



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Bobby Santos wins Southeast Tour of Royal Purple® King of the Wing National Sprintcar Series *DeCaire and Larson Win Features as Pensacola Rains Out***

*April 6, 2016 –Indianapolis, IN* After announcing Royal Purple® Synthetic Oil as the National Sprintcar Series sponsor the week before, the winged warriors of the King of the Wing series were ready to take to the track in the Southeast Tour. The Royal Purple® King of the Wing National Sprintcar Series kicked off 2016 in the Florida Panhandle and Alabama April 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> with racers coming from as far as British Columbia, Canada to compete for the \$3,000 winner's purse per event.

A Thursday evening test session at 5 Flags Speedway in Pensacola, FL led everyone to believe Aaron Pierce would be the man to beat. Pierce lapped the half-mile speedway nearly a half second faster than his nearest competitor. However, Mother Nature found a way to slow Pierce and the rest of the field on Friday with over 4" of rain in areas around the speedway forcing the race to be cancelled.

#### ***Mobile International Speedway April 2<sup>nd</sup>:***

On Saturday, the tour moved onto Mobile International Speedway as Round 2 would now become Round 1. In hot laps, Aaron Pierce lost an engine in his primary car, but the #26 crew thrashed and got the backup car ready in time for qualifying. However, that's where the luck would end for Pierce and team as they lost another engine on the second lap of qualifying. Pierce still managed to qualify second with a 14.134.

Fast time at Mobile would be set by the black #11 of Kyle Edwards as nearly broke into the 13-second barrier with a 14.061 qualifying lap. Bobby Santos, Troy DeCaire, and Jacob Wilson would round out the top five in qualifying.

Kyle Edwards dominated the first heat; the Indiana driver drove away by nearly a whole straightaway. Bobby Santos and Todd Fayard round out the top three of heat one, but it didn't look like anyone would be able to tough Edwards. Heat 2 was also the story of one driver checking out on the competition, but this time it was Floridian Troy DeCaire in Lenny Puglio's #91 machine.

With the invert for the feature, GT Motorsports teammates Robert Stout and Davey Hamilton Jr. Stout jumped out to the early lead. The first yellow came out on lap four when Canadian Jason Conn spun in turn three, and before the yellow came out the #91 of DeCaire had already moved up to third in the order behind Stout and Mickey Kempgens.

On the restart, DeCaire quickly dispensed of Kempgens to take the second spot. Only three laps later, DeCaire passed Stout for the lead.

Behind DeCaire, a good fight for second through fifth broke out. Kempgens passed Stout for second on lap as Bobby Santos, Kyle Edwards, and Ron Larson began to move forward. The tight fight continued until Davey Hamilton Jr. brought out the yellow with nine laps to go with a right front wheel hub breaking and the tire coming off. Hamilton maintained control, but the yellow would tighten the field and give Kempgens and the others one last chance to catch DeCaire.



When the green came back out, Santos moved on Stout for third and Canadian Ron Larson followed. Within a couple of laps, the handling started to fade on Santos's car and he fell to sixth by the finish. Larson would take over the third spot.

Sierra Jackson had to use her backup car due to mechanical issues in her primary, but was moving up steadily through the field. At the end of the race, Jackson would rally past Stout to finish fourth.

Mickey Kempgens couldn't run down Troy DeCaire, and the Floridian took an easy win as the checkered flag fell at the end of 35 laps. DeCaire would take home \$3,000 for the win as the Royal Purple® King of the Wing National Sprintcar Series would pack up head to Montgomery Speedway for the third and final round of the Southeast Tour.

### **Montgomery Speedway April 3<sup>rd</sup>:**

Montgomery Speedway presented a unique challenge of long straights and corners that are much flatter and tighter than Mobile the night before. Bobby Santos set a new track record earning ten crucial points that offset his sixth place finish in Mobile's feature.

Heat 1 featured a great fight between Mickey Kempgens, Davey Hamilton Jr., and Bobby Santos. The three would finish in that order and prove just how difficult passing would be on the flat Montgomery half-mile.

