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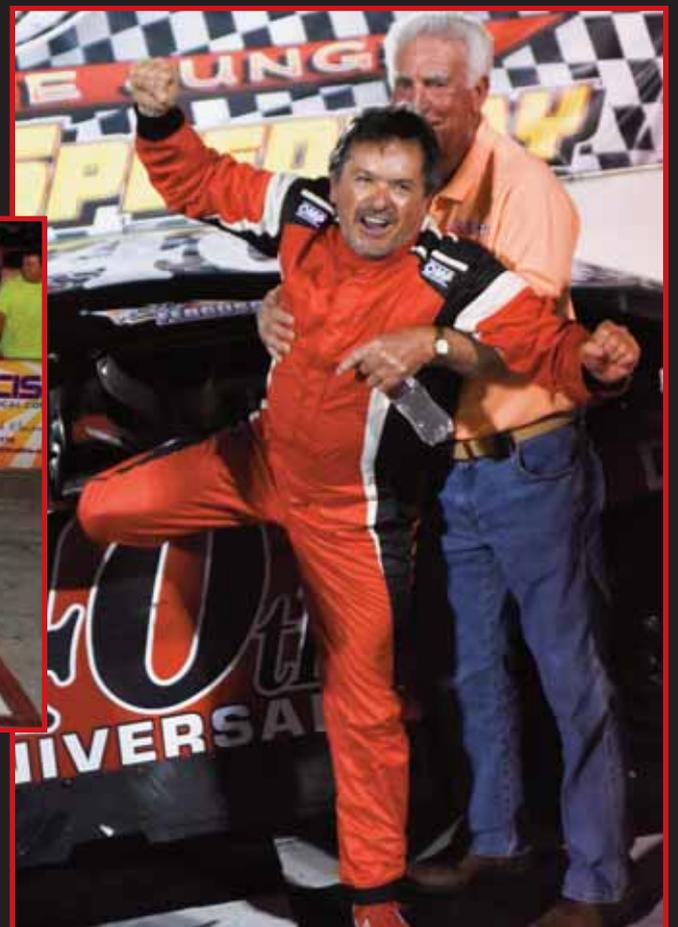
Spencer Bayston Wins Artic Cat All Stars Feature at Attica



Preston Peltier Survives to Capture Easter Bunny 150 P.A.S.S. Victory



Kres VanDyke (above) and Robbie Ferguson (right) Win Season Openers at Kingsport Speedway



2017 Season So Far

The first of two bye weeks gave everyone in NASCAR time for rest and reflection.

Just seven races into the season – and with 29 to go – there already are some significant trends. Some, like the sudden evolution of younger drivers and the resurgence at Richard Childress Racing, are indications of better days ahead.

Others, like the struggles at Joe Gibbs Racing, the surprising retirement of Carl Edwards and the continued decline in attendance and television ratings, create concern.

Here's what we know so far:

Young guns are on target

Kyle Larson leads the Monster Energy Cup Series standings with a victory and four second-place finishes.

Chase Elliott is second in the standings with five top-10 finishes. In fact, he hasn't finished any worse than 14th.

Joey Logano is fifth with six top-

10s. And Ryan Blaney is sixth with three top-nine finishes.

All four are 26 or younger.

Seven-time champion Jimmie Johnson is 41, and he's impressed with all four, especially Larson.

"I see a ton of potential," Johnson said. "He is a great talent. His love for racing, I think, it's a great story to see play out. We have all known that he has been highly talented and just waiting for him and the team to get to their winning ways and it looks like they are there."



DON COBLE

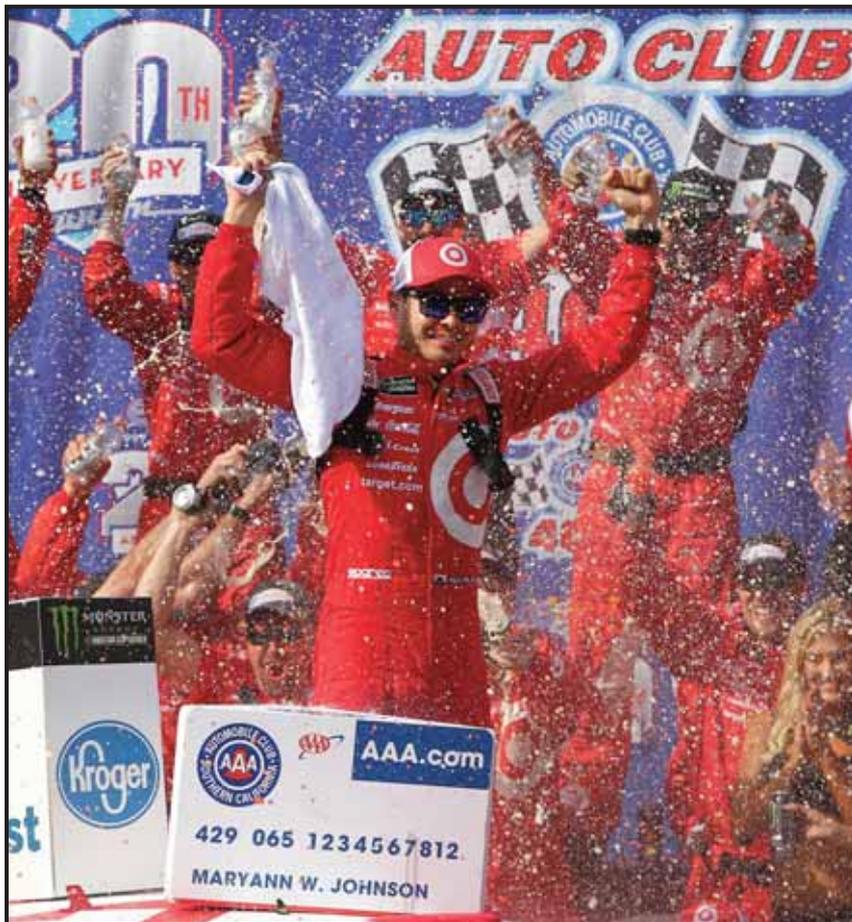
Joe Gibbs Racing's

slow start

A year ago the four-car Gibbs organization already had three wins in the first seven races and on their way to winning 12 times.

This year Denny Hamlin, Kyle Busch, Matt Kenseth and Daniel Suarez have been shut out.

The season started with the shocking retirement of Carl Edwards, and that seemed to knock the entire team out of sync. The sudden leave of absence by Suarez's crew chief, Dave Rogers, two races ago escalated the tailspin.



Kyle Larson, driver of the #42 Target Chevrolet, celebrates in victory land after winning the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Auto Club 400 at Auto Club Speedway. (GETTY IMAGES photo)

Welcome 2017 Race Fans!

FasTrack Racing Journal is available as an online e-magazine!!

The changes that FasTrack Racing Journal made in 2015 have been successful. FasTrack is now available online only. We are covering all the racing series, off track news and other features that you have grown to love. We now bring you all the news in a weekly format throughout the racing season. All you have to do to receive FasTrack Racing Journal Online for FREE is to send your email address to fastrackjournal@yahoo.com with the subject line **SUBSCRIPTION**. You can also download all issues of FasTrack Racing Journal, current and past.

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ON THE COVER:

ARTIC ALL STARS - PAUL ARCH
P.A.S.S. - LW PHOTOGRAPHY.COM
KINGSPORT SPEEDWAY - RANDALL PERRY
AND DREW HIERWARTER

"You know, I think anytime you lose good crew chiefs, you lose a little bit of strength to your company," Busch said. "I think whenever you lose good drivers, like Carl Edwards, you lose a little bit of strength to your company."

"We've taken two big bullets here for this season, one from Carl, one from Dave. We've got to recover some of that and get back into the game where we're the strongest four-car team out there, like we felt like we were the last couple of years with all of us in place."

Attendance, TV ratings continue to drop

New title sponsorship from Monster Energy and the creation of segment racing have yet to give NASCAR the bump in attendance and television ratings it expected – and needed.

Both figures have continued a declining trend that's continued for years.

Five of the seven Cup races so have generated some of the smallest TV ratings since 2001.

The only race to see an improvement in viewership was April 9 at the Texas Motor Speedway. According to Nielsen Media Research, 4.5 million people watched the race, compared to 4.3 million of a year ago. Five reported decreased ratings, the other tied last year's numbers.

Many tracks, including the Daytona International Speedway, Tal-

adega Superspeedway, Dover International Speedway and the Charlotte Motor Speedway have downsized its grandstands to eliminate entire sections that have been unsold for years. Tracks also have switched to multi-colored seats to create the illusion of fans for the television cameras.

Overall, attendance is down more than 30 percent since 2010.

Richard Childress Racing back in Winner's Circle

It took nearly four years, but Richard Childress finally saw his company's losing streak end with Ryan Newman's victory at Phoenix.

Childress, who fielded six of Dale Earnhardt's championships, spent millions re-organizing his operation. With Newman now safely into the Chase for the Championship, Childress now faces to challenge of getting wins for his other drivers – Paul Menard and Austin Dillon.

"I think because of the way the racing is, because of that, it's really hard to build momentum," said Luke Lambert, Newman's crew chief.

"The years it takes to take a company from not being where it needs to be, to getting where it needs to be, requires a tremendous amount of change, a tremendous amount of trial and error, a tremendous amount of hard work, working above and beyond, asking more out of people when they just don't see the results."

A Silver Anniversary Gold Rush: Monster Energy All-Star Race Format Announced

**\$1 Million At Stake as NASCAR, Charlotte
Celebrate 25th Anniversary of 'One Hot Night'**

DAYTONA BEACH, FL - As the engines fired, the light-bulbs buzzed – a first for the annual non-points extravaganza. Never before had an all-star race been run under the lights. Dubbed “One Hot Night,” the 1992 race signaled a new era, one that became tradition for the fan-favorite event.

And now, 25 years later, past meets present ... as another new era begins with the first all-star race under the Monster Energy banner.

NASCAR and Charlotte Motor Speedway announced the format for the 2017 Monster Energy All-Star Race, one that rewards winning, and incorporates a fascinating strategy component.

The race format is as follows:

- The race will feature four stages (20 laps / 20 laps / 20 laps / 10 laps), totaling 70 laps, an ode to the 1992 edition of the same distance.

- The goal for all competitors: Earn a spot in the final 10-lap, 10-car stage.

- The winner of each of the first three stages will lock up a spot in the final stage, as long as they remain on the lead lap after the third stage.

- The cars with the best average finish in the first three stages will make up the remaining spots needed to fill the 10-car final stage.

- The remaining 10 cars will be lined up by average finish of the first three stages and given the option to pit. Exit off pit road determines starting order for final stage.

- The winner will be awarded \$1,000,000.

Crew chief strategy has been at a premium throughout this season, and that won't change in the all-star race thanks to a unique opportunity granted each team: a coveted set of softer tires. Each team will have one set of these tires available to use at their discretion. A softer tire provides the car with more grip and speed. But there's a catch: Teams that choose softer tires to start the final stage must start behind those that choose regular tires.

“The Monster Energy All-Star Race is designed to be fun for fans, showcasing the best drivers and race teams in NASCAR,” said Steve O'Donnell, NASCAR executive vice president and chief racing development officer. “With the effort that Goodyear has put into this race with multiple tire compounds, I am excited to see how the stages play out, especially the final 10-car, 10-lap sprint to the checkered flag.”

“The Monster Energy NASCAR All-Star

Race is etched in the history of our sport for the most memorable moments, trend-setting innovation and big-money payouts,” said Marcus Smith, president and general manager of Charlotte Motor Speedway. “This new 70-lap format pays tribute to the 25th anniversary of ‘One Hot Night’ while pushing the drivers to the brink of insanity with the chances they’ll take to win \$1 million. I’m as ready as our fans for a May 20 Saturday night shootout where only a daredevil behind the wheel truly has a shot at Victory Lane.”

Qualifying for the main event, which returns to Friday night, will again include the wildly popular ‘no speed limit’ four-tire pit stop. Each team will have three timed laps, one of which will include a mandatory four-tire pit stop with no pit-road speed limits enforced. The five quickest teams will advance to the final round of qualifying to determine starting positions one through five. The team that completes the fastest stop will earn the Pit Crew Competition Award.

