

## 1974 USAC DIRT CHAMPIONSHIP SEASON REVIEW

The Viceroy Specials of Al Unser and Mario Andretti picked up right where they left off last year, as they dominated the July 4th 100-mile USAC Championship Dirt race at Syracuse, N.Y.

Al's victory in the race at the one-mile dirt New York State Fairgrounds oval came as a surprise to no one. Last year, Al and the Viceroy car led all three dirt races and only mechanical trouble and gas problems kept him from scoring a clean sweep of the 1973 events.

The Sedalia race had its share of thrills and spills as the original start was red flagged after Al Unser's flip. Wally Dallenbach and Greg Weld also spun during that tangle and Billy Engelhart and Ralph Liguori tangled in turn one just moments before Al's misfortune.

Al was leading the race just after the start but caught a rut in turn two and flipped several times in his Viceroy Ford, landing atop George Snider's mount during one of the rolls and Unser's car was extensively damaged. The accident ended Al's chances to repeat as series champion.

Andretti set sail early at Springfield, but he had to outrun pole winner Greg Weld on lap one. Weld, in the Pizza Hut Ford, battled Tom Bigelow all day and just about got Tom late in the race, but Tom was again second and Greg third.

Jimmy Caruthers appeared to be second best in the early going as he kept hot pursuit on Andretti. Jimmy's Thermo-King Vega RV Special lost a piston on lap 73 and ended his bid.

Billy Vukovich was a strong third until lap 23 when an oil leak sidelined his Thermo-King Vega RV Special.

Ralph Liguori turned in his usual fine dirt track performance to finish a strong fourth in the McGinty Conveyors Offy Special and Mel Cornett, who was forced into the cushion in the closing laps by Greg Weld, dropped from fourth to fifth at the finish in the Rogala Offy.

Andretti and Tom Bigelow were assured the top two positions in the 1974 USAC Dirt Track Championship but their exact order was not yet determined following Monday's Ted Horn Memorial at the Du Quoin State Fairgrounds.

Finishing the rain-shortened Du Quoin event in the above order for the third consecutive race after Sedalia and Springfield's Andretti-Bigelow one-two finishes, Mario dominated the event at Du Quoin, leading all 52 laps before the rain fell and pre-empted the scheduled 100-mile race on the one-mile dirt oval.

Andretti's USAC Dirt Track winning streak was snapped at the Hoosier Hundred, but his third-place finish netted him the National Dirt Track title.

Jackie Howerton, a Tulsa, Okla. Sprint regular, stunned the Indiana State Fairgrounds patrons with his smooth driving style as he outdueled Viceroy teammates Al Unser and Mario in one of the all-time great finishes in Hoosier Hundred history. His victory in the STP Double Oil Filter Turbo Offy ended the dominance of the Ford engine which had lasted for ten consecutive races over the past three years. The last previous non-Ford victory came at Du Quoin, in May of 1972, when Tom Bigelow came home first in a Chevy.

Howerton, a rookie on the dirt that season, made shambles of the race for "Rookie of the Year" honors. His closest competition was Sheldon Kinser in Grant King's car. Kinser qualified for the number two starting spot but drifted too high in the first turn of the first lap and was out of the race.

Jackie made it an all-rookie front row by winning the pole position and proceeded to lead all 100 miles. His last 10 laps were the hardest, however, as he was repeatedly challenged by both Mario and Al, to the delight of the screaming fans.

Mario closed out the 1974 Dirt Track season with three victories in five events and a 180-point bulge over Bigelow, who placed fourth in the Hoosier Hundred. Al finished third in the points with Greg Weld fourth and Amie Knepper fifth. Howerton's victory netted him a sixth-place final point standing.

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## **UNSER WINS AT SYRACUSE; BETTENHAUSEN HURT IN FLIP**

Syracuse, New York.....The Viceroy Specials of Al Unser and Mario Andretti picked up right where they left off last year, as they dominated the July 4<sup>th</sup> 100-mile USAC Championship Dirt race at Syracuse, N.Y.

