2021 USAC EAST COAST SPRINT CAR SEASON REVIEW

Bright Lights the Way! 2021 USAC East Coast Sprint Car Review

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

The 2021 USAC Rapid Tire East Coast Sprint Cars Presented by Capitol Custom Trailers season featured one of the greatest new rivalries in the entire sprint car racing landscape.

Alex Bright versus Briggs Danner.

The two Pennsylvanians repeatedly reset the measuring stick as they traded win after win, punch after punch, exchanging the lead at the top of the standings repeatedly throughout the summer.

In fact, on 10 separate occasions this season, when one driver won, the other followed up with a victory of his own in the very next race. In nine instances, Bright and Danner occupied the top-two positions in the feature finishing order!

In the end, Collegeville, Pennsylvania's Bright prevailed with a whopping 11 victories and 22 top-five finishes in 23 starts aboard his Hummer Motorsports/Rodota Trucking & Excavating – Western Flyer Express/Maxim/Rider Chevy.

After collecting the USAC / ARDC Eastern Midget title in 2018, Bright put his name in the record books once more in 2021 as the USAC East Coast Sprint Car champion.

During Bright's mega 2021 year, he more than doubled the previous series record of five single season wins, set by Steven Drevicki in 2019 and 2020. Bright scored early and often, winning the second race out of the box at Port Royal, Pa. in April, then again at Selinsgrove, Pa. in May, at Lincoln (Pa.) in June, at Big Diamond (Pa.) and Bridgeport (N.J.) in July, at Selinsgrove in August and at Bedford, Pa. in August.

Starting in September, Bright went on a tear, winning a series record four consecutive feature events at Delaware International, Winchester, Va., Bridgeport and Georgetown, Dela. to solidify his position atop of the championship bout.

Danner (Allentown, Pa.), in his first full season of sprint car competition, was an instant hit on the scene, capturing the opener at Bridgeport in April and on consecutive evenings in May at Bedford and Grandview (Pa.). He dialed up a total of nine victories with summer scores at Selinsgrove in June, and to start the month of July at Action Track USA (Pa.).

It was the following night after his victory at Action Track USA when tragedy struck Danner's team with the passing of car owner Bill Gallagher. The team carried on with heavy hearts but retained their winning ways with crew chief Curt Michael just two weeks later at Georgetown in late July, then carried into August with a pair of triumphs at Bloomsburg, Pa. and Port Royal before closing out the campaign in November the same manner they started, with a win at Bridgeport, en route to a runner-up finish in the standings and 2021 series Rookie of the Year honors.

Series newcomer Damon Paul (Stony Point, N.Y.) took third in the series points and collected his first career series victory on the banks of Virginia's Winchester Speedway in late July for car owner Lou Cicconi Jr.

Three-time series champion Steven Drevicki (Reading, Pa.) notched a single win in June at Williams Grove (Pa.) for the DeGre Engineering team and finished seventh in the standings.

East Coast modified shoe, Billy VanInwegen Jr. (Port Jervis, N.Y.), likewise, collected his first career victory with the series in October for Van Dusen Racing at New York's Orange County Fair Speedway, which came in a race that was shortened from 25 laps to 14 due to rain.

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2021 USAC EAST COAST SPRINT CAR STATISTICS

STAT LEADERS:

Driver Champion: Alex Bright

Rookie of the Year: Briggs Danner

Most Wins: 11-Alex Bright

Most Laps Led: 237-Briggs Danner

Most Top-Fives: 22-Alex Bright

Most Top-Tens: 22-Alex Bright

Most Heat Race Wins: 13-Alex Bright

Most Feature Starts: 23-Alex Bright & Briggs Danner

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DRIVER POINT STANDINGS:

POS.	PTS.	DRIVER, HOMETOWN
1	1689	Alex Bright, Collegeville, Pa.
2	1549	Briggs Danner, Allentown, Pa.
3	1255	Damon Paul, Stony Point, N.Y.
4	1151	Nash Ely, Wernersville, Pa.
5	1051	Bruce Buckwalter Jr., Mechanicsburg, Pa.
6	981	Kenny Miller III, Morgantown, Pa.
7	954	Steven Drevicki, Reading, Pa.
8	880	Joey Amantea, Mt. Pocono, Pa.
9	870	Ed Aikin, Lincoln University, Pa.
10	832	Tommy Kunsman, Bethlehem, Pa.
11	790	Mike Thompson, Holland, Pa.
12	783	Chris Allen Jr., Wrightstown, N.J.
13	704	Christian Bruno, Deptford, N.J.
14	674	Jonathan Swanson, Yardville, N.J.
15	669	Jason Cherry, Blandon, Pa.
16	585	Colin White, Scranton, Pa.

17	559	Billy Ney, Laureldale, Pa.
18	492	David Swanson, Yardville, N.J.
19	456	Carmen Perigo, Stoystown, Pa.
20	444	Eric Jennings, Bloomingburg, N.Y.
21	360	Aidan Borden, Jackson, N.J.
22	323	Troy Fraker, Newville, Pa.
23	286	Blaine Emery, Oley, Pa.
24	286	Mike Meyers, Zionsville, Pa.
25	183	Lee Kauffman, Hellam, Pa.
26	177	Mark Bitner, Trenton, N.J.
27	170	Brian Spencer, Old Bridge, N.J.
28	163	Tom Savage, Red Lion, Pa.
29	152	Richy Carnathan, Northampton, Pa.
30	146	Craig Pellegrini, Buena, N.J.
31	139	Heidi Hedin, Pipersville, Pa.
32	93	Jermain Godshall, Telford, Pa.
33	71	Zack Burd, Maple Shade, N.J.
34	69	Shane Cottle, Kansas, Ill.
35	66	Joey Biasi, Mary D, Pa.
36	40	Preston Lattomus, Landenberg, Pa.
37	39	Justin Grant, Ione, Calif.
38	38	Kevin Darling, Wyoming, Dela.
39	31	John Stehman, Halifax, Pa.

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FEATURE WINNERS:

Apr 3: Bridgeport Motorsports Park - Swedesboro, NJ

WINNER: Briggs Danner (Bill Gallagher #5G)

Apr 10: Port Royal Speedway - Port Royal, PA

WINNER: Alex Bright (Hummer Motorsports #20)

May 14: Bedford Speedway - Bedford, PA

WINNER: Briggs Danner (Bill Gallagher #5G)

May 15: Grandview Speedway - Bechtelsville, PA

WINNER: Briggs Danner (Bill Gallagher #5G)

May 22: Selinsgrove Speedway - Selinsgrove, PA

WINNER: Alex Bright (Hummer Motorsports #20)

Jun 4: Williams Grove Speedway - Mechanicsburg, PA

WINNER: Steven Drevicki (DeGre Motorsports #19)

Jun 5: Lincoln Speedway - Abbottstown, PA

WINNER: Alex Bright (Hummer Motorsports #20)

Jun 17: Selinsgrove Speedway - Selinsgrove, PA

WINNER: Briggs Danner (Bill Gallagher #5G)

Jul 2: Big Diamond Speedway - Pottsville, PA

WINNER: Alex Bright (Hummer Motorsports #20)

Jul 7: Action Track USA - Kutztown, PA

WINNER: Briggs Danner (Bill Gallagher #5G)

Jul 23: Georgetown Speedway - Georgetown, DE

WINNER: Briggs Danner (Bill Gallagher #5G)

Jul 24: Bridgeport Motorsports Park - Swedesboro, NJ

WINNER: Alex Bright (Hummer Motorsports #20)

Jul 31: Winchester Speedway - Winchester, VA

WINNER: Damon Paul (Lou Cicconi Jr. #57)

Aug 6: Bloomsburg Fair Raceway - Bloomsburg, PA

WINNER: Briggs Danner (Bill Gallagher #5G)

Aug 8: Selinsgrove Speedway - Selinsgrove, PA

WINNER: Alex Bright (Hummer Motorsports #20)

Aug 20: Bedford Speedway - Bedford, PA

WINNER: Alex Bright (Hummer Motorsports #20)

Aug 21: Port Royal Speedway - Port Royal, PA

WINNER: Briggs Danner (Bill Gallagher #5G)

Sep 4: Delaware International Speedway - Delmar, DE

WINNER: Alex Bright (Hummer Motorsports #20)

Sep 11: Winchester Speedway - Winchester, VA

WINNER: Alex Bright (Hummer Motorsports #20)

Sep 25: Bridgeport Motorsports Park - Swedesboro, NJ

WINNER: Alex Bright (Hummer Motorsports #20)

Oct 1: Georgetown Speedway - Georgetown, DE

WINNER: Alex Bright (Hummer Motorsports #20)

Oct 23: Orange County Fair Speedway - Middletown, NY

WINNER: Billy VanInwegen Jr. (Van Dusen Racing #56)

Nov 5: Bridgeport Motorsports Park - Swedesboro, NJ

WINNER: Briggs Danner (Bill Gallagher #5G)

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FEATURE WINS:

11-Alex Bright *(Apr 10 at Port Royal Speedway, May 22 at Selinsgrove Speedway, Jun 5 at Lincoln Speedway, Jul 2 at Big Diamond Speedway, Jul 24 at Bridgeport Motorsports Park, Aug 8 at Selinsgrove Speedway, Aug 20 at Bedford Speedway, Sep 4 at Delaware International Speedway, Sep 11 at Winchester Speedway, Sep 25 at Bridgeport Motorsports Park & Oct 1 at Georgetown Speedway*

9-Briggs Danner *(Apr 3 at Bridgeport Motorsports Park, May 14 at Bedford Speedway, May 15 at Grandview Speedway, Jun 17 at Selinsgrove Speedway, Jul 7 at Action Track USA, Jul 23 at Georgetown Speedway, Aug 6 at Bloomsburg Fair Raceway, Aug 21 at Port Royal Speedway & Nov 5 at Bridgeport Motorsports Park)*

1-Steven Drevicki *(Jun 4 at Williams Grove Speedway)*

1-Damon Paul *(Jul 31 at Winchester Speedway)*

1-Billy VanInwegen Jr. *(Oct 23 at Orange County Fair Speedway)*

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FEATURE LAPS LED:

237-Briggs Danner

142-Alex Bright

52-Carmen Perigo

33-Chris Allen Jr.

32-Steven Drevicki

17-Damon Paul

13-Tommy Kunsman

12-Billy VanInwegen Jr.

8-Ed Aikin

5-Justin Grant

4-Joey Amantea

3-Kenny Miller III

1-Davie Franek

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TOP-5 FEATURE FINISHES:

22-Alex Bright

16-Briggs Danner

9-Steven Drevicki & Damon Paul

7-Tommy Kunsman & Kenny Miller III

6-Nash Ely

5-Chris Allen Jr. & Carmen Perigo

4-Christian Bruno & Bruce Buckwalter Jr.

3-Ed Aikin, Joey Amantea & Colin White

2-Mark Smith

1-Joey Biasi, Mark Bitner, Shane Cottle, Davie Franek, Eric Jennings, Billy Ney, Billy Pauch Jr., Matt Tanner, Mike Thompson & Billy VanInwegen Jr.

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TOP-10 FEATURE FINISHES:

22-Alex Bright

20-Briggs Danner

15-Bruce Buckwalter Jr. & Damon Paul

14-Kenny Miller III

13-Nash Ely

12-Ed Aikin, Tommy Kunsman & Mike Thompson

11-Chris Allen Jr. & Steven Drevicki

9-Joey Amantea & Christian Bruno

7-Eric Jennings

6-Carmen Perigo

4-Jonathan Swanson & Colin White

3-Troy Betts, Blaine Emery & Mark Smith

2-Mark Bitner, Jason Cherry, Mike Meyers & Billy Ney

1-Joey Biasi, Aidan Borden, Brenden Bright, Steve Buckwalter, Lou Cicconi Jr., Shane Cottle, Larry Drake, Troy Fraker, Davie Franek, Justin Mills, Billy Pauch Jr., Thomas Radivoy, David Swanson, Matt Tanner, Billy VanInwegen Jr., Michael Walter & Steve Wilbur

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HEAT RACE WINS:

13-Alex Bright

12-Briggs Danner

6-Steven Drevicki

5-Chris Allen Jr. & Carmen Perigo

4-Tommy Kunsman

3-Christian Bruno

2-Nash Ely & Kenny Miller III

1-Ed Aikin, Troy Betts, Mark Bitner, Bruce Buckwalter Jr., Steve Buckwalter, Mark Smith, Jonathan Swanson & Colin White

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FEATURE STARTS:

23-Alex Bright & Briggs Danner

22-Nash Ely & Damon Paul

20-Bruce Buckwalter Jr.

19-Joey Amantea & Jason Cherry

1Ed Aikin (#7 Aikin), Kenny Miller III & Mike Thompson

16-Steven Drevicki & Jonathan Swanson

14-Chris Allen Jr., Tommy Kunsman, Billy Ney & David Swanson

13-Christian Bruno & Colin White

10-Aidan Borden & Troy Fraker

9-Eric Jennings

7-Blaine Emery, Mike Meyers & Carmen Perigo

6-Troy Betts

5-Lee Kauffman & Tom Savage

4-Richy Carnathan, Heidi Hedin, Craig Pellegrini, Mark Smith & Brian Spencer

3-Brody Adamsky, Mark Bitner, Jermain Godshall & Ricky Rutt

2-Jacob Balliet, Steve Buckwalter, Zack Burd, Al Cheney, Lou Cicconi Jr., Thomas Radivoy, Michael Walter, Steve Wilbur & Colby Womer

1-Chris Allen Sr., J.R. Berry, Joey Biasi, Brenden Bright, Shane Cottle, Mick D'Agostino, Kevin Darling, Larry Drake, Davie Franek, Justin Grant, Joe Kata, Brian Krummel, Steve Kyser, Preston Lattomus, Kyle Lick, Dan Malley, Justin Mills, Billy Pauch Jr., Brett Perigo, Kyle Smith, John Stehman, Matt Tanner, Billy VanInwegen Jr. & Shea Wills

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SEMI-FEATURE WINS:

1-Aidan Borden, Brenden Bright, Kenny Miller III, Craig Pellegrini & Colin White

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2021 USAC EAST COAST SPRINT CAR RESULTS LOG

DANNER COLLECTS USAC EAST COAST OPENER AT BRIDGEPORT

By: Nick Fillman – USAC ECSC

Swedesboro, New Jersey (April 3, 2021)……Briggs Danner of Allentown, Pennsylvania picked up right where he left off after the last series event at the Bridgeport Speedway, as he held off a hard charging Alex Bright to collect the first feature event win of the 2021, Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, Presented by Capitol Renegade.

Danner would start the night off on the right foot by winning his heat race event, setting himself up for a spot in the top nine redraw at the front of the field for the feature event. Danner, by luck of the draw, would pull the number one and lead the field to green for the first feature event of the 2021 series season. Danner would take the lead from the drop of the green flag over Troy Betts as the field would work into turns one and two.

The initial green flag of the feature event would see a massive increase in position of 2020 Rookie of the Year, Alex Bright, as he would pilot his Hummer Motorsports entry from the ninth place starting position, into fourth, by the completion of lap one. Many drivers were working high, and low, all over the exceptional surface at the Bridgeport Speedway.

By lap five, Danner would hold a strong lead over Troy Betts, Alex Bright, Chris Allen Jr. and Joey Amantea. The lead for the Bill Gallagher owned 5G entry was sizable as the field would begin to catch the back of the field and begin the lapping

process. Danner, Betts, and Bright had opened up a significant lead over the rest of the top ten in the early laps of the feature event. On lap seven, after a major slide job into turns three and four, Alex Bright maneuvered his way into the second-place position on the field and began his charge at the leader Briggs Danner.

The top five of the feature field would remain more or less the same as the feature hit the halfway mark with Danner leading: Bright, Joey Amantea, Steven Drevicki and Troy Betts. On lap fifteen of the feature event, Tommy Kunsman and Kenny Miller lll would make contact coming off turn four and send Miller for a spin off turn number four.

A caution flag would be one of the last things Danner would want to see, as he would be unaware of the momentum that Bright had been gaining as the race wore on. As the field went green, Bright would go for the dive bomb move into turns one and two, with Danner crossing Bright over off turn two to retain the race lead.

An early race run inside the top ten would come to an end for Troy Betts as he would make heavy contact with the outside wall along the backstretch and in turn three. As the field checked up, Nash Ely and Christopher Allen would tangle sending both cars for a spin with damage to both. All three would end their feature events on the lap seventeen mark.

The ensuing restart would feature the most intense battle of the night as Briggs Danner and Alex Bright would engage in a battle of slide jobs lap after lap for the top spot in the feature event. Danner would utilize the high and low side of the speedway to hold off and cross over the many sliders that Bright, the veteran open-wheel driver, would throw at the sprint car rookie.

Danner would finally fend off Bright for the feature lead with only three laps to go and go on to collect his second career USAC East Coast feature event win, and second at the Bridgeport Motorsports Park. Alex Bright would come home second, with Joey Amantea, Steven Drevicki, and Tommy Kunsman rounding out the top five.

Briggs Danner will be a busy driver in the northeast this season spending time behind the wheel of many different race cars. Danner will of course wheel the Bill Gallagher 5G in all USAC East Coast Events, USAC Eastern Storm, and Select URC sprint car events. Along with his sprint car schedule, Danner will pilot the family owned 358 modified, and USAC SpeedSTR, along with starts in 600cc micro sprints. The season debut for the Gallagher team was a good one with Danner winning his heat race, the feature event, and leading every lap of the feature event. A strong statement to kick off the 2021 season.

2020 USAC East Coast Rookie of the Year Alex Bright and his Hummer Motorsports team picked off right where the left off in 2020. Bright would finish second in his heat race event and run a strong second, after starting ninth in the feature following the redraw. Bright threw everything he had at Danner for the feature event lead but came up just one spot short. Fortunately for Bright, the series has four more events at Bridgeport, and thirty other features to run and grace victory lane again.

For the second time in as many races at Bridgeport, Joey Amantea would snag a top five finish and run an extremely impressive race. The part time driver in 2020, will hit the series trail full time in 2021 and run for Rookie of the Year honors. Amantea finished a career best fifth place in last season's event and would improve that mark to third place in the 2021 opener. The new family-owned team showed that they have plenty of speed and will contend for many top fives during the season.

Fourth place ended up going to reining series champion Steven Drevicki of Reading, PA. Drevicki collected the heat one victory and would redraw eighth for the feature event. While Drevicki may not have blasted his way to the front of the field as quickly as some other drivers, it was another methodical, and smooth drive into the top five. While Drevicki has commitments to do some USAC National 410 series events in 2021 and will not be a full time regular with the series, Drevicki will continue to contend for wins and top fives whenever he enters the pit area.

Rounding out the top five was series rookie Tommy Kunsman. The multi-time 270 and 600cc micro sprint champion, and winner was extremely impressive in his sprint car debut. Kunsman would start in the tenth-place position and methodically hang around just outside of the top five for most of the feature event. With unfortunate breaks for Kyle Lick, Troy Betts, and some others, Kunsman was able to capitalize and make his presence known at the front of the field. Kunsman put on

an impressive performance in his first ever start outside of a full-size racer aside from midgets. No doubt more impressive runs will lie ahead for the Bethlehem, PA Rookie on the series trail in 2021.

Honorable mentions go out to Kenny Miller lll and Kyle Lick. Miller would run inside the top ten early on in the feature event, before going for a spin on lap fifteen. In the ten laps that would follow, Miller would go from the tail end of the field too inside the top ten ending the feature event in the sixth-place position. Kyle Lick would start the feature event off in the twelfth-place position and made up lots of ground ripping the high side of the speedway. Lick unfortunately made contact with the outside wall with only a few to go, ending his bid at a top five feature finish.

The next event for the Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, will be next Saturday, April 10th, at the "Speed Palace" of Port Royal Speedway.

USAC EAST COAST SPRINT CAR RACE RESULTS: April 3, 2021 – Bridgeport Speedway – Swedesboro, New Jersey

FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, 3 redraw, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki) (4), 2. Alex Bright (#20 Hummer) (7), 3. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (#83 Buckwalter) (2), 4. Tommy Kunsman (#21K Kunsman) (5), 5. Nash Ely (#3BC Franckowiak) (6), 6. Mike Thompson (#11 Thompson) (3), 7. David Swanson (#117 Swanson) (1). NT

SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, 3 redraw, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Troy Betts (#22B Betts) (4), 2. Kenny Miller III (#23m Miller) (6), 3. Jonathan Swanson (#17J Swanson) (1), 4. Mike Meyers (#10m Meyers) (2), 5. Blaine Emery (#12 Emery) (7), 6. Aidan Borden (#7B Borden) (5), 7. Billy Ney (#83s Ney) (3). NT

THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, 3 redraw, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (#5G Gallagher) (4), 2. Chris Allen Jr. (#71 Allen) (2), 3. Joey Amantea (#88J JPA) (3), 4. Kyle Lick (#8 Lick) (7), 5. Damon Paul (#57 Cicconi) (6), 6. Ed Aikin (#7 Aikin) (1), 7. Jason Cherry (#67 Cherry) (5). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (1), 2. Alex Bright (9), 3. Joey Amantea (6), 4. Steven Drevicki (8), 5. Tommy Kunsman (10), 6. Kenny Miller III (3), 7. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (7), 8. Damon Paul (14), 9. Jonathan Swanson (5), 10. Mike Thompson (15), 11. Ed Aikin (17), 12. Blaine Emery (21), 13. Mike Meyers (11), 14. Aidan Borden (16), 15. David Swanson (18), 16. Jason Cherry (20), 17. Kyle Lick (12), 18. Troy Betts (2), 19. Chris Allen Jr. (4), 20. Nash Ely (13), 21. Billy Ney (19). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-25 Briggs Danner.

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BRIGHT REPEATS IN USAC EAST COAST SPRINTS' RETURN TO PORT ROYAL

By: Nick Fillman, USAC ECSC

Port Royal, Pennsylvania (April 10, 2021)……In the Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series presented by Capitol Renegade return to the Port Royal Speedway Alex Bright of Collegeville, PA was able to repeat as the feature winner once the checkered flags flew, joining Briggs Danner as drivers to replicate their series wins on the 2021 tour.

Carmen Perigo, and Alex Bright would lead the field to the green for the twenty-five lap feature event with Bright grabbing the lead on lap one. Perigo would initially hang on to the second-place position, before Steven Drevicki would work his way into the runner up spot by lap three.

While the top two on the field would separate themselves from the majority of the pack, an absolute hornet's nest would ensue from about the fourth position to the end of the top ten. Cars two, and three wide trading positions left and right

early on in the feature event. By at the conclusion of lap five Bright and Drevicki would hold a sizable lead on the field over Carmen Perigo, Rookie Colin White, and Briggs Danner. Nash Ely, Damon Paul, Chris Allen Jr. and a number of other cars would continue to wage an all-out war for positions six through ten as drivers jockeyed for position.

On lap eight the first caution flag of the event would fly as Colin White would spin out of the top four in turn one and two, with the field somehow missing the stopped car in the middle of the speedway. The restart would set up another shot for Drevicki to try and close the gap on Bright for the race lead with Perigo, Danner and Allen rounding out the top five.

Drevicki would hold close on Bright off the restart as both drivers would pound the razor thin cushion around the high side of the speedway. Drevicki would continue to gain on Bright and be all over the tail tank of the Hummer Motorsports entry before tagging the wall in turns one and two and losing time to the leader Bright.

Heartbreak came on lap seventeen as Kenny Miller III tagged the wall in turns one and two and went for a wild flip while running in the third-place spot. Miller had started nineteenth after a heat race crash would send him to the B Main. The restart would be set up with Bright still leading Drevicki over Briggs Danner, Joey Biasi, and Chris Allen Jr.

Bright would again get a great restart with Drevicki not backing down utilizing the middle groove of the speedway to try and get by Bright for the race lead. Behind the two leaders who again separated themselves from the field, Joey Biasi, Briggs Danner, and Chris Allen Jr. would trade third through fifth lap after lap. The red flag would again fly on lap twenty-one as Colin White went for a flip in turns three and four. White had rebounded from the tail of the field up to the eleventh spot before grabbing the wall in three and four.

The restart with four to go would set up one last shot for drivers within the top five to make their last moves to better their positions. Bright would nail his restart yet again with Drevicki in tow, but rather than try and attack on Bright for the lead, Drevicki would have to fend off the challenge of Briggs Danner for second. Biasi and Danner would trade the third spot back and forth, while Bright would distance himself from Drevicki for the race lead.

As the field came to the checkers Alex Bright would go on to win his third career USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series Feature, and second at the Port Royal Speedway over: Steven Drevicki, Briggs Danner, Joey Biasi, and Chris Allen Jr.

The win for the Hummer Motorsports team should come as no surprise as Bright utilized the same skill set as he did in the series previous appearance at Port Royal last August. Bright and Drevicki were among the only two drivers to be all the way against the small cushion and guardrail all the way around the Port Royal Speedway. Bright has started his quest for the series championship on the right foot by picking up a second-place finish, and now his first feature event win of 2021.

Steven Drevicki would again come up bridesmaid on the night at Port Royal, but not for a lack of effort. Drevicki had worked his way all to the back bumper of Bright before an unfortunate run-in with the wall in turns one and two. From that point on in the feature event, Drevicki did not appear to have the same speed as earlier in the feature, and for good reason as the team discovered the right front of the axle in the number nineteen entry was severely bent following the contact with the fence. Drevicki and team will get things repaired and try again next week at Bedford before the USAC National series comes to town at the end of April.

Briggs Danner continued his consistency by finishing third in the feature event, in his series debut at the Port Royal Speedway. The nineteen-year-old rookie has been extremely impressive every time he straps in behind the wheel of the Bill Gallagher number 5G entry. Danner was not quite fast enough to catch the two leaders but held his own against some of the best drivers in the series.

Joey Biasi made his season debut at the Port Royal Speedway on Saturday night and was rewarded with a top five finish. Biasi started the feature event in the tenth spot and worked his way through the pandemonium that was occurring inside the top ten during the feature event. Biasi nearly got by Danner for third before the final red flag on the feature event flew. Biasi and team are fast each and every time the enter the pit area for a series event and will be ones to watch as the season goes on.

Chris Allen Jr. continued his reputation of consistency by grabbing the final spot in the top five. While Allen was inside the top ten last week at the Bridgeport Speedway, contact during a caution would end his bid at grabbing the win, leaving him with a 19th place finish to start the season. A big rebound would be given to Allen and team as he would run a solid, and smooth event coming home with a well-earned top five finish.

The night would see some carnage as three drivers would get upside-down in a rare occurrence for the series. Shawn Donath would suffer a steering arm failure in hot laps sending his car for a wild tumble in turns three and four. While Kenny Miller lll, and Colin White would see their impressive nights come to an end following contact with the outside wall. Both drivers and their teams will go to work and have their cars repair for the next event.

Twenty-Eight cars would enter the pit area on Saturday afternoon for the early start time event due to potential weather. Heavy mist would plague the speedway for most of the afternoon before the sun would ultimately make an appearance during hot laps. A big thank you goes out to all the teams who made the tow out to the Port Royal Speedway with the questionable weather forecast and put on a fantastic event for all the fans in attendance and watching live online.

