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Kyle Busch Brings It Home at Richmond

Christopher Bell Wins #5 and First in Playoffs



Sprint Car World Honors Greg Hodnett at Eldora

What Will MENCS Look Like in 2019?

Now that order has been reestablished with the one-two-three finishes at the Richmond International Raceway by NASCAR's Big Three drivers – Kyle Busch, Kevin Harvick and Martin Truex Jr. – we now can focus on other issues that will drive the sport next year.

Ryan Newman cleared up some of the confusion with the No. 6 Ford by agreeing to drive for Roush Fenway Racing. But there are other unsolved puzzles out there.

The No. 78 Toyota at Furniture Row Racing will go away, which will send defending series champion Martin Truex Jr. to the unemployment line. (Don't worry, he won't be there long.)

While none of these scenarios are signed and sealed, it's fun to speculate the following:

Truex will move into the No. 19 at Joe Gibbs Racing.

The No. 95 Chevrolet of Levine Family Racing will switch to Toyota and be aligned with JGR to replace Furniture Row.

Daniel Suarez, who currently drives the 19 car, will move to the 95. He's also trying to work into the conversation to replace Newman at Richard Childress Racing or drive the No. 41 at Stewart-Haas Racing.

Kurt Busch will leave the No. 41 at Stewart-Haas Racing and probably will replace Jamie McMurray in the No. 1 Chevrolet at Chip Ganassi Racing.

Cole Custer, a current Xfinity Series driver and son of Stewart-Haas president Joe Custer, could be headed to replace Busch.

And let's not forget another possibility for Newman's vacancy – Childress' grandson, Ty Dillon, who now drives the No. 13 Chevrolet for Germain Racing.

Drivers who appear to be out of jobs include McMurray, Trevor Bayne and Kenseth. Bayne and Kenseth currently share the duties aboard Roush's 6 car.

For now, the only thing that's certain is Newman moving over to Roush Fenway. He will be joining an organization that's fallen far behind other top-tier teams.

Team owner Jack Roush hopes Newman will bring some new ideas to shake things up.

"We've been on a path of constant improvement," Roush said. "We were improving and changing our cars in ways that have had some benefit before Matt got involved. The wins are just around the corner and the cars are much improved and I expect them

to be more improved when Ryan has his criticism and his constructed suggestions to do what we can do as we get into next year."

Once an elite car 20 years ago with Mark Martin behind the wheel, the 6 team hasn't been to Victory Lane since David Ragan won the summer race at the Daytona International Speedway in 2011.

After winning just one race in five years – 172 races – at RCR, Newman also needed a change.

"So, I look forward to the opportunity of driving and with the ultimate goal of winning," Newman said. "I'm in a position where I've never wanted to stop, never wanted to quit, never wanted to retire and want to win a championship. So, I am looking forward to this opportunity."

"Obviously finishing out this year strong as we both can in our respective positions. But at the same time with enthusiasm for the Daytona 500 in 2019."

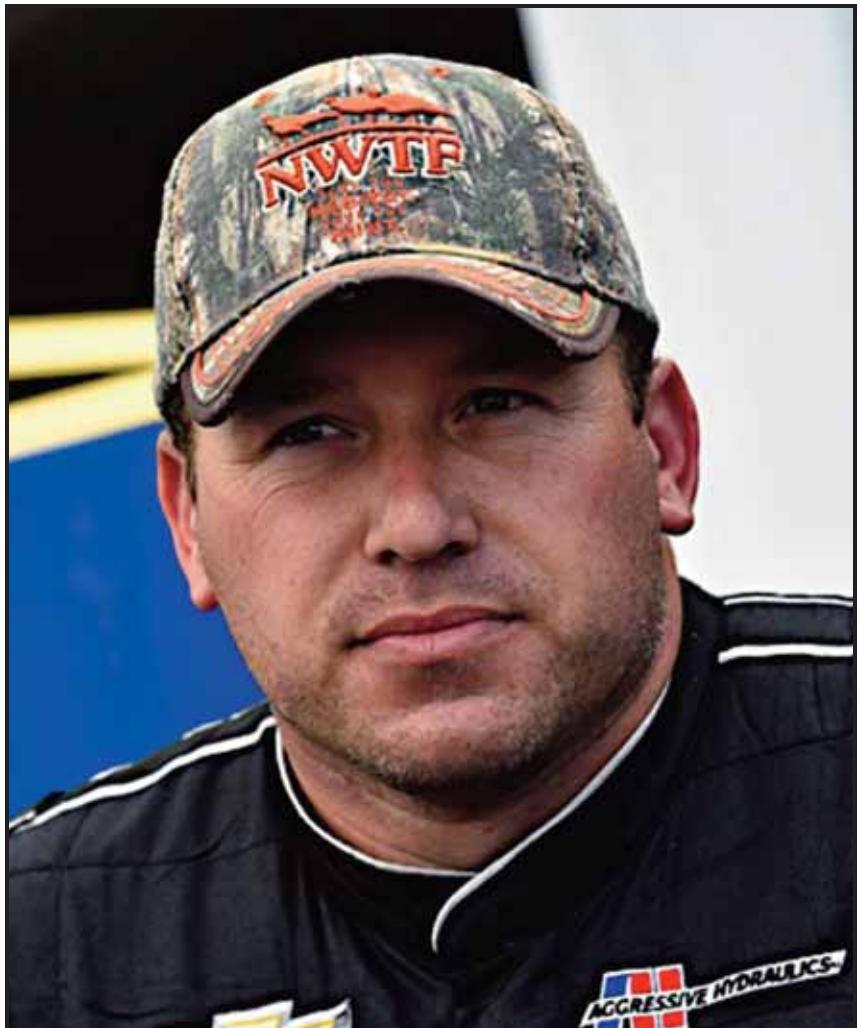
Together, Roush and Newman hope to get their careers back on track.

"It's just an opportunity for me to help them grow their program from where they have been, and to, hopefully where we all want to be," Newman said. "I think that we have both an equal opportunity of doing that."

"I think, obviously you bring a level of experience and that experience is good experiences and bad experiences, whether it's, you know, a shock or a spring package or dealing with certain people or different kinds of programs and how things are run. Shop layouts, different perspectives, I would say that I've kind of kept in the back of my mind that make an impact on the end result of being successful. It's all those things from everywhere from the time that I grew up work-



DON COBLE



Ryan Newman has his ride secure for 2019. He will be driving the #6 Roush-Fenway Racing Ford. (NIGEL KINRADE/NKP photo)

ing in racing them out of my dad's shop to the different Cup organizations I've been a part of."

At least Newman has some clarity. Others are still scrambling to find their own answers. Truex and Busch are the biggest pieces of the puzzle, and once they are signed

by new teams, everything else will fall into place.

"I'm talking to a bunch of teams out there," Busch said. "There's nothing that's been signed and whatever has been reported is all hearsay."

But it's still fun to speculate.

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ON THE COVER:

CUP AND XFINITY - NIGEL KINRADE PHOTOGRAPHY
WORLD OF OUTLAWS - PAUL ARCHY

Championship Drive

When the leaves begin to turn different colors and the National Football League and college football seasons start, do you know what time it is? Correct, it's NASCAR Playoff time.

The top three divisions of NASCAR – Camping World Truck (CWTS), Xfinity, and Monster Energy Cup Series (MECS) – compete from February into September to determine the final group of contenders who will compete in a playoff series of races to determine the Champion of each series. Eight truck series, twelve Xfinity, and sixteen Cup Series drivers will battle through a series of events to reach the final four in each series for the finale at Homestead-Miami Speedway in November. The driver who finishes best among those final four will be crowned Champion for 2018.

The Camping World Truck Series was the first of the big three premiere series to begin their playoff races. Justin Haley won a wild first race in the playoffs at Canadian Tire Motorsports Park in Canada to ensure his position in the next round. Grant Enfinger secured his position with a victory at Las Vegas last week. With only four more spots open for the next round of playoffs and six drivers eligible, the third and final race in the first round at Talladega on October 13th should be as wild affair. Johnny Sauter, CWTS Regular Season Champ, Noah Gragson, Brett Moffitt, Matt Crafton, Ben Rhodes, and Stuart Friesen will tackle to super-speedway of Talladega to determine the six drivers eligible for the second round of the playoffs.

The Xfinity Series completed their regular season at Las Vegas with Ross Chastain winning his first-ever Series race. Last week at Richmond, the twelve eligible Xfinity drivers began their playoff series with Christopher Bell taking the victory in a very exciting and competitive race. The next two races on the Xfinity schedule – Charlotte and Dover – will determine the eight drivers who will still be eligible to compete for the 2018 title.

Justin Allgaier, Elliott Sadler, Cole Custer, Tyler Reddick, Ross Chastain, Daniel Hemric, Brandon Jones, Matt Tifft, Ryan Truex, Austin Cindric, and Ryan Reed will

battle for the remaining seven position available in the second round. Regular season champion Justin Allgaier won the earlier race at Dover and has five wins this year. Bell won his fifth race of the year at Richmond and is guaranteed to advance to the second round. Only Tyler Reddick and Ross Chastain won Xfinity races during the regular season and hope that they can score a second victory during the playoffs. After the Charlotte and Dover races, Kansas, Texas, and Phoenix events make up the second round. The Xfinity Series has not raced



DENNIS PUNCH

Kansas yet in '18, and, except for Allgaier at Dover, Monster Energy Cup drivers won at the other playoffs tracks earlier this season. However, MECS driver

are not eligible to compete in the Xfinity playoff races.

The Monster Energy Cup Series began their road to the 2018 championship at Las Vegas two weeks ago with Brad Keselowski cashing his ticket to the next round with a victory. It was Keselowski's third straight win and propelled his #2 into the playoffs with a ton of momentum. Sixteen other eligible drivers raced at Richmond last weekend in the second race of the first round. Kyle Busch, regular season champion, won to advance to round two. It was his seventh win of the 2018 season.

Ten more positions are up for grabs in the second round of the MECS playoffs. That means four drivers will not advance with only one race remaining in the opening round, the Roval at Charlotte. Defending MECS Champion Martin Truex Jr., Kevin Harvick, Joey Logano, Kurt Busch, Ryan Blaney, Kyle Larson, Aric Almirola, Austin Dillon, Clint Bowyer, Alex Bowman, Jimmie Johnson, Chase Elliott, Eric Jones, and Denny Hamlin will vie for the remaining spots in the second round while four will have their '18 championship hopes eliminated. Here's where valuable bonus points earned during the regular season may give several drivers an edge. Additionally, stage points at Charlotte could determine the final couple positions for drivers

to advance in the playoffs.

After Charlotte, the second round of MECS playoffs will consist of races at Dover, Talladega, and Kansas. The third round will be Martinsville, Texas, and Phoenix to determine the final four for Homestead.

Did I mention that the next race on the Xfinity and MECS schedule will be at Charlotte? The Bank of America Roval 400 at Charlotte Motor Speedway this week will be the first of its kind at CMS. Instead of racing on the 1.5-mile banked oval, both series will compete on the 2.28-mile, 17-turn "roval" course consisting of both the oval track and the infield road course.

It will be the first time either NASCAR premiere division has competed on the newly-designed roval course.

The Xfinity Series has raced three times on road courses this season with MECS driver Joey Logano winning at Watkins Glen and Justin Allgaier taking the checkers at both Mid-Ohio and Road America. However, all three of those races were on typical road courses, not a combination of a speedway oval and road course.

The MECS has, traditionally, two road courses on their schedule each year. This year, Martin Truex Jr. won at Sonoma (CA) and Chase Elliott won at Watkins Glen. Also, both typical road courses, not a roval.

The Charlotte roval Xfinity race will be the second of their three-race first round of playoffs. However, the Bank of America Roval 400 will be the third and final race in their first round of the championship playoffs. Not only will be roval provide a stiff challenge for drivers in both series, the prize of advancing in the playoffs for the winner should provide some of the most entertaining and exciting racing of the season. It would be difficult to say that a race this early in the playoffs could go a long way in determining the champion of the two top series, but it will certainly add a significant amount of pressure for each of the playoff eligible drivers.

Of course, Christopher Bell in Xfinity and Brad Keselowski and Kyle Busch in MECS have secured their place in the next round of playoffs and have a sense of security at Charlotte.

However, for eleven Xfinity and fourteen MECS competitors, the roval could be a very pivotal race in their championship hopes. After several test sessions on the roval, drivers have said that they expect

| DRIVER STANDINGS | | |
|---------------------|--------|-------|
| POS. DRIVER | POINTS | DIFF. |
| 1. Martin Truex Jr. | 2141 | 0 |
| 2. Kyle Busch | 2125 | -16 |
| 3. Kevin Harvick | 2113 | -28 |
| 4. Brad Keselowski | 2111 | -30 |
| 5. Joey Logano | 2081 | -60 |
| 6. Aric Almirola | 2079 | -62 |
| 7. Kyle Larson | 2073 | -68 |
| 8. Kurt Busch | 2071 | -70 |
| 9. Chase Elliott | 2066 | -75 |
| 10. Austin Dillon | 2066 | -75 |

AFTER 28 OF 36 RACES

| DRIVER STANDINGS | | |
|---------------------|--------|-------|
| POS. DRIVER | POINTS | DIFF. |
| 1. Christopher Bell | 2090 | 0 |
| 2. Daniel Hemric | 2062 | -28 |
| 3. Justin Allgaier | 2056 | -34 |
| 4. Ross Chastain | 2053 | -37 |
| 5. Elliott Sadler | 2051 | -39 |
| 6. Matt Tifft | 2047 | -43 |
| 7. Tyler Reddick | 2046 | -44 |
| 8. Brandon Jones | 2035 | -55 |
| 9. Cole Custer | 2035 | -55 |
| 10. Ryan Truex | 2033 | -57 |

AFTER 27 OF 33 RACES

| DRIVER STANDINGS | | |
|--------------------|--------|-------|
| POS. DRIVER | POINTS | DIFF. |
| 1. Johnny Sauter | 2124 | 0 |
| 2. Noah Gragson | 2107 | -17 |
| 3. Brett Moffitt | 2102 | -22 |
| 4. Justin Haley | 2101 | -23 |
| 5. Matt Crafton | 2091 | -33 |
| 6. Grant Enfinger | 2089 | -35 |
| 7. Ben Rhodes | 2084 | -40 |
| 8. Stewart Friesen | 2081 | -43 |
| 9. Myatt Snider | 461 | -1663 |
| 10. Todd Gilliland | 446 | -1678 |

AFTER 18 OF 22 RACES

one of the wildest shows of the season. And, with so much at stake, it might be good advice for drivers and teams to "check their feelings at the gate" because it may get "physical" this weekend.