Al's victory in the race at the one-mile dirt New York State Fairgrounds oval came as a surprise to no one. Last year, Al and the Viceroy car led all three dirt races and only mechanical trouble and gas problems kept him from scoring a clean sweep of the 1973 events. Unser did win the Hoosier Hundred for a fourth straight time and captured the Dirt title.

Andretti won the pole at Syracuse, as the Dirt cars returned for the first time in 12 years to what used to be a regular stop on the trail. Al started second and the two ran just that way until Al took the lead on lap 87.

The yellow flag waved on lap 93 for a tow-in of Joe Saldana's Smith Speed Shop Special, then Mario raced by Al as the green was reissued three laps later. Al caught Mario at the end of 96 laps and led the final four.

Indianapolis 500 veteran and former USAC Sprint champion Gary Bettenhausen suffered permanent damage to his left arm, two broken collar bones, a broken thumb, cuts, bruises and other painful injuries when he flipped during warmups.

Gary's Thermo-King Vega RV Special was working so well that he was hardly lifting at all when he negotiated the turns, but the right rear dug in in turn one and the car flipped violently into the double steel guardrail. The front end of the car was torn off when it hit the top of a concessions building adjacent to the guard rail, leaving a gaping hole in the building's roof.

Gary was immediately taken to Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse and is hoping to be transferred to Indianapolis soon to be closer to home.

Greg Weld, piloting the Pizza Hut Special, bought from A.J. Foyt who ran it on the dirt last year, finished third and Tom Bigelow finished fourth in the Lodestar Special. Sammy Sessions, who had trouble getting started from his 23<sup>rd</sup> starting spot, came on to take fifth place in a fine drive in the MVS car.

**USAC DIRT CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: July 4, 1974 – Syracuse, New York – New York State Fairgrounds – Salt City 100**

**QUALIFYING:** 1. Mario Andretti, 2, Vel's Parnelli Jones-34.76; 2. Al Unser, 1, Vel's Parnelli Jones-35.08; 3. Tom Bigelow, 98, Leader Card-35.16; 4. Greg Weld, 55, Middleton-35.20; 5. Billy Vukovich, 40, Bettenhausen-35.26; 6. Joe Saldana, 70, Smith-35.31; 7. Johnny Parsons, 3, Gehlhausen-35.33; 8. John Hubbard, 95, Vatis-35.48; 9. Ronnie Burke, 33, Burke-35.50; 10. Rollie Beale, 22, Kilman-35.58; 11. Jimmy Caruthers, 21, Caruthers-35.62; 12. Arnie Knepper, 5, CHEK-35.70; 13. Pancho Carter, 24, UCR-35.72; 14. Bill Puterbaugh, 73, Elkins-35.75; 15. Bob Evans, 99, Hunt-35.80; 16. Don Nordhorn, 31, Mataka-35.83; 17. Mel Cornett, 36, Rogala-35.91; 18. Bob Harkey, 52, Harkey-36.21; 19. Billy Cassella, 29, Seymour-36.34; 20. Lee Osborne, 11, Smith-36.38; 21. Ralph Liguori, 85, Flynn-36.43; 22. Gary Ponzini, 84, Gehlhausen-36.46; 23. Sammy Sessions, 26, MVS-36.47; 24. Karl Busson, 58, Reynolds-36.65; 25. Bentley Warren, 18, Delrose-37.02; 26. Gary Bettenhausen, 44, Bettenhausen-NT; 27. George Snider, 9, Leyba-NT; 28. Darl Harrison, 91, Harrison-NT.

