



MARCH 1, 2021

FastTrack

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Running Out Front

William Byron
Breezes to
Homestead Win

Myatt Snyder
Takes First
Victory of Xfinity
Career



Changes Seem to Be Working

Sweeping changes were promised when NASCAR put together its new schedule. Judging by the outcomes of the first three Cup Series races, the sanctioning body has clearly kept its word.

Nobody could have foreseen Michael McDowell's dramatic victory at the season-

opening Daytona 500. Christopher Bell's win on the Daytona International Speedway road course was just as unlikely. William Byron only added to the perplexing start of the racing season with a dominating performance Sunday at the Homestead-Miami Speedway.

More important, three of the 16 playoff spots have been taken by drivers who aren't used to running with the lead pack.

After finishing 26th in the 500 and 33rd on the road course, Byron was more interested in trying to get his No. 24 Chevrolet up to speed. Although there still were 28 regular season races remaining, he knows it's never too soon to start worrying about points.

"In this format with winning being so important, it's nice to chase points at times, but yeah, no doubt we were in a huge hole," Byron said.

It was a tough start to the season, but we didn't really think about that going into this week. We just thought about executing a good race. It's always nice when the speed is there, but I feel like we put in the effort to make sure it was, and it was kind of a flawless week-end really.

"I was just hoping for a good race."

Now his only concern is stockpiling points – and wins – to move up the playoff ladder.

"I haven't really ever thought about it because I've never been in this position, so I think for us we're just going to stay attacking each race," he said. "I think there's nothing like running well, but yeah, you're not going to go to sleep during the regular season at least as nervous and as stressed. I can tell you that leaving Daytona last week was not a good feeling. I think it's going to allow us to kind of focus on

the right things even more."

McDowell, Bell and Byron have 510 combined starts in the Cup Series. Together they have four victories. But it's enough to clinch a spot in the playoffs.

For McDowell and Bell, it's a first. Byron, who won the 400-mile race at Daytona last year, it will be his second trip. He wound up 13th in the points after making the first round cut.

The way this season has started anything is possible.



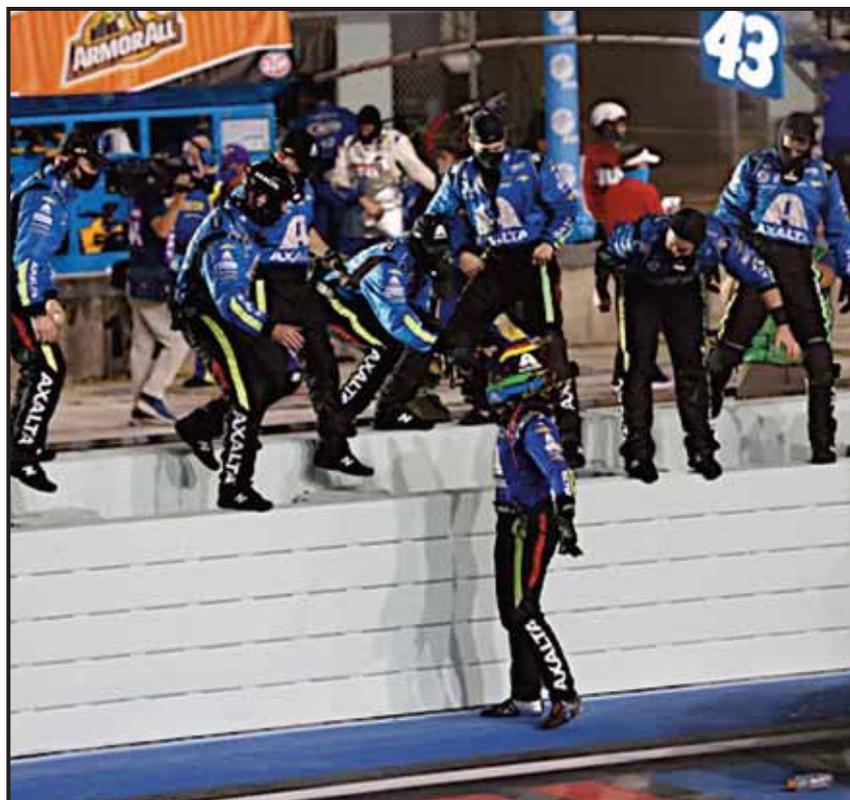
DON COBLE

McDowell followed his Daytona 500 win with an eighth-place run on the road course and a sixth at Homestead. Nobody's more surprised by his start than McDowell, especially since his Front Row Motorsports team often buys used cars and parts to make ends meet.

"You know, I think that we are realistic about where we finished the year and where we wanted to be, and we thought that we were in that 15th to 20th range pretty consistent last year," he said. "To make a big jump like we did, I wouldn't say that it's a complete, like, unbelievable shock, but it's pretty close to it. We have definitely out-performed where we thought we'd be, especially on the mile-and-a-half. These places, especially these slick places are really tough for the smaller teams. I think that at the same time we had a good run here last year and something to build on, so we came back and made some improvements, and yeah, we kind of shocked ourselves.

"I think that this is a really big thing for us. The Daytona 500 is huge. You're not going to replace that. But the fact that we're legitimately running in the Top 10, not just here but at the road course last week, too, we overcame a lot of issues last week and really raced our way back into the top 10. To start the season with three top 10s on three very different racetracks. Daytona, everybody knows that anything can happen there, but I'm very proud of my race team. We have done a great job of making big gains.

"To be running down Kevin Harvick with five laps to go for a Top 5, that's stinking awesome for us to even be in that sentence, conversation. It just shows how much



Happy Driver, Happy Crew. William Byron exits #24 racer to greet his crew after winning he Dixie 400 at Homestead-Miami Speedway Sunday. (MATT THACKER/NKP photo)

hard work everyone has done at Front Row, and it's just awesome right now."

Martin Truex Jr. believes more back-markers will move to the front.

"I think the rules have been the same for a while, and everybody has had all off-season to kind of work on our stuff and understand where they were last year and a lot of people obviously made some good decisions on how to get better," Truex said. "Yeah, definitely seeing a lot of guys running up front today that we don't normally see, but I think it's just the box that

we work in is so small and the longer we have the same rules package the closer everybody is going to get."

And it's not confined solely to the Cup Series. Two of the first three Xfinity Series races have been won by first-time winners – Ty Gibbs on the Daytona road course and Myatt Snider at Homestead.

Next up is the Las Vegas Motor Speedway, where fortunes are made and lost with a single roll of the dice. If the race is anything like the first three, it's anybody's guess who will strike it rich.

2021 A New Year in Racing!

FasTrack is available online only. We are covering all the racing series, off track news and other features that you have grown to love.

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NASCAR CUP SERIES - MATT THACKER/NKP
NASCAR XFINITY SERIES - MICHAEL REEVES/GETTY IMAGES

William Byron Cruises to NASCAR Cup Series Victory at Homestead-Miami

In a No. 24 Chevrolet that steadily improved its performance as the sun went down, William Byron streaked to a decisive victory in Sunday's Dixie Vodka 400 at Homestead-Miami

Speedway.

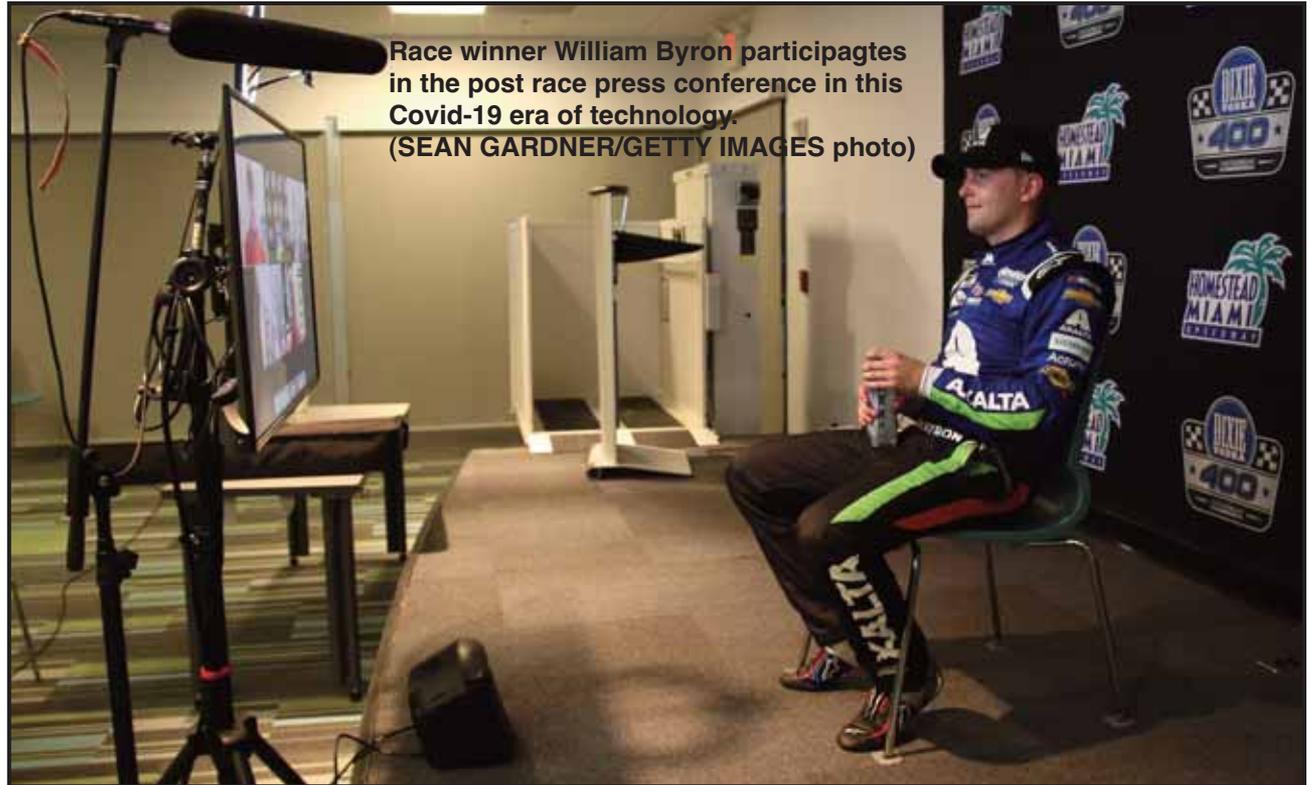
With Tyler Reddick, Kyle Larson and Martin Truex Jr. battling for second place behind him, Byron cruised to a 2.777-second victory over Reddick, who charged through the field late in the final 60-lap green-flag run to the finish.

Truex ran third, with Larson coming home fourth. The victory was Byron's first of the season, first at Homestead and the second of his career. The win was the 264th in the NASCAR Cup Series for Hendrick Motorsports, leaving the organization four victories behind Petty Enterprises for most all-time.

