

#### **COMPLETE RESULTS FOR 1976**

## Date (Sanction/Event) - Winners

| 5/1 | -D | Ollg | Wo  | lfgang |
|-----|----|------|-----|--------|
| 0/1 |    | 045  | 110 | ,,     |

5/8 – Eddie Leavitt

5/15 – Rain

5/22 – Doug Wolfgang

5/29 – Doug Wolfgang

6/5 – Doug Wolfgang

6/12 – Bill Mellenberndt

6/19 - Gary Dunkle

6/26 - Gary Dunkle

7/3 – Bill Mellenberndt

7/10 – Doug Wolfgang

7/17 – Gary Dunkle

7/24 – Doug Wolfgang

7/31 – Eddie Leavitt

8/7 – Doug Wolfgang

8/12 – (Knoxville Nationals Prelim) Ron Rea

8/13 – (Knoxville Nationals Prelim) Eddie Leavitt

8/14 – (Knoxville Nationals) Eddie Leavitt

9/4 – Joe Saldana

9/5 – Dick Sutcliffe

9/6 – Eddie Leavitt

9/9 – (Fall Jamboree Qualifying)

9/10 – (Fall Jamboree Qualifying)

9/11 – (Fall Jamboree) (Late Models) Joe Wallace, (Sportsman) Gary Crawford

## 5/1/76

## **Wolfgang Wins His First Feature**

Happiness is winning a feature at Knoxville!

When the checkered flag fell on the first 35-lap feature of the 1976 season Saturday night, May 1, it was Doug Wolfgang who stepped from the winning car. Wolfgang had just finished wheeling Dave Van Patten's #18 Trostle sprinter to his first feature win, ever.

Leonard McCarl, who started on the pole, led for the first six laps, until Wolfgang blasted by to take the lead coming out of turn one. Following Wolfgang through for second place was Bill Mellenberndt. On the eighteenth lap, Dick Morris, who had started alongside Wolfgang in the third row, moved into third place. McCarl finished fourth, followed by last year's Nationals Super Sprint champion, Eddie Leavitt. Leavitt was driving the 1x car as the #40 car he usually drives was not ready for action.

Wolfgang earned \$450 for his triumph and said, "Boy! It was a lot of fun. This car was really working beautifully."

Morris, Rookie of the Year here last year, approached Van Patten the race and said, "What are you doing, trying to make me look bad?" Morris was to drive for Van Patten and had the car out several times during the winter. Then he decided to drive for some friends.

Wolfgang started off the evening by posting fast time, finished second in the trophy dash, and won his heat race before capturing the feature.

Leonard McCarl led all the way to win the trophy dash, with Wolfgang second and Ron Milton third.

The first heat went to Gary Johnson, who passed Mark David on the seventh lap, after the two had fought nose to tail for the first six laps, while Dick Kenny was third.

Dennis Olson was the winner of the second heat, followed by Sonny Smyser and Gary Rogers. The third heat saw Dick Sutcliffe lead Dick Morris and Jerry Blundy across the finish line.

In the consolation, McCarl, Bill Robison, Mike Thomas, Stacy Redmond and Mike Brooks finished in that order to make it into the feature. The results of the feature were Wolfgang, Mellenberndt, Morris, McCarl, Leavitt, Milton, Sutcliffe, Maxwell, Robison, Brooks, Gary Dunkle, Thomas, Redmond, Johnson and Olson. The feature was accident free, and there were no serious accidents during the program.

## **Results**

Time Trials (Qualifying Order): 1. 18, Doug Wolfgang, Des Moines, IA (31) 21.268; 2. 14, Dick Morris, Sioux City, IA (10) 21.511; 3. 31, John Stevenson, St. Paul, MN (3) 21.581; 4. 197, Bill Mellenberndt, Sioux Falls, SD (38) 21.859; 5. 28, Ron Milton, Jacksonville, IL (32) 21.861; 6. 7x, Lenard McCarl, Des Moines, IA (17) 21.906; 7. 47, Mike Pinckney, Des Moines, IA (28) 21.967; 8. 38, Gary Dunkle, Lincoln, NE (35) 22.054; 9. 1x, Eddie Leavitt, Kearney, MO (22) 22.089; 10. 81, Billy Robison, Topeka, KS (6) 22.117; 11. 98, Dick Sutcliffe, Raytown, MO (39) 22.149; 12. 37, Mike Thomas, Des Moines, IA (23) 22.374; 13. 02, Lonnie Jensen, Lincoln, NE (27) 22.375; 14. 71, Don Maxwell, Lincoln, NE (5) 22.387; 15. 33, Jerry Blundy, Dahinda, IL (11) 22.586; 16. 61, Stacy Redmond, Mason City, IA (18) 22.638; 17. 12, Mike Brooks, Knoxville, IA (8) 22.817; 18. 10, Steve Hainline, Bonaparte, IA (1) 22.856; 19. 59, Dennis Olson, Braham, MN (33) 22.885; 20. 57, Barry Kettering, St. Paul, MN (9) 22.926; 21. 77x, Sonny Smyser, Lancaster, MO (21) 23.026; 22. 15, Gary Johnson, Colfax, IA (15) 23.044; 23. 24, John McClure, Burlington, IA (16) 23.466; 24. 76, Mackie Heimbaugh, Des Moines, IA (34) 23.538; 25. 117, Bill Randleman, Jefferson, IA (29) 23.543; 26. 21, Mark David, Cedar Falls, IA (37) 23.857; 27. 33x, Doug Hjermstad, Fargo, ND (14) 24.046; 28. 8, Tony Webster, Topeka, KS (19) 24.341; 29. 17x, Roger Anderson, Waterloo, IA (24) 24.466; 30. 62, Dick Kenny, Lincoln, NE (12) 24.745; 31. 32, Mike Froehlich, Algona, IA (4) 24.781; 32. 97, Charlie Parker, \* (36) 25.380; 33. 91, Joel Taylor, Milford, IA (30) 25.405; 34. 176, Jim Hetrick, Gladstone, IL (13) 25.829; 35. 18x, Bill Hetrick, Carman, IL (20) 26.687; 36. 16, Dave Butler, Cedar Rapids, IA (7) 27.749; 37. 98x, Gary Rogers, Overland Park, KS (2) 27.980; 38. 11x, Terry Turbak, Sioux Falls, SD (25) NT; 39. 77, Junior Gutknecht, Pleasantville, IA (26) NT.

**Trophy Dash (started), 5 laps, 1:51.11:** 1. Lenard McCarl (1) 2. Doug Wolfgang (6) 3. Ron Milton (2) 4. Bill Mellenberndt (3) 5. Dick Morris (5) 6. John Stevenson (4)

**Heat one (started), 8 laps, NT:** 1. Gary Johnson (6) / 2. Mark David (4) 3. Dick Kenny (2) 4. Mackie Heimbaugh (5) 5. Steve Hainline (8) 6. Tony Webster (3) ... also: Charlie Parker (1), Barry Kettering (7), Jim Hetrick (11), Dave Butler (12)

**Heat two (started), 8 laps, NT:** 1. Dennis Olson (7) / 2. Sonny Smyser (6) 3. Gary Rogers (10) ... also: Mike Froelich (1), Roger Anderson (2), Doug Hjermstad (3), Bill Randleman (4), John McClure (5), Mike Brooks (8), Bill Hetrick (9)

**Heat three (started), 8 laps, 2:56.74:** 1. Dick Sutcliffe (4) 2. Dick Morris (8) 3. Jerry Blundy (2) 4. Eddie Leavitt (5) 5. Bill Mellenberndt (7) / 6. Lenard McCarl (6) ... also: Mike Brooks (1), Lonnie Jensen (3)

**Heat four (started), 8 laps, 2:58.64:** 1. Doug Wolfgang (8) 2. Don Maxwell (2) 3. John Stevenson (7) 4. Gary Dunkle (5) 5. Ron Milton (6) / 6. Billy Robison (4) 7. Stacy Redmond (1) 8. Mike Thomas (3)

**B main (started), 10 laps, NT:** 1. Lenard McCarl (1) 2. Billy Robison (2) 3. Mike Thomas (3) 4. Stacy Redmond (5) 5. Mike Brooks (6) / 6. Doug Hjermstad (11) 7. Jim Hetrick (9) ... also: Lonnie Jensen (4), Steve Hainline (7), Barry Kettering (8), Bill Randleman (10), Tony Webster (12), Roger Anderson (13), Mike Froehlich (14), Charlie Parker (15), Joel Taylor (16)



Doug Wolfgang receives the winners share of hardware from Director of Racing Ray Grimes after his feature win Saturday night May 1st.

A main (started), 25 laps, 9:38.27: 1. Doug Wolfgang (6) 2. Bill Mellenberndt (3) 3. Dick Morris (5) 4. Lenard McCarl (1) 5. Eddie Leavitt (8) 6. Ron Milton (2) 7. Dick Sutcliffe (10) 8. Don Maxwell (12) 9. Bill Robison (9) 10. Mike Brooks (14) 11. Gary Dunkle (7) 12. Mike Thomas (11) 13. Stacy Redmond (13) 14. Gary Johnson (16) 15. Dennis Olson (15) 16. John Stevenson (4) Lap Leaders: McCarl 1-6, Wolfgang 7-25.

#### 5/8/76

## **Leavitt Winner in Farmers' Hot Sprinter**

Knoxville, IA – Eddie Leavitt, 33, of Kearney, Mo. took home the lion's share of the purse last Saturday night by virtue of his victory in the feature event for sprint cars here at Knoxville. Leavitt, driving a car sponsored and owned by R&H Farms of Williams, Iowa, took the lead on the 10<sup>th</sup> lap of the 25-lap feature from hard

charging Dick Sutcliffe of Raytown, Mo. Leavitt, who is a truck-owner-operator during the off-season was never again to be headed during the remainder of the event.

Leavitt, driving a 350 Chevy sprinter built by Beck, held off a serious challenge from Sutcliffe and Dick had to settle for second place money. Third spot went to Iowan Dick Morris of Sioux City.

Sutcliffe, who has been a top money winner here over the past several years won the Trophy Dash finishing ahead of last week's feature winner, Doug Wolfgang, who recently moved to Des Moines. Leavitt was third in the 5-lap event.

Stacy Redmond of Mason City, Iowa in his familiar No. 61 red sprinter took top honors in the 10-lap consolation.

Ron Milton, a new driver at Knoxville this year of Jacksonville, Ill. took second in the consy after the race was resumed following a minor tangle in the number two turn involving Joel Taylor of Milford, Iowa and Steve Hainline of Bonaparte.

Heat events were won by Dick Kenny of Lincoln, Nebr., Bill Randleman of Jefferson, Iowa and Doug Wolfgang and Dick Sutcliffe.

John Stevenson of St. Paul, Minn. was the evening's fastest qualifier, posting a time of 30.653 on the half-mile dirt oval.

#### **Results**

Time Trials (Qualifying Order): 1. 31, John Stevenson, St. Paul, MN (20) 20.653; 2. 18, Doug Wolfgang, Des Moines, IA (18) 20.781; 3. 40, Eddie Leavitt, Kearney, MO (24) 20.811; 4. 49, Dick Morris, Sioux City, IA (17) 20.841; 5. 98, Dick Sutcliffe, Raytown, MO (16) 21.148; 6. 34, Gary Dunkle, Lincoln, NE (3) 21.352; 7. 61, Stacy Redmond, Mason City, IA (29) 21.380; 8. 4x, Ron Shuman, Mesa, AZ (24) 21.388; 9. 197, Bill Mellenberndt, Sioux Falls, SD (13) 21.412; 10. 12, Mike Brooks, Knoxville, IA (10) 21.533; 11. 28, Ron Milton, Jacksonville, IL (32) 21.549; 12. 81, Billy Robison, Topeka, KS (6) 21.601; 13. 71, Don Maxwell, Lincoln, NE (19) 21.629; 14. 00, Roger Mulder, Sioux Falls, SD (5) 21.657; 15. 7x, Lenard McCarl, Des Moines, IA (25) 21.761; 16. 37, Mike Thomas, Des Moines, IA (11) 21.817; 17. 77, Sonny Smyser, Lancaster, MO (1) 21.829; 18. 15, Gary Johnson, Colfax, IA (4) 21.839; 19. 33, Jerry Blundy, Dahinda, IL (30) 21.903; 20. 47, Mike Pinckney, Des Moines, IA (28) 21.975; 21. 59, Dennis Olson, Braham, MN (9) 22.131; 22. 1x, Randy Smith, Des Moines, IA (35) 22.244; 23. 117, Bill Randleman, Jefferson, IA (33) 22.308; 24. 14x, Lonnie Jensen, Lincoln, NE (12) 22.508; 25. 10, Steve Hainline, Bonaparte, IA (14) 22.518; 26. 62, Dick Kinny, Lincoln, NE (7) 22.580; 27. 33x, Doug Hjernstad, Fargo, ND (22) 22.746; 28. 21, Mark David, Cedar Falls, IA (34) 22.754; 29. 99, Dave Engerbretson, Sioux Falls, SD (2) 22.879; 30. 6, Harvey Grooms, Ottumwa, IA (27) 22.953; 31. 17, Roger Anderson, Waterloo, IA (8) 23.233; 32. 91, Joel Taylor, Milford, IA (15) 23.677; 33. 176, Jim Hetrick, Gladstone, IL (21) 23.968; 34. 11, Adrian Zoutte, Knoxville, IA (31) 24.244; 35. 16, Dave Butler, Cedar Rapids, IA (23) 26.947.

**Trophy Dash** (started), 5 laps, \*: 1. Dick Sutcliffe (2) 2. Doug Wolfgang (5) 3. Eddie Leavitt (4) 4. John Stevenson (6) 5. Dick Morris (3) 6. Gary Dunkle (1)

**Heat one (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Dick Kenny (3) 2. Gary Johnson (7) 3. Mike Pinckney (4) / 4. Randy Smith (5) 5. Harvey Grooms (2) 6. Joel Taylor (1) 7. Adrian Zoutte (8) 8. Jim Hetrick (6) DNS – Lonnie Jensen

**Heat two (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Bill Randleman (5) 2. Dennis Olson (6) 3. Doug Hjernstad (3) / 4. Jerry Blundy (7) 5. Dave Engebretson (2) 6. Roger Anderson (1) 7. Steve Hainline (4) 8. Sonny Smyser (8) 9. Dave Butler (9)

**Heat three (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Doug Wolfgang (8) 2. Dick Morris (7) 3. Roger Mulder (2) 4. Mike Thomas (1) 5. Billy Robison (3) / 6. Mike Brooks (4) 7. Gary Dunkle (6) 8. Ron Shuman (5)

**Heat four (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Dick Sutcliffe (6) 2. Don Maxwell (2) 3. Bill Mellenberndt (4) 4. Eddie Leavitt (7) 5. John Stevenson (8) / 6. Stacy Redmond (5) 7. Ron Milton (3) 8. Lenard McCarl (1)

**B main (started), 10 laps, \*:** 1. Stacy Redmond (2) 2. Ron Milton (5) 3. Jerry Blundy (6) 4. Mike Brooks (4) 5. Lonnie Jensen (8) / 6. Dave Engerbretson (10) 7. Harvey Grooms (13) 8. Roger Anderson (12) 9. Joel Taylor (14) 10. Randy Smith (9) 11. Steve Hainline (11) 12. Ron Shuman (3) 13. Gary Dunkle (1) 14. Sonny Smyser (7)



A main (started), 25 laps, \*: 1. Eddie Leavitt (4) 2. Dick Sutcliffe (2) 3. Dick Morris (3) 4. Doug Wolfgang (5) 5. Don Maxwell (9) 6. John Stevenson (6) 7. Bill Mellenberndt (7) 8. Bill Randleman (15) ... \*also: Stacy Redmond (1), Mike Brooks (8), Billy Robison (10), Mike Thomas (11), Roger Mulder (12), Jerry Blundy (13), Gary Johnson (14), Dennis Olson (16), Dick Kenny (17), Lonnie Jensen (18), Doug Hjernstad (19) DNS – Ron Milton. Lap Leaders: Sutcliffe 1-9, Leavitt 10-25.

5/15/76 (Rain)

5/22/76

## Wolfgang on Hot Streak, Cops Knoxville

**Knoxville, IA** – Doug Wolfgang, 23, of Des Moines continued his winning ways at the Marion County Speedway by capturing the evening's sprint car feature here last Saturday night.

Wolfgang, driving a 350 Chevy sprinter built by Bob Trostle, took the lead on the eighth lap of the 25-lap event. At the drop of the green flag, Don Maxwell jumped into an early lead. However, by the fifth circuit, Maxwell lost the lead to Dick Morris. The evening's fastest qualifier, Morris appeared to have victory in sight when a gear failed and forced him from competition on the next to last lap.

Wolfgang, a truck owner/operator in the off-season, has kept the "pedal to the metal" thus far this season and now has scored two feature wins at Knoxville as well as a pair of wins in Minnesota. Don Maxwell, Gary Dunkle, Dick Sutcliffe, Billy Robison, Bill Mellenberndt and Butch Bahr trailed.

The consy was won by Gary Dunkle, followed by Bahr and Lenard McCarl.

The Trophy Dash found Eddie Leavitt taking the win. Mechanical problems forced Leavitt from further competition following the Dash.

Heats went to Hank Elmendorf, Mike Brooks, Dennis Olson and Morris.

Race director, Ray Grimes, has announced that this Saturday is "Mini-Nationals" and will offer a purse of \$5,000 with \$1,000 to the feature winner.

## **Results**

Time Trials (Qualifying Order): 1. 49, Dick Morris, Sioux City, IA (18) 20.662; 2. 4J, Tom Corbin, Carrollton, MO (34) 20.991; 3. 98, Dick Sutcliffe, Raytown, MO (14) 21.268; 4. 25D, Darryl Dawley, Sioux Falls, SD (23) 21.401; 5. 18, Doug Wolfgang, Des Moines, IA (16) 21.450; 6. 40, Eddie Leavitt, Kearney, MO (5) 21.492; 7. 34, Gary Dunkle, Lincoln, NE (30) 21.504; 8. 71, Don Maxwell, Lincoln, NE (35) 21.801; 9. 81, Billy Robison, Topeka, KS (13) 21.849; 10. 117, Bill Randleman, Jefferson, IA (9) 21.935; 11. 197, Bill Mellenberndt, Sioux Falls, SD (1) 21.983; 12. 61, Stacy Redmond, Mason City, IA (4) 21.981; 13. 47, Mike Pinckney, Des Moines, IA (8) 22.098; 14. 37, Mike Thomas, Des Moines, IA (32) 22.185; 15. 59, Dennis Olson, Braham, MN (25) 22.186; 16. 15, Gary Johnson, Colfax, IA (21) 22.187; 17. 25, Butch Bahr, Grand Island, NE (6) 22.188; 18. 7x, Lenard McCarl, Des Moines, IA (17) 22.244; 19. 21, Mark David, Cedar Falls, IA (26) 22.449; 20. 76x, Bob Hawks, Jacksonville, IL (24) 22.570; 21. 10, Steve Hainline, Bonaparte, IA (22) 22.749; 22. 77x, Sonny Smyser, Lancaster, MO (27) 22.756; 23. 20, Duane Stoneking, Oquawka, IL (29) 23.019; 24. 6, Harvey Grooms, Ottumwa, IA (12) 23.071; 25. 12, Mike Brooks, Knoxville, IA (7) 23.084; 26. 24, John McClure, Burlington, IA (11) 23.238; 27. 91, Joel Taylor, Milford, IA (15) 23.254; 28. 34x, Hank Elmendorf, Omaha, NE (3) 23.440; 29. 76, Mackie Heimbaugh, Des Moines, IA (10) 23.671; 30. 98x, Gary Rogers, Overland Park, KS (33) 24.505; 31. 32, Mike Froelich, Algona, IA (28) 24.684; 32. 18x, Bill Hetrick, Carman, IL (31) 24.819; 33. 102, Mel Van Wyk, Des Moines, IA (20) 25.046; 34. 72, Ed Doty, Boone, IA (2) 25.915; 35. 16, Dave Butler, Cedar Rapids, IA (19) 26.011; 36. 77, Junior Gutknecht, Pleasantville, IA (36) NT.

