

Experience prevails on ‘Champions Night’ as Dachenhausen and Deckelman celebrate in Bethel’s Victory Lane!

September 18th, 2021:

White Lake, NY: A beautiful day for racing was the backdrop for ‘Champions Night’ at the speedway. Several divisions finished up their season long point battles with much excitement. The night also honored former track champion Eddy Lindstadt who sadly and suddenly passed away a few years ago. The Four Cylinders his former class ran Twin 18 Lap features, and the Open Comp Enduro Series also were in tribute with his former racing nickname Crash N Burn titled for their race. The speedway thanks the Lindstadt family for their continued support of keeping Eddy in memory at the speedway.

NASCAR Asphalt Modified feature racing was a nailbiter as three drivers entered the final race with a good shot of winning the championship. Fred Nees Jr. jumped out to the early lead over Mac Crawson. Ed Dachenhausen catapulted from sixth position to second position on lap 2 and quickly closed the gap on Nees. Lap 5 found Dachenhausen taking over the lead with Chris Young marching around to take second from Nees one lap later. LaPolt was sly in the pack as he worked past the other championship contenders John Cote and Brian Rygielski as they navigated through traffic. Lap 7 found LaPolt in third and challenged Young for several laps both inside and outside. Meanwhile, Cote worked his way into fourth at the halfway point and closed in on LaPolt. The second half of the race found Dachenhausen and Young going for the victory meanwhile LaPolt settled into third and made sure he hit his marks holding off Cote’s charge. At the checkers it was Dachenhausen taking his fourth win of the season over the strong running Young in second. LaPolt finished in third but was joyous as he achieved his second career modified track championship at the speedway. In Victory Lane, LaPolt stated “This is a great feeling to win this, point racing is nervewracking and I am glad it’s over.” “I want to thank my wife Shona and the rest of the family for all their support.” “Also thank you to all my sponsors, you all helped me get this title, we did it!”

The Dirt Modified feature saw Jerry Curry leading the early laps over Joe Knoth. Kyle Dunham made a strong inside run off turn 4 on lap 5 to gallop into the lead. Current point leader, Bill Deckelman moved past Curry on lap seven to take second and began to nip at the leader Dunham. Lap 9 found the yellow flag waving for a jingle in turn 4 which found Curry stopped with front end issues sending him pitside for repairs. The restart found Deckelman overpowering Dunham on the outside groove to take the lead coming to the halfway flags. Ed Dachenhausen worked by Dunham on lap 11 to take second and tried to reel in the leader. Deckelman proved to be too strong on this night and held a good margin over Dachenhausen at the checkers to claim his eighth feature win of the season and solidify his first Dirt Modified track championship at the speedway. Deckelman was quick to thank his crew for his strong season “I got to give

big thanks to all the pit crew who work hard on the car, it's a pleasure to drive". "It's been a fun year."

A points championship barnburner took place in the NASCAR Street Stock feature. All eyes watched the extremely tight point battle going on between JB Morris and Kyle Welsch. Bill Deak Jr. squeezed by Bill Deak Sr. to take the lead and looked strong out front as Don Rosinski marched into second place in a strong effort. Meanwhile mid pack Morris and Welsch swapped position several times as they worked their way through traffic. Both drivers knew the championship was on the line but it was Welsch working by Rosinski to take second on lap 9. One lap later, Morris worked past Rosinski to take third. Welsch and Morris both reeled in the leader Deak Jr. Welsch then battled the leader for several laps using his outside charge. With five laps to go, Welsch pulled ahead of Deak Jr. to take the lead in exciting fashion. Morris knowing, he needed to beat Deak Jr. to win the championship marched the highside like a valiant soldier and pulled off a courageous outside pass in turn 4 to get by for second. At the checkers, it was Welsch winning the battle to pick up his sixth win of the season. Morris won the war by two points to win his first ever track championship at the speedway. In Victory Lane, Morris was quick to thank his family, pit crew, and sponsors for all their season long support.

