

Basye Scores Win In 2009 Evans-Hostetler Classic at Shady Bowl

By Shawn Sell

The third annual Evans-Hostetler Dwarf Car Classic is in the books and Covington, Ohio speedster Brandon Basye was the big winner as he outlasted a fine field of 26 cars to capture the \$450 first prize. The event pays tribute each summer to Max Evans and Bill Hostetler, two pioneers in Ohio dwarf car racing.

The 25-lap main event was marred by two lengthy red flag periods including one on the race's first counter following a six-car melee in turn two. KD Knoedler and Brad Damewood brought the 20-car field to the green, but coming off of turn two John Bailey, making the haul all the way from Sarasota, Florida spun from his sixth place starting slot. Jerry Damewood then plowed into Bailey, setting off a chain of events that ultimately eliminated both drivers along with Evans, Bob Basye, Stephen Bobek, Troy Hoffman and Dave Wylie. Damewood got the worst of it physically as he had to be transported to a local hospital complaining of back pain.

When racing finally resumed, Knoedler jumped out front but just one lap later the yellow flew again as Jon Wylie had to have a loose rear bumper removed from his ride. Back under green, Knoedler continued to show the way, with pressure from Michigan rookie Landon Hidy. Hidy finally took the lead on lap nine, but the field was once again slowed one counter later when Hostetler spun off of turn two. Throughout the early stages, the eventual race winner had been on the prowl, advancing from his 11th place starting position, into third by lap 10.

Out front, Hidy continued to pace the field through cautions on lap 12 for a Knoedler spin and one on lap 17 when Stephen Bobek slowed on the front stretch. Other front runners battling for position during the middle of the race included Daniel Wirick, Jon Wylie, Craig Curtis and Eric Hoffman. The race took one final dramatic turn on a lap 21 red flag for oil on the speedway. Knoedler's ride was the cause and after several cars checked up in turn four, Hostetler found the turn four wall head on. During the clean up, it was revealed that race leader Hidy was also leaking, ending his night.

The four-lap dash to the checkered shaped up to be all Basye as he pulled away from eventual runner-up Wirick. Just prior to the final caution, defending Classic winner Curtis worked his way around Wylie and held on for third, with 2007 champ Hoffman grabbing fifth. The balance of the top-10 was comprised of Todd Getz, Pat Bobek, Brad Damewood, Mike Arnott and Chad Goff.

A series of three heat races and a last chance qualifier set the line-up for the evening's main event. In the first preliminary, Curtis led all eight laps to score the win, ahead of Bob Basye, Bailey, Wirick and Jerry Damewood. The event spelled the end of the night for Jeff Slayton as he smacked the turn four wall as his throttle stuck entering the turn. The second heat saw Brandon Basye take the win from the outside pole, ahead of Hidy, Pat Bobek, Brad Damewood and Jon Wylie. A wild front stretch accident by Jerry Olson was triggered when an axel broke on his mount, causing the right rear tire to bounce over

the wall in turn one. The final heat saw Hostetler take the lead away from pole-sitter Getz on lap two, then hold off a hard charging Eric Hoffman for the win. Jon Wylie and Knoedler also advanced out of the heat.

A total of nine cars were on the grid for the last chance race with Troy Hoffman and Arnott on the front row. Hoffman showed as the leader for nearly the entire 12-lap event, until lap 10 when Chad Goff slipped by for the win. Hoffman took second, with Getz, Evans, Arnott and Stephen Bobek also transferring.

The OVDCA would like to thank all the racers that made the trip in support of the event. The race would also not have been possible without the support of the following event sponsors: Damewood Enterprises (Urbana), Dingeldine Trucking (Urbana), Extreme Motorsports (Zanesville), Fifth Third Bank (Urbana), Hill and Hamilton Insurance (Bellefontaine), The Ohio Caverns (West Liberty), People's Savings and Loan (West Liberty) and Piqua Transfer and Storage.

Evans-Hostetler Classic Results

Heat winners: Craig Curtis, Brandon Basye, Bill Hostetler

B-main: 1. Chad Goff, 2. Troy Hoffman, 3. Todd Getz, 4. Max Evans, 5. Mike Arnott, 6. Stephen Bobek, 7. Rick Ayers, 8. Kevin Ayers, 9. Donnie Eaton

Feature: 1. Brandon Basye, 2. Daniel Wirick, 3. Craig Curtis, 4. Jon Wylie, 5. Eric Hoffman, 6. Todd Getz, 7. Pat Bobek, 8. Brad Damewood, 9. Mike Arnott, 10. Chad Goff, 11. Landon Hidy, 12. KD Knoedler, 13. Bill Hostetler, 14. John Bailey, 15. Bob Basye, 16. Jerry Damewood, 17. Dave Wylie, 18. Eric Hoffman, 19. Max Evans, 20. Stephen Bobek