

2019 USAC NATIONAL MIDGET SEASON REVIEW

Courtney is Sunshine Superman

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

With the 64th USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget season in the books, we reflect on the most balanced season in recent times in terms of the variety of venues and the number of teams and drivers who stepped to the forefront to compete at an elite level throughout the duration of the most expansive schedule of events in more than two decades.

Firstly, Tyler Courtney and Clauson Marshall Racing earned their first driver and entrant championship, respectively, in the USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget ranks just one year following their 2018 USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car championship. They're only the second driver/team combo to accomplish winning each of the titles in USAC's National Midget and National Sprint divisions in consecutive years following Josh Wise and Tony Stewart Racing's reign during 2005-06.

Courtney led nearly every statistical category with the series in 2019, including feature wins (8), laps led (175), top-fives (20), top-tens (26), fast qualifying times (8) and heat race wins (9). Courtney was the first USAC National Midget champion driver since Cole Whitt in 2008 to win the title without starting every feature run during the season after missing the transfer in late November's Hangtown 100 opener.

The Indianapolis, Ind. native's eight series victories this year were the most by any one driver since Jeff Gordon won nine in 1990. Courtney's 18 overall USAC National series wins in 2019 (8 Midget, 9 Sprint & 1 Silver Crown) are tied for the third most in a single season alongside A.J. Foyt's and Parnelli Jones' 1964 seasons and trail only J.J. Yeley's 23 National wins in 2003 and Foyt's 19 in 1961.

Courtney led the championship from start to finish following victories in the first two races of the season in Ocala, Fla., the first driver to lead the standings for the entire USAC National Midget season since Rico Abreu in 2014. He's also just the ninth driver to win two in a row to start the season with the series since 1956.

His two victories in the Sunshine State during February made him just the eighth driver to win the season opener and the series championship in the same season, and the second in a row following Logan Seavey in 2018.

In only his sixth start of the season, Courtney picked up his fourth win of the 2019 campaign in May at Tri-City Speedway in Granite City, Ill., making him the fastest driver ever to reach the four-win mark with the series.

Courtney's 179-point final margin of victory in the standings was the largest since Darren Hagen's 201-point advantage to conclude the 2012 USAC National Midget season.

Five first time USAC National Midget winners took the checkered flag this season with Cannon McIntosh (Southern Illinois Center), Chris Windom (Lawrenceburg Speedway), Jason McDougal (Jefferson County Speedway), Tanner Carrick (Sweet Springs Motorsports Complex) and Gio Scelzi (Placerville Speedway) capturing their initial series scores, the most in a single year since 2008.

The number of race winners with the series this year totaled 14, which is the most in a USAC National Midget season since 17 reached victory lane in 2008.

Cullman, Alabama's Kevin Thomas Jr. won twice, first with a last lap, lap corner pass to win April's Kokomo Grand Prix at Kokomo (Ind.) Speedway, then scored again in November during Western World at Arizona Speedway.

Logan Seavey's Indiana Midget Week opening night victory catapulted him into the 2019 IMW title and served as the first of his three wins on the season which was the most by a reigning series champion since Rico Abreu in 2015. The Sutter, Calif. driver took additional wins during Mid-America Midget Week at Oklahoma's Red Dirt Raceway and Pennsylvania Midget Week at Lanco.

Ione, California's Justin Grant took RAMS Racing to its first USAC National Midget victory in June at Gas City I-69 Speedway during Indiana Midget Week. The following night, Tanner Thorson capped off one of the most incredible comebacks in USAC history, with wounds and scars still readily evident on his body after sustaining a broken left arm and right foot, a cracked sternum, broken ribs and a punctured lung following a multi-car incident just three months earlier, the Minden, Nevada native delivered the victory at Lincoln Park Speedway during IMW, after starting 15th, the furthest back any winner started in the series in 2019.

In minimal appearances, Kyle Larson was second behind Courtney amongst all drivers with four wins. The Elk Grove, Calif. driver won in June for Keith Kunz Motorsports/Curb-Agajanian in the series' return to the Dirt track at Route 66 in Joliet, Ill. following a 15-year hiatus.

Larson then brought out his own car for the final four races during the western swing. He pocketed a \$32000 payday in the richest USAC Midget event ever held, in November at Placerville. He followed up with two more victories at Bakersfield, Calif. and in the finale at Ventura, Calif. to become the fourth ever driver to win at least three Turkey Night Grands Prix.

That Thanksgiving night win marked just the third occasion in USAC National Midget history that a driver won the final three races to conclude the season (Billy Boat 1995 and Larson in 2012). Larson also became the first driver in 24 years to win three-straight USAC National MIDGET CHAMPIONSHIP RACES in the state of California (also Boat in 1995).

Zeb Wise earned his second and third career victories in the Keystone State in July and August at Action Track USA and Linda's Speedway after capturing his first a year prior at Lanco in the same state. He finally broke through in the Hoosier state with a major triumph in the BC39 in September at The Dirt Track at IMS.

Chad Boat saw victory lane from both sides, first as a driver in August during Pennsylvania Midget Week at Path Valley Speedway Park, then again as a car entrant/crew chief for Scelzi's win at Placerville. Brady Bacon, who scaled back to a part-time role with FMR Racing after three full seasons for the team between 2016-18, returned to his winning ways with the team in the Western World finale at Arizona.

In the end, with eight victories between Courtney and his Clauson Marshall Racing team at Ocala, Fla. twice, Kokomo, Ind., Granite City, Ill., Bloomington, Ind., Fairbury, Neb., Rossburg, Ohio's Eldora Speedway and Wayne City, Ill., CMR snapped Keith Kunz Motorsports/Curb-Agajanian's seven year run of consecutive series championships.

Andrew Layser (Collegeville, Pa.) finished as the top Rookie in the standings (11th). Tanner Carrick, Seavey and Thomas were the lone three drivers to start all 31 series events. The most positions advanced by any one driver in a feature event throughout the series season was 19 by Kyle Larson (23rd to 4th) on the opening night of the Hangtown 100 at Placerville.

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Courtney Continues Winter Dirt Games Success in Midget Opener

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Ocala, Florida (February 8, 2019).....Tyler Courtney continued his winning ways in "Winter Dirt Games" at Bubba Raceway Park in Friday's USAC NOS Energy Drink Midget National Championship season opener.

The Indianapolis, Indiana driver was victorious in the final two races of last year's USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car portion of "Winter Dirt Games" en route to his first career USAC National driving title. Kicking off the year in grand fashion is the goal of anybody with championship ambitions, and Courtney believes this a solid first step in that direction on the midget side of things aboard his Clauson Marshall Racing/NOS Energy Drink/Spike/Stanton SR-11x.

"To win anytime is important," Courtney reiterated. "To get the ball rolling this early in the year, and obviously it's early, there's lots of stuff that could happen, but you've got to get yourself put in the right spot coming out of Florida. I think it shows on the sprint car side if you put yourself in the right position starting down here, it kind of makes things a little smoother throughout the year. I think KT and I are a testament that every point counts. You've got to be on top of your game every time you hit the racetrack. I think I only won one MIDGET CHAMPIONSHIP RACE last year, so to get one out of the way now, it gives me a better opportunity to win some more throughout the year."

If there's anyone who knows that every point counts in a season-long run, even in the month of February, it's Courtney, who tied with Kevin Thomas Jr. on the final tally for the USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car championship a year ago. And it was those two once again who were tied at the hip, side-by-side in row three for the start of the 30-lapper on the 3/8-mile, D-shaped dirt track.

It was Tucker Klaasmeyer, from the pole, who would lead the opening four circuits before Courtney (and C.J. Leary) put on the attack on the fifth lap. Leary worked a lane higher than Klaasmeyer, as Courtney worked underneath. In turn one, however, Courtney ripped the higher line away from Leary to get to second, then pivoted his charge toward Klaasmeyer and was able to rip around the Paola, Kansas driver for the race lead off turn four.

"C.J. got a run on me, not necessarily the high side of three and four, but I knew I needed to get up there sooner or later," Courtney recalled. "I got back around C.J. in one and two and was able to take his lane away out of three and four and was able to drive right around Tucker. This place is all about getting track position early, especially with the midgets and how close we are."

Courtney instantly stretched his lead as Leary got shuffled back to fourth, allowing Chad Boat to slide to third, then to second by Klaasmeyer on the seventh lap. As the front runners began to clamp down on the tail end of the field on lap 12, series Rookie of the Year contender and tenth place-running Andrew Layser's night ended with a flat right rear tire in turn one.

As Courtney would continuously showcase throughout the main event, every restart was on point, as he distanced himself from Boat time and time again, constructing a 1.5 second lead past the halfway mark. Courtney would continue to add to his lead incrementally until traffic was in near sight, when Zane Hendricks' left rear tire went away, forcing him to a stop in turn one.

Not to be deterred, Courtney busted out on the lap 20 restart, ratcheting up the interval to one second initially and then to two seconds with five to go when Adam Pierson came to a rest in turn two, forcing one final restart for Courtney to conquer. Leary was able to work his way to second underneath Boat in turn two on the 27th lap, but Courtney was clear and gone once again.

Kevin Thomas Jr. made a stirring charge from sixth to second in the final four laps to claim the runner-up spot behind Courtney, who captured his sixth career series win, putting him in a 12-way tie for 100th all-time. Kevin Thomas Jr. finished second ahead of Chris Windom, Leary and Zeb Wise.

It was Courtney's third consecutive win in his three most recent appearances at Bubba Raceway Park. It's a track that seems fitted not only to his liking, but also to the CMR crew, who certainly have proved they know how to prepare a car to run up front at this place with three of their four pilots finishing in the top-five Friday night, including Courtney at the top.

"I think it kind of fits my style," Courtney said. "Tim (Clauson) on the midget side has them going really good down here, and Rizzy (Tyler Ransbottom) on our sprint car stuff, they obviously work with each other, so we've got a really good feel for this place. I'm just fortunate to be driving them. It's a really good start to the year with our new NOS Energy Drink partnership. This is a fun racetrack and I've taken a liking to it. I won't complain about that."

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: February 8, 2019 – Bubba Raceway Park – Ocala, Florida – Winter Dirt Games X – 3/8-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-13.773 (New Track Record); 2. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-13.801; 3. Chad Boat, 84, Tucker/Boat-13.860; 4. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-13.872; 5. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-13.875; 6. C.J. Leary, 76m, FMR-13.898; 7. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-13.906; 8. Cole Bodine, 15, Petry-13.926; 9. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-13.931; 10. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-13.937; 11. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-13.950; 12. Zane Hendricks, 27z, Hendricks-13.960; 13. Sam Johnson, 19J, Reynolds/Jetson-13.961; 14. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-13.971; 15. Chase Jones, 57B, RAB-14.000; 16. Jesse Colwell, 71, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.002; 17. Tyler Thomas, 91T, Thomas-14.008; 18. Tanner Thorson, 3c, Tri-C-14.009; 19. Steve Buckwalter, 0, Buckwalter-14.047; 20. Holley Hollan, 67K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.078; 21. Ethan Mitchell, 19m, Bundy Built-14.085; 22. Adam Pierson, 74m, Mancini/Manafort-14.095; 23. Sterling Cling, 35, Petry-14.151; 24. Noah Gass, 20G, Gass-14.188; 25. Karsyn Elledge, 1, Tucker/Boat-14.512; 26. Oliver Akard, 41, Akard-15.714; 27. Karter Sarff, 21KS, Reynolds-NT (time of 13.879 disallowed).

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Kevin Thomas Jr., 2. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 3. Jerry Coons Jr., 4. Tanner Carrick, 5. Jesse Colwell, 6. Steve Buckwalter, 7. Sam Johnson, 8. Karsyn Elledge, 9. Adam Pierson. 1:58.89 (New Track Record)

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Tyler Thomas, 3. Logan Seavey, 4. Cole Bodine, 5. Chris Windom, 6. Andrew Layser, 7. Holley Hollan, 8. Sterling Cling, 9. Oliver Akard. NT

AUTO METER THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Chad Boat, 2. Tanner Thorson, 3. C.J. Leary, 4. Zeb Wise, 5. Karter Sarff, 6. Noah Gass, 7. Zane Hendricks, 8. Ethan Mitchell, 9. Chase Jones. NT

INDY RACE PARTS SEMI: (12 laps, top-7 transfer to the feature) 1. Sam Johnson, 2. Andrew Layser, 3. Holley Hollan, 4. Karsyn Elledge, 5. Zane Hendricks, 6. Adam Pierson, 7. Noah Gass, 8. Ethan Mitchell, 9. Chase Jones, 10. Steve Buckwalter, 11. Sterling Cling, 12. Oliver Akard. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Tyler Courtney (5), 2. Kevin Thomas Jr. (6), 3. Chris Windom (11), 4. C.J. Leary (2), 5. Zeb Wise (9), 6. Tanner Carrick (3), 7. Tucker Klaasmeyer (1), 8. Chad Boat (4), 9. Tanner Thorson (17), 10. Jerry Coons Jr. (10), 11. Cole Bodine (8), 12. Logan Seavey (14), 13. Tyler Thomas (16), 14. Jesse Colwell (15), 15. Sam Johnson (13), 16. Karsyn Elledge (21), 17. Karter Sarff (22), 18. Holley Hollan (18), 19. Zane Hendricks (12), 20. Adam Pierson (19), 21. Andrew Layser (7), 22. Noah Gass (20). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-4 Tucker Klaasmeyer, Laps 5-30 Tyler Courtney.

**Ethan Mitchell flipped during the third heat. Sterling Cling flipped during the semi.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-83, 2-Kevin Thomas Jr.-81, 3-Chris Windom-68, 4-C.J. Leary-68, 5-Zeb Wise-63, 6-Tanner Carrick-63, 7-Chad Boat-61, 8-Tucker Klaasmeyer-59, 9-Tanner Thorson-53, 10-Jerry Coons Jr.-49.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: February 9, 2019 – Bubba Raceway Park – Ocala, Florida – Winter Dirt Games X

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Chris Windom (11th to 3rd)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Tyler Thomas

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Ethan Mitchell

PROSOURCE HARD WORK AWARD: Karter Sarff

Kevin Thomas Jr. (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Kevin Thomas Jr. (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Tyler Courtney (Competition Suspension INC. Second Heat Winner)

Chad Boat (Auto Meter Third Heat Winner)

Sam Johnson (Indy Race Parts Semi Winner)

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Sunshine Double-Dips in Ocala with 2nd Straight Midget Victory

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Ocala, Florida (February 9, 2019).....If Friday's victory at Bubba Raceway Park was one small step toward a successful USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget season for Tyler Courtney, then Saturday night's win was a giant leap toward what could be a banner year in the series for the Indianapolis, Indiana driver.

Courtney slid by Tucker Klaasmeyer with nine laps remaining in Saturday's 30-lap Winter Dirt Games X feature, blasting to victory for the second time in as many nights on the 3/8-mile, D-shaped dirt track to become just the eighth driver to win the opening two USAC National MIDGET CHAMPIONSHIP RACES of the season, joining Lee Kunzman (1972), Gary Bettenhausen (1975), Rich Vogler (1984-85), Dave Steele (2002), Brad Sweet (2010), Bryan Clauson (2011) and Rico Abreu (2014).

"It's definitely a weight lifted off my shoulders to get the season started off on the right foot," Courtney said. "We've got a great team here and the whole series is tough right now. It's a lot of fun and it's obviously the best way you can start. We've got awesome momentum going for our midget season right now as well as going into the start of the Sprint Car season next week."

Courtney was the Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier earlier in the evening, positioning him sixth for the start of the main event while Tucker Klaasmeyer started from the pole position for the second consecutive night. Just like he did a night earlier, Klaasmeyer scooted away with the lead on the opening lap that was short-lived the first time around as Vermonter Adam Pierson took a nasty tumble in turn three from which he would walk away.

Klaasmeyer was at the head of the pack on the ensuing complete restart as he tried to extend his early-race success from a night earlier when he led the opening four circuits. Klaasmeyer was class as he held control of the field, despite a couple of early yellows that forced him to regain his momentum.

The Paola, Kans. driver was up to the task each time, although Friday night winner Courtney was suddenly in the picture, sliding to second in turn two past teammate Zeb Wise momentarily. Wise countered to get back past Courtney off turn two, but Courtney answered the bell and slid back past Wise between turns three and four to retake the second spot for good on the ninth lap.

Courtney's sights were now set on Klaasmeyer for the race lead, the same as the night before. Crossing the halfway point, Courtney was searching to find a way around, high/low/middle, wherever he may roam, he was going to give it a whirl.

Courtney left the bottom open on lap 18 and Chad Boat was there to capitalize to grab second off turn four. Courtney quickly whipped up a remedy to slide back past Boat heading into turn one to reclaim second.

"I was moving around a little bit to see if I could just get a run somewhere else," Courtney recalled. "Then, I moved around to the wrong spot and Chad (Boat) got a run on me on the bottom. I was able to get back by him in three and four. That showed me the bottom, so I knew if I could keep in it perfect, especially on those first couple of laps after a restart, when I ended up getting him, that would be crucial."

One lap later, fifth-running Wise lost a right rear tire, which sent him to the work area for new rubber. But it set up a lap 21 restart which Courtney utilized to make his charge to capture the lead from Klaasmeyer a lap later on the bottom of turn one.

"I got that run off four and I knew that was about the only time I was going to be able to stick it in there," Courtney continued. "I stuck it in there and it stuck. At that point, you can play your own race, run your own laps and try not to worry about anybody else. That makes it a little easier when there's only 10 laps to go instead of trying to run the whole race."

Courtney instantly stretched out his lead to 1.5 second, running the bottom of turns one and two and the middle of turns three and four with the laps dwindling, until Wise's turn two spin collected Holley Hollan to force one final restart with three laps remaining with Boat and Kevin Thomas Jr. just behind. Kevin Thomas Jr. was on the move on the final restart the previous night, racing from sixth to second in the final four laps. With Kevin Thomas Jr. getting around Boat a lap following the restart, Courtney inherently knew he had to be just about perfect.

"I saw him (Kevin Thomas Jr.) on the board, so obviously he's going to be trying something to come through there," Courtney remembered. "I was trying to be perfect those last couple laps, trying to hit my marks, because I didn't feel any pressure before the caution. I knew I was doing something right and, luckily, it worked out. (Kevin Thomas Jr.) got to second again. It's going to be a long season and I don't expect him to let up just as much as I won't let up. It's going to be fun."

Courtney successfully pulled off the double-dip with a half-second advantage over Kevin Thomas Jr. at the checkered with Boat, C.J. Leary and Klaasmeyer rounding out the top-five.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: February 9, 2019 – Bubba Raceway Park – Ocala, Florida – Winter Dirt Games X – 3/8-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-13.817; 2. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-13.818; 3. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-13.819; 4. C.J. Leary, 76m, FMR-13.841; 5. Chad Boat, 84, Tucker/Boat-13.922; 6. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-13.935; 7. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-14.004; 8. Jesse Colwell, 71, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.010; 9. Cole Bodine, 15, Petry-14.019; 10. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.036; 11. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.040; 12. Noah Gass, 20G, Gass-14.042; 13. Ethan Mitchell, 19m, Bundy Built-14.065; 14. Holley Hollan, 67K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.120; 15. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-14.144; 16. Tyler Thomas, 91T, Thomas-14.194; 17. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.221; 18. Zane Hendricks, 27z, Hendricks-14.253; 19.

Karsyn Elledge, 1, Tucker/Boat-14.261; 20. Sam Johnson, 19J, Reynolds/Jetson-14.269; 21. Karter Sarff, 21KS, Reynolds-14.341; 22. Adam Pierson, 74m, Mancini/Manafort-14.514; 23. Chase Jones, 57B, RAB-14.591; 24. Tanner Thorson, 3c, Tri-C-NT; 25. Oliver Akard, 41, Akard-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 2. Tyler Courtney, 3. C.J. Leary, 4. Tyler Thomas, 5. Karsyn Elledge, 6. Jerry Coons Jr., 7. Adam Pierson, 8. Ethan Mitchell. 1:58.77

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Tanner Carrick, 2. Chad Boat, 3. Logan Seavey, 4. Holley Hollan, 5. Sam Johnson, 6. Andrew Layser, 7. Jesse Colwell, 8. Chase Jones. 2:01.73

AUTO METER THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Zeb Wise, 2. Chris Windom, 3. Tanner Thorson, 4. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5. Zane Hendricks, 6. Karter Sarff, 7. Cole Bodine, 8. Noah Gass. 2:01.60

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Tyler Courtney (6), 2. Kevin Thomas Jr. (5), 3. Chad Boat (3), 4. C.J. Leary (4), 5. Tucker Klaasmeyer (1), 6. Jesse Colwell (9), 7. Tanner Thorson (24), 8. Logan Seavey (11), 9. Chris Windom (15), 10. Andrew Layser (7), 11. Tanner Carrick (16), 12. Tyler Thomas (20), 13. Zane Hendricks (17), 14. Karter Sarff (21), 15. Karsyn Elledge (18), 16. Jerry Coons Jr. (8), 17. Sam Johnson (19), 18. Holley Hollan (14), 19. Ethan Mitchell (13), 20. Zeb Wise (2), 21. Noah Gass (12), 22. Cole Bodine (10), 23. Chase Jones (23), 24. Adam Pierson (22). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-21 Tucker Klaasmeyer, Laps 22-30 Tyler Courtney.

****Adam Pierson flipped on lap 1 of the feature.**

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-166, 2-Kevin Thomas Jr.-157, 3-C.J. Leary-138, 4-Chad Boat-134, 5-Tucker Klaasmeyer-125, 6-Chris Windom-121, 7-Tanner Carrick-112, 8-Tanner Thorson-111, 9-Logan Seavey-100, 10-Jesse Colwell-96.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: March 9, 2019 – Southern Illinois Center – Du Quoin, Illinois – Factory Canopies Shamrock Classic

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/PROSOURCE HARD CHARGER: Tanner Thorson (24th to 7th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Zane Hendricks

Tyler Courtney (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Tucker Klaasmeyer (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Tanner Carrick (Competition Suspension Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Zeb Wise (Auto Meter/Indy Race Parts Third Heat Winner)

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McIntosh Masters Mini Magic Mile for First USAC Win

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Du Quoin, Illinois (March 9, 2019).....Cannon McIntosh's grace under fire was demonstrated literally and figuratively in a multitude of manners Saturday night in the fourth annual "Shamrock Classic" at the Southern Illinois Center.

A fuel leak during hot laps ignited the Bixby, Oklahoma driver's ride, giving the 16-year-old driver a scare he won't soon forget and forcing him to borrow crew member Grady Chandler's fire suit for the remainder of the night as a replacement.

"I got blisters on my ankle right now," McIntosh pointed out. "That was definitely the scariest moment of my life. I had flames up to my eyes and couldn't grab my belt. I was starting to freak out a little bit. There's a great crew around here to put the fire out. God was on my side there."

In turn, the flames lit a fuse under the young driver, and after relinquishing the lead to the defending series champ and reigning race winner, he refused to cave-in to the pressure, snookering Logan Seavey on a lap 30 restart and completed the remaining 21 laps at the point to win his first career USAC feature in just his second series' start.

By accumulating the most passing points throughout the evening, McIntosh earned the pole for the 50-lap feature. However, an opportunity arose that, for some, may have seemed too enticing to turn a blind eye to with a \$50,000 bonus awaiting him if he could start from the tail and win the feature. Yet, McIntosh turned down the opportunity, basically intimating that while the money is nice, he came here to win.

"Fifty-grand would be awesome," McIntosh admitted. "It would've been great to win all that money, but to me, winning that race was the money."

Instead, McIntosh took the pole and, from lap one, showed he wasn't gun shy next to outside front row starter Seavey, instantly rocketing out to a half-straightaway advantage in the opening laps as he quickly closed in on the tail end of the field.

With the bottom occupied, McIntosh had to figure whether to stay in line and try to sneak by on the bottom or snake around the outside to build his lead as Seavey made his blitzkrieg to the front, first around Andrew Layser on the 14th lap before clamping down on McIntosh.

On lap 20, Seavey was right on the cusp, delivering what seemed to be the knockout blow, as he drove around the outside of McIntosh in turn two and beat McIntosh to the position on the back straight before securing the lead exiting the fourth turn.

A turn four tangle on lap 29 sent Matt Veatch on his lid. He would restart. But this set up a lap 30 restart with Seavey and McIntosh running one-two. McIntosh wasn't exactly sure what he had left in the tank, but there was a lot on his mind.

"When (Seavey) got around me, he got me pretty good," McIntosh recalled. "I didn't know if we'd have anything left for him. I didn't know if the car was going away or what was going on. But the caution came out and just going through my mind was all kinds of things. My crew guy on the fence didn't know whether to tell me top or bottom. He's saying top and bottom. We went green and I went to the bottom and it worked. Once we took the lead and it was all good from there."

After multiple cautions with less than 20 laps remaining, the question remained whether Seavey would have something up his sleeve on the restarts in the same manner McIntosh did just moments before. McIntosh wasn't fazed in any aspect, motoring away to solidify his position at the top of the leaderboard.

Zeb Wise made a late-race run, sliding Seavey for second on the 36th lap, then began to make his run at McIntosh, reeling him in in a hurry. But the savvy McIntosh altered his path, moving to the high line in turns one and two while remaining on the inside berm in three and four.

"The bottom was pretty good most of the race," McIntosh explained. "Toward the end, especially one and two, it felt real sandy. I'm like 'it's going away.' Then one corner, going into one and two, I heard somebody on my outside and I knew I

had to jump up. We were pretty good in three and four on the bottom, so I stayed on the bottom down there, but went to the top in one and two. We were pretty steady, so I figured we were good from there.”

And that he definitely was, mastering one more restart with nine laps remaining to pull away for a 1.645-second victory over Chad Boat, Wise, Zach Daum and Justin Grant. In doing so, McIntosh became the fourth driver in the four-year history of the “Shamrock Classic” to win his first career USAC NOS Energy Drink Midget National Championship feature in the event following Shane Golobic (2016), Justin Grant (2017) and Logan Seavey (2018).

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: March 9, 2019 – Southern Illinois Center – Du Quoin, Illinois – 4th Annual Shamrock Classic – 1/6-Mile Dirt Track

FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-40 in passing points after the heats transfer to the qualifiers) 1. Daniel Robinson (#11 Harris), 2. Zeb Wise (#39BC Clauson Marshall), 3. Cannon McIntosh (#08 Dave Mac), 4. Kaylee Bryson (#11B Dave Mac), 5. Tyler Robbins (#35T Robbins), 6. Howard Moore (#41 Chappue), 7. Nick Drake (#55D Cline), 8. Garet Williamson (#19 Mounce). NT

SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-40 in passing points after the heats transfer to the qualifiers) 1. Jesse Colwell (#71 Kunz/Curb-Agajanian), 2. Braydon Cromwell (#9 Mounce), 3. Logan Seavey (#67 Kunz/Curb-Agajanian), 4. Karsyn Elledge (#1 Tucker-Boat), 5. Cody Beard (#7 Beard), 6. Ethan Mitchell (#19m Bundy Built), 7. Thomas Meseraull (#7R RMS), 8. C.J. Leary (#76m FMR). NT

THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-40 in passing points after the heats transfer to the qualifiers) 1. Tucker Klaasmeyer (#27 Kunz/Curb-Agajanian), 2. Holley Hollan (#67K Kunz/Curb-Agajanian), 3. Justin Grant (#4A RAMS), 4. Joe Wirth (#77w Wirth), 5. Kendall Ruble (#11m Martin), 6. Derek Hagar (#9JR Hagar-Proctor), 7. Gage Rucker (#45L Amati), 8. Billy Wease (#12w Wease). NT

FOURTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-40 in passing points after the heats transfer to the qualifiers) 1. Tyler Courtney (#7BC Clauson Marshall), 2. Matt Veatch (#57D McCreery), 3. Tony DiMattia (#50 TDM), 4. Tyler Nelson (#88 Nelson), 5. Colten Cottle (#56AP Young), 6. Chris Andrews (#95 Miller), 7. James Picardi (#127 Picardi). NT

FIFTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-40 in passing points after the heats transfer to the qualifiers) 1. Tyler Thomas (#91T Thomas), 2. Jake Neuman (#3N Neuman), 3. Justin Peck (#17 Bus), 4. Zane Hendricks (#27z Hendricks), 5. Brady Bacon (#21H TKH), 6. Shane Morgan (#15m Morgan), 7. Michael Pickens (#1NZ RMS). NT

SIXTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-40 in passing points after the heats transfer to the qualifiers) 1. Tanner Carrick (#71K Kunz/Curb-Agajanian), 2. Andrew Layser (#47BC Clauson Marshall), 3. Dave Darland (#36 RMS), 4. Zach Daum (#5D Daum), 5. Sterling Cling (#35 Petry), 6. Adam Taylor (#7T Taylor), 7. Thomas Chandler (#1T Roney). NT

SEVENTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-40 in passing points after the heats transfer to the qualifiers) 1. Chad Boat (#84 Tucker-Boat), 2. Kevin Thomas Jr. (#5 Petry), 3. Cole Bodine (#15 Petry), 4. Chris Windom (#17BC Clauson Marshall), 5. Tim Crawley (#4J Crawley), 6. Kyle O’Gara (#67F SFHR), 7. Jerry Coons Jr. (#25 Petry). NT

C-MAIN: (10 laps, top-4 finishers transfer to the qualifiers) 1. Michael Pickens, 2. Chris Andrews, 3. Thomas Meseraull, 4. Adam Taylor, 5. Billy Wease, 6. Garet Williamson, 7. Gage Rucker, 8. Braydon Cromwell, 9. James Picardi, 10. Karsyn Elledge. NT

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST QUALIFIER: (12 laps, top-12 in overall passing points after qualifiers transfer to the feature) 1. Dave Darland, 2. Logan Seavey, 3. Tanner Carrick, 4. Matt Veatch, 5. Zane Hendricks, 6. Derek Hagar, 7. Ethan Mitchell, 8. Cody Beard, 9. Tyler Courtney, 10. Kaylee Bryson. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND QUALIFIER: (12 laps, top-12 in overall passing points after qualifiers transfer to the feature) 1. Colten Cottle, 2. Holley Hollan, 3. Andrew Layser, 4. Chad Boat, 5. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 6. Chris Windom, 7. C.J. Leary, 8. Shane Morgan, 9. Tyler Nelson, 10. Joe Wirth. NT

AUTO METER THIRD QUALIFIER: (12 laps, top-12 in overall passing points after qualifiers transfer to the feature) 1. Zach Daum, 2. Cannon McIntosh, 3. Tony DiMattia, 4. Zeb Wise, 5. Jake Neuman, 6. Kyle O’Gara, 7. Nick Drake, 8. Kendall Ruble, 9. Tim Crawley, 10. Justin Peck. NT

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH QUALIFIER: (12 laps, top-12 in overall passing points after qualifiers transfer to the feature) 1. Jesse Colwell, 2. Kevin Thomas Jr., 3. Daniel Robinson, 4. Brady Bacon, 5. Justin Grant, 6. Howard Moore, 7. Sterling Cling, 8. Cole Bodine, 9. Tyler Thomas, 10. Tyler Robbins. NT

FIRST SEMI: (15 laps, top-4 finishers transfer to the feature) 1. Dave Darland, 2. Tanner Carrick, 3. Brady Bacon, 4. Chris Windom, 5. Zane Hendricks, 6. C.J. Leary, 7. Nick Drake, 8. Justin Peck, 9. Tony DiMattia, 10. Cole Bodine, 11. Joe Wirth, 12. Kendall Ruble, 13. Derek Hagar, 14. Thomas Meseraull, 15. Michael Pickens. NT

SECOND SEMI: (15 laps, top-4 finishers transfer to the feature) 1. Justin Grant, 2. Chad Boat, 3. Kyle O’Gara, 4. Tyler Thomas, 5. Jake Neuman, 6. Howard Moore, 7. Sterling Cling, 8. Chris Andrews, 9. Tyler Nelson, 10. Cody Beard, 11. Kaylee Bryson, 12. Shane Morgan, 13. Tyler Courtney, 14. Adam Taylor, 15. Ethan Mitchell, 16. Tyler Robbins. NT

FEATURE: (50 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Cannon McIntosh (1), 2. Chad Boat (15), 3. Zeb Wise (4), 4. Zach Daum (6), 5. Justin Grant (13), 6. Logan Seavey (2), 7. Tyler Courtney (21), 8. Andrew Layser (3), 9. Chris Windom (18), 10. Tucker Klaasmeyer (11), 11. Holley Hollan (8), 12. Jesse Colwell (7), 13. Tanner Carrick (14), 14. Kevin Thomas Jr. (9), 15. Dave Darland (12), 16. Matt Veatch (10), 17. Kyle O’Gara (17), 18. Brady Bacon (16), 19. Colten Cottle (22), 20. Tyler Thomas (19), 21. Daniel Robinson (5). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-19 Cannon McIntosh, Laps 20-29 Logan Seavey, Laps 30-50 Cannon McIntosh.

****Adam Taylor flipped at the start of the sixth heat. Jerry Coons Jr. flipped during the seventh heat. Karsyn Elledge flipped during the semi. Justin Peck flipped during the third qualifier. Matt Veatch flipped on lap 29 of the feature.**

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-216, 2-Kevin Thomas Jr.-207, 3-C.J. Leary-188, 4-Chad Boat-184, 5-Tucker Klaasmeyer-175, 6-Chris Windom-171, 7-Tanner Carrick-162, 8-Logan Seavey-150, 9-Jesse Colwell-146, 10-Zeb Wise-145.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACES: April 5-6, 2019 – Kokomo Speedway – Kokomo, Indiana – Kokomo Grand Prix

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

RICKY STENHOUSE Jr./KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Chad Boat (15th to 2nd)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Tanner Carrick

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFERS: Zane Hendricks & Jake Neuman

Dave Darland (Simpson Race Products First Qualifier Winner)

Colten Cottle (Competition Suspension INC. Second Qualifier Winner)

Zach Daum (Auto Meter Third Qualifier Winner)

Jesse Colwell (Indy Race Parts Fourth Qualifier Winner)

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Courtney Claims Kokomo GP Opener

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Kokomo, Indiana (April 5, 2019).....Tyler Courtney's grip of the "Kokomo Grand Prix" seems to be as firm as the grip he currently holds on the USAC NOS Energy Drink Midget National Championship following Friday night's victory at Kokomo Speedway, his second straight in the "GP" and his third in the first four races on the 2019 series' trail.

The Indianapolis, Indiana driver raced to the lead just prior to the halfway point, utilizing the bottom of the racetrack to track down early race leader Kevin Thomas Jr. on lap 15 and carry on to nab the eighth win of his career in his Clauson Marshall Racing/NOS Energy Drink/Spike/Stanton SR-11x, tying him for 77th all-time.

Courtney began his expedition from the outside of row three while pole sitter Kevin Thomas Jr. slid up past outside front row starter Thomas Meseraull in turn one for the point on the opening lap.

The first stoppage of the night arrived on the fourth lap of the main when Tony DiMattia took a tumble in turn four from which he walked away uninjured.

On the ensuing restart, Kevin Thomas Jr. once again spurred away to a relatively comfortable margin of one second while CMR teammates Chris Windom and Courtney battled side-by-side for the runner-up spot. Courtney found the bottom of the quarter-mile to his liking and quickly ate up enough ground to nip Windom at the line for second on lap six, just before the yellow flag flew for a turn two spin by Justin Peck.

When racing resumed, Kevin Thomas Jr. and Courtney formed a two-car breakaway to distance themselves from the herd. Courtney kept inching closer and closer, sticking right within earshot of Thomas nearing the midway point. On the 14th lap, Courtney's stick-to-itiveness paid off when he ran down Kevin Thomas Jr., beating him to the entry of turn one before sliding up in front to nail down the lead.

Courtney had a plan and executed it perfectly on the bottom, something he attributes to his extensive experience watching, crewing and racing at Kokomo over the years.

"I ran the bottom all night, especially in (turns) three and four," Courtney explained. "It got pretty rough in one and two, so you had to search to find other ways to go. I knew the bottom was going to be the place to be. I watched a lot of races that were won here on the bottom, especially off of four. Watching those guys and learning from the best, Bryan (Clauson) being one of them, I was fortunate I got to watch him race a lot here and be a part of it. I think I would credit a lot to being a part of it and watching and take notes mentally and using it to capitalize here tonight."

Courtney's lead grew to two seconds by the 20th lap as Kevin Thomas Jr. became mired in lapped traffic, allowing Courtney to break away into his own zip code, albeit briefly, as Zane Hendricks slowed to a stop in turn two, thus resetting the landscape for the finish of the 30-lapper.

However, Courtney was unfazed with the lapped car of Cole Bodine separating him and Kevin Thomas Jr., Windom and Jason McDougal in second, third and fourth. Courtney said 'sayonara' as a cornucopia of drivers behind him jostled for position.

McDougal eventually prevailed with the second spot using a topside pass of Kevin Thomas Jr. in turn four on lap 24. But, with Courtney a distant three seconds ahead, McDougal needed a caution for any shot and, alas, he would receive one when Andrew Layser flipped between turns three and four on the 28th lap. He was uninjured.

The stage was set for a three-lap dash to the finish with Courtney leading and McDougal in second. Rewind back to last Labor Day Weekend and McDougal was in relatively the same position in Pevely, Mo. to win his first career USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car race. He conquered that quest and now had a similar storyline setting up for his first career USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget score in his first ever drive for Steve Reynolds Motorsports.

Courtney had other plans, however.

"I didn't really know what I was going to get with Jason," Courtney pondered. "He's good at the end of races; he proved it last year at Pevely. I was a little bit in defense mode, but I knew I just needed to hit my marks and make three good laps there at the end to put ourselves in position to be where we were."

"I knew he'd be running the top because that's where he loves to be," Courtney continued. "But nobody had passed me on the bottom the whole night, so I knew if I could just run where they were running, nobody was going to go where I was going. It was just a matter of putting yourself in the right place at the right time."

Courtney stuck to his guns and burst away on the restart, never allowing McDougal to get anywhere close enough to throw a haymaker for the win, closing out his fifth career USAC National win at Kokomo (3 sprint, 2 midget) by just a tick under a full second ahead of a wheel-standing McDougal in second, followed by Windom, Zeb Wise and Kevin Thomas Jr.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: April 5, 2019 – Kokomo Speedway – Kokomo, Indiana – Kokomo Grand Prix – 1/4-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Dillon Welch, 81, Tucker/Boat-12.665 (New Track Record); 2. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-12.695; 3. C.J. Leary, 76m, FMR-12.712; 4. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.747; 5. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-12.819; 6. Jason McDougal, 21KS, Reynolds-12.844; 7. Tony DiMattia, 50, TDM-12.869; 8. Thomas Meseraull, 7R, RMS-12.904; 9. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-12.921; 10. Chad Boat, 84, Tucker/Boat-12.936; 11. Jesse Colwell, 71, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.946; 12. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-12.957; 13. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.980; 14. Holley Hollan, 67K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-13.022; 15. Justin Grant, 4A, RAMS-13.027; 16. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-13.033; 17. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-13.066; 18. Ace McCarthy, 28, Neuman-13.100; 19. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-13.107; 20. Zane Hendricks, 27z, Hendricks-13.118; 21. Justin Peck, 17, Bus-13.146; 22. Tyler Thomas, 91T, Thomas-13.149; 23. Ethan Mitchell, 19m, Bundy Built-13.247; 24. Dave Darland, 36, RMS-13.250; 25. Tyler Nelson, 88, Nelson-13.265; 26. Sterling Cling, 35, Petry-13.283; 27. Jake Neuman, 3N, Neuman-13.289; 28. Cole Bodine, 15, Petry-13.295; 29. Kyle O'Gara, 67F, SFH-13.458; 30. Karsyn Elledge, 1, Tucker/Boat-13.717; 31. Justin Dickerson, 21D, Dickerson-13.965; 32. Oliver Akard, 41, Akard-14.943.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Tanner Carrick, 2. Kevin Thomas Jr., 3. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 4. Chris Windom, 5. Dillon Welch, 6. Justin Peck, 7. Tyler Nelson, 8. Kyle O'Gara. 2:10.06 (New Track Record)

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Tyler Thomas, 3. Jason McDougal, 4. Chad Boat, 5. Ace McCarthy, 6. Holley Hollan, 7. Sterling Cling, 8. Karsyn Elledge. 2:12.78

AUTO METER THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Ethan Mitchell, 2. Jerry Coons Jr., 3. C.J. Leary, 4. Jesse Colwell, 5. Tony DiMattia, 6. Jake Neuman, 7. Justin Dickerson, 8. Justin Grant. NT

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Zeb Wise, 2. Dave Darland, 3. Thomas Meseraull, 4. Andrew Layser, 5. Logan Seavey, 6. Zane Hendricks, 7. Cole Bodine. 2:13.62

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Logan Seavey, 2. Dillon Welch, 3. Holley Hollan, 4. Zane Hendricks, 5. Justin Peck, 6. Tony DiMattia, 7. Jake Neuman, 8. Cole Bodine, 9. Kyle O’Gara, 10. Sterling Cling, 11. Karsyn Elledge, 12. Ace McCarthy, 13. Tyler Nelson. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Tyler Courtney (6), 2. Jason McDougal (3), Chris Windom (4), 4. Zeb Wise (12), 5. Kevin Thomas Jr. (1), 6. Logan Seavey (8), 7. Thomas Meseraull (2), 8. Dillon Welch (7), 9. C.J. Leary (5), 10. Tanner Carrick (16), 11. Dave Darland (21), 12. Chad Boat (10), 13. Tyler Thomas (20), 14. Jesse Colwell (11), 15. Tucker Klaasmeyer (13), 16. Andrew Layser (15), 17. Holley Hollan (14), 18. Ethan Mitchell (24), 19. Cole Bodine (22), 20. Karsyn Elledge (23), 21. Zane Hendricks (18), 22. Jerry Coons Jr. (17), 23. Justin Peck (19), 24. Tony DiMattia (9). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-14 Kevin Thomas Jr., Laps 15-30 Tyler Courtney.

****Chad Boat flipped during hot laps. Justin Grant flipped during the third heat. Tyler Nelson flipped during the semi. Tony DiMattia flipped on lap 4 of the feature.**

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-299, 2-Kevin Thomas Jr.-272, 3-C.J. Leary-244, 4-Chris Windom-242, 5-Chad Boat-228, 6-Zeb Wise-214, 7-Tucker Klaasmeyer-214, 8-Tanner Carrick-213, 9-Logan Seavey-212, 10-Jesse Colwell-186.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: April 6, 2019 – Kokomo Speedway – Kokomo, Indiana – Kokomo Grand Prix – 1/4-Mile Dirt track

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/SUNDOLLAR RESTORATION HARD CHARGER: Dave Darland (21st to 11th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Tyler Thomas

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Jake Neuman

Dillon Welch (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Tanner Carrick (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Tyler Courtney (Competition Suspension Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Ethan Mitchell (Auto Meter Third Heat Winner)

Zeb Wise (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

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Thomas’ Last Lap Redemption Pays off with Kokomo GP Win

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Kokomo, Indiana (April 6, 2019).....After an incident on the final lap of the Kokomo Speedway Sprint Car race that preceded Saturday night's USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget feature, perhaps it was fate that we would see Kevin Thomas Jr. and Justin Grant meet again in some form or fashion on the second night of the "Kokomo Grand Prix."

Justin Grant got the best of Thomas in the sprint tilt, picking up the victory following a last-lap, side-by-side battle that wound up with Thomas on his head before making a beeline to the opposite end of the track to confront Grant.

When cooler heads prevailed, as luck would have it, a look at the starting lineup showed the two starting side-by-side in the second row of the midget main, setting the stage for round two of the duel which would once again come down to the final lap, but this time with the outcome the mirror opposite.

Thomas ran down Grant late in the going and, on the final corner of the final lap, reversed his fortunes with redemption, nipping Grant by half a front wheel at the stripe – or 0.015 seconds to be precise – to collect the fifth victory of his USAC National Midget career.

During the downtime for his early sprint car exit, the fire was burning inside KTJ, but instead of dwelling too much, he and his Petry Motorsports crew used the few extra minutes to reclaim focus on the next task at hand.

"We had a little bit of a mishap, but it happens," Thomas acknowledged. "It was unfortunate, but we had a little bit of time to get back here and make some changes to the midget because we had a decent idea of what it was going to do."

"I know people are going to want to pick at me and Grant because we crashed each other or whatever the case is," Thomas continued. "It's racing. We both race hard. It is what it is. We talked to each other in the podium picture and it's all good. It's just the way it goes. He's been my friend for a long time. He didn't crash me on purpose, but I'd get mad at my grandma if she crashed me. It's nothing against him; it's just my nature."

Thomas' desire and motivation for redemption was evident from the word 'go' as he charged from his fourth starting spot to slide to the point momentarily in the third turn on lap one, but the move wouldn't stick as Jason McDougal crossed over to reclaim the lead while Thomas fell back into line in fourth.

McDougal, the runner-up from the night before, would lay claim to the lead for the first seven circuits. Yet, on the lap eight restart, the door was open for Grant to slide past McDougal for the lead in the first turn. Grant was seeking a little redemption of his own following a heat race flip during Friday night's action.

Just prior to halfway, Friday winner Tyler Courtney began to make his surge, getting around teammate Chris Windom for the third position on lap 12. Three laps later, the series point leader found himself upside down in turn one. Incredibly, he was able to charge back to ninth at the checkered following repairs from the Clauson Marshall Racing crew.

Restarts would play a starring role in the second half of the 30-lapper with a multitude of spins and stoppages taking place, the most serious of which came on the 21st lap when series Rookie Ethan Mitchell flipped wildly after tagging the turn one concrete. He walked away unscathed.

On the lap 21 restart, a scramble for position saw Windom attempt to slide McDougal for second, but it was one step forward, two steps back, as he fell back to fourth behind Thomas who took advantage of the opening to crack into third.

With two to go, Thomas ripped by McDougal for second and the pursuit was set in motion toward Grant. Tyler Thomas blazed a trail to pull to the inside of Grant into turn one just moments after taking the white flag.

However, the pursuit had to wait as Cole Bodine's ride stopped in turn two, setting up a green-white-checkered finish.

Leading up to the final showdown, Thomas had been playing around with his shocks from the cockpit and altered his line until he found something that worked. Everything was clicking for the Cullman, Ala. native, and he had his eyes and ears open to any advantage he could find, even if it came from the other side of the fence.

“Once we got to second, I saw Grant’s guys giving him the motion to go to the top in three and four,” Thomas recalled. “I knew that it was going to be such a long way around that it would open up a slider. I knew where he was going to go because his guys told him to go there. He ran a good line around there and he was fast up there. It’s just such a shorter point to drive straight across the track.”

On the final restart, Thomas took a line lower than Grant into turns one and two on the 29th lap before following him up top between turns three and four as a surging Zeb Wise joined the fray, going high on entry before diamonding off below Thomas. Thomas held serve in second and remained within three car lengths of Grant in one and two on the final go around.

Entering turn three for the final time, Grant remained topside as Thomas drove it in deeper than he had on any other lap, sliding right across the nose of Grant in turn four. Grant countered underneath in a race to the line, coming up inches short of Thomas and his Petry Motorsports/Bolted Spine Designs - Petry Excavating – Gray Auto/Bullet/Speedway Toyota.

Grant took second ahead of Wise, McDougal and C.J. Leary.

Thomas rejoined Petry at the beginning of the 2019 season following a brief stint driving for the Greenfield, Ind. based team at the conclusion of 2017 and the beginning of 2018, rewarding the team with its first ever USAC National Midget victory.

