2019 USAC NATIONAL SPRINT CAR REVIEW

Leary Lands First USAC Sprint Car Title

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Speedway, Indiana……In his eighth full season with the series, youthful C.J. Leary became USAC's newest first-time champion as well as the third youngest USAC National Sprint Car driver champion behind only Bryan Clauson and Levi Jones, who were both just slightly younger at the same age of 23.

In 2016, Leary became the first son of a past USAC Silver Crown winner (Chuck Leary) to win a race himself in that series. In 2019, C.J. also became the first ever son of a former USAC National Rookie of the Year (all series) to win a USAC National title. C.J.'s father claimed the 1993 Midget and 1995 Silver Crown Rookie of the Year honors.

Leary was also the second consecutive past USAC National Sprint Car Rookie of the Year (2012) to eventually capture the series championship following Tyler Courtney (2013). Overall, Leary is just the fifth ever driver to collect both USAC National Sprint Car Rookie of the Year honors and win the series title in his career along with J.J. Yeley, Tracy Hines, Josh Wise and Courtney.

The beginning of the year marked a changeup for Leary, who joined Reinbold/Underwood Motorsports for their first foray as a team on the entire National trail. It's the second consecutive season that a driver and team's first USAC National Sprint CAR CHAMPIONSHIP RACE together came during their championship season, following Courtney and Clauson Marshall Newman Racing in 2018.

With a second victory coming in November's Oval Nationals at Perris, Calif., Leary's two victories are the fewest by a USAC National Sprint Car champ since Brady Bacon also had two in 2016. However, Leary was a stalwart of consistency, rattling off 21 straight top-tens to open the season and 32 top-tens in 34 starts. He also gained a myriad of points through qualifying where his 11 overall fast times were the third most in a single season in series history behind only Kevin Thomas Jr.'s 15 in 2018 and Tom Bigelow's 14 in 1978.

En route to the series crown, Leary took over the point lead for good following a runner-up finish at Eldora Speedway on May 10, the earliest in a season any driver in the series has taken over the championship lead and held onto it for the remainder of the season since Levi Jones in 2011.

Despite taking the point lead that early in the going, Leary's 18-point final margin of victory was the eighth closest in the 59 previous years of the series, trailing only 2018, 1965, 2012, 2017, 1967, 2002 and 2005. Each of the three past championship races have been decided by 18 points or less following the 2018 "tie," awarded to Tyler Courtney over Kevin Thomas Jr. based on a tiebreaker of most wins, and 2017 when Chris Windom defeated Justin Grant by six points.

Leary's first victory of 2019 came on the first weekend of the season during Winter Dirt Games X at Bubba Raceway Park in Ocala, Fla. He's the third consecutive driver, and fifth in the last seven years to win the championship after winning at Ocala.

Windom won the season opener, providing Goacher Racing its first USAC National Sprint Car win in 27 years, the first since Danny Smith's triumph at the Eldora 4-Crown in 1992. It was the first of four victories for Windom and the team with additional wins gathered at Granite City, Ill., Kokomo during Indiana Sprint Week and at Gas City, Ind.

Grant took the second night in Ocala on the way to four total wins, three points-paying, which included an ISW score at Lawrenceburg, Ind., his fourth career USAC triumph at the track, along with the Jim Hurtubise Classic at Terre Haute, Ind.. The Ione, Calif. driver also captured the 27-lap #GYATK Night non-points special event at Kokomo in August.

Courtney, meanwhile, led the series in wins for the second consecutive season. He's the first driver to do that since J.J. Yeley in 2002-2003. Courtney's 20 USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car feature wins over the past two seasons equaled Yeley's mark in those two years, which trails only Pancho Carter's record 22 wins over a two-year span in 1976-77.

Courtney produced two "sweeps" with the series in 2019 in July at Terre Haute, Ind. and at Eldora where he recorded fast qualifying time, won his heat and captured the feature all within the same night. He's the first driver to perform two sweeps with the series in a single year since Yeley in 2003.

Courtney swept all three events at Eldora in 2019, and four-straight dating back to 2018, which marked the most consecutive USAC National Sprint Car wins by a driver in the history of the famed half-mile. He became the first driver to go undefeated in USAC National Sprint Car competition at Eldora since Jerry Coons Jr. in 2009. Throughout 2019, he added wins at Port Royal, Pa., Plymouth, Ind., Smackdown at Kokomo, and back-to-back wins at Arizona Speedway's Western World to conclude the campaign with two-straight wins, the first to achieve that feat since Kevin Swindell at Manzanita Speedway in 2008.

Two-time series champ Brady Bacon of Broken Arrow, Okla. earned six victories in his return to the Dynamics, Inc. in 2019. He captured the Midwest opener at Bloomington in April, then proved to be the big money man following a $10,000 win at Grandview Speedway during Eastern Storm in June, then collected $25,000 with a two-night domination of Knoxville (Iowa) Raceway's inaugural Corn Belt Nationals, then opened the Oval Nationals with two successive victories during the first two nights at Perris in November.

Princeton, Indiana's Kyle Cummins' undefeated sprint car season at Tri-State Speedway included the Indiana Sprint Week and Haubstadt Hustler rounds at the track in addition to an ISW score at Putnamville, Ind. during the summer. Kevin Thomas Jr., Cullman, Ala., also won a pair with a spectacular drive to a last-lap victory at Bloomington during ISW as well as the Fall Nationals in the Midwest finale at Lawrenceburg, Ind.

Kansas, Ill. driver Shane Cottle led only one lap this season, but it came on the final lap of a photo finish in the ISW opener at Gas City, his first series victory since 2013. Jason McDougal, Broken Arrow, Okla., notched his lone win of the series this year during Eastern Storm at Bridgeport, N.J. Thomas Meseraull provided car owner Tom Eades with his first career USAC National Sprint Car victory during the Smackdown opener at Kokomo. The following night, Logan Seavey earned his first career USAC National Sprint Car feature win at Kokomo.

In May, Chase Stockon completed the Terre Haute trifecta with his first Tony Hulman Classic win in May following a Jim Hurtubise Classic victory in 2012 and a Don Smith Classic score in 2016. The Fort Branch, Indiana resident's September visit to Terre Haute was a milestone event as Stockon reached his 285th consecutive USAC National Sprint Car start dating to the 2012 season, breaking the record previously held by Levi Jones between 2004 and 2012.

Meanwhile, Dustin Clark's first night ever behind the wheel of a sprint car in competition came during the USAC National Sprint Car season opener in Ocala, Fla. The Washington, Ind. native made 18 starts and led the opening lap of September's Haubstadt Hustler at Tri-State. He was one of two Rookies to lead a lap with the series this season along with Evansville, Indiana's Stephen Schnapf, which also came at Tri-State, during his runner up finish during ISW in July.

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LAST LAP HERO WINDOM SCORES OCALA SPRINT OPENER

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Ocala, Florida (February 14, 2019)……Chris Windom led just one lap in Thursday's USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car season opener at Bubba Raceway Park, but it was the one that paid the most as the Canton, Ill. driver prevailed on a wild final lap scramble that saw three different race leaders edge ahead at one point in an instant Valentine's Day classic.

Windom's victory gave the venerable Goacher Racing team just its second career USAC National Sprint Car feature win, their first such appearance in USAC victory lane in 27 years! You'll have to go all the way back to the 1992 season to find Goacher Racing's lone previous series' win with driver Danny Smith in the "4-Crown Nationals" at Eldora Speedway.

The offseason was a tumultuous one for Windom with the unexpected closure of Baldwin Brothers Racing, for which he won the 2017 series title. That put him in the precarious position of ride-hunting during the short offseason, where he landed with a new team surrounded by some familiar faces and some new, but all with the same expectations of success, which they brought to fruition in their first outing of 2019.

"I brought (Crew Chief) Derek Claxton along with me," Windom pointed out. "Obviously, we're very familiar with each other and have had a lot of success together. I kind of molded the whole deal together I feel like. Everyone worked equally hard to put this whole deal together over the winter and I'm thankful to them for giving me the opportunity to do it. Between Jason (Goacher), Joe (Brandon) and Derek, and everybody here helping, I think it came together alright for night one."

From the fourth starting position, Windom had his work cut out for him from the word 'go' with Thomas starting from the pole position. Kevin Thomas Jr., also debuting a new ride this season, immediately bolted to a 1.5 second lead in the early-going until Tyler Courtney, going for his fifth-straight USAC score in Ocala rode the outside wall from the entrance of turn three until midway between three and four before coming to a rest. The damage was extensive enough on the right side of the car, sending him to the pit area. He would eventually return to the race two laps down.

On a lap 12 restart nearing the midway point, leader Thomas entered turn one a tad lower in a defensive move to block Windom's slide attempt. Windom tried the slider on an earlier lap seven restart that caught the attention of Thomas. Both times the move wasn't able to pay off for Windom, although it put Thomas on guard.

"You've got to hound the guy and let him know you're there," Windom reiterated. "But, when you make your move, you got to make it count. This place is such a momentum racetrack that if you slide a guy and miss the slider, and get too sideways, you're going to kill all your momentum, get passed and fall back to third or fourth. You've got to time your slide job to where you keep your momentum and not really lose any speed."

With nine to go, as the frontrunners encountered lapped traffic, Windom slung it to the bottom of turn one and slid up in front of Thomas in turn two. The two collided, Windom's rear bumper with the front bumper of Thomas, slowing both down only momentarily. Thomas stayed with it and ran down Windom in turn three a half-lap later to reclaim the lead for a brief moment before Windom countered and beat Thomas back to turn one. Thomas counterpunched and got back by Windom for the top spot again as Grant now entered the fray to make it a three-car party.

Windom's repeated bid to secure his position in front of race-long leader Thomas would come up snake eyes until turn one of the final circuit. Thomas had an inkling that Windom would be on the attack underneath, scooting down a lane to protect, but Windom was able to limbo a tick lower, sliding in front of Thomas as the pair made their way through turn two. Thomas slipped a bit high over the cushion, allowing Grant to get by on the inside.

Grant rode the wave of momentum on the throttle into turn three for the final time, slipping under Windom at Mach-10 speed to snare the lead away with only one turn remaining. However, Grant cooked it in and got his ride sideways on exit, slowing his momentum toward the checkered. Windom took a slight evasive action to avoid clipping Grant's right rear tire to get to the line and finish out an incredible final lap to complete a 0.354 second margin of victory in his Goacher Racing/NOS Energy Drink – Parallax Power Supply – Jonathan Byrd's/DRC/Claxton Mopar.

Thomas also got by Grant in the final turn to finish second. Grant held on to nip Chase Stockon for third at the line by six-hundredths of a second while Robert Ballou rounded out the top-five.

While the top was undoubtedly the fastest away around throughout the 30-lap feature, you can't pass if you don't take chances by coloring outside the lines every once in a while, when the opportunity arises.

"It was fastest around the top and you had to make sure you made the exact right move, or you'd lose a spot or two spots if you missed it," Windom explained. "I tried to time it just right so that I had a big run on KT. On that last lap, he tried to block my slide job into turn one. Fortunately, I got lower than him and was able to slide up in front of him there. I knew the big crossover was coming and I didn't know exactly what to do going into three and four. I carried my momentum around the top and it looked like (Grant) got too sideways to clear the slider back on me."

Windom's 22nd career USAC National Sprint Car victory moves him into a four-way tie for 24th all-time, along with Rick Hood, Bubby Jones and Sammy Sessions.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: February 14, 2019 – Bubba Raceway Park – Ocala, Florida – Winter Dirt Games X

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Carson Short, 21, RCM-13.477 (New Track Record); 2. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-13.529; 3. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-13.718; 4. Kent Schmidt, 5K, KO-13.767; 5. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-13.800; 6. Kyle Cummins, 3R, Rock Steady-13.863; 7. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-13.869; 8. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-13.932; 9. Dakota Jackson, 3, Jackson-14.045; 10. Robert Ballou, 12, Ballou-14.054; 11. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-14.088; 12. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-14.129; 13. Travis Hery, 21H, Hery-14.159; 14. Timmy Buckwalter, 7, LNB-14.252; 15. Damion Gardner, 20, Dyson-14.307; 16. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-14.309; 17. Matt Goodnight, 39, Goodnight-14.461; 18. Dave Darland, 5, Briscoe/Curb-Agajanian-14.527; 19. Matt Westfall, 33m, Marshall-14.718; 20. Stephen Schnapf, 61m, Edwards-14.726; 21. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-14.929; 22. Joey Biasi, B1, Biasi-15.151; 23. Paul Dues, 87, Dues-15.202; 24. Ty Tilton, 42, Tilton-15.215; 25. Dustin Clark, 75, DCR-15.456; 26. Noah Gass, 20G, Gass-15.553; 27. Robert Bell, 71, Bell-15.803; 28. Daron Clayton, 5o, KO-NT; 29. Chad Boespflug, 98e, EZR-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Matt Goodnight, 2. Isaac Chapple, 3. Brady Bacon, 4. Carson Short, 5. Travis Hery, 6. Dustin Clark, 7. Dakota Jackson. 1:52.17

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Robert Ballou, 2. Dave Darland, 3. Chase Stockon, 4. Kyle Cummins, 5. Timmy Buckwalter, 6. Noah Gass, 7. Joey Biasi. 1:50.92 (New Track Record)

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. C.J. Leary, 2. Damion Gardner, 3. Chris Windom, 4. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5. Matt Westfall, 6. Robert Bell, 7. Paul Dues. 1:51.64

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Justin Grant, 2. Stephen Schnapf, 3. Tyler Courtney, 4. Chad Boespflug, 5. Kent Schmidt, 6. Jason McDougal, 7. Ty Tilton. NT

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Timmy Buckwalter, 2. Dakota Jackson, 3. Kent Schmidt, 4. Jason McDougal, 5. Travis Hery, 6. Joey Biasi, 7. Matt Westfall, 8. Noah Gass, 9. Dustin Clark, 10. Robert Bell. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Chris Windom (4), 2. Kevin Thomas Jr. (1), 3. Justin Grant (12), 4. Chase Stockon (5), 5. Robert Ballou (10), 6. C.J. Leary (11), 7. Brady Bacon (3), 8. Kyle Cummins (2), 9. Dave Darland (18), 10. Carson Short (6), 11. Timmy Buckwalter (14), 12. Chad Boespflug (22), 13. Dakota Jackson (9), 14. Jason McDougal (16), 15. Damion Gardner (15), 16. Matt Westfall (23-P), 17. Travis Hery (13), 18. Tyler Courtney (8), 19. Kent Schmidt (7), 20. Joey Biasi (21), 21. Isaac Chapple (20), 22. Matt Goodnight (17), 23. Stephen Schnapf (19). NT

(P) represents a provisional starter

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-29 Kevin Thomas Jr., Lap 30 Chris Windom.

HUGHES RACING/INDIANA MAFIA/SANDY NISSEN PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Chad Boespflug-10, 2-Justin Grant-9, 3-Dave Darland-9, 4-Robert Ballou-5, 5-C.J. Leary-5, 6-Chris Windom-4, 7-Timmy Buckwalter-3, 8-Jason McDougal-2, 9-Chase Stockon-1, 10-Joey Biasi-1.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Chris Windom-80, 2-Kevin Thomas Jr.-72, 3-Justin Grant-72, 4-Chase Stockon-72, 5-Robert Ballou-66, 6-C.J. Leary-63, 7-Brady Bacon-60, 8-Kyle Cummins-55, 9-Carson Short-54, 10-Dave Darland-53.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACES: February 15-16, 2019 – Bubba Raceway Park – Ocala, Florida – Winter Dirt Games X

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Chad Boespflug (22nd to 12th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Dakota Jackson

PROSOURCE HARD WORK: Chad Boespflug

Carson Short (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Matt Goodnight (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Robert Ballou (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

C.J. Leary (Auto Meter Third Heat Winner)

Justin Grant (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

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GRANT SURVIVES AND THRIVES IN WINTER DIRT GAMES NIGHT 2

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Ocala, Florida (February 15, 2019)……Justin Grant has won a few and lost a few in the same manner throughout his racing career. He's now won and lost in the same manner at Bubba Raceway Park following his USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car victory Friday on night two of "Winter Dirt Games X."

The Ione, Calif. native won a "survival of the fittest" competition, so to speak, that saw several cars fall by the wayside with tire wear, including race leader Chris Windom with two laps remaining. That sent Grant to the front of the pack where he drove to his second career "Winter Dirt Games" triumph aboard his TOPP Motorsports/NOS Energy Drink – Bow Foundation – Challenger Construction/Maxim/Claxton Chevy.

It was the 14th USAC National Sprint Car win of Grant's career, tying him for 38th on the all-time list alongside Billy Cassella, Jim Hurtubise, Lee Kunzman and Bruce Walkup.

Grant began the 30-lapper from the second position alongside pole starter C.J. Leary, who got the jump on Grant at the drop of the green flag and quickly constructed a half-straightaway advantage by the sixth lap and would dominate the first half of the feature.

Thursday night winner Chris Windom began to creep his way toward Leary in lapped traffic, knocking down the interval to eight tenths by the 18th lap. Leary slid high between turns three and four on lap 20, allowing Windom to skate by on the bottom to grab the lead.

The race up front saw the leaders stick inside, trying to not make any mistakes by missing the line and saving the equipment in order to make the full distance in one piece in what, up to that point, had been a caution-free race. That is, until Fatheadz Eyewear fast qualifier and new one-lap track record holder Carson Short stopped on the front straightaway with a flat right rear tire while running sixth.

Meanwhile, Grant was mired in fourth, thinking about his own fate after preserving his equipment for the duration of the race up to that point. But this was the moment he decided to pull the trigger, quickly picking off Kevin Thomas Jr. and Leary in quick succession to get to second on the restart with only Windom, the race leader, left in his sights, though Windom held a relatively comfortable advantage.

However, a yellow on lap 29 shifted the entire outlook as Brady Bacon (12th) and Jason McDougal (13th) simultaneously pulled to the top of turn one, both suffering from flat right rear tires. Under yellow, Windom discovered a devastating blow as his front right tire deflated, forcing him to pit and putting him out of contention for the win before, ultimately, finishing 21st.

Grant was now positioned as the leader for the green-white-checkered finish as several thoughts raced through his mind, mainly the rubber issue that had befallen a few others.

“I was a bit worried I’d used too much tire trying to get back to Windom,” Grant recalled. “That was my only concern once he pulled off. I wish I had let him go, but you never know how these things are going to play out. I was definitely low on air by the end. Once you start cooking the tires like that, it starts knocking the air out of them and the thing was porpoising bad off the corner. I know I’d done all I could to save the tire, but I still knew it was going to be close.”

Another instance that weighed on Grant was a repeat of the 2016 “Winter Dirt Games” finale when he believed he had the victory sewn up. However, cataloguing that moment in his memory served as a reminder on this particular night that this deal wasn’t over just quite yet.

“I’ve lost a race here in the middle of three and four, blowing a tire coming to the checker,” Grant remembered. “The last time I was leading down the back stretch in a rubber race here, I thought ‘yeah we made it.’ I refused to think it tonight until I was past the flag stand.”

“I tried to ride as much as I could early and stay out of the black as long as I could,” Grant continued. “In the race I lost, (Thomas) Meseraull won by staying out of the rubber for a good portion of it. He got in the rubber for a few laps, maintained it, then got out of the rubber, then back in the rubber. I tried to stay out of the rubber until it got fast enough that I had to be in it and not worry about losing one or two spots.”

On the restart, Grant’s preservation had equaled perseverance as he said ‘sayonara’ right from the restart and drove away to a 1.712 second victory over Leary, KSE Racing Products/ProSource Hard Charger Tyler Courtney from 22nd, Chad Boespflug and Thomas.

Grant owes some of his gratitude toward what he’s learned from his competitors and other cars he’s competed in throughout his career.

“You’re running a lot of Silver Crown races with Kody Swanson and he’s so good at that,” Grant points out. “He makes you figure out how to do it. It’s a bit harder to maintain in a sprint car because you can get behind. Had Windom not fallen out, we would’ve been caught behind. We wouldn’t have been able to get to him short of him getting tight or doing something in the rubber. He’d been spot on until that point. We caught a big break with him falling out. We’ve got a long year and we want to win the race, but we need to make it to the finish. If we ran second, then we were going to run second. It’s not worth blowing a tire over when you’re setting out to do the full tour.”

Grant had a sluggish start when he moved to the TOPP Motorsports team at the beginning of 2018. The combo rallied to win five races in a seven-race stretch toward the end of the season. In 2019, it took them just two races to reach victory lane.

“Every win in the No. 4 car is the most rewarding win,” Grant admitted. “It just feels like every time I’ve pulled into victory lane, it’s the most rewarding win I’ve ever had. These guys sticking by me meant so much to me last year. Kevin Birchmeier is such a great leader. He wouldn’t let us get down even when wanted to get down. He made us figure it out and kept our heads up. A lot of owners get down on you and start looking for the next great thing. He just kept pumping us up, kept building us up.”

“(Crew Chief) Mark (Shambarger) and I took a while to jell,” Grant continued. Now we get along great. I’m surprised he never killed me, but we all survived and we’re all here. Its great now. We’re going to keep riding it as long as we can and, hopefully, it stays this good and we keep rolling along. I’ve been around this game long enough to know that it comes in waves, so try to enjoy it while you’re riding high and dig through when you’re low. Sprint car racing is tough. It’s not easy. I feel like if you don’t enjoy the process and the struggle, then you’re not going to make it very long.”

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: February 15, 2019 – Bubba Raceway Park – Ocala, Florida – Winter Dirt Games X

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Carson Short, 21, RCM-13.398 (New Track Record); 2. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-13.428; 3. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-13.459; 4. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-13.475; 5. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-13.520; 6. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-13.599; 7. Damion Gardner, 20, Dyson-13.608; 8. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-13.668; 9. Timmy Buckwalter, 7, LNB-13.687; 10. Matt Goodnight, 39, Goodnight-13.701; 11. Chad Boespflug, 98e, EZR-13.749; 12. Kyle Cummins, 3R, Rock Steady-13.809; 13. Dakota Jackson, 3, Jackson-13.835; 14. Kent Schmidt, 5K, KO-13.861; 15. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-13.910; 16. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-13.954; 17. Joey Biasi, B1, Biasi-13.962; 18. Stephen Schnapf, 61m, Edwards-13.963; 19. Matt Westfall, 33m, Marshall-13.983; 20. Robert Ballou, 12, Ballou-13.995; 21. Dustin Clark, 75, DCR-14.046; 22. Dave Darland, 5, Briscoe/Curb-Agajanian-14.105; 23. Ty Tilton, 42, Tilton-14.108; 24. Travis Hery, 21H, Hery-14.200; 25. Noah Gass, 20G, Gass-14.597; 26. Robert Bell, 71, Bell-15.510; 27. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-NT; 28. Daron Clayton, 5o, KO-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Justin Grant, 2. Carson Short, 3. Timmy Buckwalter, 4. Joey Biasi, 5. Dustin Clark, 6. Dakota Jackson, 7. Noah Gass. 1:56.48

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. C.J. Leary, 2. Chris Windom, 3. Dave Darland, 4. Stephen Schnapf, 5. Kent Schmidt, 6. Matt Goodnight, 7. Robert Bell. 1:56.72

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Damion Gardner, 2. Brady Bacon, 3. Tyler Courtney, 4. Matt Westfall, 5. Chad Boespflug, 6. Isaac Chapple, 7. Ty Tilton. NT

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Robert Ballou, 2. Chase Stockon, 3. Kevin Thomas Jr., 4. Jason McDougal, 5. Kyle Cummins, 6. Travis Hery, 7. Daron Clayton. 2:00.00

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Dakota Jackson, 2. Chad Boespflug, 3. Isaac Chapple, 4. Kent Schmidt, 5. Matt Goodnight, 6. Kyle Cummins, 7. Travis Hery, 8. Noah Gass, 9. Dustin Clark, 10. Robert Bell. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Justin Grant (2), 2. C.J. Leary (1), 3. Tyler Courtney (22), 4. Chad Boespflug (11), 5. Kevin Thomas Jr. (3), 6. Damion Gardner (7), 7. Timmy Buckwalter (9), 8. Chase Stockon (8), 9. Dave Darland (21), 10. Kyle Cummins (12), 11. Dakota Jackson (13), 12. Isaac Chapple (15), 13. Robert Ballou (20), 14. Carson Short (6), 15. Brady Bacon (4), 16. Jason McDougal (16), 17. Joey Biasi (17), 18. Matt Goodnight (10), 19. Matt Westfall (19), 20. Stephen Schnapf (18), 21. Chris Windom (5), 22. Kent Schmidt (14). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-19 C.J. Leary, Laps 20-28 Chris Windom, Laps 29-30 Justin Grant.

HUGHES RACING/INDIANA MAFIA/FLAMINGO SANDY PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Dave Darland-21, 2-Tyler Courtney-19, 3-Chad Boespflug-17, 4-Robert Ballou-12, 5-Justin Grant-10, 6-C.J. Leary-5, 7-Timmy Buckwalter-5, 8-Chris Windom-4, 9-Isaac Chapple-3, 10-Kyle Cummins-2.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Justin Grant-152, 2-Kevin Thomas Jr.-139, 3-C.J. Leary-139, 4-Chase Stockon-128, 5-Chris Windom-115, 6-Robert Ballou-111, 7-Chad Boespflug-108, 8-Dave Darland-105, 9-Brady Bacon-104, 10-Tyler Courtney-103.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: February 16, 2019 – Bubba Raceway Park – Ocala, Florida – Winter Dirt Games X

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Tyler Courtney (22nd to 3rd)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Robert Ballou

PROSOURCE HARD WORK: Tyler Courtney

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Travis Hery

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Dakota Jackson

Carson Short (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Justin Grant (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

C.J. Leary (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Damion Gardner (Auto Meter Third Heat Winner)

Robert Ballou (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

Dakota Jackson (Roger & Barb Tapy 13th Fastest Qualifier)

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LEARY LOGS FIRST WIN FOR NEW TEAM IN WINTER DIRT GAMES X FINALE

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Ocala, Florida (February 16, 2019)……The first weekend with a new race team is normally a period when driver and team get accustomed to one another and learn on-the-fly how to win races together.

There were very few bumps in the road for C.J. Leary and Reinbold/Underwood Motorsports throughout "Winter Dirt Games X," which culminated Saturday night with the combo's first USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car victory together at Bubba Raceway Park.

Leary was highly successful on the USAC trail in his own family car over the past several seasons. This past offseason, Leary made the move to the Arizona-based team, bringing with him a familiar face to a new setting to make the transition as smooth as silk.

"The cool thing was Andy (Reinbold) brought me and (crew chief) Davey (Jones) on as a team since we had already been working together and we get along so well on and off the track," Leary pointed out. "I'm just learning this new racecar and this new engine package is quite a bit different than what I was running the past couple of years on our family car. We did a lot of unique things to the racecar and it paid off for us down here in Florida."

Winning this early on in the season is always a good sign that things are clicking. With a 6th, 2nd and a 1st during the three-night mini-series, plus the early season point lead, the team is already enjoying the fruits of their labor after thrashing to get their operation ready to go for the new year.

"We had high expectations with this new team," Leary exclaimed. "Andy gave us the best of everything. Davey and I have put a lot of hours into this car. Just to see it payoff is really awesome for Davey and me. I'm sure it is for Andy just because he's spent a lot of money getting this thing where it is. This kind of caps off that he hired the right two guys."

Leary started the 30-lapper from the outside of the front row alongside Robert Ballou. Ballou got the initial jump to the lead, but Leary wasn't taken aback.

"He got the jump on us at the start," Leary recalled. "The outside lane was pretty slick, and I knew the bottom still had pretty good moisture. I knew he was probably going to get the jump on us, so I was hoping to cross him over into (turn) one."

However, Leary slid into second behind race leader Ballou as the two hit the back stretch of the 3/8-mile D-shaped dirt track. The first stoppage came early as Dave Darland and Kent Schmidt tangled off turn four. Both would be finished for the evening.

Following the lap two restart, Ballou extended his lead as Leary fought with Kevin Thomas Jr. for the second spot. But, gradually, Leary was able to chip away at Ballou's lead as the frontrunners began to work lapped traffic by lap nine where Leary was able to take a sneak peek underneath Ballou heading into turn one.

Leary retained his presence just a few car lengths behind Ballou when, on the 12th lap, Ballou drifted high off turn four, allowing Leary underneath to grab the lead.

"I just stalked him there and then we had that yellow," Leary remembered. "Our car was really good on the restarts, and when he made that small mistake in three and four, it got tight on him and let us capitalize, drive up under him and it was pretty smooth sailing from there."

Leary's only close encounters were dealing with lappers and having to endure multiple restarts down the stretch, first on lap 21 for an excursion by Friday night winner Justin Grant and on lap 28 for a turn four Matt Westfall spin. The restart with just three laps remaining pit Leary versus Thomas back in second. Usually a caution with a late-race lead is something to fret about, but Leary had no qualms.

“I was just really happy to see those yellows to be real honest,” Leary reiterated. “I normally hate seeing yellows when I’m the leader. This 19AZ was super-fast on the restarts and we were digging hard. I’m just happy to be with this new team. It’s a great way to start the season off.”

On the lap 28 restart, Leary bolted to a five-car-length lead that built to six, seven, eight, nine, then ten car lengths that would prove to be insurmountable in the final stanza, with the Greenfield, Indiana driver pulling away for a 1.502 second victory over Thomas. Tyler Courtney made a substantial charge on the final restart from sixth to third. Chase Stockon was fourth with opening night winner Chris Windom rounding out the top-five.

Courtney captured the title of Passing Master courtesy of Indiana Mafia/Hughes Racing/Flamingo Sandy worth an extra $800, picking off a total of 25 cars throughout the USAC Sprint feature events of “Winter Dirt Games X.”

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: February 16, 2019 – Bubba Raceway Park – Ocala, Florida – Winter Dirt Games X

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR/EPA PHOTOGRAPHY QUALIFYING: 1. Timmy Buckwalter, 7, LNB-13.689; 2. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-13.715; 3. Damion Gardner, 20, Dyson-13.750; 4. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-13.783; 5. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-13.789; 6 Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-13.800; 7. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-13.841; 8. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-13.883; 9. Robert Ballou, 12, Ballou-13.894; 10. Carson Short, 21, RCM-13.930; 11. Kyle Cummins, 3R, Rock Steady-13.966; 12. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-14.005; 13. Joey Biasi, B1, Biasi-14.011; 14. Dakota Jackson, 3, Jackson-14.067; 15. Chad Boespflug, 98e, EZR-14.095; 16. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-14.096; 17. Kent Schmidt, 5K, KO-14.105; 18. Matt Westfall, 33m, Marshall-14.117; 19. Dave Darland, 5, Briscoe/Curb-Agajanian-14.159; 20. Ty Tilton, 42, Tilton-14.178; 21. Matt Goodnight, 39, Goodnight-14.337; 22. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-14.417; 23. Travis Hery, 21H, Hery-14.423; 24. Dustin Clark, 75, DCR-14.511; 25. Noah Gass, 20G, Gass-14.860; 26. Stephen Schnapf, 61m, Edwards-14.999; 27. Robert Bell, 71, Bell-15.555.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Justin Grant, 2. Carson Short, 3. Joey Biasi, 4. Chase Stockon, 5. Dave Darland, 6. Timmy Buckwalter, 7. Tyler Courtney, 8. Isaac Chapple, 9. Noah Gass. 1:54.88

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Dakota Jackson, 2. C.J. Leary, 3. Chris Windom, 4. Kent Schmidt, 5. Jason McDougal, 6. Kyle Cummins, 7. Stephen Schnapf, 8. Ty Tilton, 9. Travis Hery. 1:56.19

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Chad Boespflug, 2. Kevin Thomas Jr., 3. Brady Bacon, 4. Robert Ballou, 5. Matt Westfall, 6. Damion Gardner, 7. Dustin Clark, 8. Matt Goodnight, 9. Robert Bell. 1:56.05

INDY RACE PARTS SEMI: (12 laps, top-7 transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Timmy Buckwalter, 3. Damion Gardner, 4. Kyle Cummins, 5. Isaac Chapple, 6. Stephen Schnapf, 7. Noah Gass, 8. Ty Tilton, 9. Matt Goodnight, 10. Travis Hery, 11. Dustin Clark, 12. Robert Bell. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. C.J. Leary (2), 2. Kevin Thomas Jr. (4), 3. Tyler Courtney (9), 4. Chase Stockon (3), 5. Chris Windom (5), 6. Robert Ballou (1), 7. Jason McDougal (6), 8. Damion Gardner (8), 9. Carson Short (10), 10. Timmy Buckwalter (7), 11. Brady Bacon (12), 12. Kyle Cummins (11), 13. Chad Boespflug (15), 14. Joey Biasi (13), 15. Isaac Chapple (20), 16. Stephen Schnapf (22), 17. Matt Westfall (18), 18. Matt Goodnight (23-P), 19. Noah Gass (21), 20. Dakota Jackson (14), 21. Justin Grant (16), 22. Dave Darland (19), 23. Kent Schmidt (17). NT

(P) represents a provisional starter

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-11 Robert Ballou, Laps 12-30 C.J. Leary.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-216, 2-Kevin Thomas Jr.-214, 3-Chase Stockon-194, 4-Justin Grant-183, 5-Chris Windom-181, 6-Tyler Courtney-174, 7-Robert Ballou-171, 8-Damion Gardner-158, 9-Timmy Buckwalter-155, 10-Carson Short-155.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: March 30, 2019 – Lawrenceburg Speedway – Lawrenceburg, Indiana

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/PROSOURCE HARD CHARGER: Tyler Courtney (9th to 3rd)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Chad Boespflug

PROSOURCE HARD WORK: Stephen Schnapf

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Ty Tilton

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Joey Biasi

HUGHES RACING/INDIANA MAFIA/FLAMINGO SANDY PASSING MASTER: Tyler Courtney (25)

Timmy Buckwalter (Fatheadz Eyewear/EPA Photography Fast Qualifier)

Justin Grant (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Dakota Jackson (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Chad Boespflug (Auto Meter Third Heat Winner)

Tyler Courtney (Indy Race Parts Semi Winner)

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BACON BANKS LARRY RICE CLASSIC AT BLOOMINGTON

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Bloomington, Indiana (April 12, 2019)……Following a sluggish start to the season in Ocala, Fla. in the first three races of the year, Brady Bacon made doubly sure he saw the checkered flag in Friday night's "Larry Rice Classic" USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car feature at Bloomington Speedway.

After results of 7th, 15th and 11th back in February amidst his return to the famed Hoffman Auto Racing/Dynamics, Inc. No. 69, the Broken Arrow, Oklahoma native was anxious to get off the schneid, so to speak, corralling the 24th win of his career with the series, surpassing A.J. Foyt and Roger McCluskey to move into sole position of 21st on the all-time list.

Bacon led all 30 laps from the pole and, in the process, broke an 18-year-old 30-lap track record on the quarter-mile of red clay, previously held by A.J. Anderson, showing that the two-time series champ remains at the top of his game.

"We put our heads together after Florida and tried not to get in panic mode yet because Ocala is just a different place," Bacon explained. "We just made sure we had our i's dotted and our t's crossed when we came here."

There was no stopping Bacon on this evening, even if the reflection of the lights were trying to trick his mind.

“I actually thought I saw the white flag with the way the lights were reflecting off the move over flag,” Bacon said. “The flag man was waving it pretty vigorously and I thought it was the white. Luckily, I kept going another lap and I saw it again, so I knew I wasn’t right. I just kept going until I knew I saw the double checkers.”

From the get-go, Bacon was the class of the field, instantly building his advantage to a half-straightaway over outside front row starter Kevin Thomas Jr. by lap four. Bacon continued to increase the interval until meeting the tail end of a highway jam on lap nine with a seven-car gaggle jostling for position at the back, paring down Bacon’s lead to a half-second on a closing Thomas.

The winningest driver for the Hoffman family in USAC National Sprint Car competition, Bacon ringed the top in turns three and four and the bottom of one and two as he navigated the narrow crevices between the lappers. With 11 laps to go, Bacon sought daylight between the cars of Stephen Schnapf and Isaac Chapple in turn three. Bacon grabbed the rays, splitting the two to find the welcome view of an unoccupied road out of his visor with two-thirds of the race in the books.

“I was fortunate enough to sneak through a couple times,” Bacon recalled. “Your mental clock gets ticking and I kind of had to force the issue a couple times to get by a couple guys. It’s part of racing here. It gets a little narrow, but usually there’s two grooves here. The bottom was not as prevalent as it typically is here. Usually, you can sneak by lapped cars on the bottom. I was having a tough time doing that, so I had to slide up out of the way.”

From that point forward, Bacon was by his lonesome as he lapped up to 13th place on his way to his first career feature victory of any kind at Bloomington aboard his Dynamics, Inc./Mean Green – Fatheadz Eyewear – Tel-Star/Triple X/Hershey Chevy.

Second went to a distant Thomas 2.158 seconds behind Bacon at the finish. Rounding out the top-five were Jason McDougal, KSE Racing Products/B & W Auto Mart Hard Charger Tyler Courtney (from 9th) and Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier and new one-lap track record holder C.J. Leary.

It’s a sense of sweet redemption for Bacon at Bloomington, picking up his first win at the southern Indiana staple after being on the brink of victory earlier in his career.

“I’ve run second here a couple times,” Bacon remembered. “In 2007 or 2008, I led almost the whole race in the spring like this and slid off the track. I’ve been coming here for so long, you kind of take it for granted. But it’s cool to win at a historic place like this. The green grass in the spring here is always the sign that it’s time to go racing. This is a tough racetrack to win at and I’m happy we could do it and to be back with the Hoffman team. I’m glad to shake off our rough start and get back to our usual results.”

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: April 12, 2019 – Bloomington Speedway – Bloomington, Indiana – Larry Rice Classic

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-10.685 (New Track Record); 2. Chad Boespflug, 98e, EZR-10.713; 3. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-10.860; 4. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-10.880; 5. Josh Hodges, 74x, Hodges-10.908; 6. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-10.920; 7. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-10.943; 8. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-10.961; 9. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, CMNR-10.977; 10. Stephen Schnapf, 61m, Edwards-11.050; 11. Jordan Kinser, 70, Hurst-11.087; 12. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-11.119; 13. Robert Ballou, 12, Ballou-11.150; 14. Lee Underwood, 24L, Underwood-11.175; 15. Dakota Jackson, 3, Jackson-11.212; 16. Carson Short, 21, RCM-11.214; 17. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-11.291; 18. Brian VanMeveren, 24, VanMeveren-11.305; 19. T.J. Artz, 57, Artz-11.392; 20. Dustin Clark, 75, DCR-11.410; 21. Joe Stornetta, 04, Burton-11.427; 22. Michael Koontz, 17K, Koontz-11.508; 23. Zach Daum, 5D, Daum-11.614; 24. Dave Darland, 2E, Epperson-11.648; 25. Kyle Hathaway, 7H, Hathaway-11.854; 26. Eric Perrott, 45, Perrott-12.891.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Robert Ballou, 2. Carson Short, 3. Kevin Thomas Jr., 4. Stephen Schnapf, 5. C.J. Leary, 6. Chase Stockon, 7. Michael Koontz, 8. T.J. Artz, 9. Kyle Hathaway. 1:57.27

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Brady Bacon, 2. Jordan Kinser, 3. Isaac Chapple, 4. Chad Boespflug, 5. Dustin Clark, 6. Zach Daum, 7. Lee Underwood, 8. Josh Hodges, 9. Eric Perrott. NT

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Jason McDougal, 3. Justin Grant, 4. Joe Stornetta, 5. Dakota Jackson, 6. Dave Darland, 7. Chris Windom. NT

INDY RACE PARTS SEMI: (12 laps, top-7 transfer to the feature) 1. Chase Stockon, 2. Chris Windom, 3. Lee Underwood, 4. Dave Darland, 5. T.J. Artz, 6. Zach Daum, 7. Josh Hodges, 8. Michael Koontz, 9. Kyle Hathaway, 10. Eric Perrott. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Brady Bacon (1), 2. Kevin Thomas Jr. (2), 3. Jason McDougal (4), 4. Tyler Courtney (9), 5. C.J. Leary (6), 6. Justin Grant (3), 7. Chad Boespflug (5), 8. Chase Stockon (7), 9. Chris Windom (12), 10. Robert Ballou (13), 11. Jordan Kinser (11), 12. Josh Hodges (8), 13. Dakota Jackson (15), 14. Carson Short (16), 15. Dave Darland (20), 16. Isaac Chapple (17), 17. Stephen Schnapf (10), 18. Joe Stornetta (19), 19. Lee Underwood (14), 20. T.J. Artz (21), 21. Dustin Clark (18), 22. Zach Daum (22). 6:47.18 (New Track Record)

**Brian VanMeveren flipped during qualifying.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-30 Brady Bacon.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Kevin Thomas Jr.-287, 2-C.J. Leary-284, 3-Chase Stockon-250, 4-Justin Grant-245, 5-Tyler Courtney-243, 6-Chris Windom-230, 7-Brady Bacon-229, 8-Robert Ballou-222, 9-Chad Boespflug-215, 10-Jason McDougal-208.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: April 13, 2019 – Tri-State Speedway – Haubstadt, Indiana – Spring Showdown – Co-Sanctioned by MSCS

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/B & W AUTO MART HARD CHARGER: Tyler Courtney (9th to 4th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Dakota Jackson

C.J. Leary (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Robert Ballou (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Robert Ballou (Roger & Barb Tapy 13th Fastest Qualifier)

Brady Bacon (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Tyler Courtney (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Chase Stockon (Indy Race Parts Semi Winner)

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CONVINCING COURTNEY CRUSHES ELDORA FIELD

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Rossburg, Ohio (May 11, 2019)……Over the past two seasons, Tyler Courtney has experienced the feeling of winning in all three of USAC's National divisions at Eldora Speedway.

Perhaps none of those performances were as impressive as the one the Indianapolis, Ind. driver turned in during Friday's "Don Branson/Jud Larson Classic," night one of the USAC AMSOIL Sprint Car National Championship portion of #LetsRaceTwo.

Courtney didn't bat an eye having to start from the inside of row four, charging to the front of the field in rapid-fire succession to the point by lap six with a turn one slider on Kevin Thomas Jr. From there, Courtney staged a disappearing act from everyone second on back, winning by a whopping 8.704 seconds and lapping up to seventh place.

"We kind of got behind the eight-ball starting seventh there," Courtney explained. "You've got to get your way to the front early and we were fortunate enough to have a really good car. With (crew chief Tyler Ransbottom) on the wrenches, I had one spot-on racecar and that made my job pretty easy."

Right from the get-go, Courtney was on a mission, which was briefly halted following a turn four flip on lap three by Dave Darland, who eventually walked away after the rough and tumble ride into the catch fence.

Following the restart, Courtney put his Clauson-Marshall-Newman Racing/NOS Energy Drink – Competition Suspension, Inc./Spike/Rider Chevy up top, racing around Carson Short for second on the fourth circuit, then set forth to challenge Thomas for the race lead.

It didn't take long for Courtney to rope Thomas in, as he sized Thomas up coming to the stripe at the completion of lap five before diving low at the entrance to turn one, sliding up and securing the spot. Thomas took a run back at Courtney in turn three a half lap later to no avail as Courtney extended his rapidly-growing advantage to 2.5 seconds with a third of the race in arrears.

Courtney's interval was wiped clean and re-racked when five-time Eldora USAC winner Robert Ballou slowed coming off turn two while running eighth. His machine limped to the turn four pit entrance, stopping just shy, bringing out the second and final stoppage of the evening.

Courtney slid himself into turn one on the ensuing restart, closing the curtain on any thought of an attempted slider from Thomas. Courtney powered away and took command of a full-straightaway lead past the halfway mark of the 30-lapper.

Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier C.J. Leary and Thomas exchanged the second position multiple times before Leary limbo'd by Thomas on the bottom of turn three on the 18th lap. Thomas contested the spot before Leary ultimately cleared Thomas for the runner-up position on the high side between turns one and two. Brady Bacon mimicked Leary's tactic one lap later to snare third.

Courtney continued to gain ground as the interval increased lap-by-lap while slicing between the lapped cars of Nick Bilbee and Matt Westfall in turn one on the 22nd lap. Courtney drove into the top-ten late in the going, albeit an entire lap ahead of them, with no indication of showing any mercy.

"This is Eldora. You can't relax here," Courtney reiterated. "You've got to get up on the wheel every lap because, if not, this place will bite you. It's done it to me before. This is a place you can't slack off for 30 laps."

With two to go, Courtney drove by eighth place Justin Grant and was closing in on Chase Stockon in seventh and Thomas and sixth when the checkered fell for the defending series champ. Behind Courtney at the line were new point leader Leary in second, followed by Bacon, Chris Windom and Short.

Courtney's 18th career series win was his first of the season and moved him into sole possession of 28th on the all-time list, surpassing Jerry Coons Jr., Parnelli Jones and Bud Kaeding.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: May 10, 2019 – Eldora Speedway – Rossburg, Ohio – #LetsRaceTwo

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-15.203; 2. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-15.347; 3. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-15.535; 4. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-15.564; 5. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-15.570; 6. Carson Short, 21, RCM-15.613; 7. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-15.644; 8. Robert Ballou, 12, Ballou-15.683; 9. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-15.692; 10. Timmy Buckwalter, 7, LNB-15.734; 11. Dave Darland, 17GP, Dutcher/Curb-Agajanian-15.747; 12. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-15.857; 13. Chad Boespflug, 98e, EZR-15.860; 14. Josh Hodges, 74x, Hodges-15.891; 15. Dallas Hewitt, 18, Keen-16.008; 16. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-16.066; 17. Carmen Perigo, 21p, Perigo-16.067; 18. Matt Westfall, 33m, Marshall-16.107; 19. Ty Tilton, 42, Tilton-16.120; 20. Dustin Ingle, 2DI, Ingle-16.249; 21. Brian VanMeveren, 24, VanMeveren-16.254; 22. Nick Bilbee, 17, Bilbee-16.313; 23. Kory Crabtree, 60, Gagliardi-16.416; 24. Corey Smith, 66s, CS-16.426; 25. Lee Underwood, 24L, Underwood-16.444; 26. Dustin Smith, 77s. Smith-16.538; 27. Matt Cooley, 19c, Cooley-16.606; 28. Michael Fischesser, 44, Fischesser-16.689; 29. Matt Goodnight, 39, Goodnight-16.885; 30. Gage Etgen, 99, Etgen-16.986; 31. Steve Little, 53, Little-17.066; 32. Mike Burkin, 79, Mahoney-17.069; 33. Mike Miller, 82, Miller-17.091; 34. Dakota Jackson, 3, Jackson-17.096; 35. Justin Owen, 4J, Owen-17.240; 36. Brian Ruhlman, 49, Ruhlman-17.747; 37. Zane Hendricks, 27, Goodnight-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Chad Boespflug, 2. Timmy Buckwalter, 3. Kevin Thomas Jr., 4. C.J. Leary, 5. Nick Bilbee, 6. Dallas Hewitt, 7. Corey Smith, 8. Mike Burkin, 9. Gage Etgen, 10. Dakota Jackson. 2:09.64

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Chase Stockon, 3. Dave Darland, 4. Josh Hodges, 5. Kory Crabtree, 6. Ty Tilton, 7. Steve Little, 8. Lee Underwood, 9. Mike Miller. 2:10.42

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Brady Bacon, 2. Chris Windom, 3. Matt Westfall, 4. Justin Grant, 5. Isaac Chapple, 6. Brian VanMeveren, 7. Matt Cooley, 8. Matt Goodnight, 9. Brian Ruhlman. 2:11.70

INDY RACE FOURTH HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Carson Short, 2. Robert Ballou, 3. Jason McDougal, 4. Dustin Ingle, 5. Dustin Smith, 6. Carmen Perigo, 7. Justin Owen, 8. Michael Fischesser. 2:13.01

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Nick Bilbee, 2. Ty Tilton, 3. Carmen Perigo, 4. Isaac Chapple, 5. Brian VanMeveren, 6. Dustin Smith, 7. Dallas Hewitt, 8. Corey Smith, 9. Kory Crabtree, 10. Lee Underwood, 11. Michael Fischesser, 12. Mike Burkin, 13. Justin Owen, 14. Matt Goodnight, 15. Matt Cooley, 16. Steve Little, 17. Gage Etgen, 18. Brian Ruhlman, 19. Mike Miller. 3:36.74

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Tyler Courtney (7), 2. C.J. Leary (6), 3. Brady Bacon (5), 4. Chris Windom (10), 5. Carson Short (3), 6. Kevin Thomas Jr. (2), 7. Chase Stockon (4), 8. Justin Grant (1), 9. Jason McDougal (12), 10. Isaac Chapple (18), 11. Ty Tilton (17), 12. Nick Bilbee (20), 13. Matt Westfall (16), 14. Dustin Smith (21), 15. Carmen Perigo (15), 16. Brian VanMeveren (23), 17. Matt Goodnight (22-P), 18. Dustin Ingle (19), 19. Josh Hodges (14), 20. Timmy Buckwalter (9), 21. Chad Boespflug (13), 22. Robert Ballou (8). 23. Dave Darland (11). NT

(P) represents a provisional starter

**Zane Hendricks flipped during qualifying. Dave Darland flipped on lap 3 of the feature.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-5 Kevin Thomas Jr., Laps 6-30 Tyler Courtney.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-362, 2-Kevin Thomas Jr.-351, 3-Tyler Courtney-323, 4-Chase Stockon-313, 5-Brady Bacon-306, 6-Justin Grant-299, 7-Chris Windom-298, 8-Carson Short-264, 9-Jason McDougal-260, 10-Robert Ballou-252.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: May 11, 2019 – Eldora Speedway – Rossburg, Ohio – #LetsRaceTwo

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Isaac Chapple (18th to 10th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Matt Westfall

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Dallas Hewitt

C.J. Leary (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Chad Boespflug (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Chad Boesplfug (Roger & Barb Tapy 13th Fastest Qualifier)

Tyler Courtney (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Brady Bacon (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Carson Short (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

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RAIN CLAIMS #LETSRACETWO FINALE AT ELDORA

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Rossburg, Ohio (May 11, 2019)……Saturday's USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car #LetsRaceTwo event from Eldora Speedway was pre-empted by heavy rainfall following the completion of heat races.

A complete, new show for the USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Cars, featuring qualifying, heats, a semi-feature and feature event, will be run on Wednesday night, July 17, at Eldora. The NOS Energy Drink World of Outlaws Sprint Cars will have a complete show that same night as well.

Fans who purchased tickets and wristbands through Eldora Speedway can use them as rain checks for any event at Eldora Speedway throughout the 2019 season. Those who purchased pit passes through TracPass can use them at any USAC event during 2019 or get a refund.

C.J. Leary set the tone Saturday night, setting Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifying time for the third consecutive series' race. He then captured the victory in the first heat, while Kevin Thomas Jr., Chase Stockon and Robert Ballou followed with heat victories just before the skies let loose and heavy rain washed away the remainder of the program.

