



OCTOBER 7, 2019

# FastTrack

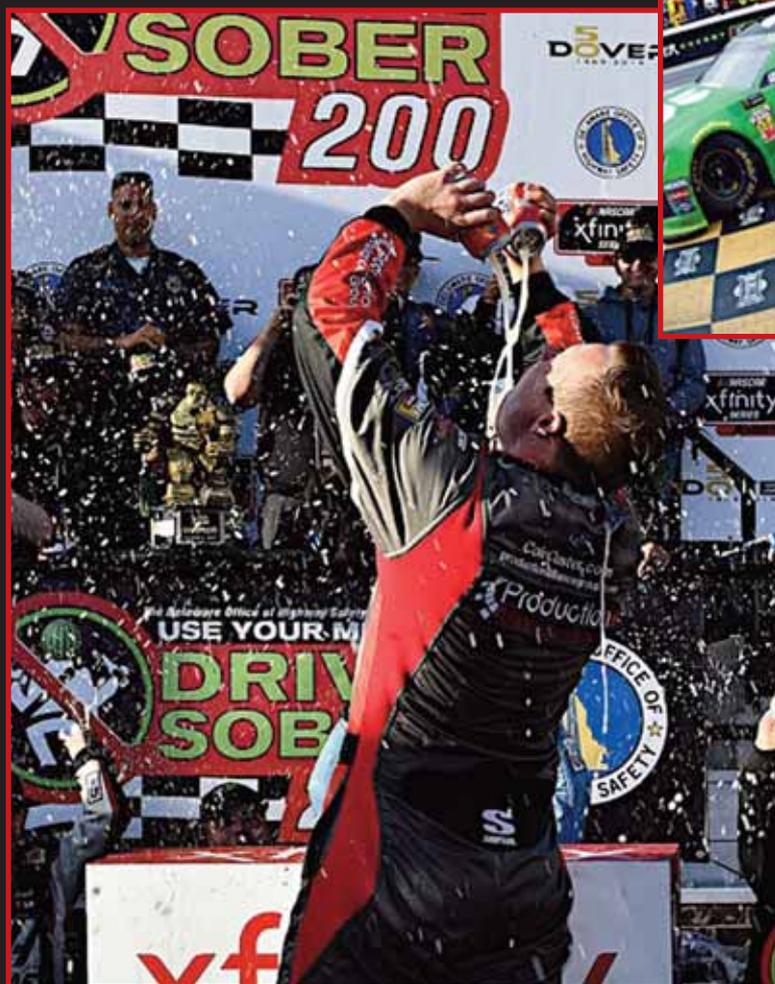
RACING JOURNAL ONLINE

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## Dover Winners



**Kyle Larson and Cole Custer Advance Further in Monster Energy Cup and XFINITY Series Playoffs**



**Brandon Overton  
Makes It a  
Two-in-a-Row  
Weekend Win Streak**



# Chip Ganassi Finally Gets a Shot at the Title

It's hard to believe that will all his success and resources, car Chip Ganassi has never really been in contention to win a Cup Series championship.

Until now.

Kyle Larson's victory last Sunday at the Dover International Speedway not only earned him a spot in

the Round of 8, it means he can tip-toe around the landmines this weekend that typically effects more than half the field at the Talladega Superspeedway.

Instead of racing with a win-and-in mentality, Larson has the luxury of picking his spot and driving for points. Nineteen years after Ganassi made his stock car debut at the Daytona 500, he finally has a legitimate path to a championship.

"Well, obviously winning is excellent," co-owner Rob Kauffman said. "That's why we do this. Just the culmination of a lot of hard work. The [No. 1] 1 team [with Kurt Busch] has been a big contributor this year, as well, overall, and obviously puts the 42 team in a good position for the playoffs.

"We've said many times if we can get Kyle into the Final Four at Homestead, we have a better-than-fighting chance. Hopefully this is a great step in the right direction, so really proud of everyone's hard work."

Larson led the final 73 laps and was comfortably in front of Martin Truex Jr. at the finish line. He turned a couple seasons of doubt and frustration into a wild celebration that's been pent up during a stretch of 75 winless races.

Although he's the first driver in Ganassi history to advance to the third round since the playoffs moved to an elimination format in 2014, Larson said he still faces a challenge to get to the winner-take-all Final Four finale at the Homestead-Miami Speedway.

"You know, depending on who makes it out of this round, I'm still going to be a way back on points to Martin [Truex], Kyle [Busch], Kevin [Harvick], Joey [Logano] to start the next round. To start today, I was like 18 points back of Keselowski, so

like that's still a lot to overcome. It's going to be even bigger probably to start the next round.

"But you know, Texas we could go there and win. We could go to Phoenix and have a good shot to win. Martinsville, hopefully we can go have a good run there. But we'll see. It's just nice to get a win, get some playoff points and just kind of chip away at our deficit that we're in compared to those guys."

Sterling Marlin put Ganassi in a great spot to win during their second at the Cup Series level. Marlin was leading the standings when he crashed and broke his neck during the 2002 race at the Kansas Speedway. He missed the final seven races, but that opened the door for his replacement, Jamie McMurray, to make his own footprints in the sport by winning in his second career start.

McMurray went on to also win the Daytona 500 and Brickyard 400 in 2010, but even then, his accomplishments were tempered by a 14th-place finish in the standings.

Larson, who now has six of Ganassi's 13 Cup wins, is in position to make Ganassi a stock car championship car owner. While Ganassi has 16 IndyCar titles and another four sports-car championships, stock cars have proven to be a bigger challenge.

"It would be nice to get him that championship that he's honestly probably owed," Larson said.

Even with a win, Larson only is ranked fifth out of the 12 still in the hunt. He's safe to get into the third round, but he still needs to beat race teams that have shown a lot more speed and consistency.

"We're not just satisfied with being in the Round of Eight," Larson said. "We want to go and make it into that final round of Homestead, where it's my best track. It's the final year for the championship race to be at Homestead, so I've looked at this ever since they released next year's schedule as this is my best opportunity to win the championship. I've got to take advantage of that."

Larson was able to take advantage of misfortune by Chase Elliott (blown engine on the eighth lap) and Logano (broken axle and rear gear on first lap) at Dover. Elliott, who won a week earlier on the



DON COBLE



Chip Ganassi has many titles, but the NASCAR Cup Championship has eluded him for many years, maybe 2019 will be his time for the trophy. (MOTORSPORTS.COM photo)

Charlotte Motor Speedway road course, now is 11th – three spots below the next cutoff line, while Logano is tied for eighth with William Byron.

Just like Elliott and Logano learned at Dover, everything can turn upside-down at Talladega. Calamity awaits everyone, especially those who are trying to play it safe.

"I would say that we've got pretty good momentum," said crew chief

Chad Johnston.

"We've been executing really well, and I think anything that you do different than what you've been doing is taking away from the end goal, and that's to execute and come out of here with the most points possible each and every week."

If so, Chip Ganassi has a chance to finally add a stock-car trophy to a case that's already overflowing with success.

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### In This Issue:

Fast Forum	2	World of Outlaws	8-11
MENCS	3	Lucas Oil LM Dirt	12
XFINITY Series	4	ASCS	13
NASCAR Touring	5	OffTrack	13
ARCA Racing	6	Southern All Stars	14
ARCA/CRA	7	Short Track Nationals	15
		OnTrack	16-19
		ShorTrack	20-21

### ON THE COVER:

NASCAR - NIGEL KINRADE PHOTOGRAPHY  
WORLD OF OUTLAWS - MICHAEL MOATS

# Kyle Larson Wins Sunday's Monster Energy Cup Series Race at Dover

Kyle Larson celebrated his first Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series victory in two years Sunday at Dover (Del.) International Speedway, taking the checkered flag in the Drydene 400 by

a convincing 1.578-seconds over Martin Truex Jr. and securing himself and his Chip Ganassi Racing team their first ever berth in the upcoming Playoff Round of 8.

Larson's friend and polesitter Denny Hamlin finished fifth after leading a race best 218 laps. But perhaps the two golf buddies would agree, on this Sunday, Larson's long game was just a bit better.

Larson, who started alongside Hamlin on the front row, took the race lead on a fast pit stop by his No. 42 Chip Ganassi Racing Chevrolet team during the Stage 2 break, and pulled out to a five, then six-second advantage on the field – first on Hamlin then on Truex, a contender all afternoon. Truex won Stage 2 and led 15 laps but a slight pit stop miscue put the 2017 Cup champion out of the pits sixth on that stage stop instead of with the lead.

"After the first stage I kind of changed my driving style up and I felt like I made the car better at the same time and it really benefitted our long runs," said Larson, who led 154 laps en route to his sixth career – and first Playoff victory. "That's as good as I've ever been around cutting the bottom here. Just a great combination here. Good to be fast in practice and then

be good again in the race and get the win.

"This is unbelievable," he continued, motioning toward the track's front grandstands in gratitude.

"I've always wanted to win a Cup race here. I've been close a number of times, so to get a Golden Monster (trophy) is going to be pretty sweet."

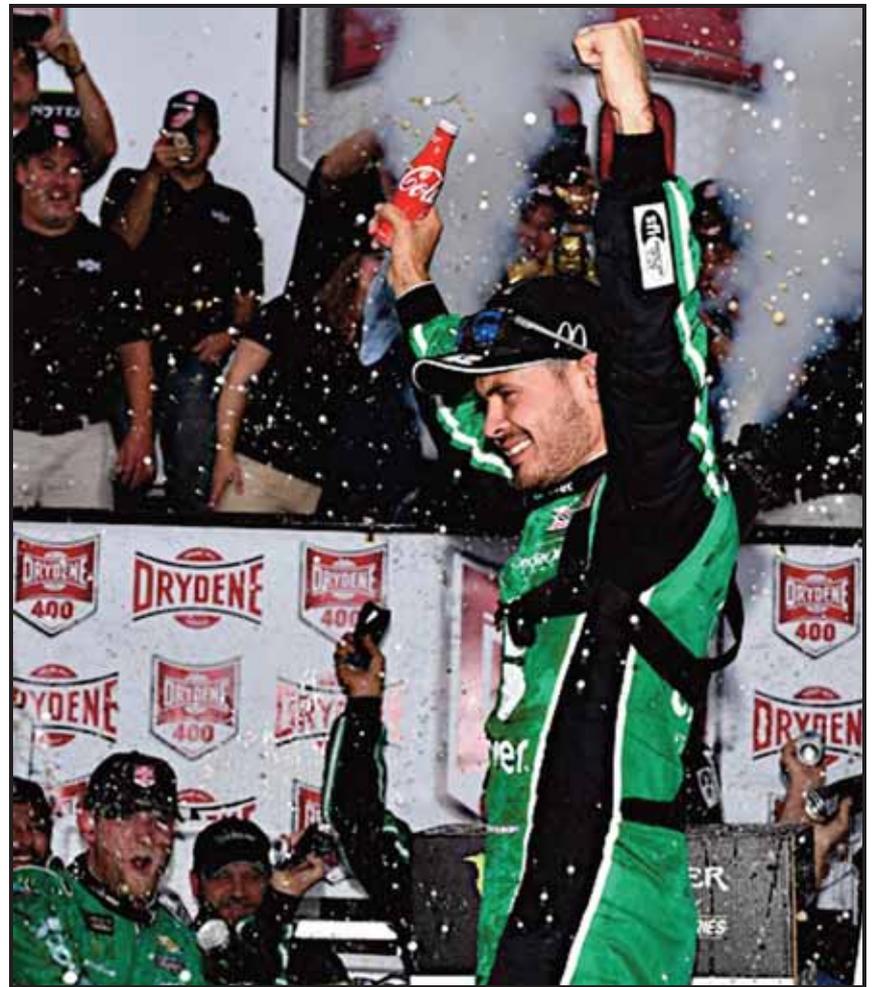
Larson and Truex's fellow play-off contenders Alex Bowman, Kevin Harvick and Hamlin rounded out the Top-5 on Sunday. Regular season champion Kyle Busch, who started 18th – lowest on the grid of the 12 Playoff drivers rallied from an early-race pit road penalty to finish sixth.

Heading to the second race of the Playoffs' three-race Round 2, Larson's victory puts him atop the standings with a 500-mile race at the historic Talladega (Ala.) Super-speedway next week. Truex's runner-up finish puts him atop the points – 15 points ahead of his Joe Gibbs Racing teammate Hamlin. Busch's rally puts the regular season champ fourth in the points standings – tied with Hamlin.

"We were catching him at the end, got closed, just unfortunate there," Truex said. "We win and lose as a team and the guys will clean it up for sure."

He added, "Every week is about getting most points you can, so a positive day for us."

Positive would be an understatement for Larson, who celebrated in victory lane for the first time in 75 races hoisting Dover's special Golden trophy – specially designed to commemorate the



**Kyle Larson is all smiles after winning the Drydene 400 at Dover International Speedway, putting him into the next payoff berth. (RUSTY JARRETT/NKP photo)**

track's 100th Cup Series race. Larson has been consistently good at Dover throughout his six-year Cup career, the 27-year old Californian earning a pair of runner-up finishes previously. He was third there in this Spring's race – a race won by Truex.

Hamlin, who won the pole position by a mere .003-seconds over Larson, looked strong early but radioed to his team with 130 laps remaining that he was worried about his car's engine. At the time, however, he was running fastest among the field and maintaining a nearly 2-second advantage over third place. With about 60 laps to go, Truex got around Hamlin.

Plenty of lapped traffic put Truex in position to perhaps make a move toward Larson. Twice the traffic cut Larson's leads from more than 5-seconds to under 2-seconds.

Among the other Playoff-eligible drivers, Clint Bowyer rallied to a 10th place finish, one position ahead of 2012 Cup champion Brad Keselowski, who was the only driver to score Top-5 finishes in all three opening round races. William Byron was 13th.

It was a tough day for several other Playoff drivers. Ryan Blaney, who ran Top-10 much of the afternoon, pit on Lap 298 complaining of a brake issue. The Team Penske

crew took his No. 12 Ford to the garage for repairs and he finished 35th.

It was nothing short of a monstrous beginning for two other Playoff competitors. Reigning Cup champion Joey Logano didn't even take the green flag with the field. Instead his No. 22 Team Penske Ford was in the garage where the team was furiously working to repair an axle problem. He returned to the track 24 laps down and finished 34th.

Defending Dover race winner and last week's Charlotte ROVAL winner Chase Elliott only lasted eight laps on Sunday – his No. 9 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet suffering an early engine failure. He was officially scored last – 38th – and like Logano and Blaney, will need to have big points days at both Talladega and Kansas tracks. Elliott won at Talladega in May and is the defending Kansas Playoff winner.

Matt DiBenedetto finished seventh – best among the non-Playoff drivers. Jimmie Johnson, whose 11 Dover wins makes him the track's winningest driver, scored points in both Stage 1 and Stage 2, took over the points lead among drivers who didn't qualify for the Playoffs. He now leads Daniel Suarez by 10-points.



**Racing against his buddy Denny Hamlin (11), Kyle Larson (42) edges out to the lead. (NIGEL KINRADE/NKP PHOTO)**

# Cole Custer Claims Xfinity Series Victory at Dover

DOVER, DE - In his 100th NASCAR Xfinity Series start, Cole Custer conquered the Monster Mile.

Custer held off a hungry field of Playoff contenders on a restart with seven laps to go and pulled away from Justin Allgaier to win the Use Your Melon Drive Sober 200 at Dover International Speedway on Saturday afternoon.

Custer, who claimed the victory as Dover celebrates its 50th anniversary, is the fifth Xfinity Series driver to win in their 100th start.

"I've wanted to win here so bad for so long," Custer said. "I've been close a number of times but just to win the gold Monster (trophy) is unbelievable."

Michael Annett claimed the last available spot in the Round of 8 as the first round of the NASCAR Xfinity Series Playoffs came to a close Saturday. Advancing along with Custer and Annett are Christopher Bell, Tyler Reddick, Austin Cindric, Noah Gragson, Chase Briscoe and Justin Allgaier.

Eliminated from championship contention were John Hunter Ne-

mechek, Justin Haley, Ryan Sieg and Brandon Jones.

