

SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

FastTrack

RACING JOURNAL ONLINE
Straight to your phone, tablet or computer...

Miracle Man



**Chase Elliott Leads, Wrecks,
Repairs and Recovers to
Win at Charlotte's Roval**

Business is Business, Even in Racing

The ugly truth about racing is it's not a sport. It's a business.

There's as much work being done in boardrooms and back channels as in the garage. For every bolt that's tightened, a promise is made by people far from the racetrack who are looking for better deals, not

speed.

Tad and Jodi Geschickter, along with their partner Brad Daugherty, were reminded of that dirty little secret last week.

The race team was putting the final touches on a new contract that would keep Chris Buescher in their No. 37 Chevrolet next year when the driver he'd been working secretly for months to cut a new deal to return to Roush Fenway Racing in 2020.

Ricky Stenhouse Jr. was just as surprised when he found out car owner Jack Roush was dumping him for Buescher. Like the Geschickters and Daugherty, he never saw it coming.

"It was kind of the last minute. It (stinks) it got to this point," Stenhouse told NBC before Sunday's road-course race at the Charlotte Motor Speedway. "That's the frustrating part. There's no clear answer as to why, how, when. I just know it was last minute for my team and I to go look for something else. I was there for so long, it was home.

"We've been contacting people. Eight races left in the season, it's kind of difficult to drum up anything spectacular when you weren't really expecting it."

Sponsors have a long history of spending their money with the team that makes the most promises. Loyalty is bought and sold to a team that guarantees a bigger market share.

Office Depot, UPS, 3M, Mobil 1, M&Ms, Budweiser, Cheerios and Tide are a few of the sponsors that have moved their dollars for a better deal with a new team.

In 2017, Richard Petty was sucker-punched by Smithfield Foods when the pork-company and driver Aric Almirola moved to a vacant seat at Stewart-Haas Racing. Petty said the sport regressed be-

yond the days when a handshake was more valuable than anything crafted by a lawyer.

Petty insisted he had a handshake deal with Smithfield when it made the surprising move to SHR with two months remaining in the season.

"I come from a time when we did major deals with sponsors like STP on a handshake," Petty said then. "I'm said to see this is where we are now. This decision is very unexpected, and we are extremely disappointed in this late and abrupt change of direction."

Finding a new driver isn't easy. They must be vetted by sponsors who consider them as representatives of a brand. With just seven weeks remaining in the season, JTG Daugherty has a lot of work to do.

"We didn't understand why it would happen. [We were] working very hard, going back and forth, trying to get our numbers together, trying to get the contract done; and we get up today and find out he's going to go in a different direction," Daugherty told SiriusXM NASCAR Radio.

"So, yeah, totally caught us off guard because we were already building stuff for next season as everybody else does and getting ready and preparing.

"This catches you by surprise – this this late in the year especially. You try to be as professional as you possibly can about how you handle these situations. I don't ever blame any athlete if he thinks he's putting himself in a situation that's going to be better for him or his family; got no problem with that. It's just for us it's always the timing. Getting this late in the season when you have commitments, it makes it very, very difficult to swallow this easily. Yeah, a lot of times people say, 'Take the high road' and 'Do this and do that'. We'll just say it's a very, very difficult time to go through this, but we have very smart people who work at our company, we'll figure it out. We just wish the timing could have been different – a little more flexible towards us – but it's not working out that way."

Even rival car owner Rick Hendrick was caught off guard by the announcement.

"You know, I can't really put my-

self in anybody else's shoes," he said. "When you're a team owner you get a lot of pressure from the sponsors. People expect you to do things, expect your people to perform and handle themselves a certain way. You know, I can't really judge what another owner does because I'm not in their shoes.

"It's a tough business. That one shocked me because I thought that Buescher was all set in the [No.] 37."

Roush originally signed Buescher to a 10-year driver development contract. He won the 2015 Xfinity Series Championship for Roush Fenway. Buescher wound up at Front Row Motorsports a year later, winning a rain-shortened race at the Pocono Raceway in 2016. That earned him a promotion to JTG Daugherty's Chevrolet a year later.

Although there may have been some wiggle room from the driver development contract, Buescher said he made the decision to replace Stenhouse in Roush's No. 17 Ford.

"Nothing against anybody there. It's been a terrific time," Buescher said of JTG Daugherty. We've been able to elevate from where we've been the past couple seasons and

I believe that program will continue to elevate. From my side of things, when my availability a couple weeks ago and everybody fires right off with the talks and stuff wasn't in progress and that was No. 1. That was working through the channels and through the last couple months just got past a couple things that enabled an opportunity to basically come up with the opportunity to go back and for Roush Fenway to retain their rights from a contract that was in place when I signed 10 years ago."

As a former professional basketball player, Daugherty has seen it happen too many times. A team drafts and develops a young player, only to have them leave for the promises of greater riches. Just ask the Orlando Magic (Shaquille O'Neal and Dwight Howard), Miami Marlins (Giancarlo Stanton), Tampa Bay Rays (David Price and Evan Longoria), Washington Nationals (Bryce Harper) and St. Louis Cardinals (Albert Pujols).

"It's a tough situation to be in as an owner and as a team, but we're pretty resilient," Daugherty said. "We'll figure it out, and we're going to give somebody a heck of an opportunity."

Until a better offer comes along.

FasTrack Racing Journal is an online e-magazine!!

The changes that FasTrack Racing Journal made in 2015 have been successful. FasTrack is now available online only. We are covering all the racing series, off track news and other features that you have grown to love. We now bring you all the news in a weekly format throughout the racing season.

All you have to do to receive FasTrack Racing Journal Online for FREE is to send your email address to fastrackjournal@yahoo.com with the subject line SUBSCRIPTION. You can also download all issues of FasTrack Racing Journal, current and past.

Stay with FasTrack Racing Journal through the remainder of the 2019 season the see who wins the playoffs and the championships to get ready for the 2020 racing season.

Visit our website: www.fastrackracingjournal.com or Facebook and follow us on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/FT RacingJournal](https://twitter.com/FT RacingJournal)

In This Issue:

Fast Forum	2	World of Outlaws	8-9
Monster Energy Cup	3	ASCS	10
XFINITY Series	4	Circuit of Champions	11
NASCAR Touring	5	OnTrack	12-14
P.A.S.S.	6	ShorTrack	15-17
ARCA/CRA	7		

ON THE COVER:

NIGEL KINRADE/NKP

Chase Elliott Rallies from Crash to Win Playoff Elimination Race at Roval

CONCORD, NC - Moments after taking the checkered flag in Sunday's Bank of America ROVAL 400 at the Charlotte Motor Speedway Road Course, race winner Chase Elliott revisited

the site of his biggest mistake.

Elliott drove his No. 9 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet Camaro ZL1 up to the tire barrier in Turn 1 of the 2.32-mile, 17-turn course and began a burnout that bordered on the sarcastic.

Early in the final stage of the 109-lap event, after a restart on Lap 65, Elliott locked up his brakes, plowed straight into the tire barrier, taking out the

"Turns" logo in the corner known as Heartburn Turn. After pitting to address the damage, Elliott fell to 37th in the running and spent the rest of the race working his way forward.

After a spate of opportune cautions, Elliott took the lead for good on Lap 104, passing Martin Truex Jr. for second and Kevin Harvick for

the top spot after the final restart.

Five laps later, he crossed the finish line 3.016 seconds ahead of teammate Alex Bowman, who made a heroic run from the rear of the field to finish second and wrestle the final berth in the Round of 12 in the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Playoffs from Aric Almirola and Ryan Newman.

"Oh, my gosh, what a mistake, holy moly," said Elliott, who picked up his third victory of the season, his first at the Charlotte Motor Speedway Road Course and the sixth of his career. "You talk about messing something up, right here—don't do that."

"What a day. Such a fast NAPA Camaro ZL1, and honestly that was the only reason we were able to get back in it. I pretty well blew it and got the cautions at the right time and brought it home... But I don't think that I could have done anything more stupid, leading that race."

Bowman and Newman were locked in a tight battle for the final spot in the Round of 12 before Newman blew the backstretch chi-



Race winner Chase Elliott shares the celebration in victory lane with his dad, legendary driver Bill Elliott and mom Cindy. (NIGEL KINRADE/NKP)

cane with three laps left and dropped to 32nd at the finish. That left Newman 14th in the standings and 15 points behind Bowman at the finish.

Almirola finished 14th in Sunday's race and left Charlotte five points behind Bowman, the first driver outside the top 12. Kurt Busch (20th Sunday) and Erik Jones (40th after a Lap 23 crash knocked a hole in the radiator of his No. 20 Toyota) also were eliminated from the Playoffs, which resume next Sunday at Dover International Speedway.

Bowman overcame a litany of

mistakes and ill fortune to grab the final berth in the Round of 12. With 25 seconds left in Saturday's final Cup practice, he crashed in Turns 3 and 4 and was forced to go to a backup car. That meant starting from the rear Sunday, and halfway through the first lap, Bowman spun in the backstretch chicane.

He was turned sideways in the six-car Lap 23 wreck that started when Kurt Busch slammed into the rear of Chris Buescher's Chevrolet as the cars slowed entering the corner. And on Lap 42, Bowman turned Bubba Wallace at the exit of the backstretch chicane after a heated exchange that featured uncomplimentary hand gestures from Wallace.

At the end of the race, Wallace was still seething. As Bowman sat exhausted with his back against the driver's side of his No. 88 Chevrolet, Wallace threw a cup of water into Bowman's face and walked away.

Bowman could take solace, however, in the knowledge that his championship hopes are still alive. After the race, Bowman visited the infield care center suffering from dehydration, according to team owner Rick Hendrick.

Truex, Harvick and Kyle Busch already had clinched Round of 12 spots entering the Charlotte race. Elliott, Brad Keselowski, Joey Logano, Denny Hamlin, Kyle Larson, Clint Bowyer, pole winner William Byron, Ryan Blaney and Bowman clinched on Sunday.

Harvick finished third in the Roval 400, followed by Bowyer, Keselowski, Truex and Blaney, who gritted out his eighth-place finish after damaging the rear suspension after hitting the wall.



After leading the race, wrecking, and repairing his race car, Chase Elliott (9) works his way back to the front of the pack by passing Kevin Harvick (4) and leading the field through the turns. ((JOHN HARRELLSON/NKP photo)

AJ Allmendinger Wins Wild NASCAR Xfinity Race at Charlotte Roval

CONCORD, NC - AJ Allmendinger stole the thunder from a series of intense battles among NASCAR Xfinity Series Playoff drivers to win Saturday's Drive for the Cure 250 at the Charlotte Motor

Speedway Road Course.

Allmendinger muscled his way past series leader Christopher Bell as the cars climbed from the infield section onto the banking on Lap 48 of 67 and held the top spot through three subsequent restarts in the action-filled second race of the Xfinity Round of 12.

The road course ace scored his third victory in 16 starts in his series, finishing 2.386 seconds ahead of Richard Childress Racing's Tyler Reddick during a three-lap run to the finish.

"Whoool! Damn, I'm tired—thank you everybody!" Allmendinger said during a postrace interview beneath the flag stand. "I can't thank (owner) Matt Kaulig enough, first of all. He put his belief in me, wanting me to come here and help build this team.

