



MAY 24, 2021

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Chase Elliott Paddles His Way to COTA Win



And the Rains Came

NASCAR's Soggy Reaction to Drenching Rain Clouded COTA's Inaugural Race

Standing water and dreary skies were the perfect backdrop as NASCAR's Senior Vice President of Competition Scott Miller admitted his group may have waited too long to pull the plug on the inaugural EchoPark Texas Grand Prix at Circuit of the Americas.

"I would own the fact that maybe we let it go a little bit too long there before we did something," he said after the race ended after 54 of 68 scheduled laps. "We will learn. We will do better the next time."

What NASCAR, and anyone else with the sense the Good Lord gave a duck, learned was a bulky stock car, a group of aggressive drivers and a tropical system don't mix.

By the time NASCAR figured out the obvious and gave up, many racing fans had already turned the dial to watch Phil Mickelson's amazing victory at the PGA Championship. Talk about must-see TV.

By all accounts, COTA was a modern-day masterpiece of a facility. Speedway Motorsports Inc., which leased the track from Formula One, has the option to return next year. It would be a mistake to use a downpour created by an early-season tropical system that spun into existence two days in advance as a reason to drop it from future schedules. COTA earned a second chance to be judged in a more favorable light.

That certainly didn't happen Saturday or Sunday.

Troubles started on Saturday when several cars were stuck in the inspection line during the only practice session of the weekend. Many never got a chance to run a lap because the process proved to be so tedious.

Torrential rain on Monday not only turned the 20-turn, 3.41-mile high-speed slip-and-slide, the spray as cars ran through puddles had drivers running blindly. Rain tires were no match for Mother Nature's fury.

Kevin Harvick said it best: "I've

never felt more unsafe in my whole racing career, period."

There were a couple of chain reactions because drivers couldn't see. The first came on the 20th lap when Ryan Blaney slowed down because he couldn't see his breaking point entering Turn 12 at the end of the straightaway. Christopher Bell plowed into Blaney's back bumper. Harvick slowed down, only to be rear-ended by Wallace. The force of the impact lifted the rear tires of Harvick's Ford off the ground.



DON COBLE

Harvick was rightfully upset with the conditions – and the decision to keep racing.

"It's the most unsafe thing I've ever done in a race car by a lot," he said. "You can't see anything down the straightaways. These cars were not built to run in the rain and when you can't see, my spotter said, 'Check up, check up,' because he thought he saw two cars wrecking. I let off and the guy behind me hit me wide-open because he never saw me. It's unbelievable that we're out there doing what we're doing because we're in race cars that aren't made to do this, and if you can't see going down the straightaway. It's absolutely not safe, not even close."

"We don't have any business being out in the rain, period. All I can say is this is the worst decision that we've ever made in our sport that I've been a part of."

The worst crash came five laps later when Martin Truex Jr. ran into Michael McDowell's car near the same spot of the Harvick accident. When he slowed down, Cole Custer blindly slammed into Truex's car. Custer's Ford went under the trunk deck of Truex's car, then burst into flames. Both walked away a little soggy, but unhurt.

"It's just that you can't see anything. It's pretty bad," Custer said. "I mean, you can't see a foot in front of your car. I was just rolling down the backstretch. You can't see anything. I'm just so frustrated about having our day end like this. It killed the car and it's just really frustrating."



Chase Elliott's car bogs down in the standing water that all of the rain caused at COTA. (JARED TILTON/GETTY IMAGES photo)

"You just can't see anything on that backstretch. I think the same thing happened to us at the same time, somebody was going slower and by the time you want to slow down, they're in your front bumper so there's no chance of you even missing it. We just wanted a good run and it's just not fair to all our guys and everybody at [Stewart-Haas Racing] to have a destroyed race car for really no good reason."

After a red flag to clean up the mess and wait for a break in the weather, the race resumed.

So did the rain.

Elliott eventually worked his way into the lead. His Chevrolet probably didn't have enough gas to make it to the end, so his Hendrick Motorsports team was counting on a bunch of yellow flag laps or for NASCAR to put an early end to the show. The sport's most popular driver got the early checkered flag.

As expected, Elliott didn't have a critical opinion of the dangerous conditions. Winners never do.

"Yeah, that's not my call. If they say race, we're going to go," he said. "If they make the call to say

that it's not doable or not smart, that's what we'll do, too. Look, it's not for me to say. It's not my call. I'm not the one in that position to have to make that call, and I don't want to be. I'll try to make the most of whatever it is, try to do my job the best I can.

"It's not the ideal way to win, but we'll take it."

NASCAR tried to adapt on the fly by ordering single-file restarts to minimize the mayhem at the hairpin first turn. But had no answers for huge puddles.

"We were hydroplaning a lot down the straightaway," said Joey Logano after finishing third. "Yes, there was standing water. What's the line? I don't know. I think we're all trying to figure it out together, but once they put the yellow out, then you can't restart the race because you pack everybody up and they're hydroplaning and you can't see."

NASCAR certainly needs to find a solution to reduce the clouds of spray in the rain. But it also needs to be quicker to act when conditions are too dangerous.

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ON THE COVER:

NIGEL KINRADE/NKP

Just Remarkable!

The NASCAR teams made their first of two trips to Texas in 2021 this past weekend. Only, this time, it was different. The top three divisions of NASCAR – Camping World Trucks, Xfinity, and Cup – made their inaugural visit to COTA – The Circuit of Americas in Austin, Texas, And, to say that the initial visit to the 3.41-mile, 20-turn

road course was unique, challenging, and somewhat controversial, would be a gross understatement.

From the very outset of the weekend, Mother Nature looked to be a major obstacle. With showers off and on throughout the weekend, teams in all three divisions had to prepare for the worst possible conditions as they tackled the very challenging road course for the first time. NASCAR did have the foresight to alter the normal schedule for a race weekend by giving each division a brief practice session prior to qualifying. Then, two rounds of qualifying would be held to determine the starting grid for each race.

As you might expect, there were challenges for each division during practice and qualifying. Only a few competitors had ever been to COTA and a limited number had the opportunity to test earlier this season. However, for the majority of the competitors, it was their first visit to the Austin facility.

I must admit, it was very refreshing to see a return to the former format of limited practice and qualifying. Ever since the pandemic, the routine schedule for races has been show up at the track, line up on the starting grid, and race. The starting lineup was determined by a set of varying factors for each event.

The Camping World Trucks and Xfinity Series qualified and raced on Saturday after brief practice sessions on Friday. And, through rainy, tough conditions and dry, pleasant conditions, both races were completed on schedule. The answer to a future trivia question, “Who was the first NASCAR driver to win a NASCAR race at COTA?” is Todd Gilliland, winner of the

CWTS event Saturday afternoon. Kyle Busch followed a couple hours later by winning the inaugural Xfinity race at COTA.

The Cup Series qualified and raced on Sunday, a practice that has not been utilized in years. The question of rain or dry tires and car setup would be the major topic in the garage area as Mother Nature did not smile on COTA.

And, it didn't take long for the action on the track to heat up. On lap 20, Kevin Harvick, Christopher Bell, Bubba Wallace, and Dave Blaney were all involved in an accident that eliminated several of the competitors. It was raining at this point in the race and visibility was limited at best for the drivers.



DENNIS PUNCH

“It's the most unsafe thing I've ever done in a race car by a lot,” Kevin Harvick stated after the inci-

dent. “You can't see anything down the straightaways. These cars were not built to run in the rain and when you can't see, it gets worse. My spotter was telling me to check up, so I let off and the guy behind me hit me wide-open because he never saw me. It's unbelievable that we're out there doing what we're doing. It you can't see going down the straightaway, it's absolutely not safe, not even close.”

“We don't have any business being out in the rain” Harvick added. “All I can say is this is the worst decision that we've ever made in our sport that I've been a part of, and I've never felt more unsafe in my whole racing career, period.”

Then, a second incident on lap 24 involved Martin Truex Jr. and Cole Custer. Truex hit the rear of Michael McDowell's car and then was hit by Custer's Ford at full speed. Custer's impact sent the #19 of Truex off the ground while he slammed into the retaining wall and caught fire. Fortunately, neither driver was injured.

“I couldn't see anything,” Truex added. “Going down the backstretch just trying to stay on the course and next thing I know, I saw a taillight right in front of me. You just can't see anything out there. Just wide open and next thing there's a car on my hood. I got hit so hard, I was 10-feet in the air. Just a wild mess, you can't see anything.”

“I mean, you can't see a foot in front of your car,” Custer commented. “I was just rolling down the backstretch. I'm just so frustrated about having our day end like this. It's just not fair to all our guys and the other teams as well. You just can't see anything out there in these conditions.”

When racing resumed, Chase Elliott was able to stay in contention from Hendrick teammate Alex Bowman on lap 50. He held the lead until the caution came out for weather on lap 54. After a red-flag delay, NASCAR called the race with 14 laps remaining.

It was a milestone victory for Elliott, Hendrick Motorsports, and Chevrolet. The win was the first of the season for Elliott and his sixth career road course victory. It was also his fifth win in his last six Cup road course races. The win was the 268th for Hendrick Motorsports, tying them with Petty Enterprises for the most wins all-time by a NASCAR Cup Series team. Plus, Elliott's triumph was the milestone 800th NASCAR Cup Series win for Chevrolet.

“I couldn't be more excited,” Elliott said. “I've never won a rain race before, so it's kind of cool. I'm just super proud of our team for continuing to fight. WE weren't very good to start, but I kept pushing myself and we kept making some good changes throughout the day. At the end of the day, we have to continue to push ourselves and try

to be better and try to push forward at all tracks, not just road courses. A win is a win at all of them and I'm really going to enjoy this one. This is a big win today for our team and Chevrolet.”

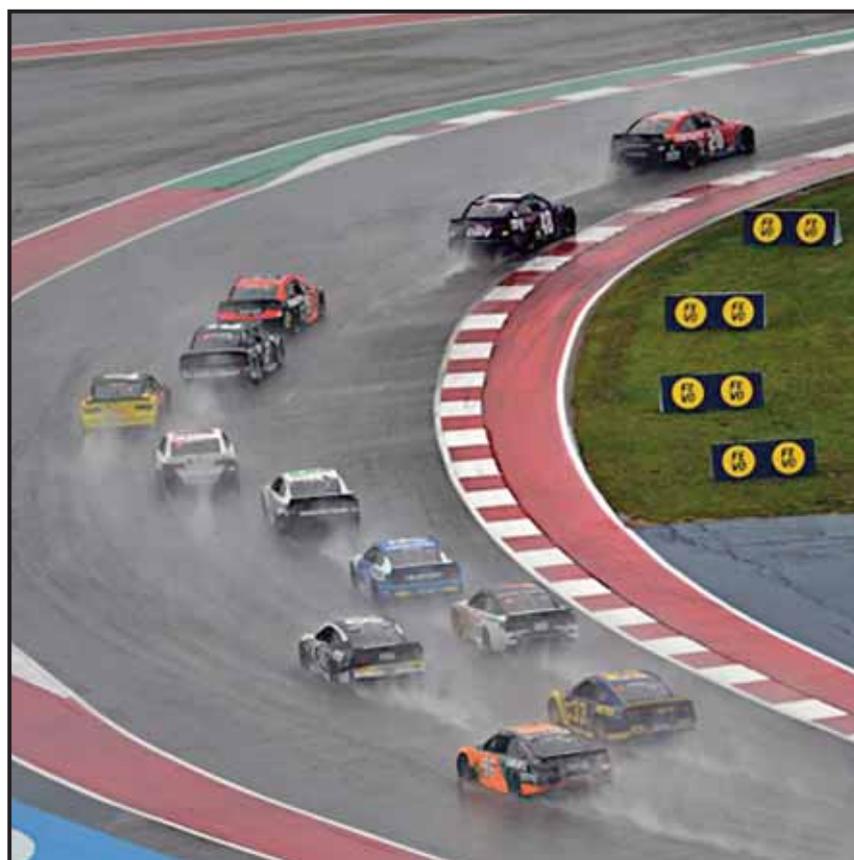
Elliott's sixth road course win moves him closer to Jeff Gordon as NASCAR's all-time road course winner. Gordon has nine career road course wins, and Tony Stewart, eight.

After the race, Scott Miller, NASCAR Vice President of Competition, said that series officials will learn from Sunday's race.

“I would kind of own the fact that maybe we did let it go a little bit too long before we did something,” Miller stated. “It's a learning experience for all of us. We will learn. We will be better next time. I think the original question is would we pull the plug earlier? Probably so.”

“It's a tough job for us (NASCAR) to balance – competitive event, a good show for the fans and with the drivers' best interest. It's a tough job. I think rain at a race points out that everybody in this business has a hard job. Everybody's got a tough job.”

My Mother told me many, many years ago, “If you can't say something nice about a person or a situation, then, just say nothing at all”. I'll leave it at that. But, I will say that our sport got lucky today. Racing in those conditions could have resulted in a much worse ending. Truly remarkable.



Too much water on the track created too much spray from the back of the racers, therefore making it impossible for the drivers to see what was in front of them. (NIGEL KINRADE/NKP photo)

Road-Course Master Chase Elliott Wins Weather-Shortened Inaugural Race at COTA

You can't call a Chase Elliott victory on a road course "unexpected," but little else was predictable in the inaugural NASCAR Cup Series

race at the Circuit of the Americas road course in Austin, Texas.

After all, Elliott came to COTA having won five of the previous 10 road races, and on Sunday the EchoPark Texas Grand Prix became No. 6 after NASCAR called the race 14 laps short of the scheduled finish because of excessive standing water on the track and potential danger to the drivers.

Elliott's first victory of the season and 12th of his career accounted for significant milestones. He delivered the 268th Cup win for Hendrick Motorsports, tying the organization with Petty Enterprises for most all-time.

It was also the 800th NASCAR Cup Series victory for Chevrolet.

"Yeah, man, I couldn't be more excited," said Elliott, the reigning Cup champion, who is tied for third with Rusty Wallace in all-time road course wins. "I've never won a rain race before, so it's kind of cool. Just super-proud of our team for continuing to fight.

"We kind of started the day, and we weren't very good. I just kept

pushing myself and (we) made some good changes throughout the day and got to where I think we were on pace with those guys there at the end."

A week after Hendrick drivers finished 1-2-3-4 at Dover, the organization grabbed the top two spots at the 3.41-mile, 20-turn road course, with Kyle Larson running second when NASCAR red-flagged the event after 54 of a planned 68 and then called it when the rain failed to abate.

Joey Logano ran third, followed by Ross Chastain and AJ Allmendinger. Chase Briscoe, Michael McDowell, Alex Bowman, pole winner Tyler Reddick and Kyle Busch completed the top 10.

William Byron finished 11th, ending his streak of consecutive top-10 results at 11.

For all but the first few laps, drivers raced in the rain until it became too heavy to continue.

With challenging visibility on the long, high-speed backstretch, a crash on Lap 25 brought the race to a halt for the first time. Martin Truex Jr. slammed into the back of the Ford of Michael McDowell, who had slowed in traffic.

In a chain reaction, the Ford of Cole Custer plowed into the back of Truex's damaged Toyota, lifting the rear of the Camry off the pavement.



Race winner Chase Elliott shares victory lane with his dad and spotter, Bill Elliott, after the race at COTA. (KINRADE PHOTOGRAPHY photo)

Custer then hit the Armco barrier to the inside of the straight. Custer hastily exited the crippled Mustang, which had lit on fire.

NASCAR red-flagged the race and sent track dryers out to remove water from the racing surface.

"I'm all good," Custer said after a trip to the infield care center. "It didn't hurt as much as I thought it was going to be, but it's just that you can't see anything. It's pretty bad. I mean, you can't see a foot in front of your car.

"I was just rolling down the backstretch. You can't see anything. I'm just so frustrated about having our day end like this. It killed the car, and it's just really frustrating."

The cars of Custer and Truex were damaged too severely to continue. Before that wreck occurred, Kevin Harvick and Bubba Wallace already had been eliminated in a similar low-visibility crash on Lap 19.

Even before the race went green, teams were faced with a choice. With rain seemingly imminent but the track dry to start the event, would a change to slick tires

be in order, or would crew chiefs opt to stay on rain tires, which NASCAR had mandated for the initial roll off pit road.

Most of the field opted for slicks, and Austin Cindric streaked to an early lead. But the rain intensified, and those who had taken the green on dry tires soon came to pit road for rain tires.

Earlier in the day, in only the second Cup qualifying session of the 2021 season, Reddick won the pole in dry conditions with a lap at 92.363 mph. The pole was the first for a Richard Childress Racing driver on a road course since Dale Earnhardt was top qualifier for the last time in his career in August 1996 at Watkins Glen.

"Road racing has been a big challenge in my career, and I've worked really hard to get better at it," said Reddick, who qualified fifth in the rain and finished eighth in Saturday's Xfinity Series race. "Running yesterday's NXS race helped me with some valuable seat time, so it's great to see all that hard work come together with a pole."



Chase Elliott (9) leads Kyle Larson (5) and Joey Logano (22) down the wet track for the finish of the EchoPark Texas Grand Prix after NASCAR officials called the race with 14 laps to go because of the standing water and lack of visibility. (JARED TILTON/GETTY IMAGES photo)

Hendrick Motorsports Delivers Chevrolet's 800th Win, Ties Petty's All-Time Win Record

Sunday was full of milestones for Hendrick Motorsports.

