

2021 USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET SEASON

GEHRKE TAKES THE JOURNEY TO 2ND STRAIGHT USAC MW REGIONAL MIDGET TITLE

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Speedway, Indiana (October 26, 2021).....Five different drivers busted their way into victory lane throughout the 2021 USAC Midwest Regional Midget season, three of whom were first time series winners.

However, it was the driver who made consistency the overarching theme of his journey from beginning to end of the nine-race slate en route to a second consecutive championship – Chett Gehrke.

Gehrke (Broken Arrow, Okla.) went sans a feature win throughout the season for the second-straight year, but still successfully punctuated his defense of the title aboard the Don Moore Music Publications/Stealth/Mopar as the only driver to finish inside the top-10 in all nine events, highlighted by a pair of runner-up finishes in June at Bloomington (Ind.) Speedway and in August at Circus City Speedway in Peru, Ind.

For Gehrke, it's his third career USAC title following previous crowns in 2007 with the Indiana Ford Focus Midgets and in 2020 with the Midwest Regional Midgets.

His nine top-ten results were three more than his next closest competitor, while his five top-fives were tops among all drivers, along with Bryan Stanfill.

Stanfill (Bakersfield, Calif.) finished as the runner-up in series points, picking up his first USAC Regional Midget wins since the year 2000 at Santa Maria (Calif.) Speedway with the Western States series. Stanfill tabbed a pair of scores in Indiana during the 2021 season at both Bloomington and Circus City.

Third in the standings was Chance Crum (Snohomish, Wash.) who led all drivers with three victories this season, notching a trio of triumphs at Indiana's Gas City, Circle City and Kokomo Speedways. His total of 41 laps led was also tops among all contestants.

Shane Cottle's last USAC Regional Midget victory prior to 2021 came all the way back in 2000 at Lawrenceburg (Ind.) Speedway. The Kansas, Illinois driver doubled-up in his latest campaign with a pair of victories at both rounds held at Lincoln Park Speedway in Putnamville, Ind.

Thomas Meseraull (San Jose, Calif.) added a victory in May at Gas City while Abby Hohlbein (Cloverdale, Ohio) became the first woman to race to a USAC Regional Midget feature victory since Taylor Ferns in 2011 during the season finale, the Kokomo Klash at Kokomo Speedway.

Kayla Roell (Dillsboro, Ind.) impressed with a fourth-place result in the final standings while Christchurch, New Zealand native and current Warsaw, Ind. resident Glenn Waterland took fifth.

Three non-points special events were held throughout the year for the series with USAC NOS Energy Drink Midget National Championship regulars Cannon McIntosh (Bixby, Okla.) and Daison Pursley (Locust Grove, Okla.) taking each night of the Ricky Stenhouse Jr. Hometown Challenge at Riverside International Speedway in West Memphis, Ark. back during the first weekend of April.

Daniel Robinson (Ewing, Ill.), likewise, captured victory indoors during the non-points special event at the Southern Illinois Center in Du Quoin on Labor Day weekend.

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USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET RACE RESULTS: April 24, 2021 – Lincoln Park Speedway – Putnamville, Indiana

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer) 1. Tyler Nelson (#88 Nelson), 2. Bryan Stanfill (#75 Griffiths), 3. Ronnie Gardner (#43 Arnold), 4. Abby Hohlbein (#11H Hohlbein), 5. Kayla Roell (#4K Roell), 6. Jeff Beasley (#83 Beasley), 7. Michael Clark (#8 Clark). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer) 1. Shane Cottle (#86 Stamper), 2. Chett Gehrke (#10 Moore), 3. Chance Crum (#26 Rudeen), 4. Ryan Thomas (#1FR Thomas), 5. Justin Dickerson (#21D Dickerson), 6. Billy Lawless (#17L Lawless), 7. Justin Davis (#4 Davis). NT

FEATURE: (20 laps) 1. Shane Cottle, 2. Billy Lawless, 3. Bryan Stanfill, 4. Tyler Nelson, 5. Abby Hohlbein, 6. Jeff Beasley, 7. Chett Gehrke, 8. Justin Davis, 9. Kayla Roell, 10. Chance Crum, 11. Ryan Thomas, 12. Ronnie Gardner, 13. Justin Dickerson, 14. Michael Clark. NT

USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET POINTS: 1-Shane Cottle-78, 2-Bryan Stanfill-71, 3-Billy Lawless-70, 4-Tyler Nelson-69, 5-Abby Hohlbein-63, 6-Chett Gehrke-59, 7-Jeff Beasley-58, 8-Justin Davis-51, 9-Kayla Roell-50, 10-Chance Crum-49.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-20 Shane Cottle.

NEXT USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET RACE: May 7, 2021 – Gas City I-69 Speedway – Gas City, Indiana

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T-MEZ CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY WITH 16TH TO 1ST REGIONAL MIDGET CHARGE AT GAS CITY

By: Linda Mansfield

GAS CITY, Ind., May 8 – Thomas Meseraull of San Jose, Calif., celebrated his 40th birthday in victory lane following victories in both the 25-lap sprint car feature and the 20-lap USAC Midwest Regional Midget feature Friday night as Indiana's Gas City I-69 Speedway opened its 2021 season.

The USAC Midwest Regional Midget feature, which was for open midgets, Speed2 midgets and 1,000cc mini-sprints, had a flip before one lap was in the books. This time, it was Greg Mitchell of Washington, W.Va., who caught a tractor tire on the inside of Turn 4 near the front stretch and flipped but emerged under his own power.