“Getting a win for those guys is a big momentum builder,” Thomas exclaimed. “Scott Petry has never seen his car win before (with USAC). That was pretty cool. I really enjoyed doing that for them. They bust their butts and I’m just glad it paid off. They’ve been wanting to win a USAC feature for so long and they’ve been close. They’ve just never really got there. But once you get that monkey off your back, they start coming easier.”

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: April 6, 2019 – Kokomo Speedway – Kokomo, Indiana – Kokomo Grand Prix – 1/4-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-13.542; 2. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-13.663; 3. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-13.890; 4. Justin Grant, 4A, RAMS-13.908; 5. Jason McDougal, 21KS, Reynolds-13.928; 6. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-13.990; 7. Chad Boat, 84, Tucker/Boat-13.991; 8. C.J. Leary, 76m, FMR-14.049; 9. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.113; 10. Thomas Meseraull, 7R, RMS-14.154; 11. Dillon Welch, 81, Tucker/Boat-14.211; 12. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.236; 13. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.245; 14. Ace McCarthy, 28, Neuman-14.278; 15. Jesse Colwell, 71, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.300; 16. Jake Neuman, 3N, Neuman-14.335; 17. Holley Hollan, 67K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.374; 18. Dave Darland, 36, RMS-14.374; 19. Zane Hendricks, 27z, Hendricks-14.375; 20. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-14.413; 21. Tyler Thomas, 91T, Thomas-14.435; 22. Cole Bodine, 15, Petry-14.535; 23. Ethan Mitchell, 19m, Bundy Built-14.659; 24. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-14.751; 25. Karsyn Elledge, 1, Tucker/Boat-14.805; 26. Kyle O’Gara, 67F, SFH-15.005; 27. Sterling Cling, 35, Petry-15.039; 28. Brent Watson, 17K, Watson-15.850; 29. Oliver Akard, 41, Akard-16.088.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Jason McDougal, 2. Tanner Carrick, 3. Zeb Wise, 4. Logan Seavey, 5. Tyler Thomas, 6. Holley Hollan, 7. Karsyn Elledge, 8. Oliver Akard. 2:20.65

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Chris Windom, 3. Dave Darland, 4. Thomas Meseraull, 5. Ace McCarthy, 6. Cole Bodine, 7. Kyle O’Gara. 2:20.24

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Kevin Thomas Jr., 2. Jesse Colwell, 3. Chad Boat, 4. Dillon Welch, 5. Zane Hendricks, 6. Ethan Mitchell, 7. Sterling Cling. 2:25.39

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 2. Justin Grant, 3. C.J. Leary, 4. Jerry Coons Jr., 5. Jake Neuman, 6. Andrew Layser, 7. Brent Watson. NT

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Jake Neuman, 2. Zane Hendricks, 3. Holley Hollan, 4. Ace McCarthy, 5. Andrew Layser, 6. Cole Bodine, 7. Ethan Mitchell, 8. Tyler Thomas, 9. Kyle O’Gara, 10. Karsyn Elledge, 11. Sterling Cling, 12. Brent Watson, 13. Oliver Akard. 2:48.13

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Kevin Thomas Jr. (4), 2. Justin Grant (3), 3. Zeb Wise (6), 4. Jason McDougal (2), 5. C.J. Leary (8), 6. Chris Windom (1), 7. Tucker Klaasmeyer (12), 8. Logan Seavey (13), 9. Tyler Courtney (5), 10. Thomas Meseraull (10), 11. Jesse Colwell (15), 12. Chad Boat (7), 13. Jake Neuman (16), 14. Ace McCarthy (14), 15. Dillon Welch (11), 16. Andrew Layser (22), 17. Holley Hollan (17), 18. Jerry Coons Jr. (20), 19. Zane Hendricks (19), 20. Cole Bodine (21), 21. Tanner Carrick (9), 22. Sterling Cling (24), 23. Dave Darland (18), 24. Ethan Mitchell (23). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-7 Jason McDougal, Laps 8-29 Justin Grant, Lap 30 Kevin Thomas Jr.

****Tyler Courtney flipped on lap 15 of the feature. Ethan Mitchell flipped on lap 21 of the feature. Tanner Carrick flipped on lap 30 of the feature.**

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-358, 2-Kevin Thomas Jr.-354, 3-C.J. Leary-308, 4-Chris Windom-305, 5-Zeb Wise-290, 6-Tucker Klaasmeyer-274, 7-Chad Boat-273, 8-Logan Seavey-266, 9-Tanner Carrick-243, 10-Jesse Colwell-234.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: May 17, 2019 – Tri-City Speedway – Granite City, Illinois – River Town Showdown – 3/8-Mile Dirt track

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/SUNDOLLAR RESTORATION HARD CHARGER: Andrew Layser (22nd to 16th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Jake Neuman

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Ethan Mitchell

Zeb Wise (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Jason McDougal (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Tyler Courtney (Competition Suspension Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Kevin Thomas Jr. (Auto Meter Third Heat Winner)

Tucker Klaasmeyer (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

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Courtney Chalks Up History in Tri-City Midget Win

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Granite City, Illinois (May 17, 2019).....Tyler Courtney’s early-season USAC NOS Energy Drink Midget National Championship success has been paramount, and with his fourth win in the first six races of the season, he became the first

driver to ever accomplish the feat following his victory in Friday night's Brandt River Town Showdown opener at Tri-City Speedway.

Additionally, Courtney backed up his USAC Sprint Car win from a year ago by winning his first USAC NOS Energy Drink Midget National Championship feature at the 3/8-mile dirt track in Granite City, Ill. By doing so, the Indianapolis, Ind. driver became just the third driver to win in each division at Tri-City, joining Jack Hewitt and Josh Wise.

Courtney ran down reigning series champion Logan Seavey entering lapped traffic with nine laps remaining to win the ninth race of his USAC Midget career in his Clauson Marshall Racing/NOS Energy Drink/Spike/Stanton SR-11x, tying himself with Billy Boat, Tony Elliott and Chuck Gurney for 74th all-time.

Courtney opened up the night by setting Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifying time in both the sprint car and midget divisions, putting him back on the outside of row three for the start of the 30-lap midget main event. Courtney began a methodical charge toward the front while Kevin Thomas Jr. worked the bottom by Justin Grant to grab the early lead with Brady Bacon slicing his way to slot into second right behind Thomas before a caution for Tanner Carrick's left rear brought a halt to the action on lap four.

On the ensuing restart, Bacon stuck like glue to the bottom to rip by Thomas for the lead and appeared to be in command until lap nine when he clipped the turn three infield tractor tire, upsetting the front end, forcing him off the pace and into the work area for adjustments under the yellow. He returned but only managed a 16th in his FMR Racing season debut.

Inheriting the lead was Seavey who slipped away as Thomas and Justin Grant swapped sliders back-and-forth, to and fro, until Grant emerged with the runner-up spot on lap 12. Courtney got by Thomas a lap later and began his pursuit of Grant as they took part in a three-car breakaway led by race leader Seavey.

On the 19th lap, as the frontrunners approached lapped traffic, Courtney slid Grant in turn three to take second, with now only Seavey left in his sight. The lappers cooperated, hanging on the low line, while Seavey and Courtney ringed the top. Courtney was inching closer each corner, but, on lap 22, was like a rocket shooting out of a Coke bottle, springing forward with a burst that slid him right past Seavey in turn three.

"You got to take it when you can get it," Courtney said of the pass. "I didn't know if it was quite going to get there because you could get a run there in (turns) three and four, but luckily it stuck. Then, you can kind of do your own race after that."

And that's exactly what Courtney did. From there, Courtney immediately pulled away, building a three-quarters of a straightaway advantage as he ripped the top to a victory margin just shy of three seconds over Seavey, Grant, Zeb Wise and Chad Boat.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: May 17, 2019 – Tri-City Speedway – Granite City, Illinois – Brandt River Town Showdown – 3/8-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-15.189; 2. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-15.232; 3. Brady Bacon, 76, FMR-15.314; 4. Chad Boat, 84, Tucker/Boat-15.393; 5. C.J. Leary, 76m, FMR-15.407; 6. Justin Grant, 4A, RAMS-15.447; 7. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-15.498; 8. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-15.525; 9. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-15.526; 10. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-15.547; 11. Tyler Thomas, 91T, Thomas-15.555; 12. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-15.578; 13. Jake Neuman, 3N, Neuman-15.601; 14. Jesse Colwell, 71, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-15.610; 15. Jason McDougal, 21KS, Reynolds-15.629; 16. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-15.702; 17. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-15.719; 18. Presley Truedson, 5T, Daum-15.724; 19. Cannon McIntosh, 08, Dave Mac-15.730; 20. Zach Daum, 5D, Daum-15.731; 21. Cole Bodine, 15, Petry-15.768; 22. Karsyn Elledge,

1, Tucker/Boat-15.843; 23. Holley Hollan, 67K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-15.918; 24. Sterling Cling, 35, Petry-16.098; 25. Zane Hendricks, 27z, Hendricks-16.437; 26. Johnny Murdock, 0, Zero-17.731.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Jake Neuman, 2. Chris Windom, 3. Tyler Courtney, 4. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5. Tanner Carrick, 6. Chad Boat, 7. Cannon McIntosh, 8. Zane Hendricks, 9. Karsyn Elledge. 2:02.81

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Jesse Colwell, 2. Tyler Thomas, 3. Zeb Wise, 4. Logan Seavey, 5. C.J. Leary, 6. Zach Daum, 7. Holley Hollan, 8. Johnny Murdock, 9. Andrew Layser. NT

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Jason McDougal, 2. Jerry Coons Jr., 3. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 4. Brady Bacon, 5. Justin Grant, 6. Presley Truedson, 7. Cole Bodine, 8. Sterling Cling. 2:07.31

INDY RACE PARTS SEMI: (10 laps, top-7 transfer to the feature) 1. Cannon McIntosh, 2. Chad Boat, 3. Zach Daum, 4. Presley Truedson, 5. Cole Bodine, 6. Karsyn Elledge, 7. Holley Hollan, 8. Andrew Layser, 9. Sterling Cling, 10. Zane Hendricks, 11. Johnny Murdock. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Tyler Courtney (6), 2. Logan Seavey (5), 3. Justin Grant (2), 4. Zeb Wise (8), 5. Chad Boat (7), 6. Jerry Coons Jr. (12), 7. Cannon McIntosh (18), 8. C.J. Leary (3), 9. Zach Daum (19), 10. Kevin Thomas Jr. (1), 11. Tucker Klaasmeyer (9), 12. Chris Windom (16), 13. Tanner Carrick (10), 14. Jesse Colwell (14), 15. Tyler Thomas (11), 16. Brady Bacon (4), 17. Jason McDougal (15), 18. Holley Hollan (22), 19. Presley Truedson (17), 20. Andrew Layser (23), 21. Sterling Cling (24), 22. Cole Bodine (20), 23. Karsyn Elledge (21), 24. Jake Neuman (13). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-3 Kevin Thomas Jr., Laps 4-8 Brady Bacon, Laps 9-21 Logan Seavey, Laps 22-30 Tyler Courtney.

****Andrew Layser flipped during the second heat. Karsyn Elledge flipped on lap 8 of the feature.**

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-440, 2-Kevin Thomas Jr.-402, 3-C.J. Leary-363, 4-Zeb Wise-357, 5-Chris Windom-351, 6-Logan Seavey-343, 7-Chad Boat-337, 8-Tucker Klaasmeyer-321, 9-Tanner Carrick-284, 10-Jesse Colwell-277.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: May 18, 2019 – Tri-City Speedway – Granite City, Illinois – River Town Showdown – 3/8-Mile Dirt track

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Cannon McIntosh (18th to 7th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Tanner Carrick

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Andrew Layser

Tyler Courtney (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Jake Neuman (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Jesse Colwell (Competition Suspension Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Jason McDougal (Auto Meter Third Heat Winner)

Cannon McIntosh (Indy Race Parts Semi Winner)

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Mother Nature Takes River Town Showdown Midgets at Tri-City

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Granite City, Illinois (May 18, 2019).....Rain fell just as cars were pushed off for the start of the semi-feature, forcing cancellation of Saturday's Brandt River Town Showdown program for the USAC NOS Energy Drink Midget National Championship at Tri-City Speedway.

Tyler Courtney swept Fatheadz Eyewear Qualifying on both Friday and Saturday night in both the midget and the USAC AMSOIL Sprint Car National Championship divisions. Chad Boat, Cannon McIntosh and Brady Bacon claimed heat race victories.

Next up on the USAC NOS Energy Drink Midget National Championship schedule is the 15th annual running of "Indiana Midget Week," six races in six nights beginning at Montpelier Motor Speedway on June 4, then to Gas City I-69 Speedway on June 5, Lincoln Park Speedway (Putnamville) on June 6, Bloomington Speedway on June 7, Lawrenceburg Speedway on June 8 and Kokomo Speedway on June 9.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: May 18, 2019 – Tri-City Speedway – Granite City, Illinois – Brandt River Town Showdown – 3/8-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-15.270; 2. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-15.515; 3. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-15.521; 4. Justin Grant, 4A, RAMS-15.577; 5. Tyler Thomas, 91T, Thomas-15.624; 6. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-15.735; 7. Chad Boat, 84, Tucker/Boat-15.779; 8. Jesse Colwell, 71, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-15.823; 9. Brady Bacon, 76, FMR-15.841; 10. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-15.849; 11. Jake Neuman, 3N, Neuman-15.870; 12. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-15.878; 13. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-15.935; 14. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-15.948; 15. Zane Hendricks, 27z, Hendricks-15.991; 16. Jason McDougal, 21KS, Reynolds-16.005; 17. Cannon McIntosh, 08, Dave Mac-16.020; 18. Holley Hollan, 67K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-16.100; 19. C.J. Leary, 76m, FMR-16.203; 20. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-16.296; 21. Presley Truedson, 5T, Daum-16.402; 22. Karsyn Elledge, 1, Tucker/Boat-16.414; 23. Zach Daum, 5D, Daum-16.462; 24. Cole Bodine, 15, Petry-16.565; 25. Kyle O'Gara, 67F, SFHR-17.319; 26. Sterling Cling, 35, Petry-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Chad Boat, 2. Jason McDougal, 3. Chris Windom, 4. Tyler Courtney, 5. Justin Grant, 6. Karsyn Elledge, 7. C.J. Leary, 8. Zeb Wise. 2:09.42

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Cannon McIntosh, 2. Jerry Coons Jr., 3. Jesse Colwell, 4. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 5. Zach Daum, 6. Tyler Thomas, 7. Kevin Thomas Jr., 8. Jake Neuman. 2:12.19

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Brady Bacon, 2. Andrew Layser, 3. Tanner Carrick, 4. Logan Seavey, 5. Holley Hollan, 6. Zane Hendricks, 7. Cole Bodine, 8. Presley Truedson. 2:14.50

****Remainder of event rained out.**

****Sterling Cling flipped during qualifying.**

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-456, 2-Kevin Thomas Jr.-417, 3-C.J. Leary-373, 4-Zeb Wise-367, 5-Chris Windom-361, 6-Logan Seavey-357, 7-Chad Boat-347, 8-Tucker Klaasmeyer-331, 9-Tanner Carrick-295, 10-Jesse Colwell-287.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: June 4, 2019 – Montpelier Motor Speedway – Montpelier, Indiana – 15th USAC Indiana Midget Week – 1/4-Mile Dirt track

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

Tyler Courtney (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Chad Boat (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Cannon McIntosh (Competition Suspension Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Brady Bacon (Auto Meter/Indy Race Parts Third Heat Winner)

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Seavey Seizes Montpelier Indiana Midget Week Opener

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Montpelier, Indiana (June 4, 2019).....He had to wait until the month of June, but Logan Seavey returned to the championship form he used to win last year's USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget title when he arrived at Montpelier Motor Speedway Tuesday night for the USAC Indiana Midget Week opener.

It became readily apparent following an incident during his heat race that forced him to restart from the tail. From there, he carved his way through the field to win on a last lap, corner pass. The thread continued into the feature where he had to slide by Zeb Wise not once, but twice, after a yellow forced him into 'Take Two.'

Seavey got to the front on the seventh lap and never surrendered despite having to wade through heavy traffic on a tricky track surface with a swarm of hungry drivers behind him seeking the same promised land for their first time in 2019.

The Sutter, Calif. native drove to his fourth career USAC win along with his first USAC Indiana Midget Week triumph just one race after he finally broke through for his first top-five of the season, a second place run in Granite City, Ill. that, in a sense, foreshadowed what was to come at Montpelier after a rough start to his Sophomore USAC season.

"It's been a frustrating start to the year," Seavey admitted. "Really, ever since (roommate and crew chief) Connor (Ridge) and I have been working together, we've just been on kill every time we're at the racetrack. He's really good about that. We just feed off each other's energy and it just makes it a lot of fun to go racing with someone like that. We're just having fun right now, and every time I have fun, I normally run up front. So, it's a good feeling."

Seavey started the 30-lapper from the pole but was beat to the punch in turn one by outside front row starter Wise. Fourth-starting Tanner Thorson, making his first appearance since February after sustaining serious injuries in a highway crash, put in a bid below Seavey for second on the back straightaway, but Seavey was able to clear Thorson by turn three where the high line was the chosen path and track position was imperative right from the get-go.

"It was really tricky out there," Seavey recalled. "I think we all knew the rubber was coming but just didn't know when. When Zeb beat me on the start, I was kind of surprised, but it was still just a little bit greasy on the bottom. He got a really good start and I was just tracking him from there. I knew our car was a little bit better and I just knew I had to make my move at the right time and not give him any second chances. But, as soon as I did, the yellow came out. That wasn't what we were planning for."

When Thomas Meseraull slowed to a stop atop turn four on the fifth lap, it came just a tick after Seavey used a monster slider to clear Wise for the lead between turns one and two. The resulting yellow negated the move and positioned Seavey behind Wise for the ensuing restart, thus forcing him to re-rack and try the move once more.

Seavey stayed right with Wise for the two laps following the restart and was right on his bumper as the two crossed the stripe. Seavey threw it down to the infield tires in turn one and slid up in front of Wise in turn two before driving away to distance himself from Wise by more than a second at the halfway mark as he split his way through lapped traffic.

“Once we were able to get back by him again, not too long after that, the rubber came like we were kind of expecting,” Seavey remembered. “I was trying to take it easy on the tires. If you run too hard with these things, you can blow the tires right off it. After that, I had to take it easy, try to be smart in lapped traffic and not allow myself to lose the race. The rubber’s always tricky, and you never really know what’s going on behind you. You just have to run your own race.”

Truth is, there was a lot going on behind him, with Wise and a rapidly closing Thorson trying to take advantage of any misstep Seavey might make through traffic as they remained on the rail up top and Seavey dipped down off the line to dispose of the lappers.

“It’s tough to decide when you want to do it and when you can time it right,” Seavey explained. “The first five, six lapped cars were easy to get by. The track hadn’t completely laid rubber yet. When it locked down, that made it really tough. I tried to pull out of line three or four times to get by, which made me kind of rethink my moves. Every time I did that, I probably lost half a second. Do you stay in line and follow them or try to get another car in between you and second place? These are the decisions you have to make. Sometimes you make the wrong ones, but, luckily, everything went smooth tonight.”

It did for him, although when Thorson slid by Wise for second with five laps remaining, he was running a tick quicker than Seavey, but Seavey made all the right moves through traffic down the stretch to notch his first victory of the year over Thorson, Wise, point leader Tyler Courtney and Dillon Welch.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: June 4, 2019 – Montpelier Motor Speedway – Montpelier, Indiana – 15th USAC Indiana Midget Week – 1/4-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-14.029; 2. Tanner Thorson, 98, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.046; 3. Shane Golobic, 17w, Wood-14.160; 4. Dillon Welch, 81, Tucker/Boat-14.190; 5. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.199; 6. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.199; 7. Justin Grant, 4A, RAMS-14.231; 8. Thomas Meseraull, 7x, RMS-14.268; 9. Jason McDougal, 21KS, Reynolds-14.298; 10. Holley Hollan, 67K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.331; 11. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-14.338; 12. Dave Darland, 36, RMS-14.413; 13. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-14.465; 14. Michael Pickens, 1NZ, RMS-14.466; 15. Billy Wease, 12, Wease-14.473; 16. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-14.488; 17. C.J. Leary, 76m, FMR-14.518; 18. Noah Gass, 20G, Gass-14.551; 19. Jesse Colwell, 71, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.618; 20. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-14.639; 21. Zane Hendricks, 27z, Hendricks-14.644; 22. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.651; 23. Zach Daum, 5D, Daum-14.726; 24. Kyle Cummins, 1G, Yeley/Styres-14.773; 25. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-14.800; 26. Michael Koontz, 17K, Koontz-14.832; 27. Cannon McIntosh, 08, Dave Mac-14.884; 28. Cole Bodine, 15, Petry-14.932; 29. Karsyn Elledge, 1, Tucker/Boat-14.940; 30. Tyler Nelson, 88, Nelson-14.983; 31. Anton Hernandez, 8JR, Wood-14.988; 32. Chris Baue, 9, Baue-15.063; 33. Brady Bacon, 1ST, Saucier-15.752; 34. Ryan Padgett, 98p, Crow-15.830; 35. Oliver Akard, 41, Akard-16.407; 36. Chad Boat, 84, Tucker/Boat-19.097; 37. Sterling Cling, 35, Petry-NT; 38. Ethan Mitchell, 19m, Bundy Built-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Tanner Carrick, 2. Kevin Thomas Jr., 3. Justin Grant, 4. Shane Golobic, 5. Karsyn Elledge, 6. Holley Hollan, 7. Sterling Cling, 8. Michael Koontz, 9. Jesse Colwell, 10. Oliver Akard. 2:04.77 (New Track Record)

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Logan Seavey, 2. Jason McDougal, 3. Chad Boat, 4. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 5. Cole Bodine, 6. Dave Darland, 7. Billy Wease, 8. Anton Hernandez, 9. Dillon Welch. NT

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Zach Daum, 2. Tyler Courtney, 3. Jerry Coons Jr., 4. Michael Pickens, 5. C.J. Leary, 6. Brady Bacon, 7. Thomas Meseraull, 8. Andrew Layser, 9. Tyler Nelson. NT

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Cannon McIntosh, 2. Zeb Wise, 3. Tanner Thorson, 4. Chris Windom, 5. Noah Gass, 6. Chris Baue, 7. Zane Hendricks, 8. Kyle Cummins, 9. Ryan Padgett. NT

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Thomas Meseraull, 2. C.J. Leary, 3. Dillon Welch, 4. Dave Darland, 5. Kyle Cummins, 6. Zane Hendricks, 7. Noah Gass, 8. Andrew Layser, 9. Michael Koontz, 10. Brady Bacon, 11. Chris Baue, 12. Holley Hollan, 13. Anton Hernandez, 14. Cole Bodine, 15. Tyler Nelson, 16. Jesse Colwell, 17. Sterling Cling, 18. Karsyn Elledge, 19. Billy Wease, 20. Oliver Akard. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Logan Seavey (1), 2. Tanner Thorson (4), 3. Zeb Wise (2), 4. Tyler Courtney (6), 5. Dillon Welch (7), 6. Shane Golobic (5), 7. Jason McDougal (12), 8. Kevin Thomas Jr. (15), 9. Tanner Carrick (3), 10. Chris Windom (11), 11. Jerry Coons Jr. (20), 12. Cannon McIntosh (21), 13. Michael Pickens (9), 14. C.J. Leary (13), 15. Chad Boat (22), 16. Zach Daum (17), 17. Zane Hendricks (16), 18. Justin Grant (10), 19. Kyle Cummins (18), 20. Tucker Klaasmeyer (19), 21. Jesse Colwell (23), 22. Dave Darland (14), 23. Andrew Layser (24), 24. Thomas Meseraull (8). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-6 Zeb Wise, Laps 7-30 Logan Seavey.

****Sterling Cling flipped during qualifying. Dave Darland flipped during the second heat.**

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-530, 2-Kevin Thomas Jr.-473, 3-Zeb Wise-438, 4-Logan Seavey-436, 5-C.J. Leary-411, 6-Chris Windom-409, 7-Chad Boat-386, 8-Tucker Klaasmeyer-359, 9-Tanner Carrick-351, 10-Jerry Coons Jr.-341.

USAC INDIANA MIDGET WEEK POINTS: 1-Logan Seavey-79, 2-Tanner Thorson-78, 3-Tyler Courtney-74, 4-Zeb Wise-71, 5-Shane Golobic-64, 6-Dillon Welch-63, 7-Jason McDougal-59, 8-Kevin Thomas Jr.-56, 9-Tanner Carrick-56, 10-Chris Windom-48.

USAC INDIANA MIDGET WEEK PROSOURCE PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Jerry Coons Jr.-9, 2-Cannon McIntosh-9, 3-Kevin Thomas Jr.-7, 4-Chad Boat-7, 5-Jason McDougal-5, 6-Tanner Thorson-2, 7-Tyler Courtney-2, 8-Dillon Welch-2, 9-Chris Windom-1, 10-Zach Daum-1.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: June 5, 2019 – Gas City I-69 Speedway – Gas City, Indiana – 15th USAC Indiana Midget Week – 1/4-Mile Dirt track

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/PROSOURCE HARD CHARGER: Jerry Coons Jr. (20th to 11th)

PROSOURCE HARD WORK AWARD: Chad Boat

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Michael Pickens

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Noah Gass

Tyler Courtney (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Tanner Carrick (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Logan Seavey (Competition Suspension Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Zach Daum (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Cannon McIntosh (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

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Grant Gets Redemption in Gas City Indiana Midget Week Rd. 2

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Gas City, Indiana (June 5, 2019).....Less than 24 hours after what he termed was a “toolbox issue” that put him behind eight ball just prior to Tuesday’s USAC Indiana Midget Week opening night feature, Justin Grant found the ultimate redemption by scoring his first USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget victory of the season in round two of the series Wednesday at Gas City I-69 Speedway.

One way of looking at the six-night stretch of consecutive races that is USAC Indiana Midget Week is as a grueling physical and mental test that can take a toll, especially when things don’t go as anticipated. On the other side of the coin, an individual can look at the week as chance to immediately redeem yourself again and again, night-after-night, if an issue happens to arise along the journey.

Either way, there’s no time to dwell on the past. Another opportunity for success is just around the corner. That’s the path the lone, California driver and his RAMS Racing crew chose to take.

“Last night, it’s all over and everybody’s upset,” Grant recalled. “But that’s why there’s more than one race a year. Let’s go to the carwash. Let’s do our jobs. Let’s act like we’re ready to win tomorrow.”

“What’s great about this team is its people constantly building you up,” Grant explained. “Last night, I had a huge blunder on my part. I really let my car owners and my team down in our race prep. But the first text message I got after the race was from Rick Young who said, ‘I’m not upset in the least. Every time I see that racecar on the track, I’m proud of it. Go win tomorrow.’ Having that kind of support system and that kind of backing is huge. Just being able to shake that night off, nobody’s more worried about it than you are, so just shake it off and go do your job tomorrow.”

When that tomorrow arrived on Wednesday night, Grant went to work from the word “go,” leading the troops into turn one from his outside front row starting spot. Meanwhile, pre-race favorite Kyle Larson, who started fifth, was shuffled back to ninth on the opening lap, forcing him into playing catchup mode for much of the 30-lap event.

Following a lap three caution for Jesse Colwell, who stopped in the infield grass at the bottom of turn one, Grant knew he had a good car. One of those indicators came from an unlikely source over the one-way radio.

“I felt really good out of the gate,” Grant said. “It was a little tight, which was a good thing, but the track really came to us right out of the gate more or less. After that first caution, (USAC Race Director) Kirk Spridgeon said, ‘alright, hustle around’ to the second-place car. I thought we must be way out there. It got me a bit worried because I thought we were too good too early. If this thing goes away, we might be in trouble.”

There was no indication of that happening any time soon as Grant proceeded to click off his best laps of the race, just less than a tenth off his qualifying time. Grant opened his lead to roughly eight car lengths over Jason McDougal nearing the midway point as the two lone past IMW champs collided at the exit of turn four while battling for eighth. Shane Golobic, the 2017 champ, and Jerry Coons Jr., the 2007 titlist, made contact with Golobic inheriting the worst end of the deal, stopping, and necessitating a yellow flag.

One lap following the ensuing restart, on the 16th circuit, March "Shamrock Classic" winner Cannon McIntosh slipped into second under McDougal in turn four. Moments later, Colwell spun to a rest in turn four to bring out the yellow. That moment seemed to flip a switch for a pair of previous Gas City IMW winners in Michael Pickens (2017) and Larson (2013).

New Zealand's Pickens began the second half running sixth while Larson held down eighth. Steadily, the two moved forward nearly in tandem, with Larson hitting the top and Pickens alternating between the bottom and the middle as they worked their way past Tanner Thorson and McDougal, while both Pickens and Larson occupied positions three and four, respectively, with just five laps remaining.

Meanwhile, up front, race leader Grant was enjoying a nice half-straightaway cushion over McIntosh with a first win for the Grant/RAMS combo seemingly within grasp. As Grant saw the white flag on the horizon, however, 16th running Tucker Klaasmeyer slid off the edge in turn four, forcing a green-white-checker finish for Grant, McIntosh, Pickens, Larson and a host of others.

Grant's pattern around the quarter mile was a circle, swinging out to the wall on the straightaways, then straight to the bottom in the turns. He'd keep his NOS Energy Drink – Rockwell Security – MPV Express/Bullet/Stanton SR-11 tighter on the bottom when he heard noise from a trailing car, then opened it a bit wider when the atmosphere became a bit quieter.

However, for Grant, it was anything but quiet on the lap 29 restart.

"On the second to last restart, I let the motor get loaded up and it didn't take off," Grant recalled. Then I got tight, then I missed the bottom, then I was hanging off four, then I was hanging down the front stretch. I'm like 'oh god, here it goes.' Fortunately, our car was good enough and I was able to get back to the bottom of (turn) one quick enough and shut the door on that. I thought, just stick the bottom from here and we'll be good."

That plan would be drafted into action one last time following a Coons and Karsyn Elledge tangle on the front straightaway, forcing one final GWC try where Grant executed perfectly on the bottom to slip away from McIntosh and disallow any move generated from him into one.

Third-running Pickens' bid for a repeat Gas City IMW win evaporated as he ran out of fuel on the restart. At the head of the field, Grant distanced himself from McIntosh by four car lengths with both seeking their initial IMW win. Heading into turn three, McIntosh had a nice run through the middle on entry, then angled his car down toward the infield tires at the exit of turn four. Grant swung just a tad wide at the exit, but it was still good enough by two car lengths to capture his fourth career USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget victory over McIntosh with Larson, McDougal and new IMW point leader Thorson rounding out the top-five.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: June 5, 2019 – Gas City I-69 Speedway – Gas City, Indiana – 15th USAC Indiana Midget Week – 1/4-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Shane Golobic, 17w, Wood-12.349; 2. Jason McDougal, 21KS, Reynolds-12.416; 3. Tanner Thorson, 98, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.421; 4. Thomas Meseraull, 7x, RMS-12.450; 5. Justin Grant, 4A, RAMS-12.455; 6. Kyle Larson, 97, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.457; 7. Karsyn Elledge, 1, Tucker/Boat-12.503; 8. Noah Gass, 20G, Gass-12.524; 9. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.561; 10. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.569; 11.

Cannon McIntosh, 08, Dave Mac-12.594; 12. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-12.630; 13. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-12.663; 14. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-12.673; 15. Michael Pickens, 1NZ, RMS-12.701; 16. C.J. Leary, 76m, FMR-12.702; 17. Jesse Colwell, 71, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.720; 18. Zach Daum, 5D, Daum-12.734; 19. Kyle Cummins, 1G, Yeley/Styres-12.735; 20. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-12.753; 21. Chad Boat, 84, Tucker/Boat-12.756; 22. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-12.773; 23. Holley Hollan, 67K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.779; 24. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.829; 25. Dave Darland, 36, RMS-12.897; 26. Sterling Cling, 35, Petry-12.923; 27. Ethan Mitchell, 19m, Bundy Built-12.928; 28. Cole Bodine, 15, Petry-12.938; 29. Anton Hernandez, 8JR, Wood-12.939; 30. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-12.976; 31. Dillon Welch, 81, Tucker/Boat-12.994; 32. Zane Hendricks, 27z, Hendricks-13.080; 33. Michael Koontz, 17x, Koontz-13.093; 34. Justin Peck, 17, Bus-13.106; 35. Brady Bacon, 1ST, Saucier-13.320; 36. Chris Baue, 9, Baue-13.473; 37. Oliver Akard, 41, Akard-13.537; 38. Critter Malone, 7, Seven-13.611; 39. Brent Watson, 17K, Watson-14.561; 40. Davey Ray, 8, Cornell-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 3. C.J. Leary, 4. Kyle Larson, 5. Zach Daum, 6. Jerry Coons Jr., 7. Dillon Welch, 8. Anton Hernandez, 9. Michael Koontz, 10. Davey Ray. 2:05.54 (New Track Record)

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Holley Hollan, 2. Cole Bodine, 3. Jesse Colwell, 4. Cannon McIntosh, 5. Michael Pickens, 6. Kyle Cummins, 7. Zane Hendricks, 8. Brady Bacon, 9. Brent Watson, 10. Chris Windom. 2:05.68

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Logan Seavey, 2. Zeb Wise, 3. Shane Golobic, 4. Justin Grant, 5. Noah Gass, 6. Tanner Thorson, 7. Andrew Layser, 8. Sterling Cling, 9. Justin Peck, 10. Oliver Akard. NT

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Kevin Thomas Jr., 2. Chad Boat, 3. Karsyn Elledge, 4. Jason McDougal, 5. Tanner Carrick, 6. Dave Darland, 7. Ethan Mitchell, 8. Critter Malone, 9. Chris Baue, 10. Thomas Meseraull. 2:06.32

C-MAIN: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the semi) 1. Brady Bacon, 2. Ethan Mitchell, 3. Justin Peck, 4. Michael Koontz, 5. Chris Baue, 6. Brent Watson, 7. Critter Malone. 1:43.50

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Tanner Thorson, 2. Michael Pickens, 3. Jerry Coons Jr., 4. Tanner Carrick, 5. Andrew Layser, 6. Zach Daum, 7. Ethan Mitchell, 8. Dave Darland, 9. Brady Bacon, 10. Kyle Cummins, 11. Sterling Cling, 12. Noah Gass, 13. Anton Hernandez, 14. Chris Windom, 15. Dillon Welch, 16. Justin Peck, 17. Michael Koontz. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Justin Grant (2), 2. Cannon McIntosh (3), 3. Kyle Larson (5), 4. Jason McDougal (4), 5. Tanner Thorson (7), 6. Tyler Courtney (15), 7. Zach Daum (12), 8. Tanner Carrick (13), 9. Chris Windom (23), 10. Zeb Wise (18), 11. C.J. Leary (1), 12. Logan Seavey (14), 13. Andrew Layser (22), 14. Holley Hollan (17), 15. Shane Golobic (6), 16. Kevin Thomas Jr. (16), 17. Karsyn Elledge (10), 18. Cole Bodine (21), 19. Jesse Colwell (11), 20. Jerry Coons Jr. (8), 21. Tucker Klaasmeyer (19), 22. Michael Pickens (9), 23. Chad Boat (20). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-30 Justin Grant.

**Oliver Akard flipped during the third heat.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-593, 2-Kevin Thomas Jr.-512, 3-Zeb Wise-488, 4-Logan Seavey-483, 5-C.J. Leary-458, 6-Chris Windom-455, 7-Chad Boat-416, 8-Tanner Carrick-401, 9-Tucker Klaasmeyer-389, 10-Jesse Colwell-341.

USAC INDIANA MIDGET WEEK POINTS: 1-Tanner Thorson-144, 2-Tyler Courtney-137, 3-Jason McDougal-130, 4-Logan Seavey-126, 5-Zeb Wise-121, 6-Cannon McIntosh-119, 7-Justin Grant-110, 8-Shane Golobic-109, 9-Tanner Carrick-106, 10-Kevin Thomas Jr.-95.

USAC INDIANA MIDGET WEEK PROSOURCE PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-11, 2-Cannon McIntosh-10, 3-Jerry Coons Jr.-9, 4-Andrew Layser-9, 5-Zeb Wise-8, 6-Kevin Thomas Jr.-7, 7-Chad Boat-7, 8-Zach Daum-6, 9-Jason McDougal-5, 10-Tanner Carrick-5.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: June 6, 2019 – Lincoln Park Speedway – Putnamville, Indiana – 15th USAC Indiana Midget Week – 5/16-Mile Dirt track

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/PROSOURCE HARD CHARGER: Tyler Courtney (15th to 6th)

PROSOURCE HARD WORK AWARD: Andrew Layser

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Andrew Layser

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Ethan Mitchell

Shane Golobic (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Tyler Courtney (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Holley Hollan (Competition Suspension Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Logan Seavey (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Kevin Thomas Jr. (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

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Thorson Triumphs in Frenzied IMW Round at Putnamville

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Putnamville, Indiana (June 6, 2019).....There are comeback stories. And then there's the Tanner Thorson comeback story from Thursday night's third round of USAC Indiana Midget Week from Lincoln Park Speedway.

With the wounds and scars still readily evident on his body after sustaining a broken left arm and right foot, a cracked sternum, broken ribs and a punctured lung following a multi-car incident on Highway 99 in Modesto, Calif. in March of this year, the Minden, Nevada native delivered a performance that he said is "definitely one I'll remember forever."

Thorson used the bottom to capture the lead with just four laps remaining, enduring attack after attack from Kevin Thomas Jr. and Kyle Larson to earn his 13th career USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget victory, a dream scenario for the 2016 series champ in just his third race back.

"It's a dream come true again, to be honest," Thorson said. "I sat out for three months just wondering if I was going to be able to do it again. I've been having doubting feelings in my mind and I didn't know if I was going to be okay to run. I knew I probably could've run; I would've just had to change my ways. Obviously, it's hard to do that."

Thorson appeared to be the same driver as before, and perhaps, recharged, following Tuesday's IMW opener and Wednesday's race at Gas City where he finished 2nd and 5th, respectively. Thorson had an uphill battle to climb at Lincoln Park, having to start from the 15th position.

"I knew at about lap five that I had a car to win," Thorson admitted. "When you know that in your mind, nothing can stop you at that point."

These truths were not self-evident initially as he remained on the cusp of the top-ten for the first third of the 30-lapper. Early on, it appeared series point leader Tyler Courtney and Thomas Meseraull were on point, running one-two in a pair of lucky sevens and separating themselves in the opening laps.

The sevens weren't so lucky entering turn one on lap five as Meseraull closed the gap on Courtney and the two made contact, sending Courtney into a spin and forcing Meseraull to stop, knocking them both out of contention. Meseraull eventually wound up 23rd while Courtney charged back through the pack to take an impressive 7th.

Montpelier winner Logan Seavey inherited the lead for the lap five restart, ringing the topside as Thomas put on the chase through the middle until the 11th lap when series Rookie of the Year contender Andrew Layser flipped between turns three and four and escaping injury.

On the ensuing restart, fifth-running Michael Pickens, who drove to victory during IMW at Lincoln Park in 2017, looped it between turns one and two. It was the second-straight night the Auckland, New Zealand midget racing star saw a frontrunning bid vanish.

Thomas stayed true to the middle and used a great drive off turn two to slip past defending champ Seavey on the 13th lap where he remained for the next several laps with a swarm behind him ready to attack with Seavey remaining close and Thorson, plus Larson digging low and high.

With seven laps remaining, Seavey fired the first shot that set forth a wild sequence of events that saw the lead change hand several times.

First, on the 23rd lap, Seavey fired his Bullet to the bottom of turn three to slide past Thomas. Thomas diamonded off and beat Seavey to the stripe just as Seavey dove low into and up to the top past Thomas just as Thorson entered the frame on the bottom. Thomas slithered his way through the gap between Seavey and Thorson exiting turn two. Seavey instantly reloaded and slid past Thomas into turn three, but Thomas answered by sliding across the nose of Seavey off turn four.

Seavey instantly turned left to throw another haymaker at Thomas, but suddenly Thorson was there inside to make it three-wide at the line at the conclusion of lap 25.

Seavey chose the top side as Thomas shot down off the turn one banking to get a run that would propel him past Thorson midway down the back straightway and into turn three on the 26th circuit. Rinse and repeat, Thorson ably limboed underneath Thomas into turn one on lap 27, but Thomas counterpunched to get back by underneath exiting turn two. Thorson stayed in touch, and off turn four, surged past Thomas once again for the umpteenth time to nip him at the line by a wheel.

Just as soon as one might've thought Thorson had it covered, here arrived an orange streak ripping the high side with Kyle Larson in the seat. Larson used the momentum up top and appeared momentarily to have the edge with as quickly as he was erasing the gap coming to the white flag. Off turn four, however, Thomas slid up in front of Larson's lane on the outside, stifling his charge momentarily as the two made contact while Thorson was a mere two car lengths out front.

Larson gave it one last shot on the high line of one and two but snagged the turn two cushion with the right rear, landed on the left rear, sending him off the track in a pirouette and a couple endos that prematurely ended his final IMW run of the week from which he walked away uninjured.

On the green-white-checker finish, Thorson got a strong jump to stretch his lead out to roughly six car lengths, allowing him to go relatively unchallenged the rest of the way while a tussle for second saw Seavey dive into three past Thomas on

the final lap to snare second, while Jerry Coons Jr. utilized the bottom to squeak past Thomas by a bumper for third – his best finish since a third-place run at the Southern Illinois Center in 2017. Chris Windom rounded out the top-five.

The clean, yet hard racing between Thorson, Thomas and Larson was a thrill to witness from the outside and from within as well, which Thorson attributes to the respect each of these drivers has for each other.

“I think a lot of it was knowing how they race,” Thorson explained. “I’m good buddies with KT and Larson and I’ve raced with both of them for years. We’re going to be aggressive toward each other, but there’s also a lot of respect. I respect Kevin Thomas Jr. and Kyle Larson more than just about anybody in this pit. Those two people out of anybody are the ones that I would prefer to race with day in day out.”

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: June 6, 2019 – Lincoln Park Speedway – Putnamville, Indiana – 15th USAC Indiana Midget Week – 5/16-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Kyle Larson, 97, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.383 (New Track Record); 2. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.496; 3. Michael Pickens, 1NZ, RMS-12.577; 4. Zane Hendricks, 27z, Hendricks-12.706; 5. Shane Golobic, 17w, Wood-12.730; 6. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.738; 7. Thomas Meseraull, 7x, RMS-12.751; 8. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-12.765; 9. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-12.774; 10. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-12.792; 11. Holley Hollan, 67K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.800; 12. Jesse Colwell, 71, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.816; 13. Justin Grant, 4A, RAMS-12.839; 14. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-12.849; 15. Dillon Welch, 81, Tucker/Boat-12.885; 16. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-12.898; 17. Tanner Thorson, 98, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.902; 18. Dave Darland, 36, RMS-12.971; 19. Kyle Cummins, 2G, Yeley/Styres-12.991; 20. Zach Daum, 5D, Daum-13.003; 21. Jason McDougal, 21KS, Reynolds-13.006; 22. C.J. Leary, 76m, FMR-13.021; 23. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-13.022; 24. Cole Bodine, 15, Petry-13.066; 25. Ethan Mitchell, 19m, Bundy Built-13.080; 26. Cannon McIntosh, 08, Dave Mac-13.096; 27. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-13.112; 28. Chad Boat, 84, Tucker/Boat-13.214; 29. Karsyn Elledge, 1, Tucker/Boat-13.425; 30. Chris Baue, 9, Baue-13.445; 31. Sam Johnson, 72, Johnson-13.493; 32. Brady Bacon, 1ST, Saucier-13.493; 33. Sterling Cling, 35, Petry-13.498; 34. Anton Hernandez, 8JR, Wood-13.747; 35. Michael Koontz, 17x, Koontz-NT; 36. Noah Gass, 20G, Gass-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Jason McDougal, 2. Tanner Thorson, 3. Tyler Courtney, 4. Justin Grant, 5. Kyle Larson, 6. Shane Golobic, 7. Karsyn Elledge, 8. Ethan Mitchell, 9. Sterling Cling. 2:14.82

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Dave Darland, 2. C.J. Leary, 3. Logan Seavey, 4. Jerry Coons Jr., 5. Tanner Carrick, 6. Andrew Layser, 7. Anton Hernandez, 8. Chris Baue, 9. Cannon McIntosh. NT

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Thomas Meseraull, 2. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 3. Michael Pickens, 4. Zeb Wise, 5. Dillon Welch, 6. Sam Johnson, 7. Kyle Cummins, 8. Holley Hollan, 9. Michael Koontz. NT

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Jesse Colwell, 2. Kevin Thomas Jr., 3. Zach Daum, 4. Chris Windom, 5. Chad Boat, 6. Cole Bodine, 7. Zane Hendricks, 8. Noah Gass, 9. Brady Bacon. NT

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Kyle Larson, 2. Chad Boat, 3. Shane Golobic, 4. Dillon Welch, 5. Tanner Carrick, 6. Andrew Layser, 7. Kyle Cummins, 8. Ethan Mitchell, 9. Cole Bodine, 10. Sam Johnson, 11. Sterling Cling, 12. Cannon McIntosh, 13. Holley Hollan, 14. Karsyn Elledge, 15. Chris Baue, 16. Anton Hernandez, 17. Michael Koontz. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Tanner Thorson (15), 2. Logan Seavey (6), 3. Jerry Coons Jr. (1), 4. Kevin Thomas Jr. (3), 5. Chris Windom (14), 6. Shane Golobic (8), 7. Tyler Courtney (2), 8. Jesse Colwell (10), 9. Zach Daum

(17), 10. Jason McDougal (18), 11. Zeb Wise (21), 12. Tucker Klaasmeyer (20), 13. Holley Hollan (23), 14. Justin Grant (11), 15. Michael Pickens (5), 16. Chad Boat (22), 17. Andrew Layser (12), 18. Tanner Carrick (9), 19. C.J. Leary (19), 20. Cole Bodine (24), 21. Kyle Larson (7), 22. Dillon Welch (13), 23. Thomas Meseraull (4), 24. Dave Darland (16). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-4 Tyler Courtney, Laps 5-12 Logan Seavey, Laps 13-26 Kevin Thomas Jr., Laps 27-30 Tanner Thorson.

****Zane Hendricks** flipped during the fourth heat. **Holley Hollan** flipped during the semi. **Karsyn Elledge** flipped during the semi. **Andrew Layser** flipped on lap 11 of the feature. **Kyle Larson** flipped on lap 30 of the feature.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-651, 2-Kevin Thomas Jr.-580, 3-Logan Seavey-561, 4-Zeb Wise-534, 5-Chris Windom-518, 6-C.J. Leary-490, 7-Chad Boat-450, 8-Tucker Klaasmeyer-435, 9-Tanner Carrick-430, 10-Jerry Coons Jr.-408.

USAC INDIANA MIDGET WEEK POINTS: 1-Tanner Thorson-221, 2-Logan Seavey-204, 3-Tyler Courtney-195, 4-Jason McDougal-181, 5-Shane Golobic-168, 6-Zeb Wise-167, 7-Kevin Thomas Jr.-163, 8-Justin Grant-150, 9-Zach Daum-144, 10-Jerry Coons Jr.-141.

