

**“ Josh Berry and Nolan Pope split Twin 40”**



*Photo By: Sherri Stearns*



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July 11,2020 - The Catawba Valley once again heard the familiar roar of racing engines for the 70th consecutive year as Hickory Motor Speedway would celebrate their 70th birthday with NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Racing Series action.

The NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Late Models would lead off the night's excitement with the first of their twin 40 lap features. Josh Berry in the #88 would set fast time and start from the front row with Ryan Rackley in the #1 to his outside. Row two would see Nolan Pope in the #1 and Mike Darne in the #6 to his outside. Berry would get a great start and move to the top spot bringing Pope with him to second. The caution would fly on lap two as the #51 of Perry Patino and the #8 of Bob Saville would end up in the turn three wall. Both drivers would retire from the event. The restart would see Berry and Pope leading the field back to the green flag. Berry would once again move to the front with Pope keeping a close eye on him in second. Justin Carroll in the #57 and Rackley would have a hard fought battle for the third spot, but Rackley would prevail and set sail for Pope in second. Lap 12 would see the caution fly as Connor Mosack in the #8M would spin in turn two after contact with the #6 of Mike Darne. Everyone would be able to continue. The restart would once again see Berry and Pope pacing the pack to the green flag. Berry would have a battle for the top spot as Pope would give him all he could handle, but after several laps Berry would once again nose ahead. Ryan Millington in the #15 would start the race in sixth and get shuffled back in traffic several times and at the halfway point he would have one of the fastest cars on the track and move up to third. Berry would put several car lengths on the field but the final fifteen laps would see Pope reeling him in. With four laps to go Berry and Pope would battle door to door. The duo would put on a thrilling battle for the win. Berry would nose ahead to take the close win and a trip to victory lane. Pope would have an impressive 2nd place finish with Millington finishing 3rd. Rackley would finish 4th and Thomas Beane in the #31 would finish 5th.

The Renegades would roll off next for 20 laps. Robbie Hollifield in the #51 would start from the pole position with Zachary Mullins in the #72 to his outside. Hollifield would move to the point as Joseph Hodges in the #1 would move to second. Justin Austin in the #4 would pull to the pits with mechanical problems. Hollifield would flex his muscle and drive on to the emotional win after completing his final chemo trip the previous week. Hodges would finish 2nd and Mullins would finish 3rd. Kyle Boice in the #73 would finish 4th and Matthew Chambers in the #81 would round out the top five in 5th.

Next up would be the Super Trucks for their 35 lap battle. James Edwards in the #1 would top the charts in qualifying and start from the point with Charlie Watson in the #9 to his outside. Tanner Long in the #45 and Joey Shuryan in the #30 would make up row two for the start. Before the trucks would ever roll off Edwards would start feeling under the weather and be replaced by Garin Mash in the #1. The start would see Watson move to the early lead with Shuryan moving to second. Lap 13 would see the caution fly as Shuryan would cut down a tire and come to a stop in turn four. Watson and Long would lead the field back to the green flag on the restart. Watson would move back to the top spot with Long close in tow in second. Dennis Trivette in the #28 would pressure Long for second and make the pass with five laps to go. Landon Huffman would make contact with the turn one wall ending his run as he would pull to pit road on lap 31. Watson would drive on to take the win. Trivette would finish 2nd with Long finishing 3rd. Huffman would finish 4th and Shuryan would finish 5th.

