

May in Indiana. We battled Momma Nature for 4 days. Thursday she put down rain all mourning then turned it off and we had cars on the track for the rest of the day. Friday Momma let us all know who is really in charge. Everyone pitched in to get the track dry on three separate occasions only for Momma to shut us down. At approximately 4:20 pm EST race control postponed events to Saturday.

Saturday began and hopes were very high as the clouds were fading and the forecast was RACIN MADHOUSE STYLE. The day began with a quick drivers meeting and it was decided to run one. (1) controlled practice with it also doubling as time trials. After round 1 the race director changed the heat laps to 35 from 50 due to a new rain threat. Mains all ran their pre determined distances.

We begin with my pre race pick for Race of the day . After the heat races had me on the edge of seat due to the #0 of Ken Lieker getting paint to paint with Mr. Mark Hogue in his #71 across the line. It was looking to be a great showdown between four (4) cars as the #78 of local Brad Boling qualified 2nd and Swept his heat races. The man of the day was Robert Belonga in his 81 lays down a 6.402 in qualifications to take the pole then sweeps his heat races. Hogue was just .09 sec slower then Belonga in qualifications and had to look at the rear bumper of the 81 all day. THE MAIN EVENT. ARE YOU READY TO RUMBLE. These guys were. It was I believe a letdown for these guys. All 9 of these guys lined up ready to put in a great show. They all felt ready for this big stage. The yellow flag got displayed and pace laps were the common factor in this one. In the end it was just staying focused and not making a mistake and Robert did just that as he led flag to flag to get the Ingalls win. Hogue gets 2nd and Boling holds on for 3rd. Get them ready for Newton Park so we can give it another go guys.

Official Results

1. Robert Belonga #81 (TQ) (QT).
2. Mark Hogue #71
3. Brad Boling #78
4. Derick Belcher #60 (Where'd he come from award).
5. Ken Lieker #0 (Best finish award)
6. Dave Pipchock # 17
7. Dave Hamstra #23
8. Alex Livingston #9
9. Brian Demland #7 (- 12)

The day in Sprint Car began with a very green track for time trials. With a stacked field of Predators a WCM looked to be the man to beat. J.R. Parsley #55 took the Top spot in Qualifications with a lap of 6.112 and backed it up with a heat win in round #1. A mistake in round #2 cost Parleys a sweep of the heats. 55 comes home 2nd in round #2 and earns himself the TQ spot in the feature.

Heat #2 of Sprint Car action was a stellar battle between the #82 of Randy Baker who ran a 6.175 in time trials to grab 2nd. Baker wins round #2 and runs the fastest lap in Sprint Car with a 6.072. Kevin Ligon in the 4 car takes round #1 of this epic battle with Fred Murry bringing his #4 home with a 2nd and 3rd in heat action. 4,4, and 82. I really enjoyed watching you boys go at it. (Group of the day award Sprint Car).

The Sprint Car A Main.

Parsley leads the field to green and just 4 laps in the 55 would spin. Mechanical issues plagued the TQ and cost him to be off the pace and a NCS win.

After the leader spun it was all the blue deuce of Todd Holloway. Todd missed the pole position by just .06 but came back to get a heat win over the 55 in round #2. Holloway would lead the rest of the way in the Main. Baker in the 82 ran in the runner up spot until just two to go he loops his winged devil in turn #3. Fred Murry had his #4 in contention all day and grabs the runner up spot courtesy of Baker. Ligon after breaking a belt could not recover to go for the Madhouse win. In the end it was all Holloway as he takes home the hardware at stop #2 of the NCS.

Official Results.

1. Todd Holloway #2
2. Fred Murry #4
3. Kevin Ligon #4
4. Randy Baker #82
5. J. R Parsley #55 (-3)
6. Mike Miller #14 (-6)
7. Dave Scott #10 (-6)
8. Murray Pipchok (DNS)

East Coast Modified had eight (8) entries however we would lose two at the start of the day. Missed ya James and Butch.

The day belonged to the #2 of Todd Holloway as the deuce had a perfect day scoring the top qualifier with a lap of 6.113 and sweeps both rounds of heat action . Hollywood would go on to lead all 200 laps to go 2 for 2 in his ECM in this early season of the NCS.

Frank Boling in his #15 ran his Mod hard all day. Boling beat out the #28 of Mike Little by .007 sec in qualifications to take 2nd. The 15 finished 2nd in both heats in front of the #02 of Keith Barnes. Frank ran 285 laps of racing in just this class and never lost a lap or even let the leader get too far away. Barnes comes home with three P3s.

Official Results.

1. Todd Holloway #2 (TQ) (QT)

2. Frank Boling #15 (Iron man award)
3. Keith Barnes #02 (- 7)
4. Mike Little #28 (-157)
5. Matt Hilber # 8 (-164)
6. Randy Baker #82 (DNS)

The show of the day without question was the Sportsman boys. True sportsmanship is what these guys displayed. 19 cars after 10 spots. They put it all on the line for the Mini Madhouse National win.

