Main. The heat races were won by Ryan Barr, Cody Trammel, Scott Bradley, and Tilton.

I-30 Speedway

LITTLE ROCK, AR - I-30 Speedway's Short Track Nationals is never short of excitement.

And now the 29th edition of the COMP Cams Short Track Nationals presented by Hoosier Tires set for November 2-5 will have some extra action with the addition of the Inaugural "Red Shirt Dash" in honor of Lanny Edwards.

It will be a Saturday night Dash that would put a smile upon the face of the Hall of Fame promoter.

Edwards was known over the years to slip an extra bill or two to a team that has struggled through a night or weekend. The "Red Shirt Dash" will reflect that spirit by offering some extra winnings to some teams that may have had greater STN aspirations.

The top non-transfers from Saturday night's "C" Mains (two or three from each depending on the number of "C" Mains) will be eligible for the "Red Shirt Dash" in honor of Lanny Edwards. The six-car "Red Shirt Dash" field will race for a \$500 winner's share with the remaining five each picking up an extra \$100. As a result, the "Red Shirt Dash" winner will come away with a Saturday night total of \$1,000 including the \$500 "C" Main non-transfer money.

"I think it's a great way to honor Lanny's memory, and I think it's in a way that he would be proud of," commented I-30 Speedway promoter Tracey Clay.

The "Red Shirt Dash" adds yet another element of excitement to an already action-packed 29th Annual COMP Cams Short Track Nationals presented by Hoosier Tires that fires off in precisely three weeks with a Test 'N Tune session on Wednesday night, November 2.

Two complete nights of action will follow on Thursday and Friday, November 3 and 4, with a full card of heat races, qualifying races, "C" Mains, "B" Mains and "A" Main on both nights.

With the top three from each qualifying night "A" Main locked into the Saturday night, November 5, \$15,000-to-win, \$2,000-to-start STN championship finale, the balance of the field takes to the track in heat races lined up according to their best qualifying night score. With additional points awarded in the Saturday heat races, the battle

is on from there to set the balance of the STN championship feature lineup.

STN entries are rolling in, with entry forms for the event available at <http://www.i30speedway.com/flyers/2016%20STN%20Flyer.pdf>. Entries received by October 26 are just \$150, with entries after that at \$250.

The entry fee of \$150 will include the driver's pit pass for Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The late entry of \$250 does not include driver pit pass.

Entry fees may be submitted on PayPal as well with a \$5 processing fee just as with paying via credit/debit card. Checks, money orders and cashier's checks are accepted and may be mailed to Pit Road Bar & Grill c/o Tracey Clay, 13219 Interstate 30, Little Rock AR 72209, made payable to Tracey Clay.

Now a top contender with the Camping World NASCAR Truck series, Christopher Bell still reigns as the defending STN champion after beating Aaron Reutzel and Brian Brown to the stripe in 2014 to become the youngest winner in event history at just 19 years of age.

Bell joined a prestigious list of STN winners that includes names such as Swindell, Kinser, Sweet, Meyers, McMahan, Wright, Crawley, Bruce, Jr., a couple of Johnsons and more.

Modoc Raceway

MODOC, SC - As previously announced at their last event in September, Modoc Raceway in Modoc, South Carolina will play host to the Inaugural Santa Claus 100 this December 2nd and 3rd at the 3/8ths of a mile oval. The event is expected to host all regular divisions during the 2 days of racing action.

Today the Jimmy and Ann Cushman operated facility announced

that the Super Late Models would be in action in the unsanctioned Bad Boy Off Road Super Late Model Throwdown which will be a \$7000 to win / 50 lap feature event on Saturday, December 3rd. The schedule is being finalized for the full program however the Super Late Models will be allotted practice time during the Friday, December 2nd portion of the event with all of the divisions competitive laps on Saturday.

The Super Late Models will utilize the Hoosier 1350 and 1600 or American Racer 48 and 56 tire rules. Tires will have a minimum punch before qualifying as well as be subject to lab samples throughout the event. Many more details will be announced in the days ahead. Be sure to find Modoc Raceway on Facebook and visit them on the web at www.modoc-raceway.com.

Five Flags Speedway

Pensacola, FL -- The 49th Annual Snowball Derby is just a couple of months away, and entries are already pouring into the Five Flags Speedway offices. If you're a team that plans on coming to the Derby, but hasn't filed an entry yet, now is the time to do so.

Race teams need to get their entries in as soon as possible in order to guarantee the best infield pit stall selection. Pit stalls for each team's hauler are decided on a first-come-first-served basis determined by the order in which entries are received.

The pit stalls are not for the race itself, but are for the whole weekend's festivities. Teams can choose to park on pit road, either side of the infield access road, and the back road along the inside of the backstretch at Five Flags. There is no guarantee that specific spots will be available, but entries

are suggested to be filed as soon as possible.

Another perk of being entered early is that the race track can utilize your team in pre-race promotion. The Snowball Derby is one of the biggest short track races of the year, so plenty of eyes will be viewing all things Snowball Derby in the weeks and months leading up to Sunday, December 4 event.

The 49th Annual Snowball Derby weekend kicks off on Wednesday, November 30 with the Cat Country/WEAR TV3 Green Flag Pit Party and Qualifying Order Draw Down.

Thursday, December 1 will see the Super Late Models take to the track for the first official Snowball Derby practice. The night will be highlighted by a 30-lap race for the Butler U-Pull-It Bombers and a 50-lap event for the Dock on the Beach Sportsmen division.

The top Snowball Derby starting spots will be set on Friday, December 2 during NASH FM 102.7 Pole Night. The Faith Chapel Super Stocks and the Modifieds will each run 50-lap features.

The Pro Late Models take center stage on Saturday, December 3 for the Allen Turner Hyundai Snowflake 100. The 50-lap Last Chance Qualifier for the Snowball Derby and a 50-lap feature for the Beef O'Brady's Pro Truck division will also run on Saturday night.

Then on Sunday, December 4 the green flag will fly over the the 49th Annual Snowball Derby. The 300-lap race will begin at 2 p.m. CT.

For more information on the 49th Annual Snowball Derby weekend at Five Flags Speedway, visit www.snowballderby.com. All media credential requests and inquiries for the Snowball Derby can be sent to Pat Bryant at Pat@SnowballDerby.com.



Aerial look at Five Flags Speedway. (Speed51.com/Bruce Nuttleman)