But, for pure fan entertainment and serious competition in the NASCAR playoffs, the races on the roval at Charlotte Motor Speedway is a "must see". Should be interesting!

Kyle Busch Holds Off Harvick to Win Richmond Playoff

RICHMOND, VA - On a night of important milestones, in a car hastily repaired after a brush with the wall during qualifying, Kyle Busch held off Kevin Harvick to win Saturday night's Federated Auto Parts 400 at Richmond Raceway to advance to the second round of the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Playoffs.

After a pitched battle against Brad Keselowski that lasted 21 laps, Busch made the winning pass for the lead on Lap 364 of 400 at the .75-mile track. Busch's first victory in a fall race at Richmond was his sixth at the track, most among active drivers, and it gave him a season sweep at the short track.

The win was Busch's seventh of the season—tying him with Harvick for the series lead—and the 50th of his career, tying him with NASCAR Hall of Famers Junior Johnson and Ned Jarrett for 11th all-time.

Martin Truex Jr., who won the first and second stages and led a race-high 163 laps, recovered from a penalty for an uncontrolled tire to run third, marking the first time this season NASCAR's so-called Big Three have finished 1-2-3 in a race.

Busch, who led 92 laps, had to fight for the win. Harvick passed Keselowski for second on Lap 372 and quickly gained ground on Busch, who had punished his

equipment in the fight against Keselowski.

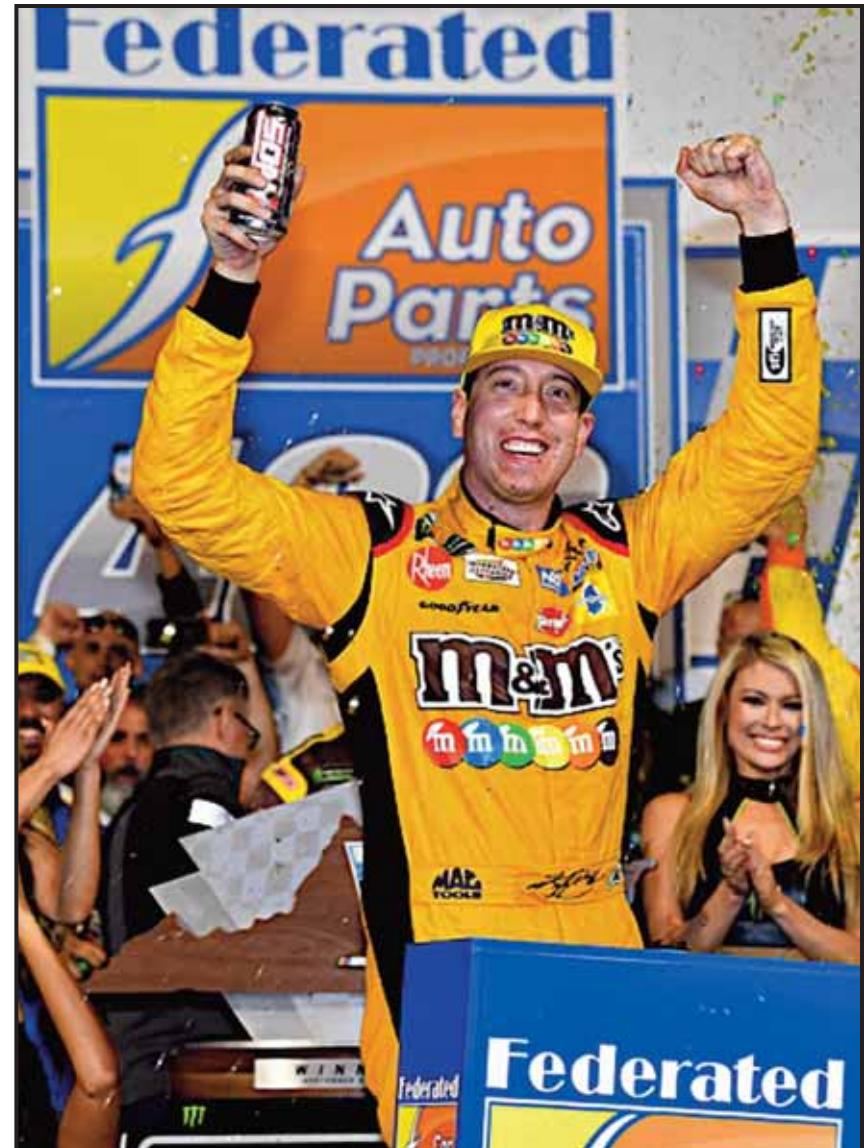
"Yeah, that was a little too close for my comfort," said Busch, who started from the rear of the field after his team did yeoman work on the No. 18 Joe Gibbs Racing Camry to repair the damage sustained during qualifying. "I thought we were a little bit better than that on the long runs, (but) I know Harvick... that's kind of his specialty. We had a really, really good race car tonight."

"The guys did a great job coming back from a dismal qualifying effort and preparing a really, really good race car for us tonight. We started dead last, came up through the field and won this thing... I put us a little bit behind yesterday in qualifying, and the guys did a great job rallying to put it together."

"Hey, I finally won a fall race at Richmond! What do you know?"

Harvick simply ran out of time in his quest to reel in the race winner, but he was pleased with his recovery from an accident that sidelined him 73 laps into last Sunday's Playoff opener at Las Vegas. Currently third in the standings and 57 points ahead of 13th place, Harvick has a comfortable cushion heading to the Round 1 cutoff race at the Charlotte Motor Speedway Road Course.

"We were starting to track him down there at the end," Harvick said. "I needed about 25 more laps... Any other round of the Playoffs, I would say it didn't matter—



Kyle Busch celebrates winning his first fall Richmond race and his first playoff race of the 2018 season. (RUSTY JARRETT/NKP photo)

we just needed to try to win. But I'm terrified of next week, to tell you the truth, just because there are so many unknowns."

Thanks to his stage wins, Truex retook the series lead from Busch and clinched a spot in Round 2 on points. Chase Elliott ran fourth, recovering from a Las Vegas wreck

as did Harvick. Aric Almirola came home fifth, scoring his second top five of the season.

Austin Dillon, Kyle Larson, Jimmie Johnson, Keselowski, Clint Bowyer, Erik Jones, and Alex Bowman finished sixth through 12th, respectively, as Playoff drivers swept the top 12 positions. Bowyer, Johnson, Jones and 16th-place finisher Denny Hamlin are 13th through 16th in points and in danger of falling out of the Playoffs after the elimination race at Charlotte.

Busch's only complaint after the race was an aching back.

"My back is killing me," said the 33-year-old driver. "You're so on edge here that you're just trying to feel the race car the entire time, and you're clenched, and you can never let go."

"You can never relax and it's just that way the entirety of this race. Long runs like that, it wears on you a little bit, especially when you get to be an old man."

But the "old man" can relax now, with nothing on the line at the Charlotte Road Course except for the desire to add another new track to his portfolio.



Kyle Busch (18) takes the lead from Brad Keselowski (2) after battling for laps. Kevin Harvick (4) then passed Keselowski for 2nd and went on to battle Busch to the end of the race. But Busch held on to win the Federated Auto Parts 400 and earn a position in the second tier of the playoff. (JASON HIERNER photo)

Christopher Bell Gains Upper Hand in Richmond Xfinity Playoff Victory

RICHMOND, VA - A short run at the end of Friday night's GoBowling.com 250 was just what pole winner Christopher Bell needed to charge into the second round of the NASCAR Xfinity Series Playoffs.

In a race that saw regular-season champion Justin Allgaier end his night with a hard crash into the Turn 3 wall with 24 laps left, and in a race that saw Dale Earnhardt Jr. lead the most laps in his only scheduled race of 2018, Bell surged past race leader Matt Tifft after a restart on Lap 237 of 250 and pulled away to beat Ross Chastain to the finish line by .566 seconds.

Assured of a place in the next round of the NASCAR Playoffs by virtue of his fifth victory of the season, Bell now can pay a stress-free visit to the Charlotte Road Course on Sept. 29.

"I tell you what, that's pretty

cool," said Bell, who won for the second time at Richmond—both this season—and for the sixth time in his career. "It's not very often you get to win with a car that's not a winning car. So, we'll take it."

"I want to thank my pit crew for the awesome pit stops tonight. (Crew chief) Jason Ratcliff did a great job making this thing better each and every time we hit pit road. I'm just pumped."

"To be able to sweep Richmond and get five wins on top of that, moving on to Round 2, I couldn't be happier."

Chastain, who won his first NASCAR Xfinity Series race last Saturday at Las Vegas Motor Speedway, started from the rear after his clutch locked up following a third-place effort in qualifying. Over the last 14 laps, he chased Bell, eventually running a much higher line around the .75-mile short track—but to no avail.

"I can't believe I'm disappointed with second, but a dream-come-true to drive for you guys," Chastain



Christopher Bell gets his #20 racer serviced with new tires and fuel on his way to his fifth win of the season. (NIGEL KINRADE/NKP photo)

told his team over the radio at the end of his third and final ride in the No. 42 Chip Ganassi Racing Chevrolet.

"I can never thank you enough. It's something I'll never forget."

Earnhardt, who led 96 laps, won the second stage under caution after the No. 60 Roush Fenway Racing Ford of Ty Majeski slammed into the inside SAFER barrier, the result of contact from teammate Ryan Reed.

"That's the first stage win of my career," a jubilant Earnhardt said on the team radio after taking the green / checkered flag.

"It got my expectations all messed up," Earnhardt added after the race. "Man, I'm like, 'Dang, I've got to win now.' But we didn't have the car at the end. We started on the outside (on the final restart), which was kind of tough. Just didn't have what we needed at the end. But I'm glad that we got to lead a lot of laps. We ran really good for all the people that came down to watch us."

Earnhardt, who finished fourth behind NASCAR Playoff driver Daniel Hemric, then won the race off pit road and led the field to green for a restart on Lap 159. He held the top spot until Katherine Legge—making her first oval-track start in NASCAR racing—hit the outside wall between Turns 1 and 2 to bring out the fourth caution on Lap 218.

After the race, Earnhardt hugged long-time friend and JR Motorsports driver Elliott Sadler, who announced he will retire from full-time racing at season's end.

"We've been really close friends since we raced late models together," Earnhardt said. "It just dawned on me in that moment, 'We'll never race (together) again.' I'm glad he's enjoying this."

Tifft finished fifth, followed by Sadler, Tyler Reddick, Brandon Jones, Shane Lee and Ryan Reed. Bell took the series lead by 28 points over Hemric and 34 over Allgaier, who held third because of his points advantage entering the NASCAR Playoffs.

"It's really disappointing," said Allgaier, who clobbered the Turn 3 wall after contact between the Ford Mustangs of Austin Cindric and Cole Custer knocked Custer's car into Allgaier's. "Just unfortunate to be in that position, but at least we've got a good points lead."



Christopher Bell, driver of the #20 Rheem Toyota, affixes the winner's decal to his car in Victory Lane after winning after winning the NASCAR Xfinity Series Go Bowling 250 at Richmond Raceway. (BRIAN LAWDERMILK/GETTY IMAGES photo)

Brandon McReynolds Grabs Checkered & Tyler Ankrum Clinches Title at NHMS

LOUDON, NH - Redemption for one, coronation for another.

After getting passed for the lead in the winding laps, Brandon McReynolds capitalized on a green-white-checkered finish to win the Apple Barrel 125 at New Hampshire Motor Speedway on Saturday.

It is the first NASCAR K&N Pro Series East victory of McReynolds' career in his 24th attempt dating back to 2011.

Despite a 13th place finish, Tyler Ankrum clinched the 2018 K&N Pro East title with one race remaining. Ankrum, a 17-year-old native of San Bernardino, California had yet to finish outside of the top 10 prior to today's race, however, with teammate Tyler Dippel finishing just one spot ahead in 12th, Ankrum leads Dippel by 50 points. The maximum a driver can earn in an event is 48.

Ankrum has four wins with an average finish of 4.3 this season.

After winning the pole Friday and leading the field to green, Derek Kraus was able to pull out to the early lead before trading the top spot with McReynolds on a restart at Lap 29. The two would go back and forth for the lead several times throughout the race, including a late race pass on Lap 121 when Kraus dove under McReynolds to take over the lead with just four laps remaining.

A single car incident brought out the caution which set up NASCAR overtime, giving McReynolds another shot.

As the field rolled towards the green, Kraus spun his tires and McReynolds pounced. Two laps later he took his N0.74 Chevrolet to New Hampshire Motor Speedway Victory Lane, something he has waited to do for a long, long time.

"It was pretty wild" said McReynolds. "I've always watched a lot of film on this place seeing races of my Dad when he won here so it's a pretty special place to me — they call it the 'Magic Mile' which is pretty fitting."

"Every race is important but especially the ones that I've seen my Dad have success at is really important to me."

Brandon's father, Larry, is a 23-time NASCAR Cup Series winning crew chief including a 1996 win here at New Hampshire.

While it was all smiles in one camp, it was heartbreak in another. Kraus came two laps from winning his fourth K&N Pro Series race of the season and was forced to settle for a runner-up result.

The Apple Barrel 125 will air via tape delay on Thursday, Sept 27 at 6:00 p.m. ET on NBCSN.

Chase Dowling Avoids Chaos To Score Musket 250 At NHMS

LOUDON, NH - One final corner and \$25,000 on the line.

Chaos.

While Justin Bonsignore and Ryan Preece made contact and crashed racing for the lead in turn three on the final lap of the inaugural Musket 250 at New Hampshire Motor Speedway, Chase Dowling slid by both of them to score his first career NASCAR Whelen Mod-



Brandon McReynolds celebrates his first career NASCAR K&N Pro Series East win at New Hampshire. (Adam Glanzman/NASCAR photo)

ified Tour win.

