

PRP Press Release – May 30, 2015 – DARF Night

A 73-year-old veteran dominated. Three defending track champions returned to form. And, a Limited Late Model driver took a ride he won't soon forget.

Portsmouth Raceway Park hosted a good crowd Saturday for Dayton Auto Racing Fan Club Night. The second race of PRP's young season certainly provided plenty of entertainment.

Wheelersburg's Delmas Conley took the checkered flag in the Giovanni's Pizza Late Models. Todd Robinson survived a battle of attrition to win the R.W. Rental and Supply Modified A-Main. Mike Meyers cruised to the victory in the O'Reilly Auto Parts Limited Late Models, and Zack Pendleton held on to win in the M & M Inflatables Bombers.

In the Late Models, Delmas Conley once again proved that age is just a number, but Saturday evening the 73-year-old who has been racing for 50 years had more significant figures to worry about. Among those numbers were one, 25, and 2,000 because Conley led all 25 laps of the Late Model feature en route to the \$2,000-dollar prize.

The 1993 PRP Track Champ and 2003 Dirt Late Model Hall of Fame Inductee started third but got a great start and passed both cars in the front row on the first lap. He never looked back and was never seriously contested. Despite his car running a little hot and smoking early on, it was a rather drama-free race for Conley. In the first two races of the PRP season, Delmas Conley has yet to finish outside the top two.

While he had everything under control up front, the racing behind him was extremely competitive. Minford's Audie Swartz made a bold move on lap 14 as he made it three-wide going into turn one splitting the lap car of Derrick Pennington and the second-place car of Nick Bocook.

Swartz made it stick and got by Bocook for second. Bocook held on for third to post his second top-five in as many races. Pole-sitter Jake Keaton finished fourth, and Kevin Wagner recorded his second top-five of the year placing fifth. Shannon Thornsberry, Robbie Lewis, Butch Dowdy, Avery Taylor, and Randy Davis rounded out the top 10.

In the Modifieds, having your car up front seemed to mean having bad luck. Beaver, KY's Ervin Vance led the first nine laps before having to exit the race with car trouble. Jim Lemaster spun while riding second, and later in the race Aaron Pendleton retired while in second.

With everyone around him suffering misfortunes, South Point's Todd Robinson capitalized on the moment. The two-time defending PRP Track Champ took the lead on lap 10 and never relinquished it. Minford's Adam Colley came from seventh to second. Jody Puckett marched from 10th to third. Eric Berry advanced five spots to finish fourth, and Doug "The Buzzard" Adkins drove all the way from 17th to fifth making him The Markwest Ranger Pipeling Hard Charger of the Race.

John Brady, Jr., Jimmy Lennex, Jr., Anthony Slusher, Jeremy Hayes, and Kevin Hall filled out the top 10.

Reigning Limited Late Model Track Champion Mike Meyers and defending Bomber Track Champ Zack Pendleton both led every lap of their respective A-Mains, as each captured their first victories of the season.

In the Limited Late Model Feature, Dillon Huron, Kenny McCann, Matt Melvin, and Cameron Logan made up the rest of the top five. In the Bomber A-Main, Jason Spillman charged from eighth to second. Perry Dearing, Brian Sammons, and Bo McCarty closed out the top five.

The wildest looking accident of the evening took place in one of the Limited Late Model Heats. Randy Ross and Tim Cutler got together off Turn 2. Cutler got into the

wall, drove up onto it, skid along his driver's side, then flipped over onto his top before sliding to a stop. Both drivers were unscathed.

Next week at PRP, the stakes will rise. This coming Saturday, June 6th will mark the fourth annual running of the Boone Coleman Memorial Gator 50.

Giovanni's Pizza Late Models, R.W. Rental and Supply Modifieds, O'Reilly Auto Parts Limited Lates, as well as M & M Inflatables Bombers will all be on the card. The Late Model Feature winner will win \$5,000 as well as a provisional starting spot in this October's Dirt Track World Championship paying \$100,000 to win. Gates open at 4 p.m. with racing at 7:30.