



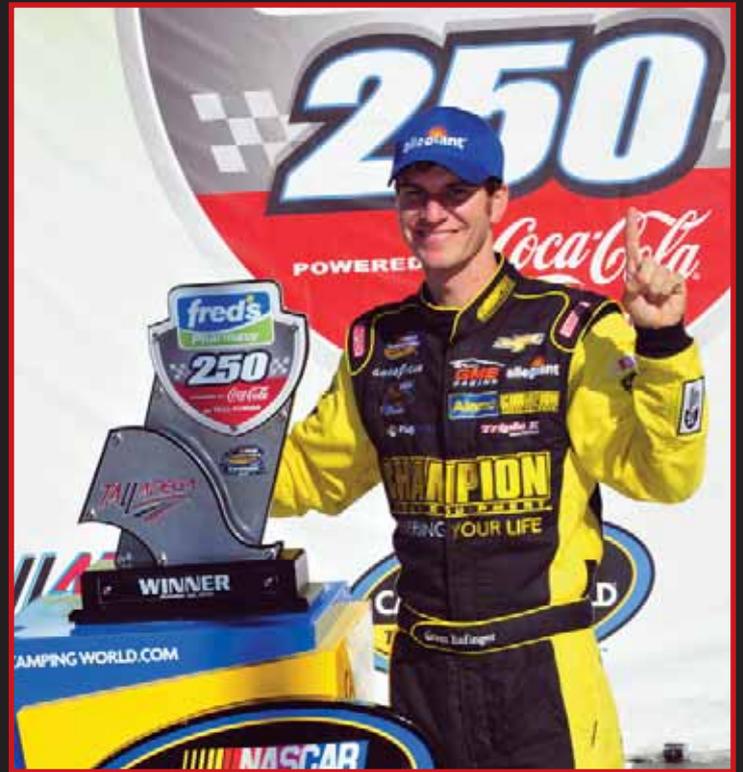
OCTOBER 24, 2016

FastTrack

RACING JOURNAL ONLINE

Straight to your phone, tablet or computer...

Alabama Native
Enfinger Wins First
NCWTS at Talladega



Lackluster Showing for
Chase Competitors as
Joey Logano Holds on
for Talladega Victory



Chase Racing...

"If you're not a race driver, stay the hell home. Don't come here and grumble about going too fast. Get the hell out of the race car if you've got feathers on your legs or butt. Put a kerosene rag around your ankles so the ants won't climb up and eat that candy ass."
 -- Dale Earnhardt, 2000

gency for teams to race hard. With their spots in the third round essentially clinched, the three Gibbs teams decided on a rope-a-dope (or is it stroke-a-dope?) strategy that robbed the paying public their money's worth.

"Yeah, I think really guys would rather be in the situation where they feel like they've got to go win," car owner Joe Gibbs said after Kenseth finished 28th, Edwards 29th and Busch 30th, as planned. "I think the drivers kind of all feel that way. But at the same time it's a play-off and you've got to say what is smart and so you certainly don't want to make a big mistakes of some kind and cost your sponsor and everybody that's wrapped into this. It's a huge deal for us."

It also was a big deal for a sport grappling to fill grandstand seats and pump up declining ratings.

Fans have turned away from the NFL is alarming numbers this year – dropping by 11 percent across the board – partly in response to the protests of a few players taking a knee during the national anthem. While the plan for Kenseth, Edwards and Busch certainly bared



DON COBLE

TALLADEGA, AL - Joe Gibbs Racing will have a difficult time facing the fans who bought tickets or tuned in to see racing during Sunday's Hellmann's 500 at the Talladega Superspeedway.

Watching Matt Kenseth, Carl Edwards and Kyle Busch spend the entire race at the back of the pack to protect their position in the Chase for the Championship was troubling. It took points-racing to a new low because being smart doesn't mean you have to drive all 500 miles in the school bus lane.

And it certainly wasn't racing.

The elimination format for the playoffs was supposed to create ur-



Teammates Carl Edwards (19) Matt Kenseth (20) and Kyle Busch (18) ran together most of the afternoon at Talladega, in the safety of back of the pack. This was the JGR strategy to keep these three in the Chase. (Nigel Kinrade/NKP photo)

no social comment, they took a competitive knee against the spirit that's driven NASCAR for more than 68 years.

To be clear, Kenseth, Edwards and Busch didn't like it any more than the rest of us.

"It goes against everything you ever want to do as a race car driver," Kenseth said. "You want to go try to win races, so I think it's just kind of an unintended consequence of the way – being the cut-off race and the way the Chase works.

"You can't afford to go out there and get wrecked and not have a chance to race for a championship. So it was just kind of the cards we were dealt and we had to play them. I don't think any of us had any fun and none of us enjoyed, but it was just what we had to do to make sure we got to Martinsville and trying to race four more weeks and hopefully have a shot at the four of us trying to race for a championship."

Oddly enough, the strategy actually threatened the organization's fourth driver, Denny Hamlin. He needed a big finish, if not a victory, to advance to the third round. Even with his teammates safety above the cutline, the Gibbs group decided to let Hamlin fend for himself instead of getting some much-needed help that's imperative in the closing laps of a restrictor-plate race.

Hamlin managed to do it on his own, finishing less than three feet ahead of Kurt Busch for third place. That finish created a tie with Austin Dillon for the eighth, and final, transfer playoff spot, and Hamlin got the bid based on a tiebreaker.

Hamlin knew in advance he would a lone fighter up front for JGR, but he was a company man from start to finish, saying it getting three definite entries into the third round was better than risking all four.

"They had to do what they had to do to get in," he said. "You can't sacrifice those three cars to try to get the last one in. You've got to know you've got in your hand three aces."

Race winner Joey Logano was faced with a win-or-go-home scenario. He took the lead with 45 laps remaining and he never allowed anyone to get around him for the rest of the race.

More important, he didn't care who came to race and who came to spend the afternoon in the car pool lane. He was ready to take on all comers.

"I don't care what other people do, in all honesty," Logano said. "I got to care about what I did. They had their strategies to get through. We knew that our strategy was to go out there and lead laps and win.

"That's how we race."

No kerosene rags for Logano. Dale Earnhardt would be proud.

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.

Visit our new website: www.fastrackracingjournal.com
 follow us on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/FT RacingJournal](https://twitter.com/FT RacingJournal)

In This Issue:

Fast Forum	2	World of Outlaws	9-10
NASCAR Sprint Cup	3	Circuit of Champions	11
NASCAR CWTS	4	One Dirt Championship	12-13
NASCAR Touring	6	DirtCar	13
Indoor Racing	6	Snowball Derby News	14
P.A.S.S.	7	ShorTrck	15-16
OnTrack	8		

ON THE COVER:

NASCAR SPINT CUP- NIGEL KINRADE PHOTOGRAPHY
 NASCAR CAMPING WORLD TRUCK SERIES - RONDA GREER

Logano Advances with Win in Wild Talladega Race; Chase Field Cut to Eight

By REID SPENCER
TALLADEGA, AL - If Joey Logano's victory in Sunday's Hellman's 500 at Talladega Superspeedway was decisive—in relative terms—the race between Denny Hamlin

and Austin Dillon for the final spot in the Chase for the Sprint Cup's Round of 8 was anything but.

out with blown engines and failed to survive the Round of 12. "It's never a layup here at Talladega," Logano said. "It's always close. You never get a big lead. (Crew chief) Todd (Gordon) made some good adjustments during the race and found some speed in the car, so that was pretty neat to see some of that.

"We got that track position and just hung onto it. I was able to stay on the bottom and try to run the bottom and keep everyone in line, and that worked out really well."

Hamlin's success completed a perfect round for Joe Gibbs Racing, which placed all four of its drivers in the Round of 8. Matt Kenseth, Carl Edwards and Kyle Busch spent all 192 laps riding around at the back of the field and finished 28th, 29th and 30th, respectively, but had sufficient margins entering the race to afford the luxury of a strategy that could be summed up in two words—"Don't wreck."

"We needed some things to fall our way if we didn't win the race," Hamlin said. "Today things fell our way. The last lap, we went out and earned it. I think back all the years that I've been doing this, honestly, 11 years.

"For me, I really truly believe this is the first really great fortune that we had in a Chase in my 11-year

career. Things just happened well for us. We went out there and we did our jobs. It was very tough to be able to run against guys that had a lot of teammates up front. I knew that was going to be a problem for us all day. But we were able to have just enough there at the end to get past the 41 (Kurt Busch) and get in."

Seventh-place finisher Kevin Harvick and 23rd-place Jimmie Johnson already had secured spots in the Round of eight, thanks to their respective victories at Kansas and Charlotte. Kurt Busch completed the Round of 8 field comfortably with his fourth-place result.

Joining Dillon, Truex and Keselowski on the sidelines was Chase Elliott, who came to Talladega 25 points below the cut line and finished 12th after leading nine laps.

NOTES: Both Logano and Hamlin benefited from the first caution of the race, called on Lap 42 when Truex's blown engine dropped oil on the track. Logano had made a complete circuit with a jack lodged underneath his car. Hamlin had just drawn a pass-through penalty for speeding on pit road during a green-flag stop. The caution for Truex's engine failure prevented both drivers from losing a lap. ... Logano earned top seeding in the Round of 8, followed by Johnson, Harvick, Kenseth, Edwards, Hamlin, Kurt Busch and Kyle Busch. All eight drivers start the round with points reset to 4,000. ... Scott's second-place finish was his first top 10 in 49 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series starts. It was also the first top 10 of the season for Richard Petty Motorsports. ... Hamlin and Dillon tied for the final spot in the Round of 8 with 3,078 points each. Hamlin won the tiebreaker on the strength of his third-place finish on Sunday.



Joey Logano celebrates not only winning the Hellman's 500 at Talladega Superspeedway, but making it into the last round of the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship. (NIGEL KINRADE PHOTOGRAPHY photo)



Race winner started the afternoon with a tire-jack stuck under his racer and ran all the way around the track with it in place before he could get back to pit road. (John Harrellson/NKP photo)

Notes: Both Logano and Hamlin benefited from the first caution of the race, called on Lap 42 when Truex's blown engine dropped oil on the track. Logano had made a complete circuit with a jack lodged underneath his car. Hamlin had just drawn a pass-through penalty for speeding on pit road during a green-flag stop. The caution for Truex's engine failure prevented both drivers from losing a lap. ... Logano earned top seeding in the Round of 8, followed by Johnson, Harvick, Kenseth, Edwards, Hamlin, Kurt Busch and Kyle Busch. All eight drivers start the round with points reset to 4,000. ... Scott's second-place finish was his first top 10 in 49 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series starts. It was also the first top 10 of the season for Richard Petty Motorsports. ... Hamlin and Dillon tied for the final spot in the Round of 8 with 3,078 points each. Hamlin won the tiebreaker on the strength of his third-place finish on Sunday.

Notes: Both Logano and Hamlin benefited from the first caution of the race, called on Lap 42 when Truex's blown engine dropped oil on the track. Logano had made a complete circuit with a jack lodged underneath his car. Hamlin had just drawn a pass-through penalty for speeding on pit road during a green-flag stop. The caution for Truex's engine failure prevented both drivers from losing a lap. ... Logano earned top seeding in the Round of 8, followed by Johnson, Harvick, Kenseth, Edwards, Hamlin, Kurt Busch and Kyle Busch. All eight drivers start the round with points reset to 4,000. ... Scott's second-place finish was his first top 10 in 49 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series starts. It was also the first top 10 of the season for Richard Petty Motorsports. ... Hamlin and Dillon tied for the final spot in the Round of 8 with 3,078 points each. Hamlin won the tiebreaker on the strength of his third-place finish on Sunday.

