

Last Lap Pass at Thunderbird's MAHLE/Clevite Beyond Limits Challenge Nets Chad Blonde Weekend Sweep



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D Announcer Matt Prieur interviews Thunderbird winner Chad Blonde

Engine Pro Sprints On Dirt presented by ARP made their only 2017 appearance at Thunderbird Raceway and Chad Blonde took the win in the MAHLE/Clevite Beyond Limits Challenge 25-lap feature in front of an enthusiastic, full house.



Just like the night before, hot, windy weather challenged Thunderbird Raceway owner/promoter Tom Sprague to give racers a good track, and even with an 11:0 PM curfew, Sprague was up to the challenge.

The night started out with Andy Chehowski getting into the turn two wall in the first qualifying session and flipping hard; extensive damage ended his night. Robert Huisken caught the wall in just about the same spot in his qualifying session and also flipped; Robert was able to make repairs before the feature.

Steve Irwin (Engler Machine & Tool heat) and Thomas Schinderle (COMP Cams heat) won the Lane Automotive/MSD Ignition Fast Master awards as fast qualifiers in their respective heat race qualifying sessions.

Blonde used his outside front row starting position to take an easy win in the Engler Machine & Tool heat race over Joe Swanson. Gregg Dalman also made good use of his second place starting position in the COMP Cams heat race to take the win over Thomas Schinderle.

Thomas Schinderle started on the pole of the feature and jump out to a quick lead. As expected, it didn't take the leaders long to get into traffic on the racy $\frac{1}{4}$ mile oval. Once in

traffic, second place starter Irwin challenged Schinderle several times but couldn't pull off a pass for the lead. The race ran caution-free until lap twenty for a spin in turn 3 by Ricky Ferkel. It turned out to be the major turning point in the race as Schinderle, who was enjoying a several car length lead over Irwin and a straight away lead over Blonde, who started eighth, saw his advantage disappear for the restart.

38-year-old Blonde, the veteran driver from Litchfield, Michigan, in his #5B Flint Truck Service/Maxim Chassis/Krieger Racing Engines ride, went to the top side of Tom Schinderle and a lapped car going into turn one on the white flag lap to make the winning pass. Schinderle settled for second with current points leader and 2001 Engine Pro Sprints On Dirt presented by ARP Champion, Stevie Irwin, Joe Swanson and 1999 SOD Champion, Dain Naida completing the top five.

Qualifying – Lane Automotive/MSD Ignition Fast Masters \$50 each

Group	Time	#	Driver
Engler Machine & Tool Heat	12.175	0	Steve Irwin
COMP Cams Heat	14.018	41	Thomas Schinderle

Heat Races – Winners \$100 each

Engler Machine & Tool Heat #1			
	#	Driver	Contingency
1	5B	Chad Blonde	
2	7J	Joe Swanson	Kistler Racing Products
3	0	Steve Irwin	Racing Optics
4	17x	Dain Naida	
5	11	Trey Smith	

6	77	Andrew Scheid	
7	1a	Mark Aldrich	
8	8	Justin Ward	

COMP Cams Heat #2			
	#	Driver	Contingency
1	49T	Gregg Dalman	
2	41	Thomas Schinderle	Allstar Performance
3	21T	Troy Chehowski	Racing Optics
4	47	Robert Bullock	
5	10J	Chris Jones	
6	91L	Alexis Adgate	
7	81	Ricky Ferkel	

Feature

	#	Driver	Difference	Contingencies
1	5B	Chad Blonde	—	Rod End Supply
2	41	Thomas Schinderle	0.686	Rod End Supply
3	0	Steve Irwin	1.510	Rod End Supply
4	7J	Joe Swanson	2.881	Schoenfeld Headers
5	17x	Dain Naida	4.539	ATL Racing Fuel Cells
6	49T	Gregg Dalman	7.806	
7	77	Andrew Scheid	8.889	Allstar Performance

8	21T	Troy Chehowski	9.934	
9	47	Robert Bullock	11.355	King Racing Products
10	1a	Mark Aldrich	-1 lap	
11	10J	Chris Jones	-1 lap	Keizer Aluminum Wheels
12	46	Robert Huisken	-1 lap	
13	81	Ricky Ferkel	-1 lap	
14	8	Justin Ward	-1 lap	
15	91L	Alexis Adgate	-3 laps	
16	58	Tony Bures	-24 laps	
17	11	Trey Smith	-25 laps	
18	20A	Andy Chehowski	DNS	

KSE Racing Products Hard Charger – Chad Blonde (+7)

BR Motorsports Contingency (feature top 10 draw) – Andrew Scheid

DMI (Diversified Machine) Contingency (feature 12-16 draw) – Robert Huisken

Perfit Corporation Lucky Dog – Dain Naida

For more information about Engine Pro go to www.enginepro.com. For more information about ARP, go to www.arp-bolts.com.