Custer, Annett and Haley were the biggest benefactors of a caution with 23 laps to go that fell in the middle of green-flag pit stops that changed the complexion of the race.

Dillon Bassett spun at pit entrance on lap 177 which brought out the yellow flag, leaving only Custer, Annett, Haley, Justin Allgaier, Chase Briscoe, Austin Cindric and Zane Smith on the lead lap.

Custer maintained the lead on the lap 185 restart only to see another caution displayed when Ray Black Jr. crashed in Turn 2, where Matt Mills and Stephen Leicht were also collected.

Luckily for Custer, the final caution didn't limit him. He cleared Allgaier and Haley on the restart and pulled away swiftly for his seventh win of 2019, tying Christopher Bell for the most in the series this season.

"(The car) felt really good in practice," Custer said. "I thought we had a good car. I don't think it was everything we expected in the race. We kind of tried something a little bit different in this race but just (an) amazing pit call."



Race winner Cole Custer (00) battles Austin Cindric (22) for position. (MATT THACKER/NKP photo)

The Playoff drama began on the opening lap when both Reddick and Harrison Burton broke loose on the back straightaway. Reddick slapped the wall with the right side of his car and continued, but Burton wasn't as lucky.

Burton spun toward the inside of the track and was clobbered by teammate Brandon Jones, lifting Burton's No. 18 car off the ground. Both drivers were checked and released from the infield care center, but Jones' Playoff hopes ended there.

"There's nothing that you can do about it," Jones said after exiting the care center.

Joe Gibbs Racing's luck worsened when Bell lost fuel pressure on lap 15, shortly after brushing the wall off Turn 4. Bell finished 25th

behind the wall 34 laps down.

The early cautions continued on lap 21 when Nemechek spun Mike Harmon exiting Turn 4 and onto the frontstretch.

That was the end of yellows for on-track incidents until Bassett spun on lap 177.

Annett, who finished sixth after starting from the rear of the field due to an engine change, advanced out of the first round of the Playoffs for the first time in his Xfinity career.

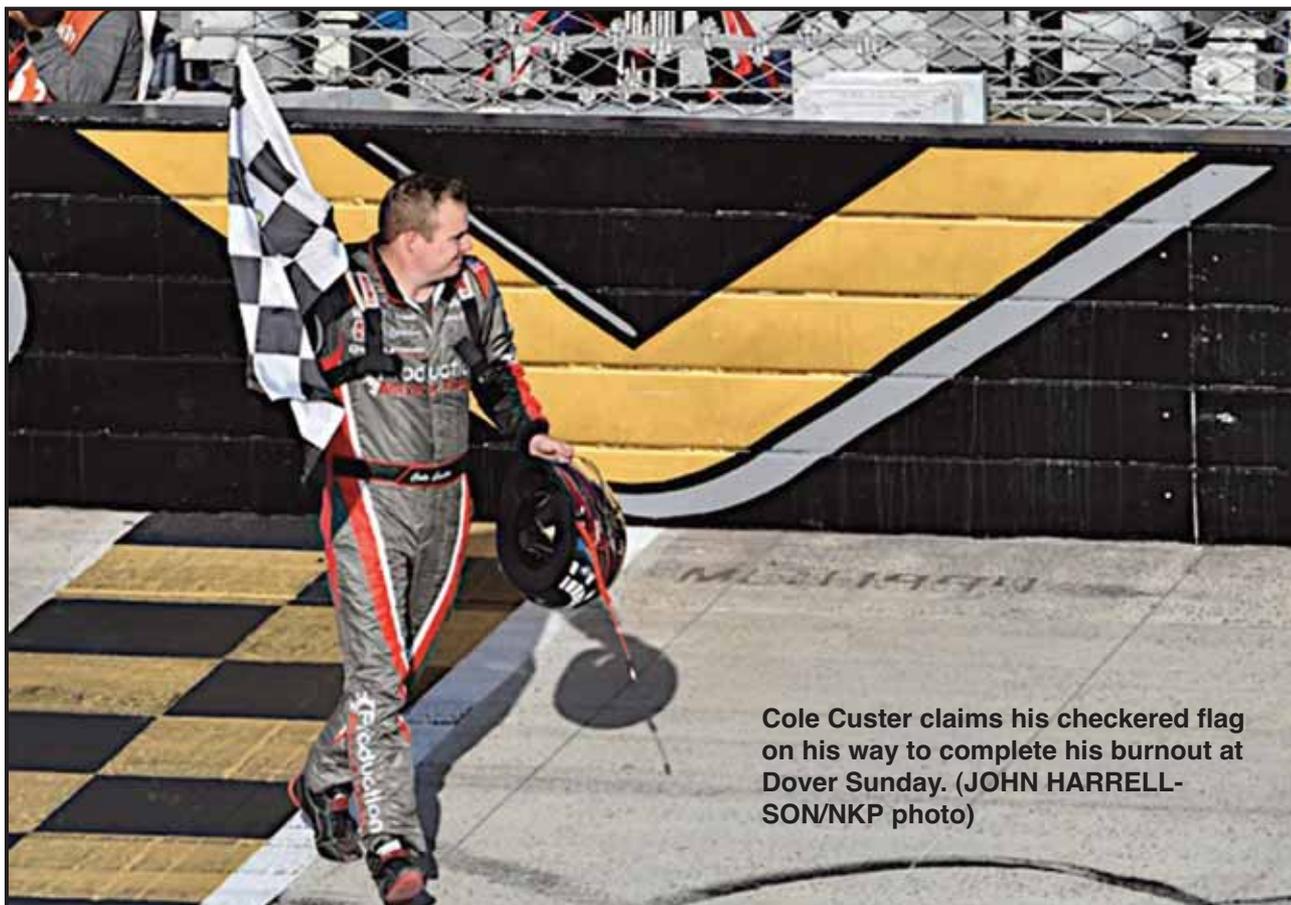
"I can't say enough about these guys all the way through these playoffs," Annett said. "To come from the back today is just a testament to the car they gave me."

Nemechek finished in 10th place after an eventful race. A strong pit stop at the conclusion of Stage 2 allowed his No. 23 to exit pit road fourth. That effort went for naught after a loose lug nut forced Nemechek back to the pits.

"That's why we're standing here, I feel like," Nemechek said. "It just put us behind the eight-ball. We were in good position all day and right here, we came out of the pits fourth, but we didn't have enough lug nuts on the left rear.

"Had to come back down. You can't have a loose wheel here at Dover. It's just something that you don't want to have under green. I think we got the margin down to minus-six or something like that after the first two stages and were executing like we needed to all day. We just haven't been able to close this year."

Rounding out the top five behind Custer were Allgaier, Cindric, Haley and Briscoe. Annett was sixth and his JR Motorsports teammate Noah Gragson was the last car on the lead lap in seventh. Nemechek, Smith and Sieg completed the top 10.



Cole Custer claims his checkered flag on his way to complete his burnout at Dover Sunday. (JOHN HARRELLSON/NKP photo)

# Sam Mayer Dominates Dover To Close Championship Season

DOVER, DE - Friday was his day, and 2019 was his season.

All Sam Mayer had to do to clinch the 2019 K&N Pro Series East championship was take the green flag. But after being quickest in practice and qualifying on the pole, he led all but two laps to close the season with a win and celebrate in style.

"I can't thank everyone at GMS enough for all they do for me," Mayer said. "I mean, they had a rocket ship for me, I can't thank them enough for that. Drivers Edge Development, Chevrolet, Chevrolet Accessories for being on the car and bringing me out here in the first place, and giving me this opportunity to go win a K&N East championship. It means so much and I'm going to celebrate even more, for sure."

Mayer is the youngest NASCAR champion at 16 years, 3 months and 8 days, eclipsing mark set in 2016 by current Todd Gilliland (16 years, 5 months). Mayer also bettered the East record that was set in 2017 Harrison Burton (16 years, 11 months, 20 days).

In total, Mayer won four races and finished outside the top 10 only once in 12 races (South Boston Twin No. 2, where he left early due to a prior commitment). His average finish for 2019 wound up being an impressive 3.2.

The championship is also GMS Racing's first in the series, coming in their first full-time season of competition in the K&N Pro Series.

The DGR-Crosley trio of Tanner Gray, who led two laps, Todd Gilliland and Drew Dollar finished second, third and fourth, respectively, with Chase Cabre rounding out the top five.

Max McLaughlin, Spencer Davis, Ruben Garcia Jr., Brandon McReynolds and Justin S. Carroll completed the top 10.

Cabre finished a career-best second in the standings, 38 points behind Mayer. Davis (-42) finished third, with Tanner Gray (-48) and Max McLaughlin (-61) completing the top five.

The General Tire 125 is scheduled to be broadcast on NBCSN on Friday, October 11 at 6 p.m.

## *Coby, Bonsignore To Decide NWMT Title at Thompson World Series*

When the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour rolls into Thompson for the 57th annual Sunoco World Series October 11-13, two drivers are going to be in contention to earn the championship.

Doug Coby, a five-time champion looking to add to his historic resume, leads defending Whelen Modified Tour champion Justin Bonsignore by 19 points. For Coby, a solid day should help get the job done without even having to win the race. For Bonsignore, he is going to have to do everything he can to close the gap, and hope Coby has a bit of a stumble.

"We'll have a good car, but I know they are going to have a good car," Coby said. "You have to figure Justin is going to win and go lead the most laps like he usually does. We are going to have to be every

bit as good."

For Coby, this season has been filled with a return to the top. After a 2018 season that only included one victory, which wasn't up to his standards, he watched Bonsignore dominate. A change in his shock package, combined with some improved setups, has given him four checkered flags in the 15 races this year. Coby went to Victory Lane in the Bud 'King of Beers' 150 at Thompson in August and finished inside the top five in the other two races at TSMP this year.

Bonsignore, who dominated en route to his first title last year with eight wins, has five victories this season, including two at Thompson. Entering the Bud 150, Bonsignore had won six straight Whelen Modified Tour races at TSMP, but he finished second that night, breaking the streak. Trailing Coby by 19 points might be a product of two DNF's early in the season at South Boston Speedway and Wall Stadium Speedway.

"We've thought for a while now that we needed to win every race. In the last four races, we have two wins. We're doing what we need to do, but we spotted those guys too many points in the beginning of the year," Bonsignore said. "We're doing a great job. I'm happy. We just need to go there (to the World Series) and win the race, and if other things happen and we need to change our strategy, we will go with that."

For Coby, his 19-point lead might give him the chance to relax a bit in the early laps and settle in. But, as the Milford, Connecticut, driver knows, there is no safe spot in the field. In the 2017 Icebreaker, Coby started third, but didn't complete a whole lap after a wreck on the backstretch ended his day. He knows anything can happen, but a strong finish will do the trick.

"Even if we have some challenges, I'd like to think we can finish there," Coby said.

Bonsignore has 11 wins in 36 Thompson starts, and he's finished inside the top two in the last seven races at the Connecticut oval.

"Every time we unload at Thompson, first lap I know what I am looking for, and I know the feel we need. You have a lot of confidence there when you win races," Bonsignore said. "I'm excited to go and hopefully end the season on a high note. It's been an amazing year. Five years after what we did last year, we backed it up. We have a lot of confidence; we will just go down swinging. Until they hand him the trophy, we are not out of it."

Coby knows putting a whole day together could earn him a sixth championship, which would put him past Tony Hirschman for the second most titles in the Whelen Modified Tour modern era. That would leave Coby trailing just the late Mike Stefanik, who had seven.

"We should qualify up front, and if you qualify good, you should be able to get through half of he race without too much aggression. Then, it's just a matter of if everyone comes in together and takes tires, you have to have a good stop, and be in the right lanes on the restarts," Coby said. "Hopefully we have a good car that keeps us out of trouble. It's going to be a barnburner."

The 57th annual Sunoco World Series will take the green flag on Friday, October 11, and roll through Sunday, October 13. The event begins on Friday, with practice sessions running throughout the afternoon, and qualifying heat racing set to begin at approximately 4:30 p.m. Feature racing on Friday includes the Granite State Pro Stock Series, Late Models, Open Vintage Modifieds and Senior Tour Auto Racers.

Saturday, action begins early with practice at 9 a.m., while qualifying racing begins at 2:30 p.m. There are 10 different feature races planned for Saturday night. Sunday, action begins at 1 p.m., with the season-finale for Thompson's Sunoco Modified division. The NEMA Lites, ISMA Supermodifieds and TSMP Limited Sportsman will also join the headliner of Sunday — the Sunoco World Series 150 for the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour.

Admission to the paddock area for the entire three days is \$75, with grandstand general admission set at \$55. Any seniors (65+), veterans and active military will have general admission tickets priced at \$50, while kids 12 and under are free in general admission.

Thompson's annual breakfast and dinner buffets will also take place during Sunoco World Series weekend. The breakfast buffet runs from 7-11 a.m. on both Saturday and Sunday and is \$14 per person. The dinner buffet runs from 5-11 p.m. on Saturday night only and is \$24 per person. For any children 12 and under, the dinner buffet is \$14.

For more information on Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park, fans should visit the track on the web, [www.thompsonspeedway.com](http://www.thompsonspeedway.com) and follow the track on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.



Sam Mayer's fourth victory of 2019 came in the season finale at Dover. (Matthew T. Thacker, NKP/NASCAR photo)

## Smith Scores Fifth ARCA Menards Series Win of 2019 at Lucas Oil Raceway

After setting the fastest time in practice, Chandler Smith closed the night celebrating in victory lane after scoring his fifth ARCA Menards Series victory of the season in Saturday night's rain-shortened Herr's Potato Chips 200 at Lucas Oil Raceway in Indianapolis.

Smith took the lead from his Venturini Motorsports teammate Christian Eckes on lap 161. The next time around, a heavy sprinkle turned into a rain shower necessitating a caution flag. The field circulated behind the pace car for five laps before ARCA officials put out the red flag. The rains persisted and officials were forced to end the race 37 laps before its scheduled conclusion.

"It was meant to be," Smith said in a makeshift victory lane celebration. "We couldn't have timed that pass out any better than we did."

Eckes was disappointed with second, but was able to lock up the Sioux Chief Short Track Challenge championship.

"We're obviously disappointed with second," Eckes said, "but it's our sixth top-two finish in a row. We really have things turned around after a tough stretch in the summer. We'd have liked to have had that caution for rain a few laps earlier though."

Ty Gibbs started from the General Tire Pole and was the dominant driver throughout the first half of the race. Gibbs led the first 143 laps before contact with Joe Graf, Jr. while battling for the lead resulted in Gibbs sliding into the wall and damaging the right rear corner of his car. The damage led to a flat right rear tire that put Gibbs into the wall again four laps later. The damage was too severe for Gibbs to continue leaving him 15th at the finish.

"I don't even know who that guy is or what happened out there," a disappointed Gibbs said. "We had a really great car. I am pretty bummed. Most of all I am sorry for my guys, they deserved a win here tonight."

Graf had rejoined the lead lap after receiving the free pass under the second caution of the night. He pitted for tires under the yellow and

knifed his way through the field racing against other lead lap cars that had not yet pitted. The resulting caution from Gibbs' crash allowed the remaining lead lap cars to pit, ending Graf's chances to win. He finished tenth.

Sam Mayer finished third a day after locking up the NASCAR K&N Pro Series East championship with a win at Dover International Speedway. Corey Heim and Hailie Deegan rounded out the top five finishers.

Combined with a sixth-place finish by teammate Michael Self, Eckes assumes the ARCA Menards Series championship lead by 20 points with only the season finale at Kansas Speedway remaining.

There were four cautions for a total of 25 laps. Bobby Gerhart spun in turn two on lap 52 to bring out the first caution, while Dick Doheny crashed in the same turn on lap 97 to bring out the second caution. Gibbs' accident at lap 146 brought out the third yellow flag of the night while the rain at lap 162 was the final yellow of the night.

There were three lead changes among four drivers. Gibbs led a race-high 143 laps, Graf led seven laps from laps 144 to 150, Eckes led from lap 151 through lap 160 and Smith led from lap 161 to 167 when the race concluded. With those seven laps led, Smith locks up the 2019 Valvoline Lap Leader Award.