"I have to thank Tyler Reddick—he's phenomenal. He told me when

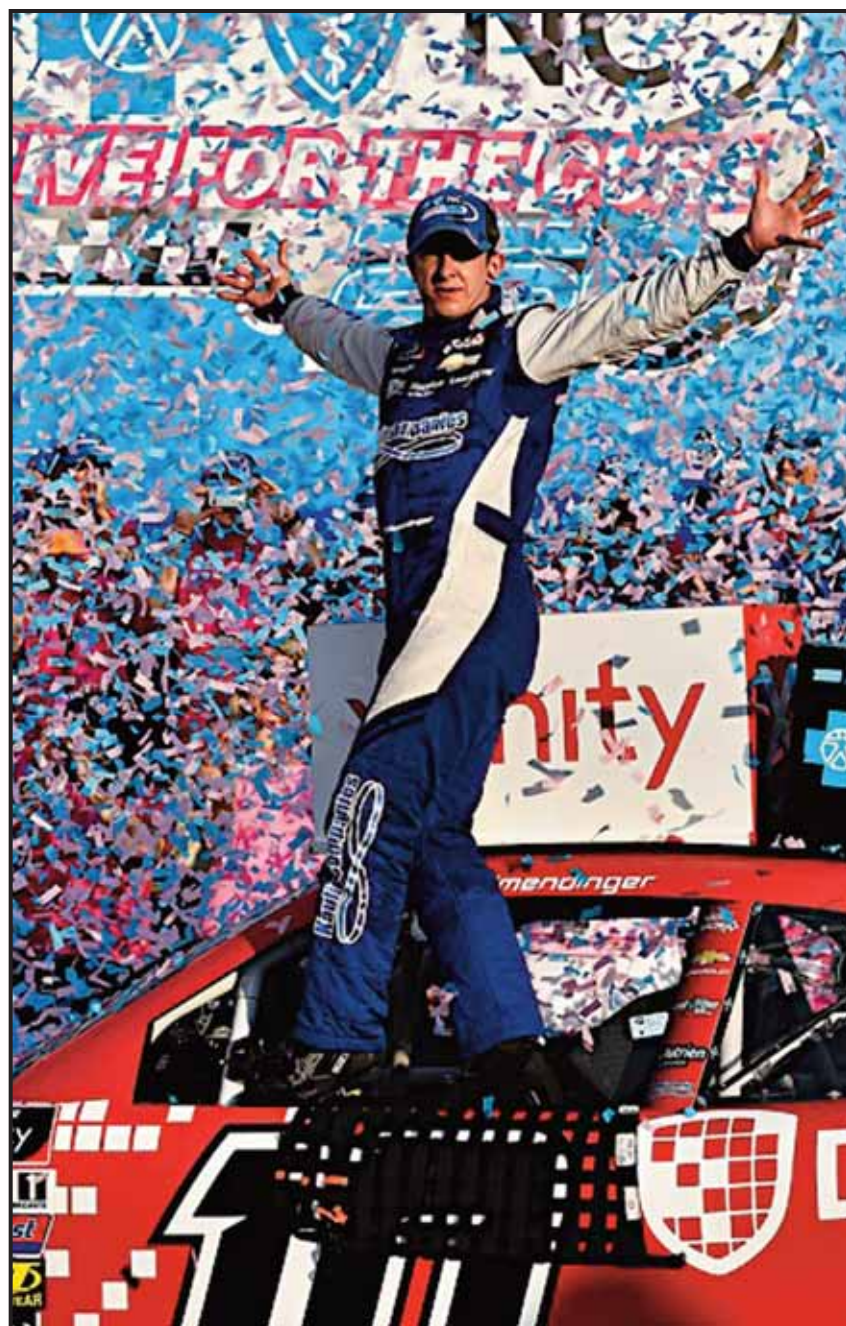
I got here I needed to get better on the road courses, because he out-qualified me in every race lately and even beat me in a couple.

"I knew with him behind me (for the last two restarts), I could be defensive on the right side and give myself an angle, and Tyler wouldn't shove down in there. I appreciate that. I tried to change the restarts up enough each time, but you can only do so much. I knew once we got into clear air, this thing was good. In traffic, it was a struggle."

For the final two restarts, Allmendinger lined up next to Playoff driver Austin Cindric, who broke a rear shock and lost the runner-up position to Reddick on the penultimate lap. Cindric held third over Justin Allgaier, with Noah Gragson securing the fifth position after starting from the rear of the field in a backup car.

"I wish I had a chance to fight the 10 (Allmendinger) there at the end, but under caution I felt a shock mount break," Cindric said. "The right-rear shock was clean off the race car before I even restarted the race, so I'm glad I didn't wreck, and I'm glad I finished third.

"I guess all of that is positive, but



A.J. Allmendinger celebrates in Charlotte's victory lane after winning the Drive for the Cure 250. (RUSTY JARRETT/NKP photo)

at the same time, I felt like we had a good shot, especially if the thing would have gone green, to try to pressure him into a mistake or getting a good lunge, but, all in all, a great points day, a great day for the MoneyLion Ford Mustang. We've got to keep it going this way."

While Allmendinger was enjoying the clean air at the front of the field, the top drivers in the Xfinity Playoffs were busy salvaging respectable finishes from a litany of troubles.

After giving up the lead to Allmendinger, Bell drew a penalty for blowing the final chicane while racing side-by-side with Chase Briscoe, but not before contact between their two cars sent Briscoe spinning between Turns 2 and 3 on Lap 58.

Already qualified for the next round of the Playoffs after last week's victory at Richmond, Bell recovered from a rear-of-the-field penalty to finish 12th and maintained a 10-point advantage Cole

Custer, who came home eighth after spinning in Turn 1 during a multicar mashup on Lap 44. Despite the wild day, Custer was able to clinch a spot in the Round of 8 on points.

After his spin on Lap 58, Briscoe charged through traffic to finish ninth and heads for next week's elimination race at Dover sixth in the standings—46 points behind Bell but 35 ahead of ninth place John Hunter Nemechek, who ran seventh on Saturday. The Playoff field will be cut from 12 drivers to eight at Dover.

Nemechek is 11 points behind Michael Annett in eighth place, tied with Brandon Jones (16th Saturday). Ryan Sieg finished 30th after suffering fuel pressure issues and enters the Dover race 37 points below the cut line. Justin Haley, Allmendinger's Kaulig Racing teammate broke a track bar mount early in the race and finished 31st, six laps down and 39 points behind Annett.



A. J. Allmendinger (10) battles with Cole Custer (00) through the turns on the Charlotte Roval Saturday afternoon. (JOHN HARELLSON/NKP photo)

Craig Lutz Breaks Into Victory Lane in NAPA Fall Final at Stafford

STAFFORD, CT - For the second straight year, the NAPA Fall Final at Stafford Motor Speedway produced a first-time NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour winner.

Craig Lutz took the lead from Doug Coby on a restart with 33 laps to go, and drove away from

Coby, and defending series champion Justin Bonsignore, to earn his first career checkered flag in his 66th series start.

Prior to Sunday, Lutz had finished inside the top five in four of his 12 Stafford starts, including the last three. He had also finished inside the top five in eight of the 14 races in 2019.

For the first time, the Miller Place, New York, driver was able to celebrate a trophy.

"The first win is always special," Lutz said. "Everyone kept on asking me when it was coming. To finally knock one off, it's an amazing feeling."

Lutz started ninth and rode inside the top 10 for the duration of the race, but shined when it mattered most. Chris Pasteryak earned his first career Mayhew Tools Dominator Pole award in qualifying, and led the first six laps, before Coby took control.

Bonsignore took the lead from Coby just before halfway, and paced the field until a caution just after lap 100, when leaders pitted multiple times for tires. It would be the only caution of the day that Coby, Bonsignore and Lutz entered pit road.

Pasteryak would lead eight more laps after cycling back to the lead, but couldn't hold the top spot, as Coby slid by, then a restart gave Lutz his opportunity. Lutz passed Coby and never looked back, minding a gap back to Bonsignore for the final 10 laps.

"I just didn't look in my mirror," Lutz said. "I have an awesome spotter, who has a lot of experience, and he kept telling me to stay smooth and hit my marks. That's what I kept doing."

Bonsignore would finish second, while Coby settled for third. Chuck Hossfeld, who missed practice and qualifying on Saturday, charged from the rear of the field to finish

fourth. Matt Swanson was fifth.

Ron Silk finished sixth, followed by Bobby Santos III, Woody Pitkat, Chase Dowling and Patrick Emerling.

Coby leads Bonsignore by 19 points with one championship points race remaining in search of his sixth NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour championship.

The NAPA Fall Final 150 will air on NBCSN on Friday, October 4, at 7 p.m.

The NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour returns to the track for the annual Sunoco World Series at Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park, the final race of the season, on Sunday, October 13.

Derek Kraus Survives Meridian Carnage, Wins In Overtime

MERIDIAN, ID - The man to beat all season was the man to beat on Saturday night.

Derek Kraus charged up through the field from seventh to lead 100 laps and earn his fourth K&N Pro Series West victory this season, 12th overall of his career and first at Meridian Speedway in the NAPA Auto Parts Idaho 208.

"Finally," Kraus said with a smile. "It's been a good year so far and tonight was just another short track race. There was lots of beating and banging, there were lots of yellows for sure. There were a lot of restarts, and I was able to get the lead over Jagger (Jones) about halfway through the race and I was able to keep it. That was really good, I'm really proud of how tonight went and I can't thank these guys enough."

Last season, Kraus led 189 of



Craig Lutz celebrates his first career NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour win at Stafford Motor Speedway. (Omar Rawlings/NASCAR photo)

208 laps from the pole, only to finish third after a late race incident with a lapped car. In three of his four K&N West wins this season, he's led 100 laps or more.

But Kraus' main competition was the man who led the most laps (121) on the evening from the pole: Jagger Jones.

With three laps to go in regulation, Kraus opted for the high lane on the restart, allowing Jones to take the bottom. The two made contact in Turns 1 and 2, and Kraus tapped Jones in Turn 3, sending him spinning, causing a massive pileup involving almost half the field.

"I'm sure he's not very happy with me, but that's racing," Kraus said of the incident. "I've been on the other end of that and I know how it feels with Colorado. I'm sure he's mad, and I'm sorry about it, but I guess that's short track racing."

Jones, understandably, wasn't in the mood for apologies.

Following Kraus to the checkered flag was Todd Souza, who cleared the smoke to come home runner-up, his second-best career result. Trevor Huddleston did the same to finish third.

Josh Jackson, making his K&N

debut, finished fourth after earning three free passes throughout the race, with Brad Kossow (also making his debut) rounding out the top five.

At the time of the green/white/checkered overtime restart, Josh Fanopoulos was running fourth, the highest he's ever ran in a K&N Pro Series race. Despite being spun on the frontstretch on said restart, he earned his career best finish in sixth. Travis Milburn, Brittney Zamora, Zach Telford and Keith McGee completed the top 10.

Telford, a 15-year-old from Middleton, Idaho, was running second on the final lap before contact from Souza sent him spinning in Turn 2. He was making his first series start, as well.

The defending winner of the race, Hailie Deegan, got into some trouble of her own on Lap 132. After racing hard with Souza, she and Huddleston got together, giving her Bill McAnally Racing machine heavy nose damage. She ultimately finished 13th, 13 laps down.

Devin Dodson, who started a career-best fourth, finished 17th, 71 laps down after an accident on Lap 153 with Takuma Koga damaged the radiator.

In total, 12 caution flags flew for 70 laps, falling one yellow shy of the track record in 2016.

With the win, Kraus extends his championship points lead from 29 to 40. With his podium run and Deegan's troubles, Huddleston now sits second in the standings, with Deegan third, Jones fourth and Zamora fifth.

The NAPA Auto Parts Idaho 208 is scheduled to be broadcast on NBCSN on Friday, October 4 at 6 p.m.

The next K&N Pro Series West event will take place at All American Speedway in Roseville, California on Saturday, October 12.



