

Champions Crowned at Lincoln Park Speedway Puterbaugh, Bumgardner and Bryan all Repeat as Points Winners

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PUTNAMVILLE: Champions were crowned at Lincoln Park Speedway on Saturday night with some familiar names claiming the hardware as the finishing touches were put on the points races in four classes.

Billy Puterbaugh brought his family owned No. 16p sprinter to LPS this weekend while the owner of his regular mount, Steve Phillips piloted the No. 71p.

Puterbaugh had more than enough room to claim a repeat championship, besting Kent Christian for the title with 1,042 points. Christian was second with 927 and Shane Hollingsworth took third.

Hollingsworth had another reason to celebrate at the end of the night as he brought home a feature victory, getting past last week's winner, Russ Harper and then setting sail.

Hollingsworth couldn't be matched on this night, pulling away from the rest of the field and lapping nearly half of the other competitors to bring home car owner Jeff Olson's first victory in the Brownsburg Muffler, J&D Performance, Competition Welding, Hoosier Tire No. 34.

Hollingsworth started inside of the second row after winning his heat race. He started alongside Kenny Carmichael Sr. and behind Harper and Troy Link.

On the green, Harper took the lead for the first several circuits before Hollingsworth made an outside-in move coming off the top of turn two and diving under Harper for the lead.

Contact between Kenny Carmichael Jr. and Will Nedderman brought out the caution. On the restart, Hollingsworth again pulled away from the field and left the rest of the competitors to battle for second.

Harper held down second, but Puterbaugh was closing fast from his eighth starting position. Christian slipped past Link for fourth and began to challenge Harper for the third spot. Behind them, Jesse Cramer was working his way forward after starting in 11th and was duking it out with Shawn Krockenberger down the stretch.

Hollingsworth began working his way through traffic masterfully, being both patient and smooth in his lines, which aided his stay in front.

Puterbaugh had to be a little more aggressive in trying to close the gap, but Hollingsworth simply had too much on this night.

Puterbaugh remained in second to take the title with Christian staying in third over the final circuits. Harper claimed fourth ahead of Cramer, Link and Krockenberger.

Ray Humphrey moved up to eighth after starting 17th and Michael Severs was ninth followed by James Bradshaw.

In the UMP Modified feature, Wes McClara held off repeated challenges from Travis Shoulders to pick up his first LPS win of the year. McClara claimed the victory in the Durabuilt, Rocket Race Car Bodies, Hoosier Tire, K&H Motorsports, Landrum Performance Springs, Shaw Race Car powered by a Ram Engine.

McClara started on the front row and was able to edge ahead of Shoulders in the first lap and then survived on the point over a couple of early cautions.

Shoulders continued to look for a line that would give him enough momentum for a pass, but McClara stayed on top of pack.

Paul Bumgardner came forward and began to make his case for second, running side-by-side with Shoulders before he was collected in a spin by a lapped competitor.

Forced to re-start from the back, Bumgardner flew back through the field,

but didn't have enough laps left to move farther than sixth at the checkered flag.

Kenny Carmichael Sr. gave chase to Shoulders in third followed by Phil VanSant, but the real battle proved to be in a three-way tussle between Josh Boller, Wayne Cooper, and Danny Harris. The group went after each other for much of the second half of the feature searching for the advantage. In the end, it was Boller who made the move ahead and was able to get by VanSant for fourth.

James Tumey spun early in the feature and then worked his way back through for seventh overall ahead of Cooper, Harris, and Dan Lewellen.

Bumgardner wrapped up his fourth consecutive championship at LPS with 1,166 points followed by Shoulders' 1,017 and VanSant's 992. Carmichael Sr. was fourth with 924 and Doug Bryant Jr. was fifth.

The wildest feature finish of the night had to be in the UMP Super Stock division as Roy Bruce Jr.'s quest for his first victory was derailed on the final corner of the final lap.

Bruce led the entire race, pulling out to a solid margin ahead of the field that included Kenny Carmichael Jr. and Kris Starks up front. All three were hungry for the victory along with Greg Amick, who returned to LPS and was working his way into contention from an eighth starting spot.

Up front, the white flag flew as Bruce remained up front followed by Carmichael who was closing a bit. Amick moved into third ahead of Starks followed by Slick Griffin who roared up from 15th at the opening green. Heading to the checkered flag, Carmichael hauled his machine in hard through turn three and got a big run on Bruce, too hard in fact as he got under Bruce's rear bumper and shoved the No. 63 around in turn four. Carmichael crossed the finish line as an obviously angry Bruce was left to a seventh-place finish. Carmichael would be penalized

for the move and take eighth in the feature, which would leave Amick as the surprised winner on Saturday night.

Amick received the win in the Auto Heaven Auto Parts, Building Associates, K&S Rolloffs, Raceway Graphics and Davis Automotive machine.

Starks was second ahead of Griffin, Scott Carrington, Tony Erdly, David Kikendall, Bruce Jr., Carmichael Jr., Gary Archer and Doug Flynn Jr.

In the points chase, it was Doug McCullough who took home the championship with 1,070 points to beat out Carmichael's 998 and Starks' 981. Joe Starks was fourth with 948 and Travis Heramb was fifth.

In the bomber feature, C.J. Bryan came home with the victory fending off familiar nemesis, Dustin Shoulders, who was door-to-door with him over the middle half of the race. Down the stretch however, Ryan Freeland gave Bryan a battle down the to the wire as David Wallen gave chase. Shoulders pulled off the track late in the race and would finish in 16th.

On this night it was Bryan, who took the victory and the points championship in repeat fashion. Freeland was second in the feature and in points for the year and Wallen placed third in the feature. Tony Cochenour was fourth with Barry Hicks, Chuck Walden, Ron Smith, Chad Nolte, Sean Yakel and Justin Clodfelter wrapping up the top-10.

In points, Shoulders was third followed by Walden, David Wallen, Smith, Ron Wallen Jr., Josh Settles, Nolte and Richard Watkins in 10th.

Next weekend will be Champions Night with on-track awards and a bonfire following racing.

There will also be a Fan Appreciation Race party following the racing.