

*05/09/09*

Great weather, a good turnout of fans, and thrilling racing made for an exciting night at Sandia Motor Speedway on Saturday night. Willis and Ashley made considerable improvement over their season opening showing last week.

Willis started the modified heat on the pole and jumped out to the lead. He kept a smooth line and led from start to finish in recording his first win of the season. Mick Jepsen finished second and Garry Richards II finished third. Ashley started last, but kept the pack in sight as she seemed to be faster than last week.

Willis started on the pole for the A-main and quickly jumped out to the lead. Charlie Daniels moved into second place and stayed right on Willis's tail. Willis was much faster than the previous week and was able to hold off Charlie for the majority of the race. The seasoned veteran patiently waited for an opening and finally found it on lap 21. He got under Willis and took the lead with 4 laps remaining. Several yellow flags ensued including a scary collision between Garry Richards II and Mick Jepsen in turn 1. The race was called complete after Bruce Martin hit the front straight wall with 2 laps remaining. Willis ended up in second place after leading 21 of the 23 laps. Ashley started last but never fell off the lead lap. She seemed to get stronger as the race went on and should be challenging the pack before the year is out.

The modified field seems incredibly well-balanced this year with several drivers capable of capturing an A-main win. This looks to be an exciting season.