Notes: Both Logano and Hamlin benefited from the first caution of the race, called on Lap 42 when Truex's blown engine dropped oil on the track. Logano had made a complete circuit with a jack lodged underneath his car. Hamlin had just drawn a pass-through penalty for speeding on pit road during a green-flag stop. The caution for Truex's engine failure prevented both drivers from losing a lap. ... Logano earned top seeding in the Round of 8, followed by Johnson, Harvick, Kenseth, Edwards, Hamlin, Kurt Busch and Kyle Busch. All eight drivers start the round with points reset to 4,000. ... Scott's second-place finish was his first top 10 in 49 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series starts. It was also the first top 10 of the season for Richard Petty Motorsports. ... Hamlin and Dillon tied for the final spot in the Round of 8 with 3,078 points each. Hamlin won the tiebreaker on the strength of his third-place finish on Sunday.

Notes: Both Logano and Hamlin benefited from the first caution of the race, called on Lap 42 when Truex's blown engine dropped oil on the track. Logano had made a complete circuit with a jack lodged underneath his car. Hamlin had just drawn a pass-through penalty for speeding on pit road during a green-flag stop. The caution for Truex's engine failure prevented both drivers from losing a lap. ... Logano earned top seeding in the Round of 8, followed by Johnson, Harvick, Kenseth, Edwards, Hamlin, Kurt Busch and Kyle Busch. All eight drivers start the round with points reset to 4,000. ... Scott's second-place finish was his first top 10 in 49 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series starts. It was also the first top 10 of the season for Richard Petty Motorsports. ... Hamlin and Dillon tied for the final spot in the Round of 8 with 3,078 points each. Hamlin won the tiebreaker on the strength of his third-place finish on Sunday.

Grant Enfinger Scores First Truck Series Win; Chase Field is Cut to Six

By REID SPENCER
TALLADEGA, AL - In the race that decided the lineup for the Round of 6 in the inaugural NASCAR Camping World Truck Series Chase, Alabama native Grant Enfinger stole the thunder from the play-off drivers in Saturday's Fred's 250 at Talladega Superspeedway.

With a strong push from GMS Racing teammate and Chase driver Ben Kennedy after a restart on Lap 93 of 94, Enfinger surged to the front and stayed there in the face of a last-lap challenger from another teammate, Spencer Gallagher, who came home second, .108 seconds behind the winner.

The victory was Enfinger's first in 13 career starts in the series.

"It's unbelievable," said Enfinger, who led the first-ever 1-2 finish for GMS. "It's my home track. It's just so special."

The race reduced the NCWTS Chase field from eight drivers to six. Third-place finisher Timothy Peters was the highest finisher among those who advanced, followed by Kennedy in fifth place, as GMS drivers claimed four of the top

seven positions.

"I got behind Grant Enfinger and tried to push him as much as I could," said Kennedy, who shoved his teammate's No. 24 Chevrolet to the front in the outside lane. "I knew the outside line had a little bit of something. I pushed him as much as I could, and once he got out to the lead, that truck was so fast out there."

"I thought about trying to make it three-wide, but I didn't really have the momentum to carry it around him."

Also moving on to the Round of 6 were sixth-place finisher Christopher Bell, GMS driver Johnny Sauter (seventh on Saturday), 10th-place finisher William Byron (who already had clinched a spot with a victory in the opening Chase race at New Hampshire) and Matt Crafton (who came home 22nd after his blown engine caused the seventh and final caution on Lap 89).

John Hunter Nemechek was eliminated from the Chase early in the race. The engine in his No. 8 Chevrolet expired on Lap 13, and Nemechek retired in 32nd place. Daniel Hemric, who entered the race below the Chase cut line, remained there thanks to three separate incidents on Saturday, the



Alabama native Grant Enfinger celebrates with his crew after winning the Fred's 250 in Talladega Superspeedway's victory lane. Enfinger was the first Alabama native to win at the superspeedway. (Ronda Greer photo)

most costly a 14-car wreck on Lap 59 that severely damaged his No. 19 Ford.

Hemric finished 11th, but fell 13 points short of Crafton, whose engine problems occurred too late to be of help to Hemric, given that 10 other trucks already were in the garage when Crafton's motor blew.

"Today was completely full of trials and trying to overcome things," Hemric said. "All we can do now is try to win races. It wasn't for lack of

effort. We got involved in three or four different situations there and never had the opportunity to get back to the front."

Sunoco Rookie Rico Abreu finished fourth, his second top-five of the season and his best result in the series on pavement.

Byron is the top seed in the Round of 6, followed by Bell, Peters, Crafton, Kennedy and Sauter. All six drivers start the Round of 6 with points reset to 3,000.



Race winner, Grant Enfinger (24) pulls away from second place, Spencer Gallagher (23) as the checkered flag falls on the race. (Robert Laberge/Getty Images photo)

PUBLIC AUCTION - MOORESVILLE, NC

October 25 & 26, 2016

2 Day Sale Starting at 9:30 AM Each Day – Doors open at 8:30 AM

SALE LOCATION: 8955 W NC Hwy. 152, Mooresville, NC, 28115; From I-77 North of Charlotte to Exit 36, go East on 150 approx. 6 miles to Junction 152, hang a right and go approx. 2 miles to Sale Site; Watch for Auction Signs

PARTIAL SALE LISTING

Rearend Housings; Kevlar Line; Braided Line; Dry Sump Tanks; Retainers; Roller Rockers; Dry Sump Oil Pans; Pigs; MSD Ign Boxes; Ring & Pinions; Aeroquip Fittings; Dampners; Water Pump Housing; Impact Racing Shoes; Carrillo Rods; Air Tools; Wrist Pins; Sway Bars; New Valves; Used Valves; Coil Springs; Oil Coolers; Helix; Valve Springs; Brake Pads; Valve Springs w/Retainers; Alum Radiators; Peterson Filter w/line; Push Rods; Headers; Seatbelt Hdw; Crankshafts; SB2 Heads; Dodge Valve Cover Spacers; Nuts & Bolts; Threadlocker; Flywheels; Shock Valves; Trans Gears; Trans Shafts; Trans Covers; Drive Plates; Hubs; Teathers; Pistons; Starters; Spindles; Rod Bolts; Valve Locks; Axles; Plug Wires; Pitman Arms; Screw Jack Hdw; R07 Heads; Valve Covers; SB2 Camshaft; Motorplate; Richmond Transmission; SB2 Block, Driveshafts, Pigs, Rankin Shifter, Splitters, Spoilers, Exhaust Pcs, Boom Tubes, Tires, Renegade Shifter, Schultz Cap

PARTIAL SALE LISTING – EQUIPMENT

Engine Stand; Dump Cans; Fuel Cart; Intercomp Scales, Bowman Bolt Bin; Koolbox, Alum Ladder, Height Stands, 14 Ton Winch

SALE LISTING - CHASSIS

Pro-Cup Rolling Chassis with body; McDonalds Chassis – Originally a road race car taken out of rotation and turned into a pit practice car

TERMS OF SALE: Terms of sale is cash, cashier checks, money orders, traveler's checks, Visa or Mastercard. Business or Personal Checks must be accompanied by a Bank Letter of Credit submitted to cashier on Sale Days. There will be a 15% buyer's premium charged on each lot number sold, with a 5% discount given for cash. Driver's license or picture identification is required to register. All items sold "As Is, Where Is" with no guarantees or warranty expressed or implied. Buyers must settle and remove all items at the end of each sale day.

Announcements sale day take precedence over any printed matter.

OWNERS: LEVEL ONE MOTORSPORTS, BOB SCHACHT, HENDRICK MOTORSPORTS, PRO SYSTEM, INC. PLUS OTHERS

Auction Firm
License #8623



Maria Vannice, Auctioneer
NCAL #8595 • IN AU10800010
Danny Irvin, Auctioneer
NCAL #8657 • IN AU10800039

Visit our website for additional info:

www.mcsauctions.com

Thanksgiving Weekend Racer's Auction & Trade Show

Race Parts - Cars - Legend Parts - Mini Sprints
Miscellaneous - Vendors

Make Plans
to Attend
NOW!

November 24-26, 2016

Indiana State Fairgrounds

Elements Financial Blue Ribbon Pavilion

Indianapolis, IN



Maria Vannice
IN# AU10800010
Danny Irvin
IN# AU10800039
mcsauctions.com

Larger than ever!
1,800 +
Lots
3-1/2 Day Event!



NASCAR Announces Continuation in Mexico Series as PEAK Becomes New Title Sponsor

DAYTONA BEACH, FL - During an event with team owners, drivers, local dignitaries and media at the InterContinental Presidente Hotel in Mexico City, NASCAR today announced plans to strengthen its presence in Mexico for years to come with a full slate of races in 2017 and beyond. Also announced was a multi-year agreement with Old World Industries (OWI) to make PEAK® title sponsor of the NASCAR PEAK Mexico Series, only the third title sponsor in series history. Additionally, PEAK becomes an Official NASCAR Part-

ner along with other key brands such as BlueDEF®.

"The NASCAR PEAK Mexico Series is a place where young drivers are honing their skills and competing for a championship against the toughest competition in Latin America," said Steve O'Donnell, NASCAR executive vice president and chief racing development officer. "The series drives interest in stock car racing in Mexico, while cultivating talented drivers and pit crew members aspiring to compete at the NASCAR national series level."

The NASCAR PEAK Mexico Series will make its return with an exhibition race on Dec. 3-4 in Mexico City. Celebrating its 10th season,

the series will officially get underway in 2017, with a full championship schedule that will be announced at a later date.

The NASCAR PEAK Mexico Series has helped develop some of NASCAR's best young drivers, including Daniel Suárez, who is the first Mexican-born driver to capture Sunoco Rookie of the Year honors; win a NASCAR national series race; lead a national series in points; and compete in the NASCAR XFINITY Series Chase for a championship – which he is currently pursuing. Furthermore, the continued development of young Mexican drivers, like reigning NASCAR PEAK Mexico Series Champion Ruben Garcia Jr., exemplifies the wealth of talent competing throughout the series.

"I am extremely proud to be a Mexican driver competing against the best young drivers making a name for themselves in the NASCAR XFINITY Series," said Daniel Suarez, driver of the No. 19

ARRIS Toyota Camry for Joe Gibbs Racing. "I am lucky to have had the support of NASCAR's developmental programs along the way – including the NASCAR Mexico Series. I am excited to see that other talented Latin American drivers will continue to have similar opportunities for many years to come."

"We remain steadfast in our commitment to develop young talent and engage our passionate fan base in Mexico," said Lou Garate, vice president, partnership marketing, NASCAR. "PEAK is a world-class brand and its three decades of experience in motorsports will help elevate NASCAR-sanctioned racing in Mexico."

Old World Industries' PEAK, BlueDEF and HURCULINER brands have a storied history in motorsports. PEAK held race entitlements in NASCAR throughout the 1990s and 2000s.

For more information on OWI products please visit www.PeakAuto.com.

Ted Christopher to Drive for Trey Hoddock in Indoor Racing at Sun National

TRENTON, NJ - The roar of racing engines will move indoors on Friday and Saturday, December 9-10 when Len Sammons Motorsports Productions (LSMP) presents the first of three indoor TQ Midget racing series events at the Sun National Bank Center in Trenton, NJ.

