2024 USAC EAST COAST SPRINT CAR SEASON REVIEW

4 Timer for Drevicki! 2024 USAC East Coast Sprint Car Review

By: Richie Murray – USAC Media

Just a short six years ago, Steven Drevicki became the first USAC East Coast Sprint Car champion. Since that time, he's gone on to become the first two-time champion, the first three-time titlist, and now in 2024, he conquered the series once more to become the first four-time king.

In 2024, Drevicki (Reading, Pa.) prevailed once with a feature victory in July at New Jersey's Bridgeport Motorsports Park, and throughout the course of the 12-race series, never once did he finish worse than fifth to add on to his record of previous Rapid Tire Service USAC East Coast Sprint Cars Presented by Capitol Renegade championships in 2018-2019-2020.

Drevicki briefly held the point lead in early May, but by the last weekend of the same month, he had gained a stranglehold at the top of the series that he never relinquished the rest of the way en route to a 133-point margin of victory, the second largest in the seven year history of the series at the wheel of his Drevicki Racing/DeGre Engineering – Road Runner Race Fuels – Reading Crane/RPM/HP Chevy.

Meanwhile, Briggs Danner's (Allentown, Pa.) reign as a series champion came to a close after capturing titles during the previous two seasons in 2022 and 2023. In 2024, Danner participated in a limited USAC East Coast schedule, appearing in just eight of the 12 shows as he ran a more national schedule this season. Nonetheless, he still finished fifth in the standings by leading a series-high 117 laps and tallying a series-high five USAC East Coast feature victories, including Pennsylvania's Bedford Speedway in April, Grandview Speedway in May, Williams Grove Speedway in June, Action Track USA in July, then scored the series finale at New York's Outlaw Speedway in September, the first ever visit by the series.

Due to work commitments, Kenny Miller III (Morgantown, Pa.) also participated in a limited schedule, but made it count when he showed up to compete, winning twice, once in May in wire-to-wire fashion at Delaware International Speedway and again in September at Action Track USA, taking advantage when Danner got caught up in lapped traffic and rolled to a stop with just seven laps remaining.

Joey Amantea (Mount Pocono, Pa.) captured, perhaps, the most thrilling feature event of the year in April at Pennsylvania's Port Royal Speedway. After the top-two of Alex Bright and Briggs Danner tangled and stopped in a dramatic accident with just 10 laps remaining, Amantea and Christian Bruno waged war in a see-saw battle that saw the two exchange slide jobs lap after lap after lap. In the end, Amantea led the final four laps to pocket a half-mile victory.

Bruno (Deptford, N.J.) got redemption in the series' return to Port Royal in August after sweeping the night by winning his heat race, then leading all 20 laps of the feature to tally his first career USAC East Coast Sprint Car triumph. After previously earning a career best points finish of seventh in 2020, Bruno took a major step forward in 2024 to finish as the series' runner-up.

In all, two drivers became first-time USAC East Coast Sprint Car winners in 2024. Back in June, Danny Varin successfully defended his home turf at Utica-Rome Speedway and was standing in victory lane by night's end, a familiar scene for the Fonda, N.Y. native. In fact, Varin has won many modified events at the speedway, and in 2023, defeated the All Star Circuit of Champions in winged 410 sprint car competition. Varin has now won in six different divisions at Utica-Rome, including Sportsman Modified, big block modified, 305, 360 and 410 winged sprint cars and now a non-wing 360 sprint car.

Alex Bright (Collegeville, Pa.) added one USAC East Coast Sprint Car victory by delivering a sweeping performance in May at Delaware's Georgetown Speedway. After that night, he took over the points lead and remained in contention for his second career series title entering the summer. However, by the end of June, his Heffner Racing Enterprises team had closed up shop on its non-wing team, leaving Bright without a full-time ride. Bright found work later in the season with the Hummer Motorsports team who he won the championship with in 2021.

Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (Mechanicsburg, Pa.) was one of two drivers to finish inside the top-10 in all 12 rounds of the season alongside Drevicki which aided him to a career-best third in the standings. Likewise, Ed Aikin (Lincoln University, Pa.) also experienced a career best USAC East Coast season by finishing fourth in the standings.

Matthew Swift (Lebanon, Pa.) picked up Rookie of the Year honors for his 10th place finish in the standings. Alex Bright and Christian Bruno shared the most heat race wins with the series this season with each grabbing five apiece.

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2024 USAC EAST COAST SPRINT CAR STATISTICS

STAT LEADERS

Driver Champion: Steven Drevicki

Rookie of the Year: Matthew Swift

Most Wins: 5-Briggs Danner

Most Laps Led: 117-Briggs Danner

Most Top-Fives: 12-Steven Drevicki

Most Top-Tens: 12-Bruce Buckwalter Jr. & Steven Drevicki

Most Heat Race Wins: 5-Alex Bright & Christian Bruno

Most Feature Starts: 12-Bruce Buckwalter Jr. & Steven Drevicki

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DRIVER POINTS

POS.	PTS.	DRIVER, HOMETOWN
1	828	Steven Drevicki, Reading, Pennsylvania
2	695	Christian Bruno, Deptford, New Jersey
3	607	Bruce Buckwalter Jr., Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania
4	602	Ed Aikin, Lincoln University, Pennsylvania
5	566	Briggs Danner, Allentown, Pennsylvania
6	536	Alex Bright, Collegeville, Pennsylvania
7	457	Bobby Butler, Milford, New Jersey
8	443	Carmen Perigo, Stoystown, Pennsylvania
9	415	Jason Cherry, Blandon, Pennsylvania

10	272	Matthew Swift, Lebanon, Pennsylvania
11	242	Joey Amantea, Mount Pocono, Pennsylvania
12	225	Gary Huston, Middletown, New York
13	217	J.T. Ferry, Drums, Pennsylvania
14	217	Dalton Herrick, McDonough, New York
15	130	Scott Frack, Gilbertville, Pennsylvania
16	122	Michael Smith, Red Lion, Pennsylvania
17	77	Danny Varin, Fonda, New York
18	69	Thomas Radivoy, Circleville, New York
19	65	Patrick Chilmonik, Milford, New Jersey
20	51	Aidan Borden, Jackson, New Jersey

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FEATURE WINNERS

Apr 26: Bedford Speedway - Bedford, Pennsylvania

WINNER: Briggs Danner (Hogue Racing Enterprises #39)

Apr 27: Port Royal Speedway - Port Royal, Pennsylvania

WINNER: Joey Amantea (JPA Racing #88J)

May 11: Grandview Speedway - Bechtelsville, Pennsylvania

WINNER: Briggs Danner (Hogue Racing Enterprises #39)

May 17: Georgetown Speedway - Georgetown, Delaware

WINNER: Alex Bright (Heffner Racing Enterprises #27)

May 25: Delaware International Speedway - Delmar, Delaware

WINNER: Kenny Miller III (Ken Miller #23m)

Jun 7: Williams Grove Speedway - Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania

WINNER: Briggs Danner (Hogue Racing Enterprises #39)

Jun 28: Utica-Rome Speedway - Vernon, New York

WINNER: Danny Varin (Danny Varin Racing #01)

Jul 6: Bridgeport Motorsports Park - Swedesboro, New Jersey

WINNER: Steven Drevicki (Drevicki Racing #19)

Jul 10: Action Track USA - Kutztown, Pennsylvania

WINNER: Briggs Danner (Hogue Racing Enterprises #39)

Aug 17: Port Royal Speedway - Port Royal, Pennsylvania

WINNER: Christian Bruno (Bruno Racing #17)

Sep 8: Action Track USA - Kutztown, Pennsylvania

WINNER: Kenny Miller III (Ken Miller #23m)

Sep 13: Outlaw Speedway - Dundee, New York

WINNER: Briggs Danner (Hogue Racing Enterprises #39)

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FEATURE WINS

5-Briggs Danner (Apr 26 at Bedford Speedway, May 11 at Grandview Speedway, Jun 7 at Williams Grove Speedway, Jul 10 at Action Track USA & Sep 13 at Outlaw Speedway)

2-Kenny Miller III (May 25 at Delaware International Speedway & Sep 8 at Action Track USA)

1-Joey Amantea (Apr 27 at Port Royal Speedway)

1-Alex Bright (May 17 at Georgetown Speedway)

1-Christian Bruno (Aug 17 at Port Royal Speedway)

1-Steven Drevicki (Jul 6 at Bridgeport Motorsports Park)

1-Danny Varin (Jun 28 at Utica-Rome Speedway)

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FEATURE LAPS LED

117-Briggs Danner

39-Kenny Miller III

35-Alex Bright

34-Christian Bruno

24-Steven Drevicki

20-Danny Varin

10-Bobby Butler

7-Joey Amantea & Carmen Perigo

5-Billy VanInwegen Jr.

2-J.T. Ferry

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TOP-5 FEATURE FINISHES

12-Steven Drevicki

9-Christian Bruno

7-Briggs Danner

6-Alex Bright & Kenny Miller III

3-Ed Aikin, Bobby Butler & Carmen Perigo

2-Joey Amantea & Bruce Buckwalter Jr.

