Gene Ashley Earns CGS IMCA Sport Mod Championship

BY BEN DEATHERAGE For the Sentinel

When it came to the IMCA Sport Mods in 2015, Gene Ashley seemed to have it all figured out. The veteran racer out of Jasper managed to collect his first career championship at Cottage Grove Speedway.

"The biggest thing is I couldn't have done this without Eric (his youngest son)," commented Ashley. "He put this car together for me, and when I blew my motor in the middle of the year he gave me his so I could finish it out."

Gene's driving career started at the young age of 16 in 1970, running demolition derbies at the now-defunct Eugene Speedway before eventually venturing to CGS in the mid-70s. He would finish runner-up a few times but never won a title until now, at the age of 61.

"I've really enjoyed racing, but what I think I love the most is watching my kids (Ricky and Eric) race," he would continue,

"and to actually race against them over the years, I thought that would never happen.'

Ashley would collect five victories over the season which would lead the division. Those triumphs would come on April 18, May 16, May 23, July 4 and Sept. 5. He would post 11 Top Fives and 11 Top Tens in 11 starts in his Ashley Family Racing/A-1 Auto Supply/Furniture Options #85 entry. His worst finish was fifth, which he placed on three occasions.

"I'm not sure what we're going to do next year. I kind of want to go back and watch the kids racing again. I really enjoy

What is for certain is that both of his sons intend to race quite often in 2016. Ricky will be competing in the Sprint Car ranks full-time while Eric will be a regular in the IMCA Modified division. No doubt whatever Gene Ashley does he will be accompanied by his lovely wife and number one race fan,



Gene (center) displays his trophy with his family.

Photo courtesy of Dirt Monkey Productions

Notable Cottage Grove Track Finishes

Boys

100 Meters Varsity - Finals x

1.	Trevor Coleman	11.74a	Marist
2.	Pierce LaCoste	11.98a	Marist
3.	Josh McCluskey	12.01a	Thurston
4.	Kishon Lange	12.02a	Thurston
5.	Trey Adams	12.03a	Crescent Valley
6.	Jacob Woods	12.22a	Cottage Grove
7.	Brynden Howell	12.37a	Cottage Grove
7.	Kyan Louie	12.37a	Marist
9.	Neal van Tamelen	12.46a	Crescent Valley
9.	Chad Bottorff	12.46a	Cottage Grove

200 Meters Varsity - Finals x

	•	
1.	Adam Yarbrough 24.32	a Marist
2.	Chris Clure 24.84	a Cottage Grove
3.	Tyson Haas 24.91:	a Thurston
4.	Ben Annus 24.97	a Thurston
5.	Chase Cutsforth 25.06a	a Marist
6.	Neal van Tamelen 25.26a	a Crescent Valley
7.	Ben Canfield 25.63a	 Crescent Valley
8.	Tyler Becerra 25.67a	a Thurston
9.	Johnathan Link 25.77a	a Crescent Valley
10.	Claudio Canchola 25.96a	a Thurston

110m Hurdles - 39" Varsity - Finals x				
1.	Hayden Glenn	18.53a	Cottage Grove	
2.	Sunwoo Kim	18.60a	Crescent Valley	
3.	John Collins	18.72a	Marist	

Girls

100 Meters Varsity - Finals x

3.	Isabella Schrader		Crescent Valley
4.	Tara Crosswhite	14.00a	Thurston
5.	Mckenzie Journey	y 14.05a	Thurston
6.	Vanessa Taylor	14.08a	Crescent Valley
7.	Sarah Burrows	14.16a	Thurston
8.	Zarah Wemple	14.19a	Cottage Grove
9.	Kaitlen Haas	14.33a	Thurston
10.	Tara Child	14.69a	Cottage Grove

200 Meters Varsity - Finals x

1.	Hannah Albrecht 27.87a	Cottage Grove
2.	Madelyn Nowicki 27.90a	Marist
3.	Caitlin Kirk 28.30a	Marist
4.	Isabella Schrader 28.93a	Crescent Valley
5.	Natalia Corbitt 28.96a	Crescent Valley
6.	Kaitlen Haas 30.05a	Thurston
7.	Emma Hanson 30.25a	Crescent Valley
8.	McKenna Miller 30.29a	Thurston
9.	Emilie Simmons 30.93a	Marist
10.	Sofia Nation 31.52a	Crescent Valley

1.	Hope Powell	5:32.47	
2.	Hudson Weybright	5:33.32	Cottage Grove
3.	Kela Leamy	5:45.40	Crescent Valley
1.	Vanessa Hufnagel	5:47.12	Crescent Valley
5.	Zoe Carlton	5:50.22	Thurston

GOLF: Middlefield Men's Club

Monday, March 14		Second Place	94	Low Net
Game: 2-3 Points		Jerry Pennington		Frank LaCosse
		Jake Cox		Dave Tooker
First Place	98	Frank LaCosse		Jerry Pennington
Dave Tooker		Tom Arney		
Leon Hayes		·		Closest to the Pin
Gary Sparks		Low Gross		#5 Steve Erickson
Steve Erickson		Steve Erickson 78		
		Frank LaCosse 78		

Thursday, March 17

-16

	Game: 2-3 Best 1
lley lley	First Place Jim Hoover Jim Cunningham Jerry Singer Phil Jones
lley	Second Place
11657	Mike Helms Leon Hayes

Jim Wamsley Dick Winters Thir Lero

DICK WHITEIS	
Third Place	-7
Leroy Bodine	
Jake Cox	
Larry Eyman	
Dan Smith	

Fourth Place (tie) Frank Conti Bill Medin David Morris

Fourth Place (tie) Jack Doleman Frank Gates Jerry Pennington Dallas Doudna

Dave Tooker

Low Gross	
Jerry Singer	70
Mike Helms	72
Dan Smith	74
Steve Erickson 75	

Low Net Larry Eyman Dallas Doudna Jake Cox

Jim Cunningham

Leon Hayes

Larry Emery

#14

66 67

67 67

69

Gary Rider Closest to the Pin Steve Erickson Jack Doleman

Steve Erickson **Longest Putt** #18 Steve Lindholm

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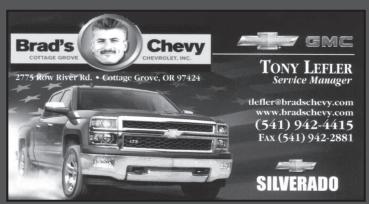
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