In July, it was Dowling came off turn four in position to win at the 'Magic Mile,' but lost the dash to the checkered by just .014 seconds to Bobby Santos III. This time, Dowling edged Patrick Emerling by 0.056 seconds, moments before the yellow flew for the rest of the field.

"It's in me, it just doesn't really sink in yet," Dowling said of his emotions after winning. "I'm through the roof. It was a pretty crazy race overall. I think it was just one of those things where I was waiting for it to happen. It finally happened."

Dowling's road to the victory was definitely not an easy one. He started from the pole and led 54 laps, but over the course of the 250-lap distance, Dowling was shuffled in and out of the top five.

Teams pitted more than once under the green flag, something that Dowling had never dealt with in his career. He pitted for the final time on lap 220, and came out in fifth for the restart.

After a caution with 14 laps to go bunched the field up, Dowling found himself fourth heading down the backstretch on the final lap. When Bonsignore and Preece made contact, Dowling cut to the bottom, slid past Emerling and beat

him back to the finish line.

"There were a lot of up and down moments," Dowling said. "You were leading one moment, then pitting and not knowing where you are out there. We just had to put ourself in position to win."

Emerling also slid by without damage, too.

In his first trip north to New Hampshire, nine-time Bowman Gray Stadium modified division champion Burt Myers escaped the final corner and finished third. Andy Seuss finished fourth, while Preece limped across the line following the crash to finish in fifth driving for Gary Putnam.

Bonsignore was sixth, followed by Doug Coby, Jon McKenna, Eric Goodale and Ron Silk.

The lead changed 30 times among five different drivers including three times in the final five laps. Bonsignore's Whelen Modified Tour championship lead was cut to 74 points over Dowling with two races remaining on the championship points schedule.

The Musket 250 will air on NBCSN on Thursday, September 27 at 7 p.m.

The NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour returns to the track at Stafford Motor Speedway for the NAPA Fall Final 150 on Sunday, September 30.



With a 13th place finish, Tyler Ankrum officially clinched the 2018 championship on Saturday.(Adam Glanzman/NASCAR photo)



Chase Dowling celebrates scoring his first career Whelen Modified Tour victory at New Hampshire Motor Speedway. (Adam Glanzman/NASCAR photo)

PASS Super Late Model Racers Chase Gary Smith at Beech Ridge

P.A.S.S.

S C A R B O R - OUGH, ME - Gary Smith of Bangor claimed his second career Pro All Stars Series Super Late Model win, and his first-ever Beech Ridge Motor Speedway victory, in the 150-lap main event at the historic Scarborough, Maine racetrack on Sunday afternoon.

Smith, 62, was ecstatic after outrunning his chassis builder, nine-time Oxford Plains Speedway champion Jeff Taylor of Farmington, to the checkered flag. The victory knocked an important entry off his bucket list. Smith joins a small list of Maine racers who have won premiere division events at all six modern-era asphalt racetracks in their home state.

Smith chased John Peters in the early stages of the race, and once in front he was never seriously challenged, although it looked for a short while like former Beech Ridge champion Reid Lanpher might provide a test, but a spin after some contact took Lanpher out of contention for the victory while battling Taylor for second spot.

Taylor managed to hang on to second position in just his second appearance this year behind the wheel. Curtis Gerry rebounded from a bad heat race and almost going a lap down to Smith in the middle stages of the race to claim a third-place finish. Garrett Hall arced among the contenders throughout the 150-lapper to end up in fourth place.

Travis Benjamin made up a lot of ground in the 2018 PASS North Super Late Model championship contest, posting a fifth-place finish while the points leader, DJ Shaw was relegated to a 22nd-place finish after being sent into the backstretch wall.

Donnie Colpritt, Jr., Trevor Sanborn, Alan Tardiff, Lanpher, and Brandon Barker rounded out the top ten.

Wayne Whitten, Jr. of Arundel made his PASS Mods debut a memorable one, driving from dead last on the starting grid to win the 40-lap race after a seven-year absence from the cockpit of a racecar. Whitten took the lead away from Bruce Helmuth of Wales, who

looked to be headed to victory lane for the second time this season when he gave Whitten enough room to get by, and the rusty veteran took advantage of the opportunity.

Waterford's Spencer Morse, in just his fourth appearance in the class, came up one spot short of scoring his second victory, racing right on Whitten's rear bumper as they flashed under the checkered flag. Helmuth ended up in third position, with Gary Shackford of Center Conway, New Hampshire and Stetson's Wayne Allard filling out the top-five rundown.

Terry Merrill of Saco came out on top in a highly-competitive, wildly-entertaining 50-lap race for the Beech Ridge Sport Series regulars. Merrill stalked an intense battle in front of his machine for most of the race, as first Scarborough's Charlie Sanborn III and then Devin Curit of Saco waged intense battles for the lead with newly-crowned Sport Series champion Joe Pastore of Gorham.

Those battled helped open the door for Merrill, who found room to race underneath his rivals as they swapped paint and caved in sheet metal. Alex Lacognata made a late charge into second place as the checkered flag, with Pastore recovering to post an impressive third-place finish when all was said and done.



Gary Smith climbs from his winning race car in victory lane at Beech Ridge Motor Speedway after out racing the field in the 150-lap main event. (Norm Marx photo)

Durham's Kenny Harrison and Sanborn rounded out the top five. Sanborn and Pastore were the heat race winners and they waged a side-by-side battle for nearly 15 laps to open the main event.

Billy Childs, Jr. of Leeds outran the competition in a special 50-lap open race for Oxford Plains Speedway Street Stocks, Beech Ridge Wildcats and other similar racing divisions. Childs chased Buckfield's Kyle Treadwell for almost half the race before outrunning Gray's Tyler King to the checkered flag.

Treadwell's third-place finish fin-

ished off a podium sweep for the invaders, with Adam Lovejoy of Sanford best among Beech Ridge weekly racers in fourth place. Greene's Zach Bowie rounded out the top five. Lovejoy and Treadwell won 10-lap heat races.

The next Pro All Stars Series North Super Late Model event is scheduled for this Friday night, September 28, at Thunder Road International Speedway in Barre, Vermont. Post time is 6:00 p.m. For more information please visit proallstarsseries.com or call (207) 539-8865.

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NEW UNITS FOR 2018

Atkinson Gets the Win at Anderson and Locks Himself into Winchester Championship Event

SALEM, IN - Former Lawrence Towing CRA Street Stocks Powered by JEGS Champion Jason Atkinson got his 12th all-time series win Saturday night at Anderson Speedway, passing early leader Andrew Teepe on lap

59 and holding off several challenges over three restarts in the last four laps to get his first series victory of the 2018 season and locking himself into the series Chase for the Championship finally.

Teepe led the first 58 laps with Atkinson, Danny Adams, Travis Burge, Jimmy Kirby III and Jacob McElfresh all jockeying for position behind him.

Atkinson moved back into the second spot on a lap 20 restart with an inside pass of McElfresh in turn three and stayed glued to Teepe's rear bumper.

Following a spin by Kirby on lap 59 while battling for the lead, gave Atkinson the opportunity that he needed to use the high line on the restart to pass Teepe entering turn one and grab the lead. Atkinson had to survive three more restarts to get the win. With the win, Atkinson is the first Chase for the Championship driver to lock himself into the Championship event at Winchester Speedway on October 13th, as long as he competes in the series next event at Lucas Oil Raceway.

Atkinson is the ninth different series winner in the nine series events so far in 2018. For his pass of Teepe to get the lead, Atkinson picked up the Racer Parts Wholesale Sweet Move of the Race Award.

Adams came back from an incident with J.J. Schafer on lap 24 to drive to the runner-up finish, passing Teepe for the second position on lap 74. Adams earned the AR Bodies Cool Move of the Race Award.

In the three CRA Street Stock races at Anderson Speedway in 2018, Adams has recorded two second place finishes and scored his first career win. Adams was the second highest finishing series Chase driver in the event.

Anderson Speedway Street

Stock points leader Travis Burge finished in third for car owner Josh Poore. Kirby III rebounded from his spin to finish in fourth, third among the series Chase drivers. Teepe hung on to finish in fifth place, fourth among the series Chase drivers.

The next event for the Lawrence Towing CRA Street Stocks will be the third Chase for the Championship event on Sunday, September 30th, part of the Fall Brawl at Lucas Oil Raceway. For more information on all the CRA series go to www.cra-racing.com.

Baledge Gets First Ever CRA Victory at Anderson Speedway Saturday Night

SALEM, IN - Alexandria, Indiana veteran racer Kent Baledge emerged from a rough last four laps to get his first ever CRA victory in the Vore's Welding CRA Late Model Sportsman Powered by JEGS event Saturday night at Anderson Speedway. The race was the second in the series Chase for the Championship playoff.

Three time 2018 series winner Jeff Marcum led the first 71 laps, but was pressed the entire distance by Baledge and then Brandon Varney on Thompson Insurance and Cintas Night at the Races on Saturday at Anderson Speedway.

Varney turned up the heat with 10 laps remaining repeatedly trying to get underneath Marcum's car in the corners. The caution flag waved on lap 72 when Marcum spun coming off the fourth corner after slight contact with Varney, sending both drivers to the back of the pack.

That put Baledge out front chased by Cassten Everidge and Chris Shannon. The caution flag immediately waved for a spin into the turn one wall by Rich Segvich.

The third attempt at a restart resulted in a three car incident coming off the fourth corner involving Everidge and Shannon as well as the car of Dustin Burge, who made heavy contact with the barrels in turn three ending his night. That put Marcum in second followed by Varney behind leader Baledge.

Baledge was able to maintain the lead and get the win by .365-

seconds over Marcum who saw his Anderson Speedway winning streak stopped at eight. For his win by holding off Marcum on the last restart, Baledge picked up the Racer Parts Wholesale Sweet Move of the Race Award.

Varney finished in third, his best finish to date with the series, earning him the AR Bodies Cool Move of the Race Award. Varney was also the highest finisher of the series Chase for the Championship drivers, giving him the series points lead heading into the third and final race of the Chase three playoff events to determine the final four drivers that will race for the series Championship at Winchester Speedway on October 13th.

Everidge finished in fourth place. Series rookie contender Shannon rebounded and finished in fifth place, second of the series Chase drivers. Fellow rookie Zachary Tinckle finished in sixth, third highest of the Chase drivers. Segvich was the Spillers Towing Hardcharger Award winner, gaining six positions during the race.

The next Vore's Welding CRA Late Model Sportsman event will be the third Chase for the Championship event on Sunday, September 30th, part of the Fall Brawl at Lucas Oil Raceway.

2018 Lucas Oil Raceway Fall Brawl Full of Big Changes and Exciting Racing...and More

SALEM, IN - The 2018 version of CRA's Fall Brawl at Lucas Oil Raceway is seeing exciting changes, as fans and racers prepare for the event which is just over a week out. Traditionally, the event has seen practice on Saturday and racing on Sunday.

This year there will be racing for the Midwest Super Modifieds on Saturday night. It's the first time in almost two decades that these lightning fast vehicles will take to the legendary oval outside of Indianapolis.

Besides the Super Modifieds, Saturday will also feature racing from the Vore's Compact Touring Series and the Vintage Sprint Cars. All of that racing is just the tip of the iceberg. Saturday will also see a Vendor

midway featuring flea market vendors and a swap meet, with racing vendors expected in attendance. The event will also host a car show with top prize of \$1000 going to the winner and everyone in the top five cashing.

Inside the race track, fans will also be treated to a motorcycle stunt show, and finish the night off with Fireworks. All of these exciting changes to the weekend can be attributed to the new event promoter, Dave Duncan.

During Saturday's activities, Duncan will also recognize some important people to Motorsports throughout the Midwest and around the country.

The Indianapolis area motorsports leaders that will be honored with awards of recognition: Legendary Figure 8 Racer and special event promoter Kenny St. John, Legendary Dirt Late Model Racer and chassis builder C. J. Rayburn, ARCA Racing Series Champion, chassis builder and the originator of all things economy modified racing in the Indiana Dave Dayton, motorsports journalist and great supporter of short track racing D. O. Laycock, former Indianapolis Speedrome Owner and electronics distributor John Stiles, former racer, chassis builder and short track supporter Steve Ellis, and Motorsports Television executive and innovator Terry Lingner.

Rounding out the weekend will be feature racing in five divisions on Sunday afternoon with each feature winner getting an event signature trophy that includes a pair of boxing gloves. Almost 250 laps of feature racing will be run with the JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour presented by Chevrolet Performance, the Vores Welding CRA Late Model Sportsman, the I-CAR All-Star Modified Tour, the Lawrence Towing CRA Street Stocks and the Vores Compact Touring Series presented by Mercer County Electric.

Parties interested in being a part of this exciting weekend can contact Dave Duncan directly at 317-989-1103.



Pollard Adds to Blizzard Series Tally at Five Flags

PENSACOLA, FL - Bubba Pollard continued his dominant 2018 season at Five Flags Speedway Saturday night, holding off a hard-charging Chandler Smith to score the victory in the Deep South Cranes 150 presented by Earnest Performance.

Pollard took the lead from Smith with 41 laps remaining in the 150-lap event, which served as the penultimate race of the Southern Super Series presented by Sunoco season as well as the Blizzard Series finale for 2018. A late caution opened the door for Smith to make a late-race charge, but Pollard held off the young fellow Georgia native for his 18th career Blizzard Series victory.

Pollard had complete confidence in his car's long-run ability, which is where Pollard's signature No. 26 machine was at its best. An extended green flag run gave him the perfect opportunity to storm to the front during the middle stage of the event.

"We started the race off pretty free, like we've been all weekend," Pollard said in victory lane. "We didn't know if we were going to make it. We had a really good car on the long run. I feel like if we went green there, we'd be good."

An incident involving Bobby Knox brought out the yellow flag with 30 laps to go, bringing everyone but Kyle Plott to pit road under a controlled caution. Plott, the winner of the Southern Super Series' most recent race at Watermelon Capital Speedway (GA), was unable to hold off Pollard on fresher tires. However, Smith quickly chased down Pollard to challenge for the win before running out of time.