Next up for the Rapid Tire Services, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, Presented by Capitol Renegade, is the first appearance of the season at the legendary Bedford Fairgrounds on Friday, April 16th.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL TRAILERS RACE RESULTS: April 10, 2021 – Port Royal Speedway – Port Royal, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, 6 qualify, 3 redraw, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (#5G Gallagher) (1), 2. Mark Smith (#m1 L & M) (6), 3. Nash Ely (#3BC Franckowiak) (3), 4. Joey Biasi (#B1 Biasi) (7), 5. Brody Adamsky (#19A Adamsky) (2), 6. Aidan Borden (#7B Borden) (4), 7. John Stehman (#23 Stehman) (5), 8. Jason Cherry (#67 Cherry) (8), 9. Troy Fraker (#12w Fraker) (9), 10. Shawn Donath (#53 Donath) (10). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, 6 qualify, 3 redraw, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Chris Allen Jr. (#71 Allen) (3), 2. Colin White (#32 Neiger-Hamilton) (5), 3. Damon Paul (#57 Cicconi) (7), 4. Mike Thompson (#11 Thompson) (1), 5. Tommy Kunsman (#21K Kunsman) (6), 6. Lee Kauffman (#96 Kauffman) (2), 7. Ed Aikin (#7 Aikin) (9), 8. Mike Meyers (#10m Meyers) (4), 9. Christian Bruno (#17m Bruno) (8). NT

THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, 6 qualify, 3 redraw, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Alex Bright (#20 Hummer) (4), 2. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki) (3), 3. Carmen Perigo (#21 Stehman) (1), 4. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (#83 Buckwalter) (9), 5. Jonathan Swanson (#17J Swanson) (8), 6. David Swanson (#117 Swanson) (7), 7. Billy Ney (#83s Ney) (6), 8. Joey Amantea (#88J JPA) (2), 9. Kenny Miller III (#23m Miller) (5). NT

SEMI: (8 laps, 6 qualify, 3 redraw, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Kenny Miller III (9), 2. Ed Aikin (2), 3. John Stehman (1), 4. Mike Meyers (5), 5. Jason Cherry (4), 6. Joey Amantea (6), 7. Billy Ney (3), 8. Troy Fraker (7), 9. Christian Bruno (8), 10. Shawn Donath (10). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Alex Bright (2), 2. Steven Drevicki (6), 3. Briggs Danner (5), 4. Joey Biasi (10), 5. Chris Allen Jr. (8), 6. Carmen Perigo (1), 7. Damon Paul (9), 8. Tommy Kunsman (14), 9. Ed Aikin (20), 10. Mike Thompson (11), 11. Nash Ely (3), 12. Lee Kauffman (17), 13. Jonathan Swanson (15), 14. Brody Adamsky (13), 15. Jason Cherry (23), 16. Aidan Borden (16), 17. John Stehman (21), 18. Joey Amantea (24), 19. Mike Meyers (22), 20. David Swanson (18), 21. Colin White (4), 22. Kenny Miller III (19), 23. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (12), 24. Mark Smith (7). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-25 Alex Bright.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL TRAILERS POINTS: 1-Alex Bright-152, 2-Briggs Danner-150, 3-Steven Drevicki-143, 4-Tommy Kunsman-116, 5-Damon Paul-111, 6-Chris Allen Jr.-98, 7-Joey Amantea-98, 8-Mike Thompson-94, 9-Jonathan Swanson-93, 10-Ed Aikin-92.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL TRAILERS RACE: April 16, 2021 - Bedford Speedway - Bedford, Pennsylvania

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BRIGGS DANNER VICTORIOUS IN USAC EC SERIES RETURN TO BEDFORD

By: Nick Fillman – USAC ECSC

Bedford, Pennsylvania (May 14, 2021)……Briggs Danner of Allentown, Pennsylvania collected the Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, Presented by Capitol Renegade victory at the Bedford Speedway in the series' first feature event since 2019.

After the conclusion of heat race action, and the completion of the redraw, Brody Adamsky, and Briggs Danner would share the front row for the twenty-five lap feature event at the Bedford Speedway. Danner would grab the lead on the initial start of the feature event with Adamsky, Drevicki, Billy Ney, Kenny Miller III and Alex Bright in close pursuit.

Alex Bright would make quick work on the bottom side of the speedway in the opening two laps, working his way into the third-place position behind Steven Drevicki. The caution flag would fly on lap three for Bruce Buckwalter who would slow to a stop on the back straightaway after fighting mechanical issues all evening.

Danner would lead the field to green on the lap three restart and maintain a comfortable lead over Steven Drevicki and Alex Bright as they tried to reel in the teenage rookie driver. Meanwhile, outside of the top five, drivers would battle for positions inside the top ten with the lead five cars remaining relatively single file.

The red flag would fly on lap five of the feature event as Brody Adamsky, who had been running within the top six of the field, made heavy contact with the tire wall outside of the speedway in turns three and four. Adamsky would walk away from the accident scene under his own power.

The top five for the restart on lap five would be relatively the same with Danner leading Steven Drevicki, Alex Bright, Kenny Miller, and Mark Smith. Once the green flag flew again on the feature event, the top five would begin to string out around the top side of the speedway.

Just as the field was beginning to catch lapped traffic on lap thirteen, a spinning Blaine Emery would cause a caution, and the chance for Drevicki, Bright, or Miller to try and take their shot at the top spot. Danner would again execute a flawless restart keeping both the hard charging Drevicki and Bright at bay as the laps would continue to click off.

The fast way around the Bedford Speedway was on the cushion all the way around the half mile oval, with Danner taking it a step further and running above the cushion nearly against the guardrail, especially in turns one and two. By lap twenty-one the leaders would again begin to catch lapped traffic, with Danner having a bit of difficulty maneuvering passed some of the tail end of the field.

Danner would make his way by a couple of tail end cars with Drevicki a few car lengths away with only a handful of laps remaining. Steven Drevicki entered turn one hot on the heels of Lee Kauffman and made contact with Kauffman's car in turns one and two sending Drevicki for a spin on lap twenty-four.

A "Green-White-Checkered" would ensue to settle the top spot for the feature event, in the first series feature at Bedford since the fall of 2019. This time, Danner would not quite get the same restart as he had, as Alex Bright stayed right on the tail tank of Danner as the two dove into turns one and two. Bright would stay on the heels of Danner as the pair entered three and four, with Bright throwing a massive slide job on Danner for the top spot off turn four.

Danner would power off the top side of the speedway in turns three and four and hold off Alex Bright to collect his first career victory at the Bedford Speedway, in his first career start. Alex Bright would finish second ahead of: Kenny Miller, Mark Sith and Nash Ely.

Briggs Danner collected his second feature event win of the 2021 season and is coming off a successful "Keystone Invasion" with the USAC National Sprint Car Series, nabbing a quick time at the Grandview Speedway. It has also recently been announced that the Bill Gallagher team has purchased a midget for Danner to do select events in, adding to the young driver's already full plate of racing.

Alex Bright continued his consistency that was presented throughout the entire 2020 USAC East Coast season and continued off their win at the Port Royal Speedway in the last feature event run before having a few weeks off. Like Danner, Bright was another driver who found a great deal of success with the USAC National Sprint Cars and their "Keystone Invasion" as Bright would score his personal best national sprint finish, along with a pair of hard charger awards.

Kenny Miller lll rounded out the podium on Friday night and had yet another impressive showing. While the Millersville University Student will not be full time with the series in 2021, any time Miller enters the pit area, he is a threat for the victory.

Mark Smith was a surprise entrant on the night who ended up with a solid finish. Smith has dabbled with non-wing racing throughout the east coast and Midwest over the last few seasons. Smith collected his heat race victory and ran a strong race inside the top five.

Rounding out the top five was another rookie driver, Nash Ely. Each time out Ely has become more and more comfortable behind the wheel of his 3BC entry and made three of the four USAC National Tour shows a few weeks ago. Look for the speed and confidence of Ely to only improve and expand as the weeks go on.

The next event for the Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, Presented by Capitol Renegade is tomorrow evening, May 15th at the Grandview Speedway, where another driver will look to grab the first series victory at the track since 2019.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL TRAILERS RACE RESULTS: May 14, 2021 – Bedford Speedway – Bedford, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-3 transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Alex Bright (#20 Hummer) (7), 2. Billy Ney (#83s Ney) (5), 3. Kenny Miller III (#23m Miller) (8), 4. Mike Thompson (#11 Thompson) (3), 5. Lou Cicconi Jr. (#75 Cicconi) (4), 6. Blaine Emery (#12 Emery) (6), 7. Lee Kauffman (#96 Kauffman) (2), 8. Heidi Hedin (#3H Hedin) (1). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-3 transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (#5G Gallagher) (1), 2. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki) (3), 3. Nash Ely (#3BC Franckowiak) (5), 4. Damon Paul (#57 Cicconi) (7), 5. Jason Cherry (#67 Cherry) (2), 6. Troy Fraker (#12w Fraker) (4), 7. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (#83 Buckwalter) (6). NT

THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-3 transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Mark Smith (#m1 L & M) (4), 2. Tommy Kunsman (#21K Kunsman) (6), 3. Brody Adamsky (#19A Adamsky) (1), 4. Chris Allen Jr. (#71 Allen) (7), 5. Joey Amantea (#88J JPA) (3), 6. Brett Perigo (#21 Stehman) (5), 7. Craig Pellegrini (#27 Pellegrini) (2). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (2), 2. Alex Bright (6), 3. Kenny Miller III (5), 4. Mark Smith (9), 5. Nash Ely (7), 6. Chris Allen Jr. (12), 7. Damon Paul (11), 8. Tommy Kunsman (8), 9. Mike Thompson (10), 10. Joey Amantea (15), 11. Steven Drevicki (3), 12. Lee Kauffman (19), 13. Blaine Emery (16), 14. Troy Fraker (17), 15. Jason Cherry (14), 16. Lou Cicconi Jr. (13), 17. Brett Perigo (18), 18. Craig Pellegrini (21), 19. Brody Adamsky (1), 20. Billy Ney (4), 21. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (20), 22. Heidi Hedin (22). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-25 Briggs Danner.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL TRAILERS POINTS: 1-Briggs Danner-228, 2-Steven Drevicki-191, 3-Damon Paul-168, 4-Chris Allen Jr.-158, 5-Kenny Miller III-156, 6-Joey Amantea-145, 7-Mike Thompson-145, 8-Nash Ely-138, 9-Bruce Buckwalter Jr.-111, 10-Jason Cherry-104.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL TRAILERS RACE: May 15, 2021 - Grandview Speedway - Bechtelsville, Pennsylvania

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

Penske Racing Shocks First Place Certificate: Briggs Danner

Penske Racing Shocks Second Place Certificate: Alex Bright

Penske Racing Shocks Third Place Certificate: Kenny Miller III

Ultra Shield Third Place Certificate: Kenny Miller III

Ultra Shield Eighth Place Certificate: Tommy Kunsman

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DANNER COMPLETES USAC EC WEEKEND SWEEP WITH GRANDVIEW WIN

By: Nick Fillman – USAC ECSC

Bechtelsville, Pennsylvania (May 15, 2021)……For the second night in a row, rookie driver Briggs Danner drove his way into Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, victory lane. The second victory for Danner is his third of the season, allowing him to also continue add to his series points lead.

Kenny Miller lll and Damon Paul brought the field to green for the twenty-five lap feature event, the second ever event contested by the series at the Grandview Speedway. Paul moved passed Miller for the race lead with Miller in second, and Danner third. At the completion of lap two, Danner had moved by both Miller and Paul and taken the feature event lead. Steven Drevicki was also on the move from his eight-place starting spot and was into fifth by lap four.

The first caution event of the night would fly on lap seven as Christopher Allen spun in the middle of turns three and four. The restart of the feature event saw Danner continue to lead over, Kenny Miller, Damon Paul, Steven Drevicki and Bruce Buckwalter Jr. As the field went green and drivers began to make more moves inside the top ten, with Alex Bright being up to the sixth-place position from his eleventh place starting spot. Rookie driver Tom Savage suffered a right rear tire failure on lap nine, and slow on the front street to bring out the second caution event of the evening.

Danner again nailed his restart on lap nine following the caution, and remained ahead of Kenny Miller lll, who was under heavy fire from three-time champion Steven Drevicki. Damon Paul, Alex Bright, and Bruce Buckwalter continued to round out the top five of the feature event with heavy contention for the remainder of the positions inside of the top ten.

A red flag was thrown on lap fourteen of the feature event when Eric Jennings went for a wild series of flips through corners three and four. The caution flag had initially been displayed for the slowing car of Ed Aikin in the middle of turns three and four following a collapsed front end on the Aikin machine due to contact with an infield tire.

Danner again led the field to the green flag for the restart on lap fourteen with Miller, Drevicki, Bright, and Buckwalter in tow. The field was able to score another lap before the caution flag would fly yet again as Kenny Miller lll clipped the inside wall, causing a front end failure sending the car into the infield down the back stretch before making contact with an infield light pole barrier.

The restart on lap fifteen featured the heaviest competition for Briggs Danner of the evening with Steven Drevicki restarting second, and Alex Bright third. The top three in series points starting nose to tail had the opportunity to battle amongst themselves for the feature event win.

Unfortunately for Damon Paul, his solid run inside the top ten came to an end on the lap fifteen restart as Paul spun coming off turn four collecting: Jonathan Swanson, Mike Thompson, and Blaine Emery. Emery would be able to re-fire for the remainder of the feature event.

Briggs Danner led the field to the green flag again on the lap fifteen restart with Drevicki and Bright in tow with ten laps to go for the feature event win. Drevicki found a lane that worked to his advantage for a handful of laps running in the middle of the speedway, getting alongside Danner on more than one occasion before the track began to lay rubber along the inside groove.

Danner held off the advances of Steven Drevicki as Alex Bright tried to make it a three-car battle for the lead and collected his second feature event win of the weekend adding to his resume of USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series victories. Steven Drevicki defended a last lap move by Alex Bright for second, with Bruce Buckwalter, and Tommy Kunsman rounding out the top five.

Briggs Danner is no stranger to Grandview Speedway as the nineteen-year-old rookie has a large number of laps at the speedway behind the wheel of a 358 modified, and a handful of laps at Grandview with a 410 sprint car in USAC National Series competition. Danner found victory lane with the USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series again for the third time in 2021, and fourth time of his career. Three of the four victories for Danner have come in his first ever trip with a sprint car in his debut. Danner also has an incredible run of four feature wins in eight event attempts since his debut in September of 2020. Danner's sponsor of E Schneider & Sons matched the winner's share of tonight's feature event, with Danner collecting a $3, 000 payday.

Steven Drevicki was able to get things back on track after an unfortunate incident at Bedford ended his shot at a double podium weekend. While Drevicki will not be full time with the series and will be making multiple USAC National series starts throughout the season, Drevicki finds himself third in points not far out of the points championship contention.

Alex Bright continued his consistency Saturday night, backing up his runner up finish on Friday at the Bedford Speedway. Bright made contact with the right rear of Kenny Miller lll in their heat race early on in the night missing out on the redraw by one position. Bright started the feature event in eleventh, and despite a broken bolt on the birdcage following early feature contact with the outside wall, Bright maintained and finished a strong third.

Bruce Buckwalter Jr. had quite the weekend with the series, but the teams hard work and resilience paid off with a strong fourth place effort on Saturday night. The team fought fueling issues all night on Friday night at the Bedford Speedway, resulting in a 21st place finish. The team worked hard all day until late in the afternoon diagnosing the problem, fixing their fueling issue, discovering an issue in the rear end of the car, and making it to the track in time for the nights event. Buckwalter collected his fist heat race win of the season and ran a smooth and clean race resulting in a well-earned fourth place effort.

Rounding out the top five of the feature event field would be Tommy Kunsman, who counties to impressive in his rookie season behind the wheel of a sprint car. The former midget regular, and many-time micro sprint feature event winner, has been extremely impressive since making the move to join the series. Kunsman currently sits fourth in the series points standings and is beginning to knock on the door of his first podium. With plenty of racing left in the 2021 season, a podium finish and potentially more could be on the horizon for the Bethlehem, PA driver.

While not finishing inside the top five on Saturday night, Nash Ely ended up sixth one spot shy of a double top five weekend. Rookie Ely scored his career best finish on Friday night at Bedford and backed up his speed with a solid top six run in his first ever 360 sprint car start at Grandview.

Thirty different drivers entered a Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, presented by Capitol Renegade series event this weekend between Bedford and Grandview. A sign of growth and development in the series that will hopefully only continue to grow as the season goes on with both increased car counts, and heightened competition on the track surface.

Up next for the USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series is the second ever visit to the wide and fast Selinsgrove Speedway. Last season the series made its debut at the historic oval with Brady Bacon invading the field and grabbing the feature event victory over Steven Drevicki.

The USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series will also be having a round table discussion at the Eastern Museum of Motor Racing on Sunday, May 16th discussing the growth and development of wingless sprit car racing on the east coast.

As always, follow along with our social media pages for all the latest news, updates, and alerts on Facebook at: USAC East Coast Sprint Cars, and on Twitter at @USACECSC.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL TRAILERS RACE RESULTS: May 15, 2021 – Grandview Speedway – Bechtelsville, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature, starting position in parentheses) 1. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (#83 Buckwalter) (1), 2. Billy Ney (#83s Ney) (5), 3. Jonathan Swanson (#17J Swanson) (3), 4. Ed Aikin (#7 Aikin) (7), 5. Nash Ely (#3BC Franckowiak) (8), 6. Craig Pellegrini (#27 Pellegrini) (4), 7. Mike Thompson (#11 Thompson) (6), 8. Blaine Emery (#12 Emery) (2). NT

SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature, starting position in parentheses) 1. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki) (3), 2. Briggs Danner (#5G Gallagher) (4), 3. Kenny Miller III (#23m Miller) (7), 4. Alex Bright (#20 Hummer) (8), 5. Chris Allen Jr. (#71 Allen) (6), 6. Eric Jennings (#16cw Jennings) (5), 7. Lou Cicconi Jr. (#75 Cicconi) (1), 8. Richy Carnathan (#64 Carnathan) (2). NT

THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature, starting position in parentheses) 1. Tommy Kunsman (#21K Kunsman) (2), 2. Troy Betts (#22B Betts) (3), 3. Damon Paul (#57 Cicconi) (8), 4. Mike Meyers (#10m Meyers) (5), 5. Tom Savage (#38s Savage) (1), 6. Joey Amantea (#88J JPA) (7), 7. David Swanson (#117 Swanson) (6), 8. Jason Cherry (#67 Cherry) (4). NT

SEMI: (10 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature, starting position in parentheses) 1. Craig Pellegrini (1), 2. Eric Jennings (2), 3. Mike Thompson (4), 4. Blaine Emery (7), 5. Jason Cherry (9), 6. Joey Amantea (3), 7. David Swanson (6), 8. Lou Cicconi Jr. (5), 9. Richy Carnathan (8). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting position in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (4), 2. Steven Drevicki (8), 3. Alex Bright (11), 4. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (3), 5. Tommy Kunsman (5), 6. Nash Ely (13), 7. Troy Betts (9), 8. Mike Meyers (12), 9. Billy Ney (7), 10. Jason Cherry (20), 11. Craig Pellegrini (16), 12. Joey Amantea (21), 13. Blaine Emery (19), 14. Damon Paul (2), 15. Jonathan Swanson (6), 16. Mike Thompson (18), 17. Kenny Miller III (1), 18. Chris Allen Jr. (14), 19. Ed Aikin (10), 20. Eric Jennings (17), 21. Tom Savage (15). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Lap 1 Damon Paul, Laps 2-25 Briggs Danner.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL TRAILERS POINTS: 1-Briggs Danner-305, 2-Alex Bright-296, 3-Steven Drevicki-266, 4-Damon Paul-209, 5-Nash Ely-197, 6-Kenny Miller III-191, 7-Chris Allen Jr.-189, 8-Joey Amantea-187, 9-Bruce Buckwalter Jr.-180, 10-Mike Thompson-178.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL TRAILERS RACE: May 22, 2021 – Selinsgrove Speedway – Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania

PENSKE RACING SHOCKS CERTIFICATE WINNERS: Briggs Danner, Steven Drevicki & Alex Bright

ULTRA SHIELD RACING PRODUCTS CERTIFICATE WINNERS: Steven Drevicki (2nd) & Mike Meyers (8th)

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BRIGHT OUTDUELS DANNER FOR SELINSGROVE WIN

By: Nick Fillman – USAC ECSC

Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania (May 22, 2021)……Alex Bright of Collegeville, PA utilized a late race restart on lap twenty-two to pull off a slide job on race leader Briggs Danner to collect his second win of the 2021 Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series presented by Capitol Renegade tour.

Nash Ely and Briggs Danner were the front row of the second ever feature event to be contested under the USAC East Coast banner at the Selinsgrove Speedway. When the initial green flag flew, Briggs Danner quickly moved his way passed Nash Ely for the feature event lead and began to set sail on the rest of the field. Ely held on to second early on with Alex Bright quickly moving his way into the third-place position by the end of lap three from his fifth place starting spot.

By lap five of the feature event Danner would have an incredible lead by over a straightaway, and would also begin to catch, and lap, cars at the tail end of the field. Bright had moved his way into the second-place spot, with Nash Ely, Kenny Miller, and Carmen Perigo the top five. A mad flurry of action would take place in positions six through ten with drivers like Steven Drevicki, Bruce Buckwalter Jr, Mark Smith, and Tommy Kunsman trading positions constantly among themselves just outside of the top five.

The first caution flag of the feature event would fall on lap ten of the feature event as Jason Cherry spun to a stop on the exit of turn four. The caution erased massive lead that Danner had built up over the hard charging Bright and bunch the field together just short of the halfway point in the feature. The restart on lap ten featured Danner leading Bright, Perigo, Ely, Miller, Smith, and Drevicki.

The lap ten restart saw Briggs Danner execute to perfection and gap Alex Bright down the front stretch, leaving Bright to fend off a turn one dive bomb attempt from Carmen Perigo for second. Bright would have the necessary speed to cross Perigo over and retain the second-place position as they exited turn two. Mark Smith made quick work on the restart moving from sixth to fourth, and Steven Drevicki following along as he worked his way into the fifth-place position by the halfway point.

Danner continued to lead Alex Bright as the two leaders began to encounter lapped traffic again, with both drivers, and the top half of the field, pounding the cushion around the outside of the Selinsgrove Speedway. Danner had some difficulty with lapped cars the second time around, leading to Bright catching up as the two worked through the back of the field.

On lap twenty, Bright was locked in on the rear of race leader Briggs Danner and began to show his nose to the inside trying to make a move for the lead. Bright would get alongside Danner on more than one occasion, with Danner out pacing Bright on the high side to retain the race lead. Danner had re-established a three to four car length lead on lap twenty-one as Bright was caught behind a lapped car allowing Danner to slip away.

On lap twenty-two Colby Womer would make contact in turn two and stop on the outside of the speedway, setting up a three-lap dash to the finish. Danner held the lead over Bright, Perigo, Mark Smith, and Kenny Miller lll. Miller had moved back into fifth at the time of the caution as fifth place runner Steven Drevicki slowed with a flat right rear tire and would not return.

The final restart of the feature event saw Bright glued to the rear bumper of Briggs Danner as the two came to the green flag off turn four. Bright immediately dove to the inside of Danner as they entered turn one, completing the slide job on Danner for the race lead. Bright executed the last three laps on the cushion to perfection, pulling out and away from Danner for his second feature event win of the season. Danner came home second over: Carmen Perigo, Mark Smith, and Kenny Miller lll.

The win for Alex Bright was his second on tour of 2021, and fourth career with the series. Despite Bright's comfortability on short tracks, it was his third win on a half mile track that featured a cushion around the outside of the speedway. Two of Bright's other wins came at the Port Royal Speedway, which is similar to size and shape to the Selinsgrove Speedway. Bright mentioned in victory lane that once he had captured the second-place position, he was happy to see the caution flag fly, as he could not even see race leader Briggs Danner thanks to the massive lead he had established. The win for Bright brings him within one of Danner's season total and will close the gap between the two at the top of the points standings.

Briggs Danner came home in a strong second place on Saturday night in what was sure to be a bittersweet finish after leading twenty-two laps of the feature event. Danner has had incredible consistency thus far in the season, with extremely limited laps in a non-wing sprint car, and even fewer at some of the tracks he has raced at thus far. With a lot of racing left to go on the series trail in 2021, Danner has plenty more opportunities to add wins to his collection and have a serious shot at the series title.

Carmen Perigo made his second feature event start of the 2021 season after son Brett was in the car last weekend at the Bedford Speedway. Perigo has many laps at the Selinsgrove Speedway and utilized that to his advantage during the evening. Perigo cruised to a heat two win early on in the night and worked his way from eight to finish third in the feature event. Perigo nearly competed the pass on Bright for second on the lap ten restart but ultimately ended up with a respectable third.

Mark Smith completed a successful weekend with a fourth-place effort on Saturday night at a track where he had more laps and experience than anyone in the pit area. Mark won the United Racing Club winged 360 feature event on Friday night at the Big Diamond Speedway and backed up his speed with the non-winged car on Saturday. Smith has been a feature winner on many occasions at Selinsgrove in a winged car but is still searching for his first USAC East Coast Victory. Luckily for Mark, the series makes two more visits to Selinsgrove before the conclusion of the season.

Kenny Miller III rounded out the top five in the feature event and is yet another driver who has continued to impress in limited starts. Miller was a two-time winner on the series trail in 2020, but is still looking, and working for his first victory of 2021. Miller and team fought off some early evening engine issues, to leave the Selinsgrove speedway with another top five run in his first ever start at the speedway. Miller was well on his way to a top five at Grandview last weekend before clipping the inside wall and crashing out of second.

While Miller will not be competing full time with the series in 2021, the speed and consistency the team has shown so far has been extremely impressive. Look for Miller to contend for more feature event wins during the rest of the season, and potentially in 2022.

Special thanks go out to Mike Heffner and the entire Selinsgrove Speedway for starting twenty-four cars in the feature event after losing one car during the night of racing due to an engine malfunction.

Up next for the Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, Presented by Capitol Renegade will be the first trip of the season to the Big Diamond Speedway on Friday, May 28th. As a reminder, the series event scheduled for the Bloomsburg Fairgrounds on May 27th has been postponed and rescheduled for July 16th along with the URC winged 360 sprint cars.

As always, follow along with our social media pages for all the latest photos, updates, and news from the USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series. On Twitter at: @USACecsc, and on Facebook at, USAC East Coast Sprint Cars.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL TRAILERS RACE RESULTS: May 22, 2021 – Selinsgrove Speedway – Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, 3 redraw, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki) (1), 2. Mark Smith (#m1 L & M) (8), 3. Briggs Danner (#5G Gallagher) (9), 4. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (#83 Buckwalter) (2), 5.

Joey Amantea (#88J JPA) (4), 6. Christian Bruno (#17 Bruno) (6), 7. Mike Meyers (#10m Meyers) (3), 8. Colby Womer (#07 Womer) (5), 9. David Swanson (#117 Swanson) (7). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, 3 redraw, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Carmen Perigo (#21 Stehman) (4), 2. Kenny Miller III (#23m Miller) (3), 3. Tommy Kunsman (#21K Kunsman) (7), 4. Ed Aikin (#7 Aikin) (2), 5. Jonathan Swanson (#17J Swanson) (1), 6. Aidan Borden (#7B Borden) (6), 7. Jason Cherry (#67 Cherry) (8), 8. Troy Fraker (#12w Fraker) (5). NT

THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, 3 redraw, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Chris Allen Jr. (#71 Allen) (3), 2. Nash Ely (#3BC Franckowiak) (5), 3. Alex Bright (#20 Hummer) (7), 4. Damon Paul (#57 Cicconi) (4), 5. Billy Ney (#83s Ney) (6), 6. Blaine Emery (#12 Emery) (8), 7. Mike Thompson (#11 Thompson) (2), 8. Lee Kauffman (#96 Kauffman) (1). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Alex Bright (5), 2. Briggs Danner (2), 3. Carmen Perigo (9), 4. Mark Smith (3), 5. Kenny Miller III (4), 6. Nash Ely (1), 7. Chris Allen Jr. (8), 8. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (10), 9. Tommy Kunsman (7), 10. Damon Paul (12), 11. Christian Bruno (16), 12. Ed Aikin (11), 13. Joey Amantea (13), 14. Mike Thompson (21), 15. Jonathan Swanson (14), 16. Billy Ney (15), 17. Jason Cherry (20), 18. Blaine Emery (18), 19. Mike Meyers (19), 20. David Swanson (24), 21. Aidan Borden (17), 22. Troy Fraker (23), 23. Steven Drevicki (6), 24. Colby Womer (22). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-21 Briggs Danner, Laps 22-25 Alex Bright.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL TRAILERS POINTS: 1-Briggs Danner-378, 2-Alex Bright-372, 3-Steven Drevicki-297, 4-Tommy Kunsman-290, 5-Nash Ely-259, 6-Damon Paul-257, 7-Kenny Miller III-256, 8-Chris Allen Jr.-249, 9-Bruce Buckwalter Jr.-234, 10-Joey Amantea-228.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL TRAILERS RACE: May 28, 2021 – Big Diamond Speedway – Pottsville, Pennsylvania

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

Penske Racing Shocks First Place Certificate: Alex Bright

Penske Racing Shocks Second Place Certificate: Briggs Danner

Penske Racing Shocks Third Place Certificate: Carmen Perigo

Ultra Shield Third Place Certificate: Carmen Perigo

Ultra Shield Eighth Place Certificate: Bruce Buckwalter Jr.