Young Emerson Axsom of Franklin, Ind., led from lap one through lap 14, when Adam Taylor of Dwight, Ill. flipped in turn two while running tenth. Meseraull, who had started 16th after qualifying by winning the B-main, passed Axsom for the lead on the outside of Turn 4 on lap 15 after the restart and never looked back. His margin of victory over Axsom was 1.633 seconds with the RMS Racing/EnviroFab/Guess Performance Parts Spike/Speedway Toyota No. 7x.

Cottle, who like Meseraull was driving in both the sprint and midget divisions, finished third. Jarett Andretti of Indianapolis finished fourth and Chett Gehrke of Bardstown, Ky. rounded out the top five.

USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET RACE RESULTS: May 7, 2021 – Gas City I-69 Speedway – Gas City, Indiana

FIRST QUALIFYING GROUP: 1. Ronnie Gardner, 43, Arnold-12.523; 2. Bryan Stanfill, 75AU, Griffith-12.597; 3. Shane Cottle, 86, Stamper-12.905; 4. Tyler Nelson, 88, Nelson-13.005; 5. Abby Hohlbein, 11H, Hohlbein-13.171; 6. Adam Taylor, 7T, Taylor-13.259; 7. Jordan Calendine, 38, Calendine-13.385; 8. Kyle Dager, 2, Dager-13.576; 9. Glenn Waterland, 11c, Waterland-13.614; 10. Bryce Dues, 23D, Dues-14.020.

SECOND QUALIFYING GROUP: 1. Jeff Beasley, 83, Beasley-12.678; 2. Gray Leadbetter, 2MD, Dailey-12.784; 3. Chett Gehrke, 10, Moore-12.819; 4. Jacob Denney, 11T, Taylor-12.930; 5. Stratton Briggs, 71, Briggs-12.979; 6. Kayla Roell, 4K,

Roell-13.152; 7. Bryce Massingill, 1, Massingill-13.279; 8. Ian Creager, 36, Creager-13.386; 9. Kyle Kriegbaum, 12, Kriegbaum-14.314.

THIRD QUALIFYING GROUP: 1. Emerson Axsom, 15, Petry-12.166; 2. Thomas Meseraull, 7x, RMS-12.220; 3. Chance Crum, 26, Rudeen-12.324; 4. Jarett Andretti, 51, RMS-12.453; 5. Billy Lawless, 17L, Lawless-13.068; 6. Greg Mitchell, 001, Mitchell-13.192; 7. Carl Peterson, 49p, Peterson-13.860; 8. Austin Wickman, 65, Wickman-16.530.

DID NOT QUALIFY: Scott Orr (#88 Orr), Zack Gingerich (#8z Gingerich) & Tyler Watkins (#5 Watkins).

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Shane Cottle, 2. Tyler Nelson, 3. Ronnie Gardner, 4. Bryan Stanfill, 5. Adam Taylor, 6. Abby Hohlbein, 7. Glenn Waterland, 8. Kyle Dager, 9. Jordan Calendine, 10. Bryce Dues. NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Chett Gehrke, 2. Jacob Denney, 3. Gray Leadbetter, 4. Jeff Beasley, 5. Stratton Briggs, 6. Bryce Massingill, 7. Zack Gingerich, 8. Ian Creager, 9. Kyle Kriegbaum. 10. Kayla Roell. NT

THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Emerson Axsom, 2. Jarett Andretti, 3. Chance Crum, 4. Billy Lawless, 5. Greg Mitchell, 6. Austin Wickman, 7. Thomas Meseraull, 8. Carl Peterson (#49p Peterson). NT

SEMI: (10 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Thomas Meseraull, 2. Abby Hohlbein, 3. Bryce Massingill, 4. Glenn Waterland, 5. Kyle Dager, 6. Ian Creager, 7. Kayla Roell, 8. Jordan Calendine, 9. Bryce Dues, 10. Zack Gingerich. 11. Austin Wickman, 12. Kyle Kriegbaum. NT

FEATURE: (20 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Thomas Meseraull (16), 2. Emerson Axsom (2), 3. Shane Cottle (4), 4. Jarett Andretti (6), 5. Chett Gehrke (5), 6. Tyler Nelson (1), 7. Chance Crum (9), 8. Ronnie Gardner (7), 9. Stratton Briggs (14), 10. Gray Leadbetter (8), 11. Jacob Denney (3), 12. Bryce Massingill (18), 13. Jeff Beasley (11), 14. Adam Taylor (13), 15. Abby Hohlbein (17), 16. Billy Lawless (12), 17. Kyle Dager (20), 18. Glenn Waterland (19), 19. Bryan Stanfill (10), 20. Greg Mitchell (15). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-14 Emerson Axsom, Laps 15-20 Thomas Meseraull.

USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET POINTS: 1-Shane Cottle-150, 2-Tyler Nelson-131, 3-Chett Gehrke-125, 4-Bryan Stanfill-101, 5-Jeff Beasley-100, 6-Abby Hohlbein-99, 7-Emerson Axsom-75, 8-Thomas Meseraull-74, 9-Kayla Roell-60, 10-Justin Davis-51.

NEXT USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET RACE: June 25, 2021 – Bloomington Speedway – Bloomington, Indiana

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STANFILL STANDS TALL AT BLOOMINGTON

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Bloomington, Indiana (June 25, 2021).....Bryan Stanfill captured his first career USAC Midwest Regional Midget feature victory Friday night at Bloomington (Ind.) Speedway.

Starting fourth, Stanfill (Bakersfield, Calif.) led the final 10 laps of the 15-lap event after taking the lead from Tyler Nelson on the sixth circuit. Nelson later ran into mechanical trouble which knocked him out of the race early, finishing 8th.

Driving the Griffiths Motorsports No. 75AU, Stanfill was followed to the line by defending series champion and new series point leader Chett Gehrke (Broken Arrow, Okla.), Max Adams (Loomis, Calif.), Brayton Lynch (Springfield, Ill.) and Jeff Schindler (Evansville, Ind.).

USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET RACE RESULTS: June 25, 2021 – Bloomington Speedway – Bloomington, Indiana

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, starting positions in brackets) 1. Tyler Nelson (#88 Nelson) [2], 2. Chett Gehrke (#10 Moore) [4], 3. Jeff Schindler (#11 Martin) [3], 4. Bryan Stanfill (#75AU Griffiths) [9], 5. Billy Lawless (#17L Lawless) [1], 6. Max Adams (#37 Felker) [8], 7. Jeff Beasley (#83 Beasley) [6], 8. Brayton Lynch (#37s Felker) [7], 9. Kayla Roell (#4K Roell) [5]. NT

FEATURE: (15 laps, starting positions in brackets) 1. Bryan Stanfill [4], 2. Chett Gehrke [2], 3. Max Adams [6], 4. Brayton Lynch [8], 5. Jeff Schindler [3], 6. Billy Lawless [5], 7. Jeff Beasley [7], 8. Tyler Nelson [1], 9. Kayla Roell [9]. NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-5 Tyler Nelson, Laps 6-15 Bryan Stanfill.

USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET POINTS: 1-Chett Gehrke-199, 2-Tyler Nelson-188, 3-Bryan Stanfill-176, 4-Jeff Beasley-154, 5-Shane Cottle-150, 6-Chance Crum-107, 7-Kayla Roell-107, 8-Abby Hohlbein-99, 9-Emerson Axsom-75, 10-Thomas Meseraull-74.

NEXT USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET RACE: June 30, 2021 – Circle City Raceway – Indianapolis, Indiana

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COTTLE WIRES ALL 20 FOR LINCOLN PARK USAC REGIONAL MIDGET WIN

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Putnamville, Indiana (July 3, 2021).....Shane Cottle has been a winner and a frequent frontrunner in the USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car portion of the Bill Gardner Sprintacular over the years.

On Saturday night at Putnamville, Indiana's Lincoln Park Speedway, the Kansas, Ill. driver added a USAC Midwest Regional Midget feature victory to his Sprintacular resume, leading all 20 laps from his pole starting position aboard the Danny Stamper/Guyer Farms – A.J. Adams & Sons – Nutrien Ag Solutions/Spike/Esslinger.

For Cottle, it was his second USAC Regional Midget win of the year at Lincoln Park after capturing the series' most recent visit to the 5/16-mile dirt oval in April.

"The car was good all night," Cottle stated. "We just had to stick it on the bottom and hope that nobody went around me on the outside."

After winning his heat race, Cottle claimed the number one position in the starting field, and on the start, shot his way underneath outside front row starter, heat race winner and fast qualifier Hayden Reinbold.

Cottle had to contend with traffic throughout much of the caution-free event as he occupied the low line, putting all but the first six finishers in the 15-car field a lap down.

Reinbold pursued Cottle for the majority of the race and got right to the back bumper of Cottle entering turn three on the 11th lap, but overcooked it just a tad, causing him to lose ground as he checked up and regathered the car up and carried onward.

Cottle never wavered from rolling the bottom in turns three and four and through the middle in turns one and two. Reinbold mounted a late charge and closed to within a single car length of Cottle exiting turn two on the final lap.

However, Cottle throttled away from the challenge, pulling a nice wheelstand as he crossed the finish line to put an exclamation point on the evening, winning by four car lengths at the checkered flag over Reinbold (Gilbert, Ariz.) with Bryan Stanfill (Bakersfield, Calif.), Chance Crum (Snohomish, Wash.) and Tyler Nelson (Olathe, Kan.) rounding out the top-five while defending series champion and current point leader Chett Gehrke (Broken Arrow, Okla.) finished 7th.

USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET RESULTS: July 3, 2021 – Lincoln Park Speedway – Putnamville, Indiana – 5/16-Mile Dirt Track – Bill Gardner Sprintacular

QUALIFYING: 1. Hayden Reinbold, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-13.724; 2. Tyler Nelson, 88, Nelson-13.857; 3. Shane Cottle, 86, Stamper-13.906; 4. Chance Crum, 26, Rudeen-14.225; 5. Bryan Stanfill, 75AU, Griffiths-14.343; 6. Jeff Beasley, 83B, Beasley-14.368; 7. Jonathan Miller, 67, Miller-14.544; 8. Chett Gehrke, 10, Moore-14.722; 9. Billy Lawless, 17L, Lawless-14.739; 10. Justin Dickerson, 21D, Dickerson-14.765; 11. Jeff Schindler, 11, Martin-14.766; 12. Glenn Waterland, 11c, Waterland-14.898; 13. Kayla Roell, 4K, Martin-14.913; 14. Mark Nieft Jr., 20N, Nieft-15.892; 15. Don Epley, 12x, Rocket-17.169; 16. Ryan Thomas, 1FR, Wingo-NT.

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Shane Cottle, 2. Bryan Stanfill, 3. Billy Lawless, 4. Chett Gehrke, 5. Jeff Schindler, 6. Jonathan Miller, 7. Justin Dickerson, 8. Glenn Waterland. NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Hayden Reinbold, 2. Chance Crum, 3. Tyler Nelson, 4. Kayla Roell, 5. Mark Nieft Jr., 6. Jeff Beasley, 7. Don Epley. NT

FEATURE: (20 laps) 1. Shane Cottle, 2. Hayden Reinbold, 3. Bryan Stanfill, 4. Chance Crum, 5. Tyler Nelson, 6. Billy Lawless, 7. Chett Gehrke, 8. Kayla Roell, 9. Glenn Waterland, 10. Justin Dickerson, 11. Jeff Schindler, 12. Mark Nieft Jr., 13. Don Epley, 14. Jonathan Miller, 15. Jeff Beasley. NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-20 Shane Cottle.

USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET POINTS: 1-Chett Gehrke-256, 2-Tyler Nelson-252, 3-Bryan Stanfill-247, 4-Shane Cottle-228, 5-Jeff Beasley-190, 6-Chance Crum-175, 7-Kayla Roell-161, 8-Jeff Schindler-109, 9-Abby Hohlbein-99, 10-Emerson Axsom-75.

NEXT USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET RACE: July 9, 2021 – Gas City I-69 Speedway – Gas City, Indiana

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USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET RESULTS: July 9, 2021 – Gas City I-69 Speedway – Gas City, Indiana

QUALIFYING: 1. Bryan Stanfill, 75AU, Griffiths-12.185; 2. Blake Brannon, 40, Brannon-12.232; 3. Tyler Nelson, 88, Nelson-12.362; 4. Russ Gamester, 46, Gamester-12.463; 5. Chett Gehrke, 10, Moore-12.481; 6. Chance Crum, 26, Rudeen-12.612; 7. Kyle Simon, 79K, Simon-12.885; 8. Justin Dickerson, 21D, Dickerson-13.137; 9. Billy Lawless, 17L, Lawless-13.138; 10. Glenn Waterland, 11c, Waterland-13.162; 11. Ben Varner, 25, Varner-13.164; 12. Ronnie Gardner, 43, Arnold-NT; 13. Kevin Blue, DW7, Blue-NT.

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Chance Crum, 2. Bryan Stanfill, 3. Tyler Nelson, 4. Billy Lawless, 5. Glenn Waterland, 6. Ben Varner, 7. Justin Dickerson. NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Kyle Simon, 2. Russ Gamester, 3. Chett Gehrke, 4. Ronnie Gardner, 5. Blake Brannon, 6. Kevin Blue. NT

FEATURE: (25 laps) 1. Chance Crum, 2. Ronnie Gardner, 3. Blake Brannon, 4. Russ Gamester, 5. Chett Gehrke, 6. Bryan Stanfill, 7. Tyler Nelson, 8. Billy Lawless, 9. Glenn Waterland, 10. Ben Varner, 11. Kyle Simon, 12. Kevin Blue, 13. Justin Dickerson. NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-4 Tyler Nelson, Laps 5-14 Bryan Stanfill, Laps 15-25 Chance Crum.

USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET POINTS: 1-Chett Gehrke-320, 2-Tyler Nelson-310, 3-Bryan Stanfill-309, 4-Chance Crum-253, 5-Shane Cottle-228, 6-Jeff Beasley-190, 7-Kayla Roell-161, 8-Glenn Waterland-125, 9-Jeff Schindler-109, 10-Abby Hohlbein-99.

NEXT USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET RACE: July 10, 2021 – Wayne County Speedway – Wayne City, Illinois

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CRUM GOES BACK-TO-BACK WITH CIRCLE CITY SCORE

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Indianapolis, Indiana (July 22, 2021).....Chance Crum scored his second consecutive USAC Midwest Regional Midget feature victory on Thursday night at Circle City Raceway in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Crum (Snohomish, Wash.) started fourth in the 30-lap feature and steadily worked his way to the front past pole sitter Russ Gamester on lap eight, then carried on to the victory just two weeks following his last feature win at Gas City, Ind.

Leading the final 23 laps in his Rudeen Racing No. 26, Crum was followed to the finish line by Gamester (Peru, Ind.), point leader Chett Gehrke (Broken Arrow, Okla.), Bryan Stanfill (Bakersfield, Calif.) and Billy Lawless (Fresno, Calif.).

Hayden Williams (Auckland, N.Z.) was the evening's fastest qualifier but a mechanical issue prevented him from participating in the feature.

USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET RESULTS: July 22, 2021 – Circle City Raceway – Indianapolis, Indiana

QUALIFYING: 1. Hayden Williams, 1NZ, BSL-13.044; 2. Bryan Stanfill, 75AU, Griffiths-13.296; 3. Chance Crum, 26, Rudeen-13.429; 4. Chett Gehrke, 10, Moore-13.514; 5. Billy Lawless, 17L, Lawless-13.522; 6. Russ Gamester, 46, Gamester-13.587; 7. Glenn Waterland, 11c, Waterland-13.635; 8. Kayla Roell, 4K, Martin-13.649; 9. Justin Dickerson, 21D, Dickerson-13.684; 10. Jordan Calendine, 38, Calendine-13.863; 11. Kameron Gladish, 25, Gladish-14.549; 12. Jim Jones, 97, Jones-15.019.

FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in brackets) 1. Russ Gamester [1], 2. Chance Crum [2], 3. Jordan Calendine [5], 4. Jim Jones [6], 5. Bryan Stanfill [3], 6. Hayden Williams [4]. NT

SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in brackets) 1. Chett Gehrke [4], 2. Kayla Roell [1], 3. Billy Lawless [3], 4. Justin Dickerson [5], 5. Glenn Waterland [2], 6. Kameron Gladish [6]. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting positions in brackets) 1. Chance Crum [4], 2. Russ Gamester [1], 3. Chett Gehrke [3], 4. Bryan Stanfill [9], 5. Billy Lawless [6], 6. Glenn Waterland [10], 7. Justin Dickerson [8], 8. Jordan Calendine [5], 9. Kameron Gladish [12], 10. Kayla Roell [2], 11. Jim Jones [7]. NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-7 Russ Gamester, Laps 8-30 Chance Crum.

USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET POINTS: 1-Chett Gehrke-392, 2-Bryan Stanfill-374, 3-Chance Crum-330, 4-Tyler Nelson-310, 5-Shane Cottle-228, 6-Kayla Roell-211, 7-Jeff Beasley-190, 8-Glenn Waterland-184, 9-Jeff Schindler-109, 10-Abby Hohlbein-99.

NEXT USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET RACE: August 14, 2021 – Circus City Speedway – Peru, Indiana

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STANFILL PREVAILS IN CIRCUS CITY DUEL

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Peru, Indiana (August 14, 2021).....The two main players in the hunt for the USAC Midwest Regional Midget championship put their battle on display during Saturday night's 30-lap feature at Circus City Speedway in Peru, Ind.

Bryan Stanfill (Bakersfield, Calif.) and series point leader Chett Gehrke (Broken Arrow, Okla.) duked it out for the duration of the feature distance with Stanfill leading the initial four laps before giving way to Gehrke on the fifth lap.

Gehrke, the defending series champ, controlled the pace throughout the middle stage, leading a race-high 17 laps until Stanfill raced back by for the lead with just nine laps remaining.

Stanfill ultimately prevailed for his second series victory of the year by a 0.344 second margin over Gehrke, Greg Mitchell (Parkersburg, W.Va.), Scott Orr (Columbia City, Ind.) and Abby Hohlbein (Cloverdale, Ohio).

By virtue of his victory, Stanfill closed the gap in the title race to a mere 13 points behind Gehrke.

Additionally, in what was a special night for the Stanfill family, Bryan's son Cruz also captured the Junior Sprint feature victory at the track in the same evening.

USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET RESULTS: August 14, 2021 – Circus City Speedway – Peru, Indiana

QUALIFYING: 1. Bryan Stanfill, 75AU, Griffiths-11.031; 2. Kayla Roell, 4K, Martin-11.225; 3. Scott Orr, 88, Orr-11.226; 4. Glenn Waterland, 11c, Waterland-11.334; 5. Jordan Calendine, 38, Calendine-11.340; 6. Keith Ousley, 27, Ousley-11.367; 7. Greg Mitchell, 001B, Mitchell-11.381; 8. Ben Varner, 25v, Gladish-11.402; 9. Abby Hohlbein, 11H, Hohlbein-11.403; 10. Chett Gehrke, 10, Moore-11.445; 11. Garrett Mitchell, 001y, Mitchell-11.645.

FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Bryan Stanfill, 2. Greg Mitchell, 3. Chett Gehrke, 4. Glenn Waterland, 5. Kayla Roell, 6. Keith Ousley. NT

SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Abby Hohlbein, 2. Scott Orr, 3. Jordan Calendine, 4. Ben Varner, 5. Garrett Mitchell. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps) 1. Bryan Stanfill, 2. Chett Gehrke, 3. Greg Mitchell, 4. Scott Orr, 5. Abby Hohlbein, 6. Jordan Calendine, 7. Garrett Mitchell, 8. Kayla Roell, 9. Glenn Waterland, 10. Ben Varner, 11. Keith Ousley. NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-4 Bryan Stanfill, Laps 5-21 Chett Gehrke, Laps 22-30 Bryan Stanfill.

USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET POINTS: 1-Chett Gehrke-465, 2-Bryan Stanfill-452, 3-Chance Crum-330, 4-Tyler Nelson-310, 5-Kayla Roell-264, 6-Glenn Waterland-235, 7-Shane Cottle-228, 8-Jeff Beasley-190, 9-Abby Hohlbein-165, 10-Jeff Schindler-109.

NEXT USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET RACE: August 28, 2021 – Kokomo Speedway – Kokomo, Indiana

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CRUM SWEEPS USAC REGIONAL MIDGET SHOW AT KOKOMO

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Kokomo, Indiana (August 28, 2021).....Chance Crum swept the evening, setting fast qualifying time, winning his heat race, then charging to victory in the 20-lap USAC Midwest Regional Midget feature Saturday night at Kokomo (Ind.) Speedway.

Crum (Snohomish, Wash.) chased down racelong leader Chase McDermund (Springfield, Ill.) on the 13th lap. He then charged away during the final seven laps to score his fourth win in the last five series races in his Rudeen Racing/Rayce Rudeen Foundation – Hager Realty Services/Spike/Speedway Toyota.

Following Crum to the finish line were McDermund, Hayden Reinbold (Gilbert, Ariz.), Jack Routson (Waterman, Ill.) and Mitchell Davis (Auburn, Ill.).

Point leader Chett Gehrke (Broken Arrow, Okla.) finished sixth while championship contender Bryan Stanfill (Bakersfield, Calif.) suffered mechanical issues and fell back to 11th in the final rundown after running fifth at the midway point.

USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET RESULTS: August 28, 2021 – Kokomo Speedway – Kokomo, Indiana

QUALIFYING: 1. Chance Crum, 26, Rudeen-13.626; 2. Chase McDermund, 40, McDermund-13.735; 3. Hayden Reinbold, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-13.793; 4. Jack Routson, 57, RAB-13.832; 5. Bryan Stanfill, 75AU, Griffiths-14.015; 6. Chett Gehrke, 10, Moore-14.081; 7. Mitchell Davis, 38D, Dori-14.132; 8. Billy Lawless, 17L, Lawless-14.412; 9. Ben Varner, 25v, Gladish-14.435; 10. Greg Mitchell, 001Y, Mitchell-14.491; 11. Glenn Waterland, 11c, Waterland-14.767; 12. Jordan Calendine, 38, Calendine-14.804; 13. John Sluss, 75, Griffiths-14.853; 14. Garrett Mitchell, 001B, Mitchell-15.351.

