

2005 USAC SOUTHWEST SPRINT CAR SEASON

Josh Pelkey of Phoenix, Ariz. led all 40 laps of the inaugural Roger McCluskey Classic USAC Southwest Sprint Car race at the brand-new USA Race Park in Tucson, Ariz. January 1.

Pelkey drove the Joe Moriarty Total Seal Pistons Buckley/Ott to victory on the 3/8-mile dirt oval in the first race at the new facility, which drew a capacity crowd.

Trailing Pelkey at the checkered flag were Damion Gardner, Charles Davis Jr., Rick Williams and Tony Elliott. Fast qualifier Cory Kruseman failed to finish the 40-lap race, while Kevin Kierce and Tim West escaped injury in separate flips during the race.

Brandon Lane and Mike Rux Jr. also escaped injury in flips during QUALIFYING. The race was the first ever for USAC on New Year's Day.

USAC SOUTHWEST SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: December 31, 2004-January 1, 2005 – Tucson, Arizona – USA Race Park – Roger McCluskey Classic

QUALIFYING: (Held Dec. 31) 1. Cory Kruseman, 21k, Ellis-17.68; 2. Damion Gardner, 50, Chaffin-18.60; 3. Jesse Hockett, 2J, VKCC-18.72; 4. Mike Martin, 17, Masseth-18.75; 5. Charles Davis Jr., 8az, Smiley-18.83; 6. Josh Pelkey, 52x, Moriarty-19.11; 7. Rick Ziehl, 20z, Ziehl-19.21; 8. Rick Williams, 6, Williams-19.23; 9. Ronnie Clark, 33x, Clark-19.26; 10. Jeremy Sherman, 77, Bryan-19.26; 11. Jon Taylor, 93, Taylor-19.27; 12. Jerry Coons Jr., 3w, Wooldridge-19.29; 13. Tony Elliott, 94, Morales-19.39; 14. Jon Stanbrough, 97x, Norman-19.41; 15. Ron Kratz, 45, Kratz-19.44; 16. Jay Ervine, 33, Tuttle-19.55; 17. Jimmy Scott, UFO, Scott-19.66; 18. Tom Stansberry, 75, Stansberry-19.67; 19. David Burns, 52, Burns-19.74; 20. Tim West, 7D7, West-19.83; 21. Davey Bateman, 96, Bateman-19.83; 22. Keith Rauch, 33c, Hanley-19.92; 23. Kevin Kierce, 2, Kierce-19.97; 24. John Evans, B1, Evans-20.00; 25. Jim Richardson, 8x, Richardson-20.05; 26. Chuck Buckman, 4m, Buckman-20.13; 27. Brandon Lane, 97, Lane-20.17; 28. John Williams, 26, Williams-20.31; 29. Jerry Johnston, 5D, Johnston-20.32; 30. Ben Astenius, 23, Astenius-20.33; 31. Don Sink, 2k, Sink-21.01; 32. Mike Rux Jr., 22, Rux-NT.

DASH FOR CASH: (10 laps – Held Dec. 31) 1. Pelkey, 2. Gardner, 3. Kruseman, 4. Davis, 5. Martin, 6. Hockett. NT

FIRST HEAT: (10 laps – Held Jan. 1) 1. Davis, 2. Elliott, 3. Kruseman, 4. Bateman, 5. Clark, 6. Richardson, 7. Scott, 8. Johnston. NT

SECOND HEAT: (10 laps – Held Jan. 1) 1. Sherman, 2. Stansberry, 3. Pelkey, 4. Buckman, 5. Rauch, 6. Astenius, 7. Stanbrough, 8. Gardner. NT

THIRD HEAT: (10 laps – Held Jan. 1) 1. Ziehl, 2. Kierce, 3. Lane, 4. Hockett, 5. Taylor, 6. Kratz, 7. Burns, 8. Sink. NT

FOURTH HEAT: (10 laps – Held Jan. 1) 1. Coons, 2. R.Williams, 3. West, 4. Evans, 5. Martin, 6. Ervine, 7. J.Williams. NT

SEMI: (12 laps – Held Jan. 1) 1. Gardner, 2. Stanbrough, 3. Rauch, 4. Martin, 5. Taylor, 6. Burns, 7. Richardson, 8. Scott, 9. Kratz, 10. Johnston, 11. J.Williams, 12. Clark, 13. Ervine, 14. Astenius. NT

FEATURE: (40 laps – Held Jan. 1) 1. Josh Pelkey, 2. Damion Gardner, 3. Charles Davis Jr., 4. Rick Williams, 5. Tony Elliott, 6. Jerry Coons Jr., 7. Chuck Buckman, 8. Tom Stansberry, 9. Brandon Lane, 10. Davey Bateman, 11. Rick Ziehl, 12. Mike Martin, 13. John Evans, 14. Tim West, 15. Jon Stanbrough, 16. Jeremy Sherman, 17. Keith Rauch, 18. Cory Kruseman, 19. Kevin Kierce, 20. Jesse Hockett. NT

**Lane flipped during qualifying. Rux flipped during qualifying. Kierce flipped on lap 12 of the feature. West flipped on lap 31 of the feature.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-40 Pelkey.