

RPM Round-Up: Western PA/ Ohio/KY Region

✓ Attica - Attica, OH: DJ Foos First In 305 Sprints



DJ Foos continues his hot streak, racing to his fourth consecutive feature win and fifth of the year last Friday night at Attica Raceway Park.

Foos used the low groove to pull away slightly as Bobby Clark and John Ivy battled for second. On a lap seven restart, Clark seemed to have found something on the top side of turns three and four, as he began to close on Foos.

But, Foos moved off the bottom into the top groove in turns three and four on the next restart, taking Clark's advantage away. Clark's challenge would end on lap 16 when he drove over the thin cushion in turn four, bringing out the yellow flag.

Foos would take the checkered flag ahead of Weaver, Stuart Brubaker, who got around Paige Polyak on the last lap, and 16th place starter Steve Rando.

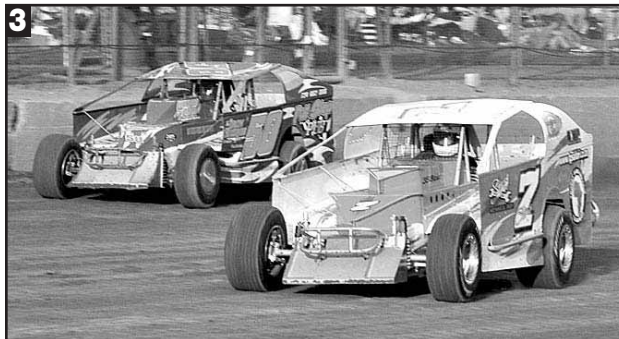
In the dirt Truck feature, Bob Dible raced side-by-side with Brian Arnold the last 12 laps before claiming his second feature win of the season.

305 Sprint Car Feature Finish: D.J. Foos, Paul Weaver, Stuart Brubaker, Paige Polyak, Steve Rando, Jake Travino, John Ivy, Nate Dussel, Jason Keckler, Brad Bowman, Dan Hammond, John Bartolome, Bobby Clark, Roger Shammo, Jess Stiger, Junior Felver, Ryan Hetrick, Zack Kramer, Josh Muntz, Nate Reeser, Gary Raff, Jimmy Colvin.



ENJOYING VICTORY LANE at Attica Raceway is 1) D.J. Foos who won his fourth straight 305 Sprint feature; 2) Mike Anderson beat the rain and his competition to win the rear wheel drive Four Cylinder feature at Hummingbird; 3) Mike Stine (No. 7) and Lonny Riggs (No. 58) battle hard at Mercer Raceway Park; 4) Jeff Schaffer won the Modified feature and 5) Brandon Spithaler won his first Sprint feature; 6) Rocky Kugel (No. 7) and Josh Double (No. 38) race hard.

(Photos by 1- Action Photos; 2- Nowak Racin; 3 & 6- Paul Oyler; 4 & 5- Debbie Oyler)



✓ Mercer - Mercer, PA: First For Spithaler & Schaffer

Brandon Spithaler was his first career Sprint Car main event last Saturday night at Mercer Raceway Park, while Jeff Schaffer won the Modified main, his first as well.

Spithaler became the eighth different winner in 10 races in 2010 as the victory was worth \$1,500 plus a certificate for a Goodyear Tire.

Todd Bauer and Jack Helget were on the front row as Bauer took off in the early lead with Spithaler trailing.

After getting off to slow initial start, Danny Holtgraver got in a rhythm and powered around Kent for fourth on lap three and around Helget off turn two for third one lap later.

Bauer continued to lead, but Spithaler closed in on lap five. Lapped traffic came into play on lap six as Spithaler drew even with Bauer and made the winning move ducking under the leader



in turns three and four. Miller halted action when he took a scary flip in turn two.

Holtgraver continued his march to the front driving around Bauer off turn two on lap eight.

Following a caution for a spin by Francis SESCO, Kent and 10th starting Bob Felmelee both dropped Bauer back to fifth.