Long Island native Kevin Nowak is always a threat to win whenever he pulls into Bethel's pit area. This past Saturday proved how good he is as he worked his way up from fifth starting position in the INEX Legends feature and put on a battle with former track champ Eugene Drew and New Jersey racer Bryan Gardella for several laps. A restart on lap 5 was fruitful for Nowak as he surged ahead using the outside lane to sweep by Drew going down the backstretch. Nowak then was able to widen his lead to take his first win of the season while Drew and Gardella remained steady running in the top three. A crowd-pleasing battle for fourth waged on throughout the race between Chris Piasecki, Tanner Jones, James Anderson, and Jack Gerzabek. The drivers swapped positions several times in their side-by-side battles but at the checkers it was Piasecki nosing ahead to take an exciting fourth with Jones taking a close fifth. An exuberant Nowak in Victory Lane appreciated the competition "I always enjoy the racing at Bethel, I gotta thank Eugene (Drew) and Bryan (Gardella) for racing me clean and putting on a good race for the fans."

The Four Cylinder Pure Stocks were in action with the 'Eddy Lindstadt Memorial' Twin 18 features. Lindstadt was a popular driver at the speedway who was known for his smile and friendly attitude. Sadly, Lindstadt passed away suddenly several years ago and is greatly missed at the speedway. The first 18 lap feature was 'Battle Royale' among three racers as they battled up front throughout the race often swapping the lead back and forth in exciting fashion. Long Island racer Jesse St. Clair won by a bumper over JW Gannon and Sean Lynch in the exciting close finish much to the fan's delight. St Clair who races a Mini Cooper picked up his first career win at the speedway and was very grateful in Victory Lane. "Man, that's racing. I had so much fun out there. We raced side by side every lap but never touched and I got to thank my fellow racers

tonight". "I hope we put on a great show for the fans and it's an honor to win a memorial race from a well-respected competitor." The second 18 lap was just as exciting as Tasha Travis continues to be dynamite in the month of September. Travis and Tim Curry battled for the lead all race long with the two drivers swapping the lead back and forth as Travis used the wild side of the track to gain the momentum to make a final pass for the lead with two laps to go. Current point leader Jerry Kingeter poked his nose for the lead in the final laps trying to figure out a three wide move but couldn't find a hole big enough to make a winning move. At the checkers it was Travis continuing her red-hot streak for her third four-cylinder feature win of the season. Curry finished a car length behind in second with Kingeter finishing a close third. It was a great night for Kingeter as he won his first track championship at the speedway in a strong season running his fan popular Bumblebee Chevy Cobalt. Kingeter was quick to say, "My family gives me so much support with my racing and I thank them." Kingeter shed a quick tear and nodded "Eddy (Lindstadt) and Jimmy (Shields) you're in my heart."

Kyle Dunham outgunned racing veteran Jim Halpin to take home his third win of the season in the NASCAR Sport Mod feature. Dunham also clinched the track championship, his first at the speedway in an amazing season.

When your hot, your hot as Tasha Travis executed a dominating run by leading every lap in the 50 lap 'Eddy's Crash & Burn' Enduro. Richard Smith kept within striking distance to Travis but never mounted a serious challenge as Travis weaved through the lapped traffic in flawless manner. At the checkers, it was Travis picking up her first Enduro victory of the season, Smith took over the point lead in the series by his second-place finish. Tisha Curry rallied from an early race skirmish to take third position at the finish.

Compact Truck feature action saw Terry McNamara and Emerson Cargain Jr. put on a ten-lap side by side battle in the second half of the race. The two leaders traded the lead back and forth several times but Cargain using the inside found himself winning by a whisker in an exciting photo finish as the checkers waved.

Justin Teresak held off current point leader Leland Oefelein to take his third win of the season in the Bandolero feature. Cody Quagliato finished third.

Easton Houghtaling led the first half of the Beginner Bandos feature but spun in turn two giving the lead to red hot Jordan Smith. Smith then held the helm at the wheel for the remaining laps to collect his tenth win of the season. Houghtaling rebounded to record a second-place finish with Sophia Travis taking third.