When that first green flag drops at the Battle Of Trenton Presented By Oliver Communications And NAPA Auto Parts, the TQ Midget field will see a fundamental shift in its balance of power. Ted Christopher, the winningest LSMP Indoor Series winner in its 13 year history, will be driving the potent Trey Hoddock No. 49 TQ.

"I'm going to get fitted in the car in the next couple of weeks," said Christopher, "I'm looking forward to racing Trey's car. It's always been fast."

Christopher and Hoddock will be among 60 of the powerful open-wheel Three Quarter (TQ) Midget teams that will be in competition with drivers from throughout the Northeast and Canada competing.

The man Christopher, and all others, will have to work overtime to defeat is Erick Rudolph. Rudolph won last year's TQ Battle

of Trenton and the Indoor Auto Racing Championship Fueled By VP Racing series 2015-2016 championship. He's been red-hot this season, recently sweeping a DIRTcar Modified weekend of events in Brockville, Ontario Canada.

Tickets went on sale on in August for the Battle Of Trenton Presented By Oliver Communications and NAPA Auto Parts. The race is the fifth renewal of indoor racing in Trenton and is the first of three LSMP indoor events that comprise the northeast indoor racing season.

To kick off the 2016-2017 indoor racing season, Friday night in Trenton will be pack the arena night with adult general admission just \$10 with children general admission only \$5.

Featured are the TQ Midgets that will run full programs each night. Champ Karts and Slingshots will be racing on Friday and Saturday night respectively.

Trenton Indoor Race tickets are available online at www.comcastix.com or by phone at 1-800-298-4200. Tickets may also be purchased at the Sun National Bank Center Box Office on Monday through Friday from 10am until 5:30pm and on Saturday from 12 noon through 4pm. All ticket prices do not include a \$2 facility charge;

facility charge increases to \$5 for tickets purchased on the day of the event.

"The best seats sell out quickly for these races," warned LSMP's Len Sammons. "The sooner folks order their race tickets for these

events, the better opportunity they will have to get closer to the action."

Races are also scheduled for December 30-31 at PPL Center in downtown Allentown, Pa., and at Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City, N.J., on January 27-28, 2017.

MADE IN AMERICA

JERICO STRONG



Since 1980, Jerico's uncompromising quality and meticulous design has always been there, leading you to the finish line.

- 2 and 3 speed transmissions for all dirt and asphalt racing applications.
- The finest grade Aluminum or Magnesium used in all case castings.
- Jerico Transmissions offer larger, completely rollerized main shafts, polished gears, and caged roller bearings.
- 2 speed and 3 speed offers a wide variety of gear ratio choices.
- All internal moving parts manufactured in-house to exact demanding standards.
- One of the shortest cases in the industry allows lowering complete running gear by up to 2" for a lower center of gravity.



JERICO PERFORMANCE PRODUCTS • 704.782.4343 • jericoperformance.com
443 Pitts School Road NW Concord, NC 28027

Burt Myers Claims Caraway Win And Inaugural SMRS Modified Championship

SOPHIA, NC - Walnut Cove, NC's Burt Myers pulled the double Saturday night at Caraway Speedway by claiming the win in the Kenny Minter Memorial 125 and, in so doing, taking the inaugural Southern Modified Racing Series (SMRS) presented by PASS points championship.

Myers second career SMRS win caps off a remarkable 2016 season which also saw him take the titles at Bowman Gray Stadium and in the Whelen Southern Modified Tour.

"This is just a dream come true because I feel like in my lifetime nobody will be able to say they won all three titles in the same season," said Myers in victory lane, who entered the race tied for the championship lead with John Smith. "It took us a long enough time to figure out the halfway adjustments and tonight we made the right ones and this car was just awesome."

For the fifth time this year, Brandon Ward was able to capture the Precision Built Spindles Pole Award with a lap of 15.910 seconds (102.954 MPH) around the .455 mile facility. Ward's good fortune early on continued as he drew pill number one in the redraw to start

on the pole alongside veteran racer Gary Putnam.

Prior to the start, fans and racers paused in a moment of silence to remember Kenny Minter who lost his life in a racing accident at Caraway Speedway in 1995. Following the command to start engines by Kenny Minter, Jr., Ward continued to flex his muscle as he jumped out to the early lead. Brian Loftin would keep pace with Ward early on, until being bypassed for second by Myers on lap 47. Just three laps later, the first caution of the night would wave for the stalled car of Mike Norman. Several cars pitted for adjustments including Myers, Smith, Cale Gale, and LW Miller.

Back under green, Ward would continue to lead over Loftin and Jason Myers. On lap 61, J. Myers would move by Loftin for second. Loftin would be freight trained by the lead group of cars and fall to eighth. Putnam was making his way back to the front too, passing Tim Brown for third on lap 75.

The caution waved again for debris in turn two with 33 laps to go, allowing the entire field to pit for new tires, adjustments, and fuel. Putnam, Gale, Miller, and Ward would be the first off pit row to lead the field to green on the next restart. Putnam led on the restart until the caution waved two laps



Burt Myers celebrates his "sweep" Saturday night with his win at Caraway Speedway as well as clinching the inaugural SMRS Modified Championship. (PASS photo)

later for Smith, who spun in turn two after slight contact from Loftin. Smith pitted, but made an illegal tire change and was penalized for two laps.

On the next restart, Putnam spun his tires and touched J. Myers as he tried to regain control, causing J. Myers to make contact with the front stretch wall. While they continued on without bringing out a caution, Gale moved to lead over Putnam and Ward. But, they would make contact in turn one while battling for second with 23 laps to go, causing Putnam to spin. Ward would retire from the event due to suspension problems.

On the restart, B. Myers was able to get the advantage over Gale from the outside to take the lead. The final caution of the night

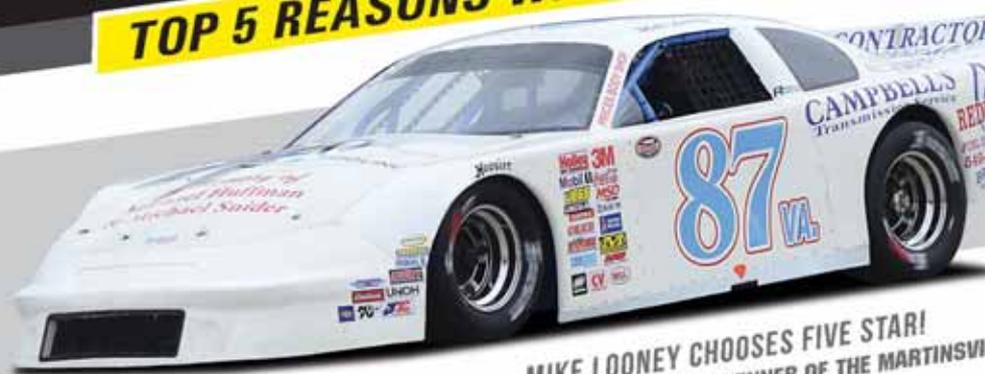
would wave with 13 laps to go when Miller spun in turn four after contact from Putnam. B. Myers was able to get a better restart than Loftin and would lead the rest of the way to take the Kenny Minter Memorial win over Loftin, J. Myers, Brown, and Miller. Rounding out the top 10 were Gale, Mod Lite winner, Scott Hall, Tom Buzze, Putnam, and Smith.

While the SMRS Tour Modifieds presented by PASS are finished for the year, Tour Modifieds will be racing for \$10,000 to win and the PASS South and PASS National Super Late Models champions will be crowned on November 4-5 as part of the 14th Annual North-South Shootout at Concord Speedway. For more information please go to northsouthshootout.com.



THE BETTER BODY CHOICE!

TOP 5 REASONS WHY WINNING TEAMS CHOOSE FIVE STAR >>>



MIKE LOONEY CHOOSES FIVE STAR!
CONGRATS TO THE POLE & RACE WINNER OF THE MARTINSVILLE 300!

- 1 ADVANCED LIGHTWEIGHT COMPOSITE HOODS
- 2 ULTRAGLASS BODY PANELS
NO OTHER COMPOSITE IS STRONGER
PANELS DEFLECT 300% FURTHER BEFORE
BREAKING = LESS DEBRIS ON THE TRACK!
- 3 HIGH-IMPACT PLASTIC BODY PANELS
- 4 OPTICALLY SUPERIOR WINDOWS
- 5 REPEATABLE FIT & FLAWLESS FINISH

SEE WHY RACERS CHOOSE FIVE STAR!
FIVESTARBODIES.com/WINNERSCHOICE



Homestead-Miami Speedway

MIAMI, FL - While some of NASCAR's biggest drivers in the Sprint Cup Series were testing at Homestead-Miami Speedway October 18 and 19, two South Florida middle schools were also visiting the track as part of their 'NASCAR Pasta Challenge: The Science behind NASCAR Racing' curriculum. The schools that visited were W.R. Thomas

Middle School and Zelda Glazer Middle School from Miami.

A total of 43 seventh grade students gathered at the Pit Box, located in Speedway's infield, to learn about the different sciences of NASCAR that are specific to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education. As the drivers made their rounds on the Speedway's oval, the students learned about the key aerodynamic principles of racing, which includes NASCAR's Three D's of Speed — drag, downforce and drafting.

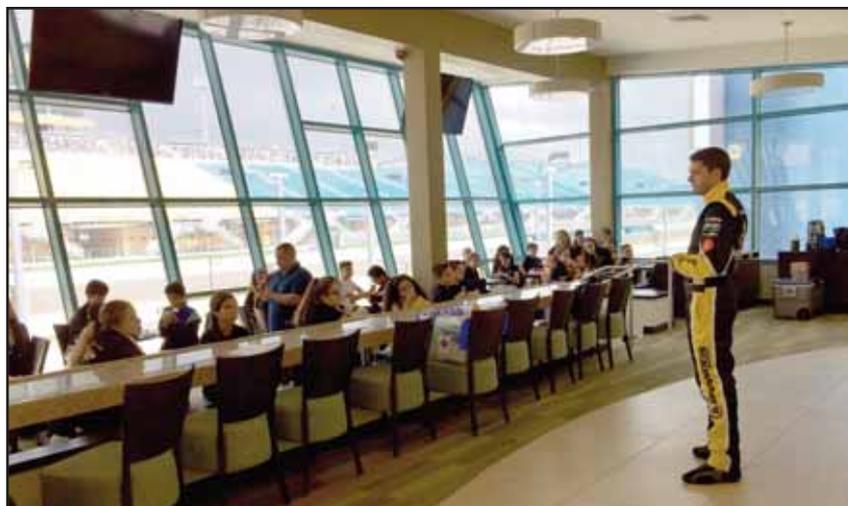
In addition, the students brought in their own miniature cars that they built out of pasta, so they could be judged by Homestead-Miami Speedway's staff. There were 14 teams that were entered in the competition with each team being judged for the car's functionality and design.

After the judging competition was over and a winner was announced, David Ragan, driver of the #23 Toyota Camry for BK Racing, met with the students to talk about how he began his career in motorsports. In addition, Ragan explained how his car performed in the day's testing sessions and about the importance of having different testing opportunities throughout the year.

The visit from the students for NASCAR Testing comes in advance of Ford Championship Weekend which will be held at Homestead-Miami Speedway November 18-20. Tickets to Ford Championship Weekend can be purchased by calling (866) 409-RACE (7223) or visiting www.HomesteadMiamiSpeedway.com.