Engine Pro Sprints On Dirt presented by ARP is brought to you in 2017 by many important sponsor partners including: Engine Pro (Title Sponsor), ARP (Title Sponsor), Hoosier Racing Tire (Official SOD Tire), MAHLE/Clevite (Beyond Limits Challenge Sponsor), Driven Racing Oil (Battlegrounds Bash Sponsor), King Engine Bearings (King of Michigan Sponsor), Lane Automotive/MSD Ignition (Fast Masters Sponsor), Engler Machine

& Tool (Heat Race Sponsor), COMP Cams (Heat Race Sponsor), RockAuto.com (Heat Race Sponsor), The Perfit Corporation (Lucky Dog Sponsor), KSE Racing Products, and XYZ Machining. In addition, SOD contingency sponsors include: Allstar Performance, ATL Racing Fuel Cells, BR Motorsports, Diversified Machine Inc. (DMI), K2W Precision/Keizer Aluminum Wheels, King Racing Products, Kistler Racing Products, Maxim Racing, Motor City Racing Promotions, Racing Optics, Rod End Supply, Schoenfeld Headers, Simpson Racing Products, Walker Performance Filtration.

Race Day – Saturday, June 10th, 2017 – Thunderbird Raceway (MI)





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ENGINE PRO
S.O.D.
SPRINTS ON DIRT
Presented by **ARP**

THUNDERBIRD
Saturday 6:30pm

Today (Saturday, June 10th) is Race Day! For the second time of the weekend, the Engine Pro Sprints On Dirt presented by ARP are back on the track. This time, it's Race #2 of the MAHLE/Clevite Beyond Limits Challenge series at the 1/3 (0.333) mile semi-banked dirt oval of Thunderbird Raceway. This is the one and only appearance at the Muskegon, Michigan speed plant for the fire breathing, winged warriors of SOD.

In 16 all-time appearances at the track located along the Lake Michigan shoreline, 2001 SOD Champion, Steve Irwin is the only repeat winner with two Feature wins to his credit. The remaining 14 events had featured 14 different winners including one season ago when 2016 SOD Champion, Brian Smith went to victory lane. Prior to last season, the last appearance by SOD was in 2008 when Ben Rutan scored the victory.

Schedule of Events – Saturday, June 10th, 2017 – Thunderbird Raceway – Muskegon, Michigan

3:30 pm Pit Gates Open
3:30 pm SOD Sign In/Pill Draw Opens
4:45 pm SOD Sign In/Pill Draw Closes
5:00 pm SOD Drivers Meeting
5:15 pm SOD Engine Heat (on-track)
5:30 pm SOD Group Hot Laps/Qualifying
6:30 pm Racing Starts

Click on the link provided for more event information:
thunderbirdracewaymi.com

Click on the link provided to follow live timing and scoring,

via MCRP & Race Monitor: motorcityracing.co/livetiming

Follow SOD on Twitter with exclusive live updates for the Sprints throughout Race Day at: [Twitter.com/SprintsOnDirt](https://twitter.com/SprintsOnDirt)

Like SOD on Facebook for pictures and more from behind the scenes throughout Race Day at: [Facebook.com/SprintsOnDirt](https://facebook.com/SprintsOnDirt)

Chad Blonde Takes SOD King Engine Bearings King of Michigan Race at Hartford



In a night of firsts, Engine Pro Sprints On Dirt presented by ARP made their maiden appearance on the newly reconfigured Hartford Motor Speedway 3/8 mile oval, and the show, before a huge crowd, was a real hit. Chad Blonde, winner of the last SOD feature on the old track configuration last September, charged to his first win of the season in the first of four King Engine Bearings King of Michigan 2017 races.

After battling rain for most of May, Hartford Speedway owner Tim Dibble and his track crew now had a sunny, hot, and windy race day to contend with. Through their hard work, they were able to get the new clay surface under control.

The night started out with Chad Blonde, Joe Swanson, and Boston Mead winning the Lane Automotive/MSD Ignition Fast Master awards as fast qualifiers in their respective heat race qualifying sessions. Unfortunately for 17-year-old Mead, his night was over due to engine problems.

Gregg Dalman showed early speed, leading flag to flag in the Engler Machine & Tool heat race from the pole position. Mark Aldrich took the the COMP Cams heat race after the original start was called back. On the second start, point leader Dain Naida made heavy contact with the turn 3 wall ending his night early. Thirteen-year-old Andrew Scheid lead the entire RockAuto.com heat race on his way to his first SOD race win.

