

1960 USAC EASTERN SPRINT CAR SEASON

FOYT WINS AT READING

A.J. Foyt of Houston, Texas won a 30-lap sprint car race on the half-mile dirt track at Reading, Pennsylvania, Sunday, April 17.

It was the opening sprint race in the East, after two previous attempts to open the season at Reading and at Williams Grove were rained out.

Foyt started in the number two position, but he jumped into the lead in the first turn and was not passed for the entire race. The time of the event was 18:20.21.

Don Branson of Urbana, Illinois was the fastest qualifier in the Bob Estes Special with a time of 24.910 seconds. Foyt was driving the Watson Special.

The heat winners were Tommy Hinnershitz, Leon Clum and Eddie Sachs. Jerry Blundy won the semi-feature. The purse was \$5,000.

USAC EASTERN SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: April 17, 1960 – Reading Fairgrounds – Reading, Pennsylvania

QUALIFYING: Don Branson, Estes-24.910.

HEAT WINNERS: Tommy Hinnershitz, Leon Clum (G & J) & Eddie Sachs

SEMI: Jerry Blundy (Hyneman)

FEATURE: (30 laps) 1. A.J. Foyt (Watson), 2. Jim Hurtubise (Hurtubise), 3. Jiggs Peters (Beletsky), 4. Don Branson, 5. Bob Tattersall (Stearly), 6. Wayne Weiler (HOW), 7. Roger McCluskey (Tony's), 8. Jerry Blundy, 9. Al Herman (Caruso), 10. Bud Tingelstad (Hoffman), 11. Leon Clum (G & J), 12. Jim Packard (Midwest). 18:20.21

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-30 A.J. Foyt.

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FOYT IS LANGHORNE SPRINT WINNER

A.J. Foyt of Houston, Texas won his second straight Eastern sprint race, Sunday, April 24 at Langhorne, Pennsylvania. He won the first of two 50-mile races and was fourth in the second to gain enough points to be the overall winner.

Jim Hurtubise of Lennox, California won the second race, taking the lead on the 46th lap when Foyt had to make a pit stop for a tire change. Foyt led the entire first race and 45 laps of the second. Foyt's winning time was 29:51.87 for an average speed of 100.453 miles per hour in the Watson Special.

Hurtubise was driving the Barnett Chevrolet Special and recorded a time of 30:12.84 for an average speed of 99.291 miles per hour.

Don Branson of Urbana, Illinois drove the Bob Estes Special to a new sprint car track record of 32.661 for an average speed of 110.223 miles per hour. Branson now holds both the championship and sprint car records on the one-mile circular dirt track.

Foyt was followed in the overall standings by Sachs and Branson. Hurtubise started 16th in the second race. The total purse was \$9,000 and Foyt's share was \$1,508.

USAC EASTERN SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: April 24, 1960 – Langhorne Speedway – Langhorne, Pennsylvania

QUALIFYING: Don Branson, Estes-32.661. (New Track Record)

FIRST FEATURE: (50 laps) 1. A.J. Foyt (Watson), 2. Don Branson, 3. Eddie Sachs (Competition), 4. Wayne Weiler (HOW), 5. Jiggs Peters (Beletsky), 6. Roger McCluskey (Tony's), 7. Cotton Farmer (Lowther), 8. Jim McWithey (Pfrommer), 9. Chuck Arnold (Vargo), 10. Bob Tattersall (Stearly), 11. Bill Randall (Fray), 12. Al Herman (Caruso). 29:51.87

SECOND FEATURE: (50 laps) 1. Jim Hurtubise (Barnett), 2. Eddie Sachs, 3. Jiggs Peters, 4. A.J. Foyt, 5. Don Branson, 6. Cotton Farmer, 7. Chuck Arnold, 8. Bill Randall, 9. Bob Tattersall, 10. Jim Packard (Midwest), 11. Bill Brown (Smith), 12. Al Herman (Caruso). 30:12.84

FIRST FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-50 A.J. Foyt.

SECOND FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-45 A.J. Foyt, Laps 46-50 Jim Hurtubise.