The ARCA Kansas 150 and the 1.5-mile Kansas Speedway will close the 2019 ARCA Menards Series season on Friday, October 18. Practice opens the day at 1 pm ET/12 n CT followed by General Tire Pole Qualifying at 6 pm ET/5 pm CT. The 100-lap/150-mile feature event will go green at 8:30 pm ET/7:30 pm CT and will be shown live on FS2 with an immediate replay on FS1. ARCA for Me members can follow live timing & scoring, live chat, and live track updates throughout all on-track sessions free at [ARCARacing.com](http://ARCARacing.com).

### NASCAR and ARCA Announce 2020 Format

DAYTONA BEACH, FL - NASCAR and ARCA announced today a new championship format for 2020 that will see the continua-



Chandler Smith celebrates in victory lane after winning at Lucas Oil Raceway, his fifth win of the 2019 season. ([arcacoming.com](http://arcacoming.com) photo)

tion of three historic regional championship series and the coronation of a new fourth champion, all under the ARCA Menards Series banner.

The series provide an integral development step for young drivers who aspire to move up to the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series, NASCAR Xfinity Series or NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series; as well as a highly-competitive professional level for short-track veterans.

They will also provide continuity to three of the longest running high-level regional stock car series in the United States.

The four championships will be:

- ARCA Menards Series East and ARCA Menards Series West will continue the traditions established by the Busch North Series (founded in 1987) and Pacific Coast Late Model Series/Winston West (1954) and currently competing as the NASCAR K&N Pro Series East and West. The series will feature an annual schedule of six to eight races and crowning of separate regional champions.

- ARCA Menards Series – The 20-race ARCA Menards Series, founded in 1953, a mix of national-series combination events at venues such as Daytona International Speedway and Charlotte Motor Speedway, as well as short tracks like Madison International Speedway in Wisconsin and the Illinois and DuQuoin State Fairgrounds mile dirt tracks.

- ARCA Racing Series Showdown – Ten races within the larger ARCA Menards Series championship will feature the best of the three series coming together to crown a Showdown champion.

"We cannot be more excited about 2020," said Brandon Thompson, Managing Director, NASCAR Touring Series. "Both NASCAR and ARCA have worked extremely

hard over the last year to provide a rules package and schedule that will serve as the foundation for the preeminent series for racing at this level. It was important for us to move the series forward while creating an environment inclusive for both the current long-term owners and drivers in the series as well as aspiring competitors."

NASCAR also announced if an East, West or current ARCA Menards Series car owner has a car that meets the 2019 rulebook, there will be a rules package that will allow them to compete in 2020.

ARCA and MAVTV also announced today an extension of its telecast rights agreement for select ARCA Menards Series races. This important partnership, together with events covered by FOX Sports, ensures that all 20 ARCA Menards Series races will be available live to race fans, including the 10-race Showdown. NBCSN will continue to carry the ARCA Menards Series East and West as part of their extensive NASCAR coverage.

The 2020 ARCA Menards Series will officially begin on Saturday, Feb. 8 at Daytona with the Lucas Oil 200 Driven by General Tire. It will mark the 57th annual ARCA visit to Daytona.

The Showdown will take the green flag with ARCA's inaugural visit to ISM Raceway on March 6, while the West will kick off the Las Vegas weekend with a return to the Bullring at Las Vegas Motor Speedway.

The Showdown 10-race schedule features Salem Speedway, Lucas Oil Raceway, Elko Speedway, Bristol Motor Speedway, Iowa Speedway and will crown its first Showdown champion at Memphis Motorsports Park on Sept. 26.

Complete schedules for all four championships will be announced shortly.

## Poore Gets Van Hoy Oil CRA Street Stocks Win at Anderson Speedway

SALEM, IN - Anderson, Indiana's Josh Poore came into Saturday night's Van Hoy Oil CRA Street Stocks Powered by JEGS event at Anderson Speedway with just one goal, get the win. He had not been to victory lane in a series event since June of 2018 and he did just that in leading 73 laps to get the win Saturday night.

"We took advantage of the practice on Friday," Poore said of the victory. "I wasn't happy with my performance the week before in the Anderson Speedway Season Championship race. I knew we had to get better to beat the CRA guys that would come in for tonight's race. We made some changes and it worked. I didn't want to see another caution because Jason (Atkinson) is tough on the restarts and I knew he was back there catching me!"

Jacob McElfresh and Poore started on the front row after Allstar Performance Fast Qualifier Jake Owens drew a seven for the events inverted start. The two battled side by side with McElfresh just beating Poore to the line on the first two laps, but Poore was able to power by on lap three to get the lead.

McElfresh and Atkinson battled for the second spot for the next 22 laps before Atkinson made the pass with an inside move entering turn three. The events only caution flag flew on lap 26 when Jake Owens spun in turn three.

Poore was able to hold off Atkinson on the restart and pull away for a sizable lead, but at the end of the race Atkinson looked to have the faster car, but Poore was able to use lap traffic to keep Atkinson at bay. Poore would go on to get the win by .289 of a second over Atkinson. For his winning pass of McElfresh, Poore was awarded the AR Bodies Cool Move of the Race Award.

The win was Poore's 47th all-time Street Stock win at Anderson. The win was Poore's 14th series win, putting him back into a first-place tie on the series all-time wins list with Jeff Lane, who had pulled ahead of a three-way tie with Poore and Atkinson with his win at Winchester Speedway on Labor Day

Weekend.

Atkinson was awarded the KRJ Race Products Sweet Move of the Race Award for his pass of McElfresh to move into second place. Atkinson was the highest finisher of the Chase for the Championship drivers. McElfresh would hold on to get third place, second highest of the Chase drivers. J.J. Schafer would finish in fourth place, third highest of the Chase drivers. 2018 series Champion James Kirby III finished in fifth place.

Andrew Teepe was already locked into the final four Chase for the Championship drivers as the Regular Season Points Champion. Atkinson, Schafer and McElfresh were the final three drivers locked into the final four by the points they accumulated in the first three races in the Chase for the Championship. The highest finisher of those four drivers in the series Season Championship event will be crowned the 2019 series Champion.

The next event for the Van Hoy Oil CRA Street Stocks will be the Season Championship 40 lap feature at Winchester Speedway on Saturday, October 12th as part of the Winchester 400 Weekend. For more information on all the CRA series go to [www.cra-racing.com](http://www.cra-racing.com).

### Wimmer Motorsports Continues to Lead Crew Chief of the Year Points

SALEM, IN - Outerwears Performance Products is once again sponsoring the Outerwears Crew Chief of the Year Award with the ARCA/CRA Super Series Powered by JEGS for the 2019 season. The award will include a \$1000 cash bonus and a trophy. Jeff Lane was the Outerwears Crew Chief of the Year Award winner in 2015, the first season for the award. Scott Neal was the award winner in 2016, Butch VanDoorn the winner in 2017 and Wimmer Motorsports, Crew Chief for 2018 series Champion Josh Brock, won the award in 2018.

The award is based upon the Chase for the Championship format that CRA is using to determine its Champions again in 2019. The final four scheduled races are being utilized for the Chase to determine a series Champion and the Outerwears Crew Chief of the Year

Award. There were six teams eligible for the ARCA/CRA Super Series Chase for the Championship at the first Chase event at Berlin Raceway on August 17th, all those six teams are eligible for the Outerwears Crew Chief of the Year Award.

The top five eligible teams Crew Chiefs will be awarded points at each of the four Chase events, 5 for the highest finisher, down to 1 for fifth highest. The Crew Chief earning the most points in the four Chase events will be the 2019 Outerwears Crew Chief of the Year Award winner.

After the first three Chase for the Championship events at Berlin Raceway on August 17th, at Winchester Speedway on September 2nd, and at Toledo Speedway on September 21st, Wimmer Motorsports, Crew Chief for Josh Brock, continues to lead the Outerwears Crew Chief of the Year Award standings with 13 points in those three events. Brock was the second highest Chase finisher at Berlin, the top finisher with his third-place finish at Winchester and was the second highest Chase finisher at the Toledo event.

Butch VanDoorn, Crew Chief for three time series Champion Johnny VanDoorn, is now in second after

winning the Toledo event, he now has 10 points. Jack Dossey III, who is his own Crew Chief in 2019, and Van Alst Motorsports, a team effort Crew Chiefing Greg Van Alst, are tied for third place in the Outerwears Crew Chief of the Year Award with 7 points. Brent Jack, Crew Chief for his son Hunter Jack, is in fifth place with 4 points.

The Outerwears Crew Chief of the Year Award will be presented at the 2019 CRA Awards Banquet, which will be held at the Crowne Plaza Indianapolis Downtown at Union Station on Friday, January 3rd, 2020. The series next event will be the Winchester 400 presented by CB Fabricating on Sunday, October 13th, the Season Championship race for the series.

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More information on all the CRA Series is available at [www.cra-racing.com](http://www.cra-racing.com).

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## Brent Marks Wins the National Open at Williams Grove Speedway

MECHANICSBURG, PA - Williams Grove Speedway announcer Bruce Ellis held up a checkered flag to Brent Marks.

"Do you want to read what that says?" he asked the Myerstown, Pa. driver.

Marks grabbed the flag and held it eye level. Fixated on the

printed logo he earnestly said, "Williams Grove National Open winner."

"That's you," Ellis replied.

Marks won the 57th Champion Racing Oil National Open at Williams Grove Speedway Saturday night – his first win of the season – and pocketed the \$65,000 prize.

How did he feel after Ellis proclaimed him the 2019 victor?

"I have no idea," Marks said with a smile. "This is amazing. I've been wanting to win this race for a very long time. I grew up here in the infield. This is where I fell in love with Sprint Car racing. This is awesome."

Marks described his 2019 season as frustrating. He failed to make four Features throughout the year and has said he felt like he let four potential wins slip through his fingers. Not Saturday night. Not in his home state in front of friends, family and local fans.

He showcased his determination for atonement during the final Drydene Heat race of the night. He went from fourth to second in one lap on a restart and put himself in the DIRTvision Fast Pass Dash.

He then drew the pole for the second Dash of the night and went on to win it – placing him on the outside pole for the 40-lap World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series Feature.

At the start of the National Open, Marks and polesitter Brian Brown drag raced down the front stretch toward turn one. Brown launched ahead of Marks into the corner to hold the lead, but before the two drivers could continue their duel down the backstretch a caution came out.

When it came time to stomp the throttle again, Marks acted quicker than Brown. He rocketed ahead of the FVP/Casey's General Stores No. 21 and claimed the lead before

the first turn. He led two laps before yellow lights flashed around the speed, again.

Marks chose the inside line on the restart and found himself in the same situation Brown did two laps earlier. Brown got the jump on Marks off turn four and charged ahead of him to reclaim the lead. He then began to extend his lead over Marks every lap.

On Lap nine, Brown lost traction in turn one and fought to keep his car pointed straight off turn two. His slip allowed Marks to reel him in. Daryn Pittman, in third, was also closing in on them both.

Three laps later Marks carried the momentum of a strong run off turn four to catch Brown before turn one. When they entered the turn, Marks dove underneath Brown and cleared him for the lead. Brown then lost second to Pittman the next corner.

Marks' lead was short lived again with the caution coming out on Lap 14. After losing the lead to Brown on the last restart by starting on the bottom, Marks chose the high side for his next attempt. However, it didn't help. Pittman bested him on the start and took the lead down the front stretch.

However, before the lap was completed a caution came out for several cars getting together in turn three – including 2018 National Open winner Lance Dewease, who could not continue. The race was then put under an Open Red, allowing teams to fuel their cars.

Marks was ready for Pittman on the restart. He rocketed ahead of the field, pulling away by half of a second when he reached the backstretch.

While Marks pulled away with the lead, Brown, Donny Schatz and Aaron Reutzel brawled for third. The trio used up the entire track for several laps trying to pass each other. Eventually Schatz and Reutzel made their way by Brown to move into third and fourth, respectively.

Heavy lap traffic became an issue for Marks by the halfway point of the Feature. Pittman closed in. And Schatz and Reutzel closed in on Pittman. A blanket could have covered the top-four with 20 laps to go.

Flashbacks of being held up in lap traffic and losing the win at Nashville Fairgrounds Speedway in



**Brent Marks celebrates winning the National Open at Williams Grove Speedway. (DB3Inc photo)**

June projected in Marks' head. However, that wasn't going to be the case this time. He learned. He wasn't going to let another win slip away.

"I tried to play that whole race as smart as I could," Marks said. "Tried to drive like a veteran and not get over my head. Just be super patient. Because I lost that race earlier in the year at Nashville. Kind of the same situation, you know running the bottom there with lap cars and I felt like I needed to get by them, made a mistake and lost the lead. I made sure I didn't want to do that tonight."

His patience with lap cars turned into car lengths gained on Pittman. Pressure from behind faded as the final laps approached. Marks was on his way to his fourth career World of Outlaws win.

Then, a caution. Paul McMahan came to a stop in turn one with a flat tire. Marks had to make two more perfect laps before he could see the checkered flag.

Pittman tried to get a run around the high side of turns one and two, but Marks was too strong on the bottom. By the time the Pennsylvanian finally saw the checkered flag, he had a 1.4 second lead over Pittman. Schatz finished third for the second night in-a-row at the speedway.

The runner-up finish for Pittman was his fifth time finishing second at the National Open. He said he would trade just about any of his win for a National Open win. He thought he might win before the caution came out when he took the lead on the restart. However, he was still pleased with his team's overall performance – finishing second after starting sixth.

"We had a really good Roth Motorsports car for the weekend," Pittman said. "We kept fine tuning

on it, didn't make any wholesale changes and continued to get better and better."

For the second night in-a-row Schatz took a big chunk out of Brad Sweet's points lead over him – with Sweet finishing ninth. Schatz is now 14 points behind Sweet. David Gravel, who finished fifth, has also crept his way into the points battle, now 88 points behind Sweet with eight races to go.

Reutzel won the National Open rookie award – finishing fourth – and Brian Montieth earned the KSE Hard Charger award with a stellar performance of charging from 26th to eighth.

Marks was the biggest winner in several ways. He celebrated the biggest win in his World Outlaws career, so far, with his family, friends and local fans and earned a large payday for his self-owned Brent Marks Racing team.

"What does it pay, sixty-five (thousand)?" Marks asked Ellis in Victory Lane.

"Sixty-five," Ellis confirmed.

"That means everything," Marks said after the race. "That sure as hell gets us through the winter."

UP NEXT: The World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series on Saturday, Oct. 12, will be at Terre Haute Action Track in Terre Haute, Ind. for the Wabash Clash. Get tickets and more information.

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

### **David Gravel Wins First Night of National Open at Williams Grove**

MECHANICSBURG, PA - A hunger had been building inside David Gravel the last three weeks.

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His appetite for another win had been teased on several occasions. He set Quick Time three times since his last win in September but was unable to make the achievements relevant with another win.

Friday night at Williams Grove Speedway for the opening night of the National Open, Gravel was presented with a full course meal. He made sure to leave no crumbs for his competition.

He set Quick Time for the 19th time this season. Won his Drydene Heat race. Drew the pole for the DIRTVision Fast Pass Dash and won it. And then further demonstrated his mastery of the half-mile speedway by leading all 25 laps to claim his ninth win of the season – tying 10-time Series champion Donny Schatz for the second most wins this season. The victory was also his second win at Williams Grove Speedway this year – sixth overall.

“Just happy to Quick Time and win a race,” Gravel said, of Watertown, Conn. “Seems like the couple of races we’ve been drawing a bad pill for the Dash draw and tonight we were able to get a good draw. So just an awesome night. Finally get to show how good this car is.”

Gravel was proficient on the tacky track conditions all night. He couldn’t afford to be anything less. Fellow masters of the paper clip-shaped track, 10-time Series champion Donny Schatz and PA Posse veteran Lance Dewease had cars fast enough to keep Gravel starving for another win if he made a mistake.

At the start of the 25-lap Feature, Schatz moved his way from third to second by the second lap of the race and Dewease went from sixth to fifth before the first lap was completed.

Before they could try to make up any more ground, the caution came out on Lap two for Kerry Madsen, who lost his brakes.

On the restart Gravel launched ahead of Schatz. The Fargo, N.D.-native peeked underneath Gravel going into turn one, but the Mesilla Valley Transportation No. 41 was strong around the high side of the speedway. Gravel, again, launched ahead of the Toco Warranty No. 15 car down the backstretch.

