Stutts Stuns With Outlaws Williams Grove Win

Local driver scores \$17,000 in round one of Summer Nationals

Mechanicsburg – TJ Stutts of Liverpool upended the World of Outlaws Sprint Cars Series stars at Williams Grove Speedway on Friday night to score a \$17,000 victory, holding off the circuits hottest driver and point leader, David Gravel.

Stutts' win came in the make-up Morgan Cup event portion of the two-day C & D Rigging Summer Nationals and as a result the trophy cup itself will now spend the upcoming year at the offices of Williams Grove Speedway.

The win was by far the biggest of his career in both money and stature, having never before claimed an outlaws main event.

Stutts would end up wiring the field aboard his No. 11T from the second starting position but that's not to say he didn't have his struggles picking up the win.

He raced with and had to thwart off the attacks of Connecticut's Gravel during the 25-lap feature.

In fact, for most of the event Stutts' advantage over Gravel was rarely more than a half-second as Gravel kept the leader close and within striking distance.

Gravel did take the lead once, on lap 20, with a diving move underneath Stutts in the third turn only to see Stutts turn his car down off of the cushion and reclaim the spot as the pair raced toward the flag stand.

Stutts' winning machine kept Gravel guessing on a line of attack throughout the race as the leader changed lanes and lines around the speedway with the passing of each lap, keeping Gravel on his toes.

Aside from the initial start, Stutts held Gravel off on two restarts on laps nine and 10 to maintain control.

"We beat the outlaws," said Stutts upon climbing down from atop his cars wing.

"And not just any outlaw, David Gravel!"

"You gotta' understand, we just go to work every day. This (racing) is our version of golf," Stutts quipped.

During the final five laps Stutts began working the rear of the field and at that point he did open up more of a lead over his challenger.

"The lapped cars just fell right," he said.

"The longer we went, we kept getting better and better," he said of his car.

Late in the race, Anthony Macri and Carson Macedo got stuck in a race for third, exchanging the spot a few times before Macedo sealed it up during the final two laps.

Macri finished fourth followed by Freddie Rahmer.

Sixth through 10th went to Gio Scelzi, Troy Wagaman Jr., Brent Marks, Justin Peck and Danny Dietrich.

Heats went to Scelzi, Macri, Macedo and Stutts with Gravel claiming the dash to earn the pole position for the feature.

Lucas Wolfe won the B Main.

Gravel set fast time with a lap of 16.676 seconds.

Feature Finishes

410 sprints, 25 laps: 1. TJ Stutts, 2. David Gravel, 3. Carson Macedo, 4. Anthony Macri, 5. Freddie Rahmer, 6. Gio Scelzi, 7. Troy Wagaman Jr., 8. Brent Marks, 9. Justin Peck, 10. Danny Dietrich, 11. Donny Schatz, 12. Jacob Allen, 13. Sheldon Haudenschild, 14. Spencer Bayston, 15. Brock Zearfoss, 16. Logan Schuchart, 17. Cory Eliason, 18. Chase Dietz, 19. Michael Kofoid, 20. Lucas Wolfe, 21. Justin Whittall, 22. Austin Bishop, 23. Kelby Watt, 24. Landon Crawley, 25. Kraig Kinser, 26. Daryn Pittman

DNQ: Chad Trout, Michael Walter, Bill Balog, Steve Buckwalter, Lance Dewease, Aaron Bollinger, Jessie Attard, Kody Hartlaub