When Chase Elliott took the checkered flag at Circuit of The Americas the organization delivered Chevrolet's 800th

NASCAR Cup Series victory and in the process tied Petty Enterprises' long-standing all-time wins record of 268.

The feat was accomplished in Hendrick Motorsports' 38th season in the Cup Series, all with team owner Rick Hendrick at the helm. Elliott's first win of the year was the

team's sixth victory of 2021 and was accomplished 14 races into the season. From Geoff Bodine in 1984 to Kyle Larson in 2021, 20 different drivers have reached victory lane for Hendrick Motorsports.

It was a day to remember for Hendrick.

"Getting into NASCAR, when I think how close we came to not making it and having to close the doors, and then think about the championships and the wins, it's just unbelievable," Hendrick said. "It's just hard to believe that we've been able to put that many wins together.

"It's a tribute to the talent that I've been able to assemble and the people that have grown up in the company and holding them together and learning from each other."

Chevrolet's 800th victory in the Cup Series is the most. Owner Hendrick has had a long-standing relationship with the company with all 268 wins coming in Chevys and Hendrick Motorsports delivering the manufacturer's milestone 400th, 500th, 600th, 700th, and now 800th victories.

"I couldn't be more proud of Chevy, (Chevrolet vice president) Jim Campbell here, thanks for being here and 268 for (Hendrick Motorsports)," Elliott said. "Thanks to all the fans for hanging in there today. ... Just proud of our team."

The legendary Petty Enterprises has held the record for over 60 years starting with Lee Petty taking the checkered flag at Orange Speedway on May 29, 1960, for the team's 53rd victory. Its 268th and final win was delivered by driver

John Andretti on April 18, 1999, in the organization's 1,703rd race.

Since Hendrick Motorsports' inception, the team started to slowly work its way to the historic record dating back to its first victory with driver Bodine in 1984. The organization won a race in all but one season since it was founded, going to victory lane in 37 in 38 years and five different decades. On top of its 268th win, the team has 1,121 top-five finishes, 1,932 top-10s, XXXX laps led and 13 championships – all Cup Series records.

Hendrick never thought he would catch up to the record held by one of his childhood idols. Even though they are competitors on the track, Hendrick admires Petty for putting NASCAR on the map and expanding the sport's popularity across the world.

"He's dedicated his life to this sport and he's been the sport's ambassador," Hendrick said of Petty. "There's nobody that has made an impact to NASCAR like Richard has."



Race winner Chase Elliott poses with Hall of Famer and Hendrick Motorsports representative Jeff Gordon in victory lane at the Circuit of Americas after securing the 800th Hendrick Motorsports victory. (NIGEL KINRADE/NKP photo)

Kyle Busch Conquers COTA for 98th NASCAR Xfinity Series Victory

Kyle Busch essentially went to school Saturday afternoon in the NASCAR Xfinity Series to learn the Circuit of the Americas road course in preparation for Sunday's NASCAR Cup Series race there. The result, however, was that Busch absolutely schooled the field – earning an 11-second victory in the Pit Boss 250, NASCAR's Xfinity Series debut on the famed Austin circuit.

It marked the two-time NASCAR Cup Series champion's record 98th win in the Xfinity Series. His No. 54 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota led a race-best 36-of-46 laps. No other driver led more than three laps at the 3.41-mile 20-turn circuit.

"It's really really cool to come here for the first race at a new track and to win," Busch said. "Real proud of the effort."

"I think the biggest thing is just all the resources and stuff we have and being able to get laps on the track today, feel the tire, everything like that and then being able to get back out there tomorrow and do everything all over again tomorrow with the Cup car.," the Las Vegas native added. "Thanks to Toyota and TRD, we've got some really cool tools we've been able to use and I feel like it was a plus for us today."

NASCAR Xfinity Series championship contender A.J. Allmendinger – one of NASCAR's best on road

champion, Kevin Harvick was fourth, also getting some laps in preparation for Sunday's race. NASCAR Xfinity Series championship leader Austin Cindric was fifth.

Harrison Burton, Cup regulars Cole Custer and Tyler Reddick and Allmendinger's Kaulig Racing teammates Justin Haley and Jeb Burton rounded out the Top 10.

Allmendinger and Haley won Stage 1 and Stage 2, respectively.

strategy of pitting just prior to the stage breaks. What he conceded in points, he made up for winning the inaugural trophy.

The only laps Busch, 36, didn't lead were when he pitted or when he made a brief rally after stage breaks. Following the first stage break, for example, he restarted fourth and was leading the field two laps later.

"It's shocking, Kyle Busch is actually pretty good," Allmendinger



Kyle Busch's 98th visit to the Xfinity Series victory lane is made all the better with his wife Samantha and son Brexton there to celebrate with him at the Circuit of the Americas. (CHRIS GRAYTHEN/GETTY IMAGES photo)

courses – finished second to Busch. Justin Allgaier placed third. Another NASCAR Cup Series

Championship contenders, they opted to stay on track and earn the points rather than join in Busch's

said smiling. "It's always fun to race Kyle. Did everything we could, got a stage win, got a lot of points and finished second. That was as good as we were going to do."

The victory marked the 17th season Busch has won an Xfinity Series race and the 27th different NASCAR track where he has hoisted a trophy.

While the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series race, held hours earlier, had some light rain and was run on rain tires, the weather had cleared nicely by the drop of the Xfinity Series green flag. The vast majority of the field opted to pit for slicks (dry tires) during the parade laps and by the race's midpoint, it was a sunny afternoon.

The Xfinity Series next races, Saturday May 29 at Charlotte Motor Speedway in the Alsco Uniforms 300 (1 p.m. ET, FS1, PRN, SiriusXM NASCAR Radio).



Kyle Busch (54) leads the field of the Pit Boss 250 race around the turns and straights of the Circuit of Americas road course. (JARED TILTON/GETTY IMAGES photo)

Gilliland Overcomes Early Penalty to Win Inaugural NASCAR Camping World Truck Series Race at COTA

Todd Gilliland was so fast and so determined out front in Saturday's Toyota Tundra 225 NASCAR Camping World Truck Series race his own team had to remind him to slow down and take care of his tires in the closing laps of the series debut at the Circuit of the Americas (COTA) race.

Despite receiving the cautionary advice, Gilliland, 21, did not ease off and raced to a hefty 7.941-second margin of victory to earn his second career series win and first since 2019. His No. 38 Front Row Motorsports Ford set the fastest lap of the race with two laps remaining.

"I definitely did a lot of stuff wrong but that's what I love about road course racing, there's 20 turns here, 20 opportunities to pass but also make mistakes," Gilliland said, thanking his Front Row Motorsports team.

"Last year we didn't quite have the season we knew we could and just to come out here and win early, we've been building momentum and for my team to get this win is

just amazing."

Gilliland and the rest of the field ran wet tires flag-to-flag, so his team kept reminding him to be careful and look for wet spots on the track since the rain stopped mid-race. He hit his marks on the 3.41-mile 20-turn circuit and he hit the puddled water just enough to carry on to the victory – leading the final six laps and earning an extra \$50,000 incentive in the second race of the series' Triple Truck Challenge.

Kaz Grala finished runner-up, followed by pole-winner Tyler Ankrum, Grant Enfinger and Sheldon Creed, who led a race-best 14 of the 41 laps.

Seventeen year-old driver Sam Mayer, rookie Carson Hocevar, Zane Smith, Austin Hill and Ben Rhodes rounded out the Top-10. Championship points leader John Hunter Nemechek finished 12th.

Gilliland actually won Stage 1 – his first stage win of 2021 – and was first out during the ensuing pit stops during that caution period. But NASCAR ruled one of his pit crew members was over the wall



Racde winner Todd Gilliland gets a congratulatory hut from his dad, racer David Gilliland in victory lane. (JARED TILTON/GETTY IMAGES photo)

too soon and Gilliland was penalized – sent to the rear of the field on the restart.

With Gilliland now forced to play catch-up, defending series champion Sheldon Creed led most of Stage 2, pitting just before it ended and allowing Ben Rhodes to instead take his first Stage win of the year.

Creed and Ankrum battled one another up front – at one point passing each other three different times on one lap – before Gilliland – who methodically worked his way forward was able to take the lead for good with five laps remaining. Grala passed Ankrum with two laps

remaining to tie his best ever series finish.

The victory marks Gilliland's fifth Top-10 showing in the last six races and as he told his team on the victory lap, "I know we can do this [win races] a lot."

Gilliland becomes the fourth full-time NASCAR Camping World Truck Series driver to win this season – joining two-race winners John Hunter Nemechek and Rhodes, and last week's winner Creed.

The series races next Friday night in the North Carolina Education Lottery 200 at Charlotte Motor Speedway.



Todd Gilliland (38) makes his way to the lead as he passes Johnhy Sauter (13) as the rain came down to hamper the racing surface's grip. (JARED TILTON/GETTY IMAGES photo)

Ty Gibbs Charges to Victory at Toledo Speedway, Continues Hot Streak

TOLEDO, OH - Ty Gibbs won Saturday night's Herr's Potato Chips 200 at Toledo Speedway to pick up his third ARCA Menards Series victory of the 2021 season.

In a way, the 18-year-old's performance at the half-mile oval in Toledo, Ohio, was more impressive than his leading every lap in each of his prior two ARCA Menards starts, at Kansas Speedway on May 1 and last weekend at Dover International Speedway. This time, he faced some adversity.

Gibbs led the first 131 laps at Toledo before his top rival in the 2021 championship race, Corey Heim, nudged him up the race track and out of the lead with 68 laps to go. Gibbs dropped back to third.

The slip did not matter. The driver of the No. 18 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota charged back to Heim's bumper and, on Lap 179, took back P1 for good.

Gibbs' third win in the ARCA Menards Series this season breaks a tie with Heim for the most in the series. It is his 11th ARCA Menards Series win dating back to 2019.

"We had a really good night,"

said Gibbs.

"Had issues there at the end, kind of getting moved. That's just racing hard there. I can't thank my guys enough for working on this thing so much and loving racing. These guys put in a lot of work. All the credit to them."

With his win in the fifth race of the season, Gibbs sits second in the ARCA Menards Series standings, now 17 points behind Heim. Saturday's race also was the first in the 2021 Sioux Chief Showdown, giving Gibbs the early edge in the standings for ARCA's series within the series.

"The 18 definitely had a bit of an advantage on us," Heim allowed after Saturday night's race. "I'll get better. I'm 100 percent confident we're going to get there; no doubt about it."

"I did everything I could there. Like I said, the 18 just had an advantage."

Said Gibbs of Heim's aggressive pass for the lead on Lap 132: "It was just hard racing there. (Heim) was a little excited. It was they only shot they had to see the front, and they took it. I would have done the same thing."

And of his passing Heim for good with 21 laps to go: "I feel like we were fast enough to pass him without touching him, which was the respectful way."



Ty Gibbs celebrates in victory lane amid a potato chip shower after winning the Herr's Potato Chips 200 at Toledo Speedway. This was Gibbs' third win of the season. (ARCA photo)

Nick Sanchez, who is running in the ARCA Menards Series this season for Rev Racing as part of the NASCAR Driver for Diversity program, matched his career best with a third-place finish at Toledo.

"Not bad for a place we struggle at," said Sanchez with a laugh.

Reigning ARCA Menards Series West champion Jesse Love finished fourth at Toledo in his first ARCA Menards Series race driving for Venturini Motorsports. Thad Moffitt finished fifth.

Cole Williams, Gracie Trotter, Alex Clubb, A.J. Moyer and Dick Doheny rounded out the top 10, with Moyer and Doheny earning

their first top-10 finishes in the ARCA Menards Series.

Beyond the two scheduled breaks on Lap 75 and Lap 125, Saturday night's race at Toledo featured just one caution for an incident. Doheny ran off the track on Lap 116 — and collected some Herr Foods signage in the process — to bring out the yellow.

The ARCA Menards Series will return to action next week at Charlotte Motor Speedway for the General Tire 150 on Saturday, May 29.

The Charlotte race is scheduled to start at 7 p.m. ET and broadcast live on FS1 with live streaming available on Fox Sports Go.

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Justin Johnson Takes Advantage of a Late Race Restart to Best Honeycutt at Caraway Speedway

MOORESVILLE, NC - Justin Johnson was able to take advantage of a late race restart over series rookie teammate Kaden Honeycutt with three laps to go to score his second win of the season. Honeycutt would slip back to

finish in the third position, with veteran Deac McCaskill crossing the finish line in the runner up spot.

R&S Racecars Rookie of the Year candidate Kaden Honeycutt had the best car of the night and looked to be on his way to an easy first career victory, until a caution

on lap 123 erased his 1.63 second lead over Johnson.

The ensuing restart saw Honeycutt choose the inside, with his car owner and teammate Justin Johnson to the outside. The Texas youngster lost traction on the restart and that allowed Johnson to nose his way to the lead.

McCaskill, who had a solid championship points night, knocked on #44 machine of Johnson's rear bumper throughout turns one, two, three, and even four but could not find a way to the lead position on the final lap.

Championship points leader Bobby McCarty, who led a majority of the evenings laps, finished fourth



Justin Johnson celebrates in victory lane after beating his teammate Kaden Honeycutt at Caraway Speedway. (CARS Tour photo)

and Brandon Pierce rounded out the top five finishing positions, with his best finish of the 2021 season.

For additional information on the CARS Late Model Stock Tour and the CARS Super Late Model Tour visit www.carsracingtour.com. Be sure to stay active and social with

the tour by liking "CARS Tour" on Facebook, following @CARSTour on Twitter, and scrolling through photos on Instagram cars_tour. Additional series information can be obtained by calling the CARS Tour series office, located in Mooresville, NC, at 704.662.9212.

NASCAR Champion and Hall of Famer Bobby Labonte to do Battle at Kil-Kare Speedway

XENIA, OH - Just a year after his induction into the NASCAR Hall of Fame, legendary NASCAR driver Bobby Labonte will be chasing the checkered flag in the Dayton 100, a new event for the JEGS/CRA All-Stars

Tour presented by Chevrolet Performance.

The June 27 race at Kil-Kare Speedway will be a new challenge for Labonte, who will be driving the No. 26 Platinum Express PRO late model for the first time on the very tricky third-mile oval, where he's never before competed.

Labonte's Kil-Kare appearance comes 20 years after being there with his son, Tyler, who was competing at the adjacent quarter midget race track.

"I remember walking over and looking at the big track and thinking, 'Wow, that's an odd shape,'" Labonte reminisced. The tight asphalt oval was once described as an "11-turn racetrack" by fellow NASCAR Hall of Famer Darrell Waltrip, presenting a challenge for Labonte and the rest of the JEGS Tour drivers.

The Platinum Express team

fielding Labonte's Hamke late model is one of the country's premier operations. With dozens of wins and championships, team owner Myna Burba goes to the track to win.

Labonte's Platinum Motorsports entry will look similar to that of Kody Swanson's.

The team has a full schedule of late model competition in 2021 with five-time USAC Silver Crown champion Kody Swanson also entered for the Dayton 100. The addition of a car for Labonte will be extra work but an opportunity that was just too good to bypass, according to crew chief Marc Metz.

"There's a good bit of work involved going from a Chevy to a crate Ford, but with help from Jeff Wooten of Wooten Automotive we jumped at the chance," Metz said.

Metz has always been a huge Bobby Labonte fan and recalls an encounter with longtime Labonte team owner Joe Gibbs while crewing for Jeff Foltz in 1996.

"We were running an All Pro Late Model race at Volusia County Speedway. JD and Coy Gibbs were racing, and I was sporting my favorite bright green Labonte/Interstate Battery T-shirt," Metz explained. "I was bent over working on the car, and someone tapped

me on the shoulder and said, 'Nice shirt'. It was Joe Gibbs, and I'll never forget it!" "What a great guy!"

About the Dayton 100: On Sunday, June 27, Kil-Kare Speedway will be the site of a 100-lap JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour Pro Late Model event called the "Dayton 100."

Speed51.TV will be showing the event live to their subscribers, with Speed51.com providing promotional assistance.

The historical Dayton 100 has its roots at the old Dayton Speedway in 1950. The history of the event beginning with "big cars" is astounding! Many of the cars literally were Indy 500 race cars early on. Likewise, Indy 500 drivers dominated the 100-lap races at the high-banked, half-mile oval. Eddie Sachs (twice), "Iron" Mike Nazaruk, Troy Ruttman and Pat O'Connor were victorious in the 1950s.

When stock cars became the headliner in the 1960s, Nelson Stacy, Paul Goldsmith, Benny Parsons and Jack Bowsher graced victory lane. Thanks to the great news print coverage of Dayton motorsports, there are reams of pictures and clippings.

Once Dayton Speedway closed, events were staged at Kil-Kare but not before Midwest short track legends Bob Senneker, Jim Cushman, Don Gregory and Lennie Waldo raced under the checkered flag first.

When the Dayton 100 was relocated to the seven-turn Kil Kare oval in 1982, local legends added their name to the incredible list.