"It was just a really smooth day," said Byron, who won Stage 2 after and fourth in the opening 80-lap stage. "We worked hard this winter on this track. I can't believe it."

Though Reddick made his charge by running inches from the outside wall, Byron preferred to maintain a respectful distance from the fence whenever possible.

"You had to go to the wall at certain times," said Byron, who led



Race winner William Byron participates in the post-race press conference in this Covid-19 era of technology. (SEAN GARDNER/GETTY IMAGES photo)

102 laps, a career-best for a single race. "(Turns) 3 and 4, it was really fast up there. I definitely didn't do it as good as the Xfinity cars do it, but I used it when I had to. This car was just awesome. It was really a lot of hard work. I think we went to the sim (simulator) four or five times this offseason, and it pays off, man. It's awesome."

Byron delivered the first Cup victory to crew chief Rudy Fugle, with whom he teamed to great success

in the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series. In fact, the last time Byron and Fugle worked together, they won the 2016 season finale at Homestead.

Reddick didn't score a point in either of the first two stages, but his No. 8 Richard Childress Racing Chevrolet was lightning fast at the

finish. "Three different decisions on restarts would have put me miles ahead, and I would have been within reach.

"Second's great, but I saw how much faster I was than those guys at the end, so naturally, it's frustrating."

Chris Buescher was dominant

end of the race. When Reddick moved into fourth place past Kevin Harvick on Lap 254 of 267, he was nine seconds behind Byron. By the end of the race, despite having to clear both Truex and Larson for second, he had trimmed more than six seconds off Byron's lead.

"Once I really saw how fast we were in clean air, when I saw how fast we were catching everybody, it's beyond frustrating," said Reddick, who matched his career-best

early, leading a career-high 57 laps in a single race and picking up the second stage win of his career in the opening segment. But as the sunlight faded, so did Buescher's No. 17 Roush Fenway Racing Ford. He finished 19th.

Truex thought his car capable of maintaining Byron's pace in the final run and was disappointed when it didn't.

"On that last run, for whatever reason, I was just babying it," Truex said. "The 24 got the lead from me on that (last) restart (on Lap 208), and then the 5 (Larson) got by us, and I'm just biding my time waiting for them to start coming back to me, and they just never did.

"They obviously were really fast at the end, and we weren't quite as good that last run. These things are so hard to win. These cars are so touchy and just needed one more adjustment to have a chance."

Harvick came home fifth, followed by Daytona 500 winner Michael McDowell, as both drivers have scored top-10 finishes in each of the first three races of the season. Ryan Newman, Kurt Busch, Alex Bowman and Kyle Busch completed the top 10. Denny Hamlin ran 11th, because of a late-race pit road speeding penalty.

Hamlin retained the series lead by 20 points over Harvick.



William Byron (24) battles Aric Almirola (10) on his way to the front of the pack to go on and win the Dixie Vodka 400. (NIGEL KINRADE PHOTOGRAPHY photo)

Myatt Snider Scores First Xfinity Win as Fate KOs Noah Gragson – Again

Myatt Snider got his first NASCAR Xfinity Series victory.

Noah Gragson got another heartache at Homestead.

With perfect execution from the inside lane on his second chance at an overtime restart, Snider held off charging Tyler Reddick to win Saturday's Contender Boats 250 at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

For his third straight race at the 1.5-mile track, Gragson was close enough to taste victory, but it was his ill-fated crash with just over two laps left in regulation that set up overtime and Snider's victory.

Reddick's second-place finish didn't stand, however. His No. 23 Chevrolet was disqualified after post-race inspection, because the ride height measure too low in the rear.

On the first attempt at extra laps, Snider spun his tires, and Reddick grabbed the lead before AJ Allmendinger spun toward the infield grass in Turn 1 to cause the eighth and final caution.

In the second overtime, Reddick

returned the favor, and Snider pulled clear in the bottom lane. With a determined charge on the final lap, Reddick gained ground, but he was .085 seconds in arrears when Snider crossed the finish line in the No. 2 Richard Childress Racing Chevrolet.

"Yeah, I guess I learned my lesson on that first restart, 'cause I spun the wheels," said Snider, who won in his 36th start in the series. "Then I saw Tyler spin the wheels on the next one, and I knew I might have a chance."

"Just a shout-out to all these RCR guys, (sponsor) Taxslayer, all these people that supported me over the years."

"It's been a rough journey, but we're here with a win, and I can't complain."

Reddick, who drives full-time for RCR in the NASCAR Cup Series, was moonlighting with RSS Racing on Saturday, making his first Xfinity start since winning his second straight series title at Homestead in 2019. But his effort proved moot with the disqualification, which elevated Brandon Jones to the runner-up spot.

Gragson was just over two laps away from a redemptive victory when the No. 13 Ford of David Starr—the last driver on the lead lap—blew a right front tire and shot up the track into the outside wall and right into Gragson's path."

Gragson, who led 83 and 81 laps in last year's two Homestead races but failed to win either, couldn't avoid the collision that destroyed his No. 9 JR Motorsports Chevrolet. At the time, Gragson led second-place Reddick by more than eight seconds.

"What are you going to do," Gragson said after a visit to the infield care center. "We dominated the last three races here, including this one, and have stuff like that (happen). We were saving fuel. I was half-throttle the last 30 laps, and we were still pulling away."

The first stage of the race was eventful—but not primarily for Stefan Parsons spin in Turn 4 on Lap 26 or for Daniel Hemric missing his pit stall under the resulting caution and knocking his tire carrier to the pavement.

What Stage 1 demonstrated with jarring clarity was the enormous value of fresh tires on the abrasive asphalt surface. Allmendinger restarted 25th on fresh tires with 10 laps left in the stage and grabbed the lead from Kaulig Racing teammate Justin Haley eight laps later.

Allmendinger won the stage with Haley second after restarting 20th and moving into the lead on Lap 33 before surrendering the top spot to

his teammate. Reigning series champion Cindric, on the other hand, stayed out during the caution, restarted in the lead on old tires and fell to 14th by the end of the 10-lap run.

Stage 2 was the mirror image of Stage 1. When fluid from Parsons' car necessitated the third caution of the race on Lap 68, drivers who had stayed out under the Lap 26 caution to save a set of tires came to pit road—Cindric among them.

Allmendinger led the field to the restart with six laps left in the second stage. Cindric restarted 22nd, and in less than three laps took the lead on the way to a stage win and a Playoff point.

Pit stops followed at the end of the stage, on Lap 83, leaving almost all drivers on equal rubber for the final run, with two sets of sticker tires left in the pits. But in terms of track position, the exchange favored those who had pitted late in Stage 2 and charged to the front.

First off pit road during the fourth caution, Cindric led the field to green on Lap 89. But neither Cindric nor Allmendinger was a major player in the overtime. y Hemric finished third, followed by Jeb Burton. Cindric, Haley, Brett Moffitt, Ryan Sieg, Jeremy Clements and Josh Berry completed the top 10.

Xfinity stalwarts Harrison Burton and Justin Allgaier were the first two drivers out of the race, Burton with an engine failure and Allgaier after contact with the Ford of Riley Herbst on Lap 98.

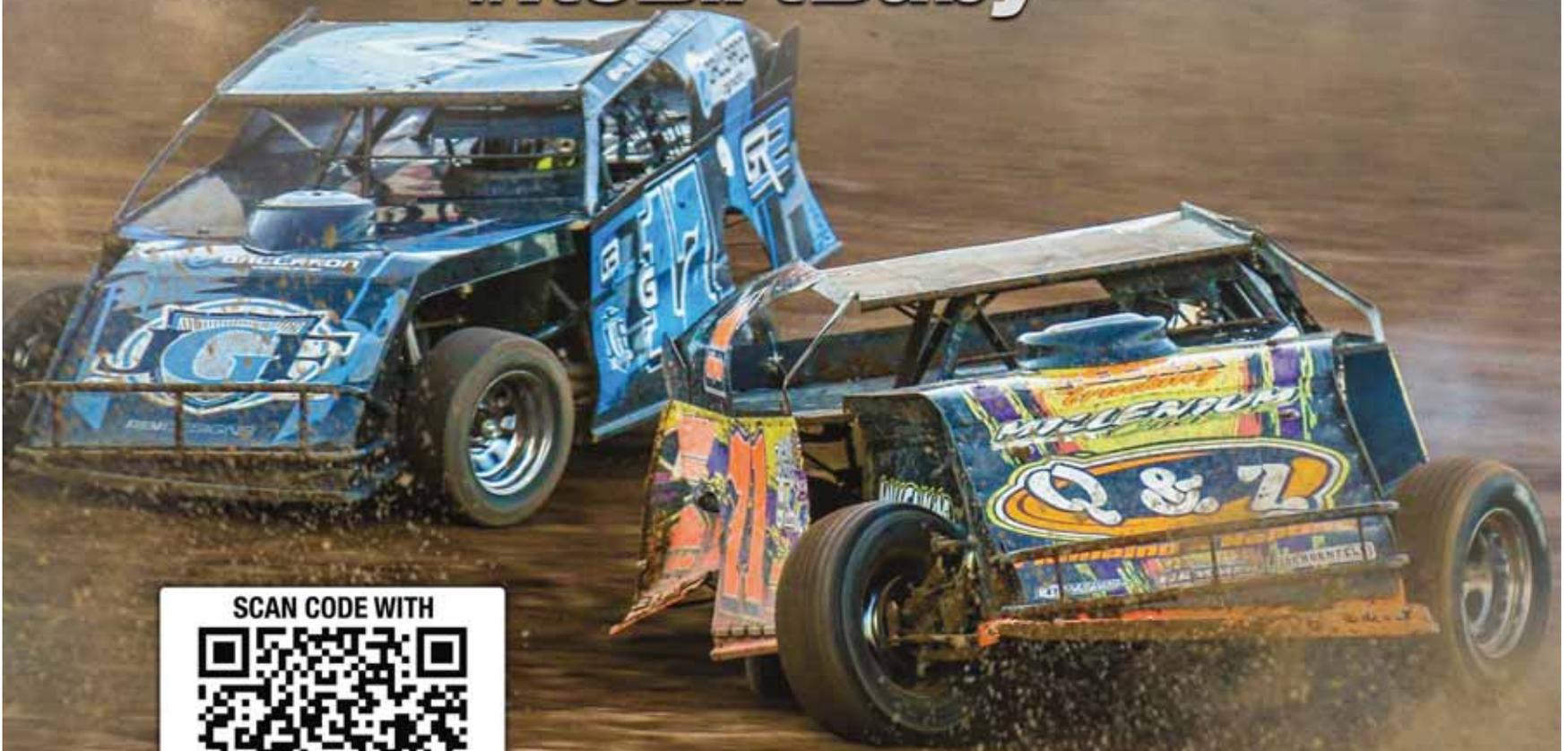


First-time winner Myatt Snider waves to the crowd after taking the checkered flag at Homestead. (NIGEL KINRADE PHOTOGRAPHY photo)



MARCH 15 - 20

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GET TICKETS!