Qualifying points earned Saturday will count toward the USAC AMSOIL Sprint Car National Championship standings because it was a completed session. Points for the heat races will not count toward the standings because a semi-feature wasn't completed.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: May 11, 2019 – Eldora Speedway – Rossburg, Ohio – #LetsRaceTwo

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-15.546; 2. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-15.596; 3. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-15.708; 4. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-15.793; 5. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, CMNR-15.849; 6. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-15.908; 7. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-15.926; 8. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-15.939; 9. Zane Hendricks, 27, Goodnight-15.996; 10. Carmen Perigo, 21p, Perigo-15.999; 11. Chad Boespflug, 98e, EZR-16.029; 12. Robert Ballou, 12, Ballou-16.037; 13. Matt Westfall, 33m, Marshall-16.195; 14. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-16.257; 15. Brian VanMeveren, 24, VanMeveren-16.286; 16. Dustin Smith, 77s. Smith-16.424; 17. Timmy Buckwalter, 7, LNB-16.466; 18. Corey Smith, 66s, CS-16.481; 19. Bill Rose, 6, Rose-16.514; 20. Dallas Hewitt, 18, Keen-16.529; 21. Dustin Ingle, 2DI, Ingle-16.532; 22. Gage Etgen, 99, Etgen-16.570; 23. Michael Fischesser, 44, Fischesser-16.727; 24. Kory Crabtree, 60, Gagliardi-16.740; 25. Matt Goodnight, 39, Goodnight-16.742; 26. Mike Burkin, 79, Mahoney-16.778; 27. Cody Gardner, 9G, APPCO-16.851; 28. Justin Owen, 4J, Owen-16.961; 29. Brian Ruhlman, 49, Ruhlman-17.178; 30. Steve Little, 53, Little-17.287; 31. Brandon Moore, 7m, Moore-17.870; 32. Matt Cooley, 19c, Cooley-NT (Time of 17.244 Disallowed); 33. Luke Harbison, 40, Harbison-NT

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. C.J. Leary, 2. Matt Westfall, 3. Timmy Buckwalter, 4. Zane Hendricks, 5. Dustin Ingle, 6. Matt Goodnight, 7. Brian Ruhlman, 8. Tyler Courtney. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Kevin Thomas Jr., 2. Chris Windom, 3. Carmen Perigo, 4. Isaac Chapple, 5. Gage Etgen, 6. Corey Smith, 7. Mike Burkin, 8. Steve Little. 2:17.73

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Chase Stockon, 2. Jason McDougal, 3. Chad Boespflug, 4. Brian VanMeveren, 5. Bill Rose, 6. Michael Fischesser, 7. Damion Gardner, 8. Brandon Moore. NT

INDY RACE FOURTH HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Robert Ballou, 2. Brady Bacon, 3. Justin Grant, 4. Dallas Hewitt, 5. Kory Crabtree, 6. Dustin Smith, 7. Justin Owen. 2:16.40

**REMAINDER OF PROGRAM RAINED OUT

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-378, 2-Kevin Thomas Jr.-366, 3-Tyler Courtney-335, 4-Chase Stockon-327, 5-Brady Bacon-319, 6-Justin Grant-309, 7-Chris Windom-309, 8-Jason McDougal-270, 9-Carson Short-264, 10-Robert Ballou-262.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACES: May 17-18, 2019 – Tri-City Speedway – Granite City, Illinois – Brandt River Town Showdown – 3/8-Mile Dirt Oval

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

C.J. Leary (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

C.J. Leary (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Kevin Thomas Jr. (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Chase Stockon (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Robert Ballou (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

Matt Westfall (Roger & Barb Tapy 13th Fastest Qualifier)

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WINDOM FIRST TO REPEAT IN USAC SPRINT WIN AT TRI-CITY

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Granite City, Illinois (May 17, 2019)……In a season with so much parity, the first winner of 2019 became the first repeat winner of the season as Chris Windom outdueled Carson Short in a wild Brandt "River Town Showdown" USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car feature Friday night at Tri-City Speedway.

In a race of attrition and heart-stopping sliders, Windom and Short were the class of the field in the end with each going after the other's jugular in a see-saw stretch for much of the race that witnessed the pair swap the lead numerous times until Windom, the 2017 series champ, emerged with his 23rd career USAC National Sprint Car victory, tying him for 22nd all- time with the great A.J. Foyt and Roger McCluskey.

The Canton, Ill. native started fifth for the start of 30-lap main event, while up front, Chase Stockon whipped around the outside of pole sitter Chad Boespflug to take the top spot on the opening lap, instantly breaking out to a five car length advantage.

Shortly thereafter, on the second lap, Justin Grant found himself spinning backwards at the exit of turn two. Mitch Wissmiller couldn't avoid the carnage, plowing into the stopped Grant, which sent both drivers and cars to the sideline for the remainder of the night.

On the lap two restart, Kevin Thomas Jr. drover around Boespflug for second, bringing Tyler Courtney, Short and a slew of others along with him. Thomas dove inside Stockon in turn three for first on the sixth lap, but Stockon fought back on the bottom off turn four, beating Stockon by a half car length at the stripe. Meanwhile, Short and Windom were approaching the party, with Windom eventually getting Short for second on the 10th lap with a turn three slider.

Jason McDougal dropped a driveshaft in turn three one lap later to bring out the caution, erasing the half-straightaway lead Thomas had constructed.

Thomas recaptured the point to keep Windom at bay for the meantime. Thomas then fended off Windom's slider in turn one on lap 12, but that allowed Short stick his nose in and capitalize on the back straightaway, going from third to first in an instant past both Windom and Thomas, who whiffed the outside wall exiting turn four as Short took over the lead and Windom moved past Thomas.

At the midway point, Windom answered by running downhill off turn four to surge past Short heading into turn one, but it would be all for naught as fifth-running Brady Bacon flipped in turn four to necessitate a red flag. Incredibly, the two-time series champ restarted and drove all the way back to a ninth-place finish.

That moved Short back into the lead, with a new engine loaded in the chamber after experiencing engine troubles following a fifth place finish the weekend before. Short cut off any attempt for a Windom slider by taking a lower line into turn one on the restart, allowing Short to gain some space on Windom.

Windom reeled Short in again and slid past again in turn three, forcing Short to counter back to the lead off turn four. Windom kept the pressure applied and two raced across the line on lap 20 side-by-side. Windom kept digging and the relentless assault paid off finally on lap 21 with a divebomb into turn three that saw him emerge with the lead. Short tried once more a lap later, sliding in front of Windom in turn three on the 22nd lap, but a slowing Korey Weyant put a cease-fire on the entertaining battle momentarily with a yellow flag.

Windom cut through the middle on the following restart, keeping his Goacher Racing/NOS Energy Drink – Parallax Power Supply – Jonathan Byrd's/DRC/Claxton Mopar up top until yet another yellow stopped the event when fourth-running Courtney, who had won the Midget feature earlier in the night, biked and pirouetted against the outside turn four wall, putting out for the remainder of the race and giving him a finish of 14th.

On the final restart, on lap 24, Windom ignited with an excellent restart, at least momentarily, as Short hung with Windom just a couple lengths back. Short continued in the role of pursuant during the final laps, banging hard off the turn four cushion on the 26th lap, but unable to make up any substantial ground on Windom who carried on to a 1.832 second victory over Short, Thomas, point leader C.J. Leary and Isaac Chapple.

"I couldn't get to the lead there, and when I did, the caution came out and set us back," Windom recalled. "I knew, for the entire race, we had a car to win this race. We didn't get a very good start and had to get back through the field. (Crew Chief) Derek Claxton, (Car Owner) Jason Goacher, john and these guys, gave me a great racecar to get back to the front like we needed to. It was a hell of a battle with Carson and KT."

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: May 17, 2019 – Tri-City Speedway – Granite City, Illinois – Brandt River Town Showdown – 3/8-Mile Dirt Oval

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-14.607; 2. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-14.774; 3. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-14.838; 4. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-14.878; 5. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-14.908; 6. Chad Boespflug, 98e, EZR-14.919; 7. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-14.941; 8. Carson Short, 21, RCM-14.993; 9. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-15.007; 10. Robert Ballou, 12, Ballou-15.098; 11. T.J. Artz, 57, Artz-15.196; 12. Mario Clouser, 6, MCM-15.252; 13. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-15.267; 14. Mitch Wissmiller, 1, Wissmiller-15.346; 15. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-15.438; 16. Dustin Smith, 77s, Smith-15.439; 17. Zach Daum, 5D, Daum-15.838; 18. Mitchell Davis, 56, Davis-15.968; 19. Justin Standridge, 8D, KCBJ-15.969; 20. Logan Faucon, 52F, Faucon-15.973; 21. Brandon Mattox, 28, Mattox-16.061; 22. James Lyerla, 11, Lyerla-16.103; 23. Steve Thomas, 20, Thomas-16.323; 24. Patrick Budde, 90, Budde-16.891; 25. Eric Perrott, 45, Perrott-17.936; 26. Robert Bell, 71, Bell-NT; 27. Korey Weyant, 99, Weyant-NT (time of 15.647 disallowed).

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Robert Ballou, 2. Tyler Courtney, 3. Jason McDougal, 4. Justin Grant, 5. Brady Bacon, 6. Dustin Smith, 7. James Lyerla, 8. Justin Standridge, 9. Eric Perrott. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Chris Windom, 2. Zach Daum, 3. Chase Stockon, 4. Mitch Wissmiller, 5. T.J. Artz, 6. Logan Faucon, 7. Steve Thomas, 8. Carson Short, 9. Robert Bell. 2:12.49

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. C.J. Leary, 2. Kevin Thomas Jr., 3. Isaac Chapple, 4. Chad Boespflug, 5. Korey Weyant, 6. Brandon Mattox, 7. Mario Clouser, 8. Mitchell Davis, 9. Patrick Budde. 2:13.55

INDY RACE PARTS SEMI: (10 laps, top-7 transfer to the feature) 1. Mario Clouser, 2. Carson Short, 3. Dustin Smith, 4. Brandon Mattox, 5. Mitchell Davis, 6. Justin Standridge, 7. Logan Faucon, 8. James Lyerla, 9. Steve Thomas, 10. Eric Perrott, 11. Patrick Budde. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Chris Windom (5), 2. Carson Short (8), 3. Kevin Thomas Jr. (4), 4. C.J. Leary (9), 5. Isaac Chapple (15), 6. Robert Ballou (10), 7. Mario Clouser (12), 8. Chase Stockon (2), 9. Brady Bacon (7), 10. Chad Boespflug (1), 11. T.J. Artz (11), 12. Brandon Mattox (21), 13. Mitchell Davis (18), 14. Tyler Courtney (6), 15. Korey Weyant (22), 16. Justin Standridge (19), 17. Jason McDougal (13), 18. Zach Daum (17), 19. Justin Grant (3), 20. Mitch Wissmiller (14), 21. Dustin Smith (16), 22. Logan Faucon (20). NT

**Brady Bacon flipped on lap 16 of the feature.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-5 Chase Stockon, Laps 6-11 Kevin Thomas Jr., Laps 12-20 Carson Short, Laps 21-30 Chris Windom.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-447, 2-Kevin Thomas Jr.-441, 3-Chris Windom-392, 4-Chase Stockon-384, 5-Tyler Courtney-383, 6-Brady Bacon-369, 7-Justin Grant-342, 8-Carson Short-334, 9-Robert Ballou-325, 10-Jason McDougal-305.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: May 18, 2019 – Tri-City Speedway – Granite City, Illinois – Brandt River Town Showdown – 3/8-Mile Dirt Oval

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Isaac Chapple (15th to 5th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Mitchell Davis

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: James Lyerla

Tyler Courtney (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Robert Ballou (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Chris Windom (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

C.J. Leary (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Mario Clouser (Indy Race Parts Semi Winner)

Jason McDougal (Roger & Barb Tapy 13th Fastest Qualifier)

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TRI-CITY USAC SPRINTS FALL TO RAIN

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Granite City, Illinois (May 18, 2019)……For the second consecutive Saturday, rain captured the USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car feature, this time in Saturday's Brandt "River Town Showdown" at Tri-City Speedway. A subsequent makeup date for the event will be announced soon.

Tyler Courtney's impressive qualifying feats continued Saturday at Tri-City, sweeping Fatheadz Eyewear Quick time in both the Sprint Car and the NOS Energy Drink National Midget for the second-straight night. Robert Ballou, Kevin Thomas Jr. and Brady Bacon captured heat race wins.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: May 18, 2019 – Tri-City Speedway – Granite City, Illinois – Brandt River Town Showdown – 3/8-Mile Dirt Oval

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-14.737; 2. Carson Short, 21, RCM-14.875; 3. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-14.945; 4. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-15.020; 5. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-

15.022; 6. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-15.027; 7. Chad Boespflug, 98e, EZR-15.088; 8. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-15.155; 9. Zach Daum, 5D, Daum-15.232; 10. Robert Ballou, 12, Ballou-15.264; 11. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-15.268; 12. Mario Clouser, 6, MCM-15.314; 13. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-15.329; 14. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-15.608; 15. T.J. Artz, 57, Artz-15.612; 16. Mitchell Davis, 56, Davis-15.706; 17. Dustin Smith, 77s. Smith-15.826; 18. James Lyerla, 11, Lyerla-16.081; 19. Korey Weyant, 99, Weyant-16.795; 20. Brad Wyatt, 41, RNS-16.856; 21. Steve Thomas, 20, Thomas-17.193; 22. Patrick Budde, 90, Budde-17.603; 23. Scottie Gretzmacher, 16G, Gretzmacher-17.785; 24. Robert Bell, 71, Bell-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Robert Ballou, 2. C.J. Leary, 3. Tyler Courtney, 4. Chase Stockon, 5. Chad Boespflug, 6. Mitchell Davis, 7. Korey Weyant, 8. Patrick Budde. 2:13.90

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Kevin Thomas Jr., 2. Carson Short, 3. Chris Windom, 4. Jason McDougal, 5. Isaac Chapple, 6. Dustin Smith, 7. Brad Wyatt, 8. Scottie Gretzmacher. NT

AUTOMETER/INDY RACE PARTS THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Brady Bacon, 2. Mario Clouser, 3. Zach Daum, 4. Justin Grant, 5. James Lyerla, 6. T.J. Artz, 7. Steve Thomas. NT

**REMAINDER OF EVENT RAINED OUT

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-457, 2-Kevin Thomas Jr.-449, 3-Chris Windom-400, 4-Tyler Courtney-395, 5-Chase Stockon-389, 6-Brady Bacon-378, 7-Justin Grant-351, 8-Carson Short-346, 9-Robert Ballou-333, 10-Jason McDougal-310.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: May 22, 2019 – Terre Haute Action Track – Terre Haute, Indiana – 49th Tony Hulman Classic – 1/2-Mile Dirt Oval

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

Tyler Courtney (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Robert Ballou (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Kevin Thomas Jr. (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Brady Bacon (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Chase Stockon (Roger & Barb Tapy 13th Fastest Qualifier)

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STOCKON FINALLY HOLDS THE RIFLE, WINS TONY HULMAN CLASSIC

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Terre Haute, Indiana (May 22, 2019)……Chase Stockon had tamed the Terre Haute Action Track multiple times in his USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car career with a “Jim Hurtubise Classic” win in 2012 and a “Don Smith Classic” victory in 2016 to his credit.

But the one that eluded him happened to be the longest-continually running event on the series schedule, the “Tony Hulman Classic.”

Wednesday night, the “Tony Hulman Classic” and its famed rifle trophy eluded him no more as the Fort Branch, Indiana driver led all 30 laps to capture the 49th annual running of the event.

It’s the one Stockon wanted, and the emotion was quite evident on the “Ironman” driver who holds the current series record of 268 consecutive starts with the series dating to 2012.

“I’m about to cry,” Stockon exclaimed in victory lane. “I’ve been wanting to win this one so bad. At this point, it’s probably the one I wanted to win the most. This rifle right here means everything. It’s awesome. This is the one that’s gotten away from us multiple times and we’re pretty proud to be able to put this one on the wall.”

When Stockon speaks of this one being the one that got away, he ain’t kidding. Last year, he led 20 laps before he was passed by Tyler Courtney with nine laps remaining, ultimately finishing fifth. Two years ago, Stockon led the first 27 laps before being passed by Kevin Thomas Jr. with three to go, ending up third.

This one wasn’t going to slip from the grip of the now 12-time USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car feature winner, tying Eric Gordon for 45th on the all-time list. This one, he put into the hands of his trusty sidekick who made the right calls to help put Stockon up front and stay up front to snap their 46-race winless streak that reached back to the 2018 season opener in Ocala, Fla.

“It’s tough,” Stockon admitted. “Everybody keeps getting quicker and quicker. We’ve been really good here the last five or six years here and have had a couple slip away from us. I like these big fast half-miles, but we struggled being tight all night tonight and (Crew Chief) D.J. (Ott) made the call after the heat race of what he wanted to do to the car, and I was like, ‘You know what, if you want to do it, it’s in your hands. I’ll just drive it.’ Luckily, I held up my end of the deal for him.”

Stockon started the main event from the outside of the front row, blitzing around pole sitter Carson Short for the lead on the opening lap. Meanwhile, Chris Windom ripped past the inside of Brady Bacon off turn two on the second lap for third, then constructed a déjà vu moment on lap four with nearly the same move on Short once more to get to second.

Windom appeared hooked up on the surface that saw heavy early morning showers and seemed poise to threaten Stockon’s status for the top spot. However, that was about as close as Windom got following a handful of restarts.

Seventh-running Kevin Thomas Jr. broke on lap seven, slowing the pace for the initial time, putting him out for the remainder of the evening. Furthermore, Short stopped in turn four on the 11th lap, like Thomas, running seventh. Nate McMillin stopped in turn three on lap 20 while running 15th.

With 11 laps remaining, the showdown for the rifle consisted of Stockon and a pair of past “Hulman Classic” winners in Windom (2011) in second and Courtney (2018) in third. The mover on the restart was another “Hulman” winner, two-time victor Robert Ballou (2015-16), who secured sixth off turn four on the 20th circuit as he and Bacon banged wheels.

Ballou, then whipped by Justin Grant for fifth on lap 22 just before point leader and fourth place running C.J. Leary lost a right rear tire on lap 23 to bring out the final yellow.

Stockon’s good run of restarts had no inkling of ending on the final one on lap 23 as he immediately broke away to a six car-length advantage by the time the front runners hit the back stretch with Courtney working to the inside of Windom briefly in turn three. Windom was able to withstand the challenge to secure the runner-up spot for good.

With the front runners cruising on the middle line on the heavy racing surface, Stockon edged away in the final laps, defeating Windom by 1.963 seconds while Courtney, Ballou and Grant rounded out the top-five.

With Leary (9th) and Kevin Thomas Jr. (18th) suffering misfortune in the feature, Stockon is now the only driver who has finished in the top-eight in all seven starts this season. Stockon dedicated the victory to his grandpa, who’s in the hospital.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: May 22, 2019 – Terre Haute Action Track – Terre Haute, Indiana – 49th Tony Hulman Classic – 1/2-Mile Dirt Oval

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR/EPA PHOTOGRAPHY QUALIFYING: 1. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-19.750; 2. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-19.800; 3. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-19.834; 4. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-19.887; 5. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-20.014; 6. Carson Short, 21, RCM-20.036; 7. Robert Ballou, 12, Ballou-20.187; 8. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-20.192; 9. Bill Balog, 2, Lein-20.231; 10. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-20.281; 11. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-20.367; 12. Nate McMillin, 24m, McMillin-20.414; 13. Brandon Mattox, 28, Mattox-20.469; 14. Chad Boespflug, 98e, EZR-20.561; 15. Brian VanMeveren, 24, VanMeveren-20.720; 16. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-20.982; 17. Tye Mihocko, 5, Mihocko-21.495; 18. Paul May, 71m, May-21.572; 19. Steve Thomas, 20, Thomas-21.590; 20. Eric Perrott, 45, Perrott-24.467.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Robert Ballou, 2. C.J. Leary, 3. Brandon Mattox, 4. Brady Bacon, 5. Isaac Chapple, 6. Justin Grant, 7. Steve Thomas. 2:43.50

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Kevin Thomas Jr., 2. Chad Boespflug, 3. Chris Windom, 4. Chase Stockon, 5. Jason McDougal, 6. Tye Mihocko, 7. Eric Perrott. 2:44.77

AUTOMETER/INDY RACE PARTS THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Carson Short, 2. Tyler Courtney, 3. Paul May, 4. Bill Balog, 5. Nate McMillin, 6. Brian VanMeveren. 2:44.53

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Chase Stockon (2), 2. Chris Windom (5), 3. Tyler Courtney (4), 4. Robert Ballou (7), 5. Justin Grant (10), 6. Brady Bacon (3), 7. Jason McDougal (11), 8. Carson Short (1), 9. C.J. Leary (6), 10. Isaac Chapple (16), 11. Bill Balog (9), 12. Chad Boespflug (14), 13. Brandon Mattox (13), 14. Brian VanMeveren (15), 15. Steve Thomas (18), 16. Paul May (17), 17. Nate McMillin (12), 18. Kevin Thomas Jr. (8), 19. Eric Perrott (19), 20. Tye Mihocko (20). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-30 Chase Stockon.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-539, 2-Kevin Thomas Jr.-507, 3-Chris Windom-501, 4-Tyler Courtney-493, 5-Chase Stockon-489, 6-Brady Bacon-464, 7-Justin Grant-435, 8-Carson Short-427, 9-Robert Ballou-425, 10-Jason McDougal-389.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: May 31, 2019 – I-80 Speedway – Greenwood, Nebraska – I-80 Dirt Classic – 4/10-Mile Dirt Oval

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/B & W AUTO MART HARD CHARGER: Isaac Chapple (16th to 10th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Brandon Mattox

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Brandon Mattox

C.J. Leary (Fatheadz Eyewear/EPA Photography Fast Qualifier)

Robert Ballou (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Kevin Thomas Jr. (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Carson Short (AutoMeter/Indy Race Parts Third Heat Winner)

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BACON GETS $10K GRANDVIEW TRIFECTA IN EASTERN STORM OPENER

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Bechtelsville, Pennsylvania (June 11, 2019)……In each of the last two years, Brady Bacon had to pull some late-race heroics out of his pocket in the final laps of the "Jesse Hockett Classic" / USAC Eastern Storm opener at Grandview Speedway.

This one Tuesday night was anything but a nail-biter as the Broken Arrow, Oklahoma driver led all 40 laps in dominant fashion to collect $10,000 and become the first driver in Eastern Storm history to win three races at a single track, an achievement which took him just three years to accomplish.

As opposed to his 2017-18 Grandview triumphs, Bacon felt he had car to beat right from the get-go, though it very nearly ended as soon as it started with a huge bike in turn two during hot laps that he managed to save, carry on and then thrive, on a night and a 1/3-mile track he seems to have a knack for winning at.

"This is the first year I actually think we had the best car," Bacon admitted. "The other couple of years, we managed to sneak to the front and find some stuff to get the wins. This time, I feel like we had a really good car all night. We had a game plan going in here, and even though it was rough at the beginning of the night, we wanted to stick to our guns and make sure we got tight enough for the feature."

Bacon's victory was also special in personal ways, both for the car owner he won his two USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car titles for and for the race's namesake, who won at Grandview in 2009, and was one of Bacon's closest fellow competitors on the USAC trail.

"This is the first win since the passing of (car owner) Richard Hoffman and with this being the Jesse Hockett race, I was close friends with him too. That's pretty special," Bacon beamed.

To set Bacon's Grandview backstory, in 2017, Bacon started sixth and worked his way to lead laps 25-35 before being overtaken by C.J. Leary with five laps remaining. Bacon reeled Leary back in, and on lap 38 in lapped traffic, Bacon shot underneath as Leary got hung up on the outside.

In 2018, Bacon started from the pole, fell back, then charged to the front to lead laps 13-29 before Kevin Thomas Jr. snatched the lead away with 11 laps to go. Again, when it all looked to be over for Bacon, he found his second wind and tracked down Thomas with three to go to pull off the victory.

None of that transpired Tuesday night. Bacon got the jump on the start, using the topside from his outside front row starting position to power around polesitter Justin Grant to grab the lead exiting turn two. By the fourth lap, Bacon was wheels up and just about ready for takeoff as he crossed the stripe with a one second lead.

As would be the case throughout the duration of the race, the battle was for second on back. Just before the end of the first quarter of the 40-lapper, Tyler Courtney went around the outside of Grant for position in turn four. Grant fought back to reclaim second going into turn three before Courtney got Grant at the line on lap six.

Grant got the runner-up position back from Courtney on lap seven and the pair tussled until the ninth lap when Courtney made contact with Grant's rear bumper. Courtney swung wide in turn three, laying down the red carpet for series point leader C.J. Leary to duck underneath for third.

Moments later, disaster struck for local favorite and 12th running Timmy Buckwalter of Douglassville, Pa., who slid wide off turn four, clipped the right rear against the wall and rode out a wild flip down the front straightaway that ripped the tail tank off and displaced the engine from its normal position. The 2018 USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car co-Rookie of the Year climbed out and walked away.

By the halfway mark, Bacon stepped away once again as second through seventh were all under a blanket, but the one surging through it all was ninth-place starter Chris Windom. The two-time and defending Eastern Storm champ zipped by Kevin Thomas Jr. for fourth on the bottom. Then, on lap 22, disposed of Leary for third in the same spot on the track.

Two laps later, on lap 24, Windom slid Grant into turn one. Grant countered back underneath off turn two. On lap 25, it was déjà vu with both swapping the lead on each end of the track before Windom prevailed a lap later with the position in turn three. Leary moved to third by Grant one lap later, likewise, on the bottom of three.

All the while, Bacon was grinning as he constructed an unchallenged 3.5 second lead with less than 10 laps left and to 4 seconds with just five to go. Although, the race for second was not on ice just quite yet. Leary stormed his way back by Windom with just two laps left to nab second at the end, though, still 4.352 seconds behind Bacon at the finish.

Leary finished second ahead of Windom, Courtney and Thomas. Robert Ballou, fast qualifier Chase Stockon, Justin Grant, Jason McDougal and Chad Boespflug rounded out the top-ten.

Bacon's 25th career USAC National Sprint Car win moved him into a tie for 18th all-time with Steve Butler, Jay Drake and Kevin Thomas Jr. He also joined Windom as the second driver to win multiples races in the series this year.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: June 11, 2019 – Grandview Speedway – Bechtelsville, Pennsylvania – 13th USAC Eastern Storm – 1/3-Mile Dirt Oval

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-13.478; 2. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-13.616; 3. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-13.792; 4. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-13.799; 5. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-13.829; 6. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-13.936; 7. Steven Drevicki, 19s, Drevicki-13.956; 8. Robert Ballou, 12, Ballou-13.959; 9. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-13.992; 10. Timmy Buckwalter, 7, LNB-14.024; 11. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-14.127; 12. Carmen Perigo, 21p, Perigo-14.170; 13. Dave Darland, 39, Hogue-14.188; 14. Carson Short, 20, Dyson-14.209; 15. Chad Boespflug, 98e, EZR-14.294; 16. Joey Biasi, B1, Biasi-14.377; 17. Trevor Kobylarz, 14, RT-14.516; 18. Ryan Godown, 4F, Freyer-14.551; 19. Dustin Clark, 75, DCR-14.611; 20. Bill Balog, 2, Lein-14.627; 21. Kyle Lick, 8, Lick-14.673; 22. Dominick Buffalino, 3x, Wasitowski-14.925; 23. Brian VanMeveren, 24, VanMeveren-14.953; 24. Heidi Hedin, 3H, Hedin-15.797; 25. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Timmy Buckwalter, 2. Joey Biasi, 3. Tyler Courtney, 4. Dave Darland, 5. Chase Stockon, 6. Steven Drevicki, 7. Isaac Chapple, 8. Dustin Clark, 9. Dominick Buffalino. 1:57.53

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Carson Short, 2. Robert Ballou, 3. Trevor Kobylarz, 4. Brady Bacon, 5. C.J. Leary, 6. Bill Balog, 7. Brian VanMeveren, 8. Jason McDougal. NT

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Chad Boespflug, 2. Kevin Thomas Jr., 3. Chris Windom, 4. Ryan Godown, 5. Justin Grant, 6. Carmen Perigo, 7. Kyle Lick, 8. Heidi Hedin. 1:56.93

INDY RACE PARTS SEMI: (12 laps, top-7 transfer to the feature) 1. Jason McDougal, 2. Steven Drevicki, 3. Carmen Perigo, 4. Isaac Chapple, 5. Kyle Lick, 6. Bill Balog, 7. Dustin Clark, 8. Brian VanMeveren, 9. Dominick Buffalino, 10. Heidi Hedin. 3:01.48 (New Track Record)

FEATURE: (40 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Brady Bacon (2), 2. C.J. Leary (5), 3. Chris Windom (9), 4. Tyler Courtney (3), 5. Kevin Thomas Jr. (4), 6. Robert Ballou (8), 7. Chase Stockon (6), 8. Justin Grant (1), 9. Jason McDougal (11), 10. Chad Boespflug (15), 11. Ryan Godown (18), 12. Carson Short (14), 13. Steven Drevicki (7), 14. Dave Darland (13), 15. Joey Biasi (16), 16. Bill Balog (20), 17. Isaac Chapple (22), 18. Carmen Perigo (12), 19. Trevor Kobylarz (17), 20. Kyle Lick (21), 21. Timmy Buckwalter (10), 22. Dustin Clark (19). NT

**Timmy Buckwalter flipped on lap 10 of the feature.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-40 Brady Bacon.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-615, 2-Kevin Thomas Jr.-576, 3-Chris Windom-571, 4-Tyler Courtney-563, 5-Chase Stockon-551, 6-Brady Bacon-541, 7-Justin Grant-489, 8-Robert Ballou-487, 9-Carson Short-474, 10-Jason McDougal-439.

USAC EASTERN STORM POINTS: 1-Brady Bacon-77, 2-C.J. Leary-76, 3-Chris Windom-70, 4-Tyler Courtney-70, 5-Kevin Thomas Jr.-69, 6-Robert Ballou-62, 7-Chase Stockon-62, 8-Justin Grant-54, 9-Chad Boespflug-51, 10-Jason McDougal-50.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: June 12, 2019 – Bridgeport Speedway – Swedesboro, New Jersey – 13th USAC Eastern Storm – 3/8-Mile Dirt Oval

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Ryan Godown (18th to 11th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Steven Drevicki

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Dave Darland

Chase Stockon (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Timmy Buckwalter (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Carson Short (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Chad Boespflug (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Jason McDougal (Indy Race Parts Semi Winner)

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McDOUGAL CROSSES BRIDGEPORT OFF CHECKLIST FOR FIRST EASTERN STORM WIN

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Swedesboro, New Jersey (June 12, 2019)……To earn his first career USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car victory last September in Pevely, Mo., Jason McDougal played the role of the chaser on a late-race restart.

To gain his second career series win Wednesday night in round two of the 13th annual USAC Eastern Storm at Bridgeport Speedway, the roles were reversed as the Broken Arrow, Okla. native had to hold off the competition on a green-white-checker restart.

Initially, McDougal was heralded as a quick study after making an impressive series debut less than a calendar year ago. Now, after acing both of those particular exams in his young career, he's rapidly becoming one of the elite, earning his first career Eastern Storm triumph on the 3/8-mile dirt oval.

Although, as hard as McDougal drove into turn one on the final restart, he might've made it stick on the 5/8-mile track that surrounds it.

"I drove it into one as deep as I could," McDougal exclaimed, emphasizing the word 'deep.' "That was the hardest I ran it into one during that whole race. It was either going to bike or stick."

Justin Grant, a 14-time USAC Sprint Car feature winner himself, was eager to tally his initial Eastern Storm win as he lined up second on the final restart, ready to make his run at McDougal.

"I was going to slide him into one, but I didn't have enough of a run," Grant explained. "Then I thought, 'well, if I can hook the bottom off of two, I can at least stay tucked up alongside of him and slide him going into three. Then, I about half-spun in the middle of one and two, and that whole plan went away."

McDougal checked out initially on the start from the outside of the front row, though pole sitter Carson Short made a bid for the lead, running side-by-side and edging ahead momentarily on the bottom of turn three on the opening lap before McDougal used the top to drive around the outside of Short to lead the field back to the stripe.

As McDougal checked out to a 1.5 second advantage, the battled raged for second with Kevin Thomas Jr. smothering Short for second to no avail as Short slammed the door on Thomas on the tenth lap into one. Short had enough momentum each time to guard the challenge from Thomas, but three laps later, at the same spot, Thomas kicked the door open, grooving to the bottom and edging ahead for the second position exiting turn two.

Nearing midway, the sense was that, with an open track, Thomas would be able to start reeling McDougal in. Initially, he did, cutting a half-second off the interval to knock McDougal's lead down to nine-tenths of a second. As McDougal began to encounter the tail end of the field on lap 19, he built his lead back up to 1.3 seconds.

However, gridlock, road construction-type traffic lay ahead with not one, not two, but three cars occupying three different grooves together as McDougal approached. Seemingly stuck, McDougal tried to split two of the lappers on separate occasions without much luck. That allowed both Grant and Thomas to come back into play with five laps remaining.

On lap 26, Grant and Thomas' see-saw positioning saw Grant slide Thomas into turn three. Thomas countered and the two drag raced into turn one with Thomas poking ahead and briefly surging ahead by a car length over McDougal between turns one and two. That is, until McDougal zipped back past on the outside to regain the lead, albeit with the lapped cars of Brian VanMeveren and Dominick Buffalino running in tandem just ahead.

"They were racing just close enough side-by-side to where I couldn't split them getting into the corner," McDougal recalled. "One of them entered low enough every time, that I probably could've drove around the outside of him, but we would've crashed about halfway through the corner. Basically, I just waited until the guy on the bottom messed up enough to where I could almost push the guy at the top off the track."

McDougal was on high alert and was able to wedge the front bumper between the two off the second turn on lap 28, cutting through the middle of both cars on the back straightaway to clear both in one fell swoop between turns three and four.

As soon as McDougal appeared to be in the clear, the yellow flag dropped for the stopped car of Dustin Clark in turn four, setting up one final two-lap showdown. However, McDougal was flawless on the resumption, spurting away uncontested throughout the last 1-3/4 of a lap to earn the $6,000 victory, the money with which McDougal said he might spend on a new Gucci belt to boost his appearance for the fans.

McDougal's victory in the Daigh-Phillips Motorsports/Frank & Jill Daigh – Roger & Barb Tapy – Griffin's Propane/DRC/Foxco Chevy provided the Phillips team their first Eastern Storm feature victory since Dave Darland's win at Port Royal in 2013.

Thomas outdueled Grant in a ferocious battle in the waning laps to take second. Grant finished third ahead of fast qualifier and new one-lap track record holder Chase Stockon, while new USAC Eastern Storm point leader C.J. Leary rounded out the top-five.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: June 12, 2019 – Bridgeport Speedway – Swedesboro, New Jersey – 13th USAC Eastern Storm – 3/8-Mile Dirt Oval

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-15.767 (New Track Record); 2. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-16.010; 3. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-16.019; 4. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-16.056; 5. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-16.089; 6. Carson Short, 20, Dyson-16.150; 7. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-16.163; 8. Chad Boespflug, 98e, EZR-16.186; 9. Bill Balog, 2, Lein-16.215; 10. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-16.278; 11. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-16.309; 12. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-16.340; 13. Joey Biasi, B1, Biasi-16.408; 14. Robert Ballou, 12, Ballou-16.469; 15. Dave Darland, 39, Hogue-16.520; 16. Steven Drevicki, 19s, Drevicki-16.520; 17. Brian VanMeveren, 24, VanMeveren-16.560; 18. Jarett Andretti, 18, Andretti-16.690; 19. Dustin Clark, 75, DCR-16.836; 20. Dominick Buffalino, 3x, Wasitowski-17.181; 21. Ryan Godown, 4F, Freyer-17.284; 22. Craig Pellegrini, 11A, Pellegrini-17.476.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Joey Biasi, 3. Chase Stockon, 4. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5. Chris Windom, 6. Steven Drevicki, 7. Dustin Clark, 8. Craig Pellegrini. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Robert Ballou, 2. Jason McDougal, 3. C.J. Leary, 4. Brian VanMeveren, 5. Chad Boespflug, 6. Isaac Chapple, 7. Dominick Buffalino. NT

AUTOMETER/INDY RACE PARTS THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Dave Darland, 2. Brady Bacon, 3. Jarett Andretti, 4. Justin Grant, 5. Carson Short, 6. Bill Balog, 7. Ryan Godown. 2:15.75 (New Track Record)

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Jason McDougal (2), 2. Kevin Thomas Jr. (3), 3. Justin Grant (4), 4. Chase Stockon (6), 5. C.J. Leary (5), 6. Tyler Courtney (10), 7. Brady Bacon (12), 8. Chris Windom (7), 9. Carson Short (1), 10. Robert Ballou (14), 11. Bill Balog (9), 12. Steven Drevicki (16), 13. Chad Boespflug (8), 14. Isaac Chapple (11), 15. Joey Biasi (13), 16. Dave Darland (15), 17. Jarett Andretti (18), 18. Ryan Godown (21), 19. Dominick Buffalino (20), 20. Brian VanMeveren (17), 21. Dustin Clark (19), 22. Craig Pellegrini. (22). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-30 Jason McDougal.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-684, 2-Kevin Thomas Jr.-651, 3-Tyler Courtney-626, 4-Chris Windom-624, 5-Chase Stockon-624, 6-Brady Bacon-600, 7-Justin Grant-562, 8-Robert Ballou-538, 9-Carson Short-525, 10-Jason McDougal-518.

USAC EASTERN STORM POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-145, 2-Kevin Thomas Jr.-144, 3-Brady Bacon-136, 4-Chase Stockon-135, 5-Tyler Courtney-133, 6-Jason McDougal-129, 7-Justin Grant-127, 8-Chris Windom-123, 9-Robert Ballou-113, 10-Carson Short-98.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: June 13, 2019 – BAPS Motor Speedway – York Haven, Pennsylvania – 13th USAC Eastern Storm – 4/10-Mile Dirt Oval

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Brady Bacon (12th to 7th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Chad Boespflug

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Joey Biasi

Chase Stockon (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Tyler Courtney (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Robert Ballou (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

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

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COURTNEY RULES PORT ROYAL EASTERN STORM ROUND

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Port Royal, Pennsylvania (June 15, 2019)……For Tyler Courtney, the date of June 15th and the location of Port Royal Speedway means more than just another stop on the USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car tour.

For Port Royal was the half-mile dirt oval where his mentor, Bryan Clauson, recorded his record sixth and final USAC Eastern Storm win in 2016. Saturday night also marked what would've been Clauson's 30th birthday.

Courtney, the defending series champ, was bound and determined to make his own personal mark to honor BC on this night during round three of the 13th annual USAC Eastern Storm series but felt there was a spirit helping him along the way.

"We've kind of struggled all week," Courtney admitted. "But I think we had somebody looking down on us tonight. This one's for him. He's done a lot for my career. He's done a lot for everybody on this team. Even without him being here, he helped us more than he knows."

The emotional victory for Courtney aboard his Clauson-Marshall-Newman Racing/NOS Energy Drink – Competition Suspension, Inc./Spike/Rider Chevy appeared as smooth as silk for 30 laps with barely any threats posed en route to his second series victory of the year. His half-mile record with the series in 2019 now includes wins at Eldora and Port Royal to go along with a 3rd at Terre Haute.

Indianapolis, Indiana's Courtney started from the outside of the front row and was seemingly gone, ripping the top, as Chris Windom attempted to keep pace in second. Courtney's lead stretched out to three-quarters of a straightaway over Windom in the first-third of the race until 2015 Port Royal winner Robert Ballou made contact in turn three, heavily damaging the torsion bar and the left rear wheel, forcing him on the sideline for the remainder of the night.

Courtney had been solid as a rock at Port Royal in his previous two campaigns, finishing 4th in 2017 and 3rd in 2018. But Windom, who lined up second on the ensuing restart, was victorious in both of those instances. Windom's best opportunity to get past was to dive low in one to the inside guardrail to throw the slider on the restart. He did just that when racing resumed on lap 12, but there wasn't enough mustard on the fastball to surge ahead, and instead, tucked in behind Courtney exiting turn two.

Yellows and restarts were the only things tugging on Courtney's cape this night as each time Courtney stood on the throttle, his competition was left in the distant past. The separation from Courtney to Windom was instantly a half-straightaway while Windom found himself a 10-car length lead over the fierce battle for third between Kevin Thomas Jr., Chase Stockon and new one-lap track record holder, C.J. Leary.

At the midway point, Thomas slid by Stockon on the bottom of turn three. Stockon countered to regain third exiting four. Stockon's grasp on the spot was hanging in the balance and Thomas was able to pick Stockon off by the time they reached turn two on the 16th lap. By turn four of the same lap, Leary had slid by Stockon to take ownership of fourth to begin the second half of the 30-lapper.

Meanwhile, Courtney was cruising with nothing but Warren Alston's double checkers on his mind and vision with six laps remaining. That was until third-running Thomas, who was on the topside of turn three and in the midst of a joust with Leary for third, suffered a blown right rear tire which sent him hard into the outside guardrail with a mighty wallop, elevating all four wheels of his car off the ground before landing back on all fours. The incident ended his night with a disappointing 18th place finish and placed a huge dent in his Eastern Storm title chances where he dropped from 2nd to 8th, and in the National Sprint points in which he fell from 2nd to 5th.

Four lapped cars separated race leader Courtney and second-running Windom on the lap 25 restart, negating any reasonable chance for Windom to toss a slider for the lead heading into turn one. Instead, all Windom could do was stay pat on the topside while the lappers cooperated on the bottom. Once again, any notion of anyone else having a shot at taking down Courtney was all for naught as Courtney opened it up to a lead of three seconds while Leary tried to step up a spot by challenging Windom, to no avail.

Courtney finished off a sterling performance by setting his fastest lap of the race on the 30th and final lap that ultimately resulted in his second career Eastern Storm victory by 3.15 seconds over Windom, Leary, Stockon and Justin Grant.

Courtney fell the struggle was real in the first two rounds this week with 4th and 6th place runs at Grandview and Bridgeport, respectively. The prevailing feeling was that they needed to return to the basics and remember why they do what they do in the first place, and when winning is part of the equation, the fun never seems to find an end.

"We've been banging our heads against the wall just trying to figure out what we're doing," Courtney explained. "I think we just came to the conclusion that we weren't really having fun. So, we went back to the basics, 'have some fun.' (Port Royal) is a place that suits our style, high speed, and when you get to run it nice and straight up against the wall like that, it's a lot of fun."

Courtney's win was the 19th of his USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car career, moving him to within two of 1967 series champion Greg Weld's 21 victories for 28th on the all-time list.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: June 15, 2019 – Port Royal Speedway – Port Royal, Pennsylvania – 13th USAC Eastern Storm – 1/2-Mile Dirt Oval

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR/SPRINT CAR UNLIMITED QUALIFYING: 1. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-18.105 (New Track Record); 2. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-18.332; 3. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-18.457; 4. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-18.518; 5. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-18.670; 6. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-18.691; 7. Carson Short, 20, Dyson-18.730; 8. Timmy Buckwalter, 7, LNB-18.737; 9. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-18.779; 10. Jarett Andretti, 18, Andretti-18.817; 11. Robert Ballou, 12, Ballou-18.856; 12. Steven Drevicki, 19s, Drevicki-18.886; 13. Chad Boespflug, 98e, EZR-18.888; 14. Dave Darland, 39, Hogue-18.899; 15. Brian VanMeveren, 24, VanMeveren-18.927; 16. Carmen Perigo, 21, Perigo-18.971; 17. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-19.000; 18. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-19.084; 19. Joey Biasi, B1, Biasi-19.153; 20. Dustin Clark, 75, DCR-19.343; 21. John Stehman, 23, Treyco-19.678; 22. Jared Esh, 33, Ehrenzeller-20.212.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. C.J. Leary, 2. Kevin Thomas Jr., 3. Carmen Perigo, 4. Carson Short, 5. Chad Boespflug, 6. Jarett Andretti, 7. Joey Biasi, 8. Jared Esh. 2:33.36

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Brady Bacon, 2. Robert Ballou, 3. Justin Grant, 4. Tyler Courtney, 5. Timmy Buckwalter, 6. Dustin Clark, 7. Dave Darland. 2:32.57 (New Track Record)

AUTOMETER/INDY RACE PARTS THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature) 1. Chris Windom, 2. Isaac Chapple, 3. Chase Stockon, 4. Steven Drevicki, 5. Jason McDougal, 6. Brian VanMeveren, 7. John Stehman. 2:35.52

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Tyler Courtney (2), 2. Chris Windom (1), 3. C.J. Leary (6), 4. Chase Stockon (4), 5. Justin Grant (5), 6. Carson Short (7), 7. Brady Bacon (17), 8. Jason McDougal (9), 9. Jarett Andretti (10), 10. Joey Biasi (19), 11. Isaac Chapple (18), 12. Timmy Buckwalter (8), 13. Dustin Clark (20), 14. Carmen Perigo (16), 15. Brian VanMeveren (15), 16. Dave Darland (14), 17. John Stehman (21), 18. Kevin Thomas Jr. (3), 19. Chad Boespflug (13), 20. Steven Drevicki (12), 21. Robert Ballou (11), 22. Jared Esh (22). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-30 Tyler Courtney.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-762, 2-Tyler Courtney-703, 3-Chris Windom-700, 4-Chase Stockon-695, 5-Kevin Thomas Jr.-688, 6-Brady Bacon-660, 7-Justin Grant-631, 8-Carson Short-585, 9-Jason McDougal-571, 10-Robert Ballou-568.

USAC EASTERN STORM POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-223, 2-Tyler Courtney-210, 3-Chase Stockon-206, 4-Chris Windom-199, 5-Brady Bacon-196, 6-Justin Grant-196, 7-Jason McDougal-182, 8-Kevin Thomas Jr.-181, 9-Carson Short-158. 10-Robert Ballou-143.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: June 16, 2019 – Weedsport Speedway – Weedsport, New York – 13th USAC Eastern Storm – 3/8-Mile Dirt Oval

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/IN MEMORY OF MIKE GRASSMYER HARD CHARGER: Brady Bacon (17th to 7th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Dustin Clark

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Chad Boespflug

C.J. Leary (Fatheadz Eyewear/Sprint Car Unlimited Fast Qualifier)

C.J. Leary (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Brady Bacon (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Chris Windom (AutoMeter/Indy Race Parts Third Heat Winner)

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TRI-STATE USAC SPRINT RACE FALLS TO RAIN

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Haubstadt, Indiana (June 30, 2019)……Following the first heat of Sunday's USAC AMSOIL Sprint Car National Championship race from Tri-State Speedway, the skies opened up, drenching the ¼-mile dirt oval and forcing cancellation of the event.

Prior to the downpour, in Fatheadz Eyewear Qualifying, Chase Stockon (Fort Branch, Ind.) set quick time with a lap of 13.618, moving him into a tie for 11th on the series all-time list and equaling him with Dave Steele and Kevin Thomas Jr.

Kendall Ruble (Vincennes, Ind.) captured the victory in the first heat race under darkening and threatening skies before the rain hit.

The series returns to action this Friday and Saturday, July 5-6, at Iowa's Knoxville Raceway with the inaugural BRANDT Professional Agriculture "Corn Belt Nationals," which culminates with a $20,000-to-win prize going to the winner of Saturday's finale.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: June 30, 2019 – Tri-State Speedway – Haubstadt, Indiana – 1/4-Mile Dirt Oval

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-13.618; 2. Kyle Cummins, 3R, Rock Steady-13.703; 3. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-13.737; 4. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-13.847; 5. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-13.860; 6. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-13.895; 7. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-13.908; 8. Stephen Schnapf, 61m, Edwards-13.931; 9. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-13.933; 10. Carson Short, 21, RCM-14.033; 11. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-14.040; 12. Garrett Aitken, 32A, Aitken-14.063; 13. Kendall Ruble, 17, Ruble-14.075; 14. Brian Karraker, 23, Karraker-14.090; 15. Chet Williams, 38, Williams-14.216; 16. Jarett Andretti, 18, Andretti-14.235; 17. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-14.236; 18. Dakota Jackson, 3, Jackson-14.250; 19. Brady Short, 11p, Short/Pottorff-14.306; 20. Donny Brackett, 4B, Brackett-14.511; 21. Brian VanMeveren, 24, VanMeveren-14.533; 22. Kent Schmidt, 5K, KO-14.591; 23. Aric Gentry, 10, Gentry-14.637; 24. Dave Darland, 42, Cheney-14.644; 25. Dustin Clark, 75, DCR-14.727; 26. Collin Ambrose, 36, Ambrose-14.949; 27. Ryan Bond, 7R, Bond-15.577; 28. Chayse Hayhurst, 20, Hayhurst-15.654; 29. Patrick Budde, 90, Budde-15.692; 30. Kyle Hathaway, 7H, 15.790; 31. Eric Perrott, 45, Perrott-16.005.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps) 1. Kendall Ruble, 2. Chase Stockon, 3. Brady Bacon, 4. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5. Isaac Chapple, 6. Dustin Clark, 7. Brian VanMeveren, 8. Patrick Budde. NT

**REMAINDER OF PROGRAM RAINED OUT

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-776, 2-Tyler Courtney-716, 3-Chase Stockon-711, 4-Chris Windom-710, 5-Kevin Thomas Jr.-700, 6-Brady Bacon-670, 7-Justin Grant-642, 8-Carson Short-595, 9-Jason McDougal-581, 10-Robert Ballou-568.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACES: July 5-6, 2019 – Knoxville Raceway – Knoxville, Iowa – Inaugural Brandt Corn Belt Nationals – 1/2-Mile Dirt Oval – Co-Sanctioned by the POWRi Lucas Oil WAR Sprint League

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR FAST QUALIFIER: Chase Stockon (13.618)

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT WINNER: Kendall Ruble

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BACON CRISP ON NIGHT 1 OF THE CORN BELT NATIONALS

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Knoxville, Iowa (July 5, 2019)……Following qualifying, Brady Bacon and the Dynamics, Inc. team certainly had their work cut out for them. On the second of two qualifying laps, the engine began to sound sour. Immediately after pulling into the infield pit area, the team immediately went to work to swap out the engine for a new bullet under the hood.

Under time constraints, the team prevailed. Under duress for much of the caution-free 25-lap main event, the team once again prevailed, firing on all cylinders figuratively and literally to capture the victory on night one of the inaugural Brandt Professional Agriculture "Corn Belt Nationals" Friday night at Knoxville Raceway.

The 26th career USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car win for the Broken Arrow, Oklahoma native moved him into a three-way tie for 16th on the all-time list alongside Tony Elliott and Dave Steele.

Additionally, he became the first repeat winner in the 11 past USAC National Sprint Car events at Knoxville, his first at the half-mile dirt oval since 2011. He also became the first driver to win three series races this year following an April victory at Bloomington (Ind.) Speedway and in June at Pennsylvania's Grandview Speedway.

In his heat race, Bacon drove from 5th to 1st in the relative blink of an eye, displaying that the setback was only momentarily, and that they were back in play as contenders where the No. 69 lined up 6th for the 25-lap opening night feature.

In the early laps, the show was the side-by-side battle between pole sitter Chris Windom and third-starting Kevin Thomas Jr. Windom slid up to the top line in front of outside front row starter Matt Westfall to lead the field into turn one as Thomas surged on the bottom.

The two maintained the high/low show on the 2nd lap as Windom lunged ahead by a bumper at the line to take the lead and would retain a nose-length lead over Thomas on the ensuing two laps as well. On the 5th lap, Thomas reversed the roles and found enough of a run off the bottom of turn four to take his turn at the front.

Just as Thomas found himself up front, Bacon made the Thomas/Windom tussle a three-way battle as he became the knife slicing through a hot loaf of bread, ripping right through the middle in turns three and four. First, sliding up in front of Windom off of four and putting the chase on Thomas. The middle was something Bacon anticipated coming in with extensive experience at Knoxville in the seat of USAC Sprint Cars, Midgets and wing sprint cars.

"I think just having a lot of laps around here, more than the competition, has helped a little bit there to know that that middle could come in," Bacon explained. "I was having to run a little bit different line, but luckily, I was able to catch the marbles in the middle and get the speed to pass a couple guys."

The top-three order was a juggling act the following lap with Windom rushing from 3rd to 1st utilizing the high line in three and four to zip by both Bacon and Thomas before cutting down to the now-preferred bottom in turn one.

On the 12th lap, Windom slipped off the bottom in turn one just enough to allow Bacon to capitalize, cutting under Windom between turns one and two to take over the lead. On the following lap, Bacon did the same as Windom, just narrowly missing the traction in turn one to allow Windom to once again lead.

Some say running the bottom is like having a job, but Bacon is certainly an expert at his craft. The bottom can be a test that can be unforgiving, but Bacon was determined to stick with it until it paid its dividends despite the slight hiccups.

“It’s really hard to run the bottom here and I’m usually really good at it,” Bacon said. “The cushion gets so big and it’s flat up there. These cars don’t really like that too much. It is really testing to run the bottom and slowdown that much. I missed it a couple of times and Windom almost got back by me. Fortunately, I had a car good enough to make up for my mistakes and be able to get a little grip in the middle.”

Windom went back to the top in turns three and four on lap 14, but this time, it was the top that wreaked a little havoc as he bobbled a tad on the cushion. Bacon shot by underneath for the sixth lead change of the race and created a little separation between him and Windom with lapped traffic on the horizon with ten laps to go.