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BRANSON WINS HEIDELBERG SPRINT

Don Branson of Champaign, Illinois won a 30-lap sprint race on the half-mile dirt track at Heidelberg, Pennsylvania, Sunday, July 24 to increase his total of sprint victories for the season to five.

Branson, who currently leads the Midwest point standings, moved into second place in the Eastern standings, only 12 points behind A.J. Foyt, who did not score at Heidelberg.

Driving the Bob Estes Special, Branson took the lead on the third lap and established a track record of 11:58.16.

Parnelli Jones was the fastest qualifier with a time of 22.080 seconds and led the first two laps of the feature after winning the first heat race. Other heat winners were Branson and Johnny Thomson. Bob Cleberg won the semi-feature.

The feature was halted by a first lap accident which eliminated but did not injure Thomson. The purse was \$5,000.

USAC EASTERN SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: July 24, 1960 – Heidelberg Raceway – Heidelberg, Pennsylvania

QUALIFYING: 1. Parnelli Jones-22.080.

HEAT WINNERS: Parnelli Jones, Don Branson & Johnny Thomson.

SEMI: 1. Bob Cleberg.

FEATURE: (30 laps) 1. Don Branson (Estes), 2. Eddie Sachs (Competition), 3. Jim Hurtubise (Barnett), 4. Parnelli Jones (Fike), 5. Tommy Hinnershitz (Pfrommer), 6. Cotton Farmer (McCurdy), 7. Jack Rounds (Homeyer), 8. Elmer George (Tony's), 9. Leon Clum (Travelon), 10. Bob Cleberg (Hyneman), 11. Bruce Jacobi (Watterson), 12. Jim Hemmings (Iddings). 11:58.16 (New Track Record)

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-2 Parnelli Jones, Laps 3-30 Don Branson.

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JONES WINS LANCASTER RACE

Parnelli Jones of Torrance, California demonstrated to Eastern fans what has been happening in the Midwest by winning a 30-lap sprint car race on the half-mile dirt track at Lancaster, New York, Friday night, Sept. 9.

Bill Brown was the fastest qualifier with a time of 23.500 seconds. The heat winners were Jim Hurtubise, Eddie Sachs and Tommy Hinnershitz. The purse was \$5,000.

USAC EASTERN SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: September 9, 1960 – Lancaster Speedway – Lancaster, Pennsylvania

QUALIFYING: 1. Bill Brown-23.500.

HEAT WINNERS: Jim Hurtubise, Eddie Sachs & Tommy Hinnershitz.

FEATURE: (30 laps) 1. Parnelli Jones (Fike), 2. Wayne Weiler (Fike), 3. Don Branson (Estes), 4. Jiggs Peters (Beletsky), 5. A.J. Foyt (Dart-Kart), 6. Tommy Hinnershitz (Pfrommer), 7. Eddie Sachs (Competition), 8. Roger McCluskey (HOW), 9. Jim Packard (Enterprise), 10. Dempsey Wilson (Stapp), 11. Dan Morgan (Morgan), 12. Len Sutton (Hoffman).

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PACKARD WINS AT ALLENTOWN

Jim Packard of Indianapolis won a 25-lap sprint race on the half-mile dirt track at Allentown, Saturday, September 24, Pennsylvania.

Bob Cleberg of Tucson, Arizona was the fastest qualifier with a time of 25.570 seconds. The heat winners were Packard, Jim Hurtubise and Roger McCluskey. Johnny Thomson won the semi-feature.

The entire racing fraternity was grieved at the loss of one of its finest drivers, Johnny Thomson of Boyertown, Pennsylvania, in an accident on the first lap of the feature.

Thomson was one of the best liked men in racing and was one of the most respected competitors in the country. No one ever wore success better than Johnny Thomson.

The peak of his career came in 1959, when he won the pole position at Indianapolis and set a one-lap track record. One of his most remarkable feats was his fourth place finish in the 500 in 1955 after he had started 33rd.

Thomson drove in eight Indianapolis races and earned a third, a fourth and a fifth. He won seven national championship races, including four in 1958.

Thomson was born in Lowell, Mass. and started his racing career there in 1938.

He is survived by his wife, Evelyn and four sons, Dale, Dana, David and Darrell.