Behind them, Dewease continued his relentless charge to the front by making the pass for fourth into turn one and then passed Cory Eliason for third-place off turn four. Schatz was his next target.

Gravel, Dewease and Schatz had already won at Williams Grove Speedway earlier this year. For Gravel, he was on a quest to cure his craving for another win. Dewease was looking for his 99th win in total at the speedway. Schatz was not only eyeing another win, but a chance to close the points gap between he and points leader Brad Sweet, who started 20th.

The caution came out again on Lap five for Jeff Halligan having an issue with his engine, which left oil on the track. Now Schatz and Dewease were close enough to Gravel to potentially spoil his night.

However, on the restart, Gravel shot ahead of the 30-car field, clearing Schatz before turn one. Both drivers went low through the first corner. Gravel, again, showed the strength of his car by being able to pull away from Schatz exiting the corner and down the backstretch.

Schatz faded away from Gravel and Dewease closed to the No. 15 car’s bumper. The Fayetteville, Pa.-native stalked Schatz for several laps, while Gravel pulled away from them by more than a second. With 18 laps to go, Dewease dove underneath Schatz into turn three, cleared him for second by the apex of the corner but couldn’t hold the bottom. Dewease slid to the cushion in turn four, allowing Schatz to

drive back underneath him and take the position back.

The two stayed in their respective positions for the next 15 laps. Dewease never faded from Schatz. Always kept the pressure on him. He tried to pass Schatz a few more times, but Schatz always ended the battle with the advantage.

Gravel reached lap traffic by Lap 16. It was Schatz and Dewease’s opportunity to try to make up ground on the leader.

“It was real hard,” Gravel said about the lap traffic. “If I went low the guy on the outside of me was just as fast. If they didn’t mess up it was going to be hard to get by them. Luckily Sheldon (Haudenschild) messed up once. Got by him. I was able to get by Kraig (Kinser). The top opened with Jacob (Allen) and I was able to put together a few good laps there. I don’t know how close anybody was.”

There was no pressure from behind for Gravel. Even in heavy lap traffic. With three laps to go Dewease was able to dive underneath Schatz into turn one and clear him for the runner-up spot. However, Gravel was more than two second ahead of him.

The Jason Johnson Racing team found themselves back in Victory Lane, picking up the \$10,000 prize, while Dewease settled for a runner-up finish and Schatz rounded out the podium.

“We were pretty good from the start,” Dewease said. “It’s a hard field. A lot of fast race cars. I had

some of the best in the country I had to pass.”

After two nights in-a-row of finishes outside the top-15 for Schatz and losing more than 30 points to Sweet, he rebounded with a podium finished and almost cut Sweet’s points lead in half. Coming into Friday night’s race Schatz was 40 points behind Sweet. He is now 26 points behind the Kasey Kahne Racing driver. However, Sweet stopped the bleeding from being worse by charging from 20th to 10th, picking up the KSE Hard Charger award.

“We were kind of hanging,” Schatz said about his race. “We’ve got to adapt to somethings and the guys did a great job with that. Hopefully we can learn from the night and make improvements for tomorrow.”

Schatz also had Ford’s new 410-c.i. motor in his car. He said he was pleased with it.

“It’s finally a relief that it’s here,” Schatz said. “You can’t say enough about these guys. I don’t think anyone will see the work and how much went into this... All we can do is keep building on it and keep working on it and that’s what we’ll do because that’s what we do.”

Friday’s night victory for Gravel and his team helped cure one hungry, but another formulated soon after with the National Open on Saturday night paying \$65,000-to-win.

“It feels good to win the first night, but tomorrow is why we’re here,” Gravel said.

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## Overton Wins at 411 and Takes Back-to-Back Features

SEYMOUR, TN - Rum Runner Racing team owner Joey Coulter was quoted in a World of Outlaws press release last week, commenting "At this point, that place owes him a win." "That place" was 411 Motor Speedway and that "him" is none other than Coulter's driver aboard the Schaeffer's Racing Oil #2, Brandon Overton. On Saturday night, Overton got that win at that very track, making it two World of Outlaws Morton Buildings Late Model Series Feature wins on back-to-back nights for the Evans, GA-driver.

Just like his win at Cherokee Speedway on Friday night, "Big Sexy" found a bit of good fortune on his trip to Victory Lane at 411. Loudon, TN-pilot Cory Hedgecock won in last year's visit and looked to have the first few stages of the race covered until misfortune struck on lap 17. Steam began to spew out of Hedgecock's hood in the exit of turn two, forcing the Loudon, TN-native to shut it down on the backstretch and pull into the infield, dashing his chances to repeat as a World of Outlaws Feature winner at 411.

Overton inherited the lead into turn three before the caution came out and restacked the field, putting the likes of Darrell Lanigan and a hungry Rookie of the Year candidate Cade Dillard right on his rear bumper. But as a former World of Outlaws Rookie of the Year winner himself, Overton was simply not going to crack under the pressure. He sustained that lead the rest of the way, leading the final 34 laps en route to his fourth Morton Buildings Feature win of the season and seventh of his career.

Back in May, Overton was passed late for the lead in regional competition at 411 and ran second again in another regional Feature in July. Those two runners-up stuck with him the whole season, pushing him just a bit more to get that redemption win on a national stage. Now, the weight's been lifted off his shoulders.

"I ran second to Dale [McDowell] and I ran second to [Jimmy] Owens," Overton said. "I never led in the one Dale won, but the one

Owens got me, he passed me with about 10-to-go. So, this definitely feels good."

Once he grabbed the lead for good, Overton battled through multiple restarts in the circuits remaining, riding the top line around the 3/8-mile. He and crew chief Harold Holly have been to 411 and several other Southeastern tracks throughout the years, so they've got the Midas touch when it comes to all the tips and tricks to getting around such places, and that was on full display on Saturday night.

"I think what helped us more than anything is coming here a lot," Overton said. "We've ran a bunch of races here throughout the year. So, just to get a jump on these guys before they get here, it definitely helps."

"I've never been here with the racetrack like it was tonight," he continued. "I had a feeling it was going to just clean off and get slick from top to bottom like it usually does, and it didn't, so I had to change my line up a bit getting into turn three because I kept pushing."

Darrell Lanigan had another solid night, running inside the top three all race long to claim the runner-up spot. After riding back in the fifth spot in overall Series points for much of the summer and going on a big top-five-less streak, Lanigan and team DLR have really turned their season around in the past few weeks, even busting the World of Outlaws winless slump of over four years back in September.

Now making it two consecutive top-five finishes for "The Bluegrass Bandit," Lanigan sits just eight points behind Chase Junghans in his bid to finish second by the conclusion of the Can-Am World Finals next month.

"At the beginning of the year, we were second. But then we had some DNFs, and you just can't have DNFs on this tour. If we could take them back, we'd be right up there in second. But it is what it is, we're fighting back," Lanigan said.

It's surprisingly been a few races since Brandon Sheppard was last on the World of Outlaws podium, but what a drive he made to get the last spot on it on Saturday night. After an uncharacteristically slow time in Qualifying that left him 15th overall, "The Rocket Shepp" finished fourth in his Drydene Heat Race and began his charge to the



**Brandon Overton celebrates in victory lane after racing to the win at 411 Motor Speedway. Overton also won the night before at Cherokee Speedway. (Michael Moats photo)**

front in the Feature from 11th.

Gradually picking off an average of one car every six laps, the Rocket1 Racing pilot drove the wheels off of his Rocket Chassis #1 on the low side, looking for every advantage to try and catch the leaders once he reached third.

"Truthfully, I just needed to start out front," Sheppard said. "Clean air was big, because once we got spread out, you kind of had to get in line. Off the restarts, you could pass a few cars, and that's where I did it because I was really good on the restarts."

At one point, Sheppard was giving Lanigan all he could handle in his bid for second, but eventually fell off a bit once Lanigan's #29 came in on the top side. Sheppard even tried switching lanes up to the high-banked top groove to catch Overton and Lanigan, but nothing came of it.

Hard-charging efforts in the Morton Buildings Feature normally come courtesy of the assistance of a grade-A team behind the fence, setting up their car just right to make head-turning runs like these. And that's exactly what Sheppard had in his corner at 411.

"It's all about my team," Sheppard said. "They didn't give up on me, they kept digging, and I got the shovel out to dig ourselves out of a hole."

UP NEXT: It's time to crown a new champion! The Can-Am World Finals at The Dirt Track at Charlotte kicks off on Thursday, Nov. 7 with Qualifying events that will set the field for Friday and Saturday's events. Two 50-lap, \$12,000-to-win Morton Buildings Features headline Friday (Nov. 8) and Saturday (Nov. 9) night, where the championship celebrations will begin alongside the World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Cars and

the Super DIRTcar Series!

And now, just recently announced, all DIRTVision Fast Pass subscribers will be able to watch the Can-Am World Finals at no extra charge! Subscribe today at DIRTVision.com and watch us cap off a spectacular season of racing!

### Overton Dominates Mike Duvall Memorial at Cherokee

GAFFNEY, SC - Like the late Dirt Late Model racing legend Mike Duvall did many times over in his historic career, Brandon Overton drove with the tenacity and endurance of a true Southeastern champion on Friday night and put it in Victory Lane at Cherokee Speedway.

For the third time this season, he and the Rum Runner Racing team have defeated the Outlaws in their home region. Chris Madden and Chase Junghans held strong inside the top three all race long to capture the final two podium spots.

A capacity crowd filled the grandstands to watch "The Most Powerful Late Models on the Planet" take on the always-competitive Southeast locals in the inaugural running of the Mike Duvall Memorial, a Flintstone F1yer-themed tribute to the late Cowpens, SC driver.

Overton's trip to Victory Lane started with a bit of luck in the re-draw after a runner-up finish in his Drydene Heat race, pulling the pole position as the final driver to draw. Right from the drop of the green, Overton took off in his Rocket Chassis and never looked back, leading all 50 laps to win his sixth World of Outlaws Morton Buildings Late Model Series Feature.

"It's always easier when you can  
**(Continued Next Page)**

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set the pace," Overton said. "Our car was really, really good. That's probably as good as I've had one, especially around the bottom here."

"Big Sexy" faced pressure all race long from the previous night's winner, Chris Madden, who trailed Overton almost the whole race. At one point, Madden made a great bid for the lead to Overton's inside in

lapped traffic, but the yellow flag was thrown on the same lap, spoiling the #0M's biggest chance to take the top spot.

"I got into lapped traffic one time and was able to capitalize on it, made the pass on Overton and then the caution came out and had to go back. He made a mistake that one time and then didn't make it again," Madden said.

Overton also dealt with several cautions throughout the race, forcing him to be very vigilant with his car on the restarts. With a stacked field behind him that included 18-time winner this season, Brandon Sheppard, second-high points man Chase Junghans and three-time Series champion Darrell Lanigan, Overton never let the pressure get to him.

"My car was right and doing its thing, it felt good. So, I wasn't panicking," Overton said.

The Evans, GA-native took home a custom-built trophy commemorating the big win and Duvall's legacy, complete with the "Flintstone F1yer" logo, car, and his famous black hat atop the artistic display. It will definitely sit as one of the most creative trophies on Rum Runner Racing's shelf, along with the several other Feature winner trophies Overton has driven the team to collect this season.

Still less than one full year into driving for team owner Joey Coulter, Overton has certainly made his mark behind the wheel of the #2. Winning the World of Outlaws season opener at Screven Motor Speedway back in February and the Series visit to Cochran Motor Speedway in May, he's shown his strength at the places he knows best versus the Outlaws this year. And he still wants more.

"To come back home to familiar territory and defend it a bit, it's awesome," Overton said. "These guys are the best. We're really proud of

it. But we're not done yet, we want to win some more so we're just going to keep digging."

Chase Junghans bagged the final podium spot and control of the runner-up position in Series points with two top-five finishes in the past two nights. Aiming for his highest-ever finish in the overall points standings, the Manhattan, KS-driver is looking more confident and consistent as ever out on the track.

"Third-place is a good points night for us. We've got three more races to stay up front, so we've just got to keep our head down and keep chugging along. Hopefully, we can be there standing second in points to Mark [Richards] and Brandon [Sheppard]," Junghans said.

## Madden Wins, Bloomquist Finishes Second for Team Zero Triumph vs. Outlaws in Georgia

LAVONIA, GA - It's not every day that race fans get to see two teammates finish one-two on the podium, let alone battle it out for the lead, side-by-side in the last 15 laps.

That's exactly what the packed Lavonia Speedway audience was treated to on Thursday night, with the two "Team Zero" cars of Chris Madden and Scott Bloomquist relentlessly battling for position and putting on a stellar show out front that ended with Madden in Victory Lane for his second World of Outlaws Morton Buildings Late Model Series triumph of the year and 26th of his career. Bloomquist held on for second, fending off a fierce charge from home-state driver Brandon Overton in the closing laps.

Overall, both of the Sweet-Bloomquist Chassis pilots had terrific nights. Second-place finishes in their Drydene Heat races set Madden up for a pole position re-

draw result and earned Bloomquist a starting spot inside row two.

From the drop of the green, Madden took off instantly, grabbing the lead into turn one with Brandon Sheppard hot on his tail. The two were quickly locked into a battle of their own, Sheppard working the bottom lane trying to get underneath Madden in the middle.

Sheppard came close several times to pulling even with Madden in his bid for the lead, but could never make the move. A restart at halfway restacked the field and gave Sheppard another shot at the leader, but again, could not get by Madden's #0M.

Another restart came just four circuits later. Sheppard decided to try the top side of the speedway on Madden shortly after, but slipped over the cushion and lost two spots to Bloomquist and Overton.

Overton cracked the whip with 15-to-go and caught the rear of the in-progress Bloomquist and Madden battle for the lead. Bloomquist hounded his teammate down low, while Madden stayed smooth in the middle to defend his lead. Overton entered the picture and tried every lane to get around the two teammates, but after several laps of inside-outside racing, he could not find a way around the leaders.

A final restart with seven laps remaining allowed Madden to pull away a bit with less than 5-to-go and take it all the way home for his first World of Outlaws win at Lavonia. Both teams are happy, both drivers are happy, and it's been one incredible summer of racing for Scott Bloomquist Racing that shows no signs of slowing down heading into the fall.

"It's been awesome to unite back with Scott," Madden said. "He's been a big help to me, and I feel like we've been a big help to him. It's just been awesome to put some cars together, put some teams together and be able to produce the way we have."

Both battles Madden fought with Sheppard and Bloomquist were relentless at times, but through the restarts and all, Madden had his veteran skills working overtime for him on Thursday night.

"I just kept my composure and didn't miss my marks," Madden said. "I wasn't even trying to 'hold them off,' I just had to find where I was the best at, and I found it, and won the race."

Madden is certainly no stranger to these racy Southeast tracks. And he knows that if you want a shot at the win, it has to be a full-night performance to start and finish up front. He was the last to redraw for Feature starting spots, and the pole was all that was left when his name was called. Little bounces like those went his way on Thursday night, fueling his and his team's victorious efforts.

"Being on the pole is definitely a big key here," Madden said. "The racetrack widened-out late, we had things go our way tonight and got the win. Everything hasn't always went my way, and we've had to work hard for wins. Tonight, we just had some things go our way for a change."

Bloomquist played an incredible amount of defense in the final laps, holding off Overton's late-race rally and bid for the lead. He said the race didn't exactly start off the way he planned them to, but his car came on later in event, giving him the attributes to protect his team's one-two finish.

In sum, it was just the peachiest of nights at the racetrack for Team Zero. Like the yin-yang symbol that once adorned Bloomquist's car, he and Madden were right in-sync with each other through all 50 laps, making it the most fun the Mooresburg, TN-driver has had in the race-car in recent memory.

"I very rarely say that it was a fun race, and if it had been anybody else but Chris with me running second, [I'd say] it probably wouldn't have been a fun race," Bloomquist said with a smile. "But it was enjoyable to race with Chris like that, both coming out unscathed with good finishes."

