

“ Taylor Gray Double Ups Sweeps Twin 40s”



7/20/2019 - Temperatures soared across the Unifour area on Saturday, but clouds cooled the race track and fans as the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series competitors at Hickory Motor Speedway turned up the heat in their pursuit of the elusive winner's trophy in Victory Lane.

Leading off the action would be the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series Late Models in the first 40 lap feature of a doubleheader for the division. Nolan Pope in the Lee Faulk Racing #1 would maintain his momentum from his Hickory Motor Speedway win last week to grab the top spot in qualifying, but Taylor Gray in the DGR Crosley Racing #17 wasn't far behind and would start to his outside. Connor Mosack in the #18 and Bradley McCaskill in the #18M would make up row two. The green flag would see Pope get the better start and pull out to the lead. Gray would face a challenge from Mosack, but would keep the spot and give chase to the leader, Pope. Lap 25 would see Gray catch Pope, taking the top spot. Pope would not give up easily, however as he pressed for the position over the next five laps till Gray would finally create a little breathing room. Battles would rage throughout the field with everyone wanting to get their shot to run down the leader. Gray would hang on for the win, taking the checkered flag and making the visit to Victory Lane. Pope would hang on for 2nd with Austin McDaniel in the #12 moving up to 3rd. Mosack would take home 4th and Thomas Beane in the #31 would finish 5th.

The Hickory Vintage Racers would be the next to storm the famed 3/8 mile oval for their 25 lap feature. Bill Webb in the #16 would start the pole position with Bill Powell in the #71 to his outside. The first couple of laps would see Bill Webb and Powell dueling for the top spot until Webb would pull ahead. Mackie Webb in the 17W would pressure Powell over a handful of laps for the second spot. Powell would eventually take the spot and look to chase down the leader. Bill Webb would hang on and drive to the win with Powell finishing 2nd. Mackie Webb would finish 3rd with Robert Webb in the #6 finishing 4th.

Next up would be the Paramount Auto Group Limited Late Models for their 35 lap battle. Hickory Motor Speedway points leader Cody DeMarmels in the #18 would pace qualifying and start from the point with the #44 of Josh Kossek to his outside. Mason Ludwig in the #12 and Nathan Lineback in the #71 would make up row two. The battle for the top spot would be door to door between DeMarmels and Kossek until DeMarmels would nose ahead on lap 3. The battle for third would be equally hard fought as Ludwig and Lineback both wanted the spot. Ludwig would nose ahead and look to pressure Kossek for second. The pair would go side by side before Ludwig would finally make the pass on lap 13. Smoke would roll out from underneath the #27 of Justin Austin on lap 15. He would have to pull to pit road for the rest of the event with mechanical problems. With ten laps to go Ludwig would pull up to DeMarmels' rear bumper. Ludwig would make the pass for the lead on lap 29 with DeMarmels hot on his heels. Ludwig would drive on to the win. DeMarmels would finish 2nd and Kossek would come home in 3rd. Lineback would finish 4th and Toni Breidinger in the #21 would finish 5th.

The 4-Cylinders would roll on to the grid next for their 25 lap feature. Brian Mundy in the #6 would take the top spot in qualifying with Ashton Trivette in the #21 to his outside. After three failed start attempts including two spins, the fourth time would be the charm as Mundy would get the lead in turn one on the start. Ashton Trivette would give chase as Curtis Pardue in the #17 and Cody Combs in the #9 would duel it out for third on the track. Pardue would take the position and set his sights on the top two. Lap 17 would see Colin Trivette in the #99 spin and bring out the caution. Mundy and Ashton Trivette would make up the front row for the restart. Mundy would move back to the top spot and bring Pardue with him to second. Ashton Trivette would make up ground on Pardue, but would spin in turn three on lap 21, bringing out the caution once again. Mundy and

Pardue would bring the field back to the green flag. The pair would battle side by side until Mundy would nose ahead. Ashton Trivette would spin in turn one on lap 23 bringing out the final caution. Mundy and Pardue would pace the field to green once again. Mundy would nose ahead on the restart and drive on to the win. Pardue would finish 2nd with Combs bouncing back from an earlier spin to finish 3rd. Ashton Trivette would bounce back from a couple of spins to finish 4th and Robbie Lewis in the #98 would finish 5th.

