

# 1<sup>st</sup> Year in an Asphalt Pro Late Model -2025

🏁 First Race in Late Model	5-10-25	Anderson Speedway (Anderson, IN)
JEG'S CRA All Star Tour	13 Total Cars	Qualified 8 <sup>th</sup> Started 8 <sup>th</sup> <b>Finished 8<sup>th</sup></b>
Great Deals 100	100 laps	
		▪ Butch VanDoorn couldn't believe how fast Sam got up to speed for his very first race with only 1 practice in the car
🏁 Second Race	5-26-25	Owosso Speedway (Ovid, MI)
JEG'S CRA All Star Tour	33 Total Cars	Qualified 17 <sup>th</sup> Started 17 <sup>th</sup> <b>Finished 7<sup>th</sup></b>
Big O' Classic	100 laps	
		▪ Earned <b>Hard Charger Award</b> for gaining the most positions from start to finish
		▪ Race lasted nearly 2 hours due to so many wrecks
		▪ Sam went to the back of field approx. 4 times to drive to 7 <sup>th</sup> place in a field of 33 cars
		▪ 1 <sup>st</sup> time at Owosso Speedway
🏁 Third Race	6-28-25	Berlin Raceway (Marne, MI)
Super Late Model Series	17 Total Cars	Qualified 5 <sup>th</sup> Started 8 <sup>th</sup> <b>Finished 8<sup>th</sup></b>
Berlin Birthday Party	75 laps	
		▪ Berlin is considered the most difficult short track to race in the U.S. and is a very technical track
		▪ Sam finished in the top 10 the first time here with qualifying 5 <sup>th</sup> (which people at the track said this was unheard of)
		▪ 1 <sup>st</sup> time at Berlin
		▪ Race went green to checkered with no cautions
🏁 Fourth Race	7-16-25	Owosso Speedway (Ovid, MI)
JEG'S CRA All Star Tour	30 Total Cars	Qualified 19 <sup>th</sup> Started 19 <sup>th</sup> <b>Finished 15<sup>th</sup></b>
Masters of the Pro's	200 laps	
		▪ Considered one the most prestigious races within Pro Late Model racing
		▪ Raced with NASCAR Truck Driver Dawson Sutton & Beat Retired NASCAR Cup Driver Kevin Harvick
		▪ Raced national big names in the Asphalt Late Model World
		▪ Finished on the lead lap & completed all 200 laps & had a tire going flat around the last 10 laps
		▪ Team's 1 <sup>st</sup> ever scheduled pit stop

⭐⭐ <b>Fifth Race</b>	8-2-25	Berlin Raceway (Marne, MI)
<i>Super Late Model Series</i>	18 Total Cars	Qualified 10 <sup>th</sup> Started 1 <sup>st</sup> <b>Finished 11<sup>th</sup></b>

Hall of Fame Night 75 laps

- Started on pole from invert
- This track changes throughout the day and impacts car setup, which is one of the reasons that makes this track so difficult to race
- Car was dragging a ton; crew learned a lot for this track

⭐⭐ <b>Sixth Race</b>	9-5-25	Berlin Raceway (Marne, MI)
<i>Super Late Model Series</i>	15 Total Cars	Qualified 6 <sup>th</sup> Started 2 <sup>nd</sup> <b>Finished 3<sup>rd</sup></b>

New Stars Race 75 laps

- First Podium Finish
- Raced and beat names like Treyton Lapevich (NASCAR ARCA)

⭐⭐ <b>Seventh Race</b>	9-6-25	Berlin Raceway (Marne, MI)
<i>Super Late Model Series</i>	17 Total Cars	Qualified 12 <sup>th</sup> Started 12 <sup>th</sup> <b>Finished 10<sup>th</sup></b>

Battle of the Pros 150 laps

- Scheduled pit stop
- Made it up to 7<sup>th</sup> place before pit stop
- Had a good 'long run' car but needed 'short run' car after pit stop to finish better

⭐⭐ <b>Eighth Race</b>	10-10-25	Winchester Speedway (Winchester, IN)
<i>JEG'S CRA All Star Tour</i>	20 Total Cars	<b>DNS (Did not start)</b>

Winchester 400 Weekend

- Ran approx. 15 laps of practice and engine began leaking oil and we had to scratch from the race
- This ended our season to be able to pull the motor and send for a refresh

### *What people said this year:*

- ⭐⭐ Sam is Top Tier (competitor crew member said after Sam's 2<sup>nd</sup> race)
- ⭐⭐ Qualifying 5<sup>th</sup> at Berlin is unheard of (competitor crew member)
- ⭐⭐ Sam has talent, he is going to win races next year (Butch VanDoorn)
- ⭐⭐ I didn't know what kind of driver I had here. We need to rethink the plan for this year. Instead of only racing 4-5 races, race as much as you can this year (Butch VanDoorn)
- ⭐⭐ We were wondering where the 24 came from. They know what they are doing (Engine Builder)
- ⭐⭐ Scratch running for rookie of the year next year. Instead, run for the championship (Butch VanDoorn)
- ⭐⭐ I can't believe how fast Sam got up to speed his 1<sup>st</sup> race (Butch VanDoorn)
- ⭐⭐ I can't believe how fast Sam got up to speed this year (Engine Builder)
- ⭐⭐ Not too much to tell you so just keep working on your race craft because you are doing really good (VanDoorn Crew Chief)
- ⭐⭐ Tip of the hat for the night goes to Sam Johnson (Berlin Raceway Announcer)
- ⭐⭐ Sam is an advanced racer for just starting in Late Models (Butch VanDoorn)