The Monster Energy Open will occur Saturday evening prior to the Monster Energy All-Star Race and will include three stages (20 laps / 20 Laps / 10 laps). The winner of each stage will earn a spot in the all-star race. The Monster Energy Open field will be set by two rounds of traditional knock-out qualifying.

Those eligible for the Monster Energy All-Star Race include: drivers who won a points event in either 2016 or 2017; drivers who won a Monster Energy All-Star Race and compete full-time; and drivers who won a Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series championship and compete full-time. Those who have not already earned a spot via the above criteria can still lock-in by winning a stage in the Monster Energy Open or by winning the Fan Vote.

Drivers who have already clinched an all-star spot: Chris Buescher, Kurt Busch, Kyle Busch, Dale Earnhardt Jr., Denny Hamlin, Kevin Harvick, Jimmie Johnson, Kasey Kahne, Matt Kenseth, Brad Keselowski, Kyle Larson, Joey Logano, Jamie McMurray, Ryan Newman and Martin Truex Jr.

Weekend passes for the Monster Energy All-Star Race start at just \$79 and include admission to the May 19 N.C. Education Lottery 200 NASCAR Camping World Truck Series race, May 20 Justin Moore All-Star pre-race concert presented by Rayovac and Kwikset and the Monster Energy Open. Individual adult tickets start at just \$39 and tickets for children 13 and under are just \$10. To obtain tickets, camping or race-day upgrades, fans should call 1-800-455-FANS (3267).



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ALL-STAR FIELD

2016 & 2017 RACE WINNERS

PREVIOUS ALL-STAR RACE WINNERS*

PREVIOUS CUP SERIES CHAMPIONS*

1 FAN VOTE WINNER

3 ALL-STAR MONSTER ENERGY OPEN STAGE WINNERS



1 WINNER FROM EACH OPEN STAGE ADVANCES TO THE MONSTER ENERGY ALL-STAR RACE

ALL-STAR FORMAT



3 ALL-STAR STAGE WINNERS ARE LOCKED-IN TO THE FINAL STAGE
TOP 7 AVERAGE FINISHERS ROUND OUT THE 10 CAR FIELD



STRATEGY

THE 10 DRIVERS ELIGIBLE FOR THE FINAL STAGE WILL LINE UP BASED ON THE BEST AVERAGE FINISH AND PIT ROAD WILL OPEN FOR A OPTIONAL PIT STOP

THE ORDER DRIVERS EXIT PIT ROAD WILL DETERMINE THE STARTING ORDER FOR THE FINAL STAGE

DURING FINAL PIT STOP, DRIVERS MAY CHOOSE

LONGER LASTING REGULAR TIRES
or
FASTER SOFT TIRES
(IF AVAILABLE)

THE CATCH

DRIVERS WHO CHOOSE FASTER SOFT TIRES BETWEEN STAGE 3 AND FINAL WILL REPOSITION TO THE BACK OF THE 10-CAR FIELD FOR THE FINAL STAGE

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[†]Kids ages 12 and under. With purchase of an adult ticket.



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Peltier Edges Rowe For 4th Easter Bunny 150 Triumph at Hickory

HICKORY, NC - Preston Peltier survived a three lap scramble to the checkered flag to edge out Ben Rowe for his fourth Easter Bunny 150 win Saturday night at Hickory Motor Speedway. Peltier's seventh win at Hickory and 15th overall Pro All Stars Series (PASS) Super Late Model win ended a two-year winless drought dating back to the 2015 Easter Bunny 150.

"Three to go when that last caution came out, I thought, oh man, here we go again," said Peltier, driver of the Roger Newton Concrete Finishing Chevrolet #33. "My tires really weren't the best there at the end, but I've got to thank Ben [Rowe] because he really could have used me up. It's funny how life works out and right now, life's pretty good."

In qualifying, Peltier just beat out Kyle Busch with a lap of 14.752 seconds (88.584 MPH) for his 21st career quick qualifying time in PASS. After the top 10 qualifiers redraw, Peltier would move back to the sixth starting position, while Raphael Lessard and Derek Griffith would move up to the front row.

At the drop of the green flag,

Lessard would take the lead before being overtaken by Griffith on lap three. Meanwhile, Busch would encounter early problems dropping back through the field, before coming to a stop on the track on lap 13. After just five more laps, Busch would retire for the night due to distributor problems and finish 30th.

Up front, the leaders were wasting little time, with Lessard again moving by Griffith for the lead on lap 33. The lead trio of Lessard, Peltier, and PASS South points leader, Matt Craig, would encounter heavy lapped traffic as the race neared the halfway point. As they weaved their way through slower cars, Lessard made contact with the machine of Lee Hansard, sending the Georgia driver for a spin down the frontstretch on lap 59.

On the next restart, rookie Dawson Cram struggled to come up to speed and was spun from behind, making hard contact with the inside wall. Under the brief period of green flag racing, Peltier was able to get by Lessard to take the lead. Peltier would continue to lead until the third caution flag of the night would wave with 54 laps to go for a spin by Dave Farrington, Jr. entering turn three.

Back under green, Peltier and Craig traded the lead back and forth before Peltier would again



Preston Peltier (#33) takes the checkered flag for the Easter bunny 150 at Hickory. Ben Rowe (#4) finished second and Raphael Lessard (#99) finished third but was later DQ'd and third went to Matt Craig. (LWpictures.com/PASS photo)

take control with 48 laps to go. Peltier appeared to be on his way to victory until a caution waved with three laps to go for a crash by Travis Kvapil entering turn one.

On the final restart, Peltier, Lessard, and Rowe ran extremely hard, making contact on occasion. But, Peltier would have enough to take the checkered flag over Rowe and Lessard. However, following the event, Lessard's third place finish was taken away due to a disqualification. After the race PASS officials released a statement regarding Lessard's disqualification:

"Following Saturday night's Easter Bunny 150 at Hickory, third place finisher Raphael Lessard was disqualified due to actions detrimental to PASS. At no time are drivers, crew members, or spotters allowed into race control during an event. After Saturday night's race, Lessard's spotter entered race control which resulted in an immediate disqualification. Raphael Lessard

drove an excellent race, however this action by the spotter for the #99 team has never been and will never be tolerated at any time."

The revised finish order showed Peltier with the win, followed by Rowe, Craig, Butcher, and Brandon Setzer. Rounding out the top 10 were Travis Stearns, Jody Measamer, Nicolas Naugle, Griffith, and Kodie Conner.

The PASS National Championship Super Late Models will be in action again on Saturday, April 29 with the Beech Ridge 300 at Beech Ridge Motor Speedway in Maine. PASS North will be in action Saturday, April 22 with the Speedway Homes 150 at Oxford Plains Speedway, while PASS South hits the track again on Friday, May 5 at Caraway Speedway. Entry forms are currently available at ProAllStarsSeries.com. Be sure to "Like" the Pro All Stars Series on Facebook or follow us on Twitter at @PASSSLM14.

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Sweet Works the Bottom of the Bowl for the Win

MESQUITE, TX - For the second night in a row, Brad Sweet worked his Kasey Kahne Racing 49 machine along the bottom of the high-banked half-mile oval at Devil's Bowl Speedway, this time sticking it out for the win. With only five laps to go, Sweet stole the win from David Gravel, who had led

all previous laps but was having some trouble getting his CJB Motorsports No. 5 out of lap traffic.

"Awesome race there with David [Gravel]," said Sweet. "Lap traffic was just crucial. My car seemed like it was a little bit better. We were just right on him. Once I got a little clean air I was able to start picking off those lap cars and it felt good."

Gravel had been working on the bottom all race, but he got caught behind Shane Stewart and met his demise when he tried to go high to pass him.

"I cleared a lot of lap cars really good, and then I got to Shane and I just couldn't do anything with him," said Gravel. "He was running the bottom in 3 and 4. I tried to pass him on the outside, and obviously the bottom of three and four was the best lane to be in. That's where Brad was. That's just the advantage sometimes of sitting back there watching, seeing what happens."

Third through the checkers was Danny "The Dude" Lasoski, who took his position from Christopher Bell early in the race and held it through the checkers. Lasoski, the 2001 World of Outlaws Sprint Car Series Champion, has previous wins at Devil's Bowl in 1999 and 2000. He was also right there at Devil's Bowl Speedway in 1978 for the first-ever World of Outlaws Sprint Car race.

This year's Texas Outlaw Nationals was a tribute to the late Lanny Edwards. A number of superstars - including Tony Stewart, Kasey Kahne, Johnny Rutherford, and Christopher Bell - joined the Outlaws to honor the legendary promoter and World of Outlaws co-founder (along with Ted Johnson).

"Lanny went out on a limb and really got something going that has been pretty spectacular and pretty amazing," said Tony Stewart during the opening ceremony, "and defi-

nitely pretty entertaining for all of America to watch."

The opening ceremony continued with World of Outlaws CEO Brian Carter presenting the Ted Johnson Award to the Edwards family in recognition of their outstanding contribution to sprint car racing.

"We really want to recognize all of the people that helped us get to where we are today," said Carter. "We are the World of Outlaws: the fans here, the community, the racers, the teams, everybody here. We are what the World of Outlaws was meant to be 40 years ago. What happened here 40 years ago next year impacts sprint car racing around the world; all were impacted by Ted Johnson and Lanny Edwards."

The World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series will return to action Friday, April 21 for the Bull Ring Outlaw Blitz at Riverside International Speedway in West Memphis, AK.

The Ragin' Cajun Scores His First Devil's Bowl Win

MESQUITE, TX - Jason "the Ragin' Cajun" Johnson dominated night one of the Texas Outlaw Nationals at Devil's Bowl Speedway, leading all 25 laps of the evening's Feature after winning the Craftsman Club Dash from the pole and running fastest in qualifying.

"It's one of these nights you always imagine and you dream of," said Johnson from Victory Lane. "We set quicktime, won a heat, won a dash, won a feature. That's a first for me, so hats off to this crew: Jeff, Jacob, Phillip. They're working their tails off, and it's a lot of fun to drive right now," he continued with a chuckle. "It feels great to be back in Victory Lane."

Johnson's second win of the season leaves him fourth in points standings and finally puts a little distance between him and Daryn Pittman. It's also his seventh career series victory, the first one having been at Texas Motor Speedway fourteen years ago.

While Johnson led flag-to-flag, Brad Sweet was patiently working his Napa Auto Parts/ Kasey Kahne Racing No. 49 up from five to make a late-race push for the lead. Running the bottom, he made a pass for second over Jason Sides between turns three and four, but then



Brad Sweet raced his way to a victory at Devil's Bowl Speedway over David Gravel. (Paul Arch photo)

chose to follow Johnson on the top and came in after him.

"It was a fine line. I moved up to the top a little bit," explained Sweet. "I think if I would have committed to the bottom and hit it a few more times we would have been a lot

closer there at the end. Or maybe I would have been able to get in there. But hats off to [Jason Johnson]. He did a great job."

Sides, who had been running second throughout the race, lost
(Continued Next Page)

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steam in the final laps and dropped back to eight, leaving the final podium spot to Logan Schuchart, who had been running in fourth.

Meanwhile, it wasn't a stellar day for the expected superstars on the field. NASCAR stars Tony Stewart and Kasey Kahne came in 22 and 11 respectively, both falling back two spots from their starting positions.

Eight-time Series Champion Donny

Schatz washed way up the track in the first half of lap one and never fully recovered.

The previous night's winner, David Gravel, managed to work his way up from the back, but it just wasn't enough, leaving him in 14. But last year's night one winner, Joey Saldana barely missed the podium with a fourth place finish.

David Gravel Scores His Fourth Season Win at Gator Motorplex

WILLIS, TX - "It is official. David Gravel has cleared the scales in the CJB Motorsports No. 5, headed to Victory Lane!" cried Johnny Gibson over the PA at Gator Motorplex Thursday night. This was win number four of the season in the No. 5 machine, and a twentieth career win for Gravel.

He worked hard for this one, starting in tenth and working the high side. While Jason Sides started on the pole, with NASCAR driver Kasey Kayne in second, it was Paul McMahan in the lead when Gravel finally took it in lap 30 - and he took it from below.

But it wasn't Gravel who bit the wall at all. That fell on Rookie-of-the-Year-contender Sheldon Haudenschild, who with 4 laps to go got into his third tangle of the night. Haudenschild was the unofficial fan favorite at Gator Motorplex, drawing loud cheers for his persistence each time he returned to the field after two flips. But the last one set him bouncing off the wall outside of turn four, right into Brad Sweet.