After a rough original start, third-place finisher Brandon Overton seemed to have driven his car as hard as anyone else in the second half of the Feature to get back to the front. At the drop of the green, Overton said he spun his tires, sending him several spots back to eighth place. But he cracked the whip on the top side and made it all back up, capping off a solid night for the Rum Runner Racing entry.



Scott Bloomquist races Chris Madden at Lavonia Speedway. Madden would go on to win the race with Bloomquist finishing second. (Richard Barnes photo)

## Don O'Neal Wins Second Career Pittsburgher

IMPERIAL, PA - Don O'Neal won his second Pittsburgher 100 in the last three years on Saturday Night at Pittsburgh's Pennsylvania Motor Speedway. In taking home the \$20,000 first place prize, he also earns his first Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series victory of 2019 and became the 18th different Series winner

this season.

Davenport led from the start of the race and appeared to be on the way to his first Pittsburgher 100 victory. Throughout the latter half of the event, he fought off O'Neal's constant challenges, but was pulling away when a caution came out for a stalled car in turn four. Under the lap 93 caution, Davenport slowed to a stop in the middle of the backstretch, and was pushed back to the hot pit area to add fuel to his Longhorn Chassis.

Earl Pearson Jr. charged from the 23rd starting spot to finish second behind O'Neal. Tim McCreadie rallied from two pitstops to finish in third. Jimmy Owens fought his way back to finish fourth after tangling with another car just shy of half way and having to restart at the tail, and 2-time Pittsburgher 100 winner, Gregg Satterlee, rounded out the top five.

Davenport sprinted to the lead at the start of the race with Hudson O'Neal and Shanon Buckingham following in second and third. That trio held the top-three positions for the first ten laps of the race. Don O'Neal then began to challenge his 19-year-old son in a battle for second. The two O'Neals ran side-by-side for several circuits in the race for second behind Davenport who was building a commanding lead over the field. After clearing his son, Don O'Neal began to track down Davenport. By lap 70 he had pulled his car alongside of Davenport's in the battle for the top spot.

Don O'Neal used the late-race restart to pull away from a hard-charging Pearson to pick up the 46th Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series win of his career. "Man, I needed this win bad. We have had a good car over the last month. I am pumped! Our car was better on the long green flag runs. I thought I could get by Jonathan a couple times late in the race. I tried

to make him [Davenport] run a little bit harder than he wanted to and I wanted him to know I was there. My car kept wanting to die on the last caution, so I am glad the race ended when it did."

Pearson was pleased with his well-earned finish. "We had a pretty good run tonight. We struggled all night before the feature and changed a lot on the car after the B-Main. We are definitely proud that all of our hard work paid off. The track was racy, and you could move all around it. Congratulations to Don on the win. It's pretty crazy how these 100 lap races turn out sometimes with the veteran guys running up front."

McCreadie charged back late in the race to join O'Neal and Pearson on the Lucas Oil podium. "I don't know what cut the tire down earlier in the race. My car was really crooked for the early part of the race and that was making it hard on the left rear. The car got better after we pitted."

The winner's Clint Bowyer Racing, Rocket Chassis is powered by a Cornett Racing Engine and is sponsored by DEKALB Asgrow, Crawford Outdoor, Cometic Gasket, Ford Performance, Ditzfeld Transfer, Integra Racing Shocks, Sunoco Race Fuels, and Peak Antifreeze and Coolant.

Completing the top ten were Tyler Erb, Billy Moyer Jr., Scott Bloomquist, Jonathan Davenport, and Hudson O'Neal.

### ***Bronson Takes First Lucas Oil Appearance at Raceway 7***

CONNEAUT, OH - Kyle Bronson took advantage of race leader Jimmy Owens' misfortune on lap 45 and then went on to win his third



**Kyle Bronson raced his way to victory lane in the series' first appearance at Raceway 7. (Paul Arch photo)**



**Don O'Neal raced his way to his second career Pittsburgher Saturday night at Pennsylvania Motor Speedway. (Paul Arch photo)**

career Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series race on Friday night at Raceway 7. The event is the biggest dirt late model race in 16 years at the Northeast Ohio facility and was held in front of a packed grandstand. The A-Main saw a dramatic ending as Owens' dominance of the race came to an end after he slowed suddenly. With four laps to go he pulled pit side, ending his bid for a fifth series victory of the season.

Bronson led the first nine laps of the race before yielding the lead to Owens. Upon inheriting the lead back from Owens' misfortune, the Florida native then quickly pulled away from second-place-running Tim McCreadie to win the event. With his podium finish, McCreadie maintains second place in the Lucas Oil Championship Point Standings after coming home in the runner-up position. He was followed to the stipe by Josh Richards, Hudson O'Neal, and Jonathan Davenport.

Bronson was several car lengths behind Owens when the 3-time Series Champion slowed suddenly and dropped out of the race. "These races are so tough to win. I feel terrible for Jimmy, he was the class of the field tonight. He was

gone and in another zip code. Jimmy and his guys have been helping me a lot lately. I hate it for those guys as well. I knew when they said over race control McCreadie was second, that I just needed to hit my marks and take care of my race car, because he would race me clean."

In McCreadie's post-race interview, he was grateful for another podium finish. "Once the track cleaned off in the middle, we couldn't maneuver anymore. This is one of the smoothest tracks we have been on in a while. We brought the car home in one piece, so we should be ready for tomorrow at Pittsburgh. We finished second in our only other appearance here before (in a Big Block Modified), so I guess that's the best we could do tonight as well. They filled nearly every seat in the grandstands tonight, so thank you to everyone who came out to support this event."

With his third-place finish, Richards managed to keep himself just behind McCreadie in the Lucas Oil Championship Point Standings. "I thought we were going to be better than we were tonight. The car was too loose at the start of the race. We had a third or fourth place car, but as the race wore on, we got better. When we got some heat in the right rear tire, we closed on McCreadie, but we didn't have enough to pass him. We have had a lot of speed near the end of a lot of races this season, but we have just some bad breaks. The last time I was here John Gill was driving for my dad (Mark Richards), so it's kind of neat to finally race here."

The winner's Rocket Chassis is powered by a Durham Racing Engine.

Completing the top ten were Mike Marlar, Mason Zeigler, Tyler Erb, Max Blair, and Doug Drown.

## Cornell Leads It All With ASCS Warrior Region at Lake Ozark Speedway

ELDON, MO - Getting one away from Mother Nature, Jonathan Cornell made the most of it; leading start to finish to finally make the trip to Victory Lane with the Racinboys.com ASCS Warrior Region presented by Impact Signs, Awnings, and Wraps in the series'

2019 Season Finale at Lake Ozark Speedway.

Battling off and on wet conditions leading up to the event, the races were also halted between the Heats and the night's Features before finally being able to go green. Holding the lead through multiple restarts, Cornell was able to fend off all challengers for his 42nd career victory with the ASCS Warrior Region presented by Impact Signs, Awnings, and Wraps.

Miles Paulus moved from sixth to take the runner-up spot with Ben Brown following from seventh to complete Saturday's podium. Austin O'Neal and Austin Alumbaugh made up the top five.

Timothy Smith crossed sixth with Timothy Smith in tow. Making the trip from Bondurant, Iowa, Nathan Mills came from 13th to finish seventh. Curtis Boyer was eighth from 12th with Terry Easum

and Garet Williamson completing the top ten.

Points for the 2019 season are pending finalization. The season champion will be confirmed and announced in the next week.

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

### Costumes, Candy, And Sprint Cars At Tony Stewart Presents The VANKOR Texas Sprint Car Nationals

FT. WORTH, TX - Counting down to the return of the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network to the Texas Motor Speedway Dirt Track, Tony Stewart presents the VANKOR Texas Sprint Car Nationals is set to go green on Thursday, October 31 and Friday, November 1.

Leading up to NASCAR Weekend at Texas Motor Speedway, the double-shot of Mud and Methanol features more than just high-octane Sprint Cars and Limited Modifieds action, as everyone will be in the



Jonathan Cornell (left) took the win at Ozark Speedway with Miles Paulus (center) finishing second and Ben Brown (right) coming in third. (ASCs photo)

Halloween Spirit.

Drivers, Crew Members, and Fans are encouraged to come in their best Halloween attire as there will be candy, fun, and a costume contest comprised of several age groups.

Fans will check-in at the Texas Motor Speedway display behind the Ticket Booth before 8:30 P.M. (CT). The Texas Motor Speedway's display will also be a Halloween "photo booth" where fans can have their picture taken amid all the fun fall décor.

Kids will also get a sweet treat courtesy of M&M Mars (while supplies last).

Serving as the 2019 Season Fi-

nale for the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network, over \$200,000 in point fund will be handed out at the close of action on Friday, November 1, with the champion pocketing \$50,000. Being Halloween weekend, that'll be a lot of money for some extra candy.

Thursday, October 31 and Saturday, November 1 both open at 6:00 P.M. with Hot Laps on track at 7:00 P.M. Opening Ceremonies are slated for 7:30 P.M. (CT). Times are subject to change.

Weekend and Single night ticket packages are on sale now at [www.texasmotorspeedway.com](http://www.texasmotorspeedway.com) or by calling (817) 215-8500.

## Chattanooga MotorCar Festival is Almost Here

CHATTANOOGA, TN - What separates the inaugural Chattanooga MotorCar Festival, Presented by DeFoor Brothers, Sponsored by Volkswagen of America, from other car shows in the U.S. is the diversity of its program. It's the only car event to offer a Concours, a Rallye and Time Trials

on a closed circuit, plus myriad family activities. And it all takes place on the Tennessee Riverfront and West Village in the heart of the city of Chattanooga in just two days, on Oct. 11 and 12.

Hundreds of exotic, significant, one-of-a-kind cars, some from as far back as the early 1900s, will

compete in the Time Trials and/or be shown in the Concours on the grounds of the Westin Chattanooga Hotel. Of the 120 cars accepted for the Concours, expect to see a 1928 Isotta Fraschini 8A Super Sprinto, a 1966 McLaren M1B Can-Am race car, an ultra-rare 1952 Porsche 356A 1500 Super America Roadster, Wayne Carini's Moal Speedway Special, and many more.

The Time Trials on the 1.5-mile circuit will provide drama and excitement, as drivers compete against the clock at high speeds along the Riverfront.

Auto racing and automotive celebrities will be on hand for autographs, photo ops, and one-on-one chats. Famous racing drivers such as NASCAR's Bill Elliott, sports-car champions Brian Redman, David Hobbs and Alain de Cadenet, as

well as global automotive personalities Wayne Carini and Donald Osborne, will take part in the festivities.

Also on the celeb roster are Linda Vaughn, famous for her role as Miss Hurst Shifter, and Rallycross star Tanner Foust, who'll perform drifts on the Time Trials circuit.

The Kids Zone will have face painting, balloon artists, inflatables, Herbie the Love Bug, special appearances by Professor Gig-A-Watt and Looie the Lookout, Disney movies shown, plus the Creative Discovery Museum. The shops in West Village will be open during the Festival, including Antibes Boutique, an upscale shop for men and women; Alimentari Cucina e Bar, offering a spin on standard Italian fare; and Old Gilman Grill, ideal for gourmet patio dining.

The Antique Boat Show at the pier will display antique and classic boats, and hold a parade on the river.

There will be free access to the Street Party Friday night with live music by the Malemen Show Band, along with food trucks, laser shows and the public unveiling of the Volkswagen Atlas Cross Sport.

VIP ticket holders will get free access to the Tennessee Aquarium, the IMAX theater, and ticketed kids will get a free Kid Zone Climb at High Point Climbing Wall on Friday.

The proceeds from the Festival will benefit Chattanooga's Erlanger Neuroscience Institute.

"This is such a special event for the City of Chattanooga, and we are excited to help bring a unique celebration of cars and fun family activities to the 'Scenic City,'" said Byron DeFoor, founder of the Festival. "It truly is a happening that should not be missed."

Kids under 15 get in free with a ticketed adult. For ticket information, go to [www.chattanoogamotorcar.com/tickets](http://www.chattanoogamotorcar.com/tickets).

## Rickey Weiss Makes A Cleans Sweep Of Southern All Star Smoky Mt Action

MARYVILLE, TN - The Southern All Star Dirt Racing Series presented by MaxFab made its second stop of the season at the Smoky Mt Speedway in Maryville, TN., and Canadian driver Rickey Weiss won his second Southern All Star race in the King of the Mountain Fall

Classic giving him the sweep of the Southern All Star events at the track in 2019. came home in the fourth spot and now has 64 point lead going into the final race of the season at Talladega. Fifth place went to Eric Wells who was making his first start of the year with the series as he moved up from his seventh starting position.

Dalton Cook was the big mover of the night as he moved up 10 spots to come in sixth, John Blankenship finished in the seventh

spot, Tommy Kerr eighth, Vic Hill ninth and Zach Leonhardi tenth.

**RACE TIDBITS:** David Breazeale of Four Corners, MS., looks like he will take his first Southern All Star Championship and become the 24th different champion in the 36 year history of the series.

Zach Leonhardi of Cartersville, GA., has clinched the Cruise with the Champions/Dirtondirt.com Rookie of the Year for the 2019 season.

Racing action at Smoky Mt Speedway was some of the best of the season for the series as there was racing on the top, the bottom

and the middle. Many drivers moved up and down during the 50 lap event as the track was very good and so was the racing.

First time starts with the series this year Eric Wells, John Blankenship, Chris Combs, Kenny Collins, Stacy Boles, Joey Standridge, Derek Ellis, Jeff Wolfenbarger, and Skylar Marlar.

Next race will be October 12th at the Talladega Short Track a 40 lap \$4,000 to win event to coincide with the NASCAR Weekend.

For more information concerning the Southern All Stars contact Lynn Acklin - General Manager: 256-924-4546 [www.sasdirt.com](http://www.sasdirt.com).

Classic giving him the sweep of the Southern All Star events at the track in 2019.

Weiss started on the pole and did lead every lap, but he had a few challenges such as restarts as David Crabtree and Shannon Buckingham would stay close for a few laps and then he would be challenged by working his way through the lapped traffic, but he used patience and took his time as he had the dominate car and knew that he could build his lead back up when got clear of the slower cars. Weiss took home \$7,500 for the win.

Finishing in the second spot was last year's race winner Shannon Buckingham who started eighth as he and third place finisher Crabtree put on show for the fans as they battled each other hard for the latter half of the race. Southern All Star point's leader David Breazeale



Rickey Weiss celebrates in victory lane after winning at Smoky Mt. Speedway, his second win at the track this season. (Michael Moats photo)

An advertisement for Five Star Race Car Bodies. The top part features the 'FIVE STAR RaceCar Bodies' logo and the word 'ULTRAGLASS' in large, stylized red and white letters. To the right, it says 'DESIGNED TO WIN!' in yellow. Below this, a yellow banner reads 'BODY PANELS THAT DEFLECT 300% FURTHER BEFORE BREAKING=LESS DEBRIS ON THE TRACK!'. The bottom part of the ad shows a white race car with the number 7 and 'PHOENIX' branding, driving on a track. Text on the right says 'CASEY RODERICK CHOOSES FIVE STAR!'. At the bottom, it says 'THE DIFFERENCE IS QUALITY!' and provides the website 'www.FIVESTARBODIES.com' and phone number '262.877.2171'. An ISO 9001:2008 Quality Certified logo is in the bottom right corner.

## Blake Hahn Makes it Two in a Row at I-30 Speedway's Short Track Nationals

LITTLE ROCK, AR - Blake Hahn added himself to a select list of elite racers by charging to his second consecutive Short Track Nationals championship feature win atop the high-banked, ¼-mile I-30 Speedway clay oval on Saturday night.

Hahn reclaimed the point from John Carney II on the 21st circuit and led the rest of the way in the 41-lapper to take the \$10,041-winner's share in the 32nd Annual COMP Cams Short Track Nationals presented by Hoosier Tires finale.

"This is amazing," Hahn said upon climbing out of the DriveWFX/Smiley's No. 52 in victory lane. "We've been running well lately and to win this race twice in a row is incredible."

With the triumph, the Sapulpa, OK racer became just the fifth in STN history to win the event in back-to-back years, joining the likes of Steve Kinser, Gary Wright, Tony Bruce, Jr. and, most recently, Sammy Swindell.