The Paramount Auto Group Limited Late Models would be up next for 50 laps in the Paramount Kia 'BIG 10' Racing Challenge. Dylan Ward in the #21 would take the pole position and start from the top spot with Josh Kossek in the #44K to his outside. Row two would see Mitch Walker in the #15 and Charlie Watson in the #9 side by side for the start. Kossek would use the high line and take the lead as they completed lap one. Ward would quickly challenge for the lead as the first six positions would be double file. Lap 6 would see Ward move back to the lead. After a battle for third with Charlie Watson in the #9, Mitch Walker in the #15 would bring out the caution as he would spin coming off of turn four. The restart would see Ward and Kossek in row one and Watson and William Cox in the #3 making up row two. Kossek would take the early lead but Ward would quickly pressure him for the spot. Lap 8 would see the caution fly again as the #14 of Akinori Ogata would come to a stop in turn four. Walker and the #32 of Josh Stark

would suffer damage as the field would scramble to avoid the stopped car. Walker would continue, however Stark would be finished for the night. Kossek and Ward would lead the field to the green. Kossek would move to the lead once again with Ward glued to his bumper. Lap 14 would see Ward make the pass for the lead and bring Watson with him for second. Lap 17 would see the caution fly once again as the #33 of Kosma Guznyakov would spin and come to a stop at the entrance to pit road. Ward and Watson would pace the field back to the green flag. Ward would pull to the lead with Watson close behind. The caution would fly again on lap 20 as Guznyakov would come to a rest against the turn one wall. Ward and Watson would bring the field back to the green flag. Ward would move back to the top spot. The halfway point would see Ward, Watson, Kossek, Cox, and Landon Huffman in the #71 make up the top five. Lap 38 would see the caution fly as the #20 of Blake Bledsoe would spin in turn two. Ward and Watson would bring the field back to the restart. Ward would take the spot but face a fierce challenge from Watson. The caution would fly on lap 41 when the #88 of Josh Gobble would spin in turn four. Ward and Watson would once again lead the field to the green. Ward would pull to the lead, but caution would quickly fly as Kossek would come to a stop on the backstretch with appeared to be a flat tire. Ward and Watson would bring the field to the green flag. Ward would move back to the lead as the battles would be two wide from third on back through the field. Ward would drive on to the win. Watson would finish 2nd with Cox grabbing 3rd. Huffman would finish 4th and Max Price in the #22 would finish 5th.

Hitting the track next would be the Street Stocks for their 30 lap feature. Mark Whitten in the #77 would start from the top spot with Marshall Sutton in the #64 to his outside. Sutton would sail to the high side to move to the top spot with Whitten pedaling hard behind him. Kevin Eby in the #03 and Trey Buff in the #48 would have a fierce battle for third with neither wanting to give an inch. Whitten's car would lose the handle and drop several positions. The caution would fly on lap 19 as the #20 of Steven Roark would spin in turn one. Sutton and Kevin Eby would lead the field back to the green flag. Sutton would nose ahead to the lead with Kevin Eby close behind. Lap 22 would see Whitten park his ride with mechanical issues. Sutton would drive on to take the popular win. Kevin Eby would finish 2nd with the newly engaged Buff taking 3rd. Roark would finish 4th and the #9 of Jon Austin would finish 5th.

The NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Late Models would close out the night with their second 40 lap feature of their twin features. After the 9 car invert from the finishing order of race one, Trevor Ward in the #15 and Sam Butler in the #81 would make up the front row. Row two would see Brandon Pierce in the #2 and Justin Carroll in the #57 taking the green flag side by side. Ward and Butler would make contact in turns one, sending Butler's fender flying and Butler also making contact with the outside wall. The caution would fly and necessitate a complete restart. Butler's crew would work furiously to make repairs and get him back on track. Ward and Carroll would now make up row one for the start. Carroll would take the high side to the lead and bring Thomas Beane in the #31 to second. The caution would fly on lap 2 as Butler would come to a stop on the backstretch. Carroll and Beane would lead the field back to the green flag with Ward the #15 of Ryan Millington making up row two. Carroll and Beane would be joined by Millington in a thrilling three wide battle for the lead. Beane would take the top spot as Millington would move to second. Lap 10 would see Millington get around Beane for the top spot. Josh Berry in the #88 would start ninth after the invert from race one, but make it to second by lap 12. Nolan Pope in the #1 would start eighth but make the pass on Berry for second on lap 18. Millington and Pope would go door to door for the top spot and duel it out for the next ten laps. Pope would finally take the top spot with five to go. Pope would hold on and grab the win. Millington would finish 2nd and Berry would finish 3rd. Beane would take 4th with Pierce grabbing 5th.