Heat 2 would be all Ron Larson. After a 50-hour one-way drive to race the Southeast Tour, Larson took an easy win in the heat, and set himself up as a contender for tour overall win. Jacob Wilson and Robert Stout would finish second and third, respectively. However, the big news from Heat 2 was the engine woes striking Mobile winner Troy DeCaire and putting him out of the hunt for a second win and the Southeast Tour overall win.


In the feature, Larson jumped out to a big lead over Kempgens and Robert Stout. Kempgens began to close in on Larson as the leader caught traffic by lap five. Kempgens executed a perfect "pick and roll" as he took over the lead on lap ten in traffic. On the same lap, Davey Hamilton Jr. passed Stout for third, as there was great racing throughout the pack. On lap twelve, Santos passed Stout and began to close in on Hamilton.

Just past the halfway point, Larson took the lead back from Kempgens as the #5 car began to fade. Shortly thereafter, a yellow came out as Robert Stout's #23 slowed on the main straight. Simultaneously, Kempgens, from second, and Sierra Jackson (now in Kempgen's backup car) pulled into the pits and out of the race with mechanical problems. With 23 laps complete the order was Larson, Hamilton Jr., Santos, Jason Conn, and Kyle Edwards.

When the green came out, Larson pulled away. Santos put pressure on Hamilton Jr. while Edwards and Jacob Wilson both passed Conn. With five laps to go, Santos moved around Hamilton Jr. for second; a pass that would prove vital for the Southeast Tour title.

Larson would cruise to an easy victory, the second King of the Wing feature career win for the Canadian. Santos would finish second followed by Hamilton Jr., Edwards, and Wilson. Santos's second would give him a two point edge over Larson for the Royal Purple® King of the Wing Southeast Tour title.

The Royal Purple® King of the Wing National Sprintcar Series is off until the Midwest Tour begins June 24<sup>th</sup> at Toledo Speedway in Ohio. The following two days the tour stops at the famed Winchester Speedway and Bear Field Motorsports Park in Ft. Wayne, IN.


**ROYAL PURPLE<sup>®</sup>**  
 SYNTHETIC OIL  
**KING OF THE WING**  
 National Sprintcar Series



**Mobile Victory Lane.jpg: Troy DeCaire sports a Navy hat from the nearby USS Alabama museum as he celebrates his win with Ron Larson (third, left) and Mickey Kempgens (second, right).**



**Montgomery Victory Lane.jpg: Davey Hamilton Jr., Ron Larson (winner), and Bobby Santos (L to R) made up the top three in Montgomery. Santos would beat Larson to the Royal Purple® King of the Wing Southeast Tour.**

*A Variety of High Resolution Photos Are Available Upon Request.*



***About Calumet Specialty Products (parent company of Royal Purple®):***

Calumet Specialty Products Partners, L.P. (NASDAQ: CLMT) is a master limited partnership and a leading independent producer of high-quality, specialty hydrocarbon products in North America. Calumet processes crude oil and other feed-stocks into customized lubricating oils, solvents and waxes used in consumer, industrial and automotive products; produces fuel products including gasoline, diesel and jet fuel; and provides oilfield services and products to customers throughout the United States. Calumet is based in Indianapolis, Indiana and has fourteen manufacturing facilities located in northwest Louisiana, northwest Wisconsin, northern Montana, western Pennsylvania, Texas, New Jersey, Oklahoma, eastern Missouri and North Dakota.

***About the King of the Wing Series:***

The “King of the Wing” Series is designed to work with all teams, promoters, fans and sponsors, to strengthen pavement Winged Sprint Car racing from coast to coast, working directly with all existing pavement Sprint Car Series. Long term plans for the Series are to provide a competitive rules package that can apply to all Sprint Cars and create race events that truly allows the promoters and racers to build bigger venues, show the sponsors and fans the world's fastest short track cars, and to promote some of the best short track drivers competing head-to-head no matter what part of the country they are from or what Series they run on a regular basis. This is the only pavement Sprint Car Series that features competitors from all across the United States and Canada.