Sammy Smith Cruises to Checkered at 5 Flags For First ARCA Menards Win

PENSACOLA, FL - Based on the way he barely lost the ARCA Menards Series East season-opener to fellow rookie Max Gutiérrez a few weeks ago, Sammy Smith's eventual first win on the platform felt like an inevitability.

It became a reality Saturday night at 5 Flags Speedway in Pensacola, Florida, where the 16-year-old from Johnston, Iowa, won the Pensacola 200 Presented by Inspectra Thermal Solutions in convincing fashion.

Smith's first victory came in just his second series start.

Smith, who earlier Saturday earned the General Tire Pole Award when he put the No. 18 Engine Ice Toyota on the top of the speed chart toward the end of an open qualifying session, finished ahead of second-place Mason Diaz by more than two seconds on the half-mile paved oval.

"I can't thank the team enough," said Smith, who is driving for Joe Gibbs Racing in the ARCA Menards Series East this season. "The first part of the race, we weren't very good. We were alright.

But we fought back and made some good adjustments.

"Can't thank (crew chief) Mark McFarland and the whole Engine Ice team enough for a great Toyota Camry."

Smith's win Saturday at 5 Flags served as redemption for the race that got away from him almost three weeks ago at Florida's New Smyrna Speedway. Smith led a race-high 78 laps in the season-opener before a late penalty shuffled him back. He ended up part of a three-wide race to the win, which went to Gutiérrez.

Smith again led the most laps (145 of 200) in the second race of the 2021 season, this time finishing the job after maintaining the lead on a restart with 14 laps to go.

"It really makes up for New Smyrna," said Smith. "I feel like we should have won New Smyrna, and circumstances happened. But tonight I think is a good redemption, and here we are."

Diaz, who is running full-time in the ARCA Menards Series East for the second consecutive season, earned a new career high with his second-place finish. This after he finished fourth in the 2021 opener at New Smyrna.

"After the last restart there I thought I had a chance (at) him,"



Sammy Smith, driver of the No. 18 Engine Ice Toyota celebrates winning the Pensacola 200 Presented by Inspectra Thermal Solutions for the ARCA Menards Series East in Pensacola, Florida, on Feb. 27, 2021. (Morgan Givens/ARCA Racing photo)

Diaz said of Smith, who pulled away on final restart. "(Restarting is) always better on the bottom here. We got a good restart and were able to hang with him, but sadly going into Turn 3 I went too shallow and just washed up the track a little bit and he got away from me."

Taylor Gray finished third after leading 53 laps Saturday. He spent the last 45 laps of the race recovering from contact with the wall after he and fourth-place finisher Rajah Caruth collided while battling for position.

Caruth's fourth-place finish came in just his second ARCA Menards start driving the No. 6 UTI/UNI Chevrolet for Rev Racing.

Joey Iest, Gray's David Gilliland Racing teammate, rounded out the

top five. Parker Retzlaff, Gutiérrez, Stephanie Moyer, Daniel Dye and Richard Garvie made up the rest of the top 10.

Smith now leads the ARCA Menards Series East championship standings by eight points over Gray. Gutiérrez, Diaz and Iest are third through fifth in points after two of eight races.

The ARCA Menards Series East gets a lengthy break before its next race, the May 8 running of the Nashville 200 at Nashville Fairgrounds Speedway. That race is scheduled to stream live on TrackPass on NBC Sports Gold.

A delayed broadcast of Saturday's Pensacola 200 Presented by Inspectra Thermal Solutions is scheduled to air Thursday, March 4, at 11 p.m. ET on NBCSN.

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PitBoxes.com to Continue Pit Crew Award Programs with CRA for 2021

SALEM, IN - Champion Racing Association Powered by JEGS officials have announced that PitBoxes.com will continue to support CRA teams with the ARCA/CRA Super Series Super Powered by JEGS and the JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour Presented by Chevrolet Performance for the upcoming 2021 race season. For the sixth season in a row PitBoxes.com will continue its Pit Crew Award Programs with both series.

"This is our chance to continue to directly connect with the crew members," said Pitboxes.com Owner Ricky Sanders. "The drivers get a lot of the recognition, and rightfully so, but at Pitboxes.com we relate to the hard-working crew

members who are the driving force behind much of a car's success. We look forward to partnering with CRA again on this award and look forward to recognizing some of the awesome crews out there."

CRA officials will be looking to honor the pit crews that really put forth an extraordinary effort to get a good finish at each series event. The Pitboxes.com Pit Crew of the Race at each event will be awarded with a \$200 Product Certificate from Pitboxes.com. At the end of the season, each series will recognize a Pitboxes.com Pit Crew of the Year, each of those pit crews will receive a \$1,000 Product Certificate from Pitboxes.com, which will be presented at the 2021 CRA Awards Banquet. The Van Alst Motorsports team was the Pitboxes.com Pit Crew of the Year with the ARCA/CRA Super Series last season, while the Cody Cough-

lin Team was the Pitboxes.com Pit Crew of the Year with the JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour.

"This is a fantastic award that Ricky has come up with," remarked Glenn Lockett, Managing Partner with CRA. "As much as this sport focuses on the driver, stock car racing is still a team sport. Without a hard-working pit crew, the driver is just not going to do well in our races. CRA is extremely competitive racing and it takes a good, dedicated pit crew to finish at the top each week or to make the best of a bad situation that has happened!"

With the popularity of the internet, Pitboxes.com was launched in 1999 with a goal to specialize in fabricating a high-quality line of standard and custom pit boxes. Since that time the boxes have gained such popularity that they have become standard equipment for almost any racer from Go Karters to Motorcycles to Upper levels of motorsports and everything in between. The products offered by Pitboxes.com has also changed quite a bit over the years having started with a stick built

steel frame with a store bought toolbox to a much more modern process of CAD drawn, Laser Cut, Computer formed, all aluminum construction, with an in house built drawer system that is built to withstand not only the use by the race teams but also the many miles on the highway that a race team has to do going from race to race.

If you are a pro, amateur or even new to the racing profession Pitboxes.com is very proud to offer you a world class pit box or pit cart! Pitboxes.com manufactures a complete line of standard pit boxes, custom pit boxes, and pit carts to fit your particular needs and requirements. Pitboxes.com is located in Stockbridge GA and their boxes are manufactured right here in the USA. Pitboxes have been shipped all over the world and Pitboxes.com can custom create anything you have in mind for your own pit box. Give Pitboxes.com a call and let them create your dream PITBOX!

More Information is available at www.pitboxes.com. Additional information on all the CRA Series is available at www.cra-racing.com.

2020 and 2021 Motorsports Hall of Fame of America Classes to be Honored in Historic Dual Ceremonies

DAYTONA BEACH, FL - The first dual-celebration in the 33-year history of the Motorsports Hall of Fame of America (MSHFA) brings out an unprecedented gathering of motorsports legends, with both the postponed 2020 class and the newly selected 2021 class set for induction just days apart in a week-long celebration of motorsports in Pontiac, Mich., September 27-29.

The 32nd and 33rd annual MSHFA Induction Celebrations Presented by Firestone will be held in the brand-new Event Center at M1 Concourse in Michigan, an exclusive community of more than 250 secure private garages set along the 1.5-mile Champion Motor Speedway. The 2020 class will be inducted in a ceremony beginning at 6 p.m. EDT on Monday, September 27, while the 2021 class will officially join the MSHFA in a Wednesday, September 29 celebration that begins at 6 p.m. EDT. An epic Heroes of Horsepower

event at The Henry Ford Museum takes place on the day between ceremonies.

"Because of COVID-19, we had to postpone the Class of 2020 induction originally scheduled for March 2020," MSHFA President George Levy said. "So, we're doing an induction 'doubleheader' this year honoring the Classes of 2020 and 2021 at M1 Concourse in Michigan in September."

The MSHFA will return to its normal March induction schedule in Daytona Beach next year with the Class of 2022.

The MSHFA's version of a Dual in Detroit, the two classes mean twice as many members of racing's royalty will be descending on M1 Concourse during American Speed Festival Week. It will be one of the greatest concentrations of motorsports legends in one location in the history of the sport.

The MSHFA Class of 2020 includes NASCAR's first-ever champion Robert "Red" Byron (Historic), flat-track impresario Chris Carr (Motorcycles), early motorcycle racer, promoter and publisher Floyd Clymer (At Large), driver, of-

ficial and safety advocate Wally Dallenbach, Sr. (Open Wheel), Rick Hendrick, one of NASCAR's most successful owners (Stock Cars), Daytona 500 champion Tiny Lund (Historic), Can-Am and Rolex 24 At Daytona champion Jacky Ickx (Sports Cars), quarter-mile racing legend "Ohio George" Montgomery (Drag Racing) and multi-time Baja 1000 and SCORE Champion Ivan "Ironman" Stewart (Off-Road).

The MSHFA Class of 2021 includes one of NASCAR's 50 Greatest Drivers Davey Allison (Stock Cars), three-time land speed record holder John Cobb (Historic), three-time NHRA Top Fuel champion Larry Dixon Jr. (Drag Racing), Indy and NASCAR trailblazer Janet Guthrie (Open Wheel), 2006 MotoGP World Champion "Kentucky Kid" Nicky Hayden (Motorcycles), legendary Indy correspondent Robin Miller (Media), seven consecutive APBA Gold Cup winner Fran Muncey (Powerboats), multi-time USAC and NASCAR champion Ray Nichols (Historic) and world class timer/scorer Judy Stropus (Sports Cars).

Each of the MSHFA's inductees is elected by a straight vote among 200 motorsports experts —

half of them inductees themselves. Regular voters include Mario Andretti, Tom D'Eath, Chip Ganassi, Don Garlits, Hurley Haywood, Parnelli Jones, Scott Parker, Richard Petty, the Unsers, Don Prudhomme and other titans of the sport.