"Those guys were better than us on the short run," Pollard admitted. "It showed at the end when Chandler was better than us, but then we leveled out. It's all about that tire game. I'm glad it worked out, that's all I can say."

For Smith, the runner-up finish marked a strong showing for a brand new car in preparation for the 51st Annual Snowball Derby, scheduled for December 2 at Five Flags Speedway.

"Ricky [Turner] and Will [Coats] and all the guys have been putting

this piece together all year," Smith said. "It's a brand spanking new car we're going to run for the Derby. I think we may run it a few more races before the Derby. This thing is really good."

"We started catching him towards the end, but we ran out of laps there," Smith said about the finish. "Hats off to Bubba, congratulations to him."

Harrison Burton made his first Southern Super Series presented by Sunoco appearance since winning the Rattler 250 at South Alabama Speedway in March, and he came away with a third-place finish in his own preparation for the Snowball Derby. The rising star had high praise for the level of competition in Saturday's field.

"It's the toughest competition in the nation in Super Late Model racing, in my opinion," Burton said. "It's so, so hard to win these races. You've got guys like Bubba Pollard who run these races every weekend and we're coming with a lot less laps than them. We're still contending with them, which is good."

"We came here kind of as a Derby tune-up," Burton added. "I think it went well, and we learned a lot, that's for sure. We'll come back and get them next time."

With a seventh-place finish, Casey Roderick secured his third Blizzard Series championship. While it was not the run Roderick had hoped for entering the evening, it was enough to take a 32-point triumph over Chris Davidson in the four-race Super Late Model championship contested at the Pensacola, Florida facility.

"We struggled tonight," Roderick said. "The car was off and we were able to fight back. We pitted a couple of times trying to get it better. I felt like we did that, we just didn't have enough."

"We'll come back stronger for the Snowball," Roderick continued. "I'm glad we were able to pull off another Blizzard Series championship. That's three now. I couldn't be happier for Ronnie getting him another Blizzard Series championship. We'll see what we can do at the Snowball."

Race fans who missed Saturday's action can visit Speed51.com's Trackside Now archive of the event for lap-by-lap updates or watch an on-demand presentation of Speed51.com's pay-per-view broadcast.

A tape-delayed broadcast of the



Bubba Pollard celebrates his 18th career Blizzard Series victory. (Speed51.com photo)

race will also be aired as part of Speed51's Short Track America on MAVTV on Wednesday, October 31.

The final race of the 2018 Southern Super Series presented by

Sunoco season will be the inaugural Mobile 300 at Mobile International Speedway (AL) on October 28.

For more information visit www.southernsuperseries.com.



The NASCAR Foundation Partners with Feed the Children to Aid Hurricane Florence Victims

DAYTONA BEACH, FL - The NASCAR Foundation today announced that it has partnered with Feed the Children to provide aid and relief to the victims of Hurricane Florence. As a result, trucks filled with

food, hygiene products and cleaning supplies are deployed in needed areas beginning with Belhaven, NC.

The NASCAR Foundation has also launched a Hurricane Disaster Relief donation page that provides NASCAR Nation with one place to band together and make donations to the many affected by Hurricane and its aftermath. One-hundred percent of the financial contributions made at www.nascarfoundation.org/hurricane will be used toward storm relief efforts.

"Many in the Carolinas are still suffering and our hearts go out to all of the victims of Hurricane Florence," said NASCAR Vice Chairman and The NASCAR Foundation Board Chairman and President Mike Helton. "Feed the Children is a great organization that gets much-needed food and supplies to those impacted by natural disasters. "We encourage all of the NASCAR Family to lend a hand in any way they can. Whether it's by

volunteering, donating or helping spread the word through social media...Every effort helps!"

- SiriusXM NASCAR Radio Ch. 90 to Host Special: On Wed., Sept. 26, SiriusXM NASCAR Radio Ch. 90 will dedicate the 10 a.m. ET hour during "The Morning Drive" to help encourage donations and raise awareness for the victims of the storm and highlight the efforts of the industry as well as The NASCAR Foundation. Hosts Mike Bagley and Pete Pistone will speak with an assortment of special guests.

- Industry Also Joining Relief Effort: Today's announcement complements work already underway across the NASCAR industry. For example, Brad and Paige Kesselowski are collecting donations that will be used toward the purchase of fuel for first responders. Krissie Newman sent a fleet of trucks to help rescue and relocate pets. Brett Moffitt is hosting a fundraising campaign where one lucky donor will receive a trip for two to the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series finale in Miami.

In addition, several tracks in the southeast are opening campgrounds for those displaced by the storm including Charlotte Motor Speedway, Atlanta Motor Speedway, Bristol Motor Speedway and Talladega Superspeedway.

Brad Sweet Tames Lernerville for Exciting Commonwealth Clash Victory

SARVER, PA - Brad Sweet's fantastic 2018 season continued Saturday night at Lernerville Speedway when he passed Donny Schatz on Lap 28 to become the fourth and final different leader of the 2018 Commonwealth Clash.

for his eighth win on the year. Schatz settled for second with former Lernerville track champion Tim Shaffer completing the podium.

Daryn Pittman won the Sears Craftsman Dash to earn the pole for the 35-Lap Feature, alongside Tim Shaffer. Pittman jumped out to the early lead through a caution-filled first few laps. Brent Marks fell off the race track in turn three on the opening lap, leaving David Gravel nowhere to go as the two made contact, resulting in terminal front end damage for Marks.

After consecutive yellows on Lap 1, the field lined up single-file. Shaffer went for the slide job to take the lead on the restart, but Pittman turned it back under to maintain control.

Shaffer was relentless in pursuit of Pittman and took the lead off of turn four to lead Lap 6 to the delight of the hometown crowd.

During the long Green Flag stretch, Shaffer established a healthy lead through the heavy traffic. Donny Schatz got underneath Pittman to take second on Lap 18 and set his eyes on Shaffer.

Sweet continued his way forward getting by Pittman and getting an up-close look on the battle for the lead between Schatz and Shaffer. Schatz got a good run off the cushion in turn four to slide Shaffer into turn one to take command on Lap 22.

A lap later Sweet slid in front of Shaffer as the top two in Outlaw points established themselves as the class of the field as they have so many times this season.

Sweet got a massive run on the nine-time Series Champion out of turn two and blasted underneath to take the lead down the backstretch and officially lead Lap 28. Sweet powered away and looked to be well on his way to his eighth victory of the year, but a caution for sixth-place running Sheldon Hauden-

schild with three laps to go put the celebration on hold.

With less than five to go in the Feature World of Outlaws rules dictate a single-file restart, which allowed Schatz to attempt a slide job for the lead. Sweet powered around the Schatz slider to maintain the lead down the backstretch and go on to win his first Outlaw Feature at Lernerville.

"This one is for Greg Hodnett, he was a good friend of mine. It's been a tough year. We'll celebrate this one a little for him and move on to the next one," Sweet said with his heart on his sleeve.

Donny Schatz bounced back from an uncharacteristic bad night at Eldora to finish second.

Tim Shaffer completed the podium.

Logan Schuchart was strong for the second consecutive night coming home fourth with Daryn Pittman completing the top-five. Central Pennsylvania invader Danny Dietrich earned KSE Hard Charger Honors coming from 14th to sixth.

The World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series heads into Central Pennsylvania next weekend for the Champion Racing Oil National Open against the Pennsylvania Posse at Williams Grove Speedway. Saturday's Feature at The Grove will pay \$56,000 to win, making it the second-highest paying event on the World of Outlaws schedule in 2018.

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

Marks Caps Emotional Evening with Thrilling Eldora Triumph

ROSSBURG, OH - On an emotional night at one of the most famous dirt tracks in the world, Brent Marks won a thrilling race, passing fellow Central Pennsylvania Outlaw Logan Schuchart for the lead on Lap 23 and holding off a furious charge from 13th-starting Dave Blaney, Schuchart and 23rd-starting Greg Wilson.

It was Marks' third career World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series victory and first at the historic Eldora Speedway. Marks dedicated the win to Greg Hodnett, who passed tragically the night be-

fore in an unsanctioned race in Pennsylvania.

Logan Schuchart won the Sears Craftsman Dash to earn the pole for the 30-Lap Feature, alongside David Gravel. Schuchart darted out to the early lead and Brent Marks, who started third, blasted around the bottom to take second down the backstretch.

Schuchart set a torrid pace out front as Marks went to war with Kraig Kinser for the runner-up position. With Marks banging down the cushion and Kinser catfishing around the bottom, the duo battled side-by-side for the better part of five laps.

As Schuchart reached heavy lapped traffic, Kinser and Marks' battle continued and they both closed in on the Shark Racing No.1S. Kinser edged Marks by a nose at the line on Lap 12, which would prove crucial as the caution would fly for Parker Price-Miller, who lost a left rear tire running in the top ten.

Schuchart elected the bottom on the double-file restart, moving Kinser to his outside. Kinser, who was glued to the bottom prior to the caution, fell back on the start, as Marks moved back into second.

Some contact the following lap between a slew of cars in the top ten, sent Gio Scelzi high into turn one, grazing the wall. Scelzi came down off the wall and got together with Daryn Pittman, resulting in the Kasey Kahne Racing No.9 upside down. Both drivers were uninjured but done for the evening.

The ensuing double-file restart saw Schuchart again choose the bottom with Marks to his outside this time. Schuchart remained in command with Marks in tow. 13th-starting Dave Blaney threw his name in the ring, battling Gravel and Kinser for the third position, three-wide at times.

Simultaneously, 23rd-starting Greg Wilson was coming, in typical Greg Wilson Eldora fashion, glued to the inside guard rail.

Back up front, Marks was closing in on Schuchart and threw a slide job for the lead into turn one on Lap 23. Schuchart fought back underneath Marks to maintain the lead going into turn three, where he went to the bottom. Marks put his family-owned No.19 right up against the wall, grabbing the cushion off of turn four and taking command of the field to lead the lap.

Marks powered away from Schuchart, who now had his hands full with the hard-charging Blaney and Wilson. Blaney took second from Schuchart and set his sights on Marks. After Marks got held up ever so slightly in traffic, Blaney attempted a slide job in turn three with three laps remaining, but Marks stayed on the gas and powered around the National Sprint Car Hall of Fame member to maintain control.

Blaney's slide job attempt for the lead cost him momentum as Wilson and Schuchart, who found late race speed right up against the outside wall, caught and surpassed the veteran by the White Flag.

But tonight, there was no catching Brent Marks, as the Myerstown, PA native went on to win his third World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series Feature of the season and of his career.

Fellow Central Pennsylvania native Logan Schuchart settled for second after leading 22 laps.

The obvious KSE Hard Charger was 23rd-starting Greg Wilson who finished on the podium for the second time this year at Eldora.

Dave Blaney faded to fourth in the closing laps, still no small feat coming from 13th, with Gravel completing the top five.

Kraig Kinser was strong all evening and settled for sixth with Hunter Schuerenburg, who set Quick Time, and Sheldon Haudenschild finishing seventh and eighth, respectively. Rico Abreu charged from 21st to ninth with 17th-starting Jason Sides completing the top ten.



Brent Marks brought home the win at Eldora Speedway after passing Logan Schuchart for the victory. (Paul Arch photo)

Brandon Sheppard Wins in Outlaw Speedway Debut

DUNDEE, NY - In what was originally scheduled to be a one-day show, Brandon Sheppard kept up the momentum over two separate days of racing at the Outlaw Speedway, as the World of Outlaws Craftsman Late Model Series made its debut at the small track in Dundee, NY. Sheppard picked up his

12th win of the season, which put him right back in the points championship hunt after falling victim to engine failure the night before at Selinsgrove.

The Outlaws were originally scheduled to race one complete show at Outlaw Speedway on Friday night, as part of the track's annual Fall Nationals event. But Mother Nature had other plans, as torrential rain soaked the track after the heat races were completed. Series and track officials decided to run the feature race on Sunday evening, which turned out to be quite an exciting 50 laps.

Sheppard started the race from the fifth spot and quickly made his way into the top three by the second lap. He began to chase down leaders Shane Clanton and Mike Marlar, passing both of them by lap 20.

He would go on to battle a few yellow flag restarts and with third-place finisher Mike Marlar around the 2/3-mark, but surrendered the lead only briefly for one lap at a time in a back-and-forth battle that ended with Sheppard losing Marlar in lapped traffic. Ten laps later, Sheppard collected yet another checkered flag.

The track surface seemed much to the drivers' liking, which made for some great multiple-lane racing. Sheppard made most of his passes on the low side, even through lapped traffic.

"We had a really good racecar, I could drive wherever I needed to go in lapped traffic and all that," Sheppard said. "That definitely made it easier for sure. Our car has been really good, so I think it'll be tough to beat if we can do that at the next few tracks."

This was the night Sheppard needed to get back into the thick of the points battle with now-leader Mike Marlar and second-place Chris Madden. He's still a whole 40

points behind Marlar but has four races left to make one last-ditch effort for the title.

"Someone will have to have a bad night for anything to happen," Sheppard said. "But my team works really hard, nobody wants to win more than them guys do. We're going to try our best and do the best we can to get it up there."

Runner-up Devin Moran had quite a sporadic race, going as far back as 11th at one point early on. But one by one, he began to pick off each car in front of him, putting the No. 9 into the top three by lap 34. And with two laps remaining, Moran drove it way deep into turn three to put a textbook slidejob on third-place finisher Mike Marlar to lock up his second runner-up finish of the weekend.

"I was right there behind Mike, I just didn't know where to go," Moran said. "That middle was so slick, you couldn't run though it hardly. I tried it there a couple times, just couldn't keep up. So after that restart, Sheppard got away from us a little bit. I rode the bottom for a couple laps and that let me get by Mike, just ran out of time to go get Sheppard."

Mike Marlar completed the podium and once again grabbed the points lead away from Chris Madden, who ended up breaking a left-front ball joint on lap eight. But it was certainly not handed to him, as Marlar had his hands full in the closing laps with Devin Moran all over him.