With five laps remaining, Bacon was amidst the throes of 5pm interstate traffic. He took the occasion to split the lapped cars of Carson Short and Mario Clouser entering turn three to get some distance on Windom. But that was just as short-lived as Bacon became pinned behind the lapped car of Josh Hodges exiting turn two. Bacon ventured to the outside of Hodges just as Windom was on the path up top midway down the back straightaway. Bacon and Windom swapped lines with Windom diving low into three and Bacon remained topside holding on to the advantage.

With two laps to go, Bacon cleared Hodges, yet Windom remained in his shadow down the stretch, only trailing Bacon by a half-car-length off turn four with the white flag in sight. Bacon was undeterred on the final lap as he found his way to another victory by 0.621 margin over Windom, Thomas, Tyler Courtney and Justin Grant.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: July 5, 2019 – Knoxville Raceway – Knoxville, Iowa – Inaugural Brandt Corn Belt Nationals – 1/2-Mile Dirt Oval – Co-Sanctioned by the POWRi Lucas Oil WAR Sprint League

FIRST FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING GROUP: 1. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-19.297; 2. Carson Short, 21, RCM-19.313; 3. Mario Clouser, 6, MCM-19.635; 4. Kory Schudy, 28, Sawyer-19.638; 5. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-19.675; 6. Timmy Buckwalter, 7, LNB-19.724; 7. Matt Westfall, 33m Marshall-19.741; 8. Ryan Bernal, 17B, Baughman/Reutzel-19.766; 9. Wesley Smith, 12, Helm-19.777; 10. Don Droud Jr., 1m, Burch-19.780; 11. Mitchell Davis, 56, Davis-19.793; 12. Dustin Clark, 75, DCR-19.818; 13. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-19.834; 14. Dave Darland, 42, Cheney-19.957; 15. Landon Simon, 24s, LSR-20.121; 16. Steve Irwin, 0s, Flying Zero-20.185; 17. Katlynn Leer, 77K, Leer-20.235; 18. Lane Stone, 73, Stone-20.472; 19. Chris Parkinson, 65, Parkinson-20.503; 20. Dickie Gaines, 44, Soudrette-20.508; 21. Doug Schenck, 71s, Final Effort-20.517; 22. Logan Faucon, 52F, Faucon-20.701; 23. Jori Hughes, 19x, Layton-21.162; 24. Steve Thomas, 20, Thomas-21.307; 25. Brandon Halverson, 13MJ, Halverson-21.714; 26. Braydon Cromwell, 4A, Cromwell-22.135.

SECOND FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING GROUP: 1. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-19.297; 2. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-19.535; 3. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-19.573; 4. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-19.583; 5. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-19.642; 6. Riley Kreisel, 90, Smith-19.675; 7. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-19.749; 8. Wyatt Burks, 11w, Burks-19.882; 9. Chad Boespflug, 98e, EZR-19.980; 10. Josh Hodges, 74x, Hodges-19.986; 11. Nick Bilbee, 17, Bilbee-19.988; 12. Brian VanMeveren, 24, VanMeveren-20.128; 13. Slater Helt, 22s, Helt-20.277; 14. Korey Weyant, 99, Weyant-20.286; 15. Anthony Nicholson, 16, Nicholson-20.434; 16. T.J. Artz, 57, Artz-20.442; 17. Cody Gardner, 9G, Appco-20.487; 18. Glen Saville, 75x, Saville-20.516; 19. Rob Caho Jr., 78, Caho-20.552; 20. Brandon Stevenson, 0, Stevenson-20.720; 21. Craig Campton, 7s, Final Effort-20.771; 22. Chris Morgan, 7c, Williams-20.775; 23. Terry Richards, 18, Richards-21.572; 24. Doug Sylvester, 12x, Sylvester-22.092; 25. Frank Rodgers III, 6R, Rodgers-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-3 transfer to feature) 1. C.J. Leary, 2. Matt Westfall, 3. Don Droud Jr., 4. Steve Irwin, 5. Chris Parkinson, 6. Logan Faucon, 7. Brandon Halverson, 8. Kory Schudy, 9. Isaac Chapple. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-3 transfer to feature) 1. Brady Bacon, 2. Dave Darland, 3. Ryan Bernal, 4. Carson Short, 5. Mitchell Davis, 6. Katlynn Leer, 7. Dickie Gaines, 8. Braydon Cromwell, 9. Jori Hughes. 2:42.55

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-3 transfer to feature) 1. Wesley Smith, 2. Landon Simon, 3. Timmy Buckwalter, 4. Dustin Clark, 5. Mario Clouser, 6. Doug Schenck, 7. Steve Thomas, 8. Lane Stone. NT

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (8 laps, top-3 transfer to feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Justin Grant, 3. Kevin Thomas Jr., 4. Josh Hodges, 5. T.J. Artz, 6. Chris Morgan, 7. Rob Caho Jr., 8. Slater Helt, 9. Frank Rodgers III. 2:39.33

FIFTH HEAT: (8 laps, top-3 transfer to feature) 1. Nick Bilbee, 2. Wyatt Burks, 3. Chris Windom, 4. Jason McDougal, 5. Korey Weyant, 6. Cody Gardner, 7. Terry Richards, 8. Brandon Stevenson. 2:45.83

SIXTH HEAT: (8 laps, top-3 transfer to feature) 1. Chase Stockon, 2. Chad Boespflug, 3. Anthony Nicholson, 4. Riley Kreisel, 5. Glen Saville, 6. Craig Campton, 7. Doug Sylvester, 8. Brian VanMeveren. 2:46.13

C-MAIN: (10 laps, top-6 transfer to semi) 1. Kory Schudy, 2. Isaac Chapple, 3. Rob Caho Jr., 4. Dickie Gaines, 5. Terry Richards, 6. Brandon Stevenson, 7. Lane Stone, 8. Jori Hughes, 9. Kevin Thomas Jr., 10. Doug Sylvester, 11. Brandon Halverson. 3:39.34 (New Track Record)

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to feature) 1. Carson Short, 2. Jason McDougal, 3. Korey Weyant, 4. Josh Hodges, 5. Mario Clouser, 6. Riley Kreisel, 7. Steve Irwin, 8. Mitchell Davis, 9. Cody Gardner, 10. Dustin Clark, 11. Dickie Gaines, 12. Brandon Stevenson, 13. Kory Schudy, 14. Rob Caho Jr., 15. Terry Richards, 16. Logan Faucon, 17. T.J. Artz, 18. Katlynn Leer, 19. Glen Saville, 20. Chris Parkinson, 21. Doug Schenck, 22. Chris Morgan, 23. Isaac Chapple, 24. Craig Campton. NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Brady Bacon (6), 2. Chris Windom (1), 3. Kevin Thomas Jr. (3), 4. Tyler Courtney (10), 5. Justin Grant (7), 6. Ryan Bernal (9), 7. Chase Stockon (5), 8. Jason McDougal (20), 9. C.J. Leary (8), 10. Matt Westfall (2), 11. Wyatt Burks (12), 12. Wesley Smith (11), 13. Don Droud Jr. (13), 14. Korey Weyant (21), 15. Nick Bilbee (16), 16. Timmy Buckwalter (4), 17. Josh Hodges (22), 18. Mario Clouser (23), 19. Carson Short (19), 20. Dave Darland (15), 21. Anthony Nicholson (18), 22. Riley Kreisel (24), 23. Chad Boespflug (14), 24. Landon Simon (17). 9:11.86 (New Track Record)

**Glen Saville & Craig Campton flipped during the semi.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Lap 1 Kevin Thomas Jr., Laps 2-4 Chris Windom, Laps 5-6 Kevin Thomas Jr., Laps 7-11 Chris Windom, Lap 12 Brady Bacon, Lap 13 Chris Windom, Laps 14-25 Brady Bacon.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-826, 2-Tyler Courtney-766, 3-Chase Stockon-761, 4-Chris Windom-760, 5-Kevin Thomas Jr.-750, 6-Brady Bacon-720, 7-Justin Grant-692, 8-Carson Short-645, 9-Jason McDougal-631, 10-Robert Ballou-568.

BRANDT CORN BELT NATIONALS POINTS: 1-Brady Bacon-492, 2-Justin Grant-489, 3-Chris Windom-484, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-484, 5-Chase Stockon-484, 6-C.J. Leary-484, 7-Tyler Courtney-482, 8-Jason McDougal-475, 9-Ryan Bernal-470, 10-Matt Westfall-467.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: July 6, 2019 – Knoxville Raceway – Knoxville, Iowa – Inaugural Brandt Corn Belt Nationals – 1/2-Mile Dirt Oval – Co-Sanctioned by the POWRi Lucas Oil WAR Sprint League

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Jason McDougal (20th to 8th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Don Droud Jr.

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Matt Westfall

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Steve Irwin

C.J. Leary (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

C.J. Leary (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Brady Bacon (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Wesley Smith (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Tyler Courtney (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

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BACON THE 20 GRAND MAN AT CORN BELT NATIONALS

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Knoxville, Iowa (July 6, 2019)……As it turned out, Brady Bacon's strength in Friday's opener was just a prelude sampling of how strong he and his Dynamics, Inc. were in Saturday night's Brandt Professional Agriculture "Corn Belt Nationals" finale at Knoxville Raceway.

The two-time USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car champion from Broken Arrow, Okla. backed up his Friday night victory at Knoxville with a simply dominating win Saturday night, leading all 30 laps en route to an 8.286 sec. triumph worth $20,000 that was never in doubt from start to finish, although at the end, he had to escape a maze of lapped traffic.

As it turned out, Bacon was in a race of his own, and the only competitive race for position was long behind, nearly a half-lap behind him. Bacon was A-Okay with that.

"I was like, 'Doug, Doug, throw the white, let's go. I'm done with this," Bacon said referring to flagman Doug Clark. "I was having some trouble with those lapped cars, and the cushion was getting really treacherous. Lapped cars were biking in front of me and I was like, 'man I don't want someone else to collect me up in this.' Obviously, you don't know how good you are. The competition in USAC is so tough right now, I assumed someone was breathing down my neck."

Bacon started from the outside of the front row alongside high-point man Justin Grant. Bacon took charge instantly, sweeping across Grant's nose to take the bottom line into turn one before sliding up to the cushion to secure the spot with USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car point leader C.J. Leary in tow.

Leary took his shot at Bacon with a slider in turn one on the third lap, but Bacon was unrattled and swept around the outside of Leary to regain control and blast away for a 10-car-length lead. With five laps in the books, Bacon was up by a half-straightaway and, by lap 10, the lead was a full-straight (4.5 second) over Leary with lapped traffic looming.

Initially, the traffic situation was tepid as Bacon ripped above and between the tail end of the field. Yet, seemingly defying the norm, the deeper into traffic Bacon got, the more he built his lead, to more than seven seconds with 10 laps remaining. Leary and formerly Tyler Courtney's pursuit of Bacon was like the bystander chasing the proverbial dollar bill on a fishing line, with the lead seemingly out of reach, as those two waged their own war down the stretch.

Yet, unlike stick and ball sports, a blowout lead can literally vanish in the blink of an eye. With five laps remaining, Bacon entered turn one behind the lapped car of Nick Bilbee. Bilbee biked it on the cushion about six or seven car lengths in front of the leader. Bacon was seemingly unfazed, but it certainly caught his attention as he counted down the dwindling laps.

“I was like, ‘Doug, Doug, throw the white, let’s go. I’m done with this,” Bacon said referring to flagman Doug Clark. “I was having some trouble with those lapped cars, and the cushion was getting really treacherous. Lapped cars were biking in front of me and I was like, ‘man I don’t want someone else to collect me up in this.’ Obviously, you don’t know how good you are. The competition in USAC is so tough right now, I assumed someone was breathing down my neck.”

However, that wasn’t the case at all. Bacon had ‘em scattered, smothered and covered. Only a caution seemed to be the only thing that could put the result at the front in doubt.

Behind him, though, Leary and Courtney had their own score to settle with the difference between second and third worth

$6,000. Courtney got by Leary on lap 23 in traffic. Leary stayed in the hunt and pounced when Courtney stumbled on the cushion, going underneath Courtney for the position in turn four two laps from the finish.

Up front, Bacon was harvesting the field to the tune of more than eight seconds, closing out the biggest payday of his USAC career just less than a year after capturing the biggest prize in all of Midget racing in 2018, the $15,000-to-win BC39 at The Dirt Track at IMS.

Trailing Bacon at the finish line were Leary, Courtney, Kevin Thomas Jr. and Chris Windom.

Bacon’s recent surge on the USAC AMSOIL Sprint Car National Championship trail began with a top-flite performance in the Eastern Storm opener at Pennsylvania’s Grandview Speedway, which paid the previous season-high series’ winner share of $10,000, beginning a string of three wins in the past five races that culminated in Saturday’s $20,000 victory.

“We’ve been working hard, unfortunately we haven’t gotten to race a lot,” Bacon said. “We picked up some momentum in Eastern Storm and we carried it into here. Anytime you can run well here is awesome. Obviously, the big check makes it a lot better.”

Bacon became the first driver to reach three USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car victories on Friday night and the first to elevate to the four-win mark with Saturday’s win. It was the 27th series win of Bacon’s career, moving him past Tony Elliott and Dave Steele into sole possession of 16th on the all-time list, and just one behind the 28-win mark held by Levi Jones and J.J. Yeley.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: July 6, 2019 – Knoxville Raceway – Knoxville, Iowa – Inaugural Brandt Professional Agriculture “Corn Belt Nationals” – 1/2-Mile Dirt Oval (Co-Sanctioned by the POWRi Lucas Oil WAR Sprint League)

FIRST FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING GROUP: 1. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-19.312; 2. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-19.719; 3. Riley Kreisel, 90, Smith-19.771; 4. Chad Boespflug, 98e, EZR-19.818; 5. Carson Short, 21, RCM-19.847; 6. Kory Schudy, 28, Sawyer-19.866; 7. Landon Simon, 24s, LSR-19.972; 8. Cody Gardner, 9G, Appco-20.050; 9. Dave Darland, 42, Cheney-20.122; 10. Mitchell Davis, 56, Davis-20.129; 11. Don Droud Jr., 1m, Burch-20.259; 12. Rob Caho Jr., 78, Caho-20.311; 13. Nick Bilbee, 17, Bilbee-20.320; 14. Ryan Bernal, 17B, Baughman/Reutzel-20.425; 15. Glen Saville, 75x, Saville-20.702; 16. Chris Morgan, 7c, Williams-20.730; 17. Terry Richards, 18, Richards-21.019; 18. Brandon Halverson, 13MJ, Halverson-21.031; 19. Katlynn Leer, 77K, Leer-21.094; 20. Jori Hughes, 19x, Layton-21.125; 21. Braydon Cromwell, 4A, Cromwell-21.846; 22. Steve Thomas, 20, Thomas-22.283; 23. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-NT; 24. Doug Sylvester, 12x, Sylvester-NT (time of 21.767 disallowed).

SECOND FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING GROUP: 1. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-19.823; 2. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-20.121; 3. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-20.168; 4. Matt Westfall, 33m Marshall-20.194; 5. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-20.241; 6. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-20.323; 7. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-20.386; 8. Wyatt Burks, 11w, Burks-20.386; 9. Wesley Smith, 12, Helm-20.477; 10. Josh Hodges, 74x, Hodges-

20.589; 11. Anthony Nicholson, 16, Nicholson-20.694; 12. Mario Clouser, 6, MCM-20.805; 13. Korey Weyant, 99, Weyant-20.965; 14. Dustin Clark, 75, DCR-21.024; 15. Timmy Buckwalter, 7, LNB-21.196; 16. Logan Faucon, 52F, Faucon-21.319; 17. Slater Helt, 22s, Helt-21.414; 18. Steve Irwin, 0s, Flying Zero-21.461; 19. Dickie Gaines, 44, Soudrette-21.692; 20. T.J. Artz, 57, Artz-21.782; 21. Brandon Stevenson, 0, Stevenson-21.966; 22. Lane Stone, 73, Stone-22.008; 23. Chris Parkinson, 65, Parkinson-22.091; 24. Frank Rodgers III, 6R, Rodgers-NT; 25. Brian VanMeveren, 24, VanMeveren-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST QUALIFIER: (10 laps) 1. Justin Grant, 2. Carson Short, 3. Nick Bilbee, 4. Riley Kreisel, 5. Dave Darland, 6. Glen Saville, 7. Landon Simon, 8. Terry Richards, 9. Katlynn Leer, 10. Braydon Cromwell, 11. Doug Sylvester, 12. Don Droud Jr. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND QUALIFIER: (10 laps) 1. Chase Stockon, 2. Ryan Bernal, 3. Mitchell Davis, 4. Kory Schudy, 5. Chad Boespflug, 6. Cody Gardner, 7. Chris Morgan, 8. Rob Caho Jr., 9. Brandon Halverson, 10. Jori Hughes, 11. Steve Thomas. 3:33.53 (New Track Record)

AUTOMETER THIRD QUALIFIER: (10 laps) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. C.J. Leary, 3. Chris Windom, 4. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5. Anthony Nicholson, 6. Timmy Buckwalter, 7. Dickie Gaines, 8. Korey Weyant, 9. Slater Helt, 10. Brandon Stevenson, 11. Chris Parkinson, 12. Wesley Smith. NT

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH QUALIFIER: (10 laps) 1. Brady Bacon, 2. Wyatt Burks, 3. Jason McDougal, 4. Matt Westfall, 5. Mario Clouser, 6. Josh Hodges, 7. Lane Stone, 8. T.J. Artz, 9. Steve Irwin, 10. Logan Faucon, 11. Frank Rodgers III, 12. Dustin Clark. NT

C-MAIN: (10 laps, top-6 transfer to the semi) 1. Chris Morgan, 2. Brandon Stevenson, 3. Lane Stone, 4. Slater Helt, 5. Jori Hughes, 6. Brandon Halverson, 7. Doug Sylvester, 8. Steve Thomas, 9. Braydon Cromwell, 10. Frank Rodgers, 11. Chris Parkinson. 3:42.19

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Dave Darland, 2. Josh Hodges, 3. Anthony Nicholson, 4. Kory Schudy, 5. Korey Weyant, 6. Steve Irwin, 7. Glen Saville, 8. Cody Gardner, 9. Mitchell Davis, 10. T.J. Artz, 11. Lane Stone, 12. Chris Morgan, 13. Rob Caho Jr., 14. Katlynn Leer, 15. Dustin Clark, 16. Dickie Gaines, 17. Terry Richards, 18. Brandon Stevenson, 19. Logan Faucon, 20. Jori Hughes, 21. Slater Helt, 22. Brandon Halverson, 23. Landon Simon, 24. Don Droud Jr. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Brady Bacon (2), 2. C.J. Leary (4), 3. Tyler Courtney (6), 4. Kevin Thomas Jr. (5), 5. Chris Windom (8), 6. Justin Grant (1), 7. Jason McDougal (7), 8. Chase Stockon (3), 9. Ryan Bernal (12), 10. Carson Short (11), 11. Matt Westfall (9), 12. Korey Weyant (23), 13. Wyatt Burks (10), 14. Josh Hodges (20), 15. Nick Bilbee (14), 16. Dave Darland (19), 17. Mario Clouser (16), 18. Steve Irwin (24), 19. Kory Schudy (22), 20. Anthony Nicholson (21), 21. Riley Kreisel (13), 22. Chad Boespflug (15), 23. Timmy Buckwalter (18), 24. Wesley Smith (17). 11:08.75

**Wesley Smith flipped during the third qualifier.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-30 Brady Bacon.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-876, 2-Tyler Courtney-816, 3-Chase Stockon-811, 4-Chris Windom-810, 5-Kevin Thomas Jr.-800, 6-Brady Bacon-770, 7-Justin Grant-742, 8-Carson Short-695, 9- Jason McDougal-681, 10-Chad Boespflug-599.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: July 17, 2019 – Eldora Speedway – Rossburg, Ohio – #LetsRaceTwo #TakeTwo – 1/2-Mile Dirt Oval

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Korey Weyant (23rd to 12th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Wyatt Burks

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: C.J. Leary

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Glen Saville

Justin Grant (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Justin Grant (Simpson Race Products First Qualifier Winner)

Chase Stockon (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Qualifier Winner)

Tyler Courtney (AutoMeter Third Qualifier Winner)

Brady Bacon (Indy Race Parts Fourth Qualifier Winner)

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SUNSHINE SCOOPS $10 GRAND IN ELDORA'S 200TH USAC SPRINT RACE

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Rossburg, Ohio (July 17, 2019)……Throughout the past 199 USAC AMSOIL National Sprint CAR CHAMPIONSHIP RACEs held at Eldora Speedway, there are just a few who've displayed the kind of sustained dominance on the western Ohio half-mile that Tyler Courtney has shown over the past 10 months.

In the 200th series race Wednesday at the "Big E," Courtney put one in the record books as just the fourth driver to win three-straight USAC National Sprint Car features at Eldora. Jud Larson was the first to do it in 1964-65, followed by Bubby Jones in 1978-79 and Jack Hewitt, who put together two sets of back-to-back-to-back victories in 1988 and 1990-91, already putting Courtney in exclusive company in his young career.

Not to mention, the victory was worth $10,000, as the Indianapolis, Ind. native became the 29th driver to join the 20-win club with the series and now stands just one win behind equaling 1967 champ Greg Weld for the next rung on the ladder.

"It seems like we win every race that doesn't pay any money," Courtney said with a laugh. "It's really cool to win $10,000. Thank you to Roger Slack, Tony Stewart and everybody here at Eldora for putting up the money. It's really cool to win the 200th USAC (Sprint Car) race here. For people who appreciate history, like me, that's pretty neat to put my name in the record book."

Courtney started third and, for all intents and purposes, on this particular night, it was over by the end of the first lap. Kevin Thomas Jr. began the race from the pole and took a run for the lead, sliding side-by-side alongside outside front row starter Chase Stockon through turns one and two.

Courtney rode it high around the outside of Thomas exiting turn two, cut across and dove to the bottom to slide past Stockon entering turn three. Courtney glided up to the exit of turn four as Stockon mounted a charge underneath. Tyler Courtney, though, got the upper hand, and the momentum, to lead by a car length at the line.

That was as close as it ever got.

As C.J. Leary, Brady Bacon and Chase Stockon battled for second, going three-wide at times, Courtney was in another zip code, building up his lead to a half-straight by lap six and a full-straightaway by the 10th lap.

Just before midway, Courtney began to navigate lapped traffic. There, his lead wasn't exactly shrinking by any means, but it had stagnated at about a 4.8 second interval. When the caution fell with 14 laps remaining, on paper, it would initially appear to be a light at the end of the tunnel for the likes of Leary and Bacon who were trying to chase Courtney down in traffic.

In reality, with four lapped cars separating first and second, all it did was provide an open track for Courtney to run a qualifying simulation for much of the second half of the 30-lapper. All four lapped cars hopped on the bottom heading to turn one on the lap 17 restart, allowing Leary and Bacon to roam free unhindered up top. Courtney checked out once again, putting up a 2.5 second lead on the board within just three laps of the restart, never missing a beat.

With five to go, it was back to a full-straight lead for Courtney again. Back behind him, recent Knoxville $20K winner Bacon dug deep to find something to get around Leary for second. Instead, he found the concrete between turns three and four, subsequently bending the front axle. He drove it into one with quite different handling characteristics this time around, smacking the outside wall on the opposite end of the track where he rode wall for a ways before landing on all fours and soldiering on.

Leary snapped away from Bacon to close the door on that battle for position, putting the top-three from first to third a half-lap apart from each other with four to go.

All Courtney had to wonder on the final lap was whether lapped traffic would become any type of hindrance to his blistering five-plus second margin. Courtney split the lapped cars of Jason McDougal and Matt Goodnight into turn one and put the right rear up on the rim to ride home to his third USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car victory of the year, and third on a half-mile track, 5.336 seconds ahead of Leary, Bacon, Stockon and Chris Windom.

Right now, Courtney, his team and his Clauson Marshall Newman Racing/NOS Energy Drink – Competition Suspension, Inc./Spike/Rider Chevy are in unison. It's quite important heading into the portion of the season which comprises one-fourth of the entire year's schedule in a span of 11 days.

"When you put all the right things together, usually good things happen," Courtney said. "We've got a really good team right now. Rizzy (Crew Chief Tyler Ransbottom)'s on his game right now. We kind of messed up a little bit in Knoxville, but he was determined to make right on that, and I think we did tonight. It's nice to get a momentum boost going into Indiana Sprint Week here the next few nights. Hopefully, we can keep going."

If you're wondering, yes, your eyes aren't deceiving you. The top-three of Courtney, Leary and Bacon is the same exact top-three from the series' first visit to the track in May.

Meanwhile, Justin Grant set Fatheadz Eyewear quick time in qualifying for the 22nd time in his USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car career, tying him with Steve Butler for 18th all-time. He collected a total of $300 for his qualifying efforts courtesy of ProSource and Fatheadz Eyewear.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: July 17, 2019 – Eldora Speedway – Rossburg, Ohio – #LetsRaceTwo #TakeTwo

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR/PROSOURCE QUALIFYING: 1. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-15.957; 2. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-15.988; 3. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-16.040; 4. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-16.210; 5. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-16.241; 6. Carson Short, 21, RCM-16.265; 7. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-16.391; 8. Zane Hendricks, 27, Goodnight-16.459; 9. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-16.471; 10. Matt Westfall, 33m, Marshall-16.526; 11. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-16.585; 12. Brody Roa, 91R, BR-16.593; 13. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-16.670; 14. Dustin Clark, 75, DCR-16.726; 15. Dave Darland, 42, Cheney-16.729; 16. Kody Swanson, 20N, Nolen-16.843; 17. Scotty Weir,

23s, Simon-16.849; 18. Tom Harris, 84, Harris-16.900; 19. Dallas Hewitt, 18, Keen-16.926; 20. Dustin Ingle, 2DI, Ingle-16.931; 21. Corey Smith, 66s, CS-17.042; 22. Brian VanMeveren, 24, VanMeveren-17.081; 23. Paul Dues, 87, Dues-17.159; 24. Matt Goodnight, 39, Goodnight-17.190; 25. Matt Cooley, 19c, Cooley-17.358; 26. Michael Fischesser, 44, Fischesser-17.484; 27. Gage Etgen, 99, Etgen-17.775; 28. Nick Bilbee, 17, Bilbee-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Brady Bacon, 2. Isaac Chapple, 3. Justin Grant, 4. Kody Swanson, 5. Kevin Thomas Jr., 6. Matt Westfall, 7. Dallas Hewitt, 8. Brian VanMeveren, 9. Matt Cooley. 2:17.50

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Scotty Weir, 2. C.J. Leary, 3. Dustin Clark, 4. Chase Stockon, 5. Zane Hendricks, 6. Jason McDougal, 7. Dustin Ingle, 8. Michael Fischesser, 9. Paul Dues. 2:18.90

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Dave Darland, 3. Chris Windom, 4. Tom Harris, 5. Brody Roa, 6. Carson Short, 7. Corey Smith, 8. Matt Goodnight, 9. Gage Etgen. 2:17.80

INDY RACE PARTS SEMI: (12 laps, top-7 transfer to the feature) 1. Matt Westfall, 2. Carson Short, 3. Dallas Hewitt, 4. Jason McDougal, 5. Matt Goodnight, 6. Corey Smith, 7. Michael Fischesser, 8. Gage Etgen, 9. Matt Cooley, 10. Dustin Ingle, 11. Brian VanMeveren. 3:38.17

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Tyler Courtney (4), 2. C.J. Leary (5), 3. Brady Bacon (3), 4. Chase Stockon (2), 5. Chris Windom (9), 6. Matt Westfall (10), 7. Tom Harris (18), 8. Kevin Thomas Jr. (1), 9. Zane Hendricks (8), 10. Isaac Chapple (13), 11. Dallas Hewitt (19), 12. Scotty Weir (17), 13. Carson Short (7), 14. Jason McDougal (11), 15. Dustin Clark (14), 16. Dave Darland (15), 17. Brody Roa (12), 18. Matt Goodnight (21), 19. Michael Fischesser (22), 20. Corey Smith (20), 21. Justin Grant (6), 22. Brian VanMeveren (23-P), 23. Kody Swanson (16). NT

(P) represents a provisional starter

**Nick Bilbee flipped during practice.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-30 Tyler Courtney

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-955, 2-Tyler Courtney-898, 3-Chase Stockon-879, 4-Chris Windom-874, 5-Kevin Thomas Jr.-853, 6-Brady Bacon-845, 7-Justin Grant-777, 8-Carson Short-736, 9- Jason McDougal-717, 10-Isaac Chapple-610.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: July 18, 2019 – Gas City I-69 Speedway – Gas City, Indiana – 32nd NOS Energy Drink Indiana Sprint Week

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Tom Harris (18th to 7th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Carson Short

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Gage Etgen

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Isaac Chapple

PROSOURCE HARD WORK AWARD: Michael Fischesser

Justin Grant (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Brady Bacon (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Scotty Weir (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Tyler Courtney (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Matt Westfall (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

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COTTLE RACES TO FIRST ISW WIN IN GAS CITY PHOTO FINISH

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Gas City, Indiana (July 18, 2019)……No longer will Shane Cottle have to answer the question of when his day will come during NOS Energy Drink Indiana Sprint Week.

It took 72 ISW feature starts for the Kansas, Ill. native to get his long-awaited breakthrough, and the way it all unfolded in Thursday night's opener at Gas City I-69 Speedway will be one that won't be forgotten anytime soon.

Starting 18th, Cottle picked his way through the field and positioned himself second with five laps remaining. Cottle worked the bottom as Leary operated up top and, on the final corner of the lap, Cottle surged ahead to beat Leary to the stripe for the win in one of the closest finishes in USAC racing history.

A glance at the timing showed Leary on top of the leaderboard as Cottle celebrated his triumph in victory lane. However, the transponder on the rear bumper of Leary's car crossed the timing loop prior to the transponder on the tail of Cottle's car, positioning Leary in front of Cottle on timing.

However, per USAC rule Part VI 9.4.C, a car will be officially credited with a lap only when its front wheels cross the start/finish line after completing one entire circuit of the course. The USAC chief scorer and race director unanimously agreed that Cottle's front wheels crossed the start/finish line before Leary's.

According to Cottle, his feelings following the dramatic final lap heroics were only comparable to his 2008 victory at Anderson Speedway's Little 500. Cottle's third career USAC National Sprint Car victory is the first series win for him since 2008, which also came at Gas City. In fact, all three of his wins have come on the quarter mile at Gas City dating back to his first career USAC victory in 2006.

Mired on the outside of the ninth row for the start of the 30-lap feature, it didn't take long for Cottle to realize he had something special on this night with a car that could take him to the front. He moved up three positions on the opening lap to 15th, then hovered around the edge of the top-ten for the remainder of the first half.

"I knew pretty quickly," Cottle said when asked when he knew he had a winning car. "I just knew that if I got to the bottom, we were going to be good as long as we could just pick them off one at a time. We got the right yellows at the right time; a lapped car helped us out one time. I tried wrecking it a couple times on those infield tires. The car was really good, and it was fun to drive."

On the 17th lap, ninth-running Thomas Meseraull got sideways at the entrance of turn three. Eleventh place driver Tyler Courtney had nowhere to go and plowed into the side of Meseraull, sending both to the sidelines for the remainder of the night.

When racing resumed, a pair of lapped cars separated leader Leary from the second-place car of Kevin Thomas Jr. Leary had a near-perfect restart to open up his lead to 1.5 sec. as Thomas tried to keep tabs. As the pair of 19s broke away from

the field, a scramble for third ensued involving the balance of the top-ten all under a figurative blanket. Defending ISW champ Chris Windom was riding high, splitting his way through traffic from ninth to break into the top-three with seven laps remaining while Cottle quietly, but methodically, snuck around the infield tires to move to third by Windom just before the caution.

Twelfth-place Isaac Chapple spun in turn one on the 25th lap, setting up a six-lap race to the finish with race-long dominator Leary out front ahead of Thomas while Cottle raised curiosity if he could continue his upward trajectory through the field in the final laps.

On the restart, Cottle stuck to his guns on the low line and pulled even with Thomas off the bottom of turn two before finally clearing him with a drive off the bottom of four to secure second. Now, the test was administered to see whose strategy would prevail, whether Leary could continue to rip the top or if Cottle could breeze the infield tires to the front. It takes a virtue of patience to stay the course, to stuck with what got you there, to go low and slow into the corner as the driver beside you gasses it up and pulls away, momentarily, entering the corner.

“I could see him up there,” Cottle recalled. “When they’re out there in front of you, you just want to push the gas harder and harder, but you can’t. You just have to roll around there and keep the wheels under you. I messed up a couple times during the last six laps and I thought I gave it away.”

When Cottle initially slipped into second on the 25th lap, he was about five car lengths behind Leary. The same scenario played out lap-after-lap with Leary moving ahead in the corner, and Cottle seeming like his car was pulled by a chain off the corners, quickly erasing Leary’s advantage.

Coming to the white flag, the interval seemingly never wavered between a car length in either direction between the two where they remained side-by-side for the entire duration of the 30th and final lap. Coming off four, with Cottle low and Leary high, the two hit the line nearly simultaneously with Cottle taking the victory over Leary, Windom, Brady Bacon and Thomas.

It was a monumental win for Cottle in many ways, but it was even more special coming with Epperson Racing, the team for which Cottle was associated with for several seasons in the decade of the 2010s and hadn’t driven for in USAC competition since the beginning of the 2016 season in Ocala, Fla. It marked Tony Epperson’s second USAC National Sprint Car victory as an owner following last August’s win at Kokomo (Ind.) Speedway with driver Tyler Thomas.

“I wanted to be the first to get him his USAC win, but Tyler Thomas got it last year,” Cottle remembered. “I was so happy for (Tony) because he’s one of the greatest car owners ever. We got him one tonight and I appreciate everything he does for me.”

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: July 18, 2019 – Gas City I-69 Speedway – Gas City, Indiana – 32nd NOS Energy Drink Indiana Sprint Week

FIRST FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING GROUP: 1. Carson Short, 21, RCM-12.046; 2. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-12.050; 3. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-12.058; 4. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-12.111; 5. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-12.113; 6. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-12.126; 7. Scotty Weir, 4p, Pedersen-12.133; 8. Dustin Ingle, 2DI, Ingle-12.191; 9. Josh Hodges, 74x, Hodges-12.289; 10. Shane Cottle, 2E, Epperson-12.313; 11. Chad Boespflug, 98e, EZR-12.345; 12. Brent Beauchamp, 34, Olson-12.416; 13. Brody Roa, 91R, BR-12.425; 14. Jarett Andretti, 18, Andretti-12.426; 15. Clinton Boyles, 57, Hazen-12.430; 16. Max Adams, 5m, Adams-12.562; 17. Koby Barksdale, 22, Barksdale-12.573; 18. Zane Hendricks, 27, Goodnight-12.599; 19. Terry Richards, 18m, Richards-12.679; 20. Matt Moore, 9, Moore-12.731; 21. Joe Stornetta, 04, Burton-12.732; 22. Matt Westfall, 33m, Marshall-12.820.

SECOND FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING GROUP: 1. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-12.199; 2. Dakota Jackson, 17, On The Gass-12.269; 3. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-12.300; 4. Kyle Cummins, 3R, Rock Steady-12.310; 5. Thomas Meseraull, 47, Eades-12.338; 6. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-12.367; 7. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-12.671; 8. Corey Smith, 66s, CS-12.673; 9. Cole Ketcham, 41, Ketcham-12.694; 10. A.J. Hopkins, 4J, 4J-12.715; 11. Anthony D'Alessio, 01, D'Alessio-12.797; 12. Brian VanMeveren, 24, VanMeveren-12.813; 13. Dave Darland, 42, Cheney-13.040; 14. Brandon Mattox, 28, Mattox-13.050; 15. Dallas Hewitt, 18H, Keen-13.056; 16. Matt Goodnight, 39, Goodnight-13.061; 17. Dustin Clark, 75, DCR-13.167; 18. Dickie Gaines, 44, Soudrette-13.178; 19. Matt McCarthy, 28m, McCarthy-13.209; 20. Mitchell Davis, 56, Davis-13.275; 21. Eric Perrott, 45, Perrott-14.010.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Scotty Weir, 2. Chris Windom, 3. Justin Grant, 4. Josh Hodges, 5. Chad Boespflug, 6. Brody Roa, 7. Clinton Boyles, 8. Koby Barksdale, 9. Joe Stornetta, 10. Terry Richards, 11. Carson Short. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Kevin Thomas Jr., 2. Brady Bacon, 3. Chase Stockon, 4. Brent Beauchamp, 5. Shane Cottle, 6. Dustin Ingle, 7. Matt Westfall, 8. Jarett Andretti, 9. Max Adams, 10. Zane Hendricks, 11. Matt Moore. NT

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Jason McDougal, 2. Thomas Meseraull, 3. Dave Darland, 4. C.J. Leary, 5. Dallas Hewitt, 6. Cole Ketcham, 7. Isaac Chapple, 8. Dustin Clark, 9. Matt McCarthy, 10. Anthony D'Alessio, 11. Eric Perrott. NT

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Dakota Jackson, 3. Corey Smith, 4. Kyle Cummins, 5. A.J. Hopkins, 6. Dickie Gaines, 7. Brandon Mattox, 8. Matt Goodnight, 9. Mitchell Davis, 10. Brian VanMeveren. NT

C-MAIN: (10 laps, top-4 to the semi) 1. Max Adams, 2. Terry Richards, 3. Matt Goodnight, 4. Mitchell Davis, 5. Dustin Clark, 6. Koby Barksdale, 7. Dickie Gaines, 8. Zane Hendricks, 9. Matt Moore, 10. Matt McCarthy, 11. Eric Perrott. 2:18.56

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Shane Cottle, 2. Carson Short, 3. Isaac Chapple, 4. A.J. Hopkins, 5. Cole Ketcham, 6. Max Adams, 7. Brody Roa, 8. Chad Boespflug, 9. Dallas Hewitt, 10. Dustin Ingle, 11. Jarett Andretti, 12. Clinton Boyles, 13. Mitchell Davis, 14. Brandon Mattox, 15. Matt Goodnight, 16. Terry Richards, 17. Brian VanMeveren, 18. Anthony D'Alessio. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Shane Cottle (18), 2. C.J. Leary (2), 3. Chris Windom (9), 4. Brady Bacon (5), 5. Kevin Thomas Jr. (1), 6. Jason McDougal (6), 7. Dakota Jackson (4), 8. Kyle Cummins (8), 9. Brent Beauchamp (20), 10. Justin Grant (3), 11. Cole Ketcham (17), 12. Chase Stockon (11), 13. Max Adams (22), 14. Josh Hodges (16), 15. Chad Boespflug (23-P), 16. Carson Short (7), 17. Isaac Chapple (14), 18. Brian VanMeveren (24-P), 19. Corey Smith (15), 20. Dave Darland (21), 21. A.J. Hopkins (19), 22. Thomas Meseraull (10), 23. Tyler Courtney (12), 24. Scotty Weir (13). NT

(P) represents a provisional starter

**Corey Smith flipped during qualifying. Carson Short flipped during the first heat.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-29 C.J. Leary, Lap 30 Shane Cottle.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-1027, 2-Chris Windom-947, 3-Tyler Courtney-929, 4-Chase Stockon-925, 5-Kevin Thomas Jr.-922, 6-Brady Bacon-918, 7-Justin Grant-830, 8-Jason McDougal- 780, 9-Carson Short-776, 10-Isaac Chapple-641.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK INDIANA SPRINT WEEK POINTS: 1-Shane Cottle-74, 2-Chris Windom-73, 3-Brady Bacon-73, 4-C.J. Leary-72, 5-Kevin Thomas Jr.-69, 6-Jason McDougal-63, 7-Dakota Jackson-59, 8-Kyle Cummins-54, 9-Justin Grant-53, 10- Brent Beauchamp-51.

USAC INDIANA SPRINT WEEK PROSOURCE PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Shane Cottle-17, 2-Brent Beauchamp-11, 3-Max Adams-9, 4-Chris Windom- 6, 5-Cole Ketcham-6, 6-Josh Hodges-2, 7-Brady Bacon-1, 8-Dave Darland-1.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: July 19, 2019 – Plymouth Speedway – Plymouth, Indiana – 32nd NOS Energy Drink Indiana Sprint Week

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/B & W AUTO MART HARD CHARGER: Shane Cottle (18th to 1st)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Max Adams

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Brody Roa

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Kyle Cummins

PROSOURCE HARD WORK AWARD: Max Adams

Carson Short (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Scotty Weir (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Kevin Thomas Jr. (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Jason McDougal (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Tyler Courtney (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

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COURTNEY GETS BACK ON TRACK AT PLYMOUTH

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Plymouth, Indiana (July 19, 2019)……The ups and downs of night-after-night of racing can take a toll on team and driver alike. It can also afford driver and team an opportunity to get back on the horse, so to speak, to find redemption in the face of adversity.

Tyler Courtney has seen all ends of the spectrum in just the last three nights alone, from the highs of winning Wednesday at Eldora to the lows of being collected in an incident on Thursday at Gas City that resulted in a 23rd place result.

Courtney and his Clauson Marshall Newman Racing team persevered in Friday's NOS Energy Drink Indiana Sprint Week stop at Plymouth Speedway, riding the wave back to the top of the totem pole to become the USAC AMSOIL Sprint Car National Championship's second four-time winner of the season, alongside Brady Bacon.

The team's high success rate, now with Courtney and CMNR scoring 15 wins in 55 USAC Sprint CAR CHAMPIONSHIP RACEs together since the beginning of their championship campaign in 2018, at over a 27% clip, hasn't provided them much of an opportunity to be in a "bounce back" situation, all to their credit. But, when they've been put in that situation, they've prospered and did so again Friday night.

“That’s what makes our team so good,” Courtney explained. “We don’t dwell on the night before. We just go back the next night and try to do our job. That’s won races. We haven’t won as much as we did at this point last year, but we’re not going to give up. We have one heck of a team right now. (Crew Chief Tyler Ransbottom) is really working his tail off to make this thing perfect and make my job easy. I’m just getting back in the swing of running a sprint car again. I think I’ve been more of a midget guy here lately. If we’re going to get into the swing, this is the week to do it.”

Courtney started the 30-lap feature from sixth after garnering quick time earlier in the evening during Fatheadz Eyewear Qualifying. Up front, however, front row occupiers Chris Windom and Chase Stockon raced side-by-side for the duration of the first lap with Stockon taking the advantage by a half car length at the stripe.

Windom immediately slid Stockon into turn one on the second lap to grab the position where he would stake claim for the first third of the race while Brady Bacon rolled the bottom in second behind the high-riding Windom.

Bacon continued to eat up ground, bottom-feeding to within a car length of Windom at the start/finish line at the conclusion of lap 12. Bacon tickled the infield tires and used a run off turn two to pull ahead of Windom just in time to greet lapped traffic in the third turn.

A red flag just one lap later brought the race to a halt when 18th running Brandon Mattox hopped in turn one, landed on the left side wheels and barrel-rolled. Mattox was uninjured.

On the ensuing restart, Bacon spurted away on the bottom while Windom and Courtney engaged in a side-by-side battle for the runner up spot. Courtney worked the top to race around Windom for second as the crossed flags were displayed for the halfway mark.

Courtney was charging, eating up the gap and appeared to have a run on Bacon around the outside for the lead at the exit of turn two on lap 18. Bacon drifted wide on exit, stifling Courtney’s momentum, stealing his line and forcing him to check up.

“I knew he was good on the bottom,” Courtney recalled. “I could run down there, but I wasn’t as good as him, so I needed to do something else. That’s the advantage of running second or third midway through the race. I got by Chris around the top, so I knew there was something there. I showed (Bacon) a little bit, but he did what he needed to do to maintain.”

Courtney gathered himself and went back to work on Bacon. Moments later, 17th running series Rookie Zane Hendricks tagged the front straightaway wall with his right rear tire, then proceeded to go into turn one with a full head of steam, tagging the turn one wall and flipping wildly along the topside of the 3/8-mile dirt oval. He walked away under his own power.

During the red flag period, second-running Courtney and team made a couple of shock adjustments but agreed they had a pretty good racecar and shouldn’t have to do too much.

On the lap 19 restart, Courtney wasted no time putting himself back into contention, switching the game plan up when Bacon slid from the bottom of turn three to the top of turn four. Courtney anticipated the move and had his NOS Energy Drink – Competition Suspension, Inc./Spike/Rider Chevy locked and loaded to diamond off the top of three toward the bottom of turn four to win the race to the line by a car length.

“When we got that red there, I got a good restart,” Courtney remembered. “He slid a little high in four, I got underneath him and cleared him at the line right before the yellow. That played in our favor. If I could just stick the bottom in one and two, I could get out and run my own race. These races are tough to win, especially when everybody’s as close as they are right now.”

Moments later, Thomas Meseraull, who was running 13th, spun around in turn four, forcing out the yellow. Courtney secured the lead with 12 to go, and there wasn’t much that was going to alter that as a gaggle of cars led by Justin Grant,

Windom, Bacon, Leary, Jason McDougal and a whole host of others battled for second as Courtney disappeared into the nighttime horizon, expanding his lead to more than a second in the dwindling laps.

Leary, who finished a heartbroken second the night prior at Gas City, was a rocket during the final laps, utilizing the topside to drive around the outside of Grant for the second spot at the finish line. But, crossing that same line three-quarters of a second earlier was Courtney, who knocked out the 21st USAC National Sprint Car win of his career, equaling 1967 champ Greg Weld for 28th all-time.

Behind Courtney, Leary and Grant at the checkered were fourth-place finisher Bacon and Jason McDougal who rounded out the top-five.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: July 19, 2019 – Plymouth Speedway – Plymouth, Indiana – 32nd NOS Energy Drink Indiana Sprint Week

FIRST FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING GROUP: 1. Dustin Ingle, 2DI, Ingle-13.485; 2. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-13.531; 3. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-13.548; 4. Josh Hodges, 74x, Hodges-13.643; 5. Max Adams, 5m, Adams-13.656; 6. Terry Richards, 18m, Richards-13.702; 7. Brandon Mattox, 28, Mattox-13.848; 8. Mitchell Davis, 56, Davis-13.868; 9. Dustin Clark, 75, DCR-14.018; 10. Brandon Long, 02, Long-14.116; 11. Matt Westfall, 33m, Marshall-14.133; 12. Zane Hendricks, 27, Goodnight-14.151; 13. Koby Barksdale, 22, Barksdale-14.158; 14. Shane Cottle, 2E, Epperson-14.176; 15. Anthony D'Alessio, 01, D'Alessio-14.208; 16. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-14.274; 17. Matt Moore, 9, Moore-14.394; 18. Matt Goodnight, 39, Goodnight-14.450; 19. T.J. Artz, 57x, Artz-14.495.

SECOND FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING GROUP: 1. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-13.358; 2. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-13.396; 3. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-13.462; 4. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-13.507; 5. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-13.599; 6. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-13.746; 7. Dakota Jackson, 17, On The Gass-13.804; 8. Kyle Cummins, 3R, Rock Steady-13.837; 9. Thomas Meseraull, 00, Whitney-13.854; 10. Chad Boespflug, 98e, EZR-13.865; 11. Carson Short, 21, RCM-13.871; 12. Dave Darland, 42, Cheney-13.894; 13. Clinton Boyles, 57, Hazen-13.969; 14. Brody Roa, 91R, BR-14.032; 15. Matt McCarthy, 28m, McCarthy-14.122; 16. Dickie Gaines, 44, Soudrette-14.133; 17. Jarett Andretti, 18, Andretti-14.158; 18. Brian VanMeveren, 24, VanMeveren-14.247; 19. Cole Ketcham, 41, Ketcham-14.307.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Matt Westfall, 2. Brandon Mattox, 3. Chase Stockon, 4. Dustin Ingle, 5. Max Adams, 6. Dustin Clark, 7. Koby Barksdale, 8. Matt Moore, 9. Anthony D'Alessio, 10. T.J. Artz. 2:19.84

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Josh Hodges, 2. Brady Bacon, 3. Zane Hendricks, 4. Terry Richards, 5. Shane Cottle, 6. Isaac Chapple, 7. Brandon Long, 8. Matt Goodnight, 9. Mitchell Davis. 2:20.87

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Thomas Meseraull, 2. Carson Short, 3. Justin Grant, 4. Tyler Courtney, 5. Dakota Jackson, 6. C.J. Leary, 7. Clinton Boyles, 8. Jarett Andretti, 9. Cole Ketcham, 10. Matt McCarthy. 2:20.37

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Kyle Cummins, 2. Kevin Thomas Jr., 3. Chris Windom, 4. Jason McDougal, 5. Dave Darland, 6. Brian VanMeveren, 7. Dickie Gaines, 8. Brody Roa, 9. Chad Boespflug. NT

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. C.J. Leary, 2. Dakota Jackson, 3. Max Adams, 4. Jarett Andretti, 5. Mitchell Davis, 6. Clinton Boyles, 7. Dave Darland, 8. Brandon Long, 9. Dustin Clark, 10. Matt McCarthy, 11. T.J. Artz, 12. Dickie

Gaines, 13. Cole Ketcham, 14. Matt Goodnight, 15. Isaac Chapple, 16. Matt Moore, 17. Koby Barksdale, 18. Shane Cottle, 19. Anthony D'Alessio. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Tyler Courtney (6), 2. C.J. Leary (7), 3. Justin Grant (9), 4. Brady Bacon (3), 5. Jason McDougal (4), 6. Chris Windom (1), 7. Dakota Jackson (13), 8. Chase Stockon (2), 9. Kyle Cummins (15), 10. Josh Hodges (8), 11. Matt Westfall (19), 12. Kevin Thomas Jr. (11), 13. Max Adams (10), 14. Carson Short (18), 15. Mitchell Davis (16), 16. Isaac Chapple (23), 17. Dustin Ingle (5), 18. Jarett Andretti (22), 19. Thomas Meseraull (17), 20. Zane Hendricks (20), 21. Clinton Boyles (21), 22. Brandon Mattox (14), 23. Terry Richards (12), 24. Dustin Clark (24). NT

**Brody Roa & Chad Boespflug flipped during the fourth heat. Brandon Mattox flipped on lap 14 of the feature. Zane Hendricks flipped on lap 19 of the feature.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Lap 1 Chase Stockon, Laps 2-12 Chris Windom, Laps 13-18 Brady Bacon, Laps 19-30 Tyler Courtney.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-1102, 2-Tyler Courtney-1010, 3-Chris Windom-1010, 4-Brady Bacon-987, 5-Chase Stockon-980, 6-Kevin Thomas Jr.-968, 7-Justin Grant-900, 8-Jason McDougal- 848, 9-Carson Short-818, 10-Isaac Chapple-672.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK INDIANA SPRINT WEEK POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-147, 2-Brady Bacon-142, 3-Chris Windom-136, 4-Jason McDougal-131, 5-Justin Grant-123, 6-Kevin Thomas Jr.-115, 7-Dakota Jackson-114, 8-Tyler Courtney-112, 9-Kyle Cummins-108, 10-Chase Stockon-101.

USAC INDIANA SPRINT WEEK PROSOURCE PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Shane Cottle-17, 2-Brent Beauchamp-11, 3-Max Adams-9, 4-Matt Westfall- 8, 5-Chris Windom-6, 6-Justin Grant-6, 7-Dakota Jackson-6, 8-Kyle Cummins-6, 9-Cole Ketcham-6, 10-Tyler Courtney-5

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: July 20, 2019 – Kokomo Speedway – Kokomo, Indiana – 32nd NOS Energy Drink Indiana Sprint Week

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/B & W AUTO MART HARD CHARGER: Matt Westfall

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Max Adams

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Dave Darland

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Dakota Jackson

PROSOURCE HARD WORK AWARD: Jarett Andretti

Tyler Courtney (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Matt Westfall (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Josh Hodges (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Thomas Meseraull (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Kyle Cummins (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

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WINDOM REIGNS AT KOKOMO FOR FIRST ISW WIN IN 8 YEARS

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Kokomo, Indiana (July 20, 2019)……When compiling statistics prior to the start of this year's NOS Energy Drink Indiana Sprint Week, one of the tidbits that stood out, and was hard to fathom, was the fact that it had been eight years since Chris Windom had won a feature event during ISW.

In that time span, Windom had become a two-time USAC National champion, added another Indiana Sprint Week title to his resume as well as multiple Eastern Storm championships all while developing into one of the top stars of his era. But, year-after-year, Windom's ISW win record had remained stagnant despite being in contention for the victory in a multitude of races throughout that span.

