

" Leicht Takes The Checkered, Painter Continues Dominance "

presented by; Law Offices of Lyndon R. Helton Night at the Races

4/27/2019 - Beautiful weather returned to the Catawba Valley on Saturday to welcome back the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series to America's Most Famous Short Track, Hickory Motor Speedway for the running the Law Offices of Lyndon R. Helton Night at the Races.

Leading of the night's festivities would be the exciting Hickory Vintage Racers for 25 laps of nostalgic action. First race winner Tim Gilbert in the #95 would grab the pole position in qualifying with the elder statesman of the series, 83 year old Bill Webb in the #16 starting to his outside. Tim Gilbert and Bill Webb would enter turn one side by side on lap one but Tim Gilbert would nose ahead down the backstretch. Eddie Gilbert in the #00 would start shotgun on the field but work his way up to the top three by lap ten. The front three would set a torrid pace as they counted down the laps. Tim Gilbert would cross the finish line first and take home the win with Bill Webb finishing 2nd. Eddie Gilbert would finish 3rd, Dennis Hinkle in the #90 would finish 4th, and Bill Powell in the #71 would finish 5th.



Photo by; Sherri Stearns

The Carolina Custom Golf Cart Super Trucks would hit the track next for 35 laps of door to door racing excitement. 2018 HMS Champion Allen Huffman in the #51 would grab the pole position with Joey Shuryan in the #30 taking the green flag to his outside. Points leader Charlie Neill in the #26 would roll off third with former champion Clint Fields in the #16 to his outside starting fourth. Huffman and Shuryan would battle side by side on the first lap with Neill pressuring the pair from the rear. Contact would send Shuryan spinning and restart the race. Huffman and Neill would make up the front row for the restart and have a furious side by side battle for the first five laps or so. Huffman would nose ahead with Neill all over his bumper pressuring for the lead. Lap 18 would see Neill's engine let go and the #70 of Travis Baitty would spin as a result. The restart would have Huffman and Fields making up the front row. The front pair would battle side by side until Huffman would encounter speedy dry on the track cleanup and spin in turn 4 bringing out the caution once again on lap 19. Fields would move to the point side by side with Shuryan on the front row for the restart. Fields would nose ahead with Shuryan close behind. Huffman would move around Shuryan for second and give chase for the lead. Debris on the track would bring out the caution on lap 29. Fields and Huffman would make up the front row for the final restart. Fields would nose ahead with Huffman tucking in close behind. Fields would hold on for the final 6 laps and bring home the win. Huffman would finish 2nd and Shuryan bouncing back to come home 3rd. Joe Simpson in the #86 would finish 4th and Dennis Trivette would take home 5th.

Next up would be the Paramount Auto Group Limited Late Models for 50 laps in round 3 of the Paramount Kia 'Big 10' Challenge. Gage Painter in the #12 would pace qualifying and take the top starting spot with Mitch Walker in the #43 on the outside of row one. Josh Kossek in the #44 and Cody DeMarmels in the #18 would make up row two. Painter would jump out to the early lead while the battle for second would be a furious three car affair with Walker, Kossek, and DeMarmels. Walker would finally win that battle and nose ahead of the battle for third with Kossek and DeMarmels side by side. DeMarmels would squeak by and settle into Walker's tire tracks as they would both give chase to the leader. Painter would set a furious pace out front and hope for no cautions. Painter would hang on for another HMS win. Walker would finish 2nd and DeMarmels would finish 3rd. Akinori Ogata in the #14 would finish 4th and Kossek would finish 5th.

20 laps would be in store for the Renegades as they would hit the track next. Rookie competitor Spencer Dickinson in the #6 would grab the top spot in qualifying and start from the pole position with the #7 of Brian Larkin starting to his outside. Dickinson would battle Larkin side by side through turns one and two until Dickinson would nose ahead going into turn three. As Dickinson would stretch the lead the battle would rage behind him. The #40 of Justin Austin would start from the rear but make his way to second around midpoint of the race. Dickinson's lead would prove insurmountable as he would take the checkers and visit victory lane for the first time in his rookie season. Austin would have to settle for 2nd with the #97 of Danny Crump Jr. finishing 3rd. Robbie Hollifield in the #51 would finish 4th and the #95 of Rodney Elkins would come home in 5th.