A tire compound decision may have been the losing factor, Marlar explained, as a lack of grip off the corner seemed to hinder the Delk Equipment No. 157 a bit in the long run.

"After a few laps, I would lose my steering capabilities," Marlar said. "That was making me have to run a weird line. I actually got by Brandon two or three times, I think I got the lead and then I would start pushing and he would get back by me."

Now with the points lead, Marlar is just trying to stay consistent.

"In racing, we can do all we can do as a person," Marlar said. "Then it's up to fate and materials. Anything can happen, we've just got to do the best we can do every night."

Next up for the Outlaws is a two-day show in Chillicothe, Ohio at the Atomic Speedway for the Outlaw Invasion that was rained-out from earlier this season.



Brandon Sheppard raced his way to victory lane at Outlaw Speedway. (Eileen Shrey/WoOLM photo)

Chris Madden Wins His First Late Model National Open

SELINSGROVE, PA - The track was fast and the time was right for Chris "Smokey" Madden on Saturday night at the Selinsgrove Speedway for the 20th running of the Late Model National Open, as he picked up his eighth win of 2018 and 24th career all-time with the World of Outlaws.

Re-drawing the outside pole after winning his heat race, Madden took control of the Sears Craftsman Feature on lap one and never looked back, leading all 50 laps on his way to another \$10,000 payday.

"It's huge where we start [from] at these big places like that," Madden said. "But we definitely had a good racecar, no doubt."

Racetrack conditions were perfect, as there was no threat of rain (as there was the night before at Outlaw Speedway, which ended in a postponement). Three solid grooves of racing presented the fans in attendance with a great show that Madden himself approved of.

"I felt like the racetrack was wide enough to race, kind of top-middle-bottom," Madden said. "Our car was good enough to where we could maneuver around in all three lanes; very, very pleased with our racecar tonight."

Next up is the postponed feature from Friday night at the Outlaw Speedway, which will be run on Sunday, starting with hot laps at 5:30. Madden will start 10th in that event, and he hopes to just be able to make it through the race cleanly to extend his points lead over Mike Marlar.

"We need to get through that race over there tomorrow and make up some positions and get up there to Mike to give ourselves a

chance to win the race and also have a chance not to lose a bunch of points," Madden said.

Devin Moran posted yet another podium finish in his post-rookie campaign with a strong second place. A big battle with Marlar ensued on a restart in the closing laps of the race, as a yellow came out with two laps remaining for fourth-place running Tyler Erb when he shredded a tire.

"I knew as long as I carried speed, it would be pretty tough for him to pass me," Moran said. "The top was pretty good, so I just made sure I didn't miss the top and it worked out for us."

New Selinsgrove Speedway track record holder Mike Marlar crossed the line in third after the battle with Moran in the closing laps.

"Devin was leaving me a little bit of room under him getting in the corner," Marlar said. "He just had that little bit of forward momentum off the corner... so he was actually pulling back ahead on the straightaway. It was fun to race with him."

Other race notes: After a strong qualifying lap and a win in heat number two, Shane Clanton redrew the pole and was looking to park it in Victory Lane on Saturday. Unfortunately, fate had different plans, as he was battling for position with Devin Moran and blew a left-front tire early on. He would come back to finish 12th.

Repeat hopes for the Defending Series Champion Brandon Sheppard just got even further away, as he blew yet another engine at Selinsgrove, this time running second and challenging Madden for the lead. He starts fifth on Sunday at Outlaw Speedway.

Defending Late Model National Open winner Jeff Rine was unable to repeat for his sixth title, but did make a valiant effort, coming all the way from 17th to finish fifth.

Late Pass Propels Pierce at Brownstown

BROWNSTOWN, IN - Bobby Pierce passed race leader Jonathan Davenport as the two headed to the white flag and held off Davenport on the final circuit to win Sunday afternoon's 39th Annual Jackson 100 at Brownstown Speedway.

The win also marks Pierce's third trip to Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series Victory Lane this season and his first at the historic quarter-mile oval.

Mason Zeigler led the first seventeen laps until Tim McCreadie powered to the point. McCreadie held the lead until lap 60 when Davenport roared from the sixth-starting position to take over the top spot. After a caution with 19 laps to go Davenport began to pull away.

Pierce remained glued to the bottom of the track as Davenport's lead slowly evaporated. Pierce pulled even with Davenport in the waning laps and was able to make the pass as the two exited turn four heading for the white-flag. Pierce then held off a last lap effort by Davenport to take the victory.

McCreadie crossed the finish line in third. Jimmy Owens stormed through the field to finish fourth, after pitting on lap 57 for a tire change. Darrell Lanigan came

home in fifth.

Pierce was breathless in his Lucas Oil Victory Lane post-race interview. "Wow, out of all of the places to win my first big race of the season, I didn't think it would happen here at Brownstown. You have to stay so focused here. It gets really slick. To finish second to JD [Davenport] would not have been bad. Thanks to all the fans for coming. I don't know what to say, my emotions have taken over."

"It's been a long year. We have been so close to getting some big wins, to finally get it feels really good," Pierce added. "I have got to thank my dad and Danny Myers. I didn't think what they suggested would work. I think I won a kid modz race here before, but this is obviously very special, this track has such a great racing history."

"On that last restart I didn't know if I could stay with him [Davenport] but on the long-run I think I was better than him. It worked out, I don't know how it did. I can't wait to watch the re-play of this race."

With his runner-up finish, Davenport will maintain the series points lead heading to Dixie and Rome next week. "Bobby is good no doubt about it. He gave me the Silver Dollar Nationals back in July at I-80. He [Pierce] did a heck of a job. On that last restart I thought I might be in trouble because I didn't have a lot of grip left on the tires. I think I let them cool off too much.



Bobby Pierce celebrates in victory lane after passing Jonathan Davenport to win the 39th Annual Jackson 100 at Brownstown Speedway. (lucasdirt.com photo)

From the way we started the weekend and after starting seventh in our heat race and to get to the front, hats off to my crew. We are headed in the right direction and it was a good night as well."

McCreadie, who led 41 of the 100 laps commented on his third-place finish. "It was a lot of fun out there today. Hats off to Bobby and Jonathan, we are happy to be competitive. We are doing it harder than anyone in the pit area, it's great to run up front against these guys."

Completing the top ten were Kent Robinson, Earl Pearson Jr., Josh Richards, Ricky Thornton Jr., and Nick Hoffman.

Lucas Oil Event at Fayetteville Motor Speedway Canceled

BATAVIA, OH - Due to the re-

cent devastation and flooding left by Hurricane Florence, the September 27th event at Fayetteville Motor Speedway has been canceled.

"The area has been hit hard by the effects of Hurricane Florence," said Rick Schwallie, Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series Director. "We ask that everyone continue to pray for all those affected by this tragedy."

The Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series will visit Dixie Speedway in Woodstock, Ga., on Saturday, September 29th and Rome International Speedway in Rome, Ga., on Sunday, September 30th.

For the latest breaking news concerning the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series, including the latest series standings, 2018 tour schedule, driver information, and more visit the official website at: www.lucasdirt.com.

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Hafertepe Dominates Hockett/McMillin Memorial Finale at Lucas Oil Speedway

WHEATLAND, MO - Winning for the second year in a row, Sam Hafertepe, Jr. dominated the 30-lap, \$10,000 to win finale to the 8th annual Hockett/McMillin Memorial with the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by Sawblade.com.

"Just unbelievable, we haven't won a big race all year long and we were really missing it last night and I just told my guys, we're thinking too hard. Let's just go back to what we know and that's what we did tonight, and the track came around exactly like I thought it would," said Sam, who picked up his 36th career win with the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by Sawblade.com.

Winning out through several restarts that saw a pair of flips and a pair of cautions, every time the green dropped it was Hafertepe who won the drag race into the first turn over Wayne Johnson. Normally sticking to the high line, the final restart saw Johnson jump across the cushion, but it was still Hafertepe who pulled away.

Asked what the key to getting the lead, Sam stated, "It didn't really matter, we were so good that he could lead into one, and we were still going to lead off two. We had a really good race car and having a car that was that good, even if the start doesn't go your way, you just wait a half-lap and get it done."

Working into traffic by Lap 7, the back markers didn't slow the Heidbreder Foundation No. 15h an inch, Wayne Johnson sat a distant second battling an ever-tightening race car, the Outlaw Wings No. 2c finally had a challenge for the runner-up spot on Lap 20 with Scott Bogucki working to the second podium step the following revolution.

Hoping for a caution despite the myriad of lapped cars in the running order, the caution lights stayed dark as Sam rolled under the checkered flag 5.853 seconds ahead of Bogucki's Sawblade.com No. 28. Wayne Johnson held for his 158th career podium finish.

Moving through the field from 12th, Seth Bergman was the night's CP-Carrillo Hard Charger with his

fourth-place finish. Tony Bruce, Jr. crossed fifth with Matt Covington sixth after a fierce battle with Dylan Westbrook who crossed seventh. Johnny Herrera finished eighth with Blake Hahn making the most of provisional to claiming from 23rd to ninth. Carson Short rounded out the top-ten.

With the Hockett/McMillin Memorial in the books, teams will gear up for the final run to the 2018 Championship as four nights remain. Things fire off again on Friday, October 19 and Saturday, October 20 with the 45th Devil's Bowl Winter Nationals in Mesquite, Texas followed by the Creek County Speedway Fall Fling on Friday, October 26 and Saturday, October 27 in Sapulpa, Okla.

For other news, notes, and information on the American Sprint Car Series, from the National Tour to any of the Regional Tours that make up the nearly 150 races across the ASCS Nation in 2018, log onto www.ascsracing.com, follow on Facebook, on Instagram, and on Twitter (@LucasOilASCS).

Herrera Thrilling In Night 2 Victory at The Hockett/McMillin Memorial

WHEATLAND, MO - Four leaders over the course of 25 laps, and the one leading the most important lap on Friday night was Johnny Herrera. Snapping an 80-race winless streak, the Mesilla Valley



Sam Hafertepe Jr. celebrates in victory lane after winning the 8th Annual Hockett/McMillin Memorial at Lucas Oil Speedway. (Kenny Shaw photo)

Transportation No. 45x was masterful on the high-line en-route to his preliminary night win in the Hockett/McMillin Memorial at Lucas Oil Speedway.

"We needed this win. I'm pretty sure it's been over a year since we won one of these things. We've been close all year, and just couldn't get it done. We've changed cars, bars, just about everything but it all came together tonight," commented Herrera.

Johnny's third career win at Lucas Oil Speedway, the 2013 Hockett/McMillin Memorial Champion will take the green from the third starting spot in Saturday's \$10,000 to win A-Feature.

"We've been good here, but not great so we'll keep working at it for tomorrow and see if we can get another one."

Chasing Wayne Johnson and Matt Covington on the start, Johnny slipped to fourth as the No. 47x of Dylan Westbrook snuck by for third right as Matt Covington took over

the race lead on Lap 4 by 0.001 seconds over Wayne Johnson. Contending with Westbrook, the Ohsweken Speedway No. 47x grabbed the runner-up spot only to have the red for Roger Crockett bring the race back to Lap 5.

Keeping pace over the field on the restart, Covington kept a 10-car length advantage over the race for second as Johnson, Westbrook, and Herrera began battling with the caution coming out working Lap 10 as Westbrook went around in turn two.

Moving Johnny to third, the New Mexico shoe went to work on Wayne for second with the high line pass coming on Lap 12.

Chasing from the fifth starting spot, Jake Bubak paced patiently around the bottom in the Howard Law No. 9x. Moving to third on Lap 13, Bubak shot past Herrera on Lap 14 and took over the lead from Matt Covington one lap later.

Maintaining his pace around the hub of the three-eighths oval, Bubak held onto the race lead until Lap 18. With his run building on the cushion, Herrera made the race-winning pass the following lap.

Opening his advantage to 1.020 seconds at the drop of the checkered flag, it was Tony Bruce, Jr. from the 13th starting spot who advanced to claim runner-up honors in the Tiger Towing No. 86, with the pass on Bubak on Lap 23.

Jake would settle for third with Matt Covington and Wayne Johnson slipping to complete the top-five. With a win and a fifth-place finish on the weekend, Wayne Johnson will lead Saturday's \$10,000 to win A-Feature to the green.

Rolling up from 10th, Sam Hafertepe, Jr. crossed sixth and will (Continued Next Page)



Johnny Herrera celebrates in victory lane at Lucas Oil Speedway after winning on night two of the Hockett/McMillin Memorial. Herrera snapped an 80-race winless streak. (Kenny Shaw photo)

Continued...

start to the outside of the front row on Saturday night. Rebounding from a provisional on Thursday night, Seth Bergman moved from 11th to seventh. Advancing out of a B-Feature, Derek Hagar was the night's CP-Carrillo Hard Charger; moving ahead 12 positions to eighth. Blake Hahn finished ninth with Jack Dover making up the top-ten.

Johnson Perfect In 2018 Hockett/McMillin Opener

WHEATLAND, MO - For the third time in his career, Wayne Johnson rolled his Outlaw Wings No. 2c into Victory Lane at Lucas Oil Speedway with the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by Sawblade.com, winning the opening night of the 8th annual Hockett/McMillin Memorial.

Starting his night with a Heat Race win, Johnson followed that with a victory in his Qualifier. Perfect going into the A-Feature, Wayne was unstoppable through the 25-lap preliminary event.

"These guys gave me one hell of a car tonight. We started third in our Heat Race and won it, and when



Wayne Johnson swept the action on night one of the Hockett/McMillin Memorial, winning his Heat race, a Qualifier and the A-Feature. (Kenny Shaw photo)

we won our Qualifier from sixth, I knew we had a good car," commented Johnson.

"In the feature, I just made sure we hit our marks, and when I saw Sam got up to second, I knew I really couldn't mess up so we just stuck to the bottom, but our package here is really good so we'll come back tomorrow and start where we did tonight"

Outrunning Tyler Blank on the start, the caution brought the field back to side-by-side formation as Tyler Blank and Sammy Swindell collected each other battling for the runner-up spot. Restarting with Scott Bogucki to his right, the Sawblade.com No. 28 challenged John-

son on the restart, but would instead have to contend with Kyle Bellm for second.