Saturday night at Kokomo Speedway, the Canton, Ill. native stuffed that stat in the garbage bin after leading the final 12 laps, which included a tight green-white-checkered tussle with Brady Bacon from which Windom prevailed, for his second career ISW victory and the 24th of his USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car career, surpassing A.J. Foyt and Roger McCluskey on the all-time list.

"After winning Sprint Week last year, I honestly kind of forgot that I hadn't won one since 2011," Windom admitted. "I heard that stat this week and it kind of pissed me off. So, I really wanted to get one this week. Like I told my guys, I wasn't going to lose that for them after busting balls above the cushion for 28 laps like that."

That he did, after starting third in the main event which, at first, began much as it would end. Windom and pole sitter Bacon battled for the position on the opening lap while Scotty Weir crashed the party, splitting between the two with an impressive move entering turn three to take the lead.

After nipping both at the line as they remained nearly three-wide coming off turn four, Weir secured the position around Bacon off turn two and began to build a gap of nearly two seconds while the battle raged behind him. C.J. Leary entered the fray, slipping by Windom on the bottom momentarily off turn four on the second lap. A lap later, the two swapped positions on both ends of the racetrack, one diving in and the other countering underneath.

Windom used the diamond move off the top of turn three to run down Leary and drive past the ISW point leader into turn one the following lap. Bacon utilized the same diamond maneuver in turn three on lap five. Meanwhile, Windom threw a massive slider into three in front of Bacon. As Bacon was rolling downhill off the top of turn three, his momentum was stifled as Windom drove past to beat Bacon to the line by a car length.

Less than a lap later, Dakota Jackson flipped at the exit of turn four while running 19th. He walked away under his own power.

With 12 to go, Windom began to pressure Weir into turns one and two. Weir hopped on the curb in turn two, opening the door for Windom to drive underneath for the lead entering the back straightaway. Weir went back into attack mode, sliding across the nose of Windom for the lead entering turn three. Windom was quick on his feet as he put four wheels above the turn three cushion, drove under Weir once again off four to take the point by a mere car length as the two frontrunners passed under Tom Hansing's flags.

"I watched the B-Main and I actually watched Dave Darland come from the tail," Windom explained. "He was running that same line, so I knew it would probably end up working in the race. This place, after a few laps, it just seems like momentum always wins here. You've got to find out how you can generate the most speed around the track and that's what I figured out. Once I could get my momentum and run that diamond line the way I needed to, we ran Scotty down. Once he bobbled a little bit, we got by him.

With seven to go, 2016 ISW champ Bacon maneuvered around the outside of Weir in the second turn for the second spot. At that moment in time, Windom's advantage was roughly 10 car lengths, but Bacon chopped it up to narrow the distance little-by-little by the time Anthony D'Alessio, making his first career USAC start, spun in turn four to necessitate a yellow with just two laps to go.

After a 23-lap green flag run, Windom was in the zone and certainly didn't need a caution for any reason whatsoever at that point. The benefit was all to Bacon who now had a chance to take a run at Windom, starting directly from behind his rear bumper with two to go.

Windom had a pleasant restart, tearing away to a four-car-length margin midway down the back straight on the 29th lap. Windom had been using the patented diamond move in turn three lap-after-lap, but as soon as he saw Bacon to his left, Windom changed course mid-stream, aborting the line to move into defense mode, and shifted downward in front of Bacon on the bottom to secure the spot.

"It's tough to run that line on a restart because you have to slow down on entry," Windom explained. "It makes it easy for a guy to do what he did and sneak under you. I kind of cheated it some, and ran below it, and lost a little bit of speed on that restart. That's how he got next to us there. I knew I had to hit the bottom because he wasn't going to miss the bottom in three and four. I had to hit the bottom to get back by him."

Entering turns one and two on the final lap, Bacon surged ahead by a half-car length on the low line. Windom used the momentum from two lanes higher to pull dead-even midway down the back straight. Windom flatly denied Bacon the opportunity to take the bottom line into turn three. As the two nearly collided entering turn three, Windom ripped the bottom line from Bacon for his sole possession.

Rounding turns three and four on the bottom and headed for home, Windom closed out his third USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car victory of the season just a tick under a half second over Bacon, Leary, Kyle Cummins and Weir, who led the first 19 laps.

The victory marked Windom's third career USAC National Sprint Car victory at Kokomo following wins in both 2012 and 2015.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: July 20, 2019 – Kokomo Speedway – Kokomo, Indiana – 32nd NOS Energy Drink Indiana Sprint Week

FIRST FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING GROUP: 1. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-13.001; 2. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-13.008; 3. Josh Hodges, 74x, Hodges-13.176; 4. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-13.177; 5. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-13.191; 6. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-13.196; 7. Thomas Meseraull, 47, Eades-13.233; 8. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-13.256; 9. Brody Roa, 91R, BR-13.316; 10. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-13.342; 11. Dakota Jackson, 17, On The Gass-13.350; 12. Matt Westfall, 33m, Marshall-13.464; 13. Mitchell Davis, 56, Davis-13.489; 14. Dave Darland, 42, Cheney-13.537; 15. Max Adams, 5m, Adams-13.596; 16. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-13.634; 17. Brandon Long, 02, Long-13.736; 18. Matt McCarthy, 28m, McCarthy-13.749; 19. Dickie Gaines, 44, Soudrette-13.749; 20. Andrew Prather, 16K, Knight-13.806.

SECOND FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING GROUP: 1. Carson Short, 21, RCM-13.041; 2. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-13.145; 3. Koby Barksdale, 22, Barksdale-13.195; 4. Scotty Weir, 4p, Pedersen-13.241; 5. Kyle Cummins, 3R, Rock Steady-13.282; 6. Shane Cottle, 2E, Epperson-13.297; 7. Shane Cockrum, 24p, JP-13.309; 8. Clinton Boyles, 57, Hazen-13.348; 9. Anthony D'Alessio, 01, D'Alessio-13.399; 10. Corey Smith, 66s, CS-13.421; 11. Matt Goodnight, 39, Goodnight-13.463; 12. Joe Stornetta, 04, Burton-13.487; 13. Jarett Andretti, 18, Andretti-13.518; 14. Brandon Mattox, 28, Mattox-

13.578; 15. Garrett Aitken, 32A, Aitken-13.661; 16. Brian VanMeveren, 24, VanMeveren-13.723; 17. Matt Moore, 9, Moore-13.844; 18. T.J. Artz, 57x, Artz-13.934; 19. Dustin Clark, 75, DCR-16.373; 20. Terry Richards, 18m, Richards-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Thomas Meseraull, 2. Brody Roa, 3. C.J. Leary, 4. Brady Bacon, 5. Josh Hodges, 6. Dakota Jackson, 7. Max Adams, 8. Mitchell Davis, 9. Matt McCarthy, 10. Brandon Long. 2:11.40

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Justin Grant, 2. Kevin Thomas Jr., 3. Chris Windom, 4. Tyler Courtney, 5. Chase Stockon, 6. Dave Darland, 7. Isaac Chapple, 8. Andrew Prather, 9. Dickie Gaines, 10. Matt Westfall. NT

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Anthony D'Alessio, 2. Kyle Cummins, 3. Carson Short, 4. Jarett Andretti, 5. Shane Cockrum, 6. Garrett Aitken, 7. Matt Goodnight, 8. Koby Barksdale, 9. Dustin Clark, 10. Matt Moore. 2:13.56

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Shane Cottle, 2. Scotty Weir, 3. Jason McDougal, 4. Brandon Mattox, 5. Joe Stornetta, 6. Brian VanMeveren, 7. Corey Smith, 8. Terry Richards, 9. T.J. Artz, 10. Clinton Boyles. NT

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Chase Stockon, 2. Josh Hodges, 3. Koby Barksdale, 4. Shane Cockrum, 5. Dave Darland, 6. Dakota Jackson, 7. Max Adams, 8. Corey Smith, 9. Joe Stornetta, 10. Mitchell Davis, 11. Isaac Chapple, 12. Garrett Aitken, 13. Brian VanMeveren, 14. Andrew Prather, 15. Dustin Clark, 16. Terry Richards, 17. Brandon Long, 18. Matt McCarthy, 19. Matt Goodnight, 20. T.J. Artz. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Chris Windom (3), 2. Brady Bacon (1), 3. C.J. Leary (6), 4. Kyle Cummins (10), 5. Scotty Weir (2), 6. Carson Short (5), 7. Kevin Thomas Jr. (11), 8. Justin Grant (18), 9. Tyler Courtney (15), 10. Chase Stockon (7), 11. Jason McDougal (4), 12. Jarett Andretti (20), 13. Shane Cottle (12), 14. Brody Roa (16), 15. Shane Cockrum (14), 16. Koby Barksdale (9), 17. Dave Darland (21), 18. Brandon Mattox (22), 19. Brian VanMeveren (24-P), 20. Anthony D'Alessio (17), 21. Thomas Meseraull (13), 22. Isaac Chapple (23-P), 23. Dakota Jackson (19), 24. Josh Hodges (8). NT

(P) represents a provisional starter

**Matt Westfall flipped during the second heat. Clinton Boyles flipped during the fourth heat. Dakota Jackson flipped on lap 5 of the feature.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-19 Scotty Weir, Laps 20-30 Chris Windom.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-1178, 2-Chris Windom-1087, 3-Tyler Courtney-1061, 4-Brady Bacon-1059, 5-Chase Stockon-1032, 6-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1027, 7-Justin Grant-957, 8-Jason McDougal-898, 9-Carson Short-883, 10-Isaac Chapple-695.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK INDIANA SPRINT WEEK POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-223, 2-Brady Bacon-214, 3-Chris Windom-213, 4-Jason McDougal-181, 5-Justin Grant-180, 6-Kyle Cummins-176, 7-Kevin Thomas Jr.-174, 8-Tyler Courtney-163, 9-Chase Stockon-153, 10-Carson Short-147.

USAC INDIANA SPRINT WEEK PROSOURCE PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Shane Cottle-17, 2-Justin Grant-16, 3-Kyle Cummins-12, 4-Jarett Andretti-12, 5-Tyler Courtney-11, 6-Brent Beauchamp-11, 7-Max Adams-9, 8-C.J. Leary-8, 9-Chris Windom-8, 10-Matt Westfall-8.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: July 21, 2019 – Lawrenceburg Speedway – Lawrenceburg, Indiana – 32nd NOS Energy Drink Indiana Sprint Week

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/B & W AUTO MART HARD CHARGER: Justin Grant (18th to 8th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Shane Cottle

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Max Adams

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Kyle Cummins

PROSOURCE HARD WORK AWARD: Brandon Mattox

AMERICAN RACING MINISTRIES REDEMPTION HOOSIER TIRE: Dakota Jackson

C.J. Leary (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Thomas Meseraull (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Justin Grant (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Anthony D'Alessio (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Shane Cottle (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

Justin Grant (KSE Racing Products/B & W Auto Mart Hard Charger)

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GRANT GLIDES TO ISW GLORY AT THE BURG

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Lawrenceburg, Indiana (July 21, 2019)……For Justin Grant, Lawrenceburg Speedway is akin to a second home.

For it was the track where Grant earned his first career USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car victory and his lone previous Indiana Sprint Week win seven years earlier. It's the place in which he won with USAC in 2014 and again in the fall of 2018. And it's where he earned his latest triumph, Sunday in round four of NOS Energy Drink Indiana Sprint Week.

"I've had a lot of special wins here at Lawrenceburg," Grant said. "I really like it. I raced down here a ton back when I was driving the 40 car for Mark Hery. It was our Saturday night venue. We raced 10-15 Saturday nights a year here for a few years. It's just a place I've always loved coming to."

In fact, coming into Sunday's event, Grant had led just two laps in his entire ISW career, both of which came at the conclusion of that 2012 ISW race at the very same track. It's an ISW career for Grant which includes 12 top-five finishes in 45 starts.

Grant left no doubt on this night, leading all 30 laps from start to finish to win his 15th career USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car feature, passing Billy Cassella, Jim Hurtubise, Lee Kunzman and Bruce Walkup to move to 34th on the all-time list.

In addition, he became the speedway's winningest sprint car driver on its reconfiguration into its current 3/8-mile, high banked state.

What had been a flurry of five victories in an eight-race span for Grant and TOPP Motorsports to close out the 2018 season, started off strong with a win in their second start of 2019 in Ocala, Fla. The wait for a return trip to victory lane took five months, but Grant feels the pieces to the puzzle were always there, the pieces just had to fit together.

“It’s been awhile,” Grant acknowledged. “I felt like we’ve had speed here and there early in the night, then we’ve had speed late in the night and just struggled to put a whole night together. We were finally good early and late and we’re able to put all the pieces together. Lawrenceburg was pretty hammer down tonight and the car was screaming around there. It was a lot of fun to drive and I was just kind of hanging on to it trying to keep it out of the fence.”

Although Grant began the 30-lapper from the outside of the front row, at the start, he made a beeline for the bottom, racing to the front of the line and shutting the door on Kokomo ISW winner Chris Windom to be the first to get to turn one. Grant then slid up to the top and broke out to a five-car-length lead.

Trouble ensued on the second lap as ninth-running Max Adams slipped sideways in turn four. Josh Hodges, the 2016 Lawrenceburg Fall Nationals winner, plowed sideways into Adams. Jarett Andretti clipped Hodges’ left front wheel and flipped over. Meanwhile, leading series Rookie driver Brian VanMeveren ramped over the right rear tire of Adams, sending him into a set of barrel rolls toward the outside concrete which also entangled 2018 Lawrenceburg ISW winner Tyler Courtney.

VanMeveren and Andretti were both finished for the evening. Tyler Courtney, Adams and Hodges each restarted with Courtney actually racing back to a 10th place finish at the checkered.

Multiple times within the first ten laps, Windom was able to get a nose under Grant in between turns three and four as the pair ran two distinctive grooves, Grant up on top and Windom working the bottom.

But, as was the case, throughout the middle portion of the race, Windom was able to pull even with Grant as he slid to the exit of the corner. Each time, Grant had the momentum from the top to carry him back in front of Windom, no harm, no foul, no muss, no fuss, where Grant maintained an advantage of a tick under a second over Windom.

With five to go, Grant greeted lapped traffic, but all heeded the courtesy flag and ventured to the bottom, allowing Grant to graze freely by his lonesome without much in the terms of pressure and the lap count dwindling while possessing a healthy advantage over Windom as light sprinkles began to fall.

Beyond the two at the front, C.J. Leary, Kevin Thomas Jr. and Carson Short all ran nose-to-tail for third, fourth and fifth. With six to go, Short made an impressive bid for third, sliding up the hill in turn four to grab the spot from Leary. Leary then turned his nose left at the exit of four, hustling into turn one to return the favor and reclaim third.

There wasn’t as much drama the further up front you glanced as Grant had them covered from flag-to-flag, winning by a relatively comfortable 1.63 second margin over Windom, Leary, Kevin Thomas Jr. and Carson Short. A victory shower not made up of champagne, but actual precipitation greeted Indiana Sprint Week’s fourth different feature winner in as many races in victory lane.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: July 21, 2019 – Lawrenceburg Speedway – Lawrenceburg, Indiana – 32nd NOS Energy Drink Indiana Sprint Week

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-14.112; 2. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-14.150; 3. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-14.161; 4. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-14.253; 5. Carson Short, 21, RCM-14.258; 6. Max Adams, 5m, Adams-14.274; 7. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-14.280; 8. Kyle Cummins, 3R, Rock Steady-14.327; 9. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-14.344; 10. Anthony D’Alessio, 01, D’Alessio-14.351; 11. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-14.356; 12. Brian VanMeveren, 24, VanMeveren-14.426; 13. Josh Hodges, 74x, Hodges-14.467; 14. Jarett Andretti, 18, Andretti-

14.514; 15. Scotty Weir, 23s, Simon-14.544; 16. Dickie Gaines, 44, Soudrette-14.570; 17. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-14.597; 18. Thomas Meseraull, 00, Whitney-14.604; 19. Joe Liguori, 43JR, Tibbits-14.610; 20. Brody Roa, 91R, BR-14.641; 21. Brandon Mattox, 28, Mattox-14.648; 22. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-14.712; 23. Dustin Clark, 75, DCR-14.720; 24. Dakota Jackson, 3, Jackson-14.772; 25. Dave Darland, 42, Cheney-14.854; 26. Tom Harris, 84, Harris-15.053; 27. Matt Moore, 9, Moore-15.088; 28. Garrett Abrams, 32A, Abrams-15.205; 29. Callie Wolsiffer, 43w, Tibbits-16.071; 30. Terry Richards, 18m, Richards-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Thomas Meseraull, 2. Carson Short, 3. Isaac Chapple, 4. C.J. Leary, 5. Jason McDougal, 6. Jarett Andretti, 7. Tom Harris. 2:28.33

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Dustin Clark, 2. Chris Windom, 3. Scotty Weir, 4. Max Adams, 5. Chase Stockon, 6. Matt Moore, 7. Joe Liguori. 2:27.42

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Brody Roa, 2. Justin Grant, 3. Dakota Jackson, 4. Brian VanMeveren, 5. Dickie Gaines, 6. Garrett Abrams, 7. Brady Bacon. 2:28.50

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Dave Darland, 3. Kevin Thomas Jr., 4. Josh Hodges, 5. Kyle Cummins, 6. Brandon Mattox, 7. Callie Wolsiffer. 2:28.91

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Brady Bacon, 2. Chase Stockon, 3. Kyle Cummins, 4. Jason McDougal, 5. Jarett Andretti, 6. Dickie Gaines, 7. Tom Harris, 8. Brandon Mattox, 9. Matt Moore, 10. Terry Richards, 11. Garrett Abrams, 12. Callie Wolsiffer, 13. Joe Liguori. 3:00.09

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Justin Grant (2), 2. Chris Windom (1), 3. C.J. Leary (6), 4. Kevin Thomas Jr. (5), 5. Carson Short (4), 6. Brady Bacon (8), 7. Jason McDougal (10), 8. Chase Stockon (7), 9. Kyle Cummins (9), 10. Tyler Courtney (16), 11. Dave Darland (22), 12. Max Adams (3), 13. Dickie Gaines (15), 14. Dustin Clark (20), 15. Isaac Chapple (19), 16. Dakota Jackson (21), 17. Scotty Weir (14), 18. Josh Hodges (12), 19. Brian VanMeveren (11), 20. Jarett Andretti (13), 21. Brody Roa (18), 22. Thomas Meseraull (17). NT

**Jarett Andretti & Brian VanMeveren flipped on lap 2 of the feature.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-30 Justin Grant.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-1253, 2-Chris Windom-1161, 3-Brady Bacon-1122, 4-Tyler Courtney-1112, 5-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1097, 6-Chase Stockon-1089, 7-Justin Grant-1034, 8-Jason McDougal-951, 9-Carson Short-950, 10-Isaac Chapple-734.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK INDIANA SPRINT WEEK POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-298, 2-Chris Windom-287, 3-Brady Bacon-277, 4-Justin Grant-257, 5-Kevin Thomas Jr.-244, 6-Jason McDougal-234, 7-Kyle Cummins-224, 8-Tyler Courtney-214, 9-Carson Short-214, 10-Chase Stockon-210.

USAC INDIANA SPRINT WEEK PROSOURCE PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Justin Grant-17, 2-Tyler Courtney-17, 3-Shane Cottle-17, 4-Dave Darland-16, 5-Kyle Cummins-12, 6-Jarett Andretti-12, 7-C.J. Leary-11, 8-Dakota Jackson-11, 9-Brent Beauchamp-11, 10-Max Adams- 9.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: July 24, 2019 – Terre Haute Action Track – Terre Haute, Indiana – 32nd NOS Energy Drink Indiana Sprint Week

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/B & W AUTO MART HARD CHARGER: Dave Darland (22nd to 11th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Dickie Gaines

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Tom Harris

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Josh Hodges

PROSOURCE HARD WORK AWARD: Dave Darland

C.J. Leary (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Thomas Meseraull (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Dustin Clark (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Brody Roa (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Tyler Courtney (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

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SUNSHINE SWEEPS TERRE HAUTE FOR ISW VICTORY

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Terre Haute, Indiana (July 24, 2019)……Tyler Courtney's roller coaster ride of a week can just about be summed up by his eventful 30-lap adventure during Wednesday's NOS Energy Drink Indiana Sprint Week round five at the Terre Haute Action Track.

During his pursuit of race leader Justin Grant on a restart with 14 laps remaining, Courtney drove around the outside of Grant and held a slight advantage heading into turn three. Grant fought back on the inside where the two banged wheels, popping Courtney airborne at the exit of turn four.

Amazingly enough, Courtney lost very little ground once he landed on all fours. With no time to waste, Courtney got back on the gas and went for broke on the bottom a straightaway later in turn one, biking the car and showing the belly pan to the crowd before coming back down to earth, somehow, someway, avoiding the outside concrete wall as he blasted it with dirt-filled rooster tails. All this without losing a single spot.

Two near calamities that could've taken its toll on Courtney were quickly rebounded from. And there he was once again in a position to win on the 23rd circuit, Courtney lined Grant up in his crosshairs off turn four and slid past Grant in turn one with mere inches to spare from Courtney's rear bumper to Grant's nose.

From there, Courtney spurted away for a victory of nearly a full-straightaway becoming the first driver in USAC National competition this year to collect the Saldana Racing Products "Clean Sweep" with fast qualifying team, a heat race win and a feature victory all in one night. It's another peak in a week that's had its share of valleys for the Indianapolis, Ind. native and Clauson Marshall Newman Racing.

Exactly one week earlier, Courtney began the stretch of nine USAC AMSOIL National Sprint CAR CHAMPIONSHIP RACEs in an 11-day span with a win at Eldora, followed by a crash/DNF/23rd place finish in the ISW opener at Gas City. The night after that, he was back in victory lane at Plymouth. Saturday at Kokomo was a mid-pack ninth place finish followed up with a crash at Lawrenceburg that the team managed to return to and carve out a 10th place finish.

Courtney takes it all in stride as part of travails, trials and tribulations of auto racing. To keep it together over a stretch of the season, or throughout a single 30-lap race, isn't an easy thing to accomplish, especially when you're involved in two near-catastrophic events that would've served as yet another deep valley to climb out of, but instead, resulted in him becoming the first two-time winner of ISW in 2019.

"That's racing, with the highs and lows," Courtney deadpanned. "Although, we might be tied in highs and lows with our week now. It's a good rebound from the kind of lackluster second part of last week that we had. We know we're good at tracks like this, so we've got to take advantage of it."

Courtney started sixth and was in third by the end of lap one. Pole sitter Chris Windom led the opening lap on the bottom, but Lawrenceburg ISW winner Grant was on the pursuit and snagged the lead from Windom on the back straightaway on the second lap.

Following a yellow for the stopped car of Tom Harris, on the lap three restart, Courtney got underneath Windom in turn and was shot out of a cannon down the back straight into the second position behind Grant. Grant occupied the middle line as the cushion gradually began to push wider where he maintained a three-quarters of a second lead for much of the remainder of the first half of the 30-lapper until reaching lapped traffic just before the midway point.

Courtney was able to pull even with Grant on the back straight, but Grant was able to maintain, splitting between the lapped cars of Nate McMillin and Dustin Clark in turn three on lap 15 with Courtney just behind. On the 16th lap, Courtney showed a nose to the outside of Grant midway down the back straightaway. As Grant weaved his way through the forest of machinery, he and Courtney nearly made contact.

A lap later, and still trailing by just a few car lengths, Courtney overcooked into turn one, tapping the slowing car of Isaac Chapple, costing him valuable time and track position. He regained it all less than a lap later as leading series Rookie Brian VanMeveren stopped at the exit of turn four to bring out the caution.

Once re-racked, that's where it initially looked like Courtney had made the move, taking command and driving around Grant in turn two. Grant fought back heading into turn three where the two made contact. Courtney became airborne at the exit of turn four and both continued on. Courtney remained right within striking distance and set up for a slider into one, but instead about dumped it, somehow avoiding catastrophe and wall contact to race on.

"You want to win these races as badly as he does," Courtney explained. "But you don't want to do anything dumb at the same time. Unfortunately, I almost did something dumb and about cost myself the whole race."

Moments later, May Terre Haute winner and sixth-running Chase Stockon slowed on the back straightaway. Courtney used the opportunity to take a breath and regroup. Initially, Grant commanded the restart while Windom jumped back in to challenge Courtney for second until eighth-place Jason McDougal slowed on the backstretch to bring out the night's final caution.

One racing resumed, Courtney was back in the zone and stayed right with Grant until making the winning move on the 23rd lap with a slide job into turn one. Grant tried a slide on the opposite end in turn three but came up just short. In turn one on lap 24, Grant saw his bid for a win come to a close as he biked in turn one, which expanded the gap between the two from three-tenths of a second to near 1.3 sec.

"I knew I had been a lot better off of four than he was," Courtney realized. "So, I made sure I got it good that lap. I knew I couldn't go too low down in turn one or I'd end up biking again, so I tried to make sure I got a good enough run to where I could get close to him and try to clear him by the middle of the corner and get to the top where I needed to be. Once I got to the lead, I made sure to run as hard as I could to get away from all that."

By race's end, Courtney had bumped the advantage to 4.093 seconds, winning by that margin over Grant, Kevin Thomas Jr., ProSource/KSE Racing Products Hard Charger Brady Bacon (from 14th) and Chris Windom.

Courtney's third career series win at Terre Haute was also his 22nd career USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car win moved him past 1967 series champ Greg Weld and into a tie for 25th all-time alongside Rick Hood, Bubby Jones and Sammy Sessions.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: July 24, 2019 – Terre Haute Action Track – Terre Haute, Indiana – 32nd NOS Energy Drink Indiana Sprint Week / Dorsett Automotive Don Smith Classic

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-20.329; 2. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-20.342; 3. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-20.462; 4. Kyle Cummins, 3R, Rock Steady-20.872; 5. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-21.133; 6. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-21.312; 7. Brian VanMeveren, 24, VanMeveren-21.315; 8. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-21.324; 9. Tom Harris, 84, Harris-21.435; 10. Jarett Andretti, 18, Andretti-21.463; 11. Josh Hodges, 74x, Hodges-21.550; 12. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-21.605; 13. Dakota Jackson, 3, Jackson-21.762; 14. Carson Short, 21, RCM-21.804; 15. Terry Richards, 18m, Richards-21.806; 16. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-21.942; 17. Brandon Mattox, 28, Mattox-21.945; 18. Max Adams, 5m, Adams-21.966; 19. Brody Roa, 91R, BR-22.019; 20. Dave Darland, 36D, Darland-22.061; 21. Dustin Smith, 77s, Smith-22.130; 22. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-22.191; 23. Scotty Weir, 42, Cheney-22.223; 24. Dustin Clark, 75, DCR-22.278; 25. Nate McMillin, 24m, McMillin-22.337; 26. Koby Barksdale, 22, Barksdale-22.557; 27. Dickie Gaines, 44, Soudrette-22.793; 28. Harley Burns, 12, Burns-22.797; 29. Steve Thomas, 20T, Thomas-22.850; 30. Chayse Hayhurst, 20, Hayhurst-23.263; 31. Kyle Hathaway, 7H, Hathaway-23.863; 32. Eric Perrott, 45, Perrott-23.924.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Justin Grant, 3. Brandon Mattox, 4. Tom Harris, 5. Dakota Jackson, 6. Dustin Smith, 7. Nate McMillin, 8. Steve Thomas. 2:48.83

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. C.J. Leary, 2. Carson Short, 3. Chris Windom, 4. Max Adams, 5. Jason McDougal, 6. Jarett Andretti, 7. Chayse Hayhurst. 2:49.21

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Kevin Thomas Jr., 2. Brody Roa, 3. Josh Hodges, 4. Brian VanMeveren, 5. Scotty Weir, 6. Dickie Gaines, 7. Terry Richards. 2:54.46

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Brady Bacon, 2. Kyle Cummins, 3. Chase Stockon, 4. Isaac Chapple, 5. Dustin Clark, 6. Eric Perrott, 7. Harley Burns. NT

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Jason McDougal, 2. Scotty Weir, 3. Nate McMillin, 4. Dustin Clark, 5. Dustin Smith, 6. Terry Richards, 7. Dakota Jackson, 8. Dickie Gaines, 9. Chayse Hayhurst, 10. Steve Thomas, 11. Eric Perrott, 12. Jarett Andretti, 13. Harley Burns. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Tyler Courtney (6), 2. Justin Grant (2), 3. Kevin Thomas Jr. (4), 4. Brady Bacon (14), 5. Chris Windom (1), 6. C.J. Leary (5), 7. Carson Short (12), 8. Max Adams (16), 9. Chase Stockon (8), 10. Kyle Cummins (3), 11. Josh Hodges (10), 12. Isaac Chapple (11), 13. Dustin Smith (18), 14. Scotty Weir (20), 15. Brandon Mattox (15), 16. Brian VanMeveren (7), 17. Brody Roa (17), 18. Nate McMillin (22), 19. Dustin Clark (21), 20. Jason McDougal (19), 21. Terry Richards (13), 22. Tom Harris (9). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Lap 1 Chris Windom, Laps 2-22 Justin Grant, Laps 23-30 Tyler Courtney.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-1321, 2-Chris Windom-1226, 3-Tyler Courtney-1196, 4-Brady Bacon-1191, 5-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1173, 6-Chase Stockon-1141, 7-Justin Grant-1110, 8-Carson Short-1009, 9-Jason McDougal-978, 10-Isaac Chapple-778.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK INDIANA SPRINT WEEK POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-366, 2-Chris Windom-352, 3-Brady Bacon-346, 4-Justin Grant-333, 5-Kevin Thomas Jr.-320, 6-Tyler Courtney-298, 7-Kyle Cummins-277, 8-Carson Short-273, 9-Chase Stockon-262, 10-Jason McDougal-261.

USAC INDIANA SPRINT WEEK PROSOURCE PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-22, 2-Justin Grant-17, 3-Shane Cottle-17, 4-Max Adams-17, 5-Dave Darland-16, 6-Brady Bacon-13, 7-Kyle Cummins-12, 8-Jarett Andretti-12, 9-C.J. Leary-11, 10-Dakota Jackson-11.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: July 25, 2019 – Lincoln Park Speedway – Putnamville, Indiana – 32nd NOS Energy Drink Indiana Sprint Week

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/B & W AUTO MART HARD CHARGER: Brady Bacon (14th to 4th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Dustin Smith

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Dakota Jackson

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Dakota Jackson

PROSOURCE HARD WORK AWARD: Nate McMillin

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS CLEAN SWEEP: Tyler Courtney

Tyler Courtney (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Tyler Courtney (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

C.J. Leary (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Kevin Thomas Jr. (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Brady Bacon (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

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CUMMINS LIGHTS OUT AT PUTNAMVILLE ISW ROUND 6

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Putnamville, Indiana (July 25, 2019)……On a night when the lights went out around Lincoln Park Speedway, Kyle Cummins was “lights out” in his NOS Energy Drink Indiana Sprint Week round six performance Thursday at the 5/16-mile dirt oval in Putnamville, Ind.

Kyle Cummins led from start to finish, wiring all 30 laps from the pole to win his third career Indiana Sprint Week feature and fourth in the USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car division, returning to victory lane following a two-year hiatus.

The veteran racer from Princeton, Ind. has a slew of meaningful victories in his career. His first USAC victory at Kokomo in 2016 was a long-awaited breakthrough while his 2017 triumph came in dramatic fashion on a last lap, last corner pass for the win at Tri-State Speedway.

Thursday night's performance didn't include quite the same drama that came with the other two on the final laps, yet he freely admits that winning at Lincoln Park is bigger than each of those two, signaling just how far he'd come after a tough 2018 season.

"Kokomo was tough, and Haubstadt was a last lap kind of thing," Cummins recalled. "I feel like running here, it's a lot more technical. You can't just throw it in there and get grip. You've got to hit your lines and, if you miss your lines, it can really set you back. Winning here, I feel, is definitely bigger than the other ones I've won before. Kokomo was cool because it was the first one and Haubstadt was good, but this one…we kind of had a year there where we just weren't up there. This year, we got a new car and everywhere we've gone, this thing has been really good."

The evening got off to a peculiar start as, prior to the main event, a transformer blew, knocking out power to several lights around the racetrack. After a delay, the track was lit, and Cummins led the field to the green, wheel standing his way into turn one with outside front row starter and ISW point leader C.J. Leary to his right on the topside.

Cummins was committed to the lowest of lines even, at moments, kicking up infield dirt as he scratched the surface with his front wheels through the corners.

By lap four, the most competitive battle on the racetrack was for second. Brady Bacon dug his way on the bottom underneath Leary lap-after-lap on both ends of the speedway. Leary utilized a unique line, backing into the turn one curb and cutting a straight, 45-degree angle line toward turn two, keeping Bacon from being able to slide him and allowing himself to carry maximum momentum and drive the shortest distance between two points from turn one to two.

On the 13th lap, Bacon was close enough to push Leary up a tad between turns one and two. Leary lost the momentum and Bacon gained the position of second with Cummins in front of him by six car lengths. One lap later, Isaac Chapple walked away uninjured after flipping atop the cushion between turns three and four while running 22nd.

For Cummins, it was all about repetition from that point onward, getting in a groove and hitting the same exact spot lap-after-lap. But, sometimes, even the slightest change can alter those plans.

"I was slowly moving the shocks, nothing crazy, on the restart there," Cummins remembered. "I probably untied the shock a little bit too much and got a big ol' wheelie. When you bounce the front end, you miss your lines, so I just had to be patient and calm and hit my marks."

Meanwhile, behind Cummins, Leary was able to slip back by under Bacon on the lap 14 restart, momentarily, but Bacon briskly worked his way back around for the spot in three and four while Cummins snapped away to a five-car-length advantage where he would remain for most of the final stretch.

With six laps to go, Bacon was on a scavenger hunt for the raciest line to reel in Cummins. Bacon searched high in turns three and four on lap 24, and the bottom of one, two, three and four on the ensuing trip as the front two encountered lapped traffic.

With Brian VanMeveren low and Jadon Rogers high, Cummins stuck to his guns, never wavered from the bottom and followed VanMeveren before clearing him entering turn three with four to go. Cummins gained some emancipation from Bacon as he dealt with traffic while Cummins frolicked freely from Bacon for the final two laps, scoring the victory by 0.940 sec. over Bacon, Leary, Tyler Courtney and Kevin Thomas Jr.

Cummins was near perfection on the bottom line although he admits there were times when he thought he might've cost himself. With a past two-time champ in Bacon and the current championship leader in Leary on his trail, you can't be much less than perfect if you're expecting to win an Indiana Sprint Week feature.

"I felt like they were right on me the whole time," Cummins explained. "When they said Brady was there, I know he's good around the bottom. A couple times, I thought I missed the bottom, so I decided I was going to make them have to pass me

around the top. If I get tight, I'd just make sure to stay on the bottom. The car was actually fairly loose, which let me kind of get in there and not get tight."

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: July 25, 2019 – Lincoln Park Speedway – Putnamville, Indiana – 32nd NOS Energy Drink Indiana Sprint Week

FIRST FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING GROUP: 1. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-12.558; 2. Jordan Kinser, 70, Hurst-12.570; 3. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-12.712; 4. Mario Clouser, 6, MCM-12.774; 5. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-12.872; 6. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-12.885; 7. Josh Hodges, 74x, Hodges-12.911; 8. A.J. Hopkins, 4J, 4J-12.919; 9. Max Adams, 5m, Adams-12.948; 10. Nate McMillin, 24m, McMillin-13.021; 11. Brayden Fox, 53, Fox-13.027; 12. Jadon Rogers, 14, Rogers-13.030; 13. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-13.059; 14. Joe Stornetta, 04, Burton-13.082; 15. Dickie Gaines, 44, Soudrette-13.117; 16. Shane Cottle, 2E, Epperson-13.182; 17. Dustin Smith, 77, Smith-13.200; 18. Terry Richards, 18m, Richards-13.299; 19. Scotty Weir, 42, Cheney-13.339; 20. Brody Roa, 91R, BR-13.523.

SECOND FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING GROUP: 1. Carson Short, 21, RCM-12.662; 2. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-12.749; 3. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-12.782; 4. Kyle Cummins, 3R, Rock Steady-12.813; 5. Brandon Mattox, 28, Mattox-12.878; 6. Thomas Meseraull, 00, Whitney-12.913; 7. Brian VanMeveren, 24, VanMeveren-13.068; 8. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-13.085; 9. Dave Darland, 17c, Cunningham-13.089; 10. Travis Berryhill, 77s, Sturgeon-13.114; 11. Brent Beauchamp, 34, Olson-13.136; 12. Colten Cottle, 5c, Cottle-13.277; 13. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-13.311; 14. Dustin Clark, 75, DCR-13.313; 15. Brady Short, 11p, Short/Pottorff-13.413; 16. Dakota Jackson, 3, Jackson-13.474; 17. Alec Sipes, 99, Sipes-13.494; 18. Jesse Vermillion, 5, Vermillion-13.549; 19. Harley Burns, 12w, Burns-13.847; 20. Eric Perrott, 45, Perrott-14.102.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Max Adams, 2. Brady Bacon, 3. Justin Grant, 4. Josh Hodges, 5. Brayden Fox, 6. Jason McDougal, 7. Scotty Weir, 8. Dustin Smith, 9. Kevin Thomas Jr., 10. Dickie Gaines. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. A.J. Hopkins, 2. Jadon Rogers, 3. Jordan Kinser, 4. Chase Stockon, 5. Mario Clouser, 6. Nate McMillin, 7. Joe Stornetta, 8. Shane Cottle, 9. Brody Roa, 10. Terry Richards. 2:11.02

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. C.J. Leary, 2. Carson Short, 3. Dave Darland, 4. Brady Short, 5. Brent Beauchamp, 6. Isaac Chapple, 7. Alec Sipes, 8. Brian VanMeveren, 9. Brandon Mattox, 10. Harley Burns. NT

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Chris Windom, 3. Kyle Cummins, 4. Thomas Meseraull, 5. Travis Berryhill, 6. Colten Cottle, 7. Dakota Jackson, 8. Dustin Clark, 9. Jesse Vermillion, 10. Eric Perrott. NT

C-MAIN: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the semi) 1. Shane Cottle, 2. Alec Sipes, 3. Dustin Smith, 4. Terry Richards, 5. Scotty Weir, 6. Jesse Vermillion, 7. Harley Burns, 8. Eric Perrott, 9. Dakota Jackson. NT

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Kevin Thomas Jr., 2. Brandon Mattox, 3. Mario Clouser, 4. Jason McDougal, 5. Shane Cottle, 6. Brian VanMeveren, 7. Isaac Chapple, 8. Nate McMillin, 9. Joe Stornetta, 10. Brayden Fox, 11. Terry Richards, 12. Dustin Clark, 13. Alec Sipes, 14. Dustin Smith, 15. Travis Berryhill, 16. Brent Beauchamp, 17. Colten Cottle. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Kyle Cummins (1), 2. Brady Bacon (3), 3. C.J. Leary (2), 4. Tyler Courtney (4), 5. Kevin Thomas Jr. (7), 6. Carson Short (6), 7. Brandon Mattox (10), 8. Justin Grant (9), 9. Shane Cottle (22), 10. Chris Windom (16), 11. Mario Clouser (8), 12. Brady Short (21), 13. Jason McDougal (20), 14. Chase Stockon (11), 15.

Thomas Meseraull (12), 16. Josh Hodges (13), 17. Max Adams (17), 18. A.J. Hopkins (15), 19. Dave Darland (18), 20. Brian VanMeveren (14), 21. Jadon Rogers (19), 22. Jordan Kinser (5), 23. Isaac Chapple (23-P), 24. Dustin Clark (24-P). NT

(P) represents a provisional starter

**Travis Berryhill flipped during the semi. Isaac Chapple flipped on lap 14 of the feature.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-30 Kyle Cummins

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-1393, 2-Chris Windom-1276, 3-Brady Bacon-1268, 4-Tyler Courtney-1267, 5-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1241, 6-Chase Stockon-1181, 7-Justin Grant-1165, 8-Carson Short-1075, 9-Jason McDougal-1016, 10-Isaac Chapple-801.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK INDIANA SPRINT WEEK POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-438, 2-Brady Bacon-423, 3-Chris Windom-402, 4-Justin Grant-388, 5-Kevin Thomas Jr.-388, 6-Tyler Courtney-369, 7-Kyle Cummins-353, 8-Carson Short-339, 9-Chase Stockon-302, 10-Jason McDougal-299.

USAC INDIANA SPRINT WEEK PROSOURCE PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Shane Cottle-30, 2-Tyler Courtney-22, 3-Justin Grant-18, 4-Max Adams-17, 5-Dave Darland-16, 6-Chris Windom-14, 7-Brady Bacon-14, 8-Kyle Cummins-12, 9-Jarett Andretti-12, 10-C.J. Leary-11.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: July 26, 2019 – Bloomington Speedway – Bloomington, Indiana – 32nd NOS Energy Drink Indiana Sprint Week / Sheldon Kinser Memorial

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/B & W AUTO MART HARD CHARGER: Shane Cottle (22nd to 9th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Jason McDougal

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Isaac Chapple

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Thomas Meseraull

PROSOURCE HARD WORK AWARD: Shane Cottle

Kevin Thomas Jr. (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Max Adams (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

A.J. Hopkins (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

C.J. Leary (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Tyler Courtney (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

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KEVIN THOMAS JR.'S LAST LAP HEROCS GET IT DONE AT BLOOMINGTON

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Bloomington, Indiana (July 26, 2019)……Kevin Thomas Jr. led three different times for a total of 13 laps in Friday's Sheldon Kinser Memorial, round seven of NOS Energy Drink Indiana Sprint Week from Bloomington Speedway, but it was one final lap that decided his fate.

After swapping the lead multiple times down the stretch, on the final lap, the Cullman, Ala. native rocketed around the outside of Jason McDougal in turns one and two, locked up the bottom in three and four and raced to his third Bloomington ISW victory following triumphs in 2012 and 2017.

In 19 previous USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car starts this season, Thomas had finished as the runner-up on four occasions. On this night, he flat out refused to run second, put it all on the line and came away with his first victory since the 2018 season finale in Perris, Calif.

"I didn't think that was ever going to happen," Thomas admitted. "It's been a trying year. I think we've finally overcome our things that have gone wrong and our bad luck. You just have to be in a position to win all the time. You're not going to win every race, but you've got to be there and then things will start going your way."

Thomas began the 30-lapper from the fifth spot, but the early-going was marred by a three-car accident involving a flipping Chris Windom with Carson Short and Jordan Kinser also involved. All were okay, but only Short restarted.

On the restart, Thomas went to the rail, riding the outside line to move into the top-three on lap six underneath Justin Grant. Up front, outside front row starter McDougal was working on race leader Jarett Andretti, pulling even on the outside before clearing Andretti off turn four to grab the race lead. Thomas followed suit and worked inside past Andretti for second on the bottom of turn one.

After working his way to third by lap 11, Brady Bacon encountered trouble as he slid to a stop on the back straightaway with a little bit of flame being thrown from the car. Though he'd restart from the tail, he worked his way back to a seventh-place finish by race end.

McDougal led Thomas into turn one but left the bottom open for ThomaSteve Thomas took hold of the advantage and cruised underneath McDougal exiting turn two with the lead. Following an incident in which early race leader Jarett Andretti slid to a stop on the front straightaway, the man on the move was Kyle Cummins.

The previous night's winner at Lincoln Park put his ride up top and methodically picked his way past Grant for third on lap 14, by McDougal for second on lap 15 and was literally on the edge for the lead on lap 16. Thomas moved up to protect up top at the exit of turn four. However, Cummins found a line even higher than Thomas and the two banged wheels at the stripe, with Cummins nipping the line mere inches ahead of ThomaSteve Thomas cut down into one and reclaimed the lead with a slider on Cummins, who ended up getting hung up on the turn four cushion, losing second to McDougal.

"From the start of the race, we were pretty decent on the bottom," Thomas explained. "I tightened myself up with the shocks. I think it was the wrong move for going down there. When I finally got to the lead, my pace was slowing down and I heard a guy up around the top, so I tried to move to the top, and I'm pretty sure it was Kyle Cummins. I didn't think anybody could get any higher, then he tried going around me down the front stretch and we made a little contact. I didn't know anybody could even go up there without running off the track."

With seven laps remaining, second-running McDougal and third-running Cummins began to hunt down Thomas once again. McDougal pulled even to the inside of Thomas between turns one and two on lap 23, but on the 24th circuit, McDougal kept the momentum rolling on the bottom off turn two, edging ahead of Thomas in turn three, then letting his car float to the top, pushing Thomas wide to secure the top spot before pulling ahead by five car lengths into turn one with just five laps to go and a bit of traffic now on the horizon.

With four to go, Thomas began to inch closer to McDougal on the top as McDougal closed in rapidly on the lapped car of Brody Roa between turns three and four with the two nearly making nose-to-tail contact. McDougal was in a sort of no-man's land sliding through the middle, allowing Thomas to close within a car length at the line.

Thomas kept digging, pulling even with McDougal into turn one, and took the outside line into turn three, which nearly proved disastrous, hopping the rear wheels airborne. A rapidly closing Cummins tried to avoid ramming Thomas and spun himself into a 360 over the berm in turn three before coming to a rest.

Now it was down to a duel between just McDougal and Thomas, and only three laps remaining. Thomas knew he needed to turn up the wick, making adjustments and making plans on how he was going to tackle the task.

"I made a little bit more of a shock adjustment on that last restart," Thomas remembered. "I knew I couldn't go to the bottom because you're going to run second. It was either going to stick or I was going to drive right off the end of the track."

McDougal initially had a fine restart and was leading by four car lengths going into turn one on the final lap, but Thomas devoured the high line and ate up the interval in no time flat to take the lead, cut down to the bottom in front of McDougal in turn three, nailed his marks to a T, and drove to victory by 0.388 of a second over McDougal, Grant, ISW point leader

C.J. Leary and a career-best fifth-place finish for Brandon Mattox.

Thomas and his Hayward/Thomas Motorsports team have upped their performances over the past week, finishing in the top-five in each of their past four starts just after finishing outside the top-five in three of their previous four prior to that.

For Thomas, it was his 26th career USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car victory, moving him ahead of past series champs Steve Butler and Jay Drake for 17th on the all-time list. Furthermore, his sixth Indiana Sprint Week win moved him ahead of Kevin Briscoe, Tony Elliott, Brady Short and Kevin Thomas (no relation) for sixth all-time.

"I think the driver just finally showed up," Thomas said. "There's a few little things like to make somebody comfortable and with everybody being new to the way I like to do things and how I drive, that's just the way it is. It's a learning curve. When everybody's this tough night-in, night-out, that's the way it goes. We haven't been terrible, we've been running top-five, but it just wasn't quite there, but now we're there."

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: July 26, 2019 – Bloomington Speedway – Bloomington, Indiana – 32nd NOS Energy Drink Indiana Sprint Week – Sheldon Kinser Memorial

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING GROUP ONE: 1. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-11.057; 2. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-11.289; 3. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-11.359; 4. Jarett Andretti, 18, Andretti-11.465; 5. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-11.489; 6. Max Adams, 5m, Adams-11.522; 7. Jadon Rogers, 14, Rogers-11.579; 8. Dave Darland, 17c, Cunningham-11.670; 9. Terry Richards, 18m, Richards-11.713; 10. Dustin Clark, 75, DCR-11.757; 11. Shane Cottle, 2E, Epperson-11.795; 12. Sterling Cling, 34, Cling-11.860; 13. Brody Roa, 91R, BR-11.902; 14. Lee Underwood, 24L, Underwood-11.993; 15. Anthony D'Alessio, 01, D'Alessio-12.019; 16. Stephen Schnapf, 61m, Edwards-12.041; 17. Dickie Gaines, 44, Soudrette-12.165; 18. Landon Simon, 04, Burton-12.247; 19. Josh Cunningham, 3JC, Cunningham-12.334; 20. Eric Perrott, 45, Perrott-12.743; 21. Bobby Griffitts, 9, Griffitts-12.975.

SECOND FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING GROUP: 1. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-11.207; 2. A.J. Hopkins, 4J, 4J-11.493; 3. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-11.495; 4. Kyle Cummins, 3R, Rock Steady-11.500; 5. Mario Clouser, 6, MCM-11.555; 6. Brandon Mattox, 28, Mattox-11.667; 7. Josh Hodges, 74x, Hodges-11.683; 8. Carson Short, 21, RCM-11.687; 9. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-11.701; 10. Tony DiMattia, 50, TDM-11.716; 11. Brady Short, 11p, Short/Pottorff-11.757; 12. Jordan Kinser, 70, Hurst-11.759; 13. Thomas Meseraull, 00, Whitney-11.843; 14. Isaac Chapple, 52,

LNR/Chapple-11.846; 15. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-11.946; 16. Brayden Fox, 53, Fox-11.947; 17. Trey Gropp, 54, Gropp-12.018; 18. Scotty Weir, 42, Cheney-12.422; 19. Brian VanMeveren, 24, VanMeveren-12.427; 20. Brad Greenup, 4G, Greenup-12.589.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Justin Grant, 2. Chase Stockon, 3. Brady Bacon, 4. Shane Cottle, 5. Brody Roa, 6. Jadon Rogers, 7. Dickie Gaines, 8. Terry Richards, 9. Anthony D'Alessio, 10. Bobby Griffitts. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. C.J. Leary, 2. Max Adams, 3. Dave Darland, 4. Jarett Andretti, 5. Landon Simon, 6. Stephen Schnapf, 7. Sterling Cling, 8. Eric Perrott, 9. Lee Underwood, 10. Dustin Clark. NT

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Brady Short, 2. Chris Windom, 3. Kevin Thomas Jr., 4. Jason McDougal, 5. Josh Hodges, 6. Tyler Courtney, 7. Mario Clouser, 8. Thomas Meseraull, 9. Trey Gropp, 10. Brian VanMeveren. 2:06.68

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Carson Short, 2. Jordan Kinser, 3. Isaac Chapple, 4. Kyle Cummins, 5. Brandon Mattox, 6. A.J. Hopkins, 7. Scotty Weir, 8. Tony DiMattia, 9. Brad Greenup, 10. Brayden Fox. 2:10.67

C-MAIN: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the semi) 1. Trey Gropp, 2. Landon Simon, 3. Brayden Fox, 4. Dickie Gaines, 5. Scotty Weir, 6. Brad Greenup, 7. Brian VanMeveren, 8. Eric Perrott, 9. Bobby Griffitts. 2:11.93

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. A.J. Hopkins, 2. Brandon Mattox, 3. Tyler Courtney, 4. Thomas Meseraull, 5. Josh Hodges, 6. Brody Roa, 7. Lee Underwood, 8. Dickie Gaines, 9. Jadon Rogers, 10. Terry Richards, 11. Trey Gropp, 12. Landon Simon, 13. Sterling Cling, 14. Mario Clouser, 15. Brayden Fox, 16. Anthony D'Alessio, 17. Tony DiMattia, 18. Stephen Schnapf. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Kevin Thomas Jr. (5), 2. Jason McDougal (2), 3. Justin Grant (3), 4. C.J. Leary (4), 5. Brandon Mattox (11), 6. Chase Stockon (9), 7. Brady Bacon (6), 8. Dave Darland (13), 9. Tyler Courtney (22), 10. Thomas Meseraull (20), 11. A.J. Hopkins (7), 12. Isaac Chapple (21), 13. Josh Hodges (12), 14. Carson Short (14), 15. Brady Short (17), 16. Kyle Cummins (8), 17. Shane Cottle (16), 18. Max Adams (10), 19. Brody Roa (19), 20. Jarett Andretti (1), 21. Chris Windom (15), 22. Jordan Kinser (18). NT

**Dustin Clark flipped through the turn one fence during the second heat. Sterling Cling flipped at the start of the semi. Chris Windom flipped on lap 2 of the feature.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-6 Jarett Andretti, Laps 7-11 Jason McDougal, Laps 12-15 Kevin Thomas Jr., Lap 16 Kyle Cummins, Laps 17-24 Kevin Thomas Jr., Laps 25-29 Jason McDougal, Lap 30 Kevin Thomas Jr.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-1466, 2-Brady Bacon-1332, 3-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1322, 4-Tyler Courtney-1315, 5-Chris Windom-1306, 6-Chase Stockon-1244, 7-Justin Grant-1240, 8-Carson Short-1118, 9-Jason McDougal-1088, 10-Isaac Chapple-846.