**Trophy Dash (started), 5 laps, \*:** 1. Eddie Leavitt (2) 2. Dick Morris (6) 3. Gary Dunkle (1) 4. Doug Wolfgang (3) 5. Dick Sutcliffe (5) 6. Darryl Dawley (4)

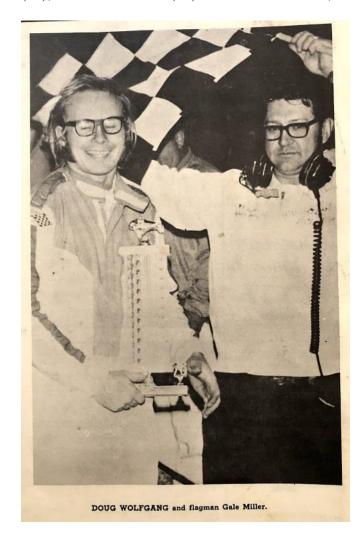
**Heat one** (started), 8 laps, \*: 1. Hank Elmendorf (3) 2. Sonny Smyser (6) 3. Mackie Heimbaugh (7) / 4. Harvey Grooms (5) 5. Mike Frolick (2) 6. John McClure (4) 7. Gary Rogers (1) 8. Mel Van Wyk (8) 9. Dave Butler (9)

**Heat two (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Mike Brooks (3) 2. Mackie Heimbaugh (2) 3. Steve Hainline (5) / 4. Joel Taylor (4) 5. Duane Stoneking (6) 6. Ed Doty (7) ... also: Bill Hetrick (1), Mark David (8), Junior Gutknecht (9)

**Heat three (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Dennis Olson (2) 2. Bill Mellenberndt (4) 3. Billy Robison (5) 4. Doug Wolfgang (7) 5. Dick Sutcliffe (8) / 6. Gary Dunkle (6) 7. Mike Pinckney (3) 8. Lenard McCarl (1) DNS – Tom Corbin

**Heat four (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Dick Morris (6) 2. Don Maxwell (4) 3. Mike Thomas (2) 4. Darryl Dawley (5) 5. Stacy Redmond (3) / 6. Butch Bahr (1) DNS - Gary Johnson, Bill Randleman, Eddie Leavitt

**B main (started), 10 laps, \*:** 1. Gary Dunkle (1) 2. Butch Bahr (3) 3. Lenard McCarl (4) 4. Mark David (5) / 5. Harvey Grooms (7) 6. Duane Stoneking (6) 7. John McClure (8) 8. Mike Froelich (10) 9. Joel Taylor (9) ... also: Mike Pinckney (2), Bill Hetrick (11), Gary Rogers (12), Mel Van Wyk (13), Ed Doty (14), Dave Butler (15), Junior Gutknecht (16) DNS – Tom Corbin, Eddie Leavitt, Gary Johnson, Bill Randleman



A main (started), 25 laps, \*: 1. Doug Wolfgang (3) 2. Don Maxwell (1) 3. Gary Dunkle (2) 4. Dick Sutcliffe (5) 5. Billy Robison (7) 6. Bill Mellenberndt (8) 7. Butch Bahr (12) 8. Stacy Redmond (9) ... also: Darryl Dawley (4), Dick Morris (6), Mike Thomas (10), Dennis Olson (11), Lenard McCarl (13), Mark David (14), Mackie Heimbaugh (15), Steve Hainline (16), Sonny Smyser (17), Mike Brooks (18), Hank Elmendorf (19), Bob Hawks (20). Lap Leaders: Maxwell 1-4, Morris 5-7, Wolfgang 8-25.

#### \*5/29/76

## **Wolfgang Wins Mini-National**

**Knoxville, IA** – Doug Wolfgang of Des Moines continued his winning ways here last Saturday, capturing the mini-nationals sprint car races at the Marion County Fairgrounds.

It was Wolfgang's third triumph here in four nights of racing so far this season, including the last two consecutive Saturday's. He was the fastest qualifier for the night, recording a time of 21.251 seconds.

He claimed the lead late in the feature when Dick Sutcliffe, who had led most of the race, spun out and hit the wall in the first turn. He was not injured in the mishap.

## **Results**

Time Trials (Qualifying Order): 1. 18, Doug Wolfgang, Des Moines, IA (22) 21.251; 2. 7x, Lenard McCarl, Des Moines, IA (8) 21.589; 3. 49, Dick Morris, Sioux City, IA (3) 21.592; 4. 34, Gary Dunkle, Lincoln, NE (20) 21.746; 5. 98, Dick Sutcliffe, Raytown, MO (9) 21.753; 6. 31, John Stevenson, St. Paul, MN (17) 21.880; 7. 25, Butch Bahr, Grand Island, NE (11) 21.900; 8. 30, Dick Forbrook, Morgan, MN (32) 21.979; 9. 61, Stacy Redmond, Mason City, IA (18) 22.002; 10. 71, Don Maxwell, Lincoln, NE (35) 22.029; 11. 97, Bill Mellenberndt, Sioux Falls, SD (25) 22.093; 12. 15, Gary Johnson, Colfax, IA (34) 22.186; 13. 28, Ron Milton, Jacksonville, IL (19) 22.208; 14. 59, Dennis Olson, Braham, MN (1) 22.431; 15. 37, Mike Thomas, Des Moines, IA (29) 22.606; 16. 62, Dick Kenny, Lincoln, NE (12) 22.622; 17. 1x. Randy Smith, Mount Ayr, IA (37) 22.642; 18. 33, Cliff Blundy, Alpha, IL (14) 22.684; 19. 12, Mike Brooks, Knoxville, IA (23) 22.698; 20. 34x, Bill Robison, Topeka, KS (27) 22.747; 21. 53, Hank Elmendorf, Omaha, NE (26) 22.780; 22. 11, Adrian Zoutte, Knoxville, IA (33) 23.040; 23. 36, Tony Webster, Topeka, KS (13) 23.154; 24. 21, Mark David, Cedar Falls, IA (24) 23.309; 25. 176, Jim Hetrick, Gladstone, IL (4) 23.396; 26. 10, Steve Hainline, Bonaparte, IA (2) 23.398; 27. 24, John McClure, Burlington, IA (31) 23.439; 28. 22, Con Edwards, Ankeny, IA (36) 23.510; 29. 76, Mackie Heimbaugh, Des Moines, IA (7) 23.523; 30. 6, Harvey Grooms, Ottumwa, IA (6) 23.600; 31. 20, Duane Stoneking, Oquawka, IL (21) 23.680; 32. 18x, Bill Hetrick, Carman, IL (30) 24.148; 33. 77, Junior Gutknecht, Pleasantville, IA (10) 24.215; 34. 17x, Roger Anderson, Waterloo, IA (15) 24.301; 35. 77x, Sonny Smyser, Lancaster, MO (5) 24.329; 36. 93, Ed Grant, Canton, IL (28) 25.142; 37. 98x, Gary Rogers, Overland Park, KS (16) 25.189.

**Trophy Dash (started), 5 laps, \*:** 1. Dick Sutcliffe (2) 2. Dick Morris (4) 3. Gary Dunkle (3) 4. John Stevenson (1) 5. Lenard McCarl (5) 6. Doug Wolfgang (6)

**Heat one (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Bill Robison () 2. Harvey Grooms () 3. Adrian Zoutte () / ...

**Heat two (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Randy Smith () 2. Mackie Heimbaugh () 3. John McClure () / ...

**Heat three (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Gary Dunkle (7) 2. Dennis Olson (2) 3. Bill Mellenberndt (3) ... also: Dick Kenny (1), Don Maxwell (4), Dick Forbrook (5), John Stevenson (6), Lenard McCarl (8)

**Heat four (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Ron Milton (2) 2. Dick Morris (7) 3. Stacy Redmond (4) ... also: Mike Thomas (1), Gary Johnson (3), Butch Bahr (5), Dick Sutcliffe (6), Doug Wolfgang (8)

**B main (started), 10 laps, \*:** 1. Lenard McCarl () 2. Dick Forbrook () 3. Don Maxwell () ...



A main (started), \* laps, \*: 1. Doug Wolfgang () 2. Dick Morris () 3. Don Maxwell () 4. Lenard McCarl () 5. Bill Mellenberndt () 6. Randy Smith () ... also: Dick Sutcliffe (), Bill Robison (), Gary Dunkle (), Ron Milton (), Dick Forbrook (), Harvey Grooms (), Adrian Zoutte (), Mackie Heimbaugh (), John McClure (), Dennis Olson (), Stacy Redmond () ... \* Lap Leaders: Sutcliffe 1-13, Dunkle 14-19, Sutcliffe 20-24, Wolfgang 25.

## 6/5/76

## **Wolfgang Wins Close One**

**Knoxville, IA** – Doug Wolfgang of Des Moines captured the 25-lap feature event for sprint cars at the Marion County Fairgrounds Speedway last Saturday night. Wolfgang, 23, took the lead on the next to the final lap after a torrid battle with Bill Mellenberndt of Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Mellenberndt led the first 23 circuits of the fast half-mile dirt oval. Following not far away from Mellenberndt was the hard-charging Butch Bahr of Lincoln, Nebraska. Bahr held on to second until the 20<sup>th</sup> lap when he gave it up to Wolfgang. On the last lap, Wolfgang passed Mellenberndt and went on to victory. It was the fourth feature victory of the season for Wolfgang, who drives a car built by Bob Trostle of Des Moines.

Dick Kenny of Lincoln, Nebraska won the consi race leading the event from start to finish. Steve Hainline of Bonaparte, Iowa was a close second, and was followed across the line by Des Moines's Mackie Heimbaugh.

The Trophy Dash, with nearly a photo finish saw Mike Pinckney of Des Moines and Butch Bahr stage a race that brought the fans to their collective feet. Pinckney scored the win, with Bahr in second and Wolfgang in third. It was the first Trophy Dash victory ever for Pinckney here at Knoxville.

Heat winners included Dennis Olson of Braham, Minnesota, Wolfgang and Mellenberndt. The evening's fastest qualifier was Dick Morris of Sioux City, who toured the oval in 21.625 seconds.

Tonight is "Merchants Night" with local area merchants making available a number of gifts that will be awarded to fans during the course of the evening.

#### **Results**

Time Trials (Qualifying Order): 1. 49, Dick Morris, Sioux City, IA (7) 21.625; 2. 98, Dick Sutcliffe, Raytown, MO (8) 21.732; 3. 1x, Eddie Leavitt, Kearney, MO (19) 21.880; 4. 18, Doug Wolfgang, Des Moines, IA (10) 22.017; 5. 25, Butch Bahr, Grand Island, NE (17) 22.143; 6. 47, Mike Pinckney, Des Moines, IA (9) 22.390; 7. 97, Bill Mellenberndt, Sioux Falls, SD (5) 22.417; 8. 61, Stacy Redmond, Mason City, IA (15) 22.486; 9. 34x, Steve Hainline, Bonaparte, IA (3) 22.532; 10. 81, Billy Robison, Topeka, KS (6) 22.902; 11. 71, Don Maxwell, Lincoln, NE (4) 23.081; 12. 59, Dennis Olson, Braham, MN (11) 23.110; 13. 12, Mike Brooks, Knoxville, IA (1) 23.532; 14. 24, John McClure, Burlington, IA (13) 23.690; 15. 62, Dick Kenny, Lincoln, NE (2) 23.738; 16. 76, Mackie Heimbaugh, Des Moines, IA (18) 23.862; 17. 176, Jim Hetrick, Gladstone, IL (16) 24.384; 18. 77, Junior Gutknecht, Pleasantville, IA (14) 24.392; 19. 102, Mel Van Wyk, Des Moines, IA (12) 26.448; 20. 37, Mike Thomas, Des Moines, IA (20) NT; 21. 21, Mark David, Cedar Falls, IA (21), NT; 22. 6, Harvey Grooms, Ottumwa, IA (22), NT; 23. 94, Rick Weld, Kansas City, MO (23) NT.

**Trophy Dash (started), 5 laps, \*:** 1. Mike Pinckney (1) 2. Butch Bahr (2) 3. Doug Wolfgang (3) 4. Dick Sutcliffe (5) 5. Dick Morris (6) 6. Eddie Leavitt (4)

**Heat one (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Dennis Olson (7) 2. Junior Gutknecht (2) 3. John McClure (6) / 4. Dick Kenny (5) 5. Mackie Heimbaugh (4) 6. Mel Van Wyk (1) ... also: Jim Hetrick (3), Mike Thomas (8)

**Heat two (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Doug Wolfgang (5) 2. Dick Sutcliffe (6) 3. Don Maxwell (1) 4. Stacy Redmond (3) / 5. Mike Pinckney (4) 6. Billy Robison (2)

**Heat three (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Bill Mellenberndt (3) 2. Dick Morris (6) 3. Mike Brooks (1) 4. Butch Bahr (4) / 5. Steve Hainline (2) 6. Eddie Leavitt (5)

**B main (started), 10 laps, \*:** 1. Dick Kenny (4) 2. Steve Hainline (3) 3. Mackie Heimbaugh (5) 4. Jim Hetrick (6) 5. Mel Van Wyk (7) 6. Mike Pinckney (2) 7. Eddie Leavitt (1) / DNS – Billy Robison, Harvey Grooms, Rick Weld, Mike Thomas, Mark David

A main (started), 25 laps, \*: 1. Doug Wolfang (4) 2. Bill Mellenberndt (2) 3. Dick Morris (6) 4. Butch Bahr (3) 5. Dick Sutcliffe (5) 6. Don Maxwell (9) 7. Steve Hainline (7) 8. Dennis Olson (10) 9. Dick Kenny (12) 10. John McClure (11) ... also: Stacy Redmond (1), Mike Brooks (8), Mackie Heimbaugh (13), Jim Hetrick (14), Junior Gutknecht (15), Mel Van Wyk (16), Mike Pinckney (17), Eddie Leavitt (18). Lap Leaders: Mellenberndt 1-23, Wolfgang 24-25.

#### 6/12/76

#### Weather Man Halts Races After Heats Last Week

Nature took over and decided that the feature races at the Knoxville Speedway would not be completed last week due to thunderstorms and hail.

The first heat race went to John McClure after a hard challenge by Randy Smith who finished second.

The second heat was won by John Stevenson, followed by Mike Brooks one of only two Knoxville drivers in the field this season. Both Stevenson and Brooks came up from the last two spots to take first and second on the fourth lap. The third heat went to Bill Mellenberndt, who also had the best time trial of the night. It was 21.076.

The Trophy Dash was awarded to Eddie Leavitt who had motor trouble on the last lap after leading the race from the start. As the caution flag came out on the white flag it was declared a complete race.

Race Director Ray Grimes has designated (June 19) as the Mid-Season Championship Feature.

Time Trials (Qualifying Order): 1. 97, Bill Mellenberndt, Sioux Falls, SD (18) 21.076; 2. 31, John Stevenson, St. Paul, MN (22) 21.318; 3. 34, Gary Dunkle, Lincoln, NE (23) 21.538; 4. 12, Mike Brooks, Knoxville, IA (17) 21.586; 5. 1x, Eddie Leavitt, Kearney, MO (21) 21.599; 6. 81, Billy Robison, Topeka, KS (11) 21.616; 7. 59, Dennis Olson, Braham, MN (4) 21.774; 8. 71, Don Maxwell, Lincoln, NE (20) 21.848; 9. 10, Steve Hainline, Bonaparte, IA (12) 21.860; 10. 98, Dick Sutcliffe, Raytown, MO (7) 21.904; 11. 7x, Mackie Heimbaugh, Des Moines, IA (12) 22.170; 12. 33, Jerry Blundy, Dahinda, IL (10) 22.228; 13. 15, Gary Johnson, Colfax, IA (5) 22.256; 14. 34x, Stacy Redmond, Mason City, IA (1) 22.447; 15. 62, Dick Kenny, Lincoln, NE (13) 22.547; 16. 94, Rick Weld, Kansas City, MO (3) 22.616; 17. 37, Mike Thomas, Des Moines, IA (2) 22.672; 18. 36, Tony Webster, Topeka, KS (14) 22.917; 19. 77, Junior Gutknecht, Pleasantville, IA (24) 23.374; 20. 18x, Bill Hetrick, Gladstone, IL (8) 23.696; 21. 24, John McClure, Burlington, IA (9) 24.204; 22. 17, Greg Helms, Des Moines, IA (6) 24.975; 23. 5, Randy Smith, Mt. Ayr, IA (15) NT; 24. 6, Harvey Grooms, Ottumwa, IA (19) NT.

**Trophy Dash (started), 5 laps, \*:** 1. Eddie Leavitt (2) 2. Billy Robison (1) 3. Bill Mellenberndt (6) 4. Gary Dunkle (4) 5. John Stevenson (5) 6. Mike Brooks (3)

**Heat one (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. John McClure (1) 2. Randy Smith (7) 3. Tony Webster (4) 4. Mike Thomas (5) 5. Junior Gutknecht (3) 6. Greg Helms (6) ... also: Bill Hetrick (2), Harvey Grooms (8)

**Heat two (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. John Stevenson (8) 2. Mike Brooks (7) 3. Jerry Blundy (3) 4. Billy Robison (6) 5. Don Maxwell (5) 6. Stacy Redmond (2) ... also: Rick Weld (1), Dick Sutcliffe (4)

**Heat three (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Bill Mellenberndt (8) 2. Gary Dunkle (7) 3. Dick Kenny (1) 4. Gary Johnson (2) 5. Mackie Heimbaugh (3) 6. Steve Hainline (4) 7. Dennis Olson (5) 8. Eddie Leavitt (6)

## 6/19/76

#### **Dunkle Wins Mid-Season Title**

Gary Dunkle won his first sprint car feature of the season as well as the Trophy Dash at the Marion County Race Track Mid-Season Championship at Knoxville last Saturday night.

When the checkered flag dropped, Dunkle had lapped 18 of the 25-car field and had a commanding lead over second place finisher Stacy Redmond.

Dick Morris, Bill Mellenberndt and Don Maxwell rounded out the top five. Tony Webster, Junior Gutknecht, Don Maxwell and Bill Mellenberndt were winners of the respective heat races. The consi went to Lonnie Jensen.