Slowed again working the second lap for Sean McClelland, the No. 2c was quick to pull away as the runner-up spot was up for grabs with Sam Hafertepe, Jr. rolling by. Keeping pace with Johnson, the track began working to the low line.

Keeping the cars straight through the half-way point, the caution flew again working Lap 16 as Jamie Ball went around in the third turn. Back to Lap 15, Bogucki tried for second with no avail.

With the field pacing to the final two laps, the caution flew for the

last time as Carson Short stopped exiting the fourth turn. Back to three laps to run, Wayne Johnson did everything right to win by 0.605 seconds. Sam Hafertepe, Jr. in second was followed by Scott Bogucki. Coming up from 10th, Dylan Westbrook grabbed fourth with Kyle Bellm slipping back to fifth.

Roger Crockett in sixth was followed by Derek Hagar who ran up from 11th. Skylar Gee crossed eighth with Joe B. Miller in ninth. Passing nine cars to earn the night's CP-Carrillo Pistons Hard Charger of the Night, Johnny Herrera rounded out the top-ten.

In the night's accumulated points, Wayne Johnson leads with a perfect score of 170. Sam Hafertepe, Jr. is second with 160, followed by Scott Bogucki (155), Dylan Westbrook (145), and Kyle Bellm (144) to make up the top-five after one night of competition.

The field of 59 drivers will have another shot to accumulate event points as Night 2 of the Hockett/McMillin Memorial goes green Friday, September 21 at 7:05 P.M. (CT).

For other news, notes, and information on the American Sprint Car Series, from the National Tour to any of the Regional Tours that make up the nearly 150 races across the ASCS Nation in 2018, log onto www.ascsracing.com, follow on Facebook, on Instagram, and on Twitter (@LucasOilASCS).

Checkered Flag Foundation Supporting First Responders in Wake of Hurricane Florence

STATESVILLE, NC - Brad Keselowski's Checkered Flag Foundation (BKCFF) today announced they will provide support to first responders in communities affected by Hurricane Florence.

Due to days of record-breaking rainfall delivered by Florence, flooding is the primary concern in affected areas. Teams of first responders are working overtime providing water rescues and helping ensure the safety of residents in the impacted areas. Immediate needs of first responders include clothes, fuel and food, but will continue to change and increase as rescue and cleanup ef-

forts continue.

"Growing up in Eastern North Carolina and seeing the devastation Hurricane Florence has brought has been heartbreaking," said Paige Keselowski. "Although my hometown was not heavily impacted by the storm, many of our friends and family in other communities were. BKCFF, Brad and myself are hoping to unite together to provide support to our first responders so that they may provide assistance to the communities affected by the storm."

An online campaign has been created to raise donations for hurricane relief efforts and first responders working in the affected areas. Those wishing to make a donation and support the mission of the BKCFF can do so by clicking the

following link, bit.ly/United2Gether.

T-shirts featuring a specially designed United 2Gether design will also be available for purchase on the BKCFF online store for \$25. "Buy One, Give One" ... for every t-shirt purchased, the Keselowskis will in turn purchase a t-shirt to send to a first responder in the impacted areas.

"Rebuilding after the storm will be a slow process and our group is committed to doing what we can to help those helping others," Paige

Keselowski continued. "We are grateful for any and all donations and support of our beautiful coast during this time."

Corporate partners, businesses or groups who wish to join in this initiative may reach out to suzanne@checkeredflagfoundation.org to discuss opportunities for support. For additional updates, follow the Checkered Flag Foundation on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter or visit www.CheckeredFlagFoundation.org.



Aaron Reutzel Cruises to 4-Crown Victory at Eldora Speedway

ROSSBURG, OH - Arctic Cat All Star Circuit of Champions presented by Mobil 1 championship contender Aaron Reutzel made his ninth All Star victory of the season look effortless on Saturday night at The Big E, charging ahead from row four to the top spot in just 12 circuits,

circuits, eventually driving on to score a first-ever Eldora Speedway victory during the 37th running of the coveted 4-Crown Nationals.

After starting from the outside-pole position and leading the first 11 circuits, Kokomo, Indiana's Parker Price-Miller held on to finish second at the World's Greatest Dirt Track, followed by Indy Race Parts teammate Gio Scelzi, Travis Philo, and Cole Duncan.

In response to the tragic loss of sprint car great Greg Hodnett, the All Star 4-Crown Nationals A-main was altered from 25 laps to 27 laps.

"It is unbelievable to win at Eldora," Aaron Reutzel explained, driver of the Baughman-Reutzel Motorsports No. 87. "This win is all because of my crew chief, Grant Boyum. What a race car. We had the boss' car out last night during the Outlaw show and we weren't any good. We tried some things and they didn't work, but tonight Grant did what he had to do and this car was incredible. It was going to be tough to beat Parker [Price-Miller], but luckily I had a car that could drive through the center and rotate well. This is exciting."

A dominating performance to say the least, Reutzel's charge to the front started right from the drop of the green flag, advancing four positions during the first three circuits of the 27-lapper. A red flag incident on lap eight involving Carson Macedo, who was battling within the top-five at the time, gave Reutzel an opportunity to capitalize. The ensuing restart resulted in Reutzel advancing two more positions, ultimately getting by Brock Zearfoss for third, then utilizing a slider in turns three and four to get by Cole Duncan to take second on lap nine.

Caution flags flew again on lap 11 once again setting up a single-file restart, this time putting Reutzel right on the back bumper of race-

long leader, Parker Price Miller. When green flag action returned, Reutzel made his move, actually chasing Price-Miller back to the flagstand to complete lap 11 before getting underneath the Indy Race Parts No. 71P entry at the midpoint of turns one and two on lap 12. For the second time in four laps, a big move by Reutzel equaled success, keeping Price-Miller behind him as the duo raced back to the start/finish line to complete the circuit.

Despite caution flags reappearing on lap 15 creating another single-file restart, the field had nothing for Reutzel. The Clute, Texas, native drove on unchallenged, even manhandling a few spurts of lapped traffic during the final five circuits.

"We have one hell of a points battle going on right now and it has taken all the fun out of the racing," Reutzel continued. "We needed this win bad. I didn't want to go into the final round behind someone in



Aaron Reutzel climbs on top of his car in victory lane after winning at Eldora Speedway during the 4-Crown Nationals, his ninth All Star win of the season. (Paul Arch photo)

the point chase. We want to win this championship so bad."

With Eldora Speedway's 4-Crown Nationals officially in the books, Aaron Reutzel will enter the final round of the 2018 All Star Circuit of Champions season in two weeks with a 64-point cushion in the All Star driver championship

chase, also owning a 32-point lead in the owner title chase for car owner, Baughman-Reutzel Motorsports. The Arctic Cat All Star Circuit of Champions presented by Mobil 1 will conclude the 2018 season with the #GYATKExtravaganza at Kokomo Speedway in Kokomo, Ind., on Saturday, October 6.

Remembering Greg Hodnett...

All Stars Mourn Loss of Greg Hodnett

On behalf of the All Star Circuit of Champions, we send our condolences to the family of Greg Hodnett, his wife Sherry and their family, team owner Mike Heffner and the crew at Heffner Racing, and to all of those throughout the racing community who got to know Greg.

Hodnett, of Spring Grove, Pennsylvania, succumbed to injuries sustained in a crash during a sprint car race Thursday night at BAPS Motor Speedway in York Haven, Pennsylvania.

"Greg was one of best sprint car drivers in the country, and as good as he was as a sprint car driver, he was an even better person," said Tony Stewart, owner of the All Star Circuit of Champions. "Everyone respected Greg for his abilities in the car and for who he was outside the car. Our thoughts are with Greg and his family during this incredibly difficult time."

A true gentleman, as well as a talented competitor, the All Star Circuit of Champions were fortunate to have Hodnett in its presence often, mainly supporting events in Central Pennsylvania. Hodnett amassed 22 All Star victories



Paul Arch photo

throughout his storied career, and although his appearances with the Series were sporadic, his on-track abilities and off-track manner left a lasting impression.

We ask that everyone please keep the Hodnett family and Heffner Racing in your prayers.

Sprint Car World Mourns Loss of Greg Hodnett

CONCORD, NC - It is with heavy hearts that we express our deepest condolences to the family and friends of sprint car driver Greg Hodnett and the Heffner Racing team.

Hodnett, 48, of Spring Grove, PA, passed away following a crash during a sprint car race Thursday night at BAPS Motor Speedway.

One of the most popular Key-

stone State drivers that comprises the PA Posse, Hodnett was the World of Outlaws top rookie in 1993 who went on to win 20 World of Outlaws races. He captured the opening night at this season's Knoxville Nationals and beat the Outlaws last September during the second night of the National Open at Williams Grove Speedway.

"To me, Greg represented the true gentleman competitor in the pit area," said World of Outlaws CEO Brian Carter.

The racing family will miss his relentless passion and insight, and especially the ease with which he could talk about the sport with his unique perspective on its history. Please keep the family and friends of Hodnett and the Heffner Racing team in your prayers.

Charlotte Motor Speedway

CONCORD, NC - Two of the nation's foremost advocates of the fight against cancer will serve as dignitaries for the inaugural Bank of America ROVAL™ 400 race weekend Sept. 28-30 on the Charlotte Motor Speedway ROVAL™.

Sherry Pollex, an ovarian cancer survivor and the longtime partner of defending Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series champion Martin Truex Jr., will serve as honorary pace car driver for the Bank of America ROVAL™ 400 on Sept. 30. DeAngelo Williams, a former Pro Bowl running back for the Carolina Panthers, will be the honorary pace car driver for the Drive for the Cure 200 presented by Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina on Sept. 29 to raise awareness for the fight against breast cancer.

Pollex will drive the Toyota Camry pace car and lead the field to the green flag for the cutoff race in the first round of the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series playoffs – and the first road-course playoff race in series history. Pollex was first diagnosed with ovarian cancer in 2014 and has gone public in her fight by establishing sherrystrong.org, a segment of the Martin Truex Jr. Foundation that specializes in post-remission issues that ovarian cancer patients often face.

"I actually cried when Marcus (Smith, CEO of Speedway Motorsports, Inc.) called me because I was so excited and so honored to be chosen to do it," said Pollex, who missed Truex's Bank of America fall race win last year due to chemotherapy. "It's Ovarian and Pediatric Cancer Awareness Month, which is a huge month for me, in the month of September. I've been an advocate for pediatric cancer for the past 12 years through my foundation. With me battling ovarian cancer, it's important for me to bring awareness to my disease. Just to be able to do that in the first ROVAL™ race in September is going to be awesome."

"To be able to drive the pace car for the Bank of America ROVAL™ 400 is such an amazing honor. To get in there and take 17 turns going 40 miles per hour, it doesn't seem like it would be fast but it feels fast when you can't touch the brake and slow yourself down. I'm hoping that



Sherry Pollex (left), Martin Truex Jr.'s longtime partner and an ovarian cancer survivor, will serve as honorary pace car driver for the Bank of America ROVAL™ 400 on Sept. 30. DeAngelo Williams (right) a legendary Carolina Panthers running back and advocate of breast cancer awareness, will be the honorary pace car driver for the Drive for the Cure 200 presented by Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina on Sept. 29.

Martin can qualify on the pole for the first ROVAL™ race and give me a bump down the backstretch. I'm looking forward to the fans coming out to the ROVAL™ and seeing how fast it is."

In 2006, Williams founded the DeAngelo Williams Foundation – a nonprofit organization whose mission is to develop and seek initiatives to support the eradication of breast cancer through preventative care and research.

Williams lost his mother and four aunts to breast cancer, so awareness in the fight against breast cancer weighs heavily on the legendary running back's mind. Driving a pink Toyota Camry pace car autographed by breast cancer survivors will be a special experience for Williams.

"It's gonna be amazing," Williams said. "Not because it's pink or because of how much power the car has. If you go around and look at the names of people who signed this car, that's what it's all about."

"I know that I'm able to turn left. I know that. I've been under extreme conditions with my wife and kids being in the backseat, so maybe I'm somewhat of an amateur NASCAR driver. It gets a little tougher for me on the ROVAL™, because I've got to turn left and right. Just like the drivers, I may experience some difficulties. I won't have my spotter – which is usually my wife – and I won't have my crew chiefs, which are usually my kids, but I think I can get through this."

TICKETS: To purchase Bank of America ROVAL™ 400 or Drive for the Cure 200 presented by Blue Cross Blue Shield of North Carolina tickets – which include access to the Sept. 29 Sammy Hagar and The Circle concert – fans can call 1-800-455-FANS (3267) or shop online at www.charlottemotorspeedway.com. Kids' tickets for the entire weekend cost just \$10.

MORE INFO: Fans can connect

with Charlotte Motor Speedway and get the latest news by following on Twitter and Instagram, becoming a Facebook fan or downloading the Charlotte Motor Speedway mobile app.

Talladega Superspeedway

TALLADEGA, AL - For fans who missed out on grabbing one of Talladega Superspeedway's coveted infield RV camping spots for the venue's doubleheader NASCAR Playoff weekend Oct. 12-14, they are now in luck! After selling out of infield RV spots weeks ago, NASCAR's most competitive track has reserved a one-time-only section near the start-finish line for additional RV camping.

The new Paddock RV Camping area, in the past used as an area for Competitor RV parking, offers a limited number of secured spots near the south end of the Road Course Loop and a short walk from Talladega Blvd. and the Miller Lite Pavilion. Each site's 20' x 40' space provides enough room to support motorhomes, fifth wheels and pull-behinds.

By reserving a spot in the Paddock RV Camping ground, fans will also receive a plethora of first-class hospitality bonuses, including two 5-day infield admissions, two Saturday Pre-Race Passes, two Sunday Pre-Race Pit Pass Upgrades and one tow vehicle pass.