**The NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Racing Series will be in action the next two weeks at the Birthplace of the NASCAR Stars, with a full slate of action both nights.**

**Hickory Motor Speedway Results 7/11/20**

**Late Model – Twin Feature 1**

- 1 #88 – Josh Berry
- 2 #1P – Nolan Pope
- 3 #15 – Ryan Millington
- 4 #1R – Ryan Rackley
- 5 #31 – Thomas Beane
- 6 #2 – Brandon Pierce
- 7 #57 – Justin Carroll
- 8 #81 – Sam Butler ( r )
- 9 #15W – Trevor Ward
- 10 #2T – Gracie Trotter
- 11 #12L – Mason Ludwig ( r )

- 12 #8M – Connor Mosack
- 13 #6D – Mike Darne
- 14 #77C – Parker Chase
- 15 #14J – Conner Jones
- 16 #6 – Rajah Caruth
- 17 #12M – Garin Mash
- 18 #51 – Perry Patino
- 19 #8 – Bob Saville
- 20 #12 – Gage Painter – DNS

**Late Model – Twin Feature 2**

- 1 #1P – Nolan Pope
- 2 #15 – Ryan Millington
- 3 #88 – Josh Berry
- 4 #31 – Thomas Beane
- 5 #2 – Brandon Pierce
- 6 #57 – Justin Carroll
- 7 #15W – Trevor Ward
- 8 #1R – Ryan Rackley
- 9 #12L – Mason Ludwig ( r )
- 10 #2T – Gracie Trotter
- 11 #8M – Connor Mosack
- 12 #6 – Rajah Caruth
- 13 #14J – Conner Jones
- 14 #77C – Parker Chase
- 15 #81 – Sam Butler ( r )
- 16 #12M – Garin Mash
- 17 #6D – Mike Darne - DNS
- 18 #51 – Perry Patino - DNS
- 19 #8 - Bob Saville - DNS

**Limited Late Model Paramount Big 10 Race #5**

- 1 #21 – Dylan Ward
- 2 #9 – Charlie Watson
- 3 #3 – Will Cox III
- 4 #71 – Landon Huffman
- 5 #22 – Max Price ( r )
- 6 #71L – Nathan Lineback
- 7 #4 – JR Goode
- 8 #38 – Alex Posey
- 9 #88 – Joshua Gobble
- 10 #43P – Kenneth Pardue

- 11 #29 – Zach Keller
- 12 #44K – Josh Kossek
- 13 #20 – Blake Bledsole
- 14 #10 – Wyatt Underwood
- 15 #15 – Mitch Walker
- 16 #33G – Kosma Guznyakov
- 17 #47 – Chase Janes
- 18 #42 – Ricky Bruce
- 19 #32 – Josh Stark
- 20 #14 – Akinori Ogata

**Street Stocks**

- 1 #64 – Marshall Sutton
- 2 #03 – Kevin Eby
- 3 #48 – Trey Buff
- 4 #20 – Steven Roark
- 5 #9 – Jon Austin
- 6 #3 – Kayla Eby
- 7 #77 – Mark Whitten
- 8 #2 – Ethan Johnson

**Super Trucks**

- 1 #9 – Charlie Watson
- 2 #28T – Dennis Trivette
- 3 #45 – Tanner Long
- 4 #71 – Landon Huffman
- 5 #30 – Joey Shuryan
- 6 #1 – Garin Mash

**Renegades**

- 1 #51 – Robbie Hollifield
- 2 #1 – Joseph Hodges
- 3 #72 – Zachary Mullins
- 4 #73 – Kyle Boice ( r )
- 5 #81 – Matthew Chambers
- 6 #27 – Ben Campbell
- 7 #4 – Justin Austin
- 8 #X3 – John Zell - DNS