**FEATURE:** (100 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Al Unser (2), 2. Mario Andretti (1), 3. Greg Weld (4), 4. Tom Bigelow (3), 5. Sammy Sessions (23), 6. Arnie Knepper (12), 7. Jimmy Caruthers (11), 8. Rollie Beale (10), 9. Lee Osborne (20), 10. Billy Cassella (19), 11. Mel Cornett (17), 12. Karl Busson (24), 13. Joe Saldana (6), 14. Bill Puterbaugh (14), 15. Gary Ponzini (22), 16. Don Nordhorn (16), 17. Ralph Liguori (21), 18. Ronnie Burke (9), 19. Bob Evans (15), 20. John Hubbard (8), 21. Pancho Carter (13), 22. Billy Vukovich (5), 23. Johnny Parsons (7), 24. Bob Harkey (18). 1:03:54.99

\*\*Gary Bettenhausen flipped during practice.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-86 Mario Andretti, Laps 87-95 Al Unser, Lap 96 Mario Andretti, Laps 97-100 Al Unser.

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### **MARIO DIGS IN FOR WIN IN SEDALIA DEBUT**

Sedalia, Missouri.....The Sedalia race had its share of thrills and spills as the original start was red flagged after Al Unser's flip. Wally Dallenbach and Greg Weld also spun during that tangle and Billy Engelhart and Ralph Liguori tangled in turn one just moments before Al's misfortune.

Al was leading the race just after the start but caught a rut in turn two and flipped several times in his Viceroy Ford, landing atop George Snider's mount on one of the rolls and Al's car was extensively damaged. The accident virtually costs Al a chance to repeat as series champion.

On the restart, Engelhart tangled with Mel Cornett and the yellow was issued for the turn one encounter.

When the green came out, pole winner Mario Andretti continued his lead as Dirt Track Rookie Larry Rice squirted through the pack to take second place in the beautifully prepared brand new LeFevre Automotive Special. John Hubbard, driving the Vatis Enterprises Special, moved rapidly to third and pressed Rice for second in the early going.

On lap 12, Larry Cannon and Ronnie Burke tangled, again in turn one, and the yellow was out for another five laps.

Rice continued in second place until lap 34 when a broken spindle sent the LeFevre car into the third turn wall with a hard crunch. Larry said he had never seen such a fantastically prepared car for its first time out and felt he had a good shot at winning.

Bigelow followed Andretti the rest of the way as Hubbard kept in hot pursuit until the late stages when spark plug problems beset him. He eventually finished sixth. Hubbard felt that he would have been at least second had the plug problems not developed and veteran observers agreed.

Darl Harrison in the Harrison-Routh Special placed third in a fine drive, with Wally Dallenbach bringing the STP Oil Treatment Special in for fourth and Larry Dickson placing fifth in the McClure Plastics Special in his return to USAC activity.

USAC DIRT CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: August 17, 1974 – Sedalia, Missouri – Missouri State Fairgrounds – Sedalia 100

QUALIFYING: 1. Mario Andretti, 2, Vel's Parnelli Jones-34.50; 2. Al Unser, 1, Vel's Parnelli Jones-34.63; 3. Rollie Beale, 22, Kilman-34.66; 4. George Snider, 9, Leyba-34.66; 5. Greg Weld, 55, Middleton-34.89; 6. Ralph Liguori, 85, Flynn-35.14; 7. Jim McElreath, 32, Glessner-35.24; 8. Mel Cornett, 36, Rogala-35.28; 9. Billy Engelhart, 83, Sohm-35.43; 10. Thad Doshier, 56, Duerst-35.48; 11. Jan Opperman, 24, UCR-35.50; 12. Larry Rice, 59, LeFevre-35.50; 13. Joe Saldana, 70, Smith-35.60; 14. Jimmy Caruthers, 21, Caruthers-35.63; 15. Darl Harrison, 91, Harrison-35.67; 16. Wally Dallenbach, 41, Patrick-35.74; 17. Ronnie Burke, 33, Burke-35.78; 18. Johnny Parsons, 3, Gehlhausen-36.11; 19. John Hubbard, 94, Vatis-36.17; 20. Bob Harkey, 52, Harkey-36.24; 21. Larry Cannon, 54, Wiese-36.36; 22. Tom Bigelow, 98, Leader Card-36.46; 23. Bob Evans, 99, Hunt-35.80; 24. Larry Dickson, 69, McClure-36.92; 25. Jerry Miller, 31, Mataka-36.92; 26. Arnie Knepper, 5, CHEK-36.97; 27. Lee Osborne, 11, Smith-37.25; 28. Sammy Sessions, 26, MVS-37.44; 29. Billy Cassella, 29, Seymour-37.44; 30. Karl Busson, 58, Reynolds-39.69; 31. Bill Puterbaugh, 73, Elkins-44.36; 32. Jackie Howerton, 42, Patrick-NT; 33. Billy Vukovich, 40, Bettenhausen-NT; 34. Gary Ponzini, 84, Gehlhausen-NT; 35. Tommy Astone, 18, Delrose-NT.

