2019 USAC EAST COAST SPRINT CAR SEASON REVIEW

DREVICKI WIRES LINCOLN IN EAST COAST SPRINT OPENER

By: Jenna Shotz

ABBOTSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA (April 13, 2019)……The 2018 USAC East Coast Points Champion, Steven Drevicki, started off his 2019 campaign in the best way possible.

Drevicki, from Reading, Pennsylvania combined his knowledge of Lincoln Speedway and his expertise in a wingless sprint car and came up with a near flawless night of racing.

Heat #1 went to Carlisle, PA's Chandler Leiby. Late in the race, Leiby felt the heat from Eddie Strada, who came from the sixth starting spot. Leiby ran a consistent and clean line, holding off Strada for the heat win.

Heat #2 went to Eric Jennings, of Bloomingburg, NY. Jennings took the lead from young-gun, Trey Hivner, early on. Jennings went on to capture the heat win, despite constant pressure from Steven Drevicki, who came all the way from eight place. After a six-car redraw, Drevicki found himself on the pole position.

Before the race, Drevicki said, "I don't usually like the pole because I never know where to go." After testing a few different lines, Drevicki found comfort in the bottom groove. Carmen Perigo was an early contender, but Strada and Jennings battled him hard, allowing Drevicki to pull away. On lap 14, Drevicki caught up to lap traffic. He was able to finesse his way through the field with ease, not allowing anyone to gain much ground on him.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: April 13, 2019 – Lincoln Speedway – Abbottstown, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps) 1. Chandler Leiby (#119 Leiby), 2. Eddie Strada (#5G Gallagher), 3. Carmen Perigo (#21 Stehman), 4. Ryan Quackenbush (#5Q TQT), 5. Mark Bitner (#15 Bitner), 6. Bill Unglert (#33B Unglert), 7. David Swanson (#117 Swanson), 8. Heidi Hedin (#3H Hedin). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps) 1. Eric Jennings (#32 Neiger-Hamilton), 2. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki), 3. Trey Hivner (#7 TH), 4. Chris Allen Jr. (#71 Allen), 5. Matt Boland (#22T Boland), 6. Trevor Kobylarz (#14 RT), 7. Jonathan Swanson (#17J Swanson), 8. Larry Drake (#8 Drake). NT

ALSO AT THE TRACK: Joey Biasi (#B1 Biasi)

FEATURE: (25 laps) 1. Steven Drevicki, 2. Eddie Strada, 3. Carmen Perigo, 4. Chris Allen Jr., 5. Chandler Leiby, 6. Eric Jennings, 7. Trey Hivner, 8. Trevor Kobylarz, 9. Bill Unglert, 10. Jonathan Swanson, 11. Matt Boland, 12. Heidi Hedin, 13. Larry Drake, 14. Ryan Quackenbush, 15. David Swanson, 16. Mark Bitner, 17. Craig Pellegrini (#11A Pellegrini). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: 1-25 Steven Drevicki

**Biasi flipped during practice.

SCOTTY SIGNS HARD CHARGER: Chris Allen Jr. (8th to 4th)

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR POINTS: 1-Steven Drevicki-77, 2-Eddie Strada-74, 3-Carmen Perigo-70, 4-Chris Allen Jr.-66, 5-Chandler Leiby-66, 6-Eric Jennings-63, 7-Hivner-58, 8-Trevor Kobylarz-52, 9-Bill Unglert-49, 10-Swanson-45.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR RACE: April 17 – Delmar, DE – Delaware International Speedway

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ALLEN RIM RIDES TO EAST COAST VICTORY AT DELAWARE

By: Jenna Shotz

DELMAR, DELAWARE (April 17, 2019)-Chris Allen Jr. scored his first series victory on Wednesday at the ½ mile of Delaware International Speedway with the USAC East Coast Sprint Cars. Bill Unglert had the early lead, holding off Allen's advances until lap seven. Once Allen found comfort on the top groove, he managed to rocket past Unglert and secure the lead coming out of turn two.

Until a caution on lap 17, Allen managed to have a four-second lead on the rest of field while he worked his way through lapped traffic. There was a fantastic battle for every position in the top 5, as Chandler Leiby, Steven Drevicki, and Eddie Strada traded exciting slide jobs for position.

In the end it would be Bill Unglert and Eddie Strada on the podium with Chris Allen Jr. "It has been a hard couple of years not racing as much as we wish we could with rainouts and stuff. This win is awesome, though." Explained Allen Jr. in victory lane. This win has been a long time coming for Chris, as he has had strong finishes in the past but came up short of a victory last season. Allen Jr. carried his momentum from a Hard Charger Award just four days ago at Lincoln Speedway (p4 finish).

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: April 17, 2019 – Delaware International Speedway – Delmar, Delaware

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, Top 3 to redraw) 1. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki), 2. Chris Allen Jr. (#71 Allen), 3. Trevor Kobylarz (#14 RT), 4. Mark Bitner (#15 Bitner), 5. Heidi Hedin (#3H Hedin), 6. Jonathan Swanson (#17J Swanson). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, Top 3 to redraw) 1. Chandler Leiby (#119 Leiby), 2. Eddie Strada (#5G Gallagher), 3. Bill Unglert (#33B Unglert), 4. Ryan Quackenbush (#5Q TQT), 5. David Swanson (#117 Swanson), 6. Mike Thompson (#39 Hogue), 7. Craig Pellegrini (#11A Pellegrini). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps) 1. Chris Allen Jr., 2. Bill Unglert, 3. Eddie Strada, 4. Steven Drevicki, 5. Chandler Leiby, 6. Trevor Kobylarz, 7. Mark Bitner, 8. Ryan Quackenbush, 9. Eric Jennings (#61 Jennings), 10. Mike Thompson, 11. Jonathan Swanson, 12. David Swanson, 13. Heidi Hedin, 14. Craig Pellegrini NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-6 Unglert, Laps 7-25 Allen.

SCOTTY SIGNS HARD CHARGER: Eric Jennings (14th to 9th)

NEW RAPID TIRE USAC EAST COAST SPRINT CAR POINTS: 1-Steven Drevicki-146, 2-Eddie Strada-145, 3-Chris Allen Jr.-143, 4-Chandler Leiby-132, 5-Bill Unglert-122, 6-Trebor Kobylarz-113, 7-Eric Jennings-109, 8-Mark Bitner-92, 9-Ryan Quackenbush-92, 10-Jonathan Swanson-89.

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DREVICKI GRABS SECOND EAST COAST SPRINT WIN OF SEASON AT BIG DIAMOND

By: Nick Fillman

Pottsville, Pennsylvania (May 17, 2019)……After fighting off an evening thunderstorm, a stellar field of 31 Rapid Tire USAC East Coast 360 Sprint Cars jammed the pit area at the Big Diamond Speedway for a fantastic night of open wheel racing.

Following the top eight redraw, Timmy Buckwalter in his new Gallagher 5g ride, and sprint car rookie Tyler Brehm would share the front row of the talented 20 car feature field and lead them to green.

Buckwalter would quickly jump out to the race lead and try and establish the pace early on. The first caution would fly on lap one for duel spins of Ryan Quackenbush and Chris Allen Jr. A caution would then fly on lap two of the feature event for a slowing Mark Bitner who had suffered a flat left front tire.