USAC NOS ENERGY DRINK INDIANA SPRINT WEEK POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-511, 2-Brady Bacon-487, 3-Kevin Thomas Jr.-469, 4-Justin Grant-463, 5-Chris Windom-432, 6-Tyler Courtney-417, 7-Kyle Cummins-389, 8-Carson Short-382, 9-Jason McDougal-371, 10-Chase Stockon-365.

USAC INDIANA SPRINT WEEK PROSOURCE PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-35, 2-Shane Cottle-30, 3-Dave Darland-21, 4-Justin Grant-18, 5-Max Adams-17, 6-Chris Windom-14, 7-Brady Bacon-14, 8-Brandon Mattox-13, 9-Isaac Chapple-13, 10-Kevin Thomas Jr.-12.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: July 27, 2019 – Tri-State Speedway – Haubstadt, Indiana – 32nd NOS Energy Drink Indiana Sprint Week

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/B & W AUTO MART HARD CHARGER: Tyler Courtney (22nd to 9th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Josh Hodges

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Lee Underwood

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Brandon Mattox

PROSOURCE HARD WORK AWARD: Tyler Courtney

Brady Bacon (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Justin Grant (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

C.J. Leary (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Brady Short (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Carson Short (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

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CUMMINS COLLECTS TRI-STATE FINALE, LEARY THE ISW CHAMP

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Haubstadt, Indiana (July 27, 2019)……In a year's time, Kyle Cummins and crew have come along way. In last year's NOS Energy Sprint Week, the Princeton, Ind. driver qualified for only four of the seven features and finished in the top-ten just once.

In 2019, the storyline was redemption with Cummins qualifying for all eight features, finishing in the top-ten in seven and in contention night-after-night, finishing with a flourish after a victory Thursday at Lincoln Park, a near win Friday at Bloomington and closing out the week-plus series with a triumph in Saturday's ISW finale at Tri-State Speedway in Haubstadt, Ind.

At Tri-State, Cummins trailed for 26 laps, working his way from the fifth starting spot to track down race-long leader Stephen Schnapf in traffic with four laps remaining to snare the win, the fourth of his ISW career and fifth ever in USAC's AMSOIL National Sprint Car division, one which was worth savoring every second.

"Two in one week feels pretty good," Cummins exclaimed. "I don't know if it's really sunk in yet. I took my helmet off and drove around there one time and watched everyone yell and scream. I just tried to take it in a little bit more than just one and done. To keep winning USAC races, that's what means something to me. When you win one or two, okay. If you keep winning them, it proves you can run with them."

Cummins came into the night's event literally unbeatable at the quarter-mile dirt paperclip with three victories in three tries thus far in 2019. He started fifth, but the initial green had was put on hold following multiple opening lap stack ups,

first between turns three and four involving Kevin Thomas Jr., Donny Brackett, Carson Short and Kent Schmidt. On the next try, a melee ensued in the first turn involving Short, Schmidt, Tony DiMattia and Critter Malone.

The third try was the charm as Schnapf, making just his ninth career USAC start, shot to the lead from the outside of the front row, occupying the middle line as he passed pole sitter and west coast star Brody Roa into turn one. Meanwhile, Chase Stockon, a 2016 Tri-State USAC winner, slid under Roa for second in turn four on the opening lap.

By the tenth lap, Schnapf was already working in traffic while, in the distance 2.2 seconds behind him, Cummins utilized the low line to sprint past Stockon for second. Stephen Schnapf, a one-time MSCS winner at Tri-State in 2018, was seeking his first USAC win, but now had one of the all-time masters of the southwestern Indiana track sizing him up.

As the race crossed the halfway point, the interval between Schnapf and Cummins dropped from 1.4 sec. on lap 18 to 1.0 on lap 19 and to less than nine tenths with ten laps remaining. Once clearing the lapped car of Malone with seven to go, Cummins' runway was cleared for takeoff.

When Schnapf raced underneath the lapped car of Isaac Chapple in turns three and four with seven laps to go, Cummins was a mere single car length behind. Schnapf maintained the advantage for another full lap until, with just five laps remaining, Cummins gained ground off the bottom of turn two, sticking with Schnapf around turns three and four and missing out on the lead at the stripe by less than a wheel.

The two ran side-by-side, just feet apart for three-quarters of the following lap with four to go, with Cummins using his veteran savviness to slide off the bottom in front of Schnapf off the fourth corner to possess the lead at the line by a single car length.

Massive traffic lie ahead, but Cummins navigated through the gridlock with relative ease, sticking the bottom to roll past both Tyler Courtney and C.J. Leary with two laps remaining, lapping up to tenth, as he pulled away from Schnapf, ultimately winning by a 1.604 margin over Schnapf, Justin Grant, Stockon and KSE Racing Products/B & W Auto Mart Hard Charger Brady Bacon, rounding out the top-five after starting 15th.

Cummins and Rock Steady Racing clicked at the right time during Indiana Sprint Week. The team was able to adjust and adapt when any situation arose, such as when they discovered they had a broken shock from the first four races of ISW. They were already tough at that point but took it to another level in the second half of the week, putting themselves into contention to win in each of the last three nights, culminating with a victory that may have just outdone his most recent.

"Winning Putnamville was big," Cummins explained. "I thought it was the biggest until this one tonight, being able to run (Schnapf) down and pass him without a yellow. He's a buddy of mine and I won one already, so I was thinking I'm actually going to be happy for him if he wins. The last ten laps, I just had to take it up a notch and make sure I hit every mark."

Saturday at Tri-State, the team ran a different set up than they had all year, and the same situation was at hand at Putnamville during Thursday's victory. The team is in sync and their Midas touch has car and driver's cohesiveness working like clockwork.

"When you have a bad car, you cannot be aggressive," Cummins pointed out. "When you get a good car and you can actually run with them, it sticks, and you can make moves. It just picks your confidence up. Right now, the confidence is pretty high.

Although he was a lap down at the finish, Leary's tenth place run was solid enough to earn him another crown jewel on his 2019 USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car campaign just a little more than a month after capturing the Eastern Storm title and in the midst of a USAC title run in which he currently holds a commanding lead.

Always the competitor, Greenfield, Indiana's Leary was kind of perplexed by their results at Tri-State. A consistent ISW performance that saw a pair of 2nd place finishes, three 3rd's, a 4th and a 6th in eight starts sent him into the finale with a 24-point buffer ahead of Bacon, enough to check out of the Hoosier state tour with all the loot and the hardware.

"I think the first seven nights allowed us to have one bad night here," Leary pointed out. "It really wasn't all too terrible; it just wasn't what we'd hoped for. We wanted to cap off the week with a win, but we have the rocking chair, we have the check and we have the trophy. Everybody's happy!"

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: July 27, 2019 – Tri-State Speedway – Haubstadt, Indiana – 32nd NOS Energy Drink Indiana Sprint Week

FIRST FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING GROUP: 1. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-13.539; 2. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-13.863; 3. Kendall Ruble, 17, Ruble-13.875; 4. Stephen Schnapf, 61m, Edwards-13.939; 5. Brody Roa, 91R, BR-13.992; 6. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-14.000; 7. Carson Short, 21, RCM-14.180; 8. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-14.218; 9. Brandon Mattox, 28, Mattox-14.331; 10. Terry Richards, 18m, Richards-14.356; 11. Jadon Rogers, 14, Rogers-14.361; 12. Critter Malone, 7, Seven-14.365; 13. Aric Gentry, 10, Gentry-14.383; 14. Collin Ambrose, 36, Ambrose-14.385; 15. Dustin Clark, 75, DCR-14.407; 16. Donny Brackett, 4B, Brackett-14.561; 17. Trey Gropp, 54, Gropp-15.104; 18. Kyle Hathaway, 7H, Hathaway-15.253; 19. Steve Thomas, 20T, Thomas-15.530; 20. Eric Perrott, 45, Perrott-15.824.

SECOND FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING GROUP: 1. Kyle Cummins, 3R, Rock Steady-13.561; 2. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-13.573; 3. Max Adams, 5m, Adams-13.847; 4. Josh Hodges, 74x, Hodges-13.977; 5. Jarett Andretti, 18, Andretti-13.983; 6. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-13.983; 7. Tony DiMattia, 50, TDM-14.018; 8. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-14.077; 9. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-14.139; 10. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-14.139; 11. Sterling Cling, 34, Cling-14.165; 12. Chayse Hayhurst, 20, Hayhurst-14.168; 13. Kent Schmidt, 5K, KO-14.302; 14. Brian VanMeveren, 24, VanMeveren-14.371; 15. Thomas Meseraull, 00, Whitney-14.410; 16. Mario Clouser, 6, MCM-14.483; 17. Dave Darland, 17c, Cunningham-14.491; 18. Scotty Weir, 42, Cheney-14.820; 19. Anthony D'Alessio, 01, D'Alessio-14.939; 20. Ryan Bond, 7R, Bond-15.367.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Justin Grant, 2. Brody Roa, 3. Brandon Mattox, 4. Dustin Clark, 5. Aric Gentry, 6. Jadon Rogers, 7. Carson Short, 8. Trey Gropp, 9. Steve Thomas, 10. Kendall Ruble. 2:21.92

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Stephen Schnapf, 2. Chase Stockon, 3. Chris Windom, 4. Critter Malone, 5. Terry Richards, 6. Isaac Chapple, 7. Donny Brackett, 8. Kyle Hathaway, 9. Eric Perrott, 10. Collin Ambrose. 2:20.56

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Kyle Cummins, 3. Tony DiMattia, 4. Jarett Andretti, 5. Kent Schmidt, 6. Anthony D'Alessio, 7. Dave Darland, 8. Sterling Cling, 9. Thomas Meseraull, 10. Max Adams. NT

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Chayse Hayhurst, 2. Brady Bacon, 3. C.J. Leary, 4. Jason McDougal, 5. Kevin Thomas Jr., 6. Josh Hodges, 7. Mario Clouser, 8. Brian VanMeveren, 9. Scotty Weir, 10. Ryan Bond. NT

C-MAIN: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the semi) 1. Donny Brackett, 2. Mario Clouser, 3. Trey Gropp, 4. Dave Darland, 5. Anthony D'Alessio, 6. Kyle Hathaway, 7. Scotty Weir, 8. Steve Thomas, 9. Eric Perrott, 10. Ryan Bond. NT

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Josh Hodges, 2. Kendall Ruble, 3. Isaac Chapple, 4. Kent Schmidt, 5. Max Adams, 6. Donny Brackett, 7. Kevin Thomas Jr., 8. Terry Richards, 9. Thomas Meseraull, 10. Jadon Rogers, 11. Collin

Ambrose, 12. Brian VanMeveren, 13. Mario Clouser, 14. Trey Gropp, 15. Sterling Cling, 16. Dave Darland, 17. Aric Gentry, 18. Carson Short. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Kyle Cummins (5), 2. Stephen Schnapf (2), 3. Justin Grant (6), 4. Chase Stockon (4), 5. Brady Bacon (15), 6. Jarett Andretti (10), 7. Brody Roa (1), 8. Kendall Ruble (7), 9. Jason McDougal (12), 10. C.J. Leary (3), 11. Tyler Courtney (17), 12. Max Adams (8), 13. Critter Malone (18), 14. Isaac Chapple (11), 15. Carson Short (24-P), 16. Kevin Thomas Jr. (23-P), 17. Chayse Hayhurst (19), 18. Donny Brackett (22), 19. Brandon Mattox (16), 20. Josh Hodges (9), 21. Chris Windom (14), 22. Kent Schmidt (20), 23. Tony DiMattia (13), 24. Dustin Clark (21). NT

(P) represents a provisional starter

**Ryan Bond flipped during heat four.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-26 Stephen Schnapf, Laps 27-30 Kyle Cummins.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-1519, 2-Brady Bacon-1397, 3-Tyler Courtney-1364, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1353, 5-Chris Windom-1335, 6-Justin Grant-1318, 7-Chase Stockon-1314, 8-Carson Short-1151, 9-Jason McDougal-1139, 10-Isaac Chapple-883.

FINAL NOS ENERGY DRINK INDIANA SPRINT WEEK POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-564, 2-Brady Bacon-552, 3-Justin Grant-541, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-479, 5-Kyle Cummins-471, 6-Tyler Courtney-466, 7-Chris Windom-461, 8-Chase Stockon-435, 9-Jason McDougal-422, 10-Carson Short-392.

FINAL PROSOURCE PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-41, 2-Shane Cottle-30, 3-Brady Bacon-24, 4-Justin Grant-21, 5-Dave Darland-21, 6-Max Adams-17, 7-Kyle Cummins-16, 8-Jarett Andretti-16, 9-Chris Windom-14, 10-Jason McDougal-13.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: August 21, 2019 – Kokomo Speedway – Kokomo, Indiana – #GYATK Night (Non-Points Special Event)

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/B & W AUTO MART HARD CHARGER: Brady Bacon (15th to 5th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Critter Malone

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Kevin Thomas Jr.

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Tony DiMattia

PROSOURCE HARD WORK AWARD: Donny Brackett

Justin Grant (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Justin Grant (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Stephen Schnapf (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Tyler Courtney (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Chayse Hayhurst (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

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T-MEZ TURNS IT UP AT SMACKDOWN VIII OPENER

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Kokomo, Indiana (August 22, 2019)……Time after time, Thomas Meseraull has proven every time he straps into a racecar, he's a threat to win.

One night after leading 12 laps in Simon Racing's No. 23s at #GYATK Night, the San Jose, Calif. native stepped into Tom Eades' No. 47 Thursday night for the Sprint Car Smackdown VIII opener and never skipped a beat, racing to his first USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car victory of the year, and first for Eades, a Kokomo, Ind. native in his first year of owning a sprint car.

The win was a sense of redemption for Meseraull who had a particularly rough showing in the car during the series' most recent visit to Kokomo during Indiana Sprint Week in July where he started 13th and finished 21st. Meseraull knew he had to put together a complete night to provide himself his best shot to collect a USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car win for the fifth-straight year, something accomplished only by five other drivers: Brady Bacon, Justin Grant, Chase Stockon, Kevin Thomas Jr. and Chris Windom over the same time span since 2015.

"After (Indiana) Sprint Week, we got our ass handed to us, flat out," Meseraull admitted. "We just got beat. It was a little unexpected. I had to qualify a little better tonight, and I did, which put us up front. Track position in these deals is everything. It's everything."

Meseraull began his journey from the outside of the front row, but it was Bacon who took control early on, sliding from his pole starting position to the top in turn one to lead the opening seven circuits with Meseraull in tow, trailing the two-time series champ a couple car lengths behind.

The first stoppage of the night came on lap seven when the night's ProSource Hard Work Award winner and 19th running Josh Hodges flipped upside down in turn four. He'd walk away uninjured but was finished for the evening.

Once racing resumed, Meseraull stuck right with Bacon, and on the ninth lap, made his bid for the lead, dipping to the bottom of turn one and sliding up in front of Bacon for the top spot. With tension high and the competition at a peak level, Meseraull knew there was no time to putt around in second.

"It was so slick to the curb, and the curb was on the wall. It was as tall as me, I swear," Meseraull recalled. "It was so big out there. I knew I couldn't waste any time. After the red flag, we ended up parking there right off of three and realized that it wasn't slick to the curb. It had a big hole before the curb, like the track had gotten ate up and it had this big dip and my car was evil up there. I'd hit it and it'd get up on two wheels. I just started going in above it in three and cheating across it and driving to the slick. That hole got Brady one lap, and I knew I had to just bomb it in there and hope to God that it would stick, and it stuck."

Meanwhile, as the battle for the lead switched hands, fourth-running C.J. Leary biked entering on the bottom of turn one. The series point leader miraculously saved his mount without flipping or making contact, but the landing is what got him, flattening his left rear tire before slowing to bring out the yellow. Leary restarted from the tail after getting fresh rubber in the work area, and, ultimately, finished 14th, ending his streak of 21 consecutive top-tens to begin the season.

On the tenth lap restart, Bacon went to work on the bottom underneath Meseraull for the lead in turn one, however Meseraull retained the momentum on the high side as did Courtney back in third. While Bacon trekked the low line, Courtney stuck to the top and raced around the outside to nip Bacon at the line for second and nail down the position exiting turn two.

Courtney put the chase on Meseraull, diamonding off the third turn as well as following him on the top shelf to find a way to close the gap. On the 12th lap, though, Courtney got in above the cushion a bit off turn four, allowing Meseraull to jump away and build his lead to nearly a full straightaway (2.729 seconds) just after the midway point.

On the 17th lap, 7th running Logan Seavey slowed to a stop on the bottom of turn one, erasing Meseraull's substantial advantage just prior to hitting lapped traffic.

It hardly seemed to make a difference to Meseraull once the green flag dropped on the restart with 13 to go where he once again utilized the high line to break away from Courtney, holding a half-straightaway advantage down the stretch with only lapped traffic to contend with in the final five-lap push.

Meseraull skimmed the outside concrete in turn two with two to go, with no tiptoeing around the outside of the lappers occurring whatsoever, as he closed out a sterling performance in his Tom Eades Racing/Physical Medicine Consultants – 1-Way Technologies/DRC/Stensland Chevy with a 1.339 second victory over Courtney, Justin Grant, Brady Bacon and Chase Stockon.

The victory was the 10th of Meseraull's USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car career, moving him past Mario Andretti, Hunter Schuerenberg and Robbie Stanley on the list and into a tie with Tony Stewart for 49th all-time.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: August 22, 2019 – Kokomo Speedway – Kokomo, Indiana – Sprint Car Smackdown VIII

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-12.635; 2. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-12.706; 3. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-12.815; 4. Kyle Cummins, 3R, Rock Steady-12.820; 5. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-12.825; 6. Thomas Meseraull, 47, Eades-12.834; 7. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-12.837; 8. Logan Seavey, 19s, Reinbold/Underwood-12.882; 9. Scotty Weir, 4p, Pedersen-12.918; 10. Hunter Schuerenberg, 19BS, Reinbold/Underwood-12.928; 11. Dave Darland, 36D, Darland-13.038; 12. Matt Westfall, 33m, Marshall-13.073; 13. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-13.175; 14. Dustin Smith, 77, Smith-13.187; 15. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-13.193; 16. Shane Cottle, 2E, Epperson-13.204; 17. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-13.284; 18. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-13.304; 19. Carson Short, 21, RCM-13.329; 20. Carmen Perigo, 21p, Perigo-13.416; 21. Corey Smith, 66s, CS-13.447; 22. Brandon Mattox, 28, Mattox-13.468; 23. Max Adams, 5m, Adams-13.535; 24. Timmy Buckwalter, 7, LNB-13.549; 25. Tye Mihocko, 5, Mihocko-13.780; 26. Sterling Cling, 34, Cling-13.950; 27. Cole Ketcham, 41, Ketcham-13.955; 28. Brian VanMeveren, 24, VanMeveren-13.959; 29. Matt Goodnight, 39, Goodnight-13.996; 30. Josh Hodges, 74x, Hodges-14.061; 31. Jarett Andretti, 18, Andretti-14.080; 32. Ty Tilton, 42, Tilton-14.251; 33. Dustin Clark, 75, DCR-14.258; 34. Travis Hery, 21H, Hery-14.448; 35. Brad Greenup, 4G, Greenup-14.455; 36. Anthony D'Alessio, 01, D'Alessio-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. C.J. Leary, 3. Kevin Thomas Jr., 4. Scotty Weir, 5. Tye Mihocko, 6. Chris Windom, 7. Dustin Clark, 8. Matt Goodnight, 9. Corey Smith. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Isaac Chapple, 2. Justin Grant, 3. Thomas Meseraull, 4. Hunter Schuerenberg, 5. Brandon Mattox, 6. Josh Hodges, 7. Dustin Smith, 8. Sterling Cling, 9. Travis Hery. 2:12.79

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Carson Short, 2. Dave Darland, 3. Brady Bacon, 4. Jason McDougal, 5. Chase Stockon, 6. Max Adams, 7. Jarett Andretti, 8. Cole Ketcham, 9. Brad Greenup. NT

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Kyle Cummins, 2. Logan Seavey, 3. Carmen Perigo, 4. Shane Cottle, 5. Matt Westfall, 6. Ty Tilton, 7. Brian VanMeveren, 8. Timmy Buckwalter. NT

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Chase Stockon, 2. Chris Windom, 3. Dustin Smith, 4. Max Adams, 5. Josh Hodges, 6. Cole Ketcham, 7. Brandon Mattox, 8. Corey Smith, 9. Jarett Andretti, 10. Tye Mihocko, 11. Timmy Buckwalter, 12. Sterling Cling, 13. Ty Tilton, 14. Brian VanMeveren, 15. Matt Westfall, 16. Matt Goodnight, 17. Dustin Clark, 18. Travis Hery, 19. Anthony D'Alessio. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Thomas Meseraull (2), 2. Tyler Courtney (6), 3. Justin Grant (5), 4. Brady Bacon (1), 5. Chase Stockon (7), 6. Hunter Schuerenberg (10), 7. Chris Windom (16), 8. Scotty Weir (9), 9. Kyle Cummins (4), 10. Carson Short (18), 11. Jason McDougal (14), 12. Kevin Thomas Jr. (12), 13. Dave Darland (11), 14. C.J. Leary (3), 15. Logan Seavey (8), 16. Dustin Smith (13), 17. Isaac Chapple (17), 18. Max Adams (20), 19. Shane Cottle (15), 20. Carmen Perigo (19), 21. Dustin Clark (24-P), 22. Brian VanMeveren (23-P), 23. Josh Hodges (22), 24. Cole Ketcham (21). NT

(P) represents a provisional starter

**Corey Smith flipped during the first heat. Brad Greenup flipped during the third heat. Josh Hodges flipped on lap 7 of the feature.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-8 Brady Bacon, Laps 9-30 Thomas Meseraull.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-1563, 2-Brady Bacon-1464, 3-Tyler Courtney-1445, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1398, 5-Justin Grant-1394, 6-Chris Windom-1390, 7-Chase Stockon-1380, 8-Carson Short-1202, 9-Jason McDougal-1185, 10-Isaac Chapple-920.

SPRINT CAR SMACKDOWN VIII PROSOURCE PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Chris Windom-9, 2-Carson Short-8, 3-Tyler Courtney-4, 4-Hunter Schuerenberg-4, 5-Jason McDougal-3, 6-Justin Grant-2, 7-Chase Stockon-2, 8-Max Adams-2, 9-Thomas Meseraull-1, 10-Scotty Weir-1.

SPRINT CAR SMACKDOWN VIII POINTS: 1-Tyler Courtney-168, 2-Justin Grant-164, 3-Thomas Meseraull-163, 4-Brady Bacon-156, 5-Chase Stockon-156, 6-Kyle Cummins-151, 7-Hunter Schuerenberg-148, 8-Scotty Weir-145, 9-C.J Leary-139, 10-Chris Windom-137.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACES: August 23-24, 2019 – Kokomo Speedway – Kokomo, Indiana – Sprint Car Smackdown VIII

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

CRUME EVANS INSURANCE/KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Chris Windom (16th to 7th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Dave Darland

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS/HOOSIER TIRE FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Brandon Mattox

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Kevin Thomas Jr.

PROSOURCE HARD WORK AWARD: Josh Hodges

Tyler Courtney (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Tyler Courtney (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Isaac Chapple (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Carson Short (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Kyle Cummins (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

Thomas Meseraull (Elliott's Custom Trailers and Carts/Tony Elliott Foundation Winning Bonus)

Cole Ketcham (American Racing Ministries Final Semi Transfer to the feature).

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SEAVEY SINGS A WINNING TUNE AT SMACKDOWN NIGHT TWO

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Kokomo, Indiana (August 23, 2019)……One night after claiming a victory in Sprint Car Smackdown's annual karaoke contest, Logan Seavey was singing a different tune Friday night on the track at Kokomo Speedway, ending it on a high note in victory lane following his first career USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car triumph.

The reigning USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget champion used his voice to win karaoke hardware with Garth Brooks' "That Summer" after a broken wheel cover ended a solid run on track on Thursday. For the Sutter, Calif. native, however, tomorrow would come, and he'd use his right foot to capture an even bigger trophy, a bigger payday and the prestige of becoming the series' first "first-time" winner of the 2019 season.

Along the way, Seavey cut a new record, ripping 30 laps around Kokomo Speedway 33 seconds quicker than the previous USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car track record for that distance at the quarter-mile, a record formerly held by Bryan Clauson set during Smackdown in 2013, at six minutes and 48.92 seconds.

Seavey is emerging as a jack of all trades following three wins thus far on the USAC NOS Energy Drink National Midget tour, then recently winning the pole and finishing fourth in last Sunday's ARCA Stock CAR CHAMPIONSHIP RACE at the Illinois State Fairgrounds and now jumping into a sprint car and taking it right to the front with limited seat time. Despite all the accolades, Seavey remains humble and appreciative of the opportunity, and the fun that comes along with it.

"Just to be racing Sprint Cars with USAC and to get to run good racecars with a family like this, is pretty crazy for me," Seavey admitted. "We just race and have fun. We normally end up pretty good and, the more fun we're having, the better we run. Finally, it all came together tonight. We've had that speed the last two nights, and it all finally came together."

Perhaps, most impressively, was that Seavey was making just his second start of the USAC AMSOIL National Sprint car points season, the first of which came just 24 hours earlier. Seavey picked up a win behind the wheel of a Reinbold/Underwood Motorsports machine in USAC Southwest Sprint Car competition in April at Arizona Speedway. And, as it turns out, Friday of Smackdown has a special significance to Seavey, as this is the same night in which he first met team co-owner Andy Reinbold a year ago, kicking off a winning connection that certainly paid its dividends on this night.

"Friday night of Smackdown last year was the first time I met Andy," Seavey remembered. "We got together and ran a few races last year together out west. We came into this year knowing he had a full-time USAC car and that was going to take up a lot of his time. He told me early in the year that, in the big races, he wanted to bring out another car from Arizona to run Smackdown, Western World and the Oval Nationals."

Seavey made it all look relatively easy, comparatively, Friday night, although it's certainly never the case. With teammate and USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car point leader C.J. Leary trying to hunt him down for the entire duration of the event, Seavey had to be flawless – flawless on the start, flawless on the cushion and flawless through traffic to ace the 30-lap test

and become the second-straight first-time winner on the second night of Smackdown following Tyler Thomas' victory in 2018.

"For me, I feel like running a sprint car is a little bit harder than running a midget," Seavey explained. "These guys are so good that you have to adapt quickly. Luckily, I've been here a few times and I've been here in a sprint car a couple times. Even racing midgets, it seems to be one of the most technical racetracks we go to and it seems like the guys with a lot of experience do really well here. It's pretty crazy to think that I'd win my first USAC National Sprint CAR CHAMPIONSHIP RACE here. I definitely wasn't expecting that and didn't know if I would even ever win one."

Seavey began the main event from the pole and led a trio of nineteens on the opening lap aboard his No. 19s while leading the 19 of Kevin Thomas Jr. and the 19AZ of Leary. Leary made quick work from his fourth starting spot, rushing into second by lap three past Thomas and began the hunt to track down Seavey.

Leary tried high, sought the middle, looked low, and even cut a diamond groove off turns one and three. Leary chopped into Seavey's advantage and gained ground off the corners on each go-around, pulling side-by-side in turns two and four each lap for several laps early on before Seavey utilized the topside momentum to surge ahead and maintain his lead.

By the 10th lap, Leary's exit plan on the low line became stifled with a bevy of traffic occupying the bottom, hindering his path as he pursued Seavey. At the halfway mark, Seavey maintained a three car length lead as he seemingly ran his own race up top and, with no cautions in sight, kept traffic as part of the equation and allowed the top lane to be wide open for Seavey all by his lonesome where he was most comfortable running, up against the cushion.

Seavey had to be perfect and execute flawlessly as a hungry Leary sought his first series victory in 20 starts. Yet Seavey managed to up the interval in the final ten laps, from a half-second, to three quarters of a second, to more than a second on the final lap, closing out a superb performance with a 1.114 second win over Leary, Tyler Courtney, Kevin Thomas Jr. and Justin Grant.

Reinbold/Underwood Motorsports' one-two finish was the first time teammates have occupied the top-two positions in a USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car feature on dirt since July of 2008 when Keith Kunz Motorsports' stable of Cole Whitt and Darren Hagen finished first and second, respectively, during the Indiana Sprint Week round at Gas City I-69 Speedway.

Justin Grant leads the Sprint Car Smackdown VIII points entering Saturday's finale. Grant (Ione, Calif.), the defending Smackdown main event feature winner, is one of eight drivers locked into Saturday night's feature as well as the King of the Hill, along with fellow drivers Tyler Courtney, Thomas Meseraull, C.J. Leary, Chase Stockon, Logan Seavey, Kevin Thomas Jr. and Kyle Cummins.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: August 23, 2019 – Kokomo Speedway – Kokomo, Indiana – Sprint Car Smackdown VIII

FIRST FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING GROUP: 1. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-12.549; 2. Dave Darland, 36D, Darland/Curb-Agajanian-12.572; 3. Carson Short, 21, RCM-12.645; 4. Logan Seavey, 19s, Reinbold/Underwood-12.695; 5. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-12.732; 6. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-12.783; 7. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-12.927; 8. Brandon Mattox, 28, Mattox-12.966; 9. Timmy Buckwalter, 7, LNB-13.008; 10. Shane Cottle, 2E, Epperson-13.042; 11. Anthony D'Alessio, 01, D'Alessio-13.054; 12. Sterling Cling, 34, Cling-13.063; 13. Clinton Boyles, 57, Hazen-13.088; 14. Jarett Andretti, 18, Andretti-13.117; 15. Max Adams, 5m, Adams-13.184; 16. Corey Smith, 66s, CS-13.277; 17. Carmen Perigo, 21p, Perigo-13.326; 18. Tye Mihocko, 5, Mihocko-13.494; 19. Brad Wyatt, 41w, RNS-13.888.

SECOND FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING GROUP: 1. Thomas Meseraull, 47, Eades-12.549 (Fastest Overall); 2. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-12.652; 3. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-12.656; 4. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19,

Hayward/Thomas-12.669; 5. Kyle Cummins, 3R, Rock Steady-12.797; 6. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-12.853; 7. Hunter Schuerenberg, 19BS, Reinbold/Underwood-12.919; 8. Matt Westfall, 33m, Marshall-12.956; 9. Scotty Weir, 4p, Pedersen-13.091; 10. Cole Ketcham, 41, Ketcham-13.199; 11. Josh Hodges, 74x, Hodges-13.209; 12. Dustin Smith, 77, Smith-13.269; 13. Travis Hery, 21H, Hery-13.362; 14. Dustin Clark, 75, DCR-13.502; 15. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-13.521; 16. Matt Goodnight, 39, Goodnight-13.579; 17. Ty Tilton, 42, Tilton-13.602; 18. Brian VanMeveren, 24, VanMeveren-13.825; 19. Lee Underwood, 24L, Underwood-13.829.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Jason McDougal, 2. Justin Grant, 3. Timmy Buckwalter, 4. Isaac Chapple, 5. Max Adams, 6. Carson Short, 7. Clinton Boyles, 8. Anthony D'Alessio, 9. Carmen Perigo, 10. Brad Wyatt. 2:12.73

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Shane Cottle, 2. Chris Windom, 3. Dave Darland, 4. Logan Seavey, 5. Jarett Andretti, 6. Brandon Mattox, 7. Sterling Cling, 8. Corey Smith, 9. Tye Mihocko. 2:12.97

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Josh Hodges, 2. Thomas Meseraull, 3. Scotty Weir, 4. Brady Bacon, 5. Tyler Courtney, 6. Kyle Cummins, 7. Hunter Schuerenberg, 8. Travis Hery, 9. Ty Tilton, 10. Lee Underwood. 2:13.60

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Chase Stockon, 2. Kevin Thomas Jr., 3. C.J. Leary, 4. Dustin Smith, 5. Cole Ketcham, 6. Dustin Clark, 7. Matt Westfall, 8. Matt Goodnight, 9. Brian VanMeveren.

C-MAIN: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the semi) 1. Corey Smith, 2. Carmen Perigo, 3. Tye Mihocko, 4. Matt Goodnight, 5. Brian VanMeveren, 6. Lee Underwood, 7. Brad Wyatt. 2:20.57

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Kyle Cummins, 3. Carson Short, 4. Hunter Schuerenberg, 5. Cole Ketcham, 6. Matt Westfall, 7. Jarett Andretti, 8. Brandon Mattox, 9. Clinton Boyles, 10. Max Adams, 11. Anthony D'Alessio, 12. Dustin Clark, 13. Tye Mihocko, 14. Matt Goodnight, 15. Carmen Perigo, 16. Corey Smith, 17. Travis Hery, 18. Sterling Cling. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Logan Seavey (1), 2. C.J. Leary (4), 3. Kevin Thomas Jr. (2), 4. Tyler Courtney (7), 5. Justin Grant (5), 6. Jason McDougal (10), 7. Thomas Meseraull (6), 8. Chris Windom (12), 9. Kyle Cummins (9), 10. Brady Bacon (22), 11. Chase Stockon (11), 12. Carson Short (8), 13. Scotty Weir (16), 14. Dave Darland (3), 15. Isaac Chapple (14), 16. Shane Cottle (19), 17. Cole Ketcham (18), 18. Matt Westfall (15), 19. Timmy Buckwalter (17), 20. Josh Hodges (20), 21. Hunter Schuerenberg (13), 22. Brandon Mattox (23-P), 23. Dustin Smith (21). 6:48.92 (New Track Record)

(P) represents a provisional starter

**Tyler Courtney flipped during qualifying. Sterling Cling flipped during the semi.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-30 Logan Seavey.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-1638, 2-Brady Bacon-1512, 3-Tyler Courtney-1511, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1469, 5-Justin Grant-1464, 6-Chris Windom-1446, 7-Chase Stockon-1429, 8-Jason McDougal-1248, 9-Carson Short-1246, 10-Isaac Chapple-958.

SPRINT CAR SMACKDOWN VIII PROSOURCE PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Chris Windom-13, 2-Brady Bacon-12, 3-Carson Short-8, 4-Tyler Courtney-7, 5-Jason McDougal-7, 6-Hunter Schuerenberg-4, 7-Scotty Weir-4, 8-Shane Cottle-3, 9-C.J. Leary-2, 10- Justin Grant-2.

SPRINT CAR SMACKDOWN VIII POINTS: 1-Justin Grant-324, 2-Tyler Courtney-323, 3-Thomas Meseraull-320, 4-C.J Leary-301, 5- Chase Stockon-295, 6-Logan Seavey-294, 7-Kevin Thomas Jr.-293, 8-Kyle Cummins-290, 9-Jason McDougal-285, 10-Chris Windom-283.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: August 24, 2019 – Kokomo Speedway – Kokomo, Indiana – Sprint Car Smackdown VIII

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

CRUME EVANS INSURANCE/KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Brady Bacon (22nd to 10th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Scotty Weir

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS/HOOSIER TIRE FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Jarett Andretti

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Hunter Schuerenberg

PROSOURCE HARD WORK AWARD: Brady Bacon

Thomas Meseraull (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Jason McDougal (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Shane Cottle (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Josh Hodges (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Chase Stockon (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

Logan Seavey (Elliott's Custom Trailers & Carts/Tony Elliott Foundation Winning Bonus)

Matt Westfall (American Racing Ministries Final Semi Transfer to the feature)

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COURTNEY THE KING OF SMACKDOWN VIII AT KOKOMO

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Kokomo, Indiana (August 24, 2019)……After positioning himself as King of the Hill earlier in the evening to earn a starting spot on the pole position for the feature, Tyler Courtney emerged as king of the mountaintop with his Smackdown VIII victory Saturday night, leading all 40 laps to join three-time winner Dave Darland in becoming the second multi-time victor of the event at Kokomo Speedway.

The win was Courtney's series-leading sixth USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car feature win of the season. Yet it came with its share of peaks and valleys throughout the weekend after Courtney and the Clauson Marshall Newman Racing crew endured a nasty qualifying flip in Friday's program that damaged the frame. The team weathered the storm with a fourth place finish that evening but were hopeful for so much more in Saturday's $11000-to-win finale.

“The crew was welding on it this morning,” Courtney recalled. “These guys haven’t stopped since they brought the car back in from qualifying (on Friday). We had a moment in hot laps today and were scrambling for a bit. We kind of thought that maybe we were doing something wrong. We got it going pretty good there in the King of the Hill and put ourselves in the cat bird seat to where we could run our own race in the feature.”

It was the Indianapolis, Indiana native’s 23rd career USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car triumph, tying him for 23rd all-time alongside A.J. Foyt and Roger McCluskey to go along with his fourth career win during “Smackdown” and second overall during the main event on the final night. While the previous triumph in 2017 was certainly sweet in so many ways for it being his first, to Courtney, Saturday’s night’s score had a little extra kick to its sweetness after how the team persevered following trying circumstances.

“I think this one’s even more special just because of what we’ve had to overcome,” Courtney explained. “But we don’t let it get us down. It seems like when we get down, we come out and win. To get a win like this is huge. These guys have been working their tails off all weekend, really all year, and we got it done.”

Courtney emerged as the leader on the opening lap, after sliding to the top as a four-wide scramble for the lead involving him, Justin Grant, C.J. Leary and Kyle Cummins ensued in turn two. Courtney maintained his advantage at the head of the field to lead lap one while Cummins flexed his muscle, splitting between Leary and Grant to slide from fourth to second and begin his race-long pursuit of Courtney.

Cummins, who won his first career USAC feature at Kokomo during the Indiana Sprint Week round of 2016, hounded Courtney relentlessly for the duration of the 40-lapper, the second race of such distance so far this year.

By lap 15, the leaders were working lapped traffic with a three-wide conundrum awaiting just ahead. With Cummins within earshot, Courtney broke through the pack as Isaac Chapple, Thomas Meseraull and Dustin Smith battled for position, briefly pausing Cummins’ pursuit before he too broke through between turns one and two a lap leader all while Courtney constructed a one second advantage up front after the two cut through the thick of the traffic.

Following a turn two spin by 10th running Carson Short on the 24th lap, the yellow took away Courtney’s advantage and bunched Cummins up right behind the reigning USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car champ for the restart. Courtney wasn’t frazzled by any means, for he knew the longer race and having the open road lying ahead of him played into his hands just as long as he didn’t let Cummins’ pressure press him into troubled waters.

“I feel like I’m pretty good at managing a race the longer they are,” Courtney said. “I can get out and do my own thing that I was wanting to do. Kyle showed me a nose a couple of times. I just tried to not let it push me too hard to where I made a mistake.”

That was put into fruition immediately as Cummins appeared to underneath, side-by-side with Cummins in turns one and two on the ensuing restart. Yet Courtney never made a false move and kept on trekking his course ahead as Cummins remained in his shadow two to three car lengths behind.

The song remained the same following a caution for debris between turns one and two with eight laps remaining. However, this time, Courtney got a much better restart, initially jumping out to a five car length lead ahead of Cummins. Although starts and restarts are part of the game, it doesn’t necessarily mean it’s something a driver looks forward to, especially when sitting in the precarious position of the lead and not knowing what’s going down behind you.

“I don’t like restarts,” Courtney admitted. “I’m not very good at them. I’d like things to go green to checkered if possible. But you’ve got to be ready for them and you’ve got to be good at all of it. That’s one of my weaker points that I’m working on. I didn’t know how many laps we had to go either, so I was just running as hard as I could because that’s what you’ve got to do in these races. Everyone’s so close and you can’t slouch any lap. You have to be full speed ahead for 40 laps in tonight’s case.”

Cummins remained on the chase, scraping the front straightway and turn two walls as he squeezed every ounce he could out of his Rock Steady Racing No. 3R. Yet Courtney just wasn't going to be deterred en route to victory on this night aboard his Clauson-Marshall-Newman Racing/NOS Energy Drink – Competition Suspension, Inc./Spike/Rider Chevy as he closed out a wire-to-wire victory by 0.758 of a second over Cummins, Leary, Grant and Friday night's winner Logan Seavey.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: August 24, 2019 – Kokomo Speedway – Kokomo, Indiana – Sprint Car Smackdown VIII

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST QUALIFYING RACE: (10 laps, top-3 transfer to the feature) 1. Brady Bacon (#69 Dynamics), 2. Carson Short (#21 RCM), 3. Dave Darland (#36D Darland/Curb-Agajanian), 4. Cole Ketcham (#41 Ketcham), 5. Max Adams (#5m Adams), 6. Tye Mihocko (#5 Mihocko), 7. Brian VanMeveren (#24 VanMeveren). 2:14.56

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND QUALIFYING RACE: (10 laps, top-3 transfer to the feature) 1. Jason McDougal (#71p Daigh/Phillips), 2. Scotty Weir (#4p Pedersen), 3. Timmy Buckwalter (#7 LNB), 4. Isaac Chapple (#52 LNR/Chapple), 5. Josh Hodges (#74x Hodges), 6. Anthony D'Alessio (#01 D'Alessio), 7. Dustin Clark (#75 Christie), 8. Steve Thomas (#20 Thomas). 2:16.08

AUTOMETER THIRD QUALIFYING RACE: (10 laps, top-3 transfer to the feature) 1. Hunter Schuerenberg (#19BS Reinbold/Underwood), 2. Dustin Smith (#77 Smith), 3. Landon Simon (#23s Simon), 4. Corey Smith (#66s CS), 5. Matt Goodnight (#39 Goodnight), 6. Chris Windom (#5G Parallax/Goacher), 7. Shane Cottle (#2E Epperson), 8. Clinton Boyles (#57 Hazen). NT

B & W AUTO MART KING OF THE HILL: (First Round) #8 Kyle Cummins (#3R Rock Steady) defeats #1 Justin Grant (#4 TOPP) 41.99. #4 C.J. Leary (#19AZ Reinbold/Underwood) defeats #5 Chase Stockon (#32 32 TBI) 42.02. #3 Thomas Meseraull (#47 Eades) defeats #6 Logan Seavey (#19s Reinbold/Underwood) 41.58. #2 Tyler Courtney (#7BC Clauson Marshall Newman) defeats #7 Kevin Thomas Jr. (#19 Hayward/Thomas) 42.67.

B & W AUTO MART KING OF THE HILL: (Semifinals) #4 Leary defeats #8 Cummins 40.98 (New Track Record). #2 Courtney defeats #3 Meseraull 41.11.

B & W AUTO MART KING OF THE HILL: (Finals) #2 Courtney defeats #4 Leary 41.56.

SEMI: (12 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Chris Windom, 2. Cole Ketcham, 3. Isaac Chapple, 4. Corey Smith, 5. Josh Hodges, 6. Matt Goodnight, 7. Max Adams, 8. Anthony D'Alessio, 9. Brian VanMeveren, 10. Steve Thomas, 11. Tye Mihocko, 12. Dustin Clark. NT

FEATURE: (40 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Tyler Courtney (1), 2. Kyle Cummins (4), 3. C.J. Leary (2), 4. Justin Grant (5), 5. Logan Seavey (7), 6. Kevin Thomas Jr. (8), 7. Brady Bacon (9), 8. Chris Windom (18), 9. Jason McDougal (10), 10. Chase Stockon (6), 11. Hunter Schuerenberg (11), 12. Scotty Weir (13), 13. Josh Hodges (22), 14. Max Adams (23-P), 15. Isaac Chapple (20), 16. Dustin Smith (14), 17. Corey Smith (21), 18. Carson Short (12), 19. Timmy Buckwalter (16), 20. Dave Darland (15), 21. Thomas Meseraull (#41w RNS) (3), 22. Cole Ketcham (19), 23. Landon Simon (17). NT

(P) represents a provisional starter

**Clinton Boyles & Shane Cottle flipped during the third heat. Thomas Meseraull flipped during King of the Hill.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-40 Tyler Courtney.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-1702, 2-Tyler Courtney-1581, 3-Brady Bacon-1564, 4-Justin Grant-1525, 5-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1524, 6-Chris Windom-1495, 7-Chase Stockon-1472, 8-Jason McDougal-1294, 9-Carson Short-1273, 10-Isaac Chapple-991.

FINAL PROSOURCE SMACKDOWN VIII PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Chris Windom-23, 2-Brady Bacon-14, 3-Josh Hodges-9, 4-Jason McDougal-8, 5-Carson Short-8, 6-Tyler Courtney-7, 7-Scotty Weir-5, 8-Isaac Chapple-5, 9-Hunter Schuerenberg-4, 10-Corey Smith-4.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: August 29, 2019 – Tri-City Speedway – Granite City, Illinois – Brandt River Town Showdown

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

CRUME EVANS INSURANCE/KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Chris Windom (18th to 8th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Josh Hodges

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS/HOOSIER TIRE FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Matt Goodnight

PROSOURCE HARD WORK AWARD: Landon Simon

Brady Bacon (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Jason McDougal (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Hunter Schuerenberg (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Chris Windom (Indy Race Parts Semi Winner)

Tyler Courtney (B & W Auto Mart King of the Hill Winner)

Tyler Courtney (Elliott's Custom Trailers & Carts/Tony Elliott Foundation Winning Bonus)

Josh Hodges (American Racing Ministries Final Semi Transfer to the feature)

Thomas Meseraull (Weld Cool Move of the Race)

Kyle Cummins (Weld Cool Move of the Race)

Reinbold/Underwood Motorsports (Weld Cool Move of the Race)

Dustin Smith (Smackdown Rookie of the Year)

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GRANT GAINS THE UPPER HAND AT HURTUBISE CLASSIC

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Terre Haute, Indiana (September 13, 2019)……Justin Grant remembers going a long way in his first visit to the Terre Haute Action Track in 2010.

Friday night, the Ione, Calif. native showed he's come a long way in another aspect since his humbling introduction to the famed western Indiana half-mile nearly a decade earlier, winning the 20th running of the Jim Hurtubise Classic for USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Cars, his first Sprint Car win of any kind at the track.

“In my first race here in 2010, I sailed it out of the park in turn one and I smashed a guy’s Buick or Plymouth, or something, whatever it was,” Grant recalled. “I made it a long way out there too. Terre Haute had my number for quite a while and it’s taken me nine years to finally get a win here, but we did it, and it feels really good. At one point, it was probably my worst track on the tour. To come here and win, it means a lot to me personally.”

Grant, a 2018 Sumar Classic Silver Crown winner at Terre Haute, had a topsy-turvy turn of events to begin his night. Shortly after racing from 5th to 1st to win the first heat race, on his cooldown lap, Grant encountered trouble, without warning, that nearly spelled complete disaster.

“We had a left front radius rod come apart, and you can’t steer,” Grant explained. “The axle rolls back and falls off the arm. I lifted off of (turn) two, and halfway down the back stretch, it started squirrelling all around and I thought ‘Whoa, we got a problem here.’ I knew the front end was falling out, and when you get on the brakes, it just folds them up. I was just trying to coast it to a stop. I got it whoa’d down pretty slow, then it dropped, and the frame rail dug in and it just turned me right into the inside wall. Luckily, it just front-bumpered into it. No harm, no foul. We brought it back, put a bolt in it and we were ready for the feature.”

If the incident would’ve occurred one lap earlier, the outcome and the progression of the night could’ve been disastrously different. However, on this particular night, in the first ever USAC National event held simultaneously on Friday the 13th and with a full moon hovering overhead, perhaps good fortune was on his side.

Grant rolled off for the 30-lap feature from the third position, but it took no time flat for him to race his way into the lead, grooving the bottom past pole sitter Nick Bilbee in the first turn to secure the lead while 7th starting Jason McDougal charged all the way to 2nd by the conclusion of the opening lap, but a full second behind Grant.

In the ensuing laps, Kevin Thomas Jr., Brady Bacon and Tyler Courtney had worked their way around McDougal to occupy positions 2-3-4 and formed a triumvirate in their pursuit to run down Grant with seven laps completed.

Grant was introduced to lapped traffic by the tenth lap, allowing Thomas to close the gap to under a second. The lapped cars of Dustin Clark and Aric Gentry battled for position in their own right, but Grant escaped from Thomas for the time being, maneuvering around the outside of Christie off turn four, then dove low, sliding by Gentry at the entrance of turn one.

Thomas kept Grant in check, and as Grant slid into the fluff on the outside of turn two on the 11th lap, Thomas used a massive run to drive by Gentry and charge into turn three side-by-side momentarily to the inside of Grant. Grant withheld the challenge and remained in control past halfway, until lap 18, when Thomas went on the attack once again, throwing a monster slider on Grant who was able to stand his ground and firm his grip of the lead as he split the lapped cars of Steve Thomas and Dustin Smith to sneak away and increase the interval to 2.5 seconds.

From that point forward, the crystal clear message was sent to Grant. There was no more time to be conservative and ride around as Grant stood up in the seat and regularly entered above the cushion as he began to assert his authority and rebuild his advantage.

Courtney, who had won three of the last five USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car features at Terre Haute entering the night, had carved his way into second under Thomas on the 21st lap. Meanwhile, Grant was sitting pretty up front with a comfortable lead in his TOPP Motorsports/NOS Energy Drink – Bow Foundation – Challenger Construction/Maxim/Claxton Chevy.

With just five laps remaining, however, Grant’s two-plus second lead was deleted when two-time Jim Hurtubise Classic winner and 4th running Brady Bacon encountered trouble and heavy right-side damage, coming to a rest against the turn one wall.

“I didn’t want to see that,” Grant said of the yellow flag. “I knew I had gotten through lapped traffic pretty quickly for as thick it was. We were honestly in a pretty good rhythm. Here, you never want to see a yellow when you’re leading. The front stretch is so long and so slick, and if you slide yourself, there’s nothing off of two and you’re a sitting duck. You can’t block the slider. You just hope you get a good enough restart and you can beat the slider to the center.”

Grant was fully prepared for the challenge that was going to be presented to him at the drop of the green flag from Courtney, the defending series champion. Courtney reared back on the start and fired his machine to the bottom in hope to slide up in front of Grant by turn two. Grant never wavered, kept his right foot on the throttle and squeezed through to the miniscule peak of daylight between Courtney to his inside and the concrete wall to his outside.

Courtney took his shot and sold out for the lead in the process, as Grant shot back out to a half-second advantage while Thomas took advantage of Courtney’s loss of momentum exiting the second turn to move back to second. In the final laps, Thomas utilized a line lower than Grant’s top side ride but wasn’t able to get close enough to fire off a slide job for the top spot.

Grant, meanwhile, raced to his third USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car points win of the season by 0.925 of a second over Thomas, Courtney, Fatheadz Eyewear fast qualifier Chris Windom and series point leader C.J. Leary.

Grant’s 16th career USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car feature victory moved him into a tie with Damion Gardner for 33rd on the all-time win list. The victory vaulted Grant past Bobby East, Cory Kruseman, Jud Larson and Brian Tyler on the same list.