FEATURE: (100 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Mario Andretti (1), 2. Tom Bigelow (22), 3. Darl Harrison (15), 4. Wally Dallenbach (16), 5. Larry Dickson (24), 6. John Hubbard (19), 7. Thad Doshier (10), 8. Joe Saldana (13), 9. Larry Cannon

(21), 10. Bob Harkey (20), 11. Johnny Parsons/Gary Ponzini (#3) (18), 12. Jim McElreath (7), 13. Larry Rice (12), 14. Jan Opperman (11), 15. Bob Evans (23), 16. Rollie Beale (3), 17. Jimmy Caruthers (14), 18. Ronnie Burke (17), 19. Mel Cornett (8), 20. Billy Engelhart (9), 21. Al Unser (2), 22. George Snider (4), 23. Greg Weld (5), 24. Ralph Liguori (6). 1:09:49.90

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-100 Mario Andretti.

\*\*Al Unser flipped on lap 1 of the feature.

\*\*Gary Ponzini relieved Johnny Parsons on lap 11 of the feature.

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## MARIO SWEEPS WEEKEND WITH SPRINGFIELD SCORE

Springfield, Illinois.....Mario Andretti set sail early, but he had to outrun pole winner Greg Weld on lap one. Weld, in the Pizza Hut Ford, battled Tom Bigelow all day and just about got Tom late in the race, but Tom was again second and Greg third.

Jimmy Caruthers appeared to be second best in the early going as he kept hot pursuit on Andretti. Jimmy's Thermo-King Vega RV Special lost a piston on lap 73 and ended his bid.

Billy Vukovich was a strong third until lap 23 when an oil leak sidelined his Thermo-King Vega RV Special.

Ralph Liguori turned in his usual fine Dirt Track performance to finish a strong fourth in the McGinty Conveyors Offy Special and Mel Cornett, who was forced into the cushion in the closing laps by Greg Weld, dropped from fourth to fifth at the finish in the Rogala Offy.

USAC DIRT CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: August 18, 1974 – Illinois State Fairgrounds – Springfield, Illinois – Tony Bettenhausen 100