Sweet had been busy battling Donny Schatz for the fourth spot, which is precisely where Schatz remained after the checkered flag flew.

The inaugural Gator Bash saw a packed house in Willis, Texas, where fans cheered on Kahne as

he made his return to dirt in the iRacing.com 4K. But after a lucky Dash inversion draw that put him on the pole, Kahne spun out during the Feature, turning sideways in turn four and causing Daryn Pittman and Dustin Gates to flip over each other.

Meanwhile, Sides maintained his lead until lap 14, when McMahan came up from third to take it from him. It wasn't until 26 laps later that Gravel managed to final

clear both of them, leading them into the checkers in just that order.

Update on Injury at Gator Motorplex

WILLIS, TX - Morgan Harrot - son of Jennifer Driver, of Sargent, TX - is in stable condition, but still critical and recovering from head trauma at Memorial Hermann Texas Medical Center after an incident in the pit area of Gator Motorplex during the Gator Outlaw

Bash.

"Our thoughts and prayers are with the young man who was injured on Thursday night," said Randy and Theresa Waller, owners of Gator Motorplex.

"The racing community is a close-knit one and everyone here at Gator Motorplex is thinking about the boy and his family. Thank you to everyone who has reached out and offered well wishes and prayers for the boy and his family."

WoO Craftsman Late Model Series Will Hit North and South Carolina Back-to-Back

CONCORD, NC - For the first weekend in May the World of Outlaws Craftsman® Late Model Series heads to the Carolinas. The Series equipped with 15 full-time drivers and teams will face brave local and regional competition who dare to stand nose-to-nose with the best late model drivers in the country at Cherokee Speedway in Gaffney, SC on Friday, May 5 and Fayetteville Motor Speedway in Fayetteville, NC on Saturday, May 6.

Cherokee Speedway: One of the most consistent drivers of the Series 2017 season has been Chris Madden. This season is Madden's second attempt to run with the Series full-time. His first attempt came in 2007 when he entered the first 16 Series races, however, his efforts were cut short due to the birth of his son, Avery.

Other than his attempt with the Series in 2007, Madden has never committed to any other national touring series as a full-time driver and still around the country he is known as one of the most talented Late Model drivers. So far this season, the driver has impressively racked up one win, five top-five finishes and seven top-10 finishes of the eight Series races which only further proves how consistent Smokey and his CMR team is on a national level.

For the first time this season the Series heads to Madden's stomping grounds. Madden is a regular at the 3/8-mile high-banked clay oval in Gaffney, SC as it is only one-hour from his hometown of Gray Court, SC. Cherokee Speedway has appeared on his schedule

every year for more than 10 years. Of his 52 runs in the past 10 years at Cherokee, Madden has won 20 times, found his way to the top-five 33 times and landed among the top-10 all but nine times.

"This is the first time the World of Outlaws have ever been to Cherokee Speedway and it means a lot to the fans and to the track," said promoter of Cherokee Speedway, Scott Childress. "Everyone is really excited for the Outlaws to come to Cherokee. One of our local drivers, Chris Madden, is second in Series points right now. He has a lot of fans that will be at this track because a lot of them have watched him move up the ranks over the years."

More so than any race prior this season, Madden will have a target on his back as the man to beat at this track not only because of his success there but also because he only trails behind points leader, Brandon Sheppard by 54 points. It won't be an easy path to Victory Lane though as many big names in the Late Model world are local favorites to Cherokee Speedway.

"Jonathan Davenport is racing out of the Barry Wright car this year which is just right down the street from the race track," said Childress. "Dennis Franklin, 'Rambo', is always a threat anywhere he goes but especially at Cherokee. Johnny Pursley, Chris Ferguson, Ross Bailes and Chris Madden are also going to be the guys to out run here. They will be hard to beat."

Fayetteville Motor Speedway: From South Carolina, the Series will make a three-hour trek east bound to Fayetteville Motor Speedway in North Carolina. The Series has visited the 4/10th-mile six-times total and consecutively for the past three seasons, where

three different winners have visited Victory Lane at the end of the night including Brian Shirley (2016), Chris Ferguson (2015) and Darrell Lanigan (2014).

"This is a big deal for us as we understand the prestige of the champions and the drivers who race with the Series," said track owner, Jim Long. "We are proud to have the event not only for our track but also for our community and for our fans. When the Outlaws come here it's not an easy path for them to get the win because we have some great regional racers who come here multiple times a year and it's not an easy track to get around."

North Carolina native, Donald Bradsher, is amid his rookie campaign with the World of Outlaws this season and continues to show improvement each race. He landed a second-place win in his heat and quick time during the Outlaws visit to Mississippi at Whynot Motorsports Park in March but has not yet landed among the top-10 during a feature this season.

Bradsher has some history at Fayetteville Motor Speedway. In 2016 he joined in on the Outlaw action at the track where he ended the night with a seventh-place finish in the Craftsman Club Feature and in 2015 snagged a Carolina Clash victory. This race could be Bradsher's turning moment in the 2017 season.

"We've run there quite a bit, probably 20 or 30 races, and I have won several races there over the past three or four years as well as many of top-five runs," said Bradsher. "I feel really good heading into the race at this track. We are finally going to a track that I have been to before and it suits my driving style."

The World of Outlaw Craftsman Late Model Series feature event at Cherokee Speedway and Fayetteville Motor Speedway will include 50-laps and \$10,000 on the line. Tickets for the events will be available at the track gate on the day of the race.

Hafertepe, Jr. Gets One For The Thumb at Missouri State Fair Speedway

SEDALIA, MO - Tying a record set by Gary Wright in 2005, Sunnyvale, Texas shoe Sam Hafertepe, Jr got one for the thumb at the Missouri State Fair Speedway with the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network; beating out Johnny Herrera by mere feet at the drop of the checkered flag.

ing out Johnny Herrera by mere feet at the drop of the checkered flag.

"Let me tell you, Johnny and I raced well together last year and it's the same this year. I've got a lot of respect for what he does, and he shows the same towards me and when we can put on a show like that in front of these fans, that's what makes them want to come back every time," said Hafertepe was congratulated in the car by Herrera.

Asked about his fifth win in as many starts, Sam replied, "This is incredible. We really didn't have the best car early on. We were way to tight and I had to start making it work, especially in three and four where they were just eating us up but just hats off to my guys."

Fighting the tight race car though the opening laps, a restart on Lap 8 would prove pivotal for Hafertepe who was able to maneuver out of dirty air. Advancing into the chase for the lead, Hafertepe trailed Johnny Herrera by just shy of a half straightaway as the pair began to find traffic at the races midpoint.

With the aid of traffic the Hwy. 79 Collision No. 15h quickly reeled in the No. 45x and began to challenge on the fifteenth round. Pulling even with Herrera of the following lap, Sam was able to secure the lead and begin putting slower cars between he and the MVT No. 45x.

Caution on lap 18 for Jake Greider and Seth Bergman breathed new life into the battle for the top spot as Herrera charged the bottom side of the speedway through turns one and two to capture the lead as the field advanced to the back stretch.

Challenging in kind though the third and fourth turns, Hafertepe was able to get back on point as Herrera fell to a ten car length deficit. Fighting an increasingly

tight machine through the high side of turns one and two, the No. 15h saw his advantage being to dwindle. Rolling to twin flags, Herrera was there. Pulling to Sam's back bumper, the pair raced under the white flag with Herrera trapped in dirty air. Shuffled up the racetrack, Johnny quickly regain momentum and again challenged as the leaders hit the final two turns.

Holding Hafertepe to the top of the race track, Johnny hustled the bottom for everything he had but would come up a mere feet shy of the win.

To the approval of his hometown fans, Jonathan Cornell would run third in the Starline Brass No. 28 with Blake Hahn posting his first top five of the season in the Pizza Express No. 52. Having to rebuild his car after a flip at Texas Motor Speedway, Missouri's Kyle Bellm advanced from eighth to fifth in the RAMS No. 14k.

Posting his best finish of the season, Canada's Skylar Gee crossed sixth with Aaron Reutzel earning the CP Carrillo Hard Charger of the Night with a blistering run from 18th to seventh. Justin Henderson crossed eighth with Sammy Swindell from 12th to ninth. The top-ten rounded out with Oklahoma's Wayne Johnson.

The 25 car field was split into three Heat Races with Kyle Bellm, Skylar Gee, and Justin Henderson



Sam Hefertepe Jr. (right) celebrates his win with second place finisher Johnny Herrera (center) and third place finisher Jonathan Cornell (left). (ASCS / Bryan Hulbert Photo)

earning wins. New for the 2017 season, a Dash for Cash was run for the drivers with the Speedway Motors ASCS Warrior Region presented by Impact Signs, Awnings, and Wraps with Randy Martin making the closing laps pass to pick up a nice \$600 bonus.

The Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network hits the track again on Thursday, May 11 at the McCarthy Auto Group KC Classic presented by Racin-Boys.com at Lakeside Speedway in Kansas City, Kan.

Bell Is The 2017 King of the Wings at Jackson Speedway

BYRAM, MS - Making it a perfect weekend at the Jackson Motor Speedway, Tennessee's Brian Bell is the undisputed 2017 King of the Wings with the Lucas Oil ASCS

Southern Outlaw Sprints and the Griffith Truck and Equipment ASCS Gulf South Region.

Gridding the A-Feature fourth on Saturday night, the FSR Radiators No. 23b advanced to the lead on the ninth circuit. Taking the top spot from the No. 26 of Marshall Skinner, the Marion, Arkansas driver battled back to reclaim the point on Lap 17. Working the back markers, it was traffic negotiation that would be Skinner's undoing. Getting caught behind a slower machine on Lap 21, Bell split the difference and advanced to the lead and the win.

Skinner would have to setting for the runner-up spot with Tim Crawley advancing from seventh to complete the night's podium. Derek Hagar was fourth after starting second with Zach Pringle rounding out the top-five.

Making the trip for Saturday's regional showdown, Ernie Ainsworth

(Continued Next Page)

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was sixth after starting ninth with Ray Allen Kulhanek eighth from 13th. Jacob Lucas crossed ninth with Mississippi's Shane Morgan rounding out the top-ten.

The Griffith Truck and Equipment ASCS Gulf South Region hits the track again on May 5 at the Heart O' Texas Speedway in Waco and the Gator Motorplex in Willis,

Texas on May 6. The Lucas Oil ASCS Southern Outlaw Sprints race again on April 28 and 29 at Deep South Speedway in Loxley, Ala.

For continued updates on the American Sprint Car Series and the over 150 dates that make up both National and Regional tours in 2017, log onto www.ascsracing.com.

Brian Bell Wins King of the Wings Prelim at Jackson Motor Speedway

BYRAM, MS - Notching his fifth career victory with the Lucas Oil

ASCS Southern Outlaw Sprints, and second with the Griffith Truck and Equipment ASCS Gulf South Region, Tennessee's Brian Bell parked the FSR Radiators No. 23b in Victory Lane on night-one of the King of the Wings II at the Jackson Motor Speedway in Byram, Miss.

Working from the outside line of the leading row, Bell would stave off several attempts at the lead with most coming on restarts.

The final attempt coming with two laps to go would not be enough for anyone to challenge as Bell railed the top side of the Speedway to victory.

Marshall Skinner crossed sec-

ond thanks to a late race pass on Michael Miller who would complete Friday's podium. Derek Hagar advanced to fourth from seventh with Tim Crawley following from the eighth starting spot.

Louisiana's Dustin Gates was sixth at the checkered flag from 13th with Nick Snyder proving to be the night's Hard Charger with a run from 17th to seventh. Zach Pringle from 12th made it to eighth with Zane Lawrence and Andy McElhannon making up the top-ten.

The second annual King of the Wings at the Jackson Motor Speedway in Byram, Miss. continues on Saturday, April 15, 2017.

Windom Wins "Spring Showdown" at Tri-State

HAUBSTADT, IN - Chris Windom prevailed in the season opening "Spring Showdown" for USAC and MSCS sprint cars at the Tri-State Speedway. The 30 lap co-sanctioned feature played out as a duel and was at times a three or four car run for the money. A victory would be worth \$5,000 and with the yellow flag being displayed on lap 29 the field was set for a single one lap showdown. Windom had the lead as the cars lined up for the final restart, one which he described as "nerve racking!" He had led since lap four in the Baldwin Brother's Number 5 entry. The victory was number five for Windom in MSCS competition!

