**UPIR Helps Celebrate ESKY 150**

The fourth event of the 2013 Bays de Noc Convention and Visitors Bureau UPIR race season, the United Way Esky 150, drew 98 drivers, keeping the trend of more drivers than last year’s average alive. The United Way Esky 150 was special for many reasons. Not only did laps from the heat races add up to 150 to celebrate Escanaba 150th birthday, but laps could be sponsored for $25.00, with $20.00 going to the United Way, and $5.00 going to the drivers winning purse. The United Way also benefitted from the event’s 50/50 raffle, with all proceeds going toward their cause. Like always, the heat races started off the day’s action after a slight delay from rain showers that made track conditions unsuitable for racing. Intermission took place after all but one of the day’s heat races, the track needed to be watered after the clouds cleared and the hot sun beat down on the track. Intermission activities featured the usual 50/50 drawing, drawings for lap sponsors, and special guest, Austin Cayer, and his Baby Grand racecar.

After the final 4/6 cylinder heat race was run after the conclusion of intermission, it was time for each class’ feature races of the day. The first feature was for the Junior Sprint Division, after a side by side battle that lasted several laps, Jessie James Liss came out on top with Joey Stankowicz in 2nd and Logan Getzloff in 3rd. The next feature was for the UPIR Modifieds. Late in the 20 lap race a four car pile up in turn three took out defending champion Matt Valiquette, while Lonnie Dalgord, Jason Holmes, and Tyler Winling all continued with damage. After the mess was cleaned up, Dale Peterson went on to claim his second victory in a row, 2nd place went to Chris Pepin followed in 3rd by John Ostermann. The 600 Sprints took to the track next for their feature race. For the second time in a row, Jared Cech reigned supreme over the field, taking the win. 2nd place went to Jason Irving, with John Mathias in 3rd. In the Street Stock division, Joe Johnson was able to claim his first feature win of the year, followed in 2nd by Eric Mathieson, and in 3rd by Ron Jenshak. The 650 Sprint feature saw Gary Dubord Jr. take the victory, for the fourth time in a row, in a photo finish with Brooke Mathias. 3rd place went to Dave Hosking.

The final race of the day was the 4/6 cylinder feature. Eric Lafreniere became the fourth different in four races this year, showing how competitive this years field of 4/6 cylinder cars truly is. 2nd place went to Tom Dubord Jr, followed in 3rd by Tyler Corwin.

The United Way Esky 150 was an overall success, with great racing for a great cause and the celebration of Escanaba’s 150th birthday. UPIR would like to thank all of the fans for their continued support of local racing, and all of the sponsors, because without them, we would not be where we are today with racing in Esky.

By Todd Rose

**Results from the United Way Esky 150**

Junior Micro Sprints

Heat- 1st) #71 Jessie James Liss 2nd) #8 Logan Getzloff 3rd) #64 Joey Satnkoicz

Feature- 1st) #71 Jessie James Liss 2nd) #64 Joey Stankowicz 3rd) #8 Logan Getzloff

4th) #75 Drake Degnan 5th) #62 Tyler Getchell

Modifieds

Heat 1- 1st) #47 Chris Pepin 2nd) #60 Lonnie Dalgord 3rd) #2 Matt Valiqutte

Heat 2- 1st) #17 Dale Peterson 2nd) #141 John Ostermann 3rd)#41 Jason Holmes

Feature- 1st) #17 Dale Peterson 2nd) #47 Chris Pepin 3rd)#141 John Ostermann

4th) #12f Fran Berube 5th) #60 Lonnie Dalgord

600 Micro Sprints

Heat 1- 1st) #71 Jared Cech 2nd) #175 Matt Peterson 3rd) #29 Jason Irving

Heat 2- 1st) #92 Jeff ives 2nd) #22R Scott Richer 3rd) #14 Todd Belanger

Semi- 1st) #76 Jay Baumler Jr. 2nd) #45 Brent Smith

Feature- 1st) #71 Jared Cech 2nd) #29 Jason Irving 3rd) #69 John Mathias

4th) #34 Gregg Brayak 5th) #72 Josh Bartel

Street Stock

Heat 1- 1st) #53 Joe Johnson 2nd) #40 Ron Jenshak 3rd) #5 Paul Wagner

Heat 2- 1st) #33D Derek Gagne 2nd) #27 Eric Mathieson 3rd) #65 Rob Kirkpatrick

Feature- 1st) #53 Joe Johnson 2nd) #27 Eric Mathieson 3rd)#40 Ron Jenshak

4th) #33D Derek Gagne 5th) #66 Greg Bruce

650 Micro Sprints

Heat 1- 1st) #44 Gary Dubord Jr. 2nd) #26 Kyle Getchell 3rd) #99 Dave Hosking

Heat 2- 1st) #32 Kristy Peterson 2nd) #101 Austin Berg 3rd) #29 Justina Liss

Feature- 1st) #44 Gary Dubord Jr. 2nd) #442 Brooke Mathias 3rd) #99 Dave Hosking

4th) #101 Austin Berg 5th) #32 Kristy Peterson

4/6 Cylinder Cars

Heat 1- 1st) #18 Jeff Sullivan 2nd) #22b Ed Berube 3rd) #43 Tom Dubord Jr.

Heat 2- 1st) #11 Randy Degrave 2nd) #13 Eric Lafreniere 3rd) #711 Jon Barron

Heat 3- 1st) #77 Corey Degrave 2nd) #21x Matt Johnsen 3rd) #64 Tyler Corwin

Heat 4- 1st) #65 Justin Lauscher 2nd) #2c Gerald Lanaville 3rd) #98 Anthony Pollard

Semi 1- 1st) #46m Eric Marenger 2nd) #1 Rob Iverson

Semi 2- 1st) #97 Bryon Stemick 2nd) #45 Chris Olsen

Feature- 1st) #13 Eric Lafreniere 2nd) #43 Tom Dubord Jr. 3rd) #64 Tyler Corwin

4th) #46m Eric Marenger 5th) #18 Jeff Sullivan