1-J.T. Ferry, Ronald Helmick, Chase Moran, Cameron Smith, Matt Tanner, Billy VanInwegen Jr. & Danny Varin

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TOP-10 FEATURE FINISHES

12-Bruce Buckwalter Jr. & Steven Drevicki

10-Christian Bruno

8-Ed Aikin & Alex Bright

7-Briggs Danner & Carmen Perigo

6-Bobby Butler & Kenny Miller III

5-Jason Cherry

3-Joey Amantea, J.T. Ferry, Mike Haggenbottom, Ronald Helmick, Tommy Kunsman & Matthew Swift

2-Dalton Herrick & Cameron Smith

1-Aidan Borden, Richy Carnathan, Shawn Donath, Scott Frack, Heidi Hedin, Brendan Hires, Eric Jennings, Lee Kauffman, Shelby Kelly, Jared Kreider, Chase Moran, Dale Schweikart, Michael Smith, David Swanson, Matt Tanner, Billy VanInwegen Jr. & Danny Varin

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HEAT RACE WINS

5-Alex Bright & Christian Bruno

3-Kenny Miller III

2-Bobby Butler, Briggs Danner & Carmen Perigo

1-Joey Amantea & Steven Drevicki

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FEATURE STARTS

12-Bruce Buckwalter Jr. & Steven Drevicki

11-Ed Aikin

10-Christian Bruno

9-Bobby Butler & Jason Cherry

8-Alex Bright & Briggs Danner

7-Kenny Miller III & Carmen Perigo

6-Gary Huston & Matthew Swift

5-Richy Carnathan & Dalton Herrick

4-Joey Amantea, J.T. Ferry & Ronald Helmick

3-Scott Frack, Troy Fraker, Mike Haggenbottom, Heidi Hedin, Tommy Kunsman, Cameron Smith & Michael Smith

2-Patrick Chilmonik, Lee Kauffman, Chase Moran & Thomas Radivoy

1-Chris Allen Jr., Aidan Borden, Shawn Donath, Tim Glatfelter, Wesley Gomez, Brendan Hires, Eric Jennings, Shelby Kelly, Jared Kreider, Matt Peck, Dirk Rimrott, Dale Schweikart, David Swanson, Jonathan Swanson, Matt Tanner, Bill Unglert, Billy VanInwegen Jr. & Danny Varin

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2024 USAC EAST COAST SPRINT CAR RESULTS LOG

DANNER SCORES USAC EAST COAST OPENER AT BEDFORD

By: Nick Fillman – USAC ECSC

Bedford, Pennsylvania (April 26, 2024)……The 2024 Rapid Tire Services USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series Presented by Capitol Renegade season got underway at Pennsylvania's Bedford Speedway on Friday night.

Carmen Perigo and Briggs Danner scored the heat race victories to open the night. Following the redraw, Bruce Buckwalter Jr. and Perigo led the field to the green for the 25-lap feature event.

Defending champion Briggs Danner quickly made his way to the lead with a ferocious battle taking place for positions two through seven as cars quickly and rapidly changed positions.

Just as it looked like Danner, all by his lonesome, was cruising to the win, Lee Kauffman went for a tumble in turn one on lap 23, setting up a two-lap dash to the finish. During the red flag, Danner had a deflating right and left rear tire, making things challenging for the two-time series champion.

Try as he might, soft tires and all, Alex Bright was not able to catch Danner as he went on to score win number one of the season. Alex Bright and his rally from eighth place wound up second with Bobby Butler, Joey Amantea and Steven Drevicki rounding out the top-five.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS RACE RESULTS: April 26, 2024 – Bedford Speedway – Bedford, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. 21-Carmen Perigo (2), 2. 27-Alex Bright (7), 3. 19-Steven Drevicki (3), 4. 5B-Bobby Butler (5), 5. 03-Matthew Swift (1), 6. 39x-Scott Frack (6), 7. 12w-Troy Fraker (4). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. 39-Briggs Danner (3), 2. 88J-Joey Amantea (7), 3. 7-Ed Aikin (2), 4. 83-Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (5), 5. 67c-Jason Cherry (4), 6. 96-Lee Kauffman (1), 7. 29-Dalton Herrick (6). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (5), 2. Alex Bright (8), 3. Bobby Butler (4), 4. Joey Amantea (3), 5. Steven Drevicki (7), 6. Ed Aikin (6), 7. Carmen Perigo (2), 8. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (1), 9. Jason Cherry (10), 10. Matthew Swift (9), 11. Scott Frack (11), 12. Dalton Herrick (14), 13. Troy Fraker (13), 14. Lee Kauffman (12). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-7 Carmen Perigo, Laps 8-25 Briggs Danner.

**Lee Kauffman flipped on lap 23 of the feature.

HARD CHARGER: Alex Bright (8th to 2nd)

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS RACE: April 27, 2024 – Port Royal Speedway – Port Royal, Pennsylvania

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AMANTEA SLIDES TO PORT ROYAL VICTORY

By: Nick Fillman – USAC ECSC

Port Royal, Pennsylvania (April 27, 2024)……The USAC Rapid Tire Services East Coast Sprint Car Series Presented by Capitol Renegade picked up and moved north as the series headed to the always entertaining Port Royal (Pa.) Speedway for their first visit since the 2022 season as both events last year were canceled.

Once again, Briggs Danner scored the heat race win with Alex Bright also picking up a heat race victory, setting up what was sure to be another battle between the two titans of the series.

Bright quickly secured the race lead from pole sitter Christian Bruno as Danner moved into second just a few laps later and the chase was on. While Bright may have had clean air up front, Danner was rapidly closing in on the leader while the rest of the field was nearly a straightaway behind the battle for the lead.

Around the midway point, Danner was all over Bright for the race lead. As the duo dove into turn one on lap 15, the unexpected happened. Bright got just a bit too much into the cushion on the high side of the speedway and lost the handle

on the Heffner Enterprises 27 machine, causing the front end to go airborne into a wheel stand, then onto the hood of the Hogue Racing Enterprises ride of Danner, sending both spinning to a stop at the exit of corner number two.

Somehow, neither driver went upside down nor suffered extreme damage from the incident. However, Danner did head to the work area and the damage sustained in the incident was more than it appeared, ending his night. Bright went on to tag the rear of the field and continued in the feature event.

The incident subsequently led to Christian Bruno inheriting the race lead from Joey Amantea with just 10 laps to go. Bruno and Amantea traded the lead lap after lap with slide job after slide job on both ends of the speedway before the caution flag flew again on lap 19 for a slowing Richy Carnathan on the front stretch.

A restart with six laps to go allowed Joey Amantea to take the race lead back from Bruno on lap 22 after a side-by-side battle with Carmen Perigo, Steven Drevicki, Bobby Butler and Bright quickly joining the fray at the front of the field. Meanwhile, Bruno, Perigo and Drevicki battled three-wide for the runner-up spot with just two laps remaining.

Despite the slider fest for the lead, Amantea pulled away from Bruno and went on to score his third career victory, his first ever at Port Royal. Perigo barely nipped Bruno at the line for second with Drevicki and Bright rounding out the top-five.

A scheduled off weekend lies ahead for the series before three-straight weekends of action starting at the banked 1/3-mile Grandview Speedway on May 11 before a double dose of Delaware begins at Georgetown Speedway on May 17 and Delaware International Speedway on May 25.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS RACE RESULTS: April 27, 2024 – Port Royal Speedway – Port Royal, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. 39-Briggs Danner (2), 2. 88J-Joey Amantea (4), 3. 17-Christian Bruno (1), 4. 5B-Bobby Butler (6), 5. 21K-Tommy Kunsman (8), 6. 7-Ed Aikin (7), 7. 64-Richy Carnathan (3), 8. 67c-Jason Cherry (5), 9. 12w-Troy Fraker (9). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. 27-Alex Bright (5), 2. 19-Steven Drevicki (1), 3. 21-Carmen Perigo (4), 4. 83-Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (2), 5. 03-Matthew Swift (3), 6. 29-Dalton Herrick (8), 7. 76-Michael Smith (7), 8. 23m-Kenny Miller III (6). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Joey Amantea (3), 2. Carmen Perigo (5), 3. Christian Bruno (1), 4. Steven Drevicki (6), 5. Alex Bright (2), 6. Bobby Butler (7), 7. Tommy Kunsman (9), 8. Ed Aikin (11), 9. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (4), 10. Dalton Herrick (12), 11. Michael Smith (14), 12. Matthew Swift (10), 13. Jason Cherry (15), 14. Richy Carnathan (13), 15. Briggs Danner (8), 16. Kenny Miller III (16), 17. Troy Fraker (17). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-15 Alex Bright, Laps 16-18 Joey Amantea, Laps 19-21 Christian Bruno, Laps 22-25 Joey Amantea.

HARD CHARGER: Carmen Perigo (5th to 2nd)

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS POINTS: 1-Joey Amantea-145, 2-Alex Bright-140, 3-Carmen Perigo-133, 4-Steven Drevicki-132, 5-Bobby Butler-129, 6-Briggs Danner-119, 7-Ed Aikin-113, 8-Matthew Swift-90, 9-Jason Cherry-88, 10-Dalton Herrick-87.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS RACE: May 11, 2024 – Grandview Speedway – Bechtelsville, Pennsylvania

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THRILL ON THE HILL! DANNER WINS GRANDVIEW DUEL VS. DREVICKI

By: Nick Fillman – USAC ECSC

Bechtelsville, Pennsylvania (May 11, 2024)……Briggs Danner of Allentown, Pa. was able to collect his second win of the 2024 USAC Rapid Tire Services East Coast Sprint Car Series presented by Capitol Renegade, and the second win of his career at his home track of Bechtelsville, Pennsylvania's Grandview Speedway.

With rain moving in quickly from the west, a quick turnaround time was made for the series by the Grandview Speedway staff with drivers and teams needing to make quick changes to present their cars for the feature event. Heat one winner Christian Bruno drew the pole for the feature event and led the field to the green alongside Rookie driver Matthew Swift.

As the field when green, Bruno jumped out to the early event lead with Bobby Butler quickly moving up into the runner-up spot and drew in on the tail tank of Bruno. Danner was quickly on the move as well, ripping the high side of the speedway to move up into third from his sixth starting spot early on in the feature event.

