

Pitta Wins First! Glenn Wins Second of Toyota TRD Twin 50's at AAS!

By Chase Montgomery

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Roseville, Ca- Galt's Juan Pitta (#16) won his first career race in the first race and Orangevale's Gary Glenn (#50) won the second of the two Toyota TRD Twin 50's at The All American Speedway last Saturday night, June 20th.

Race #1

Twenty-one cars took the Green Flag in Toyota TRD Race #1. The All American Speedway in Roseville continues to have some of the best car counts in Northern California. The reason perhaps might be the level of competition. AAS is the proud home track of ten of the top twenty drivers competing for the State Championship.

An invert of eight put Bobby Hodges (#89) on the pole with Stockton's Vito Ranuio (#27V) on his outside. Row 2 saw Jonathan Mawhinney (#17) and Gary Glenn (#50).

Hodges and Ranuio battled it out for the first seven laps when Gary Glenn grabbed the lead; Ranuio was second, Hodges third.

Romero got into the mix. He started fifth and worked his way through the field getting to second on Lap 11. He got by Glenn for the lead on Lap 17 and looked as if this was his race to win. Mawhinney was coming; he was fourth by Lap 13.

Halfway saw Romero at the point with Glenn in tow in second, Hodges third, Matt Scott fourth and Mawhinney fifth.

The second half of the race saw a different hard charger. It was Juan Pitta (#16). He started way back in tenth and was working his way through the field. He was seventh on Lap 30 and found himself third by Lap 38.

Romero had everything going for him and a win was insight when his transmission came out of gear down the backstretch with Glenn right on his bumper. When the two got hung up together on Lap 44, Pitta slipped by them both for the lead. Try as Glenn might, he could not get back around as Pitta held off the field for the win.

"It really feels good to finally get that first win for Bill McAnally Racing and the Drive for Diversity Program" Pitta said afterwards. "Having Eric Schmidt Crew Cheifing for me has taken my game to a new level. This is the last week we have him so I really wanted to get the win for him. My guys worked so hard the last couple of weeks... I really want to thank each one of them! I was just the lucky guy who got to drive the car tonight! It hasn't really set in yet. Man, this feels good!"

2nd Gary Glenn

3rd Bobby Hodges

4th (#61) Shannon Mansch

5th (#17) Jonathan Mawhinney

6th (#46) Zane Lovelace

7th (#27) John Moore

8th (#27x) Vito Ranuio

9th (#8) Jason Romero

10th (#35) Matt Scott

Race #2

Twenty cars take the Green for this race. Jonathan Mawhinney started from the pole with Shannon Mansch on his outside. Glenn started third with Hodges outside. Race on!

Mawhinney leads first fifteen, Mansch falls to third, Glenn to second. Glenn makes the pass on Mawhinney for the lead on Lap 16. Lovelace is third with John Moore fourth.

Halfway, Glenn leads with not much change up front. Moore gets by Lovelace for third.

Jake Gomes (#16x) is charging and is fourth by Lap 29.

Matt Scott is fifth by Lap 34 and runs right behind Jake Gomes in the race for Rookie of the Year. Glenn begins to pull away in clean air.

Scott would fall to sixth as Romero got by him with just a few remaining. Glenn would lead the most laps on his way to victory, his second on the season.

2nd (#17) Mawhinney

3rd (#27) Moore

4th (#16x) Jake Gomes

5th (#8) Jason Romero

6th (#35) Matt Scott

7th (#46) Zane Lovelace

8th (#16) Juan Pitta

9th (#89) Bobby Hodges

10th (#21) Cody Hodgson

Earlier in the day, qualifying was fast and furious. Six drivers were in the 13 second bracket and were separated by 0.035. Pine Grove's Matt Scott (#35), the seventeen year old phenom, grabbed Fast Time for the third consecutive week with a lap of 13.855/ 77.950MPH. Scott is the current Track Record holder and is in a heated battle for Rookie of the Year with sixteen year old Jake Gomes (#16x). They each have one victory on the season and numerous Top Five finishes in their quest.

2nd John Moore 13.908

3rd Jason Romero 13.920

4th Jake Gomes 13.929

5th Jonathan Mawhinney 13.957

6th Gary Glenn 13.992

The top four qualifiers were matched up in the Divisions Trophy Dash where Jason Romero defeated Scott, Gomes, and Moore.

Street Stocks

Mickey Owens (#08), the defending Champ, won the forty-lap feature for the Division. The victory was not without its controversy.

Roy Smith (#7) started from the pole with Mel Wilson flanked on his outside. From the drop of the Green, Smith was as fast as fans have ever seen his car.