After a complete restart for the King Engine Bearings King of Michigan 25-lap feature, Blonde wasted little time charging into the lead from 3rd and driving away from the field. The red flag flew on lap 7 when Brett Man flipped hard in turn 3. Back under green, Blonde drove off to a convincing 10-second win over Chris Gurley and Jay Steinebach. Joe Swanson took 4th and top SOD sprint car rookie contender Andrew Scheid came home 5th.

Qualifying – Lane Automotive/MSD Ignition Fast Masters \$50 each

Group	Time	#	Driver
Engler Machine & Tool Heat	14.775	5B	Chad Blonde
COMP Cams Heat	15.050	7J	Joe Swanson
RockAuto.com Heat	15.480	27B	Boston Mead

Heat Races – Winners \$100 each

Engler Machine & Tool Heat #1			
	#	Driver	Contingency
1	49T	Gregg Dalman	
2	0	Steve Irwin	Kistler Racing Products
3	5B	Chad Blonde	Racing Optics
4	41	Thomas Schinderle	
5	11	Trey Smith	
6	18	DJ Lamance	
7	58	Tony Bures	
8	27X	Jared Lamberson	
9	17	Dustin Carl	

COMP Cams Heat #2			
	#	Driver	Contingency
1	1a	Mark Aldrich	
2	7J	Joe Swanson	Allstar Performance
3	19	Brett Mann	Racing Optics
4	46	Robert Huisken	
5	20A	Andy Chehowski	
6	47	Robert Bullock	
7	8	Justin Ward	
8	17x	Dain Naida	

RockAuto.com Heat #3			
	#	Driver	Contingency
1	77	Andrew Scheid	
2	12	Chris Gurley	Kistler Racing Products
3	10S	Jay Steinebach	Racing Optics
4	10J	Chris Jones	
5	19J	Linden Jones	
6	91L	Alexis Adgate	
7	27	Brad Lamberson	

Feature

	#	Driver	Awards	Contingencies
1	5B	Chad Blonde		Rod End Supply
2	12	Chris Gurley		Rod End Supply
3	10S	Jay Steinebach		Rod End Supply
4	7J	Joe Swanson		Schoenfeld Headers
5	77	Andrew Scheid		ATL Racing Fuel Cells
6	0	Steve Irwin		
7	41	Thomas Schinderle		Allstar Performance
8	19J	Linden Jones		
9	11	Trey Smith		King Racing Products
10	1a	Mark Aldrich		

11	49T	Gregg Dalman		Keizer Aluminum Wheels
12	46	Robert Huisken		
13	10J	Chris Jones		
14	20A	Andy Chehowski		
15	27X	Jared Lamberson		
16	58	Tony Bures		
17	8	Justin Ward		
18	47	Robert Bullock		
19	19	Brett Mann		
20	17	Dustin Carl		
21	91L	Alexis Adgate		

KSE Racing Products Hard Charger – Linden Jones

BR Motorsports Contingency (feature top 10 draw) – Andrew Scheid

DMI (Diversified Machine) Contingency (feature 12-16 draw) – Andy Chehowski

Perfit Corporation Lucky Dog – Jay Steinebach

For more information about Engine Pro go to www.enginepro.com. For more information about ARP, go to www.arp-bolts.com. The full 2017 Sprints on Dirt schedule, rules, current news, and other information are available at www.sprintsondirt.com.


















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Engine Bearings (King of Michigan Sponsor), Lane Automotive/MSD Ignition (Fast Masters Sponsor), Engler Machine & Tool (Heat Race Sponsor), COMP Cams (Heat Race Sponsor), RockAuto.com (Heat Race Sponsor), The Perfit Corporation (Lucky Dog Sponsor), KSE Racing Products, and XYZ Machining. In addition, SOD contingency sponsors include: Allstar Performance, ATL Racing Fuel Cells, BR Motorsports, Diversified Machine Inc. (DMI), K2W Precision/Keizer Aluminum Wheels, King Racing Products, Kistler Racing Products, Maxim Racing, Motor City Racing Promotions, Racing Optics, Rod End Supply, Schoenfeld Headers, Simpson Racing Products, Walker Performance Filtration.

Quick Look – Blonde Dominates Hartford Speedway En Route To King Engine Bearings King Of Michigan Feature Win



Litchfield, Michigan veteran, Chad Blonde dominated the Engine Pro Sprints On Dirt presented by ARP Feature at Hartford Motor Speedway en route to his first win of the 2017 racing season.... The 38-year-old in his Flint Truck Service/Maxim Chassis/Krieger Racing Engines machine led all 30 laps to win Race #1 of the King Engine Bearings King of Michigan Series. It was also his second win in a row at Hartford dating back to 2016.... Chris Gurley finished second with Jay Steinebach, Joe Swanson and 13-year-old Rookie, Andrew Scheid completing the top five....