When the field went back green it was again Timmy Buckwalter jumping back out front to lead the field with Brehm in second, and Chandler Leiby moving into third. A red flag would then fly again on the fourth circuit for a flat by Joe Biasi that would then collect drivers: Carmen Perigo, Bill Unglert, and JR Berry who took a light tumble into the infield.

While under the red flag period, it was discovered that Timmy Buckwalter suffered a flat tire and was pushed pit side allowing the team to make the change and return to the field. Bill Unglert, Biasi, and Perigo also rejoined the field leaving some talented drivers and cars in the back of the field.

On the ensuing restart Brehm would get out front and lead the field with Chandler Leiby, and Steven Drevicki in third and closing quickly on the top two drivers. Heading into turn one on lap eight, Drevicki would make the move to the inside of Brehm after passing Leiby to grab the lead of the feature event and look to take off.

A caution on lap 19 for a slowing Eric Jennings with a right rear flat tire, would set up a six-lap dash for the checkered for the field.

When the field went back green, Drevicki would be challenged by Leiby but unable to make the pass for the win. Behind Drevicki and Leiby the action was fierce with seventh starting Eddie Strada in competition with the hard charging cars of Chris Allen Jr. and Timmy Buckwalter recovering from his flat tire.

When the checkers flew Steven Drevicki collected his second win of the 2019 Rapid Tire USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series over: Chandler Leiby, Eddie Strada, Chris Allen Jr. and Timmy Buckwalter.

A tough night at the fell upon driver Craig Pellegrini, Trey Hivner and Trevor Kobylarz. Pellegrini went for a wild flip in the B Main, with Hivner and Kobylarz suffering mechanical issues during the B Main.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: May 17, 2019 – Big Diamond Speedway – Pottsville, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature, top-2 to redraw) 1. Eddie Strada (#42E Strada), 2. Joey Biasi (#B1 Biasi), 3. Steve Surniak (#1ST Surniak), 4. Johnny Petrozelle (#59 Petrozelle), 5. Trevor Kobylarz (#14 RT), 6. Jason Cherry (#67 Cherry), 7. Larry Drake (#8 Drake), 8. Jake Winters (#1J Winters). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature, top-2 to redraw) 1. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki), 2. Carmen Perigo (#21 Perigo), 3. J.R. Berry (#74 Berry), 4. Ryan Quackenbush (#5Q TQT), 5. Trey Hivner (#7 Hivner), 6. Heidi Hedin (#3H Hedin), 7. Craig Pellegrini (#11A Pellegrini), 8. David Swanson (#117 Swanson). NT

THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature, top-2 to redraw) 1. Chandler Leiby (#119 Leiby), 2. Tyler Brehm (#21R Brehm), 3. Eric Jennings (#32 Neiger-Hamilton), 4. Zack Burd (#5z Burd), 5. Connor Leoffler (#22 Leoffler), 6. Jonathan Swanson (#17J Swanson), 7. John Anderika (#96 Anderika). NT

FOURTH HEAT: (8 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature, top-2 to redraw) 1. Timmy Buckwalter (#5G Gallagher), 2. Mark Bitner (#15 Bitner), 3. Kyle Lick (#8 Lick), 4. Chris Allen Jr. (#71 Allen), 5. Bill Unglert (#33B Unglert), 6. John Stehman (#8L Stehman), 7. Mike Thompson (#39 Hogue). NT

SEMI: (12 laps, top-4 transfer to the feature) 1. Bill Unglert, 2. Connor Leoffler, 3. John Stehman, 4. Mike Thompson, 5. Heidi Hedin, 6. Jonathan Swanson, 7. Jason Cherry, 8. Larry Drake, 9. David Swanson, 10. Jake Winters, 11. John Anderika, 12. Trey Hivner, 13. Craig Pellegrini, 14. Trevor Kobylarz. NT

FEATURE: (25 laps) 1. Steven Drevicki, 2. Chandler Leiby, 3. Eddie Strada, 4. Chris Allen Jr., 5. Timmy Buckwalter, 6. Connor Leoffler, 7. Ryan Quackenbush, 8. Carmen Perigo, 9. Bill Unglert, 10. Joey Biasi, 11. Tyler Brehm, 12. Mike Thompson, 13. John Stehman, 14. Zack Burd, 15. Steve Surniak, 16. Kyle Lick, 17. Johnny Petrozelle, 18. J.R. Berry, 19. Eric Jennings, 20. Mark Bitner. NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-4 Timmy Buckwalter, Laps 5-8 Tyler Brehm, Laps 9-25 Steven Drevicki.

**Pellegrini flipped during the semi.

SCOTTY SIGNS HARD CHARGER: Chris Allen Jr.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR POINTS: 1-Steven Drevicki-224, 2-Eddie Strada-217, 3-Chris Allen Jr.-208, 4-Chandler Leiby-207, 5-Bill Unglert-172, 6-Ryan Quackenbush-149, 7-Eric Jennings-140, 8-Carmen Perigo-126, 9-Trevor Kobylarz-123, 10-Mark Bitner-122.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR RACE: May 18, 2019 – Grandview Speedway – Bechtelsville, Pennsylvania

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NEW RIDE, NO PROBLEM: BUCKWALTER BANKS GRANDVIEW EAST COAST WIN

By: Nick Fillman

Bechtelsville, Pennsylvania (May 18, 2019)……It all started with a phone call on Monday and ended with victory lane photos on Saturday for Timmy Buckwalter of Douglasville, PA as he was able to collect his first Rapid Tire USAC East Coast 360 sprint car win at his weekly home track, Grandview Speedway.

Joey Biasi and Carmen Perigo would lead the field to the green flag, but the caution would quickly wave as Eddie Strada and Chris Allen got together on the initial start and collected Eric Jennings and John Stehman. Strada kept his position as he never stopped. Stehman rejoined, but at the tail of the field. Allen and Jennings, however, were not so lucky and their nights were over

The following restart would again have chaos in turn one as a spinning Eddie Strada would collect the cars of Connor Leoffler and Bill Unglert. All suffering front end damage and sending the three drivers pit side.

When the field went green again on Biasi was able to grab the lead with Carmen Perigo hot in his bumper. Buckwalter had now found himself in third after starting the feature in the fifth position. Buckwalter made quick work of passing the stout Perigo machine, before setting his sights on Biasi. Buckwalter would make the pass on Biasi and look to set sail before a caution flew on lap 7 for a slowing Ryan Quackenbush machine.

From the ensuing restart on Timmy Buckwalter had a comfortable lead over the rest of the field, but the rest of the finishing positions were under fire as an intense battle for positions 2-4 occurred between Biasi, Perigo, and 11th starting Steve Drevicki. Drevicki would make a fantastic “two for one” pass in turns three and four passing both Perigo and Biasi on lap 23. Unfortunately for Drevicki and the rest of the field, it was too late as Timmy Buckwalter would cruise on to collect his first ever USAC East Coast victory, and the first ever series win at the Grandview Speedway. Steven Drevicki, Carmen Perigo, Joey Biasi, and the hard charger of the night, Chandler Leiby rounding out the top five.

