

5/7/11 RAIN STOPS SUBWAY FRESH FIT 150 ASHLEY AND GRAY SCORE WINS BEFORE RAIN

Canaan Fair Speedway opened the doors on a new season on Saturday night, with what was supposed to be one of the biggest races of the season. The Subway Fresh Fit 150 presented by Bond Auto Parts, for New England Outdoor Furnaces and Bly Machine for A.C.T. type late models, was the feature that everyone was waiting for, but unfortunately weather became an issue as the night rolled on. A steady sprinkle turned into a downpour and created a two hour delay in the program during the "B" feature for the ACT Late Models. After the delay the "B" feature was completed and the lineup was set for the Subway Fresh Fit 150. Twenty-Six drivers made up the starting lineup, but just moments before the field was supposed to take the green another steady sprinkle forced the tough decision of pulling the plug on the night and postponing the Subway Fresh Fit 150 to Sunday, June 5th.

However there was some great racing in the qualifying heats, consolation races, and the "B" feature. The 37 cars were separated into three heats with the top three in each heat automatically qualifying for the feature, and qualifying for a re-draw to determine the first nine positions of the starting lineup. In the first heat the #99 of Mark Merrill spun on the front stretch with a little help from behind and took a hard hit into the protective tires around one of the light poles in the infield. The #00 of A.J. Panessiti also went for a spin in turns one and two, and there was an incident between the #27 of Chris Bergeron and the #37 of Chris Riendeau that sent Bergeron up into the grass in turns 3 and 4. After things calmed down Joey Polewarczyk Jr. took over in the #97NH and won the first heat race while Wayne Helliwell Jr. in the #27NH took second and the #10QC of Stephane Descoste transferred through to the feature. Both the second and third heat races went caution free and the top three in the second heat were Brian Hoar in the #37VT, Brad Leighton in the #14 and the #78NH of Quinney Welch. In the third heat race it was the Cornish Comet, Bucky Demers taking the win in the #26, the #34NH of Todd Davis finishing second and the #22 of Mike Bruno taking third. Davis and Bruno ran side-by-side in a great battle for the second spot which lasted for the majority of the heat race.

The consolation races were next for the ACT Late Models and both went caution free. Transferring to the feature from the first consi were Aaron Fellows, Joey Laquerre, Scott MacMichael, Luke Hinkley, Donald Theetge and Glenn Martel. In through the second were Jeremy Davis, Donnie Lashua, Allen Fellows, Stacy Cahoon, Bruce Jaycox, and Chris Bergeron. These drivers, along with the top three from each heat race will make up the top 21 positions in the starting lineup on June 5th. The "B" feature did not go as smooth as the consolation races as it featured a three car incident on the front stretch and a very long rain delay. There was also a scuffle between the #17 of Eddie MacDonald and the #37NC of Chris Reindeau, as Reindeau moved MacDonald out of the way and a couple laps later the

favor was returned by MacDonald as the #37NC was sent spinning in turn #3. After Reindeau's spin both restarted in the rear of the field and ended up finishing 6th and 7th in the "B" Feature. The top four finishers in the "B" feature were Pat Floyd, J.R. Baril, Tyler Cahoon, and Fulton Mountain. These drivers transferred into the Subway Fresh Fit 150 and will start from the back when the race is run on June 5th.

The only two features that were completed were the Daredevils, and the Bandits. The daredevils featured a great three way battle for the win between the #4 of Mariah Gray, the # 37 of Zac Fraser, and the #15 of Jessica Darling. Mariah Gray took the win and Fraser took second. Jessica Darling got loose in turn three going for second position on the last lap but made an incredible save to hold on to her third place finish.

The Bandit division featured a last lap pass for the win by the #00 of Kristen Ashley. Running second coming out of turn two, the field was in heavy lapped traffic that allowed Ashley to sneak under race leader Michael Parker and challengers Doug Boucher and Kodi Sabins to grab an unbelievable storybook ending, one that Ashley couldn't believe in victory lane. It was a move even she couldn't believe worked, but she was able to get her first victory of the season, and it put all the fans in the grandstands on the edge of their seats. Parker held on for second, Kodi Sabins third, Tim Coates fourth and Doug Boucher slipped to fifth. Parker won the qualifier.

Join us next Saturday, May 14th for our second race of the season, and NAPA night which will feature the first Pro Stock race of the season. Post time is 6PM. Don't forget that on Sunday, June 5th at 2pm, the Subway Fresh Fit 150 presented by Bond Auto Parts, for New England Outdoor Furnaces and Bly Machine will be run with the #14 of Brad Leighton starting from the pole. Also on the card will be features for the Super Streets, Pure Stocks, and Daredevils.

Canaan Fair Speedway's are located on Orange Road, just off from Route 118 in Canaan, New Hampshire. For more information visit the track website at www.canaanspeedways.com, or call the track hotline at 603-523-4502.

Dallas Trombley