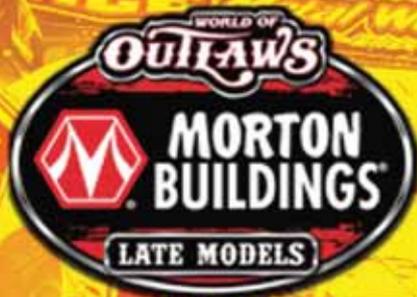
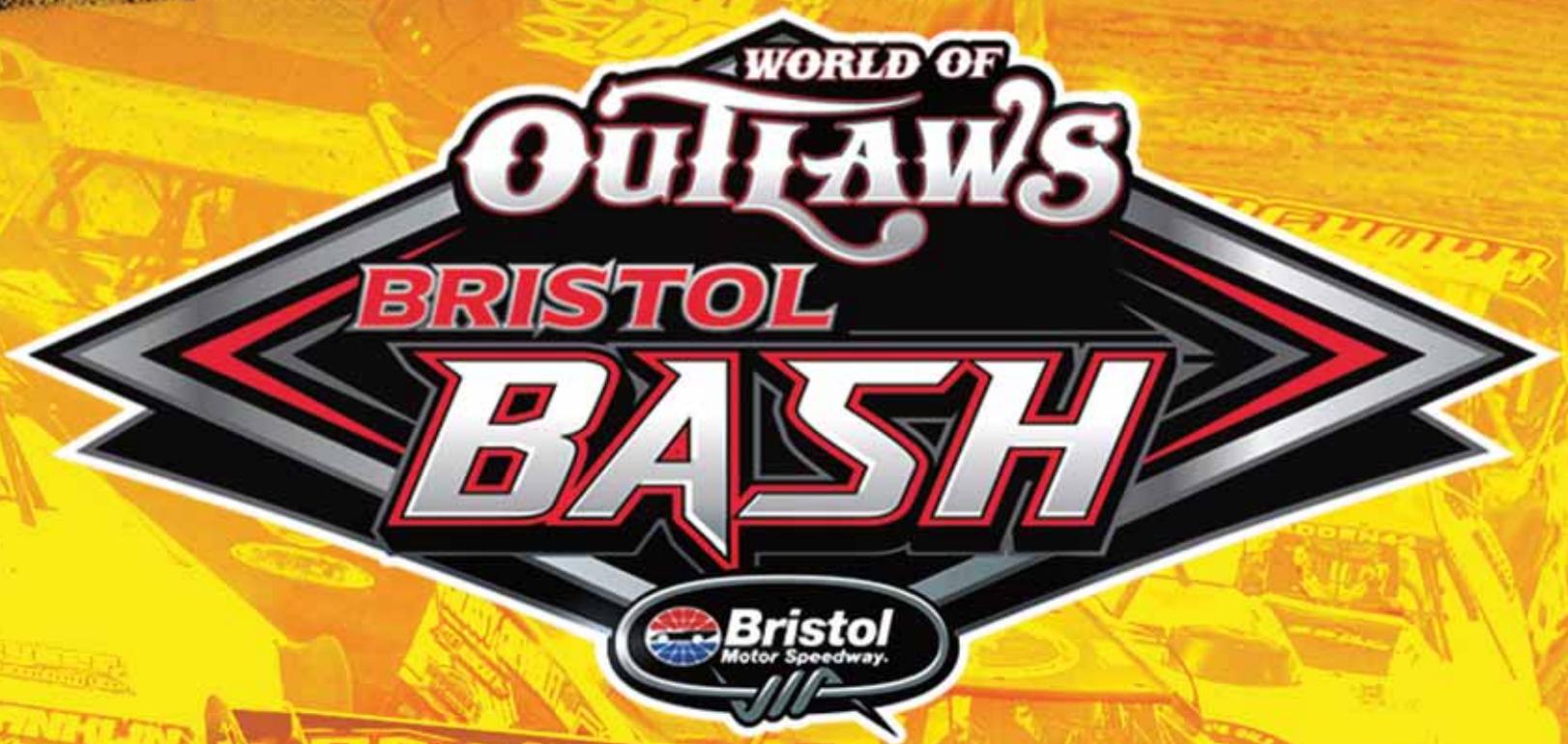
In between the two induction ceremonies on Monday, Sept. 27 (Class of 2020) and Wednesday, Sept. 29 (Class of 2021) will be a combined Heroes of Horsepower event for both classes at The Henry Ford, where in addition to plaque unveilings and a strolling dinner, guests will get an exclusive tour of the acclaimed new exhibit Driven to Win: Racing in America Presented by General Motors.

The week's calendar also includes the annual Heritage Inductee Luncheon on Tuesday.

For more information and to order tickets, visit the MSHFA at www.mshf.com. The Motorsports Hall of Fame of America is on Facebook and Instagram and Twitter.



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APRIL 8-10

GET TICKETS

Shuman & Schatz Compare East Bay Ahead of Outlaws Return

It's been 38 years since the World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series last ran on "The Clay By The Bay."

On March 6, the long-awaited and highly-anticipated return finally happens. The conclusion to a Florida doubleheader established by a revised spring schedule, The Greatest Show on Dirt will roll into Tampa's East Bay Raceway Park on Saturday, March 6 following another go at Barberville's Volusia Speedway Park on Friday, March 5.

In four plus decades of World of Outlaws history, this 38-year period from February 15, 1983 to March 6, 2020 is the single-longest gap between events for any track in Series history.

Over that span, the sport has changed drastically. One thing that has stayed the same, though, is East Bay's uniqueness.

We talked to Ron Shuman – a 24-time World of Outlaws winner and East Bay victor in 1979 – and Donny Schatz – a 10-time World of Outlaws champion and East Bay winner in February – to get their perspective on the Tampa, FL 1/3rd-mile.

"Everybody has heard about East Bay Raceway Park," Schatz said. "They've seen the videos and they've wondered why the Outlaws don't go there when we come to Florida, and now we don't have to answer that question because we're going."

Heard about East Bay they had. Although only three of the current 15 full-time drivers had been born before 1983, almost all of them have raced at the track at some point, be it 360 sprint cars or with the All Stars Circuit of Champions. In fact, East Bay is where Schatz met fellow Outlaw and longtime friend Jason Sides back in the 1990's.

Shuman, of Tempe, AZ, and his gang of original Outlaws were accustomed to East Bay as a mainstay on the calendar each year. From 1979 to 1983, they ran 17 events at the track with multi-day programs each time. While modern day runners get their taste of Florida fun at Volusia, Shuman and

his friends Kinser, Swindell, Wolfgang, and others soaked up the sun in Tampa.

"The biggest difference for us back then was we ran without wings," Shuman noted. "Being in '79, we were still running wings at some tracks and without at others, and East Bay was a non-wing place. We raced at that place a lot back in the day too, I mean four days a time with qualifying and prelims before the main event. Each year, we loaded up and went to Florida in February. I drove for Kalb there, Stanton, the Ofixco Special, Weikert's Livestock, lots of owners at East Bay. We always drew good car counts there too."

The uniqueness of East Bay's location in Tampa is what has helped make it so special.

"It's in this tight little area around that industrial park and the bay is basically right there," Schatz mentioned. "The track has a lot of character, and the surface itself is so unique. You think there's grip here, but there's not; then you come around the next lap and you've got it. It changes literally lap-by-lap being near the ocean. It's a unique shape, unique surface and unique facility with a lot of history and heritage."

"It was definitely funky at times being that close to the water," Shuman agreed.

"I remember some nights, maybe the night I won, it was freezing ass cold, but the next you'd have perfect weather. That stuff really changed the track up. We didn't really do as much changing with the cars back then, so it was just about getting in and figuring it out behind the wheel."

A special place specifically for Shuman, his February 9, 1979 victory at East Bay marked the first of his World of Outlaws career. Driving the Mecom Kalb, Firestone #721, The Flyin' Shu topped Steve Kinser, Johnny Anderson, Lee James and Bob East for the victory. The 2003 National Sprint Car Hall of Fame inductee eventually ended up with 24 Outlaw wins, currently tied with Logan Schuchart for 24th on the all-time wins list.

"That was the year I started driving for [Gary] Stanton on the Outlaw tour, but we weren't ready to leave that early in the year," Shuman recalled. "Mecom Kalb had a new Stanton car and I remember we actually missed the show the first night at Volusia and then won that next Sunday at East Bay. From hero-to-zero."

For Schatz, who was an 18-month old baby when the Outlaws debuted at East Bay in '79, his first Tampa triumph came just last month in All Stars action aboard the Tony Stewart Racing #15.

"I don't know that there's anything specific we can take away," Schatz noted on learning from last month.

"It's 2021. Everyone has phones, computers, and you can watch the races and see what's going on. To me, you can have all those things but it doesn't do you any good until you get on the track and see how your car reacts to the environment. It was a great opportunity to go out and see how the new Ford Performance motor stacked up on the short track. It went well obviously, and now we've had some extra time to work on it and hopefully make it that much better for next weekend."

Schatz will have his opportunity on next Saturday, March 6 to join an elite list of East Bay Outlaw winners which includes Doug Wolfgang (7), Sammy Swindell (3), Danny Smith (2), Rick Ferkel (1), Steve Kinser (1), Johnny Anderson (1), Keith Kauffman (1) and Ron Shuman (1).

A winless night at Volusia could send the Fargo, ND native into the East Bay return with a chance to nail down his historic 300th career World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series victory at the Tampa, FL facility.

Anyone unable to make it to the track can watch all of the action live on DIRTVision with the annual Platinum FAST PASS subscription for \$299/year or the monthly FAST PASS subscription for \$39/month.

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LOWER LAP TIMES

Persistent Rainstorms Force Cancellation of Duck River Raceway Park Late Model Event

LEWISBURG, TN - With saturated grounds at Duck River Raceway Park and more rainstorms projected throughout the week, World of Outlaws Morton Buildings Late Model and track officials have been forced to cancel the

Friday, March 5, event at the raceway.

The Saturday, March 6, Tennessee Tipoff event at Smoky Mountain Speedway is still on as scheduled with \$12,000 to win on the line.

For Duck River Raceway Park ticket information contact the track at 931-685-1009.

If you're unable to make it to the track can watch all of the action live on DIRTVision with the annual Platinum FAST PASS subscription for \$299/year or the monthly FAST PASS subscription for \$39/month.

Cherokee Speedway to Host Doubleheader Weekend with World of Outlaws Late Models

GAFFNEY, SC - The World of Outlaws Morton Buildings Late Model Series will visit Cherokee Speedway for a doubleheader weekend Friday and Saturday, March 26-27.

It'll be the Series' fifth straight

year of visiting the 3/8-mile track, which will mark the Series' first visit to South Carolina this year.

Brandon Overton, who picked up his 14th career World of Outlaws victory at Volusia Speedway Park, became the first repeat winner with the Series at Cherokee last year. He bested three-time defending champion Brandon Sheppard to claim the victory.

A win at Cherokee for Sheppard would be his first at the track and put him on the path to try and secure a couple of historic milestones. He's currently one win away from 70 career World of Outlaws wins, which would put him only seven victories away from tying Josh Richards's all-time win record of 77 career wins. He's also looking to tie Richards for the most championships in Series history this year, too. Richards has four. Sheppard is currently at three.

There will be a hoard of competitive drivers for him to try and contend with, though. Two of them may even be a pair of Rookie of the Year contenders. South Carolina-native Ross Bailes earned his first career World of Outlaws victory at Cherokee in 2019. And Kyle Strickler picked up two wins in the first five races of the season. He's also currently atop the championship points.

Chris Madden, the 28-time World of Outlaws winner, of Gray Court, SC, has yet to pick up a Series win at Cherokee but has 26 victories at the track – most re-

cently with the Drydene Xtreme DIRTcar Series – and finished third against the Outlaws there last year.

The only other two drivers to have picked up a win with the World of Outlaws at Cherokee are 2018 Series champion Mike Marlar – in 2018 – and 2015 Series champion Shane Clanton – in 2017. Clanton has rejoined the tour full-time in 2021 and will be on the hunt for his first Series win since 2019.