Leiby would have a tough night turn better following a heat race flip and a trip to the B Main. Leiby started in the 17th position and was able to work his way through the field and miss the incidents to collect the 5th place finish.

Twenty-Three cars would be in the pit area for competition in the inaugural event at the Grandview Speedway with Carmen Perigo, Joey Biasi, and Timmy Buckwalter collecting the heat race wins. Zack Burd was able to collect the checkers in the semi event.

Up next for the Rapid Tire USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series is a trip to the 3/8ths mile inner oval at the Bridgeport Speedway in Swedesboro, New Jersey.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: May 18, 2019 – Grandview Speedway – Bechtelsville, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature, top-3 to redraw) 1. Carmen Perigo (#21 Perigo), 2. Chris Allen Jr. (#71 Allen), 3. Connor Leoffler (#22 Leoffler), 4. Ryan Quackenbush (#5Q TQT), 5. Bill Unglert (#33B Unglert), 6. Jake Winters (#1J Winters), 7. Kyle Lick (#8 Lick), 8. George Suprick (#96 Suprick). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature, top-3 to redraw) 1. Joey Biasi (#B1 Biasi), 2. Eric Jennings (#32 Neiger-Hamilton), 3. Tyler Brehm (#21R Brehm), 4. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki), 5. Steve Surniak (#1ST Surniak), 6. Zack Burd (#5z Burd), 7. Trey Hivner (#7 Hivner), 8. Jason Cherry (#67 Cherry). NT

THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature, top-3 to redraw) 1. Timmy Buckwalter (#5G Gallagher), 2. Eddie Strada (#42E Strada), 3. John Stehman (#8L Stehman), 4. Mike Thompson (#39 Hogue), 5. Jonathan Swanson (#17J Swanson), 6. David Swanson (#117 Swanson), 7. Chandler Leiby (#119 Leiby). NT

SEMI: (5 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Zack Burd, 2. Chandler Leiby, 3. David Swanson, 4. Jason Cherry, 5. Jake Winters, 6. Kyle Lick, 7. Trey Hivner, 8. George Suprick. NT

FEATURE: (25 laps) 1. Timmy Buckwalter, 2. Steven Drevicki, 3. Carmen Perigo, 4. Joey Biasi, 5. Chandler Leiby, 6. Tyler Brehm, 7. Mike Thompson, 8. Jonathan Swanson, 9. Steve Surniak, 10. John Stehman, 11. David Swanson, 12. Jason Cherry, 13. Zack Burd, 14. Ryan Quackenbush, 15. Chris Allen Jr., 16. Eddie Strada, 17. Eric Jennings, 18. Connor Leoffler, 19. Bill Unglert, 20. Jake Winters. NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-4 Joey Biasi, Laps 5-25 Timmy Buckwalter.

**George Suprick flipped during the first heat. Chandler Leiby flipped during the third heat.

SCOTTY SIGNS HARD CHARGER: Chandler Leiby (17th to 5th)

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR POINTS: 1-Steven Drevicki-296, 2-Chandler Leiby-268, 3-Eddie Strada-257, 4-Chris Allen Jr.-246, 5-Bill Unglert-201, 6-Carmen Perigo-198, 7-Ryan Quackenbush-189, 8-Eric Jennings-176, 9-Jonathan Swanson-152, 10-Timmy Buckwalter-144.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR RACE: May 26, 2019 – Bridgeport Speedway – Swedesboro, New Jersey

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BIASI DOMINATES BRIDGEPORT FOR USAC EAST COAST WIN

By: Nick Fillman

Swedesboro, New Jersey (May 26, 2019)……Joey Biasi of Mary D, Pennsylvania wrapped up a dominant weekend by cruising to a convincing win in the Rapid Tire USAC East Coast Sprint Cars feature event at the Design for Vision, Sunglass Central 3/8ths mile oval at the Bridgeport Speedway.

Biasi started out the weekend by collecting a second place on Friday at the Trail-ways Speedway, and a win at the Path Valley speedway in wingless Super Sportsman Sprint car competition and wrapped up the weekend with another checkered at Bridgeport.

Biasi was able to jump out to the lead from the pole position following the heat race redraw. Biasi was challenged as best as he could by Chandler Leiby in the feature event. A caution for a spinning Craig Pellegrini on lap 2 would bring the field together for a restart. Following the restart, the top two settled in as the feature laps started to wind down and caught the back of the field. As the leaders entered lapped traffic, Leiby would try his best to try and work to the low side of Biasi, especially in turns three and four.

The top two would battle for position through the lapped traffic, with Leiby waiting for Biasi to make a mistake. Timmy Buckwalter, who started in the 9th position for the feature event would methodically work his way up through the field to the top five near the halfway point. Buckwalter would utilize the lapped traffic the front of the field was encountering to slide passed Eddie Strada for the third-place position. Unfortunately for Buckwalter and Leiby it would be as far as they could go as Joey Biasi would take the checkers.

The speed for Biasi at Bridgeport is no surprise as Biasi was involved in a heavy battle with Coleman Gulick for last year's inaugural feature event win at the new 3/8ths mile oval but ended up in the second spot. Biasi has been fast all season with the USAC Series since returning from injury. Biasi was injured in a frightening hot lap session crash at the Lincoln Speedway and was left with a broken arm. Biasi was forced to miss the show at Delaware International, but since his return Biasi has collected a top 10, top 4, and now has returned to victory lane.

The string of consistent finishes continues for Steven Drevicki and Chandler Leiby who both would finish in the top five. Drevicki and Leiby are positions one and two in the points standings. Both drivers have also finished in the top five in every feature event so far this season. Drevicki leads the way with two wins, while Leiby is still searching for his first series win, but he is ever so close.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: May 26, 2019 – Bridgeport Speedway – Swedesboro, New Jersey

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature, top-3 to redraw) 1. Mark Bitner (#15 Bitner), 2. Chandler Leiby (#119 Leiby), 3. Bill Unglert (#33B Unglert), 4. Chris Allen Jr. (#71 Allen), 5. Larry Drake (#8L Drake), 6. Larry McVay (#83 McVay), 7. Kevin Darling (#9D Darling). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature, top-3 to redraw) 1. Joey Biasi (#B1 Biasi), 2. Eric Jennings (#32 Neiger-Hamilton), 3. Kyle Lick (#8 Lick), 4. Ryan Quackenbush (#5Q TQT), 5. Jonathan Swanson (#17J Swanson), 6. David Swanson (#117 Swanson), 7. Zack Burd (#5z Burd). NT

THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature, top-3 to redraw) 1. Eddie Strada (#42E Strada), 2. Timmy Buckwalter (#5G Gallagher), 3. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki), 4. Mike Thompson (#39 Hogue), 5. Brian Riccio (#09 Riccio), 6. Craig Pellegrini (#11A Pellegrini), 7. Heidi Hedin (#3H Hedin). NT

SEMI: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Larry McVay, 2. David Swanson, 3. Zack Burd, 4. Heidi Hedin, 5. Craig Pellegrini, 6. Kevin Darling. NT

FEATURE: (25 laps) 1. Joey Biasi, 2. Chandler Leiby, 3. Timmy Buckwalter, 4. Eddie Strada, 5. Steven Drevicki, 6. Bill Unglert, 7. Chris Allen Jr., 8. Mark Bitner, 9. Kyle Lick, 10. Eric Jennings, 11. Ryan Quackenbush, 12. Brian Riccio, 13. Mike Thompson, 14. Kevin Darling, 15. Larry McVay, 16. Larry Drake, 17. Jonathan Swanson, 18. David Swanson, 19. Heidi Hedin, 20. Craig Pellegrini, 21. Zack Burd. NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-25 Joey Biasi.