Qualifications.

It was a Hilber sweep of the top 3 positions in time trials. Coming in 5th in the race against the clock was the #21 of Mike Reinger as he lays down a lap of 6.115. Mike in his return to 1/4 scale racing appears to not have lost a step as he was a force all day. 4th was Frank Boling in his #15. Frank pulling double duty this weekend was as determined as I have ever seen him. Last year's Ingalls Sportsman Champion runs a 6.100. The boss of the Hilber operation was the man to beat throughout most of the day. Greg Hilber ran a 6.095 and brings his #38 home 3rd. The #81 of Matt Hilber runs strong most of the day and looks to be as tough something we all have come to expect. Matt runs a 6.047 to take the runner up spot in Qualifications. The #83 starts the day strong as he lays down the quickest lap put down all day (in all classes) . Paul Hilber takes QT with a lap of 6.013 and looks to be the favorite to win yet again at Ingalls. Heat Racin.

We all got the pleasure of seeing some of the greatest heat races of all time. 19 cars, all 19 with a shot at the front.

Heat #1.

Paul Hilber found himself in heat #1 with some very hungry drivers. The 83 failed to get a win in heat action. It was the 21 of Reniger beating Paul by just .094 in Round #1. Round #2 it was Last Years Madhouse Novice Champ the 28 of Mike Little. Little beats Reniger by .700 to split the heats with the 21. This locks the 21 into the Main but Little will have to race in the B. Hilber 3rd in Round 2. Our TQ will have to race his way in.

Heat #2.

Matt H does what he does and takes Round 1. Round #2 we watched the #43 of local Steve Riddle steal a win from the 81 by just .18. Both guys lock themselves into the A Main. Mr Rick Liehr of Ohio in the #29 comes home 3rd in both rounds.

Heat #3

This heat was all Greg Hilber and a man who can wheel a stock car. Dave Raber in the #21 gave the elder Hilber a good run as they were only separated by .300 at the line in Round #2. Raber locks himself into the show with 2 P2s . Greg takes TQ with his sweep of this heat. Georgia boy in the #7 car takes 3rd in both rounds. Ray Johnson will have to race himself into the show.

Heat #4.

After qualifying 4th Frank Boling decided to go and sweep his heat in convincing fashion. Frank locks himself in. John Pipchock in the #22 and The #2 of Todd Holloway (who pulled triple duty) would split the 2nd spot. Both would have to race to get in.

C Main.

7 cars would line up for one of four important spots. Gary Mouser who starts P1 would go on

the lead all 50 laps to win his way into the B. Congrats 4. California's own Dave Scott would roll off 2nd but a early spin would send the #16 to the tail. Scott rebounds by driving back to 3rd when the leader gets spun by the 2nd place car of Doug McCallan in the 91. This puts Scott back in 2nd . Things begin to heat up with 30 to go as the 16 of Scott spins and must get up on the wheel again to get back in contention. Couple quick yellows allows Scott to get his car back to the transfer spot. When we get back racing Mouser pulls away due to a GREAT battle between 4 cars. Orin Sunde running 2nd has the mirror of his #0 car full of Ray Johnson, and Scott. The 91 closes as the 16 gets lose and McCallan back in the final spot with just a handful of laps to go. The battle between the 0 and Johnson's #7 would end with the Georgia boy spinning. Sunde Mans up and Scott back into 4th. 91 gets around the 7 and takes 2nd as Sunde is charging hard. Mouser way out front as he comes to the white flag the 2nd place car spins in turn 3 and McCallan has to pack it up. Scott gets around Johnson and grabs 2nd when the 91 spun. Johnson gets 3rd and Big O moves on to the B.

B Main.

In my seven years of of toy car racing have I ever seen a B Main full of this much talent. 10 drivers that ran very intelligently to give them a shot at more racing. Each car waiting on someone to make a mistake . That would not happen much in this race but we did see one miscue put you out of a shot to move on to the big show. The man that set QT slips up early to lose his 2nd starting spot to the #2 of Holloway and P. Hilber sits in 3rd in his 83 til after the fuel stop. Lap 20 we get a very significant pass for the transfer spot as Lieher takes the transfer spot away from Pipchock in the 22. We come to half way Pipchock would find trouble and would have to drive his way back in contention. And he did just that as we get a long green flag run and Hilber gets by Holloway to finally regains his 2nd spot after a fierce nose to tail battle between these two guys. We get some late slow down laps to bunch the field. We come to a green, white, checker and like I said these boys ran smart in order to keep the day going for themselves. The lap 20 pass for the final transfer spot proved to be HUGE as Rick Liehr who get his #29 into the show . Rick did have his hands full with Pipchock who made a run at the 29 at the line. 3rd and moving on was Holloway and the #83 of Paul will start 7th in the Feature. The Just Freakn Flawless award goes to Mike Little. Mike was perfect nearly all day in his #28. He ran hard and fast in both Mains and he owned this race. Little Mike did a outstanding job of running his car just hard enough to keep it out front and win the Race to keep Racing.