In starting fourth it took Chris Windom a few laps to catch and overtake Chad Boespflug. Boespflug fought back in the Mean Green machine looking for an opportunity to retake the lead. That would not happen but the race long effort added additional excitement to an action filled event that was thrilling to watch. Boespflug was pleased with the run. He added an "especially here" in explanation that the Haubstadt oval has been a real challenge over the years. All top three drivers at the Showdown may have provided a complete podium surprise!

Justin Grant was third and joined Windom and Boespflug in victory lane for post race festivities. The remainder of the top five included Brady Short in fourth and Carson Short in fifth. Brady Short was the

Keizer Aluminum Wheels Hard Charger of the Race for MSCS. He advanced 16 spots after starting twentieth on the 25 car starting field. Leading the second five to the finish line was fast qualifier Jarett Andretti followed by Aaron Farney, Max McGhee, Kevin Thomas Jr., and C.J. Leary.

Chase Stockon received the Wilwood Tuff Brakes Award in finishing eleventh. Stockon also won the first heat. Subsequent heat race wins went to Chad Boespflug, C.J. Leary, and Chris Windom. Kyle Cummins outran Josh Hodges and Brady Short to take the 12 lap Semi Feature. Cummins was the second fastest qualifier and was running third in the main before becoming involved in a three car entanglement between turns three and four which produced a lot of steam and smoke. That was on lap 27.

Earlier on lap nine of the feature a red flag was displayed when Donny Brackett took an end for end ride down the front straightaway. The car finally landed near turn one. Emergency teams were on the scene immediately. Brackett emerged from the wreckage and walked away under his own power. There was also a red flag in the Semi when Tyler Rust flipped in turn three. The car ended up on it's side and the MSCS rookie's night ended early.

The MSCS Sprint Cars will race next on Sunday April 30th at the half mile Terre Haute Action Track. The MSCS series will return to Tri-State Speedway on Saturday May 13th in a program that also includes the MOWA Winged Sprints. In the meantime the World of Outlaws Sprints will make their annual

appearance at Tri-State Speedway on Saturday night April 29th.

FAIR FIRST IN UMP MODIFIEDS: Zach Fair of Petersburg, IN, won the 25 lap UMP Modified feature. Fair led throughout an event that was interrupted repeatedly by yellow flags for incidents.

Only eight drivers would have a

car that would finish this race. From the halfway point on, it was time to get on the gas.

Trent Young kept pace with a flying Zach Fair but would ultimately finish as the runner-up. Veteran Everett Bradham finished third in a second duel with Shawn Cates. Todd Riley was fifth.

Four Days. Four Big Events

The stars of the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series will tackle four big events in four days next week - with a strong contingent of local and regional standouts expected to battle the nation's elite drivers for over \$175,000 in prize money. Atomic Speedway in Chillicothe, Ohio will kick off the four-day spectacular on Thursday, April 20. The Buckeye Spring 50 will include a complete program of: Miller Welders Time Trials, Heat Races, B-Mains, and a 50-lap, \$10,000-to-win main event. The Open Wheel Modifieds will compete for \$1,000-to-win. For tickets and more info visit: www.atomicspeedway.net.

Sharon Speedway - one of the oldest, continuously running tracks in the country - will host the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series for the first time on Friday, April 21. The Steel Valley 50 has become one of the most anticipated events of the season and the 3/8-mile oval and will include: Miller Welders Time Trials, Heat Races, B-Mains, and a 50-lap, \$10,000-to-win main event. The Econo Mods will compete for \$500-to-win.

To purchase advanced tickets or find more information, visit:

www.sharonspeedway.com or call (330) 772-5481.

Hagerstown Speedway, known as the "Capital of Dirt Racing," recently took the green flag on their 70th anniversary season. The ultra-competitive Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series has seen an impressive streak of nine different winners in nine races at Hagerstown Speedway.

The 36th Annual Stanley Schetrompf Classic on Saturday, April 22 will be a complete show with Miller Welders Time Trials, Heat Races, B-Mains, and a \$12,000 to win, 60-lap main event. Joining the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series at Hagerstown Speedway will be the Pure Stock division.

For tickets and more information, visit: www.hagerstownspeedway.com or call (301) 582-0640.

Port Royal Speedway in Port Royal, Pennsylvania will cap off an action-packed weekend on Sunday, April 23. The historic half-mile oval, better known as the "Speed Palace," is accustomed to thrilling, edge of your seat racing action.

A full program of: Miller Welders Time Trials, Heat Races, B-Mains and a 50-lap, \$10,000-to-win main event is on tap of the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series.

The Port Royal Speedway 358 Late Models will compete for \$1,000-to-win.

For more information, visit: www.portroyalspeedway.com.

Bayston Holds Back Duncan and Shaffer to Claim First-Ever Arctic Cat All Star Victory

ATTICA, OH - For Leobenon, Indiana's Spencer Bayston, it took just 15 winged sprint car starts to park himself in victory lane, earning the HD Supply Spring Nationals finale victory worth \$5,000 over a stout Arctic Cat All Star field

at Attica Raceway Park.

Bayston, pilot of the Kevin Swindell-owned/Swindell Speed Lab/No. 39, outperformed 46 other Arctic Cat All Star Circuit of Champions entries that were signed-in on Saturday night at the home of "Ohio's Finest Racing," eventually charging forward from seventh on the main event grid to secure his position on top of the feature podium. Cole Duncan finished second during the 40-lap program, followed by Tim Shaffer, Dale Blaney, and defending Arctic Cat All Star champion Chad Kemenah.

"Holy crap, we're in victory lane here at Attica Raceway Park," Spencer Bayston said. "I didn't even know how to get to victory lane or where to go. I drove on to the front stretch, but I figured out pretty quick that was wrong. This place is absolutely packed. A big

'thanks' to all of the fans for coming out here tonight. Hopefully you guys enjoyed it."

Pole-sitter Cole Duncan took command during the drop of the initial green flag, leading Shawn Dancer and Carson Macedo by the flag stand for the first time. The Lockbourne, Ohio, native maintained the top spot during the first seven circuits, ultimately surrendering the point position to Carson Macedo on lap eight. It took Macedo two attempts to get around Duncan, eventually using a textbook slide job between turns three and four to officially take command. Utilizing the very topside of the speedway, Macedo cruised out in front of the field for the next five circuits, but mechanical woes on lap 14 halted any winning potential.

From that point forward, Bayston was the man in charge; already climbing from the inside of row four to seize third on lap six, and moving into second on lap 11. After inheriting the top spot, Bayston opened his command immediately, and did so without any distractions. The former USAC National Midget Rookie of the Year hit traffic for the first time just beyond the halfway mark, but still maintained a three second advantage, eventually in-



Spencer Bayston celebrates with family and crew in Attica Raceway Park victory lane. (Dan McFarland/Sprint Fun Photo)

creasing his command to four seconds by lap 30.

A late-race caution on lap 33 would stack the field one last time, but a clear groove and clean air proved to be too much of an advantage for Bayston; crossing under the final checkers with a two second advantage ahead of Cole Duncan and the "Steel City Outlaw" Tim Shaffer.

"We were getting through traffic pretty clean there. I wasn't really sure who was behind me. I could feel the rubber starting to build, so I just tried to be as conservative as I could with my tires," Bayston said. "I can't thank Kevin and Jordan Swindell, as well as my parents, enough for this opportunity. They have done so much with this program. This is going to be a fun

year."

In one week, the Arctic Cat All Star Circuit of Champions will conclude their April tour of The Buckeye State with a visit to the Wayne County Speedway near Orrville, Ohio, on Saturday, April 22. It will be the first of four Wayne County Speedway appearances by "America's Series" in 2017.

Wayne County Speedway will open gates at 3:00pm on Saturday, April 22. Qualifying time trials are scheduled to hit the speedway at 6:00pm, followed by an entire Arctic Cat All Star program complete with heat races and respective main events.

Those interested in learning more should visit Wayne County Speedway at www.waynecountyspeedway.com.

Introducing The Joie of Seating \$50,000 Golden Driller Challenge

TULSA, OK - Winning a Golden Driller at the Lucas Oil Chili Bowl Nationals presented by General Tire is one of the hardest prizes to earn in Motorsports. With a field exceeding 300, making the 24 car A-Feature is an accomplishment in and of itself.

Even tougher is having to come from the back, but what if you had a \$50,000 reason to do so?

Thanks to Randy LaJoie, one driver just might get that chance in the 32nd edition of the Lucas Oil Chili Bowl Nationals presented by General Tire, happening January 9-13, 2018 inside the River Spirit

Expo Center in Tulsa, Okla.

Here's the deal. If a driver who wins their preliminary night just happens to be running a seat from the Joie of Seating, they are in the running to take the challenge. Following the BC Forever Pole Dash, the pole sitter will have a choice to drop to the tail. If they don't take it, then next Prelim Night winner in a LaJoie seat will have a choice so four drivers could potentially have a chance to say yes to the challenge.

LaJoie, who is a two time NASCAR Xfinity Series Champion, began manufacturing seats in 1996 in order to better accommodate what he felt was a safer, and much more custom fitted seat. Randy has jokingly, but at the same time as serious as can be, stated "I've been a

crash test dummy for quite a few years". His crash in 1984 during the Twin 125's is proof of that.

Tickets for the 32nd running of the Lucas Oil Chili Bowl Nationals presented by General Tire are currently up for renewal. The deadline to renew is Friday, April 28, 2017. Tickets will be pulled by hand over the next month. As soon as all renewed tickets have been pulled, new ticket orders will be filled as long as tickets are available.

Reserved Seat tickets for the 32nd Lucas Oil Chili Bowl Nationals are sold in four day and five day packages only. Tuesday's opening night is the only individual reserved seat that is sold as an individual day ticket. Four day tickets are \$227, plus shipping. Five day tickets are \$282, plus shipping.

If a Reserved Seat ticket cannot be procured, Pit Passes will be on sale at the event and never sell out. The Pit Pass allows fans access to the back straightaway on a first come, first served basis. Pit Passes

are \$45 per weekday, and \$60 on Saturday. Buying concurrent days does save the buyer money.

If someone with a Reserved Seat would like to upgrade to a Combo Ticket/Pit Pass, the cost is \$20 per day. Upgrading to a combo pass must be done at the event.

All current ticket holders will be sent a renewal form via USPS. The offices of the Chili Bowl Nationals are open Monday-Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. (CT). Starting March 1, 2017, tickets can be renewed by phone by calling (918) 838-3777. If sending in the renewal form, those can be returned by mail to 1140 S. 83rd East Ave. Tulsa, OK 74112 or by fax to (918) 836-5517. Tickets can be purchased with Visa, MasterCard, Cash, Check, or Money Order. Orders will not be taken via email or social media.

For continued updates on the Lucas Oil Chili Bowl Nationals presented by General Tire, log onto www.chilibowl.com.

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Darlington Raceway

DARLINGTON, SC - As the Palmetto Goodwill Great Pee Dee Yard Sale at Darlington Raceway approaches on Saturday, April 22 (8 a.m. – 1 p.m.), the event is beginning to take shape in what is truly a unique yard sale experience for community members that want to sell their unwanted goods.

The local community is encouraged to sign up for an 18x20 vendor space* for \$25 until Friday, April 21. On April 22 (day of event), prices per space will increase to \$30. Vendors will be able to set up their space on Friday, April 21 from noon to 5 p.m.

Each registration will include a voucher** for \$25 off one (1) frontstretch ticket order to the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Bojangles' Southern 500 on Sept. 3. Entry to the event to shop is free of charge.

Registration forms can be picked up or dropped off at the Darlington Raceway ticket office during normal business hours (9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday-Friday). Cash, check and credit cards are accepted for payment. Forms can also be downloaded by visiting www.DarlingtonRaceway.com/PeeDeeYardSale.

All items not purchased during the yard sale can be donated to Palmetto Goodwill, which will have trucks on site to pick up any items.

Palmetto Goodwill is a local non-profit organization whose mission is to help people achieve their full potential through the dignity and power of work. More than 90 percent of Goodwill's revenue goes to fund mission related services.

Darlington Raceway will also be collecting non-perishable food items during the event to benefit Harvest Hope Food Bank in Florence, SC.