Robbie Dean, Dick Dunlevy Jr. and John Vallo dominated the 1980s and '90s.

The new millennium ushered in a host of new names and faces to victory lane. Tim Allensworth, Gary Estes, Don Mahaffey Jr., Brandon Oakley and Sloan Henderson won Dayton 100 events while the track operated under the NASCAR short track banner.

Eventually, special events became the norm at Kil-Kare, but the big event remained. Drew Charlson, Oakley and Justin Alsip came out on top.

This year will be the first JEGS/CRA All Star-sanctioned event. A host of CRA regulars will be joined by several Ohio late model regulars.

In addition to the JEGS/CRA All Star, there will be a host of support divisions including the all new "Wheelman Street Stocks," a compact division and concluding a full day of motorsports competition, a 50-lap compact enduro.

Pit gates open at 10:00am with general admission turnstiles swinging into action at Noon. Qualifications are set for 1:30 and the first green flag flies at 3pm. Tickets are \$15 Adults and \$5 kids age 5 - 11, 4 and under are Free!

For more information about the event, be sure to search for the page "Dayton 100" on Facebook or call 513-594-4564 or 614-581-9750.

For information about the JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour Presented by Chevrolet Performance check out www.cra-racing.com.

Dave Blaney Sends Sprint Car World Crazy with Last-Lap Pass at Sharon

The World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series ended a 14-year absence from Sharon Speedway on Saturday night, and promptly delivered the most magical moment of the 2021 season.

Dave Blaney, at 58-years-old, stunned Sheldon Haudenschild with a last-lap pass to score his 95th career victory at the track he owns in his home town of Hartford, Ohio. It was a storybook ending that sent his local crowd and the entire sprint car world into pandemonium.

As the 1995 World of Outlaws champion climbed from his car, chants of "BLANEY! BLANEY! BLANEY!" erupted.

You could actually feel the bleachers shaking as the decibels rose and fans sprinted to victory lane. It was a special moment for Blaney, who rose to fame as a Sprint Car legend in his prime during the 1990's and now beat them again in the year 2021 with his own car.

"I feel like I had a Sprint Car career in the 90's, but I don't anymore," Blaney explained. "I just come out and play, nowadays. It's not lost on me that winning a World of Outlaws race in this day and age is giant; especially at a track I'm part-owner at. The response was just overwhelming."

The historical significant of Blaney's triumph is nothing to sell short.

He set the record for longest gap between World of Outlaws wins, striking at Sharon 23 years, 7 months, 2 days after his last victory at Southern New Mexico Speedway on October 21, 1997. He also broke the record for longest gap between a first and last career victory, making it 36 years, 1 month, 16 days between his April 5, 1985 win at Tri-City (IL) Speedway and Saturday's score.

Blaney also came close to being the oldest winner in the history of the World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series. He topped Sharon's Outlaw return at the age of 58 years, 6 months, 29 days. The record still belongs to Sammy Swindell, winning Eldora in 2014 at 58 years, 8 months, 16 days.

The best part of it all? Blaney wasn't even surprised.

"Yeah, I can believe it actually," Blaney told DIRTvision's Chase Raudman. "I thought we had a car that could come here and be competitive. We've raced here quite a few times with this car and it's ran really well. To have it actually work out is pretty crazy, though. This is really awesome."

Coming back in the year 2021 and doing it against today's modern crop of Outlaws is something that gives Blaney an extra sense of appreciation.

"This is such a proud moment for us," Blaney admitted. "This is a car we built ourselves and we just beat the Outlaws. Holy crap. It's a dream come true, and it happened at my home track."

Blaney's sudden victory stole the spotlight from Sheldon Haudenschild, who dominated the Feature for the opening 30 laps. By the halfway point, the NOS Energy Drink #17 has built a massive 7+ second lead and lapped inside the top-ten. He was gone, and yet another win was in the bag, but the caution flew for a slowing Aaron Reutzler on Lap 31.

It gave Blaney the one opportunity he needed, and he capitalized on it.

"I knew that was my only chance," Blaney said. "That caution saved us, no doubt. I could see him up there and the lappers were catching him on the bottom, so the top was slowing down. He wasn't going to move off it, so I thought I had a chance if I could get along-



Dave Blaney took the win in a crazy last-lap pass at Sharon Speedway on Saturday night. (Paul Arch photo)

side him. I thought we were dead with two to go, but that mistake all we needed."

That mistake came on the final lap as Haudenschild rode the rim through turns one and two. However, the NOS Energy Drink #17 got too tight and he hit the wall. Blaney rolled by and beat him to the line by 0.802-seconds.

"I let my guys down," Haudenschild mentioned. "We've got a really fast race car, but I just pushed too hard and lost my momentum. Sometimes you get beat. If I'm gonna lose to anybody, I'm glad it's Dave. He and my dad [Jac Haudenschild] grew up racing so far him to get an Outlaw win this late in his career at his home track, that's special for the Blaney family."

It was an Ohio 1-2, and more importantly, a historical night that many will remember forever.

Closing out the top five at Sharon Speedway was Carson Macedo in the final podium spot with the Jason Johnson Racing #41, David Gravel in fourth aboard

his Big Game Motorsports #2, and Brad Sweet in the Kasey Kahne Racing #49.

Rounding out the top ten on Saturday night was Brent Marks in sixth, Brock Zearfoss in seventh, Logan Schuchart in eighth, Kraig Kinser in ninth, and James McFadden in tenth.

UP NEXT: The World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series returns to "The Hoosier State" for a Memorial Day Weekend in Indiana. On Friday, May 28, The Greatest Show on Dirt visits Terre Haute Action Track before rolling over to Lawrenceburg Speedway on Monday, May 31.

Haudenschild's Misfortune is Gravel's Gain at Attica

If it wasn't for bad luck, Sheldon Haudenschild might not have any luck at all.

The Wooster, OH native was coming to the white flag on Friday night, just 1/3-mile away from collecting a wildly popular home state win at Attica Raceway Park, but then it all went south. Running ahead of him, DJ Foos lost his left rear tire and spun around in turn four, leaving Haudenschild with nowhere to go as the NOS Energy Drink #17 plowed into him.

You could hear the gasps from the crowd and feel the energy shift as he was towed to the trailer.

Enter David Gravel. Who albeit lucky, placed himself in the perfect position to capitalize on Haudenschild's misfortune.

The Big Game Motorsports #2 returned to the point for the third time in the 40-lapper, and fended off a hungry Donny Schatz and a hard-charging Brent Marks for their fourth victory of the season with the

(Continued Next Page)



David Gravel celebrates in victory lane after capitalizing on Sheldon Haudenschild's last lap misfortune at Attica Raceway Park. (Paul Arch photo)

Continued...

World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series.

"I'll take them anyway I can get them," Gravel admitted in victory lane. "I thought I was closing on him, but he was probably going to win that race no matter what. Obviously Sheldon is a fan favorite here, so you don't want to see stuff like that happen. 40 laps around Attica man, a lot of crazy

things happen, and they sure did tonight."

While Gravel basked in the confetti on the frontstretch, Haudenschild was forced to wonder what could've been. Friday's show at Attica marked the fourth occurrence since the beginning of April that he lost the lead due to something out of his control with less than ten laps remaining.

"He lost that tire, and I just had nowhere to go," Haudenschild explained. "Nothing you can do about it. It sucks, man."

From the beginning, the Kistler Engines Classic brought the heat on the hottest raceday of the 2021 season. Slick Woody's Qualifying went to Gravel, who led a top-seven that timed within one-tenth of each other. The Team Drydene Heat Races were thrilling too, highlighted by Trey Jacobs denial of Carson Macedo at the checkered flag.

Jacobs, of Wooster, OH, kept the spotlight rolling when he proposed to his girlfriend at the redraw, and then promptly drew the one pill. Haudenschild entered the picture in the DIRTVision Fast Pass Dash when he thrilled a packed house bye going from last-to-first.

When the 40-lap NOS Energy Drink Feature went green, it was outside pole sitter Brandon Spithaler leading the first official lap of his World of Outlaws career. Unfortunately, his moment was short-lived as the #22 slid off the banking and over the cushion while battling Haudenschild for the lead on Lap 2.

A handful of stoppages slowed the action in the beginning, but once rolling the fans witnessed the good stuff. Racing into lap traffic, Haudenschild and Gravel swapped lanes from ripping the cushion to rolling the bottom, and they split lappers and exchanged the lead on multiple occasions.

Gravel took it from him on Lap

10 and started to sneak off, but Haudenschild snookered him on Lap 18 to get it back. Gravel came back fighting to resume command on Lap 20, but again Haudenschild snatched it from on Lap 22 as they went back-and-forth for the lead. Finally, Haudenschild gained some breathing room when Gravel was pinched off by a lapper, and actually slipped to third as Schatz rolled by for second.

Building a massive advantage, Haudenschild was leading Schatz by a whopping 3.397-seconds with ten to go. There was no such battle for the top spot, so fans turned their attention to second as Gravel eventually stole it back from Schatz on Lap 37.

The race was all but over on Lap 38 when Haudenschild received the two-to-go signal. Gravel was gaining ground, but simply had no time to offer a move on the #17. It all changed coming to the white flag, however, as Foos' left rear fell off and the #16 collected an innocent Haudenschild with nowhere to go.

A green-white-checkered became close between Gravel and Schatz, but ultimately the Watertown, CT native survived his second-ever victory at Ohio's Attica Raceway Park.

"I told my guys after the Dash that we had a good car, and we didn't make any adjustments," Gravel said on the Big Game #2. "I was just as good as Sheldon there in the early going, but I got too free and he ran away from me big-time. Once I fell back to third I slid the wing back and felt better. I really had no idea where to run on that green-white-checkered and felt like I made two terrible laps. Really glad we held on."

Coming up short by 0.540-seconds was Donny Schatz aboard the Tony Stewart/Curb-Agajanian Racing #15. Friday's result was the seventh podium finish of 2021 for the 10-time Series champion. He and the Ford Performance, Carquest crew are on a streak of eight-straight top-10 finishes, the most of all active drivers.

"I don't know if we could've got him, we just seemed to struggle at the end," Schatz claimed afterwards. "These guys are digging, though. We're doing everything we can. We'll get there, it's just taking longer than we expected."

Closing out the podium was Brent Marks with an incredible 19th-to-3rd run worthy of KSE Racing Hard Charger. It's his fourth podium finish against the World of Outlaws in his last seven races

since returning to the family-owned #19.

Rounding out the top-ten at Attica was Carson Macedo in fourth, Brad Sweet in fifth, James McFadden in sixth, Logan Schuchart in seventh, Brock Zearfoss in eighth, Wayne Johnson in ninth, and Craig Mintz in tenth.

Logan Schuchart Tops Bridgeport for Second Win of Season

A standing-room-only crowd on Tuesday night served witness to an attack by Shark Racing at Bridgeport Motorsports Park.

Logan Schuchart, piloting his Drydene Performance Products #1S, soared by Carson Macedo on Lap 11 and ran away with his second World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series triumph of the 2021 season, and the 25th of his career.

It was a much-needed breakthrough for the Hanover, PA native, who snapped a 21-race losing streak with his mid-week win. It was a victory lane trip months in the making, and one that quite possibly restored the confidence and momentum they've been searching for since February.

Schuchart's score, which brings him only five away from tying his grandfather Bobby Allen at 30 World of Outlaws wins, came with the defeat of Macedo, who had a perfect night going. The Jason Johnson Racing #41 established a New Track Record in Slick Woody's Qualifying, won his Team Drydene Heat Race, won the DIRTVision Fast Pass Dash, and led 11 laps before fading to Schuchart's Triple-X powered by Newman's Racing Engines.

"Confidence is everything," Schuchart said with a pep in his step. "You know we started off the season so strong, but the small issues started coming and it seemed like one thing after another hit us. Sometimes parts fail, there's just nothing you can do about it. We need that confidence back, and I think we've got it."

Marking the first appearance by The Greatest Show on Dirt at the newly-reconfigured 4/10-mile, Tuesday's trip to Bridgeport started off hot with Macedo's time of 13.215 seconds establishing a New Track Record. Three thrilling Team Drydene Heat Races followed and the stage was set for an intense 30-lap NOS Energy Drink Feature.

It was Outlaws vs. Posse on the front row as Macedo dealt with An-

thony Macri of Dillsburg, PA to his outside. Macri offered a Lap one slider with hopes of stealing the top spot, but Macedo's outside momentum was too much to bare. Schuchart, who started fourth, made his move to second on Lap two as he went by Macri and started to reel in Macedo.

With the aid of lap traffic, Schuchart scooted closer and eventually stole command of the lead from Macedo on Lap 12. Macedo was mired on the outside as Schuchart stuck the very bottom of the 4/10-mile and rolled his #1S right on by.

Near the halfway point, Donny Schatz entered the picture and made it a three-way war for the top spot as he dueled with Macedo and Schuchart. A trio of stoppages for Aaron Reutzler, Brock Zearfoss & Ryan Smith slowed the pace, but the action returned with the final restart on Lap 16.

The battle for P1 got real interesting on Lap 22 when Macedo attempted a slide job on Schuchart, but he came up just short and lost his only chance to sneak up on the #1S. From there, Schuchart ran off to take the checkered flag by 1.731-seconds over Macedo.

"My grandfather never quits, and he's our motivation," Schuchart said on never giving up. "We've got a Triple-X with 50 races on it, this wing has been patched up a hundred times, you know. We put this old car together and I'd say she's doing something right. So happy to get it back in victory lane where it belongs."

Macedo's perfect night fell to the wayside by one position, but he did gain crucial points on Brad Sweet and David Gravel in the championship chase as summer approaches.

"I feel bad for my guys," Macedo candidly mentioned. "I think we had the car to win, but just lost it in traffic. I was making speed through the middle, but I didn't know where to be in traffic. I went to the top and Logan drove right by me on the bottom. I just couldn't get it going from there."

Finishing third and rallying after falling to fifth was Anthony Macri, giving the PA Posse one representative on the podium.

Rounding out the top five on Tuesday night was Donny Schatz in fourth-place and Sheldon Haudenschild in fifth.

Closing out the top ten was Brent Marks in sixth, Brad Sweet in seventh, Danny Dietrich in eighth, Giovanni Scelzi in ninth, and Buddy Kofoid in tenth.

Madden Claims Second Consecutive Port Royal Win

PORT ROYAL, PA - One of the keys to finding Victory Lane during a World of Outlaws Late Model race is taking advantage when the opportunity comes.

Chris Madden seized his moment Saturday night during the Billy Vacek Memorial at Port Royal Speedway to claim his second win in a row at

the Pennsylvania track.

With 22 laps to go, race leader Brandon Overton made a mistake in traffic, allowing “Smokey” to dive underneath him and steal the lead.

Prior to that, Overton had opened a full straightaway lead over Madden 15 laps into the race before he caught the back of the field. That’s when Madden started to reel him in and plan his attack.

“Leading in lap traffic is tough when it’s one lane,” Madden said. “[Overton] took a shot at a lap car and tried to move to the outside of it in [Turn] 1 and 2, and I was able to fill the hole.”

After Madden made his move around Overton, “Big Sexy” wasn’t ready to relinquish the lead just yet. The two raced side-by-side into Turn 3 and Overton tried to dive under the Drydene #44 of Madden but couldn’t make the move stick. He ended up sideways in the corner, costing him a shot at Victory Lane.

The Evans, GA driver finished fourth; frustrated about what happened.

“I was just trying too hard,” Overton said. “As long as [the lap cars] entered wider than me I’d be fine, but one time they entered a little lower and a little slower. I had to get on the brakes, and I shattered the tires and slid up the hill.”

Madden’s win completes a weekend sweep at “The Speed Palace” that sees him walk away with more than \$25,000 in winnings. It’s also his third straight win, and fourth of 2021, bringing “Smokey” to 32 career World of Outlaws Morton Buildings wins overall.

Rick Eckert, the 2011 Series champion and York, PA campaigner, finished second. He didn’t think he had anything for Madden toward the end.

“Even if I got to [Madden], passing him was a different story,” Eck-

ert said. “The only chance I had was if a lap car messed him up.”

Port Royal regular Dan Stone crossed the line third. It’s a momentum booster for the Thompson, PA driver who had a backup car and motor.

“We hurt the motor in our good car awhile back, and we’ve been waiting on it to come back,” Stone said. “This is a 2017 car, and the motor was probably built in 2008, but you didn’t need a lot of motor because it was pretty slick.”

Rookie of the Year contender Ryan Gustin rounded out the top five and was the top rookie of the race. The leading rookie contender, Tyler Bruening finished seventh. Kyle Strickler, who joined Scott Bloomquist Racing for the weekend, finished 16th in his second run with the team. He’s also contending for rookie of the year honors.

Three-time and defending champion Brandon Sheppard finished 14th. His point lead is now down to 26 points over Madden.

UP NEXT: The Most Powerful Late Models on the Planet travel to the Hoosier State, stopping at Circle City Raceway, June 4, and Plymouth Speedway, June 5.

If you can’t make it either night watch all the action live on DIRTVision with the annual Platinum FAST PASS subscription for \$299/year or the monthly FAST PASS subscription for \$39/month.

