

OTTO PERSEVERES TO 2ND-PLACE FINISH

OSWEGO, N.Y. (June 6, 2015) – A wild Novelis Supermodified 50-lap feature Saturday night at Oswego Speedway resulted in Otto Sitterly wheeling the John Nicotra Racing / G&I Homes / Riccelli Northern No. 7 to a solid runner-up finish to Dave Gruel.

Otto started 16th in the 24-car field and as everyone would expect, once the green flag waved he began his march to the front.

After passing several cars in the opening laps, Sitterly advanced to the top 10 on lap 10 and moved into fifth on lap 22. From there, Otto rode for a while behind a fast-running Pat Lavery before making his way past the Oswego driver on lap 32.

With less than 20 laps to go and three fast cars in front of him (Michael Muldoon, Dave Gruel and Ray Graham Jr.), it looked as though a fourth-place run would be all the Nicotra 7 would be able to muster after winning the opening two features of the year.

Everything changed on a lap 48 restart. Sitterly, who said his car got a little too tight late in the race, shot to the outside of Graham and finally made his way past the No. 91. A solid third-place effort turned into a runner-up finish when Muldoon, who had led the entire race, began to run out of fuel on the last lap. Gruel, Otto and others shot past Muldoon's No. 51, setting Otto up for a second-place run to Gruel.

"The car just got a little too tight toward the end," Otto explained in the post-race interview. "We were decent at the beginning but I think the track was probably pretty fast; definitely a lot of fast cars up front and some guys are very tough to pass. I got behind the 22 (Lavery) and rode for a while, but those guys were all fast. I think lap traffic really helped me get up a few more spots."

Sitterly went on to discuss the late-race cautions and lap traffic that helped him advance to second.

"The last restart we were in a cluster of lap cars and I thought we had a real legitimate shot. I got the 91 (Graham) and was close to the 51 (Muldoon), and I thought if we could get him the 50 (Gruel) and I could break out and I'd have a chance, but the yellow came out and that put the 91 back in front of me. It was hard from there because we were all fast cars and in line, and when you get behind fast cars like that, it really is hard to get the car to turn."

Otto's second-place run, coupled with his pair of wins to open the season, have the Nicotra 7 ahead in Novelis Supermodified point standings with three races down in the young season.

Next up will be Twin 35-lap features Saturday, June 20. In the meantime, Otto plans to drive the Bodnar / Shullick No. 94 ISMA Supermodified at Oswego this Saturday, June 13.

John Nicotra Racing is a Supermodified race team owned by John Nicotra and maintained by driver and chief mechanic Otto Sitterly. Nicotra Racing is based in Homestead, Fla., and Canajoharie, N.Y., and has won four International Classic 200s, six Oswego Supermodified track championships and now 21 regular-season Oswego feature races since the team's debut in 2007.

Nicotra Racing is proud to be sponsored by G&I Homes, Riccelli Northern, 5 Brothers Produce, Burnac Produce Limited, Provincial Fruit Co., Flavor First, Georgia Crate & Basket, Rite-Pak Produce, Quality First Produce, Sam Accursio Farms, Ritz-Craft Homes, Torbert Farms, Elite Harvesting, Green Bean Packers and Housby/Sunrise Growers.