

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE---THANK YOU  
4/13/2008

### **DAVE ELY BLISTERS EVERYTHING IN SIGHT TO WIN URC RISLONE SPRINT SERIES OPENER SATURDAY NIGHT AT BRIDGEPORT**

Dave Ely of West Lawn, PA was perfect on Saturday night when the United Racing Company opened their sixty-first season as the Nation's Oldest Traveling Sprint Car Organization at the Bridgeport Speedway. Ely, driving the Gene Franckowiak owned URC sprinter, was dominant in warm-ups, flawless on his way to winning his qualifying heat race then blistered all competitors to collect the \$2,000 first place prize in the 25 lap URC feature event. Ely led all twenty-five laps and was pretty much uncontested for the entire distance. Ely now finds himself on top of the point chase in his quest to winning the URC Rislone Sprint Car Championship.

An outstanding field of thirty-five URC sprints turned out for the Bridgeport Speedway URC sprint series opener with a count of seven "rookie drivers" taking part in the show. The entire rookie field did an outstanding job with special recognition going to Brett Schoenly and Chuck Palmucci who qualified for the feature event. Schonely finished 14th in the feature and earned the Fred's Trailer Parts Hard Charger Award for advancing nine spots in the main event.

Three heat race events were presented with victories going to Mark Bitner, Dave Ely and Brian Seidel as Davey Sammons, driving the Palladino #99 won the Don Ott "B" Main.

In the twenty-five lap URC Rislone Sprint feature, Dave Ely earned the pole for winning the opening heat race of the night. At the drop of the green, Ely quickly established a commanding lead as Mark Bitner followed in second. Jason Clauss was holding down third as defending URC Champion Curt Michael (driving the Bill Gallagher owned 5G) was on a charge and racing in fourth by lap four.

The first caution of the race was displayed on lap seven when Adam Gordon and Jamie Bodo tangled in turn two. On the restart, Ely again ran to hide from the field with Bitner in a solid second as Curt Michael tried to reel in the leaders. Jason Clauss and Kyle Purks made up the top five as BPG sponsored sprint car of Chris Coyle was on a charge as well.

At the halfway point, Ely was on point followed by Bitner, Michaels, Jason Clauss and Coyle. The top three remained unchanged in the second half of the race. Then on lap twenty-one, the yellow was displayed when Randy West spun and came to a stop in turn three. On the restart, Tim Hogue came to a stop in turn four and the yellow flag was out again.

With just three laps remaining, Bitner and Michael had their last shot to take the wheel from Ely, but when the green flag fell, Ely was off like a flash. With the checker flag waiving, Ely took the win, his first of 2008 and ninth career URC victory. Bitner delivered a solid second place finish followed by Curt Michael, Chris Coyle and Jason Clauss.

FEATURE FINISH: Dave Ely, Mark Bitner, Curt Michael, Chris Coyle, Jason Clauss, Kyle Purks, Ed Aikin, Becca Anderson, Robbie Stillwaggon, Justin Collett, Kevin Welsh, Davey Sammons, Scott Pursell, Brett Schoenly, Chuck Palmucci, Dave Betts, Randy West, Gary Gollub, JJ Grasso, Brian Seidel, Tim Hogue, Gary Joey Biasi, , Scott McClaren, Adam Gordon, Jamie Bodo. DNQ- - Brandon Weibley, Rory Janne, Dave Gable, Jimmy Reppert, Dom Buffalino, Art Liedl, Joe Zuczek, Mares Stellfox, Mike Kostic, Andy Best.

LikeWise Construction Fast Time of the Night- -Davey Sammons  
Don Ott "B" Main Winner- -Davey Sammons  
Fred's Trailer Repair Hard Charger - - - Brett Schoenly

#### COMING EVENTS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL/MAY

Saturday, April 19 Delaware International Speedway  
Saturday, April 26 New Egypt Speedway  
Saturday, May 10 Delaware International Speedway  
Saturday, May 17 Selinsgrove Speedway \$3,500 to win Jack Gunn Memorial.

For more information, please visit [www.urcsprints.com](http://www.urcsprints.com)