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DREVICKI RETURNS TO USAC EAST COAST VICTORY LANE AT WILLIAMS GROVE

By: Nick Fillman – USAC ECSC

Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania (June 4, 2021)……Steven Drevicki of Reading, PA found his way back to Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series presented by Capitol Renegade Victory Lane on Friday night at the Williams Grove Speedway. Drevicki defends his title as the only driver in series history to win at the Central Pennsylvania oval and ends a five-race run of Briggs Danner and Alex Bright finding victory lane.

Following heat race competition and the feature event redraw, Carmen Perigo Jr and Steve Buckwalter in his season debut, would share the front row for the twenty-five lap feature event. The initial green would quickly turn to yellow, then red

as Joey Amantea, Aidan Borden, Mike Thompson, and Damon Paul were involved in an incident in turn one and two. While the yellow was being thrown, Lee Kauffman hopped over the right rear of another car down the backstretch and ended up flipping over the turn three wall. Kauffman would be ok following his incident on the backstretch.

Take two of the feature event green flag saw Carmen Perigo blast away to the lead of the feature event with Buckwalter, Kenny Miller and the rest of the field in tow. Steven Drevicki quickly made his way forward from his sixth place starting spot and was up to the third-place position by lap three. Other drivers quickly on the move were ninth starting Alex Bright, and seventh starter Tommy Kunsman.

In the early stages of the feature event, Perigo held a manageable lead over Steven Drevicki, with Kenny Miller settling into third with some breathing room over the balance of the field. The battle was on for positions four through eight as Steve Buckwalter, Briggs Danner, Alex Bright, and Tommy Kunsman began to quickly trade positions back and forth. Around the halfway point of the feature event Drevicki began to close in hard on the rear bumper of leader Carmen Perigo, with the rest of the top five still being under intense dispute. Alex Bright and Briggs Danner would trade the fourth position a number of times, with Bright edging Danner for the time being.

Drevicki drew even with Perigo for the lead on lap fifteen of the feature event but was unable to complete the pass on the outside lane of the speedway. The story changed on lap sixteen however, as Drevicki powered around the outside of Perigo to take the lead at the line. One lap after Drevicki moved into the lead, Kenny Miller lll utilized the low side of the speedway to work by Carmen Perigo and attempt to stay within reach of race leader Steven Drevicki.

Meanwhile, the battle for positions three through five remained ever intensifying as Briggs Danner would re-pass Alex Bright, and the two would draw in on the tail tank of Carmen Perigo, all the while catching both Miller and Drevicki at the front of the pack in lapped traffic. On lap twenty of the feature event the entire top five of the field was running in the same corner with Drevicki high, Miller low, Danner and Bright trading the high side and low side for positions three and four, with Perigo holding on in fifth, still within reach of the leader Drevicki.

With two laps to go, Briggs Danner found the low side of the speedway and worked by Kenny Miller for second and quickly drew alongside race leader Steven Drevicki. The two would battle side by side for the race lead over the final two laps with Drevicki continuing to nail his line around the high side of the speedway, with Danner running a near perfect diamond maneuver through the corners.

As the leaders came into turns three and four on the final lap, Danner again dove down to the bottom of the speedway and attempted to pull alongside Drevicki once again. Drevicki would fend off the charge and win the drag race down the front-stretch and grab his first feature event win of the season. Alex Bright came home third following contact with Kenny Miller on the last lap of the feature event, with Miller unfortunately suffering damage resulting in a DNF. Carmen Perigo wound up fourth after the last turn scuffle, with Tommy Kunsman Jr keeping up his consistency and finishing fifth.

Steven Drevicki has not had the great start he is accustomed to so far on the 2021 tour, not gracing victory lane until Friday evening, and suffering a pair of finishes outside the top ten to go along with his three top fives. Drevicki will not be a full time series traveler in 2021 as he tests his merit against the USAC National Series for a number of events. Despite the up and down start, Drevicki finds himself third in series points, and has now collected his first feature win of the season. Drevicki is also the only driver who can claim credit for a victory at the Williams Grove Speedway. As the series heads to Lincoln tomorrow night, Drevicki is also the only series feature event winner, and has plenty of experience at the Abbottstown oval.

Briggs Danner continues to impress as he came home with yet another finish on the podium. While never falling out of touch with the lead pack, Danner struggled some early on in the future event trying to explore different lanes around the Williams Grove Speedway in his first ever start. Danner found the bottom lane of the speedway and methodically picked his way through the top five, nearly grabbing his fourth victory of the season.

Alex Bright also kept his streak of finishing on the podium alive with a strong third place effort. Bright had been ahead of series points leader Briggs Danner early on in the feature event before Danner snuck by in the closing laps. Bright is not

letting Danner get away on any given night in the feature event and continues to keep the rookie within his sights for the series points lead.

Carmen Perigo is a driver who pops in and out of series competition throughout the season but is always extremely competitive wherever and whenever he shows up. The veteran super sportsman driver who has been behind the wheel of non-winged sprint cars for the last number of seasons, lead more than the first half of Fridays feature event before relinquishing the lead to Steven Drevicki, and falling back to fourth. Perigo will continue to make starts here and there throughout the 2021 season and try to add his name to the list of series feature winners.

Rounding out the top five was rookie driver Tommy Kunsman who week after week consistency finishes inside the top ten. Kunsman seems to be stuck in the fourth to eight place positions as far as feature events are concerned, but if the consistency shown over the first six races of the season is any indication of what the rest of the year may be, the Bethlehem, PA driver could quickly find himself competing for feature event victories, and a shot at the series points title.

Ed Aikin nabbed his best finish of the season, along with driver Christian Bruno as both drivers finished inside the top ten, in sixth and seventh, respectively.

Heartbreak fell upon Kenny Miller lll who looked to be well on his way to a top four finish, until a last lap incident with Alex Bright resulted in a DNF. Miller has contended for wins in multiple events so far in 2021 but just has not been able to put together a full feature event. No doubt the two-time feature winner in 2020 will contend for victories in the future and may even grab a few before the season is over.

Next up for the series is a second ever visit to the Lincoln Speedway in Abbottstown, PA tomorrow night alongside the 410 winged sprint cars, and the ARDC Midgets.

Follow along with all the series breaking news, updates, photos and more by following along on our socials! On Facebook at: USAC East Coast Sprint Cars, and on Twitter at: @USACecsc.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL TRAILERS RACE RESULTS: June 4, 2021 – Williams Grove Speedway – Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Carmen Perigo (#21 Stehman) (2), 2. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki) (1), 3. Alex Bright (#20 Hummer) (3), 4. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (#83 Buckwalter) (7), 5. Christian Bruno (#17 Bruno) (5), 6. Troy Fraker (#12w Fraker) (4), 7. Mike Thompson (#11 Thompson) (6). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Steve Buckwalter (#75 Cicconi) (2), 2. Briggs Danner (#5G Gallagher) (6), 3. Ed Aikin (#7 Aikin) (4), 4. Nash Ely (#3BC Franckowiak) (7), 5. David Swanson (#117 Swanson) (1), 6. Jonathan Swanson (#17J Swanson) (3), 7. Joey Amantea (#88J JPA) (5). NT

THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Tommy Kunsman (#21K Kunsman) (1), 2. Kenny Miller III (#23m Miller) (6), 3. Billy Ney (#83s Ney) (5), 4. Lee Kauffman (#96 Kauffman) (4), 5. Aidan Borden (#7B Borden) (3), 6. Jason Cherry (#67 Cherry) (7), 7. Damon Paul (#57 Cicconi) (2). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Steven Drevicki (6), 2. Briggs Danner (5), 3. Alex Bright (9), 4. Carmen Perigo (1), 5. Tommy Kunsman (7), 6. Ed Aikin (8), 7. Christian Bruno (13), 8. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (10), 9. Steve Buckwalter (2), 10. Nash Ely (11), 11. David Swanson (14), 12. Jonathan Swanson (17), 13. Joey Amantea (19), 14. Kenny Miller III (4), 15. Mike Thompson (20), 16. Troy Fraker (16), 17. Aidan Borden (15), 18. Jason Cherry (18), 19. Billy Ney (3), 20. Lee Kauffman (12), 21. Damon Paul (21). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-15 Carmen Perigo, Laps 16-25 Steven Drevicki.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL TRAILERS POINTS: 1-Briggs Danner-452, 2-Alex Bright-442, 3-Steven Drevicki-374, 4-Tommy Kunsman-356, 5-Nash Ely-307, 6-Kenny Miller III-298, 7-Bruce Buckwalter Jr.-288, 8-Damon Paul-282, 9-Joey Amantea-267, 10-Mike Thompson-250.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL TRAILERS RACE: June 5, 2021 – Lincoln Speedway – Abbottstown, Pennsylvania

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

Penske Shocks 1st Place: Steven Drevicki

Penske Shocks 2nd Place: Briggs Danner

Penske Shocks 3rd Place: Alex Bright

Ultra Shield 3rd Place: Alex Bright

Ultra Shield 8th Place: Bruce Buckwalter Jr.

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BRIGHT CONQUERS LINCOLN FOR THIRD USAC EC WIN OF THE SEASON

By: Nick Fillman, USAC ECSC

Abbottstown, Pennsylvania (June 5, 2021)……Alex Bright of Collegeville, PA, utilized a late race restart, and a bit of contact, to pass Steven Drevicki with only two laps to go and collect his third Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, presented by Capitol Renegade.

Rookie Joey Amantea and Steven Drevicki led the field to green for the 25 lap feature on the initial start, with Drevicki quickly taking the lead. The caution flag would fly before the completion of lap one for Colin White, who went for a spin in turns one and two.

As the field came back to green again, Drevicki launched out into the lead with Amantea in tow, and Bright in third, but under heavy fire early from Christopher Allen Jr. Amantea fell to the clutches of Bright, and Allen a few laps later with Drevicki still leading as all three of the leaders were utilizing the high side of the speedway while the majority of the field ran around the bottom lane.

An extremely intense battle waged for positions four through six with Kenny Miller, Christian Bruno, and Damon Paul who were all over each other trading positions. Just behind them, yet another group of drivers in intense battle would see Briggs Danner, Ed Aikin, and Tommy Kunsman racing three wide for the back half of the top ten early on in the feature event.

Alex Bright made his first move for the race lead on lap eight, as he would throw a monster slider into turns three and four, but Drevicki would stab the breaks and dive underneath Bright for the race lead on the bottom side of the track and retain the race lead. Bright would continue to follow in the tire tracks of Drevicki for the next handful of laps at the half way point of the feature with Drevicki out front followed by Bright, Miller, Paul, Allen, and Christian Bruno in sixth.

With ten laps to go, Bright again threw a slide job on Drevicki for the race lead in turns three and four, and again Drevicki dove underneath Bright and retained the race lead. The two leaders began to encounter lapped traffic on lap eighteen, and just a couple of laps later, Bright once again threw a slide job on Drevicki in turn three and four, and yet again Drevicki held Bright off.

Competition for third through sixth remained as heavy as ever with Miller, Allen, Paul, and Bruno all over each other trying to gain a spot in the top five. Unfortunately for Allen, his great run came to an end on lap twenty-two as he would spin in

turns three and four and bring out the caution flag. The caution on with only three to go would set up a battle to the finish between Drevicki and Bright for the feature event, with Miller set to pounce on the two if either made a mistake.

The green flag flew with three to go and Bright was all over Drevicki as the two went into turns one and two, Bright was all over the back bumper of Drevicki literally, as he would bump Drevicki twice down the back stretch getting him loose, as the two went into three and four. Bright dove to the bottom of Drevicki and took the lead with Drevicki diving underneath as they came to the line. Steven Drevicki took the lead going into turns one and two, but Bright would cross him over off the corner and retain the lead. Drevicki threw one last slider into turns three and four as the pair came to the white flag, but it did not stick as Bright would go on to collect his third feature event win of the 2021 season.

Alex Bright won two feature events last season on his way to being Rookie of the Year and is keeping the speed up in 2021 finishing on the podium in every event so far. Bright has now tied Danner for feature event wins on the season with both having three. The points battle will close even closer with Bright scoring the victory, and Danner finishing outside the top five. After Saturdays finish Bright and Hummer Motorsports have taken the lead by only six points over Danner. With only seven races down on the season, there is sure to be more battles between Bright, Drevicki, and Danner before the season is over.

Drevicki ended up in second in the feature event, which was not what the team was looking for after leading twenty-two laps of the feature event. Drevicki is not running for full time series points and is only looking for wins in the 2021 season. Drevicki will be hit and miss as the season goes on, and no doubt will continue to contend for wins.

Third place went to another driver who will not be full-time with the series in Kenny Miller lll. Miller was well on his way to a third place finish on Friday night at Williams Grove before late race contact with Alex Bright left him with a fourteenth place finish. Miller rebounded on Saturday night with yet another strong run inside the top three of the feature event and collecting a podium. Miller has been strong all season long and has been inside the top five in nearly every feature event run during the season. Miller, however, has found some back luck with incidents that have been of his own doing, and some that are not. Miller may or may not start a few more feature events during the 2021 season, but we hope Miller will be able to join us full time in 2022.

Young Christian Bruno increased his career best finish on Saturday finishing fourth in Saturday's feature event. Bruno had an incredibly strong weekend in limited starts thus far in the 2021 season finishing seventh at Williams Grove, and fourth at Lincoln. The sixteen year old driver has shown speed in everything he has driven so far in 2021, getting faster and faster in the sprint car, while consistently running up front in 600cc Micro Sprint competition.

Another driver who had a massive rebound on Saturday night was Damon Paul. Paul suffered mechanical issues all night on Friday at the Williams Grove Speedway. Paul and team finally got the car to run for the feature event, only to be collected in a lap one pile up in turns one and two. Paul rebounded on Saturday and finished third in his heat race and had a solid run in fifth in Saturday's feature event at Lincoln.

Extremely bad luck fell upon rookie driver Billy Ney on Saturday at Lincoln as the team unfortunately never made a lap at the speedway. The car would not fire, and Billy unfortunately had to relinquish his position starting on the pole of heat one and had to pack up and head home. Hopefully, the issue isn't too bad for the exciting rookie, and he can continue to run with the series for the remainder of the 2021 season.

Another driver that was missing from action on Saturday was Bruce Buckwalter Jr. Bruce and team unfortunately discovered some engine issues following Friday nights feature at Williams Grove, and the team chose not to risk the engine running on Saturday at Lincoln until the team can get it properly looked at. We certainly hope the engine issues aren't that bad, and the team can get right back into action at Selinsgrove.

Two of our drivers made double duty starts in non-wing competition on Saturday at Lincoln with the ARDC Midget in the form of Tommy Kunsman and Steve Buckwalter. Kunsman and Buckwalter each won their heat race, with Buckwalter grabbing the feature event win. Kunsman and Buckwalter finished ninth and thirteenth in the USAC East Coast Feature, respectively.

Up next for the Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, presented by Capitol Renegade, is a massive return to the Selinsgrove Speedway on Thursday June 17th, as the series will be running side by side with the stars and cars of the Amsoil, USAC National Sprint Car Series, during the annal USAC Eastern Storm. The special two division, non-winged sprint car doubleheader, will feature a number of drivers doing double duty in what is sure to be a special night of action.

As always, stay up to date with all of our breaking news, photos, and other information by following our socials. On Facebook at: USAC East Coast Sprint Cars, and on Twitter at: @USACecsc.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL TRAILERS RACE RESULTS: June 5, 2021 – Lincoln Speedway – Abbottstown, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Chris Allen Jr. (#71 Allen) (6), 2. Tommy Kunsman (#21K Kunsman) (5), 3. Joey Amantea (#88J JPA) (2), 4. Steve Wilbur (#59 Wilbur) (4), 5. Nash Ely (#3BC Franckowiak) (3), 6. Aidan Borden (#7B Borden) (1), 7. Jonathan Swanson (#17J Swanson) (7). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Alex Bright (#20 Hummer) (6), 2. Christian Bruno (#17 Bruno) (3), 3. Kenny Miller III (#23m Miller) (5), 4. David Swanson (#117 Swanson) (4), 5. Blaine Emery (#12 Emery) (1), 6. Steve Buckwalter (#75 Cicconi) (7), 7. Jason Cherry (#67 Cherry) (2). NT

THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki) (1), 2. Briggs Danner (#5G Gallagher) (3), 3. Damon Paul (#57 Cicconi) (4), 4. Ed Aikin (#7 Aikin) (2), 5. Colin White (#32 Neiger-Hamilton) (5), 6. Troy Fraker (#12w Fraker) (7), 7. Jacob Balliet (#22B Betts) (6). NT

ALSO AT THE TRACK: Billy Ney (#83s Ney).

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Alex Bright (3), 2. Steven Drevicki (2), 3. Kenny Miller III (7), 4. Christian Bruno (6), 5. Damon Paul (4), 6. Briggs Danner (8), 7. Ed Aikin (12), 8. Joey Amantea (1), 9. Tommy Kunsman (9), 10. Steve Wilbur (10), 11. David Swanson (11), 12. Nash Ely (13), 13. Steve Buckwalter (17), 14. Aidan Borden (16), 15. Jonathan Swanson (19), 16. Colin White (15), 17. Jason Cherry (20), 18. Chris Allen Jr. (5), 19. Blaine Emery (14), 20. Troy Fraker (18), 21. Jacob Balliet (21). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-22 Steven Drevicki, Laps 23-25 Alex Bright.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL TRAILERS POINTS: 1-Alex Bright-520, 2-Briggs Danner-514, 3-Steven Drevicki-449, 4-Tommy Kunsman-409, 5-Kenny Miller III-368, 6-Nash Ely-350, 7-Damon Paul-346, 8-Joey Amantea-322, 9-Bruce Buckwalter Jr.-288, 10-Chris Allen Jr.-284.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL TRAILERS RACE: June 17, 2021 – Selinsgrove Speedway – Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

Penske Shocks 1st Place: Alex Bright

Penske Shocks 2nd Place: Steven Drevicki

Penske Shocks 3rd Place: Kenny Miller III

Ultra Shield 3rd Place: Kenny Miller III

Ultra Shield 8th Place: Joey Amantea

Vahlco Wheels Hard Charger: Ed Aikin

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REDEMPTION FOR DANNER WITH SELINSGROVE VICTORY

By: Nick Fillman, USAC ECSC

Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania (June 17, 2021)……Briggs Danner of Allentown, Pa. scored his series leading fourth victory of the season at the Selinsgrove Speedway and conquered the northeastern PA oval for the first time following a dominant performance in May and coming up just short.

Young drivers Joey Amantea and Christian Bruno lead the field to green for the twenty-lap feature event, in the second part of a double header program alongside the USAC National Sprint Car Series.

Amantea lead the field into corners one and two with Danner making a needle threading move from his fourth place starting spot into the runner up position behind Amantea down the back stretch on lap one, before the first red flag of the night would appear as Brody Adamsky went for a wild flip into turn three.

The ensuing restart put the field into their original starting spots, negating Danner's quick moves into the runner up position. The second start again saw Amantea motor out to the lead, but this time Christian Bruno was wiser to the quick moves of Danner and held onto the runner up spot with Danner into third. As the field worked their way to the competition of lap one, Amantea was the leader with, Danner in second, and Bruno in third, with all three in a tight formation with no clear run away for any position.

Amantea, Danner, and Bruno battled hard for the opening laps of the feature event with Amantea running the higher line of the speedway, and Danner utilizing the bottom lane of the speedway. As the front three would try to decide the podium among themselves, Alex Bright was pounding the high side of the Selinsgrove Speedway peddling hard to try and catch the front trio.

The second red flag of the feature event flew on lap three, as Steven Drevicki unfortunately caught the wall in the middle of turns three and four and sent him for a violent series of barrel rolls through the corner. Thankfully, no other drivers made contact with Drevicki, and he was able to walk away from the gnarly flip under his own power.

As the field went to restart Amantea was the leader followed tightly by Briggs Danner with Bruno, Bright, and Nash Ely rounding out the top five. Amantea held onto the lead for the first lap of the restart before Briggs Danner would move by for the lead entering turn one on lap four.

Amantea tried to fight back on the outside of the speedway but could not quite get back to the tail tank of race leader Briggs Danner. Alex Bright continued to utilize the high line of the speedway getting around Bruno and Amantea, with Bruno moving by Amantea into third as the battle for positions two through four remained intense.

At the halfway point of the feature event Danner was the leader with Bright continuing to pound the high side of the speedway in second, with Danner, Amantea, and a highly contested battle for fifth between Nash Ely and Ed Aikin.

While Danner was mostly utilizing the bottom side of the speedway and slowly venturing up the banking higher and higher as Bright continued to draw ever closer to the tail of the Gallagher entry out front. Around lap fourteen, Bright was within two car lengths of Danner, with Danner also moving to the high side of the speedway trying to take the lane away from Bright. Bright would continue to draw in closer for the lead, nearly on the tail of Danner as the field entered turn one on lap sixteen. Unfortunately for Bright, he would jump the cushion and tag the wall allowing Danner to get away.

Briggs Danner would have smooth sailing and not contention for the top spot for the final three laps of the feature event and go on to collect his fourth feature event victory of the 2021 Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, Presented

by Capitol Renegade season. Bright remained in second, with Bruno scoring a podium run in third, with Amantea and Ed Aikin winning out the battle for fifth over Nash Ely.

Briggs Danner nabbed his fourth victory of the season and flipped the script on Bright at Selinsgrove as Bright was the one scoring the victory in the series' first trip to the speedway in May. Danner explained that while the win in the East Coast feature was great, he felt like he had potentially let his first career USAC National Win get away in their feature. Danner was in third contending for the victory before heavy contact with the outside wall, and a flat right rear tire would end his shot at his first career USAC National victory. Danner will have two more shots at victory in Pennsylvania this week, and the team has expressed interest in hopefully heading to the Kokomo Smackdown in August.

Alex Bright along with Danner competed in both feature events on Thursday at Selinsgrove. Bright wound up sixth in the USAC National Sprint feature and another solid run in second with the East Coast Series. Bright holds onto a slim points lead over Danner for the season long championship by only three points, and the intensity for the season title is only just beginning.

Young Christian Bruno has not been full-time with the series so far in 2021, but the talented driver has been extremely impressive in his last two outings scoring a fourth at Lincoln, and now a third-place finish at the difficult Selinsgrove Speedway. Bruno and the Fauci Racing team will continue to run select events with the series through the reminder of the season. Bruno has found a new level of speed and confidence and will look to continue his improvements as the season goes on.

Joey Amantea scored his second highest feature finish on Thursday at Selinsgrove, backing up the speed that the team had debuted with at the Bridgeport Speedway in April. Amantea and team utilized their primary black car for the first time since the Port Royal Speedway in April where it received heavy damage. Amantea had speed all night finishing fourth in the heat race event, earning himself a spot in the redraw for the feature and starting on the pole. Amantea held his own with Danner for the opening handful of laps of the feature event before falling back to fourth. Look for Amantea and team to build upon their strong run on Thursday and try too consistently be a top five entry.

Rounding out the top five was Ed Aikin, who in all respect to the veteran driver, was the oldest of our top five. Ed has been extremely consistent this season since joining the USAC East Coast ranks consistently running inside the top ten, and over the last handful of events nearing, and cracking the top five. Aikin and Nash Ely waged an entertaining battle all race long for the fifth spot with Aikin ultimately coming out on top of the battle. Ed Aikin also earned his third Vahlco Wheels Hard Charger award, finishing fifth from his twelfth place starting spot.

The series will take a week off from action next week, before returning the first week of July with four races in seven days as a part of the second ever "Mini Speedweek." The events start on Thursday July 1st, at the Orange County Fair Speedway before moving to Big Diamond July 2nd, the New Egypt Speedway for their only appearance on July 3rd. A three-day break will occur, before speedweek wraps up on July 7th at the Action Track USA Speedway for the first ever appearance of the series in the "Iron Cowboy Classic."

As always, follow along with the series on social media for the latest news, results, photos, and updates! On Facebook at: USAC East Coast Sprint Cars, and on Twitter at: @USACecsc.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE RESULTS: June 17, 2021 – Selinsgrove Speedway – Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (#5G Gallagher) (7), 2. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki) (2), 3. Christian Bruno (#17 Bruno) (4), 4. Joey Amantea (#88J JPA) (5), 5. Tommy Kunsman (#21K Kunsman) (9), 6. Ed Aikin (#7 Aikin) (8), 7. Michael Walter (#33w Walter) (6), 8. Troy Fraker (#12w Fraker) (3), 9. Jason Cherry (#67 Cherry) (1). 2:54.683

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Alex Bright (#20 Hummer) (1), 2. Nash Ely (#3BC Franckowiak) (5), 3. Jonathan Swanson (#17J Swanson) (2), 4. Mike Thompson (#11 Thompson) (4), 5. Damon Paul (#57 Cicconi) (9), 6. David Swanson (#117 Swanson) (8), 7. Brody Adamsky (#19A Adamsky) (3), 8. Colby Womer (#07 Womer) (7), 9. Heidi Hedin (#3H Hedin) (6). 3:00.470

FEATURE: (20 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (4), 2. Alex Bright (5), 3. Christian Bruno (2), 4. Joey Amantea (1), 5. Ed Aikin (11), 6. Nash Ely (7), 7. Jonathan Swanson (3), 8. David Swanson (12), 9. Michael Walter (13), 10. Damon Paul (10), 11. Tommy Kunsman (9), 12. Mike Thompson (8), 13. Colby Womer (16), 14. Jason Cherry (17), 15. Troy Fraker (15), 16. Steven Drevicki (6), 17. Heidi Hedin (18), 18. Brody Adamsky (14). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-4 Joey Amantea, Laps 5-20 Briggs Danner.

**Brody Adamsky flipped on lap 1 of the feature.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE POINTS: 1-Alex Bright-595, 2-Briggs Danner-592, 3-Steven Drevicki-487, 4-Tommy Kunsman-454, 5-Nash Ely-412, 6-Damon Paul-393, 7-Joey Amantea-388, 8-Kenny Miller III-358, 9-Ed Aikin-345, 10-Jonathan Swanson-304.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE: July 1, 2021 – Orange County Fair Speedway – Middletown, New York

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

Penske Shocks 1st Place: Briggs Danner

Penske Shocks 2nd Place: Alex Bright

Penske Shocks 3rd Place: Christian Bruno

Ultra Shield 3rd Place: Christian Bruno

Ultra Shield 6th Place: Nash Ely

Vahlco Hard Charger: Ed Aikin

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BRIGHT CAPITALIZES ON MISFORTUNE FOR BIG DIAMOND USAC EC VICTORY

By: Nick Fillman, USAC ECSC

Pottsville, Pennsylvania (July 2, 2021)……Alex Bright of Collegeville, PA, utilized a late race restart to outduel Tommy Kunsman for his fourth victory of the Rapid Tire Service, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series Presented by Capitol Renegade season.