Derek Kraus earned his fourth victory of the 2019 season and first at Meridian Speedway on Saturday night. (Meg Oliphant/NASCAR photo)

Sweet Domination Saturday Night at the Milk Bowl

Nick Sweet might be struggling to find speed in his American-Canadian Tour Late Model at the Vermont Milk Bowl, but that didn't stop him from putting on a clinic during the PASS North Super Late Model feature at Thunder Road on Saturday. Sweet dominated the race, leading 132 of 150

laps en route to notching his second PASS victory of the season.

"I knew when we unloaded [the Super Late Model] that it was fast," Sweet said. "It drove really well as it showed during the race, I think we led most of the race, capped out on a good finish there so that was really good."

Sweet is also running his ACT car this weekend but thus far has not been able to find the speed he wants to capture a fourth Milk Bowl victory. Following his PASS victory, Sweet finished fifth in his 50-lap qualifier to earn himself a 12th-place starting spot in Sunday's Milk Bowl.

"Now we can hopefully carry a little bit of that momentum and bring it into the Milk Bowl here because we have a lot of work to do on the Late Model," he said. "It was fun to lead laps, hopefully we can lead more laps, we'll see. I'm trying to be optimistic with the Late Model but we have a long way to go."

Series points leader D.J. Shaw rebounded from a tough outing at White Mountain Motorsports Park one week ago, bringing his No. 60 Ford Mustang home in second place.

"It's a good rebound for us," Shaw said. "It couldn't have really gone any worse [at White Mountain] but we recovered as a team last week and salvaged what we

could and bounced back into form today. I wish we didn't get whooped by Nick so bad, but second is always good, so we'll move forward with that."

Young gun Evan Hallstrom used his local knowledge of the track to come home third, a result that he knows is hard to achieve against the stars of the series.

"I have a ton of laps around here, I've run a full season here in an ACT car so that helps," Hallstrom said. "Obviously one of the big ones would be the Oxford 250,

any PASS event really, I mean you have guys like Ben Rowe. Derek Griffith, he's a five-time winner, to get underneath him and drive by him with ease, I mean it's just a great run. I can't thank my guys enough."

Championship contender Derek Griffith brought his No. 12G home in fourth, but will lose a bit of ground to Shaw in the points chase entering the final two events. Gabe Brown had a strong run in his No. 47 Super Late Model and came home fifth.



Nick Sweet celebrates in victory lane after winning the 57th Annual Vermont Milk Bowl at Thunder Road. (Norm Marx photo)

An advertisement for Five Star RaceCar Bodies UltraGlass. The top half features the "FIVE STAR RaceCar Bodies" logo and the word "ULTRAGLASS" in large, stylized, red and white letters. To the right, the text "DESIGNED TO WIN!" is written in large, bold, yellow letters. Below this, a yellow banner contains the text "BODY PANELS THAT DEFLECT 300% FURTHER BEFORE BREAKING=LESS DEBRIS ON THE TRACK!". The bottom half of the ad shows a white race car with the number "7" and the word "PHOENIX" on its side, driving on a racetrack. The car has various sponsor logos, including "FIVE STAR", "PENSKE", and "SWIFT". In the bottom right corner, the text "CASEY RODERICK CHOOSES FIVE STAR!" is written. At the very bottom, the text "THE DIFFERENCE IS QUALITY!" is written, followed by the website "www.FIVESTARBODIES.com" and the phone number "262.877.2171". An "ISO 9001:2015" certification logo is also present.

Marcum Gets Another Vore's Welding CRA Late Model Sportsman Win at Anderson Speedway

SALEM, IN - Multi-time Anderson Speedway late model Champion Jeff Marcum used all his experience to grab his second win of the season with the Vore's Welding CRA Late Model Sportsman Powered by JEGS Saturday night at Anderson Speedway. Marcum powered by early leader Cassten Everidge to grab a lead he would keep the rest of the way.

"I knew that was my chance to take the lead," Marcum remarked. "The field was so tight in qualifying and I wanted to take advantage of fresh tires at the beginning of the race. I expected to see the 53 (Tinkle) car behind me if there was a late caution, he's been really tough this year. It's always good to get a win when CRA is here at Anderson, there's always a good group of racers here for these races!"

Everidge grabbed the early lead from his outside pole starting position after Allstar Performance Fast Qualifier Ronnie Rose drew a six for the events inverted start. Everidge got to start on the pole after scheduled pole sitter Cory Setser found a blown head gasket after qualifying and couldn't start the feature.

Marcum fell in behind Everidge and immediately started applying pressure to get by when the first caution of the event flew on lap four after contact between Brandon Varney and Rose resulted in Varney spinning. Both competitors had to restart at the tail of the field.

On the restart Marcum powered into the lead with an outside move entering turn one. From there Marcum opened a comfortable lead but there was a heated fight for the second position between Everidge, Zachary Tinkle, Austin Coe and Varney.

The second caution flag waved on lap 68 when Coe spun on the back straight after several cars checked up. Marcum maintained the lead over Everidge on the restart while Tinkle was looking for a way to move into the second spot. The caution flag waved for the third and last time for debris on lap 69 setting up a six-lap run to the fin-

ish.

Marcum again held off Everidge at the drop of the green on the events final restart, but Everidge was under fire from Tinkle, who knew he needed every point he could get to advance to the final four of the series Chase for the Championship. Tinkle moved into second place on lap 71 with an inside pass of Everidge after some contact between the two competitors. Tinkle started to close on Marcum but came up .467-seconds short at the finish.

With the win Marcum is now tied for fifth in all-time series wins with Steve Minich Jr, with six.

Tinkle finished in second, after starting in eighth place. Tinkle said his crew continues to work on the race car that suffered heavy damage during the Fall Brawl at Lucas Oil Raceway earlier in the month.

"The crew keeps working to make the car better," Tinkle said. "We're still off a little bit. It's always tough to beat Jeff (Marcum) at Anderson."

Tinkle picked up the Spillers Towing Hardcharger Award for advancing a race leading six positions and the KRJ Race Products Sweet Move of the Race Award for his late pass of Everidge, which got him the final position in the four drivers who will compete for Chase for the Championship.

Everidge finished in third place. Everidge said he used up his rear tires during the battle for second and wasn't getting enough grip coming off the corners.

"I thought tonight might be my chance at a first win," remarked Everidge. "We keep getting better at every race."

Varney would finish in fourth place and was awarded the AR Bodies Cool Move of the Race Award for several good passes he made to get back into the top five after coming from the tail of the field. Coe would come back and finish in fifth place.

Setser was already locked into the final four Chase for the Championship drivers as the Regular Season Points Champion. 2007 series Champion Billy Hutson was also a lock after his win in the first Chase for the Championship event at Winchester Speedway on Labor Day Weekend. Coe and Tinkle

were the final two drivers locked into the final four by the points they accumulated in the first three races in the Chase for the Championship. The highest finisher of those four drivers in the series Season Championship event will be crowned the 2019 series Champion.

The next Vore's Welding CRA Late Model Sportsman event will be the Season Championship 40 lap feature at Winchester Speedway on Saturday, October 12th as part of the Winchester 400 Weekend. Information on all the CRA Series is available at www.cra-racing.com.

Burda Picks up Sixth Victory and the Victory Custom Trailers CRA Junior Late Model Championship

SALEM, IN - 14-year-old Columbiaville, Michigan native Chase Burda swept the day at Anderson Speedway on Saturday, first collecting his seventh MPM Marketing Fast Qualifier Award in eight series events in 2019, then led all 25 laps to claim his sixth series feature win of the season and by being the highest finisher of the final three Chase for the Championship drivers, claimed the inaugural Victory Custom Trailers CRA Junior Late Models Championship, capping off a brilliant season.

"Wow, what a relief to get the win and the Championship tonight," remarked Burda in victory lane. "This was our goal for the season, and we did it. We were all nervous all day, but things worked out just like we hoped. It's an honor to be this great series first Champion. I have to thank my mom and dad for all their support, all my sponsors and all the people that have helped us all year, it took everyone's effort to be able to compete like we did this season. I have to thank Victory Custom Trailers and JEGS for sponsoring this series and CRA for putting this series together, it's been a great season!"

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

eighth and final event of the season.

The two-car invert for the five-car field in the feature placed Charlie Keeven on the pole for the feature with Burda on the outside pole. Keeven and Burda raced side by side at the drop of the green flag until Burda was able to get the jump on the outside and pull away to get the lead on lap one. The field had spread out with the closest battle for position between Zach Wilhelm and Katie Hettinger for third place.

The only caution of the event flew on lap 19 when Hettinger spun in the back stretch by herself, bunching the field back up for a restart.

Burda used the inside groove to grab the lead again at the drop of the green flag on the restart. From there it was smooth sailing for Burda who won by almost two seconds over Keeven. Burda picked up the AR Bodies Cool Move of the Race award for the outside pass of Keeven to grab the lead at the start of the race.

Burda will be officially crowned the 2019 Victory Custom Trailers CRA Junior Late Models Champion at the 2019 Champion Racing Association Powered by JEGS Awards Banquet Presented by Shepherd Insurance on Friday, January 3rd, 2020 at the Crowne Plaza Indianapolis Downtown at Union Station.

With his second-place finish on Saturday, Keeven, one of the three final Chase for the Championship drivers, finished second in 2019 Chase for the Championship for the series. Zach Wilhelm finished in third in the race, he was the third final Chase for the Championship driver and finished third in the 2019 Chase for the Championship for the series.

Luke Wilhem finished in fourth in Saturday night's feature event and he won the series eight lap heat race. Katie Hettinger finished in fifth place in Saturday night's feature, she finished fourth in series final Championship points.

Plans are already underway for the 2020 season for the Victory Custom Trailers CRA Junior Late Models, more information on the series and CRA is available at www.cra-racing.com.



Brad Sweet Earns His 50th Career Win, Extends Points Lead at Lernerville

SARVER, PA - Brad Sweet has made a habit of winning big this season – most notably claiming the \$175,000-to-win Kings Royal in July.

However, his win Saturday night at Lernerville Speedway may prove to be his biggest victory, yet.

When Sweet sped by the checkered flag he picked up his second win in-a-row at the Commonwealth Clash event, his 16th World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series win of the season, his 50th career Series win and went from a four-point lead over Donny Schatz to a 40-point lead.

"We've had what feels like the best car all year," Sweet said. "You know, sixteenth win. We've been up front a lot."

That was the case all night for Sweet and his Kasey Kahne Racing team at the 4/10-mile track. He qualified second to David Gravel – who picked up his 18th Quick Time of the season. Then finished second to Ian Madsen in his Dryden Heat race. He drew the pole for the DIRTVision Fast Pass Dash and went on to win it.

Starting on the front row of the 35-lap Feature with Sweet was his championship competitor.

During the July race at the Sarver, Pa. track, Sweet and Schatz battled all race long for fourth-place with Sweet the victor of the duel. They were set for reenact their battle, but this time for the lucrative win. If Sweet won, he increased his points lead over Schatz. If Schatz won, he would either reclaim the lead or tie Sweet for it.

When the two competitors accelerated their 900-hp chariots at the start of the 35-lap Feature, Sweet had the advantage and crossed in front of the 10-time Series champion before entering turn one. Schatz hung onto the Grass Valley, Calif.-native's bumper down the backstretch. He looked low underneath the NAPA Auto Parts No. 49 car into turn three but couldn't match the momentum Sweet was able to exit the corner with up high.

Their brawl was put on pause the first lap when the caution came out for Clay Riney coming to a stop

at the top of turn one. When the race resumed, Sweet was able to launch ahead of Schatz. The Fargo, N.D.-native would not let Sweet pull away, though.

Before Sweet could attempt to find a rhythm, the caution came out, again, after one lap. This time, A.J. Flick went off track in turn two.

For the third time in two laps Schatz was awarded the opportunity to start alongside Sweet for the restart. And for the third time Sweet got the jump on him off turn four and cleared the Toco Warranty No. 15 for the lead before the first turn.

