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4th	35pts
5th	30pts
6th	25pts
7th	20pts
8th	15pts
9th	10pts
10th	8pts
11th	6pts
12th	
* 1 Point Per Lap Le	d In Grand Nat
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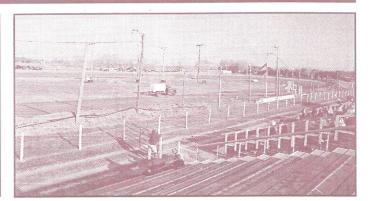
B - Feature	
*1st	20pts
*2nd	15pts
*3rd	10pts
4th	9pts
5th	8pts
6th	7pts
7th	6pts
8th	5pts
9th	4pts
10th	3pts

- M	oves	to	A-Fea	ture

C - Feature	
*1st	15 nt
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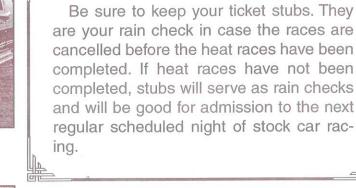
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## Johnson continues winning ways

Twenty-one Street Stock drivers showed up with their stock cars last Saturday night for the opening night of racing at Riviera Raceway as plenty of action took place on the track.

It was defending track champion Chris Johnson of Bloomfield who would take home the top prize beating Bloomfield's Travis Loecker to the finish line.

Last year, the duo won their respective heat races, with Loecker winning the "A" feature — his only win of the season.

This year, it looked as if it would be a repeat of the previous season. Both drivers won their respective heat races to start on the front row of the "A" feature.

Johnson, who took four wins last season, got the pole position with Loecker on the outside. Loecker managed to get the early lead over Johnson with Darrell Doerr of Plainview running third.

The first eight laps of 15-lap event went caution free with no change in the leader board. A caution for a loose tire on the track bunched the field. Loecker was able to hold onto the lead until the second yellow flag period occurred for Chris' brother Jim Johnson of Bloomfield, who broke an axle.

That left four laps to the finish with Loecker first, C. Johnson second, Doerr third, Ron Pettitt of Pierce fourth and Nick Opfer of Hartington fifth.

On the restart, C. Johnson was able to make a run on Loecker. The two went head-to-head with C. Johnson leading lap 12 of the 15-lap event.

Johnson finally was able to secure the top spot and went on to win his first of the season, taking charge of the points from where he left off last year.

Loecker finished second.

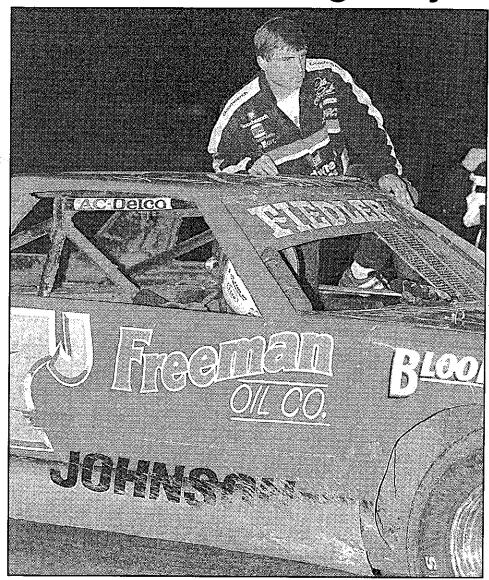
Doerr and Pettitt battled for the third place with Doerr taking home the spot. Pettitt was fourth, while Opfer finished in the top five.

Dennis Martz of Norfolk was sixth, Mike Timm of Pierce was seventh, Brain Wagner of Winnetoon was eighth, Greg Johns of Osmond was ninth and Kevin Hoffart of Norfolk was 10th.