Hahn bounced back from missing the cut in Friday night's preliminary feature to race his way into Saturday's four-car Mike Pack Building Materials "Dash for Cash". And, after drawing the pole position, Hahn led all but the final milliseconds when Seth Bergman nipped him at the line to earn a \$500 bonus and the pole for the 41-lap finale with Carson Short and Carney II earning second row starting berths.

Hahn gunned into the initial lead only to surrender the point to Carney II on just the second lap. Carney II kept Hahn and company at bay in the ensuing rounds, fending off a pair of bids from Hahn along the way.

Hahn began to close in as the midway point approached and dove underneath Carney II entering turn three on the 21st round to recapture the lead.

With the final 23 laps run in non-stop fashion after three interruptions in the initial 18 circuits, Hahn worked through some traffic and set a rapid pace to maintain a half-straightaway lead as the laps clicked off.

Carney II and Bergman dived in

his wake, swapping the runner-up position several times before a tense moment in traffic allowed Bergman to secure the position. Working the cushion, Bergman chipped away at Hahn's advantage in the closing circuits only to come up short at the line.

After posting a runner-up finish in Friday's preliminary, El Paso's Carney II earned his best career STN championship feature finish as well by rounding out the podium in third.

While the trio of Han, Bergman and Carney II monopolized the top three positions throughout the 41-lapper, position changes behind them were frequent with Sam Hafertepe, Jr., ultimately taking the fourth position after starting 13th.

Hafertepe, Jr., surged over the final half of the race, gaining a handful of positions to post his fourth career STN top-five.

On the charge with Hafertepe, Jr., Lindsay, Oklahoma's Harli White rallied from 15th to become the first lady racer to crack the top five in an STN championship feature.

Friday preliminary winner Derek Hagar was sixth with Howard Moore, Dylan Westbrook, Chris Martin and Charlie Loudon completing the top ten after race-long, top-ten contenders Matt Covington and Carson Short tangled in turn one on the final circuit just as Hahn streaked underneath the checkered flag.

The race's first stoppage happened after seven circuits when Zach Pringle and Tony Bruce, Jr., tangled getting into turn three with Greg Wilson going off the embankment to avoid the carnage. All three were done for the night.

The caution flew two rounds later Scott Bogucki's powerplant expired with a final interruption after 18 laps when Chris Martin spun to a stop in turn one.

Louden and Bogucki were the only two drivers that started a first career STN championship finale.

Hagar, Loudon, Eric Baldaccini, Hafertepe, Jr., Pringle, Short, Moore and Bergman each topped heat races to pick up a bonus of \$100 courtesy of Jenkins Fleet Services.

Martin, Bogucki, Carney II and Brandon Hanks topped qualifying races with Monty Ferreira and Brad Bowden victorious in "C" Main ac-



Blake Hahn celebrates in victory lane after winning the COMP Cams Short Track Nationals at I-30 Speedway. (L. Wheatley photo)

tion before Hafertepe, Jr., Bruce, Jr., won the "B" Mains.

A total of 70 competitors took in the 32nd Annual COMP Cams Short Track Nationals presented by Hoosier Tires at I-30 Speedway.

### "The Guy" Hagar Wins Short Track Nationals Prelim

LITTLE ROCK, AR - For the first time in his career, Marion, Arkansas native Derek "The Guy" Hagar reached victory lane in an STN feature event by wiring the field in Friday night's 25-lap preliminary at the 32nd Annual COMP Cams Short Track Nationals presented by Hoosier Tires atop the high-banked ¼-mile I-30 Speedway clay oval.

Hagar got the best of pole starter John Carney II on the initial start and then held off the El Paso native after a caution in the final five laps to take the \$2,500 winner's share in the STN appetizer.

"I was running as hard as I needed to keep the lead but was still trying to save the tires," Hagar commented after besting last year's previous best runner-up preliminary feature finish. Friday marked Hagar's eighth career STN prelim feature run.

Carney II earned the pole position over a field of 69 competitors after racing from fourth to first to win his heat race and then from sixth to first to win his qualifier to top the night's point charts. However, it was outside front row starter Hagar diving into the first turn to take the opening lap lead.

Hagar set the pace ahead of Carney II with Canada's Dylan Westbrook moving to apply pressure for second until a lap nine

bobble opened the door for Mississippi's Dale Howard to take over third position.

Working delicately through traffic from the ninth lap on, Hagar kept Carney II at bay until a caution flew with just four laps remaining when fourth-running Westbrook popped a right rear tire.

Carney II tried to mount a challenge on the restart, but Hagar was up to the task and raced on to victory lane with Carney settling for runner-up honors.

Howard held off Seth Bergman in the closing laps to claim the show position with the Washington native next across the line in fourth. Harli White, who scored her first career ASCS Regional win at I-30 Speedway earlier this season, rounded out the top five.

Greg Wilson crossed the stripe sixth ahead of event rookie Justin Peck. Sam Hafertepe, Jr., was eighth with Cody Gardner and Justin Henderson completing the top ten.

Heat races were won by Wilson, Hafertepe, Jr., Channin Tankersley, Westbrook, Carney II, Bergman, Sean McClelland and Riley Goodno while White, Jeremy Middleton, Bergman and Peck topped the qualifying races.

Scott Bogucki and Tim Crawley won "C" Mains with Kyle Bellm and McClelland victorious in "B" Mains.

Dewayne White became the first flip victim of the 2019 STN with a wild ride through turn one in the fourth heat with Cody Hays getting upside down as the next heat went green. Alex Hill got on her side in the First "C" Main with Mike Goodman banging the turn one cushion and taking a ride several laps later. There were no injuries.

## Talladega Superspeedway

TALLADEGA, AL - Talladega Superspeedway announced today that McDonald's will serve as the presenting sponsor of the traditional Saturday Night Infield Concert (Oct. 12) featuring Alabama's own Riley Green and Tyler Braden, part of the track's upcoming NASCAR Playoffs weekend. McDonald's will also sponsor the Big One LIVE Music

on Friday evening with country artist and singer-songwriter, Tim Dugger.

The Saturday Night Infield Concert presented by McDonald's will have a full Alabama flavor, kicking off after the running of the Sugarlands Shine 250 NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series Playoff event and Foodland/Food Giant Qualifying for the 1000Bulbs.com 500 for the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series. Opening act Braden, born and raised in Slapout, AL, has a powerful voice and knack for writing emotional songs, and signed with 50egg Music with Luke Combs and Jonathan Singleton. He will get the crowd going at 7 p.m. CDT, while headliner and country music artist Green from Jacksonville, AL, will take the stage at 9 p.m. CDT.

Access to the Saturday Night Infield Concert, located at the intersection of Eastaboga and Talladega Blvds., is FREE to all infield guests and anyone who purchases a ticket to the Sunday, Oct. 13, 1000Bulbs.com 500.

The party gets started the day before with the Big One LIVE Music presented by McDonald's on Friday Oct. 11, featuring NASCAR fan-favorite and another native of Alabama, Dugger. No stranger to the iconic 2.66-mile infield, the well-known singer will treat fans to live music at the end of Talladega Blvd. in the 5-points area (approx. 8:30 p.m. CDT) immediately following the always entertaining "Big One on the Blvd." driver parade & fan competitions. Throughout the evening, fans can quench their thirst with MillerCoors, Sugarlands Shine and Tito's Handmade Vodka mixed drinks at the Talladega Boulevard 5-points location.

Fans can also visit the McDonald's activation in The Midway presented by Graybar (exhibit area outside the track's frontstretch)

throughout the entire race weekend for a chance to grab free Spicy BBQ Glazed Tenders and World Famous Fries, along with an opportunity to win VIP passes for the Saturday Night Infield Concert presented by McDonald's.

For more information about the Saturday Night Infield Concert and the Big One LIVE Music, both presented by McDonald's, as well as the 1000Bulbs.com 500, Sugarlands Shine 250 and all other race weekend activities, visit [www.talladegasuperspeedway.com](http://www.talladegasuperspeedway.com) or call 855-518-RACE (7223).

Talladega Superspeedway is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year along with Transformation - The Talladega Superspeedway Infield Project presented by Graybar. Phase II of the project featuring the one-of-a-kind Talladega Garage Experience, which will allow fans to be immersed into the sport of NASCAR like never before, is set for its debut during the NASCAR Playoffs weekend. Fans can learn more about the project and view the progress 24/7 via the construction cam by visiting [www.talladegasuperspeedway.com/transformation](http://www.talladegasuperspeedway.com/transformation).

## Bristol Motor Speedway

BRISTOL, TN - Just as the lyrics to Chuck Berry's 1958 holiday classic "Run Run Rudolph" reminds the lovable reindeer with the shiny nose that Santa's got to make it to town, the Bristol chapter of Speedway Children's Charities invites runners to visit Bristol Motor Speedway next month to help kids in need.

The Cigna Speedway in Lights 5K presented by Fleet Feet will return for its ninth year on Sunday, Nov. 10. Growing in stature as an Appalachian Highlands beloved holiday 5K, the event officially kicks off SCC-Bristol's annual winter festivities and serves as a major fundraiser for the organization. Last year, the SCC-Bristol chapter raised over \$800,000 to help local kids in need in 18 counties surrounding Bristol Motor Speedway and Dragway.

"There's nothing better than running for a great cause while being the first to see the amazing Christmas displays that make up The Pinnacle Speedway in Lights," said Claudia Byrd executive director of SCC-Bristol. "We can't thank our sponsors, participants and volunteers enough for what they do to support our chapter, which has raised nearly \$15 million throughout its history to support local children in need. It's time to kick off

another amazing holiday season with the Cigna Speedway in Lights 5K presented by Fleet Feet."

The Cigna Speedway in Lights 5K will begin at 6 p.m. on Nov. 10. Participants in the 5K will run through the hundreds of displays and millions of lights that make up one of the largest Christmas displays in the Southeast. Runners will then finish their race in the infield at the official post-race holiday party sponsored by Home Trust Bank. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top male and female runners.

Guests may sign up with advanced registration for \$30, which can be completed at <http://bit.ly/SCCSIL5K>. Kids 12-and-under are only \$15. The final day to register is Saturday, Nov. 9. Packet pickup on the day of the event will begin at 4 p.m. To guarantee shirt size and availability, participants are asked to register by Sunday, Oct. 27.

For more information on SCC's winter events at Bristol Motor Speedway, please visit [www.SpeedwayCharities.org/Bristol](http://www.SpeedwayCharities.org/Bristol).

## Texas Motor Speedway

FORT WORTH, TX - When Tony Stewart enters the Texas Motorsports Hall of Fame as the 22nd member of the elite racing fraternity, he will have earned it both on and off the track at No Limits, Texas.

Stewart, by virtue of his two NASCAR Cup Series wins, four pole awards (two in INDYCAR, two in NASCAR), and more than 1,000 laps led at TMS (fourth all-time), as well as his three NASCAR Cup Series championships and one Indy Racing League title, was a shoo-in to have his name and face emblazoned on one of the pedestals that line the Texas Motorsports Hall of Fame. Equally as impressive, what he's done at Texas Motor Speedway off the track likely warrants its own induction.

Since 2008, Stewart has come to TMS each year to host the Smoke Show fantasy driving camp. Fans donate their hard-earned money to Speedway Children's Charities-Texas Chapter for the chance to ride along with and learn from the driver they call Smoke. The up close and personal nature of the event has made it a favorite through the years, and Stewart's presence has been the

most obvious reason why the event has raised more than \$1.7 million for children in Collin, Dallas, Denton, and Tarrant Counties.

Aside from his charitable endeavors at Texas Motor Speedway, Stewart lends his name to the TMS Dirt Track each year for the Tony Stewart Presents the Vankor Texas Sprint Car Nationals American Sprint Car Series (ASCS) race. The race features a handful of the bigger names in NASCAR each year, the stars of the nationally touring ASCS, and of course, Stewart himself.

"It does mean a lot to me," Stewart said of his induction. "It's nothing you think about as a driver. It's not your aspiration while you're driving to be in the Hall of Fame. When you're a driver all you want to do is win big races and win championships, and to still have that opportunity and still be able to race and compete at the same time as we're joining the Hall of Fame is pretty cool."

Stewart promised his acceptance speech will be of the off-the-cuff variety.

"I haven't been thinking about speeches or anything," Stewart laughed, taking a break from working to fix the asphalt roads around his Indiana home. "It'll be like a normal NASCAR banquet speech. It'll probably get done the night before we go into the Hall of Fame."

The partnerships and success Stewart has been a part of at Texas Motor Speedway ensures his induction into the Texas Motorsports Hall of Fame on Saturday, November 2 in an 11:30 a.m. luncheon ceremony in The Grand Ballroom of The Speedway Club. Other honorees include 12-time open wheel champion owner Chip Ganassi, five-time IndyCar Series champion Scott Dixon, reigning NASCAR Xfinity Series champion Tyler Reddick, and the late Dallas Morning News reporter Gerry Fraley.

The Texas Motorsports Hall of Fame ceremony serves as a major fundraiser for Speedway Children's Charities-Texas Chapter. Ticket prices are \$85 and include a

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catered meal.

Scott Dixon is being honored as the 2018 Racer of the Year after dominating last year's DXC Technology 600. Dixon led the final 119 laps for his third win at TMS and 43rd of his career, moving him into third all-time in INDYCAR wins. Dixon's win moved him into first in the IndyCar Series standings, and he never looked back,

winning the fifth championship of his illustrious career.

Dixon's team owner, Chip Ganassi, receives the Bruton Smith Legend Award for his success, innovation, and positive example across multiple levels of motorsports. Ganassi is the only owner in history to boast wins in the Indianapolis 500, Daytona 500, Brickyard 400, Rolex 24, 24 Hours of Le Mans, and 12 Hours of Sebring. His drivers have won eight INDYCAR and four CART championships.

2018 NASCAR Xfinity Series champion Tyler Reddick is the Sportsmanship Award recipient. Reddick was a factor throughout the 2018 O'Reilly Auto Parts 300, taking the lead on Lap 7, then re-taking it with just seven to go. On the final lap, Cole Custer got into his door down the backstretch, nearly wrecking them both. Custer ran away for the win and Reddick finished second in the third-closest Xfinity Series finish in track history. Afterward, a disappointed Reddick said, "It's how it goes. It's worked in my favor. It's worked against me." He still pointed his way into the Championship Four and made the most of the opportunity, winning the championship.

The late Dallas Morning News reporter Gerry Fraley is the posthumous recipient of the Excellence in Motorsports Journalism award. Fraley, a longtime baseball writer for the DMN, added the motorsports beat to his illustrious career and took off running. His straight-shooter style and direct line of questioning resonated with drivers and earned him the immediate respect he'd already gained throughout the journalism community.

For more information or to purchase tickets to the Texas Motorsports Hall of Fame luncheon, call Speedway Children's Charities-Texas at (817) 215-8421 or visit

[www.speedwaycharities.org/texas](http://www.speedwaycharities.org/texas).

The Texas Motorsports Hall of Fame ceremony, traditionally held during Texas Motor Speedway's spring NASCAR Weekend, will revert back that tradition in 2020.

The November NASCAR Playoffs weekend opens with Tony Stewart Presents the Vankor Texas Sprint Car Nationals ASCS races on Thursday, Oct. 31, and Friday, Nov. 1 on the TMS Dirt Track. The action continues on the asphalt Saturday, Nov. 2 with the NASCAR Xfinity Series O'Reilly Auto Parts 300 and concludes Sunday, Nov. 3 with the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series AAA Texas 500.

For more information or to purchase tickets to the AAA Texas 500 doubleheader weekend, please visit [www.texasmotorspeedway.com](http://www.texasmotorspeedway.com) or call the speedway ticket office at (817) 215-8500.

### Auto Club Speedway

FONTANA, CA - NASCAR is roaring back to Southern California for the Auto Club 400 race weekend (Feb. 28-March 1, 2020) at Auto Club Speedway with a new twist – kids 12 and under will be admitted free in the pit area all three days of race weekend when accompanied by an adult with a Pre-Race Pit Pass! Plan a family outing to the race track for unique behind the scenes pre-race experiences including watching pit crews get ready for the race, signing the start/finish line, walking along pit road or taking the ultimate family selfie in Victory Lane.