Darlington Raceway's award-winning throwback campaign is now The Official Throwback Weekend of NASCAR featuring the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Bojangles' Southern 500® on Sunday, Sept. 3, 2017. The NASCAR XFINITY Series Sport Clips Haircuts VFW 200 will race on Saturday, Sept. 2, 2017. Tickets are on sale now by calling 866-459-7223 or visiting DarlingtonRaceway.com.

You can keep up with all of the latest news from Darlington Raceway at DarlingtonRaceway.com, on

Facebook at [Facebook.com/DarlingtonRaceway](https://www.facebook.com/DarlingtonRaceway) and on Twitter at [Twitter.com/TooToughToTame](https://twitter.com/TooToughToTame). Fans are encouraged to post their Bojangles' Southern 500 stories and memories at #TraditionContinues, #BojanglesSo500 and #SportClips200.

*Vendor spaces are located in the track's ADA parking lot, located outside turn 3 by the gate 39A tunnel entrance off of Highway 151. Tables not provided.

**Restrictions apply.

Atlanta Motor Speedway

HAMPTON, GA - In just over a week, the Summit Racing Equipment Atlanta Motorama presented by RacingJunk.com will transform the expansive infield at Atlanta Motor Speedway into one of the largest automotive festivals in the south, as the fourth annual edition of Georgia's motoring festival returns April 22 and 23.

From exceedingly rare tribute cars and national award-winning vehicles to BIGFOOT® monster trucks and even a barbeque competition, the 2017 Summit Racing Equipment Atlanta Motorama will run the gamut of motor-centric entertainment for fans of all ages in what's billed as the biggest event yet.

Anchoring the two-day festival, the Show Car Garage is jam packed with highly decorated automotive works of art, including a 1931 Auburn Phaeton, a 1940 Willy's Gasser Coupe and a 1957 Chevrolet Belair. Of course, that's just three out of the seven represented decades while more than 20 prestigious award winning cars will be featured on the garage floor.

Next door, the Million Dollar Salon will live up to its name with rare vehicles usually only found in a museum on display. A 1912 Hotchkis Gentlemen's Roadster and a Bugati Atlantis highlight the extraordinary line up in the Salon.

For the extreme motorsports fans, BIGFOOT® monster trucks will be back for the fourth straight year, with car-crushing exhibitions twice each day, as well as the infamous No. 5 truck with its enormous 10-foot tires. Plus, Team FMX will also perform heart-pounding motocross stunts on both days of the show.

Atlanta Motorama fan-favorites will also be back for the 2017 event, including the Motorama Bikefest, the Bidder One collector car auction, Panasonic Automotive Autocross competitions, a pin-stripers' panel jam, the massive vendor midway, the Pull-A-Part

Swap Meet, national championship qualifying competitions for over 20 Hot Rodders of Tomorrow teams, and as always, more than 1,000 classic, custom and collector vehicles distributed throughout the show.

But there are several new and exciting features this year that takes Georgia's Motoring Festival to a whole new level. The first-ever Atlanta Barbeque Classic benefiting Speedway Children's Charities will herald competition among many of the South's best barbeque competition teams while adding a tasty new flavor to the gigantic motoring celebration. For the movie buffs, Smokey and the Bandit tribute vehicles, including the Bandit's infamous 1977 Trans-Am, Snowman's big rig and Smokey's patrol car will all be on hand. A sea of vintage trailers will also add a "campy" new aspect to the show, while kids and families can meet Scooby-Doo and Shaggy, who will make special appearances on both days.

More than 100 awards are slated to be given out to various vehicles entered into the show, and this year's Super Prize Giveaway will award a Chevrolet ZZ6 turn-key engine, worth over \$9,000, to one lucky participant.

For car owners interested in participating in the show, there is still time to register vehicles, and entry forms can be downloaded at the Atlanta Motorama website at www.atlantamotorama.com,

Show hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, April 22 and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 23. Admission is just \$12 for adults, \$5 for kids ages 6 to 11 and free for children 5 and under.

For more information or to purchase advance tickets to the show, visit www.atlantamotorama.com or contact the Atlanta Motor Speedway ticket office at (770) 946-4211 or (877) 9-AMS-TIX.

Talladega Superspeedway

TALLADEGA, AL - Chase University is returning to Talladega Superspeedway for the track's NASCAR double header weekend, May 6-7. After a successful, initial venture last fall, NASCAR's Most Competitive track is again partnering with the driver of the No. 24 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet, Chase Elliott, for the special "Chase U" \$24 college student ticket offer.

As a part of the

program, Elliott, who sits second in NASCAR's premier series standings, is scheduled to visit the "Chase U" college zone, located in the North Park Campground, at 6 p.m. on Saturday, May 6. The second-generation driver and son of NASCAR Hall of Famer Bill Elliott will host a question and answer session and mingle with fans throughout the tailgate area.

The "Chase U" ticket package at NASCAR's Party Capital is available to all college students with a valid student ID. It includes a host of benefits that students are sure to enjoy at an incredible price:

- Free Camping/Parking for tailgating in the "Chase U" College Zone of North Park

- Free Admission to Friday evening's "Big One on the Blvd." Driver Parade and Fan Competitions

- Free Admission to the Traditional Saturday Night Infield Concert featuring The Charlie Daniels Band

- Free Tram Service - in and out of the track - for Friday's Big One on the Blvd. & Saturday's Infield Concert

- Seating in the Gadsden (at exit of Turn Four) Grandstand

- Ability to bring your own cooler into the Gadsden Grandstand (soft-sided, maximum size of 14"x14"x14", no glass) filled with your favorite snacks and beverages

- A chance to be a part of the Party Capital of NASCAR!

"Talladega Superspeedway fans know how to party," said Elliott, the 2016 NASCAR Cup Series Rookie of the Year. "The program makes for a memorable experience with plenty of entertainment for college students at an incredible price."

"We have a vast amount of colleges and universities within easy driving distance to our venue," said Talladega Superspeedway Chairman Grant Lynch. "They come from all over – Alabama, Auburn, Troy, LSU, Ole Miss, Georgia, South Carolina, and many more. We have great support from our local institutions like UAB, Jacksonville State,

(Continued Next Page)



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Gadsden State, Talladega College and others. Having Chase as a part of our college programming has provided these students a great opportunity.”

Elliott left his mark on Talladega a year ago as a rookie, winning the pole position in his first Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series race at Talladega – the 2016 GEICO 500. It came

30 years to the day that his father Bill captured the pole at Talladega. Bill owns the track qualifying mark of 212.809 mph, set in the spring of 1987. Chase finished fifth a year ago in the GEICO 500 after leading 27 laps. He came back to Talladega last fall with a ninth-place effort, heading the field for nine circuits.

For more information on Talladega Superspeedway's college initiative log on to www.talladegasuperspeedway.com/ChaseU or call 1-877-Go2-DEGA.

Dover International Speedway

BELLEVILLE, MI - The International Drone Racing Association (IDRA) has announced a new partnership with Dover (Del.) International Speedway. The IDRA will hold its USA event at the track famously known as “The Monster Mile” June 2-4, 2017, in conjunction with their NASCAR tripleheader race weekend. The event will be free and open to the public to watch in Dover's FanZone.

The race will feature 16 professional teams from around the world, competing to earn points toward the World Championship. The three-year agreement provides IDRA with the opportunity to showcase the growing sport of drone racing in Dover during its spring event weekend.

“Dover International Speedway is an incredible opportunity for IDRA,” said Justin Haggerty, the founder and CEO of IDRA. “Showcasing the sport, during a major NASCAR weekend, to over tens of thousands of motorsports fans is the best opportunity that IDRA could ask for. To IDRA, the drone racing community is the sport's most valuable asset and it is set to grow after the Dover race.”

“We're excited to host an IDRA event in Dover,” said Mike Tatoian, Dover International Speedway president and CEO. “The Monster

Mile provides race fans in the mid-Atlantic with a chance to experience NASCAR in person, and we're looking forward to introducing those same passionate fans to a different kind of racing during our June 2-4 event.”

The 2017 IDRA Drone Racing Series is a professional series of six international events. The season begins in the United States and concludes with the IDRA Finals in Amsterdam. Contestants compete for the IDRA Drone Racing Series World Championship on the basis of total points earned at IDRA international events, including the IDRA Finals.

UAS/Drone racing is a worldwide sport that utilizes Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) and Virtual Reality (VR) technology to allow a new breed of innovators to compete on the international stage. There are roughly 100 drone competitions in the U.S. annually and 200 worldwide competitions, highlighted last year by IDRA's World Drone Prix in Dubai that awarded its first \$1 million prize to a 15-year-old from the United Kingdom.

For tickets or more information about race weekend, call 800-441-RACE or visit DoverSpeedway.com. You can also keep up with the Monster Mile at [Facebook.com/DoverInternationalSpeedway](https://www.facebook.com/DoverInternationalSpeedway), or on Twitter and Instagram at @MonsterMile.

The International Drone Racing Association (IDRA) is a for-profit association founded on the belief that competition drives innovation, and that drone racing is the next evolution of robotic competition. IDRA believes in growing this awesome new industry by organizing historic drone racing competitions like the semi-professional Challengers Cup and professional Drone Racing Series. The IDRA's core mission is to grow this amazing community of tinkerers, dreamers, and innovators.

Talladega Superspeedway

TALLADEGA, AL - Artist Chris Shrader, who has a rocking style of traditional country music, will open Talladega Superspeedway's popular Saturday Night Infield Concert, May 6, as part the track's anticipated triple-header motorsports weekend (May 5-7), featuring the GEICO 500.

Shrader, along with DJ Michaelis, a mainstay in NASCAR circles and a past performer at Talladega, will join the iconic Charlie Daniels Band in the track's infamous infield – NASCAR's "Party Capital." Admission is free with the

purchase of a GEICO 500 race ticket (for Sunday, May 7). It all starts Saturday at 7:00 p.m. CDT. Shrader's electrifying songs and singing style reflect the music that surrounded him growing up: Merle Haggard, Johnny Cash, Hank Williams, Alan Jackson, Travis Tritt, and Reba McEntire. But his music is also flavored by the electric rock music he listened to as a teenager with the likes of Lynyrd Skynyrd, Marshall Tucker, Pearl Jam and Tom Petty. Mix in a dash of contemporary country and you have a soulful sound of music that is Shrader's alone. Fans hear just that in the Nashville resident's songs - “Better Off Alone” and “I Love My Country.”

After Shrader and Michaelis perform, Daniels, the legendary Southern rocker who has been in the industry for over 50 years, will take the stage as the night's headliner. The Charlie Daniels Band is best known for its hits “The Devil Went Down to Georgia,” “Long Haired Country Boy,” and “Uneasy Rider.”

The Saturday Night Concert will put an exclamation point on a full slate of Saturday activities at the 2.66-mile venue, which will see two rounds of qualifying for both the Sparks Energy 300 and the GEICO 500 (at 3:30 p.m. CDT), as well as the drop of the green flag on the Sparks Energy 300 for the NASCAR XFINITY Series at 12 Noon CDT.

Free tram transportation – both into the track prior to the concert and back outside the track after the concert – is provided for Sunday GEICO 500 Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series grandstand ticket holders.

The Talladega spring race weekend kicks off Friday, May 5, with all-day on-track activity which includes practice sessions for the Sparks Energy 300 and GEICO 500, plus the drop of the green flag for the General Tire 200 ARCA Racing Series Presented by Menards event.

Fans can get more ticket information for all three days of racing by logging on to www.talladegasuperspeedway.com or simply calling our ticket office at 1-855-518-RACE.

Kansas Speedway

KANSAS CITY, KS - The most famous words in racing may get a twist when Larry the Cable Guy gives the order, “Drivers, Start Your Engines,” to begin the Go Bowling 400

on May 13, 2017.

Larry returns to the big screen as the voice of Mater in Disney•Pixar's “Cars 3,” scheduled for release on June 16, 2017. He first lent his voice to the iconic character in the Golden-Globe®-winning feature film “Cars” (2006) and returned to the role for “Cars 2” (2011). Both movies opened No. 1 at the box office and combined have grossed more than \$1 billion worldwide.

Larry is a multiplatinum recording artist, Grammy® nominee, Billboard award winner and one of the top comedians in the country. In addition to his own merchandise line and selling out theatres and arenas across the country, Larry, along with his wife Cara, created the GitR-Done Foundation, which was named after his signature catchphrase, and has donated more than \$7 million to various charities with an emphasis on children's and veteran's causes. For information, visit www.gitrdonefoundation.org.