USAC INDIANA MIDGET WEEK PROSOURCE PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Tanner Thorson-18, 2-Zeb Wise-18, 3-Zach Daum-14, 4-Jason McDougal-13, 5-Chad Boat-13, 6-Tyler Courtney-11, 7-Cannon McIntosh-10, 8-Chris Windom-10, 9-Jerry Coons Jr.-9, 10-Andrew Layser-9.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: June 7, 2019 – Bloomington Speedway – Bloomington, Indiana – 15th USAC Indiana Midget Week – 1/4-Mile Dirt track

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/PROSOURCE HARD CHARGER: Tanner Thorson (15th to 1st)

PROSOURCE HARD WORK AWARD: Chad Boat

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Holley Hollan

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Kyle Cummins

Kyle Larson (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Jason McDougal (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Dave Darland (Competition Suspension Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Thomas Meseraull (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Jesse Colwell (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

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Courtney Connects in Bloomington IMW Victory

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Bloomington, Indiana (June 7, 2019).....On Friday morning, the engine that Tyler Courtney would use later that night was in the process of being rebuilt. On Friday night, that same engine helped power the Indianapolis, Ind. driver to victory in round four of USAC Indiana Midget Week at Bloomington Speedway.

It had been a trying week after all for Clauson Marshall Racing throughout the first three races of IMW. Courtney had gone through one engine and had a minor issue on another. Teammate Chris Windom went through two and another teammate, Andrew Layser, had to step into a backup as well.

Still, when the deck seemed stacked against them in trying circumstances, the team was able to persevere as Courtney drove to his fifth USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget victory of the year with only ten races in the books. In fact, his quick start already has him halfway to the double-digit win mark, something that hasn't been achieved in the series since Rich Vogler's magical 16-win season in 1988.

"It's crazy," Courtney said. "But, you know, I wouldn't want to do this with anybody else. These guys are never going to stop. The least I can do is do my job and give them 110 percent because I know they're going to give me 110 percent. It's been nuts, but if this was easy, everybody would do it. It's part of it."

Courtney started from the fourth spot, while Justin Grant bolted to the lead from the pole position, utilizing the high line as outside front row starter Thomas Meseraull followed in tow and Chad Boat worked the bottom.

Meanwhile, Thursday night's Lincoln Park hero Tanner Thorson saw his feature go from bad to worse, first worse, first spinning over the turn three banking to a stop on lap four while running 16th. Three laps later, as the Indiana Midget Week point leader coming in tried to work his way back through the field, found contact at the bottom of turn one, bounced and flipped sidewinder style over the turn one banking. Noah Gass and Jesse Colwell also were collected. Thorson walked away, but only Colwell restarted.

Back to the front, Boat had the low groove working and had already moved into the second position by lap five. Following the incident, he went right back to the well on the bottom and was digging his way closer to leader Grant, missing the lead at the strip by a half car length at the conclusion of lap 8.

One lap later, series Rookie Karsyn Elledge, who had been having a career-best fifth place run at the time, caught the turn three lip and flipped over the banking. She walked away without injury but finished 22nd.

On the restart, the high/low battle between Grant and Boat would resume with Grant ripping the cushion and Boat skimming inches from the infield tires. Boat surged once again, but Grant was precise on the high line, nipping Boat by the width of a dome at the stripe, 0.012 of a second to be precise.

Suddenly, series point leader Courtney emerged as a contender just behind Grant and Boat, carving through the middle as a third line came to fruition between turns three and four. By lap 17, they were three-wide for the lead with Courtney clearing around the outside of Boat in turn four for second and were still three-wide by the conclusion of the 18th lap.

"I saw where they'd blown the good stuff off the bottom," Courtney observed. "Chad was running the bottom and JG the top and I just had to go where they weren't. I did it once and it worked alright. I did it again a little differently and it worked pretty well. I knew if I could keep doing it, keep chipping away, chipping away, we were going to catch them."

Catching is one part of the equation, passing is another, and Grant was the class through the first two-thirds of the 30-lapper. However, it all went awry for Grant, Wednesday's Gas City winner, who had a right rear tire give way entering turn one. He somehow managed to control the car from jumping over the banking while Courtney did a masterful job of avoiding tagging the back of suddenly off-the-pace Grant who crawled around the quarter mile before stopping in turn four. Grant restarted but only mustered a 20th place finish after leading a race-high 19 laps.

On the lap 20 restart, second-running Boat once again found solace on the low line, appearing to have the kind of surge that could carry him to the front, missing out on the lead by a mere 0.026 of a second to Courtney at the line. The bottom appeared to slightly fade for Boat who dropped back from Courtney by a few car lengths.

Taking his place in second was opening night IMW winner Logan Seavey who found the outside rubber to run his fastest lap of the race with seven circuits remaining and was invading Courtney's fortress of solitude at the front. However, Courtney heard the oncoming freight train that was Seavey and moved off the middle lane to go to the top and stifle Seavey's charge on the open path up on the cushion.

"I figured somebody would be coming and the middle kind of went away there in three and four," Courtney recalled. "I started hearing somebody doing something and I knew it didn't sound like somebody on the bottom, so I knew I needed to get up and take their line away, run my own race and make sure I didn't fall off the track and do anything dumb the last few laps."

To get into a rhythm in which a driver is trying to hit his marks lap-after-lap is key, but once those marks change midstream with another driver ready to pounce, it can present a difficult challenge, but Courtney was game.

"It's a big change, especially here," Courtney explained. "This place gets really technical. It gets slick up to a big curb. If you hit it too hard, you're throwing the nose. You take the chance of bouncing over it and you throw your whole race away. So, you have to kind of ease your way into it. I knew Logan was probably pounding (the cushion) a lot harder than I was. I just knew if I could stay smooth on it, we would be alright. I felt we had good enough speed to maintain up there."

During the final laps, Seavey remained about two car lengths behind the tail tank of Courtney and, on the final lap, fired one last shot, turning at the midway point of the back straightaway and angled his car toward the bottom of turn three.

Seavey slid up but had to tuck in behind the flawless Courtney who made no mistakes down the stretch to win his second straight Bloomington USAC MIDGET CHAMPIONSHIP RACE. Seavey took second ahead of Boat, hard-charging Chris Windom (from 22nd) and a career-best performance from the night's fast qualifier Ethan Mitchell to round out the top-five.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: June 7, 2019 – Bloomington Speedway – Bloomington, Indiana – 15th USAC Indiana Midget Week – 1/4- Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Ethan Mitchell, 19m, Bundy Built-11.652; 2. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-11.707; 3. Michael Pickens, 1NZ, RMS-11.750; 4. Chad Boat, 84, Tucker/Boat-11.807; 5. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-11.824; 6. Karsyn Elledge, 1, Tucker/Boat-11.834; 7. Brady Bacon, 76m, FMR-11.840; 8. Thomas Meseraull, 7x, RMS-11.844; 9. Justin Grant, 4A, RAMS-11.865; 10. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-11.869; 11. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-11.877; 12. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-11.885; 13. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-11.888; 14. Tanner Thorson, 98, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-11.901; 15. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-11.909; 16. Cannon McIntosh, 08, Dave Mac-11.937; 17. Holley Hollan, 67K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-11.946; 18. Noah Gass, 20G, Gass-11.956; 19. Sterling Cling, 35, Petry-11.982; 20. Shane Golobic, 17w, Wood-12.005; 21. Jason McDougal, 21KS, Reynolds-12.021; 22. Dave Darland, 36, RMS-12.035; 23. Jesse Colwell, 71, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.054; 24. Cole Bodine, 15, Petry-12.064; 25. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-12.075; 26. Zach Daum, 5D, Daum-12.128; 27. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-12.153; 28. Kendall Ruble, 11m, Martin-12.216; 29. Michael Koontz, 17, Koontz-12.314; 30. Kyle Cummins, 2G, Yeley/Styres-12.315; 31. Sam Johnson, 72, Johnson-12.504; 32. Justin Dickerson, 21D, Dickerson-12.764; 33. Oliver Akard, 41, Akard-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Justin Grant, 2. Tyler Courtney, 3. Holley Hollan, 4. Chris Windom, 5. Jason McDougal, 6. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 7. Ethan Mitchell, 8. Michael Koontz. 2:03.18 (New Track Record)

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Dave Darland, 2. Tanner Thorson, 3. Karsyn Elledge, 4. Noah Gass, 5. Zach Daum, 6. Andrew Layser, 7. Kyle Cummins, 8. Logan Seavey. NT

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Kevin Thomas Jr., 2. Jesse Colwell, 3. Michael Pickens, 4. Tanner Carrick, 5. Zeb Wise, 6. Brady Bacon, 7. Sterling Cling, 8. Sam Johnson. NT

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Chad Boat, 2. Shane Golobic, 3. Thomas Meseraull, 4. Jerry Coons Jr., 5. Cannon McIntosh, 6. Cole Bodine, 7. Justin Dickerson, 8. Kendall Ruble. NT

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Logan Seavey, 2. Brady Bacon, 3. Jason McDougal, 4. Ethan Mitchell, 5. Andrew Layser, 6. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 7. Cannon McIntosh, 8. Zeb Wise, 9. Zach Daum, 10. Cole Bodine, 11. Michael Koontz, 12. Sterling Cling, 13. Justin Dickerson, 14. Oliver Akard. 2:40.02 (New Track Record)

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Tyler Courtney (4), 2. Logan Seavey (8), 3. Chad Boat (5), 4. Chris Windom (22), 5. Ethan Mitchell (7), 6. Brady Bacon (9), 7. Michael Pickens (6), 8. Thomas Meseraull (2), 9. Andrew Layser (10), 10. Shane Golobic (18), 11. Zach Daum (24), 12. Zeb Wise (23), 13. Jerry Coons Jr. (12), 14. Tanner Carrick (11), 15. Tucker Klaasmeyer (13), 16. Jesse Colwell (21), 17. Jason McDougal (19), 18. Dave Darland (20), 19. Holley Hollan (16), 20. Justin Grant (1), 21. Kevin Thomas Jr. (15), 22. Karsyn Elledge (3), 23. Noah Gass (17), 24. Tanner Thorson (14). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-19 Justin Grant, Laps 20-30 Tyler Courtney.

****Tanner Thorson flipped on lap 7 of the feature. Karsyn Elledge flipped on lap 9 of the feature.**

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-730, 2-Logan Seavey-637, 3-Kevin Thomas Jr.-611, 4-Chris Windom-584, 5-Zeb Wise-573, 6-Chad Boat-525, 7-C.J. Leary-490, 8-Tanner Carrick-470, 9-Tucker Klaasmeyer-469, 10-Jerry Coons Jr.-450.

USAC INDIANA MIDGET WEEK POINTS: 1-Logan Seavey-280, 2-Tyler Courtney-274, 3-Tanner Thorson-251, 4-Shane Golobic-218, 5-Jason McDougal-212, 6-Kevin Thomas Jr.-194, 7-Chris Windom-187, 8-Jerry Coons Jr.-183, 9-Justin Grant-181, 10-Chad Boat-178.

USAC INDIANA MIDGET WEEK PROSOURCE PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Chris Windom-28, 2-Tanner Thorson-18, 3-Zeb Wise-18, 4-Chad Boat-15, 5-Jason McDougal-15, 6-Tyler Courtney-14, 7-Zach Daum-14, 8-Logan Seavey-12, 9-Cannon McIntosh-10, 10-Shane Golobic-10.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: June 8, 2019 – Lawrenceburg Speedway – Lawrenceburg, Indiana – 15th USAC Indiana Midget Week – 3/8-Mile Dirt track

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/PROSOURCE/ANDY PETERSON RE/MAX ACCLAIMED PROPERTIES HARD CHARGER: Chris Windom (22nd to 4th)

PROSOURCE HARD WORK AWARD: Chris Windom

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Jerry Coons Jr.

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Cannon McIntosh

Ethan Mitchell (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Justin Grant (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Dave Darland (Competition Suspension Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Kevin Thomas Jr. (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Chad Boat (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

Chris Windom (KSE Racing Products Hard Charger)

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Windom Breaks Through for First Midget Win at The Burg

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Lawrenceburg, Indiana (June 8, 2019).....All throughout “Indiana Midget Week,” Chris Windom was confident that he had a car to win. Yet, when it came time to start the first four feature events this week, the Canton, Ill. driver found himself seemingly light years away from his destination.

Through the first four nights, no driver had passed more cars than Windom (42), an astonishing 24 more than his nearest competition. But that’s what happens when you start 11th, 23rd, 14th and 22nd. He got up on the wheel on each of those nights and drove to finishes of 10th, 9th, 5th and 4th.

Just imagine the shot in the arm he felt in Saturday’s penultimate round of IMW at Lawrenceburg Speedway when he qualified 2nd and secured the 5th starting spot for the 30-lap feature. The same refrain lingered in his mind all week. “If only...”

“I knew we’ve had fast cars all week,” Windom said. “We’ve just been behind the eight ball early in the night all week and have had to come from the back. Like I’ve been saying all week, if we start up front, I think we can pull one off.”

Few drivers had ever had to wait as long as Windom to reach victory lane in USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget competition, 102 starts to be exact. Finally, that night arrived for the 2016 USAC Silver Crown and 2017 AMSOIL National Sprint Car champion on Saturday.

Even before the green flag dropped, track position was key. Scheduled outside front row starter Jerry Coons Jr. had a left rear tire go flat, sending him to the work area for new rubber and a new starting spot from the tail. That moved previous night’s Bloomington winner and National point leader Tyler Courtney up to the outside of the front row, where he took full advantage.

Initially, Shane Golobic took his brief turn at the point, sliding past Courtney on the start in between turns one and two. Tyler Courtney, using the “mo” from the topside, drove downhill off turn two to zip past the 2017 IMW champ. Golobic took another shot in turn three, but Courtney was ready, countered off turn four and shot away to a 2.5 second lead.

Sixth-running Andrew Layser clipped the infield berm in turn three on the sixth lap, spinning sideways up to the middle of the racetrack where all incomers were able to scatter and dodge contact with the car of the series Rookie of the Year contender.

On the restart, Windom made quick work to get by Golobic and set forth toward CMR teammate Courtney and the race lead. Entering turn one on lap seven, Windom dove to the bottom, sliding up the hill past Courtney who turned down and drove back past Windom midway down the back straight. Windom shot to the bottom of turn three and stuck it, riding the low line by Courtney to secure the top spot at the stripe.

The following lap, Courtney arched turns one and two like a three-point line around the top to get a massive run that took him underneath Windom as the two hit turn three. Chris Windom, though, slammed the lid on Courtney's fingers, keeping him in check behind him.

"When I got to Courtney, it was about being in the right place at the right time," Windom explained. "He messed up on the cushion and I hit the bottom just right that lap and got a big run to throw a slider on him into one. That worked out just out of luck, but I knew we had a car that could win."

At the halfway mark, similarly to how he executed the night prior at Bloomington, Seavey began to surge, sliding by Courtney for second in turn one on lap 16 before turning up the pressure on Windom. Seavey put his right rear up on the cushion all the way around the 3/8-mile dirt track, while Windom switched it up with a rim-riding line in one and two and the catfish line in three and four.

On the 22nd lap, heartbreak befell Courtney who ran third as he slowed with a flat right rear tire, sending him to the tail where he eventually finished 15th, putting a damper on his hopes for a first USAC Indiana Midget Week title following runner-up finishes in each of the last two years.

For the first two laps following the ensuing restart, March "Shamrock Classic" winner Cannon McIntosh poked his nose under Seavey for second. The two ran side-by-side for a back-to-back laps before Seavey cleared him around the outside of four for second and aimed to make a run at Windom.

With three laps remaining, Seavey had not only caught Windom but slid by him into one to take the lead. Windom countered and matched him wheel-to-wheel to the bottom of three. Windom stuck the bottom again and throttled off the corner to edge Seavey by the width of Dzus button. As the pair headed into turn one with two laps remaining, the caution fell for fifth-running Michael Pickens of New Zealand, whose hard luck week continued as he slowed off turn four.

That set up one final restart, and one final opportunity to receive last-minute final instruction as it turned out.

"On the last restart, Rizzy (Crew Chief Tyler Ransbottom) told me to get up on the wheel," Windom recalled. "So, I knew that Seavey was probably ripping the top. I had to slide myself to kill his momentum because you could throw big sliders into one. I hadn't been to the top in three and four the whole race and went up there with a prayer, and it worked."

Sliding himself into turn one prevented a patented Burg slide-job from Seavey and, getting into turn three a half-lap later, Windom threw a proverbial Tom Candiotti knuckleball by going topside. Seavey jumped the cushion between three and four, allowing Windom to break away while Chad Boat and Tanner Thorson went into Blue Angels formation, surrounding Seavey.

Boat streamed through the middle between one and two on the final lap as Seavey got above the cushion again, this time at the exit of two, allowing Boat to slip away into the night with second.

At last, Windom's pressure was normalized as he arrived off turn four with the checkered flag in clear view without too much of a challenge to capture his long-awaited first series win by 0.607 sec. over Boat, Seavey, Thorson and McIntosh.

With 23 career USAC Sprint and 8 Silver Crown triumphs, it's almost hard to believe it took Windom this long to enter his name onto the list of USAC National Midget winners. He's won twice in USAC Regional Midget action, in 2008 at Anderson (Ind.) Speedway and in 2016 at Kokomo (Ind.) Speedway, but it was Saturday's win at Lawrenceburg that stands above the rest.

"I was at a loss for words in victory lane," Windom said. "I haven't run a lot of midgets in the past few years, but I've been trying for a long time. We've been working our butts off over here trying to get me in victory lane. I know this is just as sweet for everybody on this team as it is for me."

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: June 8, 2019 – Lawrenceburg Speedway – Lawrenceburg, Indiana – 15th USAC Indiana Midget Week – 3/8-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Justin Grant, 4A, RAMS-14.412; 2. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-14.443; 3. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-14.449; 4. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-14.474; 5. Cannon McIntosh, 08, Dave Mac-14.516; 6. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-14.519; 7. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-14.560; 8. Shane Golobic, 17w, Wood-14.562; 9. Brady Bacon, 76m, FMR-14.573; 10. Michael Pickens, 1NZ, RMS-14.585; 11. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.616; 12. Cole Bodine, 15, Petry-14.626; 13. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.641; 14. Zach Daum, 5D, Daum-14.661; 15. Jason McDougal, 21KS, Reynolds-14.671; 16. Thomas Meseraull, 7x, RMS-14.698; 17. Chad Boat, 84, Tucker/Boat-14.747; 18. Karsyn Elledge, 1, Tucker/Boat-14.748; 19. Tanner Thorson, 98, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.821; 20. Dave Darland, 36, RMS-14.878; 21. Ethan Mitchell, 19m, Bundy Built-14.891; 22. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.906; 23. Holley Hollan, 67K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.907; 24. Jesse Colwell, 71, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.955; 25. Sterling Cling, 35, Petry-14.960; 26. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-16.112; 27. Noah Gass, 20G, Gass-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Logan Seavey, 2. Justin Grant, 3. Thomas Meseraull, 4. Jerry Coons Jr., 5. Michael Pickens, 6. Tanner Thorson, 7. Tanner Carrick, 8. Sterling Cling, 9. Andrew Layser. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Chad Boat, 2. Zach Daum, 3. Shane Golobic, 4. Chris Windom, 5. Zeb Wise, 6. Cannon McIntosh, 7. Dave Darland, 8. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 9. Holley Hollan. NT

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Karsyn Elledge, 2. Brady Bacon, 3. Kevin Thomas Jr., 4. Tyler Courtney, 5. Jesse Colwell, 6. Jason McDougal, 7. Cole Bodine, 8. Ethan Mitchell. 1:59.57

INDY RACE PARTS SEMI: (12 laps, top-7 transfer to the feature) 1. Tanner Thorson, 2. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 3. Andrew Layser, 4. Cannon McIntosh, 5. Dave Darland, 6. Tanner Carrick, 7. Holley Hollan, 8. Sterling Cling, 9. Cole Bodine, 10. Ethan Mitchell, 11. Jason McDougal. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Chris Windom (5), 2. Chad Boat (15), 3. Logan Seavey (12), 4. Tanner Thorson (17), 5. Cannon McIntosh (8), 6. Zach Daum (13), 7. Shane Golobic (1), 8. Brady Bacon (9), 9. Kevin Thomas Jr. (3), 10. Jerry Coons Jr. (2), 11. Zeb Wise (22), 12. Tucker Klaasmeyer (11), 13. Jesse Colwell (21), 14. Andrew Layser (7), 15. Tyler Courtney (4), 16. Tanner Carrick (19), 17. Holley Hollan (20), 18. Cole Bodine (24), 19. Karsyn Elledge (16), 20. Michael Pickens (10), 21. Thomas Meseraull (14), 22. Jason McDougal (23), 23. Justin Grant (6), 24. Dave Darland (18). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-6 Tyler Courtney, Laps 7-30 Chris Windom.

****Noah Gass flipped during hot laps and was transported to Cincinnati Children's Hospital for further observation.**

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-772, 2-Logan Seavey-709, 3-Kevin Thomas Jr.-664, 4-Chris Windom-664, 5-Zeb Wise-618, 6-Chad Boat-600, 7-Tucker Klaasmeyer-511, 8-Tanner Carrick-502, 9-Jerry Coons Jr.-498, 10-C.J. Leary-490.

USAC INDIANA MIDGET WEEK POINTS: 1-Logan Seavey-352, 2-Tanner Thorson-316, 3-Tyler Courtney-316, 4-Shane Golobic-276, 5-Chris Windom-267, 6-Chad Boat-253, 7-Kevin Thomas Jr.-247, 8-Jerry Coons Jr.-231, 9-Jason McDougal-222, 10-Zeb Wise-222.

FINAL USAC INDIANA MIDGET WEEK PROSOURCE PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Chris Windom-32, 2-Tanner Thorson-31, 3-Zeb Wise-29, 4-Chad Boat-28, 5-Logan Seavey-21, 6-Zach Daum-21, 7-Jason McDougal-15, 8-Jesse Colwell-15, 9-Tyler Courtney-14, 10-Cannon McIntosh-13.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: June 9, 2019 – Kokomo Speedway – Kokomo, Indiana – 15th USAC Indiana Midget Week – 1/4-Mile Dirt track

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/PROSOURCE HARD CHARGER: Chad Boat (15th to 2nd)

PROSOURCE HARD WORK AWARD: Zeb Wise

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Jesse Colwell

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Sterling Cling

Justin Grant (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Logan Seavey (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Chad Boat (Competition Suspension Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Karsyn Elledge (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Tanner Thorson (Indy Race Parts Semi Winner)

Chris Windom (USAC Indiana Midget Week ProSource Passing Master Champion)

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Larson Finds Late Night Redemption at Route 66

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Joliet, Illinois (June 29, 2019).....Not that Kyle Larson needs any extra motivation when he straps into a Keith Kunz Motorsports/Curb-Agajanian midget, but any little bit that's added to the equation just makes it that much more difficult for the competition.

In the Ollie's Bargain Outlet All Star Circuit of Champions Sprint Car feature that preceded the night's midget feature, Larson was leading when, under a red flag, the Elk Grove, California driver was disqualified from the event for having a crew member outside of the designated work area.

When the time came to jump back in the midget for the late-night cap, there seemed to be no stopping Larson. By the end of the first lap of Saturday's USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget "Summer Slash" feature at the Dirt track at Route 66, Larson was contending for the lead. All this after starting sixth by virtue of setting quick time in his first ever visit to the 3/8-mile dirt track.

Larson just missed the lead by a wheel at the line on both laps one and two as he rolled the bottom and series Rookie Jesse Colwell ripped the top. Colwell hung tough, but on the third lap, Larson set up Colwell for a slider, clearing him in turn two to capture the lead.

From there, Larson set off toward a half-straightaway lead that was deleted on lap 10 when USAC Triple Crown champ J.J. Yeley snagged the turn four curb, sending him into a violent crash down the front straightaway. Yeley spiraled three times

through the air before landing and flipping once more, coming to a rest just shy of the flag stand. Yeley escaped without injury.

The common assumption was Larson was in a zone of his own. However, following the lap 11 restart, defending series champ Logan Seavey, who started 12th, was on the prowl, melting Larson's advantage down to two car lengths by lap 13. Seavey pasted himself to Larson's trail and, on lap 15, dove to the bottom of turn one, sliding up to the top in turn two to snare the lead.

"I felt like I was running good laps," Larson recalled. "Then, Logan threw a slider on me. I guess I was running 90 percent. I was like, 'crap, I got to step it up,' and that's when I started making mistakes."

There was no mistake on the following lap on behalf of Larson. Logan Seavey, though, bobbled atop the turn four cushion on lap 16, allowing Larson to get a run on the bottom, which he used to slide Seavey back into turn one to regain the advantage up front.

On a lap 24 restart following a Cole Bodine turn three spin, Seavey's pursuit of Larson fell apart just as it resumed. Seavey snagged that same turn four curb that had bitten others throughout the night, riding like a bucking bronco for a moment before continuing on. That allowed Larson to break away and series point leader Tyler Courtney to capitalize with a slider of his own in turn two for second.

The curb was definitely something that had weighed on Larson's mind during the feature. But he found a countering measure in the second half that kept his mind slightly at ease.

"I was just so scared of the curb off of four," Larson said. "It was really tall. These midgets, when they hit it, it's difficult to be consistent. There in the last half, I just started following it around and it was definitely a lot easier to run, and I could have more straightaway speed."

However, the deck was reshuffled when third-running Seavey spun in turn two with less than two laps remaining that set up a green-white-checkered finish. Larson was perfection as soon as the green dropped, riding the rim over the final two laps to take a 0.775 second win over Courtney, Tanner Carrick, Chris Windom and Kevin Thomas Jr.

The win was the first of the season for Larson, who had made two previous starts during the recent "Indiana Midget Week." It was also the 16th victory of his USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget career, equaling him with Rico Abreu, George Amick, Billy Cantrell, Lee Kunzman, Bobby Olivero and Henry Pens for 39th all-time.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: June 29, 2019 – Dirt track at Route 66 – Joliet, Illinois – Summer Slash – 3/8-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Kyle Larson, 97, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-16.667 (New Track Record); 2. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-16.708; 3. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-16.715; 4. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-16.797; 5. Chad Boat, 84, Tucker/Boat-16.813; 6. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-16.830; 7. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-16.883; 8. Jesse Colwell, 71, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-16.896; 9. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-16.906; 10. Tyler Thomas, 91T, Thomas-16.935; 11. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-16.943; 12. Holley Hollan, 67K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-16.946; 13. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-16.949; 14. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-16.973; 15. Zach Daum, 5D, Daum-16.980; 16. Tanner Thorson, 98, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-16.986; 17. J.J. Yeley, 36, RMS-16.986; 18. Thomas Meseraull, 7x, RMS-17.050; 19. Zane Hendricks, 27z, Hendricks-17.075; 20. Cole Bodine, 15, Petry-17.085; 21. Jason McDougal, 76m, FMR-17.095; 22. Karsyn Elledge, 1, Tucker/Boat-17.114; 23. C.J. Leary, 21KS, Reynolds-17.136; 24. Ace McCarthy, 28, Neuman-17.175; 25. Ethan Mitchell, 19m, Bundy Built-17.184; 26. Cannon McIntosh, 08, Dave Mac-17.200; 27. Jake Neuman, 3N, Neuman-17.255; 28. Presley Truedson, 5T, Daum-17.364; 29. Chance Morton, 7m, Morton-17.570;

30. Tyler Baran, 11, B-Boyz-17.811; 31. Kade Morton, 8m, Morton-18.185; 32. Adam Taylor, 7T, Taylor-18.346; 33. Aaron Schuck, 53, FTM-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Jason McDougal, 2. Chris Windom, 3. Chad Boat, 4. Kyle Larson, 5. Ethan Mitchell, 6. Chance Morton, 7. Andrew Layser, 8. J.J. Yeley. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Thomas, 2. Karsyn Elledge, 3. Zeb Wise, 4. Tyler Courtney, 5. Thomas Meseraull, 6. Logan Seavey, 7. Tyler Baran, 8. Cannon McIntosh. NT

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Tanner Carrick, 2. C.J. Leary, 3. Zach Daum, 4. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 6. Zane Hendricks, 7. Kade Morton, 8. Jake Neuman. 2:21.24 (New Track Record)

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Ace McCarthy, 2. Tanner Thorson, 3. Cole Bodine, 4. Jesse Colwell, 5. Jerry Coons Jr., 6. Holley Hollan, 7. Presley Truedson, 8. Adam Taylor. 2:22.23

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 2. Jerry Coons Jr., 3. Zane Hendricks, 4. Logan Seavey, 5. Thomas Meseraull, 6. J.J. Yeley, 7. Jake Neuman, 8. Andrew Layser, 9. Cannon McIntosh, 10. Ethan Mitchell, 11. Chance Morton, 12. Presley Truedson, 13. Kade Morton, 14. Tyler Baran, 15. Adam Taylor, 16. Holley Hollan. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Kyle Larson (6), 2. Tyler Courtney (5), 3. Tanner Carrick (11), 4. Chris Windom (9), 5. Kevin Thomas Jr. (4), 6. Tyler Thomas (10), 7. Tucker Klaasmeyer (8), 8. Jerry Coons Jr. (7), 9. Jason McDougal (19), 10. Tanner Thorson (14), 11. Jesse Colwell (1), 12. Zeb Wise (2), 13. Zach Daum (13), 14. C.J. Leary (21), 15. Holley Hollan (23), 16. Karsyn Elledge (20), 17. Chad Boat (3), 18. Zane Hendricks (17), 19. Cole Bodine (18), 20. Ace McCarthy (22), 21. Logan Seavey (12), 22. Thomas Meseraull (16), 23. J.J. Yeley (15). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-2 Jesse Colwell, Laps 3-14 Kyle Larson, Lap 15 Logan Seavey, Laps 16-30 Kyle Larson.

****Andrew Layser flipped during the first heat. J.J. Yeley flipped on lap 10 of the feature.**

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-849, 2-Logan Seavey-733, 3-Chris Windom-732, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-731, 5-Zeb Wise-664, 6-Chad Boat-637, 7-Tanner Carrick-574, 8-Tucker Klaasmeyer-567, 9-Jerry Coons Jr.-553, 10-C.J. Leary-532.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: July 9, 2019 – Red Dirt Raceway – Meeker, Oklahoma – Mid-America Midget Week / Tuesday Night Thunder– 1/4-Mile Dirt track

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Jason McDougal (19th to 9th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Zach Daum

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Jake Neuman

Kyle Larson (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Jason McDougal (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Tyler Thomas (Competition Suspension Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Tanner Carrick (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Ace McCarthy (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

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Savvy Seavey Rides the Red Dirt to Tuesday Night Thunder Win

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Meeker, Oklahoma (July 9, 2019).....Logan Seavey has seemingly turned himself into Mr. Midget Week this year after capturing recent Indiana Midget Week and Illinois Midget Week titles in the month of June.

In the "Tuesday Night Thunder" Mid-America Midget Week opener at Red Dirt Raceway, the Sutter, Calif. native carried the Midget Week groove into the month of July, taking his second consecutive win in the "MAMW" series following last Summer's triumph in the finale at Sweet Springs, Mo.

In fact, he's finished inside the top-two positions in each of the last five Mid-America Midget Week races dating to 2018 and achieved a sense of redemption after leading 13 laps and losing the lead late in the going in last year's Red Dirt stop by the USAC NOS Energy Drink Midget National Championship.

After a solid third place qualifying run, Seavey found the path toward a successful night most challenging, missing the transfer in his heat race before hanging on for the final transfer spot in the semi-feature. He lined up ninth and found himself in the very same spot by the halfway mark of the 30-lap feature.

"At the beginning of the night, we were actually really good," Seavey acknowledged. "Then I kind of struggled in the heat race and I just didn't make very good moves during the first couple of laps (of the feature). After that, it seemed like everybody was racing so hard, it was really hard to gain ground."

The scramble for position was tantamount in the first half with Jason McDougal racing from his outside front row position to rip around the lip and secure the lead on the opening lap around pole sitter and point leader Tyler Courtney. All the while, Seavey was mired at latter end of the top-ten and was practically just hanging on.

"The first few laps, I was wondering what (Crew Chief) Connor (Ridge) had going on in his head," Seavey wondered. "I was just trying not to get crashed. Everybody was running so hard and I was trying to run hard. It just seemed like every move I wanted to make, there was somebody already there. It's midget racing. Everyone runs so hard and that's what makes these races so exciting."

On a lap nine restart, though, Courtney made his bid for the lead, sliding by McDougal into turn one to grab the spot. By the time the pair crossed the line to complete the lap, Holley Hollan became the second driver of the night to pole vault over the turn three wall after Karsyn Elledge's similarly terrifying looking accident during the semi-feature. Both walked away from the wreckage under their own power.

On the ensuing tenth lap restart, McDougal was back on the attack, sliding by Courtney on the bottom of turn three and led the lap by inches at the stripe. Courtney returned the favor with a slider in turn one on lap 11, moving him back in front of McDougal and in control heading to halfway.

Tanner Carrick entered the fray with a first career USAC win on his mind. Carrick entered the top side of turn one side-by-side with McDougal for second. McDougal ran out of room, and as he tried to regain his footing to get back into the fight, he and fifth-running Kevin Thomas, Jr collided in turn two, sending both flipping over. Sixth-running Tanner Thorson slid sideways to a stop to avoid the carnage while 11th place Tyler Thomas had nowhere to go, plowing into the side of Thorson and becoming the third victim to flip upside down. All were uninjured, but, of the three flippers, only Tyler Thomas was able to restart.

Just when you thought the madness was put to rest, race leader Courtney slowed on the back straightaway with a mechanical issue with 12 laps remaining, completely opening up the list of contenders for the win down the stretch.

Carrick was in the lead role on the lap 18 restart with Chris Windom just behind. The two fought tooth-and-nail on laps 18-19, exchanging the lead on both ends of the track with Windom leading lap 18 and Carrick on 19. Meanwhile, two-time series champ Jerry Coons Jr. surprised both by sneaking along the bottom to take the lead at the line off turn four with 10 laps to go.

Seavey made a charge and came along with Coons to second. One lap later, Carrick and Windom remained in hot pursuit of Coons and Seavey as they entered turn three with eight laps remaining. On Windom's slider into turn three, both refused to give an inch of ground, resulting in contact and a flat left rear tire for Carrick, forcing him to slow just as Seavey made his move around the outside of Coons for the lead.

As Carrick slowed, the yellow flag flew, negating the pass for the lead, sending Seavey back to second behind Coons. Meanwhile, Carrick pitted for new left rear rubber before returning to finish 12th.

After being mired in the thick of the battle behind the leaders, Seavey's race had finally come into his own control. Once he got to where he wanted to be, he was confident he had what it took to reach victory lane.

"Jerry's so good at running the bottom, I knew if I was going to pass anybody I needed to get down," Seavey admitted. "But, once the race came to me, I was patient. Once a couple of them crashed, it cleaned up the field a little bit and I was able to make the moves I really wanted to make. I knew once I got clear of those two (Windom and Carrick) and got to the top, this thing would be really good."

Seavey put his Keith Kunz Motorsports/Curb-Agajanian/Mobil 1 – TRD/Bullet by Spike/Speedway Toyota up top, and it only took one lap for him to clear Coons for the lead. From there on, it was smooth sailing for the defending USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget champ, where he led the final seven laps to conquer his fifth career series win, tying him with Spencer Bayston, Mike Bliss, Lonnie Caruthers, Larry Dickson, Mike Fedorcak, Burt Foland, Mack McClellan, Danny McKnight, Cliff Spalding, Ricky Stenhouse Jr. Kevin Thomas Jr. and Jerry Weeks for 112th all-time.

Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier and new one-lap track record holder Zeb Wise got by Coons for second with five laps to go while Windom nipped Coons at the line at the checkered for third. Coons took a second-straight fourth-place finish at Red Dirt while Jonathan Beason raced home to a fifth-place result in his season debut with the series.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: July 9, 2019 – Red Dirt Raceway – Meeker, Oklahoma – Tuesday Night Thunder– 1/4-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-13.207 (New Track Record); 2. Zane Hendricks, 27z, Hendricks-13.318; 3. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-13.330; 4. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-13.351; 5. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz-Curb-Agajanian-13.362; 6. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-13.366; 7. Cannon McIntosh, 08, Dave Mac-13.400; 8. Tanner Thorson, 98, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-13.428; 9. Jason McDougal, 76m, FMR-13.431; 10. Steven Shebester, 22x, Williams-13.444; 11. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-13.451; 12. Karsyn Elledge, 1, Tucker/Boat-13.484; 13. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-13.496; 14. Holley Hollan, 67K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-13.521; 15. Chad Boat, 84, Tucker/Boat-13.606; 16. Jesse Colwell, 71, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-13.609; 17. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-13.626; 18. Matt Sherrell, 10, Hunt-13.642; 19. Robert Dalby, 4D, Dalby-13.670; 20. Ethan Mitchell, 19m, Bundy Built-13.671; 21. Jonathan Beason, 8J, Hard Eight-13.674; 22. Shannon McQueen, 7, McQueen-13.700; 23. Sam Johnson, 72, Johnson-13.720; 24. Tyler Thomas, 91T, Thomas-13.721; 25. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-13.730; 26. Brady Bacon, 85, Central-13.754; 27. Andrew Deal, 15D, Deal-13.809; 28. Andrew Felker, 44, Shields-13.830; 29. Grady Chandler, 19s, Mounce-13.866; 30. Hank Davis, 42, Franklin-13.914; 31. Frank Flud, 25s, Springer-13.996; 32. Tyler Seavey, 117,

Washburn-14.064; 33. Emilio Hoover, 9H, Hoover-14.555; 34. Curtis Jones, 77s, Simmons-14.709; 35. Curtis Spicer, 4, Spicer-14.815; 36. Shaun Shapel, 84s, Shapel-15.291.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Jonathan Beason, 2. Chris Windom, 3. Jerry Coons Jr., 4. Jason McDougal, 5. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 6. Zeb Wise, 7. Grady Chandler, 8. Andrew Layser, 9. Emilio Hoover. 1:50.17 (New Track Record)

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Holley Hollan, 2. Kevin Thomas Jr., 3. Shannon McQueen, 4. Matt Sherrell, 5. Brady Bacon, 6. Steven Shebester, 7. Hank Davis, 8. Zane Hendricks, 9. Curtis Jones. NT

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Chad Boat, 2. Tyler Courtney, 3. Cannon McIntosh, 4. Robert Dalby, 5. Logan Seavey, 6. Andrew Deal, 7. Frank Flud, 8. Sam Johnson, 9. Curtis Spicer. 1:50.72

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Thomas, 2. Tanner Thorson, 3. Jesse Colwell, 4. Tanner Carrick, 5. Andrew Felker, 6. Ethan Mitchell, 7. Tyler Seavey, 8. Karsyn Elledge, 9. Shaun Shapel. NT

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Zeb Wise, 2. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 3. Zane Hendricks, 4. Andrew Deal, 5. Hank Davis, 6. Logan Seavey, 7. Andrew Layser, 8. Steven Shebester, 9. Brady Bacon, 10. Andrew Felker, 11. Frank Flud, 12. Sam Johnson, 13. Emilio Hoover, 14. Shaun Shapel, 15. Ethan Mitchell, 16. Curtis Spicer, 17. Karsyn Elledge, 18. Grady Chandler, 19. Tyler Seavey. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Logan Seavey (9), 2. Zeb Wise (7), 3. Chris Windom (11), 4. Jerry Coons Jr. (15), 5. Jonathan Beason (17), 6. Matt Sherrell (16), 7. Chad Boat (13), 8. Tanner Thorson (3), 9. Tucker Klaasmeyer (10), 10. Tyler Thomas (19), 11. Jesse Colwell (14), 12. Tanner Carrick (6), 13. Shannon McQueen (18), 14. Hank Davis (22), 15. Robert Dalby (21), 16. Tyler Courtney (1), 17. Jason McDougal (2), 18. Kevin Thomas Jr. (5), 19. Andrew Deal (20), 20. Holley Hollan (12), 21. Cannon McIntosh (4), 22. Zane Hendricks (8). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-8 Jason McDougal, Lap 9 Tyler Courtney, Lap 10 Jason McDougal, Laps 11-17 Tyler Courtney, Lap 18 Chris Windom, Lap 19 Tanner Carrick, Laps 20-23 Jerry Coons Jr., Laps 24-30 Logan Seavey.

****Karsyn Elledge flipped over the turn three wall during the semi. Holley Hollan flipped over the turn three wall on lap 9 of the feature. Jason McDougal, Kevin Thomas Jr. & Tyler Thomas flipped on lap 16 of the feature.**

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-887, 2-Logan Seavey-808, 3-Chris Windom-803, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-766, 5-Zeb Wise-741, 6-Chad Boat-697, 7-Tanner Carrick-621, 8-Jerry Coons Jr.-620, 9-Tucker Klaasmeyer-618, 10-Jesse Colwell-570.

USAC MID-AMERICA MIDGET WEEK PROSOURCE PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Jonathan Beason-12, 2-Jerry Coons Jr.-11, 3-Matt Sherrell-10, 4-Tyler Thomas-9, 5-Logan Seavey-8, 6-Chris Windom-8, 7-Hank Davis-8, 8-Chad Boat-6, 9-Robert Dalby-6, 10-Zeb Wise-5.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: July 10, 2019 – Concordia High Banks – Concordia, Kansas – Mid-America Midget Week / 10th Chad McDaniel Memorial – 1/4-Mile Dirt track

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Jonathan Beason (17th to 5th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Shannon McQueen

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Andrew Layser

PROSOURCE HARD WORK AWARD: Hank Davis

Zeb Wise (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Jonathan Beason (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Holley Hollan (Competition Suspension Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Chad Boat (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Tyler Thomas (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

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USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: July 10, 2019 – Concordia High Banks – Concordia, Kansas – Mid-America Midget Week / 10th Chad McDaniel Memorial – 1/4-Mile Dirt track

****Canceled due to safety concerns with the facility.**

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACES: July 12-13, 2019 – Jefferson County Speedway – Fairbury, Nebraska – Riverside Chevrolet Midwest Midget Championship Presented by Westin Packaged Meats & Schmidt's Sanitation – 1/5-Mile Dirt track

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McDougal Checks Off First USAC Midget Win at Jeff Co.

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Fairbury, Nebraska (July 12, 2019).....Just three races into their new relationship, Jason McDougal and FMR Racing appear to be the perfect match.

McDougal joined the team in late June, and by mid-July, the pair hit paydirt in Friday's Riverside Chevrolet Midwest Midget Championship Presented by Westin Packaged Meats and Schmidt's Sanitation at Jefferson County Speedway in Fairbury, Neb., round two of "Mid-America Midget Week."

Just this past Tuesday, McDougal was running up front in the "MAMW" opener at Red Dirt Raceway until a melee at the halfway point put the Broken Arrow, Okla. native on his lid and forced him out of contention for his first career USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget victory.

Three days later, it was McDougal who took advantage of a melee just after midway and was the only driver running in the top-four to avoid the carnage. McDougal seized the moment and powered to his first win in the series aboard the Black Watch Farms – Mobil 1 – Pro Shocks/Beast/Speedway Toyota.

McDougal has been strong on the USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car tour this season, particularly at New Jersey's Bridgeport Speedway during "Eastern Storm," where he picked up his second career sprint win exactly one month prior to his first midget win with USAC.

Although it's no easy task to win on any of USAC National divisions, McDougal relays the difficulty that is winning a USAC National Midget feature. He chalks up to being in the right spot at the right time with the right people, making his part of the equation ten times easier on him when he gets behind the wheel.

"I've been telling people for a while that I feel like I should be able to win a MIDGET CHAMPIONSHIP RACE," McDougal explained. "But, like I tell everyone that tries to go USAC Midget racing, the midgets are ten times harder than a sprint car. To be in the position I'm in with the team that I'm with, I have a lot of great guys supporting me now. Everything's just clicking at the right time."

One of the key elements in the string that helped guide McDougal to victory lane is USAC Hall of Fame car builder and crew chief Bob East. McDougal's first Silver Crown start, a 4th at Eldora last Fall, had the East touch as did his midget ride in Friday's victory. Familiarity creates comfort, and McDougal seems right at home in the No. 76m.

"I've run Silver Crown for Chris Dyson and Sean Michael, and Bob helped us on the setup a little bit," McDougal revealed. "I've always gotten along with Bob. I've always looked up to the Klatt cars when they had Damion Gardner in them at the Chili Bowl and Turkey Night. They're some of my favorite cars in midget racing. To be able to be a part of this is spectacular, but I get along with these guys so great, it's making everything easy."

From the 4th starting spot, McDougal was in the thick of the battle from the word "go," moving to third around Chris Windom at the start and to 2nd on lap seven with a turn four run off the bottom past USAC Western States Midget standout Robert Dalby.

Thirty laps can breeze by in a blur on the southeastern Nebraska bullring, which also means lapped traffic can come up in a hurry. Tanner Thorson, whose last appearance at the track resulted in a victory back in 2017, found that out the hard way as he held a one second lead over McDougal on the 19th lap of the 30-lapper.

Coming off turn four, the lapped car of Olivia Bennett got sideways on the top side, sliding right into the path of oncoming race leader, Thorson. Tanner Thorson, plus third-running Kevin Thomas Jr. and fourth place Tucker Klaasmeyer all saw their winning hopes dashed in a split second as McDougal escaped through the fray and with the race lead only 12 laps from the finish.

Klaasmeyer's hopeful night went from bad to worse two laps later, escaping injury after flipping on the back straightaway. On the restart with ten to go, the top-six were all suctioned to the bottom, momentarily, until Courtney bolted to the outside of CMR teammate Windom in a tussle for second with six lap remaining. The pair battled wheel-to-wheel while McDougal held steady at the head of the field.

On the final stretch, Courtney, who started 12th, finally cleared Windom and made a run on the high line at McDougal on the final lap. McDougal could hear somebody behind but wasn't exactly certain if it was a lapper or the second-place car. Courtney's charge halted short of the line as McDougal let his car float to the outside wall up in front of Courtney's by a mere one tenth of a second.

McDougal was followed to the line by Courtney, Windom, 2016 Jefferson County winner Chad Boat and Jerry Coons Jr., the two-time series champ, who finished in the top-five for the second consecutive race.

In victory lane, McDougal hoisted a sign reading "Get well soon, Frank," for FMR Racing owner Frank Manafort. McDougal became the third first-time USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget feature winner in 2019, joining Cannon McIntosh (Du Quoin, Ill.) and Chris Windom (Lawrenceburg, Ind.)

