



KIRILA RACE TEAM
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RACING NEWS UPDATE

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KIRILA DANCES IN THE RAIN

This past Tuesday night, July 17, 2007 the Kirila team was able to get another win at the Summer Shootout at Lowe's Motor Speedway. Gene was able to race his legend car to take the checkered flag even in the rain.

The following is the press release posted on www.legendsnation.com and written by their reporter:

It hadn't rained all night during week seven of the Summer Shootout until right before the Young Lions race started.

The rain was just added stress to a night where the drivers had one last chance to secure spots in the top 10 in points for the Sizzler championship chase (that will compete over the final three weeks of the shootout).

The rainy race couldn't even get started because of Jordan Penninger and Chase Fleming's wreck, which was quickly followed by Dylan Presnell's spin.

On the second restart, the cars looked like they were driving in slow motion as the rain fell a little harder and the track got wetter than it was when the race started. Gene Kirila, III was working his way through the field, carefully passing cars on the slippery track. Then came another caution. What happened next was quite surprising, considering this would be the third restart in only two laps. The track officials pulled out the choose sign and let the Young Lions choose their groove. The restart kept Kyle Pierce in the first position with Penninger on the outside. Penninger seemed to miss a shift and spun, but no caution was thrown. The race went green for a few laps and a good battle formed between Kirila and Pierce for the lead position. Both drivers did a great job of keeping their cars controlled while passing each other back and forth. On lap seven, Pierce had the lead, but Kirila passed him when he hit a puddle and got loose.

On lap 10, Pierce made one last attempt to try to pass Kirila, but overdrove the corner and lost a position to Tyler Millwood. Pierce had disappointment in his voice after the race.

"I think we would've done a lot better if we had non-cut tires, but I don't know," said Pierce. "I just run my race the

best I could and did what I did. (On the last lap) I overdid it a little thinking I could catch him (Gene Kirila, III). I just didn't have good tires to do it with."

Millwood's race was full of ups and downs, but he brought home a second-place finish at the last second.

"On the start, I was passing for the lead coming out of (turn) two and I caught some dry ground and it turned me straight into the wall with another kid on the outside of me. I got out of that pretty good, but I feel sorry for the other guy, but it's racin'. I restarted in sixth and just eased my way to the front. On the choose, I chose on the bottom and got two or three spots there. Just easy on the gas and shifting different gears trying to see which gear is better." Kirila was happy to get his second win of the Shootout although he did not make the Sizzler.

"That was a difficult track to drive. They had the oil down, they had (strip grip) they put down yesterday and made the track really slick, but I got a couple of runs off the corners. I tried to keep it in a high gear. It made it off the corner fine. I had a great setup by Devo Motorsports. It was a good battle between us (him and the Pierce). He got me in the corner, pushed me in, but I saved it b. He overshot the corner and fell behind and I got two laps and I took the win." Said Gene Kirila III.

Additional Comments From Kirila Team Below

Gene missed the chase ("sizzler") because INEX officials stripped his points after race 5. Gene finished in 5th place, but got into an off-track incident that made the officials deduct his points. As the cars exited the track after the checkered flag one of Gene's competitors was unhappy about some banging during the race and the competitor rammed Gene's car several times. Gene was not to be intimidated, and retaliated with a bang back. The track official quickly made a decision to disqualify both drivers and strip there evening point's efforts. Gene's retaliation was a bad decision because it cost Gene a run at the series championship. The point's race works like the NASCAR chase and only the top 10 race for the championship during the last 3 races of the 10 race series. Without the penalty Gene would have been in the top 5 in points and racing for the series championship. Being the only racer with two wins in his first Shootout series makes this mistake one he will live with for a long time but one that helps him mature.

The kids seeing the NASCAR guys banging after the race sets a bad example and we are happy to see INEX teaching good lessons.

Another tough learning experience for our young driver.

The Kirila team of Jesse and Gene will be racing the remaining Shootout races thru August 5th and also run other southern tracks through the remainder of the season which climaxes at the Nationals in Las Vegas in October. We will keep you posted between now and then. Thanks for all your support.