QUALIFYING: 1. Greg Weld, 55, Middleton-34.20; 2. Mario Andretti, 2, Vel's Parnelli Jones-34.24; 3. Tom Bigelow, 98, Leader Card-34.33; 4. Mel Cornett, 36, Rogala-34.35; 5. Billy Vukovich, 40, Bettenhausen-34.63; 6. Jimmy Caruthers, 21, Caruthers-34.70; 7. Ralph Liguori, 85, Flynn-34.73; 8. Bill Puterbaugh, 73, Elkins-34.84; 9. Pancho Carter, 10, Rieder-34.94; 10. Johnny Parsons, 3, Gehlhausen-35.27; 11. Bob Evans, 99, Hunt-35.28; 12. A.J. Foyt, 14, Foyt-35.30; 13. Billy Cassella, 29, Seymour-35.39; 14. Larry Dickson, 69, McClure-35.46; 15. Bob Harkey, 52, Harkey-35.50; 16. Billy Engelhart, 83, Sohm-35.50; 17. John Hubbard, 94, Vatis- 35.52; 18. Arnie Knepper, 5, CHEK-35.55; 19. Lee Osborne, 11, Smith-35.82; 20. Sammy Sessions, 26, MVS-35.83; 21. Gary Ponzini, 84, Gehlhausen-35.90; 22. Tommy Astone, 18, Delrose-36.10; 23. Darl Harrison, 91, Harrison-36.16; 24. Sheldon Kinser, 20, King-36.40; 25. Thad Doshier, 56, Duerst-36.50; 26. Ronnie Burke, 33, Burke-36.51; 27. Joe Saldana, 70, Smith-36.52; 28. George Snider, 31, Mataka-36.67; 29. Karl Busson, 58, Reynolds-37.00; 30. Wally Dallenbach, 41, Patrick-37.78; 31. Steve Lotshaw, 62, Lotshaw-NT; 32. Rollie Beale, 22, Kilman-NT; 33. Jackie Howerton, 42, Patrick-NT.

FEATURE: (100 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Mario Andretti (2), 2. Tom Bigelow (3), 3. Greg Weld (1), 4. Ralph Liguori (7), 5. Mel Cornett (4), 6. Bill Puterbaugh (8), 7. Billy Cassella (13), 8. Darl Harrison (23), 9. Billy Engelhart (16), 10. Lee Osborne (19), 11. Arnie Knepper (18), 12. John Hubbard (17), 13. Jimmy Caruthers (6), 14. Sammy Sessions (20), 15. Tommy Astone (22), 16. A.J. Foyt (12), 17. Bob Harkey (15), 18. Larry Dickson (14), 19. Billy Vukovich (5), 20. Bob Evans (11), 21. Sheldon Kinser (24), 22. Johnny Parsons (10), 23. Gary Ponzini (21), 24. Pancho Carter (9). 1:05:02.50

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-100 Mario Andretti.

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### **IT'S ALL ANDRETTI IN RAIN-SHORTENED Du QUOIN RACE**

Du Quoin, Illinois.....Mario Andretti and Tom Bigelow are assured the top two positions in the 1974 USAC Dirt Track Championship but their exact order was not yet determined following Monday's Ted Horn Memorial at the Du Quoin State Fairgrounds.

Finishing the rain-shortened Du Quoin event in the above order for the third consecutive race after Sedalia and Springfield's Andretti-Bigelow one-two finishes, Mario dominated the event at Du Quoin, leading all 52 laps before the rain fell and pre-empted the scheduled 100-mile race on the one-mile dirt oval.

USAC DIRT CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: September 2, 1974 – Du Quoin State Fairgrounds – Du Quoin, Illinois – Ted Horn Memorial