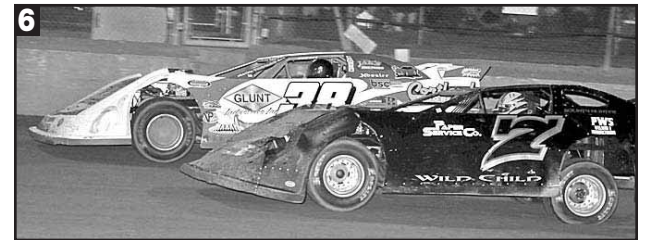
Spithaler got tested many times, but stood up to the challenge of five restarts, pressure from Holtgraver, and lapped traffic to capture the popular win.

Schaffer's first win of the season came in the 20-lap feature over a season-high 24-car "358" field and became the sixth different winner in seven races in 2010.

Other wins went to Max Blair (FASTRAK Late Models), Chris Haines (Stock Cars), Wally Stearns, Jr. (Mini Stocks) and Tim Gillette (Enduro).

Sprint Car Feature Finish: 1. Brandon Spithaler, 2. Danny Holtgraver, 3. Bob Felmelee, 4. Mike Lutz, 5. Arnie Kent, 6. Todd Bauer, 7. Jeff Taylor, 8. Jack Helget, 9. Chris Best, 10. Brian Steinman, 11. Lindsay Enscoe, 12. Davey Jones, 13. Francis SESCO, 14. John McCracken, Sr., 15. Pete Miller III, 16. Dan Kuriger, 17. John McCracken, Jr.

358 Modified Feature Finish: 1. Jeff Schaffer, 2. Jimmy Holden, 3. Ron Cartwright, Jr., 4. Mike Stine, 5. Dustin Martin, 6. Greg Unrue Jr., 7. Matt Reeser, 8. Clyde Gump, 9. Rod Artman, 10. Chris Dye, 11. Dillon McElrath, 12. Brian Fingado, 13. Kevin Green, 14. Rick Hall, 15. Jerry Twentier, Sr., 16. Rick Kress, 17. Steve Barr, 18. Burt Fingado, 19. Dave Shook, 20. Lonny Riggs, 21. Brian May, 22. Frank Guidace, 23. Joe Gibson, 24. Steve Young.



Northern Drivers Succeeding In The South

Chuck

BOLLINGER

Email Received at ctbrpm2000@yahoo.com

Westside Wanderings

I made a visit to Carolina Speedway in Gastonia, North Carolina for a Southern Nationals race last Tuesday night. To my surprise, four drivers I talked were originally from up north. There were two from Ohio and two from New York. The Ohio drivers are sons of well known racing fathers, and three of the four raced up north before heading south.

Steve Banal is the son of veteran Late Model driver Mark Banal. Steve also raced Late Models until moving to Troutman, N.C., three years ago. He now races NDRA Crate Late Models and competes at tracks like Carolina, I-77 and Lancaster Speedway in South Carolina. So far this year he has two feature wins, at both Carolina and I-77. He recently made a visit back home to Ohio, brought along his race car and raced.

Troy Brady moved to Concord, N.C., 17 years ago. He did a lot of racing in New York before moving south, racing on both dirt and pavement at such tracks as Five Mile Point, Skyline, Penn Can and Shangri La Speedways. He raced in stock cars, Modifieds and Late Models. Since moving south, he's now competing in NDRA Crate Late Models. He races at Carolina and Cleveland Speedways.

Richard Clew moved to Harmony, N.C., 18 years ago from New York. He raced Modifieds and Street Stocks at Fulton, Evans Mills and Brewerton Speedways in New York before moving south. He competed in Modifieds at Carolina, and has won there. This is his first year in an NDRA Crate Late Model. He hopes to make the move up to Super Late Models next year, and his daughter will take over the driving chores in his Crate Late Model.

Matt Long moved to North Carolina six years ago. Matt is the son of Ohio late model driver Ty Long, and had no racing experience before moving south. He now lives in Concord, N.C., and works at Charlotte Motor Speedway. This is his fifth year of racing and he's also competing in the NDRA Crate Late Models. Besides racing locally, he also follows the NDRA tour, and runs at tracks from Georgia to Ohio. He has four feature wins at Carolina Speedway and two wins at Wythe Raceway in Virginia.

All four drivers like racing in the NDRA Crate Late Model class, and report that tracks in the south pay anywhere from \$750 to \$1,000 to win a feature weekly.

