Story By: URSS - JETMORE — Lance Davis had been in the same situation before: Start up front and then slowly drop back. He was expecting the same thing when he led early, then fell a few spots.But the Sublette driver found something, reversing the trend en route to winning Saturday night's United Rebel Sprint Series race at the Great American Dirt Track at Jetmore Motorplex — his first URSS victory.

“Usually when I start dropping, I keep dropping,” he said. “This was a lot of fun.”Davis found the fast line before anyone else, then did some nifty driving to stay up front after battling through a rough weekend and engine trouble a week ago at the fourth annual Wheatshocker Rebel Nationals at RPM Speedway in Hays.Davis started outside the front row, along pole-sitter Jordan Randles. Davis jumped into the lead, pacing the field through the first two laps before Connor Atkinson spun in turn two to bring out the lone caution of the race. Zach Blurton followed Davis back to the restart, with Kirby Hagans, Ray Seemann and Darren Bowman in tow.Davis would lead the next two laps before Seemann passed him for the lead after Hagans pulled off the track, and Blurton did, too.

“I thought we could have been gone, but this thing was tight again,” Seemann said. “It was the same thing that happened at Hays. We have something going wrong, and we've got to figure out what it is.”Bowman followed Seemann's lead, relegating Davis to third on lap five. Davis continued to slip down the chain, eventually falling as low as fifth on the sixth lap.“I tried the bottom, and the bottom wasn't there,” Davis said. “I moved up to the top, and the car got faster.”Davis piloted his sprint car up to the top and found the fast groove. He moved back around Josh Fairbank and Randles to settle into third behind Bowman — who got into first for a lap — and Seemann. Davis passed Bowman on lap 11, then had a solid three-way battle with Seemann and Bowman for the top spot.

“The outside was definitely the fastest,” Seemann said. “If I would have got up into the groove

where it was good, it just went straight and didn't want to turn. So I had to drop down. I figured someone was going to come up there.”On lap 14, Davis made a move coming out of turn four, then powered this way through the next curve to take the lead.“When I got passed, I moved up to the top,” he said. “The car liked it. Then it was a matter of keep looking forward.”

“I couldn't believe where Lance Davis came from,” Bowman said. “I was trying to run low, and I thought I was pretty good there but I couldn't get out of the corner good. Raymond, he could get out of the corner better, and I was still screwing around down there on the bottom. All of a sudden, Lance Davis came through there,and I thought, ‘Man, I've got to go up.’ It wasn't bad. Then I could carry a ton of momentum.”

Davis would lead the rest of the way as he slowly distanced himself for the win.“Just try to stay focused and keep looking straight ahead and finish strong,” Davis said about the remaining laps after he got into the lead.While Davis created some cushion, the battle between Seemann and Bowman heated up. Bowman moved into second on lap 23 before Seemann retook the position a lap later, only to give it back on the final lap as the Kinsley driver finished second, with Seemann in third.“(Davis) must have been searching for a line and found the fast one for us,” Bowman said. “Lap traffic kind of messed with us a little bit, but that's part of it — getting through there.”

Ty Williams, who was running fourth after starting 13th, spun in turn four on the final lap, allowing Fairbank to finish fourth and Brian Herbert to take fifth. Keefe Hemel, who spun in turn four during his heat race but kept the car going only to finish last in the heat, drove one of his best races of the season to move from the back of the field to sixth.

Heat race winners were Herbert, Seemann and Blurton.

The Keizer Aluminum Racing Wheels Hard Charger Award went to Hemel, who started 18th and finished sixth.

For more information about the United Rebel Sprint Series, contact Rick Salem at (785) 475-7010
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Feature results

1. Lance Davis, 2. Darren Bowman, 3. Ray Seemann, 4. Josh Fairbank, 5. Brian Herbert, 6. Keefe Hemel, 7. Jordan Randles, 8. Kris Moore, 9. Barry Crane, 10. Jared Kern, 11. Connor Atkinson, 12. Jerry Caldwell, 13. Steve Dalton, 14. Cody Caldwell, 15. Ty Williams, 16. Garth Griffith, 17. Ray Blackburn (DNF), 18. Zach Blurton (DNF), 19. Kirby Hagans (DNF).

IMCA Modifieds

Car #

Place

Driver

Points

66T

1.

Travis Sherfick

40

G3

2.

Brendon Gemmill

39

66D

3.

Dylan Sherfick

38

1M

4.

Cody Gearhart

37

17M

5.

Shannon Maughlin

36

16

6.

Kevin Gray

35

01

7.

Jesse Smith

34

21

8.

Van Gemmill

33

56J

9.

Joshua Appel

32

44

10.

Mike Lunow

31

98

11.

Danny Keller

30

0

12.

Jason Schoenberger

29

3C

13.

Casey Jo Wanger

28

M15

14.

Michael Martin

27

22

15.

Trent Gray

26

88J

16.

Jack Kirchoff

25

20

17.

Rick Julian

24

A2

18.

Randy Wilson

23

12C

19.

Clint Smith

22

9

20.

Shane Hudson

21

99J

21.

Justin Eiserhauer

20

28

22.

Seth Beard

19

75

23.

Tad Davis

18

16A

24.

Ronnie Akridge

17

32

25.

Jason Edwards

17

A1

26.

Bill Albin

17

IMCA Sport Mods

Car #

Place

Driver

Points

2

1.

Bryan La Riviere

40

37

2.

Bart Baker

39

56M

3.

Mike Appel

38

14W

4.

Blaine Walt

37

10T

5.

Toby Witthuhn

36

85C

6.

Clay Sellard

35

18P

7.

Shane Pertel

34

22

8.

Dan Rogers

33

33D

9.

Brenden Damon

32

3R

10.

Rance Schindler

31

15

11.

Darren Crouch

30

1S

12.

Cody Stefanski

29

IMCA Stock Cars

Car #

Place

Driver

Points

20M

1.

Perry Misner

40

10

2.

Dusty Witthuhn

39

57

3.

Dalton Bauer

38

2

4.

Cody Zimmerman

37

6X

5.

Jason Schoenberger

36

40R

6.

Wes Wadel

35

1B

7.

Marty Barth

34

88

8.

Mel Law

33

19

9.

Brett Copeland

32

58

10.

Parker Leighty

31

46M

11.

Mike Wilson

30

58R

12.

Rob Sellard

29

16

13.

Brent Morris

28

46

14.

Cole Wilson

27

2S

15.

Reagan Sellard

26

63C

16.

Austin Carter

25

55

17.

Keith Riley

24

40E

18.

Rich Wadel

23