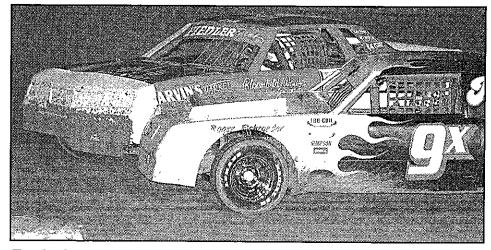
Hoffart picked up his first win taking the "B" feature. Hoffart battled. Nick Cautrell of Bloomfield for the lead.

Cautrell paced the 10-car field for five of the first 10 laps. Hoffart led the final five laps, as Dennis Martz moved up through the field to battle Hoffart in the closing laps. Hoffart won the feature and

Johnson/please see page 8



Bloomfield's Chris Johnson climbs from his Street Stock last week after winning the "A" feature.



Travis Loecker (9X) pushes out of turn two, as Chris Johnson makes his move on the outside, during a restart in the "A" feature.



## Roth wins "A" feature over Osborne

After winning four races last year, including the first and last ones of the season, Bancroft's Reggie Roth started out of the gate strong again.

The defending track points champion battled 1997 points champion Robert Osborne of Norfolk for the "A" feature last Saturday night, but it was Roth crossing the line to claim win No. 1 for the season.

Osborne got the outside pole position for the main event, while Roth started on the inside of row two.

The race started with a caution on the first lap when polesitter Travis Dickes of Madison spun in the first turn. On the restart, another incident in turn three and four on the first lap kept the race from getting under way again.

Finally on the third try the green was dropped with Osborne taking it first with Roth and Steve Matthies of Norfolk following.

Osborne led the first nine laps with Roth trying the high and low side to get around. Roth made room on the inside to pass Osborne and lead lap 10.

Roth would lead lap 14 before the next caution would fly. Matthies would be forced to return from the second place after his car broke.

Veteran Raymond Haase of Norfolk would inherit the third, as Roth led and Osborne was second.

The final 11 laps would go unchanged

for the top three positions, as Roth won, Osborne second and Haase third. Fourth went to Bancroft's Curt Zuhlke, as Jay Smith rounded out the top five.

Dickes mounted a come back after he started on the front row. A first lap spin sent him to the back of the 15-car field. However, a second yellow flew for a mix up in turn three and four moved him to the

10th spot and still the first lap was not completed.

Dickes continued to pick his way to the front and by the 14th lap he was running fourth behind Haase.

Dickes wound up sixth after Zuhlke and Smith got around him.

The next four places were decided by race officials following the roll over by Vic Lovejoy of Meadow Grove.

Lovejoy was finishing up the last lap when he was struck from behind by another car sending into a lake of mud on the infield off turn four.

The car slid sideways, before the mud grabbed the wheels and sent him into the air. The car made one complete flip and landed on its wheels.

Lovejoy climbed from the vehicle as Bobby Lincoln's rescue squad arrived.

Officials placed Jeff Haase of Norfolk seventh, Lovejoy eighth, Chad Jensen of Norfolk ninth and Travis Roth of Bancroft 10th.

Steve Matthies of Norfolk had a good run going and was sitting third when his



Defending points champion, Reggie Roth (60), and

broke ending his top five finish. He was given 11th place.

Another good showing was by David Hille of Norfolk. He finished second in his holding off Bob Milander of Norfolk for several laps. Osborne would win the heat race after he slipped by both Hille and Milander.

Hille was struck with a problem and pulled from the track on the first lap of the "A" feature.

Qualifying for the "A" feature through the "B" feature were Lovejoy, Jeff Haase of Norfolk and Jeff Pendergast.

A mix up on the second lap of the race sent J. Haase soaring over Norfolk's Bill Wells' spun machine. J.Haase continued but for Creighton's Mike Kruse he was not as fortunate.

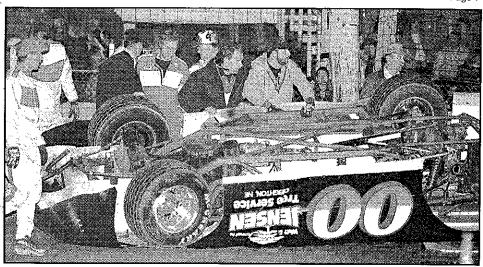
Avoiding the spinning traffic, Kruse went into the front stretch concrete wall. He rode the wall for some distance before rolling off the wall onto his roof.

