

Mad Max Stambaugh takes SOD win at I-96 Speedway



Jim DenHamer photo

Erie, MI (September 22, 2018) – The temperature may have been in the low forties with a brisk north wind, but the action on the track was hot for the Dual on Dirt Take 2 backed by Noizee 1 Motorsports at I-96 Speedway for Engine Pro Sprints On Dirt last night as “Mad Max” Stambaugh earned a hard-fought win in the 27-lap feature in memory of Greg Hodnett who passed away in a sprint car crash in Pennsylvania Thursday night; Hodnett’s car number was 27.

Ryan Ruhl (Coldwater, Michigan) took the lead at the start of the feature from his outside front rows starting position, but the caution flew as pole starter Mark Aldrich (Addison, Michigan) broke a front hub coming out of turn 2 on lap 1, spinning in front of the pack; everyone avoided Aldrich’s disabled car, but his night was done early.

Jay Steinebach (Hudsonville, Michigan) looked like he was shot out of a cannon as he charged around the top of Ruhl and

Stambaugh who spent most of the race battling for 2nd to take the lead on lap 9. Steinebach negotiated traffic and was strong on several restarts with Stambaugh pulling alongside once only to have Steinebach drive away once again. The red flew on lap 10 when Josh Shantz (St. Agatha, Ontario) caught the outside wall going into turn one, flipping off the end of the track; he was okay, but the same couldn't be said for his badly damaged car.

On lap 23, with just four laps to go, Steinebach suddenly slowed going into turn 3 and coasted to a stop on the front stretch due to a rear end failure. Stambaugh (Elida, Ohio) then powered his Home Pro Roofing #51 to a 20-car length win over Ryan Ruhl and 2018 SOD Champion Chad Blonde (Litchfield, Michigan) on the masterfully prepped, fast track.

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

Group	Time	#	Driver
Engler Machine & Tool Heat	14.242	11R	Chase Ridenour
COMP Cams Heat	14.175	7J	Joe Swanson
RockAuto.com Heat	14.307	27B	Boston Mead

Heat Races

Engler Machine & Tool Heat #1			
	#	Driver	Contingency
1	71H	Ryan Ruhl	
2	51	Max Stambaugh	
3	11R	Chase Ridenour	Benic Enterprises
4	0F	Ricky Ferkel	Racing Optics
5	27	Keith Sheffer Jr.	

6	29	Daryl Shaffer	
7	8	Justin Ward	

COMP Cams Heat #2			
	#	Driver	Contingency
1	1a	Mark Aldrich	
2	7J	Joe Swanson	
3	18	Josh Shantz	Benic Enterprises
4	18s	Michael Summers	Racing Optics
5	8W	Josh Ward	
6	35	Mark Strpko	
7	39	Tylar Rankin	

RockAuto.com Heat #3			
	#	Driver	Contingency
1	7	Zane DeVault	
2	10S	Jay Steinebach	
3	27B	Boston Mead	Benic Enterprises
4	5B	Chad Blonde	
5	70	Eli Lakin	
6	24+	Mike Schumacher	
7	33	Jeremy Ferguson	

Feature

	#	Driver	Awards	Contingencies
1	51	Max Stambaugh		
2	71H	Ryan Ruhl	Jim Coffey & Son	Rod End Supply
3	5B	Chad Blonde		Rod End Supply
4	7	Zane DeVault		Schoenfeld Headers
5	27B	Boston Mead		ATL Racing Fuel Cells
6	11R	Chase Ridenour		Allstar Performance
7	7J	Joe Swanson		
8	0	Ricky Ferkel		
9	70	Eli Lakin		King Racing Products
10	18s	Michael Summers		
11	27	Keith Sheffer Jr.		Keizer Aluminum Wheels
12	8	Justin Ward		
13	33	Jeremy Ferguson		
14	10S	Jay Steinebach		
15	24+	Michael Schumacher		
16	29	Daryl Shaffer		
17	18	Josh Shantz		
18	35	Mark Strpko		
19	39	Tylar Rankin		
20	1a	Mark Aldrich		

DNS	8W	Josh Ward		
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KSE Racing Products Hard Charger – Chad Blonde (+9)

BR Motorsports Contingency (feature top 10 draw) – Joe Swanson

DMI (Diversified Machine) Contingency (feature 12-16 draw) – Michael Schumacher

Perfit Corporation Lucky Dog – Boston Mead

Allstar Performance Better Luck Next Time – Josh Ward, Jay Steinebach

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