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: July 12, 2019 – Jefferson County Speedway – Fairbury, Nebraska – Riverside Chevrolet Midwest Midget Championship Presented by Westin Packaged Meats & Schmidt's Sanitation – 1/5-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-10.685 (New Track Record); 2. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-10.758; 3. Jason McDougal, 76m, FMR-10.842; 4. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-10.898; 5. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-10.910; 6. Robert Dalby, 4D, Dalby-10.939; 7. Tanner Thorson, 98, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-10.947; 8. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-10.951; 9. Chad Boat, 84, Tucker/Boat-10.962; 10. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-10.984; 11. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-10.984; 12. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-10.985; 13. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-11.036; 14. Tyler Thomas, 91T, Thomas-11.059; 15. Sam Johnson, 72, Johnson-11.097; 16. Ethan Mitchell, 19m, Bundy Built-11.141; 17. Brady Bacon, 85, Central-11.176; 18. Shannon McQueen, 7, McQueen-11.301; 19. A.J. Valim, 4T, Valim-11.930; 20. Curtis Spicer, 4, Spicer-11.944; 21. Lance Bennett, 10, Bennett-11.976; 22. Olivia Bennett, 77, Bennett-11.993; 23. Tyler Seavey, 117, Washburn-NT; 24. Blaze Bennett, 10B, Bennett-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Tanner Carrick, 2. Tanner Thorson, 3. Jerry Coons Jr., 4. Logan Seavey, 5. Chris Windom, 6. Ethan Mitchell, 7. A.J. Valim, 8. Olivia Bennett. 1:56.27 (New Track Record)

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 2. Tyler Thomas, 3. Zeb Wise, 4. Brady Bacon, 5. Kevin Thomas Jr., 6. Andrew Layser, 7. Tyler Seavey, 8. Curtis Spicer. 1:56.73

AUTOMETER/INDY RACE PARTS THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Chad Boat, 2. Tyler Courtney, 3. Jason McDougal, 4. Sam Johnson, 5. Robert Dalby, 6. Shannon McQueen, 7. Lance Bennett. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Jason McDougal (4), 2. Tyler Courtney (12), 3. Chris Windom (3), 4. Chad Boat (9), 5. Jerry Coons Jr. (10), 6. Tyler Thomas (14), 7. Logan Seavey (6), 8. Andrew Layser (7), 9. Zeb Wise (11), 10. Robert Dalby (2), 11. Brady Bacon (16), 12. Tanner Carrick (13), 13. Tanner Thorson (1), 14. Ethan Mitchell (18), 15. Sam Johnson (15), 16. Shannon McQueen (17), 17. Lance Bennett (19), 18. Curtis Spicer (22), 19. Olivia Bennett (20), 20. Tucker Klaasmeyer (8), 21. Kevin Thomas Jr. (5), 22. Tyler Seavey (23), 23. A.J. Valim (21). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-18 Tanner Thorson, Laps 19-30 Jason McDougal.

**Tucker Klaasmeyer flipped in turn three on lap 20 of the feature.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-961, 2-Chris Windom-874, 3-Logan Seavey-871, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-798, 5-Zeb Wise-793, 6-Chad Boat-766, 7-Jerry Coons Jr.-684, 8-Tanner Carrick-668, 9-Tucker Klaasmeyer-649, 10-Jason McDougal-595.

USAC MID-AMERICA MIDGET WEEK PROSOURCE PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Tyler Thomas-17, 2-Jerry Coons Jr.-16, 3-Jonathan Beason-12, 4-Chad Boat-11, 5-Tyler Courtney-10, 6-Matt Sherrell-10, 7-Logan Seavey-8, 8-Chris Windom-8, 9-Hank Davis-8, 10-Zeb Wise-7.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: July 13, 2019 – Jefferson County Speedway – Fairbury, Nebraska – Riverside Chevrolet Midwest Midget Championship Presented by Westin Packaged Meats & Schmidt's Sanitation – 1/5-Mile Dirt track

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/PROSOURCE HARD CHARGER: Tyler Courtney (12th to 2nd)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Tanner Thorson

Logan Seavey (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Tanner Carrick (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Tucker Klaasmeyer (Competition Suspension Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Chad Boat (AutoMeter/Indy Race Parts Third Heat Winner)

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Courtney Gets Win #6 at Jeff Co.

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Fairbury, Nebraska (July 13, 2019).....Only one driver has reached the six-win mark in a single USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget season faster than Tyler Courtney has this season. That was none other than Rich Vogler who reached six in his 13th race in 1978 and in his 14th race in 1988.

If there's a driver to run second to in the annals of USAC history, Vogler isn't a bad one to be looking up to.

Thus far, through 15 races of the season, Courtney hasn't had to look up to much of anybody. Nor did he in Saturday night's Riverside Chevrolet Midwest Midget Championship Presented by Westin Packaged Meats and Schmidt's Sanitation at Jefferson County Speedway where he fended off a pesky Kevin Thomas Jr. on a late-race restart to win the 40-lapper.

To put the season into perspective, Courtney came into this season with just five USAC National Midget feature wins to his credit. It took him less than half a season to outdo that mark on the 1/5-mile bullring in Fairbury, Neb. By doing so, he maintained his 90-point lead in the standings and inched closer to becoming the first driver to reach double-digit wins in the series since Vogler in 1988.

Though it appeared mostly stress-free for Courtney through much of the middle portion of the feature as he cut through traffic, that wasn't the case in the end, as the Indianapolis, Ind. native had to endure a late-race restart versus Thomas after the yellow flag flew with four laps remaining.

"I didn't want to see that," Courtney admitted. "I hadn't been on the bottom since the beginning of the race. I knew on restarts, it might be alright, but I was committed to running the top. I saw (Kevin Thomas Jr.) race me on the last restart, and I knew I just needed to hit my marks there on the top. I messed up a couple times, and luckily, I think he may have messed up too. It worked out tonight and we're standing here in victory lane."

Courtney started from the pole, but it was outside front row starter Thomas who got the jump initially, riding the top to the lead as Courtney got shuffled back to 4th on the opening lap while Tanner Thorson and Jerry Coons Jr. snuck by for 2nd and 3rd, respectively.

Courtney instantly worked his way back to the front and quickly got returned to 3rd on the second lap and to the runner-up spot during a mad scramble behind race leader Thomas.

Following ninth-running Chad Boat's stoppage in between turns 3 and 4 on the fourth lap, Courtney took control on the ensuing restart as Thomas pulled the wheels up exiting the turn two cushion. Courtney drove by off the bottom to the lead.

Thomas ably reeled in Courtney by the halfway mark in traffic as the lappers went two and, at times, three-wide, forcing Courtney to split the cars of Lance Bennett and Shannon McQueen in turn one to find separation. He was successful and broke away, while Coons, Thomas and Seavey raced three-wide for fourth.

Although Brady Bacon's stop with 14 to go on the other side of the turn two banking tightened up the gap, the three lapped cars of Curtis Spicer, McQueen and Sam Johnson lie between Courtney and Thomas for the restart. On the tight bullring, Thomas got hung up behind the traffic and Courtney once again shot away to a one second advantage.

With four to go and a near-certain victory in sight for Courtney, Ethan Mitchell found himself spun backwards in turn three, setting up a last ditch, trophy dash for the win. With under five to go, lapped cars are sent to the tail by rule, putting Thomas and Tuesday night's Red Dirt winner Seavey right on Courtney's tail tank for the restart.

"Racing with these guys is tough," Courtney said. "Especially when you've got (Kevin Thomas Jr.) and Logan behind you. Really, everybody in the field is tough right now. We're on our game now and we've got to capitalize on nights like this when we start up front like that. You can't give up positions. You don't have any to give up."

Thomas put the challenge right on Courtney as he utilized the bottom to pull even with high-riding Courtney exiting turn two. With two laps remaining, Thomas got a surge off turn two to edge ahead of Courtney midway down the back straightaway. Courtney showed no wavering, riding the top back around Thomas to secure the spot off turn four. Thomas stayed within striking distance throughout the final lap, but Courtney was flawless, finishing out the victory by 0.365 sec. over Kevin Thomas Jr., Seavey, Coons and ProSource/KSE Racing Products Hard Charger Tyler Thomas, from 11th.

For Kevin Thomas Jr., despite the win eluding him on Saturday night, a second is a welcome gift after front-running efforts during the first two Mid-America Midget Week events were all for naught after getting caught up in a pair of wrecks that were not of his doing.

"We had a good racecar," Kevin Thomas Jr. said. "If only I just didn't screw up there at the beginning of the race; track position's everything. We had pretty equal cars there and he got through lapped traffic a little bit better. It was a little greasy down and was hard to maneuver around down there, but it was a really good racetrack. I tried to get cute there by running the bottom and trying to sneak by. It worked until I hit the grease down there. I think if I wouldn't have pushed, I could've won that race, but I did push, and we didn't win the race."

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: July 13, 2019 – Jefferson County Speedway – Fairbury, Nebraska – Riverside Chevrolet Midwest Midget Championship Presented by Westin Packaged Meats & Schmidt's Sanitation – 1/5-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-11.412; 2. Chad Boat, 84, Tucker/Boat-11.422; 3. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-11.454; 4. Tanner Thorson, 98, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-11.476; 5. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-11.530; 6. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-11.550; 7. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-11.584; 8. Jason McDougal, 76m, FMR-11.588; 9. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-11.651; 10. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-11.652; 11. Tyler Thomas, 91T, Thomas-11.700; 12. Ethan Mitchell, 19m, Bundy Built-11.746; 13. Shannon McQueen, 7, McQueen-11.749; 14. Brady Bacon, 85, Central-11.768; 15. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-11.794; 16. Sam Johnson, 72, Johnson-11.891; 17. Robert Dalby, 4D, Dalby-11.973; 18. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-11.982; 19. Lance Bennett, 10, Bennett-12.139; 20. Tyler Seavey, 117, Washburn-12.373; 21. A.J. Valim, 4T, Valim-12.572; 22. Curtis Spicer, 4, Spicer-12.693; 23. Olivia Bennett, 77, Bennett-12.919.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Logan Seavey, 2. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 3. Tanner Thorson, 4. Sam Johnson, 5. Tanner Carrick, 6. Shannon McQueen, 7. Lance Bennett, 8. Curtis Spicer. 2:04.92

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Thomas, 2. Jason McDougal, 3. Brady Bacon, 4. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5. Chad Boat, 6. Robert Dalby, 7. Olivia Bennett. NT

AUTOMETER/INDY RACE PARTS THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Zeb Wise, 2. Tyler Courtney, 3. Chris Windom, 4. Jerry Coons Jr., 5. A.J. Valim, 6. Ethan Mitchell, 7. Andrew Layser. 2:03.04

FEATURE: (40 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Tyler Courtney (1), 2. Kevin Thomas Jr. (2), 3. Logan Seavey (6), 4. Jerry Coons Jr. (4), 5. Tyler Thomas (11), 6. Jason McDougal (8), 7. Tanner Carrick (7), 8. Tanner Thorson (3), 9. Chris Windom (9), 10. Tucker Klaasmeyer (10), 11. Zeb Wise (15), 12. Chad Boat (5), 13. Shannon McQueen (13), 14. Andrew Layser (18), 15. Sam Johnson (16), 16. Ethan Mitchell (12), 17. Curtis Spicer (22), 18. Brady Bacon (14), 19. Robert Dalby (17), 20. Lance Bennett (19), 21. Tyler Seavey (20), 22. Olivia Bennett (23), 23. A.J. Valim (21). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-4 Kevin Thomas Jr., Laps 5-40 Tyler Courtney.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-1039, 2-Logan Seavey-949, 3-Chris Windom-926, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-872, 5-Zeb Wise-842, 6-Chad Boat-814, 7-Jerry Coons Jr.-754, 8-Tanner Carrick-724, 9-Tucker Klaasmeyer-699, 10-Jason McDougal-657.

USAC MID-AMERICA MIDGET WEEK PROSOURCE PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Tyler Thomas-23, 2-Jerry Coons Jr.-16, 3-Jonathan Beason-12, 4-Logan Seavey-11, 5-Chad Boat-11, 6-Zeb Wise-11, 7-Tyler Courtney-10, 8-Matt Sherrell-10, 9-Curtis Spicer-9, 10-Chris Windom-8.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: July 14, 2019 – Sweet Springs Motorsports Complex – Sweet Springs, Missouri – 1/6-Mile Dirt track

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/PROSOURCE HARD CHARGER: Tyler Thomas (11th to 5th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Shannon McQueen

Logan Seavey (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Logan Seavey (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Tyler Thomas (Competition Suspension Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Zeb Wise (AutoMeter/Indy Race Parts Third Heat Winner)

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It's Sweet, Sweet Springs Victory for Carrick

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Sweet Springs, Missouri (July 14, 2019).....Most times, it seems the only thing predictable in USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget racing is unpredictability. And sometimes when you think you know what's about to transpire, that's when everything turns on its head. At times, literally.

Lincoln, California's Tanner Carrick found that out in Sunday's trip to Missouri's Sweet Springs Motorsports Complex where he became the fourth first-time series winner this year, following Cannon McIntosh, Chris Windom and Jason McDougal.

It's the first time the series has produced four first-time winners in a single season since 2008, and it's still only mid-July. Carrick ran fifth with five laps remaining as point leader and race leader Tyler Courtney and defending champ Logan Seavey waged their battle for the lead. Seavey mustered a big, bold slider for the lead entering turn three. Courtney quickly countered underneath to steal the spot back from Seavey off turn four.

Seavey remained just about three car-lengths back on the following lap until his car got a bit tight on the cushion in between turns three and four, allowing Courtney to open up a roughly eight car-length lead despite catching the lapped car of Brady Bacon in traffic as he worked turns one and two.

Traffic parted the seas for Courtney with a free path on the high side entering turn three. With seemingly everything in check, Courtney snagged the turn three cushion, flipping him over. On Courtney's rebound, second-running Logan Seavey clipped his own right front wheel against Courtney's tail tank, giving terminal damage to Seavey's car and eliminating him from a repeat Sweet Springs victory. Courtney restarted, albeit from the tail and out of contention for his seventh series win of the year.

That slotted Carrick into third on the final restart behind McDougal and Windom. Throughout much of the duration of the 40-lapper, Carrick had been waging in a see-saw slider session behind Courtney and Seavey, battling the likes of McDougal, Windom and Kevin Thomas Jr., just to name a few, for what, at the time, seemed to be for "best in class" for third as the front two checked out.

On the lap 38 restart, McDougal went topside as Windom headed to the bottom to toss a slider at McDougal. Windom appeared to not have enough mustard on the slide to get up in front of McDougal but was content to fall in line and chase him into the next corner. Before all that could even play out, McDougal's right rear snagged the turn two cushion, turning him to the right and pushing him into the outside wall.

Windom ducked under McDougal to take the lead momentarily heading down the back straightaway. Yet, even lower on the track was Carrick, who used the bottom to pull ahead of Windom at the entrance to turn three. Carrick slid up in front of Windom to the top, while Windom charged to the bottom as Carrick nipped Windom at the stripe by three-quarters of a car length.

"I just wanted to be there at the end," Seavey said. "I saved my stuff. I kind of figured (Windom) was going to try to slide McDougal (on the restart). My only odds were rolling the bottom on the last restart and getting to the lead. and it worked out."

Carrick was on a mission to take away Windom's line and prevent the slider into the first turn as he dove across the nose of Windom to secure the bottom before sliding up to the top in turn two as Windom had the front left wheel kicking up a little dust on the inner berm.

Carrick was meticulous in sliding himself into each corner from bottom to top, leaving Windom and hard-charging Zeb Wise a narrow window of opportunity that Carrick had no intentions of relinquishing.

Carrick, the 2017 series Rookie of the Year in his 54th career start, finished it out with authority for his first career series win. Zeb Wise, who returned from an opening lap flip, rode the rim around Windom on the final lap to take second by two car-lengths over Windom, while McDougal fell to fourth and Chad Boat rounded out the top-five after starting 15th.

Carrick and his Keith Kunz-Curb-Agajanian/Craftsman - CVC Concrete/Bullet by Spike/Speedway Toyota had been fast of late, entering Sunday night's triumph. Just two weeks ago, Carrick drove to a career-best-equaling third-place result in Joliet, Ill. after establishing a new eight-lap track record during the heat race. He set a new 10-lap track record Friday's heat

in Fairbury, Neb., followed by a 7th place feature finish Saturday at Fairbury. The speed has been there, but the results they've been striving for these past three years finally came to fruition.

"It means a lot to me getting a win for (crew members) Big Al (Scroggins), for Ronnie (Gardner), for Keith Kunz, everyone that helps out on the team. We've been really close. I've been really close lately. I could say there's numerous races I should've won but didn't play out my way, but this one did."

Despite the dramatic finish, the feature arrived with inauspicious beginnings initially. The first of two red flags came out on lap one as front row starters Seavey and Andrew Layser banged wheels on the back straightaway, creating a chain reaction of events entering the third turn.

As Layser fought to regain control, McDougal slowed to avoid Layser. In turn, sixth-starting Tanner Thorson ramped over McDougal's left side wheels and flipped. Zeb Wise, who started 9th, plowed in and hit Thorson, sending himself flipping as well. Ethan Mitchell was also collected in the mishap. Thorson did not restart and, ultimately, finished 23rd.

Curtis Spicer flipped in turn two on the second lap. Spicer's car went off on the hook and he was finished for the night, taking a 22nd place finish.

Meanwhile, with 25 cars passed throughout the four nights of racing this past week, Jerry Coons Jr. collected the USAC Mid-America Midget Week ProSource Passing Master title. The two-time series champ started 16th and finished 7th Sunday at Sweet Springs.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: July 14, 2019 – Sweet Springs Motorsports Complex – Sweet Springs, Missouri – 1/6-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-11.951 (New Track Record); 2. Tanner Thorson, 98, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-11.959; 3. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-11.970; 4. Jason McDougal, 76m, FMR-11.979; 5. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-12.004; 6. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-12.073; 7. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.080; 8. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-12.081; 9. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-12.171; 10. Sam Johnson, 72, Johnson-12.233; 11. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.248; 12. Brady Bacon, 21H, TKH-12.251; 13. Ethan Mitchell, 19m, Bundy Built-12.257; 14. Clinton Boyles, 9, Mounce-12.262; 15. Chad Boat, 84, Tucker/Boat-12.341; 16. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-12.380; 17. Cole Bodine, 35, Petry-12.658; 18. Chad Winfrey, 321, Winfrey-12.830; 19. Curtis Spicer, 4, Spicer-13.120; 20. Joe Boyles, 98B, Boyles-13.212; 21. Chad Frewaldt, 4F, Frewaldt-13.291; 22. Casey Hicks, 5H, Hicks-14.034; 23. Daniel Robinson, 11, Harris-NT; 24. Shaun Shapel, 84s, Shapel-NT; 25. Gunner Ramey, 19s, Mounce-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Sam Johnson, 2. Jerry Coons Jr., 3. Ethan Mitchell, 4. Jason McDougal, 5. Logan Seavey, 6. Chris Windom, 7. Curtis Spicer, 8. Casey Hicks. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Cole Bodine, 2. Kevin Thomas Jr., 3. Tyler Courtney, 4. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 5. Tanner Thorson, 6. Daniel Robinson, 7. Joe Boyles, 8. Clinton Boyles. NT

AUTOMETER/INDY RACE PARTS THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Zeb Wise, 2. Chad Boat, 3. Tanner Carrick, 4. Andrew Layser, 5. Brady Bacon, 6. Chad Winfrey, 7. Chad Frewaldt. 2:10.11

FEATURE: (40 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Tanner Carrick (5), 2. Zeb Wise (9), 3. Chris Windom (7), 4. Jason McDougal (4), 5. Chad Boat (15), 6. Kevin Thomas Jr. (8), 7. Jerry Coons Jr. (16), 8. Daniel Robinson (23), 9. Tucker Klaasmeyer (11), 10. Andrew Layser (2), 11. Cole Bodine (17), 12. Tyler Courtney (3), 13. Joe Boyles (20), 14. Chad Frewaldt (21), 15. Casey Hicks (22), 16. Logan Seavey (1), 17. Brady Bacon (12), 18. Chad Winfrey (18), 19. Clinton Boyles (14), 20. Ethan Mitchell (13), 21. Sam Johnson (10), 22. Curtis Spicer (19), 23. Tanner Thorson (6). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-2 Andrew Layser, Laps 3-37 Tyler Courtney, Laps 38-40 Tanner Carrick.

****Tanner Thorson & Zeb Wise flipped on lap 1 of the feature. Curtis Spicer flipped on lap 2 of the feature. Tyler Courtney flipped on lap 38 of the feature.**

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-1086, 2-Chris Windom-999, 3-Logan Seavey-984, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-934, 5-Zeb Wise-917, 6-Chad Boat-879, 7-Jerry Coons Jr.-813, 8-Tanner Carrick-804, 9-Tucker Klaasmeyer-750, 10-Jason McDougal-726.

FINAL USAC MID-AMERICA MIDGET WEEK PROSOURCE PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Jerry Coons Jr.-25, 2-Tyler Thomas-23, 3-Chad Boat-21, 4-Zeb Wise-18, 5-Daniel Robinson-15, 6-Chris Windom-12, 7-Jonathan Beason-12, 8-Logan Seavey-11, 9-Tyler Courtney-10, 10-Matt Sherrell-10.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: July 30, 2019 – Grandview Speedway – Bechtelsville, Pennsylvania – 1/3-Mile Dirt track – Pennsylvania Midget Week / Ken Brenn Midget Masters

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/PROSOURCE HARD CHARGER: Daniel Robinson (23rd to 8th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Joe Boyles

Chris Windom (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Sam Johnson (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Cole Bodine (Competition Suspension Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Zeb Wise (AutoMeter/Indy Race Parts Third Heat Winner)

Jerry Coons Jr. (USAC Mid-America Midget Week ProSource Passing Master Champion)

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Windom Outduels Courtney on Final Lap at Grandview

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Bechtelsville, Pennsylvania (July 30, 2019).....It took 102 starts for Chris Windom to reach USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget victory lane for the first time in his career this past June.

It took just six more for the Canton, Illinois native to get there for the second time Tuesday night in the Pennsylvania Midget Week opener at Grandview Speedway. There, he fought Clauson Marshall Racing teammate Tyler Courtney for the win on the final lap, losing the lead via a Courtney slider in turn one, then outracing him into turn three to retake the position before sealing the deal to win in the series' first visit to the 1/3-mile dirt track in three decades.

"Honestly, it took me a little while this year," Windom admitted. "I raced midgets quite a bit in 2011 and 2012, but I felt like I never really ran a lot. Being off six years, these things have changed quite a bit. Most of these guys have gotten to do it two or three years straight. It took me a little bit to get back into the rhythm of it. CMR and (crew chief Tyler Ransbottom)

and everybody gives us cars to go out and compete first and second with. You know you have a car to win, so you've got to go figure out how to do it."

Windom was slotted into the pole position for the start of the 30-lapper after originally scheduled pole starter Zeb Wise had to go to a backup car after his engine expired at the finish of his heat race. Wise's misfortune moved him to the tail of the field and fortuitously gave Windom the pole.

Windom slid past outside front row starter Kevin Thomas Jr. into turn one on the opening lap, with Thomas maintaining a one to two car length distance behind Windom's rear bumper for most of the first third of the race. Windom utilized the higher line between turns one and two but found comfort on the bottom of turns three and four until the ninth lap when he was forced into taking the high road around the lappers hugging the bottom rail.

As Thomas attempted to close on Windom a couple car lengths back, the bottom was no longer an option as a stack of traffic hung to the low side in the ensuing laps. As it turned out, it forced Windom out of the comfort zone and into the track position it turns out he needed to occupy.

"Before I caught lapped traffic, I felt like the bottom was starting to get slower," Windom recalled. "I was actually kind of glad to see lapped traffic because it forced me to go up there and then it just felt like I was gaining more and more momentum, so that's where I stayed. I felt like the only way anyone was going to get us running there was on a caution and a slide job."

With 12 laps remaining, 11th running Karsyn Elledge spun to a stop between turns three and four, putting a lid on the traffic game for the leaders and bringing a resumption of the battle up front which encapsulated the top-five under a blanket just prior to the yellow.

The see-saw battle between Thomas and Courtney picked up the lap 19 restart where Courtney slid by Thomas into turn one. Thomas countered underneath to retake the runner-up spot in turn three. On lap 25, Courtney returned the favor, sliding by Thomas again in turn one. Thomas tapped Courtney on the rear bumper as the pair exited turn two, with Courtney securing the position.

Moments later, Zeb Wise and Steve Buckwalter got together in turn one while racing for 12th, sending Buckwalter flipping. Both drivers were okay. Wise drove back to an 11th place finish after restarting from the tail.

A wild scramble for second on back behind Windom allowed Windom to distance himself from the pack following the restart, building a 1.2 second lead prior to the stoppage with three to go due to a spin by USAC East Coast Sprint Car champ and 16th running Steven Drevicki between turns one and two.

Courtney was now right Windom's tail tank once again for the three-lap sprint to the finish. Though he didn't initially attempt a slider, Courtney began the stint with a decent restart, staying within a couple car lengths of Windom throughout the first lap. A lap later, Windom escaped Courtney, who now appeared to not be close enough to make another last-ditch run at Windom as the leaders passed under the white flag.

Further back in the pack, eighth-running Jason McDougal spun sideways to a stop in turn four to bring a halt to the event, setting up a green-white-checkered finish.

When leading in this situation, a driver is fully aware that they are ripe for the picking and a slide job is most likely going to be delivered. Windom was cognizant of that fact and had readied himself for Courtney.

"He's on top of his game in a midget right now and he's a really aggressive driver, so I wasn't just expecting him to sit back and run second on a restart," Windom said. "I knew whatever line I went to, he was going to the opposite."

Courtney remained a car length back on the first lap following the restart, shadowing Windom and anticipating when he, himself, would shoot his shot while a hard-charging Kyle Larson raced side-by-side with Tanner Carrick for third midway down the back straight.

Courtney took his shot in turn one on the final lap and Windom already had the next half a lap planned out before Courtney even made his move.

"I felt like, at some point, it had to be coming," Windom expected. "I was trying to get as good of a restart as I could, but when guys running second get two and three opportunities at you in the last three laps, they're going to figure out something normally. He was able to get in front of me there and I knew my only option was to cross him over and beat him to turn three. So, that was my plan when I saw him come across my front end there. I knew I had to cross him over and just hope we got to turns three and four smoothly."

Windom did just that, after turning his car down at the exit of two to sneak back under Courtney, drive past him on the back straight and clear him high into turn three. Courtney ducked low off turn four underneath Windom, but it wasn't enough as Windom closed out the victory by a car length (0.191 sec.) over Courtney, Carrick, KSE Racing Products Hard Charger Tanner Thorson (from 15th) and Chad Boat.

Windom's victory was a breakthrough for him at Grandview where he'd been a frontrunner year-after-year in USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car competition during Eastern Storm, with runner-up finishes in 2009 and 2011, third-place finishes in 2016-17-18-19 and fourth place runs in 2010 and 2012.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: July 30, 2019 – Grandview Speedway – Bechtelsville, Pennsylvania – Pennsylvania Midget Week / Ken Brenn Midget Masters – 1/3-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Kyle Larson, 24, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.310 (New Track Record); 2. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-14.323; 3. Jason McDougal, 76m, FMR-14.344; 4. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-14.422; 5. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-14.441; 6. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-14.469; 7. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.469; 8. Ethan Mitchell, 19m, Bundy Built-14.520; 9. Chad Boat, 84, Tucker/Boat-14.534; 10. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-14.554; 11. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.623; 12. Steven Drevicki, 12, Heckman-14.633; 13. Karsyn Elledge, 1, Tucker/Boat-14.640; 14. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-14.653; 15. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.671; 16. Tanner Thorson, 98, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.708; 17. Steve Buckwalter, 25B, Buckwalter-14.877; 18. Shawn Jackson, 7J, Jackson-15.227; 19. Bruce Buckwalter Jr., 83, Buckwalter-15.327; 20. Ryan Greth, 4, Mullet-15.365; 21. Bobby Butler, 5B, Myers-15.408; 22. Kevin Woody Jr., 0, Buckwalter-15.660; 23. Steve Craig, 55, Craig-15.981; 24. Brett Conkling, 0NJ, Conkling-16.109; 25. Zach Curtis, 75, Curtis-16.456.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Tanner Thorson, 2. Karsyn Elledge, 3. Chris Windom, 4. Jerry Coons Jr., 5. Kyle Larson, 6. Tanner Carrick, 7. Bruce Buckwalter Jr., 8. Kevin Woody Jr., 9. Zach Curtis. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Steve Buckwalter, 3. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 4. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5. Andrew Layser, 6. Ryan Greth, 7. Ethan Mitchell, 8. Steve Craig. 1:58.97 (New Track Record)

AUTOMETER/INDY RACE PARTS THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Jason McDougal, 2. Zeb Wise, 3. Logan Seavey, 4. Steven Drevicki, 5. Shawn Jackson, 6. Brett Conkling, 7. Chad Boat, 8. Bobby Butler. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Chris Windom (3), 2. Tyler Courtney (5), 3. Tanner Carrick (7), 4. Tanner Thorson (15), 5. Chad Boat (8), 6. Kevin Thomas Jr. (2), 7. Tucker Klaasmeyer (10), 8. Kyle Larson (6), 9. Jerry Coons Jr. (9), 10. Logan Seavey (14), 11. Zeb Wise (1), 12. Andrew Layser (13), 13. Jason McDougal (4), 14. Karsyn Elledge (12), 15.

Shawn Jackson (17), 16. Zach Curtis (24), 17. Steven Drevicki (11), 18. Steve Buckwalter (16), 19. Kevin Woody Jr. (21), 20. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (18), 21. Steve Craig (22), 22. Brett Conkling (23), 23. Bobby Butler (20), 24. Ryan Greth (19). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-30 Chris Windom.

****Steve Buckwalter flipped on lap 24 of the feature.**

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-1166, 2-Chris Windom-1078, 3-Logan Seavey-1033, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-996, 5-Zeb Wise-966, 6-Chad Boat-939, 7-Tanner Carrick-871, 8-Jerry Coons Jr.-864, 9-Tucker Klaasmeyer-808, 10-Jason McDougal-775.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: July 31, 2019 – Action Track USA – Kutztown, Pennsylvania – Pennsylvania Midget Week – 1/5-Mile Dirt track

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Tanner Thorson (15th to 4th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Jason McDougal

Kyle Larson (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Tanner Thorson (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Tyler Courtney (Competition Suspension Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Jason McDougal (AutoMeter/Indy Race Parts Third Heat Winner)

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Wise Outduels Larson Down to the Wire at Kutztown

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Kutztown, Pennsylvania (July 31, 2019).....Zeb Wise is becoming accustomed to logging his most memorable USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget moments in the state of Pennsylvania.

After bagging his first career series win after a two-month layoff due to injury and becoming the youngest winner in series history to boot, last August at Lanco, Wise might've one-upped himself in his second act in Wednesday's series debut at Action Track USA for round two of Pennsylvania Midget Week.

In this one, the 16-year-old Angola, Ind. native looked the part of a savvy, seasoned veteran having to hold off a relentless attack from Kyle Larson lap-after-lap-after-lap, down to the final corner.

"I told (Kyle) I literally closed my eyes about halfway through it when we were side-by-side because I didn't know what was going to happen," Wise admitted. "As I drove it into three, I saw him on the bottom throwing a slider. I knew it was coming regardless. He just kept going and I got to the middle and I'm like, 'I'm going to win or we're going to junk a racecar here.' I just put my foot to the floor and prayed to God that he stayed down and left me an inch or two up top and he gave me just enough room."

An inch or two was all Wise needed to fend off the hard-charging Larson on the final corner, bouncing off the outside concrete to break free on the outside and beat Larson to the line by a half-car length at the finish line, 0.078 of a second to be exact, for his second career series win in his Clauson Marshall Racing/Driven2SaveLives – Sundollar Restoration/Spike/Stanton SR-11x.

Wise started fourth but occupied the third position from the opening lap for the first nine laps as he watched outside front row starter Logan Seavey lead the first seven circuits, then polesitter Chad Boat take over up front on the eighth lap. Wise ripped his way to the second spot past Seavey on the tenth go-around.

On the 11th lap, Larson began his charge toward the front, clearing teammates Tanner Thorson and Seavey in turn three to move from fifth to third.

“Those guys got to sliding each other early and I was able to sneak by a couple on the bottom,” Larson said. “People just kept committing coming off two, then they’d fall off the shelf and I was able to get by. I was hoping Zeb would do that eventually.”

The following lap, Wise utilized the high line off turn four as leader Boat took the middle road down the front straight. Wise crossed over from the top of turn four to the bottom of turn one where he slid by for the race lead with 18 to go. After riding by Boat at the midway point for the runner-up spot, Larson made gains on Wise as he rolled the bottom in turns one and two while taking the high road in turns three and four. As the laps ticked away around the tight 1/5-mile dirt track, Larson inched closer to Wise just as traffic began to factor in.

As the white streak of Larson ducked underneath Wise time-after-time off turn two, Wise’s attention was piqued, and he decided to put his fate into his own hands. With eight laps remaining, Wise switched lanes and locked up the bottom line in turns one and two.

With traffic occupying the bottom line on the following lap, Wise was forced back to the top of one and two. Larson tried the middle in one and two with three to go, pulling even with Wise at the exit of turn two as the lapped car of Karsyn Elledge clung to the bottom, briefly making it three-wide. Wise stuck to the top in three and four while Larson rode through the middle wheel-to-wheel through the exit of four.

Moments later, Boat spun to a stop in turn two while battling for fourth with Thorson, forcing a yellow flag and a restart with Wise leading and Larson right on his tail in second.

On the restart, Wise knew he had to throw a changeup in order to prevent Larson from continuing his continuous lurch toward him on the bottom of turns one and two, so he went with his intuition.

“Through lapped traffic, I was running the top in one and two and I could see Kyle on the bottom peeking,” Wise recalled. “I felt like I held my speed through three and four really well, so I didn’t want to change anything there. I made the decision to stick to the bottom in one and two and still run the top in three and four.”

When racing resumed, Larson fired another slider toward Wise in turn three, only to pull even at the exit of four with Wise holding on. Wise shot to the bottom of one and two, but Larson decided not to follow, instead, moving up a lane to the middle which briefly allowed Wise to gain a car length on his lead.

Coming to the white flag, entering turn three, Larson successfully slid past the nose of Wise for the race lead. However, Wise was prepared and immediately crossed over downhill off turn four to beat Larson to the line by a single car length. On the final lap, Larson had Wise lined up to make one last final slider attempt on Wise. Larson slid his car in deep from the bottom of three to the top of four. Instead of crossing over, Wise kept his foot in it, with no room to spare on either side, bouncing his right rear tire off the outside wall, but keeping the car straight as they raced to the line with Wise emerging as the victor by less than a half a car length.

Previous night's Pennsylvania Midget Week opener winner at Grandview, Chris Windom, finished third after starting 12th to earn KSE Racing Products Hard Charger honors. Tanner Thorson was fourth ahead of series point leader Tyler Courtney to round out the top-five.

Larson came up just short in his bid for victory on what was his 27th birthday. The Elk Grove, Calif. native thought he had squeezed Wise just enough off the final corner to stifle his momentum toward the checkered, but it was not to be, instead taking second place for his third top-three finish in five series starts this season.

"On that restart, he did a good job changing his lane," a complimentary Larson said. "I thought he would stay running it all the way up there, but he shut it down and ran the bottom in one and two and I had to try to roll a lane up just do everything I could to try to throw something at him in three and four. (On the last lap) I left him about a quarter of a lane off of four and he somehow squeezed through it."

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: July 31, 2019 – Action Track USA – Kutztown, Pennsylvania – Pennsylvania Midget Week – 1/5-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-11.313 (New Track Record); 2. Kyle Larson, 24, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-11.357; 3. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-11.380; 4. Tanner Thorson, 98, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-11.381; 5. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-11.436; 6. Chad Boat, 84, Tucker/Boat-11.481; 7. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-11.509; 8. Timmy Buckwalter, 29B, Seymour-11.545; 9. Jason McDougal, 76m, FMR-11.548; 10. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-11.576; 11. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-11.588; 12. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-11.601; 13. Ethan Mitchell, 19m, Bundy Built-11.645; 14. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-11.669; 15. Steven Drevicki, 12, Heckman-11.751; 16. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-11.775; 17. Billy Pauch Jr., 72, Heffner-11.783; 18. Karsyn Elledge, 1, Tucker/Boat-12.024; 19. Kameron Morral, 4, Mullet-12.031; 20. Bobby Butler, 5B, Myers-12.033; 21. Alex Yankowski, 0, Buckwalter-12.076; 22. Brett Conkling, 0NJ, Conkling-12.409; 23. Shawn Jackson, 7J, Jackson-NT; 24. Alex Bright, 29A, Seymour-NT (time of 11.892 disallowed).

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Kevin Thomas Jr., 3. Tanner Thorson, 4. Tanner Carrick, 5. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 6. Kameron Morral, 7. Brett Conkling, 8. Ethan Mitchell. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Andrew Layser, 2. Timmy Buckwalter, 3. Logan Seavey, 4. Jerry Coons Jr., 5. Kyle Larson, 6. Billy Pauch Jr., 7. Bobby Butler, 8. Shawn Jackson. NT

AUTOMETER/INDY RACE PARTS THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Karsyn Elledge, 2. Jason McDougal, 3. Chris Windom, 4. Zeb Wise, 5. Chad Boat, 6. Steven Drevicki, 7. Alex Bright, 8. Alex Yankowski. 2:01.97 (New Track Record)

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Zeb Wise (4), 2. Kyle Larson (5), 3. Chris Windom (12), 4. Tanner Thorson (3), 5. Tyler Courtney (6), 6. Logan Seavey (2), 7. Andrew Layser (14), 8. Jason McDougal (9), 9. Kevin Thomas Jr. (7), 10. Jerry Coons Jr. (11), 11. Tanner Carrick (10), 12. Billy Pauch Jr. (17), 13. Tucker Klaasmeyer (16), 14. Chad Boat (1), 15. Steven Drevicki (15), 16. Karsyn Elledge (18), 17. Alex Yankowski (21), 18. Bobby Butler (20), 19. Brett Conkling (22), 20. Timmy Buckwalter (8), 21. Alex Bright (24), 22. Ethan Mitchell (13), 23. Kameron Morral (19), 24. Shawn Jackson (23). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-7 Logan Seavey, Laps 8-12 Chad Boat, Laps 13-30 Zeb Wise.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-1238, 2-Chris Windom-1148, 3-Logan Seavey-1096, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1049, 5-Zeb Wise-1045, 6-Chad Boat-979, 7-Tanner Carrick-917, 8-Jerry Coons Jr.-912, 9-Tucker Klaasmeyer-849, 10-Jason McDougal-831.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: August 1, 2019 – Path Valley Speedway Park – Spring Run, Pennsylvania – Pennsylvania Midget Week – 1/4-Mile Dirt track

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Chris Windom (12th to 3rd)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Tucker Klaasmeyer

Tyler Courtney (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Tyler Courtney (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Andrew Layser (Competition Suspension Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Karsyn Elledge (AutoMeter/Indy Race Parts Third Heat Winner)

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Boat Finds Path to First Victory of the Season

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Spring Run, Pennsylvania (August 1, 2019).....Chad Boat may have been Arizonian-born and bred, but his Pennsylvania Midget prowess of late has made the Keystone State sort of another adopted state when the USAC NOS Energy Drink Midget National Championship arrives in the late summer.

Thursday night at Path Valley Speedway Park, Boat, who now actually resides in Mooresville, North Carolina, endured a lap-after-lap attack from Zeb Wise for much of the middle of the 30-lapper to win his first of the year. In fact, it was his first victory with the series since the Pennsylvania Midget Week finale almost exactly one year earlier following an up and-down first half of 2019.

“It definitely feels good,” Boat exclaimed. “We’ve kind of been just mediocre since the end of Indiana Midget Week. We ended that week strong with a third, a second, and we’re knocking on the door. Then we went to Joliet and were decent but blew a tire. We ran fifth the first night out here and had a good run going last night, but it feels good to close one out. When you put yourself in a position to win races, you’ll eventually win them.”

The victory was Boat’s second-straight at the quarter-mile dirt track dating back to his last visit in 2017. His all-time leading fourth career Pennsylvania Midget Week triumph elevated him past Mel Kenyon as the winningest USAC National Midget driver in the state of Pennsylvania.

The victory was extra special due to the fact that Chad equaled his father, Billy, on the all-time USAC NOS Energy Drink feature win list with nine. It’s an impressive accomplishment no matter which way you slice it, but Chad is quick to give credit to pops, a three-time “Turkey Night Grand Prix” Midget winner and Indianapolis 500 pole winner.

“He’s got a lot more west coast wins than I do and a lot more overall,” Chad said. “To have nine national wins, there’s not a lot of people who have that many, and we’re still going.”

Boat began the feature from the third position but immediately married himself to the bottom and drove by both pole sitter Tanner Thorson and outside front row starter Chris Windom, with Boat emerging from a three-wide tussle off turn two with the lead.

Boat was the lone occupant in the top-four utilizing the bottom. Second-running Thorson tried to follow suit in turns three and four, but previous night's Kutztown winner Zeb Wise ripped the top around Thorson to gain second as Boat stood tall 1.3 seconds ahead of the fray.

"I really wasn't sure if the bottom was going to be that good when we rolled out there," Boat admitted. "The top didn't look great; it was kind of dusty, but in one and two, there was a little bit of a lip to run on. I was pretty tight and thought I could run anywhere, then I got a good start and got by those guys on the first lap."

By lap ten, Boat cut through lapped traffic to build his advantage to over two seconds before the yellow fell for the stopped car of Bobby Butler in turn four, forcing a restart with 16 to go and the path now clear of traffic.

On the restart, Boat retook his chosen place on the bottom as Wise jumped back up top, resuming an early mid-race battle from the previous night when Wise took the lead from Boat in the same time frame, just before halfway. Tonight, Boat aimed to mold that narrative in his favor, although Wise pasted himself right to Boat about a car length behind and a car width to the right.

Wise kept after it, gaining closer and closer with a sweet run against the rail through turns three and four to nip Boat at the line by a sliver of chrome. The two remained wheel-to-wheel throughout the duration of the following three laps with Boat on the bottom and Wise up top, Wise eking out the lead at the line again on the 18th lap.

Boat proved the low line still had everything he desired, returning to the lead with authority to beat Wise by inches at the line on lap 19. However, Wise was game and surged back to the front on lap 20 by the narrowest of margins at the stripe. Boat got a run on the bottom going again between turns one and two as Wise bobbed atop the cushion, losing valuable real estate to Boat. Just behind, though, in fifth, Kyle Larson biked at the top of one before coming to a rest. His car was towed back to the work area where repairs were made, and he returned for a 13th place finish.

The yellow reverted Wise to the head of the pack in front of Boat for the lap 21 restart. Rinse and repeat as the two stayed in their lanes and waged war once again. On the 23rd lap, Boat moved back ahead for good, beating Wise to the line by a car length.

Two laps later, 14th running Karsyn Elledge tipped over on the bottom of turn two, an incident which also collected both Larson and Steven Drevicki. That left one final restart for Boat to fend off Wise.

Boat trekked back to the bottom as Wise went to the top, bouncing off the curb, thus allowing both Windom and Thorson by on the bottom. The front of the field followed Boat on the bottom as he built a one second advantage over second in the final laps to carry onward to a victory by 1.079 sec. over Windom, Tyler Courtney, Thorson and Logan Seavey.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: August 1, 2019 – Path Valley Speedway Park – Spring Run, Pennsylvania – Pennsylvania Midget Week – 1/4-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-11.057 (New Track Record); 2. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-11.080; 3. Kyle Larson, 24, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-11.115; 4. Chad Boat, 84, Tucker/Boat-11.124; 5. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-11.150; 6. Tanner Thorson, 98, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-11.217; 7. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-11.239; 8. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-11.256; 9. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-11.277; 10. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-11.286; 11. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-11.318; 12. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-11.341; 13. Karsyn Elledge, 1, Tucker/Boat-11.352; 14. Jason McDougal, 76m, FMR-11.548; 15. Ryan Greth, 4, Mullet-11.572; 16. Timmy Buckwalter, 29B, Seymour-11.670; 17. Steven Drevicki, 12, Heckman-11.743; 18. Bobby Butler, 5B, Myers-11.981; 19. Shawn Jackson, 7J, Jackson-12.003; 20. Kevin Woody Jr., 25B, Buckwalter-12.012; 21. Alex Yankowski,

0, Buckwalter-12.085; 22. Zach Curtis, 75, Curtis-12.212; 23. Steve Craig, 55, Craig-12.266; 24. Alex Bright, 29A, Seymour-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Logan Seavey, 2. Tyler Courtney, 3. Zeb Wise, 4. Chad Boat, 5. Karsyn Elledge, 6. Timmy Buckwalter, 7. Shawn Jackson, 8. Zach Curtis. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Tanner Carrick, 2. Jason McDougal, 3. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 4. Chris Windom, 5. Andrew Layser, 6. Steven Drevicki, 7. Kevin Woody Jr., 8. Steve Craig. 1:57.93 (New Track Record)

AUTOMETER/INDY RACE PARTS THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Jerry Coons Jr., 2. Kyle Larson, 3. Tanner Thorson, 4. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5. Ryan Greth, 6. Alex Yankowski, 7. Bobby Butler. 1:58.52

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Chad Boat (3), 2. Chris Windom (2), 3. Tyler Courtney (7), 4. Tanner Thorson (1), 5. Logan Seavey (10), 6. Zeb Wise (6), 7. Jerry Coons Jr. (9), 8. Tanner Carrick (8), 9. Timmy Buckwalter (16), 10. Andrew Layser (11), 11. Tucker Klaasmeyer (5), 12. Jason McDougal (14), 13. Kyle Larson (4), 14. Kevin Thomas Jr. (12), 15. Alex Yankowski (21), 16. Steven Drevicki (17), 17. Kevin Woody Jr. (20), 18. Steve Craig (23), 19. Zach Curtis (22), 20. Karsyn Elledge (13), 21. Ryan Greth (15), 22. Bobby Butler (18), 23. Shawn Jackson (19). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-16 Chad Boat, Laps 17-18 Zeb Wise, Lap 19 Chad Boat, Laps 20-22 Zeb Wise, Laps 23-30 Chad Boat.

****Karsyn Elledge flipped on lap 25 of the feature.**

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-1309, 2-Chris Windom-1222, 3-Logan Seavey-1162, 4-Zeb Wise-1112, 5-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1089, 6-Chad Boat-1057, 7-Tanner Carrick-974, 8-Jerry Coons Jr.-972, 9-Tucker Klaasmeyer-901, 10-Jason McDougal-877.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: August 2, 2019 – Linda's Speedway – Jonestown, Pennsylvania – Pennsylvania Midget Week – 1/4-Mile Dirt track

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Timmy Buckwalter (16th to 9th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Kyle Larson

Zeb Wise (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Logan Seavey (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Tanner Carrick (Competition Suspension Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Jerry Coons Jr. (AutoMeter/Indy Race Parts Third Heat Winner)

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WISE MAKES ALL THE RIGHT MOVES AT LINDA'S

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Jonestown, Pennsylvania (August 2, 2019).....In six Pennsylvania Midget Week starts over the past two seasons, Zeb Wise has accumulated three victories and a runner-up finish. In fact, all three of his USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget wins have come in the Keystone State.

Just two days earlier, the 16-year-old Angola, Ind. driver won a furious battle with Kyle Larson. The night prior, he was fast qualifier and led late in the going. Friday night, in the series' second-ever visit to Linda's Speedway, Wise returned to the win column with a late-race pass of teammate Tyler Courtney, sneaking by on the white flag lap to capture the victory in his Clauson Marshall Racing/Driven2SaveLives – Sundollar Restoration/Spike/Stanton SR-11x.

Safe to say, Wise has taking a liking to Pennsylvania soil in his young career.

"Pennsylvania's been really nice to me," Wise exclaimed. "Tonight was a really good night. We qualified a little badly and weren't sure where we were going to end up. These little bullrings are kind of my forte and we got it done."

Wise had his work cut out for him, lining up eighth on the grid for the 30-lap main event. Early on, however, Tanner Thorson appeared to be the class of the field, racing from the outside of the front row to gain a half-straightaway lead by lap five over leading series Rookie contender and Pennsylvania native Andrew Layser, who started fourth.

