

1959 USAC EASTERN SPRINT CAR SEASON

GEORGE WINS FIRST EASTERN SPRINT RACE AT READING

Elmer George of Speedway, Indiana won the first Eastern championship race of the 1959 season at Reading, Pennsylvania, Sunday, April 5.

George, driving the HOW Special, started second and led all the way in the 30-lap feature.

The five-lap match race between the Midwest and Eastern champions, Eddie Sachs and Jud Larson, was won by Larson in a close finish.

USAC EASTERN SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: April 5, 1959 – Reading Fairgrounds – Reading, Pennsylvania

QUALIFYING: Jud Larson-26.180.

MATCH RACE: (5 laps) 1. Jud Larson, 2. Eddie Sachs. 2:13.06

FIRST HEAT: 1. Rex Easton, 2. Hinnershitz, 3. McWithey. 4:34.13

SECOND HEAT: 1. Bobby Grim, 2. Linder, 3. Arnold. 4:33.62

THIRD HEAT: 1. Eddie Sachs, 2. Humphrey, 3. Barzda. 4:41.60

SEMI: 1. Elmer George, 2. Brooks, 3. D'Amico. 4:44.61

FEATURE: (30 laps) 1. Elmer George (HOW), 2. Jud Larson (Sherk), 3. Van Johnson (Lowther), 4. Jim McWithey (Traylor), 5. Eddie Sachs (Cheesman), 6. Tommy Hinnershitz (Pfrommer), 7. Bobby Grim (Hyneman), 8. Chuck Arnold (Caruso), 9. Bert Brooks (Gale), 10. Rex Easton (Champion), 11. Jiggs Peters (Beletsky), 12. Jim Hemmings (Enterprise), 13. Dave Humphrey, 14. Bill D'Amico, 15. Dick Linder, 16. Joe Barzda. 15:19.12

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-30 Elmer George.

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McWITHEY WINS GROVE SPRINT RACE

Jim McWithey of Anderson, Indiana drove the Cheesman Offy to victory in a 30-lap sprint car race on the half-mile dirt track of Williams Grove Speedway, Saturday night, June 13.

Elmer George led the first twelve laps before being passed by McWithey on the 13th. McWithey's winning time was 13:17.32.

Don Branson was the fastest qualifier in the Bob Estes Special with a time of 25 seconds flat. The purse was \$5000.

The heat winners were McWithey, Grim, and Jim Packard. Fred Peters won the semi feature.

USAC EASTERN SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: June 13, 1959 – Williams Grove Speedway – Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania

QUALIFYING: 1. Don Branson, Estes-25.000.

HEAT WINNERS: Jim McWithey, Bobby Grim & Jim Packard.

SEMI: 1. Jiggs Peters.

FEATURE: (30 laps) 1. Jim McWithey (Cheesman), 2. Elmer George (HOW), 3. Johnny Thomson (Traylor), 4. A.J. Foyt (Columbus), 5. Tommy Hinnershitz (Pfrommer), 6. Don Branson (Estes), 7. Bobby Grim (Hyneman), 8. Van Johnson (Lowther), 9. Jiggs Peters (Beletsky), 10. Red Riegel (Vargo), 11. Red Amick (Doty), 12. Chuck Weyant (Labadie), 13. Jim Packard, 14. Jimmy Davies. 13:17.32

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-12 Elmer George, Laps 13-30 Jim McWithey.

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HINNERSHITZ WINS, THOMSON HURT AT WILLIAMS GROVE

Tommy Hinnershitz of Oley, Pa. won his second consecutive sprint race of the season by leading all the way in a 30-lap event on the half-mile dirt track at Pennsylvania's Williams Grove Speedway on Sunday, September 13.

Johnny Thomson of Boyertown, Pa. suffered a broken leg and a broken ankle in a spectacular flip in the second heat. Thomson is listed in fair condition in a Carlisle, Pennsylvania hospital.

Chuck Arnold of Stamford, Connecticut was the fastest qualifier with a time of 24.660 seconds in the Vargo Offy. Hinnershitz, who was driving the Pfrommer Offy, was timed in the feature in 13:70.20.

The heat winners were Tommy Hinnershitz, Cotton Farmer and Eddie Sachs. Bill Brown won the semi-feature. The purse was \$5,000.

USAC EASTERN SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: September 13, 1959 – Williams Grove Speedway – Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania

QUALIFYING: 1. Chuck Arnold-24.660.

HEAT WINNERS: Tommy Hinnershitz, Cotton Farmer & Eddie Sachs

SEMI: 1. Bill Brown.

FEATURE: (30 laps) 1. Tommy Hinnershitz (Pfrommer), 2. Eddie Sachs (Schmidt), 3. Chuck Arnold (Vargo), 4. Jiggs Peters (Beletsky), 5. Cotton Farmer (Lowther), 6. Bert Brooks (Fray), 7. Justin King (Sherk), 8. Russ Klar (Caruso), 9. Al Chamberlain, 10. Joe Mattera, 11. Tommy Little, 12. Bobby Courtwright. 13:70.20

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-30 Tommy Hinnershitz.