Charlotte Motor Speedway

Charlotte Motor Speedway and SMI Properties will host a week-long donation drive to collect bot-



(TOP) NASCAR Sprint Cup Series driver David Ragan talks to the students about the sciences of NASCAR.

(BOTTOM) Seventh grade students designed their own race cars out of pasta. (HMS photos)



tled water and trash bags for victims of the recent flooding in eastern North Carolina following Hurricane Matthew.

Crews will collect bottled water and heavy-duty trash bags, to be distributed in partnership with the American Red Cross to communities in need. Monetary donations will also be accepted.

Items will be collected noon to 6 p.m. daily - Monday, Oct. 24, through Saturday, Oct. 29,

A collection site will be set up at the main entrance of Charlotte Motor Speedway throughout the week. Fans in town for the Bad Boy Off Road World of Outlaws World Finals can also leave donations at the main entrance to The Dirt Track at Charlotte.

Atlanta Motor Speedway

HAMPTON, GA - Back-to-back defending champion of the Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500 NASCAR Cup Series race at Atlanta Motor Speedway, Jimmie Johnson, will try to make it three in a row when NASCAR returns to Atlanta March 3-5, 2017, and fans of the No. 48 can get in on the chance to interact with the six-time NASCAR champion himself on race day with the fan-favorite Jimmie Johnson ticket package.

March 3-5, 2017, featuring the Atlanta 250 XFINITY Series and Active Pest Control 200 Camping World Truck Series doubleheader on Saturday, March 4 and the Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500 Sprint Cup Series race on Sunday, March 5. For more information or to purchase tickets today, contact the Atlanta Motor Speedway ticket office at (770) 946-4211, (877) 9-AMSTIX or visit www.atlantamotor-speedway.com.

Charlotte Motor Speedway

Speedway Christmas is returning to Charlotte Motor Speedway and the spectacular holiday light show will be even bigger and better in its seventh year. With more than three million lights, a huge infield Christmas Village and the unique chance to drive the track, Speedway Christmas has become the area's most popular holiday traditions!

Speedway Christmas kicks off Saturday, Nov. 19 with the Egg Nog Jog, a 5K run through the elaborate light displays at 5:45 p.m., immediately followed by a fireworks extravaganza. Cars will be permitted to drive through the show beginning at 7:30 p.m. The drive-through show will remain open nightly from 6 to 10 p.m. through Dec. 31 (closed Christmas Day). The infield Christmas Village, including movie nights on the speedway's 16,000-square-foot HDTV, photos with Santa, a bustling Bethlehem village, petting zoo and more will be open every Thursday through Sunday night.

Charlotte Motor Speedway is located at 5555 Concord Parkway S, Concord, NC. Take Interstate 85 to exit 49 (Bruton Smith Blvd.) toward Hwy. 29. Visit www.charlottemotor-speedway.com or call 1-800-455-FANS (3267) for pricing, movie schedules and more information about Speedway Christmas.

For just \$48, the Jimmie Jonson ticket package includes a seat in the Lower Petty Grandstand for Sunday's Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500 and the opportunity to participate in an exclusive Q&A session with Jimmie prior to the drop of the green flag. Kids tickets are priced at just \$10 and provide front-row VIP seats for the Q&A, right next to Jimmie, who will take questions from fans of all ages.

Also included in a kids ticket is an interactive learning program about the science of racing, led by an expert from NASA, where NASCAR's youngest fans will get the lowdown on what makes race cars so fast. Plus, a complimentary kids coloring book will keep them occupied when they're not at the track.

With a limited supply, fans interested in the Jimmie Johnson ticket package are encouraged to purchase their tickets early, before they run out.

NASCAR racing returns to Atlanta Motor Speedway

www.RACETRAILERSALES.COM
TRAILERS & TRANSPORTERS
 NEW & USED • 888-274-8679 • SALES & SERVICE

www.pitboxes.com
 A DIVISION OF RICKY SANDERS RACING INC.
 (770) 506-0090

Pittman Returns to His Winning Ways at Salina

PRYOR, OK - Daryn Pittman returned to his winning ways on the World of Outlaws Craftsman® Sprint Car Series tour Saturday night, winning the O'Reilly Auto Parts Twister Showdown at Salina Highbanks Speedway. Pittman's trip down victory lane was his eighth of the season.

With the win, Pittman - like his teammate Brad Sweet the night before - shattered a winless streak that spanned four months. His last victory was at Williams Grove (Pa.) Speedway on July 22. Pittman made his return to victory lane convincing, as he led all 31 laps of the night's feature in his No. 9 Kasey Kahne Racing with Mike Curb GF1 car.

"We haven't really been struggling, but I haven't been able to finish the job and get the win," Pittman said. "We've been there knocking on the door, and it's the driver's job to be able to finish and get the win. Our team has really been working hard and the car's fast. It's good to finally reward them with a win. It's been too long. Hopefully we can use this momentum headed into Charlotte - we always seem to run well there - and get the win there."

By the courtesy of the Craftsman Club® Draw, Pittman led the 24-car field into the green flag. Pittman held his ground in the opening laps. A notably shift in the podium was last year's winner and Oklahoma-native Shane Stewart, who moved into the podium by passing David Gravel's No. 5 CJB Motor-sports GF1 racecar.

Two cautions on the seventh lap ultimately caused a single-file restart. While Pittman extended his lead to nearly a .400-second margin, the same interval separated Stewart and Gravel. The two battled side-by-side, until Gravel reclaimed third position.

Pittman consistently extended his lead. Pittman had a 2.323 advantage with 10 laps remaining, and behind him, the podium began to shuffle. Jason Johnson, who was forced to use a backup car because of a wreck the night before, began to charge to the front. Johnson solidified fourth position; he started eighth in the feature.

Pittman led as much as 3.799

seconds with six laps remaining, and was on his way to the checkers. But, the race's final caution on the last lap of the race regrouped the field, giving hope to those drivers behind him. In a green-white-checked scenario, Pittman led the single-file restart with Gravel behind him. Johnson's No. 41 Jason Johnson Racing Maxim car was in fourth.

On the restart, Gravel dove to the bottom of the 3/8-mile oval to contend with Pittman for the lead. Pittman slammed the door on Gravel exiting turn four and turn two heading to the checkers. Though Gravel ran out of real estate, Johnson did not for third position. In the closing lap, Johnson made his move into the final podium position in turn three, redeeming the weekend from an 11th place finish on Friday night.

"This car is a car we ran previously this season," Johnson said. "We had a lot of confidence in it, and all of our Maxim cars. We build a chain of them through the winter months, and they have a lot of similarities. Tonight, when we get in a predicament like that to get a car down, we know what to expect. We had to get down tonight after the wipeout last night in the heat race."

Pittman joined fellow Kasey Kahne Racing teammate Sweet as the weekend's feature winners. The duo ended their droughts that dated back to July. Both picked up their eighth win of the season.



Daryn Pittman emerges from his car as the winner at Salina Highbanks Speedway, his eighth win of the season. (James Fleming/WoO photo)

Earlier in the program, Gravel recorded his second-consecutive quick time and heat win of the weekend - also in a backup ride. Gravel owed his strong performance to his engine, and said his consistently fast laps will give him momentum leading into the Bad Boy Off Road World Finals on October 27-29.

"Qualifying as good as we have, we keep putting ourselves in a good position," said Gravel, visibly distraught that he could not get Pittman in the final laps for his 10th win. "We've had good motors, and we're putting in the good, fresh ones now. They're showing [up].

We just can't get good feature finishes. So, glad to come home on the podium heading to Charlotte."

Sweet Silences the Field at Lakeside

KANSAS CITY, KS - Brad Sweet steamrolled ahead Friday night to his eighth win of the World of Outlaws Craftsman® Sprint Car Series season at Lakeside Speedway. The O'Reilly Auto Parts Rumble on the River did not only give Sweet an advantage to finish the season's points race in the top-three, but the victory also snapped a 33-race

(Continued Next Page)

TRACTION CONTROL
REAL TIME CORRECTIONS
888-920-SPIN (7746)

DAVIS
GOT TRACTION?
TECHNOLOGIES

NEW UNITS FOR 2016

DRIVER REMOVABLE
THE BEST TRACTION CONTROL... PERIOD.

CIRCLE TRACK / DRAG / SALT FLATS / SPRINTS / MOTORCYCLES / PULLING TRUCK

SALES@MORETRACTION.COM WWW.MORETRACTION.COM

Continued...

drought for Sweet.

Sweet had not won a feature in the series since Badlands (S.D.) Motor Speedway on July 2. His best finish at Lakeside came in June 2014, when he placed sixth in the feature. Sweet started on the pole for this year's 30-lapper, which initially put him in position to break his winless streak.

"It was a little bit frustrating after a while," said Sweet, who also won the \$10,000 purse. "We were off to a great start. Then we hit a slump and haven't been in victory lane. But it feels like the monkey is off our back. It's a bigger leap. Tonight we had a fast car, and we were able to move through lapped traffic."

In the opening lap Ian Madsen,

who started second in the feature, claimed Sweet's spot in turns one and two. However in the five-caution feature frenzy, yellow flags prevented any of the three race-leaders throughout the race from putting any comfortable cushion between them and the 24-car feature. Though Madsen survived the race's first restart on the third lap, it gave other drivers the chance to make their move.

In turn four of the best lap Joey Saldana, seeking his 100th career series win, joined Madsen and Sweet in a three-wide drag race down the front stretch for the top spot. Saldana managed to overtake both of them and led nearly the remainder of the first-half of the feature.

With two laps before the halfway point - and the race's fourth caution - Sweet challenged Saldana riding the bottom of the track. Closing into the second half of the race, the front of the pack caught up to the back. Saldana, with less than a half-second lead at the time, got

swept-up in the traffic, leaving Sweet enough room to claim the top spot.

The top-five underwent its biggest shuffle on the fourth restart, as Daryn Pittman led the charge into second position Pittman, who started third in the feature, regained a podium spot in turn two and through the backstretch overpowered Saldana. Logan Schuchart, with his most recent win the race before, followed Pittman's charge in his No. 1s Bobby Allen Triple X racecar.

Though Pittman carried momentum through that sequence in his No. 9 Kasey Kahne Racing with Mike Curb GF1 winged-sprint, the race's final caution on lap 19 reset the field. From there, Pittman challenged Sweet, at times side-by-side and within a quarter of a second to the No. 49 Kasey Kahne Racing GF1 car. Sweet ultimately won by a half-second margin. Sweet and Pittman are fellow teammates on Kasey Kahne Racing.

"We ran some pretty hard tires,

and [the track] was really abrasive on tires," said Pittman, who thought the setup hurt him. "We gambled with some pretty hard tires, and the longer we ran the better we were. So I didn't need to see the yellows. We were close. This is one of my favorite half-miles that we run. If we can't win, I guess it's okay to get beat by your teammate, but I thought I had a shot on the last lap. But, I got a little too close to the lap cars and got caught in their dirty air."

Schuchart rounded-out the podium. Schuchart carries back-to-back podium finishes into the final regular series race, the O'Reilly Auto Parts Twister Showdown at Salina Highbanks Speedway.

Earlier in the racing program, David Gravel recorded the fastest time in hot laps and qualifying, and won his heat race. Gravel's seventh quick time of the season was a 13.704 lap time. In the first heat, Gravel was the only driver to record a lap time below the 14-second mark.

