

## WRIGHT AND WIMBISH FIRST FEATURE WINNERS OF THE 60 TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

Josh Wright and Grant Wimbish win the first two Bojangles Late Model feature events of the 60 th Anniversary season at Hickory Motor Speedway.



( Newton, NC - - March 19, 2011 ) Josh Wright and Grant Wimbish made a place for themselves in Hickory Motor Speedway racing history, by winning the first two feature division events of the legendary speedway's 60 th Anniversary Season Opener fueled by the Hickory Daily Record. Josh Wright took the checkers during the first of two 35-lap features for the Bojangles Late Models after qualifying in the sixth place position. Grant Wimbish made up a lot of gourd and held off the competition during the second 35-lap feature

grabbing the win from his twelfth place starting position.

Other Season Opener fueled by the Hickory Daily Record race winners included Mark Johnson in the Limited Late Models, Brandon Setzer in the Super Trucks, Roger Pitts II in the Street Stocks, Chandler Levan in the Wrench Rags 4-Cylinders and Lewis Slagel in the Hobby Stocks.

The first of two 35-lap races for the Bojangles Late Models came to the green with the No. 28 of Ryan Glenski in the lead after posting a 15.124 second qualifying lap. The 20 car field was full of tough competition with rookies and veterans alike. The race included four lead changes and one caution on lap 32 when the No. 15 of Shawn Sharkey spun out exiting turn two.

Glenliski's lead only lasted the first lap, until the No. 7 of Ashley Huffman took over the top spot. Huffman began experiencing motor issues and fell off the pace, leaving the No. 5 of Dexter Canipe Jr. to move into the top position on lap 15. The No. 19 of Kyle Moon charged forward taking over first at the midpoint of the race. A late race caution left Moon and the No. 88 of Late Model Rookie driver, Josh Wright, side by side for a green-white-checker finish. Wright jumped to the outside of Moon on the final lap to take over the lead and earn his first career Late Model win at Hickory Motor Speedway. Moon, the No. 1 of Jessica Brunelli, the No. 12 of Austin McDaniel and the No. 43 of Jesse LeFevers would round out the top five.

The second Late Model race was a little more intense than the first. First Late Model event winner, Josh Wright sat on the pole for the second race after running a 15.068 second qualifying lap. The race was littered with six cautions, two red flags and five lead changes between four drivers. Wright spent the first portion of the race trading the lead position back and forth with Rookie driver McDaniel and Canipe Jr. A mid-race restart had Wright and the No. 57 of Grant Wimbish running side by side putting Wimbish in the perfect spot to take over the lead on lap 15.

A caution on lap 30 was caused when Brunelli and the No. 92 of Candace Muzny connected heading into turn two, sending Muzny into the outside wall, put both cars out of the race while running in the top five of the field. Wimbish would maintain the lead, while Wright and Moon ran door to door until they crossed the finish line with Moon only inches ahead of Wright. Wimbish, Moon, Wright, Canipe Jr. and the No. 29 of Spencer Gallagher would make up the top five.



The Limited Late Models made their way onto the track

for a 35-lap race with a 17 car field filled primarily with rookie and second season drivers. The field was sprinkled with a few veterans including race winner, the No. 09 of Mark Johnson. Johnson, who started the race second, waited patiently during the caution filled race -- lap 21-- to take over the lead from the pole sitter, No. 07 of Tyler Church. Church would regain the top spot on lap 22. A green-white-checker finish would allow Church and Johnson to run side by side until the final lap when Johnson took over the lead and brought home the win. Church, the No. 12 of rookie driver Annabeth Barnes, the No. 66 of Travis Byrd and the No. 6 of Brandon Hudnall completed the top five.

It was a night for Hickory Motor Speedway "Legacy Drivers". The No. 6 of Brandon Setzer (third generation HMS competitor) led all 35 laps of the Super Truck race, with the No. 98 of Jody Measmer and the No. 28 of Jason Crouse completing the top three in the race. The No. 21 of Roger Pitts II (second generation HMS competitor) led all 30 laps of the Street Stock event, with the No. 03 of 2010 Division Champion following closely behind in second. The No. 5 of Mike Newton rounded out the top three for the Street Stocks.

Rookie driver, the No. 8 of Chandler Levan, won his first race at Hickory Motor Speedway grabbing the checkers in the Wrench Rags 4-Cylinder 25-lap race. The No. 82 of Shane Canipe and the No. 51 of Nathaniel Kanupp made up the top three.

The No. 99 of Lewis Slagel also found success at Hickory Motor Speedway in the Hobby Stock division taking home the win, followed by the No. 95 of Chad McKinney and the No. 47 of Tyler McKinney to complete the top three in their 20-lap event.

About Hickory Motor Speedway:

Known as the Birthplace of the NASCAR Stars, Hickory Motor Speedway celebrates its 60 th season of stock car racing in 2011. Opening the gates in 1951, Hickory Motor Speedway is the oldest professional sporting venue in Catawba County, and has been credited as the longest continually operating motor speedway in the country. Producing drivers like Ned and Dale Jarrett, Bobby Isaac, Harry Gant, Ralph Earnhardt and Dennis Setzer, it's easy to see why Hickory Motor Speedway is filled with such rich stock car racing history and has earned the title of, Birthplace of the NASCAR Stars.