Schatz closed on Sweet down the backstretch, leaving inches between his front bumper and Sweet's rear bumper.

Sweet committed to the high side and Schatz ran low. After putting together a few laps, Schatz found a rhythm on the bottom and began poking his nose further alongside Sweet's car every corner.

Uncomfortable with the run Schatz was building on him, Sweet changed his line and ran low for a lap. Schatz switched to the high side but was unable to further his march to the lead. With Schatz no longer breathing down his neck, Sweet went back to the top. He was able to keep Schatz at bay, maintaining a few car lengths lead on him. Even through traffic.

"We kind of hit on some stuff last year at this same race," Sweet said. "We basically ran the car the same way."

While the championship competitors led the field, Shane Stewart, Ian Madsen and David Gravel brawled for third-place, at one time going three-wide for the position. Stewart eventually won the battle, but once Gravel comfortably moved into fourth-place, he kept pressure on Stewart for the remainder of the race.

Sweet had about a second lead over Schatz near the halfway point of the race. Then shock echoed around the facility. A soft pop emitted from the Schatz's car going through turns three and four. His Tony Stewart/Curb-Agajanian Racing car drastically slowed and the caution came out.

There was an issue with his engine's magneto. Schatz could not continue, ending the night in 18th – after a rare 17th-place finish at Eldora Speedway the night prior.



Brad Sweet was victorious at Lernerville Speedway where he raced his way to his 50th win of his career. (Sue Smith photo)

Schatz declined to comment after the race.

His misfortunate benefit Stewart, who was gifted a front row starting position on the outside of Sweet on the restart. Like Schatz, he was unable to stay alongside Sweet down the front stretch, but dove underneath him into turn three, going side by side with the No. 49 car through the corner. Sweet was still too strong on the high side. He pulled away with the lead and ran off with the win.

Stewart finished second and Gravel rounded out the podium.

"I felt like we had pretty good pace the whole race, we've just got to keep our heads down and keep working on it and hopefully we can get some wins," Stewart said.

Sweet's big win helped him put a sizable points gap between he and Schatz, however neither driver has been able to maintain a large points gap on the other this year. He didn't know where Schatz finished after the race but knows that doesn't matter as long as he keeps winning.

"I just try to stay focused on our car, because as long as we're winning the race we know that we're gaining points," Sweet said. "We can't control what Donny does or what his team does. We just stay focused on our NAPA Auto Parts number forty-nine."

"We've been on a little roller coaster ride where we've been up or down a little bit. But I thought we really dug deep at Dodge City and Eldora. Last night (at Eldora) was a big night for us. You know, sometimes those fifths and sixths when you come from the back are good rebounds. In the big scheme of things that's always good. We just want to get wins. If we show up every night and keep winning these races, it's our championship to lose."

UP NEXT: The World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series on Friday, Oct. 4, and Saturday, Oct. 5, will return to Williams Grove Speedway for the Champion Racing Oil National Open. Get tickets and more information.

As always, if you can't make it to the race, you can watch all of the action LIVE on DIRTVision.com.

Schuchart Conquers Eldora Speedway for Second Time

ROSSBURG, OH - Logan Schuchart entered Friday's race at Eldora Speedway with an attitude. He felt like the half-mile speedway owned him.

He finished second for the third time in-a-row during the May event at the track. During the four July races there he finished third, third, fourth and second at the Kings Royal.

Schuchart craved a second win at the iconic track – his first came in 2017. He was a shark that sensed blood in the water. No one was going to keep him from his target. He and his Shark Racing team made sure of it.

Aside from Hot Laps, which were ran twice due to a two-and-a-half-hour rain delay before Qualifying, Schuchart won everything he could involving a sprint car Friday night. He set Quick Time, won his Drydene Heat race, drew the pole for the DIRTVision Fast Pass Dash, won the Dash and led all 30 laps in the World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series Feature – earning his eighth victory of the season.

"This is definitely one, coming to Eldora, is one I always look forward to," Schuchart said. "It's been really good to us. We just haven't been able to win one. So, to end our

(Continued Next Page)

Continued...

season at Eldora and win one is cool. Especially since I've had so many good runs and haven't won one since 2017. It's cool to win at this place any chance you get."

While the Hanover, Pa.-native dominated the BeFour the Crowns Showdown, a Texan made him work for it. Aaron Reutzel – coming off a podium finish with the World of Outlaws at

Jacksonville Speedway and setting the quickest lap in the second round of Hot Laps – hunted Schuchart throughout the Feature, in search of his first Series win at the speedway.

Schuchart launched ahead of the field on the initial start of the Feature with second-place Carson Macedo on his tail and Reutzel making his way to third. Before any of them could build momentum, the red flag came out before the completion of the first lap for Wayne Johnson flipping in turn three.

When the race restarted, Schuchart again shot to the lead with Macedo in pursuit. However, Reutzel put an end to Macedo's chase in the first corner. He darted to the high side in turn one and charged off turn two with the ferocity of a speeding bullet, pulling alongside Macedo down the backstretch.

Macedo, a rookie, and Reutzel, a part-time driver in the Series, raced wheel-to-wheel for a lap before Reutzel outran Macedo into turn three and stole the runner-up spot on the second lap. Schuchart was half of a straightaway ahead of Reutzel. However, that gap vanished a few seconds later.

Another red flag came out for Brady Bacon wrecking in turn four on Lap two. It was the last time the field had to slow for an accident, though.

On the final restart of the night, with 28 laps to go, Schuchart pulled ahead of Reutzel by about two car lengths into the first turn and grew his lead to more than a second shortly after. By Lap nine Schuchart found himself in heavy lap traffic. Exactly what Reutzel needed.

As the Drydene No. 1s navigated its way through a maze of cars, the Folkens Bros. No. 87 of Reutzel crept closer every lap. Near the halfway point of the Feature, Reutzel found himself feet



Logan Schuchart celebrates in victory lane after winning at Eldora Speedway, his first win at the track since 2017. (DB3Inc photo)

away from Schuchart's bumper. But before he could attempt a pass, Schuchart found clean air and pulled away from him again.

The two drivers were an accord for the remainder of the race. Reutzel would close on Schuchart and then Schuchart would pull away.

Having raced with Reutzel before and knowing his style, Schuchart anticipated where he thought the Texan might run and made sure he didn't leave a door open for him.

Schuchart's plan worked. He held off Reutzel – who had to hold off a fast approaching Sheldon Haudenschild in the closing laps – and won his second career World of Outlaws race at Eldora Speedway.

Before the start of the season Schuchart had eight career wins over a five-year span. Now, he's doubled that statistic in one season. He and his Shark Racing team definitely have an attitude this year. An attitude to win.

Carson Macedo Wins Thrilling Show at Jacksonville Speedway

JACKSONVILLE, IL - Rookie Carson Macedo knows if he wants to be an established World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series driver and stick around the Series for a while, he needs to win races.

That mentality was ingrained in the young Lemoore, Calif.-native Wednesday night at Jacksonville Speedway when he out dueled Sheldon Haudenschild and Brad Sweet in an elbows up brawl to earn his fourth victory of the year.

"I can't say enough about this (Kyle Larson Racing) team," Macedo said. "Fourth win this year. I'm super stoked. Happy for them.

Happy to get wins. That's what it takes out here."

Macedo was fast all night in his Chevrolet Accessories No. 2 car, qualifying second, winning his Drydene Heat race and finishing second in the DIRTVision Fast Pass Dash. However, Haudenschild was always one step ahead. The Stenhouse Jr.-Marshall Racing driver set Quick Time, won his Drydene Heat race and won the Dash over Macedo by four seconds.

The two young guns of the Series were set to duel. And they did.

Neither was willing to sacrifice an inch on the initial start, staying wheel to wheel as they crept toward the white start line. When it came time to hammer the throttle Haudenschild gave his more love than needed, showing the complete under belly of his No. 17 as he powered to the flag stand. That allowed Macedo to get a run on the Wooster, Ohio-native into the first corner and take the lead.

Haudenschild dove underneath Macedo into turn three and nosed in front of him through turn four. However, he did another wheelie on the exit of the turn, allowing Macedo to charged back out front. Haudenschild would not let the Californian get away, though. He stayed on his bumper down the straightaways and could power to his inside every corner.

The quarter-mile track was proving to be fun for some and tricky for others, as several cars bounced off the cushion in turn four or over throttled their way into the corner causing them spin – or nearly do so. The fastest line was around the top, against the cushion – a line most comfortable for Macedo and Haudenschild.

Two cautions came out in the first 12 laps of the 40-lap Feature. Macedo was able to launch ahead of Haudenschild on both restarts,

but the Ohio driver continued to pester Macedo each lap. The Kyle Larson Racing car was rarely out of reach.

On Lap 14, Macedo did a quick wheel stand off turn four, allowing Haudenschild, with a full steam of momentum, to throw a slide job into turn one and exit turn two with the lead.

Three more cautions came out between Lap 18 and 21 for drivers either spinning or coming to a stop on the track. On the restart with 19 laps to go, Haudenschild rocketed out front. Macedo spun his tires and got passed by Shane Stewart for second.

Macedo wasn't willing to let the win slip away. To continue to establish himself, he needed it.

Finding grip on the bottom of the speedway, Macedo charged his way back by Stewart and looked to find his rhythm to catch Haudenschild. He didn't have to put too much effort into it though. Another caution came out a few laps later for several cars colliding in turn four and blocking the track.

On the restart with 15 laps to go, Macedo was now pestering Haudenschild. He poked his nose underneath him each corner, ready to capitalize on any mistake Haudenschild made. And with 14 laps to go Haudenschild made one.

He slid his car too far up the track in turn four, hammering the cushion with his right rear tire and lifting the front of his car off the ground. With a clean run around the bottom, Macedo raced by the upset NOS Energy Drink car and reclaimed the lead.

While Macedo and Haudenschild continued their close battle for the lead, Sweet, Aaron Reutzel and Donny Schatz were slowly making their way to the front. After Stewart spun, with 10 laps to go, Sweet moved into the position with Reutzel also moving up to fourth and Schatz to fifth. Four laps later, heartbreak for Haudenschild. He too spun, bringing out the caution.

With six laps to go, Macedo now found himself having to hold off Sweet – who moved up from seventh to second – Reutzel – who moved up from eighth to third – and Schatz – who charged from 17th to fourth.

It proved to be a task he was up to. He pulled away from the field on the restart and comfortably cruised his way to his first win Jacksonville Speedway victory – in his first official start at the track. Sweet remained second and Reutzel rounded out the podium. Haudenschild ended the night 15th.

Hagar Leads It All With ASCS Mid-South at Jackson Motor Speedway

BYRAM, MS - Picking up his fourth victory of the season against the Stealth Recover ASCS Mid-South Region, Derek Hagar led flag-to-flag Saturday night at Mississippi's Jackson Motor Speedway.

Hagar's eighth career win with the Stealth Recover

ASCS Mid-South Region, the No. 9jr was chased to the finish by series points leader, Tim Crawley, with Ernie Ainsworth taking the final podium step.

Brad Bowden had crossed fourth but failed to report to the scales following the race, resulting in the No. 39 being disqualified. Marshall Sinner advanced to the vacated position with Danny Sams completing the top five.

Joseph Miller made up six positions to sixth with Kevin Hinkle, Brandon Blenden, Chase Howard, and Jake Knight completing the top ten.

The next event on the 2019 lineup for the Stealth Recover ASCS Mid-South Region is the COMP Cams Short Track Nationals presented by Hoosier Tire at I-30 Speedway on Friday, October 4 and Saturday, October 5.

Information on the event, as well as tickets, can be found at www.i-30speedway.com.