On the eighth lap, pole sitter Kevin Thomas Jr. reemerged into contention, exchanging sliders on both ends of the racetrack with Layser for the runner-up spot until Layser slid sideways to a stop between the middle of turns three and four to bring out the first yellow of the night.

When racing resumed, Thomas was on the hunt to run down Thorson as he sought his first series win since a last-lap Kokomo Grand Prix triumph in April. Thomas made gains through the middle to pull side-by-side with Thorson for the race lead nearing the midway point.

As the pair came off turn four wheel-to-wheel and headed for the crossed flags signaling the midway point, Thorson's right rear tire went flat before coming to a halt in turn one. Thorson ran three more laps before pulling in, taking an 18th place result.

Thorson's misfortune was to the benefit of Thomas who now occupied the lead as well as series point leader Tyler Courtney who now slotted into second. From the get-go at the start of the second half of the event, Thomas took the high road as Courtney clamped down on the bottom. Both remained even throughout the corners on both ends of the quarter mile dirt track, but Thomas had enough momentum in his back pocket to blitz by Courtney to lead by a half car length at the stripe on laps 17 and 18.

The two stuck to their guns on the following laps, but Courtney was able to get a better pull off the exit of turn two to charge into turns three and four with just enough gusto to nip Courtney at the line. The song remained the same on laps 21 and 22 as the two battled side-by-side on each entire lap with Courtney slowly able to gain bits and pieces of ground to distance himself from Thomas, finally grabbing some semblance of breathing room on lap 24 by three car lengths.

Just further back, third-running Wise was playing the role of a keen observer, watching his competition, then adjusting his plan of attack to see how it would play out in the ensuing laps.

"For the longest time, I was just up ripping the top," Wise recalled. "On that last restart, Sunshine started working the bottom under KT and I saw it working. I figured it was just going to get better and better as the top went away. So, I dropped down there and felt it out for a few laps."

With a mere five laps remaining, Wise, who had been running third since the halfway mark, began a sudden surge on the bottom, first by the rim-riding Thomas on the 26th lap, then had CMR teammate and race leader Courtney next in the pecking order.

Two laps were left on the board and Wise was closing on Courtney. Entering turn three, the two encountered the lapped car of Bruce Buckwalter Jr. on the bottom. Courtney took a quick scan and opted to go to the top to maneuver around the outside while Wise followed Buckwalter down low and crossed under the white flag a car length ahead of Courtney.

With a slower car firmly planted on the path he intended to pursue, Wise still knew he needed a little luck to fall his way despite carrying the lead into the first turn.

“Once I got by KT and as the laps wound down, we got to a few more lapped cars,” Wise remembered. “When Sunshine made the decision to go to the top on the last lap, I decided to stick the bottom and pray that the lapped car would miss the bottom just a little bit. He did. Into one, he missed it just a little bit, so I shoved my nose in there.”

For Wise, it worked out to perfection as he pulled out to a four-car length lead entering the bottom of turn three. Second running Courtney re-entered the bottom line, but this time, he was staring at the back of Wise who sprinted off the final corner to win by 0.537 sec.

Courtney, who earlier set quick time and won his heat, just barely missed his opportunity at picking up the night’s sweep. He finished in the runner-up position for the second time during Pennsylvania Midget Week ahead of Thomas, Chris Windom and Jason McDougal, who rounded out the top-five.

By virtue of winning, Wise was awarded a one-of-a-kind pink Linda’s Speedway edition pedal car, a unique trophy that Wise plans to proudly show off when he takes it back home.

“I didn’t know that was the trophy,” Wise admitted. “When they handed it to me, I was pretty surprised. Obviously, that’s not an usual trophy that you get. I think we’re going to put it in the shop right up front so everyone can see it.”

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: August 2, 2019 – Linda’s Speedway – Jonestown, Pennsylvania – Pennsylvania Midget Week – 1/4-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-12.582; 2. Jason McDougal, 76m, FMR-12.748; 3. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-12.783; 4. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-12.813; 5. Tanner Thorson, 98, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.858; 6. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-12.863; 7. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-12.879; 8. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-12.964; 9. Chad Boat, 84, Tucker/Boat-13.003; 10. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-13.049; 11. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-13.075; 12. Karsyn Elledge, 1, Tucker/Boat-13.089; 13. Timmy Buckwalter, 29, Seymour-13.170; 14. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-13.246; 15. Tommy Kunsman, 21, Kunsman-13.323; 16. Steve Buckwalter, 25B, Buckwalter-13.367; 17. Steven Drevicki, 12, Heckman-13.455; 18. Bruce Buckwalter Jr., 83, Buckwalter-13.577; 19. Bobby Butler, 5B, Myers-13.708; 20. Steve Craig, 55, Craig-13.789; 21. Zach Curtis, 75, Curtis-14.571; 22. Kenney Johnson, 46, Johnson-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Chris Windom, 3. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 4. Jerry Coons Jr., 5. Steve Buckwalter, 6. Bobby Butler, 7. Timmy Buckwalter. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Tanner Carrick, 2. Jason McDougal, 3. Zeb Wise, 4. Logan Seavey, 5. Tanner Thorson, 6. Steven Drevicki, 7. Steve Craig. 2:14.31

AUTOMETER/INDY RACE PARTS THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Kevin Thomas Jr., 2. Tommy Kunsman, 3. Chad Boat, 4. Karsyn Elledge, 5. Andrew Layser, 6. Bruce Buckwalter Jr., 7. Zach Curtis. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Zeb Wise (8), 2. Tyler Courtney (6), 3. Kevin Thomas Jr. (1), 4. Chris Windom (7), 5. Jason McDougal (5), 6. Logan Seavey (11), 7. Jerry Coons Jr. (3), 8. Tanner Carrick (13), 9. Chad Boat (9), 10. Steve Buckwalter (15), 11. Karsyn Elledge (12), 12. Tommy Kunsman (14), 13. Steven Drevicki (16), 14. Andrew Layser (4),

15. Bobby Butler (18), 16. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (17), 17. Zach Curtis (19), 18. Tanner Thorson (2), 19. Tucker Klaasmeyer (10). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-14 Tanner Thorson, Laps 15-18 Kevin Thomas Jr., Laps 19-28 Tyler Courtney, Laps 29-30 Zeb Wise.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-1390, 2-Chris Windom-1290, 3-Logan Seavey-1222, 4-Zeb Wise-1188, 5-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1162, 6-Chad Boat-1109, 7-Jerry Coons Jr.-1032, 8-Tanner Carrick-1031, 9-Jason McDougal-947, 10-Tucker Klaasmeyer-932.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: August 3, 2019 – Lanco's Clyde Martin Memorial Speedway – Newmanstown, Pennsylvania – Pennsylvania Midget Week – 1/8-Mile Dirt track

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Zeb Wise (8th to 1st)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Steven Drevicki

Tyler Courtney (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Tyler Courtney (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Tanner Carrick (Competition Suspension Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Kevin Thomas Jr. (AutoMeter/Indy Race Parts Third Heat Winner)

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Viral Sensation to Winning Sensation! Seavey Lands Lanco PA Midget Week Finale Win

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Newmanstown, Pennsylvania (August 3, 2019).....In Logan Seavey's last visit to Lanco's Clyde Martin Memorial Speedway, he was the star of the show, putting four wheels on the fence to escape unscathed around a stopped car.

The viral video, the Sports Center top play, the T-shirts and all the notoriety followed. However, the Sutter, Calif. native still had a score to settle. Overshadowed by the fence climb was the fact that he finished third. Seavey was cool with all the accolades, but more than that, the defending USAC NOS Energy Drink Midget National Champion just wants to win.

And he did just exactly that on Saturday night in the Pennsylvania Midget Week finale at Lanco, with all four wheels firmly planted on the 1/8-mile dirt bullring's victory lane.

"It's pretty cool what happened last year," Seavey reminisced. "I got a lot of publicity and sold a lot of T-shirts this year. That's pretty cool because it's going to Grady (Chandler) and his family. But yeah, I'd much rather be in victory lane than third like last year. It's just a good way to end the week. We've struggled the first four nights, but I knew coming here, our cars would be really good. It's the kind of track our car excels at. I knew this is the racetrack I'd get around well. I knew if there was a place this week, we were going to be good, it was here. I just had to do my job and put together 40 laps."

Seavey began his race from the third spot and engaged in a slider session with leading series Rookie Andrew Layser for second in the early going. Seavey slid past Layser in turn one on lap four, but Layser cut back under to return the favor to Seavey entering turn three. Seavey finally made the move stick on lap five in the first turn to slot into second while Chad Boat held a healthy full-straightaway three second lead over Seavey and point leader Courtney, who drifted into third past Layser.

Two-time ARDC Midget champ Steven Drevicki came to a stop in turn four on the fifth lap to bring out the first yellow of the night, erasing Boat's substantial advantage. With Seavey right on his tail tank, Boat was immediately put to the test. Seavey slid his way to the front multiple times, but Boat was able to fend him off for the time being. That is, until lap nine, when Seavey finally slid and stuck the position ahead of Boat for the race lead.

Wednesday's Action Track USA and Friday's Linda's Speedway winner Zeb Wise slowed to a stop on the 11th lap while running fifth, putting an end to his bid to pick up a third Pennsylvania Midget Week victory in the past four nights.

Seavey ringed the top side as Courtney put on the chase. On the 14th lap, Seavey stumbled ever so slightly on the turn four cushion, allowing Courtney to close in and open up the door for a turn one slider, but with his attention piqued, Seavey was prepared and drove back downhill off turn two to resume his place atop the leaderboard.

A yellow on lap 25 fell following Kevin Thomas Jr.'s version of a fence ride between turns three and four which flattened his right rear while running third. After a stop for new rubber, Thomas drove his way back to a solid fourth-place finish.

On the restart, Courtney was ready to pounce at any inkling of a mistake by Seavey. On a small track in which a single lap clicks off just a shy over ten seconds, there's not much of a place where a driver can sustain one little bobble here or a jumped cushion there, which can make all the difference. Courtney hung close to Seavey when racing resumed but snagged the cushion twice with ten and nine laps to go, turning what once was a couple car lengths into a two second disadvantage.

"I knew, especially the first few laps after restarts, I had to not make any mistakes," Seavey said. "I felt like once I got a few clean laps in, I felt good enough to where I could distance myself a little. As a racer, you kind of know when you're making good laps and when you're not. I know when our cars are good and I'm making good laps, it's going to be really hard to be better than that."

Twelfth-running Steve Craig took a hard tumble in turn one on the 33rd lap to bring out the red and the final stop of the evening. Craig climbed from the wreckage under his own power.

Seavey led the path up top with Courtney in his shadow on the resumption with seven laps remaining. Any slight misstep by Seavey would result in Courtney gaining the upper hand, and that moment nearly arrived with five to go.

"I got tight in the center with four to go in one and two," Seavey recalled. "I got in too low and slid up to the cushion. Anytime you slide up to it like that, you're going to get tight. It's just one of those deals where the easier you try to run and try to pace yourself to not make a mistake, the more mistakes you're going to make."

Courtney raced to the inside of Seavey entering turn three and the two went toe-to-toe through the corner, with Seavey bouncing his right rear tire off the outside turn four guardrail and surging back ahead at the exit of four, gaining enough steam through turns one and two to lead by five car lengths by the time the top-two hit the back straight with the laps dwindling. This gave Seavey at no point a chance to just ride it out. Instead, he put himself in the mindset of a driver doing the chasing instead of being chased.

"I committed to running as hard as I could and acted like there was somebody ahead of me that I had to run down," Seavey explained. "That's normally when I'm at my best when I'm running as hard as I can. Everybody on the USAC tour is so fast, you have to be at 100 percent every lap or they're going to eat you up."

After nearly seeing the win slip away, Seavey nailed down his third victory of the year by 0.785 sec. over Courtney, KSE Racing Products Hard Charger Jason McDougal (from 12th), Thomas and Jerry Coons Jr.

Seavey's victory was the sixth of his USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget career, tying him with Donnie Beechler, George Benson, Dana Carter, Bob Cicconi, Robby Flock, Nick Fornoro Jr., Arnie Knepper, Ricky Shelton, Mike Streicher, Dave Strickland Jr. and Roger West for 101st all-time.

The triumph also gave Seavey the distinction of being the only driver to claim a victory during Indiana Midget Week, Mid-America Midget Week and Pennsylvania Midget Week in 2019.

McDougal captured the victory in the six-lap Dash for Cash, which pit the top-two finishers in each heat race plus the two fastest qualifiers who finished outside the top-two in the heats. McDougal took home \$300 for his win, Coons \$150 for second and Chris Windom \$100 for finishing third. Drevicki collected \$50 courtesy of Low Down & Dirty for finishing sixth.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: August 3, 2019 – Lanco's Clyde Martin Memorial Speedway – Newmanstown, Pennsylvania – Pennsylvania Midget Week – 1/8-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-10.248; 2. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-10.270; 3. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-10.340; 4. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-10.342; 5. Chad Boat, 84, Tucker/Boat-10.361; 6. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-10.389; 7. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-10.525; 8. Karsyn Elledge, 1, Tucker/Boat-10.565; 9. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-10.595; 10. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-10.607; 11. Steven Drevicki, 12, Heckman-10.647; 12. Jason McDougal, 76m, FMR-10.670; 13. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-10.805; 14. Bobby Butler, 5B, Myers-10.972; 15. Steve Craig, 55, Craig-11.417; 16. Jamie Speers, 00, Speers-12.074.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS/COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Chris Windom, 2. Steven Drevicki, 3. Tyler Courtney, 4. Zeb Wise, 5. Chad Boat, 6. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 7. Tanner Carrick, 8. Steve Craig. 1:46.10 (New Track Record)

AUTOMETER/INDY RACE PARTS SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Jason McDougal, 2. Jerry Coons Jr., 3. Kevin Thomas Jr., 4. Logan Seavey, 5. Karsyn Elledge, 6. Andrew Layser, 7. Bobby Butler, 8. Jamie Speers. NT

DASH FOR CASH: (6 laps) 1. Jason McDougal, 2. Jerry Coons Jr., 3. Chris Windom, 4. Zeb Wise, 5. Kevin Thomas Jr., 6. Steven Drevicki. NT

FEATURE: (40 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Logan Seavey (3), 2. Tyler Courtney (4), 3. Jason McDougal (12), 4. Kevin Thomas Jr. (5), 5. Jerry Coons Jr. (10), 6. Chris Windom (9), 7. Andrew Layser (1), 8. Tucker Klaasmeyer (13), 9. Tanner Carrick (7), 10. Chad Boat (2), 11. Karsyn Elledge (8), 12. Steve Craig (14), 13. Zeb Wise (6), 14. Steven Drevicki (11), 15. Jamie Speers (15). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-8 Chad Boat, Laps 9-40 Logan Seavey.

****Steve Craig flipped on lap 33 of the feature.**

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-1467, 2-Chris Windom-1353, 3-Logan Seavey-1300, 4-Zeb Wise-1236, 5-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1234, 6-Chad Boat-1158, 7-Jerry Coons Jr.-1097, 8-Tanner Carrick-1079, 9-Jason McDougal-1019, 10-Tucker Klaasmeyer-984.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: August 30, 2019 – Tri-City Speedway – Granite City, Illinois – River Town Showdown – 3/8-Mile Dirt track

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Jason McDougal (12th to 3rd)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Zeb Wise

Zeb Wise (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Chris Windom (Simpson Race Products/Competition Suspension Inc. First Heat Winner)

Jason McDougal (AutoMeter/Indy Race Parts Second Heat Winner)

Jason McDougal (Dash for Cash Winner)

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USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: August 30, 2019 – Tri-City Speedway – Granite City, Illinois – River Town Showdown – 3/8-Mile Dirt Track

****Rained out.**

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: September 4-5, 2019 – The Dirt Track at Indianapolis Motor Speedway – Speedway, Indiana – Driven2SaveLives BC39 Powered by NOS Energy Drink

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Larson the Last One Standing in BC39 Stoops Pursuit

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Speedway, Indiana (September 4, 2019).....Kyle Larson literally became the last man standing on the final lap of the Stoops Pursuit during Wednesday's opening night of the Driven2SaveLives BC39 powered by NOS Energy Drink at The Dirt Track at IMS.

On the last lap of the fifth and final segment of the 25-lap event, three drivers remained on track and were in contention for the victory after 22 of the 25 starters had been eliminated from competition in the unique format that sent drivers to the infield if they were passed or were involved in an accident.

Michael Pickens (Auckland, N.Z.), Kyle Larson (Elk Grove, Calif.) and Justin Grant (Ione, Calif.) entered the back straightaway off turn two under a proverbial blanket on the last lap. Pickens dove underneath Larson entering turn three on the final lap. As both went for the same piece of real estate at the entrance of turn three, Pickens' right rear tire climbed Larson's left front, sending Pickens flipping wildly and Larson into a 360 spin at the edge of the infield.

Moments later, Grant seemed to have a clear path to victory on the top side, but instead, banged his right rear tire off the turn three wall, sending himself into a series of barrel rolls against the concrete.

Remember Larson? With a cloud of dust kicked up from the infield and his camber askew, he pointed his Keith Kunz-Curb-Agajanian/Curb Records/Bullet by Spike/Speedway Toyota in the right direction, tip-toed around the bottom of the fourth turn and gassed his way back to the finish line as the winner.

The unpredictable turn of events was reminiscent of a combination of both the 1976 Daytona 500 finish between Richard Petty/David Pearson as well as Danny Sullivan's spin-and-win on the same property at IMS back in 1985, earning Larson \$2100 for his efforts and being a part of one of the wildest moments in the century-plus history of racing on the IMS grounds.

"That was wild," Larson exclaimed. "I didn't know it was going to be that crazy of a race. On the second to last stage, Justin (Grant) got by and then (Jason) McDougal got by, and I knew I needed to get back to second to be able to run that last round."

"I was really good up top," Larson continued. "I knew if I got a good restart, I could get by Pickens. But this track was so racy that sliders were easy to throw. Michael (Pickens) was throwing everything he had at me. We made contact there on the back stretch. He was trying to park it on the bottom, and I was trying to do what I did the lap before, two laps before."

Wednesday marked the first night Larson had been on track in competition at The Dirt Track at IMS after not competing in last year's inaugural BC39 event.

"I was bummed I couldn't make it last year," Larson admitted. "I saw how exciting it was and said, 'screw it, I'm going to try to make it.' I made it to the Indy airport at 4:45 just in time for hot laps. It was worth it, though. I hope we can be up here again tomorrow."

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: September 4, 2019 – The Dirt Track at Indianapolis Motor Speedway – Speedway, Indiana – Driven2SaveLives BC39 Powered by NOS Energy Drink – 1/5-Mile Dirt Track

STOOPS PURSUIT RACE: (25 Laps) 1. Kyle Larson (#97 Kunz/Curb-Agajanian) (7), 2. Michael Pickens (#1NZ RMS) (3), 3. Justin Grant (#4A RAMS) (12), 4. Tyler Courtney (#7BC Clauson Marshall) (17), 5. Jason McDougal (#76m FMR) (15), 6. Tanner Carrick (#71K Kunz/Curb-Agajanian) (11), 7. Chris Windom (#17BC Clauson Marshall) (18), 8. Ricky Stenhouse Jr. (#17 Clauson Marshall) (16), 9. Chad Boat (#84 Tucker-Boat) (2), 10. Spencer Bayston (#19 Hayward) (4), 11. Logan Seavey (#67 Kunz/Curb-Agajanian) (5), 12. Zach Daum (#5D Daum) (14), 13. Kevin Thomas Jr. (#5 Petry) (19), 14. Jesse Colwell (#71 Kunz/Curb-Agajanian) (1), 15. Gio Scelzi (#85 Tucker-Boat) (10), 16. Jake Neuman (#3N Neuman) (6), 17. Dillon Welch (#81 Tucker-Boat) (9), 18. Zeb Wise (#39BC Clauson Marshall) (13), 19. Brady Bacon (#76E FMR) (20), 20. Christopher Bell (#21 Kunz/Curb-Agajanian) (25), 21. Robert Dalby (#4D Dalby) (24), 22. Kyle O'Gara (#67F SFHR) (21), 23. Jerry Coons Jr. (#25 Petry) (23), 24. Thomas Meseraull (#7x RMS) (8), 25. Chase Briscoe (#5B Briscoe) (22). NT

**Andrew Layser flipped during the sixth heat. Chris Baue flipped during the seventh heat.

STOOPS PURSUIT LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-5 Chad Boat, Laps 6-20 Michael Pickens, Laps 21-22 Kyle Larson, Lap 23 Michael Pickens, Laps 24-25 Kyle Larson.

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Wise Brings the 39BC Home to Victory at BC39

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Speedway, Indiana (September 4-5, 2019).....Before he had even laid eyes on The Dirt Track at IMS, the Indianapolis Motor Speedway had already occupied a special place within the heart of Zeb Wise.

He'd been triumphant in a quarter midget at the Battle at the Brickyard and also became the first ever winner on The Dirt Track at IMS in 2018, snagging the Stoops Pursuit.

After Thursday night's victory in the Driven2SaveLives BC39 powered by NOS Energy Drink, the track became the showcase for a defining moment in the 16-year-old racer's burgeoning career where he led the final seven laps to score the biggest victory, and the richest payday (\$15,000), of his young career.

One of the main influences on The Dirt Track at IMS becoming a reality was Bryan Clauson, the namesake of the BC39. Angola, Indiana's Wise has carried BC's spirit onward, driving for Bryan's father's Clauson Marshall Racing team and piloting the No. 39BC on the USAC NOS Energy Drink Midget National Championship trail which he put into victory lane in front of a large throng of spectators on this memorable late summer night.

Wise's IMS story began earlier this decade when competing at The Battle at the Brickyard. It was there where Tim and Bryan Clauson, already a racing star in his own right, noticed Wise. When the time came, he was hand-picked by the Clausons to become a part of the team, leading him on the path to the biggest win of his career thus far.

"A lot of people don't know this, but Bryan and Tim, the first time they noticed me was at the quarter midget track that they run called Little Brickyard," Wise recalled. "That was the first time they ever got in contact with me. To carry over from the first time they saw me here, and now we're out there winning big races, it's very special not only to me, but probably even more special to the team."

Wise was in a hurry to get things done from his fifth starting spot at the drop of the green for the 39-lap main event. He whittled his way to second past Kevin Thomas Jr. after the two clipped bumper to bumper off turn four when Thomas snagged the curb. Wise set up shop, went to the bottom and slid up in front of Thomas to pocket the runner-up spot.

Pole sitter Thomas Meseraull remained in control up front, keeping Wise in check a handful of car lengths back until the 18th lap. That's when a four-car quagmire ensued with Tucker Klaasmeyer first getting upside down, followed by Jerry Coons Jr. plowing into Klaasmeyer and getting on his lid as well while Gio Scelzi and Cannon McIntosh also became entangled in the fray.

That's where it nearly came to a premature end for Meseraull, who made a hard left to avoid clipping the stopped car of McIntosh. Zeb Wise, just behind Meseraull, took evasive action as well, narrowly missing misfortune.

On the ensuing restart, Wise gained a full head of steam coming downhill off the top of turn two to zip by Meseraull for the race lead as Jason McDougal and Kyle Larson came in tandem to go to second and third as Meseraull slipped to fourth. A three-car chase at the front saw Larson go topside around McDougal for second and pounce when Wise bobbled atop the fourth turn cushion.

Larson instantaneously pointed his nose to the bottom and used a major run to slide across the nose of Wise into turn one, securing the lead off turn two. Moments later, however, Michael Pickens' car came to a stop in turn four, sending Larson back to second and returned Wise to the head of the field for the restart.

As he had done all throughout the night, Wise was a force on restarts and was able to stretch it out to a half-straight lead by the back stretch on the lap 21 resumption. Nonetheless, Larson leashed Wise back in in no time and was clamped down on the shadow of Wise with less than 15 laps remaining.

On lap 28, Wise biked in turn three atop the cushion, which was basically be an extension of the outside concrete wall at that point. It was seemingly no harm, no foul, as Larson got on the binders to avoid contact with Wise. Both kept their foot in it and put their wills on the razor's edge in turn one as Larson attempted to slide Wise in turn one. With just enough room to fit the width of a midget and the thickness of two dimes between them, Wise never wavered from the top, kept his right foot on the hammer and escaped through the other side of the needle to hang onto the spot just before early race leader Meseraull flipped in turns three and four, concluding a promising run for the high-point man who led a race-high 18 laps.

On the following restart, all broke loose again, with Larson taking his run at Wise with a slider into turn three. By the time the two arrived at the exit of turn four, nowhere was there room to spare. Larson and Wise made contact, sending Wise ramping up the wall and landing on all fours while defending BC39 winner Brady Bacon snuck by on the bottom from fourth to first past McDougal, Larson and Wise to rip the lead away on lap 29.

Larson then slowed with a flat left rear tire to force a yellow flag, putting Wednesday's Stoops Pursuit winner/survivor out of contention for the win, although he did race back to a ninth-place finish. Meanwhile, Wise's mind was racing with concern over whether his race was in jeopardy, admitting he thought his race was over after the contact.

Following a lap 31 red flag for a McIntosh flip between turns three and four, Wise's curiosity grew stronger as he pondered what could be wrong at the moment with his Clauson Marshall Racing/Driven2SaveLives – Sundollar Restoration/Spike/Stanton SR-11x.

"I knew something was wrong," Wise admitted. "Heck, I couldn't even hold it straight down the straightaways. I knew something was going on. We had a red flag there and the push truck driver came to me and I said, 'Dude, what is wrong with the front end?' He looked it over and said, 'Looks like you have a bent steering arm.' At that point, I knew it wasn't something serious, and that I didn't need to pull off the track because it was going to be a hazard or anything."

Experiencing a handful with his steering wheel in addition to the flurry of action surrounding him, Wise overcame and persevered, utilizing a lap 33 slide job to overtake Bacon for the lead and bring CMR teammate Chris Windom along with him on the bottom, who cranked down the shocks and lay in wait to capitalize on any mistake by Wise down the stretch.

In a race that changed its complexion frequently and without hesitation, FMR Racing teammates Bacon and McDougal had drifted back to fifth and sixth where they tangled on the front straightaway on lap 35, ending the team's bid for a repeat BC39 victory.

Racing resumed with Wise and Windom continuing their side-by-side joust as Christopher Bell entered the ring and was challenging both for the lead as he followed Wise on the high side of three where he bounced and buoyed his way atop turn three with three laps to go, bouncing the left side of his roll cage off the track surface before springing back up and landing on all fours, putting a premature end to his bid for a win with front end damage.

Wise used another strong restart to gain separation on the lap 37 restart ahead of CMR teammates Windom and Courtney (who started 20th). Windom on the low line and Courtney up top dug in during their proverbial fist fight for the runner-up spot. Windom began a slow fade as the bottom began to slicken and Courtney found the traction up top to pull ahead coming to the white flag.

Wise put an end to the dramatics, stamping his name in Indianapolis Motor Speedway lore on the final lap as he nailed the entry and exit to each end of the racetrack on the 39th circuit to win by 0.372 sec. over Courtney, Windom, Chad Boat and Logan Seavey.

After a beginning to the season that saw mixed results, Wise has won three of the last five in USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget competition, but none bigger than the one he earned Thursday night at IMS.

“We’ve been on such a hot streak lately,” Wise said. “It doesn’t matter where we go, you know we’re a factor. When we came off that hot streak in Pennsylvania, I knew this was going to be the one that would really show what we’ve got, and we got it done.”

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: September 4-5, 2019 – The Dirt Track at Indianapolis Motor Speedway – Speedway, Indiana – Driven2SaveLives BC39 Powered by NOS Energy Drink – 1/5-Mile Dirt Track

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps) 1. Brady Bacon (#76E FMR), 2. Chris Windom (#17BC Clauson Marshall), 3. Robert Dalby (#4D Dalby), 4. Chase Briscoe (#5B Briscoe), 5. Daniel Robinson (#57D McCreery), 6. Tyler Nelson (#88 Nelson), 7. David Prickett (#15DJ Neverlift), 8. Randi Pankratz (#8 Pankratz), 9. Ken Drangmeister (#76 Drangmeister). 2:08.04

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 Laps) 1. Kevin Thomas Jr. (#5 Petry), 2. Karsyn Elledge (#1 Tucker-Boat), 3. Holley Hollan (#67K Kunz/Curb-Agajanian), 4. Tyler Courtney (#7BC Clauson Marshall), 5. Clinton Boyles (#9B Mounce), 6. Sam Johnson (#72 Johnson), 7. Ray Seach (#54m Manic), 8. Shannon McQueen (#15s Garrett). 2:11.03

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (10 Laps) 1. Zeb Wise (#39BC Clauson Marshall), 2. Ricky Stenhouse Jr. (#17 Clauson Marshall), 3. Jerry Coons Jr. (#25 Petry), 4. Ace McCarthy (#28 Neuman), 5. Cannon McIntosh (#08 Dave Mac), 6. Cody Weisensel (#20 Weisensel), 7. Oliver Akard (#41 Akard), 8. Lance Bennett (#10 Bennett). 2:10.53

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (10 Laps) 1. Dillon Welch (#81 Tucker-Boat), 2. Justin Grant (#4A RAMS), 3. C.J. Leary (#21KS Reynolds), 4. Kyle O’Gara (#67F SFHR), 5. Cody Swanson (#71s Campbell), 6. Brayton Lynch (#1K RKR), 7. Justin Dickerson (#21D Dickerson), 8. Chris Jagger Jr. (#32J Jagger), 9. Trey Osborne (#61 Kenyon). 2:12.21

FIFTH HEAT: (10 Laps) 1. Gio Scelzi (#85 Tucker-Boat), 2. Jason McDougal (#76m FMR), 3. Tucker Klaasmeyer (#27 Kunz/Curb-Agajanian), 4. Steve Buckwalter (#25B Buckwalter), 5. Brent Beauchamp (#43 Arnold), 6. Austin O’Dell (#97A O’Dell), 7. Conor Daly (#35 Petry), 8. Robert Bell (#71B Bell), 9. Blaze Bennett (#77 Bennett). NT

SIXTH HEAT: (10 Laps) 1. Zach Daum (#5D Daum), 2. Tanner Carrick (#71K Kunz/Curb-Agajanian), 3. Billy Wease (#12w Wease), 4. Chase Jones (#1BR SFHR), 5. Kyle Jones (#7u Trifecta), 6. Andrew Layser (#47BC Clauson Marshall), 7. Kendall Ruble (#11m Martin), 8. Colten Cottle (#56AP Young), 9. Michael Klein (#10A Wallace). NT

SEVENTH HEAT: (10 Laps) 1. Jake Neuman (#3N Neuman), 2. Michael Pickens (#1NZ RMS), 3. Christopher Bell (#21 Kunz/Curb-Agajanian), 4. Tony DiMattia (#50 TDM), 5. J.J. Yeley (#2J Taylor), 6. Chris Baue (#9 Baue), 7. Dave Darland (#15 Petry), 8. Jonathan Beason (#21FS Reynolds). NT

EIGHTH HEAT: (10 Laps) 1. Chad Boat (#84 Tucker-Boat), 2. Logan Seavey (#67 Kunz/Curb-Agajanian), 3. Alex Bright (#1ST Saucier), 4. Tyler Thomas (#91T Thomas), 5. Russ Gamester (#46 Gamester), 6. Mark Chisholm (#56x Chisholm), 7. Kevin Studley (#57K Studley), 8. Maria Cofer (#21mc Reynolds), 9. Critter Malone (#7 Seven). NT

NINTH HEAT: (10 Laps) 1. Thomas Meseraull (#7x RMS), 2. Kyle Larson (#97 Kunz/Curb-Agajanian), 3. Ethan Mitchell (#19m Bundy Built), 4. Nick Drake (#55 Cline), 5. Aaron Leffel (#11L Taylor), 6. David Budres (#23m Manic), 7. Ryan Hall (#2 Bush), 8. Rich Drangmeister (#3 Drangmeister), 9. Carson Garrett (#15x Garrett). NT

TENTH HEAT: (10 Laps) 1. Spencer Bayston (#19 Hayward), 2. Matt Westfall (#54 Bordner), 3. Jesse Colwell (#71 Kunz/Curb-Agajanian), 4. Luke Howard (#00 Mounce), 5. Jeff Wimmenauer (#15J Wimmenauer), 6. Matt Linder (#2x Bush), 7. Tommy Kouns (#11T Taylor), 8. John Heydenreich (#22 Givens), 9. Travis Berryhill (#31 Manic). NT

ALSO AT THE TRACK: Emilio Hoover (#9H Hoover).

FIRST QUALIFIER: (10 laps) 1. Tyler Thomas, 2. Thomas Meseraull, 3. Kyle Larson, 4. Jerry Coons Jr., 5. Jake Neuman, 6. Holley Hollan, 7. Ethan Mitchell, 8. Jonathan Beason, 9. Tyler Nelson, 10. Mark Chisholm, 11. Jeff Wimmenauer, 12. Conor Daly, 13. Luke Howard, 14. Carson Garrett, 15. Ryan Hall. NT

SECOND QUALIFIER: (10 laps) 1. Zeb Wise, 2. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 3. C.J. Leary, 4. Brady Bacon, 5. Tanner Carrick, 6. Cody Swanson, 7. Robert Dalby, 8. Brent Beauchamp, 9. Andrew Layser, 10. Alex Bright, 11. Chris Baue, 12. Ray Seach, 13. Rich Drangmeister, 14. Lance Bennett. NT

THIRD QUALIFIER: (10 laps) 1. Christopher Bell, 2. Justin Grant, 3. Kevin Thomas Jr., 4. Logan Seavey, 5. Cannon McIntosh, 6. Ace McCarthy, 7. Nick Drake, 8. David Prickett, 9. Colten Cottle, 10. Chris Jagger Jr., 11. Kendall Ruble, 12. Cody Weisensel, 13. Trey Osborne, 14. Jesse Colwell. NT

FOURTH QUALIFIER: (10 laps) 1. Dillon Welch, 2. Spencer Bayston, 3. Tyler Courtney, 4. Chad Boat, 5. Chase Briscoe, 6. David Budres, 7. Daniel Robinson, 8. Brayton Lynch, 9. Karsyn Elledge, 10. Kyle O'Gara, 11. Oliver Akard, 12. Michael Klein, 13. Ken Drangmeister, 14. John Heydenreich. NT

FIFTH QUALIFIER: (10 laps) 1. Gio Scelzi, 2. Jason McDougal, 3. Chris Windom, 4. J.J. Yeley, 5. Tony DiMattia, 6. Kyle Jones, 7. Steve Buckwalter, 8. Russ Gamester, 9. Dave Darland, 10. Aaron Leffel, 11. Matt Linder, 12. Kevin Studley, 13. Randi Pankratz, 14. Blaze Bennett. NT

SIXTH QUALIFIER: (10 laps) 1. Michael Pickens, 2. Ricky Stenhouse Jr., 3. Chase Jones, 4. Matt Westfall, 5. Sam Johnson, 6. Critter Malone, 7. Austin O'Dell, 8. Clinton Boyles, 9. Shannon McQueen, 10. Tommy Kouns, 11. Justin Dickerson, 12. Zach Daum, 13. Robert Bell, 14. Billy Wease. NT

FIRST D-MAIN: (12 laps, top-3 transfer to the C-Main) 1. Jonathan Beason, 2. Jesse Colwell, 3. Andrew Layser, 4. Karsyn Elledge, 5. Colten Cottle, 6. Randi Pankratz, 7. Kyle O'Gara, 8. Chris Baue, 9. Justin Dickerson, 10. Kevin Studley, 11. Kendall Ruble, 12. Ryan Hall, 13. Chris Jagger Jr., 14. Rich Drangmeister, 15. Clinton Boyles, 16. Blaze Bennett, 17. Ray Seach, 18. Oliver Akard, 19. Brayton Lynch. NT

SECOND D-MAIN: (12 laps, top-3 transfer to the C-Main) 1. Brent Beauchamp, 2. Dave Darland, 3. Alex Bright, 4. Tyler Nelson, 5. David Prickett, 6. Mark Chisholm, 7. Luke Howard, 8. Carson Garrett, 9. Aaron Leffel, 10. Shannon McQueen, 11. Cody Weisensel, 12. Lance Bennett, 13. John Heydenreich, 14. Conor Daly, 15. Matt Linder, 16. Tommy Kouns, 17. Robert Bell, 18. Michael Klein, 19. Jeff Wimmenauer, 20. Ken Drangmeister. NT

C-MAIN: (15 laps, top-6 transfer to the semi) 1. Sam Johnson, 2. Robert Dalby, 3. Kyle Jones, 4. Jesse Colwell, 5. Ace McCarthy, 6. Zach Daum, 7. Holley Hollan, 8. Nick Drake, 9. Dave Darland, 10. Daniel Robinson, 11. Brent Beauchamp, 12. Jonathan Beason, 13. Cody Swanson, 14. Alex Bright, 15. David Budres, 16. Critter Malone, 17. Russ Gamester, 18. Austin O'Dell, 19. Andrew Layser, 20. Ethan Mitchell. NT

SEMI: (20 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Christopher Bell, 2. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 3. Jerry Coons Jr., 4. Tyler Courtney, 5. Chase Briscoe, 6. Cannon McIntosh, 7. Sam Johnson, 8. Jesse Colwell, 9. C.J. Leary, 10. Tony DiMattia, 11. Tanner Carrick, 12. Jake Neuman, 13. Ace McCarthy, 14. Zach Daum, 15. Kyle Jones, 16. Steve Buckwalter, 17. Robert Dalby, 18. Matt Westfall, 19. Chase Jones, 20. J.J. Yeley. NT

FEATURE: (39 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Zeb Wise (5), 2. Tyler Courtney (20), 3. Chris Windom (6), 4. Chad Boat (16), 5. Logan Seavey (14), 6. Jesse Colwell (24), 7. Ricky Stenhouse Jr. (15), 8. Kevin Thomas Jr. (3), 9. Kyle Larson (12), 10. Justin Grant (11), 11. Dillon Welch (8), 12. Tanner Carrick (23), 13. Michael Pickens (4), 14. Gio Scelzi (9), 15. Christopher Bell (17), 16. Brady Bacon (10), 17. Jason McDougal (7), 18. Cannon McIntosh (22), 19. Thomas Meseraull (1), 20. Spencer Bayston (2), 21. Tyler Thomas (13), 22. Tucker Klaasmeyer (18), 23. Jerry Coons Jr. (19), 24. Chase Briscoe (21), 25. Jake Neuman (26), 26. C.J. Leary (25). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-18 Thomas Meseraull, Laps 19-28 Zeb Wise, Laps 29-32 Brady Bacon, Laps 33-39 Zeb Wise.

****Alex Bright flipped during the second qualifier. Jesse Colwell flipped during the third qualifier. Robert Dalby flipped during the semi. Tucker Klaasmeyer and Jerry Coons Jr. flipped on lap 19 of the feature. Thomas Meseraull flipped on lap 28 of the feature. Cannon McIntosh flipped on lap 31 of the feature.**

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-1517, 2-Chris Windom-1403, 3-Logan Seavey-1350, 4-Zeb Wise-1286, 5-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1284, 6-Chad Boat-1208, 7-Jerry Coons Jr.-1147, 8-Tanner Carrick-1129, 9-Jason McDougal-1069, 10-Tucker Klaasmeyer-1034.

FINAL BC39 PROSOURCE PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Jesse Colwell-34, 2-Tyler Courtney-23, 3-Zach Daum-18, 4-Chad Boat-16, 5-Dave Darland-16, 6-Logan Seavey-15, 7-Cannon McIntosh-13, 8-Sam Johnson-13, 9-Chris Windom-12, 10-Thomas Meseraull-12.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: September 28, 2019 – Eldora Speedway – Rossburg, Ohio – 4-Crown Nationals

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

ELLIOTT’S CUSTOM TRAILERS & CARTS ROOKIE OF THE RACE: Jesse Colwell

B & W AUTO MART/KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Tyler Courtney (20th to 2nd)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Michael Pickens

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Sam Johnson

Tyler Thomas (Simpson Race Products First Qualifier Winner)

Zeb Wise (Competition Suspension Ind. Second Qualifier Winner)

Christopher Bell (AutoMeter Third Heat Qualifier Winner)

Dillon Welch (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Qualifier Winner)

Tyler Courtney (B & W Auto Mart/KSE Racing Products Hard Charger)

Michael Pickens (Wilwood Brakes 13th Place Finisher)

Cannon McIntosh (Duane & Sonja Alexander Last Transfer to the feature)

Jesse Colwell (BC39 ProSource Passing Master Champion)

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Courtney Claims Throne in 4-Crown Midget Main

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Rossburg, Ohio (September 28, 2019).....Tyler Courtney had all the right moves in Saturday night’s 4-Crown Nationals Presented by NKT.tv USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget feature, but when you’re amidst a high-speed game of chess on the banks of Eldora Speedway, you’ve got to have all the right moves at just the right time.

That's among the laundry list of accomplishments the Indianapolis, Ind. driver achieved in becoming just the third driver to repeat a 4-Crown Midget feature victory, joining Rich Vogler in 1985-86 and Kyle Larson in 2011-12.

Yet it took everything in his might to prevail for the second time in as many years after waging war in a lap-after-lap classic Eldora patented slider-fest involving Tanner Carrick and Logan Seavey.

Seavey, the defending series champ, jumped to the initial lead on the opening lap, sliding to the top of turn one past both pole sitter Jerry Coons Jr. and outside front row starter Carrick. Carrick quickly took control by turns three and four with a slider past his Keith Kunz Motorsports/Curb-Agajanian teammate to take the lead.

The red flag came early in the 25-lap event, on lap five, when 12th running Jason McDougal walked away from a turn four flip.

When racing resumed, Seavey immediately went on the attack, sliding by Carrick. Carrick returned the favor on the other end, rinse and repeat, as the two teammates put on a spectacular show of who could make the other blink first.

Courtney cleared two-time 4-Crown Midget winner Rico Abreu for third on the seventh lap and closed in on the top two, riding the rim in formation behind Carrick and Seavey with two car lengths separating the freight train nearing the halfway point.

With 10 to go, Seavey made a breathtaking scoop to the bottom in turn three, climbing the stairs to the outside wall as he slid past Carrick, leading by a single car length at the line. Both Carrick and Courtney went double-barrel buckshot low into turn one nose to tail, sliding past Seavey, who countered underneath off turn two and drag raced Carrick into turn three, reclaiming the advantage.

Carrick went right back to the well and fired another shot on Seavey in turn three with eight to go, sliding by Seavey and drifting up, tapping the wall with his rear bumper as Seavey ducked under off turn four to narrowly nip Carrick at the line by a bumper.

Heading into one on the 19th lap side-by-side, Carrick clamped down on Seavey, driving to the middle on entry while Seavey went even lower. Both drifted high to the outside wall in turn two, but Carrick surged ahead to the lead the fight into turn three where Courtney split both Carrick and Seavey, threading the needle between turns three and four.

Seavey muscled his way back ahead of Courtney for second as the front runners worked their way by the lapped car of Andrew Layser. Courtney chose the low line under Layser on the back straightaway as Seavey's momentum was briefly stifled. Seavey came back at Courtney, both drifting wheel-to-wheel to the concrete with Courtney kissing the wall with his right rear tire and launching around the outside to secure second with now just five laps remaining.

On laps 22 and 23, Courtney went into action, slide jobbing Carrick into turn one. But, each time, Carrick had an answer, driving downhill off the second turn to beat Courtney into turn three to claw his way back into the lead.

However, coming to the white flag, Courtney went after Carrick once more in turn one, successfully pulling off the slider. Carrick drove low off two to pull even with Courtney midway down the back straightaway. Courtney used the lapped car of Karsyn Elledge as a sort of pick, closing up the alleyway that Carrick would've aimed for into turn three.

Courtney distanced himself just enough on the final circuit, disallowing any chance of one final haymaker from Carrick into turn three to score his seventh series feature victory of the season and the 12th of his career over Carrick, Seavey, Rico Abreu and Kevin Thomas Jr.

"I just tried to time my moves right, but Tanner kept coming back," Courtney explained. "He's turning into one heck of a driver. That one was a lot harder than I was hoping for, but this is Eldora and that's what this place is all about."

For Carrick, it was a story of "what could've been" after leading a race-high 20 laps.

"I ran that whole race as hard as I could," Carrick said. "It's just kind of a bummer. I got into lapped traffic there and Tyler squeezed me down into a lapped car and I lost all my momentum and my shot at getting back around him. There weren't enough laps to get my speed back up and going. This is a big momentum place, and once you're out front, you just keep going and you're good. It kind of sucks. I led a lot of laps there and came out with a second. Maybe next year."

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: September 28, 2019 – Eldora Speedway – Rossburg, Ohio – 38th 4-Crown Nationals Presented by NKT.tv – 1/2-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR/PROSOURCE QUALIFYING: 1. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-16.880; 2. Rico Abreu, 97, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-17.023; 3. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-17.025; 4. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-17.213; 5. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-17.363; 6. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-17.400; 7. Tanner Thorson, 19, Hayward-17.414; 8. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-17.444; 9. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-17.445; 10. Justin Grant, 4A, RAMS-17.597; 11. Ethan Mitchell, 19m, Bundy Built-17.639; 12. Chad Boat, 84, Tucker/Boat-17.645; 13. Jason McDougal, 76m, FMR-17.658; 14. Jesse Colwell, 71, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-17.662; 15. Dave Darland, 15, Petry-17.907; 16. Sam Johnson, 72, Johnson-17.909; 17. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-17.966; 18. Holley Hollan, 67K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-17.980; 19. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-18.088; 20. Karsyn Elledge, 1, Tucker/Boat-18.227.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Logan Seavey, 3. Tanner Thorson, 4. Justin Grant, 5. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 6. Jason McDougal, 7. Sam Johnson. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Rico Abreu, 2. Jesse Colwell, 3. Zeb Wise, 4. Tanner Carrick, 5. Andrew Layser, 6. Karsyn Elledge, 7. Ethan Mitchell. 2:25.21

AUTOMETER/INDY RACE PARTS THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Dave Darland, 2. Chris Windom, 3. Chad Boat, 4. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5. Jerry Coons Jr., 6. Holley Hollan. 2:27.42

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Tyler Courtney (6), 2. Tanner Carrick (2), 3. Logan Seavey (3), 4. Rico Abreu (5), 5. Kevin Thomas Jr. (4), 6. Chris Windom (9), 7. Justin Grant (10), 8. Zeb Wise (8), 9. Tucker Klaasmeyer (18), 10. Tanner Thorson (7), 11. Chad Boat (11), 12. Holley Hollan (17), 13. Dave Darland (14), 14. Jesse Colwell (13), 15. Karsyn Elledge (19), 16. Andrew Layser (16), 17. Sam Johnson (15), 18. Jerry Coons Jr. (1), 19. Jason McDougal (12). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-15 Tanner Carrick, Laps 16-18 Logan Seavey, Laps 19-23 Tanner Carrick, Laps 24-25 Tyler Courtney.

