

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Contact: Diane Swintal  
dswintal31@yahoo.com  
949.439.7871

[www.prototypelites.com](http://www.prototypelites.com)



DOWNNS EARNS HIS FIRST VICTORY OF THE SEASON, WEISERG TAKES L2

MILLVILLE, NJ JUNE 27 – Matt Downs got around polesitter Frankie Montecalvo in turn one at the start and never looked back, taking his first win of the season in Round 6 of the Cooper Tires Prototype Lites Championship at the Mazda Festival of Speed Presented by VisitFlorida.com at New Jersey Motorsports Park.

The caution-free, 34 lap event saw fast, close racing and numerous passes throughout the 16-car field, including a march up the charts by #8 Anthony Nicolosi . But once he got around Montecalvo (#66 Gunnar Racing) Downs only saw the action through his rear view mirror – luckily for him, not as close as his competitors would have liked.

“It’s fun!” smiled Downs, driving the #12 Eurosport Racing/Hormel Élan DP02 in Lites 1. “We got a little spoiled last year when we won a couple of times, but this year it was like, man, we can’t win! And now we’ve won, so hopefully it’s a good omen. Frankie raced me really clean – he’s a 19 year old kid, but he did a really great job. And then for some reason, I was able to pull away. Charlie (Shears, #21 Inspire Motorsports/US Builders) was catching me – I think he would have had me, I think Nicolosi would have had me, but the race ended, so I’m thankful for that!”

For Nicolosi (Performance Tech/Medical Connections), starting 8<sup>th</sup> and finishing 2nd Sunday was a mid-course correction on a season that started well, with a second place finish in the first race of the year, but has been plagued by mechanical issues since.

“When I have a good car – and the team always gives me a good car - but when nothing’s going wrong and it’s in my control, I can definitely get to the front and even win a race,” said Nicolosi. “I’ve taken poles, I’ve got the seconds and thirds so I’m very happy at the moment. But if I can have a good car at Utah, I’d like to do the same thing!”

John Weisberg, in the #75 BERG Racing/REDCOM West WR1000 in Lites 2 returned the late pass favor to Lee Alexander (#23 Factory 48 Motorsports) – in Saturday’s race, it was Alexander getting by Weisberg with two laps to go for the L2 win. Sunday, it was Weisberg’s turn.

“Our motor was off all through the race – I had no straightaway speed, so I was just trying to keep up my speed as much as possible through the corners, pressuring Lee,” said Weisberg. “Luckily, at the end there, we caught a little traffic, which brought him back to me. He made a mistake in turn eight and I got around him – and that was it. It’s great to be on the top step again!”

The Cooper Tires Prototype Lites Championship continues July 9 - 11, with Rounds 7 and 8 held in conjunction with the Larry H. Miller Dealerships Utah Grand Prix at Miller Motorsports Park.

###