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

Victory Goes To Gile With ASCS Desert Non-Wing at Arizona Speedway

QUEEN CREEK, AZ - Riding third until the final laps of the Arizona Motorsports Hall of Fame Classic at Arizona Speedway on Saturday night, a late-race tangle for the lead elevated Dennis Gile to his second career victory with San Tan Ford ASCS Desert Non-Wing Sprint Cars.

Looking like a showdown between Kyle Shipley and Bruce St. James in the closing laps, contact

between the two as Bruce came up short on the slide through turns three and four resulted in Shipley going upside down with the "Radio Flyer" also getting tangled up.

With the lead in hand for the closing lap, Gile went on to grab the night's \$1,250 winner's check ahead of John Shelton with Joshua Shipley advancing position 14 times before landing on the final podium step. Up 10 spots to fourth, Shon Deskins kept pace over Pete Yerkovich who climbed 11 spots to finish fifth.

Rick Shuman was sixth with Ryan Murphy, Ronald Webster, Kyle Shipley, and Bruce St. James making up the top ten.

Heading east to Central Arizona Speedway in Casa Grande, Ariz. the San Tan Ford ASCS Desert Non-Wing Sprint Cars will be in action at the high-banked oval on Saturday, October 12.

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

Dennis Gile raced his way to victory lane at Arizona Speedway. (Ben Thrasher photo)



Derek Hagar climbed atop his car with his daughter in victory lane after winning at Jackson Motor Speedway. It was Hagar's eighth career win with the series. (ASCS photo)



888-920-7746

DAVIS
GOT TRACTION?
TECHNOLOGIES

WWW.MORETRACTION.COM

A NEW ERA IN TRACTION CONTROL

INTRODUCTORY PRICES STARTING AT \$1895

LOWER LAP TIMES




Aaron Reutzel Caps 2019 All Star Title Run with 4-Crown Nationals Triumph at Eldora Speedway

ROSSBURG, OH - Aaron Reutzel's 2019 Ollie's Bargain Outlet All Star Circuit of Champions presented by Mobil 1 championship campaign could not have ended more appropriately. Not only did the Clute, Texas-native

cap his season with a 16th Series victory, his sixth during the month of September, but Reutzel did so during the 38th running of Eldora Speedway's historic 4-Crown Nationals; a second consecutive victory for the Texan during Eldora's season-ending program.

Certainly an ongoing trend in 2019, Aaron Reutzel and Baughman-Reutzel Motorsports officially etched their names in All Star Circuit of Champions history books yet again, this time as an All Star champion for a second consecutive season. Although clinching the 2019 title at the conclusion of the evening's pill draw, the 4-Crown Nationals triumph certainly put an exclamation point on their season.

Six-time Series champion, Dale Blaney, wrapped-up his 2019 campaign alongside McGhee Motorsports with a runner-up finish in the final championship standings, followed by a pair of rookie contenders, Cory Eliason and Brock Zearfoss, who finished third and fourth, respectively, and Paul McMahan.

"I can't thank Mike and Josh Baughman enough for believing in me and believing in what this team can do. I'm blessed to be the guy who gets to wheel this car," Aaron Reutzel explained, driver of the Baughman-Reutzel Motorsports/Folkens Brothers Trucking/Fischer Body Shop/Nattress Construction/No. 87 sprint car. "It's unbelievable what we have been able to accomplish since we started."

Starting sixth on the 4-Crown Nationals grid, Reutzel's path to the top of the charts required finesse, as well as patience, ultimately forced to battle by a handful of the sport's finest including Gio Scelzi, Cory Eliason, Cale Conley and Cale Thomas.

After moving ahead one position during the initial start, it took

Reutzel until lap five to advance one more, this time driving by West Virginia's Cale Conley to takeover the fourth spot. Meanwhile, Fairland, Indiana's Cale Thomas was the man in control, utilizing the outside-pole position aboard Ron Gorby's No. G1 to lead the first six circuits.

Despite a stout pace around Eldora Speedway's infamous top groove, Thomas' reign quickly ran out as Cory Eliason made his presence known on lap seven. A diving slider through turns three and four allowed Eliason to gain the top spot, now with Thomas, Gio Scelzi and Reutzel in tow. Unfortunately for Thomas, his run in the top-five ended on lap ten, as incidental contact between himself and Aaron Reutzel led to a 360 degree spin between turns three and four. The spin eventually signaled a caution forcing Thomas to restart at the tail of the field.

With the ensuing single-file restart on his side, it would only take Reutzel one circuit to move his way into the second spot, utilizing the middle line through turns one and two to slingshot around Gio Scelzi.

The main event's second and final caution appeared on lap 15 setting up a near-identical situation for Reutzel and Baughman-Reutzel Motorsports. Using one lap to set himself up before capitalizing one circuit later, Reutzel's winning maneuver occurred on lap 16, this time sliding by fellow All Star full-timer, Cory Eliason, with a bold move through turns one and two.

Driving by Thomas early, Eliason had been in command since lap seven.

It was a clear path for Reutzel during his first six circuits in command, but slower traffic soon entered the picture. As lapped cars started to multiply, Eliason seemed to make progress, eventually shrinking Reutzel's command during their first few laps in traffic. Feeling a sense of pressure, Reutzel quickly found another gear took off, immediately pulling away from the Rudeen Racing entry. By the time the final checkers flew on lap 25, the gap was pushing three seconds.

Gio Scelzi held strong to finish just behind Eliason and Reutzel,



Aaron Reutzel celebrates in victory lane after winning the 4-Crown Nationals at Eldora Speedway. (Paul Arch photo)

followed by Buddy Kofoed and Dale Blaney.

"When I got the lead, I could kinda see the gap I was putting on Cory," Aaron Reutzel said referring to the Eldora big screen. "I saw when he was getting back to me a little bit, so I kinda searched around and found something else. The big screen definitely helped out here. You can see where other people are and where other people are running. I was way better on the short runs and definitely needed that last caution."

"I knew [Aaron Reutzel] was going to be there at some stage. We were rolling pretty good. I guess I hung on the wing valve a lit-

tle too much," Cory Eliason explained. "I couldn't figure out why we got so tight at the end. It wasn't until after the checkers when I looked up and realized what had happened. We were really good really early. I was just trying to pace it and save myself for the end."

"We didn't do it from the front row tonight," Aaron Reutzel continued. "There have been a lot of naysayers the last month or so saying that we've only been able to win from of the front row. We drew the worst [dash] pill we could draw tonight. Hopefully that will give them something else to talk about. This has been an absolute dream season. What a way to cap it off."



Dover Int'l Speedway

DOVER, DE - Dover International Speedway officials buried a time capsule in the Monster Mile's new NASCAR Cup Series garage Monday, in celebration of the track's 50th Anniversary season and less than two weeks before the track's 100th NASCAR Cup Series race.

The capsule includes mementos from Dover's 50 years of racing, which dates to its inaugural event on July 6, 1969. The track will host its 100th NASCAR Cup Series race, the "Drydene 400" Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series playoff race, on Sunday, Oct. 6, capping its Oct. 4-6 NASCAR tripleheader weekend.

Items inside the capsule, which was signed by all full-time Dover International Speedway employees, include:

- A replica gold Monster Trophy
- Letters by NASCAR chairman and CEO Jim France and Dover Motorsports, Inc. President & CEO Denis McGlynn
- A USB drive that includes Dover's 50th Anniversary historical video, highlights from Dale Earnhardt Jr.'s victory following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and a 2019 Dover TV commercial.
- An NBC Sports hat and T-shirt signed by some of its on-air talent, including Dale Earnhardt, Jr., Rick Allen, Dale Jarrett, Jeff Burton, Krista Voda, Parker Kligerman, Kyle Petty, Kelli Stavast and Ray Evernham.
- Two photos of NASCAR on FOX on-air crews - one from February 2002 (Darrell Waltrip, Mike Joy, Larry McReynolds, Dick Berggren, Jeff Hammond, Matt Yocum and Steve Byrnes) and one from 2019 featuring Jeff Gordon, Joy, Larry McReynolds and Waltrip.
- Three hats from the Motor Racing Network, which is also celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2019.

• Proclamations from Delaware's Governor's Office, House of Representatives and State Senate.

A plaque on top of the buried capsule requests future generations open the vault in 50 years, during Dover's expected 100th Anniversary celebration in 2069.

The Oct. 4-6 NASCAR tripleheader weekend also includes the "Use Your Melon Drive Sober 200"



Officials at Dover International Speedway buried a time capsule in celebration of the track's 50th Anniversary season. (DIS photo)

NASCAR Xfinity Series playoff race on Saturday, Oct. 5 and the "General Tire 125" NASCAR K&N Pro Series East season finale on Friday, Oct. 4.

In addition to the iconic gold Monster trophies given to the race winners, fans can also enjoy free Harlem Globetrotters performances (Sunday), the Budweiser Clydesdales (all weekend), a free Grand Funk Railroad concert on the Xfinity Stage at Victory Plaza (Sunday), Micro Wrestling Federation matches (Saturday and Sunday), a Winston Cup Mobile Museum display (all weekend), Monster Energy "Smoke Show" (Saturday and Sunday), and much more in Dover's 8-acre FanZone.

For tickets or more information on Monster Mile events and 50th Anniversary activities, call (800) 441-RACE or visit DoverSpeedway.com. You can also keep up with track activities at [Facebook.com/DoverInternationalSpeedway](https://www.facebook.com/DoverInternationalSpeedway), or on Twitter and Instagram at @MonsterMile.

Talladega Superspeedway

TALLADEGA, AL - Swings and slides and merry-go-rounds, oh my! Talladega Superspeedway's littlest fans have even more reason to be excited for the track's upcoming NASCAR Playoffs doubleheader weekend, Oct. 11-13, when they see the addition of the brand-new playground that will be located in the Talladega Garage Experience, debuting this October.

Talladega Superspeedway has teamed up with Play & Park Structures to help NASCAR's youngest fans experience something similar to what they might observe during a race day at the track and live it out in the new play area that will sit just outside the Talladega Garage Experience's massive BIG BILL'S Open Air Social Club, the epicenter of the Garage Experience's

140,000 square foot space.

The overall play environment will feature a poured, in-place track that will simulate the actual 2.66-mile track and feature authentic sounds from the race track. Children will get the chance to race each other around the perimeter and time themselves using the lap timer. A kids' size race car that can accommodate two children will be positioned to enter the pit stop area and will include an interactive voice module panel that children can power by turning a kinetic rotor to generate pit stop commands such as 'Tighten up the lug nuts' and 'Gas it up!'

There will also be a play tower that will face the play area's start-finish line and will feature an interactive announcer panel where children can generate familiar calls such as 'Drivers, start your engines!' and 'Checkered flag, everyone's a winner!' Swings, slides, climbing and spinning will keep the youngsters entertained throughout the entire race weekend.

Kids will also get the chance to take a selfie in one of the multiple photo stations located in the Kids Zone and throughout the Talladega Garage Experience. Play & Park Structures is debuting their newest selfie product - the Swirl with Me - an inclusive merry-go-round that features built-in cell phone slots that allow parents to capture the glee on their children's faces as they spin. So whether it's posing with a "driver" or at the winner's circle trophy photo panel, there are plenty of photo opportunities for families to capture those special moments.

Local race fan and Hueytown, AL native Angela Collins, is the recreation consultant who collaborated on this project. She is the owner of Hammill Recreation.

Other items families can enjoy in the Talladega Garage Experience

include \$4 or less Value-Priced Concessions, Game Zone, Entertainment Stage for local music, Driver Q&A's and other interviews, social areas, Gatorade Victory Lane celebrations post race, Sunday pre-race ceremonies and Driver Introductions at the Start-Finish line and much more!