By lap two, Bobby Butler was able to move around the outside of Christian Bruno and take over the race lead with Bruno a close second and Danner hustling to catch up to the front two. On lap three, unfortunately, the red flag would have to be thrown as Circleville, N.Y. driver Thomas Radivoy slid wide in turn one, caught the wall and went for a vicious bout of barrel rolls before coming to a stop in the middle of turns one and two.

Bobby Butler led Christian Bruno, Briggs Danner, Ed Aikin and Alex Bright who was on the charge from the worst redraw position – starting spot eight. Butler secured a stellar restart but did not run away from Bruno with Danner now drawn in close to the rear of the 17B for the runner-up spot. Danner quickly dispatched Bruno, bringing Alex Bright with him around the outside as the duo tried to draw in on Butler for the race lead.

Around lap 10, the top-three was all within the same corner as each other with Butler fending off challenges from Danner and Bright as the trio ran bumper-to-bumper-to-bumper nearing the half way mark.

On lap 12, just as Danner was attempting a slide job on Butler for the lead in turns three and four, Butler appeared to get too loose and began to spin in the corner. Alex Bright, with nowhere to go, tagged the rear of Butler, sending Bright into a 360 spin and drawing the caution while Butler was able to stay running. Bright, however, was not able to keep the fire going under the hood of the Heffner No. 27 and spun to the bottom of the corner, handing the lead to Danner with 13 laps to go.

The restart saw Danner get a good jump on runner up Bruno with Drevicki moving in on Bruno for second, and eventually moving around the outside of Bruno, putting his sights on Danner for the race lead.

Behind the top-three, Ed Aikin found himself with a comfortable gap in fourth with what was, without a doubt, the best racing of the night going on behind him for fifth through 10th. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. and Cameron Smith battled side-by-side, lap after lap with J.T. Ferry and Tommy Kunsman wheel to wheel behind them in a four-car battle for position.

With the Grandview surface continuing to slick off, Danner and the leaders were not making much time up on the rest of the field as the laps wound down. Drevicki was inching closer and closer to Danner for the race lead as Buckwalter, Smith, Ferry and Kunsman continued to battle in formation for position.

Smith, the winged 410 regular from Central Pennsylvania, moved around Buckwalter for fifth with Buckwalter holding sixth and Kunsman getting the better of Ferry for seventh. Bright was hard on the prowl and had moved his way back inside the top-10.

With three laps to go, the diamond maneuver that Drevicki had been working on was quickly working as he drew closer and closer to Danner for the race lead. As the field came down the back stretch with one lap to go, Drevicki moved a lane lower on the speedway and drew side-by-side with Danner for the race lead, taking the lead at the line with one lap to go. Danner quickly gassed it up and drove around the outside of Drevicki to take the lead back at the exit of the second turn as they both dove into turn three for the final time.

Danner had moved to the bottom side of three and four with Drevicki trying to run the middle just in case Danner missed the bottom trying for the cross over. Drevicki got a solid run as the two drove side-by-side off the corner, with Drevicki going to the bottom, but not having enough to get Danner at the line.

Danner held on to score his second feature event win of the season with Drevicki coming home a close second. Bruno had another solid run to come home third while Grandview veteran Ed Aikin took fourth and Cameron Smith, in his first series start, finished fifth.

Speaking of Smith, the talented young driver, without a doubt, had the most impressive run of the race. In what was his first USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series start with Lee Kauffman's Rocky Ridge Racing No. 96, the team missed hot laps and only had eight laps in the heat race to figure the set up out. Smith slow-rolled the bottom from the 13th position to score his first top-five in what was around his seventh start in a wingless sprint car. Smith competed for the team with the USAC national series in February of 2023 in Florida.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS RACE RESULTS: May 11, 2024 – Grandview Speedway – Bechtelsville, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. 17-Christian Bruno (1), 2. 03-Matthew Swift (2), 3. 7-Ed Aikin (7), 4. 83-Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (5), 5. 21K-Tommy Kunsman (8), 6. 29-Dalton Herrick (3), 7. 96-Cameron Smith (6), 8. 64-Richy Carnathan (4), 9. 67-Jason Cherry (9). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. 27-Alex Bright (1), 2. 5B-Bobby Butler (3), 3. 39-Briggs Danner (6), 4. 19-Steven Drevicki (7), 5. 18T-J.T. Ferry (2), 6. 39x-Scott Frack (5), 7. 1Q-Thomas Radivoy (4), 8. 22R-Ronald Helmick (9), 9. 76-Mike Smith (8). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (6), 2. Steven Drevicki (5), 3. Christian Bruno (1), 4. Ed Aikin (4), 5. Cameron Smith (13), 6. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (7), 7. Tommy Kunsman (9), 8. J.T. Ferry (10), 9. Alex Bright (8), 10. Ronald Helmick (16), 11. Jason Cherry (17), 12. Dalton Herrick (11), 13. Scott Frack (14), 14. Bobby Butler (3), 15. Mike Smith (18), 16. Matthew Swift (2), 17. Richy Carnathan (15), 18. Thomas Radivoy (12). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Lap 1-2 Christian Bruno, Laps 3-12 Bobby Butler, Laps 13-23 Briggs Danner, Lap 24 Steven Drevicki, Lap 25 Briggs Danner.

HARD CHARGER: Cameron Smith (13th to 5th)

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS POINTS: 1-Steven Drevicki-204, 2-Briggs Danner-195, 3-Alex Bright-194, 4-Ed Aikin-180, 5-Bobby Butler-171, 6-Joey Amantea-145, 7-Christian Bruno-142, 8-Carmen Perigo-133, 9-Jason Cherry-130, 10-Dalton Herrick-129.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS RACE: May 17, 2024 – Georgetown Speedway – Georgetown, Delaware

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BRIGHT SWEEPS GEORGETOWN FOR FIRST USAC EAST COAST WIN OF '24

By: Nick Fillman

Georgetown, Delaware (May 17, 2024)……Alex Bright of Collegeville, Pa. scored a clean sweep of the USAC Rapid Tire Services East Coast Sprint Cars Presented by Capitol Renegade event at Delaware's Georgetown Speedway by winning his heat race and the feature event.

Following the heat race redraw, Alex Bright and Bobby Butler shared the front row of the 20-lap feature event with Bright immediately securing the feature event lead. The top four of Bright, Butler, Bruno and Drevicki quickly tried to separate themselves from the rest of the field.

The best battle of the first half of the feature event was between Matthew Swift and Bruce Buckwalter Jr. who battled side-by-side, lap after lap, just outside of the top-five. Behind that battle, another occurred between Rookie driver Ronald Helmick and Jason Cherry who battled tooth and nail at the tail end of the field.

Up front, Alex Bright was on a Friday night cruise with nobody able to come near the former series champion as Bobby Butler, Christian Bruno and Steven Drevicki all ran within two car lengths of each other. As the laps wound down and Bright began to put drivers at the tail end of the event a lap down, including going three wide with Bruce Buckwalter Jr. and Matthew Swift, nobody could do a thing about Bright at the front of the field.

Alex Bright scored the feature event win, his first of the season, over Bobby Butler, Christian Bruno, Steven Drevicki and Ed Aikin completing the top-five.

The win for Bright was the first of the season but easily could have been the team's third or even fourth. Bright finished in the runner-up position at Bedford after starting in the worst redraw spot and was leading at Port Royal before spinning and making contact with Briggs Danner and was in third at Grandview when Bobby Butler spun and left Bright with nowhere to go. It was a welcome bounce back for the former series champion as he tries to rack up wins, and potentially, another championship.

Bobby Butler had a welcome rebound finish after leading feature event laps at the series' last event at Grandview. Butler has had a plethora of speed through the first four feature events of the season and continues to challenge for wins.

Christian Bruno continued his fast beginning of 2024 with yet another podium run. The former 600 Speedweek Champion has been racking up the top-five finishes and scored a second podium effort in as many weeks.

Steven Drevicki also continued his speedy start to the new season. However, following his fourth place run at Georgetown, Drevicki lost the series point lead to Alex Bright, and now trails by just two points. Drevicki will lock and load and try to take the points lead back at Delaware International.

Rounding out the top-five was veteran driver Ed Aikin. Even though the series is only four races into the season, Aikin appears to have as much speed as ever in his DRC Chassis entry. With as much speed as Aikin has shown, perhaps when the series makes a stop at Bridgeport Motorsports Park, one of Aikin's best tracks, the vet could potentially break through and score his first career win. Only time will tell!

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS RACE RESULTS: May 17, 2024 – Georgetown Speedway – Georgetown, Delaware

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. 27-Alex Bright (7), 2. 17-Christian Bruno (1), 3. 5B-Bobby Butler (2), 4. 19-Steven Drevicki (4), 5. 7-Ed Aikin (9), 6. 03-Matthew Swift (5), 7. 83-Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (8), 8. 22R-Ronald Helmick (10), 9. 67-Jason Cherry (6), 10. 3H-Heidi Hedin (3). NT

FEATURE: (20 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Alex Bright (1), 2. Bobby Butler (2), 3. Christian Bruno (4), 4. Steven Drevicki (3), 5. Ed Aikin (5), 6. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (7), 7. Matthew Swift (6), 8. Ronald Helmick (8), 9. Jason Cherry (9), 10. Heidi Hedin (10). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-20 Alex Bright.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS POINTS: 1-Alex Bright-272, 2-Steven Drevicki-270, 3-Bobby Butler-244, 4-Ed Aikin-242, 5-Christian Bruno-213, 6-Briggs Danner-195, 7-Matthew Swift-183, 8-Jason Cherry-177, 9-Joey Amantea-145, 10-Carmen Perigo-133.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS RACE: May 25, 2024 – Delaware International Speedway – Delmar, Delaware

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MILLER SCORES WITH USAC EC AT DELAWARE INTERNATIONAL

By: Nick Fillman – USAC ECSC

Delmar, Delaware (May 25, 2024)……Kenny Miller lll of Morgantown, Pa. scored his first USAC Rapid Tire Services East Coast Sprint Car Presented by Capitol Renegade series win of the season on Saturday night at Delaware International Speedway.