On what was supposed to be the second of three nights of consecutive action for Valley Forge, Inc. “Mini Speedweek, ” 21 USAC East Coast Sprint Cars entered the pit area of the Big Diamond Speedway for competition for what would be the only feature event of the weekend.

Following three heat race events and the feature event redraw, Tommy Kunsman Jr and Alex Bright shared the front row for the evenings twenty-five lap main event. Kunsman grabbed the initial lead on the start, quickly driving away from Alex Bright and putting some distance on Bright for the race lead.

The car that was moving through the field quicker than any other was Briggs Danner. Danner had moved from his eight-place starting spot into the third-place position by lap three and moved passed Bright for the runner up spot on lap four. Danner quickly disposed of Bright and reeled in Kunsman for the race lead before the caution flag flew on lap four for a spun Jason Cherry in turns one and two.

On the ensuing restart, Danner would be glued to the rear bumper of Kunsman as the two looked to pull away from the remainder of the field. Alex Bright, Colin White, and Chris Allen rounded out the top five during the restart. Danner tried the inside and the outside groove on Kunsman as the two battled for the race lead before Danner would move by and take the lead from Kunsman coming off turn four to complete lap ten.

Briggs Danner quickly set sail on the rest of the field, with Kunsman, Bright, White, and Bruce Buckwalter as the top five. As Danner encountered the back half of the field on lap thirteen and began the lapping process, Alex Bright managed to catch the rear bumper of Kunsman and being pressuring Kunsman for the runner up position.

On lap nineteen of the feature event, Kunsman and Bright drastically caught the rear bumper of Danner as it appeared the Bill Gallagher entry was slowing into turns there and four. Bright had just made a move on Kunsman for the runner up spot when the caution flag flew for the slowing car of Danner. While the field was slowing, an unfortunate brake befell Steven Drevicki as he would make contact with an inside tractor tire ending his night and dumping a large amount of water onto the front stretch. With the amount of water being on the speedway, the red flag was thrown to allow for a safe cleanup of the speedway.

Due to the timing of the caution, the pass by Bright on Kunsman would be negated and Kunsman would retain his position and inherit the race lead. The lap nineteen restart saw Kunsman leading: Bright, Allen, White, and Buckwalter with only six laps remaining. Tommy Kunsman had a solid restart as the field came to Nicole Flood's green flag, with a bit of distance back to second place runner Alex Bright.

As the laps would quickly wind down, Bright caught up to the rear of Kunsman on lap twenty-one and began to pressure Kunsman for the race lead. Kunsman initially held off the charges of Bright on the bottom side of the speedway, before ultimately relinquishing the race led to Bright at the completion of lap twenty-three. Bright drove away from Kunsman in the closing two laps and found himself in victory lane for the fourth time during the 2021 season. Kunsman would score a career best second place effort, with Chris Allen, Colin White, and Nash Ely rounding out the top five.

With his fourth victory of the 2021 season and the misfortune on Friday night for Briggs Danner, Bright extended his points lead for the series by 31 markers and gained a slight bit of breathing room over his toughest competitor on tour. Bright pulled back even in the win column with Danner on Friday night as the two remain neck and neck, going shot for shot, as the series season is unfolding. No doubt the duo will both be the drivers to beat as the series moves to Action Track USA on Wednesday July 7th for the first ever event to be contested at the speedway. A track where Danner and Bright have been competitors over the last number of seasons in Micro Sprint and USAC SpeedSTR competition.

Tommy Kunsman of Bethlehem, PA, finished a career best second place on Friday night in his rookie campaign. The former midget driver has been more than impressive thus far on the 2021 series tour, tackling tracks that he has not seen before with a sprint car, and making his first starts ever with a sprint car. Kunsman has finished outside of the top ten only one time in the nine events that have been completed so far.

Kunsman's consistency and determination for a series victory has also kept them within reasonable distance of the season long points chase moving into third should some issues arise for the top two. Only time will tell when Kunsman will add his name to the list of feature winners in USAC East Coast competition.

Chris Allen Jr. made his return to the series after missing our last event at the Selinsgrove Speedway. The two-time top three finisher in series points has struggled so far this season, but a solid run at the Lincoln Speedway before an unfortunate spin, and a completed podium effort at the Big Diamond Speedway have been more of what the CA Motorsports team is more accustomed too. Unfortunately for Allen, the teams home race at the New Egypt Speedway has been lost due to weather, and a rescheduling date is currently being discussed.

Fourth place belonged to rookie runner Colin White who recorded his best finish of the season though only running three events. White was well on his way to a potential top five finish in April at the Port Royal Speedway before a flip ended his night and resulted in a DNF. The defending Action Track USA 600cc micro sprint champion has been fast each and every time the Hamilton Motorsports entry has taken to the surface so far in 2021. Look for White to continue his improvements in the remaining starts scheduled for the team.

Rounding out the top five was Sinking Spring, PA driver Nash Ely. Ely has been consistent all season long running just inside and just outside the top five in multiple events this season. Ely was one of many drivers who competed in both the Keystone Invasion, and the Eastern Storm swings that the USAC National Sprint Car Series completed on the East Coast with Ely consistently making shows and holding his own. Ely finds himself inside the top five in points as the smooth runs for the eighteen-year-old continue to pile up.

Finishing just outside of the top five in the sixth-place position was Bruce Buckwalter Jr. Bruce missed our last two events at the Lincoln and Selinsgrove Speedways following engine trouble at the Williams Grove Speedway. Engine repairs have been made, and the Buckwalter team showed plenty of speed Friday night at the Big Diamond Speedway.

Up next for the Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series presented by Capitol Renegade, is the first ever visit by the series to Action Track USA in Kutztown, PA for the "Iron Cowboy Classic" 30 lap feature event, which will pay $2, 000 to the feature winner thanks to sponsor E. Schneider & Sons.

Keep up to date with all the latest results, news, photos, and updates by following along on our socials! On Facebook at: USAC East Coast Sprint Cars, and on Twitter at: @USACecsc.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE RESULTS: July 2, 2021 – Big Diamond Speedway – Pottsville, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Jonathan Swanson (#17J Swanson) (1), 2. Briggs Danner (#5G Gallagher) (6), 3. Billy Ney (#83s Ney) (2), 4. Chris Allen Jr. (#71 Allen) (7), 5. Joe Kata (#10 Kata) (4), 6. Richy Carnathan (#64 Carnathan) (3). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Alex Bright (#20 Hummer) (1), 2. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki) (5), 3. Colin White (#32 Neiger-Hamilton) (4), 4. Mike Thompson (#11 Thompson) (2), 5. Jason Cherry (#67 Cherry) (6), 6. Damon Paul (#57 Cicconi) (7), 7. Joey Amantea (#88J JPA) (3). NT

THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Tommy Kunsman (#21K Kunsman) (2), 2. Nash Ely (#3BC Franckowiak) (3), 3. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (#83 Buckwalter) (4), 4. Christian Bruno (#17 Bruno) (7), 5. David Swanson (#117 Swanson) (6), 6. Zack Burd (#5z Burd) (1), 7. Kenny Miller III (#23m Miller) (5). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Alex Bright (2), 2. Tommy Kunsman (1), 3. Chris Allen Jr. (10), 4. Colin White (4), 5. Nash Ely (9), 6. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (6), 7. Kenny Miller III (20), 8. Jonathan Swanson (5), 9. Mike Thompson (11), 10. Briggs Danner (8), 11. Christian Bruno (12), 12. Billy Ney (3), 13. Joe Kata (13), 14. David Swanson (15), 15. Richy Carnathan (16), 16. Jason Cherry (14), 17. Steven Drevicki (7), 18. Zack Burd (18). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-9 Tommy Kunsman, Laps 10-19 Briggs Danner, Laps 20-23 Tommy Kunsman, Laps 24-25 Alex Bright.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE POINTS: 1-Alex Bright-673, 2-Briggs Danner-642, 3-Tommy Kunsman-529, 4-Steven Drevicki-523, 5-Nash Ely-477, 6-Kenny Miller III-422, 7-Damon Paul-406, 8-Joey Amantea-400, 9-Jonathan Swanson-361, 10-Chris Allen Jr.-353.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE: July 3, 2021 – New Egypt Speedway – New Egypt, New Jersey

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

Penske Shocks 1st Place: Alex Bright $100

Penske Shocks 2nd Place: Tommy Kunsman Jr $75

Penske Shocks 3rd Place: Chris Allen $50

Ultra Shield 4th Place: Colin White

Ultra Shield 8th Place: Jonathan Swanson

Vahlco Wheels Hard Charger: Kenny Miller lll (20th to 7th)

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INAUGURAL USAC EAST COAST IRON COWBOY CLASSIC BELONGS TO DANNER

By: Nick Fillman, USAC ECSC

Kutztown, Pennsylvania (July 7, 2021)……Briggs Danner of Allentown, PA utilized his knowledge of Action Track USA, to score the first ever Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, Presented by Capitol Renegade feature event win at the speedway.

Chris Allen Jr. and Nash Ely would share the front row for the feature event, with Chris Allen Jr. jumping out to the early race lead. Ely would initially hold onto the second position, until the completion of lap three as Briggs Danner would move into the runner up spot and begin his charge toward the leader Allen.

Allen quickly found the back of the field on lap seven, with Danner all over Allen for the race lead, and multiple times, alongside the leader challenging for the top spot. While Allen and Danner would battle for the top spot, an all-out war would rage on between Nash Ely, Damon Paul, Tommy Kunsman, and Colin White for positions three through six. The four-pack of former and current micro sprint drivers utilized their experience to battle among themselves for position, many times being three-wide with multiple slide jobs in each corner.

The intense racing action would come to a halt on lap ten as Jason Cherry and Mike Meyers would make contact, followed by Steve Wilbur riding the turns one and two wall before ending up, upside-down with the red flag displayed.

Allen led the field to the lap ten restart over Danner, Kunsman, Paul, and White with twenty laps to go. Allen got off to a great start putting a bit of a gap over Danner as the field went back into action. Allen held the lead, with Danner again reeling the leader back in and again, pulling side by side with Allen for the lead of the feature event. While Danner and Allen fought side by side for the race lead, Alex Bright was flying through the field and was just outside the top five as the field drew in on the halfway point of the feature event. Bright cracked into the top five on lap fifteen and joined the still furious battle for positions inside the top five.

On lap fifteen, Danner utilizing a major drive off the high side of turn four, got the necessary drive to finally work passed Allen for the race lead. As Danner took the lead, the action inside the top five remained incredible. Damon Paul, Tommy Kunsman, Alex Bright, and Nash Ely continued to throw slider after slider for position as the laps wound down in the feature event.

On lap twenty-one, Bright threw a slide job on Kunsman for the fourth spot, on the field. Bright's car would stall out some, with Kunsman turning back down to the inside of Bright for position. Kunsman would make contact with the left front of Alex Bright, collapsing the front end of the Hummer Motorsports 20 car, leaving point leader Bright stopped on the exit

of turn four. As Bright's car was coming to a stop, Nash Ely was left with nowhere to go and was collected with Bright in turn four. Bright and Ely would unfortunately be unable to restart the feature event.

On what would be the final restart of the event with nine laps to go, Danner nailed the restart and pulled away from Allen and the rest of the field. Yet again, the battle for the top five was incredibly intense with Paul, Kunsman, White, and Bruce Buckwalter Jr. heavily contending for positions. Eventually, the top five would settle in with Paul, Kunsman, and White holding down positions in the top five as the bulk of the field rode the cushion around the high side of the speedway.

As the laps wound down, Briggs Danner again found himself in USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series Victory Lane for the fifth time of the 2021 season, and regained the points lead following the incident involving Alex Bright.

For the fifth time of the season, and sixth time of his career, Briggs Danner parked the Bill Gallagher owned 5G entry in victory lane. Danner has been lights out so far in the 2021 season, with only a blown tire to blame for the teams only blemish on the season thus far. Danner and team have been on another level so far in 2021, with Alex Bright and Hummer Motorsports being the team's closest competition so far. Due to the finish of Bright, Danner regained the points lead by only eleven markers over Bright, with plenty of racing left to go.

Chris Allen Jr. appears to have found his stride again as the New Jersey native has rattled off back-to-back podium finishes in his last two starts. Allen has missed two events so far but remains solidly within the top ten in series points. While a shot at the title may not be possible for the team, they are well on their way to being able to compete for series victories once again.

Damon Paul of Stony Point, NY found himself on the podium for the very first time in 2021 on Wednesday at Action Track USA. The twenty-year-old driver has plenty of laps around the Pennsylvania oval, competing first in slingshots, before moving to USAC SpeedSTRs, and 600cc Micro Sprints. Paul utilized his knowledge of the speedway, along with the rest of the top five, to put on a show and win the battle for third in the back half of the top five. Paul and the Lou Cicconi Racing team have had plenty of speed with their rookie driver and have now notched their first of what may be many podium finishes.

Coming off a career best second place on Friday night, Tommy Kunsman looked to keep his momentum rolling on Wednesday at Action Track USA. Kunsman scored a fourth place run in the heat race from his eighth place starting spot, earning him a redraw spot for the feature event at the front of the field. Kunsman was involved heavily with the best battles on track many times over the course of the future event in the middle of three wide action and giving and receiving many slide jobs for position. Kunsman has worked his way to third in series points and has established himself as a fixture at the front of the series field.

Rounding out the top five, scoring back-to-back top five runs was Colin White. It should come as no surprise that White would have a solid run at Action Track USA as the young driver is the defending 600cc Micro Sprint Champion at the speedway. While not getting to run the series full time in 2021, White has impressed in limited runs, most recently scoring a fourth at Big Diamond and a fifth at Action Track. While White is not done with his races behind the wheel of the Hamilton 32 entry, hopefully White can join the tour full time in 2022.

Up next for the Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series Presented by: Capitol Renegade, is the first ever trip for the series to the newly redesigned and reopened Bloomsburg Fairgrounds! A handful of our drivers made the first ever trip to the speedway in June as a part of the USAC National Series annual "Eastern Storm." The Friday, July 16th program will also feature the first of two double header programs with the URC 360 sprint cars, offering fans the "best of both worlds" in one night at the same track.

As always, stay up to date with all the latest series news, results, photos, points, and much more by following along on our social media pages! On Twitter at: @USACecsc, or on Facebook at: USAC East Coast Sprint Cars.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE RESULTS: July 7, 2021 – Action Track USA – Kutztown, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (#5G Gallagher) (3), 2. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (#83 Buckwalter) (1), 3. Chris Allen Jr. (#71 Allen) (2), 4. Tommy Kunsman (#21K Kunsman) (8), 5. Mike Meyers (#10m Meyers) (4), 6. Blaine Emery (#12 Emery) (7), 7. Joey Amantea (#88J JPA) (9), 8. Aidan Borden (#7B Borden) (5), 9. Chris Allen Sr. (#2 Allen) (6). NT

SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Nash Ely (#3BC Franckowiak) (3), 2. Damon Paul (#57 Cicconi) (6), 3. Mike Thompson (#11 Thompson) (2), 4. Colin White (#32 Neiger-Hamilton) (8), 5. Steve Wilbur (#59 Wilbur) (9), 6. Heidi Hedin (#3H Hedin) (7), 7. Ricky Rutt (#57x Rutt) (5), 8. Jason Cherry (#67 Cherry) (1), 9. Alex Bright (#20 Hummer) (4). NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (3), 2. Chris Allen Jr. (1), 3. Damon Paul (6), 4. Tommy Kunsman (5), 5. Colin White (4), 6. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (7), 7. Mike Meyers (9), 8. Joey Amantea (13), 9. Blaine Emery (11), 10. Mike Thompson (8), 11. Aidan Borden (15), 12. Heidi Hedin (12), 13. Ricky Rutt (14), 14. Alex Bright (18), 15. Nash Ely (2), 16. Steve Wilbur (10), 17. Jason Cherry (16), 18. Chris Allen Sr. (17). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-15 Chris Allen Jr., Laps 16-30 Briggs Danner.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE POINTS: 1-Briggs Danner-720, 2-Alex Bright-709, 3-Tommy Kunsman-595, 4-Steven Drevicki-523, 5-Nash Ely-518, 6-Damon Paul-477, 7-Joey Amantea-451, 8-Chris Allen Jr.-426, 9-Kenny Miller III-422, 10-Bruce Buckwalter Jr.-411.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE: July 16, 2021 – Bloomsburg Fair Raceway – Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

Penske Shocks $100: Briggs Danner

Penske Shocks $50: Chris Allen Jr.

Penske Shocks $25: Damon Paul

Ultra Shield 3rd Place: Damon Paul

Ultra Shield 6th Place: Bruce Buckwalter Jr.

Vahlco Wheels Hard Charger: Joey Amantea

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THIS ONE IS FOR BILL: DANNER CONTINUES WINNING WAYS AT GEORGETOWN

By: Nick Fillman, USAC ECSC

Georgetown, Delaware (July 23, 2021)……Allentown, PA's Briggs Danner continued his all-out assault on the Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series tour in 2021 by picking up his sixth victory of the season, and first for the team since the untimely passing of car owner Bill Gallagher.

Briggs Danner and Bruce Buckwalter Jr. led the field to the green for the first feature event of the season for the USAC East Coast Sprint Cars at the Georgetown Speedway, with Danner immediately out muscling Buckwalter for the early race lead. Danner began to open an early lead on Buckwalter and the rest of the field as the feature event settled in.

Fifth place starter Alex Bright was quickly on the move working his way to the second-place position by the completion of lap three and began his quest to reel in Danner for the race lead.

Danner was out front and setting a blistering pace at the front of the field as the entire race field was working their way around the cushion on the top of the speedway for the 25-lap feature event. Danner quickly stretched his lead to over a straightaway and began to encounter lapped traffic on lap six of the feature event. Danner began the lapping process moving through the first few cars, with Bright continuing to try his best to catch Danner.

By lap ten of the feature event, Danner and Bright had gapped themselves from the bulk of the field as Nash Ely moved into the third-place position, with a pair of 83's going at it for positions four and five. Bruce Buckwalter Jr was the victory of that battle as he had established himself into the fourth-place position with Billy Ney rounding out the top five, and Chris Allen on the tail tank of Ney for fifth.

As Danner inched ever closer to the back half of the top five, naturally the competition was much fiercer, and Danner began to struggle with lapped traffic. This allowed Bright to close nearly within the same corner as Danner for the lead just passed the halfway mark of the feature event.

On lap sixteen of twenty-five with only nine laps to go, the feature event took an eventful turn. Kevin Darling spun in turn one and two and ended up going for a backwards tumble bringing out the red flag. As the field was slowing, Alex Bright could not avoid making contact with the rear of the Troy Betts machine as they entered turn three. Bright hopped over the tail tank of Betts and went for a one revolution flip in turn three.

Bright, along with Curt Michael and the Gallagher racing team quickly sprang into action helping their most fierce competitor on the track and were able to make repairs to Bright's car and get him back on to the track.

At the time of the caution, Danner had lapped up to position number five, leaving Bright as the last car on the lead lap, but restarting at the tail end of the field. On the ensuing restart, Danner was able to pull away from the top five yet again and continue blasting the cushion to perfection. Meanwhile, Bright quickly carved through the back half of the field, and was inside the top ten, yet was in the fifth-place position.

As the laps wound down, with only five to go, Bright was able to get by Ney, and then Buckwalter and be inside the top three with a handful of laps to go. The remainder of the race went green however, and the gap that Danner had built up was too much for Bright to overcome as Briggs Danner went on to collect his sixth win of the season.

The win for Danner on Friday night was not his first of the week, as Danner collected the opening night win of 600 Micro Speedweek on Monday over fellow USAC EC Driver Tommy Kunsman in thrilling fashion. Danner and the Gallagher team were able to enjoy the moment, which was truly special as the team was elated to score yet another victory, but this time without the leader of the team in Bill Gallagher. Danner and the Gallagher team will continue their quest for the championship, along with more victories on the remainder of the USAC East Coast Series Season.

Coming home second in another career best race was Nash Ely. The third-generation driver has continued his upswing through the field over recent weeks, besting his career best on more than one occasion. Ely was within two car lengths of leader Danner with a handful of laps to go but was still not quite up to the same speed that Danner was able to put down. Ely is solidly inside the top five in points, and with his second-place effort on Friday, is establishing himself as a driver to watch for the remainder of the season.

A night of ups and downs ended on a high note for second place in points driver Alex Bright. Following a heat race victory early in the night, Bright looked to be setting himself up for another duel with Danner for the feature event victory until the accidental flip in turn three. Luckily for Bright, the immense pace that Danner was setting and lapping cars at during

the feature, allowed for Bright to salvage a great points night and actually shrink the gap on Danner for the points lead. The battle for the championship is far from over, and things are only heating up.

Bruce Buckwalter Jr came home in the fourth-place position on Friday night, besting his highest finish of the season. Buckwalter fought engine issues all night, and the car could be heard banging and popping while under speed for the entire night. Buckwalter and team think they have a slight timing issue, but issue or not, the team showed great speed on Friday night at Georgetown.

Rounding out the top five, scoring his first career top five, was Reading PA's Billy Ney. Ney could easily be described as the most energetic and excited driver in the pits on any given night during the season. The team has fought mechanical issues, and a learning curve, but have shown speed in every event they have attended this season. Potentially the fifth-place effort could be an ice breaker for the rookie driver and team and could lead to an increased number of top five finishes as the season goes on.

Up next for the Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, Presented by Capitol Renegade, is the series second trip of the year to the 4/10ths mile, high-banked oval at the Bridgeport Motorsports Park in Swedesboro, NJ on July 24th. The first event, which was the season opener for the series, ended in dramatic fashion as Briggs Danner out gunned Alex Bright for the feature win after the two traded multiple slide jobs for the lead.

As always, keep up to date with all the latest news, results, photos, and more by following along on our social media pages! On Facebook at: USAC East Coast Sprint Cars, or on Twitter at @USACecsc.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE RESULTS: July 23, 2021 – Georgetown Speedway – Georgetown, Delaware

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Alex Bright (#20 Hummer) (2), 2. Damon Paul (#57 Cicconi) (1), 3. Nash Ely (#3BC Franckowiak) (3), 4. Billy Ney (#83s Ney) (4), 5. Troy Betts (#22B Betts) (7), 6. Mike Thompson (#11 Thompson) (8), 7. David Swanson (#117 Swanson) (6), 8. Jonathan Swanson (#17J Swanson) (5). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Chris Allen Jr. (#71 Allen) (1), 2. Briggs Danner (#5G Gallagher) (2), 3. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (#83 Buckwalter) (3), 4. Kevin Darling (#9D Darling) (4), 5. Joey Amantea (#88J JPA) (5), 6. Blaine Emery (#12 Emery) (6), 7. Ricky Rutt (#57x Rutt) (7). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (1), 2. Nash Ely (3), 3. Alex Bright (5), 4. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (2), 5. Billy Ney (4), 6. Chris Allen Jr. (8), 7. Joey Amantea (10), 8. Damon Paul (7), 9. Mike Thompson (11), 10. Blaine Emery (12), 11. Jonathan Swanson (15), 12. David Swanson (13), 13. Ricky Rutt (14), 14. Troy Betts (9), 15. Kevin Darling (6). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-25 Briggs Danner.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE POINTS: 1-Briggs Danner-781, 2-Alex Bright-781, 3-Tommy Kunsman-595, 5-Nash Ely-591, 6-Damon Paul-533, 4-Steven Drevicki-523, 7-Joey Amantea-507, 8-Chris Allen Jr.-489, 10-Bruce Buckwalter Jr.-478, 10-Mike Thompson-443.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE: July 24, 2021 – Bridgeport Motorsports Park – Swedesboro, New Jersey

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

Penske Shocks $100: Briggs Danner

Penske Shocks $50: Nash Ely

Penske Shocks $25: Alex Bright

Ultra Shield 3rd Place: Alex Bright

Ultra Shield 6th Place: Chris Allen Jr.

Vahlco Wheels $50 Hard Charger: Jonathan Swanson

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BRIGHT BATTLES TO FIRST BRIDGEPORT USAC EC VICTORY

By: Nick Fillman

Swedesboro, New Jersey (July 24, 2021)……In a thrilling two car duel for the feature event victory, Alex Bright out lasted the multiple slide job attempts from Briggs Danner to collect his fifth victory of the Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, Presented by Capitol Renegade season, and first ever at the Bridgeport Motorsports Park.

After heat race action, and the redraw for the top nine drivers from the heat races was complete, Alex Bright and Mark Bitner shared the front row of the twenty-lap feature event. During the 305 sprint car feature event that was running prior to the USAC feature and based off the result of the final two heats along with the prior feature, USAC EC officials made the call to cut the feature event short by five laps. Taking the feature event from 25 to 20 in an attempt to save teams money on their tire bills for the evening.

As the field saw the initial green flag, Bright quickly escaped to the lead of the feature event. But, as quickly as the event began, it was quickly under red for the first time as David Swanson went for a series of wild flips into the first turn. Top five finisher from Friday night Billy Ney was also collected, along with Ricky Rutt. All three drivers would not return to the feature event.

Bright nailed the ensuing complete restart and worked his way out to a solid lead with the rest of the field in tow vying for positions all over the speedway. Briggs Danner quickly moved his way into the second-place position by the completion of lap two and drew his sights on the rear of Bright for the feature event lead. Damon Paul was quickly moving through the field as well utilizing the extreme top side of the speedway along with Bright and Danner.

Bright held a comfortable lead as the field drew ever closer to the halfway mark with Danner continuing to reel in Bright for the race lead. Damon Paul, Mark Bitner, and Ed Aikin were locked in a three-car battle for the fourth spot, with Allen, Buckwalter and Amantea all battling hard for positions inside the top ten.

The first caution flag of the night would fly on lap eight, as Bruce Buckwalter, Chris Allen, and Joey Amantea would all be collected in a turn one incident. Amantea and Buckwalter would suffer too much damage to continue on in the feature while Allen would continue on. Under yellow, trouble fell upon Craig Pellegrini who was running inside the top five at the time of the yellow as he would suffer a flat tire. The Hummer Motorsports team loaned a rear tire to Pellegrini to finish the feature event with multiple members different teams helped get Craig back on track.

As the field went green with twelve laps to go, the intensity only skyrocketed as Bright and Danner began to put on an absolute show. Danner threw a number of inside to outside slide job attempts on Bright for the race lead as the feature event reached the halfway mark. Each and every time Danner made his move to the bottom, Bright was able to turn the car underneath and regain the top spot in the feature. Meanwhile, Ed Aikin continued to pick off cars and found himself inside the top four of the feature event behind Bitner who had moved into third as Damon Paul would fade a bit in the feature.

Bright had opened up a few car lengths advantage over Danner and the rest of the field as they reached the five to go mark, but Danner again reeled in the Hummer Motorsports entry for the race lead. Danner would try the slider one last time inside of three laps to go, but Bright again dove under neath of Danner and regained the race lead. As those two battled for the win, Ed Aikin moved into third and dispatched Bitner who held fourth, with Nash Ely moving into the top five for the first time on the evening.

As the final two laps clicked off, Bright ended his clean sweep night by taking the checkered flags and winning his fifth feature event of the season. Danner followed Bright to the line over Aikin, Bitner, and Ely.

The win for Alex Bright was well earned and hard fought after the events that unfolded on Friday night in feature competition. Bright would get upside down while running in second, and extensive repairs were made to the car, including fresh welding, was required to get the Hummer Motorsports team back out on track. Bright also broke the streak of finishing second to Danner at Bridgeport as the prior two events had seen Danner take the win with Bright in a close second.