Chase Stockon, who started 2nd and finished 7th in Friday’s feature, reached a milestone by making his record 285th consecutive USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car feature start since the 2012 season, surpassing the previous record of 284 set by Levi Jones.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: September 13, 2019 – Terre Haute Action Track – Terre Haute, Indiana – 20th Jim Hurtubise Classic

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Chris Windom, 5G, Goacher-20.094; 2. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-20.175; 3. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-20.176; 4. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-20.230; 5. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-20.233; 6. Nick Bilbee, 17, Bilbee-20.275; 7. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-20.288; 8. Carson Short, 21, RCM-20.302; 9. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-20.437; 10. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-20.458; 11. Josh Hodges, 74x, Hodges-20.520; 12. Bill Rose, 6, Rose-20.528; 13. Dustin Smith, 77, Smith-20.652; 14. Mitch Wissmiller, 29, Barker-20.703; 15. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-20.835; 16. Brian VanMeveren, 24, VanMeveren-20.889; 17. Max Adams, 5m, Adams-20.957; 18. Dustin Clark, 75, DCR-21.117; 19. Kyle Robbins, 17R, KR-21.134; 20. Tye Mihocko, 5, Mihocko-21.532; 21. Steve Thomas, 20, Thomas-21.913; 22. Jake Simmons, 3, Simmons-21.932; 23. Paul May, 71m, May-21.978; 24. Aric Gentry, 10, Gentry-22.026; 25. Eric Perrott, 45, Perrott-23.370; 26. Brandon Mattox, 28, Mattox-NT; 27. Patrick Budde, 90, Budde- NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Justin Grant, 2. Brady Bacon, 3. Chris Windom, 4. Jason McDougal, 5. Brian VanMeveren, 6. Kyle Robbins, 7. Jake Simmons, 8. Dustin Smith. 2:46.85

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Carson Short, 2. Chase Stockon, 3. Kevin Thomas Jr., 4. Josh Hodges, 5. Mitch Wissmiller, 6. Max Adams, 7. Aric Gentry, 8. Tye Mihocko. 2:48.36

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. C.J. Leary, 3. Nick Bilbee, 4. Isaac Chapple, 5. Dustin Clark, 6. Bill Rose, 7. Steve Thomas, 8. Eric Perrott. NT

INDY RACE PARTS SEMI: (10 laps, top-7 transfer to the feature) 1. Bill Rose, 2. Dustin Smith, 3. Aric Gentry, 4. Max Adams, 5. Tye Mihocko, 6. Kyle Robbins, 7. Steve Thomas, 8. Eric Perrott, 9. Jake Simmons. 3:41.71

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Justin Grant (3), 2. Kevin Thomas Jr. (5), 3. Tyler Courtney (9), 4. Chris Windom (6), 5. C.J. Leary (4), 6. Jason McDougal (7), 7. Chase Stockon (2), 8. Nick Bilbee (1), 9. Josh Hodges (11), 10. Carson Short (8), 11. Max Adams (17), 12. Isaac Chapple (15), 13. Dustin Smith (13), 14. Kyle Robbins (19), 15. Dustin Clark (18), 16. Aric Gentry (22), 17. Steve Thomas (21), 18. Brady Bacon (10), 19. Tye Mihocko (20), 20. Brian VanMeveren (16), 21. Mitch Wissmiller (14), 22. Bill Rose (12). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-30 Justin Grant

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-1771, 2-Tyler Courtney-1653, 3-Justin Grant-1606, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1602, 5-Brady Bacon-1598, 6-Chris Windom-1568, 7-Chase Stockon-1533, 8-Jason McDougal-1354, 9-Carson Short-1324, 10-Isaac Chapple-1035.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: September 14, 2019 – Tri-State Speedway – Haubstadt, Indiana – Haubstadt Hustler Co-Sanctioned by the Brandeis Midwest Sprint Car Series

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Tyler Courtney (9th to 3rd)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Dustin Smith

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Eric Perrott

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Dustin Smith

Chris Windom (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Justin Grant (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Carson Short (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Tyler Courtney (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Bill Rose (Indy Race Parts Semi Winner)

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IMMACULATE CUMMINS TAKES HAUBSTADT HUSTLER

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Haubstadt, Indiana (September 14, 2019)……In this world, nothing can be said to be certain, except death, taxes and Kyle Cummins winning at Tri-State Speedway in 2019.

Cummins, of Princeton, Ind., continued his immaculate season at the quarter-mile dirt oval in Haubstadt, Ind., winning his seventh race in seven tries this year at Tri-State, and picking up his second career Haubstadt Hustler victory after collecting Saturday night's $10,000-to-win 40-lap feature co-sanctioned by the USAC AMSOIL Sprint Car National Championship and the Brandeis Midwest Sprint Car Series.

Despite the blistering run of success, which now includes three USAC victories in 2019, Cummins was cautious to call his shot ala Babe Ruth entering the night.

“I felt like after winning this many in a row here, I was bound to lose because everything’s been going right and we really haven’t had a real bad night,” Cummins admitted. “Throughout a whole season, the more good nights you have, the bad ones are right around the corner.”

That was certainly not the case in the final results, though the beginning of the main event saw him jump quickly to the lead on the second lap past USAC Sprint Rookie of the Year point leader Dustin Clark, then fall back to second as USAC Sprint point leader C.J. Leary bolted to the front around the outside of Cummins between turns one and two on the third circuit, where he’d hold down the fort for the remainder of the first quarter the feature.

Traffic was thick entering the 10th lap for Leary as he swung high and dove low to split his way to the nearest escape route away from Cummins, but to no avail, as his lead diminished and Cummins was prime to strike on the 12th lap when Leary got himself sideways in the middle of turns three and four. Cummins slipped by underneath off turn four to assume control up front.

The evening’s lone red flag arrived on the 16th lap when previous night’s Terre Haute winner, Saturday’s Fatheadz Eyewear fast qualifier and fourth-running Justin Grant, ramped over the infield tire off turn four and spiraled through the air before landing upside down along the main straightaway where he’d climb from the wreckage unharmed.

The lapped car of three-time Haubstadt Hustler winner Kevin Thomas Jr. separated Cummins and Leary on the lap 17 restart. Leary ably disposed of Thomas quickly around the top in turn one, but Cummins had scooted away to a one second advantage by that point, forcing Leary into catchup mode right off the bat.

Just after halfway, Cummins was rapidly approaching the throes of lapped traffic, allowing Courtney to rip by Leary for second, then carve deeply into Cummins’ advantage, whittling the interval down to a quarter of a second. On the 27th lap, Cummins met the side-by-side duo of Christie and Brian Karraker, both on the cusp of being put a lap down while battling for position. Cummins was briefly stifled behind the pair before opting for the top at the entry of turn three with Courtney now less than a car length off Cummins’ rear bumper.

Traffic will certainly be a part of the equation with 25 cars going 40 laps on a quarter-mile bullring. Although Cummins has attained more success and completed more laps at Tri-State than anybody on track this night, there’s nothing that can completely prepare an individual for the decisiveness it takes to maneuver through it without a hindrance. But that’s just the type of challenge Cummins was ready to embrace.

“One time I thought (a car in front of me) had spun out,” Cummins remembered. “I’m not sure who it was, but I was crossed up as much as I could be, and I thought they had spun out. I really had to backpedal, and when I came off the corner there, I thought, ‘man, I’m really scrubbing off some speed.’ I didn’t know where they were running, so I decided to get away from the bottom and run a couple laps around the top. Then, we got to the next group and they were running the top. It seemed like if you pressured them a little bit, they would slide up. I didn’t feel like (Courtney) was going to pass around the top if they were there too.”

Courtney tried with all his might, riding high into turn one and diamonding off two to get a run on Cummins. Yet Cummins wasn’t about to give Courtney an open door to the front as the defending USAC Sprint champ harassed Cummins, doing everything but passing the new all-time winningest MSCS driver with the laps dwindling.

With three laps to go, heartbreak befell fourth-running Jason McDougal who slowed to a stop in turn two after charging from his 21st starting position. For Cummins, though, it was a godsend to get to step out of the line of traffic for good for the final dash to the finish.

Cummins and the crew on his Rock Steady Racing/Debra Corn Foster Care – Lucas Oil Center Oil-Lube-Wash/Mach 1/Foxco Chevy went with a slightly different plan of attack. With track conditions changing, it threw the team for a bit of a loop.

“We kind of did a couple things differently from what we normally do,” Cummins explained. “Once I moved up there (to the top), I didn’t know I was as good as I was. Once I got up there on the restart again, it felt good. I couldn’t pass the lapped cars for a while. They were running two-by-two and I was just trying to pick my way through and get in the right spot. Thankfully, we got that last caution to get them out of the way, and we were able to run my own line those last couple of laps.”

For the sprint to the checkered, Cummins’ plan was to throw it into the corners knowing his competition was going to have to pull off something special to get by.

“When I went through (turns) one and two, I couldn’t believe how good it stuck,” Cummins exclaimed. “I’m like, ‘this is where I’m going to be,’ and if they’re going to pass me, they’re going to have to slide me or something. I was a little nervous. I got a little loose coming out of turn two on the last lap, and it’s happened multiple times when a guy throws a big haymaker slider. I got into three and actually got a little tight. I’m just glad they weren’t right on me. It felt good to make some money tonight.”

From there, Cummins buttoned up his sixth career USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car feature victory, four of which have come at Tri-State Speedway, by a margin of 0.879 sec. over Tyler Courtney, C.J. Leary, Kendall Ruble and Chris Windom.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: September 14, 2019 – Tri-State Speedway – Haubstadt, Indiana – Haubstadt Hustler Co-Sanctioned by the Brandeis Midwest Sprint Car Series

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-13.961; 2. Kent Schmidt, 5K, KO-14.004; 3. Max Adams, 5m, Adams-14.036; 4. Kyle Cummins, 3R, Rock Steady-14.065; 5. Critter Malone, 5s, KO-14.115; 6. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-14.153; 7. Chayse Hayhurst, 20, Hayhurst-14.185; 8. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-14.226; 9. Brian Karraker, 23, Karraker-14.309; 10. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-14.312; 11. Shane Cottle, 38, Williams-14.335; 12. Kendall Ruble, 17, Ruble-14.344; 13. Chris Windom, 5G, Parallax/Goacher-14.370; 14. Josh Hodges, 74x, Hodges-14.376; 15. Dustin Clark, 75, DCR-14.391; 16. Dakota Jackson, 3, Jackson-14.400; 17. Stephen Schnapf, 61m, Edwards-14.414; 18. Brian VanMeveren, 24, VanMeveren-14.454; 19. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-14.488; 20. Donny Brackett, 4B, Brackett-14.501; 21. Carson Short, 21, RCM-14.520; 22. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-14.623; 23. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-14.641; 24. Scotty Weir, 39, Goodnight-14.698; 25. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-14.806; 26. Aric Gentry, 10, Gentry-14.878; 27. Collin Ambrose, 2, Ambrose-15.332; 28. Sam Scott, 7, Scott-15.620; 29. Eric Perrott, 45, Perrott-15.984; 30. Ryan Bond, 7R, Bond-NT; 31. Brady Short, 11p, Short/Pottorff-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. C.J. Leary, 2. Kendall Ruble, 3. Chase Stockon, 4. Justin Grant, 5. Stephen Schnapf, 6. Carson Short, 7. Jason McDougal, 8. Ryan Bond. 2:19.38

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Dustin Clark, 2. Josh Hodges, 3. Chris Windom, 4. Max Adams, 5. Kevin Thomas Jr., 6. Brady Bacon, 7. Isaac Chapple, 8. Scotty Weir. 2:21.60

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Kyle Cummins, 2. Shane Cottle, 3. Critter Malone, 4. Kent Schmidt, 5. Brady Short, 6. Brian VanMeveren, 7. Aric Gentry, 8. Sam Scott. 2:22.18

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Brian Karraker, 3. Chayse Hayhurst, 4. Donny Brackett, 5. Dakota Jackson, 6. Collin Ambrose, 7. Eric Perrott. 2:20.09

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Kevin Thomas Jr., 2. Brady Short, 3. Brady Bacon, 4. Dakota Jackson, 5. Jason McDougal, 6. Carson Short, 7. Stephen Schnapf, 8. Isaac Chapple, 9. Brian VanMeveren, 10. Aric Gentry, 11. Scotty Weir, 12. Sam Scott, 13. Collin Ambrose, 14. Eric Perrott. NT

FEATURE: (40 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Kyle Cummins (3), 2. Tyler Courtney (4), 3. C.J. Leary (1), 4. Kendall Ruble (5), 5. Chris Windom (10), 6. Critter Malone (11), 7. Chase Stockon (9), 8. Brady Bacon (19), 9. Brady Short (18), 10. Josh Hodges (6), 11. Stephen Schnapf (23-P), 12. Max Adams (14), 13. Carson Short (22), 14. Kevin Thomas Jr. (17), 15. Donny Brackett (16), 16. Kent Schmidt (15), 17. Dustin Clark (2), 18. Jason McDougal (21), 19. Brian Karraker (8), 20. Chayse Hayhurst (12), 21. Dakota Jackson (20), 22. Justin Grant (13), 23. Isaac Chapple (24-P), 24. Collin Ambrose (25-M), 25. Shane Cottle (7). NT

(P) represents a provisional starter

**Justin Grant flipped on lap 16 of the feature.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Lap 1 Dustin Clark, Lap 2 Kyle Cummins, Laps 3-11 C.J. Leary, Laps 12-40 Kyle Cummins.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-1835, 2-Tyler Courtney-1720, 3-Brady Bacon-1647, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1637, 5-Justin Grant-1629, 6-Chris Windom-1626, 7-Chase Stockon-1585, 8-Jason McDougal-1381, 9-Carson Short-1361, 10-Isaac Chapple-1058.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: September 26, 2019 – Gas City I-69 Speedway – Gas City, Indiana – 2nd James Dean Classic – 1/4-Mile Dirt Oval

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Brady Bacon (19th to 8th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Carson Short

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Stephen Schnapf

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Chris Windom

Justin Grant (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

C.J. Leary (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Dustin Clark (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Kyle Cummins (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Tyler Courtney (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

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WINDOM A GAS CITY GIANT AT JAMES DEAN CLASSIC

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Gas City, Indiana (September 26, 2019)……Gas City I-69 Speedway had greeted Chris Windom on numerous occasions throughout his USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car career, 19 to be exact, since his debut at the quarter-mile dirt oval in 2007.

It’s unfair to say that the track had been unkind to the Canton, Ill. driver over the years, with nine top-five finishes in those 19 previous starts coming into Thursday night’s second running of the James Dean Classic. Yet, that one single, solitary victory had remained elusive.

Windom had trekked the road to Gas City many a time, but this time, he drove off as a winner there in USAC competition with a sterling performance, leading all 30 laps to score his fourth series victory of the season and the 25th of his career which tied Steve Butler and Jay Drake for 20th all-time.

Ultimately, Windom’s persistence paid off, and now he can call himself a USAC winner at Gas City, finally.

“It seems like I’ve had countless podiums here,” Windom recounts. “We’ve run 2nd or 3rd almost every USAC race here. To get that first one’s pretty cool.”

Windom set the tone right from the get-go, recording sixth quick time which would, if everything went to his plan through the prelims, would net him a starting spot up front. As it turned out, it was from the pole. But a good starting spot alone does not make or break a night, there’s several variables to endure throughout 30 laps. Yet being in the proverbial and literal driver’s seat at the front of the field for the drop of the green does have its kicks.

“I knew I had to get a good jump on that initial start because the track was so hooked up,” Windom explained. “It seemed that, if your car was good and you could get out and click off good laps, it was going to be tough to get by you.”

That proved to be fortuitous for the 2017 series champ as he raced side-by-side with outside front row starter Kevin Thomas Jr. through turns one and two at the start. Windom surged ahead under Thomas on the back straightaway and led entering the third turn. There, Thomas made slight contact with the rear bumper of Windom, forcing Thomas to get on the binders, dropping him from 2nd to 4th as Justin Grant and 2019 Gas City track champ Thomas Meseraull slipped by to snare 2nd and 3rd, respectively, at the conclusion of the opening lap.

A three-car tussle between Grant, Meseraull and Thomas ensued as Windom opened up a half second lead. Meseraull drove to 2nd by Grant on the fourth lap and held onto the spot until exiting the fourth corner on the sixth lap when both Grant and Thomas slipped by, and Meseraull began to slow dramatically with smoke billowing from his ride. The seven-time Gas City winner this year slid his car backward into the infield on the front straightaway as a small and brief fire broke out from the engine compartment, prematurely ending his night.

When racing resumed, Windom put on the same song and dance, running middle to bottom as he incrementally distanced himself from Grant as the race crossed the halfway point, which is where lapped traffic came into play. Windom worked his way under heat race winner Cole Ketcham first, then worked around the outside of Cody White and Dave Darland, all while maintaining a fairly healthy eight-tenths of a second advantage over Grant.

“I felt like I was setting a pretty fast pace around the middle to bottom,” Windom remembered. “I was a little nervous to go to the top with how thick the cushion was. You don’t have a choice when you catch lapped traffic. If you follow them, somebody’s going to find a way around, so I moved to the top and we were maneuvering through lapped traffic pretty well.”

Once Windom reached first-time USAC feature starter Harley Burns, Windom sought high and low, tiptoeing on his path to avoid getting caught out, sliding up and allowing the now not-so-distant Grant and Thomas, who were right on his rear bumper, to drastically close up the gap. Windom was eventually able to drive around Burns as were Grant and Thomas just moments before 7th running Scotty Weir spun in turn four, necessitating a yellow flag and bringing about a clear road ahead for Windom.

“You’re always going to have that in lapped traffic,” Windom said. “So, we did the best we could there, and we caught cautions at the times I wanted them. It doesn’t seem to normally work out that way, but it did tonight. We just had to stay

out front and hit our marks and not get in too heavy of lapped traffic and make a wrong decision because, at that point, your kind of a sitting duck when you're the leader."

Windom, who was back in his team's DRC chassis tonight, found it to be a better fit for Gas City with how tight and hooked up the track can get. As it turned out, they were the ones hooked up on this night in the Parallax Group-Goacher Racing/NOS Energy Drink – Parallax Power Supply/DRC/Claxton Mopar, pulling away on the restart and appeared headed for victory.

However, with just three laps remaining, the night's KSE Racing Products Hard Charger Jason McDougal, clobbered an orange cone sitting amidst the infield tires at the exit of turn four, dropkicking the inanimate object into the middle of the racing surface. That forced the yellow flag to be displayed and the field to be restacked once again.

For Windom, the holdup was simply momentary as he once again burst away on the lap 28 restart, cruising to victory by a 0.808 margin, while letting the three trailing drivers duke it out for the runner-up spot, which reigning series champ Tyler Courtney snagged with a big drive around the outside of Grant off turn four on the final lap to get the 2nd spot by a wheel, or .056 sec, over Grant with Thomas a car length behind in 4th. Chase Stockon, in his record 287th consecutive series start, rounded out the top-five.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: September 26, 2019 – Gas City I-69 Speedway – Gas City, Indiana – 2nd James Dean Classic – 1/4-Mile Dirt Oval

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-12.121; 2. Thomas Meseraull, 00, Whitney-12.174; 3. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-12.219; 4. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-12.299; 5. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-12.364; 6. Chris Windom, 5G, Parallax/Goacher-12.441; 7. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-12.479; 8. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-12.491; 9. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-12.555; 10. Matt Goodnight, 39, Goodnight-12.557; 11. Chad Boespflug, 98e, EZR-12.561; 12. Anthony D'Alessio, 01, D'Alessio-12.568; 13. Harley Burns, 16K, Knight-12.574; 14. Cole Ketcham, 41, Ketcham-12.614; 15. Scotty Weir, 39G, Goodnight-12.634; 16. Cody White, 26w, White-12.720; 17. Max Adams, 57, Hazen-12.720; 18. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-12.733; 19. Tye Mihocko, 5, Mihocko-12.751; 20. Dustin Ingle, 2DI, Ingle-12.767; 21. Tyler Hewitt, 1, RL-12.830; 22. Corey Smith, 66s, CS-12.841; 23. Matt Westfall, 33m, Marshall-12.856; 24. Dave Darland, 43m, Tibbits-12.867; 25. Shane Cottle, 19c, Cooley-12.966; 26. Dustin Clark, 75, Clark-12.996; 27. Jack James, 99, James-13.422; 28. Dustin Smith, 77, Smith-13.582.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Kevin Thomas Jr., 2. C.J. Leary, 3. Isaac Chapple, 4. Cody White, 5. Shane Cottle, 6. Tyler Hewitt, 7. Harley Burns. 2:08.98

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Cole Ketcham, 2. Thomas Meseraull, 3. Jason McDougal, 4. Chris Windom, 5. Dustin Clark, 6. Matt Goodnight, 7. Corey Smith. 2:03.85

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Scotty Weir, 2. Brady Bacon, 3. Tye Mihocko, 4. Tyler Courtney, 5. Chad Boespflug, 6. Matt Westfall, 7. Jack James. 2:04.18

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Justin Grant, 2. Dustin Ingle, 3. Chase Stockon, 4. Dave Darland, 5. Max Adams, 6. Anthony D'Alessio, 7. Dustin Smith. 2:04.03

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Chad Boespflug, 2. Max Adams, 3. Harley Burns, 4. Matt Westfall, 5. Matt Goodnight, 6. Shane Cottle, 7. Dustin Smith, 8. Dustin Clark, 9. Anthony D'Alessio, 10. Corey Smith, 11. Jack James, 12. Tyler Hewitt. 2:28.28 (New Track Record)

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Chris Windom (1), 2. Tyler Courtney (7), 3. Justin Grant (3), 4. Kevin Thomas Jr. (2), 5. Chase Stockon (8), 6. C.J. Leary (6), 7. Brady Bacon (4), 8. Jason McDougal (17), 9. Isaac Chapple (9), 10.

Max Adams (15), 11. Scotty Weir (14), 12. Matt Westfall (20), 13. Tye Mihocko (18), 14. Matt Goodnight (10), 15. Harley Burns (12), 16. Cody White (16), 17. Cole Ketcham (13), 18. Dustin Ingle (19), 19. Dave Darland (21), 20. Chad Boespflug (11), 21. Thomas Meseraull (5), 22. Dustin Clark (23-P), 23. Shane Cottle (22). NT

(P) represents a provisional starter

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-30 Chris Windom

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-1903, 2-Tyler Courtney-1792, 3-Brady Bacon-1710, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1708, 5-Justin Grant-1704, 6-Chris Windom-1702, 7-Chase Stockon-1649, 8-Jason McDougal-1436, 9-Carson Short-1361, 10-Isaac Chapple-1110.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: September 28, 2019 – Eldora Speedway – Rossburg, Ohio – 38th 4-Crown Nationals Presented by NKT.tv – 1/2-Mile Dirt Oval

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Jason McDougal (17th to 8th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Tye Mihocko

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Dustin Smith

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Harley Burns

C.J. Leary (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

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

Cole Ketcham (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Scotty Weir (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Justin Grant (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

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SUNSHINE SCORES RECORD 4TH STRAIGHT ELDORA SPRINT WIN

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Rossburg, Ohio (September 28, 2019)……Tyler Courtney reached unprecedented territory following Saturday night's 4-Crown Nationals presented by NKT.tv USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car feature.

Not even the likes of three-in-row winners Jud Larson, Bubby Jones, Jack Hewitt or Steve Butler can claim four consecutive USAC National Sprint Car victories at Eldora Speedway.

However, Courtney, the reigning series champ, can now claim the record as his own after winning his seventh series main event of the year, three of which have come at the famed half-mile, with Saturday's being the 24th of his career, moving him past A.J. Foyt and Roger McCluskey on the all-time list and into a tie for 22nd with Chris Windom.

“When you have guys like Jack Hewitt and Rich Vogler and all those guys that have ran here, for someone to never do four consecutive USAC National Sprint Car wins in a row here, is incredible,” Courtney exclaimed. “To just even be compared to and having the opportunity to go for four in a row is pretty incredible. But now we get to put our name in the history books and hopefully come back in the spring for five in a row.”

Just as he did in the midget throughout the night, Courtney was the rabbit everyone was chasing in his Clauson-Marshall-Newman Racing/NOS Energy Drink – Competition Suspension, Inc./Spike/Rider Chevy-powered sprinter. But he had to do a little chasing himself early on as Kevin Thomas Jr. shot out to the lead from his pole starting position.

Sixth starting Courtney, meanwhile, was a rocket on the second lap as he exploded past Brady Bacon, Justin Grant and C.J. Leary on the back straightaway to move from 5th to 2nd before banging his right rear tire off the wall between turns there and four and settling into place in third behind leader Thomas and second-running Leary.

On lap six, Courtney gave it another shot, sliding past Leary in turn three to secure the 2nd position, and now had sights set on tracking down Thomas 1.6 seconds in the distance, which he had whittled down to just a tick over a half second by the tenth lap as they both rode the rail up against the outside wall.

Nearing the halfway point, traffic came into play and Thomas was determined to be the aggressor. Not wanting to play it safe and cautious, Thomas split hairs and threaded needles through the backend of the field as he sought his very own first career win at Eldora.

With 12 laps remaining, Thomas bounced the right rear off the outside wall between turns three and four, which sucked his right front wheel into the concrete at the exit of four, thus breaking the front end as a result. Thomas was now a sitting duck in the lead, and less than a lap later, Courtney made him pay, driving by Thomas on the bottom of three to grab the spot and construct an ever-growing lead.

With 10 to go, fourth-running Leary slid by third-running Thomas utilizing the bottom of turn one. As he drifted up in turn two, a surging Chris Windom had momentum up top, driving off turn two as both he and Leary clipped wheels, sending Leary spinning backwards into the outside wall leading with the left rear. Leary was unable to restart, sending the series point leader to a 22nd place result, only his second finish outside the top-ten in 28 starts this season.

Courtney broke out to a half-straightaway lead in the final stages and appeared primed for his second victory of the night despite a particularly hairy moment that caught his attention. Exiting turn two with two laps to go, Courtney hit the right rear against the wall, getting his right front airborne and glancing off the concrete before continuing on without too much of a hindrance to speak of. No harm, no foul as they say.

The final lap was as clean as a whistle for Courtney as he raced to a 1.424 second victory over Windom, Grant, Thomas and Bacon to extend his series-leading win total to seven.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: September 28, 2019 – Eldora Speedway – Rossburg, Ohio – 38th 4-Crown Nationals Presented by NKT.tv – 1/2-Mile Dirt Oval

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR/PROSOURCE QUALIFYING: 1. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-16.671; 2. Chris Windom, 5G, Parallax/Goacher-16.780; 3. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-16.832; 4. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-16.917; 5. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-16.947; 6. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-17.081; 7. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-17.146; 8. Dallas Hewitt, 18, Keen-17.153; 9. Max Adams, 5m, Adams-17.302; 10. Kory Crabtree, 60, Gagliardi-17.354; 11. Mario Clouser, 6, MCM-17.378; 12. Jason McDougal, 71p, Daigh/Phillips-17.384; 13. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-17.393; 14. Dustin Clark, 75, Clark-17.498; 15. Bill Rose, 6R, Rose-17.518; 16. Carmen Perigo, 21p, Perigo-17.520; 17. Matt Westfall, 33m, Marshall-17.571; 18. Scotty Weir, 39G, Goodnight-17.579; 19. Nick Bilbee, 17, Bilbee-17.740; 20. Josh

Hodges, 74x, Hodges-17.811; 21. Dave Darland, 36D, Darland/Curb-Agajanian-17.823; 22. Corey Smith, 66s, CS-17.995; 23. Kody Swanson, 20N, Nolen-18.111; 24. Brian Ruhlman, 49, Ruhlman-18.254; 25. Landon Simon, 23s, Simon-18.342; 26. Matt Goodnight, 39, Goodnight-18.401; 27. Jack James, 99, James-18.416; 28. Chris Phillips, 6p, Phillips-18.656; 29. Gage Etgen, 99, Etgen-18.802; 30. Travis Welpott, 18T, Welpott/Gorman-18.809; 31. Tim Creech II, 2c, Creech-18.810; 32. Cody White, 26w, White-18.902; 33. Steve Thomas, 20, Thomas-18.912; 34. Korbyn Hayslett, 1H, Hayslett-NT; 35. Scott Hampton, 51, Slinkard-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Matt Westfall, 3. C.J. Leary, 4. Dave Darland, 5. Max Adams, 6. Isaac Chapple, 7. Landon Simon, 8. Gage Etgen, 9. Steve Thomas. 2:26.54

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Kevin Thomas Jr., 2. Chris Windom, 3. Scotty Weir, 4. Corey Smith, 5. Kory Crabtree, 6. Dustin Clark, 7. Matt Goodnight, 8. Travis Welpott, 9. Korbyn Hayslett. 2:28.17

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Justin Grant, 2. Chase Stockon, 3. Mario Clouser, 4. Nick Bilbee, 5. Kody Swanson, 6. Scott Hampton, 7. Jack James, 8. Tim Creech II, 9. Bill Rose. NT

INDY RACE PARTS FOURTH HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Jason McDougal, 2. Brady Bacon, 3. Dallas Hewitt, 4. Carmen Perigo, 5. Josh Hodges, 6. Chris Phillips, 7. Brian Ruhlman, 8. Cody White. 2:29.58

SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Max Adams, 2. Kory Crabtree, 3. Dustin Clark, 4. Isaac Chapple, 5. Josh Hodges, 6. Chris Phillips, 7. Matt Goodnight, 8. Scott Hampton, 9. Brian Ruhlman, 10. Kody Swanson, 11. Landon Simon, 12. Gage Etgen, 13. Jack James, 14. Travis Welpott, 15. Cody White, 16. Tim Creech II, 17. Steve Thomas, 18. Bill Rose, 19. Korbyn Hayslett. 3:54.09

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Tyler Courtney (6), 2. Chris Windom (5), 3. Justin Grant (4), 4. Kevin Thomas Jr. (1), 5. Brady Bacon (3), 6. Dallas Hewitt (8), 7. Matt Westfall (16), 8. Chase Stockon (7), 9. Isaac Chapple (13), 10. Nick Bilbee (18), 11. Carmen Perigo (15), 12. Jason McDougal (12), 13. Scotty Weir (17), 14. Mario Clouser (11), 15. Chris Phillips (22), 16. Dave Darland (20), 17. Dustin Clark (14), 18. Corey Smith (21), 19. Max Adams (9), 20. Kory Crabtree (10), 21. Josh Hodges (19), 22. C.J. Leary (2). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-18 Kevin Thomas Jr., Laps 19-30 Tyler Courtney.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-1934, 2-Tyler Courtney-1876, 3-Chris Windom-1781, 4-Justin Grant-1780, 5-Brady Bacon-1778, 6-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1778, 7-Chase Stockon-1705, 8-Jason McDougal-1483, 9-Carson Short-1361, 10-Isaac Chapple-1157.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: October 5, 2019 – Lawrenceburg Speedway – Lawrenceburg, Indiana – Fall Nationals – 3/8-Mile Dirt Oval

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS CLEAN SWEEP: Tyler Courtney

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/LARRY RICE HIGH PERFORMANCE HARD CHARGER: Matt Westfall (16th to 7th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Scotty Weir

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Matt Goodnight

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Isaac Chapple

PROSOURCE HARD WORK AWARD: Chris Phillips

ROSEWOOD MACHINE & TOOL PRECISION MOVE OF THE RACE: Chris Windom

Tyler Courtney (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Kevin Thomas Jr. (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Justin Grant (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Jason McDougal (Indy Race Parts Fourth Heat Winner)

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KTJ'S LOVIN' IT AT LAWRENCEBURG'S FALL NATIONALS

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Lawrenceburg, Indiana (October 5, 2019)……Kevin Thomas Jr. was bound and determined to be mistake-free in Saturday's Fall Nationals at Indiana's Lawrenceburg Speedway.

Exactly one week earlier at Eldora Speedway, the Cullman, Ala. native had a pair of chances, first in the sprint car feature where he led the first 18 laps of the 30-lap race before slapping the turn four wall and losing the lead. Later that same night, he was a dominant figure in the Silver Crown main, leading the first 40 circuits of the 50-lapper before wall contact again knocked him out of the lead.

Saturday at Lawrenceburg, flawless was the word that comes to mind in describing Thomas' run down the stretch to win his second Fall Nationals in the last three years, a $10,000 grand prize and his 27th career USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car feature, moving him past Tony Elliott and Dave Steele and into a tie for 16th on the all-time list alongside Brady Bacon.

"I know our stuff's running really well and I like Lawrenceburg already," Thomas said. "For us to come down here and have speed right off the bat, it's just something we've been really working hard for this whole year. We've had our ups and downs, got a win and struggled a little bit. We've had pretty much every variation of luck and runs and what not. It's just nice for the hard work these guys have put in at the shop to show on the track."

Thomas began the race from the 5th position in his Hayward Thomas Motorsports/McDonald's – Dr. Pepper/DRC/Speedway Chevy while, up front, the two front row combatants – Justin Grant and Brady Bacon nearly met calamity as they took the green flag. Grant got sideways at the start/finish line, dropping back to 4th before working his way back to 3rd by the end of the initial lap while point leader C.J. Leary raced around the outside of Bacon to lead the opening two laps.

Bacon returned with authority on the third lap, driving back by Leary to retake the lead as Grant regathered himself to challenge Leary for the runner-up spot with Thomas in fourth just behind. Grant nabbed the second position with a turn one slider past Leary on the eighth lap, while Thomas followed suit with a similar move in the same spot for third past Leary on lap nine.

Meanwhile, Bacon set a blistering pace up front, turning the fastest lap of the race just moments prior on lap six and jetted into traffic with a 2.791 second lead by lap 12 when Aric Gentry slowed to bring out the first caution. That moved the front runners out of traffic and into clean air.

Bacon resumed his prowess at the front through the middle stages of the 30-lapper on this night which honored the memory of longtime car owner Richard Hoffman with whom Bacon drove for in his two USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car championship seasons in 2014 and 2016.

On the 18th lap, a flat right rear on the car of three-time 2019 series winner Kyle Cummins necessitated another yellow flag as he stopped on the high side at the entrance of turn one. Moments later, under caution, the air from leader Bacon's tire, and his night, had deflated, handing over the lead to Grant as a result. Bacon drove to the work area for fresh rubber after leading a race-high 17 laps, then restarted from the tail and made a valiant effort to race back to a 7th place finish at the checkered.

The race was now in Grant's hands with 12 laps remaining as he sought to become the first driver ever to win three consecutive USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car features at Lawrenceburg. With that said, restarting from the lead at this joint can be a precarious position to reside in, and second-running Thomas felt he was in the prime spot.

Grant slid himself into turn one on the lap 19 restart and drifted to the top of turn two while Thomas rode the lip, building his momentum as he came off the turn two banking and made his bid for the lead with a turn three slider past Grant. Grant countered Thomas off four and the pair raced side-by-side into down the front straight until Thomas slammed the door on Grant on the bottom of one. Both drifted wheel-to-wheel up to the top of the second turn when Thomas propelled off the lip and shot away to secure the point.

"Whenever you're at these places and you restart around the top, it opens up a lane for somebody to slide you," Thomas explained. "I got the luxury of being in second to witness that and seeing the run that you could get. I just never wanted to go back to a restart because I know he's going to throw it if he got the chance. I just didn't want to give him that chance."

That chance came just a lap later after Max Adams stopped on the low side of turns one and two, forcing a restart with just 10 laps remaining where Grant took his shot but came up snake eyes as he tried to slide by Thomas in turn one.

"Our car was really good, but if you get to racing, it doesn't really matter how good your car is, you might get shuffled back a few positions," Thomas noted. "I just wanted to make sure I got that jump getting into one, and our car was perfect. I could lean up right there against the cushion, put the pedal to the floor and just go. It was relatively simple to drive, and that says a lot for this place because it can be pretty taxing on you and the racecar and everything else."

Thomas' idea of an ideal track surface is slick to a cushion, and that's exactly what he got on this night which suited himself and his car nicely as he built up a three second lead while Grant and Leary traded slide jobs for four-straight trips around the 3/8-mile dirt oval between laps 21-24. Leary made one final attempt on Grant in three on lap 24, just narrowly missing as Grant drove around the outside to reemerge with the spot. C.J. Leary, meanwhile, left the door open for Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier Tyler Courtney to capitalize and slide past in turn one for 3rd on lap 25.

One lap later, the most serious accident of the night occurred when first-time USAC Sprint Car feature starter Justin Owen jumped the cushion in turn four, slid down the track and collected the oncoming car of 2018 Lawrenceburg track champion Garrett Abrams who ramped over and flipped wildly as a result. Abrams walked away uninjured.

Under red and with four laps remaining, Thomas had time to think and ponder his next move and Grant's possible motives on the ensuing restart. It's a mental game of sorts to not let overthinking the situation come into play.

"Your mental state whenever you get four laps to go is to not make a mistake," Thomas said. "But if you think about it too long, you'll make a mistake. You just got to get going there, get through the first corner and then you get back in your rhythm. That first corner can be hell. If you make a wrong move or slip your tires on the restart, they're going to be there to pounce."

However, Thomas nailed it precisely, withstanding Grant's challenge and him in the distance to battle it out for second with Courtney who pounced for the runner-up position with three laps remaining then held off Grant's charge to retake 2nd a half-lap later in turn three.

Up front, Thomas had a comfy cushion over Courtney and a front row seat for the checkered flag where he became one of just five drivers to win at least four career USAC Sprint feature at Lawrenceburg, joining Dave Darland (7), Jon Stanbrough (5), Grant (4) and Jack Hewitt (4). Second went to Courtney 1.26 seconds back while Grant, Leary and Chris Windom rounded out the top-five.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: October 5, 2019 – Lawrenceburg Speedway – Lawrenceburg, Indiana – Fall Nationals – 3/8-Mile Dirt Oval

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR QUALIFYING: 1. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-13.831; 2. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-14.188; 3. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-14.195; 4. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-14.238; 5. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-14.261; 6. Josh Hodges, 74x, Hodges-14.270; 7. Joss Moffatt, 5J, Moffatt/Wright-14.385; 8. Chris Windom, 5G, Parallax/Goacher-14.403; 9. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-14.408; 10. Max Adams, 5m, Adams-14.431; 11. Nick Bilbee, 17, Bilbee-14.475; 12. Dustin Smith, 77, Smith-14.484; 13. Kyle Cummins, 3R, Rock Steady-14.527; 14. Jarett Andretti, 18, Andretti-14.527; 15. Scotty Weir, 39, Goodnight-14.529; 16. Mario Clouser, 6, MCM-14.560; 17. Dave Darland, 43m, Tibbits-14.692; 18. Dustin Clark, 75, Clark-14.764; 19. Isaac Chapple, 52, LNR/Chapple-14.773; 20. Justin Owen, 4J, Owen-14.845; 21. J.J. Hughes, 76, Hughes-14.897; 22. Garrett Abrams, 32A, Abrams-15.089; 23. Tyler Kendall, 20K, Kendall-15.200; 24. Aric Gentry, 10, Gentry-15.246; 25. Steve Thomas, 20, Thomas-15.488; 26. Eric Perrott, 45, Perrott-16.494.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Kyle Cummins, 2. Tyler Courtney, 3. Mario Clouser, 4. C.J. Leary, 5. Max Adams, 6. Isaac Chapple, 7. Garrett Abrams, 8. Steve Thomas, 9. Joss Moffatt. 1:55.43

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI) SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Kevin Thomas Jr., 2. Jarett Andretti, 3. Nick Bilbee, 4. Brady Bacon, 5. Justin Owen, 6. Tyler Kendall, 7. Eric Perrott, 8. Chris Windom, 9. Dave Darland. NT

AUTOMETER THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Dustin Clark, 2. Scotty Weir, 3. Justin Grant, 4. Chase Stockon, 5. J.J. Hughes, 6. Josh Hodges, 7. Aric Gentry, 8. Dustin Smith. NT

INDY RACE PARTS SEMI: (12 laps, top-7 transfer to the feature) 1. Chris Windom, 2. Josh Hodges, 3. Garrett Abrams, 4. Dustin Smith, 5. Tyler Kendall, 6. Isaac Chapple, 7. Aric Gentry, 8. Steve Thomas, 9. Eric Perrott. 3:08.89

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Kevin Thomas Jr. (5), 2. Tyler Courtney (6), 3. Justin Grant (1), 4. C.J. Leary (3), 5. Chris Windom (8), 6. Nick Bilbee (10), 7. Brady Bacon (2), 8. Jarett Andretti (13), 9. Scotty Weir (14), 10. Chase Stockon (4), 11. Josh Hodges (7), 12. Dustin Clark (16), 13. Mario Clouser (15), 14. Isaac Chapple (17), 15. Max Adams (9), 16. Dustin Smith (11), 17. J.J. Hughes (19), 18. Tyler Kendall (21), 19. Justin Owen (18), 20. Garrett Abrams (20), 21. Kyle Cummins (12), 22. Aric Gentry (22). NT

**Garrett Abrams flipped on lap 26 of the feature.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-2 C.J. Leary, Laps 3-18 Brady Bacon, Laps 19-30 Kevin Thomas Jr.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-2003, 2-Tyler Courtney-1956, 3-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1861, 4-Justin Grant-1850, 5-Chris Windom-1843, 6-Brady Bacon-1837, 7-Chase Stockon-1757, 8-Jason McDougal-1483, 9-Carson Short-1361, 10-Isaac Chapple-1193.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: October 11, 2019 – Terre Haute Action Track – Terre Haute, Indiana – Wabash Clash – 1/2-Mile Dirt Oval

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Jarett Andretti (13th to 8th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Mario Clouser

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Steve Thomas

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Kyle Cummins

Tyler Courtney (Fatheadz Eyewear Fast Qualifier)

Kyle Cummins (Simpson Race Products First Heat Winner)

Kevin Thomas Jr. (Competition Suspension, Inc. Second Heat Winner)

Dustin Clark (AutoMeter Third Heat Winner)

Chris Windom (Indy Race Parts Semi Winner)

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PERRIS ELUSIVE NO MORE FOR BACON AT OVAL NATS NIGHT #1

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Perris, California (November 7, 2019)……In 26 previous USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car starts at Perris Auto Speedway, Brady Bacon was in contention in the majority of them, garnering 17 top-tens and nine top-fives between 2006 and 2018.

However, in start 27 on Thursday, Bacon finally tasted the sweet nectar of victory at the southern California ½-mile, leading all 30 laps from the pole position to capture opening night of the 24th annual Budweiser Oval Nationals presented by All Coast Construction.

“I think we’ve run second on prelim nights probably five or six times and been in the top-five a couple times on the final night, so this is awesome to get this monkey off our back,” a relieved Bacon said. “Now, we can just go ahead and win a couple more this weekend.”

The long-awaited victory couldn’t have come a moment too soon for the 2014 and 2016 series champ from Broken Arrow, Okla., who hadn’t scored a triumph with the series since a two-night sweep of Iowa’s Knoxville Raceway in July, four months ago in his Dynamics, Inc./Mean Green – Fatheadz Eyewear – Tel-Star/Triple X/Rider Chevy.

“This late in the year, this win definitely helps going into the winter,” Bacon admitted. “We had a dry spell, a little bit of bad luck, led at Lawrenceburg and stuff like that. Hopefully, we can kind of get that momentum we had earlier this summer and carry it on for the rest of the year.”

Bacon started up front and was rarely challenged throughout the duration of the 30-lapper, save for a few instances in traffic later in the battle. However, at the start, Bacon slipped under outside front row starter Chris Windom and led the charge by a car-length by the time the pair hit the back straightaway.

The first stoppage came early when the two USAC National Sprint Car title contenders, C.J. Leary and Tyler Courtney, collided in turn two on the fourth lap while battling for the fifth spot. The contact between Leary’s right rear and the left

side of Courtney's ride flattened Courtney's left rear-tire. As Courtney scrambled to regain control of his car, Leary's teammate, Logan Seavey, came upon the scene and struck Courtney, heavily damaging the front end of Seavey.

Both Courtney and Seavey returned to action following time in the work area. Seavey struggled to a 21st place result while Courtney charged back through the pack to take 8th, a night Courtney would soon rather forget after enduring a wild flip in turn three on the second lap of his qualifying run. Courtney's Clauson Marshall Newman Racing team made extensive repairs to the car and returned with the very same car to win their heat a short time later.

When action resumed, Bacon jumped back out to a one-plus second lead while seven-time USAC/CRA champ Damion Gardner began to close on Windom for the runner-up position.

Nearing the midway point, and in the throes of lapped traffic, Gardner made the move to second with an inside pass of Windom in turns one and two but was stifled after encountering the lapped car of Chris Gansen on the low line of three, forcing Gardner to throttle back and allowing Windom to surge ahead on the top side for the position.

Once Windom cleared Gardner, he began to rapidly reel in Bacon as the leader surfed inside the green room of a barrel wave, trying to keep unfazed with a heavy task on his horizon.

However, just as Windom sensed the smell of blood in the water, a spin by Dennis Gile in turn three removed traffic from the equation for the time being and supplied Bacon with room to maneuver, a clear mind and a clear track ahead with the lapped car of Eddie Tafoya Jr. separating the top-two of Bacon and Windom on the restart.

Under yellow, Windom signaled for Tafoya to stay low on the track surface so the top shelf would be wide open for himself on the high line while in pursuit of Bacon. Windom resumed his chase of Bacon who held the advantage once again, but just as lapped traffic loomed, the yellow for the stopped car of three-time Oval Nationals winner and 10th running Bud Kaeding who rested backwards on the bottom berm of turn two with eight laps to go.

On lap 24, Windom came as close as he'd get all night to Bacon, pulling within a half-car length of Bacon on the bottom between turns one and two. Bacon held onto a firm Kung Fu grip of the lead exiting the second turn and began to inchworm away from Windom down the stretch.

Windom relentlessly tried to gain any ground he could to pounce on a possible Bacon misstep. But none were to be had by Bacon as Windom got above the cushion between turns three and four with four laps to go, disallowing another shot at Bacon.

Bacon finished off the deal with a 0.974 second victory, the fifth of his 2019 USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car season and the 28th of his career with the series, moving him into a tie for 14th all-time with Levi Jones and J.J. Yeley.

"I thought we had a pretty good balance there," Bacon said. "We were good at the beginning, and still pretty good at the end. I felt like we were fading a little bit with those yellows at the end, but we'll make some adjustments and be ready (for Friday and Saturday)."

Windom (Canton, Ill.) had a solid 2nd place run in his Parallax Group-Goacher Racing/NOS Energy Drink – Parallax Power Supply/Twister/Claxton Mopar, earning his sixth consecutive top-five finish, which is the longest current active streak in the series.

"Overall, it was a really solid night," Windom stated. "Brady (Bacon) was better than us early on. I think, once we moved up there, we were just as good as him, but he was probably just a little better than us overall tonight. I was hoping we would stay in lapped traffic there and we could race with those guys, but he got the restarts right when he needed them. (My crew) has been working hard all night to get us in this position and I think we've got a good car for the rest of the weekend."

Third-place finisher Richard Vander Weerd (Visalia, Calif.) may run a limited schedule, but he showed no inkling of any rust as he recorded his best USAC National Sprint Car feature finish since a 3rd place run on the final night of the Oval Nationals in 2016 in his Ron Vander Weerd/Vander Weerd Construction – Maxwell Industries/DRC/Shark Chevy.

“These guys run 60 races a year or more, but I’ve run probably about 15 to 20 this year so far,” Vander Weerd explained. “But I run this track a lot more. Racing a lot more is an advantage, but me running here more is an advantage too. (The car) was good at the end; we were a little too snug down in (turns) one and two, but it made up for it over in three and four where it was dry slick. Bacon and Windom are tough guys, so I can’t complain about finishing 3rd behind them.”

Gardner finished fourth while Leary rounded out the top-five and, in the process, upped his lead in the National standings from 47 to 55 over Courtney with four races remaining. Damion Gardner, likewise, extended his CRA lead as did Brody Roa in the Southwest tally.

USAC AMSOIL NATIONAL, CRA & SANDS CHEVROLET SOUTHWEST SPRINT CAR CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: November 7, 2019 – Perris Auto Speedway – Perris, California – 24th Budweiser Oval Nationals Presented by All Coast Construction – 1/2-Mile Dirt Oval

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR/WOODLAND AUTO DISPLAY/BEAVER STRIPES QUALIFYING: 1. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-16.362; 2. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-16.407; 3. Damion Gardner, 4x, Alexander-16.512; 4. Richard Vander Weerd, 10, Vander Weerd-16.519; 5. Chris Windom, 5G, Parallax/Goacher-16.560; 6. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-16.591; 7. Jace Vander Weerd, 88, Vander Weerd-16.602; 8. Logan Seavey, 19L, Reinbold/Underwood-16.639; 9. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-16.643; 10. Bud Kaeding, 0, Williams-16.659; 11. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-16.734; 12. Thomas Meseraull, 13m, Gile-16.740; 13. Max Adams, 73T, Ford-16.745; 14. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-16.820; 15. Cody Williams, 44, Williams-16.829; 16. Austin Williams, 92, Sertich-16.884; 17. Tommy Malcolm, 5x, Napier-16.909; 18. Donnie Gansen, 4D, Gansen-16.949; 19. Jake Swanson, 34AZ, Grau/Burkhart-17.052; 20. Chris Gansen, 4G, Gansen-17.057; 21. Stevie Sussex, 12, Allen-17.057; 22. R.J. Johnson, 51, Martin-17.060; 23. Brody Roa, 42, Cheney-17.063; 24. Charles Davis Jr., 47, Davis-17.084; 25. Jason McDougal, 42x, Cheney-17.087; 26. Hunter Schuerenberg, 19s, Reinbold/Underwood-17.107; 27. Steve Hix, 57, Hix-17.145; 28. Austin Liggett, 83, Liggett-17.181; 29. Bill Rose, 6, Rose-17.252; 30. Sterling Cling, 34, Cling-17.311; 31. Dennis Gile, 13G, Gile-17.408; 32. Josh Hodges, 74x, Hodges-17.498; 33. Eddie Tafoya Jr., 51T, Tafoya-17.610; 34. Jeremy Ellertson, 98J, Ellertson-17.654; 35. Chris Bonneau, 15, Bonneau-17.656; 36. Matt McCarthy, 28m, McCarthy-17.671; 37. Tye Mihocko, 5, Mihocko-17.794; 38. Will Perkins, 50, Perkins-18.034; 39. Joel Rayborne, 12B, Blair-18.715; 40. Chase Johnson, 68, Thomas-NT; 41. Verne Sweeney, 98, Tracy-NT; 42. Frank Rodgers III, 6R, Rodgers-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS/EXTREME MUFFLERS/BROWN & MILLER RACING SOLUTIONS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Justin Grant, 2. Hunter Schuerenberg, 3. C.J. Leary, 4. Brady Bacon, 5. Austin Williams, 6. Chris Gansen, 7. Dennis Gile, 8. Matt McCarthy. 2:51.31

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI)/CIRCLE TRACK PERFORMANCE/ULTRA SHIELD RACE PRODUCTS SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. R.J. Johnson, 3. Thomas Meseraull, 4. Tommy Malcolm, 5. Jace Vander Weerd, 6. Josh Hodges, 7. Steve Hix, 8. Tye Mihocko. 2:52.85

AUTOMETER/SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS/BUTLERBUILT SEATS THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Damion Gardner, 2. Brody Roa, 3. Logan Seavey, 4. Austin Liggett, 5. Max Adams, 6. Donnie Gansen, 7. Eddie Tafoya Jr. 2:51.35

INDY RACE PARTS/BROWN & MILLER RACING SOLUTIONS/SWAY-A-WAY RACING FOURTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Charles Davis Jr., 2. Kevin Thomas Jr., 3. Chase Stockon, 4. Richard Vander Weerd, 5. Jake Swanson, 6. Bill Rose, 7. Jeremy Ellertson, 8. Joel Rayborne. NT

SWAY-A-WAY RACING FIFTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Chris Windom, 2. Cody Williams, 3. Bud Kaeding, 4. Stevie Sussex, 5. Chris Bonneau, 6. Jason McDougal, 7. Sterling Cling, 8. Chase Johnson. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI)/PYROTECT RACING CELLS SEMI: (12 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Max Adams, 2. Jace Vander Weerd, 3. Austin Williams, 4. Jake Swanson, 5. Chris Gansen, 6. Josh Hodges, 7. Chris Bonneau, 8. Donnie Gansen, 9. Dennis Gile, 10. Jeremy Ellertson, 11. Steve Hix, 12. Eddie Tafoya Jr., 13. Bill Rose, 14. Matt McCarthy, 15. Tye Mihocko, 16. Joel Rayborne, 17. . Frank Rodgers III. 18. Verne Sweeney. NT

BILL PRATT FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Brady Bacon (1), 2. Chris Windom (2), 3. Richard Vander Weerd (3), 4. Damion Gardner (4), 5. C.J. Leary (6), 6. Justin Grant (11), 7. Jace Vander Weerd (7), 8. Tyler Courtney (5), 9. Kevin Thomas Jr. (9), 10. Austin Williams (16), 11. Chase Stockon (14), 12. Hunter Schuerenberg (23), 13. Brody Roa (21), 14. Tommy Malcolm (17), 15. Jake Swanson (18), 16. Thomas Meseraull (12), 17. Bud Kaeding (10), 18. Cody Williams (15), 19. Charles Davis Jr. (22), 20. Max Adams (13), 21. Logan Seavey (8), 22. Austin Liggett (24), 23. Stevie Sussex (19), 24. R.J. Johnson (20), 25. Josh Hodges (25-P), 26. Eddie Tafoya Jr. (28-P), 27. Chris Gansen (26-P), 28. Dennis Gile (27-P). NT

(P) represents a provisional starter

**Chase Johnson flipped during practice. Tyler Courtney flipped during qualifying. Jason McDougal & Sterling Cling flipped at the start of the fifth heat.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-30 Brady Bacon

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-2073, 2-Tyler Courtney-2018, 3-Chris Windom-1920, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1914, 5-Brady Bacon-1913, 6-Justin Grant-1913, 7-Chase Stockon-1804, 8-Jason McDougal-1493, 9-Carson Short-1361, 10-Isaac Chapple-1193.