With the best Late Model drivers in the world set to gather at Cherokee for the two-day event, The Most Powerful Late Models on the Planet are poised to give fans two more thrilling events in South Carolina.

The doubleheader will also give a good preview for the Friday, Oct. 1, Mike Duvall Memorial at Cherokee Speedway. For tickets to the Cherokee events, go to WorldofOutlaws.com/tix.

If you're unable to make it to the track can watch all of the action live on DIRTVision with the annual Platinum FAST PASS subscription for \$299/year or the monthly FAST PASS subscription for \$39/month.

Ross Bailes Aiming to Carry Xtreme DIRTcar Momentum into World of Outlaws Season

LEWISBURG, TN - Ross Bailes got a needed boost of confidence before continuing his rookie season with the World of Outlaws Morton Buildings Late Model Series next weekend.

While it came with the Drydene Xtreme DIRTcar Series in a different car versus his regular #58 World of Outlaws ride, he outran several drivers he knows he's going to have to try and beat on a regular basis with the World of Out-

laws, such as current Series points leader, and fellow Rookie of the Year contender, Kyle Strickler and 28-time Series winner Chris Madden.

"It's big," Bailes said about getting his second Xtreme DIRTcar win at Lake View Motor Speedway. "There were a lot of heavy hitters there. You've got Madden and Strickler and other guys that are really good. Any time you can stick a win in there, it is a little bit of a confidence booster."

While he currently sits 10th in the championship standings after the first five races of the season with one top-10 finish, Bailes said, overall, he's disappointed with his performance in the season-opening events at Volusia Speedway Park.

In his debut at the half-mile track during the Sunshine Nationals, he finished 26th after having to use a provisional to start the race. The next night, he put himself in contention to win throughout the Feature before hitting the wall while running second in the closing laps and fell to 12th. Then, during the DIRTcar Nationals, he finished seventh, 12th (after coming from 28th) and 15th, respectively.

Running with the Xtreme DIRTcar Series was a good way for him to forget Volusia and build momentum for when the World of Outlaws season continues in Tennessee on Friday, March 5, at Duck River Raceway Park and Saturday, March 6, at Smoky Mountain Speedway.

He'll visit Duck River for the first time this week and while he's made laps around Smoky Mountain before, it will be his first visit to the track with the World of Outlaws.

"Main thing is just go out there and win races," Bailes said.

Attica Spring Nationals Moves to April 2-3, I-70 Motorsports Park Added on July 27

BROWNSBURG, IN - Opening the 2021 All Star Circuit of Champions presented by Mobil 1 points championship season one week earlier than scheduled, Attica Raceway Park's annual Core & Main

Spring Nationals will now be conducted on Friday and Saturday, April 2-3, replacing the previously

set dates of April 9-10. The Core & Main Spring Nationals will feature back-to-back programs awarding \$5,000 and \$6,000, respectively.

If weather should become a factor forcing the cancellation of both events on April 2-3, April 9-10 will be utilized as rain dates.

In addition, the recently revamped I-70 Motorsports Park in Odessa, Missouri, has been added to the 2021 All Star schedule and will host "America's Series" on

Tuesday, July 27, padding what is now a seven-race, nine-day swing through Missouri, Kansas, and Iowa.

Led by Track Manager, Tommy Estes, Jr., I-70 will award a \$7,000 payday during their weekday showcase, joining an already established slate of Midwest stops including Lake Ozark Speedway in Eldon, Mo., on July 23-24, Humboldt Speedway in Humboldt, Kan., on July 25, Missouri State Fair Speedway in Sedalia, Mo., on July 29, and an Iowa doubleheader at 34 Raceway in West Burlington and Knoxville Raceway in Knoxville on July 30-31, respectively.

Those seeking additional information pertaining to Attica Raceway Park's Core & Main Spring

Nationals on April 2-3, such as gate times, ticket prices, and reserved seat information, should visit Attica Raceway Park online at www.atticaracewaypark.com.

Additional news and notes pertaining to the All Star event at I-70 Motorsports Park can be found online at www.i70motorsportspark.com.

For those who can not make the journey to Attica for the annual Spring Nationals, or I-70 Motorsports Park for the midweek visit in July, FloRacing, the official media partner and live broadcast provider of the All Star Circuit of Champions, has you covered. Each and every event on the 2021 All Star Circuit of Champions presented by Mobil 1 schedule will be broadcast live exclusively at www.floracing.com.

Dublin, Georgia and Mount Hope, West Virginia Added to Schedule

The Southern All Stars Dirt Racing Series announces two more racetracks to the 2021 season. Patriot Park Raceway in Dublin Georgia and Beckley Motor Park in Mount Hope, West Virginia has come on board for 3 great nights of racing.

April 3rd the series heads to Dublin, GA to Patriot Park Raceway for the Ice Breaker 50. The race pays \$4,000.00 to win. This will be the first time the series has visited the 3/8th mile oval since 1992.

Friday, September 17th the All Stars will battle for 30 laps, \$3,000.00 to win at the high banked track. Then on Saturday night we return for a 60 lap \$10,000.00 to win feature. The program will include heat races for the 24 starting positions.

"This is the first time the Southern All Stars in its 37 years of racing to visit the great state of West Virginia and we are super excited to be there to give the race fans 2 great nights of racing" said series announcer Dewayne Keith. "There

are some talented drivers that race in that area and with the drivers planning on running the 2021 schedule, the fans will see some great racing."

Southern All Stars Return to Columbus Speedway

The Southern All Stars Dirt Late Model Series is going back to a track that has seen many great races in the past.

On June 11th, the All Stars roll into the Columbus Speedway for the Bullring Brawl paying \$4,000.00 to win and \$400.00 to start.

"The series is looking forward to racing at the Bullring as part of a double header weekend at 2 track 2 hours apart" says series official Ray Ray Tennyson.

"I remember seeing the All Stars at the speedway in 2008 and watching the drivers arcing and sparking off the turn 2 guardrail was a sight. When I spoke to track promoter Doug Layton about coming back to the track and a date was found, it was a win – win for all."

The Brawl at the Bullring will

give drivers the chance to run 2 nights of racing at Columbus on Friday night and then a 2 hour drive over to Chris Cates ECM Speedway in Arkadelphia, AL. on Saturday night for another \$4,000.00 to win 40 lapper.

Follow the Southern All Star Dirt Racing Series @:www.sasdir.com, www.facebook/southernallstardirttracingseries.com, and twitter @sasdir.

2021 Hall of Fame Class Announced

The Southern All Stars Dirt Racing Series proudly announces it's 2021 inductees for the Hall of Fame to be enshrined as part of the program of the Governors Cup on August 14. The inductees include drivers, promoters, and contributors from both the dirt and asphalt series.

On the dirt side:

- Rex Richey (Living) from Ringgold, GA. Rex won the championship in 1989 and then in 2001 with 15 wins.

- Randy Weaver (Living) from Crossville, TN. Randy won the championship in 2009, 2010 and 2012 with 21 wins.

- Stan Massey (Deceased) from Mableton, GA. Stan ran the circuit in the 80's with 2 wins.

- Monty Morrow (Promoter) from Cleveland, TN Monty was the successor to Joe Lee Johnson at Cleveland Speedway and also was

the promoter at I-75 Raceway in Niota, TN and North Georgia Speedway in Chatsworth, GA.

- Sam Bates (Promoter) Sam built North Alabama Speedway and hosted the first Southern All Star Dirt Race.

- Jimmy "Pup" Thomas (Contributor) Knoxville, TN. Pup has been the Hoosier tire rep for 30+ years.

On the asphalt side:

- Mike Oliver (Living) from Guntersville, AL. Mike was the first 2-time champion winning it in 1992 and 93 with 5 wins

- Dan Beddingfield (Living) from Owens Cross Roads, AL. Dan was the first driver to win the 1994 championship in his rookie year and 3 wins in his career.

- Tony Walls (Deceased) Tony won the 1998 Championship and had over 40 wins with the series.

- James "Cotton" Varner (Official) "Cotton was chief tech steward for the series from 1991 to 1996.

- Charlie Edwards (Promoter) from Senoia, GA. Charlie hosted both series at Senoia Raceway while he was the owner.

- Doug Sopha (Contributor) from Sparta, TN. Doug started Hoosier South in the 70's and was the tire distributor for both series from the beginning.

- Wendell (Shorty) Bearden (Contributor) from Eastman, GA. Shorty owned Bearden Oil and was the Sunoco Race Fuels distributor for both series from the beginning.

2022 Chili Bowl Ticket Orders Begin March 3, 2021

TULSA, OK - That time of year has almost arrived. Starting Wednesday, March 3, 2021, tickets for the 2022 Lucas Oil Chili Bowl Nationals presented by General Tire will go on sale. As always, renewals and new orders will begin at the same time with the deadline to submit

an order set for Wednesday, May 12, 2021.

Please note, that all ticket holders must renew. Deferment of your 2021 tickets was not an automatic renewal. If you do not renew before the deadline, you will lose your seats.

The 36th edition of the Lucas Oil Chili Bowl Nationals presented by General Tire takes place January 10-15, 2022. Reserved Seats will continue to be sold in six, five, and four-day packages will prices un-

changed from the previous event. Four-day tickets are \$227, five-day tickets are \$282, and tickets for the full event at \$337, plus tax (8.517%) and shipping, which is \$7 for orders up to 15 tickets and \$10 from 16 ticket orders and up.

Domestic orders, not held in Will Call, will be sent via USPS Certified Mail to ensure each order sent will require a signature. All international orders will be kept in Will Call.

The offices of the Chili Bowl Nationals are open Monday-Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. (CT). Again, all new orders, as well as renewals, begin at the same time.

Current ticket holders will be sent a renewal form. If ordering with the renewal form, those can be returned to 1140 S. 83rd East Ave. Tulsa, OK 74112 or by fax to (918) 836-5517. Tickets can be purchased with Visa, MasterCard, Cash, Check, or Money Order. Orders will not be taken via email or social media.

All orders are processed by hand. All renewals are processed first, then changes to those accounts, then new orders will be done in the order they were received until all tickets are sold. If a Reserved Seat ticket cannot be acquired, Pit Passes will be on sale at the event and never sell out. The Pit Pass doubles as a General Admission pass and allows fans ac-

cess to the back straightaway on a first-come, first-served basis. Pit Passes are not sold in advance.

Times and other event information will be published as the event draws closer.

For continued updates on the Lucas Oil Chili Bowl Nationals presented by General Tire, fans can follow along on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram with @CBNationals.

Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series California Swing Called Off

TULSA, OK - With tracks starting to race along the west coast, things looked promising for the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network to kick off the 2021 season in California,

but continuing concerns with COVID-19 have prompted series

officials to call off events at The Dirt Track and Kern County Raceway Park, Stone Chevrolet, Buick GMC Thunderbowl Raceway, and Keller Auto Speedway.