**Jason McDougal flipped on lap 5 of the feature.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-1601, 2-Chris Windom-1465, 3-Logan Seavey-1424, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1351, 5-Zeb Wise-1341, 6-Chad Boat-1255, 7-Tanner Carrick-1203, 8-Jerry Coons Jr.-1179, 9-Jason McDougal-1097, 10-Tucker Klaasmeyer-1084.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: October 17, 2019 – Wayne County Speedway – Wayne City, Illinois – Jason Leffler Memorial – 1/8-Mile Dirt track

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS CLEAN SWEEP: Tyler Courtney

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER/LARRY RICE HIGH PERFORMANCE AWARD: Tucker Klaasmeyer (18th to 9th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Dave Darland

ROSEWOOD MACHINE & TOOL PRECISION MOVE OF THE RACE: Tyler Courtney

Tyler Courtney (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Tyler Courtney (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Rico Abreu (Competition Suspension Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Dave Darland (AutoMeter/Indy Race Parts Third Heat Winner)

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Late-Race Heroics Net Courtney Leffler Memorial Win

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Wayne City, Illinois (October 17, 2019).....Big track or small track, Tyler Courtney has seemingly excelled at venues of all dimensions throughout the 2019 USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget season.

Thursday night at the smallest track on the campaign, the 1/8-mile Wayne County Speedway in Wayne City, Illinois, Courtney delivered his second-straight late-race heroic effort, just weeks following his victory on the circuit's largest track, the 1/2-mile Eldora Speedway, where he emerged victorious in much the same manner.

Courtney chased defending Wayne City winner Tyler Thomas for 37 of the 40 laps before making the winning move with just three laps remaining to become the sixth different winner of the Jason Leffler Memorial in the six years of the event that honors the late, four-time USAC National champion.

"This is a big race. This is the Jason Leffler Memorial," Courtney exclaimed. "A lot of good guys have won this, and to add our name to the list, to go along with the rest of our season, it's been incredible."

And what a season it's been thus far. Courtney's Wayne City score was his eighth of the season, a number which makes him the first driver since Jeff Gordon in 1990 to win at least that many races in a single USAC National Midget season. His 13th career win with the series also elevated him to 51st on the all-time list alongside Steve Knepper, Don Meacham, Ryan Newman, Stevie Reeves and Tanner Thorson.

Courtney (Indianapolis, Ind.) started the main from the third position behind front row combatants Tyler Thomas and Jason McDougal who, oddly enough, occupied the front row in last year's Leffler Memorial as well.

Thomas burst out to the lead on the opening lap while Courtney ducked underneath McDougal in turn two to take over the second position. Courtney stalked Thomas around the bottom for the first six laps until Thomas went topside and Courtney followed suit.

Nearing the halfway point, heavy traffic lie in wait for Thomas who went on the offensive, aggressively attacking and gaining track position at will as Courtney became mired in his own jam in the distance.

A red flag on lap 24 for September BC39 winner Zeb Wise's flip in turn four, that also involved Gio Scelzi and Thomas Meseraull while battling for 9th, restocked and cleared the path of the frontrunners, namely Thomas, much to his chagrin.

"I tend to go better when we're in traffic," Thomas explained. "I can kind of be a little bit more aggressive. I've got a good enough car and feel comfortable being aggressive in traffic. I was hoping we'd get there, we did just a little bit, but for those last 16 laps, we didn't really have any lapped cars to throw a wrench in the mix."

Meanwhile, the stoppage came to the benefit of Courtney after being stuck and spinning his figurative wheels in the thick of gridlock.

“The red flag helped me a lot because I was struggling to get by those guys to lap them,” Courtney admitted. “He got by them but couldn’t quite get clear of them. But it was hard for me to clear those guys and I was starting to race Jesse Colwell as (Thomas) got away.”

The lapped car of top series Rookie Andrew Layser separated Thomas and Courtney on the lap 25 restart, and he quickly went to the bottom. Jason McDougal took the new beginnings to heart and charged from 4th and grabbed 2nd from Courtney. Layser was good enough on the bottom on his own, disallowing Courtney a slider opportunity for the time being as he followed in line.

“I went to the bottom on the restart and followed my teammate, Layser,” Courtney recalled. “I got by the first lapped car and went back to the top where I needed to be. I thought we were going to clear Layser for a while, but he held his ground there. It was kind of hard to get a run to slide and get the right angle and not take us both out.”

Courtney drove it deep into turn four on the 28th lap, sliding up in front of McDougal to retake the second spot and set forth on the trail toward Thomas. Courtney inched closer and closer to Thomas, trailing by one to two car lengths in the waning laps with less than five to go.

On the 38th lap, Courtney saw his opportunity, cutting down off turn four to rip between Layser and Thomas entering turn one. Courtney slid up in front of Thomas by the exit of two where the three briefly went three-wide midway down the back straightaway. Thomas cut through the middle and threw it in deep into turn four, nearly touching wheels with Courtney, as they jostled for the same real estate. Courtney never blinked, stayed on the throttle and hit the stripe with the lead in his clutches.

“That allowed us to get a run and I could get enough space to clear (Thomas),” Courtney said. “We slid back and forth a couple times and I was able to use Layser as a pick down the backstretch to make sure (Thomas) didn’t slide me back, and all of a sudden, the white’s flying.”

Thomas took swings at Courtney on both ends of the racetrack coming to the white flag, to no avail, as he couldn’t quite stifle Courtney’s momentum on the high line with McDougal just behind in 3rd, ready to pounce at an opportune time to steal one away.

“I’m so disappointed in myself for being too cautious those last five laps, trying not to mess up,” Thomas said. “(Courtney) was right there and did a great job capitalizing on what I couldn’t do. It was a great night; anytime you can be on the podium with USAC, it’s always a good night.”

Courtney embraced the challenge and embraced victory once again for a 0.972 victory over Thomas, McDougal, KSE Racing Products Hard Charger Logan Seavey (from 19th) and Justin Grant rounding out the top-five.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: October 17, 2019 – Wayne County Speedway – Wayne City, Illinois – Jason Leffler Memorial – 1/8-Mile Dirt Track

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, passing points) 1. Justin Grant (#4A RAMS), 2. Tanner Carrick (#71K Kunz/Curb-Agajanian), 3. Chris Windom (#17BC Clauson Marshall), 4. Jerry Coons Jr. (#25 Petry), 5. Chase Jones (#68 SFHR), 6. Holley Hollan (#67K Kunz/Curb-Agajanian), 7. Andrew Layser (#47BC Clauson Marshall), 8. Jake Neuman (#3N Neuman). 1:51.74 (New Track Record)

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, passing points) 1. Tanner Thorson (#19 Hayward), 2. Tyler Courtney (#7BC Clauson Marshall), 3. Jason McDougal (#76m FMR), 4. Daniel Robinson (#57D McCreery), 5. Sam Johnson (#72 Johnson), 6. Kyle O'Gara (#67F SFHR), 7. Kyle Cummins (#71x RMS), 8. Oliver Akard (#41 Akard). NT

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, passing points) 1. Tyler Thomas (#91T Thomas), 2. Brady Bacon (#76E FMR), 3. Thomas Meseraull (#7x RMS), 4. Jesse Colwell (#71 Kunz/Curb-Agajanian), 5. Tucker Klaasmeyer (#27 Kunz/Curb-Agajanian), 6. Zeb Wise (#39BC Clauson Marshall), 7. Garrett Thomas (#56 Chisholm), 8. Ethan Mitchell (#19m Bundy Built). NT

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (10 laps, passing points) 1. Cannon McIntosh (#08 Dave Mac), 2. Kevin Thomas Jr. (#5 Petry), 3. Daryn Pittman (#21 Pittman), 4. Logan Seavey (#67 Kunz/Curb-Agajanian), 5. Gio Scelzi (#84 Tucker-Boat), 6. Russ Gamester (#46 Gamester), 7. Michael Klein (#10A Wallace), 8. Karsyn Elledge (#1 Tucker-Boat). 1:56.56

FIRST QUALIFIER: (12 laps, top-16 in total passing points transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Gio Scelzi, 3. Jake Neuman, 4. Sam Johnson, 5. Holley Hollan, 6. Chase Jones, 7. Tanner Thorson, 8. Brady Bacon. NT

SECOND QUALIFIER: (12 laps, top-16 in total passing points transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Thomas, 2. Kevin Thomas Jr., 3. Zeb Wise, 4. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 5. Logan Seavey, 6. Chris Windom, 7. Andrew Layser, 8. Oliver Akard. 2:20.77

THIRD QUALIFIER: (12 laps, top-16 in total passing points transfer to the feature) 1. Jesse Colwell, 2. Jason McDougal, 3. Thomas Meseraull, 4. Kyle O'Gara, 5. Russ Gamester, 6. Cannon McIntosh, 7. Garrett Thomas. NT

FOURTH QUALIFIER: (12 laps, top-16 in total passing points transfer to the feature) 1. Daniel Robinson, 2. Jerry Coons Jr., 3. Tanner Carrick, 4. Justin Grant, 5. Daryn Pittman, 6. Karsyn Elledge, 7. Kyle Cummins, 8. Michael Klein. NT

SEMI: (15 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Brady Bacon, 2. Zeb Wise, 3. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 4. Logan Seavey, 5. Andrew Layser, 6. Russ Gamester, 7. Holley Hollan, 8. Kyle Cummins, 9. Kyle O'Gara, 10. Karsyn Elledge, 11. Chase Jones, 12. Michael Klein, 13. Oliver Akard, 14. Tanner Thorson, 15. Garrett Thomas. NT

FEATURE: (40 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Tyler Courtney (3), 2. Tyler Thomas (1), 3. Jason McDougal (2), 4. Logan Seavey (19), 5. Justin Grant (6), 6. Chris Windom (10), 7. Brady Bacon (16), 8. Daryn Pittman (15), 9. Sam Johnson (13), 10. Tucker Klaasmeyer (18), 11. Jesse Colwell (4), 12. Russ Gamester (21), 13. Gio Scelzi (11), 14. Daniel Robinson (8), 15. Zeb Wise (17), 16. Thomas Meseraull (12), 17. Tanner Carrick (7), 18. Jake Neuman (14), 19. Cannon McIntosh (22), 20. Kevin Thomas Jr. (5), 21. Andrew Layser (20), 22. Holley Hollan (23), 23. Jerry Coons Jr. (9). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-37 Tyler Thomas, Laps 38-40 Tyler Courtney.

****Cannon McIntosh flipped during the third qualifier. Zeb Wise flipped on lap 24 of the feature.**

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-1651, 2-Chris Windom-1515, 3-Logan Seavey-1474, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1401, 5-Zeb Wise-1391, 6-Chad Boat-1255, 7-Tanner Carrick-1253, 8-Jerry Coons Jr.-1229, 9-Jason McDougal-1147, 10-Tucker Klaasmeyer-1134.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: October 19, 2019 – Tri-State Speedway – Haubstadt, Indiana – Harvest Cup – 1/4-Mile Dirt track

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Logan Seavey (19th to 4th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Gio Scelzi

Justin Grant (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Tanner Thorson (Competition Suspension Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Tyler Thomas (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Cannon McIntosh (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

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J-Mac Masters Haubstadt's Harvest Cup

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Haubstadt, Indiana (October 19, 2019).....As friends and former roommates, Jason McDougal and Kevin Thomas Jr. have a bond that extends further than the racetrack. On the racetrack, though, each are routinely tough customers regularly waging battle against one another, giving no quarter in pursuit of triumph.

Yet even friends have their battles every now and again. Especially when you're among that special breed of individual who climbs behind the wheel of a racecar and is driven to succeed at the highest level.

Nowhere was that more evident than Saturday night's Harvest Cup at Tri-State Speedway in Haubstadt, Ind. where the series made its return following a seven-year absence. The stage allowed the two to slug it out for a majority of the 30lap main event, exchanging the lead seemingly every single lap on both ends of the track, delivering slider after slider until the final bell tolled.

The baton for the lead was passed between Logan Seavey, Thomas, McDougal and Thomas Meseraull officially speaking, six times at the line (26 times unofficially) until McDougal emerged with the lead for good 10 laps from the finish to score his second career series win and the second of the 2019 season.

"Midget racing is a blast here. I don't know why we don't come here more," McDougal exclaimed. "Racing with KTJ like that, you've got to be able to trust someone you know you can go back and forth with."

The feast of sliders began right from the initial green when reigning series champ Logan Seavey bolted to the lead from the pole position into turn one. Fourth-starting Thomas made his initial bid for the lead in turn three on the opening lap before Seavey cut back under off the fourth turn to lead the opening lap.

Meanwhile, back in the pack, Tucker Klaasmeyer endured a Tommy Tipover in turn four that brought out the night's only red flag. Klaasmeyer restarted after changing a flat left rear tire and made an impressive charge from 22nd to a 7th place finish at the checkered.

Following the restart, Seavey commanded the lead up front while Thomas and the emerging McDougal, who started 5th, began swapping the runner-up spot by lap five when McDougal moved into the spot. Two laps later, McDougal steered it deep into turn three, sliding past Seavey on the bottom and riding up over the cushion. That allowed Seavey to drive back by under McDougal while Thomas got past McDougal then took over the spot from Seavey on the eighth lap.

McDougal raced back to 2nd on lap nine, then turned up the wick on Thomas with a run off turn 4 under Thomas that moved him back to the lead by a half-car length on the 10th lap, but only momentarily, as Thomas powered back to the lead with a pair of crossovers of McDougal in turns one and three to sustain his grasp of the top spot.

Back and forth, the two attacked the quarter-mile dirt track throughout the middle portion of the feature with McDougal repetitively diving to the bottom in turn three to nab the lead, but each time, Thomas answered by driving underneath McDougal exiting four and leading into turn one.

McDougal brought the hammer into the first turn each time, arching his car above the cushion before driving straight as an arrow down off the turn two banking with a run to the inside of Thomas in turn four. A lap 17 caution for Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier and 8th running Gio Scelzi, who slowed to a stop in turn one, put a brief hiatus to the chaos ensuing at the head of the pack.

On the restart with 13 to go, a new contender emerged in 12th starting Thomas Meseraull, himself a 3rd place finisher in the 2011 Hut 100 at Tri-State. Meseraull was in position to capitalize when Thomas slid by McDougal in turn two. McDougal and Thomas made slight bumper to bumper contact, both chocked it up, and Meseraull drove underneath both down the back straightaway and into the lead.

Meseraull withstood McDougal's relentless pursuit over the next few laps, countering each turn three slider delivered to him on laps 18-19-20 to retain the lead at the stripe. On the 21st lap, McDougal went into action with a slider under Meseraull in turn one. This time, Meseraull launched off turn two and entered turn three side-by-side under McDougal.

The two aimed to occupy the same piece of ground at the same moment at the top of turn four with Meseraull's right front tire and McDougal's left rear meeting face-to-face, sending Meseraull backwards into the outside wall, thus ending his bid for victory, although he did return to finish 8th after restarting from the tail.

"T-Mez was a little upset with me for how I drove around him in three and four, but I didn't see anything wrong with it. He hit my left rear," McDougal said.

On the lap 21 restart, McDougal was gone, opening up a full-straightaway lead over Thomas and, for all intents and purposes, putting this one on ice as he ran his preferred line in the middle. With a clear track in his sight, McDougal set the fastest lap of the race on the 24th circuit and all was right in his world.

"Entering one is a little tricky, had a little hole getting into it, but once I got to racing with KTJ, every time he slid me, he pulled away and never got to the cushion. So, I pulled down the last few restarts and was actually better right through the middle."

However, a caution on lap 25 involving Karsyn Elledge and Jerry Coons Jr. erased McDougal's advantage and put him in the position of having to deliver the same restart performance once again and avoid a potential race-changing slider from Thomas and now 3rd running Kyle Cummins who, earlier in the night, wrapped up his undefeated Tri-State season with his 8th sprint car win in as many appearances at the track in 2019.

The next try saw McDougal escape with an eight car length lead on the restart, but only briefly as Elledge spun to a stop on the bottom of turn four on the 26th lap, forcing yet another restart and putting him in a slightly precarious position, but he knew his FMR Racing/Panther Graphics South – TRD – Mobil 1 – FK Rod Ends/Beast/Speedway Toyota was working solidly, giving him the utmost confidence to finish the job.

"(Crew chief) Bob (East) always gives me a good car," McDougal complimented. "It's usually a little tight at the beginning, but we're always pretty hot the last 10-15 laps. I got a little nervous with the yellows we had going there. You always get nervous when you get three yellows like that. You don't want to restart the same like that, but obviously it was working. I switched up the entry on the restart a little bit, but other than that, I felt like I was pretty good."

The final, final restart was just as peachy for McDougal as he pulled away once, twice and third and for all, pulling out to a half-straight advantage on initial lap following the restart and securing the victory by a 2.752 second margin over Thomas, Cummins, point leader Tyler Courtney and Justin Grant.

Of note, Tanner Thorson's time of 2:59.89 set during the night's semi-feature, established a new 12-lap USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget track record at Tri-State, eclipsing the mark set by Jerry Weeks 40 years earlier, in 1979, by nearly 17 seconds.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: October 19, 2019 – Tri-State Speedway – Haubstadt, Indiana – Harvest Cup – 1/4-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Gio Scelzi, 84, Tucker/Boat-13.951; 2. Jason McDougal, 76m, FMR-13.967; 3. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-13.985; 4. Robert Dalby, 85, Tucker/Boat-14.020; 5. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-14.148; 6. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.177; 7. Kyle Cummins, 71x, RMS-14.207; 8. Tyler Thomas, 91T, Thomas-14.226; 9. Karsyn Elledge, 1, Tucker/Boat-14.242; 10. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-14.250; 11. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-14.287; 12. Thomas Meseraull, 7x, RMS-14.291; 13. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-14.302; 14. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.307; 15. Critter Malone, 7, Seven-14.342; 16. Justin Grant, 4A, RAMS-14.367; 17. Tanner Thorson, 19, Hayward-14.377; 18. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-14.460; 19. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-14.524; 20. Kendall Ruble, 11m, Martin-14.636; 21. Tyler Nelson, 88, Nelson-14.658; 22. Sam Johnson, 72, Johnson-14.770; 23. Dakota Jackson, 43, Arnold-14.864; 24. C.J. Leary, 21KS, Reynolds-14.891; 25. Jake Swanson, 15s, Garrett-15.043; 26. Carson Garrett, 15x, Garrett-15.108; 27. Cody Beard, 7, Beard-16.091.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Jerry Coons Jr., 2. Justin Grant, 3. Gio Scelzi, 4. Kyle Cummins, 5. Robert Dalby, 6. Zeb Wise, 7. Jake Swanson, 8. Andrew Layser, 9. Sam Johnson. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Chris Windom, 2. Jason McDougal, 3. Tyler Thomas, 4. Tanner Carrick, 5. Tyler Courtney, 6. Tanner Thorson, 7. Kendall Ruble, 8. Dakota Jackson, 9. Carson Garrett. 2:22.30

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Thomas Meseraull, 2. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 3. Kevin Thomas Jr., 4. Critter Malone, 5. Logan Seavey, 6. C.J. Leary, 7. Karsyn Elledge, 8. Tyler Nelson, 9. Cody Beard. 2:24.26

INDY RACE PARTS SEMI: (12 laps, top-7 transfer to the feature) 1. Tanner Thorson, 2. Karsyn Elledge, 3. Jake Swanson, 4. C.J. Leary, 5. Zeb Wise, 6. Kendall Ruble, 7. Andrew Layser, 8. Sam Johnson, 9. Tyler Nelson, 10. Carson Garrett, 11. Dakota Jackson. 2:59.89 (New Track Record)

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Jason McDougal (5), 2. Kevin Thomas Jr. (4), 3. Kyle Cummins (7), 4. Tyler Courtney (2), 5. Justin Grant (16), 6. Logan Seavey (1), 7. Tucker Klaasmeyer (18), 8. Thomas Meseraull (12), 9. Tanner Thorson (17), 10. Zeb Wise (19), 11. Chris Windom (11), 12. Tyler Thomas (8), 13. Jerry Coons Jr. (13), 14. Robert Dalby (3), 15. Andrew Layser (10), 16. C.J. Leary (21), 17. Tanner Carrick (14), 18. Karsyn Elledge (9), 19. Critter Malone (15), 20. Jake Swanson (22), 21. Gio Scelzi (6), 22. Kendall Ruble (20). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-7 Logan Seavey, Laps 8-9 Kevin Thomas Jr., Lap 10 Jason McDougal, Laps 11-16 Kevin Thomas Jr., Lap 17 Jason McDougal, Laps 18-20 Thomas Meseraull, Lap 21-30 Jason McDougal.

**Tucker Klaasmeyer flipped on lap 1 of the feature.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-1718, 2-Chris Windom-1564, 3-Logan Seavey-1534, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1478, 5-Zeb Wise-1435, 6-Tanner Carrick-1287, 7-Jerry Coons Jr.-1274, 8-Chad Boat-1255, 9-Jason McDougal-1229, 10-Tucker Klaasmeyer-1193.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACES: November 15-16, 2019 – Arizona Speedway – San Tan Valley, Arizona – 52nd Western World Championships – 1/3-Mile Dirt track

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Justin Grant (16th to 5th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Jerry Coons Jr.

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Sam Johnson

Gio Scelzi (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Jerry Coons Jr. (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Chris Windom (Competition Suspension Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Thomas Meseraull (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Tanner Thorson (Indy Race Parts Semi Winner)

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Thomas Steers to Western World Night #1 Midget Score

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

San Tan Valley, Arizona (November 15, 2019).....Since his car first rolled off the trailer for hot laps one night earlier, Kevin Thomas Jr. has had the propensity to be quick in a midget around Arizona Speedway.

That tendency carried into Friday night's Western World Championships Presented by San Tan Ford where Thomas led all 30 laps and fought off a hard-charging Zeb Wise who nearly ripped away the victory in the final laps of first ever visit for the USAC NOS Energy Drink National and Western States Midgets to the 1/3-mile dirt track.

Thomas (Cullman, Ala.) found the groove to become the fastest driver in hot laps on Thursday, then admits his lackluster (by his standards) qualifying run put him in position to capitalize for his second series victory of the year and the sixth of his career in his Petry Motorsports/FK Rod Ends – McDonald's – Dr. Pepper/Bullet/Speedway Toyota.

"We've been working so hard with our team all year. Everything kind of aligned tonight," Thomas explained. "We've been fast right out of the box, but I screwed up there in qualifying. I screwed up just good enough to get us on the front row."

Thomas was 10th quickest in qualifying, and by virtue of four different drivers missing the transfer through their heat races, that moved Thomas up to the pole position for the 30-lap A-Main, a fortuitous circumstance that Thomas took full advantage of.

From the get-go, Thomas utilized the bottom to lead early while Wise, celebrating his 17th birthday on this day, drove under outside front row starter Gio Scelzi on the bottom of turn two to take second. All the while, Thomas had constructed a one-plus second lead, which he had to rebuild no less than four times in the first half of the race following a bevy of yellows.

Thomas commanded the race for the bottom with much of the top-five aligned in formation behind him while a couple of takers at the back end of the top-ten took the high road to no avail.

The lead for Thomas had grown to 1.438 seconds with 10 laps remaining when traffic loomed on the bottom, creating a possible scenario which could've forced the leaders off the bottom and into the unknown during the latter stages of the race.

The possible consternation subsided as 21st running Thomas Meseraull slowed to bring about a caution, erasing Thomas' advantage, but put him in position with the lead, a clear track and the lapped car of C.J. Sarna between he and second running Zeb Wise for the lap 21 restart.

Wise disposed of Sarna and quickly went to work on Thomas, this time sticking with and roping in the leader with the laps waning. Wise was just a half car length back and to the left of Thomas as the two raced side-by-side across the stripe on lap 28. Thomas zipped back to the bottom line to slam the door on Wise entering turn one.

September's BC39 winner, Wise, stayed right within touch of Thomas, quite literally, with Wise's front bumper making slight contact with the left side of Thomas' rear bumper at the exit of two.

On the final lap, Wise entered the first turn right on the rear chrome of Thomas. However, at the exit of the second turn, Thomas found the grip to propel away from Wise by roughly four car lengths getting into turn three. Thomas rounded the corner and headed for home with a 0.656 second victory in hand over Wise while Tanner Carrick, Logan Seavey and Carson Macedo occupied the remainder of the top-five.

In victory lane, Thomas was greeted by a steer and eagerly accepted a ride from the animal in victory lane to the delight of the sizable crowd on hand.

"I know Zeb wanted to win on his birthday," Thomas admitted. "But he raced me clean and he had a chance right there to probably stuff it in on me getting into one, I think. It was just good hard racing by everybody."

For Wise, it was a valiant effort that saw him come just shy of picking up his fourth series win of the year.

"We'd been about the same speed the whole race," Wise said. "There at the end, I tried some stuff with my shocks. We were good enough; I just think I showed him the line in three and four and he moved down. I had a chance there, but Kevin and I always race each other clean, so I wasn't going to try anything there."

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK NATIONAL & WESTERN STATES MIDGET CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: November 15, 2019 – Arizona Speedway – San Tan Valley, Arizona – 52nd Western World Championships Presented by San Tan Ford – 1/3-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR/WOODLAND AUTO DISPLAY QUALIFYING: 1. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-15.426 (New Track Record); 2. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-15.456; 3. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-15.472; 4. Rico Abreu, 97, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-15.543; 5. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-15.549; 6. Carson Macedo, 21, Tarlton-15.556; 7. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-15.578; 8. Gio Scelzi, 84, Tucker/Boat-15.605; 9. Robert Dalby, 4D, Dalby-15.628; 10. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-15.643; 11. Brady Bacon, 76E, FMR-15.656; 12. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-15.680; 13. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-15.692; 14. Karsyn Elledge, 1, Tucker/Boat-15.692; 15. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-15.706; 16. Buddy Kofoed, 97K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-15.707; 17. Jason McDougal, 76m, FMR-15.772; 18. Shannon McQueen, 7, McQueen-15.837; 19. Conor Daly, 15, Petry-15.879; 20. Daison Pursley, 9, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-15.898; 21. Thomas Meseraull, 13, Gile-15.944; 22. Jesse Colwell, 71, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-16.005; 23. Noah Gass, 20G, Gass-16.058; 24. Holley Hollan, 67K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-16.112; 25. C.J. Sarna, 20, Sarna-16.286; 26. Kyle Cummins, 2G, Styres/Yeley-16.334; 27. Cory Elliott, 11E, Elliott-16.454; 28. Ron Hazelton, 15H, Hazelton-16.748; 29. Marvin Mitchell, 78, Mitchell-21.095; 30. Brett Becker, 2B, BRAB-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS/EXTREME MUFFLERS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Andrew Layser, 2. Jason McDougal, 3. Tanner Carrick, 4. Logan Seavey, 5. Thomas Meseraull, 6. Robert Dalby, 7. C.J. Sarna, 8. Marvin Mitchell.
NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI)/BROWN & MILLER RACING SOLUTIONS SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Jesse Colwell, 2. Tyler Courtney, 3. Kevin Thomas Jr., 4. Karsyn Elledge, 5. Carson Macedo, 6. Kyle Cummins, 7. Shannon McQueen, 8. Brett Becker. 2:07.777 (New Track Record)

AUTOMETER/COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI)/ULTRA SHIELD RACE PRODUCTS THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Brady Bacon, 2. Jerry Coons Jr., 3. Conor Daly, 4. Zeb Wise, 5. Noah Gass, 6. Cory Elliott, 7. Tucker Klaasmeyer.
NT

INDY RACE PARTS/PYROTECT RACING CELLS FOURTH HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Daison Pursley, 2. Chris Windom, 3. Gio Scelzi, 4. Holley Hollan, 5. Buddy Kofoid, 6. Rico Abreu, 7. Ron Hazelton. NT

BUTLERBUILT SEATS SEMI: (10 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Carson Macedo, 2. Rico Abreu, 3. Cory Elliott, 4. Robert Dalby, 5. Thomas Meseraull, 6. Kyle Cummins, 7. Shannon McQueen, 8. C.J. Sarna, 9. Marvin Mitchell, 10. Ron Hazelton.
NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Kevin Thomas Jr. (1), 2. Zeb Wise (3), 3. Tanner Carrick (4), 4. Logan Seavey (6), 5. Carson Macedo (8), 6. Rico Abreu (7), 7. Chris Windom (11), 8. Tyler Courtney (5), 9. Jerry Coons Jr. (14), 10. Brady Bacon (10), 11. Jason McDougal (15), 12. Gio Scelzi (2), 13. Tucker Klaasmeyer (23), 14. Kyle Cummins (21), 15. Jesse Colwell (19), 16. Cory Elliott (22), 17. Andrew Layser (12), 18. Holley Hollan (20), 19. Robert Dalby (9), 20. Daison Pursley (17), 21. Conor Daly (16), 22. C.J. Sarna (24), 23. Thomas Meseraull (18), 24. Karsyn Elledge (13), 25. Marvin Mitchell (23).
NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-30 Kevin Thomas Jr.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-1779, 2-Chris Windom-1623, 3-Logan Seavey-1606, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1554, 5-Zeb Wise-1507, 6-Tanner Carrick-1359, 7-Jerry Coons Jr.-1327, 8-Jason McDougal-1277, 9-Chad Boat-1255, 10-Tucker Klaasmeyer-1234.

USAC WESTERN STATES MIDGET CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Robert Dalby-637, 2-Cory Elliott-608, 3-Shannon McQueen-487, 4-David Prickett-466, 5-Austin Liggett-458, 6-Ben Worth-450, 7-C.J. Sarna-423, 8-Kyle Beilman-372, 9-Marvin Mitchell-370, 10-Jake Swanson-348

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK NATIONAL & WESTERN STATES MIDGET CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: November 16, 2019 – Arizona Speedway – San Tan Valley, Arizona – 52nd Western World Championships Presented by San Tan Ford

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Kyle Cummins (21st to 14th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Tucker Klaasmeyer

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Shannon McQueen

Brady Bacon (AutoMeter/Competition Suspension INC./Ultra Shield Race Products Third Heat Winner)

Jesse Colwell (Competition Suspension INC./Brown & Miller Racing Solutions Second Heat Winner)

Andrew Layser (Simpson Race Products/Extreme Mufflers First Heat Winner)

Carson Macedo (Butlerbuilt Seats Semi Winner)

Daison Pursley (Indy Race Parts/Pyrotech Racing Cells Fourth Heat Winner)

Logan Seavey (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

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Bacon Is Western World Midget King

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

San Tan Valley, Arizona (November 16, 2019).....Regardless of the type of car or the venue, Brady Bacon has a knack for winning at the Western World Championships.

Entering Saturday night's 52nd Western World finale at Arizona Speedway, the Broken Arrow, Okla. native had previously earned four final night victories in a 360 c.i. sprint car, first in 2009 and 2010 in Tucson, then again in 2016 and 2018 at Arizona.

Now you can add a victory in a midget to his Western World resume after leading all 30 laps of the feature to earn his fifth overall final night win in the event and his first USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget victory since the inaugural BC39 in Indianapolis during the 2018 season.

While waiting to be pushed off for the feature, Bacon did a last-minute check of his surroundings and keyed in on some of the tire setups he saw on the competitors around him. The observation gave him a second thought and an 11th hour decision was made and put into action just prior to the start.

"The guys gave me a good car," Bacon praised. "We made a last-minute decision there in staging. I was checking everybody else's tires out and I'm like, I got to make a change here because they didn't quite do as much track work as we were expecting. Western World has always been good to me at several different racetracks. It was good to me again tonight."

Bacon launched from the outside of the front row in his FMR Racing/TRD – Black Watch Farms – Mobil 1/Beast/Speedway Toyota, taking the lead on the opening lap while a scramble for position ensued among the balance of the top-five.

Outside second row starter Logan Seavey slotted into second on the first lap and engaged in his race-long pursuit of Bacon. Seavey trekked through the middle in one and two and the top side of three and four in his chase toward Bacon. Seavey attempted to slide Bacon multiple times in turn one during the first third of the race to no avail as Bacon smoothly rode the cushion to fend off the Seavey challenge.

Just before midway, the top-four of Bacon, Seavey, Zeb Wise and Tyler Courtney ran in close-quarters nose-to-tail when a series of accidents slowed the action. Series Rookie Jesse Colwell was the first to take a tumble in turn two on the 15th lap. On the ensuing restart, Colwell's Keith Kunz Motorsports/Curb-Agajanian teammate Tucker Klaasmeyer was the next to find trouble, flipping in the same area of the second turn.

Rookie Karsyn Elledge took the most serious spill of the event, flipping high and violently down the front straightway several times on the 17th lap. Jesse Colwell, Klaasmeyer and Elledge all walked away from their respective incidents under their own power.

The cushion was building up, and the path to victory was narrowing with rubber on the entry into the corners. Seavey consistently cut through the middle and was able to steer his car up to the cushion where it worked just as well. Seavey was able to drive up right to the tail of Bacon but was unable to faze the two-time USAC National Sprint Car champion.

"We biked up a couple times," Bacon recalled. "That cushion was getting really big. It was so slick up to it, you could hit it really easy, then I almost didn't catch the rubber there at the end. I moved down, I think, just in time. I don't know how close he was getting to me, but if he found it first, he was probably catching me pretty quickly."

Seavey needed either a really good run into the corner or needed Bacon to make a mistake, both of which seemed to be just out of reach. Bacon held smooth and steady and closed out his first series victory of the year to become just the second driver in 2019 to win main events in all three of USAC's National series, joining Tyler Courtney.

Bacon triumphed with a 0.482 sec. margin at the checkered over Seavey, Wise, Courtney and KSE Racing Products Hard Charger Rico Abreu who started 18th.

Bacon's eighth career USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget win tied him for 79th all-time alongside Merle Bettenhausen, Tony Bettenhausen, Hank Butcher, Kevin Doty, Dan Drinan, Ronnie Duman, Brian Gerster, Kenny Irwin Jr, Eddie Johnson, Michael Lewis, Andy Michner and Josh Wise.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK NATIONAL & WESTERN STATES MIDGET CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: November 16, 2019 – Arizona Speedway – San Tan Valley, Arizona – 52nd Western World Championships Presented by San Tan Ford – 1/3-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR/WOODLAND AUTO DISPLAY QUALIFYING: 1. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-15.725; 2. Carson Macedo, 21, Tarlton-15.742; 3. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-15.751; 4. Karsyn Elledge, 1, Tucker/Boat-15.765; 5. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-15.771; 6. Gio Scelzi, 84, Tucker/Boat-15.776; 7. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-15.780; 8. Jesse Colwell, 71, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-15.783; 9. Brady Bacon, 76E, FMR-15.811; 10. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-15.821; 11. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-15.823; 12. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-15.853; 13. Buddy Kofoid, 98, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-15.864; 14. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-15.871; 15. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-15.899; 16. Jason McDougal, 76m, FMR-15.914; 17. Daison Pursley, 9, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-15.932; 18. Kyle Cummins, 2G, Styres/Yeley-15.943; 19. Rico Abreu, 97, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-15.974; 20. Holley Hollan, 67K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-16.007; 21. Noah Gass, 20G, Gass-16.016; 22. Robert Dalby, 4D, Dalby-16.025; 23. Conor Daly, 15, Petry-16.065; 24. Shannon McQueen, 7, McQueen-16.072; 25. Thomas Meseraull, 13, Gile-16.177; 26. Cory Elliott, 11E, Elliott-16.352; 27. C.J. Sarna, 20, Sarna-16.535; 28. Brett Becker, 2B, BRAB-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS/EXTREME MUFFLERS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Zeb Wise, 2. Jason McDougal, 3. Buddy Kofoid, 4. Tyler Courtney, 5. Rico Abreu, 6. Thomas Meseraull, 7. Karsyn Elledge, 8. Robert Dalby, 9. Brett Becker, 10. Chris Windom. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI)/BROWN & MILLER RACING SOLUTIONS SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Daison Pursley, 2. Jesse Colwell, 3. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 4. Logan Seavey, 5. Tanner Carrick, 6. Carson Macedo, 7. Cory Elliott, 8. Conor Daly, 9. Holley Hollan. NT

AUTOMETER/COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI)/ULTRA SHIELD RACE PRODUCTS THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Jerry Coons Jr., 2. Kyle Cummins, 3. Kevin Thomas Jr., 4. Brady Bacon, 5. Andrew Layser, 6. Gio Scelzi, 7. Noah Gass, 8. Shannon McQueen, 9. C.J. Sarna. 2:10.938

INDY RACE PARTS/BUTLERBUILT SEATS SEMI: (12 laps, top-7 transfer to the feature) 1. Chris Windom, 2. Gio Scelzi, 3. Carson Macedo, 4. Holley Hollan, 5. Thomas Meseraull, 6. Conor Daly, 7. Karsyn Elledge, 8. Robert Dalby, 9. Cory Elliott, 10. Noah Gass, 11. Brett Becker, 12. C.J. Sarna, 13. Shannon McQueen. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Brady Bacon (2), 2. Logan Seavey (4), 3. Zeb Wise (1), 4. Tyler Courtney (6), 5. Rico Abreu (18), 6. Kevin Thomas Jr. (5), 7. Chris Windom (9), 8. Jerry Coons Jr. (14), 9. Gio Scelzi (8), 10. Tanner Carrick (13), 11. Andrew Layser (11), 12. Daison Pursley (16), 13. Shannon McQueen (22), 14. Holley Hollan (19), 15. Kyle Cummins (17), 16. Noah Gass (23), 17. Conor Daly (20), 18. Karsyn Elledge (7), 19. Jason McDougal (15), 20. Tucker Klaasmeyer (10), 21. Jesse Colwell (3), 22. Buddy Kofoid (12), 23. Thomas Meseraull (21). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-30 Brady Bacon.

****Holley Hollan flipped during the second heat. Jesse Colwell flipped on lap 15 of the feature. Tucker Klaasmeyer flipped on the lap 15 restart. Karsyn Elledge flipped on lap 17 of the feature.**

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-1851, 2-Logan Seavey-1680, 3-Chris Windom-1679, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1619, 5-Zeb Wise-1579, 6-Tanner Carrick-1406, 7-Jerry Coons Jr.-1384, 8-Jason McDougal-1309, 9-Tucker Klaasmeyer-1263, 10-Chad Boat-1255.

USAC WESTERN STATES MIDGET CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Robert Dalby-647, 2-Cory Elliott-618, 3-Shannon McQueen-524, 4-David Prickett-466, 5-Austin Liggett-458, 6-Ben Worth-450, 7-C.J. Sarna-433, 8-Kyle Beilman-372, 9-Marvin Mitchell-370, 10-Jake Swanson-348.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK NATIONAL & WESTERN STATES MIDGET CHAMPIONSHIP RACES: November 19-20, 2019 – Placerville Speedway – Placerville, California – Elk Grove Ford Hangtown 100 – 1/4-Mile Dirt track

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Rico Abreu (18th to 5th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Shannon McQueen

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Robert Dalby

Jerry Coons Jr. (AutoMeter/Competition Suspension INC./Ultra Shield Race Products Third Heat Winner)

Tyler Courtney (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Daison Pursley (Competition Suspension INC./Brown & Miller Racing Solutions Second Heat Winner)

Chris Windom (Indy Race Parts/Butlerbuilt Seats Semi Winner)

Zeb Wise (Simpson Race Products/Extreme Mufflers First Heat Winner)

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Gio Cashes in on Night #1 of Hangtown 100

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Placerville, California (November 19, 2019).....It was easy to see the strides Gio Scelzi had made in his recent outings aboard a USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget.

Just last weekend, the Fresno, Calif. native broke into the top-10 for the first time with the series in his fifth start, a ninth place finish, and admitted that it's a different kind racing than he's used to and that it will take time to compete with the best drivers of this discipline.

In his sixth start Tuesday night at California's Placerville Speedway, Scelzi took a giant step up in his midget game, leading all 30 laps en route to victory on night one of the Elk Grove Ford Hangtown 100 in the series debut at the 1/4-mile dirt track.

It was just four races ago that Scelzi assumed the seat of the potent Tucker-Boat Motorsports/PristineAuction.com – K & C Drywall/Spike/Speedway Toyota that had been a front runner on the USAC Midget trail for the past four seasons with Chad Boat at the controls before he stepped out of the seat and into the role of mechanic and car owner.

It appears Scelzi had finally found the comfort zone in a midget, joining Cannon McIntosh, Chris Windom, Jason McDougal and Tanner Carrick to become the fifth first-time USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget winner of 2019, the most in a single season since 2008 when there were six.

Scelzi also became the 14th different series winner of the season, the most in a year since that same 2008 season.

"It's pretty humbling to run just a handful of these races and win," Scelzi said. "It's taken awhile to get comfortable in these cars and I'm still not very comfortable."

Scelzi is used to being ahead of the curve. At the age of 17, he's already become the youngest sprint car winner in the history of the World of Outlaws, Williams Grove Speedway and Knoxville Raceway. Two years ago, in 2017, he became the youngest winner in King of the West/NARC history right at Placerville.

Scelzi seemed at home right from the start as he took control from the onset of the feature event from his outside front row starting position. Meanwhile, nearing midway, a two-pack of Keith Kunz/Curb-Agajanian pilots, Jesse Colwell and eighth-starting Logan Seavey tussled for second as Scelzi held strong up front.

On a lap 14 restart, Seavey was in a hurry to get things done as he hounded Colwell, trying everything in the book to get a run on Colwell to no avail until lap 19 when Seavey slipped by his teammate for the runner-up spot with full intentions now set on reeling Scelzi in. Seavey sought avenues high, low and middle to find his way by Scelzi, but the son of the four-time NHRA champ was smooth as silk on the top side.

A number of cautions slowed the activity down the stretch, including a four-car incident that found Cannon McIntosh tipped on his side on the 21st lap. Following the incident, Scelzi blitzed away from Seavey on the ensuing restart to construct a half-straightaway lead of more than eight-tenths of a second with a surefire victory within his grasp until Michael Pickens' car came to a rest backwards in turn one.

In turn, that bunched up the field and allowed Seavey, a driver with a year's worth of past sprint car racing experience at Placerville under his belt, a few more shots at the race leader. Three perfect laps were all that it was going to take for Scelzi to defeat the 2018 series champ.

Seavey tried with all his might a slider into the first turn on Scelzi without success but found a diamond in the rough in turn three. Seavey drove it high to the top of three, then turned down toward the bottom of turn four to "diamond" the corner and gain ground on Scelzi to help propel him past in turn one.

"I was kind of searching all race," Seavey admitted. "I started on the top, then went to the bottom in one and two. I kind of found that the diamond off four was good. I just tried everything I could, but I think I needed a little bit of a longer run there. Our cars normally get better and better as they go. We never really got a run longer than three or four laps."

On the 30th and final circuit, Seavey fired his last Bullet by Spike in the chamber toward Scelzi, coming up short, and allowing Scelzi to break away for good to score a 0.647 second victory over Seavey, Colwell, KSE Racing Products Hard Charger Kyle Larson (from 23rd) with Shane Golobic rounding out the top-five.

"Track position was big for me," Scelzi explained. "Seavey's really good and all the guys behind me were really good. I made so many mistakes off four, I saw someone on the bottom and I just didn't know where to go. I just tried to keep doing what I was doing."

Though Seavey came up just a tad short in the winner's column, he leads the overall Hangtown 100 standings heading into Wednesday's \$20,000-to-win finale at Placerville, which also pays \$12000 to the driver who accumulates the most points over the two nights. For Seavey, Tuesday's run was just setting up for Wednesday.

"Overall, a good night," Seavey said. "I would've loved to win this thing, but at the end of the day, this race is about tomorrow and that's our goal."

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK NATIONAL & WESTERN STATES MIDGET CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: November 19, 2019 – Placerville Speedway – Placerville, California – Elk Grove Ford Hangtown 100 – 1/4-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR/WOODLAND AUTO DISPLAY QUALIFYING: 1. Dillon Welch, 81, Tucker/Boat-11.979 (New Track Record); 2. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-11.998; 3. Kyle Larson, 1K, Larson-12.028; 4. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.064; 5. Gio Scelzi, 84, Tucker/Boat-12.078; 6. Spencer Bayston, 19, Hayward-12.120; 7. Christopher Bell, 84x, Tucker/Boat-12.162; 8. Rico Abreu, 97, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.165; 9. Brady Bacon, 76E, FMR-12.178; 10. Ryan Bernal, 77w, Wood-12.212; 11. Jason McDougal, 76m, FMR-12.232; 12. Shane Golobic, 17w, Wood-12.244; 13. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-12.254; 14. Ricky Stenhouse Jr., 17JR, Clauson Marshall-12.269; 15. Chase Johnson, 25x, Malloy-12.270; 16. Aaron Reutzel, 87, Tucker/Boat-12.279; 17. Brad Sweet, 67z, Kahne-12.285; 18. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.289; 19. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.297; 20. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-12.302; 21. Cannon McIntosh, 08, Dave Mac-12.336; 22. Michael Pickens, 1NZ, RMS-12.338; 23. Buddy Kofoid, 98, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.366; 24. Colton Heath, 99, Stewart-12.377; 25. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-12.380; 26. Daison Pursley, 9, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.389; 27. Jesse Colwell, 71, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.401; 28. Michael Faccinto, 47m, Morris-12.403; 29. Holley Hollan, 67K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.416; 30. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-12.421; 31. Ben Worth, 5G, Alexander-12.428; 32. Maria Cofer, 57, Cofer-12.481; 33. Thomas Meseraull, 7x, RMS-12.488; 34. Jake Bubak, 27B, Bourke-12.507; 35. Robert Dalby, 4D, Dalby-12.510; 36. Cory Elliott, 11E, Elliott-12.520; 37. Kaidon Brown, 97w, Wood-12.527; 38. Jake Morgan, 19w, Sala-12.540; 39. Kyle Cummins, 2G, Styres/Yeley-12.564; 40. Colby Copeland, 27w, Wood-12.571; 41. Jake Swanson, 73K, Ford-12.579; 42. Dave Darland, 71R, Morris-12.589; 43. C.J. Sarna, 20, Sarna-12.675; 44. Colby Johnson, 71m, Morris-12.687; 45. Ethan Mitchell, 08m, Dave Mac-12.688; 46. Gage Rucker, 11K, Kruseman-12.768; 47. Jonathan Beason, 68, Six8-12.779; 48. David Prickett, 15DJ, Neverlift-12.829; 49. Dylan Ito, 73, Ford-12.915; 50. Randi Pankratz, 8, Pankratz-12.946; 51. Tony Gualda, 18K, Kruseman-12.996; 52. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-13.145; 53. Kiely Ricardo, 3F, Finkenbinder-13.447; 54. Robert Carson, 99x, Segur-13.520; 55. Justin Grant, 4A, RAMS-NT; 56. Blake Bower, 10B, Boscacci/Walker-NT; 57. Karsyn Elledge, 1, Tucker/Boat-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS/EXTREME MUFFLERS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, winner plus top-2 in points transfer to the feature, (T) represents a transfer to the feature) 1. Brady Bacon (T), 2. Daison Pursley, 3. Dillon Welch (T), 4. Tyler Courtney, 5. Colton Heath, 6. Rico Abreu (T), 7. Ryan Bernal, 8. Dylan Ito, 9. Gage Rucker. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI)/BROWN & MILLER RACING SOLUTIONS SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, winner plus top-2 in points transfer to the feature, (T) represents a transfer to the feature) 1. Kevin Thomas Jr. (T), 2. Kaidon Brown, 3. Jason McDougal (T), 4. Cannon McIntosh (T), 5. Randi Pankratz, 6. C.J. Sarna, 7. Jake Morgan, 8. Ben Worth, 9. Chase Johnson, 10. Zeb Wise. NT

AUTOMETER/COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, winner plus top-2 in points transfer to the feature, (T) represents a transfer to the feature) 1. Jake Swanson (T), 2. Dave Darland, 3. Tanner Carrick (T), 4. Cory Elliott, 5. Ricky Stenhouse Jr. (T), 6. Jonathan Beason, 7. Kyle Cummins, 8. Kiely Ricardo, 9. Maria Cofer, 10. Tucker Klaasmeyer. NT

INDY RACE PARTS/ULTRA SHIELD RACE PRODUCTS FOURTH HEAT: (10 laps, winner plus top-2 in points transfer to the feature, (T) represents a transfer to the feature) 1. Thomas Meseraull (T), 2. Jake Bubak, 3. Jerry Coons Jr., 4. Jesse Colwell (T), 5. Shane Golobic (T), 6. Michael Faccinto, 7. Christopher Bell, 8. David Prickett, 9. Tony Gualda. 2:08.680 (New Track Record)

NOS ENERGY DRINK/PYROTECT RACING CELLS FIFTH HEAT: (10 laps, winner plus top-2 in points transfer to the feature, (T) represents a transfer to the feature) 1. Robert Dalby (T), 2. Spencer Bayston (T), 3. Justin Grant, 4. Holley Hollan, 5. Aaron Reutzel (T), 6. Robert Carson, 7. Colby Johnson, 8. Andrew Layser, 9. Kyle Larson. NT

AMSOIL/SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS SIXTH HEAT: (10 laps, winner plus top-2 in points transfer to the feature, (T) represents a transfer to the feature) 1. Colby Copeland (T), 2. Michael Pickens (T), 3. Ethan Mitchell, 4. Logan Seavey (T), 5. Gio Scelzi, 6. Brad Sweet, 7. Chris Windom, 8. Buddy Kofoid, 9. Blake Bower. NT

ALSO AT THE TRACK: Karsyn Elledge (#1 Tucker-Boat).