USAC EASTERN SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: September 24, 1960 – Allentown Fairgrounds – Allentown, Pennsylvania

QUALIFYING: Bob Cleberg, Lowther-25.570.

HEAT WINNERS: Jim Packard (Enterprise), Jim Hurtubise (Barnett) & Roger McCluskey (HOW)

SEMI: 1. Johnny Thomson.

FEATURE: (25 laps) 1. Jim Packard, 2. Jim Hurtubise, 3. A.J. Foyt (Dart-Kart), 4. Jiggs Peters (Beletsky), 5. Roger McCluskey, 6. Wayne Weiler (Fike), 7. Bob Cleberg, 8. Tommy Hinnershitz (Pfrommer), 9. Eddie Sachs (Competition), 10. Don Branson (Estes), 11. Jim McWithey (Homeyer), 12. Parnelli Jones (Fike).

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FOYT CLINCHES EASTERN TITLE WITH WIN AT WILLIAMS GROVE

A.J. Foyt of Houston, Texas became the 1960 Eastern champion by winning a 50-lap sprint race on the half-mile dirt track at Pennsylvania's Williams Grove Speedway on Sunday, October 9.

Although one Eastern race at Reading next Sunday is on the schedule, Foyt cannot lose the title even if he fails to score any points. Don Branson, who is second in the standings, finished third in the race.

Foyt led the entire 50 laps after turning in the fastest qualifying time of 25.720 seconds, but Jim Hurtubise dogged him all the way and was second in a thrilling finish.

The time for the feature was 22:42.12.

The heat winners were Hurtubise, Branson and A.J. Shepherd. The semi-feature was won by Red Amick. The purse was \$6,000.

USAC EASTERN SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: October 9, 1960 – Williams Grove Speedway – Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania

QUALIFYING: A.J. Foyt, 25.720.

HEAT WINNERS: Jim Hurtubise, Don Branson & A.J. Shepherd.

SEMI: 1. Red Amick.

FEATURE: (50 laps) 1. A.J. Foyt (Dart-Kart), 2. Jim Hurtubise (Barnett), 3. Don Branson (Estes), 4. Jim McWithey (Homeyer), 5. Gene Force (Stearly), 6. Roger McCluskey (HOW), 7. Al Miller (Midwest), 8. Jiggs Peters (Beletsky), 9. Bobby Grim (Pfrommer), 10. Cotton Farmer (Tony's), 11. A.J. Shepherd (Enterprise), 12. Bud Tingelstad (Hyneman). 22:42.12

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-50 A.J. Foyt.

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HURTUBISE WINS READING SPRINT

Jim Hurtubise of Lennox, California won the final Eastern sprint car race of the season, a 30-lap event on the half-mile dirt track at October 16 on Sunday in Reading, Pennsylvania.

Hurtubise led the entire race but won by less than a car length over A.J. Foyt of Houston, Texas. These two drivers had a similar duel the week before at Williams Grove, except that Foyt was the winner and clinched the Eastern championship.

The heat winners were Roger McCluskey, Hurtubise and Bill Brown. Bobby Grim won the semi-feature. Hurtubise was the fastest qualifier with a time of 24.510 seconds. The time for the feature was 14:28.18. The purse was \$5,000.

USAC EASTERN SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: October 16, 1960 – Reading Fairgrounds – Reading, Pennsylvania

QUALIFYING: 1. Jim Hurtubise-24.510.

HEAT WINNERS: Roger McCluskey, Jim Hurtubise & Bill Brown.

SEMI: 1. Bobby Grim.

FEATURE: (30 laps) 1. Jim Hurtubise (Barnett), 2. A.J. Foyt (Dart-Kart), 3. Don Branson (Estes), 4. Leroy Neumayer (Stearly), 5. Jim McWithey (Homeyer), 6. Red Riegel (Vargo), 7. Chuck Arnold (Plas), 8. Bud Tingelstad (Hyneman), 9. Jiggs Peters Beletsky), 10. Ernie McCoy (Caruso), 11. Hank Henry (Sterling), 12. Bobby Grim (Pfrommer). 14:28.18

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-30 Jim Hurtubise.