

Steve Baker Continues His Roll, as Does Tommy Schirnhofner Jr., with Wayne Tessean, Pat Weldon, Bill Robertson, Rich Mason, Brian Huchko, and Mike Reft Also Winning in an Eight Feature Program at Pittsburgh's PA Motor Speedway on July 19, 2008

Fairmont, WV's Steve Baker picked up his third win of 2008 and second in a row in the Pizza Hut Late Model division. Baker started sixth in the 25-lap main and took the lead on the first lap passing outside pole sitter Brandon Wearing and never looked back in leading the entire distance in the non-stop affair. John Flinner moved into second from 8th on lap 4 and chased Baker the entire distance but never got close to mount any challenge. Keith Barbara came up from 5th to get third, with Lynn Geisler up from 7th to finish 4th and 9th starting Jared Miley ending up 5th. The rest of the top ten included Mike Johnson in 6th, Brandon Burgoon in 7th, Michael Davis in 8th, Lou Bradich in 9th, and Jim Stephans in 10th. Brandon Burgoon and Jared Miley picked up the heat wins for the 20 cars on hand. Baker had lapped up thru 8th during the main. It was Baker's 33rd career LM win at PPMS tying him for 5th with Lou Bradich on the all time win list. Asphalt star Tom Beck made his first start of the season in his green and black #91 and finished 11th and was the hard charger.

In the Brougner's Machine Shop Crate Late Models, Dormont, PA's Tommy Schirnhofner, Jr. picked up his third win of the year. Neal Isiminger, driving the Laura Lukon #84 (who missed to participate in a wedding), grabbed the lead from his pole starting spot. Isiminger looked strong, opening up a sizable lead and was looking to be headed for the win; however, a caution on lap 8 for a stopped Dusty Curry changed things. On the restart, second running Mike Pegher, Jr. moved to the inside while third running Schirnhofner moved to the outside and went around Isiminger. Schirnhofner used the outside groove to keep up his momentum and come out with the lead, with Pegher now in second and Isiminger in third. From that point on it became just like the previous two features as the Schirnhofner/Pegher show ran 1 and 2 for the remainder of the event. Bryant Hank recovered from some first lap damage to finish a strong third, with Scott Schempp in for fourth and Isiminger in fifth. Mark Moats, Jr. recovered from a first lap incident to get 6th, followed by Justin Lamb, Ken Chernik, Tim Gould (subbing for Russ Kolesar), and Bryan Hoffman in 10th. Craig Koteles and Mark Moats picked up wins in the heats for the 19 cars on hand. Point leader Daryl Charlier was missing from the action. It was Schirnhofner's 10th PPMS Crate win.

There were two Sunoco Race Fuels Pure Stock Mains, one from the rain out on June 21 and the night's regular main. In the first main, Upper St. Clair, PA's Bill Robertson picked up his second win of the season. Robertson grabbed the lead on lap one from his front row starting spot and stormed to the win. Pat Weldon chased Robertson throughout the event and ended up second followed by Nick Kocuba who was 3rd followed Jake Simmons in fourth and Mike Mohn in fifth. The rest of the top ten included Bobby Heim (subbing for Bob Schwartzmiller in the #28), Vince Kamicker, Danny Rich (subbing for Joe Anthony in the 69X), Bob Betz, and Dave Slade in 10th. In the second main, after several weeks of being close, Monongahela, PA's Pat Weldon finally found himself in the winner's circle. Weldon grabbed the lead at the start and lead the entire distance. Danny Rich ran second in the 69X for the first two laps before being passed by Nick

Kocuba. Rich ran third until lap 8 when he hit the wall on the back straight. Craig Kamicker moved into third on the restart and battled with Kocuba and on lap 14 got by him for second. At the finish it was Weldon over Kamicker, Kocuba, Jake Simmons, and Bill Robertson rounding out the top 5. The rest of the top ten included Mike Mohn in 6th, Bob Betz, Dave McManus, Dave Slade, and Joe Hackimer in 10th. Craig Kamicker and Bill Robertson grabbed the heat wins. It was Weldon's first win at PPMS in a few seasons and his 4th career PPMS win.

The Miley Truck Rental E-Mods saw Austintown, OH's Wayne Tessean pick up his 4th win of 2008 in a great feature. Joel Johns grabbed the early lead and led the first 3 laps before being replaced by the J.E. Stalder. Stalder led the next five laps when Tessean, who came up from 11th starting spot, moved into second. Tessean and Stalder battled for the top spot for the next six laps until lap 13, when Stalder slid up high and tagged the wall in turn one. Stalder never stopped but ended up with two flats and had to pit. On the restart Tessean led the two remaining laps to pick up the win, his 71st career in the class. Vince Laboon had his best run of the season to finish a close second, followed by J.J. Bametzrieder, Johns, and Kevin Miller in 5th. Clayton Kennedy was 6th with dad Chuck Kennedy in 7th, followed by Denny Nakutus, Brad Westover, and Tom Martineck in 10th. Wayne Tessean and Bruce Dreistadt were the heat winners.