Families who have access on Sunday (Oct. 13) have the option to go behind-the-scenes at the biggest track in NASCAR and participate in the Kids VIP Experience presented by Children's of Alabama. These exclusive "pre-race" options include:

- NEW! Fist Bump Alley backstage at Driver Introductions
- NEW! Gatorade Victory Lane Celebration
- Fist Bump Alley along the catwalk at Driver Introductions
- Gatorade Victory Lane photo opportunity
- Hot Lap around the mammoth track in a Grand Marshal car
- Guided Garage/Hauler Tour
- Drivers Meeting Red Carpet Experience
- Pit Box Tour with a race team

The youngsters can choose one of the eight experiences on a first-come, first-served basis once at the Kids Station (opens at 8 a.m. CDT), which will be located near the Kids Zone. There is a two-kids, per-one adult limit.

For all things on the Talladega Garage Experience, log onto www.talladegasuperspeedway.com or call 855-518-7223 (RACE).

The Sugarlands Shine 250 for the NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series will kick off the track's 50th Anniversary, action-packed weekend on Saturday, Oct. 12 at 12:30 p.m. CDT. The anchor event, the 1000Bulbs.com 500 Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series race, is scheduled for a 1 p.m. CDT start on Sunday, Oct. 13. Both will serve as key playoff events in each series.

For more information or tickets for the 1000Bulbs.com 500 or the Sugarlands Shine 250, visit www.talladegasuperspeedway.com or call 855-518-RACE (7223).

Texas Motor Speedway

FORT WORTH, TX - Sunoco, the Official Fuel of Texas Motor Speedway, has expanded its long-term partnership with No Limits, Texas in sponsoring the Sunoco Loud & Proud Pre-Race Show starring Grammy Award winning singer-songwriter Shooter Jennings prior to the Nov. 3 NASCAR Cup Series AAA Texas 500.

(Continued Next Page)

Continued...

The concert will take place on the Sunoco Loud & Proud Pre-Race Show stage located in the infield along the Texas Motor Speedway front stretch beginning at 11:30 a.m. CT. The purchase of a AAA Texas 500 race ticket is required.

"Sunoco is very excited to partner with Texas Motor Speedway on the 'Sunoco Loud & Proud Pre-

Race Show' starring Shooter Jennings," said Fred McConnell, Director of Fuels and Brand Marketing for Sunoco. "We look forward to having this incredible show kick off race day for all of the fans at our home track."

Shooter Jennings is the son of country music legends Waylon Jennings and Jessi Colter. The eclectic American singer-songwriter has performed with a wide variety of musical artists, from his parents and Willie Nelson to Fall Out Boy and Marilyn Manson. The Low Country Sound/Elektra artist, who has released seven LPs and numerous EPs, is currently on tour throughout the United States and his "Shooter Jennings' Electric Rodeo" show can be heard on Sirius XM Outlaw Country Channel 60.

"The Sunoco Loud & Proud Pre-Race Show featuring Shooter Jennings is going to be a tremendous addition to our AAA Texas 500 weekend and a sure crowd-pleaser for our dedicated NASCAR race fans," said Eddie Gossage, President of Texas Motor Speedway. "The fact that we've been able to expand our relationship with Sunoco, which started in 2013, has special meaning because they see Texas Motor Speedway as their home track for their home fans."

The AAA Texas 500 weekend kicks off with two nights of on the Texas Motor Speedway Dirt Track with the Tony Stewart Presents The Vankor Texas Sprint Car Nationals, Oct. 31-Nov. 1. The Saturday, Nov. 2 NASCAR Xfinity Series O'Reilly Auto Parts 300 playoff race will take place under the lights on the 1.5-mile asphalt oval as will the eighth race in the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Playoffs, the AAA Texas 500, Sunday Nov. 3.

For ticket or race information, please visit texasmotorspeedway.com or call the speedway

ticket office at 817.215.8500. With an adult ticket purchase, accompanying tickets for children 12-and-under are \$10 for the AAA Texas 500 and free for the O'Reilly Auto Parts 300 playoff race.

Talladega Superspeedway

TALLADEGA, AL - The name of Talladega Superspeedway's one-of-a-kind 35,000 square foot Open Air Social Club was unveiled Wednesday, and fittingly, the centerpiece of the new fan-friendly Talladega Garage Experience honors the track's visionary creator - William H. G. "Big Bill" France, who brought big-time automobile racing to northeastern Alabama.

"BIG BILL'S" was introduced to a crowd of more than 300 local community leaders & guests with the help of France's granddaughter Lesa France Kennedy (Chief Executive Officer, International Speedway Corporation), along with Alabama Governor Kay Ivey, Talladega Superspeedway Chairman Grant Lynch and legendary driver Red Farmer, one of the original famed "Alabama Gang". A gigantic cover was pulled off the mammoth six-foot BIG BILL'S black letters that adorn the top front of the unique, rustic building. Just behind the letters is a 70 by 18 foot collage of historic France Sr. photos at his iconic venue.

BIG BILL'S, along with the entire Talladega Garage Experience (part of the Transformation Infield Project presented by Graybar) that will

feature unparalleled access, FREE Wi-Fi and incredible \$4 or less Value-Priced Concessions, will debut Oct. 11-13 on the track's 50th Anniversary weekend. It is comprised of a NASCAR Playoffs doubleheader, featuring the Sugarlands Shine 250 for the NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series and 1000Bulbs.com 500 for the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series.

"Talladega Superspeedway has always been special to me and our family," said France Kennedy. "My grandfather built this race track, and both my father, Bill France Jr., and my Uncle - Jim France - worked here. It's so gratifying to see my grandfather's name adorn this unique social club, which along with the entire Talladega Garage Experience, will elevate the guest experience that only Talladega can offer. It's a world-class extension of my grandfather's vision that will carry the track well into the future."

BIG BILL'S, which also showcases a host of artwork of France Sr. inside the mammoth building, will be the ultimate social club. It will offer an array of comfortable seating and will be lined on both sides by two garages that will house the top 22 drivers (11 in each) in the Monster Energy Cup Series. Fans will be just a few steps away and "up-close" via the fan viewing walkway, which is under the same roof where the cars will be prepped by the race teams. In addition, it will feature the Sugarlands Shine Bar, which stretches

an incredible 74 feet, as well as a huge 41-foot diagonal video screen that will feature action on the track as well as other visuals for fans to see. The total size of the building is 268 feet wide and 300 feet deep, and it is 34 feet high at the center crown.

Like BIG BILL'S, everything about Bill France was big. His size. His deeds. His smile. His goals. His accomplishments. His vision. His Alabama track.

As NASCAR's founder, the 6 foot 5 inches France was one of the most influential men in automobile racing; he sparkplugged the organization, delivering stock car racing to a form of excitement that is unequalled in modern American sports. Nowhere was that excitement more evident than at his creation of Alabama International Motor Speedway (today known as Talladega Superspeedway), the most competitive race track in the world and biggest in NASCAR, which hosted the first Talladega 500 on Sept. 14, 1969.

Years prior, with the assistance of local officials, France looked at the land of an almost abandoned Eastaboga Airfield which was once used by the Air Force and later by the city of Talladega before groundbreaking on the new 2.66-mile, 33-degree banked venue took place on May 23, 1968.

"Our fine state owes a great deal of gratitude to Bill France Sr., who decided to build the biggest and most competitive track in NASCAR here in 1969," said Governor Ivey. "It's been an economic engine for tourism in Alabama since its inception 50 years ago. With this incredible Talladega Garage Experience and BIG BILL'S social club, I know more race fans are going to make the trip to historic Talladega Superspeedway in the future."

A special part of BIG BILL'S will be the new "Activation Shows" that play on top of every hour featuring custom created, heart-pounding sound and video synchronized to lighting and effects that bring the Garage to life!

Some of the new additions include: overhead LED neon outlining each beam of the structure; Peterbilt icons with strobe headlights and moving head lighting fixtures join in the fun; and Haze & CO2 with new industry noise suppression heads delivering CO2 with very low noise operation, delivering added impact these shows deserve.

The official Peterbilt - designed to look like the front of the cab of

(Continued Next Page)



Lesla France Kennedy (second from right), Chief Executive Officer of International Speedway Corporation and granddaughter of Bill France Sr., along with Alabama Governor Kay Ivey (second from left), legendary driver and member of the "Alabama Gang" Red Farmer (left) and Talladega Superspeedway Chairman Grant Lynch (right) help unveil Talladega Superspeedway's new 35,000 square foot Open Air Social Club - BIG BILL'S - inside of the new Talladega Garage Experience on Wednesday. The unique social club, named in honor of France, Sr., who built Talladega Superspeedway 50 years ago, will provide fans an incredible perspective of NASCAR's Most Competitive track with unparalleled access. (TSS photo)

Continued...

Johnny Ray's iconic Peterbilt truck that sports the giant American flag around Talladega's high banks during the National Anthem prior to races - will have its air horn sound at the start of every show. Fans will also have the opportunity to take group photos in a digital photo booth that can be seen high above the interior via a 20 foot high by 16 foot wide

rendition of Ray's iconic big rig that places fans in the drivers' seat.

The Talladega Garage Experience is a major part of the \$50 million Transformation endeavor that will stretch from the Tri-Oval down near the start-finish line. It will feature a host of activities and destinations, including more than 140,000 square feet of social and engagement areas and a new Gatorade Victory Lane where fans will be just a few steps away from the winner's celebration.

For every fan who purchases a Talladega Garage Experience admission, other amenities include a Kids Zone, Watch Zone, the Clyde May's Courtyard, Iron Alley (historic race cars), new restrooms, concession and souvenir stands, as well as a new Guest Services center.

The Transformation Infield Project presented by Graybar is part of International Speedway Corporation's (Parent company of Talladega Superspeedway) long-term capital allocation plan and reinvestment into its major motorsports complexes. DLR Group is the architect of the entire project while Hoar Construction (Birmingham, AL) continues to spearhead Phase II. GT Grandstands (Plant City, FL) is constructing a new Race Operations tower high above the Tri-Oval, as well as the Pit Road Club Suites that will house 600 guests who will get a birds-eye view of team pit stops from behind pit road, along with food and beverages.

Fans can learn more about the project and view the progress 24/7 via the construction cam by visiting www.talladegasuperspeedway.com/transformation.

For ticket information on the track's NASCAR doubleheader playoffs weekend and all things on Transformation and the Talladega Garage Experience, including BIG BILL'S, log onto www.talladegasuperspeedway.com.

Dover International Speedway

DOVER, DE - Race fans looking to wager on their favorite drivers during Dover International Speedway's upcoming NASCAR tripleheader weekend will again have the convenience of placing their bets on-site on Oct. 5-6.

A sports betting station will be set up inside the Delaware Lottery booth, not far from the Monster Monument at Victory Plaza. Hours will be 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 5 and 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 6.

Expected action will include odds on the race winners and season championship winner, as well as head-to-head matchups featuring two drivers and different car manufacturers. Please note that odds will likely not be available during practice sessions and qualifying rounds.

Pro football, baseball, college football and all other sports wagering will also be offered. You must be 21 or older to place a wager.

The Dover races available for wagering that weekend include the "Use Your Melon Drive Sober 200" NASCAR Xfinity Series playoff race on Saturday, Oct. 5 and the "Drydene 400" Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series race on Sunday, Oct. 6.

The "Drydene 400" is the first event in the Round of 12 in the 2019 Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series postseason and the 100th NASCAR Cup Series race at Dover. The Monster Mile will be just the 10th track in the nation to have hosted 100 or more NASCAR Cup Series events.

Dover Downs Hotel & Casino is an agent of the Delaware Lottery. The Delaware Lottery is a partner of Dover International Speedway, and will have a featured booth located near the FanZone during the tripleheader weekend. The Delaware Lottery will be selling its full line of products, including football parlay wagering.