“I'm thrilled to welcome Larry the Cable Guy to Kansas Speedway for the Go Bowling 400,” said Kansas Speedway President Patrick Warren. “Larry is not only a great comedian, but also an amazing philanthropist.”

“Larry the Cable Guy is a comedic icon who also shares a love for racing and bowling,” said Nancy Schenk, president of the Bowling Proprietors' Association of America. “It's an honor to have him as grand marshal for our race and we look forward to getting him out on our lanes at the Go Bowling Fan Experience Tent in the Midway.”

In addition to the “Cars” series, Larry's film credits include “Jingle all the Way 2,” “A Madea Christmas,” “Tooth Fairy 2,” “Witless Protection,” “Delta Farce,” and his first feature “Larry the Cable Guy: Health Inspector.”

Larry and Jeff Foxworthy are on a national tour, the “We've Been Thinking Tour.” The tour features all new material from both comedians and is available as a comedy special on Netflix. Larry, also, launched his own comedy channel “Jeff and Larry's Comedy Roundup,” on SiriusXM. The channel is in partnership with SiriusXM and Jeff Foxworthy. It showcases the best in great American comedy, including

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this dynamic duo as well as their personal favorite comedians.

He is also a best-selling author and his book "Git-R-Done" (2005) debuted at No. 26 on the New York Times bestseller list. He was also named to Forbes Celebrity 100 list, which lists the hottest and most successful people in the entertainment industry, in 2006, 2007, 2011 and 2012.

Go Bowling returns as the sponsor of the Go Bowling 400 for the second year. GoBowling.com is the destination for bowling fans and enthusiasts seeking news and information about one of America's favorite pastimes. With more than 67 million people taking to the lanes every year, bowling is the nation's number one participatory sport.

Racing returns to Kansas Speedway on Friday, May 12 with the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series Toyota Tundra 250, and Saturday, May 13 with the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Go Bowling 400 under the lights! In October, the Hollywood Casino 400 is an elimination race in the Monster Energy Series playoffs on Sunday, Oct. 22. The NASCAR XFINITY Series Kansas Lottery 300 will again be a part of the playoffs for the NASCAR XFINITY Series on Saturday, Oct. 21, while the IARCA Racing Series presented by Menards will wrap up their season on Friday, Oct. 20. Tickets are currently on sale by calling 866.460.RACE (7223) or online at www.kansasspeedway.com.

Fans can follow Kansas Speedway on Facebook at www.facebook.com/kansasspeedway or follow us on Twitter (@kansasspeedway).

Talladega Superspeedway

TALLADEGA, AL - Clint Bowyer, a two-time Talladega Superspeedway winner, and Joey Logano, the latest driver to go to Gatorade Victory Lane at the 2.66-mile venue, have joined the lineup for NASCAR's Most Competitive Track's Pre-Race Fan Question and Answer Session on Sunday morning, May 7, prior to the start of the GEICO 500.

They join the previously announced trio of Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series (MENCS) championship points leader Kyle

Larson, Danica Patrick and Chris Buescher. Fans will have the opportunity to ask questions in lure of the GEICO 500, where the winner will be all but assured a spot in NASCAR's season ending playoffs. Access to this special Q&A Session, which is tentatively scheduled for 9:30-10:45 AM (CDT) at the start-finish line of the mammoth 33-degree high banked race track, is available by purchasing Talladega's Pre-Race Pit Pass Upgrade.

Fans that purchase this upgraded pass receive up-close looks of NASCAR's most noticeable stars during multiple festivities prior to the GEICO 500's green flag. Pre-Race Pit Pass Upgrades are \$75, and includes access to witness the red-carpet entrance for the driver's meeting, as well as access to the pre-race stage to cheer for their favorite drivers during pre-race introductions.

Bowyer is in his 12th full season as a MENCS driver and first with Stewart-Haas Racing. The 37-year-old Emporia, Kansas native first went to Gatorade Victory Lane at Talladega in the fall of 2010 when he held off Kevin Harvick. A year later in 2011, he edged Jeff Burton by merely .018 seconds for the victory. In his career, he's made 22 starts at TSS and finished inside the top-10 on 12 occasions, while posting an average finishing position of 14.7. He ranks ninth in this year's MENCS standings.

Logano has won two of the last three MENCS races at Talladega (fall events in 2015-16) and has recorded four top-five finishes and six top-10 efforts. In addition, the Middletown, CT, native has two NASCAR XFINITY Series triumphs at the mammoth venue.

Larson is coming off his best finish at Talladega last fall, finishing sixth. Patrick cemented her place in the Talladega Superspeedway history books in 2014, becoming the first female driver to ever lead laps around the 2.66-mile Superspeedway. Buescher took a well-remembered wild ride on Talladega's Alabama Gang Superstretch during last year's GEICO 500, and walked away from the incident.

The Pre-Race Pit Pass Upgrade will be in effect Sunday, May 7, from 8:00 a.m. (CDT) until the conclusion of the driver introductions. The GEICO 500 gets underway at 1:00 p.m. CDT.

Phoenix Raceway

PHOENIX, AZ - Fans attending the Desert Diamond West Valley Phoenix Grand Prix at Phoenix

Raceway can receive an autograph from some of their favorite former IndyCar drivers at the Vintage Autograph Session Presented by Classic Racing Times on Saturday, April 29.

From 12:30-1:30 p.m., all ticketed guests can line up inside the Gates at the entrance to Corporate Village near Gate 4 to collect a free autograph from some of IndyCar's legendary drivers including Arie Luyendyk, Dick Simon, Lyn St. James, Tom Sneva and Derek Daly. Fans will also be able to check out two of the vintage Classic Racing Times vehicles that will be on display.

Classic Racing Times will also present the Vintage Desert Classic as part of the Desert Diamond West Valley Phoenix Grand Prix weekend on April 28-29. The addition to Phoenix Raceway's Ultimate Open-Wheel weekend will feature two on-track sessions ahead of the Verizon IndyCar Series race on April 29.

Some of the most legendary cars in open-wheel racing history will be displayed, both on and off the track, as part of the Vintage Desert Classic. Newly added cars include the 1961 Brabham Cooper Philippe driven by Formula 1 World Champion Sir Jack Brabham, which changed the face of racing forever as the first successful modern day rear engine car at Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Also appearing at Phoenix Raceway will be the 1939 Sparks-Thorne Engineering "Little Six" No. 10. Owned by Joe Freeman, this car picked up the pole at the 1939 Indianapolis 500 driven by Jimmy Snyder, and went on to finish all 200 laps for the second place finish behind only Wilbur Shaw.

The Vintage Desert Classic will take place along with both the USAC Silver Crown Series and the Quarter Midget races ahead of the Verizon IndyCar Series Desert Diamond West Valley Phoenix Grand Prix. Fans looking to get an up close and personal look at the cars themselves can access the Vintage Desert Classic paddock with a Garage and Pit Pass for only \$50. Grandstand tickets are available online at PhoenixRaceway.com, by phone at 1-866-408-RACE (7223) or in person at the Phoenix Raceway ticket office.

For more information, visit www.PhoenixRaceway.com.

Darlington Raceway

DARLINGTON, SC - Highlighting its award-winning throwback weekend plans of celebrating the

1985-89 era of the sport, Darlington Raceway will have rock legend Bret Michaels perform the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Bojangles' Southern 500 pre-race concert on Sunday, Sept. 3.

Michaels, known for his role as front man for the multi-platinum recording band Poison and as a highly successful solo artist, will perform a variety of Poison and solo hits spanning his multigenerational career.

Stage-front tickets to see Michaels perform the Bojangles' Southern 500 pre-race concert are on sale now by visiting DarlingtonRaceway.com or calling 866-459-7223. A grandstand ticket must be purchased with pre-race concert access.

Michaels is a multiplatinum global superstar who has turned his passion for music into a multifaceted brand that encompasses record breaking touring sales, reality TV stardom, legendary songs that have sold over 32 million records, product endorsements as well as being a devoted philanthropist, all supported and followed by three generations of loyal fans.

Michaels was born in the small town of Butler, Pa., on March 15, 1963. Rising to fame as the front man of Poison, one of rock's most iconic and enduring bands, he helped define the rock n roll scene on the Sunset Strip. Their massive success includes selling over 30 million records worldwide and numerous hit singles.

Equally as successful, Michaels' solo career has charted its own course with multiple solo albums. His album, Custom Built, topped the charts, reaching #1 on Billboards Hard Rock list.

When this multi-talented performer is not touring he can be found both in front of and behind the camera as a director, producer and a reality TV superstar.

Michaels, personally and through his Life Rocks Foundation, has helped raise tens of millions of dollars for charity and makes donations to not only diabetes awareness and research but to such causes as childhood cancer, Wounded Warriors, St. Jude's Children's Hospital, PetSmart Charities and more. Having been diagnosed with Type I diabetes at the age of six, Michaels is passionately devoted to raise awareness of the debilitating disease in hopes of finding a cure.

For more information on Bret Michaels, please visit the official web site: <http://www.bretmichaels.com>.

Kingsport Speedway

KINGSPORT, TN - The month of April focuses attention to National Autism Awareness, and Kingsport Speedway supported the Autism Society of East Tennessee for the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series racing program Friday in the Model City.

With only one race in the books this season due to inclement weather forcing three of the first four scheduled events to be canceled, the National Weather Service forecast finally delivered a nice, sunny day around Northeast Tennessee with temperatures in the low 80s.

Both fans and race teams alike were ready for "The Concrete Jungle" to roar back to life, with a large crowd in attendance on Good Friday to kick off Easter weekend.

In the headlining NASCAR Whelen All-American Series Late Model Stock Car division, twin 35-lap features were held and both races produced plenty of excitement - and also controversy. Two former track champions picked up victories with Kres VanDyke of Abingdon, Va., winning the first race while Robbie Ferguson of Jonesborough visited victory lane to finish the night of racing.

Chad Finchum, the 2013 Kingsport Speedway Late Model Stock Car champion, set fast-time at 15.065 seconds in qualifying to earn pole position, with VanDyke second quickest at 15.116.

Back at the season-opener on March 25, Finchum and VanDyke ran one-two during the feature with Finchum leading the first 40 laps before losing the lead to VanDyke following a restart which saw contact between the duo in turns one and two. Is there a rivalry between the championship-winning drivers? Indeed there is.

Finchum and VanDyke led the 19-car field to green with Finchum taking the early lead over VanDyke, Wayne Hale, Ronnie McCarty (2015 and 2016 track champion) and Nik Williams. McCarty quickly worked his way around Hale for third, while Ferguson was up-on-the-wheel to overtake Williams for the fifth spot on lap 8.

Finchum and VanDyke had pulled out to a little over a half-straightaway advantage over McCarty and Hale as the raced



Above: Kres VanDyke (No. 15) and Chad Finchum (No. 19) battle for the lead Friday night at Kingsport Speedway in NASCAR Whelen All-American Series Late Model Stock Car action. (RANDALL PERRY photo)

Below: Robbie Ferguson picks up the win in the second NASCAR Whelen All-American Series Late Model Stock Car race at Kingsport Speedway Friday night. (DREW HIERWARTER photo)

reached the midpoint. Caution waved on lap 26 when Billy Light spun between turns one and two.

Finchum chose to restart on the outside, putting VanDyke on the inside. Back under green they raced side-by-side for three circuits before Finchum moved ahead. His hard work in moving ahead over VanDyke was erased when the yellow waved again on lap 31 when Darin Silver spun, thus setting up a four-lap dash to the checkered flag.

Finchum took the lead over VanDyke, but VanDyke was right on the leader's back bumper. On lap 33 racing down the backstretch, VanDyke pulled to inside of Finchum to challenge for the lead.

Some say in auto racing on the last lap, anything goes when you're battling for the win. So you'd better have your (seat) belts cinched up tightly.

As the two drivers took the white flag Finchum led by about half-a-car length. With Finchum on the outside and VanDyke to the inside, contact between them saw Finchum spin in turn two and

VanDyke go on to record the victory over McCarty, Hale, Ferguson and Adam Gray.

Completing the top 10 finishers were Joey Trent, Zeke Shell, Keith Helton, Derek Lane and Williams.