Briggs Danner continued to show immense speed, establishing himself as one of the top drivers in the series, along with non-wing driver in the nation. Danner recorded a win on Friday, and second on Saturday leading to him maintaining his lead in the points chase for 2021 by only twelve markers over Alex Bright.

Ed Aikin has been very strong so far on the series trail whenever he can make it to our different events. Ed has won three hard charger awards thus far, but on Saturday it was not needed as Aikin collected his heat race win, along with a great outing in the feature event. We are hoping that we will get to see Aikin run the majority of the events left on the series schedule when time allows.

Fourth place on the evening belonged to two-time USAC EC winner Mark Bitner who was making his first start of the season. Bitner looked sharp immediately as he drove from seventh to second in his heat race and nabbing a spot in the redraw. Bitner would hold strong within the top five of the feature for the entire distance and come away with a top five run. Like Aikin, hopefully we see Bitner a few more times on the series trail in 2021 before its conclusion, and, perhaps, Bitner could score another victory as he did last season at New Egypt.

Rounding out the top five continuing his impressive runs was Sinking Spring, PA driver Nash Ely. Ely recorded an impressive runner up finish on Friday night at the Georgetown speedway and backed it up with another strong performance at Bridgeport on Saturday night. The third generation driver is coming into his own behind the wheel of a sprint car, and regularly finishing inside of the top five is quickly becoming a normalcy. With his performances this weekend, and the absence of Tommy Kunsman Jr., Ely has worked his way into third place in the points standings behind Danner and Bright.

While not finishing inside the top five, Eric Jennings made start number two of the season taking his Welsowski Racing entry from the nineteenth starting spot to finish seventh when the checkered flags flew. Jennings made one other start this season at the Grandview Speedway where unfortunately he ended his night upside down in the feature. Jennings is a former series regular and showed off his skill on Saturday night at Bridgeport.

Up next for the Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, presented by Capitol Renegade, is the second ever stop for the series to the Winchester Speedway in Winchester, VA on July 31st.

As always, stay up to date with all the latest news, photos, and updates from the series by following along on our social media pages! On Facebook at: USAC East Coast Sprint Cars, and on Twitter at: @USACecsc.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE RESULTS: July 24, 2021 – Bridgeport Motorsports Park – Swedesboro, New Jersey

FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Chris Allen Jr. (#71 Allen) (2), 2. Briggs Danner (#5G Gallagher) (6), 3. Craig Pellegrini (#27 Pellegrini) (7), 4. Joey Amantea (#88J JPA) (1), 5. Richy Carnathan (#64 Carnathan) (4), 6. Ricky Rutt (#57x Rutt) (5), 7. Eric Jennings (#16cw Jennings) (3). NT

SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Ed Aikin (#7 Aikin) (4), 2. Mark Bitner (#15 Bitner) (7), 3. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (#83 Buckwalter) (3), 4. Mike Thompson (#11 Thompson) (2), 5. Billy Ney (#83s Ney) (6), 6. David Swanson (#117 Swanson) (1), 7. Jonathan Swanson (#17J Swanson) (5). NT

THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Alex Bright (#20 Hummer) (3), 2. Damon Paul (#57 Cicconi) (4), 3. Nash Ely (#3BC Franckowiak) (2), 4. Troy Betts (#22B Betts) (6), 5. Zack Burd (#5z Burd) (1), 6. Brian Spencer (#62 Spencer) (7), 7. Mike Meyers (#10m Meyers) (5). NT

FEATURE: (20 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Alex Bright (1), 2. Briggs Danner (5), 3. Ed Aikin (6), 4. Mark Bitner (2), 5. Nash Ely (9), 6. Damon Paul (7), 7. Eric Jennings (19), 8. Mike Thompson (11), 9. Chris Allen Jr. (3), 10. Troy Betts (12), 11. Jonathan Swanson (20), 12. Brian Spencer (18), 13. Zack Burd (15), 14. Craig Pellegrini (4), 15. Mike Meyers (21), 16. Richy Carnathan (13), 17. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (8), 18. Joey Amantea (10), 19. Billy Ney (14), 20. Ricky Rutt (16), 21. David Swanson (17). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-20 Alex Bright.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE POINTS: 1-Briggs Danner-871, 2-Alex Bright-859, 3-Nash Ely-655, 4-Tommy Kunsman-595, 5-Damon Paul-595, 6-Chris Allen Jr.-543, 7-Joey Amantea-539, 8-Steven Drevicki-523, 9-Bruce Buckwalter Jr.-513, 10-Mike Thompson-497.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE: July 31, 2021 – Winchester Speedway – Winchester, Virginia

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

Penske Shocks $100 Award: Alex Bright

Penske Shocks $50 Award: Briggs Danner

Penske Shocks $25 Award: Ed Aikin

Ultra Shield 4th Place: Mark Bitner

Ultra Shield 8th Place: Mike Thompson

Vahlco Wheels $50 Hard Charger: Eric Jennings (19th to 7th)

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DAMON PAUL BREAKS THROUGH FOR FIRST USAC EC WIN AT WINCHESTER

By: Nick Fillman

Winchester, Virginia (July 31, 2021)……Damon Paul of Stony Point, New York capitalized on a late race restart to move by race leader Carmen Perigo, coupled with his ever-growing confidence and speed, to collect his first ever Rapid Tire USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series Presented by Capitol Renegade victory Saturday night at Virginia's Winchester Speedway.

The 25-lap feature event was led to the green for the first time ever by rookie driver Colin White, with veteran Carmen Perigo to his outside as the field began the feature event. Perigo quickly established himself in front of the field as the cars began to battle for position, fighting for all the grip they could on the extremely slick and unique surface of the Winchester Speedway.

Quickly, eighth place starter Alex Bright moved by a handful of cars early on and found himself on the rear bumper of Briggs Danner, battling for position inside the top five of the feature event. One other driver quickly on the move was Steven Drevicki who had battled his way inside the top eight by lap four of the feature from his tenth place starting spot.

The battle for position throughout the field was intense as the preferred line of the speedway was right around the bottom of the track hugging the inside wall. The margin for error was extremely small as one small miss of a corner could allow as many as three drivers to get by a driver at any given time early on in the feature event.

Carmen Perigo held a steady lead as the field approached the halfway point of the feature with Damon Paul all over Bruce Buckwalter for second. Rounding out the top five was Briggs Danner in fourth under heavy fire from Alex Bright in fifth as both had recently passed Mike Thompson who was still right on the rear bumpers of both Bright and Danner as they battled for position.

Damon Paul utilized an extremely low line of the speedway to get underneath Bruce Buckwalter for the runner up spot on lap twelve and begin to set his sights on the rear tail tank of race leader Carmen Perigo. Briggs Danner, feeling the pressure of Bright inside the top five, made contact with the left rear of Bruce Buckwalter while trying to pass for third on lap fifteen, leaving the Gallagher Racing entry spinning to a stop in turn three and four. The ensuing restart had Perigo remaining the race leader, however the lead that he had built over the rest of the field was now gone, drawing Damon Paul to the rear of the leader Perigo. The rest of the top five following the spin by Danner would be: Buckwalter, Bright, Thompson, and in sixth, Steven Drevicki.

As the field went green with ten laps to go in the race, Damon Paul quickly dove to the bottom running an extremely low and straight line off the corners to sneak by Carmen Perigo for the race lead on lap sixteen. Paul set sail on the rest of the field as Perigo began to search around the bottom side of the speedway trying to find anything to catch up to leader Paul who was beginning to run out to a sizable lead.

While Paul stretched his legs at the front of the pack, Alex Bright drew closer and closer to the rear bumper of the 21 entry of Perigo with only a handful of laps to go. Positions inside the top five remained relatively uncontested as Buckwalter had settled into fourth, and Thompson running a solid fifth. Just outside the top five, an intense duel between Steven Drevicki and Lou Cicconi began with Cicconi utilizing a higher groove to work to the outside of Drevicki on more than one occasion. Bright had moved by Perigo for the runner up spot on lap twenty-two of the feature, just before the caution flag flew on lap twenty-three for a slowing Colin White with issues.

The restart order left Bright with a prime opportunity to pass Paul for the race lead with: Perigo, Buckwalter, Thompson, and a battle between Drevicki and Cicconi rounding out the top six of the feature event. Paul nailed the restart and put a comfortable in place over Bright and the rest of the field, with positions inside the top five again remaining mostly uncontested. As the final two laps clicked away, Paul held his lead with Bright peddling as hard as he could trying to catch the rookie driver for the race lead. Meanwhile, Cicconi had moved passed Drevicki in the battle for sixth, but the two were still a sizable distance behind race leader Damon Paul and the rest of the podium.

The final two laps were nothing but smooth sailing for the twenty-year-old driver from New York, as “The Demon” Damon Paul went on to collect his first career USAC East Coast Feature event win. Bright, Perigo, Buckwalter, and Thompson would round out the top five in what was a very diverse night of racing for the bulk of the field.

The first win for Damon Paul was something that the team was clearly on the verge of accomplishing over the last handful of events with Paul running consistently up front in heat race action and always working inside the top five of the feature event in recent weeks. For whatever reason, the team had not been able to put a complete night together and wound up with results that were not exactly conducive to how fast they had been.

Saturday night was a different story, as the team nailed the nights set up finishing second in their heat and having an extremely well handling car for the feature event. The win on Saturday night in northern Virginia was more than worth the over six-hour drive Paul and team put in on Saturday to compete, and nearly every week are among our longest haul

drivers. Saturday's win was more than deserved, and established Paul as front runner and pick to win for the remainder of the season.

Coming home in second with yet another consistent run, was Collegeville, PA's Alex Bright. Bright advanced the most positions in the feature event of redraw cars, as Bright unfortunately drew the eight pill on a track where starting position is paramount. Bright methodically worked his way to the front of the pack aboard his Hummer Motorsports entry and capitalized on the misfortune of Briggs Danner to retake the series points lead heading into our next event. As mentioned before, the points championship is far from over, and it is surely not the last time the two drivers will switch positions at the top of the points standings.

The third-place effort for Stoystown, PA driver Carmen Perigo was a bit bittersweet as the veteran driver started from the pole of the feature event, lead the first fifteen laps, and unfortunately faded a bit late in the running. Post feature in his extremely jovial way, Perigo stated he was sick of leading races at Winchester without having the victories, as last season Perigo lost the lead late in the race to Steven Drevicki and came home second. Luckily for Perigo, third time could be the charm as the series makes a return visit to the Winchester Speedway in September where Perigo again will have another shot at the win.

An up and down weekend at Georgetown and Bridgeport last week for Bruce Buckwalter Jr. was backed up with yet another solid run for the sophomore campaigner as he collected his second fourth place finish in three races. Bruce has found his stride as of late, and despite engine issues, and an unfortunate accident while running inside the top ten at Bridgeport, continues to make gains toward winning a feature event with the USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series.

Rounding out the top five with an impressive run was third generation driver Mike Thompson. Mike has been splitting his time between wingless 360 racing with the USAC East Coast Sprint cars and running winged with the URC 360 sprint cars.

Thompson admittedly has a bit more affection for the wingless side of sprint car racing, and like many other drivers on tour this season, has continually improved as the year has progressed. Thompson battled early on for the heat race victory in heat two before relinquishing the lead and second to Briggs Danner and Damon Paul, but the young driver had one of his best runs of the season in the feature event and came home with a very respectable fifth place run.

While not finishing inside the top five, the efforts of three driver were more than worth noting on Saturday night. Lou Cicconi, Steven Drevicki, and Kenny Miller lll all had their own unique story line on Saturday night, in what was a very competitive and diverse top ten run down.

Finishing sixth was longtime open wheel veteran Lou Cicconi Jr. who won the battle for the position after multiple laps side by side with Steven Drevicki. The start on Saturday for Lou was his first since the series made a stop at the Bedford Speedway in May. Saturday night was also the debut of a brand-new X-1 Chassis for Cicconi. The new combo appeared to have worked as Cicconi came away with a season high sixth, in addition to being the winning car owner with Damon Paul. A great night for the Cicconi Racing team.

Seventh place belonged to three-time champion Steven Drevicki. While the result may not be a stellar one, or what we're accustomed to seeing from the Reading, PA driver, it was a step in the right direction for Drevicki in what has been a challenging season. Drevicki has suffered bad luck, flips, and freak accidents all throughout the 2021 season. While Drevicki's primary car is still away getting worked on, 410 Car owner Greg Fitzpatrick allowed Drevicki to take their car to Winchester with Drevicki's 360 engine on Saturday. Drevicki and team made progress in the feature event and came away with a respectable top ten run.

Finally in eighth and collecting the Vahlco Wheels Hard Charger Award coming from sixteenth to eight, was Kenny Miller lll. Miller who is not a full time series regular in 2021 due to Internship commitments, has poked around here and there throughout the season attending races when they can. Miller was battling for a redraw spot in his heat race before suffering a flat tire, rendering him with a DNF in the heat. Miller started deep and passed cars on a very difficult track. A sign of the talent and speed that Miller is capable of producing whenever their entry rolls through the pit gates.

Next up for the USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series is a double header weekend alongside two different USAC National Touring series. Friday August 6th at the Bloomsburg Fair Grounds the series will make its first ever stop, alongside the NOS Energy, USAC National Midget Series. From there, the tour rolls on to the third and final stop of the year to the Selinsgrove Speedway on August 8th alongside the stars and cars of the USAC Silver Crown Series in a very unique pairing for the second season in a row.

As always, stay up to date with the latest photos, news, updates, and much more by following along with our social media pages! On Twitter at @USACecsc, and on Facebook at USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE RESULTS: July 31, 2021 – Winchester Speedway – Winchester, Virginia

FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Alex Bright (#20 Hummer) (2), 2. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (#83 Buckwalter) (1), 3. Colin White (#32 Neiger-Hamilton) (6), 4. Mike Meyers (#10m Meyers) (3), 5. Jason Cherry (#67 Cherry) (4), 6. Lou Cicconi Jr. (#75 Cicconi) (8), 7. Ed Aikin (#7 Aikin) (5), 8. Nash Ely (#3BC Franckowiak) (7), 9. Tom Savage (#38s Savage) (9). NT

SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (#5G Gallagher) (4), 2. Damon Paul (#57 Cicconi) (3), 3. Mike Thompson (#11 Thompson) (2), 4. Carmen Perigo (#21 Stehman) (7), 5. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki) (5), 6. Joey Amantea (#88J JPA) (1), 7. Troy Fraker (#12w Fraker) (8), 8. Kenny Miller III (#23m Miller) (6). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Damon Paul (6), 2. Alex Bright (8), 3. Carmen Perigo (2), 4. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (4), 5. Mike Thompson (3), 6. Lou Cicconi Jr. (11), 7. Steven Drevicki (10), 8. Kenny Miller III (16), 9. Briggs Danner (5), 10. Joey Amantea (12), 11. Mike Meyers (7), 12. Ed Aikin (13), 13. Jason Cherry (9), 14. Tom Savage (17), 15. Troy Fraker (14), 16. Colin White (1), 17. Nash Ely (15). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-15 Carmen Perigo, Laps 16-25 Damon Paul.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE POINTS: 1-Alex Bright-934, 2-Briggs Danner-925, 3-Nash Ely-685, 4-Damon Paul-672, 5-Tommy Kunsman-595, 6-Joey Amantea-585, 7-Bruce Buckwalter Jr.-581, 8-Steven Drevicki-579, 9-Mike Thompson-561, 10-Chris Allen Jr.-543.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE: August 6, 2021 – Bloomsburg Fair Raceway – Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

Penske Shocks $100 Winner: Damon Paul

Penske Shocks $50 Winner: Alex Bright

Penske Shocks $25 Winner: Carmen Perigo

Ultra Shield 3rd Place: Carmen Perigo

Ultra Shield 6th Place: Lou Cicconi Jr.

Vahlco Wheels Hard Charger: Kenny Miller lll (16th to 8th)

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DANNER'S LATE SURGE NETS USAC EC WIN AT BLOOMSBURG

By: Nick Fillman – USAC ECSC

Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania (August 6, 2021)……Allentown, Pa. driver Briggs Danner added another winning performance to his resume with the USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series by passing veteran driver Carmen Perigo late in the feature event to collect his seventh feature event victory of the 2021 season.

The front row of the thirty-lap feature event featured invader driver Justin Grant, and crafty veteran Carmen Perigo Jr side by side leading us to the green flag. On the initial start, Grant had a superb start taking the lead over a hungry Perigo who stayed right on the rear of the Cicconi Racing 75 entry. Grant held a small lead over grant as the laps began to be added into the record book for series competition. Briggs Danner was already on the move early in the stages of the feature moving into the top three by the completion of lap four.

The first yellow flag of the feature flew in turns three and four as race leader Justin Grant began to set himself up for turn four and began to over-rotate the car on lap six. Second place Carmen Perigo Jr tagged the rear of the 75 car and sent Grant for a 360 spin in turn four. Grant per all USAC Series rules would start at the rear of the field for the feature. Unfortunately, Grant would not return to the rear of the field and would drop out of the feature event.

Perigo lead the field to green on the ensuing restart of the feature with Danner glued to the rear bumper of the 21 machine with Damon Paul, Tommy Kunsman, and Alex Bright rounding out the top five. As laps continued to get put into the record books Alex Bright had worked his way into fifth from his ninth place starting spot, with Damon Paul working his way into third. The first half of the field were all glued to the cushion of the Bloomsburg Fairgrounds as the field began to encounter lapped traffic, who at the time were staying to the bottom side of the speedway. The second caution of the evening would fly on lap fourteen as Nash Ely would get together with Jason Cherry and both drivers would stop in turn three.

The restart around the halfway mark of the feature event had Perigo remaining the leader over: Danner, Paul, Kunsman, Bright and Steven Drevicki. On the restart, Danner stayed right with Perigo for the race lead drawing alongside in turn one, with Perigo standing on the gas and retaking the race lead off turn two. While the top two began to battle for the lead, Alex Bright moved by Tommy Kunsman for fourth and started his quest for the final podium spot on last week's winner Damon Paul.

By lap twenty-three of the feature, Perigo and Danner began to trade the top spot back and forth with Perigo coming out on top of the battle to start. The lead duo also began to encounter lapped traffic again as the laps dwindled in the thirty-lap main. Damon Paul continued to be under pressure from Alex Bright for third, with the rest of the top six spots remaining relatively calm.

Perigo continued to lead the feature with Danner remaining right on the bumper of the veteran driver. Perigo made a dazzling move into turns one and two splitting lapped cars to hit the cushion and get at bit of breathing room over Danner for a lap or two. Ultimately, Danner would draw alongside leader Perigo on lap twenty-six, with Danner moving into the race lead on lap twenty-seven. From there on, it was smooth sailing as Briggs Danner picked up his seventh, Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, presented by Capitol Custom Trails feature event of the season. Carmen Perigo, Damon Paul, Alex Bright, and Tommy Kunsman rounded out the top five.

The win on Friday for Danner was a bit of redemption for the outstanding rookie driver, as last week at Winchester was a bit of a disappointing outing for the team following a mistake running inside the top three. Danner and the Gallagher Racing team lead by Curt Michael had a great set up in the 5G for Friday's main event allowing Danner to utilize the high line, and the low line when needed in the feature event. Despite the feature win, the team remains just two points behind Hummer Motorsports and Alex Bright for the series points lead heading into Sunday's event at the Selinsgrove Speedway.

Carmen Perigo and finishing second after leading the majority of the feature event laps, is a tune that Perigo and team are beginning to get sick of. Perigo has led multiple features over the existence of the USAC East Coast Series but has yet to seal the deal and end up in victory lane. As always, despite the success, and understandable disappointment of running second, the jovial Perigo simply laughed and stated "Were going to win one of these sometime" as the team loaded up to

make the trip back to Stoystown, PA. Look for Perigo to be behind the wheel of the teams Silver Crown series entry on Sunday where they will look to repeat a top five effort from last season.

Damon Paul continued to prove that the speed he and the Cicconi Racing team have found over the last few weeks is no joke. Coming off a big win at the Winchester Speedway on Saturday, the team again had a great outing with Paul holding off points leader Alex Bright for the final spot on the podium, which is no easy feat with the immense speed that Bright has shown thus far. Look for Paul to continue to contend for more victories as the rest of the season continues.

Fourth place ended up belonging to series points leader Alex Bright, after a hard-fought battle with Damon Paul. Bright being one of two drivers to compete in both the midget and sprint car on Friday, had a busy night switching back and forth between the two cars all night. The Hummer Motorsports team with Crew Chief Brian Zyck, had yet another impressive run on Friday rebounding to fourth from their ninth place redraw spot earning them the hard charger honors for Friday night.

Rounding out the top five was Bethlehem, PA driver Tommy Kunsman Jr. Kunsman missed the last three events on the schedule due to prior racing commitments but looked like he didn't miss a beat on Friday night competing with the series best inside the top five all night long. Kunsman has remained inside the top five in points throughout the season and has continually been knocking at the door of his first career win. Kunsman and team will keep up the hard work as they continue to look for their first career victory.

Up next for the USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series is the third and final trip of the year to the Selinsgrove Speedway on August 8th, alongside the USAC Silver Crown Series in a unique non-winged double.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE RESULTS: August 6, 2021 – Bloomsburg Fair Raceway – Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Carmen Perigo (#21 Stehman) (1), 2. Alex Bright (#20 Hummer) (4), 3. Justin Grant (#75 Cicconi) (7), 4. Richy Carnathan (#64 Carnathan) (2), 5. Eric Jennings (#16cw Jennings) (3), 6. Billy Ney (#83s Ney) (5), 7. Colin White (#32 Neiger-Hamilton) (6), 8. Troy Fraker (#12w Fraker) (8). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (#5G Gallagher) (3), 2. Tommy Kunsman (#21K Kunsman) (8), 3. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki) (5), 4. Kenny Miller III (#23m Miller) (6), 5. Ed Aikin (#7 Aikin) (4), 6. Mike Thompson (#11 Thompson) (7), 7. Jason Cherry (#67 Cherry) (1), 8. David Swanson (#117 Swanson) (2). NT

THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Christian Bruno (#17 Bruno) (2), 2. Damon Paul (#57 Cicconi) (7), 3. Nash Ely (#3BC Franckowiak) (5), 4. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (#83 Buckwalter) (6), 5. Jonathan Swanson (#17J Swanson) (4), 6. Joey Amantea (#88J JPA) (3), 7. Jacob Balliet (#22B Betts) (1). NT

SEMI: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Colin White (4), 2. Joey Amantea (3), 3. Billy Ney (1), 4. Mike Thompson (2), 5. Jacob Balliet (6), 6. Jason Cherry (5), 7. Troy Fraker (7), 8. David Swanson (8). NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (5), 2. Carmen Perigo (2), 3. Damon Paul (6), 4. Alex Bright (9), 5. Tommy Kunsman (4), 6. Steven Drevicki (8), 7. Christian Bruno (7), 8. Kenny Miller III (11), 9. Eric Jennings (13), 10. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (12), 11. Nash Ely (3), 12. Colin White (16), 13. Richy Carnathan (10), 14. Ed Aikin (14), 15. Joey Amantea (17), 16. Jonathan Swanson (15), 17. Mike Thompson (19), 18. Billy Ney (18), 19. Jacob Balliet (20), 20. Jason Cherry (21), 21. Troy Fraker (22), 22. Justin Grant (1), 23. David Swanson (23). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-5 Justin Grant, Laps 6-26 Carmen Perigo, Laps 27-30 Briggs Danner.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE POINTS: 1-Alex Bright-1005, 2-Briggs Danner-1003, 3-Damon Paul-740, 4-Nash Ely-732, 5-Tommy Kunsman-660, 6-Steven Drevicki-640, 7-Bruce Buckwalter Jr.-629, 8-Joey Amantea-621, 9-Mike Thompson-593, 10-Chris Allen Jr.-543.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE: August 8, 2021 – Selinsgrove Speedway – Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

Penske Shocks $100: Briggs Danner

Penske Shocks $50: Carmen Perigo

Penske Shocks $25: Damon Paul

Ultra Shield 3rd Place: Damon Paul

Ultra Shield 6th Place: Steven Drevicki

Vahlco Wheels Hard Charger $50: Alex Bright (9th to 4th)

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BRIGHT SURVIVES LATE RACE DRAMA FOR SECOND SELINSGROVE VICTORY

By: Nick Fillman, USAC ECSC

Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania (August 8, 2021)……In a truly wild series of late race events, Alex Bright of Collegeville, PA survived the drama and won his sixth event of the 2021 USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series. Bright also notched his second victory at the speedway in a total of five non-winged sprint car starts at the fast half-mile.

At the conclusion of three action packed heat races, an extremely interesting redraw for the feature event would result in arguable the fastest four cars in the pit area starting in positions seven through ten. Ed Aikin and Eric Jennings would be the two drivers at the head of the pack coming to the green flag, with Aikin getting the best of Jennings on the initial start of the event. However, by the conclusion of lap number two as the field made their way through turns one and two, Damon Paul had assumed the race lead over Aikin before the caution flag would fly as Michael Walter went for a spin entering turn one.

The ensuing restart early in the feature event saw Paul move out to a slight advantage over Aikin and the rest of the field, with series front runners quickly moving up from the mid-pack starting positions they had. By the end of the third lap, Alex Bright had worked his way from seventh to second and begin to reel in leader Paul. At the conclusion of the fifth lap, Bright motored by Paul for the feature event lead, with Briggs Danner working his way into the third position from ninth.

As the top three began to settle for the time being, series invader Shane Cottle began making his way toward the moving into the sixth-place position as the field neared the ten-lap mark. Bright had established himself as the race leader, with Danner moving into second by lap eight, setting his sights on the tail tank of Bright as the field began to move in closer and closer on the back half of the field.

Nearing the halfway point of the feature event, Bright and Danner raced nose to tail through lapped traffic, with Paul holding strong in third, and Shane Cottle moving into the fourth-place position passing Steven Drevicki. While field worked their way around the speedway on lap fifteen, Jonathan Swanson came to a stop on the front stretch entering turn one,

setting up a ten-lap dash to the finish. Bright was the race leader, but narrowly as Danner was nearly hooked to Bright as the two worked lapped traffic. Paul held on to third, with Cottle and Drevicki rounding out the top five.

The restart was not a good one for Bright as Danner timed it perfectly and threw a dive-bomb slider into turn one. However, Danner was not as far ahead as needed to assume the race lead, with Bright barley having enough room to blast around the outside of Danner to retain the lead.

Meanwhile, another two-car battle raged on behind Bright and Danner with Damon Paul and Shane Cottle throwing sliders and crossover moves on each other multiple times over the next two to three laps for position three and four. As the front four battled side beside on the restart, so too did positions five and six, as Nash Ely moved by Steven Drevicki to take over spot number five and try to reel in the lead four.

Bright remained the leader as the laps wound down, however, Briggs Danner was absolutely blistering the cushion around the high side of the speedway bouncing off the wall in turn three on more than one occasion while quickly reeling Bright in for the lead.

The duo who has dominated the season so far ran nose to tail as laps continued count down, and time for Danner to make a move quickly evaporated. As the leaders came off turn four, Danner got the run he was looking for and dove down under Bright to take the lead, with Bright pushing up almost into the wall on the cushion. As they worked their way into turn three, Danner again dove to the bottom to protect the slide job attempt from Bright, but the cushion that had been forgiving laps before was not so kind on the final circuit. Danner caught the cushion hard and went for a series of tumbles through the turn coming to rest in turn four. Luckily, Danner was ok and able to walk away from the vicious crash.

With a green, white, checkered finish on the horizon, Bright moved out to the race lead with Paul holding onto second. The most action remained between Shane Cottle, and Nash Ely who utilized a series of slide jobs to battle side by side with Cottle for third, with the crafty veteran Shane Cottle coming out on top. As the field worked off turn four for the final time, the Hummer Motorsports entry for Alex Bright began to slow. A series of loud pops and bangs erupted from the headers, and Damon Paul quickly caught Bright as they raced toward the line. Bright had just enough power in the car to hang on for the win with Paul coming home in a close second, Cottle third, Ely in fourth, and Drevicki rounding out the top five.