Madden Conquers Port Royal for Second Straight Series Win

PORT ROYAL, PA - Country music singer Jerry Reed said it best in 1971, “When you’re hot, you’re hot.” That’s how you can describe Chris Madden’s Huey Wilcoxon Memorial performance Friday at Port Royal Speedway.

The Gray Court, SC driver swept the night, setting Slick Woody’s Cornhole Company Quick Time, winning his Drydene Heat Race, and winning the \$10,000-to-win Morton Buildings Feature.

It’s his second straight World of Outlaws win, and his third victory of the season—more than any other driver. It’s also the 31st victory of his career.

Madden led all 40-laps, but it wasn’t smooth sailing. “Smokey” made one mistake he felt almost cost him the race.

“I got in lap traffic one time and



Chris Madden celebrates in victory lane after winning the Billy Vacek Memorial at Port Royal Speedway. Madden swept the weekend at Port Royal, winning both nights of action. (Jacy Norgaard photo)

kind of got myself in trouble,” Madden said. “I caught [the cars] at the wrong spot, I committed to a line I didn’t think the other guys would take.”

“I had to get hard on the brakes, and I got real loose. That’s when I thought I was going to give the race away.”

Madden’s consistency has been a key to his success this season. His team has his Rocket Chassis dialed in no matter what track they go to.

“We got [the car] to where it’s really good right now, and it fits me,” Madden said. “Obviously, we’ve found something here. We just have to stay on top of our game, doing the right things, and making the right calls.”

While Madden dealt with traffic, Brandon Overton tried to chase him down. He closed within three car lengths when Madden made his mistake, but “Big Sexy” would have to settle for second.

Even though Overton had a good car, he struggled on one part of the track.

“I couldn’t get off of [Turn 4] very good, I feel like [Madden] beat me there” Overton said. “He shines in that condition anyway, when it gets slick, he’s really good.”

Despite the struggles, the Evans, GA driver is content with his finish. It’s the first time he’s ever been to Port Royal Speedway.

“I’m happy, we came here never seeing the place and qualified well and ran second, I’ll take it,” Overton said.

Three-time and defending champion Brandon Sheppard crossed the line third—his seventh podium of 2021. It’s a place the “Rocket Shepp” is familiar with at Port Royal Speedway.

“We’re always good when we come here,” Sheppard said. “We’ve

only won one race, but we’ve been on the podium almost every time. We definitely want to get a few spots better [Saturday], and I think we’re close and heading in the right direction”

Even though he finished in the top-three, he never posed a threat to either Madden or Overton.

Rick Eckert, the 2011 Series champion, finished fourth, and Rookie of the Year contender Tyler Bruening crossed the line fifth.

Sheppard’s point lead is down to 54 points over Madden. Tyler Bruening moved up to third and has a six-point lead over Kyle Strickler – who has joined Scott Bloomquist Racing for the weekend – in the race for Rookie of the Year.

Northeast Tripleheader on Tap for World of Outlaws Late Models

CONCORD, NC - One of the biggest weekends for the World of Outlaws Morton Buildings Late Models’ is only a month away. Three tracks. Three days.

It’s the first time the Series will race at three different tracks in one weekend. It’ll also mark the second round of the Northeast swing for the 2021 season.

The swing kicks off Thursday, June 17, when The Most Powerful Late Models on the Planet visit Stateline Speedway, in Busti, NY. It’s the only time the Series travels to the Empire State this year.

Then, on Friday, June 18, the Series moves south to Thunder Mountain Speedway for its third appearance at the Knox Dale, PA track.

The final race of the weekend is on Saturday, June 19, when the Series travels to Selinsgrove Speedway in Selinsgrove, PA for the Late Model National Open.

Mike Marlar Earns First Lucas Oil Victory of 2021 at 300 Raceway

FARLEY, IA - Mike Marlar remained consistently near the front throughout the event, and with three laps to go, took over the top spot on his way to the win at 300 Raceway. Kyle Bronson led the main event until he suffered a flat right rear tire under a lap 47 caution. Marlar led the rest of the way for his first Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series win of 2021 in the Truck Country 50.

With the win, Marlar becomes the 12th different winner in 15 Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series events this season. Tyler Erb finished in second. Bronson finished third. Tim McCreddie, who pitted several times during the event to fix front end damage early in the race, recovered to finish in fourth. Ricky Thornton Jr. rounded out the top five.

Bronson controlled the race from the onset and held off brief challenges from Josh Richards and Marlar throughout the race. He looked to be on his way to his first series win of the year, but during a caution flag with 47 laps scored Bronson had to head to the hot pit for a tire change.

"That was a hard-earned win. I don't know how that worked out, but we got it. I hate what happened to Kyle with that flat tire near the end. Kyle called me coming up the road last night and those guys have been working really hard to get better. He was hauling the mail tonight for sure. It was good to see him run so well like he did. Sometimes you run out of laps. I have had a flat with just a couple of laps to go before," said the 43-year-old racer in his full season with the series.

"We needed this win tonight," Marlar added. "We have been struggling this year. One night we run second and the next night we run twenty fifth. To have a good finish was nice tonight. My team and car owner deserve this, they put so much into this. We have a lot of great friends in Iowa and Missouri so its good to run in front of them."

Erb fought off an exciting battle with Pierce to pick up the runner-up position.

"We survived with a lot of patience tonight. I was just trying to keep the nose on it. We have been

running really good here the last few weeks. It was exciting for me out there for sure. Bobby ran a really good race. I can't thank him enough for racing me clean."

The winner's Ronnie Delk-owned Capital Race Car is powered by a Cornett Racing Engine and is sponsored by Tri-Rivers Enterprise, Penske Shocks, Rockets Convenience Plus, Delk Equipment, and Can Am Auto Sales.

Completing the top ten were Ricky Thornton Jr., Hudson O'Neal, Josh Richards, Matt Furman, and Jimmy Owens.

Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series at 34 Raceway Postponed

WEST BURLINGTON, IA -The Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series stop at 34 Raceway in West Burlington, Iowa has been postponed to Thursday, July 15.

Persistent rain throughout the morning on an already saturated facility forced the postponement.

The \$15,000-to-win, CRST, The Transportation Solution 50 at 34 Raceway on July 15 sets up a trio of action-packed events with over \$150,000 in prize money on the line.

The NAPA Know How 50 boasts a \$12,000 top prize on Friday, July 16 at Tri-City Speedway, while on Saturday, July 17, Lucas Oil Speedway hosts the 15th Annual Diamond Nationals paying \$15,000-to-win.

Brandon Ford TV Race Challenge Continues at Show-Me 100

BATAVIA, OH - The Brandon Ford TV Race Challenge continues this week at the Lucas Oil Show-Me 100 Presented by ProtectTheHarvest.com.

Brandon Ford, the World's Largest Volume Ford Dealer, provides the Official Pace Truck of the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series. In 2021, Brandon Ford expanded their partnership of the premier national tour to include support of the TV Race Challenge.

This year's Show-Me 100 will broadcast LIVE on the MAVTV Motorsports Network on Saturday, May 29th. Both Thursday and Friday's preliminary events will be taped for broadcast on MAVTV Mo-



Mike Marlar raced his way to his first Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series victory of the season at 300 Raceway in the Truck Country 50. Marlar was near the front for most of the race and capitalized on a flat tire by Kyle Bronson to take the win. (lucasdirt.com photo)

torsports Network later in the year, while all three nights will be live on MAVTVPlus.com.

The Brandon Ford TV Race Challenge will award points to drivers at the 32 televised events broadcasted on Network TV within the series schedule in 2021. The winner of the Brandon Ford TV Race Challenge will receive a \$10,000 cash award, while second and third will receive \$3,000 and \$2,000 respectively at the year-end awards banquet.

The talent of the nation's top dirt late model drivers will be put on display along the way, not only at each venue during the live streams on MAVTV Plus, but also during the 32 broadcast events on the MAVTV Motorsports Network, 15 events on CBS Sports Network, 5 events on CBS, and 13 events on the NBC Sports Network.

Currently Brandon Overton leads Hudson O'Neal, Devin Moran, Brandon Sheppard and Kyle Bronson in the Brandon Ford TV Race Challenge standings. For complete standings visit: <https://lucasdirt.com/points/2021-points>.

"A huge thanks to Wayne Hammond and everyone at Brandon Ford for sponsoring the TV Race Challenge in 2021. Having additional money for the racers to shoot for adds to the excitement of our TV package in 2021. The drivers always want to perform at their best when the TV cameras are on, but having the added cash incentives to compete for during TV races makes every position count," stated Wayne Castleberry, Corporate Motorsports Sales and Marketing for Lucas Oil Products.

Brandon Ford, located in Tampa, FL, has won Ford's prestigious President's Award 17 years in a row, saluting the top-performing

Ford and Lincoln dealerships that pursue excellence in the highest levels of customer satisfaction in both sales and service. Brandon Ford has one of the largest inventories of new and pre-owned vehicles in the nation.

To learn more about Brandon Ford or if you are interested in purchasing a vehicle, visit: www.branfordford.com.

Show-Me 100 action kicks off on May 27 with the "Cowboy Classic" for Late Models headlining the program, with a \$6,000-to-win, \$600-to-start main event which also enables drivers to earn valuable points toward starting position into the night-night main event. The USRA Modifieds feature winner will earn \$750.

The "Tribute to Don and Billie Gibson" on May 28 also will see a \$6,000-to-win feature with more points earned for the starting lineup the next night. USRA Modifieds compete for a \$750-to-win feature with more points collected toward the final-night main event.

The May 29 program includes B Mains, the Midwest Sheet Metal Show-Me Challenge and the 100-lap, \$30,000-to-win main event along with a \$1,500-to-win USRA Modified feature.

For more information about the Show-Me 100 visit www.lucasoil-speedway.com.

For more information about the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series and the Lucas Oil MLRA visit www.lucasdirt.com and www.mlrracing.com.

For the latest breaking news concerning the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series, including the latest series standings, 2021 tour schedule, driver information, and more visit the official website at: www.lucasdirt.com.

It's Scott Bogucki at Tri-City Speedway with The Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series

PONTON BEACH, IL - Chasing the first 19 laps at Tri-City Speedway, a late-race red flag put the lead into Scott Bogucki's hands, and the SawBlade.com No. 28 was able to hold off the last lap charge of Colton

Hardy for his first victory of the season with the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network.

"It got really narrow up top in the closing laps. Honestly, it was tricky because we were tight early, so when Seth would get into traffic, he could move through better than we could. I kept getting rolled up, but I just had to be patient. I'm not very good at that, but I'm slowly, slowly, learning," chuckled Bogucki of the night's festivities. "When we had cautions, Anthony, my crew guy, was signaling me that I was doing everything right, so at the very end, we were good."

In pursuit of Seth Bergman, the Stagg Insurance No. 23 was un-touchable the opening 19 laps. Able to run through traffic with ease, it was traffic that was Bergman's undoing. Chasing the No. 47x of Dylan Westbrook to put him a lap down, the right rear suddenly gave up, trapping Seth behind the No. 47x. Hard into the tail tank of Dylan, the result was Seth flipping into the turn-one fence. Bergman was able to walk away.

Handing the lead to Bogucki, the No. 28 made it to the white flag with breathing room, only to see caution lights come on for a pair of cars stopped on the track. Restarting with Colton Hardy in pursuit, the Phoenix, Ariz. shoe rolled into the final two turns with a full head of steam, but contact with the wall sealed the deal for Bogucki's fifth career National Tour victory.

Hardy's best career finish against the National Tour, the defending ASCS Southwest Regional Champion, was pursued by Matt Covington, who had second until Hardy rolled by on Lap 23. Blake Hahn from 10th made it to fourth, with J.J. Hickle following from 11th to complete the top five.

Picking up 10 positions, Missouri's Tyler Blank was quite the

show as the highest finishing driver with the Racinboys.com ASCS Warrior Region presented by Impact Signs, Awnings, and Wraps. Tyler Thomas from 14th ended up seventh, with Alex Hill rebounding from the tail to finish eighth. Ryan Bickett was then night's Hard Charger with 11 spots gained in ninth. Colby Thornhill completed the top ten for the second time in his career.

A field of 23 was on hand Friday night with SCE Gaskets Heat Race wins going to Garet Williamson, Scott Bogucki, and Matt Covington. Everyone started the SawBlade.com A-Feature.

The next event for the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network and Racinboys.com ASCS Warrior Region presented by Impact Signs, Awnings, and Wraps will be Saturday, May 29, and Sunday, May 30 at Lake Ozark Speedway in Eldon, Mo. The weekend finale offers teams a \$10,000 payday.

The 2021 season is the 30th year of competition for the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network.

For the first time, the series can be seen live on two platforms, with



Scott Bogucki is all smiles in victory lane after bringing home the win with the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series at Tri-City Speedway. (ASCS photo)

Racinboys.com and FloRacing.com featuring National Tour events in tandem. Both are subscription-based sites. FloRacing.com is \$20 per month, billed annually at \$150 per year. Racinboys.com is \$29.99 per month.

For other news, notes, and information on the American Sprint Car Series, from the National Tour to any of the Regional Tours that make up ASCS Nation in 2021, log onto www.ascsracing.com, follow on Facebook, on Instagram, and Twitter (@LucasOilASCS).

Heavy Rain Cancels Saturday at I-30 Speedway

LITTLE ROCK, AK - Receiving over seven inches of rain since Wednesday, and not enough time

to dry, officials with I-30 Speedway have made the tough call to cancel Saturday's events with the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series on Saturday, May 22 as the grounds are nearly flooded.

ASCS Lone Star/ Mid-South Event at Texarkana 67 Canceled By Rain

TEXARKANA, AR - Heavy rain throughout the week having already saturated the area, and a forecast calling for even more rain, officials at Texarkana 67 Speedway have made the call to cancel the showdown between the ASCS Lone Star and Mid-South Regions on Friday, May 21.

ASCS and track officials are looking for a date to reschedule.

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LOWER LAP TIMES

Zeb Wise Scores Rayce Rudeen Foundation Race Victory at Kokomo

KOKOMO, IN - In a showdown of epic proportions, Zeb Wise and Wise-Priddy Racing topped them all on Sunday evening at Kokomo Speedway in Kokomo, Indiana, eventually out-dueling a stacked field of 42 FloRacing All Star Circuit of Champions presented by Mobil 1 competitors and securing the largest payday of Wise's open wheel resume. Adding a little extra depth to the stat sheet, the Rayce Rudeen Foundation Race victory, which earned the recent high school graduate a \$26,000 top prize, was the first All Star Circuit of Champions win of Wise's short but distinguished career.

"I've had this event highlighted on our calendar since I saw it come out on the schedule," Wise said, driver of the Sundollar Restoration General Contractors, Quikpits.com, No. 10 sprint car. "Our goal was to be in contention for a win, let alone be standing up here in front of all of you great fans. We knew it was going to be tough, but here we are. This is awesome."

Although Wise would come out on top, the 40-lap Rayce Rudeen Foundation Race was an all-out war involving four different leaders and seven different lead changes. Tyler Courtney, who ultimately secured the All Stars Indiana Invasion presented by Rayce Rudeen Foundation four-race championship for \$10,000, was the first to lead at Kokomo, controlling the first nine circuits before the "Macho Man" Brady Bacon made his presence known after a restart with nine in the books.

After firing around the outside of Courtney, Bacon maintained the point until lap 18 when the Broken Arrow, Oklahoma-native pulled to a stop during a caution, eventually making his way pit-side. Bacon's surrender allowed the "Madman" Kerry Madsen to inherit the top spot. Madsen actually ripped by Bacon one lap prior, but the aforementioned caution negated his move.

The lap 19 caution and ensuing restart not only proved to be beneficial for Madsen, but also Zeb Wise, as the Angola, Indiana-native powered ahead from fifth to second

in just one circuit, using the cushion to drive right by Tyler Courtney and Rico Abreu. Just four circuits later, Wise was the new man in charge, using a big slider through turns one and two to get by Madsen on lap 23. Madsen returned the favor quickly, getting back by Wise on lap 24.

The war between Wise and Madsen continued through lap 34, swapping slide jobs and battling side-by-side for several circuits while trying to negotiate a slew of slower cars. A move by Madsen to split a pair of lappers on lap 32 looked to be the winning move, but an eventual mishap with traffic cut Madsen's 40-lap contest short leaving the lead to Wise with only six laps left on the board.

From that point forward, it was all Zeb Wise at the front of the field. Tyler Courtney held strong to finish second, followed by Rico Abreu - a third consecutive podium finish for the St. Helena, California-native - a hard charging Cole Macedo from the B-Main, and Scotty Thiel.

"I just knew to hammer the heck out of it and don't screw up," Wise said of his final restart with Courtney and Abreu breathing down his neck. "I've raced with Tyler (Courtney) a lot here so I expected him to be racing around the bottom. I just wanted to hammer the top of one and two to get a gap on him, then get to the bottom of three and four. Kerry (Madsen) actually got by me on the bottom in three so I knew I wanted to change it up and get down there."

Abreu capped his Indiana Invasion with a runner-up finish in the final weekend standings, followed by Hunter Schuerenberg, Justin



Zeb Wise raced his way to his first career All Star Circuit of Champions win. Wise scored the Rayce Rudeen Foundation Race victory at Kokomo Speedway. (Riegler Racing Photography photo)

Peck, and Zeb Wise; second through fifth were awarded \$7,000, \$4,000, \$3,000, and \$2,000, respectively.