QUALIFYING: 1. Mario Andretti, 2, Vel's Parnelli Jones-34.05; 2. Tom Bigelow, 98, Leader Card-34.14; 3. Jackie Howerton, 42, Patrick-34.14; 4. A.J. Foyt, 14, Foyt-34.24; 5. Pancho Carter, 10, Rieder-34.48; 6. Greg Weld, 55, Middleton-34.49; 7. Al Unser, 1, Vel's Parnelli Jones-34.50; 8. George Snider, 9, Leyba-34.54; 9. Billy Vukovich, 40, Bettenhausen-34.65; 10. John Hubbard, 94, Vatis-34.85; 11. Steve Lotshaw, 62, Lotshaw-34.90; 12. Jimmy Caruthers, 21, Caruthers-34.94; 13. Rollie Beale, 22, Kilman-34.95; 14. Arnie Knepper, 5, CHEK-35.02; 15. Johnny Parsons, 3, Gehlhausen-35.11; 16. Billy Engelhart, 83, Sohm-35.14; 17. Darl Harrison, 91, Harrison-35.14; 18. Larry Cannon, 54, Wiese-35.20; 19. Mike Gregg, 69, McClure-35.24; 20. Sheldon Kinser, 20, King-35.39; 21. Bob Harkey, 52, Harkey-35.45; 22. Bill Puterbaugh, 73, Elkins-35.58; 23. Billy Cassella, 29, Seymour-35.64; 24. Bob Evans, 99, Hunt-35.65; 25. Joe Saldana, 31, Mataka-35.77; 26. Ralph Liguori, 18, Delrose-35.88; 27. Ronnie Burke, 33, Burke-36.00; 28. Gary Ponzini, 84, Gehlhausen-36.54; 29. Don Nordhorn, 70, Smith-37.02; 30. Ralph Liguori, 85, Flynn-NT; 31. Ronnie Burke, 32, Burke-NT; 32. Thad Doshier, 56, Duerst-NT; 33. Mel Cornett, 36, Rogala-NT; 34. Lee Osborne, 11, Smith-NT; 35. Steve Cannon, 53, Jordan-NT.

FEATURE: (Scheduled for 100 laps, called for rain at 52 laps)1. Mario Andretti (1), 2. Tom Bigelow (2), 3. Al Unser (7), 4. A.J. Foyt (4), 5. Pancho Carter (5), 6. George Snider (8), 7. Arnie Knepper (13), 8. Jimmy Caruthers (11), 9. Larry Cannon (17), 10. Rollie Beale (12), 11. Johnny Parsons (14), 12. Billy Vukovich (9), 13. Billy Engelhart (15), 14. Joe Saldana (24), 15. Billy Cassella (22), 16. Darl Harrison (16), 17. Greg Weld (6), 18. Mike Gregg (18), 19. Bob Evans (23), 20. Jackie Howerton (3), 21. Sheldon Kinser (19), 22. Bob Harkey (20), 23. Bill Puterbaugh (21), 24. Steve Lotshaw (10). 38:56.00

\*\*Steve Lotshaw went over the wall in turn one on the first lap of the feature.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-52 Mario Andretti.

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### **HOWERTON A SURPRISE HOOSIER HUNDRED WINNER; ANDRETTI IS THE 4<sup>TH</sup> CHAMP IN 4 YEARS**

Indianapolis, Indiana.....Mario Andretti's USAC Dirt Track winning streak was snapped September 7 in the Hoosier Hundred, but his third-place finish netted for him the National Dirt Track title.

Jackie Howerton, a Tulsa, Okla. Sprint regular, stunned the Indiana State Fairgrounds patrons with his smooth driving style as he outdueled Viceroy teammates Al Unser and Mario in one of the all-time great finishes in Hoosier Hundred history. His victory in the STP Double Oil Filter Turbo Offy ended the dominance of the Ford engine which had lasted for ten

consecutive races over the past three years. The last previous non-Ford victory came at Du Quoin, Ill. in May of 1972 when Tom Bigelow came home first in a Chevy.

Howerton, a Rookie on the Dirt this season, made shambles of the race for "Rookie of the Year" honors. His closest competition was Sheldon Kinser in Grant King's car. Kinser qualified for the number two starting spot but drifted too high in the first turn of the first lap and was out of the race.

Jackie made it an all-Rookie front row by winning the pole position and proceeded to lead all 100 miles. His last 10 laps were the hardest, however, as he was repeatedly challenged by both Mario and Al, to the delight of the screaming fans.

Mario closed out the 1974 Dirt Track season with three victories in five events and a 180-point bulge over Bigelow, who placed fourth in the Hoosier Hundred. Al finished third in the points with Greg Weld fourth and Arnie Knepper fifth. Howerton's victory netted him a sixth-place final point standing.

Howerton's victory was his first in any USAC division and it snapped Al Unser's bid for a fifth consecutive victory at the Hoosier Hundred.