In just his second start of the season at the season, Miller scored a heat race victory earlier in the evening and redrew the pole for the feature event. Miller went on to lead all 25 laps of the feature on his way to the win. Miller and his team fought engine and mechanical issues during their first outing at Port Royal (Pa.) Speedway one month ago. Moving into the Delaware round, the team fought the same issues all night long and seemed less than optimistic about the feature.

Perhaps the issues that lingered through the feature event allowed the driver, who is already among the best with the series in slick track conditions, and his car to work even better for the feature event.

As mentioned over and over, Miller simply cannot be a full-time driver with the series due to his work commitments. If not for his job, Miller would be a serious threat for more wins, and potentially, a series championship. Hopefully, we will see Miller and his team back in action soon.

Steven Drevicki was the runner-up finisher on Saturday night in both his heat race and the feature event. By virtue of his second-place result and Alex Bright's fifth, Drevicki has retaken the points lead from Bright by just six markers.

The biggest mover of Saturday night's feature was Jason Cherry who went from 10th to seventh place. Cherry is another driver who can really showcase what he's got when the track surface slicks off.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS RACE RESULTS: May 25, 2024 – Delaware International Speedway – Delmar, Delaware

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. 27-Alex Bright (2), 2. 39-Briggs Danner (4), 3. 21-Carmen Perigo (5), 4. 83-Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (1), 5. 03-Matthew Swift (3), 6. 44-Gary Huston (6). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. 23m-Kenny Miller III (1), 2. 19-Steven Drevicki (4), 3. 17-Christian Bruno (2), 4. 7-Ed Aikin (5), 5. 67-Jason Cherry (3). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Kenny Miller III (1), 2. Steven Drevicki (3), 3. Briggs Danner (4), 4. Christian Bruno (5), 5. Alex Bright (2), 6. Carmen Perigo (8), 7. Jason Cherry (10), 8. Ed Aikin (6), 9. Matthew Swift (9), 10. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (7), 11. Gary Huston (11). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-25 Kenny Miller III.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS POINTS: 1-Steven Drevicki-344, 2-Alex Bright-338, 3-Ed Aikin-296, 4-Christian Bruno-280, 5-Briggs Danner-266, 6-Bobby Butler-244, 7-Jason Cherry-233, 8-Matthew Swift-233, 9-Carmen Perigo-194, 10-Joey Amantea-145.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS RACE: June 7, 2024 – Williams Grove Speedway – Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania

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DANNER SCORES FIRST GALLAGHER MEMORIAL VICTORY AT THE GROVE

By: Nick Fillman – USAC ECSC

Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania (June 7, 2024)……Briggs Danner of Allentown, Pa. collected his third win of the 2024 Rapid Tire Services USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series Presented by Capitol Renegade season at Williams Grove Speedway.

This time, it came with a $5, 000 prize and his first win in the third annual Bill Gallagher Memorial.

Tommy Kunsman and Kenny Miller lll led the field to green for the 25-lap feature event with Miller quickly taking over the top spot from Kunsman on the initial green flag.

Further back in the pack on the opening lap, and on the opening corner, a four-wide situation unfolded with Bruce Buckwalter Jr., Briggs Danner, Bobby Butler and Joey Amantea battling for position.

Briggs Danner was the big winner of the four-wide battle as he advanced two positions from his sixth place starting spot to fourth early in the event. Other cars in the feature field that were putting the moves on early were Steven Drevicki, who quickly picked up a handful of positions, and Alex Bright, who had his work cut out for him after starting 15th.

The first caution flag of the evening was thrown on lap four as Tim Glatfelter, known for his winged 410 and 358 sprint car experience, spun to a stop in turn one in his wingless debut in Lee Kauffman's No. 96. Kenny Miller lll was the feature event leader over Kunsman, Ed Aikin, Danner and Buckwalter.

On the ensuing restart, Miller put a two car length lead on Kunsman with Aikin and Danner beginning to battle for the third spot. Behind them, Joey Amantea was flying around the outside and had worked his way into the top-five.

Another pair of laps were completed on the scoreboard with Danner moving around Aikin on the high side of the speedway, then drawing in on the tail tank of Kunsman for second, completing the pass officially on lap seven. Further back, Drevicki, Amantea and now Bright began to battle side-by-side for positions just outside and inside the top-five as the feature event began to near the halfway point.

Danner, utilizing the high side of the speedway, was able to power around the outside of Miller coming down the straightaway, and officially took the lead on lap nine of the feature event.

As the field completed lap 12, the caution flag again was displayed. This time for a pair of cars coming to a stop on the front stretch. Butler popped and sputtered his way to a stop just shy of turn one while Troy Fraker slowed in the middle of the front stretch. Fraker re-fired and joined the tail end of the field while Butler headed pit side with his feature event over.

Following the restart, Danner went back to the high side of the speedway with Miller down low, and both drivers in their preferred racing groove trying to become the leader. Danner began to pull away from Miller as the leader with Miller now left to be challenged by Drevicki on the bottom for the runner-up spot. All the while, Bright drew in on both of them, pounding the cushion around the top.

Drevicki was finally able to move around Miller for the second spot on lap 17 and then set his sights on Danner for the lead. Quickly following along with Drevicki, Bright made his move around Miller for third on lap 20.

Drevicki and Miller worked the bottom in turns one and two, and the top in three and four with Danner on the high side all the way around the half-mile dirt oval. Drevicki and Bright kept Danner honest, staying within a half straightaway of Danner as the laps continued to click off.

Try as they might, Drevicki nor Bright could catch Danner in time as he went on to score his first ever Bill Gallagher Memorial and a $5, 000 payday. Meanwhile, Drevicki held off Bright for second. Bright came home third on the podium with Miller and Christian Bruno completing the podium.

The win for Danner was the team's third of the season and was their first as a pair at Williams Grove. Last year at the Gallagher Memorial, the Hogue Racing Enterprises team lost an engine in the heat race, forcing Danner to pilot the Ed Aikin No. 7 machine. Danner started dead last and drove from 21st to third. This season, however, was much less daring for Danner and the team on their way to the win. The win for Danner may have meant more to him than many others, as Gallagher was the first to give Danner an opportunity to drive a sprint car. The duo scored a win on their opening night together, thus kicking off Danner's tenure in sprint car racing.

Drevicki is the current series points leader and a former winner at Williams Grove. After a hard-fought battle with good friend Buckwalter in the heat race, Drevicki missed the redraw position by just one spot, forcing him to start ninth outside of the redraw cars. The deeper starting position did not seem to bug Drevicki all that much as the former series champion worked the low side to methodically work his way to the front. Should there have been a caution in the late stages, who knows what would have happened? But as Drevicki exclaimed in the pit area at the conclusion of the night, "man, second sucks!"

Alex Bright and the Heffner Enterprises South team came into the night as the defending champions of the Gallagher Memorial, with Bright winning the previous two 5G events. Furthermore, Bright had won the last four USAC East Coast events at Williams Grove between the Hummer Motorsports No. 20 and Heffner No. 27. The night seemed to be off to a good start in hot laps with Bright turning quick times before disaster struck. The Heffner 27 slowed with smoke showing in hot laps, resulting in an expired power plant. The team got to action by pulling the damaged engine out, and with a phone call to a good friend of Heffner Racing, and brother to Curt, Sean Michael, a backup 360 c.i. engine was on its way to the track. Bright missed his heat race, started 15th in the feature and battled his way to the front, coming home with a respectable third place effort.

Last week's winner, Kenny Miller lll, led the feature early on before dropping a few positions at the front of the field. While Miller may not feel great about not getting the big victory, finishing fourth behind three different series champions is great company to be around. The three-time series winner in 2023 will have to wait until his next race to have a shot at adding to the win column in 2024.

Rounding out the top-five was Christian Bruno with another impressive run. The former 600 Speedweek Champion and two-time Action Track USA 600 Champion has had his best season to date so far in USAC East Coast competition. Bruno has made five starts, all five of which have ended in top-five runs and two being podium runs. As Bruno continues to run at the front of the field, he will continue to gain valuable knowledge and battle for a potential first career win.

Hard luck of the night, without a doubt, belongs to Milford, N.J. driver Bobby Butler. The day started out with Bobby's normal truck blowing an engine on their way to the track, just across the border of Pennsylvania from his native New Jersey. A few phone calls later, a spare truck was loaned to Butler, allowing him to get to the speedway for the night's event. A convincing heat race win seemed to have things on the right track for Butler in the feature before his car slowed with an issue. An apparent engine failure ended the night for Butler, and by his own admission, may have ended his season. We certainly hope that is not the case and would love to see Bobby back in the pit area at our next event.