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Chance Crum, 2. Hayden Reinbold, 3. Jack Routson, 4. Mitchell Davis, 5. Ben Varner, 6. Greg Mitchell, 7. Jordan Calendine. 1:55.678

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Chase McDermund, 2. Bryan Stanfill, 3. Chett Gehrke, 4. Billy Lawless, 5. Glenn Waterland, 6. John Sluss, 7. Garrett Mitchell. 1:57.406

FEATURE: (20 laps) 1. Chance Crum, 2. Chase McDermund, 3. Hayden Reinbold, 4. Jack Routson, 5. Mitchell Davis, 6. Chett Gehrke, 7. Ben Varner, 8. Billy Lawless, 9. Greg Mitchell, 10. Garrett Mitchell, 11. Bryan Stanfill, 12. John Sluss, 13. Glenn Waterland. NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-13 Chase McDermund, Laps 14-20 Chance Crum.

USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET POINTS: 1-Chett Gehrke-526, 2-Bryan Stanfill-500, 3-Chance Crum-408, 4-Tyler Nelson-310, 5-Glenn Waterland-276, 6-Kayla Roell-264, 7-Shane Cottle-228, 8-Jeff Beasley-190, 9-Abby Hohlbein-165, 10-Ben Varner-150.

NEXT USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET RACE: September 1, 2021 – Southern Illinois Center – Du Quoin, Illinois

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HOHLBEIN SHINES IN FIRST USAC REGIONAL MIDGET WIN AT KOKOMO KLASH

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Kokomo, Indiana (October 16, 2021).....Abby Hohlbein led the final five laps to score her first career USAC Midwest Regional Midget feature victory Saturday night at Kokomo (Ind.) Speedway, as part of the Kokomo Klash.

Hohlbein, who competes regularly with the USAC Midwest Thunder Speed2 Midget series, took the lead late in the 25-lap feature following race leader Adam Taylor's spin in turn four on lap 21. Taylor had held a five-plus second lead at that juncture.

With the victory, Hohlbein (Cloverdale, Ohio) became just the ninth woman to win a full USAC Regional Midget feature, joining Bev Griffis, Stephanie Mockler, Sonni Eden, Shannon McQueen, Alison MacLeod, Taylor Ferns, Michelle Decker and Maria Cofer.

Hohlbein was followed to the line by Travis Berryhill (American Canyon, Calif.), Jack Routson (Waterman, Ill.), Jeff Schindler (Evansville, Ind.) and Kayla Roell (Dillsboro, Ind.).

Defending series champion and point leader Chett Gehrke (Broken Arrow, Okla.) finished 6th and extended his point lead to 50 over Bryan Stanfill (Bakersfield, Calif.) entering the final event on Friday, Oct. 22, at Indiana's Gas City I-69 Speedway.

Stanfill led laps four and five before a turn two incident caused him to stop. He restarted and continued briefly, dropping out with a 16th place finish.

Routson led twice, including the opening three laps as well as lap six when he took over the lead from Stanfill. Routson led one more additional lap before being overtaken by Taylor on the 7th circuit (Dwight, Ill), who led a race-high 14 laps.

USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET RESULTS: August 28, 2021 – Kokomo Speedway – Kokomo, Indiana

GROUP ONE QUALIFYING: 1. Adam Taylor, 5x, Jones-13.541; 2. Bryan Stanfill, 75AU, Griffiths-13.630; 3. Ben Varner, 25v, Gladish-14.007; 4. Blake Brannon, 40, Brannon-14.100; 5. Travis Berryhill, 77s, Sturgeon-14.333; 6. Glenn Waterland, 11c, Waterland-14.811; 7. Garrett Mitchell, 001x, Mitchell-15.026; 8. Jon Watson, 20x, Watson-NT.

GROUP TWO QUALIFYING: 1. Jack Routson, 57A, RAB-13.939; 2. Abby Hohlbein, 11H, Hohlbein-14.251; 3. Cory Guingrich, 42, Guingrich-14.428; 4. Kayla Roell, 11K, Martin-14.547; 5. Greg Mitchell, 001, Mitchell-14.735; 6. Jim Jones, 97, Jones-16.548; 7. Rich Drangmeister, 76, Drangmeister-18.048; 8. Kevin Blue, DW7, Blue-NT.

GROUP THREE QUALIFYING: 1. Justin Dickerson, 21D, Dickerson-14.137; 2. Chett Gehrke, 10, Moore-14.279; 3. Zach Boden, 57K, RAB-14.325; 4. Jeff Schindler, 11, Martin-14.340; 5. Alex Nalon, 18, Dickerson-14.887; 6. Wes Pinkerton, 9p, Pinkerton-17.414; 7. Dave Fetsch, 3, Drangmeister-18.867.

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Adam Taylor, 2. Bryan Stanfill, 3. Blake Brannon, 4. Travis Berryhill, 5. Glenn Waterland, 6. Garrett Mitchell, 7. Ben Varner. NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Jack Routson, 2. Abby Hohlbein, 3. Kayla Roell, 4. Cory Guingrich, 5. Greg Mitchell, 6. Rich Drangmeister, 7. Jim Jones, 8. Kevin Blue. NT

THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Justin Dickerson, 2. Chett Gehrke, 3. Jeff Schindler, 4. Alex Nalon, 5. Dave Fetsch, 6. Zach Boden, 7. Wes Pinkerton. NT

FEATURE: (25 laps) 1. Abby Hohlbein, 2. Travis Berryhill, 3. Jack Routson, 4. Jeff Schindler, 5. Kayla Roell, 6. Chett Gehrke, 7. Cory Guingrich, 8. Adam Taylor, 9. Alex Nalon, 10. Greg Mitchell, 11. Garrett Mitchell, 12. Glenn Waterland, 13. Jim Jones, 14. Wes Pinkerton, 15. Justin Dickerson, 16. Bryan Stanfill, 17. Rich Drangmeister, 18. Blake Brannon, 19. Dave Fetsch. NT

****Ben Varner flipped during the first heat. Blake Brannon flipped on lap 5 of the feature. Wes Pinkerton flipped on lap 21 of the feature.**

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-3 Jack Routson, Laps 4-5 Bryan Stanfill, Lap 6 Jack Routson, Laps 7-20 Adam Taylor, Laps 21-25 Abby Hohlbein.

USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET POINTS: 1-Chett Gehrke-588, 2-Bryan Stanfill-538, 3-Chance Crum-408, 4-Kayla Roell-328, 5-Glenn Waterland-319, 6-Tyler Nelson-310, 7-Abby Hohlbein-242, 8-Shane Cottle-228, 9-Jeff Beasley-190, 10-Jeff Schindler-176.

NEXT USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET RACE: October 22, 2021 – Gas City I-69 Speedway – Gas City, Indiana

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RAIN HALTS FRIDAY'S USAC REGIONAL MIDGETS AT GAS CITY, GEHRKE CLAIMS SERIES TITLE

Gas City, Indiana (October 22, 2021).....Rain halted the Fall Festival of Speed at 10pm Friday night at Indiana's Gas City I-69 Speedway, forcing cancellation of the A-main for the USAC Midwest Regional Midgets.

With the event serving as the season finale, the rain brings a conclusion to the 2021 campaign with Chett Gehrke capturing his second consecutive series championship by a 68-point margin.

Gehrke (Broken Arrow, Okla.), Ronnie Gardner (Corona, Calif.) and Kyle Simon (Covington, Ohio) each won heat races. Matt Westfall (Pleasant Hill, Ohio) recorded the fastest qualifying time.

USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET RESULTS: October 22, 2021 – Gas City I-69 Speedway – Gas City, Indiana – Fall Festival of Speed – 1/4-Mile Dirt Oval

FIRST QUALIFYING GROUP: 1. Matt Westfall, 54, Bordner-12.534; 2. Scott Orr, 88, Orr-12.574; 3. Chett Gehrke, 10, Moore-12.581; 4. Sara Elrod, 4, Klatt-12.658; 5. Cory Guingrich, 42, Guingrich-12.725; 6. Kayla Roell, 4K, Martin-12.959; 7. Rylan Gray, 81G, Gray-NT.

SECOND QUALIFYING GROUP: 1. Abby Hohlbein, 11H, Hohlbein-12.703; 2. Russ Gamester, 46, Gamester-12.709; 3. Justin Dickerson, 21D, Dickerson-12.831; 4. Ronnie Gardner, 43, Arnold-13.016; 5. Ryan Thomas, 1FR, Wingo-13.173; 6. Glenn Waterland, 11c, Waterland-13.520; 7. Jordan Calendine, 38, Calendine-13.613.

THIRD QUALIFYING GROUP: 1. Kyle Beilman, 31B, Beilman-12.874; 2. Travis Berryhill, 77s, Sturgeon-13.383; 3. Kyle Simon, 79K, Simon-14.143; 4. Ian Creager, 36, Creager-14.489; 5. Steven Gresham, 27G, Gresham-14.583; 6. Tom Fedorczyk, 49, 14.714.

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps) 1. Chett Gehrke, 2. Matt Westfall, 3. Sara Elrod, 4. Kayla Roell, 5. Scott Orr, 6. Rylan Gray, 7. Cory Guingrich. NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps) 1. Ronnie Gardner, 2. Russ Gamester, 3. Justin Dickerson, 4. Abby Hohlbein, 5. Jordan Calendine, 6. Glenn Waterland, 7. Ryan Thomas. NT

THIRD HEAT: (8 laps) 1. Kyle Simon, 2. Travis Berryhill, 3. Kyle Beilman, 4. Ian Creager, 5. Tom Fedorczyk, 6. Steven Gresham. NT

REMAINDER OF PROGRAM RAINED OUT

FINAL USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET POINTS: 1-Chett Gehrke-606, 2-Bryan Stanfill-538, 3-Chance Crum-408, 4-Kayla Roell-343, 5-Glenn Waterland-332, 6-Tyler Nelson-310, 7-Abby Hohlbein-257, 8-Shane Cottle-228, 9-Jeff Beasley-190, 10-Jeff Schindler-176.

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2021 USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET DRIVER POINT STANDINGS:

POS.	PTS.	DRIVER, HOMETOWN
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1	606	Chett Gehrke, Broken Arrow, Okla.
2	538	Bryan Stanfill, Bakersfield, Calif.
3	408	Chance Crum, Snohomish, Wash.
4	343	Kayla Roell, Dillsboro, Ind.
5	332	Glenn Waterland, Christchurch, N.Z.
6	310	Tyler Nelson, Olathe, Kan.
7	257	Abby Hohlbein, Cloverdale, Ohio
8	228	Shane Cottle, Kansas, Ill.
9	190	Jeff Beasley, Mahomet, Ill.
10	176	Jeff Schindler, Evansville, Ind.
11	162	Ben Varner, Harbor Springs, Mich.
12	146	Hayden Reinbold, Gilbert, Ariz.
13	101	Blake Brannon, Morgan Hill, Calif.
14	96	Adam Taylor, Dwight, Ill.
15	85	Jim Jones, Indianapolis, Ind.
16	75	Chase McDermid, Springfield, Ill.
17	75	Emerson Axsom, Franklin, Ind.
18	74	Thomas Meseraull, San Jose, Calif.
19	69	Cory Guingrich, Celina, Ohio
20	68	Ryan Thomas, Indianapolis, Ind.
21	51	Justin Davis, Spencer, Ind.
22	50	Stratton Briggs, Anna, Ohio
23	49	Gray Leadbetter, Morganton, N.C.
24	48	Jacob Denney, Galloway, Ohio
25	43	Mark Nieft Jr., Brownsburg, Ind.
26	41	Bryce Massingill, Troy, Ohio
27	37	Wes Pinkerton, Reynolds, Ind.
28	30	Kyle Dager, Fort Wayne, Ind.
29	25	Ian Creager, Covington, Ohio
30	16	Kyle Beilman, Los Angeles, Calif.
31	13	Hayden Williams, Auckland, N.Z.
32	13	Steven Gresham, Seymour, Ind.