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SACHS WINS READING SPRINT RACE

Eddie Sachs of Center Valley, Pennsylvania won a 25-lap sprint car race on the half-mile dirt track at Reading, Pennsylvania, Sunday, September 20.

Driving the Schmidt Special, Sachs was the fastest qualifier with a time of 25.670 seconds. He was timed in the feature in 11:26.32. His share of the \$4,840 purse was \$795. Sachs took the lead on the 14th lap from Tommy Hinnershitz.

The heat winners were Jim Packard, Jim McWithey and Art Plas. The semi-feature was won by Tommy Hinnershitz.

USAC EASTERN SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: September 20, 1959 – Reading Fairgrounds – Reading, Pennsylvania

QUALIFYING: 1. Eddie Sachs-25.670.

HEAT WINNERS: Jim Packard, Jim McWithey & Art Plas.

SEMI: 1. Tommy Hinnershitz.

FEATURE: (25 laps) 1. Eddie Sachs (Schmidt), 2. Tommy Hinnershitz (Pfrommer), 3. Jim McWithey (Cheesman), 4. Jim Hurtubise (Hyneman), 5. Red Riegel (Barzda), 6. Bill Brown (Smith), 7. Gene Hartley (Fray), 8. Jim Packard (Midwest), 9. Al Chamberlain, 10. Art Plas (Behner), 11. Cotton Farmer (Lowther), 12. George Morris (Stone), 13. Joe Mattera, 14. Russ Klar, 15. Harry King. 11:26.32

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HINNERSHITZ IS ALLENTOWN WINNER

Tommy Hinnershitz of Oley, Pennsylvania won a 25-lap sprint car race on the half-mile dirt track at Allentown, Pennsylvania, Saturday, September 26.

Driving the Pfrommer Offy, Hinnershitz set a new track record of 11:05.34. He took the lead on the third lap after Eddie Sachs had held first place for two circuits.

Hinnershitz was the fastest qualifier with a time of 24.710 seconds. He won \$790 of a total purse of \$4,500.

The heat winners were Tommy Hinnershitz, Don Branson and Jiggs Peters. The semi-feature was won by Cotton Farmer.

USAC EASTERN SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: September 26, 1959 – Allentown Fairgrounds – Allentown, Pennsylvania

QUALIFYING: 1. Tommy Hinnershitz-24.710.

HEAT WINNERS: Tommy Hinnershitz, Don Branson & Jiggs Peters.

SEMI WINNER: Cotton Farmer.

FEATURE: (25 laps) 1. Tommy Hinnershitz (#4 Pfrommer), 2. Eddie Sachs (#44 Schmidt), 3. Wayne Weiler (#21 HOW), 4. Don Branson (#14 Estes), 5. Jim Hurtubise (#41 Hyneman), 6. A.J. Foyt (#2 Lowther), 7. Jiggs Peters (#22 Beletsky), 8. Chuck Arnold (#7 Vargo), 9. Gene Hartley (#77 Fray), 10. Jim McWithey (#25 Cheesman), 11. Jim Packard (#1 Midwest), 12. Al Chamberlain (#55 Chamberlain), 13. Bill Brown (#19), 14. Joe Mattera (#88), 15. Red Riegel (#33), 16. Cotton Farmer (#3). 11:05.34 (New Track Record)

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-2 Eddie Sachs, Laps 3-25 Tommy Hinnershitz.

ALSO AT THE TRACK: Bill Randall (#49), Russ Klar (#31) & Tony Bettenhausen

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HINNERSHITZ WINS EASTERN TITLE WITH VICTORY AT WILLIAMS GROVE

Tommy Hinnershitz of Oley, Pennsylvania clinched his seventh Eastern championship between AAA and USAC by winning a 50-lap sprint car race on the half-mile dirt track at Pennsylvania's Williams Grove Speedway on Sunday, October 11.

Driving the Pfrommer Offy, Hinnershitz led the entire distance, compiling a time of 22:33.89. Eddie Sachs was the fastest qualifier with a time of 24.830 seconds. However, Sachs spun in the first turn and the race was restarted.

The heat winners were Tommy Hinnershitz, Red Riegel and Bud Tingelstad, while Bobby Marshman won the semi-feature. The purse was \$5,925 with Hinnershitz claiming \$895.

Hinnershitz' previous titles were won in 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1955 and 1956. He closed the season with a rush, winning three of the last four feature events and got a second in the other race.

USAC EASTERN SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: October 11, 1959 – Williams Grove Speedway – Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania

FEATURE: (50 laps) 1. Tommy Hinnershitz (Pfrommer), 2. Gene Hartley (Fray), 3. Jiggs Peters (Beletsky), 4. Chuck Arnold (Vargo), 5. Cotton Farmer (Lowther), 6. Bud Tingelstad (Hoffman), 7. Al Herman (Stone), 8. Bobby Marshman (Caruso), 9. Bill Brown (Smith), 10. Johnny Kay (Leitenberger), 11. Al Miller (Labadie), 12. Joe Mattera (Mattera), 13. Dick Leisure, 14. Eddie Sachs.