

# The Champions are Crowned!

By: Jill Frischmann

Photos by: Legacy Video & Photography



(September 12, 2009 -- Newton, NC) The air was electric and excitement was at an all time high as the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series ran for the final time during the 2009 racing season during Gaston Rentals Championship Night presented by USG. Hickory Motor Speedway crowned champions in the Bojangles Late Models, the Advance Auto Parts Limiteds, the Bad Boy Mowers Super Trucks, the Hickory 4 Cylinders, the Hickory Street Stocks and the Red Baron Race Parts Hobby Stocks. Late Model driver the #10 of Andy Mercer and Limited driver the #17 of Kyle Mansch came into the night with their championships wrapped up, but drivers in the Super Trucks, 4 Cylinders, Street Stocks and Hobby Stocks had some work to do to put their name in the history books at Hickory Motor Speedway.

The Bojangles Late Models put on a show like no other as they headed onto the asphalt for their 50-lap feature event. With the Late Model championship wrapped up the #10 of Andy Mercer felt no pressure as he started the race in a back-up car. The #88 of Dexter Canipe Jr. jumped into the lead leaving the #66 of pole sitter Stephen Wallace and the #43 of Jesse LeFevers to battle for second, until lap three when LeFevers grabbed the spot. The field quickly spread out with Canipe Jr., LeFevers, Wallace, the #59 of Coleman Pressley and the #19 of Kyle Moon making up the top five by lap ten. On lap 15, Wallace drove under LeFevers taking over the second place position on lap 17. Pressley followed the momentum of Wallace and pulled under LeFevers on lap 20 grabbing the third place position.

The first of two cautions came out on lap 32 as the #92 of Candace Muzny got loose heading out of turn two. As Muzny spun down the track the #83 of Akinori Ogata spun to avoid making contact with Muzny. The second and final caution fell on lap 33 as the #45 of Jeff Stankiewicz looped his ride around heading out of turn two. As Canipe Jr. continued to run out front leading the field to the checkers Pressley and Wallace ran door to door looking to secure the second place position. Wallace powered ahead of Pressley leaving Pressley to settle for third. The #51 of Chris Lawson and the #21 of Travis Swain made up the top five.

Even though the #17 of Kyle Mansch came into the night's race with the Advance Auto Parts Limiteds points championship clinched he didn't see that as any reason to hold back on the track as he pulled away from the field during the 35 lap event. As Mansch led the field around the track he left the #33 of Cory Joyce to duke it out with the #24 of Taylor Doggett for second, with Doggett grabbing the position on lap three. The excitement of the caution filled event began early as the first caution fell

on lap four when the #7 of Jason Crouse spun around exiting turn two. At the restart Joyce pulled back in front of Doggett regaining the second place spot. On lap 18, the #69 of John Hilliker pulled ahead of Doggett taking over third leaving Doggett to ride around in fourth. The #45 of Kenneth Pardue was quick to follow Hilliker's lead, but Doggett shut the door on Pardue holding on tight to his fourth place position. Pardue wasn't going to give up, on lap 24 he got his nose under Doggett looking to slide under his ride and take over the position, but it wasn't in the cards for Pardue as the second caution came out on lap 25 when the #6 of Brandon Hudnall spun out on the front stretch.

From the restart Joyce was able to move ahead of Mansch and began to pull away, a caution was the last thing Joyce wanted to see but yellow flag soon waived as Doggett and Pardue connected on the back stretch, sending Pardue into the turn three outside wall bringing out the event's third caution. Mansch moved back into the top spot on lap 27 while the #32 of Justin Sorrow and Pardue battled for third. The fourth caution waived on lap 28 when Hudnall spun around for a second time, this time on the back stretch. The #66 of Travis Byrd spun down the front stretch on lap 29, but was able to get his ride headed back in the right direction before the field came around the track, so no caution was called. With only four laps remaining Doggett found himself in a wild spin down the front stretch coming to stop before making contact with the inside wall bringing out the fifth and final caution. Only four laps remained at the restart as Mansch pulled away from the field leaving Joyce, Pardue, Sorrow and Hilliker to round out the top five.

The Bad Boy Mower Super Trucks kept the action going as they hit the track for a final time during the 2009 racing season for the 35-lap event. The #69 of Trevor Hignutt and the #6 of Brandon Setzer were quick to pull away from the competition at the beginning of the event leaving the rest of the field to fight it out top positions. The first caution of the event came out on lap seven when the #07 of Jacob Marlowe spun out heading into turn two. The second caution fell as soon as the field went back to green flag racing as Setzer got loose on the backstretch with the help of the #16 of Clint Fields. The remainder of the field dodged the spinning ride of Setzer to avoid wrecking, amazingly all trucks made it out of the caution without incident.