33	10	Bryce Dues, Minster, Ohio
34	10	Carl Peterson, Waterford, Mich.
35	10	Kyle Kriegbaum, Marion, Ind.
36	10	Zack Gingerich, Celina, Ohio
37	10	Jon Watson, Columbus, Ohio

2021 USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET FEATURE WINNERS:

Apr 2: (SE) Riverside International Speedway - West Memphis, AR

WINNER: Daison Pursley

Apr 3: (SE) Riverside International Speedway - West Memphis, AR

WINNER: Cannon McIntosh

Apr 24: Lincoln Park Speedway - Putnamville, IN

WINNER: Shane Cottle

May 7: Gas City I-69 Speedway - Gas City, IN

WINNER: Thomas Meseraull

Jun 25: Bloomington Speedway - Bloomington, IN

WINNER: Bryan Stanfill

Jul 3: Lincoln Park Speedway - Putnamville, IN

WINNER: Shane Cottle

Jul 9: Gas City I-69 Speedway - Gas City, IN

WINNER: Chance Crum

Jul 22: Circle City Raceway – Indianapolis, IN

WINNER: Chance Crum

Aug 14: Circus City Speedway - Peru, IN

WINNER: Bryan Stanfill

Aug 28: Kokomo Speedway - Kokomo, IN

WINNER: Chance Crum

Sep 1: (SE) Southern Illinois Center - Du Quoin, IL

WINNER: Daniel Robinson

Oct 16: Kokomo Speedway - Kokomo, IN

WINNER: Abby Hohlbein

(SE) represents a non-point, special event

2021 USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET FEATURE WINS: (FULL POINTS)

3-Chance Crum

2-Shane Cottle & Bryan Stanfill

1-Abby Hohlbein & Thomas Meseraull

2021 USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET FEATURE WINS: (NON-POINTS SPECIAL EVENTS)

1-Cannon McIntosh, Daison Pursley & Daniel Robinson

2021 USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET FEATURE LAPS LED:

41-Chance Crum

40-Shane Cottle

35-Bryan Stanfill

17-Chett Gehrke

14-Emerson Axsom & Adam Taylor

13-Chase McDermant

9-Tyler Nelson

7-Russ Gamester

6-Thomas Meseraull

5-Abby Hohlbein

4-Jack Routson

2021 USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET TOP-5 FEATURE FINISHES:

5-Chett Gehrke & Bryan Stanfill

4-Chance Crum

3-Shane Cottle & Abby Hohlbein

2-Russ Gamester, Billy Lawless, Tyler Nelson, Hayden Reinbold, Jack Routson & Jeff Schindler

1-Max Adams, Jarett Andretti, Emerson Axsom, Travis Berryhill, Blake Brannon, Mitchell Davis, Ronnie Gardner, Brayton Lynch, Chase McDermant, Thomas Meseraull, Greg Mitchell, Scott Orr & Kayla Roell

2021 USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET TOP-10 FEATURE FINISHES:

9-Chett Gehrke

6-Chance Crum, Billy Lawless, Kayla Roell & Bryan Stanfill

5-Tyler Nelson

4-Glenn Waterland

3-Shane Cottle, Abby Hohlbein, Greg Mitchell & Ben Varner

2-Jeff Beasley, Jordan Calendine, Justin Dickerson, Russ Gamester, Ronnie Gardner, Garrett Mitchell, Hayden Reinbold, Jack Routson & Jeff Schindler

1-Max Adams, Jarett Andretti, Emerson Axsom, Travis Berryhill, Blake Brannon, Stratton Briggs, Justin Davis, Mitchell Davis, Kameron Gladish, Cory Guingrich, Gray Leadbetter, Brayton Lynch, Chase McDermand, Thomas Meseraull, Alex Nalon, Scott Orr & Adam Taylor

2021 USAC MIDWEST REGIONAL MIDGET FEATURE STARTS:

9-Chett Gehrke & Bryan Stanfill

7-Billy Lawless & Glenn Waterland

6-Chance Crum & Kayla Roell

5-Justin Dickerson & Tyler Nelson

4-Jeff Beasley, Abby Hohlbein & Greg Mitchell

3-Shane Cottle, Ronnie Gardner, Garrett Mitchell, Jeff Schindler & Ben Varner

2-Blake Brannon, Jordan Calendine, Russ Gamester, Jim Jones, Hayden Reinbold, Jack Routson & Adam Taylor

1-Max Adams, Jarett Andretti, Emerson Axsom, Travis Berryhill, Kevin Blue, Stratton Briggs, Michael Clark, Kyle Dager, Justin Davis, Mitchell Davis, Jacob Denney, Rich Drangmeister, Don Epley, Dave Fetsch, Kameron Gladish, Cory Guingrich, Gray Leadbetter, Brayton Lynch, Bryce Massingill, Chase McDermand, Thomas Meseraull, Jonathan Miller, Alex Nalon, Mark Nieft Jr., Scott Orr, Keith Ousley, Wes Pinkerton, Kyle Simon, John Sluss & Ryan Thomas