

Hardesty, Beehler, Fordyce, Prettyman, Palmer did well on July 8

By Mike Weber

St. Helens drivers Todd Hardesty, Jeremy Martin and Gannin Thomas took the top three spots in the modified main, Brad Beehler notched his third top-five mini stock main finish and Vancouver's Stacey Fordyce won her fourth straight women's race to highlight the Saturday, July 8, Wilcox & Flegel sponsored event at River City Speedway.

St. Helens drivers Aaron Prettyman and Jon "Razor" Gillett notched career best finishes in the Reser's Fine Foods sportsman main and Gladstone's Ben Palmer captured his first ever mini stock main event win. Gresham's Curt Nusom captured the street stock main; he leads the division standings and along with his brother John, is a top contender for perhaps his second championship, as he also won the 2001 title.

Hardesty maneuvered up from a 15th place starting position and overtook Chris Quinn after passing on the outside lane of the back straightaway for the lead on lap 32. Hardesty

stayed ahead for the remainder of the 45-lap Baxter Auto Parts modified main with his Fast Lube & Oil open-wheel modified racer. Martin was runnerup, followed by Thomas, Quinn and Stephen Kaptur.

Gillett started on the pole position of the Reser's Fine Foods sportsman main and led the first two laps with his Carousel Concessions Chevrolet Camaro. Larry Lemons of Toledo passed Gillett on lap three and led briefly in his Chevy Monte Carlo until Rainier's Rodney Cook moved ahead on the sixth circuit. Driving the same car that his brother-in-law, Corey Cook, drove to the 2005 title, Cook led the remainder of the 45-lap race to notch his second win and fifth top-five main event finish with the Clatskanie Builders Supply Monte Carlo. Lemmons was runnerup, a straightaway length behind, followed by Gillett, Prettyman and Vancouver's Don Jenner.

Moving up from a ninth place start, Curt Nusom passed Vernonia's Rob Williams on the outside, taking the lead on lap 20 in the street stock main and

then was on his way to victory lane in the T&T Draggin Wagon Towing/Steven's Printing Camaro. It was Curt's third win and fifth top-five and John was right behind in second, followed by Williams in The Independent Oldsmobile Cutlass.

Adam Beehler of St. Helens, led the first 11 laps of the mini stock A main in his Honda until Palmer overtook him on lap 12. Palmer, 36, led the remainder of the 45-lap race in his Gladstone Auto Body/KC's Midway Pub Ford Pinto to notch his first ever main event win. Division leader Joe Cherington of Vancouver was two car lengths back in second, with Washougal's Brad Ruth third, followed by the Beehler brothers Brad (4th) and Rick (5th) from St. Helens.

Fordyce moved up from eighth place to capture the 30-lap women's main with her All-Star Sports Bar & Grill Monte Carlo. With four victories in six events, Fordyce has an excellent chance to break the series single season record (7) for wins held by three drivers - Lisa Faulkner of St. Helens, Kelso's Paula Timmons and Hillsboro's Kari Puncochar.

The 12-race CCRA schedule is now halfway over and the seventh event is July 29. The non-points Columbia County Fair race is July 19 and fans can attend this event free, since it's included in the regular fair admission.

Ken Bryan, Toledo; Jesse Freeman, Wilsonville; Todd Newton, Portland. Heat 2: Don Jenner, Vancouver; Bryan Collins, Portland; Derrick Larkin, Portland. Heat 3: Doug Hurley, Castle Rock; Cook; Schreiner. B Main: Freeman; Newton; Earl Gower, Portland; Matt Taylor, Portland; Bryan. A Main: Cook; Larry Lemmons, Toledo; Jon Gillett, St. Helens; Aaron Prettyman, St. Helens; Jenner; Larkin; Tim Williams, Scappoose; Tricia Brittain, St. Helens; Collins; Freeman.

Modified - Fast Time: Mike Graham, Portland 15.25. Trophy Dash: Scott Dorie, St. Helens. Heat 1: Curt Nusom, Gresham; Todd Hardesty, St. Helens; Sam Jeffers, Scappoose. Heat 2: Chris Quinn, Vancouver; Ray Elwess, Portland; Stephen Kaptur, Deer Island. Heat 3: Jeremy Martin, St. Helens; Dorie; Marc Sayre, Portland. Main: Hardesty; Martin; Gannin Thomas, St. Helens; Quinn; Kaptur; Sean Fox, St. Helens; Elwess; Nusom; Ray Cota, Vernonia; Marcie Kisor, Scappoose.

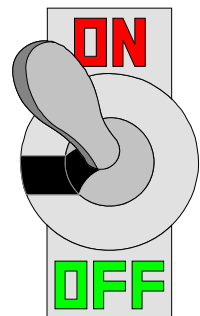
Street Stock - Fast Time: Terry Moss, St. Helens 16.55. Trophy Dash: Chris Hallberg, Sandy. Heat 1: Jereld Strawn, Portland; Jacki Graham, Portland; Herb Thomas, St. Helens. Heat 2: Rob Williams, Vernonia; Mark Reser, Beaverton; John Haagenon, St. Helens. Heat 3: Hallberg; Jeff Lovell, Portland; Curt Nusom. Main: Curt Nusom, John Nusom, Gresham; Williams; Reser; Brett Eakins, Washougal; Brad Nusom, Gresham; Haagenon; Don West, St. Helens; Hallberg; Nick Novak, Portland.

Mini Stock - Fast Time: Joe Cherington, Vancouver 16.72. Trophy Dash: Cherington. Heat 1: Scott McMullen, Deer Island; Dan Asher, Oregon City; Justin McMullen, Deer Island. Heat 2: Michael Beaudoin, La Center; Daniel Beaudoin, Washougal; Larry Pelletier, St. Helens. Heat 3: Mark Guindon, Warrenton; Marie Sayre, Portland; Adam Beehler, St. Helens. Heat 4: Ben Palmer, Gladstone; Brad Beehler, St. Helens; Brad Ruth, Washougal. B Main: Daniel Beaudoin; Kathy McMullen, Deer Island; Josh Kelsey, Portland; Asher; Frank Karnath, Washougal. A Main: Palmer; Cherington; Ruth; Brad Beehler; Rick Beehler, St. Helens; Guindon; John Mayfield, LaCenter; Adam Beehler; Eric Lindquist, Portland; Sayre.

Women's Division - Fast Time:

Stacey Fordyce, Vancouver 16.52. Trophy Dash: Kristi Somers, Scappoose. Heat 1: Kim Lemmons, Toledo; Kathy Griffin, Scappoose; Tria Prettyman, St. Helens. Heat 2: Celeste Hardesty, St. Helens; Somers; Brenda Hurley, Castle Rock. Main: Fordyce; Hardesty; Griffin; Prettyman; Teia Thomas, St. Helens; Linda Holland, Portland; Somers; Hurley.

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