

10/5/57

Thrilling Finish to Tas In Flemington Closer

FLEMINGTON, N.J.—Al Tasmady staged one of the greatest uphill fights in the three-year history of NASCAR stock car racing at the Flemington Fairgrounds to win Saturday night's 25-lap feature that closed out the season.

The finest field ever to grace the square half-mile track served up thrilling heat finishes that were previews of the feature; one in particular saw sportsman Bob Weismeyer in the most sensational battle, fight off greasies such as Frankie Schneider, Jackie McLaughlin, Al Tasmady and others.

Weismeyer and sportsman Bob Malzahn duelled for early laps in the feature, swapping the lead until Weismeyer dashed out front and fashioned a full straightaway edge. Tasmady, starting 11th, sliced through traffic, inched up steadily and finally caught Weismeyer in traffic in the 20th circuit and went out front. No one believed he could do it, so far behind was Tas even in the 17th lap.

The next trip around cars wheeled by as Ken Marriot and Bob Boudinot locked and fenced but after freeing themselves restarted, far in the rear. Tasmady ran out the closing laps in front with Weismeyer on his bumper to the end. McLaughlin sprinted rapidly in the closing laps to overhaul North Carolina's Ned Jarrett, who in his initial showing here looked sharp in placing a good fourth. Vince Conrad ran fifth.

Schneider dropped out in the fifth lap, Malzahn in the 23rd while fifth, Jimmy Metzler in the sixth, Joe Rosko in the 14th, Jimmy Delaney in the 22nd along with Les Farley.

Malzahn and Hoop Schallie shared heat wins with Weismeyer while the two consolations, made necessary by the huge field, went to Ed Farley and Delaney. All were action-packed as was the novice race, won by Ronnie Schomp. That one was halted in the 16th lap when Lee Miller flipped in a wild pileup and tossed engine and radiator out on the track. . . . without the hood being disturbed.

Tromster Sam Nunis added a novel closing night touch by staging a social race for six wreckers, which was won by Ken Storr of the Nash-Britton crew. All competitors were Nunis guests after the races at the local Legion Hall.