For those who can not witness the All Star Circuit of Champions live and in person, FloRacing.com, the official media partner and broadcast provider of the All Stars, has you covered. To access live and on-demand racing action from the All Star Circuit of Champions, visit FloRacing.com and become an annual PRO subscriber. Race fans can see all the USAC and dirt late-model action they want in addition to Eldora Speedway's slate of races and those of the All Star Circuit of Champions. The subscription unlocks access to pre-

mium content across the entire FloSports network. Watch the events across all screens by downloading the FloSports app on iOS, Android, Apple TV, Roku, Amazon Fire and Chromecast.

Cap Henry Scores First All Star Victory of 2021 in Epic Gas City Return

GAS CITY, IN - The result of an all-out slugfest, Republic, Ohio's Cap Henry finally etched his name on the 2021 FloRacing All Star Circuit of Champions presented by Mobil 1 win list, doing so in epic fashion during All Stars Indiana Invasion presented by Rayce Rudeen Foundation competition at Gas City I-69 Speedway in Gas City, Indiana. Henry, who now owns five All Star victories over the course of his career, earned his eventual \$6,000 payday from the front row, forced to outduel and outwit St. Helena, California's Rico Abreu. Adding some flair to the record books, Henry's victory occurred during just the second-ever Gas City visit by the All Stars; Dale Blaney scored the first visit win in 2004.

"You know when you're racing Rico, it's never going to be easy," Henry said in Gas City victory lane. "I felt bad kinda using up the

(Continued Next Page)



Cap Henry celebrates in victory lane after winning at Gas City I-69 Speedway. (DB3 Imaging photo)

Continued...

lappers there near the end, but we were racing for the win. My guys have been working so hard this year. We had a bad start to the year, so I wasn't about to throw that one away."

Although starting from the outside-pole position, Henry, aboard the Lane Racing, Blake's Hard Cider, No. 4 sprint car, did not earn the lead initially. Instead,

Abreu, who started alongside Henry on the front row, got the early jump, maintaining control of the field for the first 15 circuits while surviving three early race restarts and the initial run-in with traffic.

Abreu's confrontation with a two-to-three wide traffic jam allowed Henry to close in on the Rico Abreu/Curb Agajanian Racing No. 24 sprint car, eventually working his way around Abreu with a slick move off of turn four on lap 16.

By lap 22, Abreu was back on Henry's heels, capitalizing after the Buckeye nearly made contact with a backmarker. A slider through turns three and four would ultimately give the lap to Abreu, but Henry quickly returned the favor and resumed the point with a move of his own in the very next corner.

A late race caution on lap 26 would actually give Henry the breather that he needed. With traffic no longer a factor, Henry would go on to navigate the final five circuits with ease, claiming high honors by a final margin of victory equalling 1.210 seconds. Abreu held on to finish second, followed by Bill Balog, Kerry Madsen, and Justin Peck.

Tyler Courtney Caps Circle City Sweep with \$10,000 Finale Win Over Rico Abreu

INDIANAPOLIS, IN - Padding a stretch of success that now includes three victories in his last four FloRacing All Star Circuit of Champions presented by Mobil 1 starts, "Sunshine" Tyler Courtney represented his hometown fanbase well on Friday evening and steered his Clauson Marshall Racing, NOS Energy Drink, Turbo, No. 7BC sprint car to another All Stars Indiana Invasion presented by Rayce Rudeen Foundation win at Circle City Raceway, officially sweeping



Tyler Courtney swept both nights of action with the All Star Circuit of Champions at Circle City Raceway. (Riegle Racing Photography photo)

the weekend and collecting a total winner's share equalling \$16,000; \$6,000 during the Thursday opener and \$10,000 during the Friday finale.

In addition, Courtney's Friday night win allowed the Indianapolis, Indiana-native to take control of the All Star Circuit of Champions points lead, simultaneously extending his Indiana Invasion points standings lead to 12 markers over "Hunter Percent" Hunter Schuerenberg. The Indiana Invasion overall champion will earn a \$10,000 bonus.

"This is surreal," Tyler Courtney said in Circle City victory lane. "These guys make my job so easy. This team gives me the best opportunity to come out here and compete with the best, as well as be at the top of our game. It's my job to capitalize and right now we are hitting on all eight cylinders. We still have two more races this weekend and a lot more money up for grabs."

Courtney, who now owns five consecutive top-two finishes with Tony Stewart's All Stars, was forced to fend off St. Helena, California's Rico Abreu during his route to Circle City victory lane. Starting alongside Abreu on the front row, the top two exchanged positions on two occasions during the 40-lap blockbuster, the first with Abreu sling-shotting around Courtney to take command on lap 14. Eleven laps later, Courtney was back in control, utilizing the bottom groove at the exit of turn four to sneak back by Abreu on lap 25.

Despite the first 22 laps being slowed for five cautions, laps 23 through 40 went non-stop, ultimately creating what would be an exciting duel in traffic between Courtney and Abreu. Although Courtney remained on top until the conclusion, Abreu did his best to get back by the former USAC Na-

tional Sprint Car champion, pounding the cushion all the way around Circle City's quarter-mile.

Lapped traffic with ten to go created one last opportunity to Abreu, but despite the attempts, Courtney persevered, eventually extending his lead to just shy of one second by feature's end. Hunter Schuerenberg would climb eight spots to finish third, followed by Scotty Thiel, and recent high school graduate, Zeb Wise.

"Getting to win in your home city, in front of all of your friends and family, is really cool," Courtney continued. "To come to a place that is brand new with a lot of unknowns and be this fast says a lot about our team right now. I'm having a blast out here."

Tyler Courtney Opens All Stars Indiana Invasion with Win at Circle City Raceway

INDIANAPOLIS, IN - For the second time in three starts, Indianapolis, Indiana's Tyler Courtney is a FloRacing All Star Circuit of Champions presented by Mobil 1 main event winner, earning his second during round one of the All Stars Indiana Invasion presented by Rayce Rudeen Foundation at the all-new Circle City Raceway at Marion County Fairgrounds in Indianapolis, Indiana. Securing a \$6,000 payday for his efforts, the driver of the Clauson Marshall Racing, NOS Energy Drink, Turbo, No. 7BC sprint car has not finished worse than second in four consecutive All Star starts, acquiring his first Series victory at I-96 Speedway in Lake Odessa, Michigan, on Friday, May 14.

Nearly capitalizing on a restart with three

to go, Marion, Illinois' Carson Short finished second at Circle City, followed by Hunter Schuerenberg, Zeb Wise, and Bill Balog. Earning the pole position by way of dash victory, Schuerenberg led the opening circuit before Courtney drove by the Vermeer Motorsports entry at the exit of turn four the following lap.

In addition, the All Stars Indiana Invasion presented by Rayce Rudeen Foundation opener was the first-ever event held at Circle City Raceway; the All Stars will return Friday for a \$10,000-to-win finale.

"Man, this is awesome," Tyler Courtney said in All Star victory lane. "We needed to get that first win out of the way to build some positive momentum on our side, and here we are. To say I'm the first-ever winner at Circle City is pretty cool. They did a phenomenal job with this place. It's only going to go up from here. And I'm excited to have a track only thirty minutes from home."

As mentioned, a caution with three laps remaining opened the door for Short. After working his way forward from seventh to second in just ten laps, Short was in hot pursuit of the Clauson Marshall Racing entry, keeping the familiar No. 7BC in sight even when the frontrunners found themselves battling with slower cars. Four cautions in the first 20 circuits kept traffic out of the equation during the early stages of the 35-lapper, but a round of slower cars soon entered the picture with less than ten laps remaining; the eventual caution on lap 33 ended the confrontation.

Letting it all hang out in the final three laps, Short utilized the very bottom groove to eventually pull even with "Sunshine." Despite a last-ditch effort slider through turns three and four, Courtney held strong, squeezing back by Short to lead the final circuit and ultimately earn his second All Star win in less than a week; the final margin of victory was .142 seconds.

"I kinda got too conservative there on that last restart," Courtney added. "We almost gave it away, but luckily for us Carson (Short) is a good, clean racer and he left me just enough room off of four to get back by. We led the lap that counts and that's all that matters."



**Charlotte
Motor Speedway**
CONCORD, NC -

Earlier this week, Coca-Cola Racing Family driver Joey Logano met virtually with troops from American Forces Network Pacific and the U.S. Army 38th Air Defense Artillery Brigade from Japan, as part of Charlotte Motor Speedway's virtual Mission 600. As a prelude to the 62nd running of the Coca-Cola

600 on Memorial Day Weekend, Mission 600 was designed to honor the men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces by pairing drivers with military bases to educate the NASCAR community about the day-to-day lives of the men and women who serve.

While the traditional Mission 600 connected drivers with regional military bases, the ongoing pandemic shifted plans to a virtual video teleconference. The virtual opportunity opened the door for Logano to spend nearly an hour with troops currently based 6,800 miles away, in Japan.

During the visit, the U.S. Army's 38th Air Defense Artillery Brigade showcased simulated live-fire training capabilities on a state-of-the-art Engagement Skills Trainer (EST) II, which facilitates marksmanship and judgmental escalation-of-force exercises for individuals and squads. Troops from the U.S. Army Medical Department Activity-Japan used lifelike mannequins called Tactical Combat Casualty Care Exportables to demonstrate how they train to administer emergency aid in the field.

"When you think of what Mission 600 is doing, it's shining a light on what our U.S. military is doing for us citizens every single day, whether you know it or not" Logano said. "Memorial Day is a very special day for a lot of reasons. It's always a good time to remember what the military has done for us in the past, obviously, but what is going on right now. It's so easy for us to live in our own little world and worry about our own little problems. It's refreshing to take a step back and understand what these men and women are doing... They don't even know me and they're willing to put their lives on the line for me."

Following the military demonstrations, Logano shared some of the tools of the trade that he uses



During this week's Mission 600 virtual visit with Coca-Cola Racing Family driver Joey Logano, U.S. Army Medical Department Activity-Japan used lifelike mannequins called Tactical Combat Casualty Care Exportables to demonstrate how they train to administer emergency aid in the field. (CMS photo)

to keep himself sharp and safe in his racing career, including his iRacing simulator, fire suit, Hans device and race helmet.

At the conclusion of the visit, Logano asked and fielded questions from the units, which ranged from radio communications technology to shared connections in his hometown in Connecticut and Bristol, Tenn.

"I just want to thank everyone that is on this call that has served in our military or is serving in the military... I wish I could shake everybody's hand right now," Logano said. "It's one of those things that I just cannot fathom in my mind what it would be like in some of these combat moments."

Logano's virtual visit was the fifth and final Mission 600 engagement of the 2021 campaign. Mission 600 kicked off at Arlington National Cemetery, where 2020 Coca-Cola 600 winner Brad Keselowski went to pay his respects last month. Logano joins fellow Coca-Cola Racing Family drivers Ryan Newman (Marine Special Operations Command, Camp Lejeune), Austin Dillon (Army Central Kuwait) and Daniel Suárez (U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Richard Snyder) in taking part in Mission 600.

FOLLOW US: Keep track of all of Charlotte Motor Speedway's events during its 60th anniversary season by following on Twitter and Instagram or become a Facebook fan. Keep up with all the latest news and information with the Charlotte Motor Speedway mobile app.

Nashville Superspeedway

LEBANON, TN - Nashville Superspeedway, with the approval from local and state health officials, will have no attendance restrictions throughout the weekend, including

for the "Ally 400" NASCAR Cup Series race on Father's Day, Sunday, June 20, track officials announced today. Tickets for the "Ally 400" are sold out.

Nashville Superspeedway's capacity crowd of 38,000 will experience Middle Tennessee's first NASCAR Cup Series race in 37 years when America's best drivers take the green flag for the "Ally 400" (2:30 p.m. CT, NBCSN). It is anticipated that the race will feature the first full-capacity sellout at a NASCAR track since the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic struck last spring.

"This is an incredible milestone and shows all the progress we as a society and a sport have made against COVID-19," said Erik Moses, Nashville Superspeedway's president. "It also shows us how eager race fans in this area are to see the return of the NASCAR Cup Series."

"We appreciate the confidence that local and state health officials have shown in us to host our fans in a responsible way. The protocols and procedures we will have in place, along with the excitement surrounding the NASCAR Cup Series' return to Nashville, will create the first of many sold out events at Nashville Superspeedway."

Some planned COVID-19 safety measures on race weekend include:

- Fans that are not fully vaccinated are highly encouraged to wear facemasks throughout the property, including in the grandstands, except when eating or drinking in accordance with CDC guidelines.
- Enhanced cleaning procedures in high-traffic areas, including concession and restroom areas, and plentiful hand sanitizer stations.
- Coolers will not be permitted in

the grandstand, reducing the need to search them as part of the admission process.

Nashville Superspeedway continues to sell tickets for the first two races on its Father's Day weekend slate, including the "Tennessee Lottery 250" NASCAR Xfinity Series race on Saturday, June 19 (2:30 p.m. CT, NBCSN) and the "Rackley Roofing 200" NASCAR Camping World Truck Series race under the lights on Friday, June 18 (7 p.m. CT, FS1). While tickets from Nashville Superspeedway for the Ally 400 are sold out, verified resellers continue to offer tickets on TicketMaster.com.

Fans can order tickets for the June 18-19 events by visiting NashvilleSuperSpeedway.com or calling 866-RACETIX.

Keep track of Nashville Superspeedway's latest news and updates at NashvilleSuperSpeedway.com via social media at Facebook.com/NashvilleSuperspeedway, on Twitter at @nashvillesupers and Instagram @nashvillesuperspeedway. For questions about media relations, employment, or other inquiries, interested parties are encouraged to e-mail info@nashvillesuperspeedway.com.

Sonoma Raceway

SONOMA, CA - The Sonoma chapter of Speedway Children's Charities (SCC), the charitable arm of Sonoma Raceway, is dedicated to raising much-needed funds during raceway major events. As part of this year's Toyota/Save Mart 350 NASCAR Cup Series weekend festivities, SCC is offering three incredible ways fans can support Sonoma County youth-serving organizations with Laps for Charity, Fan in the Stand Cutouts and an online charity auction.

SCC will offer Laps for Charity on Friday June 4, the first ever event of its kind during NASCAR weekend, which runs June 5-6. This lead-and-follow session will consist of three spirited laps in the participants own vehicle across the Start/Finish line and through the Carousel on the 12-turn, 2.52-mile road course. Cost is \$225 per car and eight sessions are available between 10:20 a.m. and 12:40 p.m. The event will be held adhering to COVID-19 protocols, including social distancing and facial coverings.

The 2021 Sonoma Charity Online Auction features a Zoom chat with NASCAR Cup Series driver

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and Elk Grove native Kyle Larson, hot laps in Sears Point Racing Experience race cars, Jeff Gordon-signed bottles of wine, autographed memorabilia by 2018 and 2019 race winner Martin Truex Jr. and three-time Sonoma polesitter Larson as well as a Jimmie Johnson-signed mini-helmet. The auction, which runs through Thursday, May 27 at noon

PT, is at www.sccauctions.com.

Fans can also participate in a fan cutout program at the Toyota/Save Mart 350. The fan cutouts, which will be interspersed with race fans at the race on Sunday, June 6 will be located in the main grandstand overlooking the start/finish line.

Fans can purchase and upload their image by visiting shop.fan-cutouts.com/products/sonoma-toyota-save-mart-350. Cost is \$100 for a "Super Fan Cutout" and includes a personalized image placed in the main grandstand as well as access to Virtual Victory Lane, which grants preferred digital access to watch the race winner celebrate in Sonoma Raceway's Victory Lane. Fans can also purchase the "Fan in the Stand" general cutout option for \$75. The deadline to order your fan cut out for race day is May 28.

The Sonoma chapter of SCC has distributed more than \$6.8 million to Sonoma County youth groups since 2001. For more information or to make a direct donation, visit www.speedwaycharities.org/Sonoma or contact Cheri Plattner (cplattner@SonomaRaceway.com or 707-933-3950).

Charlotte Motor Speedway

CONCORD, NC - With capacity restrictions lifted, tens of thousands of fans are expected at Charlotte Motor Speedway – and millions more will tune in from around the world – for an action-packed Coca-Cola 600 weekend this Friday through Sunday, and there will be no shortage of storylines to keep fans on the edge of their seat during the first-ever triple-header weekend of racing at the iconic superspeedway.

Here are a few of the top storylines to watch this weekend:

- The Door's Wide Open: Kyle Busch, an eight-time winner of the

North Carolina Education Lottery 200, is not scheduled to participate in this year's NASCAR Camping World Truck Series event at Charlotte Motor Speedway. Busch's absence substantially increases the probability of the race having a new winner as veterans Matt Crafton (2008 & 2016) and Johnny Sauter (2018) are the only current Truck Series regulars who have visited Victory Lane at the storied 1.5-mile superspeedway. However, that new winner could be one of Busch's drivers, as Kyle Busch Motorsports will field Toyota Tundras for John Hunter Nemechek, Chandler Smith and Drew Dollar.