Mike Thomas escaped injury when he hit the wall in the third turn during the second heat race. Jim Hetrick of Gladstone, Illinois was taken to the hospital and held for observation after hitting the wall in the final lap of the consi.

John McClure and Harvey Grooms were sidelined during hot laps and were unable to compete in the show due to damaged equipment.

Time Trials (Qualifying Order): 1. 49, Dick Morris, Sioux City, IA (31) 21.176; 2. 60, Lonnie Jensen, Lincoln, NE (19) 21.306; 3. 81, Billy Robison, Topeka, KS (30) 21.393; 4. 31, John Stevenson, St. Paul, MN (27) 21.394; 5. 34, Gary Dunkle, Lincoln, NE (12) 21.558; 6. 61, Stacy Redmond, Mason City, IA (28) 21.615; 7. 7x, Lenard McCarl, Des Moines, IA (26) 21.650; 8. 71, Don Maxwell, Lincoln, NE (9) 21.776; 9. 97, Bill Mellenberndt, Sioux Falls, SD (33) 22.067; 10. 98, Dick Sutcliffe, Raytown, MO (11) 22.044; 11. 12, Mike Brooks, Knoxville, IA (8) 22.261; 12. 94, Rick Weld, Kansas City, MO (1) 22.285; 13. 5, Randy Smith, Mt. Ayr, IA (10) 22.341; 14. 15, Gary Johnson, Colfax, IA (6) 22.440; 15. 33, Cliff Blundy, Galesburg, IL (16) 22.552; 16. 10, Steve Hainline, Bonaparte, IA (21) 22.582; 17. 63, Junior Gutknecht, Pleasantville, IA (29) 22.845; 18. 21, Mark David, Cedar Falls, IA (20) 22.879; 19. 22, Con Edwards, Ankeny, IA (7) 22.889; 20. 76, Mackie Heimbaugh, Des Moines, IA (17) 22.948; 21. 17x, Roger Anderson, West Burlington, IA (15) 23.132; 22. 18x, Bill Hetrick, Gladstone, IL (4) 23.146; 23. 77x, Sonny Smyser, Glenwood, MO (5) 23.260; 24. 20, Duane Stoneking, Oquawka, IL (3) 23.320; 25. 11, Adrian Zoutte, Knoxville, IA (14) 23.345; 26. 36, Tony Webster, Topeka, KS (2) 23.434; 27. 17, Greg Helms, Des Moines, IA (32) 23.753; 28. 41, Dale Oaks, West Burlington, IA (13) 24.018; 29. 34x, Mike Thomas, Des Moines, IA (34) 24.503 (2<sup>nd</sup> car); 30. 102, Mel Van Wyk, Monroe, IA (25) 25.539; 31. 176, Jim Hetrick, Gladstone, IL (22) NT; 32. 24, John McClure, Burlington, IA (23) NT; 33. 6, Harvey Grooms, Ottumwa, IA (24) NT; 34. 37, Mike Thomas, Des Moines, IA (18) NT.

**Trophy Dash (started), 5 laps, \*:** 1. Gary Dunkle (2) 2. Stacy Redmond (1) 3. Billy Robison (4) 4. Dick Morris (6) 5. John Stevenson (3) 6. Lonnie Jensen (5)

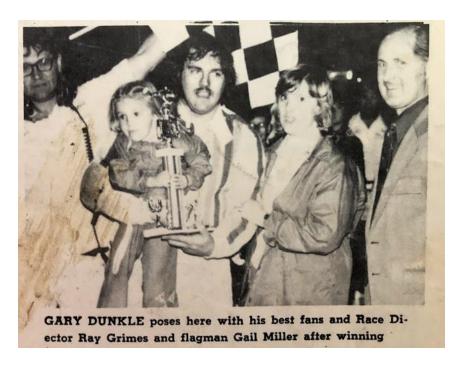
**Heat one (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Tony Webster (2) 2. Mackie Heimbaugh (5) 3. 34x, Harvey Grooms (1) / 4. Roger Anderson (4) 5. Steve Hainline (7) 6. Duane Stoneking (3) ... also: Mark David (6), Greg Helms (8)

**Heat two (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Junior Gutknecht (6) 2. Dale Oaks (1) 3. Sonny Smyser (4) / 4. Bill Hetrick (3) 5. Con Edwards (5) ... also: Adrian Zoutte (2), 77, Mike Thomas (7), Mel Van Wyk (8)

**Heat three (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Don Maxwell (4) 2. Rick Weld (2) 3. Dick Sutcliffe (3) 4. John Stevenson (6) 5. Stacy Redmond (5) / 6. Lonnie Jensen (7) 7. Cliff Blundy (1)

**Heat four (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Bill Mellenberndt (3) 2. Lenard McCarl (4) 3. Gary Dunkle (5) 4. Dick Morris (7) 5. Billy Robison (6) / 6. Mike Brooks (2) 7. Randy Smith (1)

**B main (started), 10 laps, \*:** 1. Lonnie Jensen (1) 2. 33, Jerry Blundy (4) 3. Mike Brooks (2) 4. Steve Hainline (5) / 5. Randy Smith (3) 6. Con Edwards (7) ... also: Mark David (6), Roger Anderson (8), Bill Hetrick (9), Duane Stoneking (10), Adrian Zoutte (11), Mel Van Wyk (12), Greg Helms (13), Mike Thomas (14)



A main (started), 25 laps, \*: 1. Gary Dunkle (2) 2. Stacy Redmond (1) 3. Dick Morris (6) 4. Bill Mellenberndt (9) 5. Don Maxwell (8) 6. Dick Sutcliffe (10) 7. Billy Robison (4) 8. Lonnie Jensen (5) 9. Lenard McCarl (7) 10. Cliff Blundy (13) ... also: John Stevenson (3), Mike Brooks (11), Rick Weld (12), Steve Hainline (14), Junior Gutknecht (15), Tony Webster (16), Sonny Smyser (17), Harvey Grooms (18), Dale Oaks (19), Randy Smith (20). Lap Leader: Dunkle 1-25.

#### 6/26/76

#### **Gary Dunkle Wins Second Feature in a Row at Knoxville**

Gary Dunkle, a 25-year old speedster pulled off his second straight feature victory in a row at Knoxville Speedway last weekend in a rain abbreviated 15-lapper.

Dunkle, a tool maker by profession, wheeled his Chevy powered sprinter into the lead on the first lap of the planned 25-lap event. The rains began to fall on the fifteenth, and the race was red flagged in the interest of safety.

Following close behind Gary was the hard charging Doug Wolfgang, who managed to take second place money after posting an impressive win in the consi race. Bill Mellenberndt of Sioux Falls, South Dakota finished third in the feature.

Mellenberndt set the best qualifying lap of the year and nearly broke the track record with a blistering time of 20.499 seconds. The record is held by Joe Saldana with a time of 20.37.

Dunkle also captured the Trophy Dash with Wolfgang in second place, followed by Mellenberndt.

Heat winners included Butch Bahr of Lincoln, Mackie Heimbaugh of Des Moines, Billy Robison of Topeka, Kansas, and Dick Morris of Sioux City, Iowa.

**Time Trials (Qualifying Order):** 1. 97, Bill Mellenberndt, Sioux Falls, SD (7) 20.499; 2. 7x, Lenard McCarl, Des Moines, IA (32) 20.635; 3. 49, Dick Morris, Sioux City, IA (17) 20.722; 4. 31, John Stevenson, St. Paul, MN (24) 20.744; 5. 34, Gary Dunkle, Lincoln, NE (31) 21.094; 6. 18, Doug Wolfgang, Des Moines, IA (16)

21.124; 7. 59, Dennis Olson, Braham, MN (28) 21.172; 8. 61, Stacy Redmond, Mason City, IA (9) 21.348; 9. 47, Mike Pinckney, Des Moines, IA (14) 21.371; 10. 63, Junior Gutknecht, Pleasantville, IA (23) 21.408; 11. 15, Gary Johnson, Colfax, IA (6) 21.418; 12. 81, Billy Robison, Topeka, KS (1) 21.425; 13. 98, Dick Sutcliffe, Raytown, MO (26) 21.474; 14. 71, Don Maxwell, Lincoln, NE (27) 21.565; 15. 117, Bill Randleman, Jefferson, IA (4) 21.677; 16. 12, Mike Brooks, Knoxville, IA (5) 21.807; 17. 3, Eddie Leavitt, Kearney, MO (30) 21.878; 18. 5, Randy Smith, Mt. Ayr, IA (2) 21.900; 19. 94, Rick Weld, Kansas City, MO (11) 21.900; 20. 77x, Sonny Smyser, Glenwood, MO (19) 21.920; 21. 25, Butch Bahr, Lincoln, NE (8) 21.940; 22. 10, Steve Hainline, Bonaparte, IA (15) 21.987; 23. 37, Mike Thomas, Des Moines, IA (18) 22.151; 24. 53, Hank Elmendorf, Omaha, NE (34) 22.163; 25. 36, Tony Webster, Topeka, KS (12) 22.188; 26. 76, Mackie Heimbaugh, Des Moines, IA (29) 22.402; 27. 22, Con Edwards, Des Moines, IA (13) 22.485; 28. 21, Mark David, Ankeny, IA (25) 22.817; 29. 18x, Bill Hetrick, Gladstone, MO (3) 22.833; 30. 17, Greg Helms, Des Moines, IA (33) 22.849; 31. 24, John McClure, Burlington, IA (10) 22.902; 32. 41, Dale Oaks, West Burlington, IA (20) 23.148; 33. 6, Harvey Grooms, Ottumwa, IA (22) 23.363; 34. 93, Ed Grant, Canton, IL (35) NT; 35. 198, Jack McCorkell, Redwood Falls, MN (36) NT; 36. 62, Dick Kenny, Lincoln, NE (21) NT.

**Trophy Dash (started), 5 laps, \*:** 1. Gary Dunkle (2) 2. Doug Wolfgang (1) 3. Bill Mellenberndt (6) 4. Dick Morris (4) 5. John Stevenson (3) 6. Lenard McCarl (5)

**Heat one (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Butch Bahr (5) 2. Tony Webster (2) 3. Rick Weld (4) / 4. John McClure (1) 5. Con Edwards (3) ... also: Greg Helms (6), Mark David (7)

**Heat two (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Mackie Heimbaugh (4) 2. Steve Hainline (5) 3. Sonny Smyser (6) / 4. Dale Oaks (1) 5. Randy Smith (7) 6. Harvey Grooms (3) 7. Bill Hetrick (2)

**Heat three (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Billy Robison (3) 2. Lenard McCarl (8) 3. Stacy Redmond (5) 4. John Stevenson (7) 5. Eddie Leavitt (1) / 6. Don Maxwell (2) 7. Junior Gutknecht (4) 8. Doug Wolfgang (6)

**Heat four (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Dick Morris (7) 2. Dick Sutcliffe (2) 3. Bill Mellenberndt (8) 4. Gary Johnson (3) 5. Gary Dunkle (6) / 6. Dennis Olson (5) ... also: Mike Brooks (1), Mike Pinckney (4)

**B main (started), 10 laps, \*:** 1. Doug Wolfgang (1) 2. Dennis Olson (2) 3. Don Maxwell (4) 4. Junior Gutknecht (3) / 5. Randy Smith (6) 6. John McClure (10) 7. Dale Oaks (11) 8. Harvey Grooms (8) 9. Greg Helms (12) ... also: Mike Brooks (5), Con Edwards (7), Bill Hetrick (9)

A main (started), 15 laps, \*: 1. Gary Dunkle (2) 2. Doug Wolfgang (1) 3. Bill Mellenberndt (6) 4. Dick Morris (4) 5. Lenard McCarl (5) 6. Stacy Redmond (8) 7. Gary Johnson (10) 8. Dick Sutcliffe (12) ... also: John Stevenson (3), Dennis Olson (7), Junior Gutknecht (9), Billy Robison (11), Don Maxwell (13), Eddie Leavitt (14), Rick Weld (15), Sonny Smyser (16), Butch Bahr (17), Steve Hainline (18), Tony Webster (19), Mackie Heimbaugh (20). Lap Leader: Dunkle 1-15.

## 7/3/76

## **Bill Mellenberndt Wins at Knoxville**

Bill Mellenberndt of Sioux Falls, South Dakota is the most recent driver to break into the feature winners' circle at Knoxville. Mellenberndt, 33 years old, won the feature last week behind the wheel of the familiar "Nashville Club Special."

Mellenberndt, the owner of a truck line and transfer and storage business, took the lead on the ninth lap after a torrid battle with young Doug Wolfgang of Des Moines. Wolfgang, after losing the lead to Mellenberndt,

stayed only inches behind, but was unable to regain the lead after several attempts. John Stevenson of St. Paul, Minnesota, was third.

Mellenberndt, who began racing motorcycles and incidentally was named Mr. Motorcycle of South Dakota in 1961, broke into the sprinters for the first time this year after eight years driving modifieds, also won the Trophy Dash with Stevenson close behind in second place. Dick Morris was third and also clocked the best qualifying time of the evening with 21.106 seconds.

Bob Williams of Independence, Missouri, who was one of Knoxville's top drivers a few years ago and who has since been driving stock cars, made an appearance in a sprinter and won his heat race. Other heat race winners were Don Maxwell, Dick Sutcliffe and Dick Morris.

Billy Robison and Greg Helmss brought the crowd to their feet as the result of two separate incidents. Helmss crashed into the wall in turn one during the consi and Robison flipped in turn three during the feature. Although their cars were damaged, neither driver was injured.

Mauri Rose, three-time Indy 500 winner, was a visitor to the track and made the trophy presentation to the winning driver.

Time Trials (Qualifying Order), 2 laps: 1. 49, Dick Morris, Sioux City, IA (30) 21.106; 2. 61, Stacy Redmond, Mason City, IA (38) 21.290; 3. 7x, Lenard McCarl, Des Moines, IA (39) 21.311; 4. 31, John Stevenson, St. Paul, MN (28) 21.321; 5. 18 Doug Wolfgang, Des Moines, IA (16) 21.385; 6. 97, Bill Mellenberndt, Sioux Falls, SD (1) 21.425; 7. 34, Gary Dunkle, Lincoln, NE (10) 21.465; 8. 101, Gary Scott, Holt's Summit, MO (27) 21.596; 9. 81, Billy Robison, Topeka, KS (14) 21.644; 10. 1x, Eddie Leavitt, Kearney, MO (11) 21.657; 11. 15, Gary Johnson, Colfax, IA (7) 21.730; 12. 25, Butch Bahr, Grand Island, NE (15) 21.785; 13. 5, Randy Smith, Mt. Ayr, IA (13) 21.830; 14. 98, Dick Sutcliffe, Raytown, MO (33) 21.912; 15. 47, Mike Pinckney, Des Moines, IA (37) 21.996; 16. 10, Steve Hainline, Bonaparte, IA (29) 22.012; 17. 59, Dennis Olson, Braham, MN (9) 22.013; 18. 21, Mark David, Ankeny, IA (20) 22.135; 19. 77x, Sonny Smyser, Glenwood, MO (23) 22.141; 20. 62, Dick Kenny, Lincoln, NE (32) 22.272; 21. 22, Con Edwards, Des Moines, IA (3) 22.339; 22. 17, Greg Helms, Des Moines, IA (31) 22.431; 23. 12, Mike Brooks, Knoxville, IA (26) 22.435; 24. 86, Bob Williams, Independence, MO (12) 22.485; 25. 71, Don Maxwell, Lincoln, NE (24) 22.498; 26. 37, Mike Thomas, Des Moines, IA (19) 22.507; 27. 100, Rich Brahmer, Wisner, NE (8) 22.654; 28. 27, John Johnson, Independence, IA (36) 22.741; 29. 11, Adrian Zoutte, Knoxville, IA (22) 23.002; 30. 19, Cliff Lilly, Independence, MO (18) 23.155; 31. 176, Jim Hetrick, Gladstone, IL (2) 23.357; 32. 69, Harvey Grooms, Ottumwa, IA (35) 23.363; 33. 3, Jim Goettsche, Grand Island, NE (21) 23.432; 34. 56, Rodger Wright, Sugar Creek, MO (6) 23.459; 35. 18x, Bill Hetrick, Gladstone, IL (25) 23.630; 36. 24, John McClure, Burlington, IA (17) 24.025; 37. 50, Dale Hewitt, \* (5) 24.120; 38. 41, Dale Oaks, West Burlington, IA (4) 24.673; 39. 34x, Wayne Bennet, Phoenix, AZ (34) NT.

**Trophy Dash (started), 5 laps, \*:** 1. Bill Mellenberndt (1) 2. John Stevenson (3) 3. Dick Morris (6) 4. Doug Wolfgang (2) 5. Lenard McCarl (4) 6. Stacy Redmond (5)

**Heat one (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Bob Williams (7) 2. Sonny Smyser (9) 3. Rodger Wright (2) / 4. John Johnson (5) 5. Mike Thomas (6) ... also: John McClure (1), Harvey Grooms (3), Cliff Lilly (4), Con Edwards (8), Greg Helms (10)

**Heat two (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Don Maxwell (6) 2. Mike Brooks (7) 3. Rich Brahmer (5) / 4. Dick Kenny (8) 5. Mark David (9) 6. Jim Goettsche (3) 7. Dale Hewitt (1) ... also: Bill Hetrick (2), Adrian Zoutte (4)

**Heat three (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Dick Sutcliffe (2) 2. Billy Robison (4) 3. Eddie Leavitt (5) 4. Bill Mellenberndt (6) 5. Butch Bahr (3) / 6. John Stevenson (7) 7. Stacy Redmond (8) 8. Steve Hainline (1)

**Heat four (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Dick Morris (8) 2. Gary Johnson (3) 3. Gary Scott (4) 4. Lenard McCarl (7) 5. Gary Dunkle (5) / 6. Randy Smith (2) ... also: Mike Pinckney (1), Doug Wolfgang (6)

**B main (started), 10 laps, NT:** 1. John Stevenson (2) 2. Stacy Redmond (1) 3. Doug Wolfgang (3) 4. Randy Smith (4) / 5. Steve Hainline (5) 6. Dick Kenny (7) 7. John Johnson (10) 8. Mike Thomas (9) 9. Con Edwards (8) 10. Cliff Lilly (12) ... also: Mark David (6), Adrian Zoutte (11), Jim Goettsche (13), Bill Hetrick (14), Dale Hewitt (15), Greg Helms (16)



A main (started), 25 laps, NT: 1. Bill Mellenberndt (1) 2. Doug Wolfgang (2) 3. John Stevenson (3) 4. Dick Morris (6) 5. Gary Dunkle (7) 6. Gary Scott (9) 7. Dick Sutcliffe (14) 8. Stacy Redmond (5) 9. Gary Johnson (11) 10. Butch Bahr (12) ... also: Lenard McCarl (4), Eddie Leavitt (8), Billy Robison (10), Randy Smith (13), Sonny Smyser (15), Mike Brooks (16), Bob Williams (17), Don Maxwell (18), Rich Brahmer (19), Rodger Wright (20). Lap Leaders: Wolfgang 1-8, Mellenberndt 9-25.

