

BILSTEIN MODIFIED LITE STARS NEWS

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(Middlebourne, WV) A bulging pit area featuring the best modified racers on the east coast from 11 different states would greet race fans as the Tyler County Speedway played host to the 3rd Annual D. Reynolds Lease to Own Mega 100. The Bullring would be the place to be as the Middlebourne, WV oval would kick off the 4th of July weekend in grand fashion. Over 175 plus cars would square off each night in search of the over \$100k purse offered by the Tyler County Speedway.

A strong 35 car field of STARS Mod Lites would square off in back to back nights as \$1,000 was up for grabs to each of the winners. Night # 1 would see New Matamoras, Ohio's Tyler Riggs grab the win while Night # 2 it would be Beallsville, Ohio's Josh Baldwin holding off a host of the region's best mod lite racers.

MEGA NATIONALS NIGHT #1 July 1st

With earlier weather forecast in the week showing a high percentage of rain for day #1 of the MEGA Nationals fooled many of us with the exception of the 35 mod lite drivers who were in attendance for the annual MEGA nationals. As some people say, just wait and the weather will change, which it did giving the fans and drivers a perfect weekend of racing.

Both Saturday and Sunday nights would be lined up by qualifying times which is unique for the mod lite drivers. Tyler County Speedway host some of the biggest races in the region and has always support both the DWARF and mod lite community dating back to the early 1990's. So when Bill Bauer, president of racing operations for the Mod Lite STARS approached the speedway asking to be part of the MEGA weekend there was no hesitation from promoter John Watson. "We want to make this event the largest event of the summer and second to our winter nationals held at Bubba Raceway Park". "We want to thank Bilstein Shocks for their support which gives us the opportunity to team with Tyler County Speedway as part of their MEGA weekend". Bauer stated.

Saturday night the Bilstein Mod Lite STARS did not disappoint the fans who saw local driver and fan favorite Tyler Riggs hold off the charging field lead by Mark Marcucci #8m and Tyler County Speedway 2016 champion Ryan Saffell #17. Marcucci started on the pole for the 20-lap feature but Riggs 99T was able to drive hard into turn 1 taking the lead on the opening lap. A series of cautions flew which kept Marcucci, Shaffell #17 followed by Delaware driver James Hill #1 close at hand. Second place Marcucci was hoping to take advantage of any mistakes Riggs might have. On lap-18, Wisecarver driving the 29\$, Jeff Davis #830, and the #71X D. Jones made contact on the speedway bringing out the final caution of the night and setting up for a 2 laps \$1,000 to win dash. Riggs driving his EVO chassis was able to maintain his composure and held off a last chance move of Marcucci picking up the win and the \$1,000 payday.

STARS Modlite Feature: Tyler Riggs, Mark Marcucci, Ryan Saffell, Rod Jones, James Hill, Josh Baldwin, Tracy Fritter, Jesse Wisecarver, Vivian Jones, Will Bennett, Doug Jones, Ryan Jones, John Cogar, Jeff Davis, Cody Sisson, Daniel Eddy, Sam Richards, Jeff Fornash, Matt Ward, Alex Robinson, Mitch Ward,

Brandon Fluharty, Brandon Shaw, Mike Stratton, DNQ Lance Brasington, Ryan Baker, Steven Dotson, Chris Robinson, Steve Dunn, David Brown, Travis Minor, Andy Shirley, Justin Eddy, Roger Griffin, Cole Petrelle

RACE RECAP

Winner: Tyler Riggs

Lead Changes: 1

Lap Leaders: 1-20 Tyler Riggs

Cautions: 7

Heat Winners: #8M Mark Marcucci, #99T Tyler Riggs, #17 Ryan Saffell, #49 Cody Sisson