The win for Bright and the Hummer Motorsports team was much needed after Briggs Danner nabbed another win on Friday at Bloomsburg. The win for Bright has put him back into the series points lead by twenty-nine markers over Danner, after entering the night of action trailing Danner by one. Unfortunately for the Hummer Motorsports team, their wingless 360 engine has seen better days and suffered some mechanical failure. Bright and the Hummer Motorsports team will drop their spare engine in the car and return to another track where he and Danner have each won in our next event at the Bridgeport Motorsports Park.

Continually impressing both drivers and fans on the series trail week after week, is Stony Point, NY rookie driver Damon Paul. Paul and the Lou Cicconi Racing team had a strong run at Bridgeport, followed by a win at Winchester, a third at Bloomsburg, and a runner up at Selinsgrove. Paul celebrated a birthday on Sunday at Selinsgrove and nearly stole the win for what would have been an incredible birthday gift. However, it was not to be, and the team finished a strong second and have now worked their way into the third-place position in points behind Bright and Danner.

Third place belonged to series invader Shane Cottle of Kansas, IL. The veteran sprint car, midget, and silver crown ace was back behind the wheel of the Tim Hogue 39 machine following a successful Eastern Storm in June. Cottle lost out on the battle for the third and final redraw spot in his heat race to Damon Paul, and the two battled hard for position in the feature event as well. Caution laps helped Cottle and team well as they had fallen back some in the early stages of the feature. In the end, the Hogue Racing team was rewarded with a successful run, and some momentum heading into their next event with the series at Bridgeport with Billy Pauch Jr. behind the wheel.

After suffering an engine failure at Winchester two weeks ago and getting into an issue with a lapped car on Friday night, third generation driver Nash Ely found himself back in the top five of a USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series event with a strong fourth place run. Ely has found great deal of success on the bigger half mile tracks, with his season best runner-up

coming at the fast banks of the Georgetown Speedway just a few weeks ago. Ely is one of the multitude of impressive rookies that are racing with the series this season and continues to knock on the door of his first career win.

Rounding out the top five with another solid run since returning to the series, was three-time champion Steven Drevicki. Since returning to action last week at the Winchester Speedway, Drevicki has improved his position in the finishing order by one. A seventh-place effort at Winchester, followed by a sixth at Bloomsburg on Friday, and now a fifth place run at Selinsgrove.

While the three-time champ is certainly not at the speed he wants to be, the comfort is starting to return after a long break due to crashes, and an out of town work schedule. While Drevicki is still not back in the family owned 19 car, the added comfort with 410 car owner Greg Stevens with surely help the pair as they venture out to the Midwest in the coming weeks for more 410 National Sprint Car Series action.

The night unfortunately featured a violent and scary flip for rookie driver Briggs Danner. Luckily, the car and safety equipment did its job allowing Danner to walk away from the incident virtually unscathed. The Gallagher Racing team has already made their intentions known and will have another car prepped and ready to go for our next event at the Bridgeport Speedway on August 18th.

Up next for the Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, presented by Capitol Renegade, is our third of five stops to the Bridgeport Motorsports Park on August 18th, where our second scheduled “Best of Both Worlds” shows will take place as the series will be accompanied by the URC Winged 360’s. From there, the series makes our second visit to the Bedford Speedway on August 20th, before moving to the Port Royal Speedway on August 21st. The previously announced rescheduled date at the Bloomsburg Fairgrounds on August 22nd, has been cancelled.

As always stay up to date with all the latest series news, results, photos and more by following along on our social media pages! On Facebook at: USAC East Coast Sprint Cars, and on Twitter at: @USACecsc.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE RESULTS: August 8, 2021 – Selinsgrove Speedway – Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki) (1), 2. Alex Bright (#20 Hummer) (6), 3. Damon Paul (#57 Cicconi) (3), 4. Shane Cottle (#39 Hogue) (4), 5. Nash Ely (#3BC Franckowiak) (5), 6. Mike Thompson (#11 Thompson) (7), 7. Billy Ney (#83s Ney) (2), 8. Tom Savage (#38s Savage) (8). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (#5G Gallagher) (8), 2. Ed Aikin (#7 Aikin) (2), 3. Jonathan Swanson (#17J Swanson) (7), 4. Joey Amantea (#88J JPA) (6), 5. Michael Walter (#33w Walter) (5), 6. Troy Fraker (#12w Fraker) (1), 7. Jason Cherry (#67 Cherry) (3). NT

THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Christian Bruno (#17 Bruno) (4), 2. Colin White (#32 Neiger-Hamilton) (2), 3. Eric Jennings (#16cw Jennings) (1), 4. Tommy Kunsman (#21K Kunsman) (3), 5. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (#83 Buckwalter) (6), 6. J.R. Berry (#74JR Berry) (7), 7. David Swanson (#117 Swanson) (5). NT

ALSO AT THE TRACK: Justin Grant (#75 Cicconi)

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Alex Bright (7), 2. Damon Paul (4), 3. Shane Cottle (10), 4. Nash Ely (13), 5. Steven Drevicki (8), 6. Tommy Kunsman (12), 7. Ed Aikin (1), 8. Eric Jennings (2), 9. Colin White (3), 10. Mike Thompson (16), 11. Joey Amantea (11), 12. Briggs Danner (9), 13. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (15), 14. Michael Walter (14), 15. David Swanson (21), 16. Jason Cherry (20), 17. Tom Savage (22), 18. J.R. Berry (18), 19. Christian Bruno (5), 20. Jonathan Swanson (6), 21. Troy Fraker (17), 22. Billy Ney (19). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Lap 1 Ed Aikin, Laps 2-5 Damon Paul, Laps 6-25 Alex Bright.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE POINTS: 1-Alex Bright-1079, 2-Briggs Danner-1050, 3-Damon Paul-816, 4-Nash Ely-797, 5-Tommy Kunsman-720, 6-Steven Drevicki-706, 7-Bruce Buckwalter Jr.-670, 8-Joey Amantea-667, 9-Mike Thompson-639, 10-Ed Aikin-556.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE: August 18, 2021 – Bridgeport Motorsports Park – Swedesboro, New Jersey

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

Penske Shocks $100 Award: Alex Bright

Penske Shocks $50 Award: Damon Paul

Penske Shocks $25 Award: Shane Cottle

Ultra Shield 4th Place: Nash Ely

Ultra Shield 8th Place: Eric Jennings

Vahlco Wheels $50 Hard Charger: Nash Ely (13th to 4th)

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BRIGHT DOMINATES FOR BEDFORD USAC EAST COAST VICTORY

By: Nick Fillman, USAC ECSC

Bedford, Pennsylvania (August 20, 2021)……Alex Bright collected his seventh feature event of the 2021 Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, presented by Capitol Renegade on Friday night, in dominating fashion to continue to add to his point lead, and draw even in the win column with closest competitor Briggs Danner.

The field was led to the green flag on the 25-lap feature event by Tommy Kunsman and Billy Ney by way of the redraw following heat race competition. On the opening lap of the feature event, Damon Paul dove to the inside of the speedway from his third place starting spot but made contact with the tail tank of Tommy Kunsman. From there, a parking lot style crash ensued, with over half of the field being collected in the middle of turns one and two. The biggest sufferers of the incident were Paul, Kunsman, and Steven Drevicki who unfortunately went for another flip aboard the family owned 19 car that was making its return to USAC East Coast competition.

The ensuing restart saw quite a shakeup at the front of the field as: Kenny Miler lll would now be the pole sitter over: Bright, Ely, Amantea, Allen, Fraker, and Aidan Borden. As the green flag flew, Miller took control of the race lead for the opening circuit, before Alex Bright would move by Miller for the race lead on lap two. Briggs Danner had moved his way into the third-place position by the completion of lap two from his now ninth place starting spot before the second incident of the feature event.

On lap two, Chris Allen Jr., who was also making his return to the series, made heavy contact with the guardrail of the speedway in turns one and two. Following the night's action, it was discovered that a bolt had come loose and fallen out of the steering box causing the incident to occur.

When the field went back green on lap three, Bright established himself firmly in the race lead with Miller in second, Ely third, Danner fourth and Amantea rounding out the top five. At the conclusion of lap four, following a slider into turns three and four, Danner moved by Ely for the third spot and began his hunt of second place runner Kenny Miller.

The field remained relatively unchanged for the remaining cars on the speedway with Bright out front, Miller in second holding off Danner, Ely fourth, and Amantea rounding out the top five, until the lap ten mark of the feature. Danner would move by Miller for the runner up spot, with Amantea also moving up a position into fourth getting passed Ely.

The field would run another handful of laps in that same order, but around the lap fourteen mark, Bright nearly threw the race away as he overshot the corner a bit and slid over the cushion in turns one and two nearly hitting the wall. Luckily, Bright maintained the car and never made contact with the wall.

Bright continued to immensely stretch his race lead with Danner in second, Miller third, and Amantea holding onto fourth with Ely quickly gaining and rounding out the top five. As the field neared the five to go mark, Ely made his move entering turns three and four and moved by Amantea to retake the fourth-place position in the feature event.

While the laps continued to tick away, and Bright began to lap into the top five of the feature event, Danner was trying his best to keep some kind of pace with the leader Bright who had over a straight away lead. Danner made a mistake entering turn one with a couple of laps to go, and made significant contact with sixth place running Bruce Buckwalter, sending the car airborne, grazing the wall, and luckily coming back down on all fours.

The final two laps clicked away in a blur as Bright continued his incredible pace and went on his way to collect his seventh feature event win of the season, and his first career at the Bedford Speedway. Despite the contact with Buckwalter, Danner came home second, with Miller, Ely, and Amantea rounding out the top five.

Alex Bright and the Hummer Motorsports team have now gone back-to-back in the last two events of the season collecting victories at the half miles of Selinsgrove and Bedford. Despite the apparent primary engine issues last week at Selinsgrove, Bright explained that the engine is more or less fine and will return between the frame rails soon. The spare engine, however, proved to be nothing less than the primary as it helped elevate Bright to his seventh win of the season drawing him into a tie with Briggs Danner. The feature win for Bright also added to his points lead, heading into the Port Royal Speedway where Bright is a two-time winner in two starts.

Following a violent crash at the Selinsgrove Speedway two weeks ago, Briggs Danner and the Gallagher Racing team rebounded with a solid finish on Friday night at Bedford. The team was in their back up car and faced a new set of challenges to try and get this car to run the same as the primary had all season long. Things appeared to be fine as Danner looked up to his usual self, pounding the cushion and trying to reel in Bright for a shot at the feature event win. Despite coming up short, the return to action, and knowing the car has speed, will certainly help the rookie driver as he continues his quest to become the 2021 points champion.

Third place went to two-time feature winner in 2020 Kenny Miller lll who looked strong in his return to the series after last competing at the Bloomsburg Speedway. Miller has been hit and miss so far in 2021 as he was busy completing his internship for college during the bulk of the summer months. Miller has completed his tasks, and we should see more of the talented Morgantown, PA driver as the season winds down. Miller picked up a heat race win and ran solidly inside the top three keeping pace with Bright and Danner. Look for Miller to have a great chance of finding victory lane again in series action before the conclusion of the season.

Nash Ely continued his success on the half miles of the East Coast picking up another solid run inside the top five. Ely and Amantea were really the show of the top five as they battled hard for fourth and fifth. Ely ultimately came out on top of the battle and nabbed his fifth top five of the season. Of those five top-fives, only one of them has come at a track that is not a half mile in length. Ely has certainly adapted well to the series, and the big tracks in his budding career.

Joey Amantea rounded out the top five grabbing his third top five of the season. Amantea and team decided to bring what is more or less a brand-new car to the track on Friday night, utilizing the teams normal winged 360 car for competition at Bedford. Amantea must’ve found something he liked in the car as he was fast all night and wound up with the hard charge of the feature event. A welcome finish for the team as they have had some struggles in recent weeks.

Next up for the Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, presented by Capitol Renegade is the fourth ever trip of the series, and second of 2021 to the "Speed Palace" of the Port Royal Speedway. The series will be involved in a sprint car dominated program alongside the 410 sprint cars and the 305 sprint cars on Saturday August 21st.

As always, stay up to date with the latest news, results, photos, points, and much more by following along with the series social media pages! On Facebook at: USAC East Coast Sprint Cars, or on Twitter at: @USACecsc.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE RESULTS: August 20, 2021 – Bedford Speedway – Bedford, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Kenny Miller III (#23m Miller) (1), 2. Nash Ely (#3BC Franckowiak) (5), 3. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki) (7), 4. Billy Ney (#83s Ney) (2), 5. Mike Thompson (#11 Thompson) (4), 6. Joey Amantea (#88J JPA) (6), 7. Troy Fraker (#12w Fraker) (8), 8. Aidan Borden (#7B Borden) (3). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Alex Bright (#20 Hummer) (4), 2. Briggs Danner (#5G Gallagher) (5), 3. Tommy Kunsman (#21K Kunsman) (2), 4. Damon Paul (#57 Cicconi) (3), 5. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (#83 Buckwalter) (6), 6. Chris Allen Jr. (#2 Allen) (7), 7. Christian Bruno (#17 Bruno) (1). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Alex Bright (6), 2. Briggs Danner (7), 3. Kenny Miller III (5), 4. Nash Ely (8), 5. Joey Amantea (11), 6. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (10), 7. Mike Thompson (9), 8. Troy Fraker (13), 9. Aidan Borden (15), 10. Chris Allen Jr. (12), 11. Billy Ney (2), 12. Christian Bruno (14), 13. Tommy Kunsman (1), 14. Damon Paul (3), 15. Steven Drevicki (4). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Lap 1 Kenny Miller III, Laps 2-25 Alex Bright.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE POINTS: 1-Alex Bright-1157, 2-Briggs Danner-1124, 3-Nash Ely-865, 4-Damon Paul-856, 5-Tommy Kunsman-763, 6-Steven Drevicki-745, 7-Bruce Buckwalter Jr.-729, 8-Joey Amantea-728, 9-Mike Thompson-695, 10-Kenny Miller III-598.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE: August 21, 2021 – Port Royal Speedway – Port Royal, Pennsylvania

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

Penske Shocks $100 Award: Alex Bright

Penske Shocks $50 Award: Briggs Danner

Penske Shocks $25 Award: Kenny Miller lll

Ultra Shield 3rd Place: Kenny Miller lll

Ultra Shield 6th Place: Bruce Buckwalter Jr

Vahlco Wheels Hard Charger: Joey Amantea

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PORT ROYAL EAST COAST SPRINTS BELONG TO DANNER

By: Nick Fillman, USAC ECSC

Port Royal, Pennsylvania (August 21, 2021)……One night after the season total for wins was drawn even at seven, Allentown, PA's, Briggs Danner collected his eighth win of the 2021 Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, presented by Capitol Renegade season holding off point leader Alex Bright.

A strong contingent of twenty-three non-winged 360 sprint cars entered the pit area at the Port Royal Speedway for the series second event of the 2021 season at "The Speed Palace." With the winged 410 sprint cars and winged 305 sprint cars also on the card as a part of the third annual "Open Wheel Madness" program, exactly 100 sprint cars were in the pit area for Saturday's program.

Following three strong heat races, Christian Bruno and Briggs Danner would redraw at the front of the field for the nights twenty-five lap feature event. Series points leader Alex Bright, and recent feature winner Damon Paul would share the honors for the worst redraw positions starting eighth and ninth, respectively.

As the green flag flew, Danner immediately shot to the high side of the speedway and took the top spot away from Bruno and began to establish his lead in the feature event. The quickest car on the move however would be Alex Bright, as he followed in the tire tracks of Danner blasting the high side moving into the fourth-place position by the completion of lap one and moving into second by lap three.

While Danner held the lead, with Bright quickly moving by cars and finding himself into the second-place position by lap five, plenty of positions were up for grabs at the back half of the top ten as Ed Aikin Eric Jennings, Tommy Kunsman, and seventeenth starting Nash Ely were quickly trading positions. Meanwhile, Danner had established a comfortable lead, but it was beginning to evaporate as Bright was maintaining pace with the leader Danner.

Around lap ten of the feature event, Bright had moved within ten car-lengths of Danner as the top two were quickly moving in on lapped traffic. Christian Bruno held a comfortable gap in third, with Kenny Miller fourth, and a dog fight for fifth between Aikin, Jennings, and Kunsman with Jennings holding onto fifth. On lap fourteen of the feature event, with the leaders in lapped traffic, Alex Bright was all over Danner for the lead and threw a series of massive slide job attempts on Danner for the race lead. Danner, however, had the perfect answer for every attempt by Bright and drove underneath of the sliders to remain in the lead.

With under ten laps to go, Danner had remained out front with Bright settling into second, but not out of reach. Bruno and Miller remained in third and fourth, with Jennings also holding off the challenges of Kunsman for fifth. The top five would remain in that order, while outside of the top five, Nash Ely was continuing his way through the field and found himself solidly inside the top ten and looking fast enough to challenge for a top five position.

With each passing lap, Danner found himself deeper and deeper into lapped traffic with Bright hot on the heels of Danner for the race lead. Interestingly enough, Bright clearly had a faster car and line on the exit of turn two setting him up for a potential pass into turn three, while Danner had a much better car and line on the exit of turn four, allowing the two to remain in a stalemate for the race lead. At the completion of lap twenty-three as the cars went into turn three and four, the run off of turn two for Bright allowed him to dip beneath and draw alongside Danner for the race lead. However, at that same time, Jermain Godshall slowed with issues on the front stretch halting the battle for the lead and setting up a two-lap dash to the finish.

Danner absolutely nailed the restart, while Bright had an extremely bad restart from either a stumble in the engine, spinning tires, or, perhaps, being surprised by the launch Danner got off the turn. The slow restart of Bright allowed a good deal of passing to occur from the fourth spot on back, with Kenny Miller being on the worst end of the restart falling from fourth to sixth. Bruno held the third spot, with Tommy Kunsman blistering through the middle lane of the speedway into the fourth-place position from sixth on the restart.

Try as he might, pounding the cushion against the high side of the speedway, Alex Bright was not able to regain the ground on Danner needed for a last lap pass as Danner went on to score win number eight of the season. Bright would have to settle for second with Bruno, Kunsman, and Eric Jennings rounding out the top five.

The win for Danner at Port Royal may have been the eight of the season for the Gallagher Racing team, but it was Danner's first victory, in only his second start in a sprint car at Port Royal. In the immense point battle between Danner and Bright that has ensued the whole season, it is sometimes easy to forget that Danner is in his rookie season. Following the flip at Selinsgrove two weeks ago, Danner rebounded with a second on Friday and a win on Saturday, closing the gap from thirty-three points, back down to thirty for the series points lead.

Alex Bright and the Hummer Motorsports team have no doubt had great success all season long. But no matter the speed all season, no race is as important as the next one. While the team may have come away with virtually the same results as Danner this weekend, just on different days, the ability for the Hummer Motorsports group to maintain their points lead in the season long championship is the biggest picture. Danner and Bright have not seen the last of each other in terms of battling for the lead in feature events, and the points race shows no signs of slowing down as the season move along.

Christian Bruno continued his consistent speed over his last four events while the results in all four may not show it. Bruno has collected three heat race wins in the last four events (Bloomsburg, Selinsgrove, and Port Royal) and matched his season best effort of third again on Saturday at Port Royal. Bruno was one of the only cars to be able to utilize the bottom and top of the speedway throughout the feature event and held off a strong top ten of cars to end up on the podium. Bruno joins a list of at least six other drivers who are just close enough to potentially grab a feature event win at any moment throughout the rest of the season.

Rebounding from the lap one accident of the feature on Friday night at the Bedford Speedway was Tommy Kunsman. Kunsman was involved in the heaviest competition of the evening for almost all the feature event, getting the best of the bunched field on the one and only restart of the feature event. Kunsman remains inside the top five in points despite missing a couple of events. Look for Kunsman and team to continue to work toward grabbing a feature event win through the rest of the season.

Rounding out the top five was former series regular Eric Jennings. Jennings and owner Charles Weslowski have been a great paring so far during the 2021 season and have been making more appearances with the series in recent weeks. With the exception of flipping and finishing 20th at Grandview in May, Jennings has finished inside the top ten of all the feature events the team has entered so far in 2021. Given the strong competition on any given night inside the top ten of the field, it is certainly impressive how comfortable the pairing has been. Hopefully, Jennings and Weslowski continue their success throughout the rest of the season and make a few more starts with the series in 2022.

Up next for the Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, presented by Capitol Renegade, is a return to the "First State" and the Delaware International Speedway on September 4th. The Saturday night program is also Team Appreciation Night for all series teams and crews. Following the stop at DIS, the series will make stop two of the season to the Winchester Speedway on September 11th, before returning to the Bridgeport Speedway on September 24th to wrap up the month.

As always, for all the latest news, updates, photos, points and more, follow along on our social media pages! On Facebook at: USAC East Coast Sprint Cars, or on Twitter at: @USACecsc.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE RESULTS: August 21, 2021 – Port Royal Speedway – Port Royal, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Tommy Kunsman (#21K Kunsman) (5), 2. Damon Paul (#57 Cicconi) (3), 3. Alex Bright (#20 Hummer) (7), 4. Richy Carnathan (#64 Carnathan) (1), 5. Joey Amantea (#88J JPA) (8), 6. Tom Savage (#38s Savage) (2), 7. Billy Ney (#83s Ney) (4), 8. Aidan Borden (#7B Borden) (6). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Christian Bruno (#17 Bruno) (1), 2. Eric Jennings (#16cw Jennings) (2), 3. Kenny Miller III (#23m Miller) (4), 4. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (#83 Buckwalter) (3), 5.

Colin White (#32 Neiger-Hamilton) (7), 6. Nash Ely (#3BC Franckowiak) (8), 7. Jason Cherry (#67 Cherry) (6), 8. David Swanson (#117 Swanson) (5). NT

THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Mark Bitner (#15 Bitner) (1), 2. Ed Aikin (#7 Aikin) (4), 3. Briggs Danner (#5G Gallagher) (7), 4. Mike Thompson (#11 Thompson) (3), 5. Jermain Godshall (#56 Van Dusen) (2), 6. Troy Fraker (#12w Fraker) (5), 7. Jonathan Swanson (#17J Swanson) (6). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (2), 2. Alex Bright (8), 3. Christian Bruno (1), 4. Tommy Kunsman (7), 5. Eric Jennings (6), 6. Kenny Miller III (4), 7. Nash Ely (17), 8. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (11), 9. Ed Aikin (3), 10. Mike Thompson (12), 11. Mark Bitner (5), 12. Damon Paul (9), 13. Colin White (14), 14. Aidan Borden (22), 15. Richy Carnathan (10), 16. Tom Savage (16), 17. Jason Cherry (20), 18. Troy Fraker (18), 19. David Swanson (23), 20. Jermain Godshall (15), 21. Billy Ney (19), 22. Jonathan Swanson (21). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Lap 1-25 Briggs Danner.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE POINTS: 1-Alex Bright-1230, 2-Briggs Danner-1200, 3-Nash Ely-920, 4-Damon Paul-902, 5-Tommy Kunsman-832, 6-Bruce Buckwalter Jr.-783, 7-Steven Drevicki-745, 8-Mike Thompson-743, 9-Joey Amantea-732, 10-Kenny Miller III-659.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE: September 4, 2021 – Delaware International Speedway

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

Penske Shocks $100 Award: Briggs Danner

Penske Shocks $50 Award: Alex Bright

Penske Shocks $25 Award: Christian Bruno

Ultra Shield Award: Tommy Kunsman

Ultra Shield Award: Bruce Buckwalter

Vahlco Wheels Hard Charger: Nash Ely (17th to 7th)

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BRIGHT CLAIMS 8TH EAST COAST WIN AT DELAWARE INT'L

By: Nick Fillman – USAC ECSC

Delmar, Delaware (September 4, 2021).....For the eighth time on the 2021 Rapid Tire USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series presented by Capitol Renegade trail, Alex Bright of Collegeville, PA claimed the checkered flag at the conclusion of the twenty-five lap main event, doing so once again on Saturday night at Delaware International Speedway.

Allentown, PA's Briggs Danner and Mount Pocono, PA's Joey Amantea led the field to green for the initial start of the future event, with Amantea getting a bit of a big jump over Danner leading to a no start call. The second attempt to get the feature rolling went much smoother with Danner and Amantea drag racing to the line for the lead, and into turn one.

Things continued on being smooth until the middle of turns three and four when sixth starting Damon Paul went for a spin. Paul's car spinning ended up collecting Colin White who went for a series of small tumbles and also collected Jonathan Swanson and Aiden Borden who both suffered no damage in the accident.

Third time was the charm as the field finally got underway for round eighteen of USAC East Coast Competition. Briggs Danner grabbed the early lead with Kenny Miller lll quickly moving into second, with Alex Bright in third. Early on, Danner and Bright went directly to the top of the speedway where they are both most comfortable, with Miller digging away on the bottom where he has been known to run, and the line that afforded him his first ever feature win last season at the Delaware International Speedway.

Three time series champion Steven Drevicki had worked his way into the top five by using the inside line of the speedway as well, while Chris Allen joined Danner and Bright on the high side on both ends of the speedway. Amantea began to fall a bit and found himself running in the sixth-place position in the top half of the feature event.

Bright, using the topside would be able to work around Miller for second and being his charge after race leader Briggs Danner, who had established a lead of just a few car lengths. Miller kept digging away on the bottom in third with Drevicki draped all over the tail tank of Miler. The lead cars were utilizing the high side of the speedway in turns one and two, with the majority of the field then diving to the bottom in three and four.

Danner maintained the lead with Bright in second but drawing ever closer to the leader as Danner was having difficulty entering turn three and four on the bottom side. Miller and Drevicki continued to battle for third and fourth, with Allen remaining on the high side of the speedway trying everything he could to reel in the top four as the field approached lap ten. Bright made a big move to the inside of Danner as lap ten was scored and tried to take the race lead away, but the momentum of the high side carried Danner around Bright for the lead.

The second caution flag of the feature event flew on lap ten as Joey Amantea made contact with the inside barriers breaking the front end on the 88J entry ending a strong run for the rookie driver.

The field would go back to green with just fifteen laps remaining, an all-out dash for the feature win around the half mile at Delaware International. Danner was the leader over Bright, Miller, Drevicki, and Allen. The battle for sixth through eight was about to kick off with Buckwalter, Betts, and Nash Ely all trying to get inside the top five as well.

When the green flag flew, Bright nailed the restart and quickly dove to the inside of Danner as they entered turn one, pulling off the massive slide job and getting the race lead as the duo exited corner number two. As the field raced down the back stretch, Kenny Miller III drew alongside Danner for second, and at the completion of lap eleven, Bright was the leader with Miller in second, Danner third, Drevicki fourth and Allen fifth.

On the next circuit of the speedway, Danner utilized the high line in one and two, to blast back by Miller for second, and close the door on him as they entered turn number three.

With the short amount of laps remaining, and continuing to click off, drivers all over the speedway began making as many moves as they could to improve their position. As the field neared the ten to go mark, Bright had established a massive lead over Danner, Drevicki and Miller fought tooth and nail for a number of laps before Drevicki, utilizing the high side in turn one, moved by Miller for third. Miller held fourth with Allen pedaling hard in fifth. The best battles on the track were the three-car fight for sixth through eighth, and a two-car duel for ninth and tenth.

Bruce Buckwalter Jr., Troy Betts, and 14th starting Nash Ely were swapping positions every lap with Buckwalter on the bottom, Betts ripping the cushion, and Ely utilizing all three lanes to try and find his way by the cars in front of him. Behind them but closing in on the three-car fight in front of them, was a tooth and nail battle between sixteenth starting Ed Aikin and Mike Thompson.