SCOTTY SIGNS HARD CHARGER: Kevin Darling (21st to 14th)

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR POINTS: 1-Steven Drevicki-360, 2-Chandler Leiby-342, 3-Eddie Strada-326, 4-Chris Allen Jr.-303, 5-Bill Unglert-262, 6-Ryan Quackenbush-235, 7-Eric Jennings-226, 8-Joey Biasi-207, 9-Carmen Perigo-198, 10-Mike Thompson-185.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR RACE: June 7, 2019 – Big Diamond Speedway – Pottsville, Pennsylvania

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BUCKWALTER BLASTS TO BIG DIAMOND VICTORY

By: Nick Fillman – USAC East Coast Sprint Cars

Pottsville, Pennsylvania (June 7, 2019)……For the second time in their first four races together, Timmy Buckwalter piloted the Bill Gallagher-owned, Curt Michael-prepared entry into victory lane in Rapid Tire USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series action.

The win for Buckwalter kicks off what is a busy schedule for the driver as he will compete in modified action on Saturday at Grandview Speedway before moving on to action next week with the USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Car Series in their annual "Eastern Storm."

Buckwalter was able to maneuver his way to the heat race victory in a duel with Carmen Perigo which would send Buckwalter to the redraw. Timmy drew the second-place position, which placed him alongside Chandler Leiby for the start.

As the field went to green Buckwalter slid back a couple of positions with Leiby grabbing the early race lead. A caution would quickly fly for Joe Biasi who clipped an infield tire and sent him spinning into the infield ending his night. As the field would go back to green Leiby would again work his way into the lead holding off challenges from Carson Short and Steven Drevicki.

The caution would again fly on lap 9 for Jonathan Swanson and Ryan Quackenbush bunching the field back up. On the ensuing restart Buckwalter would power to the outside around Leiby in turns three and four, taking the lead and looking to run away. Buckwalter would maintain a solid lead while the battle was on for positions two through seven. Steven Drevicki, Leiby, Short, Perigo, Strada, and Chris Allen were all in close competition with no driver feeling in comfortable control of their position. A caution flag would fly again on lap 16 for a spinning Eric Jennings, setting up a restart.

The restart would again see high contention for positions inside the top 10 with Drevicki moving into the second-place position. Other drivers would see highly contested action for spots in the top six. The final caution of the event would fly on lap 22 for Steve Surniak who ended up getting into an infield tire. The restart would be the chance the Drevicki wanted to try and grab the win away from Buckwalter, but it wasn't meant to be as Buckwalter would go on to take the checkers. Steven Drevicki would come home second, Carson Short third, Carmen Perigo made a strong high side move to grab fourth powering to the outside around Strada and Leiby, with Chandler Leiby collecting yet another top five finish.

While the night was great for some, it was bad for others, with some in the in between. The night started off rough for Ryan Quackenbush and Brian Riccio. Quackenbush would have the front end folded up on his machine on lap one, of heat one before collecting Riccio who would go for a series of flips into the infield. Riccio was making just his second start of the season before the flip.

Trevor Kobylarz would make his return to the Rapid Tire USAC East Coast Series, following missing the last two events with engine issues. Kobylarz was out to a solid lead in heat race number three before an exploding left rear would end his heat race. Unfortunately, the tire failure broke the shock and other components off the Kobylarz car. The team opted to sit out for the remainder of the night to keep things fresh for the upcoming eastern swing.

Despite the troubles in the heat race for Ryan Quackenbush, and a caution early on in the feature, he would rebound with a solid effort to collect the Scotty Signs Hard Charger award. The New York turned Pennsylvania transplant has had a bit of an up and down season, but the team never quits and works hard to get to every event. They were rewarded with a solid finish and a few extra winnings on Friday night, proving that while they may get down, they're never out.

In their first race together Carson Short, and the Chris Dyson Racing, Sean Michael-prepared entry had a solid night. The team pulled the number one pill for the night and started on the pole of heat one. Carson would cruise to the heat victory

before having a strong third place run in the feature event as a great tune up before next week's USAC National Sprint action.

The next event for the Rapid Tire USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series comes on Sunday, June 30th at the Glen Ridge Motorsports Park where the series will make their inaugural visit.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: June 7, 2019 – Big Diamond Speedway – Pottsville, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature, top-3 to redraw) 1. Carson Short (#20 Dyson), 2. Joey Biasi (#B1 Biasi), 3. Chandler Leiby (#119 Leiby), 4. Bill Unglert (#33B Unglert), 5. Steve Surniak (#1ST Surniak), 6. John Stehman (#23 Stehman), 7. Craig Pellegrini (#11A Pellegrini), 8. Ryan Quackenbush (#5Q TQT), 9. Brian Riccio (#09 Riccio). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature, top-3 to redraw) 1. Mark Bitner (#15 Bitner), 2. Eddie Strada (#42E Strada), 3. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki), 4. Jake Winters (#1J Winters), 5. Austin Bishop (#11 Bishop), 6. Larry McVay (#83 McVay), 7. Heidi Hedin (#3H Hedin), 8. David Swanson (#117 Swanson). NT

THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature, top-3 to redraw) 1. Timmy Buckwalter (#5G Gallagher), 2. Carmen Perigo (#21 Perigo), 3. Chris Allen Jr. (#71 Allen), 4. Tyler Brehm (#21R Brehm), 5. Connor Leoffler (#22 Leoffler), 6. Eric Jennings (#32 Neiger-Hamilton), 7. Jonathan Swanson (#17J Swanson), 8. Trevor Kobylarz (#14 RT). NT

SEMI: (12 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature) 1. Eric Jennings, 2. John Stehman, 3. Larry McVay, 4. Craig Pellegrini, 5. Jonathan Swanson, 6. Heidi Hedin, 7. David Swanson. NT

FEATURE: (25 laps) 1. Timmy Buckwalter, 2. Steven Drevicki, 3. Carson Short, 4. Carmen Perigo, 5. Chandler Leiby, 6. Eddie Strada, 7. Chris Allen Jr., 8. Bill Unglert, 9. Connor Leoffler, 10. Mark Bitner, 11. Tyler Brehm, 12. Austin Bishop, 13. Ryan Quackenbush, 14. John Stehman, 15. Eric Jennings, 16. Larry McVay, 17. Jonathan Swanson, 18. Jake Winters, 19. Steve Surniak, 20. Craig Pellegrini, 21. Joey Biasi. NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-9 Chandler Leiby, Laps 10-25 Timmy Buckwalter.