Pos	Car	Name	Laps	Best Laptime	Best Spd	Total time	Diff	
1	5B	Chad Blonde	25	14.790	97.363	0:21:35.096	>> 25 <<	
2	12	Chris Gurley	25	15.637	92.089	0:21:45.299	10.203	
3	10S	Jay Steineach	25	15.677	91.854	0:21:47.309	12.213	
4	7J	Joe Swanson	25	15.767	91.330	0:21:50.833	15.737	
5	77	Andrew Scheid	25	16.079	89.558	0:21:51.676	16.580	
6	0	Steve Irwin	25	16.205	88.861	0:21:51.912	16.816	
7	41	Thomas Schinderle	25	16.175	89.026	0:21:52.561	17.465	
8	19J	Linden Jones	24	16.390	87.858	0:21:39.831	>> 24 <<	
9	11	Trey Smith	24	16.949	84.961	0:21:43.776	3.945	
10	1A	Mark Aldrich	24	15.973	90.152	0:21:44.513	4.682	
11	49T	Gregg Dalman	24	16.643	86.523	0:21:44.641	4.810	
12	46	Robert Huiskin	24	17.199	83.726	0:21:49.286	9.455	
13	10J	Chris Jones	23	17.403	82.744	0:21:49.314	>> 23 <<	
14	20A	Andy Chehowski	23	17.095	84.235	0:21:50.533	1.219	
15	27X	Jared Lamberson	22	17.860	80.627	0:21:38.014	>> 22 <<	
16	58	Tony Bures	22	17.654	81.568	0:21:41.793	3.779	
17	8	Justin Ward	22	17.724	81.246	0:21:43.715	5.701	
18	47	Robert Bullock	22	18.174	79.234	0:21:46.583	8.569	
19	19	Brett Mann	7	16.367	87.982	0:08:52.240	>> 7 <<	
20	17	Dustin Carl	5	18.026	79.885	0:08:31.611	>> 5 <<	
21	91L	Alexis Adgate	1	21.171	68.018	0:07:16.586	>> 1 <<	

**Race Day – Friday, June 9th,
2017 – Hartford Speedway (MI)**



Today (Friday, June 9th) is Race Day! The Engine Pro Sprints On Dirt presented by ARP return to action with the first race of the King Engine Bearings King of Michigan Series at Hartford Speedway in Hartford, Michigan. The newly reconfigured 3/8s (0.375) mile high-banked dirt oval will see the fire breathing, winged warriors of SOD for the first time since the track was altered.

This is the first of four appearances by SOD in southwest Michigan as 2007 Rookie of the Year, Ryan Ruhl made history with his victory in what was the first ever race under the "Beyond Limits" format on May 20th, 2016. In the second race at Hartford, held over the Labor Day Holiday Weekend on September 2nd, 2016, Litchfield, Michigan veteran. Chad Blonde scored that elusive first career SOD Feature Win. This event is the 68th all-time appearance by SOD at the Hartford, Michigan speed plant.

**Schedule of Events – Friday, June 9th, 2017 – Hartford
Speedway – Hartford, Michigan**

4:30 pm Pit Gates Open
4:45 pm SOD Sign In/Pill Draw Opens
5:45 pm SOD Sign In/Pill Draw Closes
6:00 pm SOD Drivers Meeting
6:15 pm SOD Engine Heat (on-track)
7:00 pm SOD Group Hot Laps/Qualifying

8:00 pm National Anthem
8:00 pm Track Class Dash
SOD Heat Races (8 laps)
Stock Car Heats
Modified Heats
Cyber Stock Heats

SOD Redraw (on front straight)
SOD B-Main(s) if needed (10 laps)
Other B-Mains if needed
Intermission

SOD Feature (20 laps)
Stock Car Feature
Modified Feature
Cyber Stock Feature

Click on the link provided to follow live timing and scoring,
via MCRP & Race Monitor:

motorcityracing.co/livetimeing

Follow SOD on Twitter with exclusive live updates for the
Sprints throughout Race Day at: [Twitter.com/SprintsOnDirt](https://twitter.com/SprintsOnDirt)

Like SOD on Facebook for pictures and more from behind the
scenes throughout Race Day at: [Facebook.com/SprintsOnDirt](https://facebook.com/SprintsOnDirt)

Click on the link provided for more event

information: HartfordSpeedway.net