Aikin rolled around the bottom of the speedway with Thompson up top on the cushion making up ground just as he had been in his heat race. The battle between the six cars at the back half of the top ten was more than intense with the positions changing back and forth nearly every lap as the feature neared its conclusion.

Bright had absolutely no problems getting through lapped traffic and had opened a straightaway lead over Danner. Danner remained in second with a good-sized gap over Drevicki, Miller, and Allen. Buckwalter continued to hold off the challenges of Betts and Ely, with Aikin getting the best of Thompson. Damon Paul, who had to start at the rear of the field following

his lap one spin had worked his way into eleventh and was trying to catch Aikin and Thompson for the top ten, but he would run out of time to get the job done.

As the checkered flag flew, Alex Bright cruised to his eighth win of the season, drawing him even with Danner once again for season long win totals, Danner, Drevicki, Miller, and Allen would be the top five. On the last lap of the feature event, Bruce Buckwalter didn't quite get into turn three as hard as he wanted, allowing Troy Betts to get by for sixth. Buckwalter held off Ely for seventh, with Aikin grabbing ninth besting Thompson in their own duel for position.

Coming off a successful trip to the Kokomo Speedway Smackdown last week, Alex Bright picked up right where he left off in USAC East Coast competition. Bright grabbed the heat race win and got the best of Danner for yet another feature win. Unfortunately for Bright, his points lead only grew by three points, as the duo who have been the best of the season have finished in positions one or two the last three events in a row. The points gap for Bright is now at 33 points over Danner with just five races remaining on the series trail.

Briggs Danner has been nothing but impressive this season, racking up wins and podium finishes all season long. But what may be the most astonishing part of the whole season, is the fact that many of the tracks on the series trial Danner has either never seen before or never run on before in any kind of car.

That was the case on Saturday at Delaware International, but just as the rest of the season has gone, you'd hardly know it was the teenager's first time on the speedway. Danner collected an impressive heat win from the ninth place starting position and redrew the pole for the feature event. Danner did everything he could to grab another feature win, and chip away at the point lead of Bright, but came up just a bit short on Saturday night.

Steven Drevicki was the second driver from the series to head west to Kokomo last week, and while the trip may not have been the results they were looking for, running with the best in the nation certainly any driver and their program. Following a flip two weeks ago at Bedford, Drevicki was back in the Fitzpatrick team 19 car, his usual ride for 410 sprint car competition. Drevicki has shown speed in all events they have run with the car, continually improving his finishing positions, resulting with a podium run on Saturday night. While this season is certainly on the downside for the Drevicki racing team, they have shown a good deal of speed in many of the events run this season.

Morgantown, PA's Kenny Miller III has been a welcome addition back to the field since the completion of his summer internship, and the sophomore driver has certainly not missed a beat behind the wheel of a sprint car, immediately getting into the top five since returning. Miller notched his first ever sprint car win last season at the Delaware International Speedway and was looking to repeat that effort on Saturday.

When it comes to running the bottom lane of any track on tour, Miller is just about as good as they get, with Saturday night being no different. Miller utilized the bottom to perfection, getting second away from Danner, before fading some in the late stages of the feature event. If the top five and podium runs continue for Miller, there's a very strong chance he could end up back in victory lane with the USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series.

Rounding out the top five with a great effort was Old Bridge, N.J.'s Chris Allen Jr. Allen has had an up and down year and hasn't been full time with the series as in prior years. Allen ran the teams back up car two weeks ago at the Bedford Speedway, and an unfortunate parts failure sent him into the turn one wall leaving the car with heavy damage. Luckily, that weekend Allen and team picked up their primary Maxim Chassis 71 car from its frame repair, and it made its return to series action Saturday at Delaware International. Allen ran strong all night, coming home in fifth in the team's first race back with the primary car.

While the team has not graced victory lane yet this season, they continue to be right on the doorstep of getting career win number two. With only five races left on the series trail this season, time is running out, but with the primary car back in action, the team can break through and grab their first win of the season.

Up next for the Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, presented by Capitol Renegade, is the second of two visits to the Winchester Speedway in Winchester, Virginia. Saturday's show will be another show featuring $300 to start thanks to sponsor E. Schneider and Sons Inc.

As always, follow along with the USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series on our social media pages! On Twitter at: @USACecsc, or on Facebook at: USAC East Coast Sprint Cars.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE RESULTS: September 4, 2021 – Delaware International Speedway – Delmar, Delaware

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (#5G Gallagher) (9), 2. Damon Paul (#57 Cicconi) (8), 3. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (#83 Buckwalter) (1), 4. Chris Allen Jr. (#71 Allen) (6), 5. Troy Betts (#22B Betts) (7), 6. Colin White (#32 Neiger-Hamilton) (4), 7. Billy Ney (#83s Ney) (10), 8. Jonathan Swanson (#17J Swanson) (3), 9. Jermain Godshall (#56 Van Dusen) (2), 10. Jason Cherry (#67 Cherry) (5). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Alex Bright (#20 Hummer) (1), 2. Joey Amantea (#88J JPA) (2), 3. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki) (6), 4. Kenny Miller III (#23m Miller) (9), 5. Mike Thompson (#11 Thompson) (10), 6. David Swanson (#117 Swanson) (3), 7. Nash Ely (#3BC Franckowiak) (5), 8. Ed Aikin (#7 Aikin) (7), 9. Aidan Borden (#7B Borden) (8), 10. Craig Pellegrini (#27 Pellegrini) (4). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Alex Bright (4), 2. Briggs Danner (1), 3. Steven Drevicki (7), 4. Kenny Miller III (3), 5. Chris Allen Jr. (5), 6. Troy Betts (9), 7. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (8), 8. Nash Ely (14), 9. Ed Aikin (16), 10. Mike Thompson (10), 11. Damon Paul (6), 12. Billy Ney (13), 13. David Swanson (12), 14. Jonathan Swanson (15), 15. Aidan Borden (18), 16. Craig Pellegrini (20), 17. Jason Cherry (19), 18. Jermain Godshall (17), 19. Joey Amantea (2), 20. Colin White (11). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Lap 1-10 Briggs Danner, Laps 11-20 Alex Bright.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE POINTS: 1-Alex Bright-1308, 2-Briggs Danner-1275, 3-Nash Ely-971, 4-Damon Paul-950, 5-Bruce Buckwalter Jr.-841, 6-Tommy Kunsman-832, 7-Steven Drevicki-815, 8-Mike Thompson-790, 9-Joey Amantea-764, 10-Kenny Miller III-725.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE: September 25, 2021 – Bridgeport Motorsports Park – Swedesboro, New Jersey

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

Penske Shocks $100 Award: Alex Bright

Penske Shocks $50 Award: Briggs Danner

Penske Shocks $25 Award: Steven Drevicki

Ultra Shield 4th Place: Kenny Miller lll

Ultra Shield 6th Place: Troy Betts

Vahlco Wheels Hard Charger: Ed Aikin (16th to 9th)

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BRIGHT EXTENDS POINT LEAD WITH 9TH USAC EC WIN

By: Nick Fillman

Winchester, Virginia (September 11, 2021)……At the conclusion of twenty-five hard fought laps, Alex Bright of Collegeville, PA was able to collect his ninth win of the season in dramatic fashion over Carmen Perigo and continue to add to his points lead on the 2021 Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, Presented by Capitol Renegade.

Following heat race action, and the redraw for the top eight starting positions in the feature event field, Bruce Buckwalter Jr who is continuing to develop as a sprint car driver, and Alex Bright would lead the field to green for the twenty-five lap feature event at the Winchester Speedway.

The initial green flag of the feature event immediately saw bright make his move around the outside of Buckwalter to take the lead for the feature event. Bright worked the middle lane of the very slick, and technical surface of the Winchester Speedway, with Buckwalter on the bottom as the field completed the first pair of laps.

The car that was most noticeably on the move was veteran driver Carmen Perigo Jr who was picking off cars lap by lap, quickly finding himself in the third-place position by the completion of lap four. Perigo was utilizing the extreme high side of the speedway to work his way up, and was catching the lead duo in rapid fashion, with Perigo moving into the runner up position by the conclusion of lap six.

Bright was the leader in front of the field with Perigo glued to the tail tank, as they completed laps with Bright running the middle, and Perigo on the high side blocking the runs of Perigo lap after lap. Buckwalter was solidly in third, with Drevicki holding a steady fourth. The most intense battle on track outside of the battle for the lead was between Eric Jennings, Kenny Miller lll and Joey Amantea early on, who remained three wide and trading positions at the back half of the top ten for numerous laps with Jennings holding onto fifth as the field reached the halfway point.

Carmen Perigo appeared to have a much faster car than Bright while continuing to run the outside lane of the track but simply would run out of room as the duo would come off the turns onto the straightaways. The two would be virtually inseparable, clicking off laps and quickly finding less than ten laps to go. Meanwhile, the battle for fifth through eighth remained even more intense as fifteenth starting Colin White entered the battle for the top five, ad would secure that honor on lap sixteen. Jennings, Amantea, and Miller continued to battle with no position outside of fifth being safe.

On lap seventeen of the feature event Perigo finally got the run he was looking for and got around Bright for the race lead at the line heading into turn one. Bright was able to pull the slide job in the middle of turns one and two and break the momentum of Perigo around the high side of the speedway and take the lead back as they made their way down the back straightaway.

Perigo continued to give Bright everything he could with no contact being made between the lead duo as the laps continued to wind down. Ultimately Perigo would not have enough to get back by Bright for the lead as Alex Bright would go on to score his ninth win of the season. Perigo had to settle for second, with Buckwalter a strong third, Drevicki and a hard charging Colin White rounding out the top five.

What else could be said about Alex Bright and the Hummer Motorsports team on the 2021 Series trail? They have been lights out suffering only one DNF, and that was due to an accident battling inside the top five at Action Track USA. With the win on Saturday night at the Winchester Speedway, and a rare off night for Briggs Danner, Bright has extended his points lead to the largest it has been all season long with a 73-point advantage over Danner with five races remaining. While the gap may be at its biggest point of the season, anything can happen in racing, and five races is more than enough time for Danner to mount a charge back for the points lead.

Coming home in second yet again was veteran driver Carmen Perigo Jr. Perigo has been the most consistent of any driver in the series at the Winchester Speedway nearly picking up the win last season in the series debut losing the lead on the last lap to Steven Drevicki. Perigo finished third after leading early in July and was the bridesmaid yet again on Saturday night.

In addition to the runner up effort on Saturday, Perigo nearly collected the win at the Bloomsburg Fairgrounds over Briggs Danner, adding to the many chances Perigo has had to find victory lane. Perigo has been busy this season and recently

completed a pair of runs in Illinois with the USAC Silver Crown series as well. Perigo may not be a regular competitor with the series, but one thing is certain, every time the 21 car enters the pit area, they are a threat for the win.

Bruce Buckwalter is in his sophomore season of sprint car racing, and this season has been improving consistently week after week. Buckwalter has usually found himself just outside the top five many times during the 2021 season, but Saturday night a well-earned podium finish was afforded to the Buckwalter team. Buckwalter has been fast both times the series has been to Winchester, where he is noticeably comfortable as Buckwalter has experience in an ARDC Midget, and it shows.

Steven Drevicki found himself inside the top five yet again and has begun to find a rhythm that is more of what is expected of the three-time champion. This season has been full of ups and downs for Drevicki and team, but over the last two weeks they have stabilized and finished solidly inside the top five. Drevicki is still piloting what is his normal 410 powered car rather than the family's 360 car, but the increased comfort should help Drevicki as they prepare to head back to the mid-west in two weeks to the Gas City Speedway and Eldora Speedway.

Rounding out the top five with a very impressive run was 2021 Series rookie Colin White. Colin had a very strong run going in the series' first stop to the Winchester Speedway in July, but it was unfortunately cut short due to engine issues aboard the Hamilton Racing 32. White was making big moves in his heat race but grabbed a piece of the wall with the tail tank of his entry and fell all the way back to the eighth-place spot in his heat.

By way of the deep heat race finish, he would start fifteenth in the feature event and methodically worked his way from the back to the front of the field in the feature. White used all three lines on track, low, middle and high to pass cars, and with the benefit of a caution, may have advanced even further in the top five and competed for the win. A strong and impressive run for the talented rookie driver.

Coming home in sixth just outside the top five, but worthy of a shoutout was Bloomingburg, NY driver Eric Jennings. Jennings made the long haul down to Virginia bringing his crate powered car along, instead of his usual ride aboard the Weslowski 16cw entry. While being down on horsepower, Jennings held his own in the slick and came away with a near top five effort on Saturday night.

Up next for the Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, Presented by Capitol Renegade is the third stop of the season to the always entertaining Bridgeport Motorsports Park as a part of Danny Serrano weekend on September 25th. Follow along with the series and all our news, photos, and other updates on Twitter at: @USACecsc, and on Facebook at: USAC East Coast Sprint Cars.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE RESULTS: September 11, 2021 – Winchester Speedway – Winchester, Virginia

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Nash Ely (#3BC Franckowiak) (2), 2. Kenny Miller III (#23m Miller) (8), 3. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki) (7), 4. Eric Jennings (#14 Pinkurous) (1), 5. Jason Cherry (#67 Cherry) (6), 6. Damon Paul (#57 Cicconi) (3), 7. Briggs Danner (#5G Gallagher) (5), 8. Colin White (#32 Neiger-Hamilton) (4). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Carmen Perigo (#21 Stehman) (2), 2. Alex Bright (#20 Hummer) (3), 3. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (#83 Buckwalter) (1), 4. Joey Amantea (#88J JPA) (8), 5. Ed Aikin (#7 Aikin) (6), 6. Tom Savage (#38s Savage) (7), 7. Billy Ney (#83s Ney) (5). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Alex Bright (2), 2. Carmen Perigo (6), 3. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (1), 4. Steven Drevicki (4), 5. Colin White (15), 6. Eric Jennings (8), 7. Joey Amantea (3), 8. Kenny Miller III (7), 9. Christian Bruno (12), 10. Ed Aikin (10), 11. Nash Ely (#3BC Franckowiak) (5), 12. Jason Cherry (9), 13. Damon Paul (11), 14. Briggs Danner (13), 15. Tom Savage (14), 16. Billy Ney (16). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Lap 1-16 Alex Bright, Lap 17 Carmen Perigo, Laps 18-25 Alex Bright.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE POINTS: 1-Alex Bright-1385, 2-Briggs Danner-1312, 3-Nash Ely-1020, 4-Damon Paul-990, 5-Bruce Buckwalter Jr.-911, 6-Steven Drevicki-882, 7-Tommy Kunsman-832, 8-Joey Amantea-821, 9-Mike Thompson-790, 10-Kenny Miller III-781.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE: September 25, 2021 – Bridgeport Motorsports Park – Swedesboro, New Jersey

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

Penske Shocks $100 Award: Alex Bright

Penske Shocks $50 Award: Carmen Perigo

Penske Shocks $25 Award: Bruce Buckwalter Jr.

Ultra Shield 3rd Place: Bruce Buckwalter Jr.

Ultra Shield 6th Place: Eric Jennings

Vahlco Wheels Hard Charger $50 award: Colin White (15th to 5th)

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WILD USAC EAST COAST BRIDGEPORT FEATURE FALLS TO BRIGHT

By: Nick Fillman – USAC ECSC

Swedesboro, New Jersey (September 25, 2021) .....After surviving a barrage of late cautions, balding tires, and a rapidly dissipating fuel supply, Alex Bright was able to make his car last and collect his tenth win of the 2021 Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, presented by Capitol Renegade Season.

Following three extremely entertaining heat races, and the feature redraw, Ed Aikin, and Rookie driver, Brian Spencer shared the front row for the 25-lap feature event. Aikin was able to get the initial jump on the field, with Damon Paul, Briggs Danner, and Alex Bright hot on the heels of the veteran driver vying for the race lead.

Aikin collected the first two circuits of the feature event, before Damon Paul moved his way by Aikin, and staying ahead of Danner as the trio were three-wide for the race lead for more than an entire lap. Shortly as the field worked by and completed lap three, another rookie driver, Shea Wills went for a spin in turn one and two bringing out the first caution flag of the feature event.

With Paul leading the field back to green, Danner was quickly trying to make his move as the two traded a set of slide jobs for the feature event lead with Danner taking the lead of the feature event on lap five. Behind them, Christopher Allen was flying around the extreme bottom lane of the speedway picking off cars left and right moving into the third-place position with, Aikin and Alex Bright rounding out the top five.

Outside of the top five, battles remained intense with Mark Bitner, Nash Ely, Joey Amantea, and Colin White in an intense four car battle at the back half of the top ten. Impressive rookie Colin White separated himself from the battle and reeled in Alex Bright for fifth and began to pressure the multi time feature winner and current points leader for the final spot in the top five.

The troubles for Shea Wills in his series debut continued on lap nine as he slowed to a stop in turn one and two and drew the second caution flag of the feature event. The restart saw Danner out front, and his sizable lead now gone with Damon

Paul, Chris Allen, Ed Aikin, Alex Bright, and a hard charging Colin White being the top six with sixteen laps to go in the feature event.

On the ensuing restart, many drivers continued to battle for position on the extreme bottom, and extreme top side of the speedway trying to gain as many positions as they could as it appeared that the track was beginning to show signs of taking rubber.

The caution flag was displayed for the third time on lap thirteen of the feature event, as Lee Kauffman, who was making his return to the series, went for a spin in turn one and two. Unfortunately for Kauffman a broken steering box ended his night.

With just under half of the race completed, Danner remained out front with, Paul, Allen, Bright, and White the top six. The lead six cars continued to run hard for position, but with rubber coming in on the speedway around the exact middle lane of the speedway, passing was at a premium with a narrow strip to work with.

The fourth caution flag of the event was displayed on lap seventeen as Joey Amantea spun to a stop on the back stretch after contacting Nash Ely, as he, Ely, Mark Bitner, and Christian Bruno were putting on the best battle on track with the foursome trading positions back and forth with slider after slider for position before the caution flag flew.

Danner remained the leader on the restart with Paul in second, Bright now moving into third on the completion of lap eighteen, Allen, and Aikin who remained under heavy fire from Colin White for fifth.

As the field completed lap twenty, the caution flag yet again was brought out as Nash Ely had contacted another driver, folding the front end of the 3BC entry leaving him unable to control the car, and collecting Bruce Buckwalter on the front stretch in an accident that could have been much worse than it was. Ely's night was done, with Buckwalter being able to push back off to finish the feature event.

Danner faced another restart with five laps to go with Paul still in second, but a now hard charging Alex Bright who was noticeably in tire conservation mode, setting his eyes on the race lead and race leader Briggs Danner.

As the green flew, Bright made quick work of Paul for second and rapidly drew closer to Danner. With two laps to go, Bright was all over the rear of race leader Briggs Danner trying to find the best place to make his move for the lead. As the leaders took the white flag, the yellow was quickly displayed as David Swanson slowed to a stop on the exit of turn two. While the field came to the caution, the right rear tire on race leader Briggs Danner had gone completely flat, forcing Danner to the pits, leaving Bright with the race lead for the Green-White-Checkered finish.

Bright nailed the restart putting distance between himself and Paul, with Allen, Aikin, and now Colin White inside the top five, still trying his best to get by Aikin for fourth. The leader, Bright, took the white flag on lap twenty-four, but unfortunately Eric Jennings slowed with problems, and Briggs Danner would contact the right rear of Jennings car sending him into the air, before the car slammed to a stop at the exit of turn four, setting up another Green-White-Checkered finish.

Bright lead the field to the final restart of the feature event with Paul, Allen, Aikin, White, and now Christian Bruno rounding out the top six with all drivers trying to make their tires and fuel last for the final two laps of the feature event.

This time there would be no more cautions as Alex Bright went on to collect his tenth win of the 2021 season. A strong run for Damon Paul in second, with Allen, Aikin, and Christian Bruno grabbing fifth in turn four as Colin White blew a right rear and was unable to hang onto his top five position.

What more can be said about Alex Bright and the Hummer Motorsports team this season that hasn't already been said? One finish outside of the top five in feature results, winning four out of the last five, impressive starts with the USAC National Series, and so much more. The consistency of Bright and the Hummer team is second to none, but it takes more than a team's consistency to win. Sometimes, luck must play into it, and a bit did on Saturday night with the unfortunate ending for Danner and team.

The tenth win for Bright, coupled with his heat race win, now leaves Bright with a 110-point lead over Danner for the season championship with only four races remaining, the largest gap that either driver has seen all season long. With only four races remaining, perhaps Danner can mount a charge, but the Bright and team show no signs of slowing down.

A strong second place effort for Stony Point, NY driver Damon Paul on Saturday night was a welcome sight. The Cicconi Racing team had been in a bit of a slump with four consecutive finishes outside the top ten. Paul was strong all night, finishing second to Bright in his heat race, and running a smooth and consistent feature event and being rewarded with a second-place effort that put Paul back into the third-place spot in points.

Chris Allen Jr. has not been a full time regular with the series this season as in years past, which is understandable with a busy off-track life in purchasing a house, getting married, have left Allen with a full plate in 2021. But each and every team the team unloads in the pit area they're just as fast as ever. The team, like always, seems to find even more speed when they are racing in their home state of New Jersey. Allen was involved in one of the most entertaining heats of the night trading sliders with Ed Aikin and Briggs Danner and was extremely fast in the feature event working the bottom side of the speedway to nab his fifth top five of the year.

Ed Aikin is usually known for his hard charging runs through the field in USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series feature events, but when it comes to racing at the Bridgeport Speedway, Aikin is usually found at the front of the field. Starting on the front row of the feature, leading a couple of laps, and standing strong with the front of the field left Aikin with his third top five finish, second at Bridgeport, and tenth top ten of the season. Aikin is just on the outside of the top ten in points for the season, and with a few more runs in the top half of the field, could see himself crack the top ten and make championship pay out at the conclusion of the season.

Rounding out the top five in his first ever start at the Bridgeport Speedway was Deptford, NJ's Christian Bruno. Bruno is another driver who has not been full-time this season but has unloaded fast at nearly every event the team has shown up to. Bruno ran a smooth and steady feature event, which is the moniker of the young and upcoming driver in everything he drives. Bruno was involved in some intense battles for position throughout the feature event, and with the unfortunate flat for Colin White, pounced on the position and came away with his fourth top five of the season.

The heartbreak of the night award without a doubt, belongs to newly dubbed "Hollywood" Colin White. White made one of the most impressive moves of the season in his heat race to grab the heat two win making a move to the outside of Nash Ely where it appeared there was no room for a car.

White was fast all throughout the feature event tirelessly working over the rear end of Ed Aikin's car for a spot in the top five. White had finally established himself in the fourth-place position going into the final lap, before the right rear tire gave out as the field was exiting turn four coming to the checkers. White has been extremely impressive in his debut season in a sprint car, and we certainly hope White and team return next season for a chance to improve even further.

Up next for the Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, Presented by Capitol Renegade is stop number two of the year to the always entertaining Georgetown Speedway on Friday, October 1st for a $2, 000 to win, $300 to start show. Heat races at Georgetown will pay $100 to win, including a $100 hard charger award as well thanks to Heather A. Long, Attorney at Law, Specializing in Personal Injury Cases.

Follow along on our social media pages for all the latest news, photos, updates and much more! On Facebook at: USAC East Coast Sprint Cars, and on Twitter at: @USACecsc.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE RESULTS: September 25, 2021 – Bridgeport Motorsports Park – Swedesboro, New Jersey

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Alex Bright (#20 Hummer) (6), 2. Damon Paul (#57 Cicconi) (4), 3. Brian Spencer (#62 Spencer) (7), 4. Larry Drake (#8 Drake) (1), 5. David Swanson (#117 Swanson) (3), 6. Ken Nealis (#00 Nealis) (2), 7. Lee Kauffman (#96 Kauffman) (5), 8. Jason Cherry (#67 Cherry) (8). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Colin White (#32 Neiger-Hamilton) (1), 2. Nash Ely (#3BC Franckowiak) (2), 3. Joey Amantea (#88J JPA) (4), 4. Mark Bitner (#15 Bitner) (6), 5. Christian Bruno (#17 Bruno) (5), 6. Aidan Borden (#7B Borden) (3), 7. Shea Wills (#07 Womer) (7), 8. Jonathan Swanson (#17J Swanson) (8). NT

THIRD HEAT: (8 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (#5G Gallagher) (7), 2. Ed Aikin (#7 Aikin) (1), 3. Chris Allen Jr. (#71 Allen) (4), 4. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (#83 Buckwalter) (5), 5. Eric Jennings (#16cw Jennings) (6), 6. Jermain Godshall (#56 Van Dusen) (2), 7. Heidi Hedin (#3H Hedin) (3), 8. Al Cheney (#73 Cheney) (8). NT

SEMI: (12 laps, top-7 transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Aidan Borden (2), 2. Jonathan Swanson (8), 3. Shea Wills (5), 4. Jason Cherry (7), 5. Heidi Hedin (6), 6. Al Cheney (9), 7. Lee Kauffman (4), 8. Ken Nealis (1), 9. Jermain Godshall (3). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Alex Bright (4), 2. Damon Paul (3), 3. Chris Allen Jr. (7), 4. Ed Aikin (1), 5. Christian Bruno (14), 6. Mark Bitner (11), 7. Jonathan Swanson (17), 8. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (12), 9. Larry Drake (10), 10. Jason Cherry (19), 11. Al Cheney (21), 12. Heidi Hedin (20), 13. Brian Spencer (2), 14. Colin White (5), 15. Briggs Danner (6), 16. Eric Jennings (15), 17. Aidan Borden (16), 18. David Swanson (13), 19. Nash Ely (9), 20. Joey Amantea (8), 21. Lee Kauffman (22), 22. Shea Wills (18). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Lap 1-2 Ed Aikin, Laps 3-4 Damon Paul, Laps 5-23 Briggs Danner, Laps 24-25 Alex Bright.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE POINTS: 1-Alex Bright-1463, 2-Briggs Danner-1353, 3-Damon Paul-1064, 4-Nash Ely-1052, 5-Bruce Buckwalter Jr.-965, 6-Steven Drevicki-882, 7-Joey Amantea-850, 8-Tommy Kunsman-832, 9-Mike Thompson-790, 10-Kenny Miller III-781.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE: October 1, 2021 – Georgetown Speedway – Georgetown, Delaware

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

Penske Shocks $100: Alex Bright

Penske Shocks $50: Damon Paul

Penske Shocks $25: Chris Allen

Ultra Shield 3rd Place: Chris Allen

Ultra Shield 6th Place: Mark Bitner

Vahlco Wheels Hard Charger: Jonathan Swanson (17th to 7th)

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LATE RACE DRAMATICS LEAD TO 11TH USAC EC WIN FOR BRIGHT

Nick Fillman – USAC East Coast Sprint Cars

Georgetown, Delaware (October 1, 2021)……Utilizing a late race green-white-checkered finish to pass feature event leader Chris Allen Jr., Alex Bright of Collegeville, PA was able to secure the win in round number twenty-one of Rapid Tire,

USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series competition for his 11th win on the season, adding to his points lead at the head of the field with only three races to go.

Bruce Buckwalter Jr and Ed Aikin would lead the field to green for the 25-lap feature event at the Georgetown Speedway on what was a very challenging and technical track not usual of the Delaware oval. As the field took the green flag and worked their way through turns one and two Damon Paul would tag the back of Bruce Buckwalter Jr. turning him almost all the way around and bringing out the caution. The caution flag, however, was actually displayed for a false start on the green, which would allow Buckwalter to re-take his spot at the head of the field for the second attempt at the start.

Take two of the feature event start went to plan as the field took the green flag and stormed into turn one and two. Ed Aikin quickly jumped into the race lead with Chris Allen Jr. following in the tire tracks of Aikin for the race lead with Buckwalter around the bottom side of the speedway and losing positions fast.