- Exclusive Club: Only two drivers – Rob Moroso (1989) and Tyler Reddick (2019) – have won the AlSCO Uniforms 300 and the NASCAR Xfinity Series championship in the same year. Defending series champion Austin Cindric and Justin Allgaier, who finished second to Cindric in the title chase a year ago, are among those who could make that select group a trio. Cindric has two top-10 finishes in three AlSCO Uniforms 300 starts. Allgaier has recorded top-five finishes in the two most recent AlSCO Uniforms 300s. He was second to Reddick in 2019 and came home fifth behind Kyle Busch last year.

- Another First-Time Winner?: NASCAR's run of 11 different winners in the first 14 Cup Series races of the season says a great deal about the level of parity in the sport. It also bodes well for the possibility of having another first-time series winner in the Coca-Cola 600. Seven drivers have earned their first Cup Series victory in the race many consider to be the sport's toughest. The list is comprised of David Pearson, 1961; Jeff Gordon, 1994; Bobby Labonte, 1995; Matt Kenseth, 2000; Casey Mears, 2007; David Reutimann, 2009; and Austin Dillon, 2017. Drivers who could break the ice in the 62nd Coca-Cola 600 include Matt DiBenedetto, Tyler Reddick, Bubba Wallace, Ross Chastain and Chase Briscoe.

- Four Stages: The Coca-Cola 600 is the only NASCAR Cup Series race of the season that is broken into four stages of 100 laps each. Since the start of the 2017 season, NASCAR has utilized stage racing as part of an enhanced competition format for its trio of national series. All events, with the exception of the Coca-Cola 600, are comprised of three stages. The fourth stage gives drivers an extra opportunity to secure a play-off point by winning the stage and

accumulate stage points by placing among the top-10 finishers in that portion of the race.

- Join the Club: Some of the biggest names in NASCAR today are still searching for their first-ever Coca-Cola 600 win. Between them, Denny Hamlin and Joey Logano have four Daytona 500 wins and a pair Southern 500 triumphs, but neither has taken the checkered at NASCAR's toughest test of man and machine. Logano has already tasted victory once this season, besting the field on the dirt at Bristol Motor Speedway. Hamlin is still searching for his first win in 2021. Chase Elliott not only won the NASCAR Cup Series title last season, but also the AlSCO Uniforms 500 and the Bank of America ROVAL 400. He fell one spot short of a season sweep at Charlotte, including what would have been his first Coca-Cola 600 win, finishing second to Brad Keselowski. Elliott brings a lot of confidence to this year's race after notching his first win of 2021 Sunday at COTA. A victory would not only add to the resumes of any of these veteran drivers, but it would also add an iconic Bruton Smith Trophy to their respective trophy case.

TICKETS: Log on to www.charlottemotorspeedway.com for tickets, schedules and more information on the weekend's three days of action-packed racing. Sunday's Coca-Cola 600 tickets start at just \$59. Kids 13 and under get in for just \$10 for Sunday's Coca-Cola 600 and for FREE on Friday and Saturday.

FOLLOW US: Keep track of all of Charlotte Motor Speedways attractions and events by following on Twitter and Instagram or become a Facebook fan. Keep up with all the latest news and information with the Charlotte Motor Speedway mobile app.

Texas Motor Speedway

FORT WORTH, TX - A wise promoter once said, "If we don't make a big deal out of it, nobody will."

The NASCAR All-Star Race coming to Texas Motor Speedway on Sunday, June 13, for the very first time is a really big deal. It's NASCAR best of the best putting it all on the line with the goal of walking away with a big bag of dough at the end of the night ... \$1 million to be exact.

All-star competitions have evolved

over time into more than a single-day event and the NASCAR All-Star Race is no exception. To that end, No Limits, Texas has created the All-Star 10 Days of Speed, a week-and-a-half's worth of entertainment, activities, excitement and fun that will build into a crescendo and conclude with the 100-lap dash for the cash on the famed 1.5-mile oval celebrating its 25th Season of Speed.

Texas Motor Speedway is opening multiple campgrounds outside the race track proper beginning Friday, June 4 and until Monday, June 14. The campgrounds include the Winstar World Casino & Resort Lone Star Circle Campground, Winstar World Casino & Resort Victory Circle Campground, GEICO VIP Campground, family and tent camping. GEICO Infield and Big Frig's Burnout Alley camping open Thursday, June 10.

Events and activities scheduled to take place at the speedway during the All-Star 10 Days of Speed include: the Goodguys 1st Meguiar's All-Star Get-Together (June 4-6); a three-day All-Star Kickoff Festival (June 7-9) including drive-in movies, NASCAR Racing Experience rides, and a car show and Q&A with NASCAR Hall of Fame drivers Terry and Bobby Labonte; the All-Star Sprint Car Showdown at the Texas Motor Speedway Dirt Track (June 10-11); the NASCAR All-Star Fan Zone (June 12-13); and the All-Star Texas Midway (June 4-13).

Off-site activities include: All-Star Parades at The Stockyards in Fort Worth (June 6); All-Star Bill Walker Gears & Greens Golf Tournament benefitting Speedway Children's Charities at the Cowboys Golf Club in Grapevine (June 8); the Labonte Brothers Clay Shoot benefitting Speedway Children's Charities at the Circle T Ranch in Westlake (June 9).

Activities will continue throughout the weekend but the majority of the focus will be centered on NASCAR. The on-track activity begins June 12 with a doubleheader, opening with the NASCAR

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Camping World Truck Series Speedy-Cash.com 220 (12 p.m. CT on FS1, MRN, and 95.9 The Ranch) followed at 3 p.m. CT by the NASCAR Xfinity Series Alcos Uniforms powered by Cheddar's 250 (FS1, PRN, 95.9 The Ranch). Then, on Sunday, June 13, is the NASCAR All-Star Open (5 p.m. CT on FS1, MRN and 95.9

The Ranch) followed by the \$1 million NASCAR All-Star Race (7 p.m. CT on FS1, MRN and 95.9 The Ranch).

TICKETS: Tickets for Texas Motor Speedway's 2021 major event season, including the June 13 NASCAR All-Star Race, are on sale now at <http://www.texasmotorspeedway.com>.

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

Nashville Superspeedway

LEBANON, TN - Staying true to its Music City roots, Nashville Superspeedway today announced the launch of its "NashCar Superstar" Sweepstakes, inviting musicians to audition for a chance to sing the national anthem prior to the "Rackley Roofing 200" NASCAR Camping World Truck Series race on Friday, June 18. Contestants can enter the competition at NashcarSuperstar.com.

The centerpiece of the June 18-20 weekend is the "Ally 400" NASCAR Cup Series race on Sunday, June 20 (2:30 p.m. CT, NBCSN), the inaugural NASCAR Cup Series race in Nashville Superspeedway's history and the first Cup Series race in Middle Tennessee in 37 years.

"Nashville is a special place for many reasons, but 'Music City' is what really makes it magic. When we were looking for artists to perform our national anthem it became clear that the very best talent is right in our backyard, and sometimes it's not the person at the top of the charts," said Erik Moses, president of Nashville Superspeedway. "In this city some of the most amazing performances happen on smaller stages. We want those artists on our big stage for race

weekend, and we can't wait to see the talent that emerges from this contest."

Contestants are called to upload a video of themselves singing the national anthem via the contest site. Entry videos will go live on the "NashCar Superstar" website for the public to enjoy. To narrow down the top entries, videos will be vetted by the Nashville Superspeedway staff and the top 3 finalists will be determined by May 24. In keeping with most singing competitions, the fans will make the final vote on who they want to sing the national anthem.

"On Father's Day Weekend, the Nashville Superspeedway will be all about NASCAR, but in the future, it will be a mainstay for all things entertainment, from food festivals to concerts," Moses said. "Tapping into our local talent was a natural fit for race weekend, and for our future as venue. This event is one of many that will shake up our city."

Individuals and groups are welcome to submit videos. All videos must be 1:30 – 2 minutes. Finalists will be announced May 24.

Tickets are available in the main grandstand for Nashville Superspeedway's first two races on its Father's Day weekend slate, the "Tennessee Lottery 250" NASCAR Xfinity Series race on Saturday, June 19 (2:30 p.m. CT, NBCSN) and the "Rackley Roofing 200" NASCAR Camping World Truck Series race on Friday, June 18 (7 p.m. CT, FS1).

Fans can order tickets by visiting NashvilleSuperSpeedway.com or calling 866-RACE-TIX.

Circuit of The Americas

AUSTIN, TX - The race winners from NASCAR's three national series who emerged at this past weekend's inaugural NASCAR at COTA event will have no issues identifying the hardware in their personal trophy collection.

Jostens, the industry leader in custom-created trophies, produced the trophies for the NASCAR Cup Series, Xfinity Series and Camping World Truck Series races, with each showcasing a re-creation of Circuit of The Americas' signature 20-turn, 3.41-mile layout that the winners will need to conquer to raise these exquisite trophies in Victory Lane.

All three trophies prominently feature a brushed aluminum replica of the COTA permanent road course as the focal point. The track on each trophy is waterjet cut and then hand finished, a process that

takes more than 20 hours for each to be completed.

Each track will sit on a circular super mirror white powder-coated acrylic base. The base features the logos of Speedway Motorsports, Circuit of The Americas and the respective NASCAR series on a brushed aluminum plate. A colored logo of the respective race entitlement sponsor – EchoPark Automotive (NCS), Pit Boss (NXS) and Toyota Tundra (NCWTS) – will sit atop the base in front of the lower portion of the track.

While identical in look, the trophies will be descending in size with the largest being the EchoPark Automotive Texas Grand Prix NASCAR Cup Series trophy. The 30-pound trophy will be 36 inches tall and 18 inches in diameter. The Pit Boss 250 NASCAR Xfinity Series trophy will stand 24 inches tall and have a 12-inch diameter base. The Toyota Tundra 225 NASCAR Camping World Truck Series trophy will be 20 inches in height with an 11-inch diameter base.

Jostens also produces the season championship trophies for each of NASCAR's national series, including the prestigious Bill France Cup in the NASCAR Cup Series, and college football's Heisman Trophy among its numerous projects.

Charlotte Motor Speedway

CONCORD, NC - Legendary talk-show host and avid car collector Jay Leno will be joined by his former The Tonight Show musical director, Kevin Eubanks, to offer the most famous words in motorsports—Drivers, Start Your Engines---when the pair serve as grand marshals for the 62nd run-

ning of the Coca-Cola 600 on Sunday, May 30 at Charlotte Motor Speedway. Together for 15 years on The Tonight Show, the longtime friends and television stars will launch a new network comedy program, 'You Bet Your Life' on FOX this fall.

Joining the star-studded affair, Carolina Panthers' All-Pro running back Christian McCaffrey will pilot the Toyota Camry TRD as the honorary pace car driver, leading the field of NASCAR Cup Series drivers to the green flag to start the crown jewel event.

Additional dignitaries for Sunday's Coca-Cola 600 include:

Presentation of Colors: Official Color Guard of the U.S. Marine Corps, Marine Barracks Washington; State of Freedom Address: Admiral Karl L. Schultz, Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard; Invocation: Brian Koyn, Division Chaplain at 82nd Airborne Division, U.S. Army; National anthem: MU1 Megan Weikleenget, U.S. Coast Guard; Honorary Starter: Jim Whalley, USO Southeast Regional President

Dignitaries for Saturday's Alcos Uniforms 300 Xfinity Series race include: Presentation of Colors: North Carolina State Highway Patrol Honor Guard; Invocation: Billy Mauldin, President and CEO of Motor Racing Outreach; National Anthem: Amia Nico, Patriotic Performing Artist; Grand Marshals: Chris Foote, Managing Partner, Longhorn Steakhouse; and Celebrity Chef Robert Irvine, Host of Food Network's Dinner: Impossible; Honorary Starter: Chris Hefner, Director of Operations Longhorn Steakhouse, Charlotte Market.



Drivers took home some unique hardware from the inaugural NASCAR events at Circuit of The Americas. (COTA photo)

Clinton County Speedway

MILL HALL, PA - Veteran driver Dale Schweikart of Linden held off his son Dakota Schweikart in a non-stop 25 lap RaceSaver Sprint Car race on Friday night at the Clinton County Speedway. The win was the 40th career victory for Dale Schweikart at the 3/8th mile oval. Other winners included Corey Long of Selinsgrove in the Pro Stocks, Ross Perchak of Bloomsburg in the 270 Micro Sprints, Jeffrey Weaver of Lock Haven in the 600 Micro Sprints, Blake Snyder of Montgomery in the Four Cylinder Stock Cars and Emily Brouse in the Junior 4-Cylinder division.

Dale and Dakota Schweikart brought the full field of 24 RaceSaver Sprints Cars to the green flag of the 25 lap main event. Dale Schweikart led the opening lap with Dakota Schweikart, Jarrett Calvert, Jeffrey Weaver and Aaron Jacobus in the top five. By circuit number five, the leaders began to encounter lapped traffic, with Weaver moving into the third position. Jared Zionkowski, who started tenth moved into top five on the completion of lap number seven. With the completion of lap number ten, Dale Schweikart was in heavy lapped traffic while Dakota attempted to keep pace with his father.

As the duo raced through lapped traffic, Dakota Schweikart tried to make quick work of the lapped cars to catch his father, and on one occasion he passed two lapped cars at the same time as he exited turn two. "I was hoping lapped traffic would work to my advantage tonight," said Dakota in a post-race interview. "Just when I thought I had a chance to catch him, he would put another lapped car between us." Twelfth place starter Garrett Bard moved into the top five with five laps remaining in the event. Dale Schweikart continued to weave this way through traffic and help off the attempts from Dakota Schweikart. Jeffrey Weaver finished third, Garrett Bard made a last lap pass to earn the fourth position and Aaron Jacobus completed the top five. Sixth through tenth were Zionkowski, Ken Duke Jr, who earned the hard-charger award by advancing from the 21st starting position, Reed Thompson was eight followed by

Calvert and Josh Beamer. Heat races were won by Dale Schweikart, Weaver and Lutz.

The win was the 6th career RaceSaver Sprint Victory for Schweikart and the 40th overall in his career. The 40 wins occurred in eight different divisions.

Lock Haven's Robert Tressler lead the opening laps of the Pro Stock feature event. Front row starter Marc Bitler of Williamsport took the lead from Tressler by the completion of lap number five. By the midway mark of the race, Long powered by Bitler to take the lead with Noah Jensen of Wapwallopen in pursuit. Three-time feature winner Brandon Moser advanced for his 6th place starting spot to take the third position on lap number eleven. While Long held a three car advantage over the rest of the field, the battle was heating up for second with Jensen, Moser and Bitler in hot pursuit. When the checkered flag waved, Long secured his first win of the season over Jensen, Bitler, Moser and Tressler. Sixth through tenth belonged to AY Schilling AJ Hoffman, Rooster Peters, Kevin Way and Chris Orwig Jr. Heat races were won by Long and AJ Stroup.

In 270 Micro Sprint action, Mill Hall's Timmy Bitner advanced from his 4th place starting spot to lead the opening lap. Ninth place starter, Perchak took command of the field by the completion of lap number 5. Weaver followed suit and claimed the second position with Brandon Spencer in tow.

The red flag waved on lap number eight when Cory Stabled rolled his car on the front stretch. On the restart, Spencer took the second spot while Cody Seigel who started 12th moved into the top five by the completion of lap number nine. On the white flag lap, Perchak lead Spencer and Seigel. Seigel made a last lap pass to wrestle the runner up position away from Spencer, while Bitler and Weaver finished in the top five. Sixth through tenth were Hunter Zimmerman, Dan Wertman, Logan Hammaker, Denny Rinehimer and Mitchell Holden. Heat races were won by Ross Perchak, Bobby Sanso, Denny Rinehimer

In 600 Micro Sprint competition fourth place starter Jeffrey Weaver passed Timmy Bitner for the lead by the completion of lap number two. Josh Beamer advanced from the sixth starting position to take the second position by the conclusion of lap number six. Weaver and Beamer encountered lapped traffic with two laps to go. Weaver

held off the challenges by Beamer to secure the win with Cody Hauck, Johnny Smith and Sierra Hauck completing the top five. Sixth through tenth were Timmy Bitner, Dermont Thompson, Mitchell Holden, Kyle Knopp and Ethan Spotts. Weaver and Spotts won the qualifying events.

Cody Stover of Lock Haven started on the front row of the 12-lap four cylinder stock car main event. Stover led the first several circuits and battled with Chris Small and Blake Snyder in a closely contested battle for the lead. On lap number nine, Stover's car broke while leading. Following the restart, Small had mechanical issues, giving the top spot to Snyder. Snyder held off the late race challenge to claim the victory over last week's winner Jimmy Moyer, Maddox Smith, Skyler Witchley and Keith Haagen. Heat races were won by Scott Englert, Snyder and Small.

In the four cylinder junior division, Emily Brouse was the winner over Caden Kennedy, Chelsie Harris and Chloe Smith.