B Main winner: #1 James Hill

Swift Move of the Race: #17 Ryan Saffell

Hoosier Tire Fast Lap: #34N Josh Baldwin 15.095

Hoosier Tire Hard Charger: #20 Vivian Jones 22nd to 9th, 13 spots

MEGA NATIONALS NIGHT #2 July 2nd

Local driver Josh Baldwin takes home one of his biggest career wins Sunday night when he held off MEGA night #1 winner Tyler Riggs winning the \$1,000 payday. Baldwin who set fast time Saturday night returned to the Tyler County Speedway Sunday with a new set up that Riggs actually helped with. Josh Baldwin along with his brother Ryan Saffell were seen leaving the track early Sunday morning with the EVO #34N mod lite and went to the EVO chassis shop for some one-on-one chassis set up. "We finished 6th last night and I knew we had to do something different tonight". Baldwin stated.

With more than 200 cars in the pits for the final night of the MEGA, the Bilstein Mod Lite STARS were third on the schedule after a 50-lap modified feature and a 50-lap late model feature provided the mod lite drivers with a track that would challenge their ability for chassis set up and tire stager. With only three cautions the drivers did a wonderful job putting on some of the best racing of the weekend.

Baldwin started on the outside pole position and returned the favor to the #99T Tyler Riggs who started the 20-lap feature in the number one position. Baldwin had the speed exiting turn 4 and took the lead on the opening lap. There was a large amount of racing throughout the pack that saw many of the drivers working for the ideal line. Caution flew on lap-13 for the spinning of the Nick Nash #27N which gave the drivers the opportunity to relax after a long green lap door-to-door session. On the restart Baldwin maintain his lead followed by Riggs, and the #8M Marcucci. With laps counting down Riggs was unable to get around race leader Baldwin with the checker flying that saw the #49 Cody Sisson in 3rd, followed by Marcucci 4th and the #98 Matt Ward 5th.

STARS Modlite Feature: Josh Baldwin, Tyler Riggs, Cody Sisson, Mark Marcucci, Matt Ward, Vivian Jones, Rod Jones, Will Bennett, Brandon Fluharty, Ryan Baker, Ryan Saffell, Tracy Fritter, Chris Robinson, Daniel Eddy, Andy Shirley, Doug Jones, John Cogar, Jeff Davis, Travis Minor, Mitch Ward, Nick Nash, Steve Dunn, Brandon Shaw, James Hill, DNQ: Steve Dotson, Lance Brasington, David Brown, Shawn Kernan, Alex Robinson, Roger Griffin, Mike Stratton, Jeff Fornash, Ryan Jones, Justin Eddy

RACE RECAP

Winner: Josh Baldwin

Lead Changes: 1

BILSTEIN MOD LITE STARS MEGA NATIONALS

Lap Leaders: 1-20 Josh Baldin

Cautions: 3

Heat Winners: #99T Tyler Riggs, #34N Josh Baldwin, #49 Cody Sisson, #18 Ryan Baker

B Main winner: #71X Doug Jones

Swift Move of the Race: #99T Tyler Riggs

Hoosier Tire Fast Lap: #16S Rod Jones 15.406

Hoosier Tire Hard Charger: #98 Matt Ward 12th to 5th, 7 spots

Hoosier Tire Hard Luck Awards: #33 David Brown, #426 Justin Eddy, #44 Andy Shirley, #862

Mitch Ward

Modified Lite STARS, LLC serving as a national sanctioning body for the mod lite racing class represent more than 350 race teams throughout North America; the Modified Lite STARS organization serves a fast-growing segment of dirt oval racing motorsports and is recognized as the leader in modified lite racing. In its tenth year of operation, the Bilstein Modified Lite STARS Series has gained widespread acceptance with its standardized rules and growing sponsorship program.

The Bilstein Modified Lite STARS Series is proudly supported by its major sponsors: BILSTEIN Shock Absorbers, Hoosier Race Tire, Aero Race Wheels, SWIFT Springs, ROD END Supply, ModLiteProject.com, Knepper ATV Repair, Sidewinder Chassis, Velocity Race Cars, Extreme Motorsports, Reynolds Farm Equipment, Boyd's Garage, Sauer & Sons Construction, Chasos Motorsports, and Jokers Chassis.