Aikin held the race lead early on with Allen in second, Brian Spencer and Damon Paul battled for third and fourth early with Steven Drevicki closing in on that battle from his fifth-place position. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. ultimately had engine issues under the hood of the 83 machine and would head pit-side by the completion of lap three.

Ed Aikin held off the advances of Chris Allen Jr. as long as he could, before Allen would get a big run off the high side of turn one and two, moving to the outside of Aikin for the lead down the back straightaway, and taking control of the feature event at the completion of lap six. Meanwhile, Drevicki had worked his way into the third-place position, with Alex Bright quickly closing in on the top five early on.

Bright continued his march through the field from the eighth place starting position after drawing the worst number of the redraw. Bright worked his way by Damon Paul, then Drevicki, and found himself into the third-place position by the completion of lap ten. Kenny Miller lll was following directly in the footsteps of Bright and worked his way into the top five by lap twelve as he was charging through the field from his twelfth place starting position.

Alex Bright made his move in lapped traffic around the outside of Ed Aikin for the second-place position on lap fifteen and set his sights on the tail tank of race leader Chris Allen, who had built his lead up to a full straight away. Bright held on to second with Kenny Miller making a daring move around the outside of Drevicki and Aikin for third while working through lapped traffic.

Outside of the top four a multi-car battle ensued with Aikin, Paul, Billy Pauch Jr, Christian Bruno, and dead last starter Briggs Danner side by side, trading positions just outside of the top five.

As the laps wound down, Allen had a stable lead at the front of the field with Bright working hard to close the gap in second but bringing a hard charging Kenny Miller lll along with him. Miller was closing the gap on Bright for second lap after lap, with Drevicki and Damon Paul rounding out the top five.

It looked to be smooth sailing for Allen, who had a sizable lead with only two laps to go that Bright and the rest of the field would not be able to overcome if the race remained green. As Allen took the white flag, Nash Ely who had been battling inside the top-eight of the feature event, blew a right rear tire and stopped on the backs stretch, setting up a green-white-checkered battle to the finish.

Allen was the feature event leader with Bright on his heels, Kenny Miller III, perhaps, having the fastest car at the time of the caution in the feature, with Drevicki and Paul rounding out the top five.

As the field went green for the restart, Bright utilized a big slide job to get by Allen for the race lead and look to run away. Allen hung right with Bright for the race lead as the duo went into turn three and four. Bright was the leader as they took the white flag and raced into turn one and two. Unfortunately for Allen, he would get up and over the banking on the high side of turn one and two and fall back to sixth on the last lap.

Bright lead the field with no issues into turn number three, and off turn number four and collect his eleventh win of the season. Kenny Miller came home in a strong second place finish, with Steven Drevicki, Billy Pauch Jr in a late race charge, and Damon Paul rounding out the top five.

In back-to-back weeks, Alex Bright and the Hummer Motorsports team have proven that if you consistently work hard, even when things may not look like your night, the right circumstances can occur to reward the effort put in. Two weeks in a row the race leader of the feature event has had an issue that left Bright with the opportunity to collect another feature win.

The tire issue at the Bridgeport Speedway one week prior, and a late race opportunity on Friday at Georgetown. Bright and the Hummer Motorsports team are now on a four-race winning streak, in addition to all the other impressive feature finish stats the team has established so far. With only three races left, including two more $2, 000 to win shows, the team shows no signs of slowing down.

Kenny Miller lll made an impressive run through the field on Friday night for another top five run. Miller has not been full time on tour in 2021, but the two-time winner in 2020, has been as fast as ever each time they unload in the pit area. Miller was mired deep in the field coming from twelfth on Friday night earning the nights hard charger awards. Perhaps with a starting position slightly more forward in the feature field, Miller may have had an even better shot to grab his first win of 2021. Look for Miller to be a contender at the final three events of the season.

After missing last week's event at the Bridgeport Speedway and taking another trip west to the Eldora Speedway, Steven Drevicki was able to collect another top five finish as well, as the team has found some of their consistency from prior years. The 2021 season has been trying for Drevicki and team, with only one feature event victory, and being sixth in points. However, over the last month, Drevicki and team have re-established themselves toward the front half of the field and are making strides toward returning to victory lane.

After a full year of trying, with rainouts, and hauler problems, Billy Pauch Jr was finally able to make his first start of the season with the USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, behind the wheel of the always potent Tim Hogue 39. Pauch faded early in the feature event, but made a late race charge working by Damon Paul, Ed Aikin and others to grab a spot inside the top five. Pauch Jr is no stranger to non-wing sprint car series action, but with a busy modified schedule, time doesn't always allow for Pauch to run a sprint car as much as he'd like. Look for the pairing of Hogue and Pauch to attempt a similar schedule next season, focusing on trips to Delaware and New Jersey with the series.

Collecting his second top five run in as many weeks was Stony Point, NY's Damon Paul. Since his win at the Winchester Speedway in July, the team had been on a bad slump throughout the months of August and September. But a second place run at Bridgeport last week, and a top five Friday at Georgetown, have been more on track with the speed the team has shown through the bulk of the season. The recent speed has also put Paul back into third in the points standings with only three races remaining. Paul was fast at Bedford early on in the season and has been fast in the slick. Look for Damon Paul to possibly grab another victory on the series trail in 2021 before its conclusion.

Heartbreak of the night definitely belonged to two drivers: Bruce Buckwalter Jr. and Chris Allen Jr. Buckwalter lead the field to green, and unfortunately was bit by engine issues early in the feature. Post-race inspection by the team left them with the assumption that they had a mag go bad during the feature, ending their shot at the win. Chris Allen Jr. led the bulk of the laps in Friday night's feature except for the one that mattered most. Allen fell victim to the slide job from Alex Bright and was able to keep pace with the multi time feature winner, before a mistake off corner number two, cost him the win, and a top five run. Allen has been strong all season in his limited starts, and with limited chances to get a victory look for Allen to be as hungry as ever for a checkered flag.

Next up for the Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, presented by Capitol Renegade, is a pair of $2, 000 to win events. Saturday, October 15th a special event at the Bedford Speedway that will be utilizing a purse structure for next year featuring a $2, 000 winner's share and $300 to start. Followed by a return trip to the Orange County Fair Speedway on October 23rd as a part of Eastern States weekend in what will be the series second ever start at the legendary oval.

As always, stay up to date with all the latest news, results, photos, and much more by following along with our social media pages! On Facebook at: USAC East Coast Sprint Cars, and on Twitter at: @USACecsc.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE RESULTS: October 1, 2021 – Georgetown Speedway – Georgetown, Delaware

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Steven Drevicki (#19 Drevicki) (3), 2. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (#83 Buckwalter) (8), 3. Damon Paul (#57 Cicconi) (7), 4. Brian Spencer (#62 Spencer) (2), 5. Jason Cherry (#67 Cherry) (5), 6. Preston Lattomus (#10m Fauci) (4), 7. Billy Ney (#83s Ney) (1). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Alex Bright (#20 Hummer) (3), 2. Billy Pauch Jr. (#39 Hogue) (1), 3. Ed Aikin (#7 Aikin) (2), 4. Chris Allen Jr. (#71 Allen) (6), 5. Christian Bruno (#17 Bruno) (8), 6. Kenny Miller III (#23m Miller) (4), 7. Nash Ely (#3BC Franckowiak) (5), 8. Mark Smith (#m1 L & M) (7). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Alex Bright (8), 2. Kenny Miller III (12), 3. Steven Drevicki (5), 4. Billy Pauch Jr. (7), 5. Damon Paul (3), 6. Chris Allen Jr. (4), 7. Ed Aikin (2), 8. Briggs Danner (16), 9. Christian Bruno (10), 10. Mark Smith (15), 11. Brian Spencer (6), 12. Jason Cherry (9), 13. Preston Lattomus (11), 14. Nash Ely (14), 15. Billy Ney (13), 16. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (1). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-5 Ed Aikin, Laps 6-23 Chris Allen Jr., Laps 24-25 Alex Bright.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE POINTS: 1-Alex Bright-1541, 2-Briggs Danner-1402, 3-Damon Paul-1128, 4-Nash Ely-1089, 5-Bruce Buckwalter Jr.-1003, 6-Steven Drevicki-954, 7-Kenny Miller III-851, 8-Joey Amantea-850, 9-Tommy Kunsman-832, 10-Ed Aikin-829.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE: October 16, 2021 – Bedford Speedway – Bedford, Pennsylvania

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

Penske Racing $100 Award: Alex Bright

Penske Racing $50 Award: Kenny Miller lll

Penske Racing $25 Award: Steven Drevicki

Ultra Shield 4th Place: Billy Pauch Jr.

Ultra Shield 8th Place: Briggs Danner

Heather A Long, Attorney at Law & Vahlco Wheels Hard Charger: Kenny Miller lll (12th to 2nd)

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VanINWEGEN COLLECTS FIRST CAREER USAC EC WIN AT ORANGE COUNTY

By: Nick Fillman – USAC ECSC

Middletown, New York (October 23, 2021)……Local modified regular, and former USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series regular, Billy VanInwegen Jr. collected his first career victory with the Rapid Tire Services, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series on Saturday night at the conclusion of fourteen laps due to rain after halfway.

Kenny Miller lll and winged 360 veteran Matt Tanner led the field to green for the USAC East Coast portion of Eastern States Weekend 2021. Immediately the non-wing veteran Miller III took the race lead and would try to put some distance between himself and the rest of the field, by being glued to the bottom lane of the speedway. Matt Tanner was in second and found himself quickly under-fire from another modified regular at the speedway in the form of Brian Krummel.

Alex Bright had worked right behind the battle for the top three on the bottom lane of the speedway at the completion of lap one. As the field worked their way into turn three and four, Brian Krummel would lose the handle on the second Hamilton Racing entry and spin to the high side of the speedway. As Krummel was slowing to a stop, Briggs Danner made right rear to right rear contact with Krummel, with Danner being able to pull away.

Danner did suffer some right side damage on the Heffner Racing 5G entry, as the right side nerf bar would be caved in onto the rear tire with a slight tire rub, along with suffering right side header damage.

When the field returned to green Miller again bolted out to the race lead, with Bright sneaking under Matt Tanner for second, with Billy VanInwegen Jr. being the first driver to explore the fresh moisture that was laid down on the high side of the speedway. Danner would follow along in the tire tracks of Billy V on the high side of the speedway as well.

As the field worked to the completion of lap three, Billy V motored to the high side of turn three and four around the outside of both Bright and Miller to take the race lead on lap three. Bright tried to follow VanInwegen to the high side, but then opted for the middle, using a diamond line off the corner to try and keep pace with the leader.

In the laps after the pass for the lead, Miller began to struggle on the bottom side of the speedway losing spots to Tanner, and eventually Briggs Danner who had worked his way into the top five by lap seven despite the tire rub and damage to the 5G entry. Danner would continue to work the high side of the speedway just as the race leader VanInwegen would and worked by Matt Tanner for third on lap eleven.

Tanner stuck to his line and would not quit on the bottom side of the speedway and worked back by Danner for the third-place position on only two laps later on lap thirteen while both were trying their best to catch the leaders VanInwegen and Bright.

VanInwegen had a solid four car length lead over Bright as they began to encounter lapped traffic on the bottom side of the speedway. VanInwegen was strong up top and would allow Bright to draw closer on corner entry, and through the middle of the corner, but the momentum for VanInwegen off the high side of the speedway allowed him to rocket off the corners and re-establish the distance between he and Bright.

Ultimately, the caution flag would fly on lap fourteen for rains that had persistently picked up over the course of the last two to three laps under green flag conditions. The field would be sent to the pit are of the Orange County Speedway as the track was lost due to increasing rain. The field would remain idle in the pit area as rains continued to fall on the speedway, lightening up at times, but not going away.

A decision was reached with USAC East Coast Official in the interest of time, for our traveling teams, many of them being at the speedway since eight A.M. or earlier, to make the results official being that the race was passed the halfway point and was legally completed, per USAC East Coast Rules.

Billy VanInwegen Jr. grabbed his first career Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, presented by Capitol Renegade victory over: Alex Bright, Matt Tanner, Briggs Danner, and Damon Paul.

VanInwegen backed up his run from last season at Orange County where he finished in the top three in his wingless sprint car series debut. The run last season lead to the opportunity for Billy V to be tabbed as the driver of the Bill Gallagher 5G entry for the bulk of the 2020 series tour after Timmy Buckwalter was injured in a modified incident. Billy V had many strong runs last season with the team, nearly picking up wins at Delaware International and at the famed Williams Grove Speedway. The win on Saturday night was the first for Billy and the VanDusen team, and they have intended their plans on making a few more shows with the series in 2022.

The incredible runs for Alex Bright and the Hummer Motorsports team continued on Saturday night at Orange County as the pair, who were not at the speedway last July, came home in a solid runner up finish. Bright had never race on the “Hard Clay” of the Orange County Speedway, but as he has all year, looked as strong as ever running at the front of the field. While Bright and team no doubt would have liked to see the rest of the feature event be run under green, they will have one more shot to crack victory lane at the Bridgeport Motorsports Park in two weeks.

Stephentown, NY driver Matt Tanner made his series debut on Saturday night aboard the no.17 entry that last season was piloted by VanInwegen in select wing and non-wing events. Tanner a veteran and multi time winner on the ESS and Patriot Sprint Series throughout New York aboard his family-owned 90 car, made quick work on Saturday night figuring out how to pilot a wingless sprint car. Tanner had a great second place effort in his heat race locking him into the redraw and ran an extremely impressive third in the feature event. Perhaps Tanner will venture out and try a few more wingless shows in the future with the series. Only time will tell.

Coming home fourth despite some feature event difficulties was Allentown, PA drive Briggs Danner. While Danner has cooled off some in terms collecting feature event wins, the team has been fast in their last two events. The rain and completion of the feature event after fourteen laps was a bit of a blessing for Danner and the Heffner 5G team as their right rear tire would more than likely have not survived the remaining eleven laps of the feature event following a nerf-bar rub after contact with a spinning Brian Krummel.

Rounding out the top five in Saturday's event was Stony Point, New York driver Damon Paul. If there was a driver who was more excited to be in the pit area and racing a sprint car during Eastern States Weekend than Damon Paul, we certainly did not encounter them! Paul, who lives a short half hour drive away, has been to many ESW events in his lifetime, and was thrilled at the opportunity to run at his home track on the series trail. A one-time winner on tour this season, Paul was able to collect another top five run after starting in the ninth-place spot.

All of us at the Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series would like to thank everyone involved at the Orange County Fair Speedway for their hospitality, along with Brett Hearn for not only bumping the winner's purse to $2, 000, but our start money to $400. We would also like to extend a huge thank you to all the teams who supported us on Saturday night. Whether they were from New York or some of our series regulars who made the trip up, we appreciate your support on Saturday night and all season long.

Up Next for the Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, presented by Capitol Renegade is our series finale at the Bridgeport Motorsports Park on Friday, November 5th! The Friday night finale will pay a historic $2, 500 to win, and $300 to start!

As always, stay up to date with the latest news, results, points, and much more by following along on our social media pages! On Facebook at: USAC East Coast Sprint Cars, and on Twitter at: @USACecsc.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE RESULTS: October 23, 2021 – Orange County Fair Speedway – Middletown, New York

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Kenny Miller III (#23m Miller) (1), 2. Billy VanInwegen Jr. (#56 Van Dusen) (4), 3. Eric Jennings (#16cw Jennings) (5), 4. Justin Mills (#m1 L & M) (7), 5. Damon Paul (#57 Cicconi) (2), 6. Thomas Radivoy (#1Q Radivoy) (6), 7. Lee Kauffman (#96 Kauffman) (8), 8. Steve Kyser (#6 Kyser) (3), 9. Mick D'Agostino (#91 D'Agostino) (9). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (#5G Gallagher) (1), 2. Matt Tanner (#17 Tanner) (2), 3. Alex Bright (#20 Hummer) (6), 4. Brian Krummel (#32K Neiger-Hamilton) (4), 5. Jonathan Swanson (#17J Swanson) (3), 6. Colin White (#32 Neiger-Hamilton) (7), 7. Dan Malley (#98 Malley) (8), 8. Jason Cherry (#67 Cherry) (5). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, shortened to 14 laps due to rain, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Billy VanInwegen Jr. (5), 2. Alex Bright (3), 3. Matt Tanner (2), 4. Briggs Danner (7), 5. Damon Paul (9), 6. Kenny Miller III (1), 7. Justin Mills (6), 8. Eric Jennings (8), 9. Jonathan Swanson (10), 10. Thomas Radivoy (11), 11. Brian Krummel (4), 12. Colin White (12), 13. Dan Malley (14), 14. Jason Cherry (16), 15. Lee Kauffman (13), 16. Mick D'Agostino (17), 17. Steve Kyser (15). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-2 Kenny Miller III, Laps 3-14 Billy VanInwegen Jr..

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE POINTS: 1-Alex Bright-1614, 2-Briggs Danner-1471, 3-Damon Paul-1190, 4-Nash Ely-1089, 5-Bruce Buckwalter Jr.-1003, 6-Steven Drevicki-954, 7-Kenny Miller III-914, 8-Joey Amantea-850, 9-Tommy Kunsman-832, 10-Ed Aikin-829.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE: November 5, 2021 – Bridgeport Motorsports Park – Swedesboro, New Jersey

CONTINGENCY AWARD WINNERS:

Penske Shocks $100: Billy VanInwegen Jr.

Penske Shocks $50: Alex Bright

Penske Shocks $25: Matt Tanner

Ultra Shield 3rd Place: Matt Tanner

Ultra Shield 6th Place: Kenny Miller lll

Vahlco Wheels $50 Hard Charger: Billy VanInwegen Jr. (5th to 1st)

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BRIGGS DANNER CAPS OFF WITH BRIDGEPORT WIN IN USAC EAST COAST FINALE

By: Nick Fillman, USAC ECSC

Swedesboro, New Jersey (November 5, 2021) ……Briggs Danner of Allentown, Pennsylvania capped off a great 2021 Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, presented by Capitol Renegade by winning his ninth feature event of the season, worth a series historic $3, 000 pay day.

Davie Franek and Alex Bright lead the field to green for the final twenty-five lap feature event of the 2021 season at the Bridgeport Speedway, with Franek getting the jump on Bright for the race lead into turn one and two. Franek maintained his lead for the opening circuit of the feature event before Bright would work to the outside of Franek for the race lead at the completion of lap two.

Bright was looking to put a massive exclamation point on his historic 2021 season by picking up the final win of the season, but fifth starting Briggs Danner was foot to the floor fast and quickly worked his way into the third-place position by the completion of lap three. A pair of laps later, Danner had moved by Franek into the runner up position and began to close in on the tail tank of the Hummer Motorsports number twenty of leader Alex Bright.

Meanwhile behind the battle for the lead, Franek ran by his lonesome in third, but an absolute war was just beginning to form for positions four and five, with Damon Paul and Kenny Miller lll trading multiple slide jobs for position lap after lap. While, even further behind them a host of drivers like Nash Ely, Colin White, Joey Amantea, and more were three and sometimes four-wide for position early on in the feature event.

By lap seven, Danner was all over Bright for the race lead and would work his way by to assume the race lead on lap eight of the feature event. Danner began to put some distance between himself and second place Alex Bright as the next handful of laps would go on, before the caution flag flew on lap twelve for a spinning Thomas Radivoy.

The lap twelve restart saw Danner, Bright, Franek, Miller lll and Paul nose to tail once again with one lap shy of half the race to go. As the green flag flew on the restart, the battle for the lead was absolutely ferocious as over the next four laps,

Danner and Bright would exchange the race lead lap, after lap, after lap before Danner established a couple car length lead again over Bright as the field raced toward the conclusion of the feature event.

Just as before the caution flag flew, Kenny Miller lll and Damon Paul continued their incredible side by side battle at the tail end of the top five. Further behind them, Nash Ely, Joey Amantea, Colin White, and from the semi feature: Christian Bruno and Brenden Bright were putting on an amazing show trading positions inside the top ten with each and every lap that went by.

While battling hard for position just outside of the top five, Nash Ely and Joey Amantea would make contact heading into turns three and four, leaving Amantea with a collapsed front end and unable to continue in the feature event.

A seven-lap shootout would take place to cap off an exciting feature event with the top five remaining the same from the previous restart. Christian Bruno and Brenden Bright continued to be the stars of the top ten as they battled up from the Semi feature, bringing Bruce Buckwalter and Eric Jennings along with them, making the middle of the pack some of the most exciting racing of the whole season.

Danner again nailed the restart, but Bright would not let him get too far away. Danner showed no signs of slowing down as he set his sights on victory lane one more time in 2021. Bright held strong for second, with Franek again impressive in third. Kenny Miller and Damon Paul continued to wage their race long war for fourth and fifth as the laps went on as well.

Christian Bruno continued his march to the front of the field and had worked his way up into the seventh-place position and tried to reel in Nash Ely for sixth. Brenden Bright, Bruce Buckwalter Jr and Eric Jennings all from the semi feature, were rounding out the top ten in what was a tremendous battle for position.

But out front it did not matter, as Briggs Danner went on to collect the $3, 000 paycheck, and his ninth win of the season over 2021 Points Champion Alex Bright, Davie Franek, Kenny Miller lll, and Damon Paul in what was easily a top five race of the year.

The win for Danner was his ninth of the season and helped to cap off a great year for the Gallagher Racing 5G Entry. While it may have turned into a rough season through the middle of the year with the untimely passing of car owner Bill Gallagher, and a freighting crash at the Selinsgrove Speedway, the team never lost their focus on winning races and trying to secure the championship. While they may have come up short in the championship hunt, the team, with driver, Briggs Danner were able to capture the 2021 Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, Presented by Capitol Renegade, Rookie of the Year honors, as Danner was in a league of his own as far as rookie drivers were concerned.

While Alex Bright and Hummer Motorsports were not doubt hopping to end their 2021 season with a massive walk off win, back-to-back runner up finishes, 22 of 23 events finishing inside the top five, and eleven wins left the team with a historic run on their way to being crowned the 2021, Rapid Tire, USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series, Presented by Capitol Renegade Champions. Bright and team were night in and night out the most dominant car of the season, showing up every week with the mindset of winning each and every time the car hit the speedway. While we will probably not see too much of the Hummer Motorsports team in 2022, we certainly wish them all the best, and a massive congratulations on their dominant championship run.

Coming home in the third-place position in a very impressive run was veteran winged 360 sprint car driver Davie Franek. Franek has made two previous starts with the series at Orange County and Port Royal in 2020, and made his first, and final start of the year Friday at Bridgeport. The former Patriot Sprint, and URC Champion started on the pole of the feature event by virtue of making the redraw, lead lap one of the feature event, and held his own against the entire field of regular wingless drivers. We certainly hope to see Davie a few more times on the series trail in 2022.

While Kenny Miller lll was unable to grace victory lane in 2021, Miller was one of the most consistent cars whenever the team was pit-side. An early season internship for most of the season kept Miller from running full time with the series, but once the team returned in the late summer swing, the top ten and top five runs were rattled off week after week. While plans are not completely worked out for the team in 2022, we are hopeful to see one of the most exciting up and coming drivers in the series return to action and battle for victories, and possibly the 2022 championship.

Rounding out the top five, backing up his third place points run, was Stony Point, NY driver Damon Paul. The micro sprint veteran was a rookie on tour in 2021 with car owner Lou Cicconi Jr. and impressed many throughout the season. Paul was able to find victory lane one time in 2021 at the Winchester Speedway but put on many impressive runs from start to finish. As is the case with all our drivers and teams, we hope that Cicconi and driver Damon Paul will return next season as Paul continued to develop night after night behind the wheel of a sprint car.

One of the most impressive runs of the night belonged to a driver making his series debut in the form of Brenden Bright. The former micro sprint and midget regular made his series debut in a second Hummer Motorsports entry as a teammate to brother Alex Bright. Brenden won the semi feature, and led the charge of Christian Bruno, Bruce Buckwalter and Eric Jennings through the field to the top ten, before Bruno ultimately got by him late in the race, earning him hard charger honors. Perhaps Bright has opened some eyes for 2022 and could possible find himself behind the wheel of a sprint car with the series a handful of times next season.

All of us here with the USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series would like to that everyone that has made the 2021 season possible. Without all our sponsors, the incredible tracks that have allowed us to come into their facilities and put on our events, our amazing drivers and teams who may have supported us all season long, or just on a part time basis, and of course all of the amazing fans who have supported us through this journey none of this would be possible, and we thank you!

As the 2022 series schedule begins to take shape, stay tuned to our social media pages as always for all the latest news and information regarding the 2022 racing season!!

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE RACE RESULTS: November 5, 2021 – Bridgeport Motorsports Park – Swedesboro, New Jersey

FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (#5G Gallagher) (8), 2. Nash Ely (#3BC Franckowiak) (5), 3. Kenny Miller III (#23m Miller) (4), 4. Joey Amantea (#88J JPA) (2), 5. Brian Spencer (#62 Spencer) (1), 6. Brenden Bright (#20x Hummer) (7), 7. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (#83 Buckwalter) (10), 8. Troy Betts (#22B Betts) (9), 9. Eric Jennings (#16cw Jennings) (3), 10. Blaine Emery (#12 Emery) (6). NT

SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Alex Bright (#20 Hummer) (1), 2. Damon Paul (#57 Cicconi) (3), 3. Davie Franek (#28F Franek) (2), 4. Kyle Smith (#32K Neiger-Hamilton) (4), 5. Ed Aikin (#7 Aikin) (6), 6. Christian Bruno (#17 Bruno) (9), 7. Jason Cherry (#67 Cherry) (8), 8. Lee Kauffman (#96 Kauffman) (7), 9. Chris Allen Jr. (#71 Allen) (5). NT

THIRD HEAT: (10 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Carmen Perigo (#21 Stehman) (9), 2. Colin White (#32 Neiger-Hamilton) (2), 3. Thomas Radivoy (#1Q Radivoy) (7), 4. Al Cheney (#73 Cheney) (4), 5. Jermain Godshall (#56 Van Dusen) (6), 6. Larry Drake (#8 Drake) (8), 7. Heidi Hedin (#3H Hedin) (3), 8. D.J. Hunt (#8B Hunt) (5), 9. J.R. Berry (#74JR Berry) (1). NT

SEMI: (10 laps, top-5 transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Brenden Bright (1), 2. Christian Bruno (2), 3. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (4), 4. Troy Betts (7), 5. Eric Jennings (10), 6. J.R. Berry (12), 7. Blaine Emery (13), 8. Lee Kauffman (8), 9. Jason Cherry (5), 10. D.J. Hunt (9), 11. Heidi Hedin (6), 12. Larry Drake (3), 13. Chris Allen Jr. (11). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (5), 2. Alex Bright (2), 3. Davie Franek (1), 4. Kenny Miller III (6), 5. Damon Paul (7), 6. Nash Ely (3), 7. Christian Bruno (17), 8. Brenden Bright (16), 9. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (18), 10. Eric Jennings (20), 11. Colin White (9), 12. Kyle Smith (11), 13. Ed Aikin (14), 14. Brian Spencer (13), 15. Thomas Radivoy (8), 16. Jermain Godshall (15), 17. Al Cheney (12), 18. Carmen Perigo (4), 19. Joey Amantea (10), 20. Troy Betts (19). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Lap 1 Davie Franek, Laps 2-7 Alex Bright, Laps 8-25 Briggs Danner.

FINAL USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CAR PRESENTED BY CAPITOL RENEGADE POINTS: 1-Alex Bright-1689, 2-Briggs Danner-1549, 3-Damon Paul-1255, 4-Nash Ely-1151, 5-Bruce Buckwalter Jr.-1051, 6-Kenny Miller III-981, 7-Steven Drevicki-954, 8-Joey Amantea-880, 9-Ed Aikin-870, 10-Tommy Kunsman-832.