



## **O'BRIEN SCORES FIRST LEGENDS WIN AT HAWKEYE DOWNS**

### ***OSBORN BREAKS LATE MODEL WIN DROUGHT***

By Brad Grupe

(Cedar Rapids, IA July 24, 2015)—Friday night was Caseys General Stores Wall of Fame Night at Cedar Rapids' Hawkeye Downs Speedway and the crowd was treated to some exciting racing on week eleven of the HyVee Racing Series .

In addition to racing, several new members were inducted into the Hawkeye Downs Wall of Fame. Presiding as Grand Marshall over the ceremonies was Austin Petty, brother of the late Adam Petty. Austin and Adam are the sons of Kyle Petty and grandsons of Richard Petty.

Adam Petty, Dudley Fleck, Walt Hill, and John Connolly, SR. saw their names added to the Wall of Fame along with "Mr. Hard Charger Awards" P.J. Harrington and "superfan" Jimmy Funke.

In racing action, Nathan Ballard posted his eighth win of the season in Barron Motor Supply Hobby Stocks. The win was also Ballards 80<sup>th</sup> career win. Ballard picked his way through the pack and secured the point on lap five and set sail for the checkered flag.

Caution waved for a spin with two laps remaining but Ballard pulled away from fellow Marengo driver Jason Sherman on the restart to preserve the win. Braxton Franks posted another impressive run, finishing third.

The Dublin City Pub INEX Legends feature was a wild affair with multiple cautions for spins, debris, and crashes. The first caution on lap 11 saw then leader Cole O'Brien lose a spring sending him to the pits for a fast repair. That put Brody Willett in control on the restart with Kevin Korsmo close behind. Willett and Korsmo battled for several laps before the pair tangled with four laps remaining sending both to the rear.

Warren Ropp powered around Austin Slabaugh on the subsequent restart but Slabaugh regained the point with Cole O'Brien also trying for the lead after coming from the back from an earlier caution. Brody Willett spun with two laps to go, just as O'Brien was passing for the lead. After a couple tries at restarting the race action resumed with Slabaugh on point but as the field took the

white Flag O'Brien made the winning pass to secure his first win in the division. Sammy Smith posted his best run of his rookie session, finishing second and Slabaugh finished third.

In Miller Time Hornets, Derek Parrott made it three in a row taking the lead from Troy Scott on lap eight and leaving the field behind. Point leader Dallas Chandler was bottled up behind slower cars early in the race which allowed the front-runners to pull away. Chandler worked through the field into second as the final laps ticked off but couldn't draw close enough to Parrott for a challenge. Scott finished third.

Parrott plans to put his son in the car starting as early as next week.

Nathan Ballard took the lead on the final lap to earn his second straight Mountain Dew Sportsmen feature win on Friday night, slipping around point leader Dave McCalla who had led since lap two. The first four cars comprised of McCalla, Jim Hanson, Ballard, and CJ Van Horn ran nearly nose to tail through the first half of the race.

Jim Hanson was putting heavy pressure on McCalla with about eight laps to go but at the same time Ballard was starting his move on the outside and he quickly moved past Hanson and started working on the leader. The pair ran side-by-side for a couple laps before Ballard cleared the lead on the last lap. McCalla finished second and Hanson was third.

This was the second week that Ballard won features in both the Barron Motor Supply Hobby Stocks and Mountain Dew Sportsmen.

Last and certainly not least, Brad Osborn outran Brian Gibson over the final five laps to break a long drought in Carpetland USA Late Models presented by Performance Concepts action. The two battled the entire race including some contact on lap nine that might have sent both to the rear. However, Gibson "tapped out" accepting blame and allowing Osborn to keep the top spot which put Gibson in the rear.

A few laps into the restart, Gibson was right back on Osborn's tail and the pair stayed side by side over the final five laps. Gibson appeared to have the upper hand exiting turn two and through the back stretch but each time Osborn would pull back ahead through turns three and four. The same held with the final lap with Osborn squeezing out a .087 second margin of victory. Scott Siems finished in third behind Gibson.

Racing return Friday night, July 31 with Van Meter Night at the Races and the Celebrity Legends Race for a Cause. Admission is a free will donation with 100% of the proceeds directed to the Cedar Rapids Firefighters Foundation.