Rick Eckert Joins Dirt Late Model Hall of Fame

CONCORD, NC - Preceding the 36th Annual Rhino Ag Dirt Track World Championship presented by Optima at Portsmouth Raceway Park (Ohio), the National Dirt Late Model Hall of Fame announced its Class of 2017. Of the eight drivers graced with the honor, World of Outlaws Craftsman® Late Model Series pioneer

"Scrub" Rick Eckert was one of them.

"I already knew I was old, but it makes you feel even older," joked Eckert, receiving the call from founder Bill Holder in late September. "It's an honor. I was shocked [Bill] called me. I'm not going to lie to you; I never really thought about being in the Hall of Fame, you know? It does make you look back at things - the good things."

The York, Pa. native was born into racing. His father, Ervin "Junior" Eckert, raced dirt Late Models locally as a hobby. Selinsgrove Speedway, the track that led to his dad's induction into the York County Hall of Fame in 1999, was also where Eckert shared his love for the sport. In 2011, he too was inducted into the county's hall of fame, winning four annual awards

in the process.

Eckert's first-ever ride was a Figure-Eight car, in which he competed at Trailway Speedway in Hanover, Pa. He competed for a year in the track's division. Thereon, he competed in Street Stocks until he found himself behind the wheel of a Late Model in 1984 as a high school senior.

Returning to the track that carried the family legacy, Eckert won two races and finished fourth in points that year. With strides of success, he eventually competed nationally on two tours (Renegade STARS and Hav-A-Tampa Dirt Racing Series) before joining the World of Outlaws Craftsman Late Model Series. As part of the series, he returned to Selinsgrove, establishing the Late Model track record of 18.848 on October 6, 2012.

Notably, Eckert owes his stardom to two invaluable intangibles - relationships and fully immersing himself in the industry. Coming from a multi-generational racing family, Eckert learned at a young age how to turn wrenches. In his career, he never considered a "hands-off" approach.

"It's funny when you're at the races and you just worked day and night all week for the three days you might have been home, and you get to the race track and you get, 'What did you do all week?'"

Eckert said. "It's like, 'Man, I wish I could tell you.' There're just a lot of hours put into being a racer that are hands-on. I think that's what helps me."

Between his grit and all the grime, Eckert was one of the original 12 members to resurrect the World of Outlaws Craftsman® Late Model Series under the World Racing Group banner. Eckert said he remembers the 2004 meeting in which the idea to revitalize the series - first starting in 1988 - progressed into a series that is now steadily in its 12th year.

As part of the series, building relationships paid dividends for Eckert, who has consistently finished in the top five in points in all but two seasons. This includes a series championship in 2011, for which he credits his successes to his crew members and car owners. "If you weren't with the right people, no one would ever hear of you," said Eckert.

"It takes a lot of people to be in the hall of fame," Eckert said. "It took a lot great people for me to get there, including my mechanics, crew chiefs and all those people. It also took a lot of driving time up and down the road."

Eckert first got support from car owner Raye Vest before fielding his own team for a couple of years - including a brief stint wheeling Mark Richards' house-car in 2014. Currently, Paul Crowl is the car owner of the No. 7 Monumental Paving & Excavating/ P&J Contracting Long-

horn machine. Eckert said Crowl understands what it takes to be successful, and with the help from his only mechanic Bob Miller, the trio is putting together another top-five season for Eckert.

"He has a great attitude, he's well-spoken, he's appreciative of everything..." said Crowl, rifling on what makes Eckert the dream driver for any car owner. "Not to forget his work ethic and ability to fabricate everything he needs to take care of fans and sponsors. I just can't express enough how great of a guy he is. It doesn't matter if it's a fan coming by, the guy has time. His attitude is second to none. He's a man of his word, and he does it with less help than anybody. Rick really does it all. He really does."

Eckert has the support of his team and his fans, but through his 30-plus years of racing, family has always been his foundation. He said his wife Kristal and his daughter Courtney have made the worst days in racing his best days, and the best days even better.

"I always wanted to be a race car driver as a kid, and I got to do it this long, so that's a plus," Eckert said. "I can't say [the Hall of Fame] was ever really a goal. I just raced to race. I love racing, so this is just an extra perk. It's really something special."

Eckert, along with the other seven honorees, will be inducted next August at Florence Speedway in Union, Ky. before the Sunoco Race Fuels North-South 100.

Haudenschild Wins Arctic Cat All Star Finale

Chad Kemenah Claims Fifth Career Arctic Cat All Star Championship

CHILLICOTHE, OH - For the fifth time in his career and for the first time since 2005, Alvada, Ohio's Chad Kemenah is an Arctic Cat All Star Circuit of Champions titlist, earning his fate by finishing eighth during the championship finale at Atomic Speedway on Saturday, October 22. It is a first-ever title for team owner Rob Hunter.

Kemenah, pilot of the Rob Hunter-owned/Seneca Energy Corp/DKW Transport/JRC Transportation/Bonnell's Rod Shop/ No. 10H entry, started 13th on the main event grid and gently worked his way into a top-ten finishing position; just one position ahead of championship contender and defending titlist Dale Blaney at the final checkers. Blaney, who fell short of a seventh championship by a mere 20 markers, finished second in the final standings, followed by Sheldon Haudenschild, Cap Henry and Kraig Kinser.

"I hope my car owner's smile is as big as mine right now," Chad Kemenah said. "I can't thank Rob Hunter and his wife enough for giving my brother (Brian Kemenah) and I an opportunity with this race team. We didn't have the season we wanted last year as far as consistency goes, but we were pretty consistent this year. We really take pride in our level of consistency. Sometimes we second guess ourselves, but we just really needed to focus on us and our results and not worry about where others finish. That's what it takes to win a championship."

Chad Kemenah ended his 2016 Arctic Cat All Star championship campaign with one victory on the season, occurring at the Bedford Fairgrounds Speedway in Bedford, Pennsylvania. The 2016 Ohio Sprint Speedweek presented by Cometic Gasket champion also earned 33 top-ten finishes in 43 main event starts, 24 of which were inside the top-five.

"We definitely wanted to win more, of course. But to have the amount of top-five finishes that we have, no matter where we raced or who we raced against, says a lot about this race team. Sometimes point racing isn't fun. Things were

getting a little stressful here the last month or so. I'm not sure my car owner would admit that, but it is true. I don't want this to be the first one for Rob Hunter, so hopefully we can repeat."

Chad Kemenah won the war, but Sheldon Haudenschild won the battle on Saturday night at Atomic Speedway; scoring \$10,000 during the Arctic Cat All Star Circuit of Champions season finale over a competitive field of 49 entries. Haudenschild started second on the main event grid and raced in a podium position during the entire 35-lap main event. The Wooster, Ohio, native took command for the first time on lap 32; surviving accidental contact with race leader Cole Duncan to inherit the top spot over Hunter Schuerenberg and sixth row starter Danny Lasoski. Duncan, the main event pole sitter who led every lap of the feature program until that point, would not return.

Haudenschild, the winningest driver with the Arctic Cat All Stars in 2016, drove ahead to score his ninth victory of season and 15th of his career, keeping, Schuerenberg, Danny Lasoski, Pennsylvania invader Brent Marks, and Spencer Bayston at bay.

"I felt bad about that contact with Cole Duncan. I definitely didn't intend for that to happen. We were both racing really hard for position and ran out of race track," Sheldon Haudenschild said. "This has been a really fun season. I can't thank my team enough for their hard work and effort this year. Every time I get in my car, I know what I am going to get and I know what to expect. This win is pretty special. We'll take this and move ahead."

The Arctic Cat All Star Circuit of Champions will celebrate the 2016 season with the annual awards banquet, scheduled for Friday evening, December 9, at the Indiana Convention Center in Indianapolis, Indiana. In conjunction with the Performance Racing Industry (PRI) trade show, the awards banquet will be conducted in rooms 231-233 of the Indiana Convention Center. The evening will begin with cocktails at 6:00 pm, followed by dinner at 7, with the awards ceremony to follow. Additional news and information will be sent via email in the near future.



Chad Kemenah raced his way to his fifth career Arctic Cat All Star Championship. (SprintCarNews.com/ASCOC photo)

JOIN US FOR THE GREATEST PARTY SINCE CAMELOT!

23RD ANNUAL CAROLINA RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL & ARTISAN MARKETPLACE

COMEDY MUSIC CRAFTS FEASTING JOUSTING

EIGHT FESTIVE WEEKENDS
OCTOBER 1ST - NOVEMBER 20TH
SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS • 10:00AM - 5:30PM

SAVE ON DISCOUNT TICKETS AT **Harris Teeter**
Highland Food & Pharmacy

pepsi The Charlotte Observer SHIBBET DIAMOND SPRINGS
charlotteobserver.com

AMV DISCOUNTS Party City A Campbell's VISIT US AT Qalca Volpak

REN Fest INFO.COM

PRINT TICKETS, DIRECTIONS & FESTIVAL INFORMATION 704-896-5555

OneDirt World Short Track Champions Head to Victory Lane

CONCORD, NC - The first-ever OneDirt World Short Track Championship came to a close on Saturday night with the "crowning" of nine division champions, but the big win went to all of the 325 weekly drivers as the dirt racing family reunion brought them all to center stage, resulting in a father/son duo in Victory Lane in the Pro Modified division, a two-brother duo in Victory Lane in the Monster Mini-Stock class, and a father/son baton passing on the Pro Sprint side.

"I've been coming here since '07, and I'm bringing my young'un here now and trying to get him going, so we're having fun at it," said Pro Modified driver Buck Stevens referring to his son Greyson. "He's 15 years old and has been racing Modifieds since he was 13. He knows what he can do and can't do, and he's still learning. He's very consistent, and he's really smooth out there - a lot more smooth than I am. I never claim to be a race car driver; I just do it for fun."

Saturday racing action began with the 8-lap 360 Sprints Scramble, pushed to Saturday from Friday's schedule. Trey Starks took a strong lead from the green, lapping Michael Miller to the checkers with Westbrook and Lance Moss in second and third respectively.

Also from Friday's Schedule, the Hoosier Racing Tire Pro Modified 15-lap Feature saw Sladen Parson leading all the way through from lap one, with Stevens and Steels battling for second. In Lap 11, Sladen Parson avoided a collision with Jeff Parsons, who spun out in front of him as he overheated with just four laps to go. Sladen Parson took home the win with Steele in second after the restart.

Eric Boozel was the star of the Gotta Race FWD Hornet 15-lap Friday Feature, with Casey Shane and Andrew Smith putting on a tough battle for second after Shannon Barnhill spun out, overheating in Lap 8. Jonathan Sarratt put up a solid fight, but missed out on the trip to Victory Lane.

Championship Features:
 • **Fox Racing Shox Pro Late Models:** The First Championship

Feature on the schedule, the Fox Racing Shox Late Model 30-lap Feature, went to Corey Gordon, followed by Donald Bradsher and Kyle Bronson.

"It's awesome to win the first World Short Track Championship," said Gordon, driver of the 23 car. "I mean I'm really honestly speechless right now. I had a really good car, and I can't thank everyone enough that I had out here: my mom, my dad, my crew chief. I mean this thing was just fun to drive. I just had to get in there and hold the steering wheel, and it drove by itself. Hats off to everybody out here that put on this show. To have 300-plus cars out here for the first year is amazing - and 65 crates - and to come out number one, that's even better."

With Cordon and Bradsher holding first and second, this race was a battle for third, and an impressive display of hard charging by Ross Bailes and Walker Arthur.