#### USAC DIRT CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: September 7, 1974 – Indiana State Fairgrounds – Indianapolis, Indiana – Hoosier Hundred

QUALIFYING: 1. Jackie Howerton, 42, Patrick-34.25; 2. Sheldon Kinser, 20, King-34.38; 3. Mario Andretti, 2, Vel's Parnelli Jones-34.81; 4. Tom Bigelow, 98, Leader Card-35.29; 5. George Snider, 9, Leyba-35.44; 6. Ralph Liguori, 85, Flynn-35.47; 7. Bill Puterbaugh, 73, Elkins-35.55; 8. John Hubbard, 94, Vatis-35.66; 9. A.J. Foyt, 14, Foyt-35.66; 10. Johnny Parsons, 41, Patrick-35.73; 11. Billy Vukovich, 40, Bettenhausen-35.80; 12. Pancho Carter, 10, Rieder-35.81; 13. Jimmy Caruthers, 21, Caruthers-35.85; 14. Al Unser, 1, Vel's Parnelli Jones-35.87; 15. Billy Engelhart, 83, Sohm-35.98; 16. Jim McElreath, 32, Glessner-36.23; 17. Billy Cassella, 29, Seymour-36.25; 18. Rollie Beale, 22, Kilman-36.28; 19. Ronnie Burke, 33, Burke-36.40; 20. Joe Saldana, 31, Mataka-36.44; 21. Bruce Walkup, 70, Smith-36.49; 22. Lee Osborne, 11, Smith-36.50; 23. Mel Cornett, 36, Rogala-36.50; 24. Jan Opperman, 24, UCR-36.53; 25. Arnie Knepper, 5, CHEK-36.72; 26. Larry Dickson, 48, Smith-36.80; 27. Jerry Miller, 65, Miller-36.84; 28. Mike Gregg, 69, McClure-36.85; 29. Tommy Astone, 84, Gehlhausen-36.90; 30. Darl Harrison, 91, Harrison-37.00; 31. Gary Ponzini, 3, Gehlhausen-37.05; 32. Bob Evans, 99, Hunt-37.09; 33. Bob Harkey, 52, Harkey-37.11; 34. Larry Cannon, 53, Jordan-37.11; 35. Sammy Sessions, 26, MVS-37.33; 36. Larry Cannon, 54, Wiese-NT; 37. Greg Weld, 55, Middleton-NT; 38. Thad Doshier, 56, Duerst-NT.

FEATURE: (100 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Jackie Howerton (1), 2. Al Unser (13), 3. Mario Andretti (3), 4. Tom Bigelow (4), 5. George Snider (5), 6. Rollie Beale (17), 7. Pancho Carter (11), 8. Arnie Knepper (24), 9. Bruce Walkup (20), 10. Billy Cassella (16), 11. Joe Saldana (19), 12. Ronnie Burke (18), 13. Bill Puterbaugh (6), 14. Lee Osborne (21), 15. Mel Cornett (22), 16. Billy Engelhart (14), 17. Billy Vukovich (10), 18. Johnny Parsons (9), 19. Jan Opperman (23), 20. A.J. Foyt (8), 21. Jimmy Caruthers (12), 22. John Hubbard (7), 23. Sheldon Kinser (2), 24. Jim McElreath (15). 1:06:51.00

\*\*Ralph Liguori flipped during qualifying.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-100 Jackie Howerton.

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#### 1974 USAC DIRT CHAMPIONSHIP DRIVER POINTS

1. (900) Mario Andretti, Nazareth, Pa.
2. (720) Tom Bigelow, Whitewater, Wis.