## 7/10/76

## Doug Wolfgang Wins Fifth Feature of 1976 Season

Doug Wolfgang of Des Moines won the 25-lap feature here last Saturday night. Gary Dunkle led the feature race for the first 17 laps, with Don Maxwell in second, but neither Dunkle nor Maxwell could hold off the hard charging Wolfgang.

This was Wolfgang's fifth feature win of the season at Knoxville and he remains in first place in the season track point standings. Maxwell came in second in the feature, followed by Bill Mellenberndt of Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Dunkle, of Lincoln, Nebraska, won the trophy dash, as Mellenberndt finished second with Wolfgang taking third place honors. During the running of the trophy dash, Stacy Redmond of Mason City flipped his sprint car several times in the third turn. He was taken to Collins Memorial Hospital where it was determined that his injuries were minor.

Mellenberndt won the consi event as Dennis Olson finished in second place with Gary Johnson in third.

Heat winners included Mike Thomas of Des Moines, Harvey Grooms of Ottumwa, John Stevenson of St. Paul, Minnesota, and Don Maxwell of Lincoln, Nebraska.

Lenard McCarl of Des Moines had the best time trial, as he toured the half mile oval in 21.032 seconds.

A special Labor Day weekend of sprint car racing is also planned for Knoxville according to Race Director Ray Grimes.

Time Trials (Qualifying Order), 2 laps: 1. 7x, Lenard McCarl, Des Moines, IA (16) 21.032; 2. 18, Doug Wolfgang, Des Moines, IA (22) 21.200; 3. 97, Bill Mellenberndt, Sioux Falls, SD (21) 21.324; 4. 5, Randy Smith, Mt. Ayr, IA (10) 21.374; 5. 34, Gary Dunkle, Lincoln, NE (5) 21.541; 6. 61, Stacy Redmond, Mason City, IA (6) 21.619; 7. 71, Don Maxwell, Lincoln, NE (23) 21.619; 8. 98, Dick Sutcliffe, Raytown, MO (24) 21.743; 9. 59, Dennis Olson, Braham, MN (25) 21.845; 10. 15, Gary Johnson, Colfax, IA (26) 21.861; 11. 33, Jerry Blundy, Dahinda, IL (28) 21.961; 12. 31, John Stevenson, St. Paul, MN (2) 22.032; 13. 22, Con Edwards, Des Moines, IA (17) 22.109; 14. 62, Dick Kenny, Lincoln, NE (12) 22.325; 15. 24, John McClure, Burlington, IA (13) 22.476; 16. 73, Wayne Holz, Lincoln, NE (30) 22.490; 17. 100, Rich Brahmer, Wisner, NE (19) 22.532; 18. 37, Mike Thomas, Des Moines, IA (1) 22.584; 19. 77, Junior Gutknecht, Pleasantville, IA (27) 22.748; 20. 12, Mike Brooks, Knoxville, IA (8) 22.759; 21. 35, Harvey Grooms, Ottumwa, IA (15) 22.880; 22. 76, Mackie Heimbaugh, Des Moines, IA (20) 23.244; 23. 41, Dale Oaks, West Burlington, IA (9) 23.352 24. 11, Adrian Zoutte, Knoxville, IA (7) 23.578; 25. 18x, Bill Hetrick, Gladstone, IL (4) 24.409; 26. 47, Mike Pinckney, Des Moines, IA (29) 25.194; 27. 176, Jim Hetrick, Gladstone, IL (14) 25.352; 28. 16, Dave Butler, Cedar Rapids, IA (3) 26.460; 29. 3x, Rich McVale, \*, IL (18) NT; 30. 50, Dale Hewitt, \* (11) NT; 31. 34x, Billy Robison, Topeka, KS (31) NT; 32. 21, Mark David, Ankeny, IA (32) NT.

**Trophy Dash (started), 5 laps, \*:** 1. Gary Dunkle (2) 2. Bill Mellenberndt (4) 3. Doug Wolfgang (3) 4. Lenard McCarl (5) 5. Stacy Redmond (1) DNS – Randy Smith

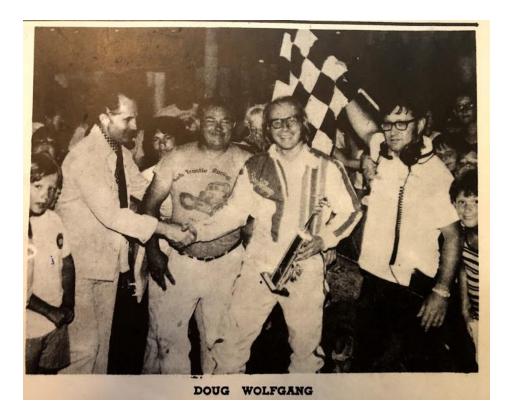
**Heat one (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Mike Thomas (5) 2. Mike Brooks (4) / ... also: Mike Pinckney (1), Adrian Zoutte (2), Mackie Heimbaugh (3), Wayne Holz (6), Dave Butler (7), Rich McVale (8)

**Heat two (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Harvey Grooms (4) 2. Rich Brahmer (6) 3. Junior Gutknecht (5) / 4. John McClure (7) 5. Jim Hetrick (1) 6. Dale Hewitt (8) ... also: Bill Hetrick (2), Dale Oaks (3)

**Heat three (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. John Stevenson (2) 2. Dick Sutcliffe (4) 3. Randy Smith (5) 4. Doug Wolfgang (6) 5. Dick Kenny (1) / 6. Gary Johnson (3) DNS - Stacy Redmond

**Heat four (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Don Maxwell (4) 2. Lenard McCarl (7) 3. Jerry Blundy (2) 4. Gary Dunkle (5) 5. Con Edwards (1) / ... also: Dennis Olson (3), Bill Mellenberndt (6)

**B main (started), 10 laps, \*:** 1. Bill Mellenberndt (1) 2. Dennis Olson (2) 3. Gary Johnson (3) 4. John McClure (4) 5. Dale Oaks (6) / 6. Dale Hewitt (10) 7. Bill Hetrick (7) 8. Jim Hetrick (8) 9. Rich McVale (11) ... also: Mackie Heimbaugh (5), Dave Butler (9)



A main (started), 25 laps, \*: 1. Doug Wolfgang (5) 2. Don Maxwell (1) 3. Bill Mellenberndt (4) 4. Jerry Blundy (10) 5. Randy Smith (3) 6. Lenard McCarl (6) 7. Mike Thomas (16) 8. Gary Johnson (9) 9. Con Edwards (12) 10. Rich Brahmer (15) ... also: Gary Dunkle (2), Dick Sutcliffe (7), Dennis Olson (8), John Stevenson (11), Dick Kenny (13), John McClure (14), Junior Gutknecht (17), Mike Brooks (18), Harvey Grooms (19), Dale Oaks (20). Lap Leaders: Dunkle 1-17, Wolfgang 18-25.

#### 7/17/76

#### **Gary Dunkle Wins Feature**

Gary Dunkle of Lincoln, Nebraska, won the sprint car feature last week at the Knoxville Speedway.

Dunkle, a 25 year old tool maker, led the pace from the start and earned \$1,000 for his impressive victory over second place finisher Dick Morris of Sioux City. Bill Mellenberndt took home third place honors in the feature.

Dunkle built a considerable lead over the rest of the field early in the race, until the 15<sup>th</sup> lap, when Tony Webster spun in turn four bringing out the yellow flag. As the race was resumed, Doug Wolfgang charged after Dunkle for the lead, but mechanical problems forced Wolfgang to settle for fourth place.

Wolfgang, 23, of Des Moines, won the trophy dash wit h Dunkle taking second place and Dick Morris finishing in the third slot.

The only mishap of the evening took place in the second heat race when Bill Curtis of Kansas City, Missouri, hit the wall in turn four. Although his car was damaged, Curtis was not injured.

Eddie Leavitt of Kearney, Missouri, was the evening's fastest qualifier as he toured the half-mile in 20.586 seconds.

**Time Trials (Qualifying Order), 2 laps:** 1. 4J, Eddie Leavitt, Kearney, MO (29) 20.586; 2. 97, Bill Mellenberndt, Sioux Falls, SD (14) 20.711; 3. 49, Dick Morris, Sioux City, IA (7) 20.798; 4. 5, Randy Smith,

Mt. Ayr, IA (6) 20.941; 5. 18, Doug Wolfgang, Des Moines, IA (21) 21.057; 6. 34, Gary Dunkle, Lincoln, NE (19) 21.072; 7. 98, Dick Sutcliffe, Raytown, MO (3) 21.241; 8. 71, Don Maxwell, Lincoln, NE (17) 21.261; 9. 31, John Stevenson, St. Paul, MN (8) 21.323; 10. 28, Ron Milton, Jacksonville, IL (11) 21.379; 11. 61, Stacy Redmond, Mason City, IA (20) 21.393; 12. 65, Ralph Parkinson Jr., Kansas City, MO (10) 21.475; 13. 15, Gary Johnson, Colfax, IA (16) 21.497; 14. 77x, Sonny Smyser, Glenwood, MO (5) 21.510; 15. 47, Mike Pinckney, Des Moines, IA (9) 21.516; 16. 100, Rich Brahmer, Wisner, NE (28) 21.521; 17. 29, Ron Williams, North Platte, NE (24) 21.813; 18. 7, Lloyd Beckman, Lincoln, NE (4) 21.814; 19. 1c, Bill Curtis, Kansas City, MO (30) 21.816; 20. 37, Mike Thomas, Des Moines, IA (27) 21.930; 21. 10, Steve Hainline, Bonaparte, IA (25) 21.975; 22. 53, Hank Elmendorf, Omaha, NE (15) 22.044; 23. 34x, Billy Robison, Topeka, KS (22) 22.101; 24. 35, Harvey Grooms, Ottumwa, IA (13) 22.145; 25. 12, Mike Brooks, Knoxville, IA (26) 22.186; 26. 36, Tony Webster, Topeka, KS (2) 22.378; 27. 176, Jim Hetrick, Gladstone, MO (24) 22.745; 28. 88, Gene Kester, Bates City, MO (18) 23.006; 29. 16, Dave Butler, Cedar Rapids, IA (12) 30. 60, Lonnie Jensen, Lincoln, NE (31) NT; 31. 111, Dave Ellis, Pacheco, CA (1) NT; 32. 76, Mackie Heimbaugh, Des Moines, IA (32) NT; 33. 72, Ed Doty, Boone, IA (33) NT; 34. 21, Mark David, Ankeny, IA (34) NT.

**Trophy Dash (started), 5 laps, \*:** 1. Doug Wolfgang (1) 2. Gary Dunkle (2) 3. Dick Morris (4) 4. Bill Mellenberndt (5) 5. Randy Smith (3) 6. Eddie Leavitt (6)

**Heat one (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Tony Webster (2) 2. Mike Thomas (5) 3. Lloyd Beckman (6) / 4. Harvey Grooms (3) 5. Rich Brahmer (7) 6. Gene Kester (1) ... also: Hank Elmendorf (4), Dave Butler (8)

**Heat two (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Billy Robison (3) 2. Steve Hainline (2) 3. Ron Williams (4) / 4. Mike Pinckney (6) ... also: Jim Hetrick (1), Bill Curtis (5) DNS – Mike Brooks

**Heat three (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Sonny Smyser (1) 2. Ralph Parkinson Jr. (2) 3. Bill Mellenberndt (7) 4. Don Maxwell (4) 5. Ron Milton (3) / ... also: Gary Dunkle (5), Randy Smith (6)

**Heat four (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Dick Morris (6) 2. Stacy Redmond (2) 3. Dick Sutcliffe (4) 4. Doug Wolfgang (5) 5. Gary Johnson (1) / 6. Eddie Leavitt (7) 7. John Stevenson (3)

**B main (started), 10 laps, \*:** 1. Randy Smith (2) 2. Gary Dunkle (3) 3. John Stevenson (4) 4. Harvey Grooms (5) / 5. Gene Kester (7) ... also: Eddie Leavitt (1), Rich Brahmer (6), Jim Hetrick (8), Dave Butler (9) DNS – Mike Pinckney



A main (started), 25 laps, NT: 1. Gary Dunkle (2) 2. Dick Morris (5) 3. Bill Mellenberndt (6) 4. Doug Wolfgang (3) 5. Randy Smith (4) 6. Don Maxwell (7) 7. Ralph Parkinson Jr. (11) 8. John Stevenson (8) 9. Sonny Smyser (13) 10. Gary Johnson (12) ... also: Dick Sutcliffe (1), Ron Milton (9), Stacy Redmond (10), Ron Williams (14), Lloyd Beckman (15), Mike Thomas (16), Steve Hainline (17), Billy Robison (18), Harvey Grooms (19), Tony Webster (20). Lap Leader: Dunkle 1-25.

## 7/24/76

## **Doug Wolfgang Wins Sixth Feature and Season Point Title Here**

Doug Wolfgang of Des Moines won his sixth feature of the season here last week and in doing this, assured himself of the point championship as well. Wolfgang has 1365, 195 more than second place Bill Mellenberndt. A sweep by Bill would net him only 185 and not enough to catch Wolfgang.

Wolfgang was challenged last week for the lead in the feature several times by Eddie Leavitt and Eddie passed Wolfgang on the white flag lap, but Doug regained the lead on the final lap and won the race. Wolfgang also won the dash.

Mackie Heimbaugh won the consi and heat winners were Harvey Grooms, Sonny Smyser, John Stevenson and Eddie Leavitt. The night was marred by several accidents. During qualifying, Greg Helms flipped his sprinter out of the track, landing upside down. Randy Smith hit the wall in the feature, and Ron Williams flipped his car in the feature. Mackie Heimbaugh also flipped in the feature to avoid the Williams wreck.

Time Trials (Qualifying Order), 2 laps: 1. 49, Dick Morris, Sioux City, IA (34) 20.783; 2. 7x, Lenard McCarl, Des Moines, IA (28) 20.830; 3. 60, Lonnie Jensen, Lincoln, NE (25) 20.837; 4. 5, Randy Smith, Mt. Ayr, IA (11) 20.909; 5. 18, Doug Wolfgang, Des Moines, IA (3) 20.921; 6. 7, Lloyd Beckman, Lincoln, NE (27) 20.996; 7. 4J, Eddie Leavitt, Kearney, MO (38) 21.020; 8. 71, Don Maxwell, Lincoln, NE (41) 21.021; 9. 29, Ron Williams, North Platte, NE (10) 21.041; 10. 61, Stacy Redmond, Mason City, IA (31) 21.074; 11. 34, Gary Dunkle, Lincoln, NE (4) 21.203; 12. 31, John Stevenson, St. Paul, MN (5) 21.222; 13. 59, Dennis Olson, Braham, MN (14) 21.241; 14. 111, Dave Ellis, Pacheco, CA (35) 21.276; 15. 28, Ron Milton, Jacksonville, IL (16) 21.282; 16. 15, Gary Johnson, Colfax, IA (1) 21.506; 17. 12, Mike Brooks, Knoxville, IA (21) 21.509; 18. 10, Steve Hainline, Bonaparte, IA (26) 21.581; 19. 100, Rich Brahmer, Wisner, NE (24) 21.655; 20. 25, Butch

Bahr, Lincoln, NE (23) 21.666; 21. 77x, Sonny Smyser, Glenwood, MO (18) 21.716; 22. 36, Tony Webster, Topeka, KS (12) 21.942; 23. 66, Ralph Parkinson Jr., Kansas City, MO (2) 21.996; 24. 198, Norman Martin, Dallas, TX (9) 22.006; 25. 17, Greg Helms, Des Moines, IA (36) 22.118; 26. 19, Jim Braden, Kansas City, MO (29) 22.173; 27. 95, Jeff Rice, Topeka, KS (17) 22.321; 28. 88, Gene Kester, Bates City, MO (37) 22.321; 29. 35, Harvey Grooms, Ottumwa, IA (19) 22.411; 30. 24, John McClure, Burlington, IA (7) 22.427; 31. 125, Cliff Woodward, Kearney, MO (33) 22.569; 32. 23, Junior Gutknecht, Pleasantville, IA (6) 22.574; 33. 2, JJ Riggins, Lincoln, NE (8) 22.584; 34. 11, Adrian Zoutte, Knoxville, IA (15) 22.586; 35. 76, Mackie Heimbaugh, Des Moines, IA (32) 23.118; 36. 102, Mel Van Wyk, Des Moines, IA (39) 23.478; 37. 1c, Bill Curtis, Kansas City, MO (40) 24.022; 38. 16, Dave Butler, Cedar Rapids, IA (42) 23.397; 39. 98, Dick Sutcliffe, Raytown, MO (13) NT; 40. 62, Dick Kenny, Lincoln, NE (20) NT; 41. 37, Mike Thomas, Des Moines, IA (22) NT; 42. 97, Bill Mellenberndt, Sioux Falls, SD (30) NT; 43. 47, Mike Pinckney, Des Moines, IA (43) NT.

**Trophy Dash** (started), 5 laps, \*: 1. Doug Wolfgang (2) 2. Randy Smith (3) 3. Dick Morris (6) 4. Lloydeat Beckman (1) 5. Lenard McCarl (5) 6. Lonnie Jensen (4)

**Heat one (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Harvey Grooms (3) 2. Tony Webster (6) 3. Steve Hainline (8) / 4. Butch Bahr (7) 5. Junior Gutknecht (1) 6. JJ Riggins (2) 7. Jeff Rice (4) 8. Norman Martin (5)

**Heat two (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Sonny Smyser (6) 2. John McClure (2) 3. Cliff Woodward (1) / 4. Mike Brooks (8) 5. Gene Kester (3) 6. Rich Brahmer (7) 7. Jim Braden (4) 8. Ralph Parkinson Jr. (5)

**Heat three (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. John Stevenson (3) 2. Gary Johnson (1) 3. Don Maxwell (5) 4. Randy Smith (7) 5. Lloyd Beckman (6) / 6. Dave Ellis (2) 7. Stacy Redmond (4) 8. Lenard McCarl (8)

**Heat four (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Eddie Leavitt (5) 2. Dick Morris (8) 3. Gary Dunkle (3) 4. Doug Wolfgang (6) 5. Dennis Olson (2) / 6. Ron Milton (1) 7. Ron Williams (4) 8. Lonnie Jensen (7)

**B main (started), 10 laps, \*:** 1. 7x, Mackie Heimbaugh (1) 2. Lonnie Jensen (2) 3. Ron Williams (3) 4. Butch Bahr (9) / 5. Stacy Redmond (4) 6. Mike Brooks (7) 7. Jim Braden (11) 8. Junior Gutknecht (14) 9. Jeff Rice (12) 10. Ralph Parkinson Jr. (10) 11. Dave Ellis (5) ... also: Ron Milton (6), Rich Brahmer (8), Gene Kester (13), JJ Riggins (15), Adrian Zoutte (16)



A main (started), 25 laps, \*: 1. Doug Wolfgang (2) 2. Eddie Leavitt (7) 3. Dick Morris (6) 4. Gary Dunkle (10) 5. Lloyd Beckman (1) 6. Mackie Heimbaugh (5) 7. Don Maxwell (8) 8. Sonny Smyser (16) 9. Gary Johnson (13) 10. John Stevenson (11) 11. Butch Bahr (15) 12. Steve Hainline (14) 13. Dennis Olson (12) 14. Harvey Grooms (18) 15. Tony Webster (17) 16. John McClure (19) 17. Cliff Woodward (20) 18. Lonnie Jensen (4) 19. Ron Williams (9) 20. Randy Smith (3). Lap Leaders: Wolfgang 1-23, Leavitt 24, Wolfgang 25.

