

Ryan Ruhl SOD King Engine Bearings King of Michigan at Hartford



ERIE, MI (July 7, 2018) – After being rained out twice, the third attempt proved to be a charm for the Engine Pro Sprints On Dirt race #1 of the King Engine Bearings King of Michigan at Hartford Speedway Friday night. It was Ryan Ruhl's night to rule in his Krieger Racing Engines powered Maxim as he was the Lane Automotive/MSD Ignitions Faster Master in qualifying for his heat, won the RockAuto.com heat race, won the feature, then proposed to long-time girlfriend Courtney Squires in victory lane to the delight of the large, enthusiastic crowd.

Fastest qualifier and Engler Machine & Tool heat race winner Chad Blonde started on the pole after Braxton drew the number one pill in the King Engine Bearings Kids Feature Draw. Third place starter Brett Mann got out of shape in turn one of the first lap after a tire bleeder stuck and Eli Lakin got caught up in the melee and flipped, ending the race for both. On the

restart, Michael Schumacher came to a stop in turn three with a shredded right rear tire.

Once back under green, Blonde looked like he was in control as he masterfully negotiated traffic, to maintain a twenty-car lead over Ruhl who started fourth and moved into second on lap two. A caution on lap ten gave Ruhl (Coldwater, MI) a chance to deal with Blonde on an open track and he shot under Blonde to take the lead on lap 11. Although Blonde stayed close to Ruhl for a few laps, the lead grew throughout the race and a caution resulting in a green, white, checkered finish was no problem for Ruhl who stuck to his mid to low line to take the win. A few more laps may have proven disastrous for Ruhl as his left rear tire was slowly losing air and victory lane photos showed just how low the tire was; it eventually went flat in post-race celebration.

It was an interesting race that demonstrated the success of SOD's "Beyond Limits" format utilizing Hoosier spec tires. Winner Ruhl and second-place Blonde were powered by 410s and third-place Gregg Dalman and fourth-place Andy Teunessen had 360 motors.

Joining Ruhl and Blonde as Lane Automotive/MSD Ignitions Fast Masters and heat race winners was Joe Swanson in the COMP Cams heat race.

It was announced that a date has been added for Sprints On Dirt at Hartford Speedway, Friday, August 10 for a race sponsored by Ti22 Performance. SOD also returns to Hartford Speedway for already scheduled KoM dates July 13, July 27, and August 31.1

Qualifying – Lane Automotive/MSD Ignition Fast Masters (fast qualifiers) \$50 each

Group	Time	#	Driver
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Engler Machine & Tool Heat	14.851	5B	Chad Blonde
COMP Cams Heat	15.615	7J	Joe Swanson
RockAuto.com Heat	15.882	71H	Ryan Ruhl

Heat Races

Engler Machine & Tool Heat #1			
	#	Driver	Contingency
1	5B	Chad Blonde	
2	7	Shawn Valenti	
3	27B	Boston Mead	Benic Enterprises
4	10s	Jay Steinebach	Racing Optics
5	4	Tyler Fitzpatrick	
6	8	Justin Ward	
7	70	Eli Lakin	

COMP Cams Heat #2			
	#	Driver	Contingency
1	7J	Joe Swanson	
2	5	Andy Tuenessen	
3	18	Michael Summers	Benic Enterprises
4	1a	Mark Aldrich	Racing Optics
5	3	Dustin Shriver	
6	24	Eric Smith	
7	52	Zac Broughman	

RockAuto.com Heat #3			
	#	Driver	Contingency
1	71H	Ryan Ruhl	
2	19	Brett Mann	
3	49T	Gregg Dalman	Benic Enterprises
4	0	Ricky Ferkel	Racing Optics
5	11	Trey Smith	
6	24+	Mike Schumacher	
7	8W	Josh Ward	

Feature

	#	Driver	Awards	Contingencies
1	71H	Ryan Ruhl		Rod End Supply
2	5b	Chad Blonde	Jim Coffey & Son	Rod End Supply
3	49T	Gregg Dalman		Rod End Supply
4	5	Andy Tuenessen		
5	27B	Boston Mead		ATL Racing Fuel Cells
6	7J	Joe Swanson		
7	4	Tyler Fitzpatrick		
8	7	Shawn Valenti		
9	1a	Mark Aldrich		King Racing Products
10	0	Ricky Ferkel		

11	3	Dustin Shriver		Keizer Aluminum Wheels
12	8	Justin Ward		
13	24	Eric Smith		
14	18	Michael Summers		
15	10s	Jay Steinebach		
16	8W	Josh Ward		
17	11	Trey Smith		
18	24+	Mike Schumacher		
19	19	Brett Mann		
20	70	Eli Lakin		
21	52	Zac Broughman		

KSE Racing Products Hard Charger – Gregg Dalman (+6), Tyler Fitzpatrick (+6)

BR Motorsports Contingency (feature top 10 draw) – Mark Aldrich

DMI (Diversified Machine) Contingency (feature 12-16 draw) – Justin Ward

ARP Corporation Lucky Dog – Joe Swanson

Allstar Performance Better Luck Next Time – Zac Broughman

For more information about King Engine Bearings, go to www.kingbearings.com. Check out Hartford Speedway at www.hartfordspeedway.net. To learn more about Engine Pro, go to www.enginepro.com. For more information about ARP, go to www.arp-bolts.com. Follow SOD at www.sprintsondirt.com and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/sprintsondirt.

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