

## ***LaPolt has the winning LaLuck in Asphalt Modified feature; The Travis Train makes four stops in Bethel's Victory Lane!***

September 4th, 2021:

**White Lake, NY:** Crisp Mountain air greeted racers as cooler temperatures saw heated up championship battles coming down to the wire on Thunder Country 102 radio night. It was also a fundraiser for Childhood Cancer Awareness and St. Jude's Hospital. The speedway thanks all who donated to this fundraiser cause. The scheduled racing also included the postponed 'Fire on the Mountain 50' enduro series.

Don Wagner jumped out to the early lead over Fred Nees Jr. in the NASCAR Asphalt Modified feature and looked strong opening a steady lead over the rest of the field. Current point leader Skip LaPolt quickly got by Nees to take second on lap 3 with defending champion John Cote moving into third one lap later. Mechanical misfortune found Wagner emitting a watery substance forcing the caution flag to come out and sending the driver pitside to fix the leak. Wagner's misfortune proved to be good luck for LaPolt as he inherited the lead when racing resumed. Brian Rygielski was the hard charger coming from seventh to move into third position. At the checkers, it was all LaPolt as he took his fourth victory of the season over Cote and Rygielski thus expanding his point lead in the tight championship chase.

A ten-lap battle for the lead intrigued race fans in the Dirt Modified feature. Former Flemington Speedway racer Jeff Parker led the first half of the race over current point leader Bill Deckelman as the two drivers raced wheel to wheel. At the halfway mark Deckelman put forth an exciting crossover move on Parker to charge into the lead for good going down the backstretch. Deckelman picked up his sixth win of the season over Parker with Brad Curry coming home in third.

Four Cylinder Pure Stock feature racing saw JW Gannon leading the early laps in his best performance to date. Lap 5 found veteran Tim Curry working by Gannon to take the lead. Curry continued to lead but also began a father-daughter dance with race cars as Tasha Travis worked her way up from fifth starting position to get side by side with her father. The two drivers continued to dance for the lead in a spirited multi lap sequence. The yellow flag came out on lap 13 as rookie Sean Lynch lost power on the backstretch. Travis proved to be too quick for Curry on the restart as she sprinted into the lead. Curry then had his hands full with current point leader Jerry Kingeter challenging for second. At the checkers it was Travis picking up her first win of the season over Curry and Kingeter much to the fan's delight.

Andy Crane outpowered Jeff Parker and Kyle Dunham in a dominant run thus leading every lap enroute to his second win of the season in the NASCAR Sport Modified feature. Crane also had to deal with a slick track as Joe Knoth's engine grenaded on lap 5 bringing the caution flag out.

The INEX Legends feature found a shootout among four different drivers, but former dirt modified driver Chris Piasecki stayed cool and calculated each lap despite the heavy pressure and challenges for the lead. Piasecki's transition from dirt to asphalt proved to be fruitful as he led every lap of the caution free feature to take home his first career Bethel feature win by half a car length over Jack Gerzabek with James Anderson in a close third position at the finish line. Piasecki praised the other drivers for their clean fair racing along with thanking his father for all his work on the car.

A tight championship chase took center stage in a wild and intense NASCAR Street Stock feature. Walt Henry outpowered Don Rosinski to take the lead at the initial green. Henry continued to lead despite a multi lap fender-to-fender battle with current point leader JB Morris. Henry ran low while Morris picked up momentum on the outside which carried him to take full control of the lead on lap 9. Then Henry had his hands full as his car began to develop handling issues while under pressure from third place running Kyle Welsch. The two drivers tangled in turn 1 on lap 12 drawing the ire of Henry. Both drivers then tangled in the same spot again on lap 18 which found tempers boiling over forcing a disqualification on Henry. Due to the shenanigans under yellow the race was forced completed and checkered on lap 18 allowing Morris to pick up his sixth win of the season and expand his point lead ever slightly over Welsch who was credited with a third-place finish. Don Rosinski kept a cool head and was rewarded with a second-place finish by the race conclusion.

Renegades feature racing went caution free as polesitter Tasha Travis put on a dominant performance leading every lap as she recorded her first career Renegades win narrowly defeating teammates Mike Travis and Tim Curry who rounded out the top three positions.

Open Competition Enduro series racing was showcased on Saturday by having two enduros on the same day. The Fire on the Mountain 50 kicked off the racing festivities as a daytime race for the drivers. Tasha Travis and Richard Smith were the early leaders, but it was Mike Travis coming from ninth starting position to take the lead on lap 15. Travis continued to lead and took the win by a car length over Richard Smith in second and Joe Smith coming from eleventh to take third.

The Six Pack 86 enduro was the second race concluding the evening of short track racing. Richard Smith took the early lead and looked strong leading the first 18 laps before Mike Travis marched from tenth starting position to take the lead which ultimately knocked Smith out of the event. Travis then faded back as Tisha Curry took the lead and Jesse St. Clair worked into second position with his Mini Cooper. Curry continued to lead in a close battle with St. Clair until lap 52 when they both got bottled up in lapped traffic which allowed Travis to re-take second from St. Clair. Lap 57 found Travis rebounding back into the lead getting past Curry in another set of lapped traffic. At the checkers, Travis picked up his fourth enduro win of the season meanwhile St. Clair made an exciting inside three wide pass to nip Curry to take second at the finish line.

Bandolero feature racing saw Richie Helger taking the early lead but soon found himself under heavy pressure from defending track champion Monika Deckelman. Helger got sideways in turn two on lap 4 drawing the yellow. Deckelman inherited the lead and put it in cruise control for the remainder of the feature to win her sixth win of the season. Current point leader Leland Oefelein put forth a strong run to take second. Helger rebounded to finish third at the checkers.

The Novice feature found Tucker Katz hitting his marks each lap enroute to his first career feature win over Nick Foley and Fawn Card.

Jordan Smith won his eighth feature of the season over Mikey Lefort and Sophia Travis in the Beginner Bandos feature.