Carolina Notes: Austin Dillon was racing a Late Model at Carolina, fresh off his NASCAR Camping World Truck Series win two days earlier in Iowa...Dennis "Rambo" Franklin was doing double duty in the Carolina event, racing a Late Model and a Crate Late Model. He won the Late Model feature and finished 12th in the crate main...Brian Booze from Marion, Pa., plans to follow the entire Southern Nationals tour...John Pursley and his son Johnny Pursley had a rough night, as both dropped out of the feature...Tommy Kerr lost a motor at the end of his B-main and had

to go to a back up car for the feature....Nine states were represented at Carolina tonight...Pitside were 30 Late Models, 12 Open-Wheel Modifieds, 15 NDRA Crate Late Models and 13 Renegades.

On Friday night at Pa.'s Lernerville Speedway, Dave Hess Jr. was the "Eracers Bonus Bucks" driver. Each week a driver is randomly chosen to be the "bonus bucks" driver, and if they win the feature, they receive a \$100. If no one wins, the money is carried over to the next week. It keeps growing until someone wins.

Hess had a chance to win an extra \$700 if he won the Late Model feature. But his night turned out to be shorter than he planned as he hit a tire on the inside of the track early in the feature, bending his nose piece and making it dig into the ground, making the car hard to steer. He was forced to the pits and was done for the night.

Lernerville Notes: Brad Knab made his first visit of the year, and had a 410 motor in his Sprint Car instead of the 360 he normally runs...Dave Murdick is still waiting for a motor for the Pitkavish Late Model he drives at Lernerville...Ted Ryan made his Lernerville season debut with his Modified...Herman Bertillini made his Sprint Car debut last Friday at Lernerville. He's also competed in Stock Cars and Late Models there...Mike Johnson blew a brake line during the Late Model feature, forcing him to the pits...Lynn Geisler's good run in the Late Model main ended when a coil wire burned up, knocking out his electrical power...Dave Murdick lost a drive shaft during the Modified feature...Carl Murdick, 73 years old, finished fifth in the Modified feature...Carl Bowser flipped the Sprint feature. He wasn't hurt, but his car suffered a lot of damage and the frame was destroyed...It was Andy McKissom's first ever Lernerville Sprint feature win last Friday...Alex Ferree's Late Model feature victory was the 18th of his career at Lernerville.

Saturday night at Pa.'s Mercer Raceway Park, it was "Free Ohio Night," where all residents of Ohio, with proper ID, would be admitted free. It was also make up "Free Venango County Night," with all residents of Venango County with proper ID admitted free. It's a neat promotional idea thought up by former track owner Vickie Emig several years ago. It's been successful over the years, but Saturday night, fans turned out in droves. The grandstands were packed, and the grassy area in front of the stands was filled with fans with blankets and lawn chairs. Fans were treated to a great night of racing, and I'm sure a lot of them will be back at least once again this year.

As a bonus, it was Dean Dairy Night, where employees of Dean Dairy gave away hundreds of free drinks.

Mercer Notes: John McCracken Sr. made his first visit of the year with his Sprint...Ron Cartwright and Joe Gibson made their first visits of the year with their 358-Modifieds...Frank Guidace hit the wall during his Modified heat. He complained of head pain, and was taken to the hospital with a possible concussion...Pete Miller III flipped during the Sprint feature, but wasn't hurt...Brandon Spithaler's Sprint Car victory at Mercer was his career first 410 win...In the pit area were 13 Stock Cars, 13 Mini Stocks, 24 358-Modifieds, 17 Sprints, and 11 FASTRAK Late Models. That was the highest car count for 358-Modifieds since the tire rule was dropped...Rod George was racing at Sharon this week instead of Mercer.

Skyline

Speedway

Stewart, Ohio

The Mid-Ohio Valley's Friday Night Track!

FRIDAY, JULY 23

Fan Appreciation Night - \$10 Admission
Plus Kid's Ice Cream Night!!!

Sprint Cars, Late Models, AMRA Modifieds,
Pure Stocks, FWD 4 Cylinders & Mini Wedges

Adults \$10 • Kids 12 & Under FREE • Pits \$30
Gates Open 4:30pm • Hot Laps 7pm • Racing 8pm

JULY 30 - Jack Shutts Memorial Thirty
for Late Models \$2,000 To Win

GPS Address: 7274 Quiggly Rd, Guysville, OH 45735
740-662-4111 • www.skylinespeedway.net