Gordon held the lead for the first 19 laps of the race, with Bradsher in close second. Behind them, the battle ensued, with Ryan Atkins and Kyle Bronson challenging Brandon Overton for third. After a caution on Timbo Mangum's T1 car, Overton stole second from Bradsher with 12 laps to go. But Bradsher wasn't having it. Another caution in lap 19 allowed him to charge forward, taking back second and continuing on to take the lead from Gordon. Gordon took it back in lap 20, but the two stayed neck in neck entering lap 21.

Meanwhile, behind them Bailes, who started in position 16, took third from Overton. And Arthur Walker, who started in position 20, jumped to five. Gordon pulled ahead, and for a moment Bailes challenged Bradsher for second as Overton fell back, leaving an opening for Bronson. Gordon and Bradsher maintained a strong lead over the pack into the checkers, with Bronson rounding out the top three.

• **Summit Racing UMP Modifieds:** Kyle Strickler, driver of the 8S, led all 30 laps of the Summit Racing UMP Modified Feature.

"This means a lot to me," said Strickler, "especially in front of all of my fans. I've been through some hard times, and this makes it all better. Nothing is better than winning in front of all of your sponsors

and your family. I have my 7-week little boy here, so this is absolutely awesome. You can't ask for any more here."

Behind Strickler, a persistent battle for second and third ensued. Kenny Wallace lost his number two spot to Taylor Cook, and then the number three spot to Nick Hoffman in lap nine. In lap 12, Hoffman charged past Cook on a restart, stealing second; but a multicar collision called for a reset. This didn't stop Hoffman, who executed a replay, taking second again on the restart, but it just didn't hold; Cook took back second. In lap 15, Hoffman took it back again. A caution on Mike Learman in lap 18, however, forced another restart, upon which David Stremme broke the pattern, bumping Cook as he moved into third. Another restart, with only five laps to go, and the battle between Stremme and Hoffman was on. They exchanged positions, and back again, with Stremme pushing on Hoffman in lap 29 to take second into the final lap.

• **VP Racing Fuels Sportsman Modifieds:** The VP Racing Fuels Sportsman Modified 30-lap feature experienced a complete reshuffle as Ronnie Davis took home first, up from position four; Brad Rouse took home second, up from position nine; and Danny Gagne, who started in position one, came in third.

"It might be one of the biggest wins to be out here in North Carolina," said Davis. "It's definitely a fun track and one of my favorites now. It's really really good to get a win here."

Davis took the lead early, in lap six, after passing Mike Stacey for second in lap three. Meanwhile, Rouse pushed up to four by lap three. In lap seven, Davis broadened his lead as Stacey and Gagne duked it out for second. But Rouse keep pushing on. By lap 13, Rouse was in second with quite a bit of air both in front of him, where Davis kept a strong lead, and behind, where Gagne and Stacey pushed on with Brianna Ladouceur on their tail. Five laps later, Ladouceur passed Stacey and was on Gagne, fighting for third.

Meanwhile, out in front, Davis hit traffic, but Rouse just couldn't close that gap. He cut it down a bit in lap 23, but not enough before he, too, hit lap traffic. The drivers held their positions for the remaining seven laps.

Earlier in the day, David Schilling won the first VP Racing Fuels Sportsman Modified Last Chance

Showdown to transfer into the feature with Nick Guerri, Eric Giguere, and Kevin Chaffee. And Chris Cunningham won the second Last Chance Showdown to transfer with Adam Pierson, Adam Hilton, and Kole Holden.

• **COMP Cams 360 Sprints:** Trey Starks, winner of the 360 Sprints Scramble, held the lead for all 25 laps of the COMP Cams 360 Sprint Feature. For him, this race was a great way to test and adjust to the track in preparation for next week's Bad Boy Off Road World of Outlaws World Finals.

"I know this event will be pretty big in the upcoming years, so it's really cool to get the first one," said Starks. "Hopefully, these are laps in the bank for next week. This was not only a race we wanted to come to win, but it was a pretty big test session for next week. We will see pretty similar conditions with a decent amount of cars next weekend, and so we got the notebook stacked up for next weekend. Even though it is a 360 [Sprint car], we learned a few things that we can probably use on the 410."

Behind Starks, Dylan Westbrook held second for all 25 laps as well. The real battle was for third.

Terry Gray, determined to see Victory Lane, pushed past Glen Styres and Lance Moss, not once but twice after a reset. The top three created a good deal of distance between them and the remaining cars, and it looked like the race was sealed halfway through, but ... this is dirt racing. In lap 16, Gray met misfortune and slowed in turn two. The 11-time USCS champion went off to the pits, looking like he was out for the night; but waving off the restart, he was back out to battle - at the tail end, of course, with Scott Hunter behind him.

Back in front, Starks held his lead after avoiding Tanner Witherpoon in a turn four spin out. Starks hit lap traffic in Lap 11. Westbrook continued to hold second, and Styres took third from Moss in lap 19. The three raced into the checkers.

• **Chevy Performance Pro Sprints:** With only six cars in the Chevy Performance Pro Sprint Feature, drivers had a 50/50 chance to get to Victory Lane. Kevin Atkins held the lead in his 36A car for all 15 laps. Scott Hull charged up from fourth in his 36 car on a restart. And Zane DeVault maintained third after losing second to Hull.

"It just worked out for us," said Atkins. "We are a long way from
(Continued Next Page)

Continued...

home, so that's a good way for us to end our year. I couldn't ask for anything better. It's really special to me because this is probably my last race ever. I'm hanging it up more than likely, so to end it like this is the way to do it."

Meanwhile, as Atkins hangs up his hat, Hall is passing the baton on to his son. He built the 36 car for his son, who wasn't

quite ready for the race this weekend. But his son will be back next year - in the 36 car.

• **Hoosier Racing Tire Pro Modifieds:** The Hoosier Racing Tire Pro Modified Feature was riddled with multi-car crashes and restarts, but ended with a fitting family reunion in Victory Lane as Buck Stevens and Greyson Stevens, father and son, took first and third respectively.

Buck Stevens took the lead from third right from the start and held it for the 25 laps of the Hoosier Racing Tire Pro Modified Feature, while Benji Hicks held second. Behind them Greyson Stevens took third from Chris Steele in lap five. Steele

tried to take back third through the next few laps, and again on a restart in lap 12, but just couldn't catch him. Buck Stevens, Benji Hicks and Greyson Stevens held the top three spots through the remaining 13 laps.

• **DRIVEN Racing Oil Crate Sportsman:** Mitchell Duvall, starting in fifth, led wire to wire through the 20-lap DRIVEN Racing Oil Crate Sportsman Feature.

"It's the biggest win of my career," said Duvall. "I'm kind of surprised that I won something like this. I really wanted to win because my dad never won here, and I thought about it today."

Second place, originally held by Damon Crump, fell to Jamie Reid in lap five, after Crump made contact with another car and headed to the infield. Ben Watkins took the number two spot from Reid entering lap seven, with Greene vying for third and taking it entering lap 10. A number of restarts throughout the next five laps saw Tyler Love coming up from position nine to challenge Greene for third.

• **Quarter Master Monster Mini-Stocks:** The 20-lap Quarter Master Monster Mini-Stock Feature resulted in another family reunion in Victory Lane, with brothers Austin and Justin Mintz in first and second respectively, in what turned out to be a most exciting and sur-

prising race. Suffice it to say, Austin Mintz started in position 25 and went on to win the race.

Brayden Pruitt started in the lead, with Justin Mintz charging up from position five to second in lap two, and taking the lead in lap five. Pruitt took it back in lap six. Mintz again in lap seven. And finally, in lap 11, Pruitt is off the pace and into the pits.

The restart, with nine laps to go had Justin Mintz in the lead with Jammie Mattison and Travis Sharpe behind him. But Austin Mintz had been on the move and was already in position seven. And he continued his charge, battling Sharpe with a couple of exchanges.

On a lap 16 restart Austin Mintz stole second: Justin Mintz, Austin Mintz, Mattison, Sharpe, Walker. Another restart gave Austin Mintz the opportunity to finish his full field charge. He failed, but got a second opportunity with trouble in turn two. Entering into lap 18, Austin Mintz took the lead and the win, with his brother Justin behind him and Mattison in third.

Earlier in the day two 8-lap Last Chance Showdowns went to Tim Bristol and Stewart Wilson, who transferred into the Feature with Kyle Cooper and Kevin Kelly. Hard charging Marcus Thompson came up one spot short.

• **Gotta Race FWD Hornets:** Not too far off from the FWD Hornet Friday Feature, the Gotta Race FWD Hornet Championship Feature had Andrew Smith and Eric Boozel at the helm for all 15 laps.

Adam Reseigh and Justin Stephens battled for third, swapping positions before a lap three restart. Boozel went after Smith in lap 8, and stayed on his tail through the next few laps, but just couldn't take him. Smith to the checkers with Boozel and Stephens behind him. Once again, Jonathan Sarratt fell just short of Victory Lane.

Also of note are the winners of the All Star Invationals: Super 6 Dylan Brown took the Pro Late Models All Star; Danny Gagne took the NE Modified All Star with Greg Martin, Brad Rouse behind him after Louie Jackson Jr fell out in the last lap; and the UMP Modified All Star went to Evan Taylor leading Derrick Ramey and Taylor Cook.

The World Short Track Championship will be back next year, around the same time.

"It means a lot," said Pro Late Model driver Donald Bradsher. "It gives a lot of grassroots racers an opportunity to come here and run at Charlotte. Most guys never get to come here. They just dream about it. You know, I think they hit the nail on the head here this weekend."

U.S. District Court Dismisses Case of Suspended Dirt Late Model Dream Drivers

CONCORD, NC - U.S. District Judge Mae A. D'Agostino today issued a stipulation of dismissal in the case of plaintiffs Scott Bloomquist, Gregg Satterlee, Jimmy Owens, and Ricky Thornton vs World Racing Group and

subsidiary DIRTcar Racing, Eldora Speedway, and its owner Tony Stewart regarding suspension following tire analysis after Eldora Speedway's Dirt Late Model Dream.

Drivers will be allowed to return to competition with payment of the fine and fees imposed, following a request for reinstatement of their suspended DIRTcar membership.

"We're happy this is over," said DIRTcar Racing COO Tom Deery. "It is a waste of resources that

should have been invested in the sport rather than damaging it and polarizing fans."

The attorney for the five plaintiffs and their team owners filed a voluntary motion for dismissal on Monday.

Brandon Sheppard, among the five drivers originally involved, voluntarily withdrew from the case on September 9, 2016.

On June 20, 2016 DIRTcar Racing officials disqualified five competitors following failed post-race inspections at the Dirt Late Model Dream at Eldora Speedway.

Tire samples collected from the #B5 driven by BSheppard, #22 driven by Satterlee, #20 driven by Owens, #33X driven by Thornton and #0 driven by Bloomquist and tested by an independent laboratory did not meet established benchmarks in a chemical analysis. A total of 32 samples were

taken throughout the weekend, June 9, 10 and 11, from participants.

All five competitors were found to be in violation of rule 15.11-G and were fined in accordance with rule 11.1.

Rule 15.11-G.) Chemical alterations, vulcanizing, tire softening, defacing and/or altering the face of the tire lettering and/or tire stamping will not be permitted. Chemicals or tire softening is not permitted at any time. Tires may be inspected at any time. Any violation with any tire presented for competition may result in immediate disqualification from the events and/or other penalties including but not limited to; loss of money, fine, loss of points and/or suspension.