**Brian Riccio flipped during the first heat.

SCOTTY SIGNS HARD CHARGER: Ryan Quackenbush (21st to 13th)

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR POINTS: 1-Steven Drevicki-433, 2-Bill Unglert-416, 3-Chandler Leiby-405, 4-Eddie Strada-386, 5-Ryan Quackenbush-375, 6-Chris Allen Jr.-364, 7-Timmy Buckwalter-293, 8-Carmen Perigo-266, 9-Eric Jennings-262, 10-Mark Bitner-240.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR RACE: June 30, 2019 – Glen Ridge Motorsports Park – Fultonville, New York

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STRADA EDGES THE FIELD AT GLEN RIDGE

By: Nick Fillman

Fultonville, New York (June 30, 2019)……"The Edge" Eddie Strada from Lake Ariel, PA was able to grab his first Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series victory of the year after re-passing and holding off Steven Drevicki to take the checkers.

Strada would start his night off on the right foot after pulling the number one pill for the nights action and placing him on the pole of heat one. Strada would go on to win heat race number one by a comfortable margin over Thomas Radivoy. The

top three drivers from each of the heat races would redraw for the top six positions, which would put Strada and Bill Unglert on the front row for the feature event.

Strada would quickly jump out to the early lead on the initial drop of the green flag, with Steven Drevicki moving into second from his third place starting spot. Drevicki would close in on Strada early on and take the lead from Strada on the backstretch and lead on lap six. Drevicki grabbed the lead of the field running the middle groove of the track with Strada not far behind. Strada would masterfully work the bottom groove to get back underneath Drevicki to take the lead back on lap thirteen.

The caution would fly on lap 14 as Chad Miller would spin in turns three and four and leave no place for Eric Jennings to go. Jennings would make contact with the Miller machine in the left side nerf bar, leaving both cars with no major mechanical issues. Both drivers would rejoin the back of the field.

The ensuing restart would see Strada leading over: Drevicki, Unglert, Buckwalter, Radivoy, and Chandler Leiby. As the field went back to green Buckwalter would quickly move underneath of Unglert to take the third spot away and try to hunt down the top two drivers.

The field would settle in for the next handful of laps before the caution would fly on lap 18 for Eric Jennings who would go for a spin in turn two. As the field took the green on the next restart, Chandler Leiby would utilize the bunched-up field to get by Unglert and move into the fourth-place spot. The caution flag would again fly on lap 22 for a spinning Thomas Radivoy machine in turns one and two. While the caution was coming out, Bill Unglert caught a tire on the back stretch and went for a tumble ending his feature event. The caution would set up a three-lap dash for the victory.

Strada would be able to hold off Drevicki, Buckwalter and the rest of the field to collect his second career Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series victory, and his first on the 2019 tour. Strada has been consistent all season long, just like last season, and currently sits third in the points standings.

The night was off to a tough start for two drivers as Chris Allen and John Anderika would make hard contact in their hot lap session. Allen would suffer enough damage to force him to miss his heat race but would rebound in the feature to collect the Scotty Signs, KSE Racing Products, Vahlco Wheels hard charger award. Anderika would suffer significant damage, including a broken frame and would be done for the remainder of the evening.

As a side note, Sunday was the sixth wedding anniversary for our race director Matt Chambers and his wife Tammie, who is also an official with the USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series. Most fans don't see or interact with Tammie as she works so very hard behind the scenes in the pit area to ensure the night goes smoothly. So, a very happy anniversary to Matt and Tammie and here's to many more!!

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: June 30, 2019 – Glen Ridge Motorsports Park – Fultonville, New York

FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature, top-3 to redraw) 1. Eddie Strada (#42E Strada), 2. Thomas Radivoy (#1Q Radivoy), 3. Timmy Buckwalter (#5G Gallagher), 4. Chandler Leiby (#119 Leiby), 5. Eric Jennings (#32 Neiger-Hamilton), 6. Chad Miller (#88c Miller), NT

SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature, top-3 to redraw) 1. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki), 2. Bill Unglert (#33B Unglert), 3. Ryan Quackenbush (#5Q TQT), 4. Jeremy Quick (#3 Quick), 5. Jake Winters (#1J Winters). NT

ALSO AT THE TRACK: John Anderika (#96 Anderika)

FEATURE: (25 laps) 1. Eddie Strada, 2. Steven Drevicki, 3. Timmy Buckwalter, 4. Chandler Leiby, 5. Jeremy Quick, 6. Jake Winters, 7. Chris Allen Jr. (#71 Allen), 8. Chad Miller, 9. Eric Jennings, 10. Ryan Quackenbush, 11. Thomas Radivoy, 12. Bill Unglert. NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-5 Eddie Strada, Laps 6-12 Steven Drevicki, Laps 13-25 Eddie Strada.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR RACE: July 19, 2019 – Big Diamond Speedway – Pottsville, Pennsylvania

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

SCOTTY SIGNS/KSE RACING PRODUCTS/VAHLCO WHEELS HARD CHARGER: Chris Allen Jr. (12th to 7th)

ULTRA-SHIELD RACE PRODUCTS 2ND PLACE $50 CERTIFICATE: Steven Drevicki

KEIZER WHEELS 3RD PLACE $50 CERTIFICATE: Timmy Buckwalter

WILWOOD BRAKES 4TH PLACE $50 CERTIFICATE: Chandler Leiby

ATL FUEL CELLS 5TH PLACE $100 CERTIFICATE: Jeremy Quick

KING RACING PRODUCTS 6TH PLACE $25 CERTIFICATE: Jake Winters

ULTRA-SHIELD RACE PRODUCTS 8TH PLACE $50 CERTIFICATE: Chad Miller

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DREVICKI DOUBLES UP AT BIG DIAMOND

By: Nick Fillman - USAC East Coast Sprint Cars

Minersville, Pennsylvania (July 19, 2019)……For the second time this season at the Big Diamond Speedway, and the third time overall, defending Rapid Tire USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series Champion Steven Drevicki was able to grab the checkered flag and head to victory lane.

The night started out on a good note for Drevicki who had a great pill draw for the heat race that would see him start third in the first heat event. Drevicki would eventually go on to win his heat event, sending him to the redraw for the feature. Drevicki would again have a great pill draw for the feature event that would see him start alongside fellow heat winner Austin Bishop.

The initial green flag would see a quick yellow follow, as Jake Winters would go for a spin in turns three and four, collecting Connor Leoffler, who had nowhere to go. The field would bunch back up for a complete restart of the feature event.

Once the field went green, rookie Austin Bishop would jump out to the early event lead with Drevicki falling into second place. The battle for second would quickly be on, as Eric Jennings would battle hard with Drevicki and take the second-place spot away. Another caution flag would fall on lap seven for the spun car of Craig Pellegrini in turns one and two. Bishop was out front in a comfortable margin over Eric Jennings, Steven Drevicki, Carmen Perigo and Joey Biasi. The field would go back to green flag action, but only for a lap, as John Stehman would go for a spin on lap eight.

As the race went back green again, yet another caution would take place on the restart as Ryan Quackenbush and Connor Leoffler would tangle entering three and four. Both drivers would be done for the night with front end damage.

When the field finally got restarted again Drevicki had taken back the second-place position from Eric Jennings and was quickly closing in on race leader Austin Bishop by lap 12. Drevicki was able to keep his car in the small moisture strip on the bottom of the track, about a half a lane lower than Bishop and would work his way by and into the lead on lap 15. Bishop, Perigo, Jennings, and Biasi would be the top five at the time.