Auto Club 400 tickets are on

sale now with a special promotion of \$25.00 off pre-race pit passes (\$55.00 value) and \$10.00 off GA Tickets to the NASCAR Xfinity Series NXS 300 race. This offer is only valid from Oct. 7-14.

The NASCAR Auto Club 400 Weekend Schedule & Pricing:

- February 28, 2020: NASCAR Cup and Xfinity Series Practice - General admission is \$20.00 per person.

- February 29, 2020: NASCAR Cup and Xfinity Qualifying Day and NASCAR Xfinity Series NXS 300 Race - General admission is \$30.00 per person

- March 1, 2020: NASCAR Cup Series Auto Club 400 Race - Tickets start at \$45.00 per person

NASCAR tickets are on sale and start as low as \$20.00 which includes parking and all-day entertainment. Kids 12 and under with a free Lefty's Kids Club membership get free general admission showing their membership card to NASCAR Cup and Xfinity Series Practice (2/28); NASCAR Qualifying Day and NXS 300 race (2/29) with a paid adult.

Ticket holders have access to the giant O'Reilly Auto Parts Fan Zone for pre-race fun including concerts, NASCAR driver appearances, autograph sessions, interactive displays, stunt shows, Lefty's Fun Zone and other family fun.

To purchase tickets and ticket packages to NASCAR's Auto Club 400 Weekend at Auto Club Speedway, call 1-800-944-RACE (7223), shop online at [www.autoclub-speedway.com](http://www.autoclub-speedway.com), or stop by the Auto

Club Speedway ticket office at 9300 Cherry Ave. in Fontana.

### Talladega Superspeedway

TALLADEGA, AL - After winning twice the decade before, Dale Earnhardt showed his sheer domination at Talladega Superspeedway in the 1990s, bookending the 10 years by being on top. And, it just wasn't in NASCAR's premier series.

In 1990, he took his famed black No. 3 Chevrolet to Gatorade Victory Lane in both Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series events, and also made it three-for-three by claiming a victory in the International Race of Champions (IROC) race in the spring. Nine years later, he did the same thing – two Talladega Monster Energy Cup Series wins and an IROC triumph.

In between, he would add five more victories – three in Cup ('91, '93 & '94), along with a NASCAR Xfinity Series trip to the winner's circle ('93) and a third IROC win in '95 for a total of 11 wins in the '90s. In the Monster Energy Cup Series, he had an amazing 13 top-five results in 20 races, plus started on the pole three times.

It was a decade of supremacy for the King of the 2.66-mile, 33-degree banked venue, but there were plenty of interesting accomplishments by others at the track, which celebrates its 50th anniversary this Oct. 11-13 as part of a NASCAR Playoffs doubleheader weekend, as documented below:

- Jan. 23, 1990: Patty Moise breaks the women's speed record again by going 217.498 mph around Talladega Superspeedway in a Buick.

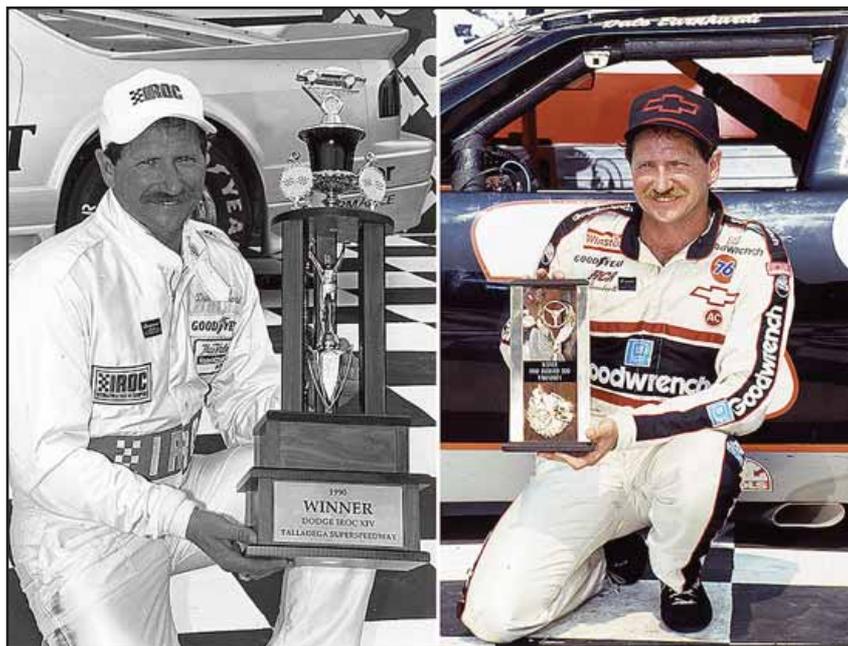
- May 6, 1991: Harry Gant, driving his famous No. 33, becomes the track's oldest Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series winner at 51 years, 3 months and 26 days. The "Bandit" plays a gas mileage game and wins by more than 11 seconds.

- July 26, 1992: The first of only three cars to finish on the lead lap, Ernie Irvan earns his initial Talladega Superspeedway triumph. He is also victorious in the track's inaugural NASCAR Xfinity Series event the day before.

- July 25, 1993: The summer race at Talladega is the first 500-mile race to produce 1,000 official lead changes over its history, an amazing feat considering the event is only 25 years old and has only 188 laps – or opportunities – to record lead changes.

- July 24, 1994: Apollo 11 Astronaut Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin, the

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**Dale Earnhardt started off the decade of the 1990s with a NASCAR premier Series sweep at Talladega Superspeedway, and tossed in a victory in the International Race of Champions (IROC). He came back nine years later and accomplished the same feat. In between, he was masterful as well at the 2.66-mile venue, claiming five more triumphs in various series. The greatest race track in the world celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. (TSS photo)**

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second man to walk on the moon, is the Grand Marshal of the fall event. Aldrin adds a personal touch in commanding the drivers to start their engines, stating, "Gentlemen, energize your ground craft."

- July 24, 1994: Jimmy Spencer drives to Gatorade Victory Lane, his last career win in the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series.
- July 23, 1995: In his 26th start at TSS, Sterling Marlin earns his first Talladega victory, starting from the pole.
- July 28, 1996: Hall of Famer Jeff Gordon collects his first of six Talladega Superspeedway victories.
- May 10, 1997: Mark Martin wins the race, which has no caution flags and still stands as the track's fastest race to date with an average speed of 188.354 mph. The event is completed in 2 hours, 39 minutes and 18 seconds.
- Oct. 12, 1997: The second Talladega race of the year is moved from the summer months of July and August – as it has been enjoyed since 1969 – to the fall.
- October 11, 1998: Dale Jarrett captures his first Talladega triumph on his 24th TSS start.
- Oct. 17, 1999: Earnhardt becomes the only driver in track history to sweep both events in a season on two separate occasions. Some may argue that Darrell Waltrip shares that distinction since he visited Talladega's Gatorade Victory Lane twice in both 1977 and 1982. However, the second trip in 1977 was credited to Donnie Allison, who had Waltrip take over the wheel for him as a relief driver on the last 23 laps of that race.
- Other winners of the decade: Davey Allison (1992), Irvan (1993), Martin (1995), Marlin (1996), Terry Labonte (1997) and Bobby Labonte (1998).
- Margin of Victory: With the lone exception of Gant's win on stretching his fuel mileage, the largest margin of victory is just two car lengths during the decade. The closest? Earnhardt over Irvan in July of '93 – 0.005 second.

The tradition continues at the Palace of Speed with the Sugarlands Shine 250 for the NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series on Saturday, Oct. 12, and the

1000Bulbs.com 500 for the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series on Sunday, Oct. 13 – both crucial NASCAR Playoff events.

For ticket information and to learn more about the Talladega Garage Experience and all ticket questions for the upcoming weekend, log onto [www.talladegasuperspeedway.com](http://www.talladegasuperspeedway.com) or call 855-518-RACE (7223).

### Pocono Raceway

LONG POND, PA - Tickets for the 2020 NASCAR Doubleheader Week at Pocono Raceway from June 25-28, featuring five NASCAR and ARCA races in four days, are now on sale to the public. The bucket-list motorsports event will include two NASCAR Cup Series races taking place on back-to-back days – a first in NASCAR history. Kids, ages 12 and under can attend all events during the weekend, free of charge. Additionally, ticket prices for all NASCAR Cup Series events remain unchanged, from the previous year, for the 2020 NASCAR week at 'The Tricky Triangle.'

To buy 2020 NASCAR Doubleheader Week tickets, please visit [www.poconoraceway.com/tickets](http://www.poconoraceway.com/tickets).

#### 2020 NASCAR DOUBLE-HEADER WEEK RACES:

- Thursday, June 25 at 4:15 p.m. ET - General Tire #AnywhereIsPossible 200 – ARCA Menards Series Race (80 Laps / 200 Miles)
- Saturday, June 27 at 12:00 p.m. ET - NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series Race (80 Laps / 200 Miles)
- Saturday, June 27 at 3:00 p.m. ET - NASCAR Cup Series Race #1 (TBD Laps / TBD Miles)
- Sunday, June 28 at 12:00 p.m. ET - Pocono Green 225 Recycled by J.P. Mascaro & Sons – NASCAR Xfinity Series Race (90 Laps / 225 Miles)
- Sunday, June 28 at 3:30 p.m. ET - NASCAR Cup Series Race #2 (140 Laps / 350 Miles)

Adult NASCAR tickets for Saturday and Sunday start at \$45. A Saturday gate admission ticket includes both the NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series 200-mile race and the weekend's first of two NASCAR Cup Series races. A Sunday gate admission ticket includes both the Pocono Green 225 Recycled by J.P. Mascaro & Sons NASCAR Xfinity Series race and the weekend's 350-mile NASCAR Cup Series race. Camping tickets start at \$200 for the entire race week. Adult tickets for Thursday and Friday start at \$10. Tickets for all event dates are available by visiting [www.poconoraceway.com/](http://www.poconoraceway.com/)

tickets or by calling 1-800-RACEWAY (1-800-722-3929.)

Kids, ages 12 and under, will receive free admission to 100 and 200 levels of the Grandstand, as well as Fan Fair, for all Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday events during the NASCAR weekend at 'The Tricky Triangle' in 2020. Children will also continue to be admitted free in all Pocono Raceway camping locations. Kids must have a reserved ticket on Saturday and Sunday. This can be selected, free of charge, during the ticket purchase process online at or by calling 1-800-RACEWAY. For more information about our Kids Free initiative, please visit [www.poconoraceway.com/kidsfree](http://www.poconoraceway.com/kidsfree).

Tickets for 2020 NASCAR Cup Series races, on June 27 and 28, include Pocono Raceway's Worry-Free Weather Guarantee presented by AccuWeather. If a NASCAR Cup Series is postponed due to weather and the ticket purchaser is unable to attend the rescheduled date, the track will cut a check to the account holder for the face value of the ticket. For more details about the Worry-Free Weather Guarantee presented by AccuWeather, please visit [www.poconoraceway.com/guarantee](http://www.poconoraceway.com/guarantee).

To learn more about the 2020 NASCAR Doubleheader Week, visit [www.poconoraceway.com/2020](http://www.poconoraceway.com/2020).

### Talladega Superspeedway

TALLADEGA, AL - A patriotic tradition at Talladega Superspeedway – the Freedom Trophy – returns for the 11th consecutive race weekend at the historic venue, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary as well as the culmination of the Transformation Infield Project presented by Graybar. The trophy will be awarded to the winner of the 1000Bulbs.com 500 Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series race (Oct. 13) by a warrior of the Wounded Warrior Project – Robert (Bobby) Woods, veteran of the U.S. Army.

This distinctive piece of hardware, a part of the track's Military Appreciation ticket program that offers excellent savings to military members on grandstand tickets as well as new Talladega Garage Experience admissions, is just one of the many patriotic traditions the 33-degree banked track holds as a way to say "Thank You" to the men and women who serve in our military.

The trophy features five-sided silver aluminum panels, each engraved with a military member and logo from one of our nation's five military branches, centered around a waterjet cut star. It has been presented to Talladega Superspeedway's winners in NASCAR's premier series by members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, and Coast Guard.

Woods was a U.S. Army Ranger who was severely injured while on patrol in Afghanistan in 2010. He's been connected with Wounded Warrior Project ever since, and the support of his fellow warriors has encouraged him to become a success. Not long ago, he earned his MBA at the University of Georgia and now owns his own business, a poultry farm in northeast Alabama. He and his wife recently welcomed their first daughter, and he also has a teenage stepson. Woods is an avid NASCAR fan, and next weekend will be his first trip to the 2.66-mile venue. He will also be recognized in the official Drivers Meeting the morning of the 1000Bulbs.com 500, as well as be introduced to the fans as part of the pre-race festivities.

The Wounded Warrior Project, established in 2003, is a nonprofit organization that is committed to helping wounded veterans achieve their highest ambition. A warrior is a veteran and service member who incurred a physical or mental injury, illness, or wound while serving in the military on or after September 11, 2001. Warriors volunteer countless hours serving their local communities through multiple youth organizations, food banks, scholarship fundraising, fishing mentorship, and Widows of Veterans.

In addition to the Military Appreciation ticket program, Talladega Superspeedway is also proud to offer a special ticket program to first responders and their families as part of the First Responders offer. For more information or questions about Military & First Responders tickets, visit [www.talladegasuperspeedway.com/military](http://www.talladegasuperspeedway.com/military).

The track's NASCAR doubleheader playoffs weekend will also be the grand debut of the new Talladega Garage Experience where fans will be immersed into the sport of NASCAR and the sanctioning

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body's Most Competitive venue like never before. It will feature a fan walkway under the same roof as the garage bays of all of the race teams, BIG BILL'S 35,000 square foot Social Club, FREE Wi-Fi, Value-Priced Concessions, access to celebrate with the race winner in Gatorade Victory Lane and much more.

For more information on the highly-anticipated NASCAR Playoffs doubleheader weekend, featuring the Sugarlands Shine 250 for the NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series (Oct. 12) and 1000Bulbs.com 500, visit [www.taladegasuperspeedway.com](http://www.taladegasuperspeedway.com) or call 855-518-RACE (7223).

### Homestead-Miami Speedway

MIAMI, FL - Fans coming to the infield at Homestead-Miami Speedway will soon enjoy the same beach amenities they would get visiting South Beach, thanks to Homestead-Miami Speedway and new presenting sponsor Ally Financial. Homestead-Miami Speedway and Ally have teamed up to offer the first-ever motorsports infield beach party. Access passes for The Infield Party at the Ally Beach are available to the public now.

The Infield Party at the Ally Beach, which is open to guests 18 and over, will debut during the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Ford EcoBoost 400 championship race on Sunday, November 17.

The Ally Beach is the first ticketed beach area in motorsports and is the first of its kind across all sporting venues throughout the country. The 20,000 square-foot beach is located in the Speedway's infield, inside of Turn 3, and sits on the spring-fed, 7-acre lake that spans the width of the backstretch.

Limited space is available for The Infield Party at the Ally Beach. Access passes start at \$40 and guests will be treated to a one-of-a-kind experience that includes:

- Live entertainment including music by Miami's #1 hit music station, Y100, and an appearance by Miami's own DJ Irie, who will once again be performing on the front stretch stage prior to Sunday's Ford EcoBoost 400 MENCS championship race
- Beach and water activities

such as kayaks, paddle boards and much more

- Unique food and beverage options

"This is a special opportunity to have Ally join us to bring a piece of the Miami culture to Homestead-Miami Speedway" said President Al Garcia. "The Infield Party at the Ally Beach will be one of the most exciting areas during Ford Championship Weekend and is sure to be a thrilling experience for everyone in attendance."

"We're delighted to join Homestead-Miami Speedway to bring this incredible beach experience to life for race fans," said Andrea Brimmer, Ally's Chief Marketing and PR Officer. "As a digital disruptor in financial services, we're always looking for new and fun ways to deliver meaningful and innovative experiences for our customers and communities. The Ally Beach will be a one-of-a-kind venue in motorsports, and another great example of our relentless commitment to 'Do It Right.'"

