

SITTERLY IS A SHAMPINE MEMORIAL WINNER FOR THIRD TIME

May 27, 2012 – Otto Sitterly wheeled his G&I Homes Nicotra Racing No. 7 to the Jim Shampine Memorial 75 win Saturday night at Oswego Speedway, his third victory in the prestigious event and second in two races in the young 2012 Oswego supermodified season.

Sitterly started 12th for the second race in a row and methodically worked his way to the front. He sat in 11th spot behind Randy Ritskes for approximately 20 laps before making some moves just past lap 20.

Otto first passed Ritskes on lap 22 to move into the top 10. Then, only a couple laps later, the blue Nicotra machine disposed of Dave Gruel, Tim Snyder and Dave Danzer to move into seventh.

After Otto worked his way into third on lap 54, a fierce battle with rival Ray Graham Jr. ensued for the runner-up position. Otto made the pass on Graham on lap 68 and set his sights on leader Joey Payne with less than 10 laps to go.

Sitterly made an outside move on the New Jersey native on lap 72 to take the lead. With only a handful of laps remaining, Otto pulled out to a 1.3-second advantage over Payne before the checkers waved.

“Joey is a real tough racer and they have that car going pretty good,” said Sitterly. “I tried him on the bottom a couple times and he wasn’t going to let me have it. So, if you can’t go under him there is only one thing left to do. I knew I needed to get close to him, and Joey and I have run a lot of years together and never really had any problems. He ran me clean and I appreciate that.”

Sitterly’s win marked his 22nd overall in the supermodified division at Oswego, moving him past speedway legends Todd Gibson and Mike Muldoon.

“You know how it goes,” Sitterly said. “When you get on a roll things are going good. As soon as you fall off the ball it is all over, you know.”

With two wins already in the bag, Otto will now look to go three-for-three on the Oswego season. Next up for the Sitterly-led Nicotra Racing team is a regular 50-lap show this Saturday, June 2.