The Flynn's Auto and Tire Amateur Stocks also ran two features, with Kennedy Twp., PA's Rich Mason picking up a surprise win in the June 21st rainout main. J.J. O'Patchen led the first three laps before 8th starting Craig Koteles took over. Koteles was looking for his first win of the season. Eric Goldberg, who was looking for his fourth win in a row, moved up from last into second on lap 4. Goldberg gave chase and made his move on the last lap. Coming off turn four Goldberg and Koteles made contact, and Koteles ended up in the wall and Goldberg was sent to the pits. Third running Mason found himself in the lead and held off Brian Huchko for the win, his first ever in the class. Davy Lee was 3rd followed by O'Patchen and Tom McQuillan. The rest of the field included Tony White in 6th, Koteles, Goldberg, and Curt Bish Jr. In the second main, Brian Huchko, of McDonald, PA, picked up his first win of the season. Huchko grabbed the lead at the start and led the entire distance. Mason came from last to finish second followed by Tony White, Jason Herniak, O'Patchen, Dan Duseheid, McQuillan, Curt Bish Sr., Goldberg and Darren Ferguson. Rich Mason and Eric Goldberg grabbed the two heat wins.

The Imperial Heights Garage Young Guns had Whitehall PA's Mike Reft pick up his 6th win of the season in a wild main. Alec Broniszewski led the first lap before Justin Pons moved out front. Pons led the next two laps but pulled out and Tyler Atkinson went out front for two laps, followed by Mike Reft, who then went out front. Sean Graham moved into second but was taken out by Atkinson, and Atkinson was sent to the pits and Graham was done for the event. On the restart Reft held off Daniel White for the win. Brian Beyerbach was 3rd followed by Hanna Ramsey in 4th, Broniszewski in 5th, with Graham, Atkinson, and Pons rounding out the field.

SUMMARY – JULY 19, 2008

Pizza Hut Late Models

Heats – Brandon Burgoon and Jared Miley

Feature (25 Laps) – 1. Steve Baker, 2. John Flinner, 3. Keith Barbara, 4. Lynn Geisler, 5. Jared Miley, 6. Mike Johnson, 7. Brandon Burgoon, 8. Michael Davis, 9. Lou Bradich, 10. Jim Stephans, 11. Tommy Beck, 12. Jim Lepro, 13. Larry Marks, 14. Ben Miley, 15. Mike Norris, 16. Kari Gasser, 17. Brandon Wearing, 18. J. E. Stalder, 19. Chuck Medved, DNS -Keith Rodriguez

Brougher's Machine Shop Crate Late Models

Heats – Craig Koteles and Mark Moats

Feature (20 Laps) – 1. Tommy Schirnhofner, 2. Mike Pegher, 3. Bryant Hank, 4. Scott Schempp, 5. Neal Isiminger, 6. Mark Moats, 7. Justin Lamb, 8. Ken Chernik, 9. Tim Gould, 10. Bryan Hoffman, 11. Colton Flinner, 12. Jim Plance, 13. Andrew Loria, 14. Dusty Curry, 15. Craig Koteles, 16. Terry Kerr, 17. John Cain, 18. Tim Stefanick, 19. Josh Holtgraver

Miley Truck Rental E-Modifieds

Heats – Wayne Tessean and Bruce Dreistadt

Feature (15 Laps) – 1. Wayne Tessean, 2. Vince Laboon, 3. J. J. Bametzrieder, 4. Joel Johns, 5. Kevin Miller, 6. Clayton Kennedy, 7. Chuck Kennedy, 8. Denny Nakutis, 9. Brad Westover, 10. Tom Martineck, 11. Bob Damron, 12. Kyle Lukon, 13. Bruce Dreistadt, 14. J. E. Stalder, 15. Mike McKee

Sunoco Race Fuels Pure Stocks

Heats – Craig Kamicker and Bill Robertson

Feature (15 Laps) – 1. Pat Weldon, 2. Craig Kamicker, 3. Nick Kocuba, 4. Jake Simmons, 5. Bill Robertson, 6. Mike Mohn, 7. Robert Betz, 8. Dave McManus, 9. Dave Slade, 10. Joe Hackimer, 11. Don Bauerle, 12. Josh Henderson, 13. Steve Pyeritz, 14. Danny Rich, 15. Bob Heim

Make up Feature from 6/21/08 (12 Laps) – 1. Bill Robertson, 2. Pat Weldon, 3. Nick Kocuba, 4. Jake Simmons, 5. Mike Mohn, 6. Bob Heim, 7. Vince Kamicker, 8. Danny Rich, 9. Robert Betz, 10. Dave Slade, 11. Joe Hackimer, 12. Craig Kamicker, DNS - A J Poljak

Flynn's Tire and Auto Amateur Stocks

Heats – Rich Mason and Eric Goldberg

Feature (10 Laps) – 1. Brian Huchko, 2. Rich Mason, 3. Tony White, 4. Jason Herniak, 5. J. J. O'Patchen, 6. Dan Duseheid, 7. Tom McQuillan, 8. Curt Bish Sr., 9. Eric Goldberg, 10. Darren Ferguson, DNS - Curt Bish Jr. and Gary Koteles

Make up Feature from 6/21/08 – 1. Rich Mason, 2. Brian Huchko, 3. Davey Lee, 4. J. J. O'Patchen, 5. Tom McQuillan, 6. Tony White, 7. Gary Koteles, 8. Eric Goldberg, 9. Curt Bish, DNS - Dennis Keller

Imperial Heights Garage Young Guns

Feature (8 Laps) – 1. Michael Reft, 2. Daniel White, 3. Brian Beyerbach, 4. Hannah Ramsey, 5. Alec Broniszewski, 6. Sean Graham, 7. Tyler Atkinson, 8. Justin Pons