#### 7/31/76

#### **Eddie Leavitt Feature Winner; Final Point Tally Announced**

Eddie Leavitt, 33, of Kearney, Missouri took home a lions share of the prize money Saturday night by virtue of his victory in the feature event. Leavitt, driving a car owned by Fred Aden of Tucson, Arizona, took the lead on the fifteenth lap as the race was restarted following a crash by Bill Mellenberndt.

Mellenberndt, of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, was leading the feature race, when on lap fourteen his tire blew, causing him to flip several times in turn one. Leavitt, who was second to Mellenberndt at the time of the crash, had his racer grazed by Mellenberndt as he drove under the airborne Mellenberndt. Bill was taken to Collins Memorial Hospital and held for observation.

Leavitt also was the evening's fastest qualifier as the truck owner/operator toured the half-mile oval in 20.611 seconds. Dick Morris of Sioux City finished second in the 25-lap feature followed in third by Lloyd Beckman of Lincoln, Nebraska.

Earlier, Mellenberndt won the Trophy Dash as he led the event from start to finish. Dick Morris finished a close second, followed across the line by Roger Larson of Madison, South Dakota.

Young John McClure of Burlington flipped his sprinter in the fifth heat as he came into turn one. He was treated and later released from Collins Memorial Hospital with only minor injuries. His car was heavily damaged by the spectacular crash.

The consi race also found Mellenberndt in Victory Lane as he led Jimmy Sills to the checkered flag. Larson managed to take home third place honors in the event.

Heat winners included: Randy Smith of Mt. Ayr, Dick Kenny of Lincoln, Nebraska, Gary Dunkle, Lincoln, Nebraska and Junior Parkinson of Kansas City.

Time Trials (Qualifying Order), 2 laps: 1. 4J, Eddie Leavitt, Kearney, MO (35) 20.611; 2. 7x, Ralph Blackett, Des Moines, IA (21) 20.790; 3. 121, Roger Larson, Madison, SD (30) 20.872; 4. 7, Lloyd Beckman, Lincoln, NE (23) 20.898; 5. 49, Dick Morris, Sioux City, IA (25) 20.914; 6. 97, Bill Mellenberndt, Sioux Falls, SD (27) 20.947; 7. 84, Jimmy Sills, Sacramento, CA (4) 20.971; 8. 92, Rick Weld, Kansas City, MO (37) 21.005; 9. 15, Gary Johnson, Colfax, IA (7) 21.187; 10. 71, Don Maxwell, Lincoln, NE (12) 21.211; 11. 18, Doug Wolfgang. Des Moines, IA (5) 21.220; 12. 81, Billy Robison, Topeka, KS (22) 21.240; 13. 47, Mike Pinckney, Des Moines, IA (11) 21.258; 14. 61, Stacy Redmond, Mason City, IA (36) 21.289; 15. 65, Junior Parkinson, Kansas City, MO (8) 21.309; 16. 34, Gary Dunkle, Lincoln, NE (34) 21.363; 17. 12, Mike Brooks, Knoxville, IA (3) 21.557; 18. 111, Dave Ellis, Pacheco, CA (26) 21.588; 19. 98, Dick Sutcliffe, Raytown, MO (2) 21.595; 20. 59, Dennis Olson, Braham, MN (20) 21.596; 21.77x, Sonny Smyser, Glenwood, MO (15) 21.632; 22. 25, Butch Bahr, Lincoln, NE (14) 21.794; 23. 10, Steve Hainline, Bonaparte, IA (16) 21.818; 24. 5, Randy Smith, Mt. Ayr, IA (10) 21.829; 25. 37, Mike Thomas, Des Moines, IA (18) 21.999; 26. 57, Lonnie Jensen, Lincoln, NE (33) 22.043; 27. 41, Dale Oaks, West Burlington, IA (6) 22.083; 28. 36, Tony Webster, Topeka, KS (32) 22.131; 29. 23, Junior Gutknecht, Pleasantville, IA (1) 22.210; 30. 35, Harvey Grooms, Ottumwa, IA (29) 22.219; 31. 62, Dick Kenny, Lincoln, NE (17) 22.337; 32. 1c, Bill Curtis, Kansas City, MO (38) 22.421; 33. 24, John McClure, Burlington, IA (13) 22.602; 34. 00, Sam Liebig, Rapid City, SD (9) 22.615; 35. 11, Adrian Zoutte, Knoxville, IA (24) 22.961; 36. 17x, Roger Anderson, West Burlington, IA (19) 23.147; 37. 30, Bob Downs, Phoenix, AZ (28) 24.366; 38. 53, Hank Elmendorf, Omaha, NE (31) 29.283.

**Trophy Dash (started), 5 laps, \*:** 1. Bill Mellenberndt (1) 2. Dick Morris (2) 3. Roger Larson (4) 4. Lloyd Beckman (3) 5. Eddie Leavitt (6) 6. Ralph Blackett (5)

**Heat one (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Randy Smith (5) 2. Tony Webster (3) 3. Butch Bahr (6) / 4. Harvey Grooms (2) 5. Dennis Olson (7) 6. Dave Ellis (8) ... also: Bill Curtis (1), Lonnie Jensen (4)

**Heat two (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Dick Kenny (1) 2. Sonny Smyser (6) 3. Mike Thomas (4) / 4. Dick Sutcliffe (7) 5. Junior Gutknecht (2) 6. Steve Hainline (5) ... also: Dale Oaks (3), Mike Brooks (8)

**Heat three (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Gary Dunkle (1) 2. Rick Weld (5) 3. Stacy Redmond (2) 4. Lloyd Beckman (7) 5. Ralph Blackett (8) / 6. Billy Robison (3) 7. Don Maxwell (4) 8. Bill Mellenberndt (6)

**Heat four (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Junior Parkinson (1) 2. Eddie Leavitt (8) 3. Mike Pinckney (2) 4. Doug Wolfgang (3) 5. Dick Morris (6) / 6. Jimmy Sills (5) 7. Roger Larson (7) 8. Gary Johnson (4)

**B main (started), 10 laps, \*:** 1. Bill Mellenberndt (2) 2. Jimmy Sills (3) 3. Roger Larson (1) 4. Gary Johnson (4) / 5. Dave Ellis (8) 6. Steve Hainline (9) 7. Dennis Olson (10) 8. Lonnie Jensen (12) 9. Sam Liebig (16) 10. Junior Gutknecht (11) 11. Hank Elmendorf (17) ... also: Don Maxwell (5), Billy Robison (6), Mike Brooks (7), Harvey Grooms (13), Roger Anderson (14), Bob Downs (15)



A main (started), 25 laps, \*: 1. Eddie Leavitt (6) 2. Dick Morris (2) 3. Lloyd Beckman (3) 4. Doug Wolfgang (10) 5. Roger Larson (4) 6. Ralph Blackett (5) 7. Jimmy Sills (7) 8. Gary Johnson (9) 9. Stacy Redmond (12) 10. Butch Bahr (16) 11. Randy Smith (17) ... also: Bill Mellenberndt (1), Rick Weld (8), Mike Pinckney (11), Junior Parkinson (13), Gary Dunkle (14), Sonny Smyser (15), Mike Thomas (18), Tony Webster (19), Dick Kenny (20). Lap Leaders: Mellenberndt 1-13, Leavitt 14-25.

## 8/7/76

## Wolfgang Wins at Knoxville

Doug Wolfgang of Des Moines led all 25 laps to win the season championship at the Marion County Speedway. Wolfgang won his seventh feature event of the season.

Eddie Leavitt, last week's feature winner, finished second. Leavitt set a new one-lap track record on the half-mile oval. Leavitt's time of 20.331 seconds erased the long-standing mark of Joe Saldana. Saldana's record was 20.37 on July 18, 1970.

The evening's program was delayed by three major accidents. Cars driven by John Stevenson of St. Paul, Minnesota and Jack Comer of Rapid City, South Dakota both flipped in separate accidents during time trials. Neither was hospitalized.

A major accident occurred during the consolation event when Dick Morris of Sioux City flipped after taking the checkered flag in second place. Morris was taken to the local hospital for examination.

Time Trials (Qualifying Order), 2 laps: 1. 4J, Eddie Leavitt, Kearney, MO (15) 20.331 (NTR); 2. 19, Bobby Marshall, Dallas, TX (9) 20.340; 3. 49, Dick Morris, Sioux City, IA (16) 20.491; 4. 56, Gary Patterson, Sacramento, CA (27) 20.506; 5. 7x, Lenard McCarl, Des Moines, IA (6) 20.616; 6. 18, Doug Wolfgang, Des Moines, IA (25) 20.636; 7. 92, Greg Weld, Kansas City, MO (40) 20.645; 8. 59, Dennis Olson, Braham, MN (29) 20.686; 9. 84, Jimmy Sills, Sacramento, CA (5) 20.702; 10. 81, Billy Robison, Topeka, KS (13) 20.767; 11. 7, Lloyd Beckman, Lincoln, NE (26) 20.769; 12. 25, Butch Bahr, Lincoln, NE (17) 20.807; 13. 47, Mike Pinckney, Des Moines, IA (37) 20.808; 14. 12, Mike Brooks, Knoxville, IA (22) 20.918; 15. 5, Randy Smith, Mt. Ayr, IA (19) 20.925; 16. 75, Ron Shuman, Phoenix, AZ (30) 20.935; 17. 15, Gary Johnson, Colfax, IA (35) 21.016; 18. 71, Don Maxwell, Lincoln, NE (44) 21.079; 19. 6, Darrell Dockery, Phoenix, AZ (38) 21.155; 20. 98, Gary Dunkle, Lincoln, NE (28) 21.208; 21. 23, Junior Gutknecht, Pleasantville, IA (12) 21.219; 22. 91, Wayne Bennet, Phoenix, AZ (4) 21.338; 23. 61, Stacy Redmond, Mason City, IA (36) 21.391; 24. 36, Tony Webster, Topeka, KS (2) 21.435; 25. 41, Dale Oaks, West Burlington, IA (41) 21.567; 26. 37, Mike Thomas, Des Moines, IA (10) 21.581; 27. 35, Harvey Grooms, Ottumwa, IA (11) 21.665; 28. 5A, Larry Clark, Tolleson, AZ (3) 21.753; 29. 17, Bill Randleman, Jefferson, IA (1) 21.789; 30. 62, Dick Kenny, Lincoln, NE (34) 21.812; 31. 00, Sam Liebig, Rapid City, SD (7) 21.957; 32. 40, Chuck Bigelow, Genoa City, WI (21) 22.214; 33. 11x, Jim Braden, Kansas City, MO (18) 22.266; 34. 10x, Dean Smith, Fort Dodge, IA (32) 22.319; 35. 17x, Roger Anderson, Burlington, IA (20) 22.671; 36. 61x, Bill Harshbarger, Fort Madison, IA (23) 22.977; 37. 2, Bill Miller, Pleasant Hill, IA (31) 23.564; 38. 102, Mel Van Wyk, Monroe, IA (39) 23.674; 39. 30, Bob Downs, Phoenix, AZ (8) 23.744; 40. 29, Jack Comer, Rapid City, SD (24) 23.977; 41. 76, Mackie Heimbaugh, Des Moines, IA (14) NT; 42. 31, John Stevenson, St. Paul, MN (33) NT; 43. 20, Steve Howard, Lakewood, CA (42) NT; 44. 11, Adrian Zoutte, Knoxville, IA (43) NT.

**Trophy Dash (started), 5 laps:** 1. Dick Morris (4) 2. Gary Patterson (3) 3. Lenard McCarl (2) 4. Doug Wolfgang (1) 5. Bobby Marshall (5) 6. Eddie Leavitt (6)

**Heat one (started), 8 laps:** 1. Larry Clark (3) 2. Gary Dunkle (7) 3. Don Maxwell (8) 4. Tony Webster (5) 5. Dick Kenny (2) 6. Mike Thomas (4) 7. Chuck Bigelow (1) 8. Wayne Bennet (6)

**Heat two (started), 8 laps:** 1. Gary Johnson (8) 2. Harvey Grooms (3) 3. Darrell Dockery (7) 4. Dale Oaks (4) 5. Junior Gutknecht (6) 6. Bill Randleman (2) 7. Sam Liebig (1) 8. Stacy Redmond (5)

**Heat three (started), 8 laps:** 1. Ron Shuman (1) 2. Billy Robison (4) 3. Dennis Olson (5) 4. Gary Patterson (7) 5. Bobby Marshall (8) 6. Mike Brooks (2) ... also: Butch Bahr (3), Lenard McCarl (6)

**Heat four (started), 8 laps:** 1. Randy Smith (1) 2. Doug Wolfgang (5) 3. Mike Pinckney (2) 4. Eddie Leavitt (8) 5. Lloyd Beckman (3) 6. Dick Morris (7) 7. Jimmy Sills (4) 8. Greg Weld (6)

**Heat five (started), 8 laps:** 1. Roger Anderson (3) 2. Jim Braden (5) 3. Bill Harshbarger (4) 4. Mel Van Wyk (2) 5. Bob Downs (1) 6. Dean Smith (6)

**B main (started), 10 laps:** 1. Jimmy Sills (4) 2. Dick Morris (1) 3. Lenard McCarl (3) 4. Stacy Redmond (9) 5. Wayne Bennet (8) 6. Dale Oaks (11) 7. Mike Thomas (12) 8. Dick Kenny (14) ... also: Greg Weld (2), Butch Bahr (5), Mike Brooks (6), Junior Gutknecht (7), Tony Webster (10), Bill Randleman (13), Sam Liebig (15), Chuck Bigelow (16), Jim Braden (17), Dean Smith (18), Roger Anderson (19)

A main (started), 25 laps: 1. Doug Wolfgang (2) 2. Eddie Leavitt (6) 3. Mike Pinckney (10) 4. Gary Patterson (4) 5. Randy Smith (11) 6. Jimmy Sills (7) 7. Bobby Marshall (5) 8. Lloyd Beckman (9) 9. Gary Johnson (13) 10. Stacy Redmond (18) 11. Harvey Grooms (19) 12. Billy Robison (8) 13. Larry Clark (20) 14. Darrell

Dockery (15) 15. Wayne Bennet (17) ... also: Dennis Olson (1), Lenard McCarl (3), Ron Shuman (12), Don Maxwell (14), Gary Dunkle (16). **Lap Leader:** Wolfgang 1-25.

8/11/76

Rain

8/12/76

Joe Saldana Fastest; Ron Rea Wins Prelim by Chris Economaki and Larry Sullivan

Knoxville, IA – A pair of former "outlaws" now running USAC returned to the Knoxville Nationals and stole the opening night thunder as the 16<sup>th</sup> running of the super sprint classic got underway one day late due to rain.

## **Regains Record**

Joe Saldana, winner of the crown here in 1970 and holder of the one-lap record between July 18, 1970 and August 7, 1976, regained the honor with a sizzling 20.247 clocking in time trials, and Ron Rea, a transplanted Californian now living in Indianapolis, won the 20-lap feature.

The one-lap mark of 20.37 for cars without wings-was taken from Saldana by Eddie Leavitt only five days earlier on the last night of the regular season, when he turned the black dirt half-mile in 20.331. Saldana drove Bill Smith's Speedway Motors 4x usually handled by Jan Opperman. Rea was an all-the-way leader in the feature. At the wheel of the new Len Faas Edmunds machine, he opened up a straightaway lead on his rivals, which evaporated on the 12<sup>th</sup> lap when a yellow flag for a twin spin by Darryl Dawley and Jim Darley Closed up the field.

Rea again pulled away, taking the checker a half straight ahead of Lee Osborne-another USACer-who had taken the place from Ted Wise with two to go when Wise ran out of tear aways, the thin plastic sheets that cover helmet plates.

Behind Wise in fourth was Stacy Redmond, trailed by Ron Shuman and track champion Doug Wolfgang. Only ten of the 20 starters were around at the end, mechanical attrition being high.

## **Two-Car Crash**

A spectacular two-car tangle stopped the second heat when Larry Clark and Jerry Frantsen made the turn one fence. And in time trials, which put the fastest ten into the Saturday night final, Tony Webster's Tessendorf 36 broke a hub and sent the right rear wheel to Kansas City and his car into a series of flips. No one was hurt.

The trials saw cars take to the track with 43 taking time. Despite a seven-minute cleanup for Webster's flip, the timed runs were completed in 59 minutes.

#### **Results**

Time Trials (Qualifying Order), 2 laps: 1. 4x, Joe Saldana, Lincoln, NE (30) 20.247 (NTR); 2. 42, Lee Osborne, Jamestown, IN (51) 20.591; 3. 85, Bubby Jones, Danville, IL (27) 20.634; 4. 05, Ted Wise, Hubbard, OH (10) 20.649; 5. 92 Greg Weld, Kansas City, MO (12) 20.655; 6. 7, Lloyd Beckman, Lincoln, NE (29) 20.728; 7. 90, Jack McCorkell, Redwood Falls, MN (40) 20.805; 8. 11, Dick Gaines, Floyds Knobs, IN (14) 20.834; 9. 61, Stacy Redmond, Mason City, IA (8) 20.855; 10. 27, Ron Rea, Indianapolis, IN (26) 20.873; 11.

71, Don Maxwell, Lincoln, NE (22) 20.885; 12. 56, Gary Patterson, Carmichael, CA (42) 20.923; 13. 31, John Stevenson, St. Paul, MN (43) 20.976; 14. 111, Dave Ellis, Pacheco, CA (3) 21.002; 15. 75, Ron Shuman, Phoenix, AZ (16) 21.003; 16. 23, Junior Gutknecht, Pleasantville, IA (19) 21.015; 17. 57, Lonnie Jensen, Lincoln, NE (23) 21.019; 18. 18, Doug Wolfgang, Des Moines, IA (28) 21.111; 19. 33, Jerry Blundy, Dahinda, IL (6) 21.125; 20. 50, Larry Clark, Tolleson, AZ (38) 21.150; 21. 28, Ralph Blackett, Des Moines, IA (32) 21.155; 22. 15, Gary Johnson, Colfax, IA (18) 21.166; 23. 77x, Sonny Smyser, Glenwood, MO (1) 21.202; 24. 73, Al Liskai, Fremont, OH (11) 21.208; 25. 18x, Jim Darley, Phoenix, AZ (35) 21.211; 26. 25x, Darryl Dawley, Sioux Falls, SD (15) 21.219; 27. 41, Dale Oaks, West Burlington, IA (4) 21.248; 28. 39, Rick Unger, Belpre, OH (24) 21.342; 29. 02, Johnny Beaber, Gibsonburg, OH (39) 21.421; 30. 97, Dick Tobias, Lebanon, PA (46) 21.468; 31. 58, Darrell Dockery, Phoenix, AZ (21) 21.508; 32. 2x, Jerry Frantsen, Windom, MN (34) 21.649; 33. 72, Bill Cohee, Topeka, KS (50) 21.766; 34. 51, Jim Braden, Kansas City, MO (25) 21.947; 35. 86, Ray Rodden, Seifield, TX (33) 22.006; 36. 94, Rick Weld, Kansas City, MO (9) 22.022; 37. 82, Bob Morris, Birmingham, IA (47) 22.040; 38. 8, Bob Thoman, Higginsville, MO (17) 22.096; 39. 44, Duke Deponzi, San Jose, CA (31) 22.232; 40. 15x, Jim Olson, Rapid City, SD (2) 22.299; 41. 16, Cliff Woodward, Kearney, MO (20) 22.396; 42. 69, Curt Grogan, Kansas City, MO (37) 22.557; 43. 64, Bill Harshbarger, Fort Madison, IA (45) 22.666; 44. 176, Jim Hetrick, Gladstone, IL (36) 23.595; 45. 87, Bill Randleman, Jefferson, IA (5) NT; 46. 65, Junior Parkinson, Kansas City, MO (7) NT; 47. 84, Jimmy Sills, Sacramento, CA (13) NT; 48. 36, Tony Webster, Topeka, KS (41) NT; 49. 22, Bill Miller, Prairie City, IA (44) NT; 50. 30, Bob Downs, Phoenix, AZ (48) NT; 51. 47, Mike Pinckney, Des Moines, IA (49) NT.