**BARRON MOTOR SUPPLY HOBBY STOCKS**

**HEAT - 1. Nathan Ballard 2. Jason Sherman 3. Braxton Franks 4. Matt Lacoursiere 5. Gerald Hall 6. Matt Hudspeth 7. Jasen Freeman 8. Scott Siems 9. Brian Bries**

**FEATURE (20 laps) 1. (29) Nathan Ballard, Marengo; 2. (54) Jason Sherman, Marengo; 3. (8) Braxton Franks, Cedar Rapids; 4. (1) Scott Siems, Cedar Rapids; 5. (14) Gerald Hall, Cedar Rapids; 6. (3) Matt Hudspeth, Granger; 7. (2) Matt Lacoursiere, Cedar Rapids; 8. (41) Jasen Freeman, Cedar Rapids; 9. (11) Brian Bries, Norway**

### **DUBLIN CITY PUB INEX LEGENDS**

**HEAT 1- 1. Cole O'Brien 2. Kevin Korsmo 3. Warren Ropp 4. Sammy Smith 5. Joan Feller DNS- Gary Dyer**

**HEAT 2.- 1. Brody Willett 2. Austin Slabaugh 3. Dennis Diercks 4. Stacy Olson DNS- Mark Ironside DNS- Nelson Stewart DNS- Al Diercks**

**FEATURE (25 laps) 1.(25) Cole Obrien, Cedar Rapids; 2.(12) Sammy Smith, Des Moines; 3.(16) Austin Slabaugh, Kalona; 4. (10) Mark Ironside, Swisher; 5. (77) Warren Ropp, Kalona; 6. (95) Al Diercks, Bettendorf; 7. (99) Dennis Diercks, Eldridge; 8. (52) Kevin Korsmo, Atkins; 9. (44s) Nelson Stewart, Indianapolis, IN; 10. (66) Gary Dyer, Bluegrass; 11. (13) Stacy Olson, Cedar Rapids; 12. (00) Brody Willett, Alburnett; 13. (12) Joan Feller, Marion**

### **MOUNTAIN DEW SPORTSMEN**

**HEAT - 1. Dave McCalla 2. CJ Van Horn 3. Greg Hentrich 4. Nathan Ballard 5. Jim Hanson 6. Dave Ballstaedt 7. Bob Ahrendsen 8. Tom Burke 9. Jeremy Clement**

**FEATURE (20 laps) 1. (29) Nathan Ballard, Marengo; 2. (3) Dave McCalla, Cedar Rapids; 3(88) Jim Hanson, Cedar Rapids; 4.(54) CJ Van Horn, Marengo; 5. (6x) Bob Ahrendsen, Cedar Rapids; 7. (5) Tom Burke, Nevada; 8.(36) Jeremy Clement, Cedar Rapids; 9. (9) Dave Ballstaedt, Marion**

### **MILLER TIME HORNETS**

**HEAT 1. -1. Dallas Chandler 2. Kurt Bohnsack 3. Lucas Foster 4. Troy Scott 5. Drew Nickell**

**HEAT 2. 1. Derek Parrott 2. Brad Schmist 3. Todd Ness 4. Brenda Meek 5. Rob Aimers**

**FEATURE (15 laps) 1. (01) Derek Parrott, Marion; 2. (3) Dallas Chandler, Cedar Rapids; 3.(44) Troy Scott, Cedar Rapids; 4.(4) Kurt Bohnsack, Ely; 5. (B7) Brad Schmidt, Cedar Rapids; 6. (16) Todd Ness, Cedar Rapids; 7. (86) Lucas Foster, Cedar Rapids; 8. (47) Brenda Meek, Ely; 9. (87) Drew Nickell, Cedar Rapids; 10. (1a) Rob Aimers, Cedar Rapids**

### **CARPETLAND USA LATE MODELS presented by PERFORMANCE CONCEPTS**

**HEAT- 1. Brian Gibson 2. Brad Osborn 3. Chad Siems 4. Scott Siems 5. Logan Mitchell 6. Brody Willett 7. Caleb Adrian**

**FEATURE (20 laps) 1. (72) Brad Osborn, Janesville; 2. (17) Brian Gibson, Walford; 3. (43) Scott Siems, Cedar Rapids; 4. (99) Logan Mitchell, Palmyra, MO; 5. (76) Chad Siems, Shellsburg; 6. (29) Caleb Adrian, Walcott ; DNS-Brody Willett, Alburnett**