Speaking of next events, the series will now have a full two-week break before getting back into action with our first ever trip to Utica Rome and Fonda Speedway in New York. In the meantime, a number of our drivers will be competing against the nation's best during the annual Eastern Storm tour by the USAC AMSOIL Sprint Car National Championship.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS RACE RESULTS: June 7, 2024 – Williams Grove Speedway – Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. 5B-Bobby Butler (4), 2. 21K-Tommy Kunsman (2), 3. 7-Ed Aikin (5), 4. 83-Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (6), 5. 19-Steven Drevicki (8), 6. 18T-J.T. Ferry (3), 7. 12w-Troy Fraker (7). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. 88J-Joey Amantea (2), 2. 17-Christian Bruno (1), 3. 23m-Kenny Miller III (3), 4. 39-Briggs Danner (5), 5. 21-Carmen Perigo (6), 6. 96-Tim Glatfelter (7), 7. 67-Jason Cherry (4), 8. 44-Gary Huston (8). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (6), 2. Steven Drevicki (9), 3. 27-Alex Bright (15), 4. Kenny Miller III (2), 5. Christian Bruno (8), 6. Joey Amantea (5), 7. Tommy Kunsman (1), 8. Carmen Perigo (10), 9. Ed Aikin (4), 10. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (3), 11. J.T. Ferry (11), 12. Jason Cherry (14), 13. Tim Glatfelter (12), 14. Troy Fraker (13), 15. Gary Huston (16), 16. Bobby Butler (7). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-8 Kenny Miller lll, Laps 9-25 Briggs Danner.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS POINTS: 1-Steven Drevicki-415, 2-Alex Bright-402, 3-Ed Aikin-348, 4-Christian Bruno-345, 5-Briggs Danner-341, 6-Bobby Butler-283, 7-Jason Cherry-274, 8-Carmen Perigo-247, 9-Matthew Swift-233, 10-Joey Amantea-208.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS RACE: June 28, 2024 – Utica-Rome Speedway – Vernon, New York

CONTINGENCY AWARDS:

Susan and David Miller $100 Bonus Drivers: Briggs Danner, Steven Drevicki, Alex Bright, Kenny Miller lll & Christian Bruno

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HOME TURF DEFENDED! VARIN SCORES UTICA-ROME VICTORY

By: Nick Fillman

Vernon, New York (June 28, 2024)……Danny Varin of Fonda, New York picked up the victory in the first ever Rapid Tire Services USAC East Coast Sprint Cars presented by Capitol Renegade Series event at Vernon, New York's Utica-Rome Speedway.

A pair of New York's finest led the field to green for the 25-lap feature event with Billy VanInwegen Jr. and Danny Varin sharing the front row. Behind them, a pair of USAC East Coast Champions and the current one and two in points, Steven Drevicki and Alex Bright, were ready to try their hand at defending victory lane for a series regular.

Danny Varin got the early jump on Billy V for the feature event lead with VanInwegen sliding into second and Alex Bright moving into third. Fellow New York driver Matt Tanner quickly moved his way into the fourth spot with battles behind them between Shawn Donath, Steven Drevicki and Kenny Miller lll for spots just outside of the top-five.

Early on in the feature event, the high side was the place to be with the majority of the field running the razor thin cushion following a brief track prep break prior to the feature event. The fast pace meant that the leaders quickly encountered lapped traffic. Danny Varin was the first to get to the slower cars, which allowed Billy V and Alex Bright to draw in on Varin for the lead as the frontrunning trio began to pick apart the lapped cars.

Varin had a bit of apprehension when it came to the lapped traffic, allowing Billy V to make multiple attempts to get to the bottom lane of the speedway before ultimately taking the lead from Varin around the halfway point of the feature

event while utilizing the extreme outside of the speedway. Just as Billy V had taken the lead, the lapped traffic became thick and heavy as the leaders began to close in on the back half of the top-10 after setting a torrid pace.

Billy V, Danny Varin and Alex Bright had all drawn in to within the same corner as Bright dove to the inside of Varin repeatedly to try and take the runner-up spot. As the field worked their way down the back straightaway on lap 16, they encountered a three-wide battle for position with lapped traffic. Just as it appeared Billy VanInwegen was about to make a daring four wide move for position, the caution flag flew for a spinning Jason Cherry in turn four.

The restart set up the leaders with a fresh track ahead of them and no lapped cars in sight. Billy V got the early jump on the restart and immediately went to the high side of the speedway with Varin following. Varin quickly pulled the diamond maneuver through turns one and two and dove to the bottom side of Billy V out of turn two and down the back stretch, taking the race lead back officially on lap 17.

Varin was back out front and in command with Billy V now holding off the charges of Alex Bright for second. Matt Tanner was solidly in the third position with Shawn Donath, Steven Drevicki and Kenny Miller lll continuing to battle for positions inside the top-five.

As the lead trio of drivers began to settle in just a bit, the caution flag flew once again on lap 20 for Dalton Herrick who spun to a stop in turn three. The caution flag set up a five-lap dash to the finish to establish who would become the first ever USAC East Coast winner at Utica-Rome Speedway.

On the restart, Varin launched off the corner and down the front straightaway and immediately put distance between himself and Billy V for the race lead. Alex Bright did not get the best of restarts and got over the banking in turns one and two, losing multiple positions and just about falling outside of the top-10. Matt Tanner was then able to move inside the top-three with Shawn Donath also having issues and falling back, allowing Kenny Miller lll and Steven Drevicki to move back inside the top-five.

The five-lap dash gave Danny Varin all the extra effort he needed as he attacked the cushion around the outside of the speedway and pulled away to his biggest lead of the night – nearly five seconds – over Billy V as the last handful of laps faded away.

In the end, it was Danny Varin scoring his first career USAC East Coast victory at Utica-Rome Speedway over Billy VanInwegen and Matt Tanner who completed an all-Empire State podium. Kenny Miller lll took the fourth spot with Steven Drevicki in fifth and Alex Bright rebounding for sixth.

The win for Danny Varin at Utica-Rome was not his first sprint car win nor his first victory ever at the speedway. Varin has won many modified events at the speedway, and just last season, defeated the All Star Circuit of Champions in winged 410 sprint car competition. In fact, Varin has now won in six different divisions at Utica-Rome, a Sportsman Modified, big block modified, 305, 360 and 410 winged sprint car and now a non-wing 360.

Varin explained in victory lane that he was just a bit apprehensive when going through lapped traffic, allowing Billy V to take the feature event lead. Varin also mentioned that this was a bucket list item for himself and the team and was determined to park the 01 car on the front stretch. Varin was once a former part-time competitor with the series just a few seasons ago, and since has focused more on winged 360 events in New York. Varin utilized all of his laps around Utica-Rome Speedway to secure a convincing win in front of one of his home track crowds.

Until Friday night's feature was completed, Billy VanInwegen Jr. held the honor of being the most recent USAC East Coast winner in the state of New York. VanInwegen, another veteran of winged 360 and modified events in the state, was fast all night long. While Billy V did lead some of the feature event, he came up just a bit short on scoring his second career series victory.

One of the biggest surprises of the night came from podium finisher Matt Tanner. A regular front runner with the ESS winged 360 sprint cars, Tanner had previously made one USAC East Coast start in the series' last event in New York at Orange County Fair Speedway. After that night of action, Tanner had expressed it was one of the most fun times he had

in a sprint car and was eager to make a return start with the series. Tanner put his New York track surface knowledge and experience to the test and secured an eye catching and impressive podium finish.

Kenny Miller lll picked up a feature event win in late May at Delaware International Speedway and was back for more action in New York at Utica-Rome. With Miller's busy work schedule, it's a bit of a surprise every time we find the 23m pit side, but one thing is always guaranteed, and that is the fact that Miller will be fast. Throughout the feature event, Miller fought tooth and nail with Drevicki and New York drivers Matt Tanner and Shawn Donath inside the top-five for the majority of the feature. With the calamity of the final restart of the night, Miller worked his way inside the top-five securely and scored a fourth-place effort.

When it comes to running in the slick and the USAC East Coast Series, Steven Drevicki is one of the more prominent drivers that comes to mind. Drevicki scored a dominating heat one win. In the feature event, Drevicki appeared to struggle just a little bit early on when the preferred line was around the high side of the speedway, but as the track began to slow down, Drevicki sped up, picking off a handful of positions and securing another top-five run. Important for Drevicki is the fact that his finish was one spot ahead of Alex Bright and allowed Drevicki to add another three points to his championship lead which now stands at 16.

While he may not have scored the win or a podium run, it was good to see Alex Bright back in the pit area on Friday night behind the wheel of the Hummer Motorsports 20 car. Bright picked up the heat race two win and was strong all feature long. However, one tiny error on the high side of the speedway ended Bright's shot at a podium finish.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS RACE RESULTS: June 28, 2024 – Utica-Rome Speedway – Vernon, New York

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. 19-Steven Drevicki (3), 2. 01-Danny Varin (7), 3. 23m-Kenny Miller III (5), 4. 16cw-Eric Jennings (2), 5. 5B-Bobby Butler (6), 6. 83-Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (4), 7. 64-Richy Carnathan (8), 8. 44-Gary Huston (9), 9. 4p-Chase Moran (1). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. 20-Alex Bright (3), 2. 90-Matt Tanner (2), 3. 53-Shawn Donath (4), 4. 56-Billy VanInwegen Jr. (7), 5. 7-Ed Aikin (6), 6. 29-Dalton Herrick (1), 7. 51-Mike Haggenbottom (5), 8. 67-Jason Cherry (8). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Danny Varin (2), 2. Billy VanInwegen Jr. (1), 3. Matt Tanner (6), 4. Kenny Miller III (7), 5. Steven Drevicki (3), 6. Alex Bright (4), 7. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (11), 8. Mike Haggenbottom (14), 9. Shawn Donath (5), 10. Eric Jennings (8), 11. Ed Aikin (10), 12. Chase Moran (17), 13. Richy Carnathan (13), 14. Jason Cherry (16), 15. Dalton Herrick (12), 16. Bobby Butler (9), 17. Gary Huston (15). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-11 Danny Varin, Laps 12-16 Billy VanInwegen Jr., Laps 17-25 Danny Varin.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS POINTS: 1-Steven Drevicki-481, 2-Alex Bright-465, 3-Ed Aikin-393, 4-Christian Bruno-345, 5-Briggs Danner-341, 6-Bobby Butler-318, 7-Jason Cherry-310, 8-Carmen Perigo-247, 9-Matthew Swift-233, 10-Joey Amantea-208.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS RACE: July 6, 2024 – Bridgeport Motorsports Park – Swedesboro, New Jersey

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DREVICKI NABS FIRST USAC EAST COAST WIN OF '24 AT BRIDGEPORT

By: Nick Fillman

Swedesboro, New Jersey (July 6, 2024)……Steven Drevicki of Reading, Pa. defeated the heat and the field for his first win of the 2024 Rapid Tire Services USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series Presented by Capitol Renegade season at Swedesboro, New Jersey's Bridgeport Motorsports Park.

