

**LEBANON I-44 SPEEDWAY**

## Jeff Shore defeats Will Christian in Coaches Rival Challenge at I-44 Speedway



**Pictured above is Nik Taylor** in victory lane on Saturday night at I-44 Speedway in Lebanon. Taylor held off Ronnie Taylor to capture the NASCAR Chargers feature for his first win of the season. Submitted Photo

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In the much awaited Coaches Rival Challenge, Camdeton head football coach, Jeff Shore, came out on top over Lebanon head football coach, Will Christian, as the duo went door to door in the opening two laps until Christian looped it in turn two, slowing the action. With the duo lined-up in a drag race start side-by-side restart, Shore smoked the rear tire getting the jump on Christian as the pair kept action close with Shore getting the win.

Bolivar's Nik Taylor started the second half of the season in a better result than the first half as he got the jump on pole setter and fast qualifier, Justin Blake, and held back repeated charges from point leader Ronnie Taylor in grabbing his first win of the season. With Blake following close behind N. Taylor early, it was R. Taylor who provided the competition after lap 6 as

Johnson. Blake was the fastest qualifier with a lap of 19.166 seconds for his 1st of the season just nipping Ronnie Taylor at a lap of 19.233.

Defending NASCAR Missouri State and I-44 Speedway Pro Late Model Champion Brian Brown took advantage of his front row starting spot and held back repeated challenges from Tim Swearingin in taking his second feature win of the season in the 30 lap caution free event.

Brown and Mandy Chick brought the field to the green with Brown getting the edge over Chick while all eyes were on current point leader Mike Slone who started the feature seventh on the grid. Chick would hang tight with Brown for the opening three laps until Swearingin shot to the inside and took over second place and began his charge to the front spot. On lap 7, Swearingin mounted a burst of speed and pulled even with Brown as Chick

Swearingin kept the pressure on Brown and moved even several times as Slone moved behind Chick by lap 10 as they fought for position. With Brown keeping the high-side hot, Swearingin continued to gather the top spot as the duo of Chick and Slone began to close the gap on the led duo. With 10 laps remaining it was a four car battle with Brown keeping Swearingin at bay. On lap 26, Brown slipped just a little high in turn 2 as Swearingin pulled even but Brown gathered it up and took advantage out of the corner as Chick and Slone kept the lead duo honest. As the tight feature finished Brown .164 seconds ahead of Swearingin with Chick, Slone and Ronnie Hartford completed the top five. Under one second separated the top four runners. Slone was denied a clean sweep after he captured the Late Model Dash and topped Late Model qualifying with a time of 14.020 seconds

with Harrisonville's Joe Bunkers close behind. On lap two, Brian Lewis moved around Bunkers to take second spot behind his son Richard as point leader and fast qualifier Ricky Icenhower had moved from the No. 9 spot to glue himself behind Bunkers. A slight contact between the dup saw Icenhower slow as Bunkers slid up into the turn two wall with slight damage. On the restart, Icenhower and Brian Lewis were wagging war for the spot as Richard took advantage to open a small lead. The feature went caution free as Richard Lewis was able to speed away to grab his 2nd win of the season with Brian Lewis, Incenhower, Mark Riddle and Chris Johnson completing the top five. The margin of victory for Lewis was .750 seconds as the top three were only separated by a one second margin. Icenhower topped the dash event and also set the mark in qualifying with a time of 15.586 seconds

ing, his heat race and the 15 lap feature. Juergensen and former champion Jordan Nisbett brought the pack to the green with a very close side by side battle early until Juergensen took full advantage on lap three with Nisbett trying to stay close in the caution free feature leaving some great racing for third place between Aaron Wilke, Steve Shaw, point leader

Nick Cherry and Tony Johnson.

Racing action continues next Saturday July 29th with a full program of racing action as I-44 Speedway will host Military Appreciation Night.

For more information visit the website at www.144Speedway.Net and keep up with information on Facebook or call 417-532-2060 for more details.

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