

R.D. Smith Wins the ZLOOP Spring Classic

(Newton, N.C. -- March 7th, 2015)

For Immediate Release:

Racing returned to Hickory Motor Speedway in a big way for the ZLOOP Spring Classic Season Opener and Round 1 of the Paramount Kia "Big 10" Racing Challenge. It was a cool night but the action on the track would heat up quickly.

It would be a tight field and plenty of contact as the first round of the Paramount Kia "Big 10" Challenge would open up for the ZLOOP Spring Classic at Hickory Motor Speedway with the Jr. Motorsports driver of the No. 88 Josh Berry breaking the 15 second mark with a time of 14.95 to take the first pole of the season in the NASCAR Whelen All American Series Bojangles Late Model Stocks.



Berry would set the early pace and continue to lead until around lap 50, when the No. 23 of Payton Ryan would take the helm. Ryan and Berry would do battle for several laps until Berry would spin and Ryan would assume the lead.

After the caution Ryan would put some distance on the field, but challenges from the No. 12 of Austin McDaniel, the No. 00 of Shane Lee and others kept Ryan within striking distance as Berry was working his way back through the field. With less than ten to go Berry would move back to the front and the battle for the lead as Ryan and McDaniel were preparing to settle it themselves.

With 6 laps to go Berry would make it three wide and retake the lead but after contact with Ryan would spin a second time tonight that would send him to the back along with Ryan. Coming back to the restart McDaniel would lead the field along with the No. 41 of Brayton Haws, Lee, and the No. 16 of RD Smith. Contact between Lee and Haws would bring out yet another caution with Haws' car sustaining damage and requiring a trip to pit road.

McDaniel would once again lead the field to the green for the final run to the checkers with Lee and Smith hot in tow. Smith would move around Lee for second and begin to challenge McDaniel for the win. With contact on the final corner of the last lap McDaniel and Smith would be side-by-side with McDaniel on the high side and Smith to the preferred inside and coming to the checkered flag. Smith would take the checkered flag followed by McDaniel, Lee would end up 3 rd , Matt Piercy 4 th , a hard fought race for Josh Berry would put him 5 th.

The T-Mobile Limiteds were led to the green by the No. 77 of Travis Byrd with the No. 51 of Jeremy Pelfrey to his outside. Byrd would hold off numerous challenges and be the first to the checkers, bringing home his first win for 2015. There would be action throughout the pack as the No.15 of Sheflon Clay would work his way around Pelfrey for 2 nd with Pelfrey settling for 3 rd . Zach Bruenger, in his rockin' Robin Harris retro ride No.2, would start toward the back of the field and work his way to the front for a 4 th place finish, while Mark Johnson in the No.13 would round out the top 5.

In the Street Stocks Kevin Eby in the No. 03 would claim the top qualifying spot and would have things going his way until Charlie Neill in the No.2 worked his way to Eby and would take the lead on lap 12. Neill would take the checkered flag with Eby crossing the line in 2 nd , Marshall Sutton 3 rd , Mark Whitten 4 th , Larry Mosher rounding out the top 5.

The 4-Cylinders would be led by fast timer Eddie Gilbert driving the No. 00 . The No. 09 of Randy Canipe would take the lead early and not look back as he took the win. Michael Tucker in No. 16 would finish 2 nd , with Gilbert battling back from a spin to finish 3 rd , Dennis Trivette in the No. 28 would cross the line 4 th , and Rob Lewis in the No. 98 would cross the line 5 th .

The Wrench Rags Renegades would be the final event of the night. Division rivalries from 2014 poured over into the inaugural race of 2015 as the No. 8 Kenneth Roberts would bring them to the line, with the No. 6 of Darren Dickinson, and the No. 00 of Blake Walker battling him fiercely for the top spot. A late caution would bunch the field helping the No. 77 of Shawn Hayes, move into the fray after coming from 7 th to 4 th . At the restart Walker would lead the field with Roberts to his outside and Dickinson in 3 rd . Contact between Hayes and Dickinson would bring out another caution as the No. 00 of Justin Austin would get caught up in the incident. The final restart would see Walker take the win, Hayes would get by Roberts for 2 nd , with Roberts hanging on for 3 rd , the No. 68 Steve Griffith would bring home 4 th , and the No. 71 Kyle Divanna rounded out the top 5.

