

Local racing fans received a big treat Sunday night

Man what an evening of racing at the Thomas County Speedway. Even with Commencement ceremonies going on all around the area there were large fields of race cars in all classes, especially in the Modified class. It seems racers in all the classes really enjoy racing here at the Speedway. The Modified class just keeps growing with each race, and the racers from Colorado keep coming back and bringing fellow racers with them, which just makes the racing all the better.

The Speedway also pulls a group of modified racers from the North Platte area, which is also fantastic. As an added bonus for the race fans, Kerry and the gang brought the WDRA Late Models to the Speedway for the association's first sanctioned race of the year.

And buddy what a show these Late Model racers put on for the fans, and drivers and crewmembers of the other classes. Those Late Model boys truly have rockets with four wheels attached, and sometimes not all of them are on the ground, man!

Kerry will have the WDRA Late Models back at the Speedway as an added bonus to the regular full slate of races during the Thomas County Fair on August 2nd, so if you are anywhere close, be there, you will enjoy the show.

The evening's races started off with 15 cars in the Cruiser class and with two heat races only 13 finished. The #30s Cruiser car driven by Brent Beckman & Wade Zodrow went off the track in between turns 1 and 2 and with the considerable damage, was unable to return. The 7pm car driven by Jason McIntyre & T.J. Powell had problems in the heat race and was unable to return. The #73 Golden Plains Garden Center Chevy driven by Adam Meitl & Josh Eisenbart was strong all night with wins in the Cash Dash and won the feature.

My buds in the #88 S & W Supply Dodge driven by Mark Fabrizio & Pete Schlageck ran well with a win in their heat race and a 2nd place in the feature. The #01w Stan's Machine Chevy driven by Bruce & Dwayne Plumisto ran well along with the #00 Roofmaster's car driven by Jack Haines & Dwight Allenbaugh.

The Bomber class fielded 18 cars for the evening's event, and the majority of the racers were really competitive, with only one real standout racer. The #43J Smades Mfg., L&L Engine Service car driven by Jarod Smades had a fast hot rod all night long. Jarod and his crew had that car hooked up to the track all night and placed first in their heat, the cash dash, and the feature, flat going away. The #20W car driven by



Don Fosdick

Life in the Fast Lane

Ed Wright of Colby, and the #33 car driven by Wayne Williams of Wiley, Co. ran good in the heats, and cash dash, but faltered somewhat in the feature. The #57 car driven by Andrew Kuntz, and #87M car driven by Johnny Ohrman, along with #69 car driven by Matt Giesenhausen, came on strong in the feature to round out the top four finishers of the Bomber Class.

The Super Stock class was missing a few regular racers this evening, but that didn't hurt the racing, as it was top shelf and flat out all night long. The #11 car driven by Troy Plummer from Oakley ran well in the early events, and they got their car hooked up to win the Feature. Brad Wagoner, driver of the #15 Warta Chiropractics, MADCAP Engines, Deep Rock Cafe car ran strong all night to win his heat race and place second in the Feature. The #41 Collins Insurance, TNT Auction,

Colson Paint Works Chevy, driven by Ronnie Hill was in the fray all night long and ran strong, but just missed the car's setup and placed third in the Feature. Ronnie is the 2001 Super Stock Champion at this Speedway, so it won't be long before he is taking the checkers and showing his show casing his championship style. With the weather cooling off quite a bit and #3 car driven by Travis Towns doing some adjusting to his car, Travis was able to place fourth in the Feature.

With the cooling weather throughout the evening it had the Modified drivers and crews chasing the track all night with some hits and misses. Monty Nordyke from Holly, Co. driver of #9 Modified hit on everything right to win the Feature. Jeff Hartwell from Colby, driver of #23x Corrosion D.C. Modified, is used to the weather here and let it come to him to place second.

The #21 Culligan Modified driven by Darren DeLoach from Lamar, Co. won his heat race and the cash dash, but came up a little short and placed third. Kenny McCarty from N. Platte and driver of #8M River Valley Dist., ABC Salvage, Dirt Works Modified ran well and stayed out of trouble, to finish fourth.

Kenny didn't have a good run in our last race, and it was good to see him finish well.

The WDRA Late Models had their first sanctioned race of the 2002 season here at the Thomas County Speedway, and man what a show they put on for the fans.

The field was somewhat limited due to drivers and crews having graduations to attend. Still Leon Moore head or the WDRA, and the Late Model racers but on take your breath away show for the fans here at the Speedway. Kelly Boen from Henderson, Co. driver of the #07 Late Model had a super hot rod all night long winning his heat, the cash dash, and Late Model Feature by almost lapping the entire field.