Track and Series officials are looking at possibly rescheduling the events if area restrictions allow. If there are any makeup dates, they will be posted to www.ascsracing.com.

For more information log onto www.ascsracing.com.

#ItsDirtBaby



APRIL 22-24

GET TICKETS

Bristol Motor Speedway

BRISTOL, TN - The Bristol Chapter of Speedway Children's Charities has been selected as the Jersey Mike's Month of Giving recipient for March 2021, it was announced recently. It is the ninth consecutive year that Bristol Motor Speedway's chapter of the children's charity organization has been selected as the recipient of the Jersey Mike's Month of Giving.

As part of the month-long program, patrons who visit any of the eight Jersey Mike's locations in the Tri-Cities for lunch or dinner can make a donation of \$1, \$2 or \$5 that will benefit Speedway Children's Charities. On Wednesday, March 31, during Jersey Mike's Day of Giving, all sales from that day at each Tri-Cities store will go directly to Speedway Children's Charities.

During the past eight years, Jersey Mike's Month of Giving has donated nearly \$100,000 to SCC and the program has become a critical component in the Bristol chapter's effort of providing help to children in need in Southwest Virginia and Northeast Tennessee.

"We are so blessed to once again be included in Jersey Mike's Month of Giving," said Claudia Byrd, executive director of the Bristol Chapter of Speedway Children's Charities. "Partnerships like this one are essential to helping our chapter raise the funds necessary to continue to assist the agencies and children in our region."

For more information on participating in Jersey Mike's Month of Giving or to learn more about Speedway Children's Charities, visit www.Bristol.SpeedwayCharities.org.

Charlotte Motor Speedway

CONCORD, NC - North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper and state health officials announced a plan Wednesday to allow outdoor sports venues, including Charlotte Motor Speedway, to host events with fans up to 30 percent of their capacity, beginning Feb. 26.

The announcement paves the way for a limited number of fans to be part of the action when NASCAR's best return to America's Home for Racing for the first-ever tripleheader weekend – featuring

the North Carolina Education Lottery 200, Alsco Uniforms 300 and historic 62nd running of the Coca-Cola 600 – at Charlotte Motor Speedway May 28-30.

"The energy and excitement of our fans is what fuels our sport and everything we do here at America's Home for Racing," said Charlotte Motor Speedway Executive Vice President and General Manager Greg Walter. "We've been in close contact throughout the pandemic with the governor's office about how we can safely host race fans, and I cannot overstate how excited we are with today's news. From hosting one of NASCAR's crown jewel events to honoring the men and women of our Armed Forces, the Coca-Cola 600 weekend is special for so many reasons. While the grandstands won't be full, being able to share this historic event with thousands of fans in person is a big step in the right direction. We hope with continued improvement in pandemic trends by May that we may be able to host even more fans."

Details are still being determined regarding camping availability.

SAFETY PROTOCOLS: COVID-safe protocols similar to those successfully implemented during the Bank of America ROVAL™ 400 weekend last fall, including mask requirements, cashless transactions and social distancing are expected to remain in place when fans return in May. Protocols may be modified or adjusted subject to current state and local guidelines.

TICKETS: Tickets are still available for the 62nd running of the Coca-Cola 600, Saturday's Alsco Uniforms 300 showdown and Friday's North Carolina Education Lottery 200 Camping World Truck Series donnybrook. Weekend packages start at just \$99 for adults. Kids 13 and under get in free on Friday and Saturday nights and for only \$10 on Sunday. Tickets are and available online at www.charlottemotorspeedway.com or by calling 800-455-FANS (3267).

MORE INFO: Fans who are unable to attend the Coca-Cola 600 can keep up with all the action on worldwide broadcasts by FOX, PRN and Sirius XM NASCAR radio.

FOLLOW US: Keep track of all of Charlotte Motor Speedway's events by following on Twitter and Instagram or become a Facebook fan. Keep up with all the latest news and information with the Charlotte Motor Speedway mobile app.

Texas Motor Speedway

PLEASANTON, CA - Goodguys Rod & Custom Association, the organizer of America's premier hot rod and custom car events, has announced its inaugural event to be held in partnership with the NASCAR All-Star Race Weekend, June 4-6, 2021, at Texas Motor Speedway in Fort Worth, Texas. The Goodguys 1st Meguiar's All Star Get-Together will welcome all American made and/or powered cars and trucks, including import cars and trucks using domestic powerplants.

"We are excited to partner with Texas Motor Speedway and NASCAR to offer even more for fans to enjoy in the lead-up to All-Star Race Weekend," said Goodguys C.O.O. Andrew Ebel. "NASCAR fans love American cars, and American car enthusiasts love NASCAR, so this collaboration was a natural fit. Families will also have plenty to enjoy at the event, so it will be a great introduction to the hobby for many in the Dallas / Fort Worth region."

The weekend will feature thousands of cars on display, Goodguys CPP AutoCross Series racing each day and awards in dozens of categories. Like other Goodguys events, vendors will be on-site selling food and other goods. The environment is family-friendly and Goodguys kindly requests that all attendees, staff and vendors wear face coverings and maintain 6 feet of physical distancing whenever possible.

"The Goodguys All-Star Get-Together is a natural fit to kick off the countdown leading into the NASCAR All-Star Race the next weekend," said Texas Motor Speedway President and General Manager Eddie Gossage. "A Goodguys show is an all-star event for American hot rods and classics. We know Goodguys draws the same folks demographically, so it's likely many will choose to come out and camp on site from the Goodguys event all the way into the NASCAR All-Star weekend."

Enthusiasts who have previously attended Goodguys events in the region will notice more late-model American cars in attendance than usual. As a "Get Together" event, Goodguys welcomes all model years as long as they are American built or use an American-made powerplant. To enter a vehicle for display, visit this link www.goodguys.com/asgt.

For more information on Goodguys or the Inaugural All-Star Get Together, visit the Goodguys website at Good-Guys.com.

Founded in 1983, Goodguys Rod & Custom Association produces the finest automotive events and publishes credible and entertaining media content that celebrates the passion for the great American car culture, bringing together Cool Cars, Cool People and Good Times! With over 70,000 active members worldwide, Goodguys Rod & Custom Association is the world's largest hot-rodding association. Their events feature thousands of hot rods and customs, tricked-out trucks, muscle cars, and classics sprawled throughout venues such as fairgrounds, super speedways, and large outdoor stadiums.

TICKETS: Tickets for Texas Motor Speedway's 2021 major event season, including the June 13 NASCAR All-Star Race, on sale now at <https://www.texasmotorspeedway.com/nascar-indycartickets/>.

MORE INFO: Keep track of all of Texas Motor Speedway's events by finding us and following on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Keep up with all the latest news and information on the speedway website and TMS mobile app.

Circuit of The Americas

CONCORD, NC - Continuing to build upon one of the most anticipated and action-packed weeks of the 2021 NASCAR schedule, Speedway Motorsports announced EchoPark Automotive, Pit Boss® Grills and FEVO as the official entitlement partners for NASCAR's inaugural May 21-23 race events at Circuit of The Americas in Austin, Texas.

"The first-ever NASCAR at COTA race week is one of the most anticipated events on the revolutionary 2021 NASCAR schedule," said Speedway Motorsports President and CEO Marcus Smith. "We are proud to announce new partnerships with EchoPark Automotive, Pit Boss® Grills and FEVO. These innovative, dynamic companies join us as entitlement partners to introduce NASCAR fans around the world to Circuit of The Americas."

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"From fans to drivers to business partners, we've seen a surge of excitement around COTA since the race week was first announced last fall," added Smith. "EchoPark, Pit Boss® and FEVO are best-in-class brands that will help us create an experience like no other when stock car racing stampedes to Austin in May."

• EchoPark Fuels Excitement with Cup Series Race Sponsorship:

Headlining the can't-miss weekend, EchoPark Automotive will be the title sponsor for the first-ever NASCAR Cup Series (NCS) race contested on the world-renowned road course. The EchoPark Texas Grand Prix will be the grand finale for a weekend of white-knuckled, edge-of-your-seat racing and provide the fast-growing automotive retailer a national sports marketing platform.

EchoPark Automotive specializes in pre-owned vehicle sales providing below-market pricing, high quality vehicles and an unmatched guest experience. EchoPark now operates 19 locations across 10 states, including six retail centers in Texas.

Through the partnership, EchoPark receives naming rights to the inaugural event, as well as entitlement for the NASCAR on FOX FS1 broadcast. The pre-owned vehicle retailer will also receive signature signage at the circuit, VIP dignitary roles and premium hospitality to entertain select customers and business partners. EchoPark will also execute a national in-store campaign to promote NASCAR's first trip to Austin, Texas.

"Bringing NASCAR to Circuit of The Americas is a ground-breaking move by Speedway Motorsports," said Sonic Automotive and EchoPark Automotive President Jeff Dyke. "Like our high-speed growth and revolutionary approach to pre-owned vehicle sales through EchoPark, this race will be history-in-the-making and we are proud to put our name on it."

"Just like the committed fanbase of NASCAR racing, EchoPark is building a strong foundation of loyal guests across the United States, many of whom return for a second or third vehicle," added Dyke.

"The EchoPark Texas Grand

Prix will put a national spotlight on EchoPark and the race. It will be a sports experience like no other, similar to the unparalleled guest experience at our retail stores and at EchoPark.com."

• Pit Boss® Grills Named Entitlement Sponsor for Xfinity Series Showdown:

Pit Boss® Grills has secured entitlement rights to the Pit Boss 250 scheduled for Saturday, May 22. The NASCAR Xfinity Series (NXS) showdown will feature NASCAR's rising stars battling for the first time on the grueling 3.41-mile long, 20-turn circuit. As the fastest-growing brand in the grilling industry, Pit Boss® Grills offers the best value per square inch in the pellet grill market with a distinctly customer-driven approach, like the over-the-top value fans will receive on a full-throttle Saturday at COTA highlighted by the Pit Boss 250.

The Dansons, Inc. subsidiary will also receive premium suite-level hospitality for entertaining guests and signature display and promotional opportunities on property throughout the race weekend.

Through the agreement, Pit Boss® Grills also becomes the official grill of Speedway Motorsports (SM) with exclusive promotional rights plus display opportunities at all SM sports entertainment venues.

"Pit Boss® is blessed to partner with Speedway Motorsports and Circuit of The Americas for the Pit Boss 250 this May," said Dansons President Jeff Thiessen. "Race fans love barbecue and wood pellet grilling. As the official grill of NASCAR and now Speedway Motorsports, we are proud to bring these audiences together. Not only is Austin one of the barbecue capitals of the world, but it is also a community where Pit Boss® already has a distinct and established relationship. Also, like Dansons, both NASCAR and Speedway Motorsports are proud family-owned businesses, making this partnership a natural fit."

