

**PRP Press Release – July 4, 2013 – By: Chuck Greenslate**

This Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup> Portsmouth Raceway Park will welcome the Lucas Oil Late Model Series for a \$10,000-to-win race presented by The Body Shop Physical Therapy of Vanceburg, KY.

This Independence Day event will mark PRP's highest paying race of the season thus far and the first of three Portsmouth visits for the Lucas Oil Series. PRP is the only track in the nation scheduled to host the series on three separate occasions.

The last time the Lucas gang rolled into Portsmouth was last October for the 32<sup>nd</sup> annual Dirt Track World Championship which was won by reigning series champ and current points leader Jimmy Owens of Newport, TN.

So far this season, Owens has four Lucas wins and enters the week with an 85-point lead over Williamson, WV's John Blankenship. Ashland, KY native Steve Francis is presently third in the standings and is in search for his first series win of the season. Martinsville, IN's Don O'Neal and Carpentersville, IL's Dennis Erb, Jr. round out the top five.

The rest of the top 10 consists of Jacksonville, FL's Earl Pearson, Jr.; Batesville, AR's Jared Landers; Salt Rock, WV's Eddie Carrier, Jr.; Batesville, AR's Billy Moyer, Jr.; and Quincy, IL's Jerry Lierly.

The series regulars will have to go up against a tough field of local PRP talent including the likes of former track champion Jackie Boggs, who has won four of the seven Late Model races ran in Portsmouth this year. Boggs also won a Lucas show at PRP over Labor Day Weekend last season.

West Portsmouth's Ben Adkins also has a PRP victory this year. Adkins placed fifth in last season's Lucas Oil-sanctioned DTWC.

Portsmouth Raceway Park's current points leader is Wheelersburg's Rod Conley, who has been consistent throughout the season and won PRP's last race held on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Rod's brother, R.J. has the other PRP win of 2013. R.J. Conley is a three-time track champ and posted a top 10 finish in last year's DTWC.

Grayson, KY's Josh McGuire is another driver expected to be in attendance. McGuire is a former winner of the Lucas Oil-sanctioned River Days Rumble at PRP.

Wooster's Doug Drown also has it on his website that he will be in Portsmouth for the Fourth. Drown already has nine wins this season at various tracks around the country. He placed second earlier this year at a Lucas race at East Bay. He won The Southern 100 in the spring at Southern Ohio Speedway in Wheelersburg and recorded an eighth-place finish this past May at PRP's annual Boone Coleman Memorial 'Gator 50'.

Accompanying Late Models on Portsmouth Raceway Park's Independence Day card will be Modifieds and Limited Lates.

PRP's gates will open at 4 p.m. Thursday. Racing will begin at 7:30. For more information visit [www.portsraceway.com](http://www.portsraceway.com) or [www.lucasdirt.com](http://www.lucasdirt.com).