

The 5th Annual Jake's 150

June 25, 2005

The festivities were centered before the massive crowd on the front stretch stands. News Director Scott Nigh greeted drivers as they were introduced on the grid. This year the fastest Stock machines joined the field for the prestigious Jake's 150. Little did the fans in attendance know that the race they were about to see would be one of the most intense Figure 8 contests of the year. Rookie sensation and fast qualifier Corey Turner topped the charts at 16.870 seconds then drew a 10 for the starting inversion. This set Casey White and Jeff Hizer on the front row.

The green flag flew as fireworks lit up the night's sky. Hizer shags the lead as White spins in turn one. On lap two, Stock class driver Larry Hahn spins through the crossover bottling up 2003 World Champion Bill Tunny Jr demoting him to one lap down status. Over the next five circuits, Bill catches Hizer and surpasses him to get on the tail on the leaders lap. Turner has worked his way into second position with RJ Norton Jr following close behind. Ben Tunny is narrowing the distance and sits in fourth spot.

After a restart, Corey uses the lap traffic to take the point with inaugural Jake's champ Rodney Sizemore in the runner-up slot and young Ben Tunny third hole. His dad has cut his disadvantage down to 1/2 lap on the leader Turner. Another red flag comes out because of the stalled Donnie Garrigus III machine at the one-third mark with the top five being Turner, Sizemore, Norton, 2003 Jake's winner Curtis McMurtrey, and Doug Greig.

The race is now back under green with Bill Jr just outside the top group in sixth position. Over the next fifteen circuits, he begins slicing his way through the drivers rapidly. The top four race tooth-and-nail trading the prime spot. First it was Norton up front followed finally by Bill Tunny Jr on lap 90. His charge from one lap down to the front was complete. And now the #10 machine is pulling away.

The amazing run ended on lap 99 when Bill and George Lane had a thunderous crash at the crossover crushing Bill's hopes for a Jake's win. He walks away from the wrecked machine to the appreciation of the fans for a good run. The restart saw Norton now leading with teammate McMurtrey in tow followed by Ben. The trio began what would be a 50-lap tussle for the race victory.

Ben Tunny moves to the runner-up spot on lap 119 and applies the pressure to Norton. The red flag on lap 126 puts the three drivers once again bumper-to-bumper. RJ and Ben race side-by-side for several circuits with 10 to go and McMurtrey lurking. Amazingly with four laps left, they are three wide in the North end of the track for the lead of the 5th annual Jake's 150. Norton comes out of this battle with the lead and the victory become the first driver to ever win the Jake's for a second time. McMurtrey finishes second to secure his point lead with Ben Tunny third, top rookie Corey Turner fourth, and Doug Greig fifth. It was RJ's second Figure 8 win in as many starts in 2005.



Two-Time Jake's 150 Champion RJ Norton Jr

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F	ST	#	Driver	Time	TD	Laps
1	5	1c	RJ Norton Jr	17.262		150
2	9	1	Curtis McMurtrey	17.056	4	150
3	8	9	Ben Tunny	17.084	3	150
4	10	87	Corey Turner	16.870	2	150
5	3	33	Doug Greig	17.290		149
6	2	5	Jeff Hizer	17.349		145
7	7	28	Jeff Shackelford	17.110	1	145
8	13	9L	Leonard Basham	17.951		144
9	16	00	Danny Turner	18.079		143
10	25	74	Charlie Hargraves	no time		140
11	12	8	Rodney Sizemore	17.503		136
12	1	41	Casey White	17.372		128
13	11	77	Donnie Garrigus III	17.411		117
14	18	03	Ricky Schaeffer III*	18.747		102
15	4	10	Bill Tunny Jr	17.282		99
16	14	11	Jimmy Kirby	17.984		91
17	24	29	James Swatts*	20.926		89
18	17	89	Lonnie Goble	18.197		82
19	21	75	George Lane	19.893		76
20	15	31	Bobby Whitaker	18.034		36
21	27	23	Scott McGill	no time		17
22	20	19	Ronnie Rigdon	19.558		16
23	22	30	Anthony Whiteman*	20.079		8
24	26	71	Steve Frost	no time		4
25	6	17	Mark Tunny	17.148		2
26	19	01	Larry Hahn*	18.871		1
27	23	16	John Lord	20.538		1
		95	Chris Stewart*	19.351		
		50	Ron Stone*	22.007		
		23	Jason McDonough	22.846		

Fast Qualifier - Corey Turner 16.870 (draw was 10 invert)