AMSOIL USAC CRA SPRINT CAR CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Damion Gardner-1288, 2-Austin Williams-1205, 3-Brody Roa-1160, 4-Jake Swanson-1046, 5-Chris Gansen-813, 6-Tommy Malcolm-772, 7-Charles Davis Jr.-684, 8-Matt McCarthy-645, 9-Eddie Tafoya Jr.-623, 10-R.J. Johnson-605.

USAC SANDS CHEVROLET SOUTHWEST SPRINT CAR CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Brody Roa-941, 2-R.J. Johnson-917, 3-Stevie Sussex-856, 4-Charles Davis Jr.-823, 5-Mike Martin-655, 6-Jake Swanson-612, 7-Matt Lundy-500, 8-Austin Williams-446, 9-Chris Bonneau-444, 10-Michael Curtis-433.

USAC OVAL NATIONALS PROSOURCE PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Hunter Schuerenberg-11, 2-Justin Grant-8, 3-Brody Roa-8, 4-Chris Bonneau-8, 5-Austin Williams-6, 6-Chris Windom-5, 7-Damion Gardner-5, 8-Tyler Courtney-5, 9-Josh Hodges-5, 10-C.J. Leary-4.

USAC OVAL NATIONALS POINTS: 1-Chris Windom-144, 2-Brady Bacon-140, 3-Damion Gardner-140, 4-Richard Vander Weerd-136, 5-C.J. Leary-135, 6-Tyler Courtney-129, 7-Justin Grant-126, 8-Jace Vander Weerd-119, 9-Kevin Thomas Jr.-117, 10-Chase Stockon-108.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL NATIONAL, CRA & SANDS CHEVROLET SOUTHWEST SPRINT CAR CHAMPIONSHIP RACES: November 8-9, 2019 – Perris Auto Speedway – Perris, California – 24th Budweiser Oval Nationals Presented by All Coast Construction – 1/2-Mile Dirt Oval

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

PROSOURCE HARD WORK AWARD: Austin Liggett

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/SPECIALTY FASTENERS/SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Hunter Schuerenberg (23rd to 12th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Brody Roa

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Chris Gansen

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Max Adams

C.J. Leary (Fatheadz Eyewear/Woodland Auto Display/Beaver Stripes Fast Qualifier)

Justin Grant (Simpson Race Products/Extreme Muffler/Brown & Miller Racing Solutions First Heat Winner)

Tyler Courtney (Competition Suspension, Inc./Circle Track Performance/Ultra Shield Race Products Second Heat Winner)

Damion Gardner (AutoMeter/Saldana Racing Products/Butlerbuilt Seats Third Heat Winner)

Charles Davis Jr. (Indy Race Parts/Brown & Miller Racing Solutions/Sway-A-Way Racing Fourth Heat Winner)

Chris Windom (Sway-A-Way Racing Fifth Heat Winner)

Max Adams (Competition Suspension, Inc./Pyrotect Racing Cells Semi Winner)

Brady Bacon (Jack Jory Lap 15 Leader)

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BACK-TO-BACK BACON DOES IT AGAIN AT PERRIS

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Perris, California (November 8, 2019)……It took Brady Bacon 27 starts over a span of 13 years to reach victory lane for the first time at California's Perris Auto Speedway on Thursday night.

It took just 24 hours for him to capture his second on Friday at night two of the 24th annual Budweiser Oval Nationals presented by All Coast Construction.

The Broken Arrow, Okla. native delivered again on the southern California half-mile dirt oval for the second-straight night and became the first driver to repeat a USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car victory on back-to-back nights since himself in July at Iowa's Knoxville Raceway – the only driver to accomplish the feat this season.

The two-time USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car champion in 2014 and 2016 had to do it in a different style with a changed racing surface from the previous night, yet still preserved and persevered, leading all 30 laps in the process to score his sixth series win of 2019 and the 29th of his career, moving him past Levi Jones and J.J. Yeley and into a tie with Robert Ballou for 13th all-time.

"Last night was more my style of track than the one tonight which was something I don't necessarily excel at," Bacon admitted. "It was really rewarding, so I believe we're prepared for whatever tomorrow night throws at us. I'm proud of my guys for working hard. We weren't very good the last time we came here last year. We put our heads together and remembered as much as we could and put it with what we learned this year and it's obviously a pretty good package."

Bacon was originally slated to start 3rd on the grid, but a wild opening lap sequence would ultimately play into his favor. After the initial start was called back, the ensuing complete restart saw outside front row starter Tyler Courtney rip to the lead while pole sitter Damion Gardner slotted into second.

Exiting turn two, seven-time USAC/CRA champ Gardner ramped the K-Rail, up to the billboards, landed on his left side wheels, then bounced backward to a stop on the back straightaway. Steve Hix clipped Gardner's front end with his right rear wheel, signaling an end to the night for Hix and forced Gardner to the work area where repairs were made before sending him back into the fray, albeit four laps down when he returned.

The outside front row spot vacated by Gardner moved Bacon to the outside of the front row. Bacon got the upper hand of Courtney on the first try before a three-car melee between turns three and four involved fast qualifier Chris Windom, National point leader C.J. Leary and Jace Vander Weerd. Vander Weerd restarted while Leary took on new left rear rubber on his damaged mount in the work area. Chris Windom, however, was not able to resume.

The third complete restart was the charm with Grant diving to the bottom and going three-wide alongside Courtney and Bacon down the front straight with Grant poking ahead into one briefly before Bacon blasted off the top to secure the lead exiting the second turn.

Grant was Bacon's closest pursuant throughout the 30-lapper where he maintained a presence about 2-3 car lengths back of Bacon on the topside. Bacon ably pushed forward to a near one-second advantage at the halfway point with lapped traffic drawing nearer and nearer.

On the 18th lap, an opportunity presented itself for Grant as Bacon installed his navigational tactics on the lapped car of Bill Rose. Bacon was briefly caught up, and while Grant was able to reel in and catch Bacon, he wasn't in the position to perform the pick and roll past both.

The track was quickening down the stretch with both Bacon and Grant reeling off their fastest laps of the race on the white flag lap. Bacon corralled the lapped car of Hunter Schuerenberg in the waning laps but could only stay stride-for-stride with him as Schuerenberg logged his fastest laps as well. The narrow strip of rubber right through the middle proved succulent and any mistake that pushed a driver out of the groove could prove costly track position wise.

"I tried to start feeling around, but the rubber was getting so heavy," Bacon explained. "I figured if I couldn't pass a lapped car, they probably couldn't pass me, and I just tried not to slip up out of the rubber or anything. I tried entering above it and turning down to try and get a run, but it was just so narrow, you had to stay in the rubber the whole time. We took care of our tires and our car was hooked up, so I wasn't spinning (the tires). We had plenty left, which is a testament to how hard they've been working and hopefully we can continue this the rest of the year."

Bacon finished it off flawlessly, leading laps 1 through 30 for the second night in a row en route to a 0.649 second victory over Grant, Courtney, Chase Stockon and top USAC/CRA finisher Austin Williams in fifth.

Bacon, along with Courtney, Grant, Richard Vander Weerd, C.J. Leary and Chase Stockon accumulated enough points over the first two nights to lock themselves into Saturday night's feature event where they will occupy the first three rows in the starting lineup. The lineup will be determined following the Super Six Dash – a six lap shootout involving the six drivers to determine the first six starting spots for the 40-lap finale.

USAC AMSOIL NATIONAL, CRA & SANDS CHEVROLET SOUTHWEST SPRINT CAR CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: November 8, 2019 – Perris Auto Speedway – Perris, California – 24th Budweiser Oval Nationals Presented by All Coast Construction – 1/2-Mile Dirt Oval

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR/WOODLAND AUTO DISPLAY/BEAVER STRIPES QUALIFYING: 1. Chris Windom, 5G, Parallax/Goacher-16.835; 2. Austin Williams, 92, Sertich-16.930; 3. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-16.946; 4. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-16.955; 5. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-17.121; 6. Eddie Tafoya Jr., 51T, Tafoya-17.136; 7. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-17.146; 8. Max Adams, 73T, Ford-17.172; 9. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-17.184; 10. Jake Swanson, 34AZ, Grau/Burkhart-17.199; 11. Jace Vander Weerd, 88, Vander Weerd-17.222; 12. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-17.264; 13. Logan Seavey, 19L, Reinbold/Underwood-17.300; 14. Damion Gardner, 4x, Alexander-17.361; 15. Bud Kaeding, 0, Williams-17.406; 16. R.J. Johnson, 51, Martin-17.428; 17. Tommy Malcolm, 5x, Napier-17.445; 18. Josh Hodges, 74x, Hodges-17.470; 19. Brody Roa, 42, Cheney-17.518; 20. Hunter Schuerenberg, 19s, Reinbold/Underwood-17.594; 21. Richard Vander Weerd, 10, Vander Weerd-17.612; 22. Chase Johnson, 68, Thomas-17.615; 23. Thomas Meseraull, 13m, Gile-17.631; 24. Charles Davis Jr., 47, Davis-17.656; 25. Chris Gansen, 4G, Gansen-17.674; 26. Stevie Sussex, 12, Allen-17.690; 27. Bill Rose, 6, Rose-17.766; 28. Austin Liggett, 83, Liggett-17.784; 29. Donnie Gansen, 4D, Gansen-17.790; 30. Dennis Gile, 13G, Gile-17.793; 31. Tye Mihocko, 5, Mihocko-17.864; 32. Verne Sweeney, 98, Tracy-17.865; 33. Steve Hix, 57, Hix-17.888; 34. Cody Williams, 44, Williams-18.024; 35. Joel Rayborne, 12B, Blair-18.082; 36. Chris Bonneau, 15, Bonneau-18.149; 37. Sterling Cling, 34, Cling-18.328; 38. Jeremy Ellertson, 98J, Ellertson-18.383; 39. Matt McCarthy, 28m, McCarthy-18.515; 40. Will Perkins, 50, Perkins-18.824; 41. Frank Rodgers III, 6R, Rodgers-19.449.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS/EXTREME MUFFLERS/BROWN & MILLER RACING SOLUTIONS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Richard Vander Weerd, 2. R.J. Johnson, 3. Jake Swanson, 4. Stevie Sussex, 5. Eddie Tafoya Jr., 6. Chris Bonneau, 7. Tye Mihocko, 8. Frank Rodgers III, 9. Chris Windom. 2:52.87

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI)/CIRCLE TRACK PERFORMANCE/ULTRA SHIELD RACE PRODUCTS SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Bill Rose, 2. Brady Bacon, 3. Austin Williams, 4. Jace Vander Weerd, 5. Tommy Malcolm, 6. Sterling Cling, 7. Verne Sweeney. 2.53.45

AUTOMETER/SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS/BUTLERBUILT SEATS THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Austin Liggett, 2. Thomas Meseraull, 3. C.J. Leary, 4. Chase Stockon, 5. Josh Hodges, 6. Max Adams, 7. Steve Hix, 8. Jeremy Ellertson. NT

INDY RACE PARTS/BROWN & MILLER RACING SOLUTIONS/SWAY-A-WAY RACING FOURTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Charles Davis Jr., 3. Logan Seavey, 4. Brody Roa, 5. Kevin Thomas Jr., 6. Donnie Gansen, 7. Matt McCarthy, 8. Cody Williams. NT

SWAY-A-WAY RACING FIFTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Bud Kaeding, 2. Damion Gardner, 3. Hunter Schuerenberg, 4. Justin Grant, 5. Chris Gansen, 6. Joel Rayborne, 7. Will Perkins, 8. Dennis Gile. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI)/PYROTECT RACING CELLS SEMI: (12 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Chris Windom, 2. Kevin Thomas Jr., 3. Max Adams, 4. Tommy Malcolm, 5. Josh Hodges, 6. Cody Williams, 7. Eddie Tafoya Jr., 8. Dennis Gile, 9. Chris Gansen, 10. Steve Hix, 11. Tye Mihocko, 12. Chris Bonneau, 13. Sterling Cling, 14. Matt McCarthy, 15. Verne Sweeney, 16. Joel Rayborne, 17. Frank Rodgers III, 18. Will Perkins. 3:41.72

EVELYN PRATT FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Brady Bacon (3), 2. Justin Grant (4), 3. Tyler Courtney (2), 4. Chase Stockon (5), 5. Austin Williams (6), 6. Logan Seavey (13), 7. Kevin Thomas Jr. (8), 8. Richard Vander Weerd (19), 9. Bud Kaeding (14), 10. C.J. Leary (12), 11. Max Adams (9), 12. Brody Roa (17), 13. Thomas Meseraull (20), 14. Stevie Sussex (22), 15. Austin Liggett (24), 16. Jace Vander Weerd (11), 17. Jake Swanson (10), 18. Hunter Schuerenberg (18), 19. Eddie Tafoya Jr. (26-P), 20. Damion Gardner (1), 21. Bill Rose (23), 22. Josh Hodges (25-P), 23. Charles Davis Jr. (21), 24. Tommy Malcolm (16), 25. Chris Windom (7), 26. Steve Hix (27-P), 27. R.J. Johnson (15). NT

(P) represents a provisional starter

**Chase Johnson flipped during qualifying.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-30 Brady Bacon.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-2198, 2-Tyler Courtney-2090, 3-Brady Bacon-1990, 4-Justin Grant-1987, 5-Kevin Thomas Jr.-1972, 6-Chris Windom-1947, 7-Chase Stockon-1874, 8-Jason McDougal-1493, 9-Carson Short-1361, 10-Isaac Chapple-1193.

AMSOIL USAC CRA SPRINT CAR CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Damion Gardner-1318, 2-Austin Williams-1274, 3-Brody Roa-1204, 4- Jake Swanson-1081, 5-Chris Gansen-823, 6-Tommy Malcolm-796, 7-Charles Davis Jr.-714, 8-Matt McCarthy-655, 9-Eddie Tafoya Jr.-649, 10-Richard Vander Weerd-637.

USAC SANDS CHEVROLET SOUTHWEST SPRINT CAR CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Brody Roa-985, 2-R.J. Johnson-947, 3-Stevie Sussex-896, 4-Charles Davis Jr.-853, 5-Mike Martin-655, 6-Jake Swanson-647, 7-Austin Williams-515, 8-Matt Lundy-500, 9-Chris Bonneau-454, 10-Damion Gardner-445.

USAC OVAL NATIONALS PROSOURCE PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Richard Vander Weerd-14, 2-Brody Roa-13, 3-Justin Grant-12, 4-Chris Bonneau-12, 5-Hunter Schuerenberg-11, 6-Austin Liggett-11, 7-Logan Seavey-10, 8-Bud Kaeding-10, 9-Tyler Courtney-9, 10-Damion Gardner-8.

USAC OVAL NATIONALS POINTS: 1-Brady Bacon-283, 2-Tyler Courtney-266, 3-Justin Grant-264, 4-Richard Vander Weerd-256, 5-C.J. Leary-245, 6-Chase Stockon-242, 7-Austin Williams-239, 8-Kevin Thomas Jr.-239, 9-Damion Gardner-233, 10-Chris Windom-231.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL NATIONAL, CRA & SANDS CHEVROLET SOUTHWEST SPRINT CAR CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: November 9, 2019 – Perris Auto Speedway – Perris, California – 24th Budweiser Oval Nationals Presented by All Coast Construction – 1/2-Mile Dirt Oval

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

PROSOURCE HARD WORK AWARD: Austin Liggett

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/SPECIALTY FASTENERS/SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Richard Vander Weerd (19th to 8th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Thomas Meseraull

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Josh Hodges

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13th FASTEST QUALIFIER: Logan Seavey

Chris Windom (Fatheadz Eyewear/Woodland Auto Display/Beaver Stripes Fast Qualifier

Chris Windom (Competition Suspension, Inc./Pyrotect Racing Cells Semi Winner)

Richard Vander Weerd (Simpson Race Products/Extreme Muffler/Brown & Miller Racing Solutions First Heat Winner)

Bill Rose (Competition Suspension, Inc./Circle Track Performance/Ultra Shield Race Products Second Heat Winner)

Austin Liggett (AutoMeter/Saldana Racing Products/Butlerbuilt Seats Third Heat Winner

Tyler Courtney (Indy Race Parts/Brown & Miller Racing Solutions/Sway-A-Way Racing Fourth Heat Winner)

Bud Kaeding (Sway-A-Way Racing Fifth Heat Winner)

and Brady Bacon (Jack Jory Halfway Leader)

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LEARY LANDS OVAL NATIONALS VICTORY AT PERRIS

By: Richie Murray - USAC Media

Perris, California (November 9, 2019)……In his seven previous Oval Nationals final night starts entering Saturday, C.J.

Leary had never managed a finish better than 13th, a result hardly indicative of his performances throughout the years which have been plagued by the lack of Lady Luck's presence, including a mechanical issue that sidelined him while leading with 14 laps remaining one year ago.

The 2019 edition unfolded quite differently for the Greenfield, Ind. native on this particular evening, a story void of heartache, a story filled with triumph and joy.

Leary took over the lead with 24 laps remaining and mastered a rash of late-race restarts to capture the 24th annual Budweiser Oval Nationals presented by All Coast Construction at southern California's Perris Auto Speedway.

It was a much-needed win for the USAC AMSOIL Sprint Car National Championship point leader and the crew of the Reinbold-Underwood Motorsports/AME Electrical - Mesilla Valley Transportation/Spike/Foxco Chevy in a myriad of ways.

For one, almost inconceivably, it had been nearly nine months and 29 races since his most recent USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car victory. Ironically, Leary's first win of the season came in the third race of the year in Ocala, Fla. Saturday's victory at Perris came in the third race from the conclusion of the series campaign.

Secondly, it provided a boon to a team in the midst of a close championship battle where every position means everything. Leary took care of that, earning max points with the win and gained 12 points on second-place Tyler Courtney in the title pursuit, 44 up, with two races remaining on the docket.

While Leary had experienced victory lane on Oval Nationals weekend prior to Saturday, that came during the 360 sprint portion in 2014. This one is special, however, considering how close he has come since then to notching a first 410 win at The PAS.

"Man, this is awesome," Leary exclaimed. "This race, I feel like, has escaped me three or four times in the past. I got the 360 Oval Nationals deal done a long time ago, but this definitely takes the cake. The white eagle is my favorite trophy to win."

Earlier in the evening, Leary captured victory in the six lap, six-car Super Six dash to claim the pole position for the 40-lap main event. However, outside front row occupant Chase Stockon ripped the top of turns one and two to take the lead on the opening circuit where he'd remain for the first 16 trips around the ½-mile until Leary utilized a drive off the bottom of turn two to grab the lead from Stockon on lap 17.

Leary opened up a three-car-length advantage over Stockon who was now involved in a tussle for second with Courtney, Brady Bacon and Chris Windom all under a proverbial blanket. Courtney dipped into turn three underneath Stockon to gain the second spot on the 23rd go-around and set forth toward Leary.

Leary and Courtney, who swapped the lead between them four times in last year's Oval Nationals final night feature, resumed their wrestling match in traffic for the top spot. On the 26th lap, Courtney almost parked it as he closed abruptly

on Leary's tail tank at the entrance of turn three. Courtney slid sideways above the cushion, losing the 2nd and 3rd positions in the ensuing two laps to Stockon, then Bacon.

Thursday and Friday Perris winner Bacon was suddenly the man on the move as he began to track down Stockon for the second position until lap 29 when, unrelatedly, Max Adams came to a stop in turn two, necessitating a yellow flag. As Stockon slowed for the yellow, the trailing Bacon ramped over Stockon's left rear wheel and slid backwards to a stop without making wall contact. However, his bid for an Oval Nationals sweep was denied. He restarted from the tail, and eventually, worked his way back to a 12th place result at the checkered.

Down the stretch, several cautions wreaked havoc on Leary's flow with a flat right rear on teammate Logan Seavey's ride on lap 31, an Austin Liggett turn four flip on the 35th lap, a Justin Grant turn four spin on lap 37 and a debris caution for the exodus of bodywork on the nose of Damion Gardner's silver bullet. However, each time a stoppage occurred, Leary was superb on the restart, jaunting out to a three to four car length advantage each time, for which no other seemed to have an answer.

Chris Windom had worked his way underneath Stockon on the 33rd lap to get into contention with Leary yet had to contend with preserving his second spot from the onslaught of attacks from both Stockon and Gardner in the waning laps, which went all to Leary's benefit as he closed out his ninth career series victory with a 1.624 second interval over Windom, Gardner, Stockon and Courtney.

Leary's ninth USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car victory tied him with Mario Andretti, Hunter Schuerenberg and Robbie Stanley for 51st on the all-time series win list while also supplying Davey Jones with his sixth career Oval Nationals feature score as a crew chief.

"I never really thought we would've just run the bottom the whole time but figured we'd make the switch to the top and I just kept pulling away. Davey was giving some good hand signals from the trailer," Leary recalled. "He and I put a lot of time into these racecars and to come out here and win this one is (sweet)."

A roller coaster Oval Nationals for Windom (Canton, Ill.) saw him finishing 2nd twice this weekend following Thursday and Saturday's runner-up results while a 25th place run is sandwiched between the two nights that wound up with a seemingly successful, yet bittersweet night for the 2010 Oval Nationals winner.

"We're definitely happy, but it's a little frustrating," Windom admitted. "I feel like we run second or third every year and have some sort of issue that puts us starting in the fourth or fifth row. Overall, we've overcame a lot in the last 24 hours. Everybody on this team has done a phenomenal job all weekend to get us here."

"I didn't have anything for C.J., obviously, at the end," Windom added. "I felt like I did in the middle part of the race when I was passing guys. One of those late race cautions, I don't know if our right rear tire sealed over or what happened for sure, but I had no grip to the center of the corner anymore and he could just pull through three and four so much better. I just couldn't get there."

Three-time Oval Nationals victor Damion Gardner (Concord, Calif.) came away with a third-place run, continuing his streak of top-ten finishes on Saturday night of the event to 11 years running that came one night after an uncharacteristic early race incident took him out of contention while running second.

"It's points, it's winning the Oval Nationals, all the cautions and running out of fuel is always a concern, then the hood blew off. I was really worried that would be the two laps I needed to finish the race," Gardner said. "Last year, we literally sputtered to the checkered and that was a lot of drama there, so I was worried about that."

"We were just really good the whole race," Gardner continued. "It was kind of tacky early, but at the end, we were really making ground. I got hung up behind a couple guys at the beginning and they were just kind of all over, and it took me

awhile to break free. Once I broke free, I ran those guys down from pretty far back. I knew they would be tough, there were five of them, so I just had to be patient, but that was all I had, that was it, I gave it all I had. I just didn't need the cautions at the end."

USAC AMSOIL NATIONAL, CRA & SANDS CHEVROLET SOUTHWEST SPRINT CAR CHAMPIONSHIP RACE RESULTS: November 9, 2019 – Perris Auto Speedway – Perris, California – 24th Budweiser Oval Nationals Presented by All Coast Construction – 1/2-Mile Dirt Oval

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR/WOODLAND AUTO DISPLAY/BEAVER STRIPES QUALIFYING: 1. Damion Gardner, 4x, Alexander-16.362; 2. Max Adams, 73T, Ford-16.406; 3. Austin Williams, 92, Sertich-16.491; 4. Jace Vander Weerd, 88, Vander Weerd-16.527; 5. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-16.543; 6. Jake Swanson, 34AZ, Grau/Burkhart-16.553; 7. Chris Windom, 5G, Parallax/Goacher-16.560; 8. Logan Seavey, 19L, Reinbold/Underwood-16.684; 9. Bud Kaeding, 0, Williams-16.720; 10. Stevie Sussex, 12, Allen-16.752; 11. Thomas Meseraull, 13m, Gile-16.777; 12. Charles Davis Jr., 47, Davis-16.782; 13. Austin Liggett, 83, Liggett-16.827; 14. Tommy Malcolm, 5x, Napier-16.853; 15. R.J. Johnson, 51, Martin-16.908; 16. Cody Williams, 44, Williams-16.914; 17. Steve Hix, 57, Hix-16.919; 18. Bill Rose, 6, Rose-16.929; 19. Brody Roa, 42, Cheney-16.959; 20. Josh Hodges, 74x, Hodges-16.992; 21. Sterling Cling, 34, Cling-17.015; 22. Hunter Schuerenberg, 19s, Reinbold/Underwood-17.070; 23. Chris Bonneau, 15, Bonneau-17.077; 24. Dennis Gile, 13G, Gile-17.151; 25. Verne Sweeney, 98, Tracy-17.153; 26. Chris Gansen, 4G, Gansen-17.160; 27. Eddie Tafoya Jr., 51T, Tafoya-17.399; 28. Tye Mihocko, 5, Mihocko-17.643; 29. Joel Rayborne, 12B, Blair-17.818; 30. Will Perkins, 50, Perkins-18.902; 31. Frank Rodgers III, 6R, Rodgers-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS/EXTREME MUFFLERS/BROWN & MILLER RACING SOLUTIONS FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-2 transfer to the feature) 1. Austin Liggett, 2. Damion Gardner, 3. Bud Kaeding, 4. Kevin Thomas Jr., 5. Sterling Cling, 6. Steve Hix, 7. Verne Sweeney, 8. Joel Rayborne. 2:56.98

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI)/CIRCLE TRACK PERFORMANCE/ULTRA SHIELD RACE PRODUCTS SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-2 transfer to the feature) 1. Max Adams, 2. Jake Swanson, 3. Stevie Sussex, 4. Tommy Malcolm, 5. Hunter Schuerenberg, 6. Chris Gansen, 7. Bill Rose, 8. Will Perkins. 2:54.48

AUTOMETER/SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS/BUTLERBUILT SEATS THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-2 transfer to the feature) 1. Thomas Meseraull, 2. Chris Windom, 3. R.J. Johnson, 4. Austin Williams, 5. Brody Roa, 6. Chris Bonneau, 7. Eddie Tafoya Jr. 2:56.65

INDY RACE PARTS/BROWN & MILLER RACING SOLUTIONS/SWAY-A-WAY RACING FOURTH HEAT: (10 laps, top-2 transfer to the feature) 1. Jace Vander Weerd, 2. Logan Seavey, 3. Josh Hodges, 4. Charles Davis Jr., 5. Cody Williams, 6. Dennis Gile. 2:56.28

SWAY-A-WAY RACING SUPER SIX DASH: (6 laps, finishing order sets first three rows of the feature) 1. C.J. Leary (#19AZ Reinbold/Underwood), 2. Chase Stockon (#32 32 TBI), 3. Justin Grant (#4 TOPP), 4. Brady Bacon (#69 Dynamics), 5. Tyler Courtney (#7BC Clauson Marshall Newman), 6. Richard Vander Weerd (#10 Vander Weerd). 1:43.99

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI)/PYROTECT RACING CELLS FIRST SEMI: (12 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Austin Williams, 2. Charles Davis Jr., 3. Bud Kaeding, 4. Hunter Schuerenberg, 5. R.J. Johnson, 6. Bill Rose, 7. Dennis Gile, 8. Eddie Tafoya Jr., 9. Verne Sweeney, 10. Steve Hix, 11. Will Perkins. 3:30.37

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI)/PYROTECT RACING CELLS SECOND SEMI: (12 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Kevin Thomas Jr., 2. Brody Roa, 3. Stevie Sussex, 4. Cody Williams, 5. Tommy Malcolm, 6. Chris Bonneau, 7. Chris Gansen, 8. Sterling Cling, 9. Joel Rayborne, 10. Josh Hodges. 3:29.16

FEATURE: (40 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. C.J. Leary (1), 2. Chris Windom (8), 3. Damion Gardner (7), 4. Chase Stockon (2), 5. Tyler Courtney (5), 6. Kevin Thomas Jr. (16), 7. Jake Swanson (13), 8. Austin Williams (15), 9. Richard Vander Weerd (6), 10. Bud Kaeding (17), 11. Jace Vander Weerd (9), 12. Brady Bacon (4), 13. Thomas Meseraull (11), 14. R.J. Johnson (21), 15. Tommy Malcolm (22), 16. Charles Davis Jr. (19), 17. Max Adams (12), 18. Logan Seavey (10), 19. Justin Grant (3), 20. Stevie Sussex (20), 21. Josh Hodges (23-P), 22. Cody Williams (24), 23. Chris Gansen (25-P), 24. Eddie Tafoya Jr. (26-P), 25. Austin Liggett (14), 26. Brody Roa (18), 27. Chris Bonneau (28-P), 28. Hunter Schuerenberg (27). NT

(P) represents a provisional starter

**Austin Liggett flipped on lap 35 of the feature.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-16 Chase Stockon, Laps 17-40 C.J. Leary.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-2192, 2-Tyler Courtney-2148, 3-Brady Bacon-2029, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-2027, 5-Chris Windom-2020, 6-Justin Grant-2012, 7-Chase Stockon-1935, 8-Jason McDougal-1493, 9-Carson Short-1361, 10-Isaac Chapple-1193.

AMSOIL USAC CRA SPRINT CAR CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Damion Gardner-1382, 2-Austin Williams-1323, 3-Brody Roa-1227, 4- Jake Swanson-1138, 5-Chris Gansen-846, 6-Tommy Malcolm-829, 7-Charles Davis Jr.-745, 8-Richard Vander Weerd-683, 9- Eddie Tafoya Jr.-672, 10-R.J. Johnson-670.

USAC SANDS CHEVROLET SOUTHWEST SPRINT CAR CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Brody Roa-1008, 2-R.J. Johnson-982, 3-Stevie Sussex-919, 4-Charles Davis Jr.-884, 5-Jake Swanson-699, 6-Mike Martin-655, 7-Austin Williams-564, 8-Damion Gardner-509, 9- Matt Lundy-500, 10-Chris Bonneau-477.

FINAL USAC OVAL NATIONALS PROSOURCE PASSING MASTER POINTS: 1-Bud Kaeding-17, 2-Austin Williams-15, 3-Kevin Thomas Jr., 4-Damion Gardner-14, 5-Richard Vander Weerd-14, 6-Jake Swanson-14, 7-Justin Grant-13, 8-Brody Roa-13, 9-Chris Bonneau-13, 10-Chris Windom-12.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL NATIONAL, CRA & SANDS CHEVROLET SOUTHWEST SPRINT CAR CHAMPIONSHIP RACES: November 15-16, 2019 – Arizona Speedway – San Tan Valley, Arizona – 52nd Western World Championships Presented by San Tan Ford – 1/3-Mile Dirt Oval

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

PROSOURCE HARD WORK AWARD: Cody Williams

TONY JONES/KSE RACING PRODUCTS/SPECIALTY FASTENERS/SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Kevin Thomas Jr. (16th to 6th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Thomas Meseraull

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFERS: Bill Rose & Chris Bonneau

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Austin Liggett

Damion Gardner (Fatheadz Eyewear/Woodland Auto Display/Beaver Stripes Fast Qualifier)

Austin Liggett (Simpson Race Products/Extreme Muffler/Brown & Miller Racing Solutions First Heat Winner)

Max Adams (Competition Suspension, Inc./Circle Track Performance/Ultra Shield Race Products Second Heat Winner)

Thomas Meseraull (AutoMeter/Saldana Racing Products/Butlerbuilt Seats Third Heat Winner)

Jace Vander Weerd (Indy Race Parts/Brown & Miller Racing Solutions/Sway-A-Way Racing Fourth Heat Winner)

Austin Williams (Competition Suspension, Inc./Pyrotect Racing Cells Semi Winner)

Kevin Thomas Jr. (Competition Suspension, Inc./Pyrotect Racing Cells Semi Winner)

C.J. Leary (Sway-A-Way Racing Super Six Dash Winner)

C.J. Leary (Jack Jory Halfway Leader)

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SUNSHINE SURVIVES AND THRIVES IN WESTERN WORLD SPRINT OPENER

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

San Tan Valley, Arizona (November 15, 2019)……Entering the final weekend of the year trailing by 44 points in the USAC AMSOIL National standings, Tyler Courtney's goal was simple. Win a championship.

Simple enough. But to do that, you've got to persevere under pressure and tense situations that may arise around you. You've also got to avoid catastrophe whether it's by your own doing or avoiding the calamities around you in order to maximize your points.

Courtney checked all those boxes on Friday night in the opener for the 52nd annual Western World Championships presented by San Tan Ford at Arizona Speedway to win his eighth series feature of 2019 and the 25th of his career, tying him with Steve Butler, Jay Drake and Chris Windom for 20th all-time.

"We came here this weekend to do one thing, and that's win a championship," Courtney reiterated. "You've got to do that by winning races. We may have fallen into one a little bit here, but you've got to be lucky just as much as you've got to be good."

Courtney, the defending Western World champion, started the feature from 5th, where he had a front row seat for a 30-lap war of attrition that plagued many of the front runners for a variety of reasons.

Chris Windom mostly dominated from the pole position for much of the first half of the event following a lap one stoppage for fast qualifier and heat race one winner Logan Seavey who slowed with a mechanical issue on the opening circuit and was sidelined for the remainder of the evening.

In reverse of the midget race that proceeded the sprint feature, the groove was up on the fence where Windom led the charge around the 1/3-mile dirt oval while National championship contenders Courtney and point leader C.J. Leary ran 6th and 11th, respectively, with Courtney throwing a shower of sparks from brakes in the turns for the time being.

Just before midway, second-running Justin Grant had caught Windom, taking a peek underneath Windom on both ends of the track just as the ring of rubber began to take hold on the top side.

Grant successfully made the pass of Windom stick in turn one on the 17th lap with the two making contact, Grant's rear to Windom's front bumper. Windom fell back behind Grant, but it didn't take long for him to fire his next shot in turn one two laps later to reclaim the lead.

On the 21st lap, Grant brought the heat once again with a turn one slider across the nose of Windom to secure the top spot with less than 10 to go. Grant became the locomotive pulling the train with Windom and midget feature winner Kevin Thomas Jr. now closing in rapidly in third.

On the very next lap, the unthinkable happened. As the top-three entered the middle of turns one and two, they approached the lapped car of Kyle Shipley, whose right rear tire was pouring smoke off the corners. As Shipley rounded turn two, he drifted high off the rubber, half-spinning right into the path of not only Grant, but also second-running Windom, third-place Thomas and fourth place Schuerenberg, who all plowed into Shipley's stopped car.

Just behind, resting near the outside turn two wall was 10th running Chase Stockon and point leader Leary. With only nine laps remaining, Leary's pursuit of a championship seemed to be in peril. However, he restarted and managed to wheel back to 6th at the checkered following a slew of attrition and tire wear that developed down the stretch.

Windom and Schuerenberg were out, and Thomas dropped out a few laps later, while Grant, Leary, Stockon rejoined the fray. USAC/CRA Sprint standout Austin Williams inherited the lead with Brady Bacon and Courtney now residing in his shadow.

However, Williams bid for a first career USAC National feature win came to a bitter end with just five laps to go as his right rear tire gave way in turn 4 while a melee involving the cars of Jake Swanson, Thomas Meseraull, Max Adams, Brody Roa and a helicoptering R.J. Johnson ensued behind him.

The restart put Bacon up front ahead of Courtney. Bacon assumed control, setting the pace until three laps to go when 19th running Chris Gansen slowed to a stop in turn four with a flat right rear of his own. When racing resumed, 4th running Damion Gardner and 12th place Kevin Thomas Jr. were the next to fall to the wayside with flat tires. Under caution, the cords on Bacon's right rear became readily apparent, thus placing him in the unenviable role of sitting duck on the lap 29 restart.

Courtney smelled blood in the water and went on the offensive, sliding underneath Bacon in turn one to grab the lead. Just mere moments later, Bacon slowed to a crawl with the plodding sound of flat right rear rubber entering his ear.

Courtney was now in his Shangri-La for the final restart and where he'd stay for good, encountering no trouble at the end en route to victory over a hard-charging Justin Grant, who returned from the earlier incident to finish 2nd. Jason McDougal was 3rd ahead of KSE Racing Products Hard Charger Charles Davis Jr. in 4th (from 16th) and Stevie Sussex rounding out the top-five.

With the victory, Courtney has now closed the gap to 26 entering Saturday's finale in the race for the 2019 USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car championship.

"Our team hasn't given up all year," Courtney praised the crew of his Clauson-Marshall-Newman Racing/NOS Energy Drink – Competition Suspension, Inc./Spike/Rider Chevy. "We've been behind the eight ball ever since the first race in Florida when we ran 18th, but these guys never give up and they gave me a great racecar again. One more night to try and seal this deal up and we're just excited about the momentum we've got."

USAC AMSOIL NATIONAL, CRA & SANDS CHEVROLET SOUTHWEST SPRINT CAR 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 Oval

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR/WOODLAND AUTODISPLAY/BEAVER STRIPES QUALIFYING: 1. Logan Seavey, 19L, Reinbold/Underwood-14.763; 2. Hunter Schuerenberg, 19s, Reinbold/Underwood-14.881; 3. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-14.960; 4. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-14.967; 5. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-15.008; 6.

Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-15.057; 7. Austin Williams, 92, Sertich-15.064; 8. Chris Windom, 5G, Parallax/Goacher-15.072; 9. Jason McDougal, 34, Grau-15.105; 10. Jake Swanson, 34AZ, Grau/Burkhart-15.113; 11. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-15.157; 12. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-15.182; 13. Eddie Tafoya Jr., 51T, Tafoya-15.191; 14. Josh Hodges, 74x, Hodges-15.205; 15. Damion Gardner, 4x, Alexander-15.217; 16. R.J. Johnson, 51, Martin-15.252; 17. Stevie Sussex, 12, Allen-15.259; 18. Charles Davis Jr., 47, Davis-15.266; 19. Dustin Clark, 75, Clark-15.266; 20. Thomas Meseraull, 13m, Gile-15.281; 21. Chris Gansen, 4G, Gansen-15.286; 22. Brody Roa, 91R, BR-15.332; 23. Max Adams, 42, Cheney-15.339; 24. Tanner Carrick, 83T, Carrick-15.446; 25. Chris Bonneau, 15, Bonneau-15.447; 26. Dennis Gile, 13G, Gile-15.540; 27. Sterling Cling, 34c, Cling-15.541; 28. Tommy Malcolm, 5x, Napier-15.628; 29. Matt Rossi, 02, Rossi-15.696; 30. Kyle Shipley, 0G, Shipley-15.698; 31. Tye Mihocko, 5, Mihocko-15.816; 32. Michael Curtis, 11c, Turner/Wheeler-15.867; 33. Frank Rodgers III, 6R, Rodgers-16.957; 34. Noah Gass, 20G, Gass-NT; 35. Zack Madrid, 15m, Johnson-NT.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS/EXTREME MUFFLERS/BROWN & MILLER RACING SOLUTIONS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Logan Seavey, 2. Jason McDougal, 3. Chris Gansen, 4. Justin Grant, 5. Stevie Sussex, 6. Chris Bonneau, 7. Frank Rodgers III, 8. Eddie Tafoya Jr. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI)/CIRCLE TRACK PERFORMANCE/ULTRA SHIELD RACE PRODUCTS SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Charles Davis Jr., 2. Chase Stockon, 3. Jake Swanson, 4. Brody Roa, 5. Hunter Schuerenberg, 6. Josh Hodges, 7. Kyle Shipley, 8. Dennis Gile, 9. Noah Gass. 2:06.413

AUTOMETER/SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS/BUTLERBUILT SEATS THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. C.J. Leary, 2. Damion Gardner, 3. Max Adams, 4. Austin Williams, 5. Kevin Thomas Jr., 6. Dustin Clark, 7. Sterling Cling, 8. Tye Mihocko. 2:04.285 (New Track Record)

INDY RACE PARTS/BROWN & MILLER RACING SOLUTIONS/SWAY-A-WAY RACING FOURTH HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Tyler Courtney, 2. Thomas Meseraull, 3. Brady Bacon, 4. Chris Windom, 5. R.J. Johnson, 6. Tommy Malcolm, 7. Tanner Carrick, 8. Michael Curtis. 2:05.195

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI)/PYROTECT RACING CELLS SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Kevin Thomas Jr., 2. Josh Hodges, 3. Hunter Schuerenberg, 4. R.J. Johnson, 5. Dustin Clark, 6. Kyle Shipley, 7. Chris Bonneau, 8. Stevie Sussex, 9. Dennis Gile, 10. Tanner Carrick, 11. Michael Curtis, 12. Tye Mihocko, 13. Noah Gass, 14. Frank Rodgers III, 15. Tommy Malcolm, 16. Sterling Cling, 17. Eddie Tafoya Jr. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Tyler Courtney (5), 2. Justin Grant (4), 3. Jason McDougal (9), 4. Charles Davis Jr. (16), 5. Stevie Sussex (24-P), 6. C.J. Leary (11), 7. Josh Hodges (13), 8. Chase Stockon (3), 9. Austin Williams (2), 10. Tommy Malcolm (23-P), 11. Jake Swanson (10), 12. Thomas Meseraull (18), 13. Damion Gardner (14), 14. R.J. Johnson (15), 15. Max Adams (21), 16. Chris Gansen (19), 17. Brady Bacon (12), 18. Kevin Thomas Jr. (8), 19. Brody Roa (20), 20. Chris Windom (1), 21. Hunter Schuerenberg (7), 22. Kyle Shipley (22), 23. Dustin Clark (17), 24. Logan Seavey (6). NT

(P) represents a provisional starter

**Justin Grant flipped during the first heat. Sterling Cling flipped during the semi.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-16 Chris Windom, Laps 17-18 Justin Grant, Laps 19-20 Chris Windom, Lap 21 Justin Grant, Laps 22-25 Austin Williams, Laps 26-28 Brady Bacon, Laps 29-30 Tyler Courtney.

USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-2255, 2-Tyler Courtney-2229, 3-Justin Grant-2086, 4-Brady Bacon-2064, 5-Kevin Thomas Jr.-2062, 6-Chris Windom-2048, 7-Chase Stockon-1992, 8-Jason McDougal-1564, 9-Carson Short-1361, 10-Isaac Chapple-1193.

AMSOIL USAC CRA SPRINT CAR CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Damion Gardner-1426. 2-Austin Williams-1374, 3-Brody Roa-1257, 4- Jake Swanson-1180, 5-Chris Gansen-883, 6-Tommy Malcolm-872, 7-Charles Davis Jr.-814, 8-R.J. Johnson-706, 9-Richard Vander Weerd-683, 10-Eddie Tafoya Jr.-682.

USAC SANDS CHEVROLET SOUTHWEST SPRINT CAR CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Brody Roa-1038, 2-R.J. Johnson-1018, 3-Stevie Sussex-977, 4-Charles Davis Jr.-953, 5-Jake Swanson-746, 6-Mike Martin-655, 7-Austin Williams-615, 8-Damion Gardner- 553, 9-Matt Lundy-500, 10-Chris Bonneau-487.

NEXT USAC AMSOIL NATIONAL, CRA & SANDS CHEVROLET SOUTHWEST SPRINT CAR CHAMPIONSHIP RACE: November 16, 2019 – Arizona Speedway – San Tan Valley, Arizona – 52nd Western World Championships Presented by San Tan Ford – 1/3-Mile Dirt Oval

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/SPECIALTY FASTENERS/SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Charles Davis Jr. (16th to 4th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Damion Gardner

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Chris Bonneau

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Eddie Tafoya Jr.

Tyler Courtney (Indy Race Parts/Brown & Miller Racing Solutions/Sway-a-Way Racing Fourth Heat Winner)

Charles Davis Jr. (Competition Suspension, Inc./Circle Track Performance/Ultra Shield Second Heat Winner)

C.J. Leary (AutoMeter/Saldana Racing Products/Butlerbuilt Seats Third Heat Winner)

Logan Seavey (Fatheadz Eyewear/Woodland Auto Display/Beaver Stripes Fast Qualifier)

Logan Seavey (Simpson Race Products/Extreme Mufflers/Brown & Miller Racing Solutions First Heat Winner)

Kevin Thomas Jr. (Competition Suspension, Inc./Pyrotect Racing Cells Semi Winner)

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COURTNEY SPRINTS TO BACK-TO-BACK WESTERN WORLD WINS

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

San Tan Valley, Arizona (November 16, 2019)……One year ago, Tyler Courtney had a view from the other side of the spectrum at the season finale. There, his nearest combatant in the title chase collected a feature win while he celebrated a USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car championship.

Saturday's 2019 season finale at Arizona Speedway found the Indianapolis, Ind. in the polar opposite position where he was the one standing in victory lane with a tinge of bittersweetness surrounding him. He earned a second-straight Western World Championships Sprint Car crown, and second victory in as many nights, but in the end, came up 18 points shy of a second-straight series crown behind C.J. Leary.

While Courtney was elated in one sense by picking up his series-leading ninth victory of the 2019 season and the 26th of his USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car career, tying him with Tony Elliott and Dave Steele for 18th all-time, he couldn't help but have the end result of the championship weigh on his mind before a celebration of victory came to mind.

"What's going through my mind is that we lost the championship," Courtney said. "These guys worked their tails off all year to put us in contention for it. For the year, we just didn't get it there. We know what it's like to be the champions and especially for the first time, it's truly something special and I hope they get to enjoy it."

Entering the 30-lap feature, that landscape had been laid out. If Leary finished 11th or better, the championship would be his regardless of where Courtney finished. With that on his mind, Courtney took care of the aspect he was fully in control of.

"I told (the crew) before the feature pushed off that I was going to bring back either the trophy or the steering wheel," Courtney explained. "We brought home the trophy. To sweep the weekend in a sprint car is really cool. To win Western World in back-to-back years is pretty cool too. But second in the championship sucks. We did all we could do. We came out here and we won the race tonight. That's nothing to hang our head on. For the season, nine wins on the year is pretty special. Winning any USAC race is tough with the competition we have year-in and year-out. It's incredible."

Courtney started fifth and worked his way into third by the opening lap and into the runner-up spot by lap five while pole sitter Josh Hodges, then the evening's midget feature winner Brady Bacon, exchanged control at the front of the field.

On the 13th lap, Bacon ripped into traffic, threading needles as he scooted around the outside of Chris Gansen off turn four to escape a rapidly closing Courtney who, just moments before, had trailed by 1.5 sec., but had whittled it down to breadcrumbs by the halfway mark.

Courtney ran down Bacon in traffic, sliding underneath the two-time series champ between turns three and four to nab the position. Bacon immediately went back to work on the bottom of turn one under Courtney and emerged as the new leader at the exit of turn two.

Courtney had momentum in his back pocket, catching up to race side-by-side with Bacon into turn three on lap 17 where the two touched wheels – Bacon's right rear and Courtney's left rear – popping Courtney airborne before landing on all fours and continuing on, albeit while watching Bacon drive back by to the lead.

Courtney immediately jumped back on the bull and made a beeline from the top of turn four to the middle of turn one where the two nearly made contact again as Bacon slid above the cushion. However, Bacon made a quick recovery and turned down off two to dart back under Courtney and into the lead by turn three. The following lap was a rinse and repeat situation as Courtney slid Bacon in one while Bacon ducked back under and reassumed the top spot off two.

On the 20th lap, Bacon raced into one with Courtney a half car length behind. This time, the last car on the lead lap, Charles Davis Jr., was to the outside of Bacon between turns one and two. As Bacon drifted to the inside of Davis, he wasn't able to slide all the way to the curb in order to propel him down the back straightaway. As Bacon slid through the middle, Courtney stuck the line under Bacon and opened up an eight-car-length advantage with ten laps remaining.

By lap 25, however, Bacon had reeled in Courtney to within a couple car lengths distance when Justin Grant and Jason McDougal found trouble in turn two. Grant landed upside down and walked to the ambulance under his own power for further observation.

During the red flag period, steam began to pour from Courtney's resting car, which was revealed to be a result of a hole in the radiator. Earlier in the night, Courtney and the team qualified fourth, but were forced to swap out the engine before their heat race in the Clauson-Marshall-Newman Racing/NOS Energy Drink – Competition Suspension, Inc./Spike/Rider Chevy.

Friday night's Western World midget winner Kevin Thomas Jr. was the man on the move on the lap 25 restart, sliding past Bacon in turn one for the second position as Bacon faded into a distant third. Meanwhile, Courtney had gapped Thomas and Bacon to the tune of two seconds until a last lap yellow for a flat left rear tire on Chase Stockon necessitated a yellow flag.

A green-white-checkered finish wasn't enough to knock Courtney off his game as he utilized a solid restart to distance himself from the pack once and for all, taking the checkered by a 1.299 sec. margin over Thomas, Bacon, Chris Windom and C.J. Leary, whose fifth place finish secured himself a USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car driver championship.

USAC AMSOIL NATIONAL, CRA & SANDS CHEVROLET SOUTHWEST SPRINT CAR 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 Oval

FATHEADZ EYEWEAR/WOODLAND AUTO DISPLAY/BEAVER STRIPES QUALIFYING: 1. C.J. Leary, 19AZ, Reinbold/Underwood-15.007; 2. Tommy Malcolm, 5x, Napier-15.007; 3. Justin Grant, 4, TOPP-15.010; 4. Tyler Courtney, 7BC, Clauson Marshall Newman-15.020; 5. Damion Gardner, 4x, Alexander-15.073; 6. Jake Swanson, 34AZ, Grau/Burkhart-15.079; 7. Kevin Thomas Jr., 19, Hayward/Thomas-15.089; 8. Brady Bacon, 69, Dynamics-15.093; 9. Josh Hodges, 74x, Hodges-15.100; 10. Logan Seavey, 19L, Reinbold/Underwood-15.105; 11. Chris Windom, 5G, Parallax/Goacher-15.153; 12. Eric Wilkins, 34w, Grau/Burkhart-15.182; 13. Jason McDougal, 34, Grau-15.233; 14. Hunter Schuerenberg, 19s, Reinbold/Underwood-15.271; 15. Chase Stockon, 32, 32 TBI-15.290; 16. Chris Gansen, 4G, Gansen-15.329; 17. Eddie Tafoya Jr., 51T, Tafoya-15.366; 18. Dustin Clark, 75, Clark-15.378; 19. R.J. Johnson, 51, Martin-15.420; 20. Chris Bonneau, 15, Bonneau-15.422; 21. Austin Williams, 92, Sertich-15.440; 22. Thomas Meseraull, 13m, Gile-15.502; 23. Brody Roa, 91R, BR-15.502; 24. Kyle Shipley, 0G, Shipley-15.543; 25. Charles Davis Jr., 47, Davis-15.596; 26. Zack Madrid, 51m, Johnson-15.607; 27. Stevie Sussex, 12, Allen-15.610; 28. Dennis Gile, 13G, Gile-15.721; 29. Michael Curtis, 11c, Turner/Wheeler-15.744; 30. Tanner Carrick, 83T, Carrick-15.795; 31. Noah Gass, 20G, Gass-16.014; 32. Frank Rodgers III, 6R, Rodgers-16.472.