Heat one (started), 10 laps, 3:35.52: 1. Jim Darley (5) 2. Ted Wise (10) 3. Ralph Blackett (6) 4. John Stevenson (8) 5. Dave Ellis (7) 6. Stacy Redmond (9) 7. Bob Morris (2) 8. Cliff Woodward (1) 9. Bill Cohee (3) 10. Johnny Beaber (4)

**Heat two (started), 10 laps, 3:36.6:** 1. Rick Weld (2) 2. Gary Patterson (8) 3. Al Liskai (5) 4. Rick Unger (4) 5. Dick Gaines (9) 6. Bubby Jones (10) 7. Lonnie Jensen (7) 8. Jim Olson (1) 9. Jerry Frantsen (3) 10. Larry Clark (6)

Heat three (started), 10 laps, 3:58.42: 1. Sonny Smyser (5) 2. Jack McCorkell (9) 3. Lee Osborne (10) 4. Don Maxwell (8) 5. Ray Rodden (2) 6. Junior Gutknecht (7) 7. Jerry Blundy (6) 8. Dale Oaks (4) 9. Darrell Dockery (3) 10. Duke Deponzi (1)

**Heat four (started), 10 laps, NT:** 1. Darryl Dawley (4) 2. Doug Wolfgang (6) 3. Ron Rea (8) 4. Gary Johnson (5) 5. Ron Shuman (7) 6. Dick Tobias (3) 7. Jim Braden (2) ... also: Bob Thoman (1), Greg Weld (9) DNS – Joe Saldana

A main (started), 20 laps, NT: 1. Ron Rea (1) 2. Lee Osborne (6) 3. Ted Wise (5) 4. Stacy Redmond (2) 5. Ron Shuman (10) 6. Doug Wolfgang (11) 7. Gary Patterson (8) 8. Don Maxwell (7) 9. Gary Johnson (12) 10. Ray Rodden (18) ... also: Dick Gaines (3), Jack McCorkell (4), John Stevenson (9), Sonny Smyser (13), Al Liskai (14), Jim Darley (15), Darryl Dawley (16), Rick Unger (17), Rick Weld (19), Bob Morris (20). Lap Leader: Rea 1-20.

## 8/13/76

#### Gary Dunkle Fastest; Prelim to Eddie Leavitt

by Chris Economaki and Larry Sullivan

Knoxville, IA – Flaunting a Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> superstition, Gary Dunkle and Eddie Leavitt were the stars of the second night of the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Knoxville Nationals for super sprints before a large crowd.

## 47 Qualify

Dunkle, a Lincoln, Nebraska 25 year-old who builds his own cars, paced the night's 47 qualifiers to win a front-row starting place for Saturday night's final, while Leavitt came from sixth starting place to win the 20-lap feature.

Rick Ferkel, with a brilliant last-lap pass, took second from fellow Ohioan Fred Linder, while Butch Bahr and Gary Scott completed the top five finishers in the feature. Dunkle, like Saldana the night before, elected not to compete after his time trial run, saving his equipment for Saturday's big money.

Linder took the early feature lead followed by Ralph Quarterson and Leavitt after a turn two tangle twirled the cars of Lenard McCarl, Billy Thrasher and David Fair.

Ferkel, who started tenth, took Quarterson for fourth after the Pennsylvanian lost second to Leavitt on the third lap. The action was slowed when pole starter, Harold McGilton, nosed into the first turn fence on lap five and executed a slow roll over.

Leavitt dove under Linder on the seventh lap and that was it for the lead as attention switched to the onrushing Ferkel, who hooked up in a tremendous duel with Linder for the final ten laps. The pair spent most of the time side by side until the final turn.

As the race ended, Thrasher had his second thrill of the event when his front axle collapsed in turn three and the race ended under the red and checker.

Dick Bailey took a nasty solo flip in the third heat, but like McGilton, was not hurt.

Ferkel, Billy Robison, Dick Sutcliffe and Len McCarty took the ten lap heats.

#### **Results**

Time Trials (Qualifying Order), 2 laps: 1. 34, Gary Dunkle, Lincoln, NE (29) 20.401; 2. 19, Bobby Marshall, Dallas, TX (25) 20.583; 3. 4J, Eddie Leavitt, Kearney, MO (5) 20.604; 4. 25, Butch Bahr, Lincoln, NE (43) 20.635; 5. 66, Ralph Quarterson, Sharon, PA (42) 20.717; 6. 49, Dick Sutcliffe, Raytown, MO (21) 20.760; 7. 55, Fred Linder, Fremont, OH (24) 20.813; 8. 45, Harold McGilton, Fremont, OH (47) 20.956; 9. 74, Sammy Swindell, Memphis, TN (7) 20.980; 10. 10x, Gary Scott, Holt's Summit, MO (38) 20.994; 11. 96, David Fair, Anaheim, CA (11) 21.087; 12. 0, Rick Ferkel, Findlay, OH (48) 21.138; 13. 7x, Lenard McCarl, Des Moines, IA (22) 21.143; 14. 30, Doc Dawson, Lima, OH (26) 21.212; 15. 80, Buddy Cochran, Sharon, PA (19) 21.221; 16. 5, Randy Smith, Mt. Ayr, IA (10) 21.277; 17. 12, Mike Brooks, Knoxville, IA (9) 21.287; 18. 2, Bill Thrasher, Bedford, TX (4) 21.300; 19. 81, Billy Robison, Topeka, KS (6) 21.312; 20. 59, Dennis Olson, Braham, MN (33) 21.357; 21. 54, Rick Goade, Fullerton, CA (44) 21.375; 22. 20, Steve Howard, Lakewood, CA (27) 21.377; 23. 83, Ken McCarty, North Platte, NE (12) 21.499; 24. 60, Darrell Dockery, Phoenix, AZ (40) 21.514; 25. 6, Rocky Fisher, Ft. Wayne, IN (30) 21.530; 26. 5x, Dick Bailey, Grove City, PA (31) 21.551; 27. 3, Gene Gennetten, Parkville, MO (17) 21.596; 28. 35, Harvey Grooms, Ottumwa, IA (16) 21.628; 29. 17, Ron Fisher, Kokomo, IN (41) 21.689; 30. 00, Sam Liebig, Rapid City, SD (28) 21.717; 31. 53, Hank Elmendorf, Omaha, NE (45) 32. 50, Larry Clark, Phoenix, AZ (8) 21.732; 33. 1c, Bill Curtis, Kansas City, MO (3) 21.735; 34. 10, Steve Hainline, Bonaparte, IA (20) 21.743; 35. 98, Wayne Basham, Phoenix, AZ (46) 21.963; 36. 37, Mike Thomas, Des Moines, IA (36) 21.971; 37. 91, Wayne Bennet, Phoenix, AZ (2) 21.990; 38. 70, Dale McCarty, Kearney, MO (1) 22.077; 39. 43, Robert Smith, Gibsonton, FL (32) 22.112; 40. 88, Gene Kester, Bates City, MO (15) 22.191; 41. 34x, John Sernett, Laurens, IA (49) 22.199; 42. 32, Joe Gillentine, Memphis, TN (37) 22.202; 43. 1x, Larry Holman, Oklahoma City, OK (23) 22.547; 44. 52, Jim Lipkey, Kokomo, IN (50) 22.672; 45. 20x, Bill Repsold, Gary, IN (39) 22.870; 46. 100, Dean Smith, Fort Dodge, IA (18) 23.319; 47. 95, Gary Rogers, Overland Park, KS (13) 25.376; 48. 99, Joel Taylor, Okoboji, IA (14) NT; 49. 76, Mackie Heimbaugh, Des Moines, IA (34) NT; 50. 22, Bill Miller, Pleasant Hill, IA (35) NT.

## Drivers from Qualifying Night #1 getting times in...

1. 47, Mike Pinckney, Des Moines, IA, 21.104; 2. 65, Junior Parkinson, Kansas City, MO, 21.400; 3. 40, Dick Tobias, Lebanon, PA, 21.851; 4. 87, Bill Randleman, Jefferson, IA, 22.039; 5. 36, Adrian Zoutte, Knoxville, IA, 22.703.

Heat one (started), 10 laps, 3:43.56: 1. Rick Ferkel (8) 2. Larry Clark (3) 3. Randy Smith (7) 4. Butch Bahr (10) 5. Harold McGilton (9) 6. Harvey Grooms (4) 7. Darrell Dockery (5) 8. Mike Thomas (2) 9. Dennis Olson (6) 10. Gene Kester (1)

**Heat two (started), 10 laps, 3:37.03:** 1. Billy Robison (6) 2. Fred Linder (9) 3. Eddie Leavitt (10) 4. David Fair (8) 5. Buddy Cochran (7) 6. Robert Smith (1) 7. Hank Elmendorf (3) ... also: Wayne Basham (2), Gene Gennetten (4), Ken McCarty (5)

**Heat three (started), 10 laps, NT:** 1. Dick Sutcliffe (9) 2. Gary Scott (8) 3. Doc Dawson (7) 4. Steve Hainline (2) 5. Steve Howard (5) 6. Bobby Marshall (10) 7. Sam Liebig (3) ... also: Dale McCarty (1), Dick Bailey (4), Bill Thrasher (6)

**Heat four (started), 10 laps, 3:39.18:** 1. Lenard McCarl (7) 2. Bill Curtis (2) 3. Ralph Quarterson (9) 4. Sammy Swindell (8) 5. Rick Goade (5) 6. Mike Brooks (6) 7. Rocky Fisher (4) ... also: Wayne Bennet (1), Ron Fisher (3) DNS – Gary Dunkle

A main (started), 20 laps, NT: 1. Eddie Leavitt (6) 2. Rick Ferkel (10) 3. Fred Linder (2) 4. Butch Bahr (5) 5. Gary Scott (8) 6. Randy Smith (14) 7. Doc Dawson (12) 8. Sammy Swindell (7) 9. Ralph Quarterson (4) 10. Bill Curtis (17) 11. Larry Clark (16) 12. Dick Sutcliffe (3) 13. Rick Goade (15) 14. Bill Thrasher (13) 15. Steve Hainline (18) 16. Harold McGilton (1) 17. Lenard McCarl (11) 18. David Fair (9) 19. Robert Smith (19). Lap Leaders: F. Linder 1-6, Leavitt 7-20.

#### 8/14/76

## Eddie Leavitt Wins Second Knoxville National Race

by Robert Kolarik

Knoxville, IA – Eddie Leavitt of Kearney, Missouri retained his National Super Modified Championship title Saturday night at the Marion County Fairgrounds.

Leavitt, starting on the outside of the third row in the 20-car field, moved past Gary Dunkle on lap 11 and was never seriously challenged as he took the \$4,000 first prize.

Dunkle, of Lincoln, Nebraska, who held on for second place, was the second fastest qualifier and jumped into the lead past pole-sitter Joe Saldana of Lincoln, Nebraska, at the start of the 30-lap event.

#### **Set Track Record**

Saldana had earned the pole position by setting a track record of 20.247 seconds around the one-half mile dirt oval in Thursday's qualifying.

Leavitt said he entered the race intending to run it "wide open." The strategy worked, as he breezed to his second consecutive championship.

Lee Osborne of Jamestown, Indiana, took third, followed by Bubby Jones of Danville, Illinois, Saldana and Greg Weld of Kansas City, Missouri. The best finish by an Iowan was nineteenth by Stacy Redmond of Mason City.

Rick Ferkel of Findlay, Ohio, despite having his one-third lap lead eliminated by a caution flag, captured the 22-lap B feature.

#### **McCarl Third**

Ferkel took the lead from Gary Patterson of Sacramento, California, on the fourth lap, and lengthened it until the caution flag was thrown on lap 19 when Randy Smith of Mount Ayr spun out on the backstretch.

Lenard McCarl and Doug Wolfgang, the only Des Moines drivers in the B race, finished third and fifth, respectively. Wolfgang was the season point champion at Knoxville this season.

In the C feature, Rick Goade of Fullerton, California, led all 15 laps for the victory.

However, misfortune befell Goade. By winning the C event, he qualified for the B main. During the warmup laps for that race, Goade's car overturned in the first turn. He was taken to a local hospital for examination, but returned to the track before the completion of the evening's racing complaining of back injuries.

A special race scheduled Saturday morning for drivers who did not qualify for any of the three feature races was canceled because of rain.

#### **Results**

C main (started), 15 laps, 5:23.41: 1. 54, Rick Goade, Fullerton, CA (2) 2. 77, Sonny Smyser, Glenwood, MO (1) / 3. 25x, Darryl Dawley, Sioux Falls, SD (7) 4. 60, Darrell Dockery, Phoenix, AZ (8) 5. 65, Junior Parkinson, Kansas City, MO (13) 6. 18x, Jim Darley, Phoenix, AZ (5) 7. 20, Steve Howard, Lakewood, CA (4) 8. 84, Jimmy Sills, Sacramento, CA (17) 9. 41, Dale Oaks, West Burlington, IA (9) 10. 3, Gene Gennetten, Parkville, MO (14) 11. 83, Ken McCarty, North Platte, NE (6) 12. 35, Harvey Grooms, Ottumwa, IA (16) 13. 39, Rick Unger, Belpre, OH (11) 14. 00, Sam Liebig, Rapid City, SD (20) 15. 73, Al Liskai, Fremont, OH (3) 16. 17, Ron Fisher, Kokomo, IN (18) 17. 6, Rocky Fisher, Fort Wayne, IN (10) 18. 58, Mark David, Cedar Falls, IA (19) 19. 5x, Dick Bailey, Grove City, PA (12) 20. 02, Johnny Beaber, Gibsonburg, OH (15)

B main (started), 22 laps, NT: 1. 0, Rick Ferkel, Findlay, OH (4) 2. 56, Gary Patterson, Sacramento, CA (3) / 3. 7x, Lenard McCarl, Des Moines, IA (6) 4. 96, David Fair, Anaheim, CA (2) 5. 18, Doug Wolfgang, Des Moines, IA (17) 6. 75, Ron Shuman, Mesa, AZ (7) 7. Sonny Smyser (21) 8. 81, Billy Robison, Topeka, KS (18) 9. 23, Junior Gutnecht, Pleasantville, IA (9) 10. 15, Gary Johnson, Colfax, IA (15) 11. 111, Dave Ellis, Pacheco, CA (13) 12. 33, Jerry Blundy, Dahinda, IL (19) 13. 12, Mike Brooks, Knoxville, IA (14) 14. 59, Dennis Olson, Braham, MN (20) 15. 5, Randy Smith, Mt. Ayr, IA (12) 16. 2, Bill Thrasher, Bedford, TX (16) 17. 28, Ralph Blackett, Des Moines, IA (11) 18. 30, Doc Dawson, Lima, OH (8) 19. 31, John Stevenson, St. Paul, MN (5) 20. 71, Don Maxwell, Lincoln, NE (1) 21. 80, Buddy Cochran, Sharon, PA (10) DNS – Rick Goade; 57, Lonnie Jensen, Lincoln, NE; 47, Mike Pinckney, Des Moines, IA

A main (started), 30 laps, 11:36.23: 1. 4J, Eddie Leavitt, Kearney, MO (6) 2. 34, Gary Dunkle, Lincoln, NE (2) 3. 42, Lee Osborne, Jamestown, IN (3) 4. 85, Bubby Jones, Danville, IL (5) 5. 4x, Joe Saldana, Lincoln, NE (1) 6. 92, Greg Weld, Kansas City, MO (9) 7. 49, Dick Sutcliffe, Raytown, MO (12) 8. 25, Butch Bahr, Grand Island, NE (8) 9. 55, Fred Linder, Fremont, OH (14) 10. 11, Dick Gaines, Floyds Knobs, IN (15) 11. 74, Sammy Swindell, Memphis, TN (18) 12. 19, Bobby Marshall, Dallas, TX (4) 13. Gary Patterson (22) 14. 10x, Gary Scott, Holt's Summit, MO (20) 15. 05, Ted Wise, Hubbard, OH (7) 16. 45, Harold McGilton, Fremont, OH (16) 17. 90, Jack McCorkell, Redwood Falls, MN (13) 18. 61, Stacy Redmond, Mason City, IA (17) 19. 7,

Lloyd Beckman, Lincoln, NE (11) 20. Rick Ferkel (21) 21. 66, Ralph Quarterson, Sharon, PA (10) 22. 27, Ron Rea, Indianapolis, IN (19) **Lap Leaders:** Dunkle 1-10, Leavitt 11-30.

## 9/4/76

## Joe Saldana Zips at Knoxville

Knoxville, IA – Joe Saldana, of Brownsburg, Indiana, started from a front row position Saturday night and claimed the 25-lap feature as the three-day Labor Day Sprint Car Classic opened at the Marion County Fairgrounds.

Eddie Leavitt of Kearney, Missouri, dueled Doug Wolfgang of Des Moines throughout the race with Wolfgang taking second and Leavitt third. Dick Sutcliffe of Raytown, Missouri was fourth.

The three-day program is being run in conjunction with races at Bethel, Missouri. The winning point leader will earn \$800. Leavitt leads with 290 points followed by Sutcliffe, 250; Wolfgang, 235; and Sonny Smyser, Glenwood, Missouri, 225.

