

Vernonia rookie Dodge takes second in St. Helens Street Stock

by Mike Weber

St. Helens drivers Stephen Kaptur and Adam Beehler won main events and Don Greutz recorded his fifth street stock top five finish in the Budweiser Race Saturday, August 2, at River City Speedway in St. Helens.

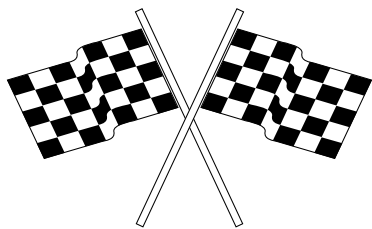
Vernonia's Ron Dodge led the first 20 laps of the street stock main, but was passed on lap 21 by Eddie Farness of Sandy for the win. A rookie, Dodge notched a career best second in *The Independent* (newspaper) sponsored Oldsmobile Cutlass. When asked what he thought of Dodge's second place finish, car owner Robert Williams said, "Outstanding, to almost win an A main in his first season of racing is quite an accomplishment." Gresham's Steven Nusom finished in third. Greutz, of St. Helens, took fourth in his Camaro for his fifth top five finish. Terry Moss of St. Helens, was fifth in his Knife River Malibu.

Reser's Fine Foods Sportsman Division leader Tricia "Great" Brittain of St. Helens, notched a second straight main event runnerup finish. Dan Smith of Scappoose, won the modified main to notch his second win and sixth straight top five as he leads the division standings.

In addition to the Columbia County Racing Association program, drivers in the NOMA Midgits and the USCA Sprints open wheel series also competed at the speedway. Tim Pyle of Gresham, won the NOMA main and Pat Canfield of Battleground, won the USCA main.

Kaptur moved up front from a fourth place start and took the lead on the opening circuit of the 40-lap sportsman main. He led all the way in his Mike Smith Plumbing sponsored 1980 Malibu and won by eight lengths over Brittain.

"I was able to pass a couple of slower cars on the first lap to get the lead and it was fun staying up front," said Kaptur. "I've had mechanical problems with the car, mainly an oil leak, but I think I've fixed it. I've been in just four races this year, so I'm not concerned about the standings, but I hope to do well in the next race (August 16)."



Brittain notched her sixth straight top five with her Fast Racing/Ridleys Rides Monte Carlo. She was fourth early in the race behind Doug Hurley, Leroy White and Kaptur. She passed White on lap 28 for second and held onto her spot.

"I was caught behind lapped cars and after I got by them, Stephen was way ahead," said Brittain. "It was a good day, the car runs great and the track was in excellent condition. It's exciting to have the division lead and I feel a little overwhelmed by it. I hope that I can keep the lead and maybe be the first woman to win the title, which would really be awesome."

Robert Jenner of Vancouver, led 37 laps of the modified main. Smith maneuvered past Jenner, who was slowed by lapped cars, moving by him on the inside lane for the lead on lap 38. Smith's STC Racing Parts teammate, Jeremy Martin, had a flat tire as the yellow caution flag came out. On the lap 39 restart, Smith zoomed further ahead with the Reser's Fine Foods racer owned by Sam and Jane Jeffers of Scappoose and won by four car lengths over Jenner. The father/son duo of Dan Fox (3rd) and son Sean (4th) followed with Vernonia's Doug Davenport in fifth.

"Jenner ran a good race and when we both got behind lapped cars, I was able to thread the needle and take the lead," said Smith, the 2006 series champion. "Jeremy and I are both one, two in points and

that's Sam's goal to see us finish atop the division. With four races left we'll have a good shot at it. Sam provides us with awesome race cars and we're having lots of fun this year, so you really can't ask for anything better than that."

Beehler passed Jason Scheibel of Kelso on lap 10 and led the next 30 circuits to win his second straight mini stock main with his Dan Garrison, CPA sponsored Honda. Deer Island's Scott McMullen took second and Milwaukie's Eric Lindquist was third.

Portland's Jackie Graham won the women's main in the Perfection Automotive Pontiac Firebird and series leader Brenda Hurley of Castle Rock, was second. Melissa McVae of Scappoose, a Rookie-of-the-Year contender, had a season best third in her Chapman Auto Repair Malibu.

RIVER CITY SPEEDWAY Saturday, August 2, Results

Sportsman – Fast Time: Doug Lockwood, Portland 15.70. Trophy Dash: Danny Asher, Portland. Heat 1: Matt Taylor, Portland; Derek Vorseth, Sheridan; Tim Williams, Scappoose. Heat 2: Asher; Stephen Kaptur, St. Helens; Doug Hurley, Castle Rock. Main: Kaptur; Tricia Brittain, St. Helens; Leroy White, Portland; Asher; Lockwood; Tony Hendon, Portland; Derrick Larkin, Portland; Pam Graham, Portland; Hurley; Vorseth.

Modified – Fast Time: Doug Davenport, Vernonia 14.49. Trophy Dash: Don Jenner, Vancouver. Heat 1: Robert Jenner, Vancouver; Dan Smith, Scappoose; Sam Jeffers, Scappoose. Heat 2: Dan Fox, Warren; Don Jenner; Jeremy Martin, St. Helens. Main: Smith; Robert Jenner; Dan Fox; Sean Fox, Rainier; Davenport; Don Jenner; Corey Cook, Rainier; Chris Quinn, Vancouver; Martin; Dennis Blasier, Scappoose.

Street Stock – Fast Time: Terry Moss, St. Helens 16.52. Trophy Dash: Steven Nusom, Gresham. Heat 1: Stephen Fenter, St. Helens; Ron Dodge, Vernonia; Brad

Nusom, Gresham. Heat 2: Curtis Zelmer, Portland; Eddie Farness, Sandy; Bob Smith, Portland. Main: Farness; Dodge; Steven Nusom; Don Greutz, St. Helens; Todd Newton, Portland; Fenter; Zelmer; Brad Nusom.

Mini Stock – Fast Time: Justin McMullen, Deer Island 16.74. Trophy Dash: Scott McMullen, Deer Island. Heat 1: Jason Scheibel, Longview; Jerry Winchester, Longview; Don Beaudoin, Washougal. Heat 2: Ric James, Portland; Adam Beehler, St. Helens; Brad Beehler, St. Helens. Main: Adam Beehler; Scott McMullen; Eric Lindquist, Milwaukie;

James; Rick Beehler, St. Helens; Brad Beehler; Scheibel; Justin McMullen; Bob Wallace, Portland; Beaudoin.

Women's Division – Fast Time: Brenda Hurley, Castle Rock 17.56. Trophy Dash: Ann Carter, Scappoose. Heat: Jacki Graham, Portland; Hurley; Kathy Griffin, Scappoose. Main: Graham; Hurley; Melissa McVae, Scappoose; Carter; Griffin; Kay Bayot, Portland.

USCA Sprints – Main Event: Pat Canfield, Battleground.

NOMA Midgits – Main Event: Tim Pyle, Gresham.

Run with Extra Confidence with Chevron DELO 400™ PLUS MOTOR OIL

The name you
trust for:

- Gasoline
- Diesel Fuel
- Oils • Solvents
- Additives • Greases



See us for...

DECK OIL SHINGLE OIL



CALL
(503) 429-6606



WILCOX & FLEGEL
720 Rose Avenue • Vernonia

★ GASOLINE ALLEY AUTO WRECKING ★ 503-429-7581

Most parts under warranty
Open Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Closed Sunday and Monday

54372 Nehalem Hwy South, Vernonia, OR 97064
6 miles south of town on Hwy 47

Buying unwanted vehicles with clear title