All five drivers were disqualified from the event, including the loss of all purse money and championship points earned during the event, fined \$1,000 and penalized 1,000 DIRTcar Late Model points for the 2016 season. The total penalty, including loss of money, fine and the cost of the tire analysis was \$19,630 for Sheppard, \$4,655 for Satterlee, \$7,630 for Owens, \$10,930 for Thornton and \$6,105

for Bloomquist.

Each was also placed under a three-month suspension from all DIRTcar sanctioned events, but this was delayed by their appeals.

On June 29, 2016, the World Racing Group Commission upheld the penalties issued.

As stated in the rule book, DIRTcar members in good standing can request a final appeal be heard by the World Racing Group Commission Commissioner Potestas. The five plaintiffs pursued this option.

On July 23, 2016, World Racing Group Commission Chairman Potestas, motorsports executive John Darby, again upheld the penalties issued by DIRTcar Racing.

Darby interviewed all five competitors, DIRTcar Racing Officials, and visited the testing facility to inspect the testing procedure.

The original three-month suspension became a 12-week suspension from all DIRTcar sanctioned events, including World of Outlaws Craftsman® Late Model Series competition. The suspensions commenced on June 21, 2016 and concluded on Sept. 13, 2016.

First Look at Snowball Derby and Snowflake 100 Entry Lists

PENSACOLA, FL

- The most wonderful time of the year is almost upon us. No, we don't mean Christmas. We mean the 49th Annual Snowball Derby at Five Flags Speedway in Pensacola, FL (November 30 - December 4, 2016). As one of the the greatest short track races in America draws nearer,

it's now time to take a first-look at the current entry list for this year's event.

The Snowball Derby list boasts a strong 55+ entries with a month-and-a-half still to go until the big Super Late Model race. On the Pro Late Model side, over 40 entries have already been filed for the Allen Turner Hyundai Snowflake 100. Additional entries are hitting the Five Flags Speedway mailbox each day.

"Since Tom Dawson held the first Snowball Derby in 1968, race fans have come to see the best against the best, and this year's lineup truly will not disappoint," said Snowball Derby promoter, Tim Bryant. "I'm truly amazed as I go down the entry list at how many guys are capable of not only competing in the Snowball Derby, but winning the Snowball Derby."

There are many big names on the Snowball Derby entry list, including that of Kyle Busch Motorsports driver Christopher Bell, who crossed the finish line first in 2015, but had the win taken away after a post-race tech inspection violation. The current NASCAR Camping World Truck Series "Chase" driver is back for another go at the Tom Dawson Trophy this year.

Bell's KBM teammate and current NASCAR Camping World Truck Series points leader William Byron will also be heading to the Derby.

The 2014 winner of the Snowball Derby wants to add his name for a second time to the history books. John Hunter Nemechek is on the list in his familiar No. 8 machine.

The current track record holder and three-time ARCA Midwest Tour champion Ty Majeski has filed an entry. Majeski finished third in the 2015 Snowball Derby.

Donnie Wilson claimed the Southern Super Series champi-

onship in dominating fashion this year. The Oklahoma driver is entered for another Snowball Derby, but he is still looking for his first win in the big race.

Bubba Pollard has been dominant at Five Flags Speedway this year in Super Late Model competition. He has already filed an entry for this year's Derby as he still seeks his first Tom Dawson Trophy.

Casey Roderick took the Blizzard Series championship at Five Flags Speedway and he too is entered for the Derby in search of his first Derby win.

The West Coast has a few drivers hoping to bring the honor of winning the Snowball Derby back home with them. SRL point leader Derek Thorn, Cole Moore, and Northwest Super Late Model Series champ Garrett Evans are a few of the drivers from the left side of the United States heading to Pensacola, Florida for the Snowball Derby.

North of the border will also be represented as Canadian and current CARS Tour point leader Raphael Lessard is entered in the race out of the David Gilliland Racing stables.

Other notable drivers entered include Harrison Burton, Christian Eckes, Brandon McReynolds, Spencer Davis, Kyle Grissom, Preston Peltier, Noah Gragson, Dalton Sargeant, Grant Enfinger, Casey Smith, Jeff Choquette, Kenzie Ruston and many more.

Snowball Derby Preview Gives Teams a Shot at Bonus Bucks

PENSACOLA, FL - While the first on-track activity for the 49th Annual Snowball Derby doesn't occur until December 1, drivers and fans will get a taste of the action at the Snowball Derby Preview on Saturday, November 19. Not only will the track be open for drivers to tune their cars for the big race, but some teams could go home with some extra cash to help fund their effort in December.

Five Flags Speedway will put up bonuses for the fastest laps laid down during the preview event. Snowball Derby Super Late Models, Allen Turner Snowflake 100 Pro Late Models as well as the Pro Trucks, Super Stocks, Modifieds, Sportsman and Bombers - all of the divisions competing on Snowball Derby weekend - will have a three-hour window (4-7 p.m.) in which to put down the quickest recorded lap. The driver with the fastest lap around the half-mile oval in each division will be awarded a cash

bonus.

"There is always a lot of excitement around Five Flags on Snowball Derby Preview day with drivers trying to get their cars fast for Snowball Derby, but with some extra cash on the line again this year, there's definitely some added drama as well," said Tim Bryant, Promoter of the Snowball Derby. "Any team who wants to put on a transponder and comes out of the Snowball Derby Preview with the quickest lap will have some extra bragging rights and all eyes on them going into Snowball Derby week."

Snowball Derby Super Late Model drivers will be competing for a \$500 bonus for the fastest lap during the November 19 Snowball Derby Preview.

Pro Late Models will run for a \$300 bonus, while Pro Trucks, Super Stocks, Modifieds and Sportsman will compete for a \$200 bonus per division. \$150 will go to the Bomber driver with the fastest lap as well.

To be eligible for the Fast Lap Cash Award, cars must have track-issued transponders (\$20 rental fee). The fastest laps will be recorded between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. on November 19. Divisions will run on a rotating basis and all cars are subject to random technical inspection to ensure a level playing field for the bonuses.

Canadian driver Martin Latulippe (Pro Late Models), Chase Oliver (Modifieds), Steven Davis (Pro Trucks), Dustin Knowles (Super Stocks), Brandon Fowler (Sportsman) and Gino Denmark (Bomber) each took home extra cash in 2015.

Gates open for competitors at 8 a.m. CT on Saturday, November 19 for the Snowball Derby Preview. Rotating practice begins at 9 a.m., with the Fast Lap Cash Award being given to the quickest laps set between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.

The 49th Annual Snowball Derby weekend kicks off on Wednesday, November 30 with the Cat Country/WEAR TV3 Green Flag Pit Party and Qualifying Order Draw Down.

Thursday, December 1 will see the Super Late Models take to the track for the first official Snowball Derby practice. The night will be highlighted by a 30-lap race for the Butler U-Pull-It Bombers and a 50-lap event for the Dock on the Beach Sportsmen division.

The top Snowball Derby starting spots will be set on Friday, December 2 during NASH FM 102.7 Pole Night. The Faith Chapel Super

Stocks and the Modifieds will each run 50-lap features.

The Pro Late Models take center stage on Saturday, December 3 for the Allen Turner Hyundai Snowflake 100. The 50-lap Last Chance Qualifier for the Snowball Derby and a 50-lap feature for the Beef O'Brady's Pro Truck division will also run on Saturday night.

Then on Sunday, December 4 the green flag will fly over the the 49th Annual Snowball Derby. The 300-lap race will begin at 2 p.m. CT.

For more information on the 49th Annual Snowball Derby weekend at Five Flags Speedway, visit www.snowballderby.com.

Tickets for 49th Annual Snowball Derby Selling at Record Pace

PENSACOLA, FL - For the diehard race fans looking to attend the 49th Snowball Derby at Five Flags Speedway, the time to purchase tickets is now.

Over the years, the Snowball Derby has proved to be more than just a race; it's an experience. That's why more and more short track racing fans flock to Pensacola, Florida each year to witness the prestigious Super Late Model event.

With the hype surrounding the Derby larger than ever in 2016, tickets are going fast with seats in the most popular sections already starting to dwindle.

"We're probably ahead of schedule from where we've ever been," said Tim Bryant, General Manager and Promoter of Five Flags Speedway. "The turn one and two grandstands are not sold out yet, but it's nearing a sellout. We still have good seats along the frontstretch. Of course we're always quick to remind folks, on Sunday there's virtually not a bad seat in the house with all of the haulers removed."

The good news for those still without their tickets is that there are still tickets available for purchase. Racing fans wanting to taste the experience can punch their ticket to the Snowball Derby today by calling the track office at (850)-944-8400 or by printing out and mailing this year's ticket form.

Tickets for all four days of racing from December 1-4 in reserved seating are available now for just \$75 a person, with VIP packages including reserved seats plus pit passes being available for \$120.

For race fans unable to enjoy the full four-day package, reserved tickets for Snowball Derby Sunday are available for \$45.

Canyon Speedway Park

PEORIA, AZ -

Charles Davis, Jr., saved the best for last by bringing the curtains down on the 2016 Canyon Speedway Park season during Saturday night's Hank Arnold Memorial with his first USAC Southwest Sprint Car feature win of the year.

While "Chargin' Charles" bested the USAC Southwest Sprint Car ranks, other

Hank Arnold Memorial winners included George Fronsman in IMCA Stock Cars, Paul O'Connor in IMCA Hobby Stocks, Jarrett Martin in Micro Sprints and Tim Cotherman in Dwarf Cars.

While USAC Southwest points leader R.J. Johnson set the quick time in qualifying, it was fellow third row starter Davis, Jr., racing to the front to capture his first CSP win since April of 2014 aboard the Massey Motorsports No. 50 entry.

Davis, Jr., was chased to the line by Mike Martin with Stevie Sussex, pole starter Brian Hosford and Tye Mihocko rounding out the top five.

George Fronsman put an exclamation point on his Allscapes IMCA Stock Cars vs. SCRA Stock Cars championship season by racing to his 14th overall CSP triumph of the season ahead of Steve Bitting and Derrick Askren, while Paul O'Connor took advantage of his front row outside starting position to reel off his second consecutive Scottsdale Muffler & Automotive IMCA Hobby Stock vs. Renegade win ahead of Joe Vlasity and Jacob Madrid.

Jarrett Martin raced from the pole position for his third CSP win of the year in Micro Sprint action ahead of Mike Colegrove and Paul Martin with Tim Cotherman scoring his first Dwarf Car win of the year at CSP in front of Cory Brown and Ed Schule.

I-30 Speedway

LITTLE ROCK, AR - As is the case annually, many of the biggest names and most diverse group in Sprint Car racing will soon converge upon I-30 Speedway for the 29th edition of the COMP Cam Short Track Nationals presented by Hoosier Tires.

A small sample of the latest entries for the \$15,000-to-win event set for November 2-5 includes the likes of Sammy Swindell, Shane Stewart, Aaron Reutzel, Tony



Race winner Charles Davis Jr. (center) poses along side the runner-up Mike Martin (left) and third place Stevie Sussex (right) after closing the year out at Canyon Speedway Park. (CSP photo)

Bruce, Jr., and Derek Hagar.

The pre-entry deadline for the event is just one week away on Wednesday, October 26, and those entered by that date receive a free driver's pit pass for Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Entry forms are available at <http://www.i-30speedway.com/flyers/2016%20STN%20Flyer.pdf>.

Entries received by October 26 are just \$150, with entries received after that at \$250. Entries after October 26 do not receive the free driver pit pass. Entry fees may be submitted on PayPal as well with a \$5 processing fee just as with paying via credit/debit card. Checks, money orders and cashier's checks are accepted and may be mailed to Pit Road Bar & Grill c/o Tracey Clay, 13219 Interstate 30, Little Rock AR 72209, made payable to Tracey Clay.