Time Trials (Qualifying Order), 2 laps: 1. 18, Doug Wolfgang, Des Moines, IA (28) 20.878; 2. 10, Gary Scott, Holt's Summit, MO (27) 20.932; 3. 198, Jack McCorkell, Redwood Falls, MN (32) 20.944; 4. 61, Stacy Redmond, Mason City, IA (30) 21.179; 5. 4J, Eddie Leavitt, Kearney, MO (2) 21.249; 6. 4x, Joe Saldana, Brownsburg, IN (37) 21.335; 7. 69, Billy Robison, Topeka, KS (34) 21.603; 8. 71, Don Maxwell, Lincoln, NE (33) 21.691; 9. 40, Gary Dunkle, Lincoln, NE (1) 21.696; 10. 44, Dick Sutcliffe, Raytown, MO (25) 21.794; 11. 28, Ralph Blackett, Des Moines, IA (23) 21.855; 12. 47, Mike Pinckney, Des Moines, IA (15) 21.873; 13. 62, Dick Kenny, Lincoln, NE (31) 21.947; 14. 23, Junior Gutknecht, Pleasantville, IA (19) 21.980; 15. 17, Bill Randleman, Jefferson, IA (24) 22.121; 16. 21, Mark David, Ankeny, IA (13) 22.166; 17. 5, Randy Smith, Mt. Ayr, IA (20) 22.167; 18. 77, Sonny Smyser, Glenwood, MO (12) 22.250; 19. 57, Ed Bowes, Raymond, NE (8) 22.257; 20. 7, Lloyd Beckman, Lincoln, NE (5) 22.295; 21. 30, Gary Johnson, Colfax, IA (16) 22.347; 22. 00, Rich Brahmer, Wisner, NE (3) 22.400; 23. 41, Dale Oaks, West Burlington, IA (4) 22.450; 24. 12, Mike Brooks, Knoxville, IA (18) 22.475; 25. 3, Bob Thoman, Higginsville, MO (7) 22.570; 26. 1x, Lenard McCarl, Des Moines, IA (36) 22.808; 27. 35, Harvey Grooms, Ottumwa, IA (22) 22.887; 28. 8, Tony Webster, Topeka, KS (11) 22.952; 29. 100, Dean Smith, Fort Dodge, IA (9) 23.101; 30. 54, Dan Shearen, White Bear Lake, MN (14) 23.233; 31. 81, Steve Hainline, Bonaparte, IA (21) 23.332; 32. 98, Bill Lennington, Carlisle, IA (10) 23.671; 33. 94, Rick Weld, Kansas City, MO (35) 23.743; 34. 4, Ed Grant, Canton, IL (26) 23.969; 35. 102, Mel Van Wyk, Monroe, IA (17) 25.458; 36. 82, Craig Bucklew, Columbia, MO (6) 26.316; 37. 6, Dave Butler, Cedar Rapids, IA (29) 27.507; 36. 37, Mike Thomas, Des Moines, IA (36) NT; 37. 31, John Stevenson, St. Paul, MN (37) NT.

**Trophy Dash (started), 5 laps, \*:** 1. Joe Saldana (1) 2. Eddie Leavitt (2) 3. Jack McCorkell (4) 4. Doug Wolfgang (6) 5. Gary Scott (5) 6. Stacy Redmond (3)

**Heat one (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Lloyd Beckman (7) 2. Sonny Smyser (8) 3. Bob Thoman (4) / 4. Dan Shearen (2) ... also: Bill Letting (1), Tony Webster (3), Dale Oaks (5), Lenard McCarl (6)

**Heat two (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Mike Brooks (4) 2. Steve Hainline (2) 3. Gary Johnson (6) / 4. Rich Brahmer (5) 5. Harvey Grooms (3) 6. Ed Bowes (7) 7. Dean Smith (8) 8. Rick Weld (1)

**Heat three (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Gary Scott (8) 2. Randy Smith (1) 3. Bill Randleman (2) 4. Joe Saldana (6) 5. Ralph Blackett (4) / 6. Stacy Redmond (7) 7. Dick Kenny (3) 8. Gary Dunkle (5)

**Heat four (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Eddie Leavitt (6) 2. Junior Gutknecht (2) 3. Doug Wolfgang (8) 4. Dick Sutcliffe (4) 5. Mike Pinckney (3) / 6. Jack McCorkell (7) 7. Mark David (1) 8. Billy Robison (5)

**B main (started), 10 laps, \*:** 1. Jack McCorkell (1) 2. Stacy Redmond (2) 3. Ed Bowes (6) 4. Billy Robison (3) 5. Mark David (5) / 6. Rich Brahmer (8) 7. Harvey Grooms (9) 8. Dan Shearen (12) 9. Dean Smith (11) 10. Ed Grant (15) ... also: Dick Kenny (4), Lenard McCarl (7), Tony Webster (10), Bill Letting (13), Rick Weld (14), Mel Van Wyk (16), Dave Butler (17)

A main (started), 25 laps, \*: 1. Joe Saldana (1) 2. Doug Wolfgang (6) 3. Eddie Leavitt (2) 4. Dick Sutcliffe (8) 5. Lloyd Beckman (16) 6. Jack McCorkell (4) 7. Stacy Redmond (3) 8. Sonny Smyser (14) ... also: Gary Scott (5), Billy Robison (7), Mike Pinckney (9), Junior Gutknecht (10), Bill Randleman (11), Mark David (12), Randy Smith (13), Ed Bowes (15), Gary Johnson (17), Mike Brooks (18), Bob Thoman (19), Steve Hainline (20). Lap Leader: Saldana 1-25.

## 9/5/76

#### Dick Sutcliffe Wins at Knoxville

#### **Results**

Time Trials (Qualifying Order), 2 laps: 1. 7, Lloyd Beckman, Lincoln, NE (3) 21.002; 2. 10x, Gary Scott, Holt's Summit, MO (16) 21.112; 3. 61, Stacy Redmond, Mason City, IA (1) 21.220; 4. 4x, Joe Saldana, Lincoln, NE (34) 21.220; 5. 4J, Eddie Leavitt, Kearney, MO (29) 21.376; 6. 18, Doug Wolfgang, Des Moines, IA (11) 21.441; 7. 57, Ed Bowes, Lincoln, NE (19) 21.484; 8. 28, Ralph Blackett, Des Moines, IA (7) 21.490; 9. 30, Gary Johnson, Colfax, IA (10) 21.532; 10. 44, Dick Sutcliffe, Raytown, MO (27) 21.664; 11. 5, Randy Smith, Mt. Ayr, IA (32) 21.683; 12. 71, Don Maxwell, Lincoln, NE (6) 21.767; 13. 49, Gary Dunkle, Lincoln, NE (24) 21.843; 14. 33, Jerry Blundy, Dahinda, IL (18) 21.890; 15. 23, Junior Gutknecht, Pleasantville, IA (23) 21.987; 16. 21, Mark David, Ankeny, IA (12) 22.017; 17. 00, Rich Brahmer, Wisner, NE (35) 22.057; 18. 35, Harvey Grooms, Ottumwa, IA (4) 22.113; 19. 31, John Stevenson, St. Paul, MN (33) 22.128; 20. 69, Billy Robison, Topeka, KS (37) 22.149; 21. 37, Mike Thomas, Des Moines, IA (14) 22.162; 22. 1c, Bill Curtis, Kansas City, MO (15) 22.185; 23. 77, Sonny Smyser, Glenwood, MO (30) 22.187; 24. 17, Bill Randleman, Jefferson, IA (31) 22.191; 25. 12, Mike Brooks, Knoxville, IA (36) 22.217; 26. 81, Steve Hainline, Bonaparte, IA (20) 22.252; 27. 100, Dean Smith, Fort Dodge, IA (2) 22.530; 28. 76, Mackie Heimbaugh, Des Moines, IA (13) 22.642; 29. 98, Bill Lennington, Carlisle, IA (17) 22.745; 30. 54, Dan Shearen, White Bear Lake, MN (22) 22.773; 31. 94, Rick Weld, Kansas City, MO (26) 23.217; 32. 4, Ed Grant, Canton, IL (28) 23.429; 33. 64, Bill Harshbarger, Fort Madison, IA (8) 23.914; 34. 2, Bill Miller, Pleasant Hill, IA (9) 24.252; 35. 82, Craig Bucklew, Columbia, MO (25) 25.054; 36. 6, Dave Butler, Cedar Rapids, IA (5) 25.314; 37. 8, Tony Webster, Topeka, KS (21) NT.

**Trophy Dash (started), 5 laps, \*:** 1. Eddie Leavitt (2) 2. Doug Wolfgang (1) 3. Gary Scott (5) ... also: Joe Saldana (3), Stacy Redmond (4), Lloyd Beckman (6)

**Heat one (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Rick Weld (2) 2. Harvey Grooms (7) 3. Bill Randleman (5) / 4. Bill Curtis (6) 5. Steve Hainline (4) 6. Bill Lennington (3) 7. Bill Harshbarger (1) 8. Dave Butler (8)

**Heat two (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Sonny Smyser (5) 2. John Stevenson (6) 3. Mike Thomas (4) / 4. Rich Brahmer (7) 5. Ed Grant (1) 6. Dan Shearen (2) 7. Dean Smith (3)

**Heat three (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Don Maxwell (3) 2. Jerry Blundy (2) 3. Dick Sutcliffe (4) 4. Ralph Blackett (5) 5. Joe Saldana (7) / 6. Gary Scott (8) 7. Doug Wolfgang (6) 8. Mark David (1)

**Heat four (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Eddie Leavitt (6) 2. Junior Gutknecht (1) 3. Lloyd Beckman (7) 4. Gary Dunkle (2) 5. Randy Smith (3) / 6. Gary Johnson (4) 7. Ed Bowes (5)

**B main (started), 10 laps, \*:** 1. Ed Bowes (3) 2. Gary Johnson (4) 3. Rich Brahmer (6) 4. Steve Hainline (9) / 5. Ed Grant (13) 6. Bill Lennington (11) 7. Dan Shearen (12) 8. Dean Smith (10) ... also: Gary Scott (1), Doug Wolfgang (2), Mark David (5), Billy Robison (7), Bill Curtis (8), Bill Harshbarger (14), Bill Miller (15), Craig Bucklew (16), Dave Butler (17)

A main (started), 25 laps, \*: 1. Dick Sutcliffe (2) 2. Eddie Leavitt (4) 3. Lloyd Beckman (6) 4. Joe Saldana (5) 5. Don Maxwell (8) 6. Gary Johnson (1) 7. Gary Dunkle (9) 8. 57, Doug Wolfgang (3) 9. Sonny Smyser (16) 10. Randy Smith (7) ... also: Jerry Blundy (10), Junior Gutknecht (11), Rich Brahmer (12), Harvey Grooms (13), John Stevenson (14), Mike Thomas (15), Bill Randleman (17), Steve Hainline (18), Rick Weld (19) DNS – Ralph Blackett. Lap Leaders\*: Sutcliffe -25.

#### 9/6/76

# **Eddie Leavitt Masters Knoxville Again** by Wayne Grett

Knoxville, IA – There is something about special races at the Marion County Fairgrounds here that turns Eddie Leavitt on.

The driver from Kearney, Missouri won the 25-lap sprint car feature Monday night and claimed the overall point championship in the Labor Day Classic races.

He had finished second in the feature over the one-half mile dirt track Sunday night, and finished third in the opener of the three-night program.

The races were marred Sunday night, when Bill Randleman of Jefferson was seriously injured in the the feature. He was reported in seroiuos condition Tuesday at Mercy Hospital in Des Moines with a crushed left arm, broken right arm, broken clavicle and a concussion.

More that \$1,400 was collected at the track Monday night for Randleman, whose super-modified racer hurdled two fences at the State Fair a few years back, landed in the midway, and killed a woman.

Mike Pinckney of Des Moines also suffered a possible concussion in another crash here Sunday, but he was released from the hospital after treatment.

Leavitt, who also has won the past two national super-modified championships at Knoxville, credits goodworking cars for his success.

"It was working fine tonight," he said. "I had no problems at all."

He took the lead on the second lap and increased it to approximately 100 yards over second-place finisher Doug Wolfgang of Des Moines.

Gary Dunkle of Lincoln, Nebraska, finished third; Ralph Blackett of Des Moines was fourth, and Dick Sutcliffe of Raytown, Missouri was fifth.

Sutcliffe won Sunday night's feature and finished fourth in Saturday night's feature to claim second in overall points.

Leavitt finished with 620 points, followed by Sutcliffe with 510, Wolfgang 485, Sonny Smyser of Glenwood, Missouri, 420, Lloyd Beckman of Lincoln, Nebraska, 385, Blackett 315, Rich Brahmer of Wisner, Nebraska, 295, Dunkle 270, Joe Saldana of Brownsburg, Indiana, 265, and Gary Scott of Holt's Summit, Missouri, 260.

Leavitt earned \$800 as overall champ.

One of the amazing things about Wolfgang's overall finish was that he didn't compete Sunday night. His motor blew during hot laps, but his crew was able to replace it. Then he had some wheel problems and couldn't get the necessary part. He had been second Saturday night.

Race Director P. Ray Grimes termed the three-day venture "successful," but said he was disappointed with the crowds. He estimated Saturday night's crowd at 2,500. Monday night's was estimated at 1,000, and he said it was a little better than the Sunday night attendance.

#### Results

Time Trials (Qualifying Order), 2 laps: 1. 4J, Eddie Leavitt, Kearney, MO (10) 21.043; 2. 98, Dick Sutcliffe, Raytown, MO (19) 21.303; 3. 40, Gary Dunkle, Lincoln, NE (6) 21.321; 4. 12, Mike Brooks, Knoxville, IA (22) 21.611; 5. 1x, Lenard McCarl, Des Moines, IA (4) 21.828; 6. 5, Randy Smith, Mt. Ayr, IA (13) 21.857; 7. 71, Don Maxwell, Lincoln, NE (2) 21.896; 8. 198, Jack McCorkell, Redwood Falls, MN (8) 22.009; 9. 77, Sonny Smyser, Glenwood, MO (14) 22.162; 10. 00, Rich Brahmer, Wisner, NE (3) 22.198; 11. 16, Cliff Woodward, Kearney, MO (20) 22.354; 12. 69, Billy Robison, Topeka, KS (1) 22.414; 13. 94, Rick Weld, Kansas City, MO (18) 22.472; 14. 81, Steve Hainline, Bonaparte, IA (17) 23.495; 15. 4, Ed Grant, Canton, IL (15) 23.823; 16. 54, Dan Shearen, White Bear Lake, MN (9) 23.895; 17. 37, Mike Thomas, Des Moines, IA (5) 24.345; 18. 82, Craig Bucklew, Columbia, MO (16) 24.957; 19. 64, Bill Harshbarger, Fort Madison, IA (7) 25.284; 20. 102, Mel Van Wyk, Monroe, IA (11) 25.706; 21. 6, Dave Butler, Cedar Rapids, IA (12 27.633; 22. 2x, Jerry Frantzen, Windom, MN (21) NT. (11 additional cars ran on Sunday night's qualifying time trials).

**Trophy Dash** (started), 5 laps: 1. 18, Doug Wolfgang, Des Moines, IA (1) 2. Gary Dunkle (2) 3. Eddie Leavitt (5) 4. 10, Gary Scott, Holt's Summit, MO (4) 5. Dick Sutcliffe (3) 6. 7, Lloyd Beckman, Lincoln, NE (6)

**Heat one (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Cliff Woodward (6) 2. Mike Thomas (3) 3. 1c, Bill Curtis, Kansas City, MO (7) 4. 35, Harvey Grooms, Ottumwa, IA (8) 5. Ed Grant (4) 6. Bill Harshbarger (2) 7. 100, Dean Smith, Fort Dodge, IA (5) 8. Dave Butler (1)

**Heat two (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Rich Brahmer (6) 2. Steve Hainline (4) 3. Sonny Smyser (7) 4. Rick Weld (5) 5. Mel Van Wyk (1) 6. Craig Bucklew (2) ... also: Dan Shearen (3), Jerry Frantzen (8)

**Heat three (started), 8 laps, \*:** 1. Eddie Leavitt (8) 2. Dick Sutcliffe (7) 3. 23, Junior Gutknecht, Pleasantville, IA (2) 4. Doug Wolfgang (6) 5. Mike Brooks (4) 6. Randy Smith (3) ... also: 21, Mark David, Ankeny, IA (1), 28, Ralph Blackett, Des Moines, IA (5)

Heat four (started), 8 laps, \*: 1. Don Maxwell (2) 2. Gary Dunkle (6) 3. Jack McCorkell (1) 4. Lenard McCarl (3) 5. Lloyd Beckman (8) 6. 57, Ed Bowes, Lincoln, NE (5) 7. Gary Scott (7) 8. 30, Gary Johnson, Colfax, IA (4)

**B main (started), 10 laps, \*:** 1. Ed Bowes (2) 2. Ralph Blackett (3) 3. Randy Smith (5) 4. Gary Johnson (4) 5. Rick Weld (8) 6. Gary Scott (1) 7. Harvey Grooms (7) 8. Bill Harshbarger (12) 9. Ed Grant (10) 10. Craig Bucklew (14) 11. Dan Shearen (11) 12. Dean Smith (9) 13. Mel Van Wyk (13) 14. Mark David (6)

A main (started), 25 laps, \*: 1. Eddie Leavitt (5) 2. Doug Wolfgang (2) 3. Gary Dunkle (3) 4. Ralph Blackett (7) 5. Dick Sutcliffe (4) 6. Mike Brooks (9) 7. Lloyd Beckman (6) 8. Jack McCorkell (14) 9. Lenard McCarl (10) 10. Sonny Smyser (15) 11. Randy Smith (11) 12. Rich Brahmer (17) 13. Cliff Woodward (18) 14. Steve Hainline (19) ... also: Ed Bowes (1), Gary Johnson (8), Don Maxwell (12), Junior Gutknecht (13), Bill Curtis (16), Mike Thomas (20). Lap Leaders: Wolfgang 1, Leavitt 2-25.

#### 9/9/76

## **Fall Jamboree Qualifying**

#### **Late Model Results**

Time Trials (Qualifying Order), 2 laps: 1. 77x, Dave Srock, Chesterfield, PA (10) 23.075 (NTR); 2. 39, Joe Merryfield, Des Moines, IA (24) 23.227; 3. 31, Dave Chase, Council Bluffs, IA (11) 23.539; 4. 01, Fred Horn, Marion, IA (4) 23.596; 5. 95, Ed Sanger, Waterloo, IA (12) 23.619; 6. 6, Bill Zwanziger, Cedar Rapids, IA (1) 23.721; 7. 15, Bob Bonzer, Lipscomb, IA (17) 23.790; 8. 38, John Connelly, Delhi, IA (20) 23.809; 9. 42, Doug Keanimer, Dahlonega, GA (16) 23.826; 10. 02, Kenny Walton, Cedar Rapids, IA (13) 23.871; 11. 64x, Verlin Eakers, Cedar Rapids, IA (3) 23.90; 12. 85, Bill Rice, Des Moines, IA (26) 23.93; 13. 51, Kent Tucker, Aurora, NE (19) 24.09; 14. 27, CC Corbin, Alton, IL (14) 24.33; 15. 89, Jim Wilson, Des Moines, IA (7) 24.43; 16. 1, Lefty Robinson, Des Moines, IA (22) 24.42; 17. 10, Larry Wasserfert, Waterloo, IA (25) 24.48; 18. 0, Dan Dickey, Packwood, IA (9) 24.53; 19. 94, Karl Sanger, Waterloo, IA (21) 24.62; 20. 11, Ron Jackson, Burlington, IA (2) 24.65; 21. 40, Dan Wallace, Des Moines, IA (23) 24.80; 22. 3, Joe Wade, Bennett, NE (6) 24.87; 23. 9x, Jay Stearns, Lincoln, NE (8) 25.12; 24. 88, Don Droud, Lincoln, NE (15) 25.14; 25. 07, Dick Clavin, Glenwood, IA (18) 25.28; 26. 80, George Barton, Ankeny, IA (5) 25.34.