This Saturday night, March 14 th , fans will see another Hot Night of Action with 50 laps for the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series Bojangles Late Models, 35 laps for the T-Mobile Limiteds, 35 laps for the Smokey's Super Trucks, 30 laps for the Street Stocks and the Classic Sportsman Racing. Tickets are just \$11 for Adults, \$9 for Seniors and Teens and Kids 12 and under are free. Gates open at 5pm, with racing action slated for 7pm. Come out and see us! For more information about upcoming events and Hickory Motor Speedway visit, www.hickorymotorspeedway.com or like us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/hickoryspeedwayfans) and follow us on Twitter (www.twitter.com/hickoryspeedway).

Official Race Results:

Hickory Motor Speedway			
Race Results for 3/7/2015			
4-Cylinders - Feature			
Finish	Car No	Driver	Hometown
1	09	Randy Canipe	Maiden, NC
2	16T	Michael Tucker	Thomasville, NC
3	00G	Eddie Gilbert	Newton, NC
4	28T	Dennis Trivette	Newton, NC
5	98	Rob Lewis	Morganton, NC
6	6T	Rodney Trivette	Newton, NC
7	31	Dwayne Dean	Thomasville, NC
8	79	Crystal Davis	Fort Mill, SC
9	11	Robert Trivette	Newton, NC
10	17	Curtis Pardue	Hickory, NC
4-Cylinders - Qualifying			
Finish	Car No	Driver	Hometown
1	00G	Eddie Gilbert	Newton, NC
2	09	Randy Canipe	Maiden, NC
3	98	Rob Lewis	Morganton, NC
4	17	Curtis Pardue	Hickory, NC
5	79	Crystal Davis	Fort Mill, SC
6	6T	Rodney Trivette	Newton, NC
7	31	Dwayne Dean	Thomasville, NC
8	28T	Dennis Trivette	Newton, NC
9	11	Robert Trivette	Newton, NC
10	16T	Michael Tucker	Thomasville, NC
Late Model - Feature			
Finish	Car No	Driver	Hometown

1	12	Austin McDaniel	Harrisburg, NC	
2	00	Shane Lee	Newton, NC	
3	25	Matt Piercy	Conover, NC	
4	88B	Josh Berry	Hendersonville, TN	
5	7	Ashley Huffman	Connelly Springs, NC	
6	75H	Landon Huffman	Claremont, NC	
7	01C	Jake Crum	Statesville, NC	
8	6D	Dylan Smith	Concord, NC	
9	41H	Brayton Haws	Youngsville, NC	
10	12B	Annabeth Barnes	Hiddenite, NC	
11	59S	Roddey Sterling, Jr.	Charlotte, NC	
12	23R	Payton Ryan	Concord, NC	
13	4D	Natalie Decker	,	
14	5C	Dexter Canipe, Jr.	Conover, NC	
15	67H	Jacob Harrell	Belmont, NC	
16	9	William Byron	Charlotte, NC	
17	16S	R D Smith II	Burlington, NC	DQ

Late Model - Qualifying

Finish	Car No	Driver	Hometown
1	88B	Josh Berry	Hendersonville, TN
2	41H	Brayton Haws	Youngsville, NC
3	23R	Payton Ryan	Concord, NC
4	75H	Landon Huffman	Claremont, NC
5	9	William Byron	Charlotte, NC
6	7	Ashley Huffman	Connelly Springs, NC
7	00	Shane Lee	Newton, NC
8	25	Matt Piercy	Conover, NC
9	5C	Dexter Canipe, Jr.	Conover, NC
10	01C	Jake Crum	Statesville, NC
11	6D	Dylan Smith	Concord, NC
12	59S	Roddey Sterling, Jr.	Charlotte, NC
13	16S	R D Smith II	Burlington, NC
14	4D	Natalie Decker	,
15	12	Austin McDaniel	Harrisburg, NC
16	67H	Jacob Harrell	Belmont, NC
17	12B	Annabeth Barnes	Hiddenite, NC