J.T. Ferry and Ed Aikin led the field to green with a hungry group of drivers looking for their first win of the season and first career wins. Ferry quickly drove to the high side on the initial start and took the lead down the back straightaway with Aikin, Drevicki and Christian Bruno following around the high side of the speedway as Chris Allen Jr. rolled the bottom.

Quickly, Drevicki locked and loaded the slider on Aikin to take over second before taking the race lead away from Ferry within the first handful of laps. Drevicki was looking for his first win of the season despite having seven top-five efforts on the season. Ferry had slid into third with Bruno rolling around Aikin to take over third.

The two heat race winners – Bobby Butler and Kenny Miller lll – were pounding the extreme high side of the speedway, nearly beating the wall down on multiple laps as they tried to reel in the lead trio of drivers Drevicki, Ferry and Bruno.

As the top-five to six settled for positions, Drevicki began to encounter lapped traffic as the feature event neared the halfway mark. Drevicki quickly began picking off lapped cars with Bruno working around Ferry in lapped traffic and taking over second. Bruno was working his way through lapped cars as he tried his best to catch Drevicki who continued to put cars between himself and Bruno for the runner-up spot.

Just as the leaders were working into turns one and two, the caution flag flew for an incident in turn two that saw David Swanson and Matt Swift make contact and come to a stop at the exit of the second turn on lap 12.

The caution flag erased the lapped cars in front of Drevicki but also eliminated the traffic in between the leaders. The restart with 13 laps to go was executed perfectly by Drevicki as he rocketed away from the field and secured his lead by two car lengths or so as the field entered three and four. Miller pulled a huge slide job from fourth, moving past Ferry and Bruno as he came up the track with all three making contact with each other and Bruno getting the worst end of the deal after bouncing off the wall and losing a handful of positions.

Drevicki was stretching his legs out front on the high side where he is not normally known to run, adding to his lead over Miller with Bobby Butler now moving into the third position. The best battle on the track at the moment was for fourth through about seventh as Aikin, Bruce Buckwalter Jr. and Bruno battled for positions as Bruno was attempting to march his way back inside the top-five after the restart calamity.

As the feature event drew within five laps to go, Miller was closing in just a tad on Drevicki for the race lead as he began to encounter lapped traffic once again. With three laps to go, Miller continued to pound the high side of the speedway, trying everything he could to catch Drevicki. On his quest, Miller made contact with the lapped car of Heidi Hedin who spun and went up the track, collecting Miller who stayed in the gas, hopped the left rear of Hedin, bounced off the wall and kept going to keep his runner-up spot.

A three-lap dash was set to decide the winner with Drevicki out front, Miller retaining second, Butler third, Ferry fourth and Bruno making it back inside the top-five. On the restart, Drevicki got a good jump on the field, but another driver got too good of a jump as Bruno was penalized two positions for a restart violation.

The second attempt at the three-lap dash went off with no issue as Drevicki motored away from Miller who separated himself from Butler for second. Ferry held strong in fourth with Buckwalter taking over the fifth position.

The final three laps quickly passed by with the top-five remaining the same as Drevicki collected his first win of the 2024 season over Miller with a great run for Butler in third, Ferry fourth and Buckwalter rounding out the top-five.

For Drevicki, there was also another first. Not only for Drevicki, but for the entire field. Up until Saturday night, no driver other than Briggs Danner or Alex Bright had ever won a USAC East Coast points paying event at Bridgeport. Drevicki was able to change that on Saturday night and score his first Bridgeport win on the new configuration. He had previously won

on the older 3/8-mile track which was located inside of the old 5/8-mile oval. With his win on Saturday, Drevicki picked up his eighth top five run of the season and added to his points lead over Alex Bright who was not in attendance.

Kenny Miller lll had a wild run to the runner-up spot in the feature event, coming home one spot short in second. Miller picked up the heat race two win and was flying through the field trying to catch Drevicki for the race lead. Try as he might, a second-place effort was all he could muster as Miller continued his excellent run of finishes. In his last four events, Miller has picked up a win, two fourths and now a second-place finish. Miller and the team hope to be in action on Wednesday at Action Track USA, pending engine inspection as the No. 23m showed smoke in the closing laps of the feature.

While not the result that Butler was aiming for, a third-place effort definitely was a welcome result for the New Jersey driver. An engine failure at Williams Grove, coupled with a DNF at Utica-Rome, the final spot on the podium at a place where Butler nearly scored his first career win was a step in the right direction for the No. 5B team. Butler dominated heat race number one and followed along with Miller through the field as the duo pulled the seventh and eighth pills in the redraw.

J.T. Ferry led the field to green for the feature event and hung around all feature event long, running inside the top-three for the majority of the feature event. Ferry has done a bit of wing and non-wing racing this season as the Drums, Pa. driver currently sits third in URC's winged 360 standings but still finds his way to the USAC East Coast Series when time allows. Ferry made three feature events during the 2024 Eastern Storm and is always a smooth driver in the field. Ferry picked up a strong fourth place effort on Saturday night, a great confidence boost as the youngster is more than excited to get to Action Track USA on Wednesday.

"Hey Nick, you finally get to write about me" Were the words that Bruce Buckwalter Jr. said pit side following the feature. The Mechanicsburg, Pa. driver has been rock-solid this season with seven top-10 efforts heading into Saturday night and now collected his first top-five of the 2024 campaign. Buckwalter sits fourth in points and has been as strong as we've seen since joining the series. Buckwalter spent a good part of the feature event battling with Aikin, and later, Christian Bruno at the tail end of the event with Buckwalter coming out on top of the battles.

A number of drivers made their 2024 season debut with the series on Saturday night, including former winner Chris Allen Jr., Aidan Borden, Jonathan and David Swanson as well as Patrick Chilmonik. Look for some of those same drivers to join us once again at the series' next event on Wednesday July 10, at the tight confines of Action Track USA.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS RACE RESULTS: July 6, 2024 – Bridgeport Motorsports Park – Swedesboro, New Jersey

FIRST HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. 5B-Bobby Butler (2). 2. 17-Christian Bruno (4). 3. 19-Steven Drevicki (6). 4. 7-Ed Aikin (7). 5. 03-Matthew Swift (3). 6. 117-David Swanson (8). 7. 3H-Heidi Hedin (5). 8. 17J-Jonathan Swanson (1). 9. 56B-Dirk Rimrott (10). NT

SECOND HEAT: (8 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. 23M-Kenny Miller III (5). 2. 83-Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (4). 3. 71-Chris Allen Jr. (7). 4. 18J-J.T. Ferry (6). 5. 51-Mike Haggenbottom (1). 6. 64-Richy Carnathan (8). 7. 7B-Aidan Borden (3). 8. 71x-Bill Unglert (9). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Steven Drevicki (4). 2. Kenny Miller III (8). 3. Bobby Butler (7). 4. J.T. Ferry (1). 5. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (6). 6. Ed Aikin (2). 7. Christian Bruno (5). 8. Aidan Borden (14). 9. David Swanson (11). 10. Mike Haggenbottom (10). 11. Richy Carnathan (12). 12. Heidi Hedin (13). 13. Dirk Rimrott (17). 14. Matthew Swift (9). 15. 27-Matt Peck (19). 16. Chris Allen Jr. (3). 17. Bill Unglert (16). 18. 1-Patrick Chilmonik (18). 19. Jonathan Swanson (15). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-2 J.T. Ferry, Laps 3-25 Steven Drevicki.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS POINTS: 1-Steven Drevicki-557, 2-Alex Bright-465, 3-Ed Aikin-453, 4-Christian Bruno-404, 5-Bobby Butler-390, 6-Briggs Danner-341, 7-Jason Cherry-310, 8-Matthew Swift-272, 9-Carmen Perigo-247, 10-Joey Amantea-208.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS RACE: July 10, 2024 – Action Track USA – Kutztown, Pennsylvania

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ACTION TRACK DOMINANCE FOR DANNER!

By: Nick Fillman

Kutztown, Pennsylvania (July 10, 2024)……For the fourth time in the 2024 season, Briggs Danner went to victory lane as a winner with the Rapid Tire Services USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series presented by Capitol Renegade, this time scoring his third victory at the bullring of Kutztown, Pennsylvania's Action Track USA.

Bobby Butler and Christian Bruno shared the front row of the 30-lap Iron Cowboy Classic. Bruno quickly took the race lead away from Butler and put some distance between himself and Butler. Quickly, however, Danner moved from his fourth place starting spot to the runner up position and began his hunt of Bruno for the race lead.

As Bruno and Danner entered turn three on lap four, Danner pulled the slide job on Bruno for the race lead, officially leading on lap five. The caution flag was displayed for the first time at the completion of lap five for a slowing Ed Aikin as Danner led over Bruno, Kenny Miller lll, Butler and J.T. Ferry.

When the feature got back going, Miller wasted no time moving by Bruno for the runner up spot, utilizing the same move that Danner did on Bruno, to steal the second spot from Bruno. Miller now tried to saddle up and run down Danner for the race lead as Danner was setting a torrid pace at the front of the field.

Just about halfway through, Danner began to encounter lapped cars at the tail end of the field. First, it was the solo car of Gary Huston, then came the gridlock. A five-car duel for positions at the tail end of the field held up Danner immensely as he tried high and low, picking off a pair of cars as the laps continued to wind down. Miller quickly went from being more than a half track behind Danner to within the same corner as Danner tried to pass the lapped cars.