Dover Downs Hotel & Casino's Race & Sports Book, located inside the casino, will also be open all weekend for sports betting. Hours are 11 a.m. to midnight on Friday, Oct. 4, 10 a.m. to midnight on Saturday, Oct. 5 and 9 a.m. to midnight on Sunday, Oct. 6. Winning tickets on bets placed at the sports betting station near the Monster Monument can be redeemed there, at the Race & Sports Book, or by following the mailing instructions on the back of the ticket.

For more information on Dover Downs Hotel & Casino events and offerings, visit doverdowns.com or

contact VIP services at 800-711-5882.

The Oct. 4-6 NASCAR tripleheader weekend also includes the "General Tire 125" NASCAR K&N Pro Series East season finale on Friday, Oct. 4.

In addition to the iconic gold Monster trophies given to the race winners, fans can also enjoy free Harlem Globetrotters performances (Sunday), the Budweiser Clydesdales (all weekend), a free Grand Funk Railroad concert on the Xfinity Stage at Victory Plaza (Sunday), Micro Wrestling Federation matches (Saturday and Sunday), a Winston Cup Mobile Museum display (all weekend) and much more in the FanZone as Dover continues its 50th Anniversary celebration.

Keep up to date on all 50th Anniversary announcements and schedules by visiting DoverSpeedway.com or calling (800) 441-RACE. You can also keep up with all track activities at Facebook.com/DoverInternationalSpeedway, or on Twitter and Instagram at @MonsterMile.

Talladega Superspeedway

TALLADEGA, AL - It's a celebration at Talladega Superspeedway as track officials today announced that Fr8Auctions (Freight Auctions) has joined the track family once again and will serve as the sponsor of the new Fr8Auctions Celebration Plaza that will be located in the one-of-a-kind Talladega Garage Experience, set to debut this October.

Fans with a Talladega Garage Experience admission can enjoy a host of activities all weekend long in Fr8Auctions Celebration Plaza during the NASCAR Playoffs doubleheader (Oct. 11-13), featuring the 1000Bulbs.com 500 and the Sugarlands Shine 250.

Fr8Auctions Celebration Plaza will house the new, modern 'old-school' style winner's circle where fans will have the chance to be a part of the victor's celebration after each race from a reserved area at Gatorade Victory Lane. They will also be treated to many Fan Question/Answer sessions with NASCAR drivers and other personalities, as well as local entertainment that will be happening throughout race weekend on the Fr8Auctions Celebration Plaza stage (adjacent from Gatorade Victory Lane).

Fr8Auctions,

which served as an official sponsor for qualifying and an entitlement sponsor in 2018 at the 2.66-mile track, is an integrity-based auction that brings together a combination of the best buyers in the Southeast along with the highest quality merchandise. The Atlanta, GA-based business partners with freight lines, distribution companies, and consumer product-based businesses in order to sell their excess, discontinued or damaged inventory. Today, Fr8Auctions is the "go-to" business solution for companies across America that need to refuel their supply chain and distribution capabilities.

"We're thrilled to partner with Talladega Superspeedway and be a part of the new infield renovation initiative," said Marcus Barela, owner of Fr8Auctions. "Although we are an Atlanta-based company, we've always considered Talladega our home track with the best fans in racing!"

In addition to all things offered in Fr8Auctions Celebration Plaza, the Talladega Garage Experience provides fans exclusive access inside all of the Monster Energy Cup garages via an "up-close" fan viewing walkway where they will be just feet away from where the drivers and teams prepare the cars during race weekend. Guests with a Garage Experience pass will also receive FREE Wi-Fi, have access to social and engagement areas, a Kids Zone, Watch Zone, the Clyde May's Courtyard, incredible \$4 or less Value-Priced Concessions, Sunday pre-race ceremonies, Driver Introductions at the Start-Finish line and much more!

The Sugarlands Shine 250 for the NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series will kick off the action-packed weekend on Saturday, Oct. 12 at 12:30 p.m. CDT. The weekend's anchor event, the 1000Bulbs.com 500 Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series race, is scheduled for a 1 p.m. CDT start on Sunday, Oct. 13. Both will serve as key playoff events in each series.

For more information visit www.talladegasuperspeedway.com or call 855-518-RACE (7223).



Stafford Motor Speedway

STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT - Stafford Motor Speedway concluded its 2019 NASCAR racing season with feature events for the SK Modified®, Late Model, and SK Light Modified divisions as part of its NAPA Auto Parts Fall Final Week-end. Taking down feature wins were Todd Owen in the SK Modified® feature, Wayne Coury, Jr. in the Late

Model feature, and Teddy Hodgdon in the SK Light feature. Owen's win meant he ended the season tied with Ronnie Williams in the points standings, but Williams had 5 wins this season to Owen's 4 to make him the champion for the second consecutive season. Hodgdon came into the NAPA Fall Final as the SK Light points leader and he won his first Stafford championship in grand style by winning the race.

In the 40-lap SK Modified® feature, Marcello Rufrano took the lead at the green with Joey Cipriano second and Tyler Hines in third. Andrew Molleur took fourth with Michael Gervais, Jr. in fifth. Behind Gervais was a side by side duel between Keith Rocco and Todd Owen for sixth. The caution came out with 10 laps complete for a spin by Shawn Thibeault in the middle of turns 1+2.

Rufrano took the lead on the restart with Owen all over his back bumper in second. Rocco came up to third with Michael Christopher, Jr. and Cipriano side by side for fourth. Stephen Kopcik was up to fifth with Gervais behind him in sixth. Owen took the lead from Rufrano on lap-12 and Rocco followed him through to take second and drop Rufrano back to third in line. Kopcik was now fourth with Gervais fifth and Cipriano sixth. The caution came back out with 20 laps complete for Curt Brainard, who came to a stop in the middle of turns 3+4 with smoke pouring from his car.

Owen took the lead back under green with Rocco in second. Rufrano and Kopcik were side by side for third with Gervais and Christopher side by side for fifth. Rufrano got clear to third on lap-25 with Gervais and Kopcik now side by side for fourth with Owen still leading Rocco out front. The caution came back out with 25 laps complete for spins in turn 1 by Matt



Teddy Hodgdon not only won the Sunday's SK Light feature at Stafford Motor Speedway, he snagged the 2019 track championship. (STAFFORD MOTOR SPEEDWAY photo)



Late Model feature winner Wayne Coury Jr. poses in Stafford's victory lane beside his battered racer. (STAFFORD MOTOR SPEEDWAY photo)



Todd Owen made it four wins for the season and 2019 champion at Stafford Motor Speedway when he won the SK Modified feature Sunday. (STAFFORD MOTOR SPEEDWAY photo)

Vassar and Thibeault.

The caution came right back out on the restart as Chase Dowling nearly spun and came to a stop at the pit road exit in turn 2. Owen took the lead on the next restart with Rocco still in second. Rufrano was third with Gervais and Kopcik side by side for fourth. Cipriano spun and collected the car of Andrew Molleur to bring the caution back out with 26 laps complete.

Owen took the lead with Rocco and Kopcik behind him on the restart. Rufrano slid back to fourth while Gervais and Dan Avery were side by side for fifth with Ronnie Williams up to seventh. Mike Christopher spun coming out of turn 2 to bring the caution back out with 28 laps complete.

Troy Talman, Tyler Leary, and Tyler Hines all spun on the backstretch to bring the yellow right back out on the restart. Owen again took the lead on the restart while Kopcik was able to take second from Rocco. Rocco was third in line with Gervais and Rufrano side by side for fourth and Williams in sixth. Williams took fifth on lap-31 as Rufrano slid back to sixth. With 8 laps to go, the order was Owen, Kopcik, Rocco, Gervais, and Williams. With Owen in the lead, Williams needed to be at least fourth to win the SK Modified® championship.

Williams was able to get to the inside of Gervais on lap-37 to take fourth and put himself in a championship clinching position. Owen led Kopcik to the checkered flag to pick up his fourth win of the 2019 season. Rocco finished third with Williams fourth and Gervais fifth. Williams fourth place finish saw him tied with Owen in points but Williams had 5 wins to Owen's 4 this season, which made him the 2019 SK Modified® track champion.

In the 30-lap Late Model feature, Michael Bennett took the lead from polesitter Paul Varricchio, Jr. and Al Saunders moved into second with Varricchio falling back to third, just ahead of Paul Arute in fourth. Ed Ricard spun in turn 4 to bring the caution out with 1 lap complete.

Bennett took the lead with Saunders in second on the restart. Ryan Fearn moved around Varricchio to take third with Varricchio slotting into fourth and Arute in fifth. Ryan Fearn went by Saunders on lap-5 to move into second and began to try to close down the gap to Bennett, who had pulled away from the field in the opening laps. Andy Marchese spun in the middle of

(Continued on Next Page...)

(Continued...)

turns 1+2 to bring the caution back out with 7 laps complete.

Ryan Fearn ran Bennett down and made a pass for the lead but just as he made his move the caution came out with 12 laps complete for spins in turn 1 by Rob Dow and R.J. Surdell.

Bennett took the lead back under green with Wayne Coury, Jr. coming up to second.

Al Saunders was third in line with Ryan Fearn back to fourth and Rom Fearn was fifth. Ryan Fearn got back by Saunders for third on lap-18 and Tom Fearn followed him through to drop Saunders back to fifth and the caution came back out with 18 laps complete for a spin in turn 4 by Scott Bouley.

The field completed one lap with Bennett still holding the race lead before the caution came back out for a spin in turn 2 by Ryan Fearn.

On the restart, Scott Bouley came to a stop with fluid leading from his car and Tom Fearn got collected and had damage to his front bumper to bring the caution right back out. The next restart saw Bennett again take the lead with Coury second. Darrell Keane and Al Saunders were side by side for third with Michael Wray in fifth. Saunders got loose on lap-20, which allowed Keane to take third and dropped Saunders back into a side by side fight with Wray for fourth place.

Coury was working Bennett over for the race lead and the two cars touched coming out of turn 4 on lap-24. The two cars touched again on lap-25 in turn 2 with Bennett maintaining the lead. Coury came back to Bennett's inside on lap-27 to take the lead. Coury was heading towards the checkered flag when R.J. Surdell brought the caution out with a spin in the middle of turns 3+4 to set up a green white checkered finish.

Coury took the lead on the restart with Bennett giving chase in second. Bennett couldn't get close enough to Coury as Coury took down his first career win at Stafford. Kevin Gambacorta finished third with Al Saunders and Wray rounding out the top-5.

In the 20-lap SK Light Modified feature, a multicar incident in turn 3 involving Fred Nees, Jr., Alina Bryden, Brett Gonyaw, and Chris

Viens brought the caution out before a lap could be completed.

Norm Sears took the early lead but Joey Ferrigno took the lead from Sears on lap-2. Noah Korner was third with Mark Bakaj and Sami Anderson side by side for fourth. Bakaj was starting to charge in the outside lane and he took second from Sears on lap-8 with Ferrigno still out front. Sears was still third in line with Anderson fourth. Teddy Hodgdon, who came into the race as the SK Light points leader, narrowly avoided disaster on lap-8 as Bob Charland spun and nearly collected Hodgdon to bring the caution out.

Ferrigno took the lead back under green with Bakaj on his outside in second. Anderson was third in line with Sears and Korner side by side for fourth. Hodgdon powered his way around Korner to move up to fourth on lap-11 and Bryan Narducci took fifth on lap-13 as Ferrigno continued to lead Bakaj. Hodgdon got by Anderson to move into third place on lap-14 and he pulled alongside Bakaj for second place on lap-15. The caution came out with 15 laps complete for a spin in turn 2 by Steven Chapman and Noah Korner with Alina Bryden's car also coming to a stop at the entrance to turn 1.

