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Pro Shocks Shock of the Week
This Week's Big Surprise in Short Track Racing
As Decided by the Staff of Speed51.com





Michael Pilla
CRA Southern Six Pack Series

Pro Shocks "Shock of the Week"

Every week, our esteemed panel at Speed51.com will determine the most improbable, fascinating or "shocking" moment from the week and award the Pro Shocks "Shock of the Week." The winner each week will receive a product gift certificate from Pro Shocks, the leader in short track shock technology and performance. At the end of the season, the most "shocking" moment will be awarded the "Shock of the Year" and the winning driver will receive a special gift from Pro Shocks.

For this week's "Shock of the Week..."

"Who is Michael Pilla?"

After the CRA Southern Six Pack portion of the North South Shootout at Concord Speedway (NC), that was a question that a lot of people were asking. Pilla inherited the lead late in the race when Ross Kenseth ran out of fuel and he nearby went on to win the big show before spinning his tires on one of many restarts during the caution-filled event. Pilla eventually finished third and had plenty of people wondering just who he was.

That performance earned **Michael Pilla** this week's Speed51.com Pro Shocks "Shock of the Week" award.

By the way, Pilla is a 19-year-old graduate of karting who is from Florida. He's been learning the ropes of asphalt racing in what was then known as the ASA Late Model Series and in Super Late Model events as far north as Pennsylvania. He now lives not far from the Concord track and this probably won't be the last time that you hear about him.

Here were a few voter comments about Pilla's performance:

"Michael Pilla [gets my vote] whoever the heck he is, he ran very well and let some laps late in the North South Shootout."

"A star is born? Maybe, maybe not. But for this week, we were all shocked by the performance that Michael Pilla put on at Concord."

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Also receiving votes this week were:

The CRA Feature at the North South Shootout - Every single vote for the Pro Shocks Shock of the Week this time around was for something from the CRA Southern Six Pack race at Concord Speedway (NC) on Saturday night. It was a wild show and a few voters couldn't even pick their biggest shock driver-wise from the night and just cast a ballot for the entire race.

Here was one of those votes:

"The CRA Feature at Concord: It sounds like some drivers pulled their helmet straps too tight! It's a shock because standard CRA events don't have that kind of look. Package a large group of drivers that don't normally race together with a race track that isn't very forgiving...on a cold night at the end of the season...and you get one crazy, shocking and out-of-character race!!!"

Colt James (CRA) - Colt James won the CRA portion of the North South Shootout and along the way, the low-buck, highly determined Texan shocked a few of our voters and earned an honorable mention in the race for the Pro Shocks Shock of the Week.

Here were a few of the voter comments about James' performance:

"Shock of the Week goes to Colt James for pulling off the win at the North South Shootout, after what felt like a fortnight. When others were flipping their rides, getting caught in wrecks or running out of gas, James steadily made his way to the front. Just goes to show it doesn't take a huge name or a big budget to bring back results."

"Colt James winning the CRA North-South Shootout 125. Colt was the Pro Late Model Champion at Concord Speedway in 2010, but I don't think anyone expected him to win Saturday night against Fultz, Kenseth, Blaney and the others, especially with a crate motor."

Ryan Blaney (CRA) - The other big winner of the night after the CRA race at Concord was Ryan Blaney, as he ended up as the 2010 CRA Southern Six Pack champion. Blaney ended up winning this title in shocking fashion, having ended the night on his roof after a late race wreck. With title rival Jeff Fultz also dropping out of the race, Blaney earned the championship anyhow.

Ross Kenseth (CRA) - While Ross Kenseth eventually finished second in the Concord CRA race, it was almost an even better night for the young racer - until a miscue on one of the late race cautions took place and led to this vote being cast:

"Ross Kenseth [is my vote] for running out of gas while leading the CRA Super Series portion of the North South Shootout."

For his "Shock" of a performance, Michael Pilla will receive a product gift certificate from Pro Shocks, the short-track leader in racing shock technology and performance. Based in Lawrenceville, Georgia, Pro Shocks has helped drivers on both dirt and asphalt perform better for more than 25 years.

Pro Shocks is proud to have the largest and most knowledgeable technical staff in the racing shock industry. For more information about Pro Shocks, log onto www.proshocks.com or call 770-995-6300.