One final caution flag would fly on lap 24 as Lee Kauffman would spin in turns one and two and be tagged by another car leaving him with front end damage ending his night. Bishop would be left with one final chance to get by Drevicki, with

Perigo, Biasi, and Eddie Strada rounding out the top five. When the field took the green and white flags, Drevicki had a solid lead and would hold off the last attempt to grab his third win of the season.

The win for Drevicki comes off of a second place run at the last completed event at the Glen Ridge Motorsports Park on June 30th. Drevicki is the only driver who has placed inside the top five positions of every feature event in 2019. The feature couldn't have ended at a better time for Drevicki and a number of other drivers in the field, as the heat had led to dry track conditions with many drivers having little to no tread left on their rear tires. Drevicki said in victory lane that he had felt the car begin to shake with a handful of laps left because of the warn out tires and did not want to see the last yellow flag.

Rookie 360 sprint car driver Austin Bishop had a solid run in what was only his second wingless sprint car start. Bishop ran the previous show at Big Diamond, where he also collected his first career 360 sprint car win with the URC winged sprint series. Bishop ended up with a strong run and hopefully will attend some more wingless shows to close out 2019.

Joey Biasi was back in action with the USAC East Coast Sprint cars after what has been a bit of an up and down season. Biasi was going to miss the last scheduled show at the New Egypt Speedway in order to rebuild their sprint car program following an extremely hard flip at Lernerville Speedway. Biasi was able to make some moves from 6th to 4th and have a solid top five run.

Eddie Strada was the hard charger of the night moving from the 15th place position, to finish in the top five. Strada had suffered a flat right front tire in the heat race which lead to a DNF. Strada methodically worked his way through the field working on the bottom side of the speedway.

Connor Leoffler had quite the rough night after being collected in a number of incidents. Leoffler was caught up in a caution in the heat race which broke the front end out of his DRC Chassis entry. The team would change front ends and start at the rear of the feature before ultimately being caught up in two more incidents ending his night on the back of a tow truck.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: July 19, 2019 – Big Diamond Speedway – Pottsville, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, 3 redraw) 1. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki), 2. Kyle Lick (#8 Lick), 3. Joey Biasi (#B1 Biasi), 4. Carmen Perigo (#21 Stehman), 5. Ryan Quackenbush (#5Q TQT), 6. David Swanson (#117 Swanson), 7. Craig Pellegrini (#11A Pellegrini), 8. Eddie Strada (#42 Strada), 9. Heidi Hedin (#3H Hedin), 10. Connor Leoffler (#22 Leoffler). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, 3 redraw) 1. Austin Bishop (#11 Bishop), 2. Eric Jennings (#32 Neiger-Hamilton), 3. Chandler Leiby (#119 Leiby), 4. Chris Allen Jr. (#71 Allen), 5. Trevor Kobylarz (#14 RT), 6. Timmy Buckwalter (#5G Gallagher), 7. Jonathan Swanson (#17 Swanson), 8. Jake Winters (#1J Winters), 9. John Stehman (#23 Stehman), 10. Lee Kauffman (#96 Kauffman). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps) 1. Steven Drevicki, 2. Austin Bishop, 3. Carmen Perigo, 4. Joey Biasi, 5. Eddie Strada, 6. Eric Jennings, 7. Trevor Kobylarz, 8. Kyle Lick, 9. Chris Allen Jr, 10. Chandler Leiby, 11. Jonathan Swanson, 12. Heidi Hedin, 13. David Swanson, 14. Jake Winters, 15. John Stehman, 16. Lee Kauffman, 17. Craig Pellegrini, 18. Timmy Buckwalter, 19. Ryan Quackenbush, 20. Connor Leoffler. NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-14 Austin Bishop, Laps 15-25 Steven Drevicki.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR RACE: July 26, 2019 – Georgetown Speedway – Georgetown, Pennsylvania

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

SCOTTY SIGNS HARD CHARGER: Eddie Strada (15th to 5th)

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER: Eddie Strada

VAHLCO WHEELS HARD CHARGER: Eddie Strada

ULTRA-SHIELD RACE PRODUCTS: Austin Bishop

KEIZER WHEELS 3RD PLACE: Carmen Perigo

WILWOOD BRAKES 4TH PLACE: Joey Biasi

ATL FUEL CELLS 5TH PLACE: Eddie Strada

KING RACING PRODUCTS 6TH PLACE: Eric Jennings

ULTRA-SHIELD RACE PRODUCTS 8TH PLACE: Kyle Lick

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DREVICKI NABS INAUGURAL GEORGETOWN EAST COAST FEATURE

By: Nick Fillman - USAC East Coast Sprint Cars

Georgetown, Delaware (July 26, 2019)……Steven Drevicki of Reading, Pennsylvania was able fight off the rest of the field in a thrilling inaugural feature event for the Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series at the Georgetown Speedway.

Drevicki made it into the redraw for the feature event, by virtue of finishing in the second-place position in his heat race event. Drevicki would pull the number two pill and start alongside pole sitter Chris Allen for the start of the feature event.

As the field went green on the initial start of the feature event Allen would jump out the early race lead. When the field dove into turns three and four, Timmy Buckwalter would catch the right rear of Chandler Leiby's car and go for a massive series of flips out of turns three and four. Buckwalter would be ok, but the Gallagher Racing 5g entry was completely destroyed.

When the field went green on the ensuing restart Christopher Allen would again jump out to the early race lead over Drevicki, Leiby, Joe Biasi and Ryan Quackenbush. Drevicki would be hot on the heels of Allen and the two would be side by side for the race lead by lap three. Drevicki would get by Allen as they came to the line on lap three with Allen not far behind. Drevicki would lead lap four, before Christopher Allen was able to get by Drevicki yet again with Chandler Leiby on the tail tanks of both leaders.

Meanwhile, Joe Biasi had accidentally hopped over the banking in turns three and four and lost a number of positions but had regained his speed and was just outside the top five. The top four drivers would continue to go at it, tooth and nail for the top spots with side by side action.

By the halfway point, Allen had the lead in a tight battle with Drevicki, and Chandler Leiby was doing everything in his power to work by the top two drivers. Eddie Strada had worked his way up into the fourth spot from his eighth starting spot and was trying to throw his hat into the ring for the feature event win.

On lap fourteen Drevicki would finally get by Christopher Allen after an intense side by side battle for the top spot. Leiby would still run in the third spot trying everything he could to work by Allen and Drevicki, with Strada on the bumper of Leiby. Joe Biasi had worked his way into the top five and was trying to reel in the top four with less than half the race to run.

Drevicki would pull away from Allen and the rest of the field with only five to go as the leaders worked their way into lapped traffic. Allen would hold strong in second, with Strada moving into third and Leiby settling into the fourth spot.

As the field came to the checkers, it would be all Steven Drevicki as he would collect his second straight win, and fourth of the season. Christopher Allen would hold off Strada in a drag race for second and third, with Leiby and Joe Biasi rounding out the top five.

South Carolina driver Connor Leoffler would have his best run with the USAC East Coast Series yet as he came across the line in 6th.

Drevicki has been extremely fast all season long, and still is the only driver on the tour this season who has finished in the top 5 in every single main event this year, which is no easy feat.