Ferrigno took the lead on the restart with Hodgdon and Bakaj side by side for second. Narducci was fourth with Anderson and Alexander Pearl lined up behind him. The caution came back out with 16 laps complete for Bobby Jones, who came to a stop on the backstretch infield.

Ferrigno again took the lead with Bakaj and Hodgdon side by side for second. Hodgdon cleared Bakaj and pulled to the outside of Ferrigno for the lead on lap-18. Amanda West came to a stop against the turn 4 wall to bring the caution back out with 18 laps complete to set up a green white checkered finish.

Ferrigno took the lead at the green but going into turn 3 Hodgdon dove to the inside of Ferrigno to take the lead. Ferrigno and several other cars spun in turn 4 coming to the checkered flag, allowing Hodgdon to cruise to the checkered flag. The win was Hodgdon's second consecutive win and fifth win of the 2019 season and clinched the 2019 SK Light championship. Pearl came home in second with Nick Anglace, Brian Sullivan, and Chapman rounding out the top-5. Bryan Narducci was penalized by NASCAR Officials to the rear of the field for causing the last lap contact

and since he was on probation from earlier this season, he was disqualified from the finishing order.

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

Stafford Motor Speedway

STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT - Stafford Motor Speedway kicked off its final race event of the 2019 season with feature events for its Limited Late Model, and Street Stock divisions, as well as a feature event for the Vintage All-Stars and the special Ladies Challenge feature that raised over \$18,000 for various charities as part of the Saturday NAPA Auto Parts Fall Final Weekend festivities. The Street Stock feature was also the third and final leg of the RSMPCO.com Street Stock Triple Crown that split \$4,500 from RSMPCO.com among the top-10 finishers with Meghan Fuller taking home the winner's share of \$1,000. Taking feature wins were Matt Clement in the Limited Late Model feature, Fuller in the Street Stock feature, Don Howe in the Vintage All-Stars Feature, and Nicole LaRose in the Ladies Challenge. Jeremy Lavoie clinched his second consecutive Limited Late Model track championship and Zack Robinson became the 2019 Street Stock track champion.

In the 20-lap Limited Late Model feature, Gary Patnode took the lead at the drop of the green and began to open up his lead over Matt Clement in second. Duane Provost was third with Jeremy Lavoie fourth and Andrew Durand in fifth. Clement was starting to close down the gap to Patnode and with 8 laps complete, Patnode's lead was a car length over Clement with Provost and Lavoie right behind Clement.

Clement was able to take the lead from Patnode on lap-12 and that move opened the door for Provost to move into second and Lavoie into third as Patnode slid back to fourth. Provost briefly took the lead from Clement on lap-18 but Clement was able to retake the lead. The two leaders took the white flag with Provost glued to Clement's back bumper. Provost was unable to get by Clement as Clement scored his 7th win of the 2019 season. Lavoie finished third to clinch his second consecutive Limited Late Model track championship with Patnode and Devon Jencik rounding out the top-5.

In the 30-lap Street Stock feature, Nicole Chambrello took the

lead from polesitter Marvin Minkler at the drop of the green flag with Tyler Trott taking second. Meghan Fuller was third with Minkler slotting into line in fourth and Tyler Trott was fifth in the early laps.

Zack Robinson made a move to the inside of Trott for fifth on lap-4 to move into fifth. Minkler's car went high in turn 2 on lap-4 and he lost several positions and the caution came out for a spin by Dave Secore coming out of turn 2 with 4 laps complete.

Chambrello took the lead on the restart with Fuller and Hydar side by side for second. Robinson was fourth and behind him Walker, Adrien Paradis, III, and Trott went 3-wide for fifth with Walker taking fifth. Fuller took second and Robinson got by Hydar on lap-7 to move into third as Chambrello and Fuller were still leading the field.

Fuller was applying heavy pressure to Chambrello and she was able to take the lead from Chambrello on lap-9. Robinson followed Fuller by Chambrello and took second. Hydar also took advantage of Fuller's move for the lead to take third as Chambrello fell back to fourth with Walker fifth. Hydar went around Robinson to take second place on lap-12.

At the halfway point of the race, Fuller held the lead with Hydar, Robinson, Walker, George Besette, Jr., Jason Lafayette, Chambrello, Paradis, Trott, and Nick Bendiak lined up behind her in the top-10. Adam Huff and Bendiak both spun on lap-20 but they were both able to keep going and the race stayed green.

Hydar was starting to apply heavy pressure to the back bumper of Fuller on lap-22, looking high and low for a way to get by and take over the lead. Fuller was still leading Hydar as they came to the two to go mark. Fuller was able to hold off Hydar to the checkered flag to pick up her fifth feature win of the 2019 season. Robinson finished third, which made him the 2019 Street Stock track champion. Walker finished fourth with Besette rounding out the top-5.

In the 15-lap Vintage All-Stars feature, Don Howe took the lead at the green with Scott Anderson, Jim Kelly, Mark Miller, and John Maybury making up the top-5. The caution 2 complete for a spin in turn 2 by Frank Saladino.

Howe took the lead back under green with Anderson, Kelly, Maybury, and Miller making up the top-5. Howe and Anderson were quickly stretching out their advan-

(Continued on Next Page...)

(Continued...)

tage over Kelly in third. The two leaders split a lapped car going three-wide on lap-8 with Howe maintaining the lead over Anderson.

The two leaders continued to split lapped traffic with Howe able to keep Anderson behind him. They came to the white flag with Anderson right on the back bumper of Howe but he was unable to

make a pass as Howe took the checkered flag. When the race was over, Dave Morgensein took a Bob Potter Tribute car around the track for a tribute to the 5-time Stafford track champion who passed away.

In the 8-lap Ladies Challenge feature event, Debbie DeSanctis took the lead at the green with Nicole LaRose right behind her in second. LaRose took to the outside lane to take the lead from DeSanctis on lap-2. DeSanctis nearly retook the lead on lap-3 but LaRose used lapped traffic to her advantage to keep DeSanctis behind her.

DeSanctis regrouped and charged back into the lead on lap-5 but the caution came out with 4 laps complete for a spin in turns 1+2 by Brianna Macha to put LaRose back in front for the restart.

LaRose took the lead on the restart with DeSanctis giving chase from second. The caution came out with 5 laps complete as DeSanctis spun in turn 2.

LaRose took the lead on the restart with Laura Secore taking second. Dana Janetty was third in line with DeSanctis coming from the back up to fourth and Mary Ann Gambacorta was fifth. It was all LaRose at the front as she took the checkered flag to win the Ladies Challenge. DeSanctis charged back up to second at the end with Secore, Jannetty, and Gambacorta rounding out the top-5.

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

Volunteer Speedway

BULLS GAP, TN - Fall officially arrived first of the week, but the feel of summertime with hot 90-degree temperatures greeted fans and race teams Saturday at Volunteer

Speedway. With only three Championship Points Racing programs remaining this season, a total of 109 race cars signed-in ready to battle in six divisions.

Tim Byrd of Jonesborough captured the Crate Late Model win, while Aaron Guinn of Russellville recorded the Sportsman Late Model victory.

Logan Hickey of Morristown captured the Modified Street win, while Josh Henry of Newport got the Street Stock victory.

John Stevens of Wallins Creek, Kentucky, recorded the Classic victory, and Jacob Sharp of Crossville won the Front Wheel Drive feature.

Tim Maupin and Tim Byrd entered the night of racing with Maupin holding a slim two-point advantage over Byrd in the chase for the Crate Late Model championship. Byrd set fast-time at 13.344 seconds in qualifying to earn the pole starting position over Jensen Ford who was second quickest at 13.537.

Byrd and Ford led the 20-car field to green from the front row and battled for the lead over the first few laps, while behind them Zach Sise, Heath Alvey, Trevor Sise, Maupin, Rusty Webb, Adam Tolliver, Cameron Skinner, Rusty Ballenger and Bryson Dennis all jockeyed for real estate. With Byrd leading Ford, Zach Sise was right in the mix as the trio ran three-wide on occasion through the high-banked corners.

Zach Sise got around Ford for the second spot and set his sights

ahead on Byrd, but Ford wasn't about to roll over and not try to reclaim the position. The action got heated involving Trevor Sise and Alvey on lap 24 as they tangled in the fourth turn, which also collected Tolliver, Dennis, Tim Sant, Jackie Hughes and David Robins.

Off the ensuing restart with only six laps remaining, Byrd maintained the lead while Ford passed Zach Sise for second. Just behind them Skinner, Maupin, Ballenger and Bradley Lewelling were battling for position, with Maupin getting around Skinner for the fourth spot with two laps to go.

But out front it was Byrd capturing his division-leading fifth feature win on the season worth \$1,500 over Ford, Zach Sise, Maupin and Skinner. With the victory by Byrd, he moved one-point ahead of Maupin in the battle for the Crate Late Model championship.

Completing the top 10 finishers were Ballenger, Lewelling, Webb, Trevor Sise and Cody Sisson. ... The top 12 cars finished on the lead lap.

Aaron Guinn kept his perfect record intact by cruising to his fourth Sportsman Late Model feature win in four starts this season. In the early going Guinn was pursued by Adam Mitchell and Rex Coffey, but the duo got together in the fourth turn on lap 9 to bring the caution out and end the race for Mitchell, while Coffey had to restart at rear of the field. ... Back under green Guinn quickly began to distance himself from his closest chal-

lengers, and easily went on to capture the victory over Gary Blanken, Clyde Stanton, divisional points leader Chris Coffey and Rex Coffey, who got around Kris Pauley for position a lap and a half from the finish.

Logan Hickey, Shannon Emery, Kurt Owens and Chris Rickett battled up front throughout the 20-lap Modified Street feature. But the racing for position behind them was hotly contested among Jeffrey Melton, Kaleb Trent, Dustin Ratliff, David Clark, Wayne Rader, Tracy Wolfe and Ryan Watson. ... With Hickey leading from the start, he had his hands full trying to hold Owens back. On lap 17 between turns three and four, Owens pulled alongside Hickey and looked like he was going to take the lead – until back end of his car suddenly broke loose and he almost spun after making contact with side of Hickey's car. Hickey held onto the lead with Emery right on his back bumper, while Owens began to slow with a flat tire. Hickey went on to record his fourth Modified Street win over Emery, Rickett, Ratliff and divisional points leader Rader.

Josh Henry has only made three Street Stock starts this season, and the third generation racer is a perfect three-for-three as he rolled to his third feature win by leading all 20 laps to beat Tony Trent, Austin Atkins, Jamie Whitt and Brandon Johnson.

John Stevens has dominated the Classic division this season, and once again he parked in victory lane after capturing his 12th feature win in 15 starts. Stevens was trailed at the finish by Shane Taylor, Michael Millsap, Shaun Sise and Chuck Kilian.

The Front Wheel Drive "Shootout at The Gap" attracted a stellar field of 31 entries from around East and Middle Tennessee, along with from Southwest Virginia, and the track was not about to send any car away without getting to compete on the legendary high banks. Thirty-one compact four-cylinder cars put on a show as they ran at times two- and three-wide. But from drop of the green flag Jacob Sharp served notice that unless mechanical issues sidelined him, he was the favorite to win after having set fast-time in qualifying. ... Sharp led flag-to-flag to get the victory over Nathan Adams, Josh Detwiler, Keven Sexton and Chris Robinson.

Volunteer Speedway will take next week (Oct. 5) off, but will return to action on Saturday, Oct. 12 with Coca-Cola Night at The Gap.



Tim Byrd of Jonesborough, Tenn., captured his division-leading fifth Crate Late Model feature win worth \$1,500 Saturday at Volunteer Speedway. (RANDALL PERRY photo)