A Sunday Pre-Race Pit Pass Upgrade for the 1000Bulbs.com 500 on Sunday, Oct. 14, provides fans an enhanced race-day experience with access to stroll down pit road, see their favorite competitors walk the Red Carpet to the Drivers Meeting, attend the exclusive Driver Q&A Session and welcome the world's best racers during Driver Introductions. The Saturday Pre-Race Pass gives fans the chance to observe Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series (MENCS) and NASCAR Camping World Truck Series (NCWTS) teams'

prep, as well as watch Cup practice, from "pit alley" and enjoy a front seat to Driver Introductions for the Talladega 250, Oct. 13.

Fans can book their Paddock RV Camping spot for \$1,300, with the option to tack on a 2-day Paddock Pass for \$400 per person or add a single-day pass at standard pricing. Additional infield admissions can be purchased by calling the Talladega Ticket Office at 855-518-RACE (7223). Kids 12 and younger are not required to have an infield wristband.

Buying a Paddock RV Camping spot is a gateway for fans to experience all the entertainment that has earned Talladega its reputation as NASCAR's "Party Capital." From the "Big One on the Blvd." on Friday to Chris Janson headlining the Saturday Night Infield Concert presented by Wind Creek Casino and Hotel, fans in the infield will be at the heart of a full line-up of activities that are sure to create once-in-a-lifetime memories in addition to the thrilling racing action of the 1000Bulbs.com 500 and Talladega 250 Playoff races.

To learn more about the limited Paddock RV Camping spaces and reserve a spot, fans can visit www.talladegasuperspeedway.com or call 855-518-RACE (7223).

ISM Raceway

PHOENIX, AZ - ISM Raceway today unveiled a series of enhanced food and beverage offerings located throughout the new grandstand mezzanine as part of the ISM Raceway Project Powered by DC Solar. Fans will get a first taste of these new offerings at Opening Weekend on November 9, 10 and 11 featuring the Can-Am 500 Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Semi-Final race. These new convenient locations will feature expanded beverage and menu choices, and more social settings for restaurant and bar service.

"From its inception, the ISM Raceway Project Powered by DC Solar has focused on making the fan experience the best in motorsports," said Scott Rovn, Vice President of Sales and Communications for ISM Raceway. "We feel strongly that we've succeeded in that mission, and that fans will enjoy these new offerings as part of Opening Weekend in November."

New options available to fans include:

- The Twisted Tea Tailgate Deck, sponsored by the Official Malt Liquor Beverage of ISM Raceway, is a party deck open to all fans at

(Continued Next Page)

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the southeast end of the mezzanine level. Featuring its signature beverages, Twisted Tea Original and Twisted Tea Half & Half, the location will also include light food options such as pulled pork sandwiches and will offer a great view of the new start/finish line.

- Dos Equis Turn Four, a concession destination selling Dos Equis, Heineken and

Tecate Light. Located near section 124, this area will serve ice-cold malt beverages as well as Raceway-fan favorite snacks Gila Monster Nachos and Walking Street Corn Nachos.

- The Tecate Pit Stop, located near section 130, will offer Heineken USA brands' Tecate Light and Dos Equis.

- Coop 623, will offer mouthwatering chicken sandwiches like the Chicken Fajita Sandwich near section 144.

- The Sweet + Salty shop will be home to fan-favorite snacks such as pretzels, nuts and french fries, as well as its signature dish the Miller Bratwurst with Sauerkraut.

- Big Cheesie's near section 154 will feature gourmet grilled cheese sandwiches.

- The Loyal Slice will serve up authentic Italian pizza near section 155 available in both single slices and whole pies for a group. The menu also includes small bites and beverages.

- fEast, located near section 161, will bring fans unique Asian-fusion style street food with a menu of noodles and rice bowls.

- The mezzanine will also feature several portable stands with a variety of menu options to please any palette. Notable locations include: The Burning Barn – a saucy BBQ spot; Frankly My Dear – a gourmet hot dog stand; Not Yo 'Chos – grab and go stop featuring street corn nachos; Molten Melts – a signature sandwich shop featuring Philly cheesesteaks; The Foamy Beard – the best spot for a brew; and 623 Sips – the must-visit destination for luxury, crafted cocktails.

For more information, visit www.ISMRaceway.com.

Charlotte Motor Speedway

CONCORD, NC - Joined by hundreds of breast cancer sur-



NASCAR driver Jimmie Johnson, front left, and former NFL running back DeAngelo Williams, rear left, join Speedway Motorsports CEO Marcus Smith, front right, and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina Vice President of Marketing and Community Engagement Reagan Greene Pruitt in painting Charlotte Motor Speedway's pit wall pink on Thursday. (HHP/Harold Hinson photo)

vivors, seven-time NASCAR Cup Series champion Jimmie Johnson, fellow drivers Chris Buescher and Kaz Grala and legendary Carolina Panthers running back DeAngelo Williams painted Charlotte Motor Speedway's pit wall pink on Thursday.

The fifth Paint Pit Wall Pink event featured a collection of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina employees helping an all-star cast of dignitaries and breast cancer survivors in adorning the speedway's wall with a bright shade of pink to salute breast cancer awareness.

Speedway Motorsports CEO Marcus Smith and Charlotte Motor Speedway Executive Vice President Greg Walter joined Johnson, Williams, Buescher, Grala in picking up paint rollers and turning the 1,500-foot white pit wall into a pink pit wall. NASCAR on FOX personality Hermie Sadler – whose mother is a breast cancer survivor – emceed the event.

Johnson, a longtime Blue Cross and Blue Shield Live Fearless ambassador, said the pit wall pink event hits home to his family as well as to people throughout the world.

"It's great to be a part of such a bigger picture and raising awareness for a great cause," Johnson said. "Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina has had me involved with many different projects, but this one hits deep. To meet survivors and hear their stories really hits me. It's impossible for someone to go through life without knowing someone or a family who has dealt with breast cancer. I've had many friends deal with it and then most recently, one of my wife's childhood friends was diagnosed and she's started treatment."

"It's part of our lives. I'm a father of two daughters and I know that

what I learn and experience here helps me have the right lens on how I need to go home and make sure my children understand the importance of early screening. It's amazing to see the cause and to see our industry support it."

Williams lost his mother and four aunts to breast cancer. The Pro Bowl running back founded the DeAngelo Williams Foundation in 2006 to support the eradication of breast cancer through research and preventative care.

"This is huge," Williams said. "For them to show the support they have ... people around the world who are watching the (races at the Charlotte Motor Speedway ROVAL™) will see the pink and ask questions like, 'What's the pink mean?' The number of calls and (direct messages) I've received – just in the NFL alone – I know that this will reach as many people as the NFL reaches. Saving lives is what we're all about. This is bigger than any game or sport that we play."

Attendees listened to a powerful speech from Anita Brown-Graham, a breast cancer survivor, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina trustee as well as the director of ncIMPACT and a professor of Public Law and Government at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

"I've had people come up to me and say 'I'm a 20-year survivor,' 'I'm a 10-year survivor,' 'I'm a five-year survivor,'" Brown-Graham said. "I'm a one-month survivor. That's a gift to me, to be able to look that far into the future. Everybody is coming to Charlotte Motor Speedway with this sense that NASCAR is behind us. You can just feel it, it's electrifying here today."

Johnson presented Brown-Graham with a commemorative pair of pink gloves like the ones the four-time Bank of America fall race winner will wear throughout October.

Dover International Speedway

DOVER, DE - Dover International Speedway and Sea Watch International have reached an agreement for Bar Harbor® Foods to serve as the entitlement sponsor for the NASCAR Xfinity Series playoff race on Saturday, Oct. 6, track and Sea Watch officials announced today.

The "Bar Harbor® 200" presented by Sea Watch International NASCAR Xfinity Series playoff race (3 p.m., NBCSN) will be the third playoff race in the seven-race NASCAR Xfinity Series postseason, and the first elimination race for the 12-driver playoff field. Four drivers will have their playoff dreams ended after 200 laps around the world's fastest one-mile concrete oval.

Bar Harbor® Foods, a partner of Sea Watch International, is based in Whiting, Maine, and celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2017. Sea Watch International, based in Easton, Md., is a major supplier of clams, operates 35 fishing vessels and has four production facilities along the East Coast, including one in Milford, Del.

Bar Harbor® Foods also served as the sponsor of the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series race at the Monster Mile on June 2, 2017.

"We're proud to welcome Sea Watch International and Bar Harbor® Foods back as an entitlement sponsor for our Oct. 6 NASCAR Xfinity Series playoff race," said Mike Tatoian, Dover International Speedway's president and CEO. "Sea Watch has been a terrific partner for many years, is a key employer in several Delmarva communities and an important sponsor in NASCAR."

The Oct. 5-7 NASCAR triple-header weekend at Dover International Speedway also includes the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series playoff race on Sunday, Oct. 7 and the "Crosley 125" NASCAR K&N Pro Series East race on Friday, Oct. 5.

For tickets or more information visit DoverSpeedway.com.

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Philip Morris Joins Historic Company, Wins Fifth NASCAR Whelen All-American Series National Title

D A Y T O N A BEACH, FL - You'd think Philip Morris would be used to this by now.

After all, the 53-year-old from Ruckersville, Virginia, has carved out a résumé nearly unmatched in NASCAR short-track racing history. And yet, when it was made official Wednesday afternoon with a congratulatory phone call from NASCAR Executive Vice President and Chief Racing Development Officer Steve O'Donnell, a reflective Morris was still awed by the moment.

"It means that much," Morris said. "It's as if we were winning our first national championship."

It isn't Morris' first. It's his fifth NASCAR Whelen All-American Series Division I national championship. And that puts him in rare company, matching NASCAR Hall of Fame nominee, the late Larry Phillips, for the most national weekly series championships in NASCAR history. Morris won his titles in 2006, 2008-09 and 2011 before taking a semi-retirement hiatus. He returned in 2016 and finished sixth in the points last year.

"I just have a much bigger appreciation for what was accomplished," said Morris after his time away from chasing the national crown. "Plus, I get to be mentioned in the same sentence as Larry Phillips. That's always a good thing."

"I don't think I deserve it, but I think it's amazing. That guy is a legend. I'm just glad to be in his company."

Morris accomplished the feat this year with remarkable dominance and consistency. He rolled off nine wins in his first 12 starts and led the national championship points standings wire-to-wire. He finished with 23 wins, 28 top fives and 31 top 10s in 35 Late Model Stock Car starts at Virginia's South Boston Speedway and Dominion Raceway, North Carolina's Hickory Motor Speedway and Southern National Raceway Park, and South Carolina's Myrtle Beach Speedway.

Morris also claimed his sixth Virginia championship.

Morris finished with 670 points,

easily outdistancing fellow short-track stalwarts Steve Carlson (623) and Keith Rocco (621).

Carlson, the 2007 NASCAR Whelen All-American Series champion, had nine wins, 15 top fives and 19 top 10s in 22 starts racing primarily at Wisconsin's LaCrosse Fairgrounds Speedway. He also raced at Wisconsin's Madison In-

World Series in October as he looks to claim his 16th career NASCAR Division I track title. It would give him sole possession of second place all-time and put him one behind the record set by Nebraska's Joe Kosiski (17 titles from 1985-2005).

It is also the 11th time in the last 12 seasons that Rocco has finished in the top five in the national standings, and marks the eighth time since 2009 that he's finished in the top three.

NASCAR uses a driver's best 18 finishes from any sanctioned track within the state to determine the State Champion and the best 18 finishes from any sanctioned track in North America to determine the



Philip Morris has become a fixed asset to South Boston's victory lane and he won his fifth National Championship racing at that track. (SOUTH BOSTON SPEEDWAY photo)

ternational Speedway.

Like Morris, Carlson and Rocco have made their name as one of the best short-track racers in NASCAR history.

Carlson won his sixth Wisconsin championship and holds a four-point lead with one race remaining in his quest for a seventh Late Model title at LaCrosse. In addition, the 61-year-old driver from West Salem, Wisconsin, has five NASCAR championships in the former Midwest Series to go with four from its predecessor, the ARTGO Midwest Series, and was the 2009 ARCA Midwest Tour champion.

Rocco tallied 10 wins, 17 top fives and 21 top 10s in 27 starts in the SK Modified Division at Connecticut's Stafford Motor Speedway and the Sunoco Modified Division at Connecticut's Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park.

The 33-year-old Wallingford, Connecticut, driver claimed his 10th Connecticut championship. The 2010 national champion holds a 48-point lead heading into Thompson's 56th annual Sunoco

National Champion.

Division II through V national champions will be announced Thursday, along with the UNOH Youth Achievement Award national winner and track winners.

The crowning of U.S. state and Canadian province champions is a tradition that dates back to the earliest days of NASCAR and carried on until the advent of the weekly series in 1982; It was resumed in 2007. Past champions include Ned Jarrett, Glen Wood, Ralph Earnhardt, Wendell Scott and Richie Evans.

The fact that it was Carlson and Rocco chasing him weighed on Morris' mind, even has he held a sizable summer lead.

"We worked so hard for every point," Morris said. "That's just the veteran side of me, where I've been in tight battles where we had a lead before and saw it close up at the end. Maybe we worked harder because of what I learned in the past."

Morris put together a stretch run from 2006-11 when he won 74 of

159 races (46.5%) and his four titles. But following the final one, he stepped away from full-time competition to focus on his business, Trailer Town USA in Virginia. Over the next four years, he ran just 25 races. He came back and finished 32nd in the nation in 2016 before moving up to sixth last year.

This season, he focused on reclaiming his former glory.

It hasn't been an easy comeback.

"I didn't realize the price I'd have to pay, not just on the national level, but just to be competitive at our local track," Morris said. "It took so much more work to get back to being competitive physically and mentally and the equipment. Keeping up with the tires and track surfaces and engines — it was like I was starting over."

"I'm not going to say I took it for granted. But I didn't realize how important it was for me to continue."

Morris didn't win his hometown track title. That went to Peyton Sellers, who claimed won his fourth track title at South Boston. The 2005 national championship finished fourth in the national standings with three wins, 18 top fives and 18 top 10s in 21 starts at South Boston and Langley. Nick Panitzke, who is chasing Carlson for the title at LaCrosse, finished fifth with five wins, 14 top fives and 18 top 10s in 20 starts at LaCrosse and Madison.

Ronnie Williams finished sixth in the national standings and has already clinched the SK Modified title at Stafford.