The top-eight finishers from the first race were inverted for the second twin, putting Helton and Shell on the front row. Shell powered into the lead off the start over Helton and Gray, followed by Trent and Hale, with Ferguson, McCarty and VanDyke in tow.

With hard racing among the lead pack of cars, Gray got shuffled up into the high groove and lost several spots, falling back to eighth in the running order. Caution waved on lap 8 when Joshua Gobble spun in the fourth turn.

Shell jumped back out to the lead off the restart over Trent and Helton, followed by McCarty and Hale. Starting the second twin 35-lapper from rear of the field, Finchum was on a mission as he worked his way toward the front. He passed Gray for the eighth spot on lap 9, and worked his way past

Ferguson into seventh and his attention ahead was zeroed-in on VanDyke.

McCarty passed Helton for third place on lap 13, and four circuits later he got around Trent for second. But in the meantime, Finchum had cracked the top five in running order and got around both VanDyke and Hale.

The race got very interesting on lap 29. First, the caution waved for a three-car incident involving Trent, Hale and Helton between turns three and four. That set up a double-file restart with Shell and McCarty on the front row, with Finchum and VanDyke in the second row.

Shell chose to restart on the outside, thus placing McCarty to the inside. With the race back under green and the field racing into the first turn, contact between Shell and McCarty saw both cars spin and all other competitors forced to take evasive action to avoid a major pileup. Race-long leader Shell up to that point was done for the night, while McCarty had to go to rear of the field.

There was a buzz among the crowd as the cars slowly circled the track under caution, because remember the outcome of the first race between VanDyke and Finchum? Well, the pair once again was alongside one another on the front row and poised for a shootout to the finish.

Just like VanDyke and Finchum had done on restarts during both races, VanDyke started inside and Finchum outside. As the green flag waved they raced off into the first turn door-to-door. Racing up off (turn) two onto the backstretch, contact was made and Finchum slammed into the outside wall in a shower of sparks. Finchum's race was done, while VanDyke was sent to the rear for his involvement.

You had both old and young on the front row for the restart, experience versus youth with 56-year-old Ferguson and 20-year-old Gray. Could the veteran Ferguson school East Tennessee State University Dean's List student Gray?

Ferguson shot out into the lead and hoped while others behind him got to battling for position he would be able to put enough real estate between his car and those in pursuit to score the victory. With McCarty, Hale, Trent and VanDyke all having been involved in previous incidents during the race which sent them to tail of the field of restarts, Gray had a bull's-eye on his back as that quartet of drivers

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came charging forward, each overtaking him.

Ferguson captured a crowd-pleasing victory over VanDyke, Trent, Hale and McCarty.

Completing the top 10 finishers were Gray, Williams, Silver, Rick Pannell and Light.

Jared Broadbent jumped out into the lead at start of the 30-lap Modified Street feature over Sam Hurd and Mark Christian, before Christian got around Hurd for second on lap 3. Behind the front-running trio of Broadbent, Christian and Hurd, Royce Peters, Jason Leatherwood, Chris Tunnell, Duke Bare and Kevin Wolfe were battling for position.

With the race running caution-free from start-to-finish, the racing action was exciting between Broadbent and Christian as they raced side-by-side for the lead over eight circuits before Christian grabbed the lead racing off the fourth turn on lap 20. Christian went on to capture the win over Broadbent, Hurd, Leatherwood and Bare.

Week in and week out the caliber of competitive racing in the Pure 4 division is worth the price of admission itself at Kingsport Speedway. If you enjoy watching cars jockeying for position two- and three-wide, even sometimes making it four-wide, that's what you're going to see.

A stellar 27-car field took the green flag and immediately battles for real estate were taking place back through the pack, with Billy Ketron leading his brother Jason Ketron up front, followed by Billy Byington. Also in the mix were John Ketron, Kenny Absher, Ben Barker, William Hale, Kevin Darnell, Bucky Smith, Jimmy Thomas and Chad Jeffers.

Once the faster cars up front caught rear of the field to begin lapping process, drivers were required to make precise moves in overtaking the slower cars, which in turn ratcheted-up the action several levels. Byington, the defending Pure 4 track champion, got around the Ketron brothers to take the lead on lap 8, while John Ketron and Absher each passed Billy and Jason Ketron to advance in the running order.

Absher made his move to pass

John Ketron for second place, and closed to rear of his teammate Byington. Just before the race reached halfway, disaster struck Byington and Absher as they spun between turns three and four after encountering difficulties negotiating their way past lapped traffic to bring out the caution.

Following the double-file restart it was a Ketron family battle over the top three positions, with John Ketron moving ahead of sons Billy and Jason. Even though the racing action was interesting in the front of the field, many fans in the grandstands had their attention focused on Byington and Absher as they were rocketing back toward the front following their incident that forced them to restart from tail of the field.

But the racing Ketron family would be taking another winner's trophy back home as John Ketron, from Kingsport, captured his first win on the season over Billy Ketron, Jason Ketron, Byington and Barker.

Kevin Canter of Abingdon, Va., battled for the lead with Kirby Gobble throughout the 30-lap Mod 4 feature. But Canter, the defending divisional track champion, would not be denied his second straight victory to start the season as he won over Gobble, Jerry Miller, Chris Amburgey and Billy Duty.

Joey Sykes of Dante, Va., took the lead on lap 5 in the Pure Street feature and once out front never looked back en route to recording his second straight win to begin the season over Jamie Meadows, Stacey Castle, Jay Swecker and Peter Alley.

Eldora Speedway

ROSSBURG, OH - Nick Hoffman has been winning major modified races across the United States but Saturday night he etched his name into the Eldora Speedway record book by capturing his first Late Model checkered flag, winning the 25-lap Sunoco American Late Model Series main event in the speedway's 64th season opener.

Jacob Hawkins dominated the 20-lap UMP Modified feature event, while two-time and defending track champion Rob Trent closed out the evening with a win in the 15-lap Stock Car chase.

Hoffman, from Mooresville, North Carolina, inherited the lead when race leader Kent Robinson jumped a restart on the second lap and Hoffman never looked back running the high-line around the high-banked, one-half mile oval to perfection to beat Robinson to the

checkered flag by nearly five car lengths.

"This isn't just my first win here in a late model, this is my first win ever in a late model," Hoffman said. "I guess there is no better place to win one than here. This is really amazing."

Robinson finished in the runner-up position, while defending Late Model track champion Jon Henry finished in third-place ahead of Hawkins and Jeff Babcock, who rallied to his top-five finish after a spin on the opening lap.

"I didn't know the leader could jump a start," a disappointed Robinson said. "But I am not sure it would have made any difference."

Rusty Schlenk, Casey Noonan, Nick Latham, Jared Bailey and Dustin Nobbe completed the top ten.

Hawkins, of Fairmont, West Virginia, then jumped into his modified and jumped to the early lead from his outside pole starting position and never looked back picking up his 6th career win at Eldora.

"We were a little off after the heat race and the guys made a couple adjustments and they obviously were the right one's because the car was flawless," Hawkins said.

Jerry Bowersock finished in the runner-up position, while defending track champion Jeff Koz, Mike Learman and Jonathan Taylor completed the top five. Rounding out the top ten were Dylan Woodling, Jared Spalding, Evan Taylor, Joel Dick and Aaron Orr.

"He was really good up there in the top groove and I just wasn't sure I want to run that close to the wall," Bowersock said. "I was hoping I could force him up a little higher on one of the restarts and may he would make a mistake but he was just too good. We finished second to what I consider one of the best modified teams in the country so I have no complaints."

Trent had dropped as far back as fifth-place in the Stock Car main event but then go the break he needed when Woodard spun from the lead just three laps from the finish. Trent then moved around Craig Swartz and Paul Pardo on the restart and held off a late charge by Donnie Jeschke to pick up the opening night win.

"We were a little loose early, but the tires really came in right before that and we were hooked up those last three laps," Trent, from Lima, Ohio said.

Jeschke finished in second-place ahead of Pardo, Craig Swartz and Ed Hounshell. Frank Paladino,

Anthony Goode, Jeremy Creech and Brandon Archey rounded out the top ten.

Next Saturday night Eldora Speedway hosts the Saturday Night Speedfest featuring the UMP Modifieds, the Eldora Stock Cars and the Vores Compacts. The springtime start-times will once again be in effect with spectator gates opening at 4:00 p.m., hot laps beginning at 5:00 p.m. and show time at 6:00 p.m.

Grandview Speedway

BECHTELSVILLE, PA - Kyle Weiss, Brian Shuey and Ryan Lillick didn't fare well in their outings during opening night racing at Grandview Speedway last Saturday night.

In their second showing of the season all three more than made up for it as they all ended their night in victory lane in their respective division on Checkered Flag Fan Club Night.

NASCAR T.P. Trailers 358 Modified action saw Kyle Weiss inherit the lead from race leader Danny Erb on the 25th lap of the 35-lap main event when mechanical problems forced Erb to the sidelines. Weiss, who dedicated the win to promoter Bruce Rogers, who recently passed away, commented that Erb, "had the right line and the field covered," before he broke.

Weiss' \$3,500 payday didn't come easy since five-time point champion Duane Howard and defending and ten-time point champion Craig Von Dohren were bumper-to-bumper in the final stages of the event. It was Weiss' first win of the year and his fourth career triumph.

Brian Shuey led the entire 25-laps of the BRC NASCAR LM feature for his first win of the current campaign and his 21st career win on a track he considered "very racy."

In the 25-lap NASCAR Sportsman feature Ryan Lillick outgunned Paul Houseknecht on a restart and went on two claim his season first win by a narrow margin over runner-up Mike Lisowski, who found out Lillick was on a mission determined to win.

Proving the feature winners had the proper decals and met the necessary requirements, they received monetary awards from T.P. Trailers, Limerick and products from V.P. Racing Fuels if they ran gas.

Erb wasted no time keeping the Terry Fasnacht-owned No. 44 at the front of the 28-car starting grid on the initial green with Brian Krum-

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mel, rookie Joe Fanelli, Weiss and Addison Meitzler, returning after being out of action for numerous years, in pursuit.

A lap four, fourth turn tangle regrouped the field, but that didn't deter Erb as he kept the momentum going to continue his pace. By this time however Brian Krummel, Mike Gular, Weiss and Meitzler completed second through fifth.

Weiss overtook second on the 13th lap restart needed when Meitzler stopped in the second turn with a flat time. At the same time Howard advanced to third to make it a three-way battle for the lead.

Erb's hard fought efforts were in vain when he stopped in turn four to bring out the caution and out of contention. Erb's loss was Weiss' gain since Weiss was now the new leader. Weiss held onto the lead when action resumed, but now pressure was coming from Howard, Kyle Borrer, Gular and Von Dohren. Lurking in the wings trying to break into the top five was Jeff Strunk coming off a feature win the previous night.

As hard as they tried no one was able to pass Weiss as he went on for the win. Chasing him across the line were Howard, Von Dohren, Gular and Strunk.

Weiss, Jared Umbenhauer and bobby Gunther-Walsh were the heat winners. The consi winner was Kenny Gilmore.

BRC Late Model action saw Shuey take off at the drop of the green and immediately pulled away from the 14-car field.

Chasing him down were Steve Wilson, last week's feature winner Ron Kline, Wayne Pfeil and Bryon Sipe.

Kline's hopes of two-in-a-row vanished when he stopped in the fourth turn for the second yellow with 13 laps complete.

Shuey was still the leader on the restart while Wilson, Pfeil, Sipe and defending point champion Chuck Schutz tried to change the status.

Shuey kept everyone behind him and went on chalk up the win in the 25-lap feature.

Shuey and Steve Todorow won the heats.

In the Sportsman feature Ryan Lilick became the new leader on the fifth lap restart when he made his way past early leader Paul

Houseknecht.

Within no time Lilick had a sizeable lead built up leaving Houseknecht, Mike Lisowski, Ryan Beltz and brother Kyle Lilick trailing him trying to catch him.

Lisowski overtook second on the 12th lap and started running the high line to reel him in. He was gaining ground as the laps wound down and the 21st caution regrouped the pack. Lilick held his own and Lisowski gave him no change to make an error.

With two laps to go Lisowski made a run the outside along the homestretch, but found himself pinched out of running room.

No one passed Lilick and he collected his first win of the current campaign and fourth career. Chasing him across were Lisowski, defending point champion Jordan Henn, Houseknecht and Beltz.

