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Gray Gaulding #20 Krispy Kreme Toyota Camry UNOH Battle at the Beach Post-Race Recap

Gaulding earned Impressive Second Place Finish in his NASCAR K&N Pro Series Debut

Mooresville, NC (February 20, 2013) Gray Gaulding who made announcement in early 2013 that he would compete full time in the NASCAR K&N Pro East Series, made his debut Tuesday night during the Inaugural UNOH Battle at the Beach at Daytona International Speedway.

There had been a lot of excitement during the weeks leading up to the inaugural UNOH Battle at the Beach, but none more than that of Gray Gaulding and his Krispy Kreme Toyota team. Gaulding's team set out early with the rookie driver running 85 laps in Monday's sole K&N Pro Series practice session where Gaulding was 9th quick with a time of 20.10 only -0.369 behind the aged veterans.

Tuesday opened with a day full of on track activity, which began with the second K&N Pro Series practice session which Gaulding paced a time of 19.96 placing him 7th on the speed charts, only -0.22 back.

After a short 10 minute break, the third and final practice session was underway which NASCAR officials would use as a qualifying session to set the field for the heat races. Gaulding turned a 20.02 putting him 14th on the charts, and lining him up 8th in the second heat race.

Gaulding lined up 8th for the 25 lap heat race to set the line up for the night's 150 UNOH Battle at the Beach main event. Gaulding quickly charged into the top-5 where he settled in to the 4th place position for the final 15 laps.

Gaulding would start the UNOH Battle at the Beach 150 lap feature event on the outside of row 4 in the 8th place position. Gaulding quickly jumped up into the 6th position, but several early cautions resulted in him slipping back to 8th where he would ride for the first 60 laps, understanding how important saving equipment would be for a good finish.

Working with crew chief Doug George on making the car drive a little better through a brake adjustment, Gaulding moved up. A mid-race pile up, and some great driving by Gaulding moved him up to 5th. At lap 100 Gaulding had taken over the 4th place position. Gaulding remained in 4th until lap 125 when George radioed saying "it's go time, give it all you got".

Although Gaulding was making his debut in the K&N Pro Series, he had saved equipment throughout the night, which resulted in him taking over the second place position on lap 131. Gaulding would chase down the leader for the next 18 laps until a caution flag flew on lap 149. Gaulding restarted on the outside for an attempt at a green, white, checkered and held on through turn 2 after receiving the white flag. Gaulding would take the lead heading down the back stretch, before sliding through oil in turn 3 and finishing 2nd to Haley.

"I got to start out by thanking everyone at Krispy Kreme, TruMoo Milk, Toyota, Anderson's Maple Syrup, Impact, Wiley X, FLUIDYNE, Steve Urvan, my team, family, and fans. With out them we wouldn't be here" said Gaulding. "To come out here in our first start, at Daytona and in the K&N Pro Series and finish 2nd is special."

The next race for the #20 Krispy Kreme TruMoo Milk Toyota Racing team will be the Talking Stick Resort 60 on March 2nd at Phoenix International Raceway.

Visit K<u>rispyKremeRacing.com</u> to find out when Gray Gaulding and the #20 Krispy Kreme Toyota Camry will be at a Krispy Kreme shop near you.