SIMPSON RACE PRODUCTS/EXTREME MUFFLERS/BROWN & MILLER RACING SOLUTIONS FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. C.J. Leary, 2. Austin Williams, 3. Damion Gardner, 4. Josh Hodges, 5. Charles Davis Jr., 6. Jason McDougal, 7. Eddie Tafoya Jr., 8. Michael Curtis. NT

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI)/CIRCLE TRACK PERFORMANCE/ULTRA SHIELD RACE PRODUCTS SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Dustin Clark, 2. Logan Seavey, 3. Hunter Schuerenberg, 4. Thomas Meseraull, 5. Jake Swanson, 6. Tommy Malcolm, 7. Zack Madrid. 8. Tanner Carrick. 2:07.366

AUTOMETER/SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS/BUTLERBUILT SEATS THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. R.J. Johnson, 2. Kevin Thomas Jr., 3. Chris Windom, 4. Chase Stockon, 5. Justin Grant, 6. Brody Roa, 7. Stevie Sussex, 8. Noah Gass. 2:07.655

INDY RACE PARTS/BROWN & MILLER RACING SOLUTIONS/SWAY-A-WAY RACING FOURTH HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Brady Bacon, 2. Tyler Courtney, 3. Eric Wilkins, 4. Chris Bonneau, 5. Chris Gansen, 6. Kyle Shipley, 7. Dennis Gile, 8. Frank Rodgers III. 2:08.698

COMPETITION SUSPENSION (CSI)/PYROTECT RACING CELLS SEMI: (12 laps, top-6 transfer to the feature) 1. Jake Swanson, 2. Justin Grant, 3. Brody Roa, 4. Eddie Tafoya Jr., 5. Jason McDougal, 6. Chris Gansen, 7. Dennis Gile, 8. Charles Davis Jr., 9. Zack Madrid, 10. Tanner Carrick, 11. Tommy Malcolm, 12. Kyle Shipley, 13. Noah Gass, 14. Michael Curtis, 15. Frank Rodgers III, 16. Stevie Sussex. NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Tyler Courtney (5), 2. Kevin Thomas Jr. (3), 3. Brady Bacon (2), 4. Chris Windom (10), 5. C.J. Leary (6), 6. Damion Gardner (4), 7. Josh Hodges (1), 8. Jake Swanson (8), 9. Logan Seavey (9),

10. Brody Roa (22), 11. Stevie Sussex (23-P), 12. R.J. Johnson (18), 13. Austin Williams (20), 14. Chase Stockon (13), 15. Thomas Meseraull (21), 16. Eric Wilkins (11), 17. Dustin Clark (17), 18. Chris Gansen (14), 19. Chris Bonneau (19), 20. Eddie Tafoya Jr. (15), 21. Justin Grant (7), 22. Jason McDougal (16), 23. Charles Davis Jr. (24-P), 24. Hunter Schuerenberg (12). NT

(P) represents a provisional starter

**Justin Grant flipped on lap 25 of the feature.

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Lap 1 Josh Hodges, Laps 2-15 Brady Bacon, Lap 16 Tyler Courtney, Laps 17-19 Brady Bacon, Laps 20-30 Tyler Courtney.

FINAL USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-C.J. Leary-2327, 2-Tyler Courtney-2309, 3-Brady Bacon-2136, 4-Kevin Thomas Jr.-2136, 5-Justin Grant-2116, 6-Chris Windom-2115, 7-Chase Stockon-2032, 8-Jason McDougal-1588, 9-Carson Short-1361, 10-Isaac Chapple-1193.

FINAL AMSOIL USAC CRA SPRINT CAR CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Damion Gardner-1489, 2-Austin Williams-1418, 3-Brody Roa-1302, 4- Jake Swanson-1234, 5-Chris Gansen-911, 6-Tommy Malcolm-887, 7-Charles Davis Jr.-837, 8-R.J. Johnson-753, 9-Eddie Tafoya Jr.-706, 10-Richard Vander Weerd-683.

FINAL USAC SANDS CHEVROLET SOUTHWEST SPRINT CAR CHAMPIONSHIP POINTS: 1-Brody Roa-1083, 2-R.J. Johnson-1065, 3-Stevie Sussex-1018, 4-Charles Davis Jr.-976, 5-Jake Swanson-800, 6-Austin Williams-659, 7-Mike Martin-655, 8-Damion Gardner- 616, 9-Chris Bonneau-517, 10-Matt Lundy-500.

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

KSE RACING PRODUCTS/SPECIALTY FASTENERS/SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Brody Roa (22nd to 10th)

WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER: Austin Williams

SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER: Dennis Gile

ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER: Jason McDougal

Brady Bacon (Indy Race Parts/Brown & Miller Racing Solutions/Sway-a-Way Racing Fourth Heat Winner)

Dustin Clark (Competition Suspension, Inc./Circle Track Performance/Ultra Shield Second Heat Winner)

R.J. Johnson (AutoMeter/Saldana Racing Products/Butlerbuilt Seats Third Heat Winner)

C.J. Leary (Fatheadz Eyewear/Woodland Auto Display/Beaver Stripes Fast Qualifier)

C.J. Leary (Simpson Race Products/Extreme Mufflers/Brown & Miller Racing Solutions First Heat Winner)

Jake Swanson (Competition Suspension, Inc./Pyrotect Racing Cells Semi Winner)

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USAC AMSOIL NATIONAL SPRINT CAR STAT LEADERS:

Driver Champion: C.J. Leary

Entrant Champion: Reinbold-Underwood Motorsports #19AZ

Most Wins: (9) Tyler Courtney

Rookie of the Year: Dustin Clark

Most Laps Led: (223) Brady Bacon

Most Top-Fives: (25) Tyler Courtney

Most Top-Tens: (32) C.J. Leary

Most Fast Qualifying Times: (11) C.J. Leary

Most Heat Race Wins: (17) Tyler Courtney

Most Feature Starts: 7 drivers with 34

Most Times as Hard Charger (6) Brady Bacon

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2019 USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE & RESULTS:

Feb 14: Ocala, FL - Bubba Raceway Park

WINNER: Chris Windom (Parallax Group/Goacher Racing #5G)

Feb 15: Ocala, FL - Bubba Raceway Park

WINNER: Justin Grant (TOPP Motorsports #4)

Feb 16: Ocala, FL - Bubba Raceway Park

WINNER: C.J. Leary (Reinbold/Underwood Motorsports #19AZ)

Apr 12: Bloomington, IN - Bloomington Speedway

WINNER: Brady Bacon (Dynamics, Inc. #69)

May 10: Rossburg, OH - Eldora Speedway

WINNER: Tyler Courtney (Clauson Marshall Newman Racing #7BC)

May 17: Granite City, IL – Tri-City Speedway

WINNER: Chris Windom (Parallax Group/Goacher Racing #5G)

May 22: Terre Haute, IN - Terre Haute Action Track

WINNER: Chase Stockon (32 TBI Racing #32)

Jun 11: (E) Bechtelsville, PA - Grandview Speedway

WINNER: Brady Bacon (Dynamics, Inc. #69)

Jun 12: (E) Swedesboro, NJ – Bridgeport Speedway

WINNER: Jason McDougal (Daigh/Phillips #71p)

Jun 15: (E) Port Royal, PA – Port Royal Speedway

WINNER: Tyler Courtney (Clauson Marshall Newman Racing #7BC)

Jul 5: Knoxville, IA – Knoxville Raceway

WINNER: Brady Bacon (Dynamics, Inc. #69)

Jul 6: Knoxville, IA – Knoxville Raceway

WINNER: Brady Bacon (Dynamics, Inc. #69)

Jul 17: Rossburg, OH - Eldora Speedway

WINNER: Tyler Courtney (Clauson Marshall Newman Racing #7BC)

Jul 18: (I) Gas City, IN – Gas City I-69 Speedway

WINNER: Shane Cottle (Epperson Racing #2E)

Jul 19: (I) Plymouth, IN – Plymouth Speedway

WINNER: Tyler Courtney (Clauson Marshall Newman Racing #7BC)

Jul 20: (I) Kokomo, IN - Kokomo Speedway

WINNER: Chris Windom (Parallax Group/Goacher Racing #5G)

Jul 21: (I) Lawrenceburg, IN - Lawrenceburg Speedway

WINNER: Justin Grant (TOPP Motorsports #4)

Jul 24: (I) Terre Haute, IN - Terre Haute Action Track

WINNER: Tyler Courtney (Clauson Marshall Newman Racing #7BC)

Jul 25: (I) Putnamville, IN - Lincoln Park Speedway

WINNER: Kyle Cummins (Rock Steady Racing #3R)

Jul 26: (I) Bloomington, IN - Bloomington Speedway

WINNER: Kevin Thomas Jr. (Hayward/Thomas Motorsports #19)

Jul 27: (I) Haubstadt, IN - Tri-State Speedway

WINNER: Kyle Cummins (Rock Steady Racing #3R)

Aug 21: (SE) Kokomo, IN - Kokomo Speedway

WINNER: Justin Grant (TOPP Motorsports #4)

Aug 22: Kokomo, IN - Kokomo Speedway

WINNER: Thomas Meseraull (Tom Eades Racing #47)

Aug 23: Kokomo, IN - Kokomo Speedway

WINNER: Logan Seavey (Reinbold/Underwood Motorsports #19s)

Aug 24: Kokomo, IN - Kokomo Speedway

WINNER: Tyler Courtney (Clauson Marshall Newman Racing #7BC)

Sep 13: Terre Haute, IN - Terre Haute Action Track

WINNER: Justin Grant (TOPP Motorsports #4)

Sep 14: (M) Haubstadt, IN - Tri-State Speedway

WINNER: Kyle Cummins (Rock Steady Racing #3R)

Sep 26: Gas City, IN – Gas City I-69 Speedway

WINNER: Chris Windom (Parallax Group/Goacher Racing #5G)

Sep 28: Rossburg, OH - Eldora Speedway

WINNER: Tyler Courtney (Clauson Marshall Newman Racing #7BC)

Oct 5: Lawrenceburg, IN - Lawrenceburg Speedway

WINNER: Kevin Thomas Jr. (Hayward/Thomas Motorsports #19)

Nov 7: © Perris, CA - Perris Auto Speedway

WINNER: Brady Bacon (Dynamics, Inc. #69)

Nov 8: © Perris, CA - Perris Auto Speedway

WINNER: Brady Bacon (Dynamics, Inc. #69)

Nov 9: © Perris, CA - Perris Auto Speedway

WINNER: C.J. Leary (Reinbold/Underwood Motorsports #19AZ)

Nov 15: © San Tan Valley, AZ - Arizona Speedway

WINNER: Tyler Courtney (Clauson Marshall Newman Racing #7BC)

Nov 16: © San Tan Valley, AZ - Arizona Speedway

WINNER: Tyler Courtney (Clauson Marshall Newman Racing #7BC)

---------- KEY DEFINITIONS ----------

Races noted with (M) represent a race co-sanctioned by MSCS.

Races noted with (SE) represent a non-points-paying "Special Event"

Races noted with (E) represent Eastern Storm

Races noted with (I) represent Indiana Sprint Week

Races noted with © represent a race with the AMSOIL USAC/CRA & Sands Chevrolet Southwest Sprint Cars

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2019 USAC National Sprint Car Driver Points

Pos.	Pts.	Driver, Hometown
1	2327	C.J. Leary, Greenfield, Indiana
2	2309	Tyler Courtney, Indianapolis, Indiana
3	2136	Brady Bacon, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma
4	2136	Kevin Thomas Jr., Cullman, Alabama
5	2116	Justin Grant, Ione, California
6	2115	Chris Windom, Canton, Illinois
7	2032	Chase Stockon, Fort Branch, Indiana
8	1588	Jason McDougal, Broken Arrow, Oklahoma
9	1361	Carson Short, Marion, Illinois
10	1193	Isaac Chapple, Willow Branch, Indiana
11	907	Josh Hodges, Tijeras, New Mexico
12	899	Kyle Cummins, Princeton, Indiana
13	866	Dave Darland, Lincoln, Indiana
14	739	(R) Dustin Clark, Washington, Indiana
15	704	Max Adams, Loomis, California
16	669	Chad Boespflug, Hanford, California
17	619	Thomas Meseraull, San Jose, California
18	568	Robert Ballou, Rocklin, California
19	549	(R) Brian VanMeveren, Woodbury, Minnesota
20	512	Matt Westfall, Pleasant Hill, Ohio
21	435	Timmy Buckwalter, Douglassville, Pennsylvania
22	432	Damion Gardner, Concord, California
23	395	Dakota Jackson, Elizabethtown, Indiana
24	376	Jarett Andretti, Mooresville, North Carolina
25	334	Mario Clouser, Auburn, Illinois
26	318	Nick Bilbee, Indianapolis, Indiana

27	259	Matt Goodnight, Winchester, Indiana
28	250	Steve Thomas, Ludlow, Illinois
29	229	(R) Stephen Schnapf, Newburgh, Indiana
30	215	(R) T.J. Artz, Lincoln, Nebraska
31	212	(R) Terry Richards, Denton, Nebraska
32	200	Carmen Perigo, Stoystown, Pennsylvania
33	147	(R) Kent Schmidt, Owensville, Indiana
34	133	(R) Dustin Ingle, Lima, Ohio
35	109	(R) Zane Hendricks, Stillwater, Oklahoma
36	95	(R) Tom Harris, Banbury, Oxfordshire, United Kingdom
37	94	(R) Ty Tilton, Lima, Ohio
38	87	Zach Daum, Pocahontas, Illinois
39	56	(R) Noah Gass, Mounds, Oklahoma
40	54	Patrick Budde, Bartelso, Illinois
41	50	(R) Doug Schenck, Cottage Grove, Wisconsin
42	50	Robert Bell, Colfax, Iowa
43	40	(R) Gage Etgen, Celina, Ohio
44	36	Kyle Robbins, New Castle, Indiana
45	20	(R) Mike Burkin, Clyde, Ohio

(R) represents a USAC National Sprint Car Rookie

2019 USAC National Sprint Car Entrant Points

Pos.	**Pts.**	**Entrant, Location**
1	2327	Reinbold-Underwood Motorsports, Gilbert, Arizona (#19AZ)
2	2309	Clauson Marshall Newman Racing, Fishers, Indiana (#7BC)
3	2136	Dynamics Inc., Milford, Ohio (#69)
4	2136	Hayward-Thomas Motorsports, Morrison, Indiana (#19)
5	2116	TOPP Motorsports, Rochester, Indiana (#4)
6	2115	Parallax Group-Goacher Racing, Anderson, Indiana (#5G)
7	2032	32 TBI Racing, Elizabethtown, Indiana (#32)

8	1483	Daigh-Phillips Motorsports, Avon, Indiana (#71p)
9	1203	RCM Motorsports, Marion, Illinois (#21)
10	1193	LNR-Isaac Chapple Racing, Fortville, Indiana (#52)
11	907	Hodges Motorsports, Albuquerque, New Mexico (#74x)
12	899	Rock Steady Racing, Dupont, Indiana (#3R)
13	739	Dustin Clark Racing, Washington, Indiana (#75)
14	669	Eberhardt-Zirzow Racing, Greenfield, Wisconsin (#98e)
15	568	Ballou Motorsports, Tipton, Indiana (#12)
16	549	VanMeveren Racing, Woodbury, Minnesota (#24)
17	520	Scott Adams, Marion, Indiana (#5m)
18	512	Ray Marshall Motorsports, Forest, Ohio (#33m)
19	483	Cheney Racing, Arcadia, California (#42)
20	435	LNB Motorsports, Douglassville, Pennsylvania (#7)
21	394	Brandon Mattox Racing, Cory, Indiana (#28)
22	376	Andretti Autosport Short Track, Indianapolis, Indiana (#18)
23	334	Mario Clouser Motorsports, Chatham, Illinois (#6)
24	323	Epperson Racing, Camby, Indiana (#2E)
25	322	Goodnight Racing, Hartford City, Indiana (#39)
26	318	Bilbee Motorsports, Indianapolis, Indiana (#17)
27	316	Chris Dyson Racing, Poughkeepsie, New York (#20)
28	257	Jackson Racing, Elizabethtown, Indiana (#3)
29	250	Steve Thomas Racing, Ludlow, Illinois (#20T)
30	229	Randy Edwards, Evansville, Indiana (#61m)
31	226	Tom Eades Racing, Sharpsville, Indiana (#47)
32	215	Artz & Sons, Hickman, Nebraska (#57x)
33	212	TR Motorsports, Denton, Nebraska (#18m)
34	200	Stehman Motorsports, Halifax, Pennsylvania (#21p)
35	147	KO Motorsports, Owensville, Indiana (#5K)
36	138	On the Gass Racing, Advance, Indiana (#17G)
37	134	Todd Keen, Union City, Ohio (#18H)

38	133	Dustin Ingle, Lima, Ohio (#2DI)
39	132	Chase Briscoe/Curb-Agajanian Racing, Mitchell, Indiana (#5)
40	112	Hurst Brothers Racing, Salem, Indiana (#70)
41	112	Hogue Racing Enterprises, Westampton, New Jersey (#39x)
42	110	Paul Hazen, Columbia City, Indiana (#57)
43	109	Goodnight Racing, Hartford City, Indiana (#27)
44	104	4J Motorsports, Mooresville, Indiana (#4J)
45	95	Tom Harris Motorsport, Tipton, Indiana (#84)
46	94	Ty Tilton, Lima, Ohio (#42)
47	87	Daum Motorsports, Pocahontas, Illinois (#5D)
48	75	Karl Freyer, Ringoes, New Jersey (#4F)
49	72	Jerry Burton, Bloomington, Indiana (#04)
50	70	Mark Hery, Piqua, Ohio (#21H)
51	57	Lee Underwood Racing, Cornelius, North Carolina (#24L)
52	56	Randy Gass, Mounds, Oklahoma (#20G)
53	54	Patrick Budde, Bartelso, Illinois (#90)
54	50	Robert Bell, Colfax, Iowa (#71)
55	50	Final Effort Racing, Cottage Grove, Wisconsin (#71s)
56	47	Paul May, Terre Haute, Indiana (#71m)
57	40	Gage Etgen, Celina, Ohio (#99)
58	36	KR Racing, Greenfield, Indiana (#17R)
59	29	Michael Dutcher/Curb-Agajanian Motorsports, Cicero, Indiana (#17GP)
60	20	Dues Racing, Minster, Ohio (#87)
61	20	Dick Mahoney, Brechin, Ontario (#79)
62	10	Mike Miller, Wapakoneta, Ohio (#82)

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2019 USAC National Sprint Car Rookie Points

Pos.	**Pts.**	**Driver, Hometown**

1	739	Dustin Clark, Washington, Indiana
2	549	Brian VanMeveren, Woodbury, Minnesota
3	229	Stephen Schnapf, Newburgh, Indiana
4	215	T.J. Artz, Lincoln, Nebraska
5	212	Terry Richards, Denton, Nebraska
6	147	Kent Schmidt, Owensville, Indiana
7	133	Dustin Ingle, Lima, Ohio
8	109	Zane Hendricks, Stillwater, Oklahoma
9	95	Tom Harris, Banbury, Oxfordshire, United Kingdom
10	94	Ty Tilton, Lima, Ohio
11	56	Noah Gass, Mounds, Oklahoma
12	50	Doug Schenck, Cottage Grove, Wisconsin
13	40	Gage Etgen, Celina, Ohio
14	20	Mike Burkin, Clyde, Ohio

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2019 USAC AMSOIL SPRINT CAR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP STATISTICS:

FEATURE WINS:

9-Tyler Courtney (May 10 at Eldora Speedway, Jun 15 at Port Royal Speedway, Jul 17 at Eldora Speedway, Jul 19 at Plymouth Speedway, Jul 24 at the Terre Haute Action Track, Aug 24 at Kokomo Speedway, Sep 28 at Eldora Speedway & Nov 15 at Arizona Speedway & Nov 16 at Arizona Speedway)

6-Brady Bacon (Apr 12 at Bloomington Speedway, Jun 11 at Grandview Speedway, Jul 5 at Knoxville Raceway, Jul 6 at Knoxville Raceway, Nov 7 at Perris Auto Speedway & Nov 8 at Perris Auto Speedway)

4-Chris Windom (Feb 14 at Bubba Raceway Park, May 17 at Tri-City Speedway, Jul 20 at Kokomo Speedway & Sep 26 at Gas City I-69 Speedway)

3-Kyle Cummins (Jul 25 at Lincoln Park Speedway, Jul 27 at Tri-State Speedway Sep 14 at Tri-State Speedway)

3-Justin Grant (Feb 15 at Bubba Raceway Park, Jul 21 at Lawrenceburg Speedway & Sep 13 at the Terre Haute Action Track)

2-C.J. Leary (Feb 16 at Bubba Raceway Park & Nov 9 at Perris Auto Speedway)

2-Kevin Thomas Jr. (Jul 26 at Bloomington Speedway & Oct 5 at Lawrenceburg Speedway)

1-Shane Cottle (Jul 18 at Gas City I-69 Speedway)

1-Jason McDougal (Jun 12 at Bridgeport Speedway)

1-Thomas Meseraull (Aug 22 at Kokomo Speedway)

1-Logan Seavey (Aug 23 at Kokomo Speedway)

1-Chase Stockon (May 22 at the Terre Haute Action Track)

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FEATURE LAPS LED:

223-Brady Bacon

171-Tyler Courtney

102-C.J. Leary

100-Chris Windom

86-Justin Grant & Kevin Thomas Jr.

65-Kyle Cummins

52-Chase Stockon

40-Jason McDougal

30-Logan Seavey

26-Stephen Schnapf

22-Thomas Meseraull

19-Scotty Weir

11-Robert Ballou

9-Carson Short

6-Jarett Andretti

4-Austin Williams

1-Dustin Clark, Shane Cottle & Josh Hodges

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TOP-FIVE FEATURE FINISHES:

25-Tyler Courtney

24-C.J. Leary

22-Chris Windom

20-Justin Grant & Kevin Thomas Jr.

17-Brady Bacon

11-Chase Stockon

5-Kyle Cummins & Jason McDougal

3-Carson Short

2-Robert Ballou, Damion Gardner & Logan Seavey

1-Chad Boespflug, Isaac Chapple, Shane Cottle, Charles Davis Jr., Brandon Mattox, Thomas Meseraull, Kendall Ruble, Stephen Schnapf, Stevie Sussex, Richard Vander Weerd, Scotty Weir & Austin Williams

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TOP-TEN FEATURE FINISHES:

32-C.J. Leary

30-Tyler Courtney

29-Brady Bacon, Chase Stockon & Chris Windom

28-Justin Grant

27-Kevin Thomas Jr.

19-Jason McDougal

14-Carson Short

13-Kyle Cummins

7-Robert Ballou

6-Isaac Chapple

5-Damion Gardner & Josh Hodges

4-Chad Boespflug, Logan Seavey & Austin Williams

3-Jarett Andretti, Nick Bilbee, Dave Darland, Thomas Meseraull, Richard Vander Weerd, Scotty Weir & Matt Westfall

2-Max Adams, Ryan Bernal, Timmy Buckwalter, Shane Cottle, Dakota Jackson, Bud Kaeding, Brandon Mattox, Brody Roa, Kendall Ruble & Jake Swanson

1-Brent Beauchamp, Joey Biasi, Mario Clouser, Charles Davis Jr., Tom Harris, Zane Hendricks, Dallas Hewitt, Tommy Malcolm, Critter Malone, Stephen Schnapf, Hunter Schuerenberg, Brady Short, Stevie Sussex & Jace Vander Weerd

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FATHEADZ EYEWEAR FAST QUALIFYING TIMES:

11-C.J. Leary

7-Tyler Courtney

4-Justin Grant

3-Carson Short & Chase Stockon

2-Chris Windom

1-Brady Bacon, Timmy Buckwalter, Damion Gardner, Thomas Meseraull, Logan Seavey & Kevin Thomas Jr.

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HEAT RACE WINS (Presented by Simpson Race Products, Competition Suspension (CSI), AutoMeter & Indy Race Parts):

17-Tyler Courtney

12-C.J. Leary

10-Justin Grant

8-Brady Bacon, Robert Ballou & Kevin Thomas Jr.

6-Carson Short

4-Dustin Clark & Kyle Cummins

3-Chad Boespflug, Jason McDougal, Thomas Meseraull, Chase Stockon, Scotty Weir & Chris Windom

2-Shane Cottle, Charles Davis Jr., Damion Gardner & Josh Hodges

1-Max Adams, Nick Bilbee, Timmy Buckwalter, Isaac Chapple, Anthony D'Alessio, Dave Darland, Matt Goodnight, Chayse Hayhurst, A.J. Hopkins, Dakota Jackson, R.J. Johnson, Bud Kaeding, Cole Ketcham, Austin Liggett, Brody Roa, Bill Rose, Stephen Schnapf, Logan Seavey, Brady Short, Wesley Smith, Richard Vander Weerd & Matt Westfall

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QUALIFYING RACE WINS:

2-Brady Bacon

1-Max Adams, Tyler Courtney, Justin Grant, Austin Liggett, Jason McDougal, Thomas Meseraull, Hunter Schuerenberg, Chase Stockon & Jace Vander Weerd

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SEMI WINS:

4-Kevin Thomas Jr.

3-Chase Stockon & Chris Windom

2-Max Adams, Tyler Courtney & Jason McDougal

1-Brady Bacon, Nick Bilbee, Chad Boespflug, Timmy Buckwalter, Mario Clouser, Shane Cottle, Dave Darland, Josh Hodges, A.J. Hopkins, Dakota Jackson, C.J. Leary, Bill Rose, Carson Short, Jake Swanson, Matt Westfall & Austin Williams

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C-MAIN WINS:

1-Max Adams, Donny Brackett, Shane Cottle, Trey Gropp, Chris Morgan, Kory Schudy & Corey Smith

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FEATURE STARTS:

34-Brady Bacon, Tyler Courtney, Justin Grant, C.J. Leary, Chase Stockon, Kevin Thomas Jr. & Chris Windom

30-Jason McDougal

27-Isaac Chapple

26-Carson Short

24-Josh Hodges

21-Dave Darland

18-Max Adams & Dustin Clark

16-Kyle Cummins

15-Thomas Meseraull

14-Chad Boespflug

12-Brian VanMeveren

11-Brody Roa, Scotty Weir & Matt Westfall

10-Robert Ballou & Timmy Buckwalter

9-Dakota Jackson & Brandon Mattox

8-Jarett Andretti, Shane Cottle, Damion Gardner, Hunter Schuerenberg, Dustin Smith & Logan Seavey

6-Joey Biasi, Nick Bilbee, Mario Clouser, Matt Goodnight & Stephen Schnapf

5-Charles Davis Jr., R.J. Johnson, Cole Ketcham, Carmen Perigo, Kent Schmidt, Stevie Sussex, Jake Swanson & Austin Williams

4-Chris Gansen, Tommy Malcolm, Corey Smith & Eddie Tafoya Jr.

3-Bill Balog, Steven Drevicki, A.J. Hopkins, Dustin Ingle, Bud Kaeding, Jordan Kinser, Austin Liggett, Tye Mihocko, Brady Short, Jace Vander Weerd, Richard Vander Weerd & Korey Weyant

2-T.J. Artz, Ryan Bernal, Chris Bonneau, Donny Brackett, Wyatt Burks, Zach Daum, Mitchell Davis, Aric Gentry, Ryan Godown, Tom Harris, Chayse Hayhurst, Zane Hendricks, Dallas Hewitt, Riley Kreisel, Critter Malone, Nate McMillin, Anthony Nicholson, Terry Richards, Bill Rose, Kendall Ruble, Landon Simon, Wesley Smith, Steve Thomas, Cody Williams & Mitch Wissmiller

1-Garrett Abrams, Collin Ambrose, Koby Barksdale, Brent Beauchamp, Clinton Boyles, Dominick Buffalino, Harley Burns, Shane Cockrum, Kory Crabtree, Anthony D'Alessio, Tony DiMattia, Don Droud Jr., Jared Esh, Logan Faucon, Michael Fischesser, Dickie Gaines, Noah Gass, Dennis Gile, Travis Hery, Steve Hix, J.J. Hughes, Steve Irwin, Brian Karraker, Tyler Kendall, Trevor Kobylarz, Kyle Lick, Paul May, Justin Owen, Craig Pellegrini, Eric Perrott, Chris Phillips, Kyle Robbins, Jadon Rogers, Kory Schudy, Kyle Shipley, Justin Standridge, John Stehman, Joe Stornetta, Kody Swanson, Ty Tilton, Lee Underwood, Cody White & Eric Wilkins

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SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS CLEAN SWEEP:

7/24: Terre Haute Action Track – Tyler Courtney

9/28: Eldora Speedway – Tyler Courtney

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KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER OF THE RACE:

2/14: Bubba Raceway Park – Chad Boespflug (22nd to 12th)

2/15: Bubba Raceway Park – Tyler Courtney (22nd to 3rd)

2/16: Bubba Raceway Park – Tyler Courtney (9th to 3rd)

4/12: Bubba Raceway Park – Tyler Courtney (9th to 4th)

5/10: Eldora Speedway – Isaac Chapple (18th to 10th)

5/17: Tri-City Speedway – Isaac Chapple (15th to 5th)

5/22: Terre Haute Action Track – Isaac Chapple (16th to 10th)

6/11: Grandview Speedway – Ryan Godown (18th to 11th)

6/12: Bridgeport Speedway – Brady Bacon (12th to 7th)

6/15: Port Royal Speedway – Brady Bacon (17th to 7th)

7/5: Knoxville Raceway – Jason McDougal (20th to 8th)

7/6: Knoxville Raceway – Korey Weyant (23rd to 12th)

7/17: Eldora Speedway – Tom Harris (18th to 7th)

7/18: Gas City I-69 Speedway – Shane Cottle (18th to 1st)

7/19: Plymouth Speedway – Matt Westfall (19th to 11th)

7/20: Kokomo Speedway – Justin Grant (18th to 8th)

7/21: Lawrenceburg Speedway – Dave Darland (22nd to 11th)

7/24: Terre Haute Action Track – Brady Bacon (14th to 4th)

7/25: Lincoln Park Speedway – Shane Cottle (22nd to 9th)

7/26: Bloomington Speedway – Tyler Courtney (22nd to 9th)

7/27: Tri-State Speedway – Brady Bacon (15th to 5th)

8/22: Kokomo Speedway – Chris Windom (16th to 7th)

8/23: Kokomo Speedway – Brady Bacon (22nd to 10th)

8/24: Kokomo Speedway – Chris Windom (18th to 8th)

9/13: Terre Haute Action Track – Tyler Courtney (9th to 3rd)

9/14: Tri-State Speedway – Brady Bacon (19th to 8th)

9/26: Gas City I-69 Speedway – Jason McDougal (17th to 8th)

9/28: Eldora Speedway – Matt Westfall (16th to 7th)

10/5: Lawrenceburg Speedway – Jarett Andretti (13th to 8th)

11/7: Perris Auto Speedway – Hunter Schuerenberg (23rd to 12th)

11/8: Perris Auto Speedway – Richard Vander Weerd (19th to 8th)

11/9: Perris Auto Speedway – Kevin Thomas Jr. (16th to 6th)

11/15: Arizona Speedway – Charles Davis Jr. (16th to 4th)

11/16: Arizona Speedway – Brody Roa (22nd to 10th)

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WILWOOD BRAKES 13TH PLACE FINISHER:

2/14: Bubba Raceway Park – Dakota Jackson

2/15: Bubba Raceway Park – Robert Ballou

2/16: Bubba Raceway Park – Chad Boespflug

4/12: Bloomington Speedway – Dakota Jackson

5/10: Eldora Speedway – Matt Westfall

5/17: Tri-City Speedway – Mitchell Davis

5/22: Terre Haute Action Track – Brandon Mattox

6/11: Grandview Speedway – Steven Drevicki

6/12: Bridgeport Speedway – Chad Boespflug

6/15: Port Royal Speedway – Dustin Clark

7/5: Knoxville Raceway – Don Droud Jr.

7/6: Knoxville Raceway – Wyatt Burks

7/17: Eldora Speedway – Carson Short

7/18: Gas City I-69 Speedway – Max Adams

7/19: Plymouth Speedway – Max Adams

7/20: Kokomo Speedway – Shane Cottle

7/21: Lawrenceburg Speedway – Dickie Gaines

7/24: Terre Haute Action Track – Dustin Smith

7/25: Lincoln Park Speedway – Jason McDougal

7/26: Bloomington Speedway – Josh Hodges

7/27: Tri-State Speedway – Critter Malone

8/22: Kokomo Speedway – Dave Darland

8/23: Kokomo Speedway – Scotty Weir

8/24: Kokomo Speedway – Josh Hodges

9/13: Terre Haute Action Track – Dustin Smith

9/14: Tri-State Speedway – Carson Short

9/26: Gas City I-69 Speedway – Tye Mihocko

9/28: Eldora Speedway – Scotty Weir

10/5: Lawrenceburg Speedway – Mario Clouser

11/7: Perris Auto Speedway – Brody Roa

11/8: Perris Auto Speedway – Thomas Meseraull

11/9: Perris Auto Speedway – Thomas Meseraull

11/15: Arizona Speedway – Damion Gardner

11/16: Arizona Speedway – Austin Williams

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ROGER & BARB TAPY 13TH FASTEST QUALIFIER:

2/14: Bubba Raceway Park – Travis Hery

2/15: Bubba Raceway Park – Dakota Jackson

2/16: Bubba Raceway Park – Joey Biasi

4/12: Bubba Raceway Park – Robert Ballou

5/10: Eldora Speedway – Chad Boespflug

5/17: Tri-City Speedway – Jason McDougal

5/22: Terre Haute Action Track – Brandon Mattox

6/11: Grandview Speedway – Dave Darland

6/12: Bridgeport Speedway – Joey Biasi

6/15: Port Royal Speedway – Chad Boespflug

7/5: Knoxville Raceway – Matt Westfall

7/6: Knoxville Raceway – C.J. Leary

7/17: Eldora Speedway – Isaac Chapple

7/18: Gas City I-69 Speedway – Kyle Cummins

7/19: Plymouth Speedway – Dakota Jackson

7/20: Kokomo Speedway – Kyle Cummins

7/21: Lawrenceburg Speedway – Josh Hodges

7/24: Terre Haute Action Track – Dakota Jackson

7/25: Lincoln Park Speedway – Thomas Meseraull

7/26: Bloomington Speedway – Brandon Mattox

7/27: Tri-State Speedway – Tony DiMattia

8/22: Kokomo Speedway – Kevin Thomas Jr.

8/23: Kokomo Speedway – Hunter Schuerenberg

9/13: Terre Haute Action Track – Dustin Smith

9/14: Tri-State Speedway – Chris Windom

9/26: Gas City I-69 Speedway – Harley Burns

9/28: Eldora Speedway – Isaac Chapple

10/5: Lawrenceburg Speedway – Kyle Cummins

11/7: Perris Auto Speedway – Max Adams

11/8: Perris Auto Speedway – Logan Seavey

11/9: Perris Auto Speedway – Austin Liggett

11/15: Arizona Speedway – Eddie Tafoya Jr.

11/16: Arizona Speedway – Jason McDougal

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SALDANA RACING PRODUCTS FIRST NON-TRANSFER:

2/14: Bubba Raceway Park – Matt Westfall

2/15: Bubba Raceway Park – Travis Hery

2/16: Bubba Raceway Park – Ty Tilton

4/12: Bubba Raceway Park – Michael Koontz

5/10: Eldora Speedway – Dallas Hewitt

5/17: Tri-City Speedway – James Lyerla

6/11: Grandview Speedway – Brian VanMeveren

7/5: Knoxville Raceway – Steve Irwin

7/6: Knoxville Raceway – Glen Saville

7/17: Eldora Speedway – Gage Etgen

7/18: Gas City I-69 Speedway – Brody Roa

7/19: Plymouth Speedway – Dave Darland

7/20: Kokomo Speedway – Max Adams

7/21: Lawrenceburg Speedway – Tom Harris

7/24: Terre Haute Action Track – Dakota Jackson

7/25: Lincoln Park Speedway – Isaac Chapple

7/26: Bloomington Speedway – Lee Underwood

7/27: Tri-State Speedway – Kevin Thomas Jr.

8/22: Kokomo Speedway – Brandon Mattox

8/23: Kokomo Speedway – Jarett Andretti

8/24: Kokomo Speedway – Matt Goodnight

9/13: Terre Haute Action Track – Eric Perrott

9/14: Tri-State Speedway – Stephen Schnapf

9/26: Gas City I-69 Speedway – Dustin Smith

9/28: Eldora Speedway – Matt Goodnight

10/5: Lawrenceburg Speedway – Steve Thomas

11/7: Perris Auto Speedway – Chris Gansen

11/8: Perris Auto Speedway – Josh Hodges

11/9: Perris Auto Speedway – Bill Rose & Chris Bonneau

11/15: Arizona Speedway – Chris Bonneau

11/16: Arizona Speedway – Dennis Gile

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2019 USAC AMSOIL NATIONAL SPRINT CAR DRIVER ROSTER:

A

Garrett Abrams/Rushville, IN (Garrett Abrams #32A)

Max Adams/Loomis, CA (Scott Adams #5m, Dwight Cheney #42, Paul Hazen #57 & Keith Ford #73T)

Garrett Aitken/Paris, IL (Greg Aitken #32A)

Collin Ambrose/Owensboro, KY (Collin Ambrose #2 & Collin Ambrose #36)

Jarett Andretti/Mooresville, NC (Andretti Autosport Short Track #18)

T.J. Artz/Lincoln, NE (Artz & Sons #57)

B

Brady Bacon/Broken Arrow, OK (Dynamics, Inc. #69)

Robert Ballou/Rocklin, CA (Ballou Motorsports #12)

Bill Balog/Hartland, WI (Hans Lein #2)

Koby Barksdale/Norman, OK (Koby Barksdale #22)

Brent Beauchamp/Avon, IN (Jeff Olson #34)

Robert Bell/Colfax, IA (Robert Bell #71)

Ryan Bernal/Hollister, CA (Baughman-Reutzel Motorsports #17B)

Travis Berryhill/American Canyon, CA (Tyler Sturgeon Racing #77s)

Joey Biasi/Mary D, PA (Joey Biasi #B1)

Nick Bilbee/Indianapolis, IN (Bilbee Motorsports #17)

Chad Boespflug/Hanford, CA (Eberhardt-Zirzow Racing #98e)

Ryan Bond/Haubstadt, IN (Ryan Bond #7R)

Chris Bonneau/Peoria, AZ (Chris Bonneau #15)

Clinton Boyles/Greenwood, MO (Paul Hazen #57)

Donny Brackett/Fort Branch, IN (Tony Brackett #4B)

Timmy Buckwalter/Douglassville, PA (LNB Motorsports #7)

Patrick Budde/Bartelso, IL (Budde Racing #90)

Dominick Buffalino/Sayreville, NJ (Wasitowski Motorsports #3x)

(R) Mike Burkin/Clyde, OH (Dick Mahoney #79)

Wyatt Burks/Topeka, KS (Wyatt Burks #11w)

Harley Burns/Brazil, IN (Harley Burns #12 & Tom Knight #16K)

C

Rob Caho Jr./Wyoming, MN (Rob Caho Motorsports #78)

Craig Campton/Pardeeville, WI (Final Effort Racing #7s)

Tanner Carrick/Lincoln, CA (Carrick Motorsports #83T)

Isaac Chapple/Willow Branch, IN (LNR-Isaac Chapple Racing #52)

Brayden Clark/Tipton, IN (Roy Jackson #42G)

(R) Dustin Clark/Washington, IN (Dustin Clark #75)

Daron Clayton/Sikeston, MO (KO Motorsports #5o)

Sterling Cling/Tempe, AZ (Sterling Cling Racing #34)

Mario Clouser/Auburn, IL (Mario Clouser Motorsports #6)

Shane Cockrum/Benton, IL (JP Motorsports #24p)

Matt Cooley/Greenville, OH (Cooley Racing #19c)

Colten Cottle/Kansas, IL (Rick Cottle #5c)

Shane Cottle/Kansas, IL (Epperson Racing #2E, Cooley Racing #19c & Chet Williams #38)

Tyler Courtney/Indianapolis, IN (Clauson-Marshall-Newman Racing #7BC)

Kory Crabtree/West Jefferson, OH (Lou Gagliardi #60)

Tim Creech II/Indianapolis, IN (Tim Creech II #2c)

Braydon Cromwell/Lone Jack, MO (Mike Cromwell #4A)

Kyle Cummins/Princeton, IN (Rock Steady Racing #3R)

Josh Cunningham/Spencer, IN (Josh Cunningham #3JC)

Michael Curtis/Cottonwood, AZ (Kevin Turner & Greg Wheeler #11c)

D

Anthony D'Alessio/Apollo Beach, FL (Anthony D'Alessio #01)

Dave Darland/Lincoln, IN (Epperson Racing #2E, Chase Briscoe–Curb-Agajanian Racing #5, Buddy Cunningham #17c, Michael Dutcher Motorsports-Curb-Agajanian #17GP, Dave Darland-Curb-Agajanian #36D, Tim Hogue Racing #39, Dwight Cheney #42 & Barry Tibbits #43m

Zach Daum/Pocahontas, IL (Daum Motorsports #5D)

Aaron Davis/Windfall, IN (Jeff Davis #11)

Charles Davis Jr./Buckeye, AZ (Charles Davis Jr. #47)

Mitchell Davis/Auburn, IL (Mitchell Davis #56)

Tony DiMattia/Malvern, PA (Tony DiMattia Motorsports #50)

Steven Drevicki/Reading, PA (Drevicki Racing #19s)

Don Droud Jr./Lincoln, NE (Mark Burch Motorsports #1m)

Paul Dues/Minster, OH (Dues Racing #87)

E

Jared Esh/Lancaster, PA (Brian Ehrenzeller #33)

Jeremy Ellertson/Lawndale, CA (Jeremy Ellertson #98J)

(R) Gage Etgen/Celina, OH (Gage Etgen #99)

F

Logan Faucon/Elkhart, IL (Logan Faucon #52F)

Michael Fischesser/Cincinnati, OH (Michael Fischesser #44)

Brayden Fox/Avon, IN (Fox Brothers Racing #53)

Parker Frederickson/Kokomo, IN (Frederickson Racing #34w)

G

Dickie Gaines/Mitchell, IN (Jason Soudrette Racing #44)

Chris Gansen/San Bernardino, CA (Dennis & Christol Gansen #4G)

Don Gansen/San Bernardino, CA (Dennis & Christol Gansen #4D)

Cody Gardner/Milford, OH (Appco Racing #9G)

Damion Gardner/Concord, CA (Mark Alexander #4x & Chris Dyson Racing #20)

(R) Noah Gass/Mounds, OK (Randy Gass #20G)

Aric Gentry/Robards, KY (Larry Gentry #10)

Dennis Gile/Phoenix, AZ (Gene Gile #13G)

Ryan Godown/Ringoes, NJ (Karl Freyer #4F)

Matt Goodnight/Winchester, IN (Goodnight Racing #39)

Justin Grant/Ione, CA (TOPP Motorsports #4)

Brad Greenup/Channahon, IL (Al Greenup #4G)

Bobby Griffitts/Bloomington, IN (Bobby Griffitts #9)

Scottie Gretzmacher/Farmington, MO (Scottie Gretzmacher #16G)

Trey Gropp/Lincoln, NE (Trey Gropp #54)

H

David Hair/Indianapolis, IN (David Hair #44)

Brandon Halverson/Jackson, MN (Brandon Halverson #13MJ)

Scott Hampton/New Palestine, IN (Ted Slinkard #51 & Jerry Powell #59)

Luke Harbison/Fishers, IN (Luke Harbison #40)

(R) Tom Harris/Banbury, Oxfordshire, UK (Tom Harris Motorsport #84)

Kyle Hathaway/Ayrshire, IN (Kyle Hathaway #7H)

Chayse Hayhurst/Evansville, IN (Chayse Hayhurst #20)

Korbyn Hayslett/Troy, OH (Kim & Dave Hayslett #1H)

Heidi Hedin/Doylestown, PA (Hedin Racing #3H)

Slater Helt/Harrisonville, MO (Shawn Helt #22s)

(R) Zane Hendricks/Stillwater, OK (Goodnight Racing #27)

Anton Hernandez/Arlington, TX (Cooley Racing #19c)

Travis Hery/Piqua, OH (Mark Hery #21H)

Dallas Hewitt/Troy, OH (Todd Keen #18)

Tyler Hewitt/Marion, IN (RL Motorsports #1)

Steve Hix/Ventura, CA (Steve Hix #57)

Josh Hodges/Tijeras, NM (Hodges Motorsports #74x)

A.J. Hopkins/Brownsburg, IN (4J Motorsports)

J.J. Hughes/Indianapolis, IN (Hughes Autotech #76)

Jori Hughes/Tower, MN (Rhys Layton #19x)

I

(R) Dustin Ingle/Lima, OH (Dustin Ingle #2DI)

Steve Irwin/Fenton, MI (Flying Zero Racing #0s)

J

Dakota Jackson/Elizabethtown, IN (Jackson Racing #3 & On The Gass Racing #17)

Jack James/Harlan, IN (Jack James #99)

Chase Johnson/Penngrove, CA (Shawn Thomas #68)

R.J. Johnson/Laveen, AZ (Ricky Johnson #51)

K

Bud Kaeding/Campbell, CA (Morrison Williams #0)

Brian Karraker/Dongola, IL (Denny Karraker #23)

Tyler Kendall/Connersville, IN (Matt Kendall #20K)

Cole Ketcham/Muncie, IN (John Ketcham #41)

Jordan Kinser/Bedford, IN (Hurst Bros. Motorsports #70)

Trevor Kobylarz/Reading, PA (RT Racing #14)

Michael Koontz/Bloomington, IN (Michael Koontz #17K)

Riley Kreisel/Warsaw, MO (Deb & Rick Smith #90)

L

C.J. Leary/Greenfield, IN (Reinbold-Underwood Motorsports #19AZ)

Katlynn Leer/Moulton, IA (Joe Leer #77K)

Aaron Leffel/Springfield, OH (Team Taylor Racing #12L)

Kyle Lick/Lehighton, PA (Terry Lick Racing #8)

Austin Liggett/Tracy, CA (Tim Liggett #83)

Joe Liguori/Tampa, FL (Barry Tibbits #43JR)

Steve Little/Waynesfield, OH (Steve & Melissa Little #53)

Brandon Long/Wichita Falls, TX (Brandon Long #02)

James Lyerla/Hillsboro, IL (James Lyerla #11)

M

Zack Madrid/Phoenix, AZ (Ricky Johnson #15m & Ricky Johnson #51m)

Tommy Malcolm/Corona, CA (Dino Napier #5x)

Critter Malone/Pittsboro, IN (KO Motorsports #5s)

Brandon Mattox/Terre Haute, IN (Brandon Mattox Racing #28)

Paul May/Terre Haute, IN (Paul May #71m)

Matt McCarthy/Riverside, CA (John McCarthy #28m)

Jason McDougal/Broken Arrow, OK (Tanner Grau #34, Dwight Cheney #42x & Daigh-Phillips Motorsports #71p)

Nate McMillin/Rosedale, IN (Kenny McMillin #24)

Thomas Meseraull/San Jose, CA (Don Whitney Racing #00, Gene Gile #13m, Simon Racing #23s, RNS Motorsports #41w & Tom Eades Racing #47)

Tye Mihocko/Phoenix, AZ (Tye Mihocko #5)

Mike Miller/Wapakoneta, OH (Mike Miller #82)

Joss Moffatt/Columbus, IN (Moffatt-Wright Racing #5J)

Brandon Moore/Clyde, OH (Brandon Moore #7m)

Matt Moore/Bethany, OK (Greg Moore #9)

Chris Morgan/Topeka, KS (Bruce Williams #7c)

Evan Mosley/Lapel, IN (Aaron Mosley #27)

N

Anthony Nicholson/Millington, TN (Nicholson Motorsports)

Paul Nienhiser/Chapin, IL (Paul Nienhiser #9x)

O

Justin Owen/Harrison, OH (Justin Owen #4J)

P

Chris Parkinson/Gladstone, MO (Chris Parkinson #65)

Craig Pellegrini/Buena, NJ (Pellegrini Motorsports #11)

Carmen Perigo/Stoystown, PA (Carmen Perigo #21p)

Will Perkins/Oxnard, CA (Will Perkins #50)

Eric Perrott/Sumner, IL (Eric Perrott #45)

Chris Phillips/Plainfield, IN (Chris & Ben Phillips #6p)

Andrew Prather/Martinsville, IN (Tom Knight #16K)

Zack Pretorius/Yorktown, IN (Goodnight Racing #39x)

R

Joel Rayborne/West Covina, CA (Rodney Rayborne #12B)

(R) Terry Richards/Denton, NE (Terry Richards #18)

Brody Roa/Garden Grove, CA (Dwight Cheney #42 & BR Performance #91R)

Kyle Robbins/New Castle, IN (KR Racing #17R)

Frank Rodgers III/Lucas, IA (Frank Rodgers III #6R)

Jadon Rogers/Worthington, IN (Kyle Rogers #14)

Bill Rose/Plainfield, IN (Bill Rose Racing #6)

Matt Rossi/Glendale, AZ (Phil Rossi #02)

Kendall Ruble/Vincennes, IN (Kendall Ruble Racing #17)

Brian Ruhlman/Clarklake, MI (Brian Ruhlman #49)

S

Glen Saville/Razorback, NSW, AU (Glen Saville #75x)

Doug Schenck/Cottage Grove, WI (Final Effort Racing #71)

(R) Kent Schmidt/Owensville, IN (KO Motorsports #5K)

(R) Stephen Schnapf/Evansville, IN (Randy Edwards #61m)

Kory Schudy/Battlefield, MO (Jon Sawyer #28)

Hunter Schuerenberg/Sikeston, MO (Reinbold-Underwood Motorsports #19BS & Reinbold-Underwood Motorsports #19s)

Sam Scott/Patoka, IN (Sam Scott #7)

Logan Seavey/Sutter, CA (Reinbold-Underwood Motorsports #19L & Reinbold-Underwood Motorsports #19s)

Kyle Shipley/Sun City, AZ (Kyle Shipley #0G)

Brady Short/Bedford, IN (Short-Pottorff Racing #11p)

Carson Short/Marion, IL (Chris Dyson Racing #20 & RCM Motorsports #21)

Jake Simmons/New Palestine, IN (Tim Simmons #3)

Landon Simon/Tipp City, OH (Jerry Burton #04, Simon Racing #23s & Landon Simon Racing #24s)

Alec Sipes/Bloomfield, IN (Alec Sipes #99)

Corey Smith/Russiaville, IN (CS Motorsports #66s)

Dustin Smith/Russiaville, IN (Smith Racing #77)

Wesley Smith/Nixa, MO (John Helm #12)

Justin Standridge/Athens, IL (KCBJ Motorsports #8J)

John Stehman/Halifax, PA (Treyco Motorsports #23)

Brandon Stevenson/Holstein, IA (Brandon Stevenson #0)

Chase Stockon/Fort Branch, IN (32 TBI Racing #32)

Lane Stone/Concordia, MO (Terry Stone #73)

Joe Stornetta/Napa, CA (Jerry Burton #04)

Stevie Sussex/Tempe, AZ (Robbie & Gaye Allen #12)

Jake Swanson/Anaheim, CA (John Grau-Mike Burkhart #34AZ)

Kody Swanson/Kingsburg, CA (Nolen Racing #20N)

Verne Sweeney/Lomita, CA (Ken Tracy #98)

Doug Sylvester/Ottumwa, IL (Doug Sylvester #12x)

T

Eddie Tafoya Jr./Chino Hills, CA (Eddie Tafoya, Sr. #51T)

Kevin Thomas Jr./Cullman, AL (Hayward Thomas Motorsports #19)

Steve Thomas/Ludlow, IL (Steve Thomas Racing #20)

(R) Ty Tilton/Lima, OH (Ty Tilton #42)

U

Lee Underwood/Troy, OH (Lee Underwood Racing #24L)

V

Jace Vander Weerd/Visalia, CA (Ron Vander Weerd #88)

Richard Vander Weerd/Visalia, CA (Ron Vander Weerd #10)

(R) Brian VanMeveren/Woodbury, MN (VanMeveren Racing #24)

Jesse Vermillion/Greencastle, IN (Vermillion Racing #5)

W

Scotty Weir/Marion, IN (Scott Pedersen #4p, Simon Racing #23s, Goodnight Racing #39, Goodnight Racing #39G & Dwight Cheney #42)

Cooper Welch/Sheridan, IN (Chris Welch #2)

Travis Welpott/Pendleton, IN (Travis Welpott-Ernie Gorman Racing #18T)

Matt Westfall/Pleasant Hill, OH (Ray Marshall Motorsports #33m)

Korey Weyant/Springfield, IL (Scott Weyant #99)

Cody White/Fremont, OH (Jerry White #26w)

Eric Wilkins/El Mirage, AZ (John Grau-Mike Burkhart #34w)

Austin Williams/Corona, CA (Tom & Laurie Sertich #92)

Chet Williams/Newburg, IN (Chet Williams #38)

Cody Williams/Norco, CA (Cody Williams #44)

Chris Windom/Canton, IL (Parallax Group-Goacher Racing #5G)

Mitch Wissmiller/Saybrook, IL (Mitch Wissmiller #1 & Matt & Ruthy Barker #29)

Callie Wolsiffer/New Palestine, IN (Barry Tibbits #43w)

Brad Wyatt/Kearney, MO (RNS Motorsports #41)

(R) represents a USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car Rookie