A Main

As in the lower main this race came down to track position and being mistake free. Not 1 driver who saw the tail ever saw the front again.

Starting line up. TQ G.Hilber leads to the green followed by Boling, M.Hilber, Reniger,Riddle and Raber. All were locked in after heat racing, with the Four transfers rounding out the field. Green waves for just under a lap when we get a heavy pile up in turn 4 with our leader and 2nd place Boling. 15 to the tail on the 1st lap. Early in this one P.Hilber after looking at the 28 for all 100 laps of the B decides to take the 5th from the 28. After rolling out 2nd the 81 of M.Hilber begins to struggle and is off the pace. Hilbers chances of a Ingalls win would begin to fade early in this one. Yellow comes out and we get great battles all over the Mini Madhouse. Reniger all over our leader , as the 28 gets back by Paul for 4th. Little not done. Takes 3rd from Rader, 21 falls into the clutches of Paul after a fierce battle the 83 is up to 4th. We Go Green and Greg Hilber makes it look easy as he puts, Holloway, His son Matt, Riddle and Lieher 1 lap down. Paul Hilber wears the 28 out and gets the 3rd spot away from Little. 28 drives in deep to retake his spot but loops his machine to stay off of the 83 as we come to the first of two fuel stops.

After 75 laps Greg leads Reniger, Hilber, Rader, Boling and Little. Top 6 on the lead lap with all 10 still on track. We Go back green for 20 laps and The 38 gets out to the biggest lead of the day at 1.6 sec lead as Reniger is trying to hold off a hard charging P.Hilber. Lap 95 we get a yellow for the 81 and the 43 of Riddle gets penalized for jumping the previous restart. The 43 timed his start out perfectly and it appeared to the Race Director that he jumped. Sry bout that 43. When you play thaaaat close to the flame well you know the rest. ..lol. The next two slow downs were caused by the 28 as he spins then goes outside a lap car and ends up turned around again. Little will have to rebound. 're back at it with 75 to go and Hilber (Paul) is harassing Reniger for 2nd. They battle for 10 laps as the 83 proves to be too much. This would be the pass of the day at lap 135. The son is not done he runs down his old man as we come to the final fuel stop. We come down to a 50 lap shootout to decide it all. 6 cars still with a shot at hardware. Greg has led from the opening lap, B Main runner up has methodically moved into 2nd, both 21 cars of Reniger and Raber. Boling hangs on to 5th as Little has yet to make up any lost ground. Green is out for 15 laps and the unthinkable happens. Our leader through the first 165 laps spins in Turn 3. Here ya go boy and Paul inherits the lead. Little starts his charge and is back up to 3rd behind Reniger. We get a quick yellow for the 15 and Raber making contact as they battled for 4th. 21 man's up and Boling up to 4th. Restart top 2 nose to tail with Little waiting for a chance. 17 to go Holloway and Matt bring out caution and the 2 car heads for the hauler. Another quick yellow gives us a 10 lap dash for cash. Top 3 under a blanket as the 38 gets by the 15 for 4th. Hilber holds off Reniger and B Main winner Little to come from the B to win it all at Ingalls. Two of top three came from the Lower Main. A first in my book. From the very first lap of time trails to lap 200 of the feature this group of guys put on the cleanest, honest, fair and competitive racing I've ever seen in 1/4 scale. It was a honor to not only write about but to witness...

Official Results.

1. Paul Hilber #83 (QT), (Hard Charger award)
 2. Mike Reniger #21 (Mr Consistant award).
 3. Mike Little #28 (Top Rebound award)(B Main victory).
 4. Greg Hilber #38 (TQ) Most laps led award).
 5. Frank Boling #15.
 6. Dave Raber #21 (Sportman Award).
 7. Rick Liehr #29 (-1)
 8. Steve Riddle #43 (-1), (Good Sport Award).
 9. Matt Hilber (-3).
 10. Todd Holloway (-21).
 11. John Pipchock #22 (So Close Award).
 - 12.Terry Isaac #7
 13. Gary Mouser #4 (C Main Victory)
 14. Dave Scott #16
 15. Ray Johnson #7
 16. Orin Sunde #0
 17. Bubba Coker #22
 - 18.Doug McCallen #91
 - 19.Randy Brown #62
- Sportsman Complete.

All of us from the Ingalls Motor Speedway are proud to host this kind of event and look forward to doing it again. Maybe not in May however. We congratulate all the winners and thank all the selfless people who made it all come together.