Rescue workers race to the scene to help free Kruse from the overturned Grand National. Kruse crawled out from under and car and was able to look over the damage.

Lovejoy went on to lead the final nine of 10 laps to win the qualifying race. J. Haase was second, Pendergast was third.

Winning heat races for the night were Dickes, Osborne and Roth,

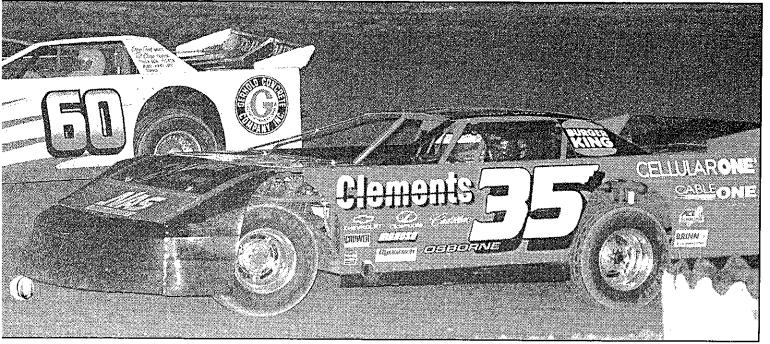
Roth had an impressive 18 heat race wins out of 19 tries last year and his starting his next string. The win Saturday night made it his seventh straight. The last loss came Aug. 8, when he tangled with his son Travis Roth.



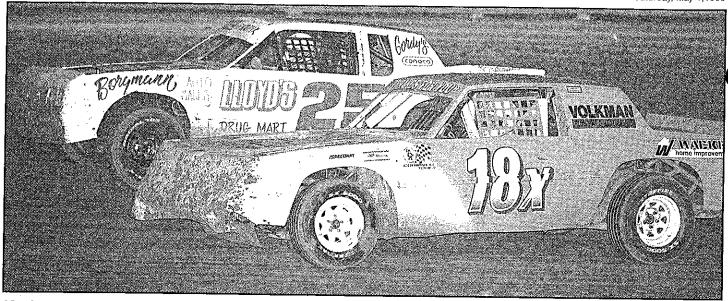
Grand National driver Mike Kruse (00) checks out the damage of his Grand National after flipping it to his top on the front stretch. Kruse made the jump from Street Stock to Grand National this year. Last season Kruse started in the cruiser division and switched to Street Stock towards the middle of the season.



David Hille (88) slides through turn two in his heat race. He would make his first appearance in the main event as a Grand National driver, finishing second in his heat.



mer-up points champion, Robert Osborne (35), lock horns last week during the "A" feature.



Kevin Hoffart (18x) has the inside line against Dennis Martz (25) during the "B" feature.

#### **Johnson**

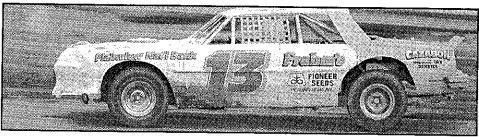
continued from page 5

Martz finished second.

Steve Fredrickson, in J. Johnson's car from last year, finished third to be the last car to advance to the "A" feature.

Heat races went to Loecker, C. Johnson and Doerr, in his newly numbered 13 machine.

Johnson leads the points by five over Loecker. Doerr is third and fourth is Pettitt. a second place finish in the "B"

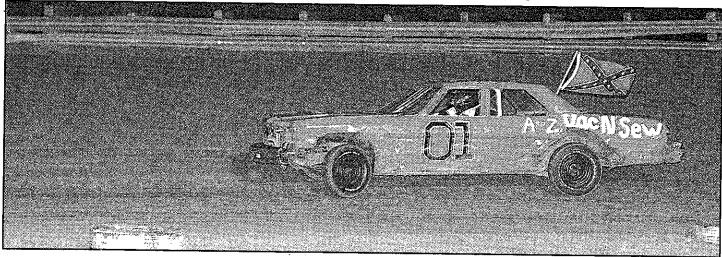


Darrell Doerr streaks down the back stretch in his heat.

feature vaults Martz in a tie with Opfer for the fifth spot.