BUTLERBUILT SEATS FIRST SEMI: (12 laps, top-2 transfer to the feature) 1. Gio Scelzi, 2. Kyle Larson, 3. Tyler Courtney, 4. Daison Pursley, 5. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 6. Dave Darland, 7. Buddy Kofoid, 8. Holley Hollan, 9. Ethan Mitchell, 10. Robert Carson, 11. Dylan Ito, 12. Jonathan Beason, 13. Blake Bower. NT

EXTREME MUFFLERS SECOND SEMI: (12 laps, top-2 transfer to the feature) 1. Christopher Bell, 2. Brad Sweet, 3. Zeb Wise, 4. Michael Faccinto, 5. Chase Johnson, 6. Andrew Layser, 7. Kyle Cummins, 8. Ben Worth, 9. Kaidon Brown, 10. Kiely Ricardo, 11. Jake Morgan, 12. Randi Pankratz, 13. David Prickett. NT

PYROTECT RACING CELLS THIRD SEMI: (12 laps, top-2 transfer to the feature) 1. Jerry Coons Jr., 2. Ryan Bernal, 3. Cory Elliott, 4. Justin Grant, 5. Colton Heath, 6. Chris Windom, 7. Jake Bubak, 8. Tony Gualda, 9. C.J. Sarna, 10. Gage Rucker, 11. Colby Johnson, 12. Maria Cofer. NT

PURE CROP 1 FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Gio Scelzi (2), 2. Logan Seavey (8), 3. Jesse Colwell (1), 4. Kyle Larson (23), 5. Shane Golobic (3), 6. Ricky Stenhouse Jr. (5), 7. Spencer Bayston (11), 8. Tanner Carrick (6), 9. Jason McDougal (7), 10. Aaron Reutzel (17), 11. Dillon Welch (12), 12. Jerry Coons Jr. (18), 13. Brady Bacon (10), 14. Thomas Meseraull (13), 15. Christopher Bell (15), 16. Ryan Bernal (24), 17. Rico Abreu (16), 18. Dave Darland (25), 19. Kevin Thomas Jr. (9), 20. Jake Swanson (19), 21. Robert Dalby (14), 22. Colby Copeland (20), 23. Brad Sweet (21), 24. Michael Pickens (4), 25. Justin Grant (26), 26. Cannon McIntosh (22). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-30 Gio Scelzi.

**Justin Grant flipped during qualifying. Jason McDougal, Zeb Wise & C.J. Sarna flipped during the second heat. Maria Cofer flipped during the third heat. Colby Johnson flipped during the fifth heat. Buddy Kofoid flipped during the fifth heat. Randi Pankratz & David Prickett flipped during the second semi. Cannon McIntosh flipped on lap 21 of the feature.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-1901, 2-Logan Seavey-1730, 3-Chris Windom-1729, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1669, 5-Zeb Wise-1629, 6-Tanner Carrick-1456, 7-Jerry Coons Jr.-1434, 8-Jason McDougal-1359, 9-Tucker Klaasmeyer-1313, 10-Chad Boat-1255.

USAC WESTERN STATES MIDGET CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Robert Dalby-697, 2-Cory Elliott-668, 3-Shannon McQueen-524, 4-David Prickett-516, 5-Ben Worth-500, 6-C.J. Sarna-483, 7-Austin Liggett-458, 8-Jake Swanson-398, 9-Randi Pankratz-378, 10-Kyle Beilman-372.

HANGTOWN 100 POINTS: 1-Logan Seavey-161, 2-Gio Scelzi-157, 3-Spencer Bayston-154, 4-Jesse Colwell-153, 5-Ricky Stenhouse Jr.-150, 6-Shane Golobic-149, 7-Tanner Carrick-149, 8-Jason McDougal-147, 9-Dillon Welch-146, 10-Kyle Larson-142.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK NATIONAL & WESTERN STATES MIDGET CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: November 20, 2019 – Placerville Speedway – Placerville, California – Elk Grove Ford Hangtown 100 – 1/4-mile dirt track

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Kyle Larson (23rd to 4th)

Brady Bacon (Simpson Race Products/Extreme Mufflers First Heat Winner & Wilwood Brakes 13th Place Finisher)

Tyler Courtney (Saldana Racing Products First Non-Transfer to the feature)

Cory Elliott (Saldana Racing Products First Non-Transfer to the feature)

Thomas Meseraull (Indy Race Parts/Ultra Shield Race Products Fourth Heat Winner)

Jake Swanson (AutoMeter/Competition Suspension INC./Ultra Shield Race Products Third Heat Winner)

Kevin Thomas Jr. (Competition Suspension INC./Brown & Miller Racing Solutions Second Heat Winner)

Dillon Welch (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Zeb Wise (Saldana Racing Products First Non-Transfer to the feature)

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Larson Loots \$32,000 Payday at Hangtown 100

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Placerville, California (November 20, 2019).....Placerville Speedway is the home to some of Kyle Larson's most cherished racing moments.

It's the place he made his first sprint car start. It's the place he won his first sprint car race. It's the place he describes as his "home track."

Now, he can chalk up another memorable moment at the northern California 1/4-mile dirt track and lay claim as the winner of the richest event in USAC NOS Energy Drink National and Western States Midget history, earning \$20,000 for the 100lap feature victory and an extra \$12000 bonus as the overall points champion of the inaugural Elk Grove Ford Hangtown 100 for a whopping \$32000 in total earnings for the evening.

Larson's 17th career USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget win moved into a tie for 37th all-time with Jay Drake and J.J. Yeley, but this was the first in his own Kyle Larson Open Wheel/Lucas Oil – iRacing – Finley Farms/King/Speedway Toyota after winning 15 of his previous 16 for the Keith Kunz Motorsports/Curb-Agajanian team between 2011 June of 2019.

It's a car he shook down in a pair of midget events at Placerville earlier this season, both of which he was victorious in. Wednesday night was just the beginning in one way, but also the culmination of what he and crew chief Paul Silva had their goals set on with the creation of the team to best a field of 56 other determined individuals.

"Paul put a lot of work into this car throughout the last handful of months," Larson explained. "We ran out here a couple times and the car counts haven't been big, so I didn't know how good we were. But I think we proved that we were really, really good, and good in the slick, which was nice."

Larson started 10th in the 28-car field and instantly became a factor, charging to 7th on the initial lap, then into the top-five by the second go-around. Meanwhile, up front, Brady Bacon jetted out to the early lead for the first two circuits before two-time and defending Ollie's Bargain Outlet All Star Circuit of Champions titlist Aaron Reutzel blitzed to the lead with a turn three slider on the third lap, making waves in just his second career series start.

On lap five, the first incident of the feature occurred when provisional starter Zeb Wise got upside down in turn one. Damage was minimal and the 2019 BC39 champ ultimately returned to finish 24th.

Tanner Carrick made moves on the 12th lap to slip past Bacon for second and began to close in on leader Reutzel. Carrick's KKM teammate Logan Seavey was on a mission to supplant Bacon from third two laps later, then by Carrick for second on the 17th lap and Reutzel on lap 18 for the lead by utilizing the diamond maneuver from the top of turn three to drive by Reutzel off the bottom of turn four.

A hectic sequence saw Carrick rip second away again, this time from Reutzel, off turn two before finally squeezing by on the bottom for the spot off the fourth turn on lap 20. Seavey amassed control at the head of the field after starting all the way back on the outside of the sixth row and opened up a sizable near one-second advantage a quarter of the way through.

Larson, who was passed early on by Seavey, regained his perspicacity and began trotting a methodical course toward the front, first picking off Reutzel for third on the 24th lap, then snuck under Carrick for second at the exit of turn two within the eye of traffic.

On the 30th lap, Seavey went wide over the cushion between turns three and four. Larson feasted at the opportunity and drastically closed in on Seavey as the two scythed under, between and around the tail end of the field. On the 35th lap, Larson was there to swoop in under Seavey on the bottom of turn three. The two smacked sidewalls at the entrance of turn three and Larson ably ducked under to lead at the stripe with a third of the race in the archives.

Seavey remained within earshot of Larson until the 40th lap when he nearly parked it in between turns one and two, losing three positions in the process and allowing Ricky Stenhouse Jr. into second before he, himself, dropped out on lap 43.

A hellacious 42-lap green flag run came to a halt when series Rookie Jesse Colwell spun to a stop at the top of turns one and two, thus erasing Larson's 4.318 second lead prior to a lap 50 red flag, where several teams took the opportunity to refuel and readjust for a second half run.

Right off the bat, when racing resumed, a melee ensued between turns three and four with September Placerville World of Outlaws winner and fourth-running Shane Golobic and Rico Abreu contacting each other in the third turn, causing both to flip. Early leaders Seavey and Reutzel were stacked deep on the bottom along with 2019 WoO champ Brad Sweet and 2017 USAC Midget champion Spencer Bayston.

Reutzel's turn of luck took continued on the 52nd lap when he toppled over in turn two but restarted and finished 12th. Kevin Thomas Jr. took a nasty tumble off turn two following contact with another car. Thomas walked to the ambulance under his own power following the incident.

The storyline of the latter 50 laps was simply the domination displayed by Larson right from the start of the second half when he set the fastest overall lap of the race on lap 51. In fact, his seven fastest laps of the race came in rapid succession

between laps 51-57. All the while, everybody else was trying to play catchup with Larson, battling it out amongst themselves for second as Larson slipped into the distance.

Over the final 25-lap sprint, Bell and Carrick swapped the second position five different times before Bell prevailed, albeit a staggering 8.152 seconds behind Larson at the checkered. Carrick took home third while hard-charging Ryan Bernal took fourth after starting 19th, his best run with the series since a 5th place, 16 laps-led run in the most recent 100-lapper in 2012 at Haubstadt, Ind. USAC Triple Crown champ Jerry Coons Jr. rounded out the top-five.

Interestingly, it's the fifth time that Larson and Bell have finished first and second in a USAC National Midget feature. However, Wednesday at Placerville marked the first occasion in which Larson got the upper hand with a win. Bell won the previous four at Putnamville, Ind. and Kokomo, Ind. in 2013, plus each of the last two years at Ventura, Calif. in 2017 and 2018.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK NATIONAL & WESTERN STATES MIDGET CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: November 20, 2019 – Placerville Speedway – Placerville, California – Elk Grove Ford Hangtown 100 – 1/4-Mile Dirt Track

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS/EXTREME MUFFLERS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-20 in overall points after heats transfer to the feature) 1. Chase Johnson (#25x Malloy), 2. Ben Worth (#5G Alexander), 3. Daison Pursley (#9 Kunz/Curb-Agajanian), 4. Logan Seavey (#67 Kunz/Curb-Agajanian), 5. Tanner Carrick (#71K Kunz/Curb-Agajanian), 6. Jake Swanson (#73K Ford), 7. Kevin Thomas Jr. (#5 Petry), 8. Dave Darland (#71R Morris), 9. Jonathan Beason (#68 Six8), 10. Blake Bower (#10B Boscacci/Walker). 2:03.401 (New Track Record)

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI)/BROWN & MILLER RACING SOLUTIONS SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-20 in overall points after heats transfer to the feature) 1. Tucker Klaasmeyer (#27 Kunz/Curb-Agajanian), 2. Michael Pickens (#1NZ RMS), 3. Gio Scelzi (#84 Tucker-Boat), 4. Jerry Coons Jr. (#25 Petry), 5. Holley Hollan (#67K Kunz/Curb-Agajanian), 6. Jason McDougal (#76m FMR), 7. Cory Elliott (#11E Elliott), 8. Randi Pankratz (#8 Pankratz), 9. Robert Carson (#99x Segur). 2:05.773

AUTOMETER/COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-20 in overall points after heats transfer to the feature) 1. Chris Windom (#17BC Clauson Marshall), 2. Justin Grant (#4A RAMS), 3. Michael Faccinto (#47m Morris), 4. Ryan Bernal (#77w Wood), 5. Spencer Bayston (#19 Hayward), 6. Dillon Welch (#81 Tucker-Boat), 7. Thomas Meseraull (#7x RMS), 8. C.J. Sarna (#20 Sarna), 9. Dylan Ito (#73 Ford). NT

INDY RACE PARTS/ULTRA SHIELD RACE PRODUCTS FOURTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-20 in overall points after heats transfer to the feature) 1. Kyle Larson (#1K Larson), 2. Christopher Bell (#84x Tucker-Boat), 3. Ethan Mitchell (#08m Dave Mac), 4. Colby Copeland (#27w Wood), 5. Jesse Colwell (#71 Kunz/Curb-Agajanian), 6. Zeb Wise (#39BC Clauson Marshall), 7. Tony Gualda (#18K Kruseman), 8. Kaidon Brown (#97w Wood), 9. Colby Johnson (#71m Morris). NT

NOS ENERGY DRINK/PYROTECT RACING CELLS FIFTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-20 in overall points after heats transfer to the feature) 1. Colton Heath (#99 Stewart), 2. Tyler Courtney (#7BC Clauson Marshall), 3. Buddy Kofoid (#98 Kunz/Curb-Agajanian), 4. Brad Sweet (#67z Kahne), 5. Rico Abreu (#97 Kunz/Curb-Agajanian), 6. Ricky Stenhouse Jr. (#17JR Clauson Marshall), 7. Brady Bacon (#76E FMR), 8. Jake Morgan (#19w Sala), 9. David Prickett (#15DJ Neverlift). 2:04.469

AMSOIL/SALDANA RACING PROUCTS SIXTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-20 in overall points after heats transfer to the feature) 1. Andrew Layser (#47BC Clauson Marshall), 2. Aaron Reutzel (#87 Tucker-Boat), 3. Kyle Cummins (#2G Yeley/Styres), 4. Shane Golobic (#17w Wood), 5. Cannon McIntosh (#08 Dave Mac), 6. Robert Dalby (#4D Dalby), 7. Gage Rucker (#11K Kruseman), 8. Kiely Ricardo (#3F Finkenbinder), 9. Jake Bubak (#27B Bourke). NT

ALSO AT THE TRACK: Karsyn Elledge (#1 Tucker-Boat).

EXTREME MUFFLERS C-MAIN: (15 laps, top-4 transfer to the semi) 1. Buddy Kofoid, 2. Ben Worth, 3. Ethan Mitchell, 4. Dave Darland, 5. Colby Johnson, 6. C.J. Sarna, 7. Jonathan Beason, 8. Randi Pankratz, Blake Bower, Gage Rucker, Kiely Ricardo, Robert Carson, Tony Gualda, Kaidon Brown, Jake Bubak, Kyle Cummins, Jake Morgan, Dylan Ito, David Prickett. NT

BUTLERBUILT SEATS SEMI: (20 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Brad Sweet, 2. Jake Swanson, 3. Chris Windom, 4. Tyler Courtney, 5. Zeb Wise, 6. Cannon McIntosh, 7. Robert Dalby, 8. Daison Pursley, 9. Andrew Layser, 10. Chase Johnson, 11. Michael Faccinto, 12. Colton Heath, 13. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 14. Buddy Kofoid, 15. Holley Hollan, 16. Ben Worth, 17. Ethan Mitchell, 18. Dave Darland, 19. Cory Elliott, 20. Justin Grant. NT

ROYAL TRUCK BODY FEATURE: (100 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Kyle Larson (10), 2. Christopher Bell (13), 3. Tanner Carrick (6), 4. Ryan Bernal (19), 5. Jerry Coons Jr. (14), 6. Dillon Welch (2), 7. Gio Scelzi (11), 8. Tyler Courtney (24), 9. Spencer Bayston (9), 10. Michael Pickens (16), 11. Logan Seavey (12), 12. Aaron Reutzel (4), 13. Chris Windom (23), 14. Colby Copeland (20), 15. Jason McDougal (3), 16. Brady Bacon (1), 17. Thomas Meseraull (17), 18. Buddy Kofoid (28), 19. Jake Swanson (22), 20. Justin Grant (27), 21. Kevin Thomas Jr. (15), 22. Jesse Colwell (8), 23. Shane Golobic (7), 24. Zeb Wise (25), 25. Brad Sweet (21), 26. Rico Abreu (18), 27. Tucker Klaasmeyer (26), 28. Ricky Stenhouse Jr. (5). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-2 Brady Bacon, Laps 3-17 Aaron Reutzel, Laps 18-34 Logan Seavey, Laps 35-100 Kyle Larson.

******Jake Morgan flipped during the semi. Zeb Wise flipped on lap 4 of the feature. Rico Abreu & Shane Golobic flipped on lap 51 of the feature. Aaron Reutzel flipped on lap 52 of the feature. Kevin Thomas Jr. flipped on lap 55 of the feature.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-1951, 2-Logan Seavey-1780, 3-Chris Windom-1779, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1719, 5-Zeb Wise-1679, 6-Tanner Carrick-1506, 7-Jerry Coons Jr.-1484, 8-Jason McDougal-1409, 9-Tucker Klaasmeyer-1363, 10-Chad Boat-1255.

USAC WESTERN STATES MIDGET CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Robert Dalby-747, 2-Cory Elliott-718, 3-David Prickett-566, 4-Ben Worth-550, 5-C.J. Sarna-533, 6-Shannon McQueen-524, 7-Austin Liggett-458, 8-Jake Swanson-448, 9-Randi Pankratz-428, 10-Kyle Beilman-372.

FINAL HANGTOWN 100 POINTS: 1-Logan Seavey-161, 2-Gio Scelzi-157, 3-Spencer Bayston-154, 4-Jesse Colwell-153, 5-Ricky Stenhouse Jr.-150, 6-Shane Golobic-149, 7-Tanner Carrick-149, 8-Jason McDougal-147, 9-Dillon Welch-146, 10-Kyle Larson-142.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK NATIONAL & WESTERN STATES MIDGET CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: November 23, 2019 – Bakersfield Speedway – Bakersfield, California – November Classic – 1/3-mile dirt track

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Tyler Courtney (24th to 8th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Chris Windom

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Zeb Wise

Chase Johnson (Simpson Race Products/Extreme Mufflers First Heat Winner)

Tucker Klaasmeyer (Competition Suspension INC./Brown & Miller Racing Solutions Second Heat Winner)

Kyle Larson (Indy Race Parts/Ultra Shield Race Products Fourth Heat Winner)

Chris Windom (AutoMeter/Competition Suspension INC./Ultra Shield Race Products Third Heat Winner)

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Third Time's a Charm for Larson at Bakersfield

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Bakersfield, California (November 23, 2019).....Kyle Larson became the first driver in 16 years to win back-to-back USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget features in the state of California on Saturday night at Bakersfield Speedway, picking off Michael Pickens for good on the 11th lap and commanding the final 20 laps to score his third series victory of the year.

J.J. Yeley was the last to pull off the Cali double with two consecutive wins in the Golden State in 2003 at Stockton and Madera. Larson's latest triumph came just three days following his big payday in Placerville, Calif.

However, it took three tries for Larson to assume the top spot after twice passing Pickens for the lead on laps six and 10, both of which were negated by yellow flags that reverted the running order to the last completed lap.

The third time turned out to be the charm for Larson one lap following the 10th lap restart as he raced to victory and moved past Jay Drake and J.J. Yeley with his 18th career USAC National Midget victory and into a tie with Dave Steele for 36th all-time.

After turning to his own team to compete last Tuesday at Placerville, the Elk Grove, Calif. native and 2011 USAC National Midget Rookie of the Year is now batting two-for-three in his Kyle Larson Open Wheel/Lucas Oil – iRacing – Finley Farms/King/Speedway Toyota.

"Once again, my car just felt really good up against the cushion," Larson beamed. "I knew I was quite a bit better than he was when I was behind him. I kept thinking he'd move up in front of me, so my entry speed was a little bit slow, but we were able to get by him and run some really good laps out in the lead."

Pickens took the early advantage from his pole starting position while a three-wide scramble for second ensued involving Jesse Colwell and Jason McDougal, with a rapidly-surging and surgical Larson knifing his way to the front from the outside of row three after having set Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifying time earlier in the evening.

A lap two red flag slowed the proceedings to a halt nearly instantaneously when heat three winner Chris Windom flipped in turn one. USAC Western States Midget regular Cory Elliott was also caught in the kerfuffle. Both restarted with Windom getting to 16th and Elliott 20th in the end results.

Meanwhile, Larson restarted fourth behind McDougal and immediately grabbed his lunch pail and went to work on the top side, racing around the outside of McDougal in turn four, then diving to the inside of turn one under Colwell for second, then beginning his descent on Pickens.

Now with clean air and just Pickens standing in his way, Larson ringed the top of turns one and two to construct his momentum, then aimed for the bottom of three. On the sixth lap, Larson tried the move once again in three, sliding by Pickens for the race lead.

Simultaneously, though, Zeb Wise got upside down in between turns one and two while Carson Macedo was also involved, suffering from a flat tire. For Wise, it was his second consecutive race with a flip early in the feature.

Larson was up on the wheel for the restart, but Pickens was briefly able to stifle Larson's relentless attacks by shutting the door on Larson on the bottom of turn three during the sixth lap. Larson tried again in turn three on the following lap, sliding past Pickens who then cut back under to reclaim the throne.

The top was where Larson stuck to in turns three and four the next three trips around, but on lap nine, Pickens was able to fence off Larson's high-riding line off the fourth turn to cling to the advantage. One lap later, Cannon McIntosh slowed a stop to bring out the yellow.

On the ensuing restart, Larson stayed true to the top of one and two, using a major run to power by Pickens on the outside midway down the back straightaway before cutting across the nose of Pickens and stealing the bottom away in the third turn. However, just as that occurred, 8th running Spencer Bayston performed a 360-degree spin, forcing a yellow and forcing Larson to give the lead back to Pickens once more.

It would be the last time that happened. Although, Pickens changed the game up by moving a bit higher on his entry into turn one on the lap 10 restart. Larson tried to go under Pickens to no avail, but stayed in formation with Pickens, building his momentum and setting up his moment to strike.

That moment came on lap 11 when Larson again ringed the high line in turns one and two, pulling ahead of Pickens on the back straight, then locked down the bottom line in turn three and began to distance himself from Pickens.

Nonetheless, as Larson distanced himself from Pickens, he closed the distance between himself and lapped traffic, which caused a brief jam that allowed Pickens to keep Larson within reach about eight tenths of a second back.

"When I got to traffic, I didn't do the best job," Larson admitted. "But I felt like maybe I had a good enough lead, I didn't have to worry about him as much."

On lap 22, sixth running Logan Seavey stopped on the back straight to bring out the yellow, thus bunching up Pickens to Larson and clearing the path that lie in front of him. Pickens shot his shot in turn one with a slider attempt on the highflying Larson, but came up short, losing substantial ground to Larson who hammered out a two-plus second lead in the ensuing laps.

The night's semi-feature winner, Aaron Reutzel, slowed with three laps remaining, necessitating a yellow that restacked the field for a final three-lap dash to the finish.

"On the restarts, my engine was stumbling pretty bad," Larson explained. "(Pickens) showed his nose there the second to last restart. I tried to change it up (on the last restart), but I didn't see his nose the second time, so it must've been a little better."

Larson displayed no signs of weariness or any sort of stumble, burying his nearest contenders as he distanced himself from Pickens and third-running Rico Abreu who were left to duke it out for second. Abreu slid under Pickens entering the third turn coming the white flag, but Pickens countered the move by cutting back underneath the 2014 series champ off four to secure second.

Up front, it was all Larson on the "far-away side" as he put a stamp on a 1.978 second victory at the checker over Pickens in a one-two finish for the New Zealand-based King Chassis. Abreu finished 3rd with Tyler Courtney and Jesse Colwell rounding out the top-five.

Auckland, New Zealand's Pickens took a season best 2nd place finish in his RMS LLC/CRC – EnviroFab – Guess Performance Parts/King/Speedway Toyota and considers his run on this night as sort of a moral victory considering the competition he faced.

"We were just talking, a second to Kyle Larson is like a win. He's so damn good," Pickens said with a laugh. "These guys have worked their butts off. Matt and Dave (Estep), my car owners, they just said go with whatever you want, whatever you guys need, do it, and they haven't let us down. It's a (shame) we couldn't get them a win. Second's pretty neat and I just got to thank them once again for the opportunity."

Likewise, for Rico, it was his best USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget finish of 2019 in his Keith Kunz-Curb-Agajanian/Safelite AutoGlass – Curb/Bullet by Spike/Speedway Toyota. Yet, though he considers it a quality run, he's left to fret what could've been had he only started a little bit closer to the front.

"We just should've qualified better and put ourselves in a better position," Abreu laid it out. "Twelfth to third is good for this team. (This team) works really hard and they've had a rough couple weeks out here on the west coast. It's good to get them some good finishes."

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK NATIONAL & WESTERN STATES MIDGET CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: November 23, 2019 – Bakersfield Speedway – Bakersfield, California – November Classic – 1/3-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR/WOODLAND AUTO DISPLAY/ALOHA POOLS QUALIFYING GROUP A: 1. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-12.590; 2. Jesse Colwell, 71, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.689; 3. Gio Scelzi, 84, Tucker/Boat-12.693; 4. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-12.693; 5. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-12.726; 6. Shannon McQueen, 7, McQueen-12.744; 7. Rico Abreu, 97, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.768; 8. Carson Macedo, 21x, Tarlton-12.770; 9. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.784; 10. Ethan Mitchell, 08m, Dave Mac-12.800; 11. Thomas Meseraull, 7x, RMS-12.841; 12. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.858; 13. Mitchel Moles, 27w, Wood-12.890; 14. Cannon McIntosh, 08, Dave Mac-12.891; 15. Ryan Bernal, 77w, Wood-12.905; 16. Holley Hollan, 67K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.910; 17. Robert Dalby, 4D, Dalby-12.975; 18. Ronnie Gardner, 68, Six8-13.032; 19. Maria Cofer, 71s, Campbell-13.083; 20. Jake Bubak, 27B, Bourke-13.097; 21. Carson Garrett, 15x, Garrett-13.148; 22. Karsyn Elledge, 1, Tucker/Boat-13.172; 23. Terry Nichols, 1NP, Nichols-13.278; 24. Colton Heath, 99, Stewart-13.297; 25. Daniel Robinson, 57D, McCreery-13.336; 26. Blake Bower, 10B, Boscacci/Walker-13.516; 27. Anthony Lopiccio, 21, Lopiccio-NT.

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR/WOODLAND AUTO DISPLAY QUALIFYING/ALOHA POOLS GROUP B: 1. Kyle Larson, 1K, Larson-12.571; 2. Aaron Reutzel, 87, Tucker/Boat-12.658; 3. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.670; 4. Spencer Bayston, 19, Hayward-12.710; 5. Daison Pursley, 98, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.741; 6. Jason McDougal, 76m, FMR-12.751; 7. Michael Pickens, 1NZ, RMS-12.757; 8. Chase Johnson, 25x, Malloy-12.786; 9. Buddy Kofoid, 98, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.796; 10. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-12.799; 11. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-12.830; 12. Damion Gardner, 4, Klatt-12.843; 13. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-12.923; 14. Ben Worth, 5G, Alexander-12.935; 15. C.J. Leary, 13, Gile-12.970; 16. Kaidon Brown, 97w, Wood-12.976; 17. Michael Faccinto, 11F, Elliott-13.040; 18. Jake Swanson, 73K, Ford-13.089; 19. Cory Elliott, 11E, Elliott-13.150; 20. Kyle Beilman, 31B, Beilman-13.169; 21. Mark Chisholm, 56x, Chisholm-13.211; 22. David Prickett, 15DJ, Neverlift-13.272; 23. C.J. Sarna, 20, Sarna-13.355; 24. Dustin Golobic, 17w, Wood-13.411; 25. Gage Rucker, 11K, Kruseman-13.442; 26. Audra Sasselli, 1p, Nichols-14.254; 27. Clint Wilson, c27, Mounce-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS/EXTREME MUFFLERS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Thomas Meseraull, 2. Tanner Carrick, 3. Rico Abreu, 4. Jerry Coons Jr., 5. Kevin Thomas Jr., 6. Gio Scelzi, 7. Ryan Bernal, 8. Maria Cofer, 9. Mitchel Moles, 10. Robert Dalby, 11. Terry Nichols, 12. Carson Garrett, 13. Daniel Robinson, 14. Anthony Lopiccio. 2:09.245

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI)/BROWN & MILLER RACING SOLUTIONS SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Ethan Mitchell, 2. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 3. Carson Macedo, 4. Jesse Colwell, 5. Blake Bower, 6. Ronnie Gardner, 7. Karsyn Elledge, 8. Jake Bubak, 9. Cannon McIntosh, 10. Tyler Courtney, 11. Holley Hollan, 12. Colton Heath, 13. Shannon McQueen. NT

AUTOMETER/COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Chris Windom, 2. Buddy Kofoid, 3. Michael Pickens, 4. Kyle Larson, 5. Daison Pursley, 6. Logan Seavey, 7. C.J. Leary, 8. Andrew Layser, 9. Michael Faccinto, 10. Kyle Beilman, 11. David Prickett, 12. Gage Rucker. 2:08.846

INDY RACE PARTS/PYROTECT RACING CELLS FOURTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Zeb Wise, 2. Chase Johnson, 3. Jason McDougal, 4. Spencer Bayston, 5. Aaron Reutzel, 6. Damion Gardner, 7. Kaidon Brown, 8. Ben Worth, 9. Dustin Golobic, 10. Cory Elliott, 11. C.J. Sarna, 12. Mark Chisholm, 13. Audra Sasselli. 2:11.027

C-MAIN: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the semi) 1. Michael Faccinto, 2. Kaidon Brown, 3. Ronnie Gardner, 4. Dustin Golobic, 5. Kyle Beilman, 6. Jake Bubak, 7. Karsyn Elledge, 8. Carson Garrett, 9. Blake Bower, 10. Terry Nichols, 11. David Prickett, 12. C.J. Sarna, 13. Gage Rucker, 14. Anthony Lopiccolo. 2:13.676

BUTLERBUILT SEATS SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Aaron Reutzel, 2. Logan Seavey, 3. Gio Scelzi, 4. Tyler Courtney, 5. Kevin Thomas Jr., 6. Cannon McIntosh, 7. Andrew Layser, 8. Damion Gardner, 9. Daison Pursley, 10. Ben Worth, 11. Mitchel Moles, 12. C.J. Leary, 13. Ryan Bernal, 14. Ronnie Gardner, 15. Michael Faccinto, 16. Dustin Golobic, 17. Kaidon Brown, 18. Shannon McQueen. 2:38.948

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Kyle Larson (6), 2. Michael Pickens (1), 3. Rico Abreu (12), 4. Tyler Courtney (10), 5. Jesse Colwell (4), 6. Jason McDougal (2), 7. Gio Scelzi (9), 8. Thomas Meseraull (20), 9. Jerry Coons Jr. (5), 10. Tanner Carrick (16), 11. Tucker Klaasmeyer (21), 12. Chase Johnson (13), 13. Buddy Kofoid (15), 14. Kevin Thomas Jr. (11), 15. Carson Macedo (14), 16. Chris Windom (19), 17. Ethan Mitchell (18), 18. Spencer Bayston (3), 19. Daison Pursley (23), 20. Cory Elliott (25), 21. Robert Dalby (24), 22. Aaron Reutzel (7), 23. Logan Seavey (8), 24. Cannon McIntosh (22), 25. Zeb Wise (17). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-10 Michael Pickens, Laps 11-30 Kyle Larson.

****Holley Hollan & Jake Bubak flipped during the second heat. Shannon McQueen flipped while lining up for the semi. Chris Windom flipped on lap 2 of the feature. Zeb Wise flipped on lap 6 of the feature.**

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-2013, 2-Chris Windom-1818, 3-Logan Seavey-1809, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1755, 5-Zeb Wise-1710, 6-Tanner Carrick-1556, 7-Jerry Coons Jr.-1540, 8-Jason McDougal-1470, 9-Tucker Klaasmeyer-1411, 10-Chad Boat-1255.

USAC WESTERN STATES MIDGET CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Robert Dalby-770, 2-Cory Elliott-741, 3-David Prickett-576, 4-Ben Worth-560, 5-C.J. Sarna-543, 6-Shannon McQueen-534, 7-Austin Liggett-458, 8-Jake Swanson-458, 9-Randi Pankratz-428, 10-Kyle Beilman-382.

NEXT USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK NATIONAL & WESTERN STATES MIDGET CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: November 28, 2019 – Ventura Raceway – Ventura, California – 79th Turkey Night Grand Prix – 1/5-mile dirt track

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Thomas Meseraull (20th to 8th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Buddy Kofoid

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Andrew Layser

Kyle Larson (Fatheadz Eyewear/Woodland Auto Display/Aloha Pools Fast Qualifier)

Thomas Meseraull (Simpson Race Products/Extreme Mufflers First Heat Winner)

Ethan Mitchell (Competition Suspension INC./Brown & Miller Racing Solutions Second Heat Winner)

Chris Windom (AutoMeter/Competition Suspension INC./Ultra Shield Race Products Third Heat Winner)

Zeb Wise (Indy Race Parts/Ultra Shield Race Products Fourth Heat Winner)

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Larson Logs 3rd Turkey Night GP Win

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Ventura, California (November 29 2019).....Nearing halfway of Friday night's 98-lap feature at California's Ventura Raceway while running fifth, Kyle Larson nearly saw his Turkey Night Grand Prix end in shambles after biking hard into turn one.

Somehow, somehow, the Elk Grove, Calif. native regained his footing, kept his foot on the throttle and carried on as if it was just part of the game plan.

Obviously, it wasn't, but Larson welcomes a challenge and responded to it in kind throughout the night, beginning with his qualifying run. After being a favorite to win the pole, Larson uncharacteristically spun on his second qualifying lap, relegating him to 16th fastest and forcing him to carve through the field if he was to reach the pinnacle once again.

Larson seemingly took it all in stride, even on a racing surface that had been deluged by heavy rain over the past three days that made the 1/5-mile oceanside bullring a giddy-up, bucking bronco style ride from the word go.

With all those challenges facing him, and even a lengthy precipitation delay during the night's QUALIFIERS, it still seemed inevitable that Larson was going to be a factor regardless if he started mid-pack, on the tail or in the middle of the Pacific Ocean with one arm tied behind his back. That's just how good Larson has been of late behind the wheel of a midget.

None of these things could prove a hindrance to Larson who won the prestigious race for a third time, joining Ron Shuman (8), Billy Boat (3) and Christopher Bell (3) as one of the Mt. Rushmore figures to win the event on at least three occasions following previous victories in 2012 and 2016.

"I've always run well at the Turkey Night Grand Prix," Larson admitted. "To get another one feels great. I had to work hard for that one, everybody did, just to get to the checkered flag. It was extremely rough, but fun too because it was challenging, and the ruts changed all throughout the race."

However, with all those challenges aside, Larson's largest thorn was teenage sensation Cannon McIntosh, who was making his first Turkey Night Grand Prix appearance and was a prime contender to become the first driver since Warren Mockler in 1986 to win in his very first Turkey Night appearance.

McIntosh led the field for a race-high 67 laps until Larson went full bore to the topside of McIntosh in turn three following a restart with 11 laps remaining to lock down his 19th career USAC National Midget win, equaling him with Jerry Coons Jr., Stan Fox and Jason Leffler for 33rd all-time, a list of wins that includes previous Turkey Night triumphs in 2012 and 2016.

"Cannon, I feel, definitely had the best car. He was really fast," Larson said. "I noticed during the caution right before I got by him, his right rear radius rod had broken. I knew that would affect his balance some. I was able to get around one and two good and then get around him in three and four."

The key for most was to avoid the pervasive perilousness that had entrenched so many on this night with 98 physically and mentally demanding laps that were a test of endurance. Pole winner Kevin Thomas Jr. was the enforcer early on, leading the first 20 circuits of the A-Main until a lap 21 restart that saw McIntosh hang ten on the topside of turn two to drive past both Spencer Bayston for second and Thomas for the lead in the blink of an eye.

Moments later, two-time NASCAR Xfinity Series champ Ricky Stenhouse Jr. endured the first of two Maalox moments, first flipping on lap 22 in turn one and again on lap 28 in turn three. Thomas himself flipped on the 70th lap while running fourth amidst a tussle with lapped traffic.

Following the red for Thomas, it became just a common core sprint race with 29 laps to go and third-running Larson beginning to surge. With 22 laps remaining, second place Bayston hit a hole in between turns three and four, knocking him sideways in his saddle as he fought to regain control. Larson immediately pounced to the inside of Bayston to rip second away, with the two banging wheels and passing like two ships in the night as Larson scooted past and now lie three quarters of a second behind leader McIntosh.

That gap closed rapidly, and Larson was on McIntosh like white on rice, painting the 08 on McIntosh's tail tank with a hint of chrome from his front bumper midway down the back straight with 12 laps remaining. Meanwhile, McIntosh did his best imitation of Amerigo Vespucci as he explored new land in front of C.J. Sarna, eventually diving under the Western States Midget regular with Larson climbing the turn three berm hot on his tracks.

Just as traffic began to play a starring role, that bit part was cut from the ending when eighth running Jesse Colwell stopped on the front straightaway on lap 87 to bring out the yellow flag. McIntosh was routinely high-quality on restarts in clean air while Larson seemingly made gains in traffic, but that didn't hinder Larson from driving around McIntosh in a one-on-one match on the 88th lap in turn three to secure the lead.

As Larson extended the interval to two seconds over McIntosh, 2019 USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget champion Tyler Courtney flipped wildly on the front straight to necessitate a red flag and an ensuing green-white-checkered restart and finish. It took two attempts for the GWC, but Larson was in control throughout, though McIntosh's wounded machine put up a fighting effort at the end, that was just not enough to run down Larson.

Larson closed out his fourth series victory of the season by 0.893 sec. over McIntosh, Bayston, Jason McDougal and Carson Macedo in his Kyle Larson Open Wheel/Lucas Oil – iRacing – Finley Farms/King/Speedway Toyota.

Three seems to be a magic number for Kyle Larson. The win marked just the third occasion in USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget history that a driver won the final three races to conclude the season (Billy Boat 1995 & Larson in 2012). Larson also became the first driver in 24 years to win three-straight USAC NOS Energy Drink National MIDGET CHAMPIONSHIP RACES in the state of California (also Boat in 1995).

For McIntosh, a native of Bixby, Okla., a second-place run was much needed after a succession of peaks and valleys that saw the 16-year-old win his first career USAC National MIDGET CHAMPIONSHIP RACE in March at the Southern Illinois Center to go along with several bits of bad luck and incidents that plagued the team throughout 2019. But it was a solid run nonetheless although, like their season as a whole, they had to fight tooth-and-nail to score their hard-earned runner up result to earn Don Basile Rookie of the Race honors.

"My legs, I couldn't really feel them there at the end," said the driver after the initial 98-lap race of his young career. "I was just trying to maintain a good pace because you can't really just run out and go your hardest for the first 30, so I was just trying to be patient and smooth. I knew something was wrong toward the end, I just didn't know what it was. It wasn't affecting it too bad, but it happens, it's part of racing."

Meanwhile, Robert Dalby of Anaheim, Calif. wrapped up the 2019 USAC Western States Midget championship following a 26th place finish on Friday night to win by a final margin of 29 points over Cory Elliott. Dalby then announced his intentions to move himself and his racing operation to Indiana to chase the National trail in 2020.

Friday's race marked just the sixth occasion during the USAC era, 1956-present, that the Turkey Night Grand Prix had not been run on Thanksgiving night. It had been 36 years since the last time it occurred back in 1983, when it was run on Friday. Other similar occurrences came in 1965 when it was run on Saturday of the same weekend, in 1973 when it was

contested on Friday, in 1975 on Sunday and in 1981 when it was held nine days later on Saturday of the following weekend, the only time the race has been held in December during the USAC era.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK NATIONAL & WESTERN STATES MIDGET CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: November 29, 2019 – Ventura Raceway – Ventura, California – 79th Turkey Night Grand Prix – 1/5-Mile Dirt Track

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR/WOODLAND AUTO DISPLAY QUALIFYING: (Top-10 Locked into the Feature) 1. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5, Petry-12.409; 2. Chase Johnson, 25x, Malloy-12.464; 3. Jerry Coons Jr., 25, Petry-12.477; 4. Spencer Bayston, 19, Hayward-12.520; 5. Rico Abreu, 97, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.549; 6. Michael Pickens, 1NZ, RMS-12.631; 7. Gio Scelzi, 84, Tucker/Boat-12.634; 8. Cannon McIntosh, 08, Dave Mac-12.645; 9. Austin Liggett, 83, Liggett-12.673; 10. Carson Macedo, 21, Tarlton-12.737; 11. Zeb Wise, 39BC, Clauson Marshall-12.752; 12. Tanner Carrick, 71K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.757; 13. Logan Seavey, 67, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.774; 14. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall-12.776; 15. Jason McDougal, 71m, FMR-12.787; 16. Kyle Larson, 1K, Larson-12.796; 17. Ethan Mitchell, 08m, Dave Mac-12.803; 18. Ben Worth, 5G, Alexander-12.831; 19. Buddy Kofoid, 97K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.851; 20. Daison Pursley, 98, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.862; 21. Carson Garrett, 15x, Garrett-12.888; 22. Jake Swanson, 73K, Ford-12.923; 23. Colby Copeland, 27w, Wood-12.930; 24. Cory Elliott, 11E, Elliott-12.932; 25. Carson Sousa, 01, Dalby-12.932; 26. C.J. Leary, 13, Gile-12.951; 27. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 27, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-12.983; 28. Kaidon Brown, 97w, Wood-12.987; 29. Jesse Colwell, 71, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-13.018; 30. Ronnie Gardner, 68, Six8-13.018; 31. Justin Grant, 4A, RAMS-13.059; 32. Ryan Bernal, 77w, Wood-13.062; 33. Shane Golobic, 17w, Wood-13.108; 34. Ricky Stenhouse Jr., 17JR, Clauson Marshall-13.134; 35. Andrew Layser, 47BC, Clauson Marshall-13.137; 36. Damion Gardner, 4, Klatt-13.143; 37. Jake Bubak, 27B, Bourke-13.147; 38. Robert Dalby, 4D, Dalby-13.161; 39. Thomas Meseraull, 7x, RMS-13.165; 40. Brady Bacon, 73T, Ford-13.194; 41. Holley Hollan, 67K, Kunz/Curb-Agajanian-13.197; 42. Maria Cofer, 71s, Campbell-13.234; 43. Dylan Ito, 73, Ford-13.244; 44. Karsyn Elledge, 1, Tucker/Boat-13.272; 45. Robby Josett, 73x, Ford-13.273; 46. David Prickett, 15DJ, Neverlift-13.284; 47. Daniel Robinson, 57D, McCreery-13.294; 48. Aaron Reutzel, 87, Tucker/Boat-13.304; 49. Chris Windom, 17BC, Clauson Marshall-13.310; 50. Nick Drake, 7R, Ruston-13.328; 51. Chad Frewaldt, 4F, Frewaldt-13.476; 52. Johnathon Henry, 1x, LKK-13.511; 53. Terry Nichols, 1p, Nichols-13.555; 54. C.J. Sarna, 20, Sarna-13.566; 55. Mark Chisholm, 56x, Chisholm-13.580; 56. Dillon Welch, 81, Tucker/Boat-13.580; 57. Randi Pankratz, 8, Pankratz-13.590; 58. Matt Streeter, 3F, Finkenbinder-13.615; 59. Kyle Beilman, 31B, Beilman-13.618; 60. Tyler Edwards, 17s, Swanson-13.638; 61. Jake Morgan, 45, Morgan-13.780; 62. Mike Leach Jr., 33, Leach-14.188; 63. Casey Hicks, 5H, Hicks-14.195; 64. Ron Hazelton, 15ws, Hazelton-14.368; 65. Bryan Drollinger, 71D, Drollinger-14.507; 66. Audra Sasselli, 1p, Nichols-17.696; 67. Emilio Hoover, 9H, Hoover-NT; 68. Chris Sheil, 91, Mason-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS / EXTREME MUFFLERS FIRST QUALIFIER: (12 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Colby Copeland, 3. Daison Pursley, 4. Jesse Colwell, 5. Ryan Bernal, 6. Andrew Layser, 7. Holley Hollan, 8. Nick Drake, 9. Robert Dalby, 10. Dillon Welch, 11. Kyle Beilman, 12. Terry Nichols, 13. Chris Sheil, 14. Karsyn Elledge, 15. Mike Leach Jr., 16. C.J. Leary, 17. Ethan Mitchell, 18. Daniel Robinson, 19. Zeb Wise, 20. Bryan Drollinger. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION INC. / BROWN & MILLER RACING SOLUTIONS SECOND QUALIFIER: (12 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Tanner Carrick, 2. Jason McDougal, 3. Cory Elliott, 4. Thomas Meseraull, 5. Ben Worth, 6. Shane Golobic, 7. Ronnie Gardner, 8. Aaron Reutzel, 9. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 10. Damion Gardner, 11. Carson Garrett, 12. Maria Cofer, 13. Robby Josett, 14. C.J. Sarna, 15. Randi Pankratz, 16. Chad Frewaldt, 17. Audra Sasselli, 18. Casey Hicks, 19. Tyler Edwards. NT

AUTOMETER / COMPETITION SUSPENSION INC / BUTLERBUILT SEATS THIRD QUALIFIER: (12 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Kyle Larson, 2. Logan Seavey, 3. Buddy Kofoid, 4. Ricky Stenhouse Jr., 5. Carson Sousa, 6. Jake Swanson, 7. Justin Grant, 8. Kaidon Brown, 9. Jake Bubak, 10. Brady Bacon, 11. Johnathon Henry, 12. Chris Windom, 13. Dylan Ito, 14. David Prickett, 15. Matt Streeter, 16. Jake Morgan, 17. Mark Chisholm, 18. Ron Hazelton, 19. Emilio Hoover. NT

INDY RACE PARTS SEMI: (15 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Ryan Bernal, 2. Shane Golobic, 3. Ben Worth, 4. Jake Swanson, 5. Andrew Layser, 6. Damion Gardner, 7. Jake Bubak, 8. Kaidon Brown, 9. Aaron Reutzel, 10. Nick Drake, 11. Holley Hollan, 12. Brady Bacon, 13. Tucker Klaasmeyer, 14. Carson Sousa, 15. Ronnie Gardner, 16. Robert Dalby. NT

FEATURE: (98 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Kyle Larson (13), 2. Cannon McIntosh (8), 3. Spencer Bayston (4), 4. Jason McDougal (15), 5. Carson Macedo (10), 6. Buddy Kofoid (19), 7. Logan Seavey (16), 8. Tanner Carrick (12), 9. Shane Golobic (24), 10. Ryan Bernal (23), 11. Jake Swanson (26), 12. Zeb Wise (27), 13. Jerry Coons Jr. (3), 14. Chris Windom (28), 15. Ben Worth (25), 16. Jesse Colwell (20), 17. Rico Abreu (5), 18. Tyler Courtney (11), 19. Daison Pursley (17), 20. Colby Copeland (14), 21. C.J. Sarna (30), 22. Michael Pickens (6), 23. Kevin Thomas Jr. (1), 24. Ricky Stenhouse Jr. (22), 25. Thomas Meseraull (21), 26. Robert Dalby (29), 27. Gio Scelzi (7), 28. Cory Elliott (18), 29. Chase Johnson (2), 30. Austin Liggett (9). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-20 Kevin Thomas Jr., Laps 21-87 Cannon McIntosh, Laps 88-98 Kyle Larson.