Sammy Swindell and Tony Bruce, Jr., rank as two of just a handful of drivers to top the prestigious Short Track Nationals on multiple occasions. Swindell most recently took STN honors in 2013 after previous wins in 2011 and 1990 while Bruce, Jr., went back-to-back in 2008 and 2009.

The only other drivers to own multiple STN victories include Gary Wright at the top of the list with four (1995, 1999, 2003 and 2004), Steve Kinser with three wins in the early STN years (1988, 1989 and 1991) and Paul McMahan with a pair of triumphs (2002 and 2012).

Both Swindell and Bruce, Jr., chase down another STN title on the first weekend of November after some form of brief retirement or semi-retirement.

Swindell joins forces with long-time West Memphis contender A.G.

Rains, who will be in action as well in a team car. The duo has proven a formidable force when teaming up in 2016 with Swindell driving the Rains' entry to his first Knoxville 360 Nationals title earlier this year.

Hired gun now rather than car owner, Tony Bruce, Jr., takes the wheel of the Missouri-based Smith Racing No. 86 in his attempt at a third STN crown. Running a select slate of events thus far in 2016, Bruce, Jr., picked up an NCRA win at Wichita's 81 Speedway along the way.

A top contender at the Short Track Nationals over the years, Bixby, Oklahoma, native Shane Stewart jumps into the No. 88 typically piloted by Scottie McDonald. Among the upper echelon on the World of Outlaws Sprint Car trail in the Larson/Marks No. 2 entry, STN glory has eluded Stewart over the years even though he is typically among the leading contenders.

Stewart has won a pair of STN preliminary features and has a pair of runner-up finishes (2003 and 2007) and a pair of third-place finishes (2009 and 2011) among six career top-fives in STN finales.

Add reigning National champion Aaron Reutzel of Clute, TX, to the mix as well. Reutzel has been nearly unstoppable in his I-30 Speedway appearances in recent years, chasing Christopher Bell to the line for STN runner-up honors in 2014 and then winning a dramatic Short Track Open last year before rain wiped out the rest of the weekend.

Repping the Mid-South, Marion, AR, native Derek Hagar will likely rank among the most prolific 2016 feature winners of the STN field with 15 triumphs to his credit this

season. Among his victories are a \$10,000 score in Wichita, KS, and an I-30 Speedway win during September's Ralph Henson Memorial.

Entries continue to roll in as a stacked field will battle it out to join the list of STN champions that most recently includes Christopher Bell.

Now a top contender with the Camping World NASCAR Truck series, Bell still reigns as the defending STN champion after beating Aaron Reutzel and Brian Brown to the stripe in 2014 to become the youngest winner in event history at just 19 years of age.

Bell joined a prestigious list of STN winners that includes names such as Swindell, Kinser, Sweet, Meyers, McMahan, Wright, Crawley, Bruce, Jr., a couple of Johnsons and more.

The Pertinent Info:

- The What: 29th Annual COMP Cams Short Track Nationals presented by Hoosier Tires.

- The Where: I-30 Speedway (Little Rock, AR). I-30 Speedway is located seven miles southwest of Little Rock off I-30 Exit 126 (Alexander Road).

- The When: November 2-5, 2016.

- The Entries: Entry forms are available at <http://www.i-30speedway.com/flyers/2016%20STN%20Flyer.pdf>. Entry is \$150 if entered by October 26, or \$250 after October 26. Entries submitted by October 26 receive one free driver pit pass for Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Entry fees may be submitted on PayPal as well with a \$5 processing fee just as with paying via credit/debit card. Checks, money orders and cashier's checks are accepted and may be mailed to Pit Road Bar & Grill c/o Tracey Clay, 13219 Interstate 30, Little Rock AR 72209, made payable to Tracey Clay.

- The Format: All competitors will be eligible to compete on either or both of the Thursday and Friday qualifying nights (no split field) after a Wednesday night Test 'N Tune.

The top three from each qualifying night will be locked into Saturday night's \$15,000-to-win, \$2,000-to-start STN Championship Finale. Those six drivers will battle it out in Saturday's Pack's Dash for Cash to determine the alignment of the front three rows of the championship main event.

The balance of the field will be aligned in Saturday night heats according to their top qualifying night score. More points will be awarded in Saturday heats to set the bal

(Continued on next page...)

(Continued...)

ance of the Saturday night feature lineups.

While the STN finale offers a minimum of \$2,000 to each starter, "B" Main Non-Transfers earn \$700 with "C" Main Non-Transfers collecting \$500. Top non-transfers from Saturday night "C" Mains (2 or 3 depending on number of "C" Mains) move on to the "Red Shirt Dash" in honor of Lanny Edwards. The "Red Shirt

Dash" will pay \$500, \$100, \$100, \$100, \$100, \$100.

- The Tickets: Advance tickets for either three nights (Thursday, Friday and Saturday) are on sale for just \$55 if paying cash or \$57 if paying via PayPal or credit/debit card.

Day of show prices are \$20 on Thursday and Friday and \$28 on Saturday plus a \$1 processing fee per ticket if paying by credit/debit card.

Children's tickets will be available at the event only for just \$2 on Thursday and Friday and then \$5 on Saturday plus a \$1 processing fee per ticket if paying by credit/debit card.

To order tickets in advance or for more information, check online at www.i-30speedway.com or call the track at 501-455-4567.

Pit passes are \$15 on Wednesday, \$35 on Thursday and Friday and then \$40 on Saturday. Driver pit pass for Thursday/Friday/Saturday is included in the \$150 entry fee if submitted by the October 26 deadline.

- The Trade Show & Midway: This year's rendition of the Short Track Nationals will also include the Eleventh Annual Short Track Nationals Trade Show & Midway.

For more information regarding I-30 Speedway's Short Track Nationals, check at www.i-30speedway.com or call the track at 501-455-4567.

Kingsport Speedway

KINGSPORT, TN - Since the final checkered flag fell in 2016, the debate regarding the fate of Kingsport Speedway has been up in the air.

Those uncertainties can now be placed to rest, as the 0.375-mile oval is back in business for 2017.

With the support of Joe and Phyllis Loven, Southwest Virginia businessman Ervin Stiltner will

again lease the facility. Karen Tunnell of Wise, Virginia will remain as general manager and promoter for the fourth consecutive season.

"I'm so excited that 'The Concrete Jungle' will be back in action next season," said Tunnell. "We're already working on so many different and exciting things."

Tunnell also touched on the 2017 season schedule.

"Our 2017 schedule is mostly finished except for a couple of items that need to be finalized," added Tunnell. "The first green flag will wave in late March as usual."

NASCAR sanctioning will continue at the concrete oval under the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series banner.

Kicking off the 2017 season will be the annual mall show at the Kingsport Town Center. The event will take place in February, but an exact date is still in the works.

Information regarding division rules meetings will be made available in the coming weeks. The date and details for the 2016 awards banquet are also set to be released soon.

"2017 is going to be a great season," said Tunnell. "Be sure to stay tuned to our website and social media sites for up-to-date information."

Kingsport Speedway has provided race fans in the Tri-Cities, Tennessee and surrounding areas with exciting short track racing since 1965. The speedway has undergone four surface changes in its 50 plus years of existence. Founded as a dirt track in 1965, the facility transitioned to an asphalt track in 1969, back to a dirt track in 1984, and then to its current concrete surface in 1996.

In 1968, Kingsport Speedway hosted its first NASCAR event. Currently, Kingsport Speedway is part of the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series (NWAAS), NASCAR's grassroots series. The NWAAS sanctions nearly 60 race-tracks throughout the United States and Canada in which drivers compete for national, state, and track titles.

For more information on Kingsport Speedway, visit newkingsportspeedway.com. Also follow along on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

South Boston Speedway

SOUTH BOSTON, VA - When the 2016 season opened at South Boston Speedway back in March, track officials were hoping off-season changes would bring the excitement level back to a fever pitch

at the venerable southern Virginia track.

Mission accomplished.

When the curtain fell on the 2016 season last month, it closed out one of the most thrilling seasons in recent memory. From nights filled with two and three-wide racing, to huge fields of cars to packed grandstands and everything in between, it was an amazing 59th season of racing for South Boston.

"We made a lot of changes in the offseason to help improve racing for competitors and the fans," said South Boston Speedway General Manager Cathy Rice. "There were a few bumps along the way, but all-in-all everything turned out better than we expected. Thanks to everyone who helped make it such a success."

Changes for 2016 included a two-tire rule for the Late Model Stock division along with an increased purse guaranteeing \$500 to start. These two changes had the largest impact on the season. The tire rule, which limited teams to the purchase of just two tires a week, made the lower-budget teams more competitive. The guaranteed payout combined with the tire rule made it financially possible for teams to move up to the Late Model division.

The Late Model division averaged just over 25 cars per race and a total of 67 different drivers started at least one Late Model race.

Even though Matt Bowling had an exceptional season with eight South Boston wins on his way to the Late Model track championship and the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series national championship, he did not dominate. There were seven different winners during the season and many races weren't determined until the final turn on the final lap.

Austin Thaxton wound up with five wins on the year and Lee Pulliam had two, while Bobby McCarty, Danny Willis Jr., C.E. Falk and Josh Oakley had one win each.

Another change for 2016 ... the addition of passing points ... helped keep the Late Model points chase close despite Bowling's eight wins. The passing points system allows drivers to receive bonus points for each position gained during a race. Drivers have the option to put themselves in position to pick up maximum points by dropping back in the field from their qualifying positions before the race takes the green flag.

Former South Boston and national champion Peyton Sellers did

not have a win this season, but by working the passing point system to perfection he was able to keep the pressure on Bowling down the stretch. He finished the year 38 points behind Bowling in second place.

South Boston's Late Model stars continued their solid year last weekend by sweeping half of the top-10 positions in the prestigious Valley Star 300 at Martinsville Speedway. Pulliam finished second behind winner Mike Looney while Falk was fourth and Thaxton fifth. Bowling was seventh and Justin Carroll eighth.

Joey Throckmorton claimed the Limited Sportsman championship with a record-tying 10-win season. Johnny Layne captured the Budweiser Pure Stock championship in dominating fashion, winning by almost 100 points. In the closest points battle of the season, Kenny Mills squeezed out a 424-408 championship win over Todd Garnett in the Budweiser Hornets Division.

Carteret County Speedway

SWANSBORO, NC - Carteret County Speedway has postponed the regular season finale to October 29th, now being run alongside the Battlefield Tire Pros Mini Stock Mayhem event.

The event was scheduled for October 8th originally but postponed due to Hurricane Matthew and moved to October 22nd. However, as a result of the continued flooding, road closures and ongoing recovery efforts, Carteret County Speedway will now run on October 29th.

In addition to the road closures, Carteret County Speedway owner Bobby Watson is helping out with the recovery efforts with his land clearing and tree removal company.

The October 29th race will be headlined by the 100 lap Mini Stock Mayhem event and will also feature racing for Late Models, Street Stocks, U-CARs as well as the East Coast Flathead Ford Association and the INEX Legends division.

Additional details will be announced in the upcoming days.

For more information about Carteret County Speedway, visit the track's official website at www.carteretspeedway.com, "like" Carteret County Speedway on Facebook (www.facebook.com/carteretcoswy) or follow @carteretcoswy on Twitter (www.twitter.com/carteretcoswy).