The Clinton County Speedway will return with racing action this Friday night, May 28st with a five division program featuring the Limited Late Models, Pro Stock, 270 Micro Sprints, 600 Mirco Sprints, and the 4-Cylinder Stock Cars presented by 21st Century - 1st Choice Realty. The night will also feature kid's bike races. Gates will open at 5PM, Hotlaps at 7PM and Racing at 7:30PM. For more information, visit www.clintoncountyspeedway.com or visit the speedway on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Florence Motor Speedway

TIMMONSVILLE, SC (May 22) - Monroe, NC's Zack Miracle used a late-race pass to score his second

NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Series Late Model Stock win of the year Saturday night at Florence Motor Speedway.

Points leader Matt Cox qualified on the pole with a lap of 81.328 miles per hour on a hot late-Spring afternoon in South Carolina. At the start, Cox and outside polesitter, Matthew Linker, would have a spirited battle for the lead before Cox took command on lap 3. Meanwhile, Miracle would struggle to find pace, falling back to sixth. The race would run caution free until lap 34 when Austin Somero would go for a spin on the backstretch.

While Cox continued to lead, Miracle was racing back to the front and into contention for the win. Jamie Weatherford's top five run ended with a spin on the frontstretch while battling Linker for fourth with 12 laps to go. Cox would be the leader on the restart, but it only took three laps for Miracle to race ahead for the winning pass. Following Miracle at the finish were Jeremy McDowell, Cox, Casey Kelley, and Linker. Rounding out the top 10 were RA Brown, Janson Marchbanks, Somero, Weatherford, and Travis Truett.

Denton, NC's Clint King got the advantage over polesitter, Cody Kelley, leading every lap for his second straight SuperTruck win. Unfortunately for Neal Grant a spin on the opening lap in turn resulted in Lucas Williams peeling the nose off his truck, ultimately ending his night. Williams, who entered the race as the only multiple Truck race winner of the season, spun on the backstretch with 14 laps to go, ending his chances for a third win. Following King at the finish line were Strom Altman, Cody Kelley, Jody Measamer, and Robert Tyler.

Averitt Lucas avoided two close calls with lapped cars to score his
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Zack Miracle visited Florence Motor Speedway's victory lane for teh second time in 2021 Saturday night. (FMS photo)

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third Charger division win of the year. The first close call came on lap 14 when Brady Allum spun exiting turn four. Third-place runner Davey Hatchell could not avoid him, however, as he slammed into Allum's stalled car. Then, with just four laps to go, Lucas had to avoid the spinning machine of Michael Legette in turn four. Following Lucas

to the checkered flag were Talon Gallimore, Chris Grainger, Archie Adams, Jr., and Brian Owens.

Despite starting fifth after winning three-in-a-row, AJ Sanders passed Wayne Locklair just six laps in to take his fourth Mini Stock win of the season. The hardest crash of the race appeared to happen when Landon Gore lost an engine entering turn one, causing Mike Evans to lose control in the fluid and slam into Gore's car with eight laps to go. Following Sanders at the finish were Kevin Jackson, Locklair, Mike Stafford, and BJ Thrasher.

Drake Williamson and Jacob O'Neal made contact on several occasions with Williamson finally taking the lead with two laps to go for his fourth Allison Legacy Series win of the season. Sam Knight scored his second win of the year in the new Thunder & Lightning division, while Edward Jordan was the winner in the Bell & Bell Vintage Modifieds and Ricky Locklair claimed the win in the Palmetto Vintage car race.

The next race at Florence Motor Speedway will be Hot Summer Nights on Saturday night, June 5th, featuring twin events for the NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Series Late Model Stocks, Chargers, SuperTrucks, Mini Stocks, Thunder & Lightning, and the Allison Legacy Series. Be sure to "Like" Florence Motor Speedway on Facebook, follow @FlorenceMSpdwy on Twitter to keep up on all that's going on in 2021, visit fmspeedway.com. or watch all the action live each week on fmspeedway.tv.

Selinsgrove Speedway

SELINGROVE, PA - A packed pit area of race cars produced the most exciting finishes of Selinsgrove Speedway's early 75th anniversary season Saturday night

with Alex Bright of Collegetown making a thrilling late-race pass by Briggs Danner of Allentown to score the victory in the 25-lap USAC East Coast 360 wingless sprint car main event.

Andrew Yoder of Middleburg reeled in JR Toner of Bellefonte late in the 20-lap limited late model feature to record his second win of the season at Selinsgrove and 50th of his young late model racing career.

Garrett Bard of Wells Tannery passed Kenny Heffner of Watson town with three laps to go in the 20-lap main event for his win in the PASS/IMCA 305 sprint car race.

Keith Bissinger of Orangeville held off several challenges for his second win of the season in the 12-lap roadrunner race.

Front-row starters Nash Ely and Briggs Danner brought the wingless sprint cars to the green flag in the main event with Danner pulling into the early lead. Alex Bright, who started fifth, advanced to third on the third circuit and then moved by fourth-place starter Kenny Miller for second on lap five.

Early in the race, Danner opened up a sizeable lead while the race for the top five positions intensified. The race's first caution flag unfurled on lap 10 when Jason Cherry stopped in turn four. On the lap 11 restart, ninth-place starter Carmen Perigo showed some speed and challenged Bright for second to no avail.

At the halfway point, Danner led Bright, Perigo, third-place starter Mark Smith, and sixth-place starter Steve Drevicki. In the final 10 laps of the race, Bright had Danner in his sights in lapped traffic. While Danner raced the inside line, Bright stormed around the top the race track.

The second and final caution flag waved on lap 22 for Colby Womer in turn two. On the restart with three laps to go, Bright made a dive to the inside of turn one and pulled off a thrilling slider by Danner to take the lead. Danner tried to return the slider in turns three and four but Bright outraced him.

At the finish, Bright was victorious by a mere one-second margin of victory over Danner, Perigo, Smith, and Miller.

Polesitter JR Toner beat out front row starter Drew Weisser for the early lead in the limited late model feature. Toner led Weisser for the first two laps until fifth-place starter Jared Fulkroad battled into the runner-up position.

Eighth-place starter Andrew Yoder quickly made his way into the top five and took over the third

spot from sixth-place starter Todd Snook on the seventh lap. At the halfway point, Fulkroad was in striking distance of Toner.

Yoder powered into the second spot on the 14th lap as last week's winner and 15th-place starter Devin Hart raced into the top five. On a lap 17 restart, Yoder made the winning pass in turns three and four and went on to post a 1.8-second margin of victory over Snook, Hart, third-place starter Casey Steinhoff, and Fulkroad.

In the 305 sprint car feature, second-place starter Kenny Heffner stormed into the early lead with fourth-place starter Austin Reed in pursuit. On a lap three restart, sixth-place starter Garrett Bard drove into the third position.

At the completion of lap five, Heffner was leading Bard, Reed, 10th-place starter Ken Duke, and original polesitter John Walp. On a lap 11 restart, Bard put in a bid for the lead but Heffner held control. Through most of the event, the top five drivers raced under a blanket.

Late in the race, Bard was tormenting Heffner for the lead and with two laps remaining made the winning pass using the inside lane off turn four. Bard went on to take the checkered flag by just .73 of a second over Heffner, Duke, Reed and sixth-place starter George Riden.

Front row starters Keith Bissinger and Smith Cope duelled for the lead at the start of the roadrunner race. While Bissinger edged out Cope for the front spot for the flag-to-flag victory he was closely followed for all 12 laps.

Fourth-place starter Curtis Lawton was Bissinger's most serious challenger as Cope, sixth-place starter Nate Romig, and third-place starter Adam Campbell competed in the top five.

Jake Jones, who originally started 10th, moved into contention late in the race after an altercation earlier in the event. At one point, Jones challenged Lawton for the second spot. At the checkered flag, Bissinger held on for his second win of the season over Lawton, Jones, Campbell and 14th-place starter Brad Mitch.

Selinsgrove Speedway will host two Renegade Monster Truck Tour shows over the upcoming Memorial Day holiday weekend Saturday and Sunday, May 29-30. The Saturday show is sold out and tickets for the Sunday afternoon event can be purchased on monstersinselinsgrove.com.

The speedway's next race is slated for 7 p.m. Saturday, June 5,

featuring the United Racing Club 360 sprint cars in the Kramer Cup plus PASS/IMCA 305 sprint cars and roadrunners. Grandstand gates will open at 5 p.m.

South Boston Speedway

SOUTH BOSTON, VA - Late Model Stock Car Division driver Blake Stallings recently noted "South Boston Speedway has always run a first-class facility. It has been a staple of the Late Model Stock Car community."

South Boston Speedway has a long-standing tradition of being one of the nation's top NASCAR short tracks. There are multiple reasons for that – biggest payouts, cost-cutting measures to make racing more affordable for drivers and race teams, safety improvements and new ways to increase publicity and exposure for both race teams and the speedway. All of those ingredients combine to make South Boston Speedway a great place for competitors to race.

The financial aspects of racing play a huge role in decisions made by drivers and race teams with regard to how many events they can afford to compete in and where they choose to compete. South Boston Speedway is the venue of choice for many teams because it offers competitive purses and works to help race teams cut costs.

"We understand how expensive it is to go racing," said South Boston Speedway General Manager Cathy Rice, "and while we have been successful in finding ways to make racing more affordable for our drivers and teams, we continuously look for additional opportunities to help our competitors."

When it comes to purses, the purses offered to competitors at South Boston Speedway are substantial for asphalt short track racing. The track offers \$3,000 to win a NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Series Late Model Stock Car Division race. Drivers are guaranteed \$500 to start a Late Model Stock Car Division event. Purses are split evenly for twin events. Drivers that finish in the Top-10 can cover their tire costs.

In 2016, "America's Hometown Track" implemented a two-tire rule in the NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Series Late Model Stock Car Division, limiting teams to the purchase of two tires per event. In addition to saving teams money, the rule has helped make lower-budget teams to be more competitive against larger, higher-budget teams.

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As a measure to further help race teams, the speedway is absorbing a recent mid-season increase in tire prices from Hoosier so that pricing for competitors will remain flat for the remainder of the 2021 season.

South Boston Speedway's Limited Sportsman Division purse structure is also competitive with similar venues. Races pay

\$800 to the winner, with twin races split evenly. Competitors finishing in the Top 10 receive enough purse money to cover their tire cost.

South Boston Speedway also has a one-tire rule for its Limited Sportsman Division, a rule that limits teams to being able to buy only one new tire per race. That measure has helped trim costs considerably. In another move to help Limited Sportsman Division teams cut costs and improve competition, South Boston Speedway officials this season implemented a rule prohibiting teams from using bump stops and coil binding.

"I think the cost-saving measures they have put in place definitely makes it (South Boston Speedway) a better place," Stallings points out.

The Danville, Virginia resident says the two-tire rule in the Late Model Stock Car Division is a good thing.

"We're running a more limited schedule this year, competing in selected races we want to go to," Stallings explained.

"It gives us a little more room in our budget. If we were trying to compete for a championship here locally it would definitely make a huge cost savings to just have to buy two tires each week instead of four tires. They (South Boston Speedway) have a ton of local people that race here every week, and I can't fault them a bit for trying to make it easier for people to compete on a week-to-week basis."

Late Model Stock Car Division competitor Trey Crews of Halifax, Virginia, a winner this season in the division, agrees that the cost-cutting measures implemented by South Boston Speedway, especially the two-tire rule, are a good thing.

"It saves a lot of money," Crews pointed out. "You only have to buy two tires instead of four tires. It's a



The field of NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Series Late Model Stock Cars speeds down the backstretch and dives into the third turn during one of this season's events at South Boston Speedway. South Boston Speedway has a long-standing tradition of being one of the nation's top NASCAR short tracks. (JOE CHANDLER/SBS photo)

great deal. It's good savings for low-budget teams like myself."

"That's one of the things we really like about South Boston Speedway," added Late Model Stock Car Division rookie Jacob Borst of Elon, North Carolina. "It helps us save money and lets us buy things for the car that will help with speed."

When it comes to safety, South Boston Speedway has qualified medical help on hand. This year South Boston Speedway acquired additional rescue equipment through ESI Race Track Safety Services, the new safety services provider for South Boston Speedway. ESI Race Track Safety Services is supplying South Boston Speedway with a Holmatro Rescue Tool System for on-track response to incidents. Continuing its efforts as an industry leader in safety, South Boston Speedway hosted a three-hour track services safety training class prior to its May 1 racing event.

"To see South Boston Speedway taking a leading position in short track racing in doing the things it is doing with safety makes me feel proud to call South Boston Speedway my home track," said five-time South Boston Speedway NASCAR Late Model Stock Car Division Champion Peyton Sellers of Ringgold, Virginia.

"Racing is a dangerous sport and will always be a dangerous

sport. Knowing that South Boston Speedway is putting as much emphasis on safety as it is gives me a sense of this is where I want to go racing on Saturday night. I know I will be taken care of and given the best medical service I can possibly get if things go south on the race-track. It's really important for the track to step up and be safer, make the response times shorter to the wreck if something happens. To know that somebody is putting equally as much thought into it means that everybody is on the right track."

Crews also noted the positive aspects of South Boston Speedway's safety improvements.

"It's always great to see the track improve safety," Crews pointed out. "They (South Boston Speedway) always seem to be trying to improve the track and make it better. To me, as a driver, that makes me want to run here more. It shows they (South Boston Speedway) care for the drivers and want to be the best they can be."

Over the years South Boston Speedway has worked hard to provide the best exposure possible for the drivers and race teams that compete at the speedway as well as for itself. The track recently announced it is taking another major step in increasing its digital footprint by livestreaming its NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Series events. The events will be

livestreamed at SoBoSpeedway.tv, a service by SpeedSport, a leader in grassroots racing news and streaming.

"We are very excited to offer a streaming service for our NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Series events," Rice remarked.

"This really adds to the value of racing at South Boston Speedway. Now a driver can get his name out live across the country and their sponsors have more opportunities to reach people that are not at the track."

Full information for drivers and race teams as well as the latest news and updates about South Boston Speedway and its racing events can be found on the South Boston Speedway website, www.southbostonspeedway.com, and through the speedway's social media channels. Information may also be obtained by calling the speedway at 1-877-440-1540 or 1-434-572-4947.

Southern National Motorsports Park

LUCAMA, NC - The finest stars and cars of the ARCA Menards East Series roar into Southern National Motorsports Park June 12 to kick off the 2021 racing season. The weekend double header features the ARCA Series plus the Southern Vintage Ground

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Pounders Touring Series, East Coast Flathead Ford Touring Series plus Chargers/Challengers on Saturday.

On Sunday June 13, 2021 the weekend stock car auto racing continues with the Limited Late Model division, Legends, Bandoleros, Mini- Stock, Chargers/Challengers plus Any Car divisions all running feature events.

Pre- Sale tickets for both days, trackside parking spots and trackside admission tickets plus Grandstand admission are on sale now. Pre- Sale tickets will save you \$5. off a ticket and \$10. off a family 4 pack thur June 6, 2021 when you order online at Southern National Motorsports Park/ 2021 next event/.

Southern National Motorsports Park is located on 8071 Newsome Mill Rd., Lucama, NC. . The 4/10 of a mile asphalt oval is available for practice, we sell Sunoco racing fuel, Hoosier Tire and Billboard Space. Follow snmpark.com or call (919) 284-1114 for more info. Follow SNMP on facebook, twitter and instagram.

Stafford Motor Speedway

STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT - Stafford Speedway returned to Friday night racing action with a Stafford Weekly Series program on Friday night, May 21st. It was another dynamite night of spectacular racing action at the Connecticut half-mile facility with Chase Dowling coming out on top of a 3-wide duel that lasted several laps after a midrace restart to pick up his first SK Modified® feature win of the 2021 season. Kevin Gambacorta borrowed a ride from Andy Marchese and drove to his first Late Model win in nearly 2 years; Nick Anglace scored his first career SK Light win in a thrilling duel with Alexander Pearl that came down to the last lap with Anglace taking the win by the nose of his car; Alexandra Fearn won for the second time this season in the Limited Late Model feature, and Frank L'Etoile, Jr. his second consecutive Street Stock feature.

In the 40-lap SK Modified® feature event, Tom Bolles and Dan Wesson spun on the backstretch to bring the caution out before a lap could be completed. Bryan Nar-

ducci took the lead on the restart with Matt Vassar coming up to second. Chase Dowling and Doug Meservey, Jr. were side by side for third place with Teddy Hodgdon taking fifth from Ronnie Williams on lap-4. Dowling made a move to the inside of Vassar to move into second on lap-5 while Hodgdon was side by side with Meservey for fourth place. Bolles and Wesson spun in turn 1 to bring the caution out with 5 laps complete.

Dowling took the lead from Narducci by a nose at the line on the restart and he got clear to the lead on lap-6 but the caution came back out for a multicar incident in turn 3 involving Todd Owen, Mikey Flynn, Noah Korner, and Andrew Molleur.

Dowling and Narducci ran side by side for a lap and a half for the lead before Dowling got clear on lap-8. Vassar was third in line with Michael Gervais, Jr. up to fourth and Marcello Rufrano and Meservey side by side for fifth. Another multi-car incident in turn 3 involving Molleur, Keith Rocco, Jon Puleo, Tyler Leary, and Flynn brought the caution back out with 9 laps complete.