Fast Dash (started), 8 laps, \*: 1. Joe Merryfield (2) 2. Dave Chase (3) 3. Bill Zwanziger (6) 4. Ed Sanger (5) 5. Dave Srock (1) 6. Fred Horn (4)

**Heat one** (started), \*: 1. Kenny Walton (2) 2. Kent Tucker (1) 3. Karl Sanger (3) 4. Dick Clavin (5) 5. Jim Wilkson (4) 6. Joe Wade (6)

**Heat two (started), \*:** 1. Verlin Eakers (2) 2. John Connelly (1) 3. Larry Wasserfert (4) 4. CC Corbin (3) 5. Jay Stearns (6) 6. George Barton (5) 7. Ron Jackson (7)

**Heat three (started), \*:** 1. Doug Keanimer (1) 2. Bill Rice (2) 3. Dan Dickey (4) 4. Don Droud (6) 5. Lefty Robinson (3) 6. Dan Wallace (5)

## **Sportsman Results**

**Time Trials**, **2 laps**: 1. Gail Brenner, Wilton, IA, 23.958; 2. Ernie Derr, Keokuk, IA, 24.055; 3. Larry Embry, Granger, IA, 24.089; 4. Dave Farren, Des Moines, IA, 24.107; 5. Kenny Finn, Washington, IA, 24.118; 6. Bill Davis, Des Moines, IA, 24.158; 7. Jack Mitchell, Cedar Falls, IA, 24.454; 8. Dan Beavers, Tracy, IA, 24.465; 9. Red Dralle, Waterloo, IA, 24.477; 10. Bill Geil, Stuart, IA, 24.688 ... \*

**Fast Dash (started):** 1. Ernie Derr (2) 2. Bill Davis (6) 3. Dave Farren (4) 4. Larry Embry (3) 5. Kenny Finn (5) 6. Gail Brenner (1)

**Heat one:** 1. Jack Mitchell, Cedar Falls, IA; 2. Bill Geil, Stuart, IA; 3. Dennis Rosenberg, Grimes, IA; 4. Dave Wheeler, Davenport, IA; 5. Randy McGraw, Marshall, MO; 6. Ken Paulding, Des Moines, IA; 7. Jim Exxum, Albuquerque, NM; 8. LB O'Brien, Letts, IA; 9. Rick Manson, Chariton, IA; 10. Leo Franklin, Keosaqua, IA

**Heat two:** 1. Rick Merryfield, Des Moines, IA; 2. Dan Beavers, Tracy, IA; 3. Len Woodard, Des Moines, IA; 4. Mike Wheeler, Davenport, IA; 5. Dave Jones, Des Moines, IA; 6. Herb Post, Des Moines, IA; 7. Bert Griffin, Alton, IL; 8. Loyd Henderson, Dallas Center, IA; 9. Butch Cole, Kewanee, IL; 10. Chuck Rogers Jr., Redfield, IA

**Heat three:** 1. Red Dralle, Waterloo, IA; 2. Joe Ross, Mechanicsburg, IL; 3. Jim Hallenbeck, Burlington, IA; 4. Wayne Cunningham, Chillicothe, MO; 5. Denny Bank, Washington, IA; 6. Darrell DeFrance, Marshalltown, IA; 7. Steve Johnson, Orin, IL; 8. Jerry Parker, Clearfield, IA; 9. Bob Nishman, Des Moines, IA; 10. Don Sonner, Des Moines, IA

## 9/10/76

## **Fall Jamboree Qualifying**

#### **Late Model Results**

Time Trials (Qualifying Order), 2 laps: 1. 4, Joe Wallace, Kansas City, MO (22) 23.902; 2. 76, Steve Kepler, Marion, IA (3) 24.048; 3. 82, Emery Fretheim, Decorah, IA (17) 24.099; 4. 2x, Bob Kosiski, Omaha, NE (19) 24.128; 5. 75, Bob McCall, Ottumwa, IA (21) 24.199; 6. 67, Danny Dean, Mt. Vernon, OH (29) 24.204; 7. 2, Don Hoffman, Des Moines, IA (10) 24.215; 8. 58, Bob Helms, Des Moines, IA (28 24.225; 9. 51, Roger Dolan, Lisbon, IA (31) 24.238; 10. 11, Galen Schaffer, Topeka, KS (25) 24.326; 11. 31x, Darrell Sells, Waverly, IA (20) 24.34; 12. 3x, Jerry Wancewicz, Malvern, IA (23) 24.34; 13. 47, Greg Spitman, Council Bluffs, IA (18) 24.34; 14. 56x, Bob Hesse, Waterloo, IA (27) 24.38; 15. 49, Stan Stover, Reinbeck, IA (26) 24.54; 16. 62, John Oswalt, Kansas City, KS (11) 24.585; 17. 29, Dick Elliott, Mt. Ayr, IA (24) 24.61; 18. 26, Bill Martin, Council Bluffs, IA (9) 24.64; 19. 97, Dave Dodder, Letts, IA (8) 24.67; 20. 42x, Fred Knapp, Des Moines, IA (12) 24.70; 21. 6x, Al Humphrey, Geltner, NE (14) 24.75; 22. 64, Johnny Babb, Ottumwa, IA (30) 24.77; 23. 9, Curt Hanson, Dike, IA (32) 24.80; 24. 61, Jim Roberts, Homan, MI (15) 24.83; 25. 5, Bill Beckman, Cedar Rapids, IA (6) 24.84; 26. 65, Mike Frieden, Cedar Rapids, IA (1) 24.91; 27. 1x, Don Styskal, Fremont, NE (5) 24.91; 28. 56, Gary Webb, Davenport, IA (16) 25.01; 29. 45, Dale Light, Des Moines, IA (13) 25.04; 30. 98, Johnny Roberts Jr., Omaha, NE (2) 25.27; 31. 14, Don Benge, Des Moines, IA (4) 25.45; 32. 44, Bill Collins, Ellsberry, MO (7) 26.15.

**Fast Dash** (**started**), **8 laps:** 1. Joe Wallace (1) 2. Steve Kepler (2) 3. Bob Kosiski (4) 4. Emery Fretheim (3) 5. Bob McCall (5) 6. Danny Dean (6)

**Heat one (started), \*:** 1. Don Hoffman (1) 2. Galen Schaffer (2) 3. John Oswalt (4) 4. Johnny Babb (6) 5. Dave Dodder (5) 6. Bill Beckman (7) 7. Gary Webb (8) 8. Greg Spitman (3) 9. Johnny Roberts Jr. (9)

**Heat two (started), \*:** 1. Curt Hansen (6) 2. Bob Helms (1) 3. Fred Knapp (5) 4. Darrell Sells (2) 5. Dale Light (8) 6. Don Benge (9) 7. Bob Hesse (3) 8. Mike Frieden (7) 9. Dick Elliott (4)

**Heat three (started), \*:** 1. Roger Dolan (1) 2. Jim Roberts (6) 3. Bill Martin (4) 4. Al Humphrey (3) 5. Jerry Wancewicz (2) 6. Don Styskal (5) 7. Bill Collins (8) 8. Stan Stover (7)

#### **Sportsman Results**

**Time Trials, 2 laps:** 1. Gary Crawford, Independence, IA, 24.434; 2. Herb Shannon, Peoria, IL, 24.758; 3. Denny Osborne, Cedar Falls, IA, 24.909; 4. Rocky Hodges, Des Moines, IA, 24.930; 5. Jim Anderson, Des Moines, IA, 24.969; 6. Bob Kisella, Dubuque, IA, 25.006; 7. Glenn Woodard, Des Moines, IA, 25.035; 8. Dave Wall, Kansas City, KS, 25.072; 9, Ken Davidson, Des Moines, IA, 25.112; 10. Charlie Moubry, Edina, MO, 25.188, ...\*

**Fast Dash** (started): 1. Gary Crawford (1) 2. Denny Osborne (3) 3. Rocky Hodges (4) 4. Herb Shannon (2) 5. Bob Kisella (6) 6. Jim Anderson (5)

**Heat one:** 1. Glenn Woodard 2. Jerry Campbell, Des Moines, IA 3. Jim Whisler, Kansas City, Kansas 4. Charlie Moubry 5. Sonny Smyser, Lancaster, MO 6. Marion Sherman, Tracy, IA 7. Robin Ferguson, Kirksville, MO 8. Del Enos, Des Moines, IA 9. Woody Holsey, Marshall, MO 10. Ray Johnson, Des Moines, IA

**Heat two:** 1. Wayne Lansing, Rockford, IL 2. Ivan Long, Pittsfield, IL 3. Dave Wall 4. Jim Buhman, Davenport, IA 5. Bill Carter, Des Moines, IA 6. Bill Early, Edina, MO 7. Larry Hyatt, Clarinda, IA 8. Mark Keltner, Morning Sun, IA 9. Rex Num, Lincoln, NE 10. Wayne Kirk, Blair, NE

**Heat three:** 1. Ken Davidson 2. Cal Swanson, Reinbeck, IA 3. Bob Goulden, Kansas City, KS 4. Parry Kadous, Topeka, KS 5. Keith Pittman, Waterloo, IA 6. Chuck Rogers, Redfield, IA 7. Gary Bielema, Calona, IL 8. Jim Heap, Stronghurst, IL 9. Bill Metcalf, Dowds, IA 10. John Edwards, Des Moines, IA

## 9/11/76

# Fall Jamboree Finale by Lee Ackerman

In 1976, Joe Wallace now racing out of Kansas City, Missouri returned to the Fall Jamboree and made up for his disappointing showing of the year before. When the smoke cleared Wallace was in victory lane with a big check for \$4,000. Wallace led the entire 50 laps of the September 11 event. Steve Keppler of Marion held second throughout the event and took home \$2,000 for his efforts. Don Hoffman of Des Moines started deep in the field and finished third. Joe Merryfield of Des Moines was fourth and fast qualifier Dave Srock finished fifth.

Jerry Wancewicz of Omaha, Nebraska won the B feature with Bill Martin of Council Bluffs second and John Oswaldt of Kansas City third.

The accompanying Sportsman feature saw Gary Crawford of Independence, Iowa take the lead on lap six and lead the remainder of the way. Denny Osborn of Cedar Falls was second, Herb Shannon of Peoria, Illinois third, Rocky Hodges of Des Moines fourth and the legendary Ernie Derr of Keokuk fifth.

On Thursday, September 9, Dave Srock of Pennsylvania had set fast time. Joe Merryfield won the dash over Dave Chase and Bill Zwanziger. Heats were won by Ken Walton of Viola over Kent Tucker, Verlin Eaker over John Connolly and Doug Kenimer of Dahlonega, Georgia over Bill Rice of Des Moines.

On Friday night Don Hoffman had ran a flawless heat race defeating Galen Schafer by about quarter of a lap. Fred Knapp of Des Moines won the second heat and Curt Hansen of Dike the third heat.

#### **Late Model Results**

**B main (started), 25 laps, \*:** 1. 3x, Jerry Wancewicz, Malvern, IA (4) 2. 26, Bill Martin, Council Bluffs, IA (8) / 3. 62, John Oswalt, Kansas City, Kansas (6) 4. 94, Karl Sanger, Waterloo, IA (5) 5. 10, Larry Wasseford, Waterloo, IA (1) 6. 97, Dave Dodder, Letts, IA (10) 7. 6x, Al Humphrey, Giltner, NE (14) 8. 47, Greg Spetman, Council Bluffs, IA (23) 9. 9x, Jay Stearns, Lincoln, NE (9) 10. 31x, Darrell Sells, Waverly, IA (2) 11. 49, Stan Stover, Reinbeck, IA (24) 12. 15, Bob Bonzer, Liscomb, IA (15) 13. \* 14. 45, Dale Light, Des Moines, IA (20) 15. 64, Johnny Babb, Ottumwa, IA (16) 16. 0, Dan Dickey, Packwood, IA (3) 17. 1x, Don Styskal, Fremont, NE (18) 18. 56x, Bob Hesse, Waterloo, IA (17) 19. 14, Don Benge, Omaha, NE (22) 20. 98, Johnny Roberts Jr.,

Holmes, MI (19) ... \*also: 3, Joe Wade, Bennett, NE (7); 88, Don Droud, Lincoln, NE (11); 42x, Fred Knapp, Des Moines, IA (12); 07, Dick Clavin, Glenwood, IA (13); 56, Gary Webb, Davenport, IA (21)

A main (started), 50 laps, \*: 1. 4, Joe Wallace, Kansas City, MO (2) 2. 76, Steve Kepler, Marion, IA (4) 3. 2, Don Hoffman, Des Moines, IA (14) 4. 39, Joe Merryfield, Des Moines, IA (3) 5. 77x, Dave Srock, Chesterfield, PA (1) 6. 9, Curt Hansen, Dike, IA (22) 7. 31, Dave Chase, Council Bluffs, IA (5) 8. 85, Bill Rice, Des Moines, IA (17) 9. 75, Bob McCall, Ottumwa, IA (10) 10. 51, Roger Dolan, Lisbon, IA (18) 11. 6, Bill Zwanziger, Cedar Rapids, IA (11) 12. 38, John Connelly, Delhi, IA (13) 13. 58, Bob Helms, Omaha, NE (16) 14. 82, Emery Fretheim, Decorah, IA (6) 15. Bill Martin (26) 16. Jerry Wancewicz (25) 17. 11, Galen Schaffer, Topeka, KS Aurora, NE (19) 21. 95, Ed Sanger, Waterloo, IA (9) 22. 01, Fred Horn, Marion, IA (7) 23. 61, Jim Roberts, Holmes, MI (24) 24. 89, Jim Wilson, Des Moines, IA (23) 25. 67, Danny Dean, Mt. Vernon, OH (12) 26. 42, Doug Keanimer, Dahlonega, GA (15)

## **Sportsman Results**

**B main:** 1. Dave Wall, Kansas City, KS 2. Jim Whisler, Kansas City, KS / 3. Bob Goulden, Kansas City, MO 4. Keith Pittman, Waterloo, IA 5. Wayne Cunningham, Chillicothe, MO 6. Perry Kadous, Topeka, KS 7. Dennis Banks, Washington, IA 8. Dennis Rosenberg, Grimes, IA 9. Dave Wheeler, Davenport, IA 10. Ken Paulding, Des Moines, IA 11. Mike Wheeler, Davenport, IA 12. Bill Carter, Des Moines, IA 13. Randy McGraw, Marshall, MO 14. Herb Post, Des Moines, IA 15. Chuck Rogers, Redfield, IA 16. Dave Jones, Des Moines, IA 17. Kenny Finn, Washington, IA 18. Jim Exum, Albuquerque, NM 19. Len Woodard, Des Moines, IA 20. Larry Hiatt, Clarinda, IA 21. Butch Cole, Kewanee, IL 22. Steve Johnson, Orion, IL 23. Sonny Smyser, Lancaster, MO 24. Charlie Moubry, Edina, MO 25. Dale DeFrance, Marshalltown, IA 26. Wayne Kirk, Blair, NE

A main: 1. Gary Crawford, Independence, IA 2. Denny Osborne, Cedar Falls, IA 3. Herb Shannon, Peoria, IL 4. Rocky Hodges, Des Moines, IA 5. Ernie Derr, Keokuk, IA 6. Bob Kisella, Dubuque, IA 7. Larry Embry, Dallas Center, IA 8. Dave Farren, Des Moines, IA 9. Red Dralle, Waterloo, IA 10. Ken Davidson, Des Moines, IA 11. Glenn Woodard, Des Moines, IA 12. Jack Mitchell, Cedar Falls, IA 13. Dave Wall 14. Rick Merryfield, Des Moines, IA 15. Bill Davis, Des Moines, IA 16. Wayne Lansing, Rockford, IL 17. Jerry Campbell, Des Moines, IA 18. Joe Ross, Mechanicsburg, IL 19. Jim Whisler 20. Gail Brenner, Wilton, IA 21. Cal Swanson, Reinbeck, IA 22. Dan Beavers, Tracy, IA 23. Bill Geil, Stuart, IA 24. Ivan Long, Pittsfield, IL 25. Jim Anderson, Des Moines, IA 26. Kenny Finn, Washington, IA

#### 1976 Final Point Standings and Feature Winners:

| Driver                           | Feature Wins<br>(Feature Laps Led*) | Points | Primary car(s)                       |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Doug Wolfgang                 | 7 (106)                             | 1480   | Van Patten 18                        |
| 2. Dick Morris                   | 0 (3)                               | 1305   | Morris 49                            |
| 3. Bill Mellenberndt             | 1 (53)                              | 1245   | Mellenberndt Nashville Club 97       |
| 4. Don Maxwell                   | 0 (4)                               | 980    | Maxwell 71                           |
| <ol><li>Dick Sutcliffe</li></ol> | 1 (28)                              | 895    | Kain 98                              |
| 6. Gary Dunkle                   | 3 (98)                              | 885    | Dunkle 34                            |
| 7. Eddie Leavitt                 | 5 (87)                              | 855    | Aden 4J, Moulin1x, R&H Farms 40      |
| 8. Gary Johnson                  | -                                   | 795    | Wood 15, Utt Electric 30             |
| <ol><li>Stacy Redmond</li></ol>  | -                                   | 720    | Demay Y Aircraft Adjustment Corp. 61 |
| 10. John Stevenson               | -                                   | 715    | Bethke 31                            |
| 11. Lenard McCarl                | 0 (6)                               | 620    | McCarl 7x, Moulin 1x                 |
| 12. Butch Bahr                   | -                                   | 595    | Bahr Engineering 25                  |
| 13. Dennis Olson                 | -                                   | 575    | Stull 59                             |
| 14. Mike Thomas                  | -                                   | 545    | Thomas 37                            |
|                                  |                                     |        |                                      |

| 15. Randy Smith      | - | 535 | Smith 5, Moulin 1x               |
|----------------------|---|-----|----------------------------------|
| 16. Billy Robison    | - | 525 | Johnson 81, 69, Conyers/Ward 34x |
| 17. Sonny Smyser     | - | 515 | Keller 77                        |
| 18. Mike Brooks      | - | 495 | Robuck 12                        |
| 19. Steve Hainline   | - | 440 | Rogerson 10, Johnson 81          |
| 20. Mackie Heimbaugh | - | 420 | Seidenkranz 76, McCarl 7x        |
| 21. John McClure     | - | 395 | McClure 24                       |
| 22. Dick Kenny       | - | 385 | Kenny 62                         |
| 23. Harvey Grooms    | - | 325 | Insko 35, Grooms 6               |
| 24. Lloyd Beckman    | - | 315 | Gessford/Edwards 7               |
| 25. Mike Pinckney    | - | 275 | Sonner 47                        |

Other Feature Winners (lap leaders): Joe Saldana 1 (25), Ron Rea 1 (20), Fred Linder 0 (6)

<sup>\*</sup>Incomplete Data