Tickets for 2019 Ford Championship Weekend, which consists of the Ford EcoBoost 200 (NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series championship race), Ford EcoBoost 300 (NASCAR XFINITY Series championship race) and Ford EcoBoost 400 (Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series championship race), are now available and can be purchased by calling (866) 409-RACE (7223) or visiting [www.HomesteadMiamiSpeedway.com](http://www.HomesteadMiamiSpeedway.com).

### zMAX Dragway

CONCORD, NC - The nitro-fueled thrill of NHRA drag racing returns to the Bellagio of drag strips Oct. 11-13 with a cornucopia for fun for fans of all ages.

The third of six races in the Countdown to the Championship, the NTK NHRA Carolina Nationals will see the top 10 competitors in Top Fuel, Funny Car, Pro Stock and Pro Stock Motorcycle make a push to a coveted title. But the on-track fun is only part of what's in store for fans next weekend.

As a lead-up to the excitement surrounding the event, here's a list of attractions that set this race weekend apart from all others at America's Home for Racing:

- FRIDAY NIGHT FIRE: Back by popular demand, zMAX Dragway will host a Friday Night of Fire to kick off the weekend fun. Fans will see 10-foot header flames lighting up the night sky in the first two qualifying passes for Brittany Force, Antron Brown, Ron Capps,

John Force and all the stars of Top Fuel, Funny Car, Pro Stock and Pro Stock Motorcycle categories. Don't miss an elaborate, pre-race show featuring pyrotechnics, music and more.

- STAND UP AND BE SEEN: Also on Friday night, Nitro Mike's famed "PT Bruiser" will show fans why it's been dubbed "the world's wildest wheelstander" and a "terror of two wheels" with an exhibition run that's sure to leave fans breathless. The heavily modified PT Cruiser holds the Guinness World Record for the longest wheelstand and promises to put of an unforgettable show for fans.

- DRAG WEEK EXHIBITIONS: Adding to an already jam-packed schedule of world class racing, race fans will see eight of the top performers from Hot Rod Drag Week's Street Car Small Block Power Adder category compete head-to-head in a battle for supremacy. Each driver will make two runs on Friday and two on Saturday. The driver with an average elapsed time (ET) closest to 8.50 seconds will be declared the winner, receiving a trophy during pre-race ceremonies on Sunday.

- RIDE OF LIFETIME: At zMAX Dragway, fans are more than just spectators. Throughout the three-day event, thrill seekers can participate in tire-squealing, smoke-billowing activities of their own, as an extraordinary East10Drift exhibition offering spectacular drift shows and hair-raising ride-alongs takes over zMAX Dragway for what's expected to be one of the most memorable race weekends in the history of the world-class venue.

- MUSIC AND MOTORS: Extending the festive atmosphere that surrounds the NTK NHRA Carolina Nationals into the fan zone, fans will be treated to free live music both Friday and Saturday nights. Nashville recording artist, singer and songwriter Jamie Saylor will take the stage on Friday for a full 60-minute set in the midway. Saylor will entertain fans with a mix of rock and country beginning at 7:45 p.m. The following day, Alabama native and diehard race fan Tim Dugger will bring his '90s style country sound to the midway stage at 5:30 p.m. before heading over to the dragway pavilion to headline the

camper appreciation party with an acoustic set at 7 p.m.

- SUNDAY STROLL: Fans with a Sunday ticket will have a rare chance to join drivers and drag racing personalities for the Mello Yello Track Walk on Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Just minutes before drivers take to the lanes for the opening round of eliminations, fans can walk the Bellagio of drag strip where history will be made, then be front and center for opening ceremonies on the start line just before the first pair fire their engines for eliminations.

- LIFE'S THE PITS: Nitro Alley is every fan's one-stop shop for all things entertainment. Grab the latest souvenirs, meander through dozens of interactive vendor displays or tour the sprawling, 27-acre pit area and get up close and personal with hundreds of high-powered race cars; keep a camera handy and be ready to grab a picture or an autograph from the superstars of the sport; it's the place to be and it's FREE with every NTK NHRA Carolina Nationals ticket.

- ELIMINATION DAY: A weekend of action and excitement culminates Sunday with eliminations, schedule to begin at noon. With just four races remaining to decide the series championships in all four professional categories, the competition is stiff, and the NTK NHRA Carolina Nationals could certainly make or break the season for many of the sport's top drivers. In Top Fuel, Doug Kalitta holds just a two point advantage over reigning Top Fuel champion and last year's Carolina Nationals winner, Steve Torrence. In the Funny Car category, Robert Hight, a five-time winner at the Bellagio of drag strips, leads his teammate, 16-time Funny Car champion and drag racing legend, John Force, by just 13 points.

TICKETS: To purchase NTK NHRA Carolina Nationals tickets, fans can call 1-800-455-FANS (3267) or shop online at [www.charlottemotorspeedway.com](http://www.charlottemotorspeedway.com). Weekend packages start at just \$99. Kids 13 and under get in FREE.

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.

**Visit**  
**[www.fastrackracingjournal.com](http://www.fastrackracingjournal.com) to**  
**read past issue of the magazine!**

## Carteret County Speedway

PELETIER, NC - Cody Hall and Zack Miracle picked up victories on Saturday night in the final Legends races before the Legends Asphalt Nationals on October 19th.

Hall won with a last lap pass on Jason Irwin in the Pro/Masters Legends feature of the Team Chevrolet of Swansboro 225.

Irwin went on to finish in second while Spencer Saunders, still chasing his first Carteret victory, came home in third. Zack Miracle won in the Young Lions/Semi Pro feature over Will Bristle.

Jody Measamer, for the second year in a row, picked up the victory in the Super Trucks feature race over Travis Wilson and Willie Fulford. Nolan Allison came away with the victory in the USAC Eastern Midgets race.

Zac Reimer scored his second consecutive victory in the Battlefield Tire Pros Mini Stock division while Andrew Jackson continued his recent dominance of the U-CAR class.

Saturday's race was the final race before the INEX Legends Asphalt Nationals, the most anticipated race in Carteret County Speedway history. The Nationals will come to Carteret County for the first time in two weeks, spanning from three days – with champions being crown on Saturday, October 19th.

Over 130 cars have already registered for the Asphalt Nationals.

The 130+ car field will be split into four divisions – Young Lions, Semi-Pro, Pro, and Masters. On track activity begins on Thursday, October 17th.

For more information about Bobby Watson's Carteret County Speedway, visit the track's official website at [www.carteretspeedway.com](http://www.carteretspeedway.com), "like" Carteret County Speedway on Facebook or follow @carteretcoswy on Twitter.

## Franklin County Speedway

Moonshine Capital Promotions will return to Franklin County Speedway in Callaway, VA to promote the Southern Turkey Derby on Sunday, November 23rd-24th.

Moonshine Capital Promotions is operated by Langley and Kimberly Austin and previously man-



**Cody Hall shows off his latest trophy after winning the final Legends race at Carteret County Speedway before the Legends Asphalt Nationals. (CODY HALL photo)**

aged Franklin County Speedway during the 2013-2014 and 2016-2017 seasons before issues with track ownership forced them out. They return this time but only for a single event.

Franklin County Speedway ran a limited schedule in 2018 and held just a handful of small events this season. Event promoter Langley Austin says that he wanted to run an event there because it's been a while since the track has had this kind of show.

"It's been a while since there's been a show like this on that track," Austin said. "I think probably June 2017 at our last event was the last time an event of this size was held there. The racers want it and the fans want it. I hear from them when I'm out at another track and on Facebook all the time. We want to do something that brings drivers and fans back there to enjoy one of the best short tracks in America in my opinion."

The Southern Turkey Derby will feature NASCAR style Late Model Stock Cars, Mod 4's, U-Cars, Stock 4's and possibly an Any Car or Destruction type division to end the

evening. Details on the Destruction type division will be announced at a later time but Austin says he wanted to get this out there as soon as possible. We're also open to the possibility of another division being added.

"We wanted to do an October 13th event but we just couldn't get all of our ducks in a row. It seemed as if everything was working against us to make that date work. We looked at doing October 27th but the NASCAR Cup races at Martinsville that day and we didn't want to go up against that. I wanted to get this info out there as soon as possible and let drivers get their cars ready and let fans know that a big event will take place at Franklin County this season."

Open practice will be held on Saturday, November 23rd with all racing taking place on Sunday, November 24th. The race is tentatively slated to start at 2:00 pm but final details will need to be worked out.

"This is going to be the big event of the year for this region. It was great to have Motor Mile Speedway back open this year for the drivers

and fans but after the Martinsville Late Model Stock Car race this region has nothing for the diehard drivers, teams, and fans. We'd like to make this an annual event and something we can really build on. It all starts with this one and see what we can do with it."

Austin says he feels as if the drivers and fans will want to be a part of this event.

"Promoting is what I love to do," Austin explained. "I'm going to work really hard at making this the type of event that every fan wants to watch and every driver wants to say they're a part of. Since putting the word out that we were looking to do a race there, we've had a lot of drivers reach out to us. I think it could be one of the biggest car counts we've had for any event there. The local racers are hungry to get back there and the fans are hungry to see a good race there."

Details on the race will be announced next week with purses, laps and all the other important information. Austin hasn't promoted a race in two and a half years and says it's going to take him a couple of weeks to get back in the swing of things but expect to see a lot of promotion for this event.

"This isn't something you can just flip a switch on and go do. We're going to build a website next week and we're getting our old Facebook page back up and running. We're going to be changing out signs at the track and along 220 in Roanoke. Putting up flyers and doing radio commercials and whatever it takes to get the word out there. It's going to be a challenge but we've done this twice already and made a splash. There's no reason this race won't be a huge success."

For more information on the event visit [www.FCSpeedway.com](http://www.FCSpeedway.com) or call Langley Austin at 276.613.4208.

## Lake View Motor Speedway

LAKE VIEW, SC - Raeford, NC's Shaun Harrell took the lead on the opening lap and held off a hard charging Johnny Pridgen for the win in the inaugural Larry Long Memorial Saturday night at Lake View Motor Speedway. The event was in memory of former speedway announcer, Larry Long, and utilized special rules on engines and bodies.

With aerodynamic side panels and spoilers that have not raced in competition at Lake View in over 35

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years, Johnny Pridgen scorched the track with a lap of 15.652 seconds, nearly besting a four decades old track record set by Jimmy Hatchell.

At the drop of the green flag for the main event, Harrell got the advantage over Pridgen entering turn one to take the lead. The first caution of the night would wave on lap four when Timmy Montgomery spun in turn one. Following the restart, Pridgen pestered Harrell with his aero advantage in the turns, while Harrell was able to maintain on the straightaways.

As the pair entered lapped traffic, Harrell attempted to lap the machine of Johnathon Ward in turn one, while Pridgen went between the two to take the lead. Harrell returned the favor one lap later, using lapped traffic to retake the lead from Pridgen. After a spin by Ward on lap 20, Christian Thomas would slam the inside guardrail hard on the ensuing restart. Harrell was able to hold Pridgen off by a car length for the \$3000 win, followed by Willie Milliken, Dustin Mitchell, and Matthew Bisette. Rounding out the top 10 were Steven Blanton, Zachary Cox, Montgomery, Ward, and Thomas.

The Stingerz division had their biggest race of 2019 Saturday night paying \$600 to win the Beehive 25. Richard "Rowdy" Seals made his return to Lake View, passing Kyle Jenks for the lead on lap three to take his first win of the season. Jenks would finish second, over Derek Kemper, Andrew Rowell, and Andrew Rabon.

Dillon, SC's Chris Powers jumped to the lead at the start and led flag-to-flag to claim another Limited Sportsman win. Johnny Moore got his best finish of the season, coming home second, while Benji Thompson bounced back from a spin on lap one to finish third over Scott Lewis and Jonathan Hardee.

Tom Lovett led every lap for the Renegade win in a crash-marred race. Joey Wilkes spun on the opening lap after contact from Josh Cook and collected several cars. Then, Ashley Best spun exiting turn four sending Anthony Morris into the inside guardrail. Following Lovett at the finish were Donald Williams,



**Shaun Harrell held off Johnny Pridgen for the win this weekend. (LAKE VIEW MOTOR SPEEDWAY photo)**

Wilkes, Bobby Edge, Jr., and Jordan Lewis.

Josh Fields took the lead at the start and led the rest of the way for the SportMod win over Case Daniels, Cameron Norris, III, and Jason Floyd.

The next event at Lake View Motor Speedway will be the 2nd Annual Tony Williams, III Memorial on Saturday, October 29 featuring the Renegades. Also in action will be the Late Models, Limited Sportsman, SportMod, and Stingerz. Be sure to "Like" Lake View Motor Speedway on Facebook, follow @LakeViewDirt on Twitter to keep up on all that's going on in 2019 or visit lakeviewmotorspeedway.com.

## Stafford Motor Speedway

STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT - Zack Robinson came into the 2019 Street Stock season at Stafford Speedway behind the wheel of a new car with a new team. Robinson was undeterred by the fact that he was driving a new car for a new team. He and the #89 RSM-PCO.com / First Class Automotive team owned by Bill Anderson quickly showed that they had championship potential by winning their third race together and three of the first 7 races of the 2019 season. Robinson gained the points lead midway through the 2019 season and remained on top until the end of the year to claim his first track championship.

"It definitely feels good to win the

championship," said Robinson. "We were this close in 2017 and we had some mishaps, which was my own fault. We moved on from that and we came into this year with our heads held high for a new season. The Anderson family came to us over the winter and asked us if we could help fix their car. We went through a couple of things and we decided we would build a brand new car from scratch. We started with a bare frame from the side of my garage, we went to Joe Hamm for a roll cage, and then we did the rest of the car ourselves. We finished fourth in the first race of the season and we thought that was pretty good for a new car. The plan was to win as many races as we could and when we started clicking them off four or five weeks into the season we decided we were going to stick it out and see where we could go with it."

Where Robinson and the #89 team went with their early season success was an almost permanent place in the top-5 every Friday night during the Street Stock feature events. After opening the year with a fourth place finish, Robinson finished the second race in 18th place. That 18th place finish on May 11 would turn out to be the only race of the 2019 season that saw Robinson finish lower than 7th. Robinson closed out the year with 5 wins, 16 top-5, and 19 top-10 finishes.

"Coming into the season our

goal was to win the most races and I think we got that done," said Robinson. "First of all I have to thank the Anderson family for giving me the opportunity to drive this car. Joe Brockett, he's the one behind this car and he made it happen every week and got the car to the front for us. Ryan Churchill, his father, his whole family, my stepdad, my mom, my father, my grandparents, everyone that's involved with this car, thanks to Jeff, Tick Mike, and all the sponsors. First Class Automotive, Jason with Royal Screw Manufacturing, Jet Electric, JSB, Hopkins Construction, Swanson Buick-GMC, Defenders of Charity, and everybody who's involved with this car."

Robinson's victory on July 12 moved him into the Street Stock point lead for the first time. From there, Robinson slowly built his lead up to where he came into the NAPA Fall Final with a comfortable 30-point margin over Meghan Fuller. Robinson recorded a third place finish at the NAPA Fall Final, which was his 12th podium finish of the season in 20 starts and he claimed the championship by a final margin of 26 points over Fuller.

"My plan from the start of the last race was to do what we had been doing all year and that was to go for the win," said Robinson. "The car started to fall off a little bit and I was kind of happy that we didn't get a late caution flag. This is a great accomplishment and I'm proud of the whole team."

Now that Robinson has claimed his first championship at Stafford, his plans for 2020 season are yet to be determined.

"Right now our plans are up in the air at the moment," said Robinson. "We were thinking about possibly going to the Late Model division next season but now that we've won the championship, we might have to come back to try to defend it."

Robinson will officially be crowned the 2019 Street Stock Champion at the 50th Annual Stafford Speedway Champion's Awards Banquet, scheduled for Friday, November 15 at Maneeley's in South Windsor. Tickets to the awards banquet are \$50 and are on sale now. Tickets can be ordered by calling the track at 860-684-2783 or they can be ordered online at [www.staffordspeedway.com](http://www.staffordspeedway.com).

For more information, visit [www.staffordspeedway.com](http://www.staffordspeedway.com), checkout Stafford Speedway on Facebook or Twitter, or contact the track office at 860-684-2783.