

Empire Super Sprints headline Friday show at Ransomville

**SUBMITTED BY STEVE PETTY
RANSOMVILLE SPEEDWAY**

The Lucas Oil Empire Super Sprints will return to the Ransomville Speedway on June 10 for the Ron Lux Memorial presented by A-Verdi Storage Containers, Hebel Sales & Service, and Faery's Concrete. The Investors Service Sportsman, Ki Po Motors Street Stocks, Sunflowers of Sanborn Mini Stocks, and Kevin's Carpet Cleaning Novice Sportsman will also be on the card.

A legend in Western New York auto racing, Ron Lux was able to win on both the dirt and asphalt. In 1965, Lux won the Oswego Speedway Supermodified points title, including winning five straight features and a total of 12 during that season. Back in the day, Lux also raced under the pseudonym of Bucky Buckholtz and Bob Hodgson, as he was trying to avoid suspension from USAC, which during that time frame, did not permit their drivers to race in non-USAC events. In 1965, following his fourth straight feature win at Oswego, Lux revealed his identity. Ron won the Orange County Eastern States 100 dirt Modified race in 1965, beating the finest competition that division had to offer. He also set fast time for the first asphalt Langhorne National Open modified (Race of Champions) event in 1965. He died in a USAC sprinter at Tulsa, Oklahoma, in July 1966.

The Lucas Oil Empire Super Sprints returned to Ransomville in September of 2021, with "The Cobra" Chuck Hebing picking up the victory. Prior to last season, Steve Dow won the last ESS race at "The Big R" in 2000. Other winners include Lance Yonge in 1994 and 1996, Craig Keel in 1994 and 1995, Phil Mott in April of 1995, Tom Taber



in 1991 and 1993, John Birosh sweeping both races in 1992 and winning in August 1990, George Suprick III in August 1991, Mike VanDusen in 1989 and 1988, and Gordy Button winning the inaugural visit back in 1986.

Fans can use their rain checks from the Friday, June 3 program for admission for June 10 or June 17. Questions about the rain checks can be answered by calling the speedway office at (716) 791-3602.

Admission for Friday, June 10 is \$20 for adults, seniors 60 + and youth aged 12-17 is \$17 and kids 11 and under are FREE. Pit admission is \$35 for members and \$40 for non-members. Pit gates will open at 5 p.m., with the grandstands opening at 6 p.m. and racing

at 7:15 p.m.

For more information, visit www.ransomvillespeedway.com and follow along on social media on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

About Ransomville Speedway: Ransomville Speedway is located on Braley Road in the hamlet of Ransomville, just 20 minutes from Niagara Falls and Lockport. "The Big R" is a 3/8th-mile DIRTcar sanctioned facility that is the Home of the Summer Nationals. Ransomville also features a 1/16th-mile Go-Kart track for action on the "Little R" on Thursday nights! For more information, please visit us on the World Wide Web at www.ransomvillespeedway.com as well as follow us on Twitter @Ransomville, Instagram @ransomvillespeedway, and like us on Facebook. You can also contact the speedway by phone by calling (716) 791-3602.

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Strikers win travel soccer tourney



The Niagara Pioneer Strikers won the Chili Soccer Association Travel tournament over the weekend of June 4-5. The team defeated Brockport the Blizzards 4-1 in the championship game.

Pictured are members of the Strikers. In the front row, from left, Devan Barnwell and Braydon Seiwel; middle row, from left Vena DiBernardo, Quinn

McAuliffe, Eli Moore, Andrew Jowdy, Duke Neal and Gavin Heath; in the back row, from left, coach Brian Scully, Kyle Lunshof, Chace Burnham, Rhett Lammers, Dane Winstanley, James Scully, Mason Schultz, Eliot McAuliffe, John Stuart, Louis Zimmerman, Calvin Fetzner and coach Josh Burnham. (Submitted photo)

Traffic impact discussed on neighboring facilities

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the morning, there's some overlap (between peak traffic time and truck traffic increasing), but we've seen most of it is going onto the interstate going to Buffalo or Niagara Falls.

"At night, because the air reserve station is the No. 1 employer, your peak is actually about 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., while ours is 5:30 to 6:30 p.m."

Representatives also said it is likely impossible for a Lockport Road interchange off the interstate, given the proximity to the Porter-Packard exit.

"In rural areas, the state likes to have at least two miles between exits," Dake said.

Beyond traffic, the town council did recognize in its SEQR review that the facility could have

an impact on nearby facilities, including group home Empower WNY, at 9812 Lockport Road.

Bancroft said the facility would be the beneficiary of at least a 14-foot berm between it and the Amazon warehouse, should the project be approved, and that they've had "good dialogue" to understand the group home's concerns.

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