

Senioa Raceway

Donald McIntosh of Dawsonville passed Brandon Overton while bouncing off a lapped car on the final lap to claim the March 26 finale of the Senioa Raceway Spring Nationals. McIntosh used a late race caution and lapped traffic to snatch the lead away from Overton who had wrestled away the lead from McIntosh near the halfway mark. The victory was McIntosh's first career victory on the dirt at Senioa Raceway.

"This is awesome," said an excited McIntosh in victory lane. "You could race anywhere and when I saw TJ(Reaid) check up, I was like oh oh, I am committed and just went for it. Awesome. Just awesome."

McIntosh's victory capped a double-header weekend at the 'Baddest Bull Ring in the South'. Douglasville's Michael Page won the opening round for the Super Late Models on Saturday night while Whitesburg's Austin Horton captured the weekend laurels for the Limited Late Models. Senioa teenager Ashton Winger picked up his first career win at the track topping the Crate Late Models and Blant Duke of Whitesburg won again in the Late Model Sportsman. Joining the weekend honorees were Joe Hillman of Villa Rica, Hobby winner; Dorough Bright of Newnan, Bomber winner and Baldwin's 15-year-old Parris Simmons winner of the Mini Stock main. Waco's Shane Davis and Michael Fullmer split the wins for the Hot Shots.

"It was a great weekend of racing," said promoter Bill Massey. "If you did not like that action, you are not a racing fan."

Massey was speaking of the exciting move by McIntosh to sneak past Overton on the final lap Saturday night. Evans' Overton had chased McIntosh for the first 30 laps

of the main event before the leader's tires began to heat up. Overton passed McIntosh and looked to be on his way to victory before a lap 41 caution came out for Clint Smith and TJ Reaid who had spun in turn one.

That set-up the final lap theatrics as McIntosh charged out of turn four with Overton on the top side. McIntosh did a perfect slide job to get in front of Overton in turn two, but then had the lapped car of Reaid in his path. He shot down connecting with Reaid sending his car airborne, but maintained control to stay in front of Overton at the finish line. Chickamauga's Dale McDowell finished in third ahead of Toccoa's Casey Roberts and Tennessee's Mike Marljar.

Friday night's Super Late Model main event was dominated by Douglasville's Michael Page as he went wire to wire in a caution free speed fest. McDowell finished second with McIntosh, Roberts and Overton completing the top five on opening night.

"We had some of the best dirt late model drivers in the country racing at the track this weekend," added Massey. "Thirty-five of the best and boy did they put on a show."

Austin Horton flexed his racing muscle in the Limited Late Model feature on Saturday night. The young star raced in two divisions with his most success coming with his Limited Late Model entry. Horton shot out to the early lead and then never looked back posting the win over Senioa's Clint Smith and Brook's 'Magic' Matt Dooley.

A first time winner visited Senioa Raceway's victory lane on Saturday as Senioa's sixteen year old Ashton Winger picked up the checkered flag in the Crate Late Models. Winger battled with veteran short track racing ace Bubba Pollard, also from Senioa, in the middle stages of the race. Pollard was riding the high line of the track and pushed his car too hard on lap 10 as he clipped the turn two concrete retaining wall. That scrape would cost him in the long run as his ride faded late in



Donald McIntosh of Dawsonville claimed the 2017 Spring Nationals win at Senioa Raceway.

the race.

Winger's car did not fade as he bolted to his inaugural visit to the winner's circle. Canton's Tate Nicholson ended up second in his first ever visit to the gumbo clay surfaced race track. Kyle Cochran of Atlanta finished in third with Evans' Ahnna Parkhurst fourth and McDonough's Jamie Maurice fifth.

Blant Duke worked the high side of the race track to perfection for the second straight week as he made his way past Hampton's Richard Goode on his way to another feature victory. Goode would settle for second again with Marietta's Drew Larson winning a great battle for third.

Larson outran Tyrone's Jody Knowles and Newnan's Bobby 'Wild Child' Arnold to gain the podium finish. The three drivers swapped positions several times during the final two lap sprint to the finish line.

Parris Simmons showed his prowess behind the wheel of a race car in the Mini Stock main. The 15-year-old high school student ran down veteran Mark 'Mad Dog' Newton on lap 9 and then kept him behind him the rest of the way. Simmons also was found to be legal after a post race protest had officials tearing apart his engine.

The same was true for a second straight week in the Bomber division. Newnan's Dorough Bright won his second consecutive feature and was protested once again. Officials did not find anything wrong again this week as Bright walked away with the victory and a box of engine parts.

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