The Late Models would thunder to life next for their 80 lap slugfest. Mike Darne in the #6 would dip into the 14 second range during qualifying to grab the top spot as would the #21 of Travis Swaim who would start outside of row one. Brody Pope in the #1 and Kevin Leicht in the #25 would make up row two for the initial start. The green flag would see Darne and Swaim battle door to door for the first couple laps until Swaim would push the high groove just enough and nose into the lead. Lap 9 would see Darne move back around Swaim to retake the lead. Charlie Watson in the #9 would move from his eighth starting position all the way to

third at lap 20. Leicht would move up to second and give Darne a handful as he would look to challenge for the lead. Lap 41 would see Leicht make the pass and move around Darne for the lead. The lead duo would battle furiously and once again swap the lead on lap 53 with Darne nosing back ahead. As the front pair battled Swaim would quietly move back onto their bumpers making it a three car battle for the lead. Lap 68 would see Leicht move under Darne for the lead and Swaim following to take second. Leicht, Swaim, and Darne would spend the final five laps sideways off every corner trying to get a grip with the worn out tires but they would never get into each other. Coming off turn four on the final lap would see a sideways Swaim look under the leader but not have enough grip to make the pass as Leicht would take the checkered flag for the win. Swaim would finish 2nd and Darne would take 3rd. Watson would finish 4th and Pope would round out the top five in 5th.

Closing out the evening of racing would be the Street Stocks and their 30 lap feature. Mark Whitten in the #77 would take pole position in qualifying with Jonathon Smith in the #16 starting to his outside. Whitten would take the early lead. Smith would come roaring back to take the lead away from Whitten on lap two. Drew Cox in the #21 would start sixth but move to second on lap seven and start working his way towards the leader, Smith. Whitten, Kevin Eby in the #03, and Jesse Clark in the #5 would have a spirited battle for third. Eby would take spot with Whitten moving to fourth. Cox would move to within a couple of car lengths with three laps to go when Smith would suddenly slow and pull to the pits. Cox would drive on to the win. Eby would finish 2nd and Whitten would take 3rd. Clark would get 4th and Derek Fowler in the #31 would finish 5th.

Next week will see the return of the Southeast Super Trucks Series as they make another visit to the famed 3/8 mile oval.

The NASCAR Whelen All-American Series returns to action in two weeks with the running of the 321 Lawnmower Night at the Races.

Hickory Motor Speedway Results 4/27/19

Late Model

- 1• Kevin Leicht
- 2• Travis Swaim
- 3• Mike Darne
- 4• Charlie Watson
- 5• Brody Pope
- 6• Thomas Beane
- 7• Pat Rachels (r)
- 8• Connor Mosack (r)
- 9• Landon Huffman
- 10• Chris Hudspeth
- 11• Quincy Adkins

Limited Late Model – Big 10

- 1• Gage Painter
- 2• Mitch Walker
- 3• Cody DeMarmels
- 4• Akinori Ogata
- 5• Josh Kossek
- 6• Kyle Mansch
- 7• Josh Stark (r)
- 8• Kosma Guznyakov (r)
- 9• Curtis Pardue
- 10• Ben Campbell (r)

- 11• Nathan Lineback
- 12• Matthew Moermond - DNS

Street Stocks

- 1• Drew Cox
- 2• Kevin Eby
- 3• Mark Whitten
- 4• Jesse Clark
- 5• Derek Fowler
- 6• Marshall Sutton
- 7• Jonathon Smith
- 8• Ethan Johnson
- 9• Jon Austin

Super Trucks

- 1• Clint Fields
- 2• Allen Huffman
- 3• Joey Shuryan
- 4• Joe Simpson
- 5• Dennis Trivette
- 6• Charlie Neill
- 7• Travis Baity

Renegades

- 1• Spencer Dickinson (r)
- 2• Justin Austin
- 3• Robbie Hollifield
- 4• Rodney Elkins (r)
- 5• Zach Mullins (r)
- 6• Matthew Chambers
- 7• Megan Campbell (r)
- 8• Brian Larkin
- 9• Danny Crump Jr. – DQ

Hickory Vintage Racing Series

- 1• Tim Gilbert
- 2• Bill Webb
- 3• Eddie Gilbert
- 4• Dennis Hinkle

5• Bill Powell

6• Robert Webb

7• Mackie Webb