In his first start on his back up car, Ryan Quackenbush rebounded for a solid top 10 finish after a hard crash ended his night last week at the Big Diamond Speedway. A great rebound for the RQR Team in their first ever wingless start with their usual winged car.

A pair of drivers made their first ever start with the USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series on Friday night. Zach Berghof, who has previous starts in 270cc micro sprint action, made his first ever sprint car start and ended up finishing in the 16th position. Lee Nardelli also made his first ever start in a wingless 360. Nardelli is a veteran of micro sprint, crate modified, crate sprint car, and ARDC midget competition. Nardelli has informed USAC officials he will be back in action in September when the series returns to action at the Delaware International Speedway.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: July 26, 2019 – Georgetown Speedway – Georgetown, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, 3 Redraw) 1. Timmy Buckwalter (#5G Gallagher), 2. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki), 3. Ryan Quackenbush (#5Q TQT), 4. Austin Bishop (#11 Bishop), 5. Eric Jennings (#32 Neiger-Hamilton), 6. Heidi Hedin (#3H Hedin), 7. Larry Drake (#8 Drake), 8. Zach Berghof (#812 Berghof), 9. Lee Nardelli (#85 Nardelli). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, 3 Redraw) 1. Chandler Leiby (#119 Leiby), 2. Chris Allen Jr. (#71 Allen), 3. Joey Biasi (#B1 Biasi), 4. Connor Leoffler (#22 Leoffler), 5. Eddie Strada (#42E Strada), 6. Zack Burd (#5z Burd), 7. David Swanson (#117 Swanson), 8. Craig Pellegrini (#11A Pellegrini), 9. Paul Matsago (#B1x Biasi). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps) 1. Steven Drevicki, 2. Chris Allen Jr., 3. Eddie Strada, 4. Chandler Leiby, 5. Joey Biasi, 6. Connor Leoffler, 7. Ryan Quackenbush, 8. Austin Bishop, 9. Eric Jennings, 10. David Swanson, 11. Heidi Hedin, 12. Zack Burd, 13. Larry Drake, 14. Lee Nardelli, 15. Craig Pellegrini, 16. Zach Berghof, 17. Paul Matsago, 18. Timmy Buckwalter. NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-3 Chris Allen Jr., Lap 4 Steven Drevicki, Laps 5-13 Chris Allen Jr., Laps 14-25 Steven Drevicki.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR RACE: August 16, 2019 – Bedford Speedway – Bedford, Pennsylvania

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

Scotty Signs Hard Charger $100: Eddie Strada (8th to 3rd)

KSE Racing Products Hard Charger $50 Certificate: Eddie Strada

Vahlco Wheels Hard Charger $50 Certificate: Eddie Strada

Ultra-Shield Race Products 2nd Place $50 Certificate: Chris Allen Jr.

Keizer Wheels 3rd Place $50 Certificate: Eddie Strada

Wilwood Brakes 4th Place $50 Certificate: Chandler Leiby

ATL Fuel Cells 5th Place $100 Certificate: Joey Biasi

King Racing Products 6th Place $25 Certificate: Connor Leoffler

Ultra-Shield Race Products 8th Place $50 Certificate: Austin Bishop

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STRADA CONQUERS BEDFORD FOR USAC EAST COAST VICTORY

By: Nick Fillman - USAC East Coast Sprint Cars

Bedford, Pennsylvania (August 16, 2019)……Eddie Strada of Lake Ariel, Pennsylvania was able to collect his first career win at the Bedford Speedway and his second win on the Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car series season.

The Bedford Speedway has not been so kind to Strada over the past few events. Last year Strada had a crash in warm-ups during the USAC event in hot laps in this primary ride. Strada would run the family car as a backup car, and would take the checkers first, but would come up light on the scales.

Strada's night would be off to a great start this year however, on the pole of his heat race and taking the win. In the redraw Strada would draw the pole for the feature event and never look back. Strada would jump out to the early race lead with Steven Drevicki quickly moving into second by lap two.

The first and only caution flag would fly on lap two as John Stehman and Lee Kauffman would make contact in turns one and two, leaving both drivers unable to continue the feature event. On the ensuing restart, Strada would again jump out to the early race lead with Drevicki, Perigo, Allen and Jennings in tow. The field, for the most part, would run the high side of the speedway on the cushion trying their hardest to make moves for position.

By the halfway point, the top five would remain the same, with Drevicki only a few car-lengths behind Strada as the two leaders would begin to encounter lapped traffic at the back of the field. Perigo, Allen, and Jennings were all settled into their own positions inside the top five with the most contested position being for the lead.

After a few tense moments maneuvering through the lapped traffic, Eddie Strada would go on to collect his second feature event win of the season. Drevicki would come home second, with Carmen Perigo, Chris Allen and Eric Jennings rounding out the top five.

As the series moves into the final event at the Delaware International Speedway, Steven Drevicki and Eddie Strada will battle it out for the series championship in what will be a close race to the finish.

Ryan Quackenbush would have another solid night of competition collecting the heat one victory and having a solid finish in the feature event coming home in the 7th place position in the team's second ever start in their back up car.

Series rookie point leader, Connor Leoffler would also have another consistent night as he would come home in the 8th place spot at features end.

Rookie Mike Thompson would have an unfortunate accident as he would go for a big tumble in turns one and two. Thompson would be finished for the rest of the evening.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: August 16, 2019 – Bedford Speedway – Bedford, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, top-3 redraw) 1. Ryan Quackenbush (#5Q TQT), 2. Chris Allen Jr. (#71 Allen), 3. Eric Jennings (#32 Neiger-Hamilton), 4. Connor Leoffler (#22 Leoffler), 5. John Stehman (#23 Stehman), 6. Ron Aurand (#86 Aurand), 7. Lee Kauffman (#96 Kauffman), 8. Mike Thompson (#39 Hogue). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, top-3 redraw) 1. Eddie Strada (#42E Strada), 2. Carmen Perigo (#21 Stehman), 3. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki), 4. Joey Biasi (#B1 Biasi), 5. Austin Bishop (#11 Bishop), 6. Mark Bitner (#15 Bitner), 7. Craig Pellegrini (#11A Pellegrini), 8. Heidi Hedin (#3H Hedin). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps) 1. Eddie Strada, 2. Steven Drevicki, 3. Carmen Perigo, 4. Chris Allen Jr., 5. Eric Jennings, 6. Joey Biasi, 7. Ryan Quackenbush, 8. Connor Leoffler, 9. Austin Bishop, 10. Mark Bitner, 11. Craig Pellegrini, 12. Heidi Hedin, 13. Ron Aurand, 14. John Stehman, 15. Lee Kauffman. NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-25 Eddie Strada.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR POINTS: 1-Steven Drevicki-736, 2-Eddie Strada-669, 3-Chris Allen Jr.-609, 4-Chandler Leiby-589, 5-Eric Jennings-488, 6-Ryan Quackenbush-471, 7-Timmy Buckwalter-428, 8-Joey Biasi-428, 9-Carmen Perigo-406, 10-Bill Unglert-362.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR RACE: September 7, 2019 - Delaware International Speedway - Delmar, Delaware

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

Scotty Signs Hard Charger $100: Craig Pellegrini (14th to 11th)

KSE Racing Products Hard Charger $50 Certificate: Craig Pellegrini

Vahlco Wheels Hard Charger $50 Certificate: Craig Pellegrini

Ultra-Shield Race Products 2nd Place $50 Certificate: Steven Drevicki

Keizer Wheels 3rd Place $50 Certificate: Carmen Perigo

Wilwood Brakes 4th Place $50 Certificate: Chris Allen Jr.