Behind the top-three, a hornet's nest of action took place between Butler, Ferry, Carmen Perigo and Steven Drevicki who were locked in an entertaining battle for position at the back end of the top-five.

While Danner was picking through lapped cars, it appeared that Scott Frack had checked up just a bit more than Danner had planned as the Frack machine went spinning after light contact in turns one and two. The caution flag was again displayed, this time on lap 19, setting up a 12-lap dash to the finish.

All but the distance of a heat race was left in the feature event with Danner nailing the restart and pulling away from Miller. Bruno held onto third, but the driver on the move was Perigo who found a middle groove on the speedway, lower than many of the leaders, and began picking off positions.

Miller kept Danner honest as he never let the No. 39 get too far ahead, but ultimately, was not able gain any time on Danner for the race lead. Meanwhile, Perigo had moved by Bruno for third and was beginning to pressure Miller for second.

Try as they might, Danner maintained his distance from the rest of the field and collected his fourth feature event win of the season. Miller yet again was the runner up with Perigo third, Bruno fourth and Drevicki completing the top-five.

Danner picked up another win on the season, his first since June 5 in the Bill Gallagher Memorial at Williams Grove Speedway. The team had missed the previous two events, but with good reason. In his return to the series, Danner was victorious after showing impressive, near dominant, speed during his run through the USAC Eastern Storm events where he collected his first national series win and nearly three others.

For the second straight event, Miller came up just one spot short in the feature event. Back-to-back runner-up results may not be what Miller and team have in mind, but the speed the team has is undeniable. Again, while Miller is not a full-time driver with the series due to his busy work schedule, the results are there just about every time the No. 23m hits the speedway surface.

Perigo explained in top-three interviews that he thought he had something for the race leaders, and he was likely correct. Perigo had discovered a line right through the middle of speedway that no other drivers had found at the front of the field. Perigo was the Iron Cowboy Classic feature winner last season but was not able to capitalize on his line with the leaders. Perhaps, if the caution flag had flown again, Perigo may have had a chance to put his line to the test, but on Wednesday night, he was forced to settle for third.

Bruno continued his extremely consistent season by adding yet another top-five finish to his resume. Bruno led laps early, but unfortunately for him, unlike his heat race, Danner caught and passed the No. 17B for the race lead. While Bruno and team did not grab the win after leading laps early, they went to victory lane as the winners of the 600 sprint feature later on in the evening.

Completing the top-five and adding to his points lead and looking like he could be well on the way to his fourth career USAC East Coast championship, was Steven Drevicki. It doesn't take much of a conversation for Drevicki to admit that Action Track USA is not his favorite stop on the series trail but running a smart race and picking positions up when available are a recipe for success. Drevicki pulled the number eight pill, the worst of the redraw, and slowly picked off cars for his top-five run. The positions came a little easier later on in the feature event run as Drevicki began to follow the line of Perigo as he marched his way to the front.

There was a rather large supply of bonus money available to teams on Wednesday night, which was a welcome sight to many as we hit the dog days of summer. Chris Spotts Welding offered cash bonuses of $150 to the heat race winners (Miller and Bruno) as well as a $100 bonus to the hard charger for the evening, Perigo (10th to 3rd). Additionally, a big thank you to John Schneider of E. Schneider & Sons Recycling who added $500 to the winner's share and an extra $100 to every position from second through the rest of the field.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS RACE RESULTS: July 10, 2024 – Action Track USA – Kutztown, Pennsylvania – Iron Cowboy Classic

FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. 23m-Kenny Miller III (5), 2. 22R-Ronald Helmick (1), 3. 19-Steven Drevicki (7), 4. 18J-J.T. Ferry (8), 5. 96-Cameron Smith (2), 6. 39x-Scott Frack (6), 7. 44-Gary Huston (4), 8. 88J-Joey Amantea (3). NT

SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. 17-Christian Bruno (1), 2. 39-Briggs Danner (7), 3. 7-Ed Aikin (2), 4. 5B-Bobby Butler (8), 5. 21-Carmen Perigo (4), 6. 1-Patrick Chilmonik (6), 7. 83-Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (5).

ALSO AT THE TRACK: 3H-Heidi Hedin

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (4), 2. Kenny Miller III (3), 3. Carmen Perigo (10), 4. Christian Bruno (2), 5. Steven Drevicki (8), 6. Cameron Smith (9), 7. Bobby Butler (1), 8. J.T. Ferry (6), 9. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (14), 10. Scott Frack (11), 11. Ed Aikin (5), 12. Ronald Helmick (7), 13. Gary Huston (13), 14. Patrick Chilmonik (12), 15. Joey Amantea (15). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-4 Christian Bruno, Laps 5-30 Briggs Danner.

HARD CHARGER: Carmen Perigo (10th to 3rd)

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS POINTS: 1-Steven Drevicki-621, 2-Ed Aikin-500, 3-Christian Bruno-473, 4-Alex Bright-465, 5-Bobby Butler-447, 6-Briggs Danner-418, 7-Carmen Perigo-315, 8-Jason Cherry-310, 9-Matthew Swift-272, 10-Joey Amantea-242.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS RACE: August 2, 2024 – Clinton County Speedway – Mill Hall, Pennsylvania

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Bruno Wins His First, Clean Sweeps at Port Royal

By: Nick Fillman

Port Royal, Pennsylvania (August 17, 2024)……Christian Bruno of Deptford, New Jersey completed the clean sweep by winning both his heat race and the feature event on Saturday night at Pennsylvania's Port Royal Speedway to score his first career Rapid Tire Service USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series Presented by Capitol Renegade feature victory.

Bruno, an accomplished 600cc sprint racer, has been having quite a successful season, amassing a number of wins in the 600 ranks this season, including securing the 2024 Hyper Racing 600 Speedweek Championship just a month ago.

Bruno was fast all night long and has been very strong throughout the 2024 season. A quick flashback to the beginning of the season saw Bruno come up just short in a fierce battle with Joey Amantea at Port Royal in April. Despite the smaller field of cars, Bruno still had to fend off heavy competition as a pair of series champions started just behind him and remained a constant during the feature event.

Current series points leader Steven Drevicki ended up in the runner-up position, moving by Alex Bright in the feature event. Drevicki has had a very consistent and strong 2024 campaign and has once again added to his series point lead.

It was good to see Alex Bright back in the series pit area once again with it being his first start since heading north to Utica-Rome Speedway in late June. Bright started second and finished third in the feature event behind the wheel of the Hummer Motorsports No. 20.

Completing the top-five were drivers who are at both ends of the spectrum as far as their careers behind the wheel. Veteran Ed Aikin, who is having his best series season to date, finished fourth. Rookie sprint car driver and former World of Outlaws crew member Ronald Helmick recorded his first career top-five effort in fifth.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS RACE RESULTS: August 17, 2024 – Port Royal Speedway – Port Royal, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. 17-Christian Bruno (2); 2. 20-Alex Bright (5); 3. 22R-Ronald Helmick (1); 4. 19-Steven Drevicki (3); 5. 7-Ed Aikin (6); 6. 64-Richy Carnathan (4); 7. 67-Jason Cherry (8); 8. 96-Lee Kauffman (10); 9. 83-Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (9); 10. 5B-Bobby Butler. NT

FEATURE: (20 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Christian Bruno (1); 2. Steven Drevicki (3); 3. Alex Bright (2); 4. Ed Aikin (5); 5. Ronald Helmick (4); 6. Jason Cherry (7); 7. Richy Carnathan (6); 8. Lee Kauffman (8); 9. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (9); 10. Bobby Butler (10). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-20 Christian Bruno.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS POINTS: 1-Steven Drevicki-693, 2-Ed Aikin-565, 3-Christian Bruno-551, 4-Alex Bright-536, 5-Bobby Butler-457, 6-Briggs Danner-418, 7-Jason Cherry-367, 8-Carmen Perigo-315, 9-Matthew Swift-272, 10-Joey Amantea-242.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS RACE: September 8, 2024 – Action Track USA – Kutztown, Pennsylvania

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It's Miller's Time in Action Track USA Score

By: Nick Fillman

Kutztown, Pennsylvania (September 8, 2024)……Kenny Miller lll of Morgantown, Pa. capitalized on a late race issue for early race leader Briggs Danner to win his second Rapid Tire Services USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series Presented by Capitol Renegade win of the season, and his first ever at Kutztown, Pennsylvania's Action Track USA.

Following heat race action and redraws, Danner and Miller led the field to green for the 30-lap Dick Tobias Classic at Action Track USA. Right away, Danner bolted to the early race lead with Miller doing everything he could to stay on the tail tank of the Hogue Enterprises No. 39 machine, even drawing under Danner for the lead down the back straightaway early on.

Around the 10-lap mark, Ed Aikin and Cameron Smith, who were battling hard within the top-five, made contact in corners three and four. Aikin went bouncing into the air, but luckily, never got upside down while Smith spun to a stop in the middle of the corner. Both drivers did attempt to re-fire for the feature event, but Aikin was forced pit side with what was later discovered to be a bent rear axle and frame damage. Likewise, Smith tried to tag the field but quickly pulled into the infield with steering issues aboard the Lee Kauffman No. 96 machine.

As racing got back underway, the master class for Danner continued out front with Miller doing everything in his power to stay with Danner as the laps clicked off. Christian Bruno, who continues to have a banner year, was in third, with Carmen Perigo moving his way inside the top-five after pulling the worst pill of the redraw and starting eighth. Likewise, Steven Drevicki rebounded from not making the redraw, and worked his way into fifth, challenging for positions in front of him while Danner quickly closed in.

As the laps clicked off, Danner encountered three different two-car battles for position at the tail end of the field. "The great equalizer, " as they say, began to allow Miller to draw in closer and closer as Danner picked at the lapped cars. Meanwhile, Danner amazingly had worked his way to Bruce Buckwalter Jr. who was running seventh at the time. Now Miller had all but come to the rear bumper of Danner for the race lead.

