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Pulaski County Motorsports Park

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**FAIRLAWN, Va.** – The August slate of short-track racing at Pulaski County Motorsports Park opened this past Saturday. Fans filled the stands for an exciting night that included seven different races and a pair of first-time winners at the track this season.

The DCT Towing Super Street Series took to the track first for the opening 30 laps of the night. It was current points leader Jimmy Mullins who extended his advantage with a bounce-back victory following an early exit from his most previous run two weeks ago. Mullins was able to work his way past three of his competitors rather quickly and led the majority of the race. In a race that was green the entire time, Tristen Barnes was able to work his way to second after starting in sixth. Taylor Ransom, who started in the top spot, was able to lead a few laps before ultimately crossing the line third.

The Price's Body Shop Late Model Stock Cars then competed in their first of two twins. Mike Looney started on the pole and led the first half of the race. Defending track champion Kyle Dudley had worked his way up to second before a caution at the midway point bunched the field back together. On the ensuing restart, Dudley got by Looney on the outside to gain the lead. As the two battled side-by-side for nearly ten laps, a mechanical failure on Dudley's machine ended his race with just four laps remaining. Looney went on to snag his eighth victory of the season. Derrick Lancaster and Karl Budzevski battled all race long. It was Lancaster that ultimately earned second with Budzevski finishing in third.

The race, and moment, of the night belonged to the Collision Plus Sportsman competitors, specifically Daryn Cockram. In their first twin of the evening, Jason Merriman led nearly the entire race before he also suffered from mechanical trouble. That gave possession of the lead to Cockram and he was able to outduel current points leader Kyle Barnes for the final few laps. After overcoming a scary crash at the start of the season, Cockram's recent return and perseverance earned him his first trip to Victory Lane this season as well as a standing ovation from the fans. Barnes' second-place finish helped him maintain his points lead while Drew Bond came across the line third.

The fourth race belonged to the Total Car Care Mod-4s. Rocky Yates started on the front row and never looked back. He jumped out to an early lead and remained in the top spot for all 25 laps. Drew Holdren was able to secure the second spot after working his way up from the inside of row number three. Tony Sarver finished in third; the former track champion worked his way past Doodle Lang and Jeff Martin to earn the final podium spot.

As the sun slipped behind the mountains and the lights came on, the late model stocks returned to the track for another 50 laps. Dudley avenged his exit in the first race with a sensational outing in the second. He rocketed to the front and led every lap en route to the win. Looney worked his

way to second after he started at the tail of the field. His efforts were strong enough to extend his advantage in the series standings. Trenton Kilgore added his name to the list of podium finishers. He hung around the front all race long and ultimately brought his machine home third.

The Blue Ridge Church Pure-4s were on the track next for 26 circuits. A back-and-forth battle between Larry Yeary and Kirby Shipman came down to the final laps. The current points leader worked his way up to Yeary and eventually passed him with eight laps remaining. As the two raced nose to tail, a slight bobble from Shipman caused him to surrender the lead. Yeary went on to win and Shipman finished second. Anthony Sheppard Jr. finished in the third position.

The scenes after Cockram's win in the first Sportsman race were relived just about two hours later. The only racer to pull the double all night, Cockram earned his second win after driving up through the field due to the invert. The Draper, Va. native's night of dominance included the fastest lap in qualifying as well as the two wins. Tanner Young shared time as the race leader, pacing the field for over half of the event before having to settle for a second-place finish. Barnes duplicated his podium efforts as he finished in the third spot.

Racing returns to the New River Valley on Saturday, Aug. 12 for another weekend of NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Series action. It will be Championship Night for the Stock-6 Series. Fans will be treated to eight different races across five divisions. Gates open at 5:00 p.m. and the green flag drops just two hours later.