Hitting the track next would be the Street Stocks for 30 laps of door to door action. Jesse Clark in the #5 would take the top spot in qualifying with Drew Cox in the #21 to his outside. Jeff Sparks in the #7 and Mark Whitten in the #77 would take the initial green flag in row two. Clark and Cox would have a spirited battle for the top spot with Cox finally taking the top spot on lap 4. Whitten would face a challenge for fourth from the #03 of Kevin Eby with both wanting the spot. Marshall Sutton in the #64 and Ethan Johnson in the #2 would have a race long battle for sixth. Contact between Johnson and Sutton would send Sutton spinning and the caution flying on lap 21. Sutton and Johnson would both have to restart in the rear of the field. The restart would see Cox and Clark at the front of the field. The front duo would be side by side through turns one and two. As the leaders came off of turn two Cox would suffer a rear end failure, lose his right rear wheel and spin, sending nearly the entire field spinning with only four cars making it through the big one. Cox, Clark, Whitten, Eby, and Trey Buff in the #69 would all sustain heavy damage. Whitten and Clark would be only cars involved that were able to return to action. Sparks and Derek Fowler in the #31 would make up the front row for the restart after a lengthy red flag for track cleanup. Sparks would get the better restart and pull to the lead. Sutton would follow Sparks and move around Fowler for second. Sparks would hang on for the win. Sutton would finish 2nd with Fowler taking 3rd. Whitten and Clark would battle to the line for a photo finish with Whitten taking 4th and Clark 5th.

Closing out the night's events would be the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series Late Models for the second of their 40 lap features. With the invert from the finishing order of race one Ryan Vargas in the #25V would start from the top spot and Kevin Leicht in the #25 would roll off to his outside. Row two would see Chris Hudspeth in the #28 and Thomas Beane in the #31. Vargas and Leicht would battle door to door until Leicht would take the lead on lap three. Beane would pressure Leicht for the lead after taking second from Vargas. Beane would eventually make the pass for the lead on lap ten and bring race one winner Taylor Gray in the #17 with him up to second. Lap 14 would see the caution fly as the #18 of Bradley McCaskill would spin. Beane and Gray would restart on the front row. Gray would take the lead on the backstretch after the green flag would fly. Austin McDaniel in the #12 would battle with Beane for the second position. McDaniel would take the position with ten laps to go. Beane and Hudspeth would battle for the third position in their Hickory Motor Speedway points battle. Gray would drive on to the win, doubling up on the night. McDaniel would finish 2nd and Beane would take 3rd. Hudspeth would finish 4th and Nolan Pope in the #1 would bring it home in 5th.

The NASCAR Whelen All-American Series is back in action next week, July 27th, at America's Most Famous Short Track with a full slate of racing excitement. The Cars Tour will visit Hickory Motor Speedway in two weeks, August 4th, for the running of the Throwback 276.

Hickory Motor Speedway Results 7/20/19 (Unofficial)

Late Model Race #1

1	#17	Taylor Gray
2	#1	Nolan Pope
3	#12	Austin McDaniel
4	#18	Connor Mosack (r)
5	#31	Thomas Beane
6	#28H	Chris Hudspeth
7	#25	Kevin Leicht
8	#25V	Ryan Vargas
9	#4	Todd Gilliland
10	#18M	Bradley McCaskill
11	#57	Justin Carroll
12	#2	Dan Moore

13	75	Quincy Adkins
14	#71	Curtis Pardue

Late Model Race #2

1	#17	Taylor Gray
2	#12	Austin McDaniel
3	#31	Thomas Beane
4	#28 H	Chris Hudspeth
5	#1	Nolan Pope
6	#25V	Ryan Vargas
7	#25	Kevin Leicht
8	#4	Todd Gilliland
9	#18	Connor Mosack (r)
10	#22	Dan Moore
11	#18M	Bradley McCaskill
12	#75	Quincy Adkins
13	#57	Justin Carroll
14	#71	Curtis Pardue

Limited Late Model

1	#12	Mason Ludwig
2	#18	Cody DeMarmels
3	#44	Josh Kossek
4	#71	Nathan Lineback
5	#21	Toni Breidinger
6	#33	Kosma Guznyakov (r)
7	#27	Justin Austin

Street Stocks

1	#7	Jeff Sparks
2	#64	Marshall Sutton
3	#31	Derek Fowler
4	#77	Mark Whitten
5	#5	Jesse Clark
6	#2	Ethan Johnson
7	#21	Drew Cox
8	#03	Kevin Eby
9	#69	Trey Buff

4 Cylinders

1	#6	Brian Mundy
2	#17	Curtis Pardue
3	#9	Cody Combs

4	#21	Ashton Trivette
5	#98	Robbie Lewis
6	#99	Colin Trivette
7	#11	Robert Trivette

Hickory Vintage Racing Series

1	#16	Bill Webb
2	#71P	Bill Powell
3	#16	Mackie Webb
4	#6	Robert Webb