From the restart the #87 Clint King began to challenge Hignutt looking for an opportunity to take over the lead, but on lap 10 the third caution waived as Fields, the #17 of Tyler Taft and the #84 of Shawn Wood connected coming out of turn three sending all three trucks spinning into the outside wall. On lap 12, King inched ahead of Hignutt for the lead and the two began to run door to door until lap 15 when King pulled away from Hignutt thanks to a push from the #25 of Mark Johnson. Hignutt and Johnson began to battle for second until Johnson captured the spot on lap 19. The #11 of Thomas Beane sailed past Hignutt moving into third on lap 21. On lap 22 Hignutt went for a spin on the back stretch bringing out the fourth caution of the event. Beane used the restart to his advantage and captured the second place position on lap 24.

The action and excitement continued when Hignutt got into Setzer on lap 27 as the field entered turn two causing the fifth and final caution of the race. Beane fell back to third on the restart, unhappy with running third he pulled up along-side Johnson with five laps to go. Beane was able to move back into second by lap 31 leaving Johnson to come home third along with the Bad Boy Mower Super Trucks championship. King was able to hold on tight for the lead as the #4 of Ernie Harris and the #15 Jenn Crossman finished fourth and fifth respectively.

The Hickory 4 Cylinders put on an exciting show from the moment the green flag waived as the field took to the track for their 25-lap feature. The first caution of the race fell on lap seven when the #59 of Donn Wardo spun around as he exited turn four. On lap nine, the #4 of Adam Beaver moved out front taking away the top spot from the #21 the pole sitter Todd Harrington. On lap 13 Wardo found himself going around for a second time as he headed out of turn two bringing out the second caution of the night. The third caution quickly followed for debris on the track, as Harrington experienced mechanical issues putting him out of the race. After the field went back to green flag racing the #09 of Randy Canipe was on a mission moving to the front. Canipe slid into the second place position on lap 16 but didn't have enough to take over Beaver, leaving him to settle for a second place finish. The #16 of Randy Freeze, the #18 of Devon Hawn and the #31 of Michael Tucker completed the top five.

The Hickory Street Stocks kept the racing action clean as they headed onto the track for their 30-lap feature. The first and only caution came out during the first lap when the #03 of Kevin Eby got into the #1 of Taylor Stricklin sending Stricklin spinning down the front stretch. As the field went back to green flag racing the #15 of Waylon Flynn jumped to the lead looking to ensure the Hickory Street Stock divisional championship. As Flynn led the field he left the #64 of Marshall Sutton and Stricklin to battle for second place. On lap 5 Stricklin pulled under Sutton grabbing second on lap seven. With four laps to go Stricklin experienced mechanical issues putting him out of the race leaving Sutton, Eby, the #99 of Jonathan Smith and the #32 of Jeremy Harrell to complete the top five.

The Red Baron Race Parts Hobby Stocks kept things clean as they headed out on the track for their first 15-lap feature of the evening. The #90 of pole sitter Ronnie Sims was quick to create a commanding lead over the field. On lap two the #85 of Jeff Weisner moved into the second place position from a third place starting spot. The main battle was between the #84 of Steve Teague and the #1 of Randy Berry as Berry took over the fourth place position on lap six. Teague quickly regained the position on lap seven and began to pull away from Berry. Berry wasn't going to settle for fifth and moved back into fourth by lap ten.

Sims maintained his lead over the field taking home the checkers leaving, Weisner, the #9 of Scott Bumgarner, Berry and Teague to complete the top five.

The field was inverted for the second of two features for the Red Baron Race Parts Hobby Stocks as the #90 of Ronnie Sims started in the back of pack looking to make his way to the front as he worked to wrap up the Hobby Stock divisional championship. Sims was on a hot run as he moved into the second place position by lap five. The first caution waived on lap five when the #-1 of Ronald McNeill spun around heading into turn four. With five laps remaining Sims was on the bumper of the #85 of Jeff Weisner looking to take over the lead, time ran short as Weisner was able to maintain his position leaving Sims to finish second with the #9 of Scott Bumgarner, the #1 of James Flynn and McNeill.

**Up Coming Events:**

Join us next Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup> for the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Bad Boy Mower/Everything Attachments Bobby Isaac Memorial 200. This will be fun filled night that will thrill fans of all ages as Hickory Motor Speedway features a 200 lap Late Model event, 50 lap Limited event, Vintage Cars, Demolition Derby and FIREWORKS presented by Little Caesars! Want to become a part of the event by sponsoring a lap during the Bobby Isaac memorial or interested in participating in the Demolition Derby? Visit [www.hickorymotorspeedway.com](http://www.hickorymotorspeedway.com) for entry blank and rules.

