

Dutka and Others Break Through at Bethel

Swan Lake, NY- A host of new faces were found in the Winner's Circle at Bethel on Saturday for the reincarnated Biker Night.

In what turned out to be a very strange night in the Nascar Asphalt Modified division, a new winner would stand atop the pedestal. Mike Dutka and Bill Deak would pace the field to green. Dutka got away first while Deak was battling immediately with third starter Fred Nees. The two battled for five laps side-by-side before the two made contact, with Deak getting air, and landing on all fours, while Mac Crawson tried to avoid but ended up hard in the wall to bring out the red flag. Following the thirty-minute red flag to clean up the cars and track, racing resumed with Dutka leading Dachenhausen to the restart. A few short laps later, Dachenhausen was stopped to bring out the yellow. The restart had Dutka leading Ross for the final laps to take home the long-awaited victory. Ross, Dachenhausen, Nees and Deak would be the Top five. John Cote, the runner up in points, was unable to start the feature due to mechanical woes in qualifying.

Sometimes in racing patience is a virtue. Nascar Street Stock driver Scott Tyler has been waiting over a year to get another win at the speedway. Tyler started the 2022 season with an opening night win, and then had a roller coaster year, thereafter. Tyler has been consistent this year, usually finishing in the top three in front of a fierce field of competitors. Tyler started pole for the feature event, with Emerson Cargain Jr outside. Young gun Tucker Katz and Points leader Joel Murns Jr would make the second row. Despite frequent attempts by Cargain early on, Tyler would gain a few car lengths lead by the checkers, earning him his first checkered flag of the season. Cargain, Murns, Katz, and Leland Oefelein would complete the top five.

It's been over 20 years since Tom Katz graced victory lane in his Nascar Pro Stock mount. Katz bought the car back after a hiatus from racing, and has been on the edge of victory weekly. Katz claimed his first victory over Vinny Stanton Jr, as the two battled side-by-side for the majority of the race.

Modified four cylinders have been under the microscope for the past week, following the top three being disqualified following post-race tech last week. While the points positions were jumbled following the event, JW Gannon would be set on a mission to reclaim his points lead from Tisha Curry. Gannon would take the checkers in the event, collecting his fifth win of the season, while Curry slowed with three to go in the event.

Jeff Degroat was victorious in 4cyl Advance. Shane Turner won the 4cyl Novice. Glenn Cargain took the victory in 4cyl Trucks. Jordan Smith collected in Inex Bandoleros, while James Bauernfeind also won the Beginner Bandoleros. Bruce Illenberg won the Summer of '69 Open Comp Enduro.

Next week is the annual Danbury Racearena Reunion Night at the speedway.