"Speedway Motorsports owns and operates tracks in key markets for our company, including Georgia, North Carolina, Texas and Tennessee, as well as, in emerging regions for our brand in California and Nevada," Thiessen added. "Our company is truly blessed to be aligned with a family-owned business of this caliber and we believe this partnership is a win-win for both parties. We cannot wait to see what 2021 has in store for our companies."

• FEVO to Kick Off the Weekend

with FEVO Friday:

Speedway Motorsports also announced that the weekend like no other will kick off with FEVO Friday. Fans will be treated to a full day of on-track action as drivers in the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series (NCWTS) and NASCAR Xfinity Series turn their first-ever laps on the winding COTA course. In addition, FEVO Friday will also feature two practice sessions for the IMSA-sanctioned Lamborghini Super Trofeo North America Series. FEVO Friday is part of a larger partnership that establishes FEVO as the exclusive group ticketing platform for Speedway Motorsports across its nationwide group of speedways.

"FEVO is thrilled to welcome Speedway Motorsports to our community and we're looking forward to bringing in countless groups of fans to attend events for years to come," said Ari Daie, President and CEO for FEVO. "Not only has Speedway Motorsports proven to consistently set the standard when it comes to owning and operating sports entertainment venues, but their vision for the future of motorsports is admirable and we're happy to be an integral part of it."

The May 21 FEVO Friday schedule of premier NASCAR and IMSA Series practice sessions is a prelude to the jam-packed, May 22 Saturday schedule consisting of NCS practice, plus NXS qualifying and the Pit Boss 250 NXS race, as well as NCWTS and Lamborghini Super Trofeo Series qualifying and races. Sunday, May 23, will be the culmination of the weekend featuring NCS qualifying, a second Lamborghini race and the first NCS race, the EchoPark Texas Grand Prix, in COTA's illustrious history. Announcements regarding on-track timing for the complete weekend schedule will be made at a later date.

TICKETS: Single-day general admission tickets start at just \$25 for FEVO Friday, \$30 on Saturday and \$70 on Sunday. Three-day packages for adults start at only \$99. Kids 12 and under get in free on Friday and Saturday and for just \$10 on Sunday. Fans can purchase tickets online at NASCARatCOTA.com or by calling the ticket office at (833) 450-2864.

MORE INFO: Fans can connect with NASCAR at COTA by following on Twitter and Instagram or becoming a Facebook fan.

World Wide Technology Raceway

World Wide Technology Race-

way today announced the creation of a Rocket League esports tournament that will begin on Sunday, March 7. Rocket League is one of the most popular competitive sports games, engaging 100,000 daily players on PC and hundreds of thousands of players on Xbox and PlayStation, respectively.

The tournaments will be created by Raceway Gives in partnership with Maryville University's Rawlings Sport Business Management students. Raceway Gives is WWTR's non-profit, created to support youth motorsports and STEM initiatives in the St. Louis region. Students in the RSBM are assisting WWTR and Raceway Gives in the development and implementation of the tournaments. The Rocket League tournament will be one of several WWTR and Raceway Gives' E-League programs.

"Rocket League has been one of the most popular platforms in gaming and the excitement level for both participants and fans is tremendous," said WWTR Executive Vice President and General Manager Chris Blair. "We are looking at unique ways to draw young fans into the world of traditional racing and feel that Rocket League is one game that can bridge that gap. We are excited to be involved with UGC based on their past success in major esports productions. The quality of their competitions is second to none and we believe that this partnership will introduce the World Wide Technology Raceway brand to hundreds of thousands of participants around the globe."

The tournament will feature four championship qualifying events: one each month in March, April, June and July. The monthly events will feature 32-team brackets, organized into two divisions based on skill level. Winners from each monthly tournament will advance to the championship playoff, held during the Bommarito Automotive Group 500 Speed Week in August.

"We are happy our Rawlings Sport Business Management students have had opportunities to work with World Wide Technology Raceway for several years," said Jason Williams, Assistant Dean, Director and Associate Professor of the RSBM program at the John E. Simon School of Business at Maryville. "Our students have learned a great deal working with WWTR to bring this esports opportunity to their fans."

The WWTR-Raceway Gives Rocket League will consist of esports teams of various experience
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levels. Each team will have three players (plus substitutions) and will play three-versus-three in a best-of-five competition. Finals will be best of seven.

The target market will be teams in Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, and Kentucky.

In each division, teams earn points based on their performance in each tournament.

Teams may earn a maximum of 15 points per tournament and points may be earned in each tournament. The cumulative points will determine championship participants.

Teams will be competing to win the WWTR-Raceway Gives Trophy, which will be presented to the champions at the NTT INDYCAR SERIES Bommarito Automotive Group 500 on August 21. Each registered player also will receive two tickets to the INDYCAR race. Championship games will be streamed on UGC Twitch (<https://www.twitch.tv/ugc>), along with select qualifying games.

Registration is now open. Teams may register at <https://www.ugcesports.gg/community/wwtr-eleague/tournaments> for the tournament. Registration opens February 22 for the first tournament, which begins March 7.

For additional information on World Wide Technology Raceway, please call (618) 215-8888 or visit www.WWTRaceway.com. Follow WWTR on Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat and Instagram.

Bristol Motor Speedway

BRISTOL, TN - Bristol Motor Speedway officials announced today that Bush's Beans Qualifying heat races will be conducted on Saturday for both the NASCAR Cup Series and the Camping World Truck Series and a Bush's Beans Practice Day has been added for Friday following NASCAR's release of its official weekend schedule for the upcoming Food City Dirt Race weekend, March 26-28.

On Saturday, March 27, both series will hit the dirt during Bush's Beans Qualifying.

Four 15-lap heat races in both the NASCAR Cup Series and Camping World Truck Series will be conducted to determine the starting lineups for each main race. Bush's

Beans Qualifying heat races for the Food City Dirt Race in the Cup Series will be held at 6, 6:15, 6:30 and 6:45 p.m.

The four Bush's Beans Qualifying heat races for the Pinty's Truck Race on Dirt will be held at 4:30, 4:45, 5 and 5:15 p.m. The Bush's Beans Qualifying heat races on Saturday will precede the Pinty's Truck Race on Dirt, which will take the green flag at 8 p.m. ET (FS1, MRN Radio, Sirius XM NASCAR Radio).

Bush's Beans Practice Day will take place Friday, March 26, and will feature two scheduled practice sessions for both the NASCAR Cup Series and the Camping World Truck Series. As part of Bush's Beans Practice Day, the hour-long Cup Series practices will be held at 4:05 p.m. and 6:35 p.m. Two hour-long practices also will be held for the Camping World Truck Series, at 3:05 p.m. and 5:35 p.m. A limited number of socially-distanced grandstand seats along the BMS front-stretch will be allotted for spectators to purchase for Friday's Bush's Beans Practice Day at \$15 each.

Saturday's Bush's Beans Qualifying heat races in the Cup Series will set the field for Sunday's historic Food City Dirt Race, which takes the green flag at 3:30 p.m. ET (FOX, PRN Radio, Sirius XM NASCAR Radio). The Food City Dirt Race is the first dirt race for the Cup Series in the sport's modern era. The last time the Cup Series raced on a dirt surface was in Sept. 1970 at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds, won by Richard Petty.

Bush Brothers & Company, an East Tennessee based business, has been a BMS partner since 2015 and recently extended its multi-year agreement.

"We are thrilled to have Bush's Beans as the entitlement sponsor for these important events that will set the racing lineups for the Food City Dirt Race and the Pinty's Truck Race on Dirt," said Jerry Caldwell, executive vice president and general manager, Bristol Motor Speedway.

"Bush's Beans Practice Day on Friday will allow the drivers in both the Cup Series and the Camping World Truck Series to sling some dirt and break in their machines on the dirt-covered high banks. On Saturday, fans will be treated to some intense 15-lap heat races in both series during Bush's Beans Qualifying, which will set the starting grids for the Food City Dirt Race and the Pinty's Truck Race on Dirt. We will make a limited

number of grandstand seats along the front-stretch available for Friday's Bush's Beans Practice Day, and remember there's still a few tickets left for Saturday, but they're going fast."

Drew Everett, chairman of the board for Bush Brothers & Company added, "Bush's Beans is excited to be a part of NASCAR's dirt-track racing history while deepening its relationships with motorsports fans and the local community. Bristol is one of the greatest venues in sports and entertainment and the Food City Dirt Race weekend will be a memorable event for years to come."

To make the event as safe as possible for all attendees, BMS is instituting procedures to reduce contact and crowd density as guests and competitors purchase tickets, enter the grounds, enjoy the event and depart the facility.

Face coverings will be a required accessory in high-traffic areas inside and outside the stadium for all guests who attend. The "Mask Up" campaign is part of an important initiative by Bristol Motor Speedway that strongly encourages the public to wear face coverings, not only when they are visiting the Speedway, but also when they are out in the surrounding communities as well, and to follow all of the necessary protocols and guidelines to do their part to help reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Founded in 1961, Bristol Motor Speedway is celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2021 and will reflect on the great moments that have made the multi-use sports and entertainment destination one of the very best for creating wow moments and cherished memories for fans. Home to epic NASCAR races and other major motorsports events, as well as NFL and college football games, a wide variety of music concerts and other captivating events, Bristol Motor Speedway has shined in the spotlight on many occasions throughout the past six decades. The latest venture to host a return to NASCAR's roots of dirt racing will certainly add to that legacy.

For ticket information, please visit www.bristolmotorspeedway.com or call the BMS Ticket Sales Center at (866) 415-4158.

Atlanta Motor Speedway

HAMPTON, GA - Atlanta Motor Speedway's Thunder Ring welcomed back racers from Georgia and across the country for double the racing action Saturday.

With the first round of the Furi-

ous Five series postponed in January, drivers hit the ¼-mile track for two rounds of racing in what proved to be a very competitive afternoon of racing.

Across the eight racing divisions there were 14 different feature winners Saturday, with just two drivers sweeping the features in their division: Kade Brown of Fulsher, Texas, in Semi-Pro and Beckham Malone, of Rock Hill, S.C., in Bandits.

One of the most impressive victories of the day came in the first Outlaws feature. As Clay Hocutt and Carson Brown battled at the front of the pack, Covington, Ga.'s Garrett Erwin surged from his last-place starting position all the way into contention in the waning laps. Erwin and Hocutt swapped the top spot three times in the final five laps, with Erwin ultimately taking the lead for good with 3 laps to go. Erwin would come just short of completing a sweep in the second feature, finishing 2nd to Brown.

World Wide Technology Raceway

World Wide Technology Raceway, the home of NASCAR, INDYCAR and NHRA racing in the St. Louis-Metro East region, will host two job fairs in March in preparation for the 2021 events season. Many positions in a number of departments are available. Positions also are available at the Gateway Kartplex.

- The first will be held on Wednesday, March 3, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

- The second job fair will take place on Saturday, March 6, from 9 a.m. to noon.

- The job fairs will be held in the infield media center inside the oval track.