A quartet of Modified drivers from North Carolina's Bowman Gray Stadium rounded out the top 10: Tim Brown, Burt Myers, Jonathan Brown and Jason Myers. While Burt Myers won his ninth track title at the historic Winston-Salem oval, Brown claimed the North Carolina title by five points.

Morris, Carlson and Rocco will be joined by the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series U.S. state and Canadian province champions, track champions and other special award winners on Friday, Dec. 7, as part of NASCAR Awards Charlotte.

Dodge City Raceway Park

DODGE CITY, KS - Dodge City Raceway Park brought the curtains down on the 2018 championship chase season with last Saturday night's Sixth Annual Jerry Soderberg Memorial Championship event atop the 3/8-mile clay oval in southwest Kansas.

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While the championship season has come to a close, the racing doesn't stop yet at Dodge City Raceway Park as the track hosts the inaugural BMI Racing Products Dodge City 200 Enduro this Saturday night, September 22, and then the return of the World of Outlaws Sprint Car series on Saturday, October 20.

Five racers departed DCRP after last

Saturday's Soderberg Memorial Championship event as track champions including Steven Richardson (Precise Racing Products DCRP Sprint Cars), Nick Link (IMCA Modifieds), Jeff Kaup (IMCA Sport Modifieds), Dusty Witthuhn (IMCA Stock Cars) and Reagan Sellard (IMCA Hobby Stocks).

Liberal's Steven Richardson used a late-season surge to capture his first Precise Racing Products DCRP Sprint Car championship.

Forty-eight points off the lead pace after five of ten events, Richardson reeled off three consecutive top-five finishes to move to the top of the point charts after the eighth round on August 25 and then finished it off with an eighth-place run in last Saturday's finale.

Overall, Richardson finished among the top-ten in eight of nine feature events including a triumph

Richardson's mark of eight top-ten finishes in nine feature events to snare his second track championship in three years.

After his lone finish outside the top ten in the second of ten rounds of action on May 19, Link kicked off a run of seven consecutive top-ten finishes with a win on May 26. Link finished out his championship campaign with a fourth-place run in the Soderberg Memorial Championship finale.

Woodward, Oklahoma's Jeff Kaup continued his mastery of Dodge City Raceway Park's IMCA Sport Modified ranks by notching his fifth track championship in the last six years.

Consistency proved to be key for Kaup with 10 top-five finishes in 11 feature events, more than double the number of top-fives that anyone else among the top ten in points posted this season. Kaup's lone finish outside the top five was a sixth-place showing in the third round of competition on May 26.

Kaup picked off a pair of wins along the way including a season-opening triumph on May 5 and then on June 16 to run his DCRP win total to 18 victories since the 2012 season.

Bazine's Dusty Witthuhn emerged atop a hard-fought battle with Chris Oliver to capture the IMCA Stock Car championship.

Witthuhn reeled off back-to-back wins in rounds nine and ten of 13 events and then posted a pair of fourth-place finishes to secure the crown by just eight points. Along the way, Witthuhn finished among

Stock ranks, racing to nine top-five finishes in ten feature events to take another crown.

In fact, all nine of those finishes for Sellard were on the podium including a pair of wins on May 26 and July 14 along with three runner-up finishes and four third-place showings.

In total, 199 drivers competed in at least one round of 2018 Dodge City Raceway Park championship chase action with 32 different drivers reaching victory lane along the way. The breakdown by division is as follows:

Precise Racing Products DCRP Sprint Cars – 46 competitors, eight different winners in nine features.

- IMCA Modifieds – 41 competitors, five different winners in nine features.

- IMCA Sport Modifieds – 51 competitors, eight winners in 11 features.

- IMCA Stock Cars – 33 competitors, seven winners in 12 features.

- IMCA Hobby Stocks – 28 competitors, four winners in ten features.

The "post-season" at Dodge City Raceway Park commences on Saturday night with the BMI Racing Products Dodge City 200 Enduro. The 200-lap or two-hour race, whichever comes first, gets underway with general admission just \$5.

The complete 2018 schedule of events at Dodge City Raceway Park is available at <http://www.dodgecityraceway.com/schedule/>.

Holiday Inn Express & Suites Dodge City located at 201 4th Avenue is the official lodging partner of Dodge City Raceway Park. Race fans staying at the Holiday Inn & Suites Dodge City will want to request the special DCRP rate for their visit when making reservations. Contact the Holiday Inn Express at 620-225-1000.

Dodge City Raceway Park is located on the south edge of Dodge City, KS, on US 283, then 0.9 miles west on US 56, then 0.1 miles south. For more information, contact the track at 620-225-3277 or check www.dodgecityraceway.com

Knoxville Raceway

KNOXVILLE, IA - The Sprint Car Capital of the World, Knoxville Raceway, has released its schedule for the 2019 racing season. The schedule, as always, is highlighted by the 59th running of the Knoxville Nationals, to be held Wednesday, August 7 through Saturday, August 10. The event was sold out in 2018.

A new "nationals" event, the Corn Belt Nationals, has been

added to the schedule on Friday and Saturday, July 5 and 6. The event will feature the world's greatest non-wing sprint car drivers from the USAC Amsoil National Sprint Car Series and POWRi Lucas Oil Sprint Series battling for the \$20,000 to win top prize. The 360 winged class also will race on Friday while the 410 winged sprint car class will race on Saturday.

Also on the schedule is the 16th annual Lucas Oil Late Model Nationals on Thursday, September 12 through Saturday, September 14. The sole late model event at Knoxville Raceway saw a record crowd in 2018. The 29th running of the 360 Nationals will be held Thursday, August 1 through Saturday, August 3, followed by the eighth running of the Weld Racing Capitani Classic on Sunday, August 4.

The World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series two-day event has been moved to June 14 and 15. The previous date, June 29 & 30, will now be an off-weekend for Knoxville Raceway competitors, allowing for all 410 drivers to compete in the Jackson (Minn.) Nationals World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series three-day event held at Jackson Motorplex.

The 2019 Knoxville Raceway season will kick-off on Saturday, April 13 with the PellaMotors.com/Kraig Ford Season opener. A season kick-off party will be held the night before in conjunction with an open testing night for all teams at the track.

Four-day ticket renewals for the 410 Knoxville Nationals will go on sale October 1, 2018. Four-day ticket packages for the 410 Nationals will go on sale to the general public on December 3, 2018. Knoxville Raceway season ticket packages will be available from November 23 through December 21, 2018. On these dates, tickets can be purchased at www.knoxvilleraceway.com, at the track ticket office or by calling 641-842-5431.

Stafford Motor Speedway

STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT - To win a championship, a driver must not only win races, but exhibit a level of consistency throughout a season. Jeremy Lavoie and the #6 Aspen Hill Farm team displayed both qualities in driving to the 2018 Limited Late Model championship by leading the division with 8 wins and scoring 15 top-5 finishes in 20 races. Lavoie's dominance and consistent finishes allowed him to clinch the championship with one (Continued on Next Page ...)



Steven Richardson celebrates with family and friends his first Precise Racing Products DCRP Sprint Car Championship. (DCRP photo)

in the June 15 Lubbock Wrecker Service DCRP Sprint Car Nationals preliminary feature.

Rolla's Nick Link matched

the top ten in 11 of 12 features including nine top-fives.

Bucklin's Reagan Sellard made it two in a row in the IMCA Hobby

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race still to go.

"It's surreal to now be part of the history books at Stafford and it's a huge accomplishment," said Lavoie. "Winning a race at Stafford is one thing but winning a championship is another. I don't think it's quite sunk in yet because we still have one more race to go. After the Fall Final it's really going to sink in and we are looking forward to the championship banquet."

As dominant as Lavoie was this season, his year began with a last place finish in the season opening NAPA Spring Sizzler feature when a mechanical issue took him out of the race before it got started. Lavoie and the #6 team quickly went about erasing the deficit they faced by winning four of the next five races. Lavoie followed that up with an eight race stretch from June 15 to August 3 that saw him record seven top-2 finishes and establish himself as the championship favorite.

For Lavoie, winning the championship was extra special as it was the first time in his family's 39-year racing history that they won a track title. Being able to celebrate the championship in NAPA Victory Lane with his entire family was a dream come true and an extra special moment that he will never forget.

"Celebrating with my family in victory lane was an awesome moment," said Lavoie. "I didn't think I was going to get emotional but I did and my whole family was emotional. We all had tears of joy rolling off our faces. My family has been racing for 39 years now and to be the first one to get a track championship means everything to me. My grandfather has been there right from the very beginning and with losing my Mom in 2015, this is a dream come true to get this championship and the fruits of all our labor paid off. We showed that even a nice guy and a nice family can finish first."

The 8 wins this season doubles Lavoie's previous career high of 4 wins, which he accomplished in the Street Stock division during the 2013 season. While Lavoie figured on winning a couple of races this season, he never imagined the level of success that he would enjoy and he credits his crew stay-

ing on top of their chassis as the main reason why he was able to win so many races.

"I didn't think we'd quite win 8 races this year," said Lavoie. "We had two three race winning streaks this season and we knew we were really on to something with the chassis. We just had to stay consistent for the remainder of the season and finish the year out strong. Big thanks to everyone who works on the car and thanks to all our sponsors this year, Aspen Hill Farm, Gene's Ford and Chevy, L & S Equipment, Delivery Solutions, LLC., P2 Perry's Powder Coatings."

With his first career championship under his belt, Lavoie will be looking to follow in the footsteps of Duane Provost, who is the only driver thus far to win consecutive Limited Late Model track championships at Stafford.

"We're going to continue in the Limited Late Model division and we're going to go for back to back championships next season," said Lavoie.

Lavoie will be looking to end his championship season on a high note by winning the Limited Late Model feature at the NAPA Fall Final Weekend, set for Sept. 29-30. Tickets for NAPA Fall Final Weekend are priced at \$40.00 for adult general admission, \$5.00 for children ages 6-14, and children ages 5 and under are admitted free of charge when accompanied by an adult. Reserved seat tickets are \$42.00 for all ages. All ticket prices include 10% CT Admission Tax. Stafford Motor Speedway offers plenty of free parking along with overnight parking available for self contained Recreational Vehicles. Discount tickets are available through participating NAPA stores.

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 - Summer is officially over and fall of year has arrived. That also means the racing season is winding down at Volunteer Speedway as only four events remain on the schedule. Fans were treated to an exciting six division Championship Points Racing program Saturday at "The Gap."

Jensen Ford of Jonesborough captured the Crate Late Model victory, while Zach Sise of Knoxville recorded the Sportsman Late Model win.

Shannon Emery of Morristown

recorded the Modified Street win, while Jeff Hamby of Knoxville captured the Open Wheel Modified victory.

Lee Merritt of Knoxville captured the Classic victory, with Rex Coffey of Morristown taking the 602 Street Stock win.

Trevor Sise was fastest in Crate Late Model qualifying at 13.427 seconds, with Tim Byrd close behind at 13:434. But due to having won two consecutive races Byrd was relegated to starting third.

Sise was joined on the front row for the 25-lap feature by Jensen Ford. On the start Sise and Ford raced side-by-side into the first turn and racing off the corner down the backstretch Sise moved ahead. But his lead proved to be short-lived as Ford made the pass to move out front on the second lap.

The trio of Ford, Sise and Byrd were setting a blistering pace around the high banks. Behind them the racing was intense with Austin Neely, Tim Maupin, Josh Henry, Greg Martin, Adam Tolliver and Gary Crittenden battling for position.

Caution waved on lap 16 when leader Ford and the lapped car of Tristan Clawson got together and Clawson spun.

Back under green Ford was being chased by Sise and Byrd. But while Sise and Byrd stayed within striking distance should the leader Ford make a mistake, that situation never materialized and Ford went on to capture his third win of the season. It was also the 60th career Crate Late Model win for 30-year-old Ford.

Finishing behind Ford were Sise, Byrd, Neely and Henry. Divi-



Jensen Ford of Jonesborough captured his third Crate Late Model win of the season Saturday at Volunteer Speedway. (VOLUNTEER SPEEDWAY photo)

sional points leader Sise and Ford each have three wins in 2018, while Byrd has two victories.

Sportsman Late Model point leader Zach Sise was fastest in qualifying at 13.382 seconds, but due to having won two straight races he had to start from the third spot. Brad Seagle and Jed Emert started from the front row and raced side-by-side the opening two circuits before Seagle grabbed the lead.

Sise passed Emert for second on lap 5 and set his sights ahead on leader Seagle. Seagle got trapped behind the slower car of Justin Talley on lap 10 between turns one and two, and Sise seized the opportunity to make pass for the lead. Once out front the 18-year-old Sise drove away to his fifth victory over Emert, Seagle, Vic Chandler and Floyd Self.

Shannon Emery led the lap that counted, and that was the money (last) lap of the Modified Street feature as he captured his second victory of the season. Kurt Owens grabbed the lead at start over Gary Blanken and Robbie Petty. Owens slowed with a flat tire on lap 8, and both Blanken and Petty did likewise on lap 11. Chris Rickett also slowed from the leader position with a flat right-rear (tire) on lap 12. Emery inherited the lead and over the remaining distance there would be no denying the veteran driver as he held off Wayne Rader, Eric Hux, Buchanan and Owens to take the checkered flag.

Jeff Hamby and Billy Palmer battled for the lead at start of the Open Wheel Modified feature before Hamby powered into the lead on the third lap. Once out front Hamby set sail and rolled to his first win of the season over Palmer, Terry James, Wade Rookard and Wayne James.

Lee Merritt recorded his division-leading eighth Classic feature win, though he was pressured throughout the 20-lap event by the hard-charging Brad Dyer. Dyer dropped either to the inside of Merritt in the corners or tried the high-line in trying to pass Merritt for the lead, only to have the door slammed on each occasion. Following Merritt to the checkered flag were Dyer, Chris Worsham, Shaun Sise and Will Carey.

Rex Coffey outran Josh Driskill, Austin Atkins, Shawn Henry and Brandon Johnson to capture his third 602 Street Stock win on the season.

The next event scheduled at Volunteer Speedway is the Fall Classic on Saturday, Oct. 6.