Hoffart sits alone at the seventh spot

with his "B" feature win. Timm and Johns are tied for eighth and Wagner rounds out the top 10.



Joel Steckelberg and Chris Beltz cruised to a win in the Cruiser Division.

Drivers from Norfolk unless noted

GRAND NATIONAL: (A feature) 1. Reggie Roth, Bancroft; 2. Robert Osborne; 3. Raymond Haase; 4. Curt Zuhlke, Bancroft; 5. jay Smith; 6. Travis Dickes, Madison; 7. Jeff Haase; 8. Vic Lovejoy, Meadow Grove; 9. Chad Jensen; 10. Travis Roth, Bancroft; 11. Steve Matthies; 12. Jeff Pendergast; 13. Tom Wagner; 14. David Hille; 15. Bob Milander. (B

feature) 1. Lovejoy; 2. J. Haase; 3. Pendergast. (Heat 1) 1. Dickes; 2. Matthies. (Heat 2) 1. Osborne; 2. Hille. (Heat 3) 1. Roth; 2. R. Haase.

STREET STOCK: (A feature)1. Chris Johnson, Bloomfield; 2. Travis Loecker, Bloomfield; 3. Darrell Doerr, Plainview; 4. Ron Pettitt, Pierce; 5. Nick Opfer, Hartington 6. Dennis Martz; 7. Mike Timm, Pierce; 8. Brian

Wagner, Winnetoon; 9. Greg Johns, Osmond; 10. Kevin Hoffart; 11. Steve Fredrickson; 12. Josh Jensen, (B feature) 1. Hoffart; 2. Martz; 3. Fredrickson, (Heat 1) Johnson; 2. Johns. (Heat 2) 1. Loecker; 2. Jensen. (Heat 3) 1. Doerr; 2. Pettitt.

CRUISERS: (Feature) 1. Joel Steckelberg and Chris Beltz; 2. Kent Behmer and Andy Priester; 3. Rick Hansen and John Rohloff; 4. Lee Pehoviack and Erik Pehoviack.



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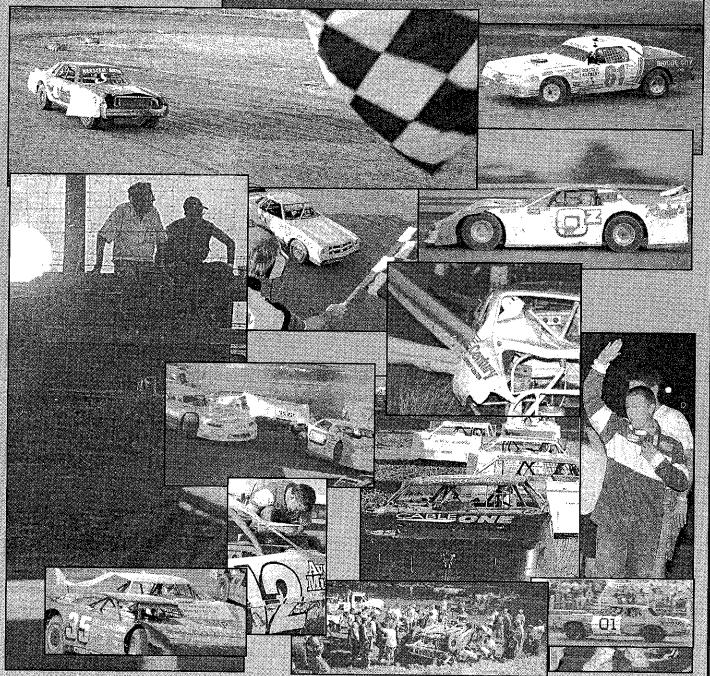
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