Upcoming Events: Saturday, March 26 will feature the second round of NASCAR Whelen All-American Series racing action at Hickory Motor Speedway. The night will feature the Bojangles Late Models, Super Trucks, Street Stocks, Red Baron Renegades and twin 25-lap races for the Limited Late Models.

**Grandstands open at 5 p.m., with qualifying immediately following. There will be an On-Track Autograph Session at 6 p.m. and feature racing action begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are only \$10 for adults, \$8 for teens and seniors with kids 12 and under FREE!**

**Pole Award Winners:**

**Bojangles Late Models #1: No. 28 – Ryan Glenski – 15.124 seconds**

**Bojangles Late Models #2: No. 88 – Josh Wright – 15.068 seconds**

**Limited Late Models: No. 07 – Tyler Chruch – 15.631 seconds**

**Super Trucks: No. 6 – Brandon Setzer – 15.778 seconds**

**Street Stocks: No. 21 – Roger Pitts II – 16.852 seconds**

**Wrench Rags 4-Cylinders: No. 81 – Shane Canipe – 17.096 seconds**

**Unofficial Race Results:**

**Bojangles Late Model – Hickory Daily Record 35 #1**

- 1. (88) Josh Wright**
- 2. (19) Kyle Moon**
- 3. (1) Jessica Brunelli**
- 4. (12) Autsin McDaniel**
- 5. (43) Jesse LeFever**
- 6. (92) Candace Muzany**
- 7. (57) Grant Wimbish**
- 8. (28) Ryan Glenski**
- 9. (97) Keith Bumgarner**
- 10. (3) Tayla Orleans**
- 11. (2) Bryan Ortiz**
- 12. (29) Spencer Gallagher**
- 13. (77) Jermy Sorel**
- 14. (15) Shawn Sharkey**
- 15. (22) Brad Cox**
- 16. (32) Justin Parry**
- 17. (5) Dexter Canipe Jr.**
- 18. (00) Lucas Ransome**

**19. (7) Ashley Huffman**

**20. (26) Nelson Cranche**

**Bojangles Late Model – Hickory Daily Record 35 #2**

**1. (57) Grant Wimbish**

**2. (19) Kyle Moon**

**3. (88) Josh Wright**

**4. (5) Dexter Canipe Jr.**

**5. (29) Spencer Gallagher**

**6. (12) Austin McDaniel**

**7. (2) Bryan Ortiz**

**8. (22) Brad Cox**

**9. (1) Jessica Brunelli**

**10. (43) Jesse LeFevers**

**11. (15) Shawn Sharkey**

**12. (32) Justin Parry**

**13. (92) Candace Muzny**

**14. (3) Tayla Orleans**

**15. (77) Jeremy Sorel**

**16. (97) Keith Bumgarner**

**17. (26) Nelson Cranche**

**18. (28) Ryan Gelinski**

**Limited Late Model – Hickory Daily Record 35**

**1. (09) Mark Johnson**

**2. (07) Tyler Chruch**

**3. (12) Annabeth Barnes**

**4. (66) Travis Byrd**

**5. (6) Brandon Hudnall**

**6. (11) Matt Piercy**

**7. (15) Sheflon Clay**

**8. (77) Pietro Fittapaldi**

**9. (18) Casey Pierce**

**10. (07B) Josh Bralley**

**11. (57) Barry Helms**

**12. (04) R.J. West**

**13. (88) Greg Burgess**

**14. (29) Brian Kolb**

**15. (55) Josh Bruchette**

**16. (51) Waylon Flynn**

**17. (21) Monty Cox**

**Super Truck – Hickory Daily Record 35**

**1. (6) Brandon Setzer**

**2. (98) Jody Measmer**

**3. (28) Jason Crouse**

**4. (09) Mark Johnson**

**5. (33) Jeremy Birch**

**6. (16) Clint Fields**

**7. (51) Steven Baird**

**8. (00) Curtis Helderman**

**Street Stock – Hickory Daily Record 30**

**1. (21) Roger Pitts II**

**2. (03) Kevin Eby**

**3. (5) Mike Newton**

**4. (22) Dan Moore**

**5. (99) Roy Smith**

**6. (16) Jonathan Smith**

**7. (17) Baron Kuritzzy**

**8. (84) Jared Broadbent**

**9. (40) Sam Thompson**

**10. (03) Marshall Sutton**

**4-Cylinder – Hickory Daily Record 25**

**1. (8) Chandler Levan**

**2. (81) Shane Canipe**

**3. (51) Nathaniel Kanupp**

**4. (54) John Triplett**

**5. (14) Cameron Lowman**

**6. (3) Donnie Harmon**

**Hobby Stock – Hickory Daily Record 20**

**1. (99) Lewis Slagel**

**2. (95) Chad McKinney**

**3. (47) Tyler McKinney**

**4. (28) Michael Williams**

**5. (1) James Flynn**

**6. (-1) Ronald McNeill**

**7. (31) Steve Willis**

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