Meanwhile, Point Leader Christopher Lambert (#50) was charging to the front. He started eighth and quickly got to third with sparks flying out of the back of his car from the muffler. Officials were keeping an eye on this situation because of the proximity to the fuel cell.

Owens sliced and diced his way through the field and got by both Lambert and Wilson for second. Great racing going on here! At the halfway mark it's Smith, M. Owens, Lambert, Wilson, and Kevin Owens (#21).

It was at this point that there were reports that the #50 Car was extremely loud. The Speedway enforces sound requirements for its competitors out of respect for our neighbors. "It didn't even sound like his car when he went by me" said one driver post race. "And I ought to know... he goes by me a lot!" Officials were sent to the spot where all cars are measured for sound to check the #50 Car.

On Lap 26, Owens got by Smith for the lead. Smith got back around Owens on the very next lap with Lambert coming. Lambert took the lead on Lap 28. He definitely had the fastest car. On Lap 29, results from the sound check of the #50 Car came back and Lambert was considerably over the allowable limit. Director of Competition Jeff Macey made the call to Black Flag the #50 for sound.

Lambert was shown the Black Flag seven times as the leader. When he did not go off track, he was no longer being scored and a Yellow was thrown as per the D.O.C.

Lambert went off track on Lap 36.

Mickey Owens inherited the lead with only three laps remaining. On the Restart, Owens managed to hold off Smith for the win. The victory is his third in as many races.

"Lambert had the best car" Owens said with great humility afterwards. "We were all loose off and dirt tracking it off the corners. That was some great racing. Anyone of us could have won that one after Lambert went off. I just was in the right place at the right time!"

Roseville's Roy Smith would cross second. Roy runs a very limited schedule at AAS but is a contender any time he is in a race.

With a third place finish, Kevin Owens bounces into first place in points.

Bryan Tomeraason (#80) comes home fourth. He remains fifth in the points but picks up sixteen on the leader.

"Dangerous" Dan Patton (#69) completes the top five for the night. He is sixth in the points, 58 back, with an outside chance at the Championship.

6th Mel Wilson

7th (#1) Mark Sharp

8th (#03) Casey Cavender

9th (#6) Spencer Emerson

10th (#76) "Mighty" Mike Dickson

Time of Race: 16:35.516

Margin of Victory: 0.298

Qualifying

Fast Time: Mickey Owens 15.117/ 71.443MPH

Heat Race #1

Winner: Spencer Emerson

2nd Dan Patton

Heat Race #2

Winner: Christopher Lambert

2nd Bryan Tomeraason

Trophy Dash

Winner: Tomeraason

2nd Lambert

3rd Emerson

4th Patton

Bombers

The big story here is that Richard Perez (#50) won the thirty-five lap feature for the Division. However, a post race inspection found lead in an illegal location and he was disqualified for the night. The win was taken away by officials and given to the second place finisher Cody Rickard (#24).

Rickard drove the race of his life Saturday night. He has shown that he is for real in this division. This probably is not the way he wanted to get his first victory, but I'm sure his taking of a winning Checkered Flag is not far off.

Erick Ray (#77) would cross second in this his best finish of the season. Ray is third in the points as he pursues the Championship.

Sacramento's Kenny Beaumont turns in his best finish of the season coming home third.

Roseville's David Harvey (#02), a former dirt bike champ turned race car driver, brings his car home fourth.

Rounding out the top five is Troy Whitlow (#56) who quietly went about his business and brought home a fifth place result.

6th (#73) Gary Eisenhour

7th (#55) Ray Stafford

8th (#97) Roger Ward Jr.

9th (#01) Rando Owens (for Adam Chapman) (first car one lap down)

10th (#4) Todd Clapham

Qualifying

Fast Time: Cody Rickard 16.092/ 67.114MPH

Heat Race #1

Winner: (#55) Ray Stafford

2nd (#23) Eric Bocksberger

Heat Race #2

Winner: (#01)Rando Owens

2nd (#04) Denise Lambert (for Dana & Mike Kelly)

Trophy Dash

Winner: Bocksberger

2nd Rando Owens

3rd Ray Stafford

4th Denise Lambert

There will be racing Saturday and Sunday night this weekend as part of the Placer County Fair! The Fair runs Thursday thru Sunday this weekend!

This Saturday night, June 27, The USAC Sprints are in action with the Ford Focus'. Sunday night will be the soapy goodness and family entertainment of Enduro racing.

For more info on the Fair: www.placercountyfair.org

For more info on racing: www.allamericanspeedway.com