****Zeb Wise flipped during the first qualifier. C.J. Leary flipped during the first qualifier. Carson Sousa flipped during the semi. Chase Johnson flipped on lap 11 of the feature. Ricky Stenhouse Jr. flipped on laps 22 & 28 of the feature. Gio Scelzi flipped on lap 35 of the feature. Kevin Thomas Jr. flipped on lap 70 of the feature. Tyler Courtney flipped on lap 98 of the feature.**

FINAL USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-2040, 2-Logan Seavey-1861, 3-Chris Windom-1853, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1784, 5-Zeb Wise-1749, 6-Tanner Carrick-1605, 7-Jerry Coons Jr.-1581, 8-Jason McDougal-1531, 9-Tucker Klaasmeyer-1421, 10-Chad Boat-1255.

FINAL USAC WESTERN STATES MIDGET CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Robert Dalby-793, 2-Cory Elliott-764, 3-Ben Worth-593, 4-David Prickett-586, 5-C.J. Sarna-566, 6-Shannon McQueen-534, 7-Jake Swanson-499, 8-Austin Liggett-481, 9-Randi Pankratz-438, 10-Kyle Beilman-392.

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS

DON BASILE ROOKIE OF THE RACE: Cannon McIntosh

KSE RACING PRODUCTS / SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Shane Golobic (24th to 9th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Jerry Coons Jr.

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Andrew Layser

Tanner Carrick (Competition Suspension INC./Brown & Miller Racing Solutions Second Heat Winner)

Tyler Courtney (Simpson Race Products/Extreme Mufflers First Heat Winner)

Kyle Larson (AutoMeter/Competition Suspension INC./Ultra Shield Race Products Third Heat Winner)

Kevin Thomas Jr. (Fatheadz Eyewear/Woodland Auto Display Fast Qualifier)

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USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK NATIONAL MIDGET STAT LEADERS:

Driver Champion: Tyler Courtney

Entrant Champion: Clauson Marshall Racing #7BC

Rookie of the Year: Andrew Layser

Most Feature Wins: (8) Tyler Courtney

Laps Led: (175) Tyler Courtney

Top-Fives: (20) Tyler Courtney

Top-Tens: (26) Tyler Courtney

Fast Qualifying Times: (8) Tyler Courtney

Heat Race Wins: (9) Tyler Courtney

Feature Starts: (31) Tanner Carrick, Logan Seavey & Kevin Thomas Jr.

Most Positions Gained in a Feature: (19) Kyle Larson (23rd to 4th on Nov. 19 at Placerville Speedway)

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2019 USAC MIDGET NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE & RESULTS

Feb 8: Ocala, Florida – Bubba Raceway Park

WINNER: Tyler Courtney (Clauson Marshall Racing #7BC)

Feb 9: Ocala, Florida – Bubba Raceway Park

WINNER: Tyler Courtney (Clauson Marshall Racing #7BC)

Mar 9: &&& Du Quoin, Illinois - Southern Illinois Center

WINNER: Cannon McIntosh (Dave Mac Motorsports #08)

Apr 5: Kokomo, Indiana - Kokomo Speedway

WINNER: Tyler Courtney (Clauson Marshall Racing #7BC)

Apr 6: Kokomo, Indiana - Kokomo Speedway

WINNER: Kevin Thomas Jr. (Petry Motorsports #5)

May 17: Granite City, Illinois – Tri-City Speedway

WINNER: Tyler Courtney (Clauson Marshall Racing #7BC)

Jun 4: @@@ **Montpelier**, Indiana - Montpelier Motor Speedway

WINNER: Logan Seavey (Keith Kunz Motorsports/Curb-Agajanian #67)

Jun 5: @@@ Gas City, Indiana – Gas City I-69 Speedway

WINNER: Justin Grant (RAMS Racing #4A)

Jun 6: @@@ Putnamville, Indiana - Lincoln Park Speedway

WINNER: Tanner Thorson (Keith Kunz Motorsports/Curb-Agajanian #98)

Jun 7: @@@ Bloomington, Indiana – Bloomington Speedway

WINNER: Tyler Courtney (Clauson Marshall Racing #7BC)

Jun 8: @@@ Lawrenceburg, Indiana - Lawrenceburg Speedway

WINNER: Chris Windom (Clauson Marshall Racing #17BC)

Jun 29: Joliet, Illinois – Dirt track at Route 66

WINNER: Kyle Larson (Keith Kunz Motorsports/Curb-Agajanian #97)

Jul 9: Meeker, Oklahoma – Red Dirt Raceway

WINNER: Logan Seavey (Keith Kunz Motorsports/Curb-Agajanian #67)

Jul 12: Fairbury, Nebraska – Jefferson County Speedway

WINNER: Jason McDougal (FMR Racing #76m)

Jul 13: Fairbury, Nebraska – Jefferson County Speedway

WINNER: Tyler Courtney (Clauson Marshall Racing #7BC)

Jul 14: Sweet Springs, Missouri – Sweet Springs Motorsports Complex

WINNER: Tanner Carrick (Keith Kunz Motorsports/Curb-Agajanian #71K)

Jul 30: *** Bechtelsville, Pennsylvania – Grandview Speedway

WINNER: Chris Windom (Clauson Marshall Racing #17BC)

Jul 31: *** Kutztown, Pennsylvania – Action Track USA

WINNER: Zeb Wise (Clauson Marshall Racing #39BC)

Aug 1: *** Spring Run, Pennsylvania – Path Valley Speedway Park

WINNER: Chad Boat (Tucker/Boat Motorsports #84)

Aug 2: *** Jonestown, Pennsylvania – Linda's Speedway

WINNER: Zeb Wise (Clauson Marshall Racing #39BC)

Aug 3: *** Newmanstown, Pennsylvania - Lanco's Clyde Martin Memorial Speedway

WINNER: Logan Seavey (Keith Kunz Motorsports/Curb-Agajanian #67)

Sep 5: Speedway, Indiana – The Dirt Track at Indianapolis Motor Speedway

WINNER: Zeb Wise (Clauson Marshall Racing #39BC)

Sep 28: Rossburg, Ohio - Eldora Speedway

WINNER: Tyler Courtney (Clauson Marshall Racing #7BC)

Oct 17: Wayne City, Illinois – Wayne County Speedway

WINNER: Tyler Courtney (Clauson Marshall Racing #7BC)

Oct 19: Haubstadt, Indiana – Tri-State Speedway

WINNER: Jason McDougal (FMR Racing #76m)

Nov 15: ### San Tan Valley, Arizona – Arizona Speedway

WINNER: Kevin Thomas Jr. (Petty Motorsports #5)

Nov 16: ### San Tan Valley, Arizona – Arizona Speedway

WINNER: Brady Bacon (FMR Racing #76E)

Nov 19: ### Placerville, California – Placerville Speedway

WINNER: Gio Scelzi (Tucker/Boat Motorsports #84)

Nov 20: ### Placerville, California – Placerville Speedway

WINNER: Kyle Larson (#1K Kyle Larson Open Wheel)

Nov 23: ### Bakersfield, California – Bakersfield Speedway

WINNER: Kyle Larson (#1K Kyle Larson Open Wheel)

Nov 28: ### Ventura, California - Ventura Raceway

WINNER: Kyle Larson (#1K Kyle Larson Open Wheel)

Races noted with &&& represent an indoor race.

Races noted with @@@ represent Indiana Midget Week.

Races noted with *** represent a race with the USAC Eastern Midgets Presented by ARDC.

Races noted with ### represent a Co-Sanctioned race with the USAC Western States Midget Championship.

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2019 USAC National Midget Driver Points

Pos.	Pts.	Driver, Hometown
1	2040	Tyler Courtney, Indianapolis, Indiana
2	1861	Logan Seavey, Sutter, California
3	1853	Chris Windom, Canton, Illinois
4	1784	Kevin Thomas Jr., Cullman, Alabama
5	1749	Zeb Wise, Angola, Indiana

6	1605	Tanner Carrick, Lincoln, California
7	1581	Jerry Coons Jr., Tucson, Arizona
8	1531	Jason McDougal, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma
9	1421	Tucker Klaasmeyer, Paola, Kansas
10	1255	Chad Boat, Phoenix, Arizona
11	1188	Andrew Layser (R), Collegeville, Pennsylvania
12	1056	Tanner Thorson, Minden, Nevada
13	979	Jesse Colwell (R), Red Bluff, California
14	896	Karsyn Elledge (R), Mooresville, North Carolina
15	768	Justin Grant, Lone, California
16	756	Holley Hollan (R), Broken Arrow, Oklahoma
17	702	Brady Bacon, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma
18	665	Ethan Mitchell (R), Mooresville, North Carolina
19	634	C.J. Leary (R), Greenfield, Indiana
20	631	Tyler Thomas, Collinsville, Oklahoma
21	448	Zach Daum, Pocahontas, Illinois
22	447	Michael Pickens, Auckland, New Zealand
23	422	Shane Golobic, Fremont, California
24	388	Cole Bodine (R), Rossville, Indiana
25	348	Sam Johnson, Saint Peters, Missouri
26	301	Zane Hendricks (R), Stillwater, Oklahoma
27	176	Sterling Cling (R), Tempe, Arizona
28	170	Oliver Akard (R), Fort Myers, Florida
29	141	Steve Buckwalter, Royersford, Pennsylvania
30	130	Tyler Nelson, Olathe, Kansas
31	124	Tony DiMattia, Malvern, Pennsylvania
32	104	Steve Craig (R), Levittown, Pennsylvania
33	93	Curtis Spicer (R), Marysville, Kansas
34	71	Karter Sarff (R), Mason City, Illinois
35	49	Adam Pierson, East Corinth, Vermont

36 10 Kenney Johnson (R), Bethany, Connecticut

(R) represents a USAC National Midget Rookie

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2019 USAC National Midget Entrant Points

Pos.	Pts.	Entrant, Location
1	2040	Clauson Marshall Racing, Fishers, Indiana (#7BC)
2	1861	Keith Kunz/Curb-Agajanian Motorsports, Columbus, Indiana (#67)
3	1853	Clauson Marshall Racing, Fishers, Indiana (#17BC)
4	1784	Petry Motorsports, Greenfield, Indiana (#5)
5	1749	Clauson Marshall Racing, Fishers, Indiana (#39BC)
6	1708	FMR Racing, Palm City, Florida (#76m)
7	1613	Tucker-Boat Motorsports, Mooresville, North Carolina (#84)
8	1605	Keith Kunz/Curb-Agajanian Motorsports, Columbus, Indiana (#71K)
9	1581	Petry Motorsports, Greenfield, Indiana (#25)
10	1421	Keith Kunz/Curb-Agajanian Motorsports, Columbus, Indiana (#27)
11	1188	Clauson Marshall Racing, Fishers, Indiana (#47BC)
12	979	Keith Kunz/Curb-Agajanian Motorsports, Columbus, Indiana (#71)
13	975	Keith Kunz/Curb-Agajanian Motorsports, Columbus, Indiana (#98)
14	896	Tucker-Boat Motorsports, Mooresville, North Carolina (#1)
15	815	Keith Kunz/Curb-Agajanian Motorsports, Columbus, Indiana (#97)
16	768	RAMS Racing, Lees Summit, Missouri (#4A)
17	756	Keith Kunz/Curb-Agajanian Motorsports, Columbus, Indiana (#67K)
18	672	RMS Racing, Western Springs, Illinois (#7x)
19	631	Tyler Thomas Motorsports, Catoosa, Oklahoma (#91T)
20	622	Steve Reynolds, Springfield, Illinois (#21KS)
21	518	Bundy Built Motorsports, Mooresville, North Carolina (#19m)
22	493	Petry Motorsports, Greenfield, Indiana (#15)
23	448	Daum Motorsports, Pocahontas, Illinois (#5D)

24	432	Matt Wood Racing, Elk Grove, California (#17w)
25	376	FMR Racing, Palm City, Florida (#76E)
26	301	Zane Hendricks Racing, Stillwater, Oklahoma (#27z)
27	275	RMS Racing, Western Springs, Illinois (#36)
28	275	Petry Motorsports, Greenfield, Indiana (#35)
29	170	Dan & Shellie Akard, Fort Myers, Florida (#41)
30	130	Tyler Nelson Racing, Indianapolis, Indiana (#88)
31	124	Tony DiMattia Motorsports, Malvern, Pennsylvania (#50)
32	111	Tri-C Motorsports, West Sacramento, California (#3c)
33	104	Steve Craig, Levittown, Pennsylvania (#55)
34	102	Brian Buckwalter, Royersford, Pennsylvania (#0)
35	93	Spicer Racecraft, Marysville, Kansas (#4)
36	84	Bus Racing Team, Prescott, Arizona (#17)
37	70	Steve Reynolds/Jetson Motorsports, Springfield, Illinois (#19J)
38	49	Mancini-Manafort Racing, Plainville, Connecticut (#74m)
39	10	Jeff Johnson, Bethany, Connecticut (#46)
40	10	Cornell Racing Stables, Monee, Illinois (#8)

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2019 USAC National Midget Rookie of the Year Driver Points

Pos.	Pts.	Driver, Hometown
1	1188	Andrew Layser, Collegeville, Pennsylvania
2	979	Jesse Colwell, Red Bluff, California
3	896	Karsyn Elledge, Mooresville, North Carolina
4	756	Holley Hollan, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma
5	665	Ethan Mitchell, Mooresville, North Carolina
6	634	C.J. Leary, Greenfield, Indiana
7	388	Cole Bodine, Rossville, Indiana
8	301	Zane Hendricks, Stillwater, Oklahoma

9	176	Sterling Cling, Tempe, Arizona
10	170	Oliver Akard, Fort Myers, Florida
11	104	Steve Craig, Levittown, Pennsylvania
12	93	Curtis Spicer, Marysville, Kansas
13	71	Karter Sarff, Mason City, Illinois
14	10	Kenney Johnson, Bethany, Connecticut

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2019 USAC NATIONAL MIDGET STATISTICS

FEATURE WINS:

8-Tyler Courtney (Feb 8 at Bubba Raceway Park, Feb 9 at Bubba Raceway Park, Apr 5 at Kokomo Speedway, May 17 at Tri-City Speedway, Jun 7 at Bloomington Speedway, Jul 13 at Jefferson County Speedway, Sep 28 at Eldora Speedway & Oct 17 at Wayne County Speedway)

4-Kyle Larson (Jun 29 at Dirt track at Route 66, Nov 20 at Placerville Speedway, Nov 23 at Bakersfield Speedway & Nov 29 at Ventura Raceway)

3-Logan Seavey (Jun 4 at Montpelier Motor Speedway, Jul 9 at Red Dirt Raceway & Aug 3 at Lanco's Clyde Martin Memorial Speedway)

3-Zeb Wise (Jul 31 at Action Track USA, Aug 2 at Linda's Speedway & Sep 5 The Dirt Track at IMS)

2-Jason McDougal (Jul 12 at Jefferson County Speedway & Oct 19 at Tri-State Speedway)

2-Kevin Thomas Jr. (Apr 6 at Kokomo Speedway & Nov 15 at Arizona Speedway)

2-Chris Windom (Jun 8 at Lawrenceburg Speedway & Jul 30 at Grandview Speedway)

1-Brady Bacon (Nov 16 at Arizona Speedway)

1-Chad Boat (Aug 1 at Path Valley Speedway Park)

1-Tanner Carrick (Jul 14 at Sweet Springs Motorsports Complex)

1-Justin Grant (Jun 5 at Gas City I-69 Speedway)

1-Cannon McIntosh (Mar 9 at the Southern Illinois Center)

1-Gio Scelzi (Nov 19 at Placerville Speedway)

1-Tanner Thorson (Jun 6 at Lincoln Park Speedway)

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FEATURE LAPS LED:

175-Tyler Courtney
129-Logan Seavey
124-Kyle Larson
107-Cannon McIntosh
98-Kevin Thomas Jr.
71-Justin Grant
55-Chris Windom
48-Zeb Wise
41-Brady Bacon
40-Jason McDougal
38-Chad Boat
37-Tyler Thomas
36-Tanner Thorson
30-Gio Scelzi
25-Tucker Klaasmeyer
24-Tanner Carrick
21-Thomas Meseraull
15-Aaron Reutzel
10-Michael Pickens
4-Jerry Coons Jr.
2-Jesse Colwell & Andrew Layser

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TOP 5 FEATURE FINISHES:

20-Tyler Courtney
15-Logan Seavey
14-Chris Windom

13-Zeb Wise

12-Kevin Thomas Jr.

10-Chad Boat & Jason McDougal

7-Kyle Larson & Tanner Thorson

6-Tanner Carrick, Jerry Coons Jr. & Justin Grant

4-Cannon McIntosh

3-Rico Abreu & C.J. Leary

2-Jesse Colwell, Carson Macedo & Tyler Thomas

1-Brady Bacon, Spencer Bayston, Jonathan Beason, Christopher Bell, Ryan Bernal, Kyle Cummins, Zach Daum, Shane Golobic, Tucker Klaasmeyer, Ethan Mitchell, Michael Pickens, Gio Scelzi & Dillon Welch

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TOP 10 FEATURE FINISHES:

26-Tyler Courtney

25-Logan Seavey & Chris Windom

20-Kevin Thomas Jr.

18-Tanner Carrick, Jerry Coons Jr. & Zeb Wise

17-Jason McDougal

14-Chad Boat & Tanner Thorson

13-Tucker Klaasmeyer

9-Kyle Larson

8-Justin Grant & Andrew Layser

6-Shane Golobic

5-Brady Bacon, Jesse Colwell, Zach Daum, C.J. Leary, Cannon McIntosh, Thomas Meseraull & Tyler Thomas

4-Rico Abreu & Gio Scelzi

3-Spencer Bayston, Michael Pickens & Dillon Welch

2-Ryan Bernal, Carson Macedo & Ricky Stenhouse Jr.

1-Jonathan Beason, Christopher Bell, Steve Buckwalter, Timmy Buckwalter, Kyle Cummins, Robert Dalby, Sam Johnson, Buddy Kofoid, Ethan Mitchell, Daryn Pittman, Aaron Reutzel, Daniel Robinson & Matt Sherrell

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FAST QUALIFYING TIMES: (Presented by Fatheadz Eyewear)

8-Tyler Courtney

4-Kyle Larson & Zeb Wise

3-Logan Seavey

2-Kevin Thomas Jr. & Dillon Welch

1-Shane Golobic, Justin Grant, Ethan Mitchell, Gio Scelzi & Chris Windom

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HEAT RACE WINS: (Presented by Simpson Race Products, Competition Suspension INC., AutoMeter & Indy Race Parts)

9-Tyler Courtney

8-Chad Boat & Tanner Carrick

7-Kevin Thomas Jr. & Zeb Wise

6-Jason McDougal

5-Tucker Klaasmeyer, Thomas Meseraull, Logan Seavey & Tyler Thomas

4-Brady Bacon, Jesse Colwell & Chris Windom

3-Jerry Coons Jr., Dave Darland, Andrew Layser & Cannon McIntosh

2-Zach Daum, Karsyn Elledge, Justin Grant, Holley Hollan, Ethan Mitchell, Jake Neuman, Daison Pursley & Tanner Thorson

1-Rico Abreu, Spencer Bayston, Jonathan Beason, Cole Bodine, Colby Copeland, Robert Dalby, Colton Heath, Chase Johnson, Sam Johnson, Kyle Larson, Ace McCarthy, Daniel Robinson, Gio Scelzi, Jake Swanson & Dillon Welch

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C-MAIN WINS:

1-Brady Bacon, Michael Faccinto, Sam Johnson, Buddy Kofoid & Michael Pickens

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D-MAIN WINS:

1-Jonathan Beason & Brent Beauchamp

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QUALIFIER WINS:

2-Jesse Colwell, Tyler Courtney & Tyler Thomas

1-Christopher Bell, Tanner Carrick, Colten Cottle, Dave Darland, Zach Daum, Kyle Larson, Michael Pickens, Daniel Robinson, Gio Scelzi, Dillon Welch & Zeb Wise

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DASH/PURSUIT WINS:

1-Kyle Larson & Jason McDougal

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SEMI WINS:

3-Tanner Thorson

2-Christopher Bell & Logan Seavey

1-Brady Bacon, Ryan Bernal, Jerry Coons Jr., Dave Darland, Justin Grant, Sam Johnson, Tucker Klaasmeyer, Kyle Larson, Carson Macedo, Cannon McIntosh, Thomas Meseraull, Jake Neuman, Aaron Reutzel, Gio Scelzi, Brad Sweet, Chris Windom & Zeb Wise

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FEATURE STARTS:

31-Tanner Carrick, Logan Seavey & Kevin Thomas Jr.

30-Jerry Coons Jr., Tyler Courtney, Chris Windom & Zeb Wise

29-Tucker Klaasmeyer

28-Jason McDougal

24-Andrew Layser

23-Chad Boat

22-Jesse Colwell

18-Tanner Thorson

17-Karsyn Elledge

16-Holley Hollan & Thomas Meseraull

14-Justin Grant

13-Brady Bacon

12-Tyler Thomas

11-Kyle Larson, C.J. Leary & Cannon McIntosh

10-Cole Bodine & Michael Pickens

9-Dave Darland, Ethan Mitchell & Gio Scelzi

8-Robert Dalby, Zach Daum & Shane Golobic

7-Rico Abreu, Zane Hendricks, Sam Johnson & Dillon Welch

5-Spencer Bayston & Steven Drevicki

4-Bobby Butler, Kyle Cummins, Noah Gass, Buddy Kofoid, Shannon McQueen, Jake Neuman Daison Pursley, Ricky Stenhouse Jr. & Jake Swanson

3-Christopher Bell, Ryan Bernal, Colby Copeland, Steve Craig, Zach Curtis, Cory Elliott, Shawn Jackson, Carson Macedo, Aaron Reutzel, Daniel Robinson & Curtis Spicer

2-Lance Bennett, Olivia Bennett, Bruce Buckwalter Jr., Steve Buckwalter, Timmy Buckwalter, Sterling Cling, Brett Conkling, Conor Daly, Ryan Greth, Chase Johnson, Ace McCarthy, Adam Pierson, Karter Sarff, C.J. Sarna, Tyler Seavey, Brad Sweet, A.J. Valim, Kevin Woody Jr. & Alex Yankowski

1-Jonathan Beason, Clinton Boyles, Joe Boyles, Alex Bright, Chase Briscoe, Colten Cottle, Hank Davis, Andrew Deal, Tony DiMattia, Chad Frewaldt, Russ Gamester, Casey Hicks, Chase Jones, Tommy Kunsman, Austin Liggett, Critter Malone, Marvin Mitchell, Kameron Morral, Kyle O’Gara, Billy Pauch Jr., Justin Peck, Daryn Pittman, Kendall Ruble, Matt Sherrell, Jamie Speers, Presley Truedson, Matt Veatch, Chad Winfrey, Ben Worth & J.J. Yeley

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HARD CHARGER OF THE RACE: (Presented by KSE Racing Products)

Feb 8: Bubba Raceway Park – Chris Windom (11th to 3rd)

Feb 9: Bubba Raceway Park – Tanner Thorson (24th to 7th)

Mar 9: Southern Illinois Center – Chad Boat (15th to 2nd)

Apr 5: Kokomo Speedway – Dave Darland (21st to 11th)

Apr 6: Kokomo Speedway – Andrew Layser (22nd to 16th)

May 17: Tri-City Speedway – Cannon McIntosh (18th to 7th)

Jun 4: Montpelier Motor Speedway – Jerry Coons Jr. (20th to 11th)

Jun 5: Gas City I-69 Speedway – Tyler Courtney (15th to 6th)

Jun 6: Lincoln Park Speedway – Tanner Thorson (15th to 1st)

Jun 7: Bloomington Speedway – Chris Windom (22nd to 4th)

Jun 8: Lawrenceburg Speedway – Chad Boat (15th to 2nd)

Jun 29: Dirt track at Route 66 – Jason McDougal (19th to 9th)

Jul 9: Red Dirt Raceway – Jonathan Beason (17th to 5th)

Jul 12: Jefferson County Speedway – Tyler Courtney (12th to 2nd)

Jul 13: Jefferson County Speedway – Tyler Thomas (11th to 5th)

Jul 14: Sweet Springs Motorsports Complex – Daniel Robinson (23rd to 8th)

Jul 30: Grandview Speedway – Tanner Thorson (15th to 4th)

Jul 31: Action Track USA – Chris Windom (12th to 3rd)

Aug 1: Path Valley Speedway Park – Timmy Buckwalter (16th to 9th)

Aug 2: Linda's Speedway – Zeb Wise (8th to 1st)

Aug 3: Lanco's Clyde Martin Memorial Speedway – Jason McDougal (12th to 3rd)

Sep 5: The Dirt Track at IMS – Tyler Courtney (20th to 2nd)

Sep 28: Eldora Speedway – Tucker Klaasmeyer (18th to 9th)

Oct 17: Wayne County Speedway – Logan Seavey (19th to 4th)

Oct 19: Tri-State Speedway – Justin Grant (16th to 5th)

Nov 15: Arizona Speedway – Kyle Cummins (21st to 14th)

Nov 16: Arizona Speedway – Rico Abreu (18th to 5th)

Nov 19: Placerville Speedway – Kyle Larson (23rd to 4th)

Nov 20: Placerville Speedway – Tyler Courtney (24th to 8th)

Nov 23: Bakersfield Speedway – Thomas Meseraull (20th to 8th)

Nov 29: Ventura Raceway – Shane Golobic (24th to 9th)

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13TH PLACE FINISHERS: (Presented by Wilwood Brakes)

Feb 8: Bubba Raceway Park – Tyler Thomas

Feb 9: Bubba Raceway Park – Zane Hendricks

Mar 9: Southern Illinois Center – Tanner Carrick

Apr 5: Kokomo Speedway – Tyler Thomas

Apr 6: Kokomo Speedway – Jake Neuman

May 17: Tri-City Speedway – Tanner Carrick

Jun 4: Montpelier Motor Speedway – Michael Pickens

Jun 5: Gas City I-69 Speedway – Andrew Layser

Jun 6: Lincoln Park Speedway – Holley Hollan

Jun 7: Bloomington Speedway – Jerry Coons Jr.

Jun 8: Lawrenceburg Speedway – Jesse Colwell

Jun 29: Dirt track at Route 66 – Zach Daum

Jul 9: Red Dirt Raceway – Shannon McQueen

Jul 12: Jefferson County Speedway – Tanner Thorson

Jul 13: Jefferson County Speedway – Shannon McQueen

Jul 14: Sweet Springs Motorsports Complex – Joe Boyles

Jul 30: Grandview Speedway – Jason McDougal

Jul 31: Action Track USA – Tucker Klaasmeyer

Aug 1: Path Valley Speedway Park – Kyle Larson

Aug 2: Linda's Speedway – Steven Drevicki

Aug 3: Lanco's Clyde Martin Memorial Speedway – Zeb Wise

Sep 5: The Dirt Track at IMS – Michael Pickens

Sep 28: Eldora Speedway – Dave Darland

Oct. 17: Wayne County Speedway – Gio Scelzi

Oct. 19: Tri-State Speedway – Jerry Coons Jr.

Nov 15: Arizona Speedway – Tucker Klaasmeyer

Nov 16: Arizona Speedway – Shannon McQueen

Nov 19: Placerville Speedway – Brady Bacon

Nov 20: Placerville Speedway – Chris Windom

Nov 23: Bakersfield Speedway – Buddy Kofoid

Nov 29: Ventura Raceway – Jerry Coons Jr.

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FIRST NON-TRANSFERS: (Presented by Saldana Racing Products)

Feb 8: Bubba Raceway Park – Ethan Mitchell

Mar 9: Southern Illinois Center – Zane Hendricks & Jake Neuman

Apr 5: Kokomo Speedway – Jake Neuman

Apr 6: Kokomo Speedway – Ethan Mitchell

May 17: Tri-City Speedway – Andrew Layser

Jun 4: Montpelier Motor Speedway – Noah Gass

Jun 5: Gas City I-69 Speedway – Ethan Mitchell

Jun 6: Lincoln Park Speedway – Kyle Cummins

Jun 7: Bloomington Speedway – Cannon McIntosh

Jun 8: Lawrenceburg Speedway – Sterling Cling

Jun 29: Dirt track at Route 66 – Jake Neuman

Jul 9: Red Dirt Raceway – Andrew Layser

Sep 5: The Dirt Track at IMS – Sam Johnson

Oct. 17: Wayne County Speedway – Holley Hollan

Oct. 19: Tri-State Speedway – Sam Johnson

Nov 15: Arizona Speedway – Shannon McQueen

Nov 16: Arizona Speedway – Robert Dalby

Nov 19: Placerville Speedway – Tyler Courtney, Zeb Wise & Cory Elliott

Nov 20: Placerville Speedway – Zeb Wise

Nov 23: Bakersfield Speedway – Andrew Layser

Nov 29: Ventura Raceway – Andrew Layser

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USAC NATIONAL MIDGET DRIVER ROSTER:

A

Rico Abreu/St. Helena, CA (Keith Kunz Motorsports-Curb-Agajanian #97)

(R) Oliver Akard/Ft. Myers, FL (Dan & Shellie Akard #41)

Chris Andrews/Tulsa, OK (Miller Racing #95)

B

Brady Bacon/Broken Arrow, OK (Daryl Saucier #1ST, TKH Motorsports #21H, Keith Ford #73T, FMR Racing #76, FMR Racing #76E, FMR Racing #76m & Central Motorsports #85)

Tyler Baran/Joliet, IL (BBoyz Motorsports #11)

Chris Baue/Indianapolis, IN (Chris Baue #9)

Spencer Bayston/Lebanon, IN (Hayward Motorsports #19)

Cody Beard/Huntingburg, IN (Cody Beard #7)

Jonathan Beason/Broken Arrow, OK (Hard Eight Racing #8J, Steve Reynolds Motorsports #21FS & Six8 Motorsports #68)

Brent Beauchamp/Avon, IN (Kevin Arnold #43)

Brett Becker/Odessa, TX (Brett Becker Racing #2B)

Kyle Beilman/Mar Vista, CA (Beilman Motorsports #31B)

Christopher Bell/Norman, OK (Keith Kunz Motorsports-Curb-Agajanian #21 & Tucker-Boat Motorsports #84x)

Robert Bell/Colfax, IA (Robert Bell #71B)

Blaze Bennett/Parker, CO (Blaze Bennett #10B & Olivia Bennett #77B)

Lance Bennett/Aurora, CO (Olivia Bennett #10)

Olivia Bennett/Aurora, CO (Olivia Bennett #77)

Ryan Bernal/Hollister, CA (Matt Wood Racing #77w)

Travis Berryhill/American Canyon, CA (Manic Racing #31)

Chad Boat/Phoenix, AZ (Tucker-Boat Motorsports #84)

(R) Cole Bodine/Rossville, IN (Pettry Motorsports #15 & Pettry Motorsports #35)

Blake Bower/Brentwood, CA (Tony Boscacci & Chris Walker #10B)

Clinton Boyles/Greenwood, MO (Mounce Motorsports #9)

Joe Boyles/Greenwood, MO (Joe Boyles #98B)

Alex Bright/Collegeville, PA (Daryl Saucier #1ST & Seymour Performance #29A)

Chase Briscoe/Mitchell, IN (Chase Briscoe Racing #5B)

Kaidon Brown/Sydney, AU (Matt Wood Racing #97w)
Kaylee Bryson/Muskogee, OK (Dave Mac Motorsports #11B)
Jake Bubak/Arvada, CO (Patrick Bourke #27B)
Bruce Buckwalter Jr./Mechanicsburg, PA (Bruce Buckwalter Sr. #83)
Steve Buckwalter/Royersford, PA (Brian Buckwalter #0 & Brian Buckwalter #25B)
Timmy Buckwalter/Douglassville, PA (Seymour Performance #29B)
David Budres/Beloit, WI (Manic Racing #23m)
Bobby Butler/Bridgeport, NJ (Rusty Myers #5B)

C

Tanner Carrick/Lincoln, CA (Keith Kunz Motorsports-Curb-Agajanian #71K)
Robert Carson/Concord, CA (Howard & Karen Segur #99x)
Grady Chandler/Piedmont, OK (Mounce Motorsports #19s)
Thomas Chandler/Festus, MO (Rich Roney #1T)
Mark Chisholm/Cheyenne, WY (Mark Chisholm #56x)
(R) Sterling Cling/Tempe, AZ (Petry Motorsports #35)
Maria Cofer/Macdoel, CA (Steve Reynolds Motorsports #21m, Johnny Cofer #57 & Marcie Campbell #71s)
(R) Jesse Colwell/Red Bluff, CA (Keith Kunz Motorsports-Curb-Agajanian #71)
Brett Conkling/Westwood, NJ (Brett Conkling #0NJ)
Jerry Coons Jr./Tucson, AZ (Petry Motorsports #25)
Colby Copeland/Roseville, CA (Matt Wood Racing #27w)
Colten Cottle/Kansas, IL (Travis Young #56AP)
Tyler Courtney/Indianapolis, IN (Clauson Marshall Racing #7BC)
(R) Steve Craig/Levittown, PA (Steve Craig #55)
Tim Crawley/Benton, AR (Tim Crawley #4J)
Braydon Cromwell/Lone Jack, MO (Mounce Motorsports #9)
Kyle Cummins/Princeton, IN (Jack Yeley & Glenn Styres #1G, Jack Yeley, Glenn Styres #2G & RMS LLC #71x)
Zach Curtis/Spring City, PA (Jack Curtis #75)

D

Robert Dalby/Anaheim, CA (Ken Dalby #4D & Tucker-Boat Motorsports #85)
Conor Daly/Noblesville, IN (Petty Motorsports #15 & Petty Motorsports #35)
Dave Darland/Lincoln, IN (Petty Motorsports #15, RMS LLC #36 & Del Morris #71R)
Zach Daum/Pocahontas, IL (Daum Motorsports #5D)
Hank Davis/Sand Springs, OK (Dean Franklin #42)
Andrew Deal/Caney, KS (Mike & Karen Deal #15D)
Justin Dickerson/Pittsboro, IN (Mike Dickerson #21D)
Tony DiMattia/Malvern, PA (Tony DiMattia #50)
Nick Drake/Mooresville, NC (CR Motorsports #7R & Troy Cline #55)
Ken Drangmeister/Hobart, IN (Ken Drangmeister #76)
Rich Drangmeister/Hobart, IN (#3 Rich Drangmeister)
Steven Drevicki/Reading, PA (Randy Heckman #12)
Bryan Drollinger/San Pedro, CA (Drollinger Bros. Racing #71D)

E

Tyler Edwards/Salina, OK (Jake Swanson #17s)
(R) Karsyn Elledge/Mooresville, NC (Tucker-Boat Motorsports #1)
Cory Elliott/Bakersfield, CA (Mitch Elliott #11E)

F

Michael Faccinto/Hanford, CA (Mitch Elliott #11F & Del Morris #47m)
Andrew Felker/Carl Junction, MO (Chad Shields #44)
Frank Flud/Pryor, OK (Bobby Springer #25s)
Chad Frewaldt/Kansas City, KS (Chad Frewaldt #4F)

G

Russ Gamester/Peru, IN (Gamester Racing #46)
Damion Gardner/Concord, CA (Klatt Enterprises #4)
Ronnie Gardner/Riverside, CA (Six8 Motorsports #68)
Carson Garrett/Littleton, CO (Broc Garrett #15x)

Noah Gass/Mounds, OK (Randy Gass #20G)
Dustin Golobic/Fremont, CA (Matt Wood Racing #17w)
Shane Golobic/Fremont, CA (Matt Wood Racing #17w)
Justin Grant/Ione, CA (RAMS Racing #4A)
Ryan Greth/Newport, PA (Mullet Racing #4)
Tony Gualda/Hollister, CA (Kruseman Motorsports #18K)

H

Derek Hagar/Marion, AR (Hagar-Proctor Racing #9JR)
Ryan Hall/Midlothian, TX (Ryan Hall #2)
Ron Hazelton/Chatsworth, CA (Ron Hazelton #15H)
Colton Heath/Marysville, WA (Carla & Gaylon Stewart #99)
(R) Zane Hendricks/Stillwater, OK (Zane Hendricks Racing #27z)
Johnathon Henry/Stockton, CA (LKK Racing #1K)
Anton Hernandez/Arlington, TX (Bear Wood #8JR)
John Heydenreich/Bloomsburg, PA (John Givens #22)
Casey Hicks/Platt City, MO (Casey Hicks #5H)
(R) Holley Hollan/Broken Arrow, OK (Keith Kunz Motorsports-Curb-Agajanian #67K)
Emilio Hoover/Broken Arrow, OK (James Hoover #9H)
Luke Howard (Overland Park, KS (Jay Mounce #00)

I

Dylan Ito/Ventura, CA (Keith Ford #73)

J

Dakota Jackson/Elizabethtown, IN (Kevin Arnold #43)
Shawn Jackson/Bear, DE (Shawn Jackson #7J)
Chris Jagger Jr./Warsaw, IN (Chris Jagger Jr. #32J)
Chase Johnson/Pennngrove, CA (Tom Malloy #25x)
Colby Johnson/Pennngrove, CA (Del Morris #71m)

Kenney Johnson/Bethany, CT (Jeff Johnson #46)

Sam Johnson/St. Peters, MO (Steve Reynolds-Jetson Motorsports #19J & Joe Johnson #72)

Chase Jones/Greenwood, IN (SFH Racing Development #1BR, Bill Ecker #57B & SFH Racing Development #68)

Curtis Jones/Sand Springs, OK (Wayne Simmons #77s)

Kyle Jones/Kennedale, TX (Trifecta Motorsports #7u)

Robby Josett/Santa Clarita, CA (Keith Ford #73x)

K

Tucker Klaasmeyer/Paola, KS (Keith Kunz Motorsports-Curb-Agajanian #27)

Michael Klein/Elsmere, KY (Mike Wallace #10A)

Buddy Kofoid/Penngrove, CA (Keith Kunz Motorsports-Curb-Agajanian #97K & Keith Kunz Motorsports-Curb-Agajanian #98)

Michael Koontz/Bloomington, IN (Michael Koontz #17x)

Tommy Kouns/Lebanon, IN (Chuck Taylor #11T)

Tommy Kunsman/Bethlehem, PA (Tommy Kunsman #21)

L

Kyle Larson/Elk Grove, CA (Kyle Larson Open Wheel #1K, Keith Kunz Motorsports-Curb-Agajanian #24 & Keith Kunz Motorsports-Curb-Agajanian #97)

(R) Andrew Layser/Collegeville, PA (Clauson Marshall Racing #47BC)

Mike Leach Jr./Orange, CA (Mike Leach Sr. #33p)

(R) C.J. Leary/Greenfield, IN (Gene Gile Racing #13, Steve Reynolds Motorsports #21KS & FMR Racing #76m)

Aaron Leffel/Springfield, OH (Chuck Taylor #11L)

Matt Linder/Hoschton, GA (Mark Bush #2x)

Anthony Lopiccolo/Yorba Linda, CA (Anthony Lopiccolo #21)

Brayton Lynch/Springfield, IL (Rusty Kunz #1K)

M

Carson Macedo/Lemoore, CA (Tarlton Motorsports #21)

Critter Malone/Pittsboro, IN (Seven LLC #7)

Ace McCarthy/Tahlequah, OK (Jim Neuman #28)

Jason McDougal/Broken Arrow, OK (Steve Reynolds Motorsports #21KS & FMR Racing #76m)
Cannon McIntosh/Bixby, OK (Dave Mac Motorsports #08)
Shannon McQueen/Bakersfield, CA (McQueen Racing #7 & Broc Garrett #15s)
Thomas Meseraull/San Jose, CA (#7x RMS LLC & Gene Gile Racing #13)
Ethan Mitchell/Mooresville, NC (Dave Mac Motorsports #08m & Bundy Built Motorsports #19m)
Marvin Mitchell/Madera, CA (Marvin Mitchell #78)
Mitchel Moles/Fresno, CA (Matt Wood Racing #27w)
Howard Moore/Memphis, TN (Chris Chappue #41)
Jake Morgan/Fair Oaks, CA (Mike Sala #19w & Gary Morgan #45)
Shane Morgan/Morton, IL (Shane Morgan #15m)
Kameron Morral/Hagerstown, MD (Mullet Racing #4)
Chance Morton/Coweta, OK (Blane Morton #7m)
Kade Morton/Coweta, OK (Blane Morton #8m)
Johnny Murdock/Dallas, TX (Zero Moto #0)

N

Tyler Nelson/Olathe, KS (Tyler Nelson Racing #88)
Jake Neuman/New Berlin, IN (Jim Neuman #3N)
Terry Nichols/Delano, CA (Kelly Nichols #1NP)

O

Austin O'Dell/Rochester, IL (Patrick O'Dell #97A)
Kyle O'Gara/Beech Grove, IN (SFH Racing Development #67F)
Trey Osborne/Columbus, OH (Mel Kenyon #61)

P

Ryan Padgett/Anadarko, OK (Wayne Crow #98p)
Randi Pankratz/Atascadero, CA (Wally Pankratz #8)
Billy Pauch Jr./Frenchtown, NJ (Heffner Racing Enterprises #72)
Justin Peck/Monrovia, IN (Bus Racing Team #17)

James Picardi/Mapleton, IL (James Picardi #127)

Michael Pickens/Auckland, NZ (RMS LLC #1NZ)

Adam Pierson/East Corinth, VT (Mancini-Manafort Racing #74m)

Daryn Pittman/Owasso, OK (Pittman Motorsports #21)

David Prickett/Fresno, CA (Neverlift Motorsports #15DJ)

Daison Pursley/Locust Grove, OK (Keith Kunz Motorsports-Curb-Agajanian #9 & Keith Kunz Motorsports-Curb-Agajanian #98)

R

Gunner Ramey/Sedalia, MO (Mounce Motorsports #19s)

Davey Ray/Davenport, IA (Cornell Racing Stables #8)

Aaron Reutzel/Clute, TX (Tucker-Boat Motorsports #87)

Kiely Ricardo/Hollister, CA (Ted Finkenbinder #3F)

Tyler Robbins/Collinsville, IL (Tyler Robbins #35T)

Daniel Robinson/Ewing, IL (Harris Racing #11 & McCreery Motorsports #57D)

Kendall Ruble/Vincennes, IN (Brian Martin #11m)

Gage Rucker/Truxton, MO (Kruselman Motorsports #11K & Amati Racing #45L)

S

(R) Karter Sarff/Mason City, IL (Steve Reynolds Motorsports #21KS)

C.J. Sarna/Palm Desert, CA (C.J. Sarna #20)

Audra Sasselli/Selma, CA (Kelly Nichols #1p)

Gio Scelzi/Fresno, CA (Tucker-Boat Motorsports #84 & Tucker/Boat Motorsports #85)

Aaron Schuck/Joliet, IL (Five-Three Motorsports #53)

Ray Seach/Beloit, WI (Manic Racing #54m)

Logan Seavey/Sutter, CA (Keith Kunz Motorsports-Curb-Agajanian #67)

Tyler Seavey/Sutter, CA (Randy Washburn #117)

Shaun Shapel/Wichita, KS (Phil Shapel #84s)

Steven Shebester/Mustang, OK (Ray Williams #22x)

Chris Sheil/Aurora, CO (Cappy Mason #91)

Matt Sherrell/Owasso, OK (Bubba Hunt #10)

Carson Sousa/Red Bluff, CA (Ken Dalby #01)
Jamie Speers/New Holland, PA (Jamie Speers #00)
Curtis Spicer/Marysville, KS (Spicer Racecraft #4)
Ricky Stenhouse Jr./Olive Branch, MS (Clauson Marshall Racing #7BC)
Matt Streeter/Napa, CA (Ted Finkenbinder #3F)
Kevin Studley/Plainfield, IN (Kevin Studley #57K)
Cody Swanson/Norco, CA (Marcie Campbell #71s)
Jake Swanson/Anaheim, CA (Broc Garrett #15s & Keith Ford #73K)
Brad Sweet/Grass Valley, CA (Willie Kahne #67z)

T

Adam Taylor/Dwight, IL (Taylor Motorsports #7T)
Garrett Thomas/Highland, IL (Mark Chisholm #56x)
Kevin Thomas Jr./Cullman, AL (Pettry Motorsports #5)
Tyler Thomas/Collinsville, OK (Tyler Thomas Motorsports #91T)
Tanner Thorson/Minden, NV (Tri-C Motorsports #3c, Hayward Motorsports #19 & Keith Kunz Motorsports-Curb-Agajanian #98)
Presley Truedson/Kennedy, MN (Daum Motorsports #5T)

V

A.J. Valim/Monument, CO (A.J. Valim #4T)
Matt Veatch/Ewing, IL (McCreery Motorsports #57D)

W

Brent Watson/Daleville, IN (Brent Watson #17K)
Billy Wease/Noblesville, IN (Amanda Wease #12w)
Cody Weisensel/Sun Prairie, WI (Kevin Weisensel #20)
Dillon Welch/Carmel, IN (Tucker-Boat Motorsports #81)
Matt Westfall/Pleasant Hill, OH (Steve Bordner #54)
Garet Williamson/Columbia, MO (Mounce Motorsports #19s)
Clint Wilson/Paradise, CA (Mounce Motorsports #c27)

Jeff Wimmenauer/Indianapolis, IN (Jeff Wimmenauer #15J)

Chris Windom/Canton, IL (Clauson Marshall Racing #17BC)

Chad Winfrey/Gladstone, MO (Chad Winfrey #321)

Joe Wirth/Waterloo, IL (Joe Wirth #77w)

Zeb Wise/Angola, IN (Clauson Marshall Racing #39BC)

Kevin Woody Jr./Victor, NY (Brian Buckwalter #0 & Brian Buckwalter #25B)

Ben Worth/Coalinga, CA (Dean Alexander #5G)

Y

Alex Yankowski/Covington Township, PA (Brian Buckwalter #0)

J.J. Yeley/Phoenix, AZ (Jeff Taylor #2J & RMS LLC 36)

(R) = USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget Rookie