

Rommeney Takes Inaugural BandoStock Victory, Dachenhausen Wins Goetschius Memorial

Swan Lake NY: A historic night at Bethel Motor Speedway was on tap, with the Inaugural BandoStock, recognizing the young racers in our sport in the Bandoleros divisions, and the 2nd Annual Phil Goetschius Memorial Dirt Sportsman/Modified race, to pay tribute to one of our local competitors, taken from us way too soon, during the 2021-2022 off-season.

Competitors from surrounding speedways, made the trip for Bandostock. One standout, Chevy Rommeney, a Riverhead Raceway regular, made the trip, with a borrowed car. The terminally ill car owner, asked Rommeney to come to Bethel, and compete to win the coveted Guitar trophy. He didn't disappoint.

Rommeney and Phillip Alaimo made up the front row of the INEX Bandolero 25 lap event. Alaimo got the advantage on the start, but caution quickly flew for current Bethel Point Leader Jordan Smith, suffering terminal damage, unable to continue. The restart found Alaimo with the advantage over Rommeney. Rommeney made the pass on lap 4 to take the lead, with Alaimo and Will Sipala in tow. Alaimo would drop to 3rd following a pass on lap 10 by Sipala. Easton Houghtaling would quietly slip into 3rd on lap 15. Sipala would take command on lap 19 over Rommeney. A mishap on the final circuit found Rommeney in the right place, to take the checkers in the inaugural event. Houghtaling, Madison White, Sipala, and Smith would make up the top 5, following post-race inspection.

Beginner Bandolero results were unofficial at press time due to post race technical inspection.

The Phil Goetschius Memorial provided for some edge of seat racing action last year for the Inaugural event, and this year's was yet another great race, with Bethel regulars, and local Dirt racers competing for increased prize money, and to, more importantly, pay tribute to fellow fallen racer Phil Goetschius.

The front row was made up of Bethel regular Ed Dachenhausen, and a PA sportsman regular Jeff Parker, no stranger to the asphalt. Corey Lowitt and Jamie Yannone started 2nd row. Dachenhausen got away at the drop of the green. By the end of the first circuit, Bethel regular Bill Deckelman was up to 4th from his 6th starting position, battling Lowitt for 3rd. On lap 8, Deckelman advanced to second, with Parker dropping to 4th. The top 5, Dachenhausen, Deckelman, Lowitt, Parker and Yannone would remain unchanged, until contact with Lowitt and Deckelman, would slow the race on lap 35. Both cars were relegated to the pit area for the duration of the event. The restart found Dachenhausen, Parker, Yannone, Accord regular Joe Judge, and 2022 Track Champion Joe Knoth, making up the top 5. A lap 40 restart found Yannone making the move for 2nd over Parker. The running order would remain to the checkers with Dachenhausen winning both Phil Goetschius Memorial races held at the speedway. Yannone, Parker, Judge, and Knoth would complete the top 5.

Also taking victory lane honors: Kylee Curry won her first race ever in 4cyl Novice, Jeff Degroat and JW Gannon stay on their hot streak in 4cyl Advance and Modified 4cyls respectively. Tom Katz was victorious in Nascar Pro Stock action. Eugene Drew won the INEX Legends National Qualifier event, and Kevin Cargain won the 4cyl Truck division.