

JOHNSON DODGES MELEE – HOLDS OFF KENDALL TO CAPTURE WIR FEATURE FLAG

(KAUKAUNA, WI) Aug 15 – Defending track champion Casey Johnson of Edgerton survived a big crash early and fought off a tenacious Bobby Kendall in the waning laps to win the super late model feature at Wisconsin International Raceway in Kaukauna Thursday night.

Appleton's Michael Anthony shot into the lead from his outside front row starting spot at the drop of the green of the 35 lap contest with Freedom's Brent Strelka wrestling the lead away from Anthony on lap six. Kendall followed in Strelka's tracks into second with Johnson quickly working his way from eighth into third by lap nine.

Strelka, Kendall and Johnson pulled away from the field and a three car tussle for the lead ensued. Johnson motored around Kendall to take second on lap 14 and set his sights on Strelka for the lead. Johnson pressured Strelka both high and low by the halfway point. Action was halted when Taylor Haufschildt and Mickey Schallie tangled on the backstretch on lap nineteen. Johnson dove underneath Strelka for the lead on a restart but the race was halted one circuit later for a Michael Hardtke spin. When racing resumed a huge pileup in turn three collected the cars of Strelka, point contender Maxwell Schultz, Lowell Bennett, Kyle Calmes and Michael Hardtke.

When the dust settled only 10 of the original 20 starting cars took the green on the restart with 14 laps remaining. Johnson poured the coals to his Chase Motorsports 47 car and pulled away from everyone except Kendall, who stayed within striking distance of Johnson. However, the Edgerton Ace was too tough, and collected the win.

“Bobby came on strong there late in the race,” Johnson said. “I thought we'd check out but he gave us a great run at the end. We struggled a little bit in qualifying tonight.”

Kendall settled for a hard fought second at the pay window. Alex

Stumpf, Jesse Oudenhoven and Taylor Vandermoss placed third through fifth, respectively. Johnson got a boost in the points chase after Schultz was ruled to have violated the track's three-wide rule prior to the big wreck, earning him a black flag per track policy and a significant points sanctions.

Two Rivers' Brett Wenzel fought off Chase Randerson all race long and won his third late model feature of the season. Randerson settled for second, followed by Eddie Muenster, Braison Bennett and Nate Van Wychen.

Appleton's Andy Monday and Menasha's Tom Spierowski split the 15 lap WIR quarter-mile late model features. Appleton's Brandon Reichenberger was crowned the division's champion in the division's seven race series on Thursday nights.

Fremont's Dylan Wenzel captured his third super stock feature in three outings during "Thursday Night Thunder" in '19. Trailing at the checkers were Josh Mueller, Trevor Howard, Larry Raygo and defending track champion Rachel Meyerhofer.

Fond Du Lac's Mike Byrnge muscled his way past De Pere's Taylor Rahn to take the lead with two laps remaining to capture his first sport truck feature of the season.

In Sizzlin' 4 action Oshkosh's Heather Wolfgram kept her hopes alive in the championship chase with a victory in the second 15 lap feature race. Zach Daverveld was awarded the victory in the first feature race after apparent winner Dan Thompson failed to pass post-race tech.

Kaukauna's Craig Krueger bested the season high 11 car Figure 8 field to capture that division's feature in the nightcap.

Next Thursday night August 22 will mark the second appearance of the season of the Pavement Pounder sportmods presented by Viking Electric Supply. The annual Rich Somers Memorial Race will also be run with racing getting underway at 6:30 p.m. You can check frrc.us for more

information or follow the club's Facebook page.

SUPER LATE MODEL FEATURE – Casey Johnson, Edgerton; Bobby Kendall, Montello; Alex Stumpf, Woodville; Jesse Oudenhoven, Kaukauna; Taylor Vandermoss, Appleton; Michael Anthony, Appleton; Jeff Van Oudenhoven, Appleton; Randy Schuler, Mequon; Andy Monday, Appleton; Brady Baldry, Omro; Brent Strelka, Freedom; Kyle Calmes, Freedom; Lowell Bennett, Neenah; Michael Hardtke, Kewaunee; Sawyer Effertz, Darboy; Mickey Schallie, Darboy; Taylor Haufschildt, De Pere; Tim Springstroh, Freedom; Pete Vandermolen Jr., Oshkosh; Maxwell Schultz, Reedsville

SEMI-FEATURE- Effertz; Springstroh; Haufschildt; Hardtke; Robby Younger, De Pere; Alex Seidl, Appleton

HEATS 1) Schuler; Effertz 2) Bennett; Van Oudenhoven

DASH – Kendall

FAST TIME: Schultz, 19.186

LATE MODEL FEATURE – Brett Wenzel, Two Rivers; Chase Randerson, Oshkosh; Eddie Muenster, Green Bay; Braison Bennett, Neenah; Nate Van Wychen, Kaukauna; Scott Baker, Kaukauna; Mike King, Appleton; Bryan Monday, Appleton; Reagan May, De Pere; Jake Zelinski, Darboy; Will Timmers, Kaukauna; RD Yaeger, Combined Locks; Andrew Meyerhofer, Kaukauna; Matt Wittmann, Appleton

HEAT – Yaeger; Baker

DASH- Muenster

FAST TIME- Bryan Monday, 20.272

SUPER STOCK FEATURE – Dylan Wenzel, Fremont; Josh Mueller, Appleton; Trevor Howard, Kaukauna; Larry Raygo, Omro; Rachel Meyerhofer, Brillion

HEAT – Wenzel, Rachel Meyerhofer

FAST TIME – Wenzel, 15.615

WIR ¼ MILE LATE MODEL FEATURES 1ST) Andy Monday, Appleton; Travis Willing, Appleton; Brandon Reichenberger, Appleton; Jesse Oudenhoven, Kaukauna; Rick Spoo, Neenah; Jerry Schneider, Kaukauna; Tom Spierowski, Menasha

2ND) Spierowski; Willing; Monday; Reichenberger; Spoo; Oudenhoven; Schneider

FAST TIME – Andy Monday, 15.229

SIZZLIN' 4 FEATURES 1ST) Zach Daverveld, Kaukauna; Steve Van Oudenhoven, Two Rivers; Jeremy Czarapata, Pulaski; Scott Wolf, Appleton; Heather Wolfgram, Oshkosh 2ND) Wolfgram; Schweitzer; Mitchell Opsahl, Freedom; Larry Gintner, Neenah; Larry Belonger, Appleton

FAST TIME – Wolfgram, 18.362

SPORT TRUCKS FEATURE – Mike Byrge, Fond Du Lac; Taylor Rahn, De Pere; Jason Van Handel, Freedom; Cody Vander Loop, Freedom; Casey Vander Loop, Freedom; J.J. Vander Loop, Freedom

HEATS 1) Tanner Fickel, Neenah; Marty Sokolik, Fond Du Lac 2) Rahn; Bobby Wautier, Denmark

FAST TIME – Quella, 16.137

FIGURE 8 – Craig Krueger, Kaukauna; Mitch Meyerhofer, Hilbert; Russ Lorbiecki, Sussex