3. (500) Al Unser, Albuquerque, N.M.
4. (280) Greg Weld, Independence, Mo.
5. (210) Arnie Knepper, Belleville, Ill.
6. (200) Jackie Howerton, Tulsa, Okla.
7. (190) Darl Harrison, Tiffin, Ohio
8. (180) George Snider, Bakersfield, Calif.
9. (160) Pancho Carter, Huntington Beach, Calif.
10. (160) Rollie Beale, Toledo, Ohio
11. (120) Wally Dallenbach, East Brunswick, N.J.
12. (120) Mel Cornett, Wauwatosa, Wis.
13. (120) Ralph Liguori, Tampa, Fla.
14. (120) A.J. Foyt, Houston, Texas
15. (120) Billy Cassella, Wintersville, Ohio
16. (110) Jimmy Caruthers, Anaheim, Calif.
17. (100) Sammy Sessions, Nashville, Mich.
18. (100) Larry Dickson, Marietta, Ohio
19. (90) John Hubbard, Johnstown, Pa.
20. (80) Bill Puterbaugh, Speedway, Ind.
21. (80) Larry Cannon, Danville, Ill.
22. (70) Lee Osborne, Lebanon, Pa.
23. (70) Joe Saldana, Brownsburg, Ind.
24. (60) Thad Doshier, Topeka, Kan.
25. (40) Billy Engelhart, Madison, Wis.
26. (40) Bruce Walkup, Sullivan, Ind.
27. (30) Bob Harkey, Indianapolis, Ind.
28. (22) Johnny Parsons, Speedway, Ind.
29. (10) Karl Busson, Toledo, Ohio
30. (10) Jim McElreath, Arlington, Texas
31. (10) Billy Vukovich, Fresno, Calif.
32. (10) Ronnie Burke, Houston, Texas

#### **1974 USAC DIRT CHAMPIONSHIP ENTRANT POINTS**

1. (900) Vel's Parnelli Jones Racing, Torrance, Calif. (#2)
2. (720) Leader Card, Milwaukee, Wis. (#98)
3. (500) Vel's Parnelli Jones Racing, Torrance, Calif. (#1)
4. (280) Pizza Hut of St. Louis, Florissant, Mo. (#55)
5. (210) CHEK Racing, Belleville, Ill. (#5)
6. (200) Patrick Racing, Jackson, Mich. (#42)
7. (190) A.L. Harrison, Parma Heights, Ohio (#91)
8. (180) Ben Leyba, South Bend, Ind. (#9)
9. (160) Rieder Racers, Butler, N.J. (#10)
10. (160) Lowell Kilman, Toledo, Ohio (#22)
11. (120) Patrick Racing, Jackson, Mich. (#41)
12. (120) Don Rogala, Erie, Pa. (#36)
13. (120) Walt Flynn, Indianapolis, Ind. (#85)
14. (120) A.J. Foyt Enterprises, Houston, Texas (#14)
15. (120) Louie Seymour, Marlboro, Mass. (#29)
16. (110) DJC Racing, Anaheim, Calif. (#21)
17. (100) MVS, Inc., Indianapolis, Ind. (#26)
18. (100) Del McClure, Portland, Ore. (#69)
19. (90) Vatis Enterprises, New York, N.Y. (#94)
20. (90) Ray Smith, Eaton, Ohio (#70)
21. (80) McNamara Motor Express, Kalamazoo, Mich. (#73)
22. (80) Don Wiese, Danville, Ill. (#54)
23. (70) Ray Smith, Eaton, Ohio (#11)
24. (60) Don Duerst, Columbia, Mo. (#56)
25. (40) Gus Sohm, St. Louis, Mo. (#83)
26. (40) Carl Gehlhausen, Jasper, Ind. (#3)
27. (30) Bob Harkey, Indianapolis, Ind. (#52)
28. (20) Mataka Brothers, Maplewood, N.J. (#31)
29. (10) William Reynolds, Elmore, Ohio (#58)
30. (10) Lee Glessner Racing, Wheeling, W.Va. (#32)
31. (10) Bettenhausen Racing, Indianapolis, Ind. (#40)
32. (10) Danny Burke, Sparkman, Ark. (#33)