

WSS *from B1*

to victory lane. It is his first Speedway Motors IMCA Weekly Racing program won since September 19, 2020, at Cottage Grove.

Chad Groves, from Bend, was a respectable runner-up with Springfield's Jake Mayden behind him, in third.

Cottage Grove native Curtis Towns was scored fourth while fifth place was Derick Young of Hines.

It would be a wild and crazy Royalty Core IMCA Northern Sport Mod main event. On seven occasions, racing came to a halt due to incidents, including two red flag incidents.

Salem teenager Trevor Points set the tone early when the initial green flag dropped.

Points stayed at the front until lap six when Matt Brown would pass him.

Brown, of Cottage Grove, held first place down for

most of the race.

Now living in Winston, Aaron Bloom managed to methodically get to the front and be the new race leader on lap eighteen.

The race was reduced to its original distance with all the stoppages, and a green-white-checked scenario would be in play.

Aaron Bloom was the first to the checks to bag his third win of the year.

All three triumphs have come in KMJ Performance Oregon State action and at Cottage Grove. It was his first win since May 8th.

Lastly, in the IMCA Sport Compacts, a familiar face had his way with the competition. Springfield's Cole Trissell got into the race lead at the very beginning stages. He was the trailblazer until lap three, when Burnie Bryant took control of things.

The Sutherlin racer went pretty much unchallenged the rest of the way despite four yellows. Bryant pulled

off his fifth win of 2021 in KMJ Performance Oregon State and Cottage Grove action. Bryant's last win was recorded on May 30.

Brad Martin of Dexter ended his evening in second while Cottage Grove's Tiffany Towns earned third. Andrew Langan, of Jasper and driving for Randy Kuhl, came across the line in fourth with fifth going to Cottage Grove veteran Jim Simmons.

Cottage Grove Speedway is back in action on Saturday, June 26, for the Shriner's Cup.

The Royalty Core IMCA Northern Sport Mods will be hosting the Ralph Bloom Memorial. Other classes on the card include Late Models, Street Stocks, and Dwarf Cars.

Advanced tickets can be purchased online. For more information, check out the track website at www.cottagegrovespeedway.com or the Facebook page.

SKY-EM *from B1*

the nail in the coffin... the same type of thing tonight."

In Friday's Sky-Em mini-tourney the Lions took on Marshfield at Junction City and had another scare. In a low scoring game, Cottage Grove edged the Pirates by just six points, 35-29.

Junior Gracie Arnold was the difference in the game with 20 points, 11 rebounds and two blocks.

On Saturday the Lions faced the Tigers of Junction City, who had beaten Marshfield by 12 on Thursday and Marist by six on Friday.

Cottage Grove had rarely trailed at halftime this season, and certainly down by 12 to Junction City at halftime (27-15) was an unnerving situation in which to be.

"We looked like we were exhausted," said Royse. "We looked tired, and

Junction City came out on fire with good shot selection, patience, running their offense for 20 or 30 seconds, and they got wide open looks and made them."

There was an amazing turnaround in the third quarter as the Lions held the Tigers scoreless. "We switched from mixing zone and player-to-player and went exclusively player-to-player," Royse said. "We adjusted our mentality and showed more grit."

It was a new game heading into the fourth period tied 27 all.

Near the end of the game, Ladd made two free throws to give the Lions a 45-39 lead, but it was far from over. The Tigers hit a three-pointer from the baseline with 2.6 seconds to play to make it 45-42, but the Lions needed to get the ball in play against the Tigers' pressure.

Here's where the Cottage

Grove coaching staff came up with a unique strategy.

"We drew up kind of a trick play," said Royse. "During the timeout I told the ref what we were going to do to make sure it was legal." What ensued was a thing of beauty. Arnold took the ball out of bounds, and then made a parallel pass to Kennedy Royse, who had just joined Arnold, also out of bounds, a few feet from her. Arnold then entered the court area, and the confused Tigers didn't guard Arnold. Royse passed to the wide-open Arnold and the clock ran out.

The No. 4 seeded Lions hosted Valley Catholic (9-1) of the Cowapa League Tuesday night, after *The Sentinel's* press time.

No matter the outcome, the Cottage Grove girls excelled with an undefeated league season to be remembered.

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