



Bruce tops Kinser for feature title

Pole-sitter leads all 35 laps in victory.

By JOHN BOHNENKAMP

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MIDDLETOWN -- Tony Bruce Jr., saw the checkered flag and knew what it meant.

"I just won a World of Outlaws race," the Liberal, Kan., driver said.

Yes, you did, Tony.

Bruce, starting on the pole, led all 35 laps to win Wednesday's feature at 34 Raceway in front of a near-capacity crowd.

It was Bruce's first victory in the top sprint car series, and he embraced the moment.

"Man, I'm so stoked," he said. "It's just unbelievable."

Bruce got the No. 1 starting spot after winning the dash of the top six cars from the heat races, and surged into the lead when the green flag waved.

"It was huge (starting out front)," he said. "The track was wet and heavy, and it was going to be hard to pass. I knew if I hit by marks, the only person to beat me would be me."

Bruce was pulling away from 20-time series champion Steve Kinser before each of the three caution flags in the race came out.

"I knew he was back there," Bruce said. "I just had to hold on."

Kinser, though he threatened, never could get around Bruce.

"He ran a good race," Kinser said of Bruce. "He was fast all race. He had open track in front of him and he was able to get away. If we got into traffic, maybe I could have gotten around him."

"I knew I was pretty fast. I thought if I could get out front, I could stay there."

Veteran driver Joey Saldana also was an early threat before going out with mechanical problems. That allowed West Burlington driver Josh Schneiderman to get back into third place, where he stayed until the end.

"I had my car up front where I wanted to be," he said. "That was a lot of fun."

Jason Sides finished fourth. Jason Meyers was fifth.

Daryn Pittman, who won the May IRA event at the 3/8-mile dirt oval, finished sixth.

Kinser set a track record for 410 sprints in time trials, running a lap of 12.250 seconds.

Chad Hillier, Saldana and Sides won heat races. Hillier had to be towed to the pits after winning his heat, but came back to finish third in the dash and ninth in the feature.

Bruce couldn't contain his excitement after the race.

"We went back to basics for this race, and it paid off," he said. "We have a small pit crew -- just me and a couple of guys and anyone else in the pits who wants to help."

The \$10,000 prize will certainly help.

"This was a great win," he said.

WORLD OF OUTLAWS

34 RACEWAY

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

Time trials -- 1. Steve Kinser, 12.250 seconds; 2. Sam Hafertepe Jr., 12.258 3. Paul McMahan, 12.260; 4. Jason Meyers, 12.263; 5. Shane Stewart, 12.378 ; 6. Donny Schatz, 12.436; 7. Terry McCarl, 12.452; 8. Joey Saldana, 12.452; 9. Josh Schneiderman, 12.464; 10. Chad Hillier, 12.470; 11. Tony Bruce Jr., 12.493; 12. Jason Sides, 12.509; 13. Kerry Madsen, 12.537; 14. Craig Dollansky, 12.592; 15. Daryn Pittman, 12.627; 16. Jac Haudenschild, 12.657; 17. Kraig Kinser, 12.752; 18. Chad Kemenah, 12.780; 19. Bronson Maeschen, 12.846; 20. Jesse Hockett, 13.021; 21. Joey Moughan, 13.036; 22. Ryan Jamison, 13.223; 23. Bobby Mincer 13.333.

Heat 1 -- 1. Chad Hillier; 2 Steve Kinser; 3. Jason Meyers; 4. Jac Haudenschild; 5. Kerry Madsen; 6. Ryan Jamison.

Heat 2 -- 1. Joey Saldana; 2 Tony Bruce Jr; 3. Sam Hafertepe Jr; 4 Shane Stewart; 5. Craig Dollansky; 6. Kraig Kinser; 7. Jesse Hockett; 8. Bobby Mincer.

Heat 3 -- 1. Jason Sides; 2. Josh Schneiderman; 3. Paul McMahan; 4. Donny Schatz; 5. Daryn Pittman; 6. Chad Kemenah; 7. Joey Moughan.

Crane Cams Dash -- 1. Tony Bruce Jr.; 2. Josh Schneiderman; 3. Chad Hillier; 4. Steve Kinser; 5. Joey Saldana; 6. Jason Sides; 7. Sam Hafertepe Jr; 8. ShShane Stewart; 9. Jason Meyers; 10. Paul McMahan.ve Kinser; 3. Josh Schneiderman; 4.

Feature results

(Starting position in parentheses)

1. Tony Bruce Jr. (1), \$10,000; 2. Steve Kinser (4), \$5,500; 3. Josh Schneiderman (2), \$3,200; 4. Jason Sides (6), \$2,800; 5. Jason Meyers (9), \$2,500; 6. Daryn Pittman (14), \$2,300; 7. Donny Schatz (11), \$2,200; 8. Jac Haudenschild (15), \$2,100; 9. Chad Hillier (3), \$2,050; 10. Craig Dollansky (13), \$2,000.

11. Kerry Madsen (12), \$1,500; 12. Sam Hafertepe Jr. (7), \$1,200; 13. Kraig Kinser (16), \$1,100; 14. Terry McCarl (19), \$1,050; 15. Chad Kemenah (17), \$1,000; 16. Ryan Jamison (18), \$900; 17. Shane Stewart (8), \$800; 18. Joey Saldana (5), \$800; 19. Joey Moughan (22), \$800; 20. Jesse Hockett (21), \$800; 21. Paul McMahan (10), \$800; 22. Bobby Mincer (23), \$800; 23. Bronson Maeschen (20), \$800.

Lap Leaders: Tony Bruce Jr. 1-35

Chicken Hawk Hot Lap Award: Tony Bruce Jr.

Penske Power Position Award: Josh Schneiderman

SuperClean Start of the Night Award: Josh Schneiderman

KSE Hard Charger Award: Daryn Pittman