

Shane Clanton dominates Billy Clanton Memorial

Story/Photos By: Phillip Prichard, MSA

In front of a massive crowd, Shane Clanton of Zebulon, GA dominated the Billy Clanton Memorial Race at Senoia (GA) Raceway on July 4th. The race was a tribute to Shane's late father. Clanton was the fastest qualifier starting on the pole, he dominated the 34 laps in the event that was rain-shortened. Clanton took home \$4,025 after capturing the win in the Southern Nationals Bonus Series by Collins Signs-sanctioned Billy Clanton Memorial at Senoia (GA) Raceway Saturday night.

Shane Clanton has won some of the Nation's largest events over the course of his 100-plus victories, but this event now emerges to the top of the list. Clanton informed all the fans that this win was right at the top. "This has to be one of the most memorable wins," stated a lively Clanton who was surrounded by hundreds of friends and family after the victory. Clanton is the current World of Outlaws Late Model Series point leader with 7 wins and 18 top 5 finishes in the 2015 series.

Clanton became the 11th different all-time series winner with his first-career win in the Southern Nationals Bonus Series driving the Weld Bank Energy, Hornburg Oil, Penn Gold and Keyser Manufacturing sponsored Capital Racing Engines-powered Capital Race Car. Rounding out the top-five was Joe Armistead Jr., Mark Whitener, Clint Smith and Austin Smith.

Qualifying set the field due to threats of rain and the FK Rod Ends Fast Qualifier Shane Clanton and Joe Armistead Jr. brought the field to green for the start of the scheduled 40-lapper. Clint Smith and Mark Whitener battled for the third spot during the opening circuits.

By the 11th lap, the battle for second would again be between Clint Smith and Armistead with Armistead getting the position as the laps clicked off. By the 23rd circuit, Mark Whitener would gain the third spot and set his sights on Armistead. With just 12 laps remaining Austin Smith would do a slider on Scott Groves and gain the fifth position.

Rains came on the 34th lap during the yellow flag and officials made the decision to throw the checkered flag and was officially over with Clanton taking the win after leading the first 34 circuits.

Three yellow flags slowed the event. The first caution would come out on lap seven for Ricky Williams coming to a stop in turn three. The second yellow would come on lap ten for Kenny Collins, who was running sixth, as he slowed with mechanical problems and the final yellow would be for Dana Eiland slowing in turn



SHANE CLANTON FITTINGLY WINS THE 1ST BILLY CLANTON MEMORIAL

four and Tim Busha, who came to the pits for an oil fire on lap 34.

In the Bomber Feature, Bobby "Wild Child" Arnold of Newnan, GA was leading the race.

On lap six, Arnold had something break in his car, sending him hard into the back stretch wall. The impact caused the fuel cell to crack open resulting in a massive explosion and fire. Arnold was able to exit the car by himself, but he was transported to Grady Hospital with second and third degree burns. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers, wishing Arnold a speedy recovery.

Visit <http://senoiaraceway.com/> for more information on Senoia Raceway. Visit <http://www.southernnationalsseries.com/> for more information on the series. The Schaeffer Southern National Series will begin on July 20 at Wythe Raceway with 10 races in 13 days in 5 states.



CLINT FINISHED IN FOURTH PLACE



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