Just as the field appeared to cross the 10-lap remaining mark, a lapped car began to slow in corners one and two with Danner rapidly approaching. As Danner arrived upon the lapped car of Gary Huston, Danner slammed to a stop while attempting to maneuver around the outside of Huston. Danner tried to let the car roll and re-fire, but it unfortunately did not, necessitating the caution flag. While Huston retired to the infield with a flat right rear tire, Danner rejoined the field at the tail end of the lead lap cars, which fortunately for Danner, was only seventh.

As the field restarted with just a few laps left, Miller found himself in the lead with Bruno, Perigo, Drevicki and Jared Kreider inside the top-five. Danner made quick work of Buckwalter and Kreider to get back inside the top-five as the laps dwindled.

Miller remained out front and uncontested for the balance of the feature with Bruno securing the runner-up spot. Danner, in spectacular fashion, flew around the outside of Perigo and Drevicki to steal third place on the last lap, last corner of the event. Perigo and Drevicki completed the top-five.

Miller scored his first win with the series since May at Delaware International Speedway, and his first ever at Action Track USA where he is a former wingless 600 sprint champion. Miller explained in victory lane that, while it was disappointing to see Danner stop on the track and inherit the race lead, he took the victory however he could get it. Miller nearly got the job done last season at Action Track in the Tobias Classic before late race contact with Timmy Buckwalter ended the run and the chance.

Bruno continued his breakout season. From the big tracks to the bull rings, he backed up his August win at Port Royal with a runner-up showing at Action Track USA. The two-time 600 Sprint champion at the track made it a pair of former 600 champions taking the top-two spots in the feature with Miller scoring the win.

Danner looked to have another feature win all wrapped up before the unfortunate ending out front in lapped traffic. Danner still put on an amazing show in the late stages of the feature to complete the podium with a daring, three-wide move coming off turn four to take the checkered flag.

“They had my middle too slick tonight, ” were the words Perigo had in the pit area following the feature. The former Action Track USA USAC East Coast Sprint Car feature winner scored a thrilling heat race number two but had to make it work after pulling the number eight pill for the feature. Perhaps if Perigo had drawn a pill more toward the front of the field, he could have played a role in determining the win, but things were not meant to be on this night.

Steven Drevicki is not shy when saying that Action Track USA is not his favorite track on the schedule. Despite that sentiment, Drevicki has been fast each and every time the series ventures to the Berks County Bullring, and was rewarded with another top-five effort, which added to his points lead. While Drevicki didn’t get the win in the sprint car, a one-off appearance in the SpeedSTR division resulted in a feature win at the Dick Tobias Classic.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS RACE RESULTS: September 8, 2024 – Action Track USA – Kutztown, Pennsylvania

FIRST HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. 17-Christian Bruno (1), 2. 39-Briggs Danner (4), 3. 7-Ed Aikin (3), 4. 83-Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (5), 5. 10-Wesley Gomez (2), 6. 1Q-Thomas Radivoy (6), 7. 76-Mike Smith (7), 8. 44-Gary Huston (8). NT

SECOND HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. 21-Carmen Perigo (2), 2. 51-Jared Kreider (1), 3. 23m-Kenny Miller III (4), 4. 96-Cameron Smith (6), 5. 19-Steven Drevicki (7), 6. 29-Dalton Herrick (5), 7. 67-Jason Cherry (3), 8. 3H-Heidi Hedin (8). NT

FEATURE: (30 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Kenny Miller III (2), 2. Christian Bruno (3), 3. Briggs Danner (1), 4. Carmen Perigo (8), 5. Steven Drevicki (10), 6. Jared Kreider (5), 7. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (7), 8. Dalton Herrick (12), 9. Jason Cherry (14), 10. Mike Smith (13), 11. Heidi Hedin (16), 12. Wesley Gomez (9), 13. Thomas Radivoy (11), 14. Gary Huston (15), 15. Cameron Smith (4), 16. Ed Aikin (6). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-24 Briggs Danner, Laps 25-30 Kenny Miller III.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS POINTS: 1-Steven Drevicki-755, 2-Christian Bruno-626, 3-Ed Aikin-602, 4-Alex Bright-536, 5-Briggs Danner-489, 6-Bobby Butler-457, 7-Jason Cherry-415, 8-Carmen Perigo-384, 9-Matthew Swift-272, 10-Joey Amantea-242.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS RACE: September 13, 2024 – Outlaw Speedway – Dundee, New York

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Danner Wins USAC East Coast Debut at Outlaw

By: Nick Fillman

Dundee, New York (September 13, 2024)……For the first time ever, the Rapid Tire Services USAC East Coast Sprint Car Series Presented by Capitol Renegade tour made its way to the banks of Outlaw Speedway in Dundee, New York as part of the Ted Siri Memorial with a $4, 000 payday on the line.

At the conclusion of heat race action and the redraw procedure, Christian Bruno and Bruce Buckwalter Jr. led the field to the green for the 25-lap feature event. Bruno secured the early race lead and tried to run away from Briggs Danner and the rest of the field in an attempt to claim his second series win of the season.

Steven Drevicki and Danner, who started third and fourth respectively, went to their routine lines right away as Drevicki immediately went to the bottom in his quest for the lead. Danner, on the other hand, tried the middle before jumping up to the top side and ripping the very thin cushion.

Danner quickly and methodically reeled in Bruno for the lead before completing the pass on lap six. Bruno held strong in second over a hard charging Drevicki, Buckwalter and Perigo. Drevicki closed in on Bruno, and eventually, moved by the young New Jersey driver for the runner-up spot later on. Up front, however, it was all Danner as he rallied to a 3/4-track lead, lapping up to sixth place.

Late in the event came a huge run from Fultonville, New York driver Chase Moran who copied the line of Danner and picked off Perigo for fifth. He then worked on Buckwalter for fourth and finally moved by Bruno for third in the closing handful of laps before ultimately coming up just short of mounting a charge on Drevicki for the runner-up spot.

Up front, it was a dominating win for Danner as he became the first ever USAC East Coast winner at Outlaw Speedway, scoring a $4, 000 payday in the process. Drevicki finished as the runner-up and added to his points lead with Moran, Bruno and Buckwalter completing the top-five.

Danner picked up his fifth win of the series season, and his second with elevated pay as he was also the $5, 000 Gallagher Memorial winner at Williams Grove Speedway in June. Danner joins drivers Eddie Strada, Drevicki, Billy VanInwegen and Danny Varin as USAC East Coast Sprint Car winners in the state of New York. Despite missing a number of shows this season, Danner now finds himself within the top-five of the points with only one points-paying event remaining.

Drevicki is known for his slick track specialties and came into the night at Outlaw not only with eyes on him as the points leader, but also as a potential feature winner. Try as he might, Drevicki was unable to catch up to Danner's blistering pace. With the events at New Jersey's Bridgeport Motorsports Park in October now canceled, Drevicki will clinch his fourth career series championship at Georgetown Speedway on September 27.

The most impressive run of the evening came from Fultonville, New York's Moran. Moran discovered the high side that Danner had been running late and was able to mount a charge through the field to grab the final podium position. During post-race in the pit area, Moran explained that it was one of the most fun experiences that he has had in a sprint car and with wingless racing. He now intends to potentially run even more races with the series in the future.

Bruno has been red hot this season with both their family-owned sprint car program and the 600 Sprint team that he competes regularly with. Bruno has been on a career-best stretch with a win at Port Royal Speedway, a runner-up result at Action Track USA and now a fourth at Outlaw. Look for Bruno to contend for more victories to close the season and into 2025.

Despite losing a car at Port Royal in August and moving to last year's machine, Buckwalter has had a banner 2024 season. While it was unfortunate that Ed Aikin was unable to make the tow to New York, Buckwalter was able to capitalize on his absence, and coupled with a great result, he has now taken over the third position in the series points standings.

Up next for the series is a trip south to the Georgetown Speedway on Friday, September 27th for the series points finale.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS RACE RESULTS: September 13, 2024 – Outlaw Speedway – Dundee, New York

HEAT: (10 laps, all transfer to the feature, starting positions in parentheses) 1. 17-Christian Bruno (3), 2. 39-Briggs Danner (10), 3. 19-Steven Drevicki (11), 4. 83-Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (5), 5. 21-Carmen Perigo (4), 6. 4p-Chase Moran (8), 7. 78-Dale Schweikart (1), 8. 51-Mike Haggenbottom (6), 9. 44-Gary Huston (2), 10. 51u-Shelby Kelly (7), 11. 2-Brendan Hires (9). NT

FEATURE: (25 laps, starting positions in parentheses) 1. Briggs Danner (3), 2. Steven Drevicki (4), 3. Chase Moran (6), 4. Christian Bruno (1), 5. Bruce Buckwalter Jr. (2), 6. Carmen Perigo (5), 7. Dale Schweikart (7), 8. Mike Haggenbottom (8), 9. Brendan Hires (11), 10. Shelby Kelly (10), 11. Gary Huston (9). NT

FEATURE LAP LEADERS: Laps 1-5 Christian Bruno, Laps 6-25 Briggs Danner.

USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS POINTS: 1-Steven Drevicki-828, 2-Christian Bruno-695, 3-Bruce Buckwalter Jr.-607, 4-Ed Aikin-602, 5-Briggs Danner-566, 6-Alex Bright-536, 7-Bobby Butler-457, 8-Carmen Perigo-443, 9-Jason Cherry-415, 10-Matthew Swift-272.

NEXT USAC RAPID TIRE EAST COAST SPRINT CARS PRESENTED BY CAPITOL CUSTOM TRAILERS RACE: September 13, 2024 – Outlaw Speedway – Dundee, New York