

Pressley Wrestles Win On Fan Appreciation Night.

By
Garland Coley



In racing there is an old axiom. It doesn't matter how many laps you lead, as long as you lead the money lap. The meaning of that statement was demonstrated clearly Saturday during "ACTION RENTALS NIGHT AT THE RACES" at Hickory Motor Speedway as #59 Coleman Pressley wrestled the lead from #21 Brian Connor to win the "BOJANGLES LATE MODEL STOCKS" feature, whipping the crowd into a frenzy. The loss was heartbreaking for Connor who led 49 of the 50 scheduled laps. It was the night's sixth and final caution that set up the frenzied finish.

On the lap 47 restart, Pressley maneuvered to the inside of Connor and the two drivers battled side by side for the final four laps. Coming down off turn four to the checkered flag, they made hard contact causing both machines to lose control. Pressley saved his machine quicker and won the mad dash to the finish line relegating, Connor to a disappointing 2 nd place finish. The contact left Connor visibly upset. In Victory Lane, Pressley was unapologetic.

"That was the best finish I've ever seen and I'm just glad to be a part of it." Pressley commented. "He had to gas up when I had to gas up and, rubbing is racing."



Points leader and defending track champion Andy Loden clawed his #29 machine from 9 th starting spot to finish 3 rd , while polesitter #53 Duncan Molesworth secured 4 th and, #10 Andy Mercer rounded out the top 5.

Waylon Flynn survived four cautions, including one right in front of him on the initial start, to take his #55 machine home to Victory Lane in the Limited Late Model feature portion of the evening. #27 Brandon Munday was 2 nd followed by #73 Jimmy Young in 3 rd , #99 Andrew Carlson finished 4 th and #05 Danny Chafin brought home his ride in 5 th .



In Pro 4 action, Pole Winner Randy Freeze #16 survived a wild melee that involved him and 6 other competitors to win his 2 nd straight win of the young season. Walter Hoke brought his #55 car home in 2 nd , #09 Randy Canipe piloted his battered car home in 3 rd , #17 Curtis Pardue was 4 th and, Chris Allison's #7 rounded out the top 5.

In Street Stock action, Gary Ledbetter piloted his #82 car home to his 2 nd feature win in a row, leading #7 Jeff Sparks across the line in 2 nd . #03 Kevin Eby was 3 rd , #42 Terrence Tucker was 4 th and #66 Scott Wallace was 5 th .

Nikki Long #5 made it a weekend sweep as she followed up her win Friday night at Tri County Speedway with a dominating win at Hickory in the Hobby Stocks feature. #15 Steven Clippard was 2 nd followed by #31 Chase Maurer in 3 rd .

All of us here at Hickory Motor Speedway would like to thank each and every one of you who came out Saturday to "ACTION RENTALS NIGHT AT THE RACES". Please join us next Saturday, April 7 th for "THE EASTER BUNNY 150" PASS SOUTH SUPER LATE MODELS SERIES event which will include an Easter egg hunt for the kids. Go to www.hickorymotorspeedway or call (828) 464-3655 for more details.

We'll see you next week at "The Birthplace of The NASCAR Stars", Hickory Motor Speedway.



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