Grandstands for this great night of racing open at 3 PM with qualifying at 4 PM. On Track Autograph Session will take place at 6 PM with feature racing action at 7 PM. Tickets are only \$15 for adults, \$10 for teens and seniors, \$7 for kids ages 7 – 12, with kids 6 and under FREE. Be sure to get your \$3 coupon at local Little Caesar restaurants.

Visit [www.hickorymotorspeedway.com](http://www.hickorymotorspeedway.com) for more information about the show and how you can become the next Miss Hickory Motor Speedway.

*Remember if you're not here, you're missing out!*

#### **Pole Award Winners**

**Bojangles Late Models:66 – Stephen Wallace – 15.212 seconds**

**Advance Auto Parts Limiteds: 17 – Kyle Mansch – 15.775 seconds**

**Bad Boy Mower Super Trucks: 69 – Trevor Hignutt – 16.032 seconds**

**Hickory 4 Cylinders: 21 – Todd Harrington – 16.511 seconds**

**Hickory Street Stocks:64 – Marshall Sutton – 17.057 seconds**

#### **Tommy Johnson's Performance Parts Warehouse Hard Charger Winners**

#### **Bojangles Late Models**

**33 – James Goff**

**Advance Auto Parts Limiteds: 66 – Travis Byrd**

**Bad Boy Mower Super Trucks: 15 – Jenn Crossman**

**Hickory 4 Cylinders:31 – Michael Tucker**

**Hickory Street Stocks: 03 – Kevin Eby**

**Red Baron Race Parts Hobby Stocks #1:85 – Jeff Weisner**

**Red Baron Race Parts Hobby Stocks #2: 85 – Jeff Weisner**

#### **2009 Hickory Motor Speedway Divisional Champions**

**Bojangles Late Models: 10 – Andy Mercer**

**Advance Auto Parts Limiteds:17 – Kyle Mansch**

**Bad Boy Mower Super Trucks: 25 – Mark Johnson**

Hickory 4 Cylinders: 21 – Todd Harrington

Hickory Street Stocks: 15 – Waylon Flynn

Red Baron Race Parts Hobby Stocks:90 – Ronnie Sims

Hickory Motor Speedway

NASCAR Whelen All-American Series

UN-OFFICIAL RACE RESULTS

9/12/09

LATE MODEL STOCKS • 88 Dexter Canipe Jr. • 66 Stephen Wallace • 59 Coleman Pressley. • 51 Chris Lawson • 21 Travis Swaim • 10 Andy Mercer • 19 Kyle Moon • 6 Cole Miktuk • 36 Neil Meredith • 33 James Goff • 57 Grant Wimbish • 43 Jesse LeFevers • 83 Akinori Ogata 14. 92 Candace Muzny 15. 99 Mike Sboro 16. 45 Jeff Stankiewicz 17. 14 Doug Mate

STREET STOCKS • 15 Waylon Flynn • 64 Marshall Sutton • 03 Kevin Eby • 99 Jonathan Smith • 32 Jeremy Harrell • 40 David Smith • 54 Michael Harris • 69 Trey Buff • 4 Shane McKee • 1 Taylor Stricklin • 88 Josh Burchette • 9 Jon Austin

LIMITED LATE MODEL 1. 17 Kyle Mansch 2. 33 Cory Joyce 3. 45 Kenneth Pardue 4. 32 Justin Sorrow 5. 24 Taylor Doggett 6. 66 Travis Byrd 7. 7 Jason Crouse 8. 6 Brandon Hudnall 9. 69 John Hilliker 10. 8 Mark McIntosh HOBBY STOCKS – Race #1 1. 90 Ronnie Sims 2. 85 Jeff Weisner 3. 9 Scott Bumgarner 4. 1 Randy Berry 5. 84 Steve Teague 6. -1 Ronald McNeill

4-CYLINDERS 1. 4 Adam Beaver 2. 16 Randy Freeze 3. 18 Devon Haun 4. 31 Michael Tucker 5. 07 Matt Laws 6. 17 Curtis Pardue 7. 98 Rob Lewis 8. 59 Donn Wardo 9. 21 Todd Harrington 10. 09 Randy Canipe - DQ

HOBBY STOCKS – Race #2 1. 85 Jeff Weisner 2 90 Ronnie Sims 3. 9 Scott Bumgarner 4. 1 James Flynn 5. -1 Ronald McNeill 6. 84 Steve Teague

SUPER TRUCKS 1. 87 Clint King 2. 11 Thomas Beane 3 25 Mark Johnson. 4. 4 Ernie Harris 5. 15 Jenn Crossman 6. 69 Trevor Hignutt 7. 33 Jeremy Birch 8. 6 Brandon Setzer 9. 0 Jody Church 10. 10 Barry Williams 11. 7 Justin Crider 12. 17 Tyler Taft 13. 84 Shawn Wood 14. 16 Clint Fields 15. 07 Jacob Marlowe 16. 44 Ron Hall

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