This #07 team is just awesome, as this reporter was told that this team ran the same way last year, they are something to watch race. Brett Hallmark from Grand Junction, Co. driver of the #75 Late Model ran up front all night,

and placed 2nd in the Feature. John Kuchar from Henderson, Co. driver of the #02 Late Model won his heat, placed 2nd in the cash dash, and passed the #55 Late Model late in the race to finish 3rd. Now for the best of show award goes to Chris Kratzer from Lyons, Ks. and driver of the #55 Late Model.

Ole Chris has to be tougher than the back end of a bowling alley, as his Late Model acquired an oil leak or some fluid leak shortly after the start of the Feature, which caused a fire under the hood of the car.

At first the fire would show up when he was in the corners, and as he matted the throttle down the straights the fire would go out for a nanosecond and then come back in the corners, then the fluid leak got worse and it was on fire all the way around the track. Chris held 3rd place throughout the 30 lap Feature until the last few laps and came in fourth.

As Chris took the checkers he slowed around the track and stopped in turn four and the Colby Fire Dept. went to work and put out the fire in the car. Man what a driver and show for the fans. I'll bet that Chris will have to break in a new pair of nomax racing shoes, because the ones he was wearing during the race have to be toasted real good.

Thomas County Speedway welcomes Western District Racing Association

By SHERRY BARRETT

For the Colby Free Press

Windy conditions didn't keep the race cars or race fans from packing the Thomas County Speedway Sunday night (see Don Fosdick's accompanying column).

Here are the WDRA and Cruiser results.

Bomber, Super Stock, and Modified results will be in Thursday's paper.

WDRA LATE MODELS

HEAT 1

1.#07—Kelly Boen—Henderson, CO 2.#4—David Garmann—Johnston, CO 3.#75—Brett Hallmark—Grand Junction, CO 4.#48—Michael Cox—Littleton, CO 5.#33—Butch Clark—Grand Junction, CO

6.#7—Rod Benken—Oakley, KS

HEAT 2

1.#02—John Kuchar—Henderson, CO 2.#55—Chris Kratzer—Lyons, KS 3.#14—Dean Moore—Grand Junction, CO 4.#1c—Jim Clifton—Fort Morgan, CO 5.#3c—Curt Daniels—Paonia, CO

CASH DASH

1.#07—Boen 2.#02—Kuchar 3.#4—Garmann 4.#55—Kratzer

FEATURE

1.#07—Boen 2.#75—Hallmark 3.#02—Kuchar 4.#55—Kratzer 5.#4—Garmann 6.#33—Clark 7.#1c—Clifton 8.#7—Benken 9.#48—Cox (DNF) 10.#3c—Daniels 11.#14—Moore

CRUISERS



WDRA driver Kelly Boen of Henderson, Colo., in the #7 car moves by #4 Dave Garman of Johnston, Colo., during a heat race Sunday night at the Thomas County Speedway.

HEAT 1

1.#01W—Plumisto/Plumisto—Colby, KS 2.#73—Meitl/Eisenbart—Colby, KS 3.#00—Haines/

Allenbaugh—Colby, KS 4.#74u—Urban/Wright—Atwood, KS 5.#29A—Vrbas/Vrbas—Colby, KS 6.#3d—Doty/Doty—Atwood, KS

7.#4qz—West/Wolfrum—Goodland, KS

HEAT 2

1.#88—Fabrizius/Schlageck—Colby, KS 2.#2≤—Eberle/Felker—Oakley, KS 3.#7—Waggoner/Thummel—Wakeeney, KS 4.#w2—Wagoner/Wagoner—Colby, KS 5.#13—Potterf/Phillippi—Goodland, KS 6.#16—Glassman/Glassman (DNF)—Oakley, KS 7.#30s—Beckman/Zodrow (DNF)—Menlo, KS

CASH DASH

1.#73—Meitl/Eisenbart 2.#00—Haines/Allenbaugh 3.#88—Fabrizius/Schlageck 4.#01W—Plumisto/Plumisto 5.#7—Waggoner/Thummel 6.2≤—Eberle/Felker

FEATURE

1.#73—Meitl/Eisenbart 2.#88—Fabrizius/Schlageck 3.#74U—Urban/Wright 4.#29A—Vrbas/Vrbas 5.#01W—Plumisto/Plumisto 6.#00—Haines/Allenbaugh 7.#3d—Doty/Doty 8.#2≤—Eberle/Felker 9.#7—Waggoner/Thummel 10.#4qz—West/Wolfrum 11.#13—Potterf/Phillippi 12.#w2—Wagoner/Wagoner 13.#16—Glassman/Glassman (DNS) 14.#30s—Beckman/Zodrow (DNS) 15.#7pm—McIntyre/Powell (DNS)

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