



## **ARA / UAW NIGHT 100's**

Saturday, August 8 was United Auto Workers night at O'Reilly Raceway Park at Indianapolis. The crowd was treated to double 100 lap feature events by the Job Central Pro Trucks and the Voris Construction Late Models that paid \$1,000 to each feature winner. Job Central was onboard as the night's sponsor, which made the increased purses possible.

In the Job Central Pro Trucks Steve Blair was the fast qualifier with a time of 25.083 seconds and backed up the qualifying run with a win in the 4 lap trophy dash contested among the top 4 qualifiers. During the autograph session he awarded his trophy to a young fan who correctly answered a trivia question. Jared Waldhoff and Buddy Davis were winners of the heat races for the Job Central Pro Trucks.

In the feature event for the Job Central Pro Trucks Steve Blair started on the outside of row 5, but quickly made his way to the front. With the large UAW crowd on hand the decision was made that both divisions would line up double file for all restarts. In each restart the leader would have the option of starting on the inside or the outside. With just two caution periods in the first 50 lap stint, the double file restart didn't really come into play. Steve Blair was the leader at

During the 10 minute break at lap 50 drivers and their crews could add fuel, change air pressure, shocks, and make other adjustments to the trucks, but they could not change tires. The crowd was allowed to decide what they wanted the invert to be for the second 50 laps of the feature and overwhelmingly chose a 7- truck invert. That placed Jared Waldoff on the pole, the same position he started the first 50 laps. Steve Blair was once again deep in the field, but when the green flag flew, he used the inside groove to make his way to the front of the field once again. When all 100 laps of the feature were in the books it was Steve Blair, who is currently the series point leader taking home the \$1000 winners purse. It was Steve's second victory in a row and his fourth of the 2009 season. Obviously happy after such a strong run, Steve, who looked like he was able to cruise nearly effortlessly through the feature, revealed that he did not have power steering for the entire final 50 laps of the feature event.

Steve was followed by Evan Roberts, Scott Brooks, Tommy Gridner and Buddy Davis in the top 5. Tom Miller who was second in the points going into the evening finished 11<sup>th</sup> after dealing with mechanical issues in the second 50 laps of the race. A true ambassador for the sport, he left the track during the second practice session to pick up a motor for David Hobbs in the #11 truck. It was David's first night with the series and his motor blew during his 3<sup>rd</sup> lap of practice.

Rick Tackman Jr. was the quick qualifier for the Voris Construction Late Model Series and Colin Nicolai won the trophy dash contested among the top 4 qualifying cars. Heat races were won by Keith Lyons and Mark Sweet.

In the Voris Construction Late Model 100 lap feature event, Steve Reeves started on the pole along side Keith Lyons. Almost immediately the caution came out for a wreck in turn one that included Phil Jenkins, Brian Hedge, and Mike Cline. On the restart on lap 6 Keith Lyons was out front. The caution waved once again on lap 12 for Steve Reeves who had made contact with the wall in Turn 2. Colin Nicolai made a strategic decision to come into the pits for an adjustment and restart the race on the tail. He had been running in 5<sup>th</sup> spot, but gambled that he could improve that position before the break at lap 50. The gamble paid off as he worked himself up to 3<sup>rd</sup> at the conclusion of the first 50 laps, following the leader Dave Kinney and The Wisconsin Cowboy, Rick Tackman, Jr.

During the 10 minute break the cars of Mike Cline and Phil Jenkins were allowed to change tires because they had been flatspotted during the first caution. Eddie Phelps would restart on the pole for the second 50 laps of competition after the fans voiced their desire for a 10 car invert.

The top 3 in the points quickly became the top 3 in the race as Colin Nicolai, Rick Tackman, Jr., and Dave Kinney surged forward. It was a battle worth watching as Dave Kinney entered the evening with a slight 4 point advantage over Nicolai and a 16 point edge over Tackman. A late race caution followed by a double file restart didn't affect the finishing order as Colin Nicolai picked up his 4<sup>th</sup> win of the season. Rick Tackman, Jr. finished second followed by Dave Kinney, Keith Lyons, and Eddie Phelps.

The next race for the Advance Racing Association will take place at O'Reilly Raceway Park at Indianapolis on Friday, August 14. All fans with a ticket stub from Saturday's race will be allowed to enter for free. Kids 12 and under are always free. Adults without a ticket stub from Saturday's race may print the Buy One Get One Free Coupon on the ARA web site at [www.advanceracingassociation.com](http://www.advanceracingassociation.com).