Limited Late Model - Feature

Finish	Car No	Driver	Hometown
1	77B	Travis Byrd	Sherrills Ford, NC
2	15	Sheflon Clay	Asheville, NC
3	51	Jeremy Pelfrey	Lenoir, NC
4	2B	Zachary Bruenger	Granite Falls, NC
5	13J	Mark Johnson	Newton, NC
6	29	Mitch Walker	Newton, NC
7	21	Monty Cox	Granite Falls, NC
8	18	Casey Pierce	Lenoir, NC
9	14R	Ryan Repko	Denver, NC
10	56	Anthony Miller	Asheville, NC
11	09G	Keith Graham	Statesville, NC
12	14A	Akinori Ogata	Mooresville, NC
13	43	Greg Wise	Candler, NC
14	29R	Jake Ruggles	Kannapolis, NC
15	38	Chris Taylor	Walnut Cove, NC
16	34	Patrick Rachels	China Grove, NC

17	99P	Austin Powell	Concord, NC
Limited Late Model - Qualifying			
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1	77B	Travis Byrd	Sherrills Ford, NC
2	51	Jeremy Pelfrey	Lenoir, NC
3	29	Mitch Walker	Newton, NC
4	34	Patrick Rachels	China Grove, NC
5	15	Sheflon Clay	Asheville, NC
6	21	Monty Cox	Granite Falls, NC
7	13J	Mark Johnson	Newton, NC
8	18	Casey Pierce	Lenoir, NC
9	29R	Jake Ruggles	Kannapolis, NC
10	14R	Ryan Repko	Denver, NC
11	56	Anthony Miller	Asheville, NC
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13	43	Greg Wise	Candler, NC
14	38	Chris Taylor	Walnut Cove, NC
15	99P	Austin Powell	Concord, NC
16	2B	Zachary Bruenger	Granite Falls, NC
17	14A	Akinori Ogata	Mooresville, NC
Renegades - Feature			
Finish	Car No	Driver	Hometown
1	09W	Adam Blake Walker	Lenoir, NC
2	77H	Shawn Hayes	Lenoir, NC
3	8	Kenneth Roberts	Hickory, NC
4	68	Steve Griffith	Morganton, NC
5	71	Kyle Divanna	Statesville, NC
6	16T	Randy Truett	Granite Falls, NC
7	6	Darren Dickinson	Hickory, NC
8	57	Ray Triplett	Lenoir, NC
9	4A	Justin Austin	Granite Falls, NC
10	69	Ben Campbell	Hudson, NC
Renegades - Qualifying			
Finish	Car No	Driver	Hometown
1	8	Kenneth Roberts	Hickory, NC
2	09W	Adam Blake Walker	Lenoir, NC
3	6	Darren Dickinson	Hickory, NC
4	68	Steve Griffith	Morganton, NC
5	16T	Randy Truett	Granite Falls, NC
6	57	Ray Triplett	Lenoir, NC
7	77H	Shawn Hayes	Lenoir, NC
8	69	Ben Campbell	Hudson, NC
9	4A	Justin Austin	Granite Falls, NC
10	71	Kyle Divanna	Statesville, NC
Street Stocks - Feature			
Finish	Car No	Driver	Hometown
1	03	Kevin Eby	Lenior, NC
2	64	Marshall Sutton	Burnsville, NC
3	3W	Mark Whitten	Hogtown, VA,
4	2	Larry Mosher	Taylorsville, NC
5	52	Don Machutta	Mooresville, NC
6	18D	Cody DeMarmels	Newton, NC
7	1	David Snyder	Cleveland, NC
8	23	Brendan Doyle	Hendersonville, NC

9	44	Andrew Moss	Hendersonville, NC	
10	16	Carroll McKinney	Hildebran, NC	
11	74	Kim Smith	Lincolnton, NC	
12	10	Ethan Johnson	Hudson, NC	
13	2N	Charlie Neill	Hickory, NC	DQ

Street Stocks - Qualifying

Finish	Car No	Driver	Hometown	
1	03	Kevin Eby	Lenior, NC	
2	3W	Mark Whitten	Hogtown, VA,	
3	64	Marshall Sutton	Burnsville, NC	
4	52	Don Machutta	Mooresville, NC	
5	2	Larry Mosher	Taylorsville, NC	
6	2N	Charlie Neill	Hickory, NC	
7	18D	Cody DeMarmels	Newton, NC	
8	16	Carroll McKinney	Hildebran, NC	
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