Dowling took the lead again on the restart with Narducci in second. Gervais settled into third with Vassar fourth and Rufrano in fifth. Hodgdon made a move under Rufrano to take fifth on lap-13 with Tyler Hines taking sixth as Rufrano fell back to seventh. Rufrano got loose in turn 4 on lap-15 and lost several more spots as Todd Owen took seventh and Stephen Kopicik

eight with Rufrano dropping back to ninth place.

At the halfway point of the race, Dowling held a lead of several car lengths over a 5-car train of Narducci, Gervais, Vassar, Hines, and Hodgdon. Gervais made a move to the inside of Narducci on lap-21 to move into second. Hodgdon spun coming down the frontstretch that brought the caution out with 22 laps complete.

On the restart, Narducci spun which collected the cars of Hines, Meservey, Wesson, and Korner to bring the caution right back out. Vassar was sent to the rear by Stafford officials for making contact with Narducci. The restart saw a flurry of action at the front of the field as Gervais took the lead on the outside of Dowling but Dowling came right back to make it 3-wide with Gervais and Rufrano with Dowling coming away with the lead before Rufrano went to the front on lap-26. Owen was on a charge, moving into third behind Rufrano and Dowling on lap-27. Dowling went back to the front on lap-28 with a pass in turns 3+4. With 10 laps to go, Dowling held the lead with Rufrano, Owen, Michael Christopher, Jr., and Gervais right behind him.

Christopher got by Owen to move into third and he took second from Rufrano on lap-38 to move into second place with 2 laps to go. Christopher couldn't catch Dowling as Dowling notched his first win of the 2021 season. Rufrano finished third with Owen and Gervais round-

ing out the top-5.

In the 30-lap Late Model feature, Tom Butler took the early race lead from pole position. Marc Curtis was second but he began to fade on lap-2 in the outside lane as John Blake took second, Andrew Molleur third, Kevin Gambacorta fourth and Darrell Keane fifth. Curtis fell all the way back to 14th place while up front Molleur was all over the back of Blake looking to move into second place.

Blake was able to hold Molleur off and he took the lead from Butler on lap-9. Butler's move opened the door for Gambacorta, who got around Molleur for second, Molleur, and Keane to all get by Butler and drop Butler back to fifth place. Michael Bennett, who won the first 2 races of the season, was off the pace and he fell a lap down to the leaders on lap-11.

Gambacorta made a move to the inside of Blake in turn 2 to take over the race lead on lap-14. Molleur and Keane followed Gambacorta by Blake to move into second and third and drop Blake back to fourth place, just in front of a group of cars including Butler, Tom Fearn, Ryan Fearn, and Adam Gray. Butler would lose several more spots as on lap-18 Tom Fearn, Ryan Fearn, and Gray all got by to drop Butler back to eighth place. The caution came out with 22 laps complete as Armand Cote, Jr. got into the turn 1 wall.

Gambacorta took the lead with Molleur taking a look to his inside
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Chase Dowling made it through a 3-wide duel to win Friday in the SK Modified feature at Stafford Motor Speedway. (SMS photo)

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before slotting back into second. Gray spun in turn 1 and collected several other cars, including Wayne Coury, Jr. with 23 laps complete to bring the caution back out.

Molleur briefly took the lead from Gambacorta by a nose but by the time they got back to the start/finish line Gambacorta was back in the lead. Blake was able to take second

from Molleur on lap-26 with Butler in fourth and Keane in fifth. Molleur came right back on Blake and he moved back to second place on lap-27. Molleur and Blake swapping positions allowed Gambacorta to pull away by several car lengths. Keane got by Butler on lap-29 to move into fourth but it was all Gambacorta at the front as he scored his first win in nearly 2 seasons. Molleur finished second with Blake, Keane and Tom Fearn rounding out the top-5.

In the 20-lap SK Light feature event, Nicole Chambrello spun in turn 1 on the start to bring the caution out right after the green flag was displayed to the field. Joey Ferrigno took the lead on the restart with Nick Anglace taking second. Alexander Pearl was quickly up to third with Tyler Barry and Josh Carey side by side for fourth place. Anglace took a look to the inside of Ferrigno on lap-4 but was unable to make a bid for the lead. Pearl went around Anglace to take over second on lap-4 and on lap-5 he made a move the inside of Ferrigno for the lead and he completed the pass on lap-6. Pearl's move allowed Anglace to follow him by Ferrigno and take over second place. Tyler Chapman spun coming out of turn 2 to bring the caution back out with 6 laps complete.

Pearl and Anglace were side by side for the lead back under green with Ferrigno and Carey side by side for third and Steven Chapman in fifth. Pearl was able to get clear from Anglace on lap-10 with Carey getting clear of Ferrigno for third place with Steven Chapman still holding down fifth place. Cassandra Cole spun in turn 3 to bring the caution back out with 12 laps complete.

Pearl took the lead back under green with Anglace in second. Ferrigno was third in line followed by



Alexandra Fearn took home her second Limited Lat3e Model trophy of the year Friday night. (SMS photo)

the side by side duo of Brian Sullivan and Carey, Derek Debbis, and Steven Chapman. Sullivan took third from Carey on lap-17 and Debbis was looking to take fourth from Carey when the two cars touched, sending Carey around and bringing the caution back out with 17 laps complete to set up a 3 lap dash to the finish. Debbis was sent to the rear of the field by Stafford officials for making contact with Carey.

Anglace went deep into turn 3 on the restart to almost take the lead by a nose at the line but Ferrigno spun and collected the car of Amanda West to bring the caution back out with 18 laps complete.

Anglace powered around Pearl on the restart to take the lead. Steven Chapman was third followed by Sullivan and Bob Charland. Pearl came back to the inside of Anglace going down the backstretch on the final lap and he inched his nose in front of Anglace going into turn 3. Anglace kept his foot in the gas and they came off turn 4 side by side nose to nose with Anglace nipping Pearl by the slightest of margins to collect his first career SK Light victory at Stafford. Steven Chapman finished third with Bob Charland and Brian Sullivan rounding out the top-5.

In the 20-lap Limited Late Model feature event, Gary Patnode used a strong 3-wide move at the drop of the green to take the early race lead. Jeremy Lavoie and R.J. Surdell were side by side for second with Lavoie taking the spot on lap-2. Matt Clement moved into third on lap-3 with Rich Hammann taking fourth and Alexandra Fearn fifth as Surdell slid back to sixth place. Damian Palardy spun in turn 3 to bring the caution out with 2 laps complete.

Lavoie powered his way around

Patnode to take over the race lead on the restart. Fearn was third in line behind Patnode and Lavoie with Matt Clement fourth and Hammann fifth. Fearn went by Patnode in turn 3 on lap-6 to move up to second and drop Patnode back to third.

At the halfway point of the race Lavoie was still in command but Fearn was right on his back bumper. Fearn made a move to the inside of Lavoie in turn 1 on lap-11 and she took over the race lead. Matt Clement was third followed by Hammann and Patnode. Fearn was slowly starting to stretch out her lead over Lavoie while Clement and Hammann were right behind Lavoie to make a 3-car train for second place. Hammann made a move around Clement to take third place on lap-18 while Fearn was still comfortably ahead of Lavoie for the lead.

Fearn led the field to the checkered flag to pick up her second win of the 2021 season with Lavoie, Hammann, Matt Clement, and Patnode rounding out the top-5.

In the 20-lap Street Stock feature event, Adrien Paradis, III took the early race lead while Chris Danielczuk went around Marvin Minkler to take second place. Bobby Stirk, III and Travis Downey went by Minkler for third and fourth place on lap-2 and Minkler continued to slide backwards as he was stuck in the outside lane. Minkler fell outside the top-10 to 15th place while Paradis was starting to stretch out his lead over Stirk with 5 laps complete. Downey was still third with Frank L'Etoile, Jr. fourth, Chris Meyer fifth and Travis Hydar sixth. Meyer took over fourth on lap-6 and his move allowed Hydar and Bert Ouellette to follow him through and drop Downey back to seventh in line. Meyer continued his charge to the front as he took

third from Stirk on lap-9 with Paradis and L'Etoile the two cars in front of him. Hydar and Ouellette followed Meyer past Stirk to drop Stirk back to sixth.

With 5 laps to go, Paradis was still in command but L'Etoile was slowly reeling him in with Meyer and Hydar right behind him. The caution flew with 16 laps complete for Tyler Trott, who spun coming out of turn 4.

Jeremy Washburn spun on the backstretch as the race went back to green but he kept going and there was no caution. L'Etoile took the lead on the outside of Paradis with Meyer now stalking Paradis for second. Hydar was fourth in line with Ouellette in fifth place. L'Etoile led the field to the checkered flag to pick up his second consecutive Street Stock feature win of the 2021 season. Paradis finished second with Meyer, Hydar, and Ouellette rounding out the top-5.

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

Wake County Speedway

RALEIGH, NC - The finest stars and cars of the Nascar Advance Auto Parts Weekly Racing Series put on a whale of a show last night at America's Favorite Bullring. First time winners and veterans all visited LeithCars.com victory lane including Jones, Marks, Sanders, Speas, Johnson, Ragatti, Music and Dulin.

The Solid Rock Carriers Late Model race #1 winner was Clay Jones followed by Zach Lightfoot, Ethan Johnson, Zachary Marks and Carter Langley. Jones thanked his family, friends, fans, team and G&S Body Shop from VL.

The Legends feature had over 20 cars in the feature and Josh Speas picked up his 1st Legends feature win in the action packed race. Speas held off Parker Eatmon, early race leader Trevor Thacker, Evan Garvy and Blaine Perkins to score the popular win for AK Performance.

A ton of Bandolero drivers tackled the bullring and 2 features were held; Bando and Outlaw Bando, in the Bando feature Neal Dulin from Concord visited VL followed by #54, #38 and #23.

In the Outlaw Bando feature Ryley Music from Va. held off #87, #13 and #88 to visit VI. Very impressed with all the Bando/ Legend winners remembering Lee Harrison from Va. who passed yesterday,

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prayers for family and friends during this time.

AJ Sanders held off Joseph Pittman of Lucama to win the 4 Cylinder Feature with #12 and Joseph Jefferys, Willow Spring in his Simpkins Garage Mustang running 3rd and 4th when the checkered flag flew.

The East Coast Flathead Ford Touring Series winner was 80 year old Johnny Johnson, thank you all for towing down to run at Wake County Speedway, #9 was the sportsman winner.

The Bomber race winner was Capt. K in his Harley Hotrod #18, his fans cheered big time when he roared under the checkered flag.

The 2nd Solid Rock Carriers Late Model event was a barnburner with Zachary Marks diving under 2 other cars to win the action packed event coming to the flag.

Wake County Speedway roars back into action June 4, 2021. A great night of stock car auto racing featuring the NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Racing Series Late Models, Pro 4 Mods, Mini-Stock, Legends, Bandoleros- twin features and Bomber divisions are all in action.

Wake County Speedway is located on 2109 Simpkins Road, Raleigh. Sunoco Racing Gas, Hoosier Racing Tires, Track Rental plus Advertising Opps are all available. Call 919-578-7858 for more info.

Follow all social media: wcspeedway.com, facebook, twitter. Great concessions, Track Swag and Clean Restrooms, bring you family and friends out for a full filled evening of up close in your face action. By the Grace Of God and 600 horsepower, see you at the races.

Wake County Speedway

RALEIGH, NC - The finest stars and cars of the region roared into Wake County Speedway Friday night for Nolan Heating And Cooling 180 and a great time was had by all. Jessie Richardson, Jr. held off Dennis "The Dominator" Capps to win the Pro 4 feature and visit LeithCars.com victory lane. Mark Hill in his NAPA Ford ran 3rd with Randy Ayers having another fine run to come home 4th.

The \$2500 to win Legends feature was strong with 18 cars entered at feature time. Great racing

throughout the field and Austin Thompson winning the big money as he held off Kyle Beattie to win the event that went green flag to the checkered flag.

Jordan Black held off Parker Eatmon to grab 3rd place at the finish, thank you to all the folks that put up extra money for the 25 lap event.

The NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Racing Series Charger division ran twin 30 lap features with Cody Griffin winning both features, in race #1 the finishing order was Griffin, Austin Ferrell, Holden Haddock, Michael O'Brien and Jeremy Heath. The second race finishing order was Griffin, Ferrell, Haddock, Fletcher Whaley and Jeremy Heath.

The Southern Vintage Ground Pounders Touring Series had 16 cars sign in and Bobby Griffin won the Sportsman feature over Kevin Floars and Mack Tatum with Danny Bond winning the Modified feature. Griffin won in a Chevelle that looked like his dad's car and Bond drove a Pinto #007.

The stock 4 feature saw AJ Sanders continue his winning ways holding off Jason Adams to score the win.

The Bomber feature winner was Brandon Walters followed by Brian Craver and Andrew Howe.

Thank you to all the fans, drivers and teams plus the Wake County Speedway staff that made the night so great.

Williams Grove Speedway

MECHANICSBURG, PA - Lance Dewease dominated at Williams Grove Speedway on Friday night to score his unprecedented 100th career oval sprint car victory, a goal he never really thought about until just the last few seasons after becoming the track's all-time win leader.

"It's a number that this speedways never seen," he said.

"I just thought if I could race long enough I could get here. I love racing at this place, I always have."

And he got there in style after starting fourth in the 25-lap feature and jetting into the lead in the second corner after the green flag came out.

With one swoop through the middle in turn one and then to the outside in the second corner, Dewease swept his No. 69K past front row starters Jeff Halligan and Danny Dietrich.

After being scored the leader, Dewease had to deal with six restarts thanks to numerous cautions that plagued the first 12 cir-

cuits of the race.

Dietrich tried a slider for control on a lap eight restart and got alongside the leader but Dewease held his ground and maintained control.

And then when Dietrich tried it again on a lap 12 restart, Dewease made sure to hold him down low as the pair set their cars into the first corner, preventing his challenger from setting up another attempted flyer.

During the second half, non-stop part of the feature, Dewease poured on the speed and blasted to more than a straightaway advantage before entering lapped traffic with four laps to go.

The traffic forced Dewease to back down on his pace before taking the win by .912 seconds over Dietrich and Jeff Halligan.

"My old body don't like sittin' in that seat that long, my back hurts," Dewease said of the lengthy event and enduring all the restarts.

"We're not done, we're just getting' started," he said when asked about reaching the 100 Williams Grove win milestone.

With the win, Dewease took the season point lead in the chase for the track title.

It was the Fayetteville drivers first victory at the oval since scoring his 99th on June 26 of last season.

Dewease won for the very first time at Williams Grove Speedway in the Mitch Smith Memorial on July 10, 1992 while wheeling the Walt Dyer Masonry No. 461 sprinter.

Alan Krimes finished fourth in the main event followed by Devon Borden, who was as high as third at one point.

Sixth through 10th went to Brad Howard, Landon Myers, Brandon Rahmer, Dylan Norris and Kyle Moody.

Heats went to Halligan, Dietrich and Howard.

Derek Locke led all 20 laps of the 358 sprint main to continue his domination of the class at the track this season.

Lock has now won all three events contested at the track this season, pushing his career win total at Williams Grove to six.

Chad Criswell followed Locke to the finish followed by Brett Wanner, Kyle Denmyer and Chris Frank.

Sixth through 10th went to Cody Fletcher, Colby Womer, Tyler Brehm, John Stehman and Matt Findley.

Heats went to Locke, Criswell and Wanner.

Williams Grove Speedway

MECHANICSBURG, PA - The

All Stars Circuit of Champions Sprint Cars will return to Williams Grove Speedway coming up this Friday, May 28 when the track presents the \$10,000-to-win, 30-lap Davey Brown Tribute Race.

The event will fete renowned sprint car mechanic Davey Brown Sr. who is currently within an eighth decade of wrenching open wheel sprint cars since starting out in the mid-1950s.

Activities honoring Brown will take place in the infield from 5:45 to 7 pm.

Gates will open at 5:30 pm with race time set for 7:30.

Adult general admission for the May 28 racing program is set at \$25 with students ages 13-20 admitted for just \$10.

Kids ages 12 and under are always admitted for FREE at Williams Grove Speedway.

The holiday weekend special will be a "sprints only" racing event featuring a fireworks display as part of the Hoosier Diamond Series at the track.

The All Stars will bring a contingent of challengers into Williams Grove for a mid-state tour led by point leader Ian Madsen.

While Madsen has yet to win this season, those behind him in the point standings certainly have, to include Tyler Courtney, Justin Peck, Kyle Reinhardt, Tony Stewart and others.

Courtney, of Indianapolis, Ind., has taken three wins already in May.

Other All Stars that will be looking for their first win of the season in the Brown Tribute race will be Hunter Schuerenberg, Cory Eliason, Zeb Wise and Paul McMahan.

Kyle Larson took an All Stars victory at the track in April during the Tommy Classic while Peck scored earlier in the season during an unsanctioned event at Williams Grove.

With his storied 100th career oval win on May 21, Lance Dewease is now the current Williams Grove Speedway point leader.

To date in seven events run, there has not been a repeat winner in sprint car action at Williams Grove Speedway.

June 4 racing at Williams Grove will feature the 410 sprint cars and the USAC East wingless sprints.

Keep up to all the latest speedway news and information by visiting the oval's official website at www.williamsgrrove.com or by following the track on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.