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## Already a first win in the ‘big leagues’ for sixteen-year-old Dave Coursol

August 16, 2010



**At the Lucas Oil race that took place Saturday at the Autodrome St-Eustache speedway**

ST-EUSTACHE – Saturday night was emotionally charged at the Autodrome St-Eustache speedway where many racing fans filled the stands to see the first career win of sixteen-year-old Dave Coursol in the competitive *Sportsman NASCAR Ippersiel* division. The win took place at the second final of this *Lucas Oil* event after nineteen-year-old Steve Côté won the first one.

“How could you not be happy to see such success from young drivers from Quebec who want to follow in the footsteps of Andrew Ranger, for instance,” explains owner and promoter Alan Labrosse. He is very satisfied with the last racing events that took place at his oval track. “The fans obviously enjoy the atmosphere, the entertainment and the fierce level of competition, especially since we take a short six minute break between the two 50-lap portions, with the eight leaders of the first portion starting the second portion in the reverse order. This brings more excitement to the finals.” That is true and the show was in full force Saturday night despite the fact that a few well known drivers were absent, among them defending champion Jonathan Bouvrette, who gave the wheel to Stéphane Aubin, the *Légende Modifiée ANCA Lettrage Provan* champion who enjoyed his first experience in the *Sportsman NASCAR Ippersiel* division.



Benefiting from the lead position after his performance during the qualifying session, Steve Côté took advantage of the situation to do what he has been doing so well since the beginning of the season, which allowed him to win the first 50-lap portion after leading every lap.

With that victory, Côté became first in the championship standings ahead of Maxime Pelletier, who before that race was first, Benoit Juteau, Jean-François Bouvrette, and another veteran, Martin Goulet.

After the six minute break to reverse the starting order of the eight leaders of the first leg, we enjoyed another wild final with the following starting order: Alain Lachapelle, Benoit Beauchamp, Dave Coursol, Martin Goulet, Jean-François Bouvrette, Benoit Juteau, Maxime Pelletier and Steve Côté.

After battling on the outside of the track with Benoit Beauchamp during the first six laps, sixteen-year-old Coursol took the lead at the seventh lap thanks to his exceptional driving. He never gave up the lead after that. The race slowed down at lap 49 which bothered the young prodigy. Dave, the son of seasoned driver André Coursol, started the last laps of the race next to veteran Martin Goulet, for a green-white-checkered NASCAR finish.

Coursol's driving was flawless, as it had been throughout the race, and he was able to keep his cool and stay in the lead for the first important win of his young career. Doing so, he became the youngest driver to achieve this feat at the Autodrome St-Eustache speedway.

Coursol won in front of Martin Goulet, Benoit Beauchamp, Maxime Pelletier and Steve Côté. It was a universally enjoyed performance, especially considering it brings him much closer to the title of Rookie of the Year for 2010.

Stéphane Aubin, who stepped in for Jonathan Bouvrette, finished eighth in the first 50-lap portion, but he had to drop out of the second portion due to a clutch problem. Steve Côté is back in the lead

of the championship standings, only two points ahead of Maxime Pelletier, as Dave Coursol is now fourth, nine points behind Martin Goulet Sr. who is third.

### **Also in Sport Compact**

Coursol also took part in the two 25-lap finals in the *Sport Compact NASCAR Lucas Oil* race to add two more podiums to his results and stay in the heated battle for the championship. He is now second in the standings, 18 points behind Steve Ladouceur who won the first race Saturday night ahead of Stéphane Gauvreau, Dave Coursol, Dave Taylor and Stéphane Gendron.

In the second portion, it was Stéphane Gauvreau's turn to finish first, in front of Steve Ladouceur, Dave Coursol, Dave Taylor and Stéphane Gendron. Gauvreau is now third in the standings, 36 points behind Coursol. After Jacques Tassé's misconduct during the first 25-lap portion eliminated one of the night's favorites to win, Marc-André Demers, Tassé won't take part in the next race as a disciplinary measure.

### **The ANCA divisions**

Stéphane Aubin, the defending champion in the *Légende Modifiée ANCA Lettrage Provan* division, had not yet won a race this season. He made up for this weakness in the final when he expertly passed Stéphane Caron at the end of the race. Sylvain Denis finished second ahead of Guillaume Daoust who experienced a career best finish. Stéphane Caron and Jean-Claude Legris finished fourth and fifth, respectively.

Steve Lagacé, who had been disqualified in the last *Production ANCA Centre de l'auto Chiniara/SN* race, was the clear winner, ahead of Patrick Leporé, Alain Bougie, Claude Boucher and Éric Chagnon.

In the *Challenge 4 ANCA Meilleur Ramoneur* division, another young driver, fifteen-year-old Jason Morand, came out on top ahead of Dominic Bélisle. We must note that 38 cars were on the track for this final which was punctuated with several incidents and ended after the allotted regulation time.

Racing will resume next Saturday night with the drivers of NASCAR and ANCA's main divisions.

Source: Autodrome St-Eustache speedway (450) 472-6222/(514) 591-4388