ATL Fuel Cells 5th Place $100 Certificate: Eric Jennings

King Racing Products 6th Place $25 Certificate: Joey Biasi

Ultra-Shield Race Products 8th Place $50 Certificate: Connor Leoffler

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DELAWARE DOUBLE: DREVICKI COLLECTS EAST COAST WIN AND TITLE

By: Nick Fillman - USAC East Coast Sprint Cars

Delmar, Delaware (September 7, 2019)……Steven Drevicki of Reading, Pennsylvania came into the Delaware International Speedway with one ultimate goal - to wrap up the 2019 Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series Championship.

Drevicki did more than just that, by winning his heat race, and pulling off the feature event win to put an exclamation point on his 2019 Season and collecting his 5th feature win.

Mark Bitner and Eddie Strada would lead the feature event to the green flag for the final feature event of the 2019 season. Strada would quickly jump up to the cushion and blast around Mark Bitner in turns one and two to grab the lead down the back stretch. Bitner fell into second, with Eric Jennings moving into third with Drevicki falling back to fourth. The first caution flag of the evening would fly as Austin Bishop would slow in turns three and four after lap one had been scored.

The green flag would fly for the field again off of turn four with the top five remaining the same as the field would work through the back stretch and onto the front stretch to complete lap two. The second caution of the evening would fly for Zach Berghof who would go for a spin in turns one and two and take his machine to the pit area ending his night.

On the ensuing restart Steven Drevicki would make a couple of important passes and work his way up to the second-place position and look to reel in Eddie Strada for the race lead. The competition behind the top two was ferocious as Eric Jennings, Ryan Quackenbush, Joey Biasi and Mark Bitner would battle hard for positions within the top six. Unfortunately, the caution flag would fly again on lap six of the feature event as Ryan Quackenbush would have a miscue in turns one and two and go for a spin.

When the green flag flew again the top five would feature Strada leading, Drevicki, Jennings, Allen and Biasi in the top five. Yet another caution flag would fly on lap nine as Chris Allen Jr. would blow a right rear tire in the middle of turns three and four. Luckily, Allen did not flip over as his car caught the cushion and went for a series of hops.

The field would have a quick restart followed by a quick caution for Larry Drake who would spin in the first turn on lap 11. In the short two lap dash Drevicki had begun to press the issue on Strada for the lead, looking to the inside at a potential slide job for the lead until the caution flag flew yet again.

Strada led yet another restart with Drevicki, Biasi, Jennings, Leoffler, and Bitner in the top group of the field. The next few laps of the event would be some of the most intense as Drevicki hounded after Strada for the lead, before throwing a monster slide job entering turns one and two on Eddie Strada for the top spot on lap 14. Joey Biasi, Eric Jennings, Connor Leoffler, and Mark Bitner were locked in hard action for spots within the top five with no driver giving an inch. Ryan Quackenbush and Chris Allen Jr. had also begun to carve their way through the back half of the field and were closing in on the top ten positions.

While the action for the top five was intense, so was the battle mid pack between Jonathan Swanson, Steven Downs, David Swanson, and Craig Pellegrini who were trading positions just inside and outside of the top ten.

By lap 20 Drevicki had stretched his lead out to a very comfortable margin over Eddie Strada as the top two would work their way into the back of the field to begin the lapping process. The top five remained the same as they were nose to tail for most of the feature but were unable to make any passes work at the end of the feature event.

Drevicki would cruise on to collect his fifth win of the 2019 season with Strada in second, Biasi third, Jennings 4th, and 14-year-old Connor Leoffler in a strong 5th.

His feature event win also guaranteed Drevicki to be the 2019 Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series and go back to back as champion in the series' first two seasons.

Rookie driver Connor Leoffler, out of South Carolina would also wrap up honors for Rookie of the Year after a season long battle with Craig Pellegrini

Former Big Block Modified regular and winged 360 sprint car regular Steven Downs decided to give wingless racing a try and would come away with an impressive 10th place finish from the 17th starting spot and collect the hard charger awards.

Austin Bishop would go for a major flip on the warmup lap of heat race number two as he caught the cushion in turns one and two. The car suffered major damage, but the team would be able to make it back out for the feature event before slowing with issues.

Heat races on the night were won by Steven Drevicki and Mark Bitner.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: September 7, 2019 – Delaware International Speedway – Delmar, Delaware

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, top-3 redraw) 1. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki), 2. Eddie Strada (#42 Strada), 3. Ryan Quackenbush (#5Q TQT), 4. Lee Nardelli (#85 Nardelli), 5. Jonathan Swanson (#17J Swanson), 6. Heidi Hedin (#3H Hedin), 7. Zach Berghof (#812 Berghof), 8. Jason Cherry (#67c Cherry). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, top-3 redraw) 1. Mark Bitner (#15 Bitner), 2. Joey Biasi (#B1 Biasi), 3. Eric Jennings (#32 Neiger-Hamilton), 4. Connor Leoffler (#22 Leoffler), 5. Chris Allen Jr. (#71 Allen), 6. David Swanson (#117 Swanson), 7. Craig Pellegrini (#11A Pellegrini), 8. Larry Drake (#8 Drake), 9. Lee Kauffman (#96 Kauffman), 10. Austin Bishop (#11 Bishop). NT

ALSO AT THE TRACK: Curt Michael (#5G Gallagher).

FEATURE: (25 laps) 1. Steven Drevicki, 2. Eddie Strada, 3. Joey Biasi, 4. Eric Jennings, 5. Connor Leoffler, 6. Mark Bitner, 7. Chris Allen Jr., 8. Ryan Quackenbush, 9. Jonathan Swanson, 10. #12D Steven Downs, 11. Craig Pellegrini, 12. Jason Cherry, 13. David Swanson, 14 Heidi Hedin, 15. Lee Kauffman, 16. Larry Drake, 17. Lee Nardelli, 18. Zach Berghof, 19. Austin Bishop

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-13 Eddie Strada, Laps 14-25 Steven Drevicki

**Austin Bishop flipped during the second heat.

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

SCOTTY SIGNS HARD CHARGER $100: Steven Downs (17th to 10th)

KSE RACING PRODUCTS HARD CHARGER $50 CERTIFICATE: Steven Downs

VAHLCO WHEELS HARD CHARGER $50 CERTIFICATE: Steven Downs

ULTRA-SHIELD RACE PRODUCTS 2ND PLACE $50 CERTIFICATE: Eddie Strada

KEIZER WHEELS 3RD PLACE $50 CERTIFICATE: Joey Biasi

WILWOOD BRAKES 4TH PLACE $50 CERTIFICATE: Eric Jennings

ATL FUEL CELLS 5TH PLACE $100 CERTIFICATE: Connor Leoffler

KING RACING PRODUCTS 6TH PLACE $25 CERTIFICATE: Mark Bitner

ULTRA-SHIELD RACE PRODUCTS 8TH PLACE $50 CERTIFICATE: Ryan Quackenbush