Heats were won by Lisowski, Houseknecht and R. Lilick. Brian Hirthler, opening night feature winner won the consi.

NASCAR stock car racing action returns to Grandview Speedway on Saturday, April 22nd with racing starting at 7 p.m. Included in the four division card of racing will be the TP Trailers 358 Modifieds, BRC Late Models and Sportsman along with a special appearance by the Blast from the Past Vintage racers. Admission is \$15 for adults while youngsters 11 and under are admitted free.

Dodge City Raceway Park

DODGE CITY, KS - The 2017 season opener at Dodge City Raceway Park wrapped up in dramatic fashion with Ty Williams storming into the lead on the final round to win Saturday night's 20-lap Precise Racing Products DCRP Sprint Car feature.

While the Arcadia, OK, racer topped the Sprint Car ranks, other opening night winners included Cole Traugott over a field of 32 IMCA Modifieds, Jeff Kaup in IMCA Sport Modifieds, Angel Munoz in IMCA Stock Cars and Matt O'Hair in IMCA Hobby Stocks as a total of 98 cars filled the pit area.

O'Hair was the only reigning champion to kick off the season with a victory as defending Sprint Car champion Taylor Velasquez let the win get away on the final lap.

Williams, who also won the 2015 season opener atop the 3/8-mile DCRP clay oval, started Saturday night's feature from the pole position. But, after leading the opening circuit, Williams faded back to fourth in the opening seven rounds behind Mike Peters, Ray Seemann

and Velasquez.

With Peters setting a lightning-quick pace out front in search of his first DCRP win since the 2012 season finale, Velasquez battled past Seemann for second on the seventh round and set sail for the leader as Williams worked his way back to third just past the midway point.

Two laps after a lap 13 caution for a turn two spin, Peters popped a powerplant down the backstretch and handed the lead over to Velasquez with just six rounds remaining.

Williams began closing in as the laps clicked off and raced around Velasquez in the final pair of corners to snare the win.

"We fell back there early in the race," Williams said. "We weren't gonna go anywhere running the same line, so I started moving around and finally found something that worked."

Velasquez settled for runner-up honors behind Williams with Jake Martens working his way up to third from the ninth starting position. Koby Walters raced from 11th fourth with Jordan Knight rounding out the top five.

In IMCA Modified action, Woodward, Oklahoma's Cole Traugott picked up where he left off in 2016 by racing to victory lane in the 20-lapper. It was Traugott's seventh victory in his last seven trips to DCRP including the final three events of last year.

Traugott had his work cut out for him this time though, fending off some serious challenges from Steve Bowers, Jr., to secure the win from the front row outside.

Traugott gunned into the early lead from the front row outside and stretched out an early lead as third-starter Bowers, Jr., battled past Troy Gemmill for second on the fifth round and then began to reel in the leader.

Bowers, Jr., put the pressure on

Traugott for the point before the first caution flew after 13 laps and then was poised to make a move when a final caution flew with three laps to go.

Traugott got a strong restart and put the win away with Bowers, Jr., settling for second. After starting eighth, David Murray picked off third in the closing rounds with T. Gemmill and ninth-starter Brendon Gemmill rounding out the top five.

The IMCA Sport Modified main event came down to the final circuits in the 20-lapper as well with three-time track champion Jeff Kaup battling past Brian Davidson in the late going to capture his first DCRP opening night win after winning last year's season finale.

While Davidson raced into the lead from the pole starting position, Kaup needed just four laps to rally from eighth to second. Kaup went to work on the leader, working low in the early portion and then working up top the rest of the way.

Kaup's persistence finally paid off as he surged into the lead with just three laps remaining to post his 13th DCRP win since 2012. Davidson settled for second with Eric Munoz, Adam Stenzel and 14th-starter Kyle Wiens rounding out the top five.

In the 15-lap IMCA Stock Car feature, Lamar, Colorado's Angel Munoz outdueled Cody Zimmerman for the early lead and set the pace throughout to pick up the win in his first DCRP outing since a June 4 triumph last year.

Munoz kept Zimmerman and reigning track champion Michael Pepper at bay much of the way before Jack Pepper rallied into the runner-up position from the tail in the closing laps. Landon Maddox snared the show position with M. Pepper and Travis Baird rounding out the top five.

Laverne, Oklahoma's Matt O'Hair kicked off his IMCA Hobby

(Continued on next page...)



Ty Williams and company celebrate in Dodge City Raceway Park Saturday night. (LONNIE WHEATLEY photo)

(Continued...)

Stock title defense by racing to victory lane in the 20-lapper from the ninth starting position after posting three wins last year.

While Tyler Walker led from the pole position, O'Hair needed just one lap to charge from ninth to second. O'Hair went to work on Walker before taking command on the fifth circuit. O'Hair spent the balance of the race keeping Duane

Wahrman and Reagan Sellard at bay.

Sellard slipped by Wahrman for second in the final rounds and fell just short of O'Hair at the line. Wahrman settled for third behind O'Hair and Sellard with Walker and Cameron Austin rounding out the top five.

Action continues at Dodge City Raceway Park with Lewis Automotive night on Saturday, April 29.

Selinsgrove Speedway

SELINGROVE, PA - Davie Franek of Wantage, N.J.; Donnie Schick of Middleburg; and Brad Mitch of McClure gave the fans their money's worth in feature racing Saturday at Selinsgrove Speedway. The night's racing provided stiff battles for the top spots and valued trips to victory lane for each of the winners.

A collective groan went through the Selinsgrove crowd when Mark Smith's name was announced as the polesitter for the 25 lap 360 Sprint Car feature event. It's not that Smith isn't popular among fans, it's merely the fact that when the fast guy starts up front there is usually little to no chance there will be a pass for the win. That wasn't the case Saturday night.

Smith bolted to the race lead while second-place starter Davie Franek gave chase. A mid-race yellow proved valuable for Franek as he pulled to the rear bumper of Smith's m1 machine for the restart. Franek rolled around the outside on the restart and challenged Smith before the yellow flag flew when Chad Layton crashed in turn four.

Franek again used the outside on the restart. This time it would pay off with a successful slide job in turn three. Franek was now the race leader with Smith in chase. As Franek closed in on lap traffic in the final stages on the race, Smith would close slightly but not enough

as Franek picked up his first win of the season.

"It's rare you pass Mark Smith for a win," Franek said in victory lane afterward, thanking his crew for their many hours in the shop to help them get the win. Smith crossed the line second ahead of opening night winner Jason Shultz. Mallie Shuster and Michael Walter completed the top five finishers. Layton and Shultz took heat races.

Donnie Schick has not been to victory lane at Selinsgrove since 2011 in the Jeff's Auto Body Super Late Models. In the opening night feature event Schick looked like he might end that streak before a misjudged lap car took him out of the race lead. Schick came back this weekend and was out for redemption for himself, his race team, and his legion of fans.

Schick had challenges from Tony Adams and Danny Snyder, but neither ever posed a real threat to Schick. Schick crossed the line for the win in what he called an unbelievable moment. Adams and Snyder closed out the podium finishers. Jim Bernheisel made a rare Late Model start and drove to fourth with Dave Zona closing out the top five. Danny Snyder was the heat race winner.

The A&A Auto Stores Pro Stocks usually roll off as the first feature of the night. On this night, they made for a hard act to follow. Tommy Slanker was carrying all the momentum in the class after winning the season opener and jumping to the early race lead Saturday. On a lap four restart defending champion Brad Mitch, making his season debut, made a big move to slide into the race lead. Slanker crossed Mitch over and took the top spot back as the two continued the exchange.

Mitch would come away with the top spot after the two leaders "traded some paint" in the battle. Slanker lost some ground on lap 12 after slipping above the racing groove. Slanker quickly recovered and closed the gap with one lap to go. Even with Slanker's advances Mitch held on for his first win of the season. Slanker was second ahead of John Fowler, Brandon Moser, and Kyle Bachman. Fowler and Mitch came across the line first in heat races.

Selinsgrove Speedway

SELINGROVE, PA - Selinsgrove Speedway will present the 37th running of the Jack Gunn Memorial for sprint cars at 7 p.m. this Saturday, April 22, sanctioned by the United Racing Club.

Joining the 358-360 sprint cars on the racing card will be the super late models and pro stocks. Track gates will open at 5 p.m.

For the 12th consecutive year, the Gunn Memorial will feature a 30-lap race between the traveling URC 360 sprint cars and the track's weekly 358-360 sprint cars. The race will pay \$2,500 to win and \$300 to start. Time trials, heats, and a B-Main will be the format for setting the 24-car starting field for the Gunn Memorial.

The tribute race is run each year to honor the memory of the late race track promoter Jack Gunn, who operated Selinsgrove, Williams Grove, Penn National, and Hagerstown Speedways during his career and brought mid-state dirt track racing to national prominence in the 1970's. Gunn was inducted posthumously into the National Sprint Car Hall of Fame (Knoxville, Iowa) in 1990.

Some of the biggest names in sprint car racing have won the prestigious Jack Gunn Memorial at Selinsgrove Speedway. Lynn Paxton of Dillsburg; Steve Kinser of Bloomington, Ind.; Doug Wolfgang of Sioux Falls, S.D., are a few of the drivers who have won the race as a 410 sprint car event. In the track's modern era, TJ Stutts of Liverpool, Chad Layton of Harrisburg, Blane Heimbach of Selinsgrove, and Dave Calaman of Carlisle took wins as a 358 sprint car race.

The Gunn Memorial became a URC-sanctioned challenge race between 358 and 360 sprint car drivers in 2006, when Heimbach took the victory as well as in the 2008 and 2012 editions of the race. Calaman (2007); Trevor Lewis of Upper Black Eddy (2009, 2010); Shane Stewart of Indianapolis, Ind. (2011); JJ Grasso of Pedricktown, N.J. (2013); Aaron Ott of East Berlin (2014); and two-time defending winner Mark Smith of Sunbury have also won the Gunn Memorial as a URC-sanctioned event.

While Heimbach and Todd Shaffer of Millerstown are the only two drivers who have won the Gunn Memorial four times at Selinsgrove, Smith will attempt to become the first to win the race three years in a row.

The Middleburg IGA is sponsoring the Gunn Memorial championship trophy.

The super late models will compete in a 20-lap feature paying \$1,500 to win, while the pro stocks will race in a 15-lap main event paying \$400 to win.

Selinsgrove Raceway Park, the

one-fifth mile track located inside of Selinsgrove Speedway's half-mile oval, will present a complete program of go kart racing at 7 p.m. Friday, April 21. Track gates will open at 5:30 p.m. The second Burriss Money Series go kart race of the year will be held at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, April 23.

For a complete schedule, the latest news, results, and race status, visit selinsgrovespeedway.com or follow us on Twitter and Facebook. The track office can be reached at 570.374.2266.

Bowman Gray Stadium

WINSTON-SALEM, NC - Springtime in North Carolina means warmer weather, blooming flowers, and most importantly the start of racing season at Bowman Gray Stadium.

The 69th season of NASCAR racing action begins on Saturday, April 22. And just as the drivers slam the gas when the green flag drops, Bowman Gray Stadium starts off its season with a bang.

The 2017 season will open up with the Hayes Jewelers 200 presented by Q104.1 New Country. The Brad's Golf Cars Modified Series will duke it out in the 200-lapper – the longest and most prestigious race of the season. The Texas Steak & Tap House Sportsman Series 40-lapper scheduled, plus exciting racing for the Q104.1 New Country Street Stock Series and the Law Offices of John Barrow Stadium Stock Series.

Looking forward to the rest of the season, some old fan favorites return with some new added attractions taking the stage. The ever-popular Fans' Challenge returns once again to the 100-lap Modified races, giving drivers the chance to win \$15,000 in prize money. And, of course, Two Dollar Ladies' Nights will once again offer admission for only two dollars to all females ready to see the greatest show in racing.

And plenty more action packed nights will be brought to you once again by Kevin Powell Motorsports, Whelen Engineering, the Winston-Salem Journal, O'Reilly Auto Parts, Great Clips, FOX8 WGHP, Colors Edge, and Carolina Farm Credit.

But it all starts on April 22 with the Hayes Jewelers 200. Qualifying will take place on Friday, April 21. On Saturday, April 22, ticket gates open at 6:00 for practice, and the first race begins at 8:00 PM. Ticket prices, directions, and more information can be found online at www.bowmangrayracing.com or by calling (336) 723-1819.