- The WWTR Event Operations and Ticket Sales departments also need college students for summer internships.

- Prospective candidates should bring a resume and identification. Please wear a mask and bring a completed application or your own pen to complete an application in person.

- WWTR is located at 700 Raceway Boulevard in Madison, Illinois, just five minutes from downtown St. Louis. For more information, please visit: www.wwtraceway.com/careers.

For additional information on World Wide Technology Raceway, please call (618) 215-8888 or visit www.WWTRaceway.com. Follow WWTR on Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat and Instagram.

Clinton County Speedway

MILL HILL, PA - Two Speedways in Central PA are joining forces to provide the biggest day of RaceSaver Sprint Car racing in the state of Pennsylvania. The Clinton County Speedway and the Bloomsburg Fairground Raceway have a lot in common and promoters at both facilities are looking to create an epic day of racing

on Saturday, October 2, 2021 and to attract RaceSaver Sprint Cars from multiple regions and states.

Both speedways are owned and operated by their fair associations and both are similarly sized as 3/8th mile ovals. Interstate 80 joins the two speedways creating an easy one hour tow for race teams looking to pull off the double header.

The day will begin at the newly constructed Bloomsburg Fairgrounds Raceway. The race will consist of the ARDC Midgets and the RaceSaver Sprint Cars. The race is nostalgic as it brings back the Saturday afternoon event during the annual Bloomsburg Fair. Gates will open at 8AM with racing beginning at 11AM. The sprint cars will compete in a 25 lap feature paying \$500 to win and \$250 to start. The event is sanctioned by the PA Sprint Car Series.

The feature race at Bloomsburg will be the first on the schedule of events allowing teams plenty of time to travel the 58 miles to the Clinton County Fairgrounds and Speedway.

Clinton County Speedway will host the 2nd annual Nittany 40 for the RaceSaver Sprint Cars. The event will feature time-trials, qualification races and a 40 lap feature event paying \$800 to win and \$400 to start. The Laurel Highlands Sprint Series, the PA Sprint Car Series, and Mid-Atlantic Sprint Series are co-sanctioning the event. Non-Qualifiers will also compete in a complete feature if more than 50 cars are in attendance. In the addition to the sprints, the Pro Stocks will compete in the annual C.W. Smith Memorial with the 270 Micro Sprints, 600 Micro Sprints and the 4-Cylinders. Hot laps will begin at 5PM and time-trials will start at 5:30PM.

"We are excited to offer the RaceSaver Sprint Cars this oppor-

tunity and be able to work closely with the Clinton County Speedway," says Brian Wawroski of the Bloomsburg Fairgrounds Raceway. "This will be the second appearance of the PA Sprint Car Series at our facility in 2021."

The Clinton County Speedway hosts the RaceSaver Sprint as one of its premier events. "We have had a number of our regular drivers express interest in pulling off the double-header," adds Clinton County Speedway promoter, Jason McCahan. "We are hopeful that working with Bloomsburg and the close proximity of the two speedways, that both speedways will be able to attract drivers from neighboring states. This may be the single largest day of racing for the RaceSaver Sprints cars on the East Coast."

The Bloomsburg Fairgrounds Raceway is located at the Bloomsburg Fairgrounds, 620 West Third Street, Bloomsburg, PA. More information about the Raceway can be obtained at www.bloomsburgfair.com or racing@bloomsburgfair.com

The Clinton County Speedway is located at the Clinton County Fairgrounds, 98 Racetrack Road, Mill Hill, PA. More information about the speedway can be obtained at www.clintoncountyspeedway.com

Camping is available at both facilities.

Florence Motor Speedway

TIMMONSVILLE, SC - Longs, SC driver Matt Cox prevailed in a race-long battle with Ryan Millington to win the NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Series Late Model Stocks feature Saturday af-

ternoon at Florence Motor Speedway.

Cox sped to his second pole position of the season with a speed of 81.232 miles per hour to lead the 18-car field to the green flag. Cox got the advantage on the start over outside pole sitter, Zack Miracle, but the car on the move was Millington as he made his way to the front from the sixth starting position. The only caution of the race waved on lap 25 when David Roberts appeared to have an engine problem and stalled on the track in turn four.

On the restart, Cox and Millington traded several door slams before Millington was able to take the lead. But, just as it had earlier this month, Millington's machine began to struggle late in the race, allowing Cox to make several attempts to take the lead. Cox made an aggressive move to take the lead entering turn one with 12 laps to go and was able to bypass Millington for the top spot. Cox led the rest of the way for the win over Ryan Glenski, Millington, Janson Marchbanks, and Jamie Weatherford. Rounding out the top 10 were Austin Somero, Averitt Lucas, Chris Throckmorton, Casey Kelley, and RA Brown.

Polesitter Davey Hatchell survived a dust up on the first lap to score a dominant win in the Charger division. Hatchell and Brian Owens got together on the front stretch at the completion of lap one and both barely avoided crashing. Following Hatchell and Owens at the finish were Archie Adams, Jr., Talon Gallimore, and Carter Langley.

The SuperTrucks raced for 40

laps with Lucas Williams taking the lead from Jody Measamer on lap three and holding on the rest of the way for his first win since 2019 at Myrtle Beach. The only caution of the race occurred on lap six when James Krakeel went for a spin on the backstretch. Following Williams at the finish were Neal Grant, Strom Altman, Measamer, and Adam McCumbee.

Kevin Jackson prevailed in a side-by-side battle with AJ Sanders in the late going to claim his first Mini Stock win of the season. Rounding out the top five were Brandon Clements, BJ Thrasher, and Matt Briggs

The next race at Florence Motor Speedway will be on Saturday afternoon, March 20th featuring the SMART Tour Open Wheel Modifieds, plus the NASCAR Advance Auto Parts Weekly Series Late Model Stocks, Chargers, SuperTrucks, and Mini Stocks. Be sure to "Like" Florence Motor Speedway on Facebook, follow @FlorenceMSpdwy on Twitter to keep up on all that's going on in 2021, visit fmspeedway.com. or watch all the action live each week on fmspeedway.tv.

Lincoln Speedway

ABBOTTSTOWN, PA - Tim Wagaman followed up his 2020 Most Improved Driver award with an Ice Breaker win on Saturday. Wagaman accepted his award on the front stretch right before buckling in for the 30-lap feature. Saturday's win was Wagaman's first since 2014.

Wagaman lined up on the outside of the front row, next to pole-

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Matt Cox poses with his winning trophy last weekend at Florence Motor Speedway. (FMS photo)

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sitter, Kyle Moody. Moody took the lead when the green flag dropped to kick-off the 2021 season.

Defending track champion Freddie Rahmer pulled off after the first lap along with Steve Buckwalter.

Moody had just caught the tail end of the field when the yellow came out on lap 5 for Jordan Mackison who had come to a stop in turn 4.

Glendon Forsythe went to the pits during the caution, ending his day. He had been running 19th. Before the green flag waved for the restart, Greg Plank came to a stop in turn 1. Plank got a push back to the pits and parked his #11P for the day.

Moody led Wagaman, Matt Campbell, Tim Glatfelter, and Chase Dietz to the cone for the restart.

Wagaman got to the outside of Moody going into turn 1 and the two drag raced down the back stretch. Wagaman got by Moody going into turn 3 to take the lead.

While the battle for the lead was underway, both Justin Peck and Tim Shaffer were making their way through the field. Peck was running ninth and battling Macri for eighth after starting 18th in the main event. Shaffer was up to 14th from

his 24th starting spot.

The defending Ice Breaker winner, Danny Dietrich pulled off the track on lap, he had been running 19th.

Wagaman entered lapped traffic on lap 11 while Campbell challenged Moody for second.

Another caution came out on lap 12 when Scott Fisher fell off the pace on the back stretch.

This time the field was chasing Wagaman on the restart. Chase Dietz and Jordan Givler got spun around in turns 1 and 2 on the restart bringing out the caution.

Wagaman paced the field ahead of Moody, Campbell, Glatfelter, and Alan Krimes for another restart.

Tim had a solid start and got a good jump on Moody. Dylan Cisney restarted sixth and had a rough restart, but the field avoided him for a clean start.

The top three, Wagaman, Moody and Campbell were pulling away as they caught the tail end of the field once again.

As Wagaman tried to get by the lapped car of Rick Lafferty, Moody was able to close the gap. It also opened the door for Campbell to challenge Moody for second. Campbell got under Moody in turns 1 and 2 and took the second spot on lap 20.

A three car battle for the lead was well underway when Campbell got sideways at the end of the front stretch nearly taking out Moody and himself. Moody kept his composure and held on to second. Campbell's misstep sent him back

to fourth. K

Moody was within striking distance of Wagaman when the white flag waved but could not find a way by Wagaman.

Wagaman crossed the line .257 seconds ahead of Moody for his first win since 2014. Glatfelter finished third and Krimes was fourth. Campbell completed the top five.

Heat race winners were Dylan Cisney, Alan Krimes and Dylan Norris. Tim Shaffer was the hard charger driving from his 24th starting spot to a 12th place finish.

Next Saturday, March 6, Lincoln Speedway is back in action with 410 Sprint Cars and open practice. Racing starts at 2PM with pit gates opening at 11:30AM and grandstand gates opening at noon. The open practice is open to divisions on the 2021 Lincoln Speedway schedule.

To get all the latest news, results, schedule changes and rule changes, visit Lincoln Speedway's website at www.lincolnspeedway.com to stay up-to-date on all the action or pending weather conditions at Central Pennsylvania's "Premier" Saturday night racetrack – The Fabulous Lincoln Speedway.

South Boston Speedway

SOUTH BOSTON, VA - Virginia Governor Ralph Northam announced Wednesday a slow roll-back of the commonwealth's coronavirus restrictions, opening the door for South Boston Speedway to open its 2021 racing season on Saturday afternoon, March 20.

Beginning Monday, March 1 capacities at Virginia's outdoor sports venues will increase to a level that will allow "America's Hometown Track" to open its 2021 racing season on schedule and hold its annual pre-season Open Practice a week earlier.

"We are very pleased with Governor Northam's decision to ease the coronavirus restrictions," said South Boston Speedway General Manager Cathy Rice.

"It is exciting to know that we can open our season as scheduled and can welcome back the competitors and fans to South Boston Speedway. We have missed seeing everyone and have missed being able to hold events. We are looking forward to a great season."

Due to the limited capacities specified in Governor Northam's announcement, the number of tickets to South Boston Speedway's March 20 season-opening race will be limited. Ticket information will be announced by speedway officials in the near future.

South Boston Speedway will hold its annual Open Practice Day on Saturday, March 13. The open practice event will be held from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Updates will be posted on the new South Boston Speedway website at www.southbostonspeedway.com and on the speedway's social media channels. Fans can also subscribe for e-mail updates on the speedway's website.

South Boston Speedway

SOUTH BOSTON, VA - Ad Nerds Media, a Sarasota, FL-based media and performance marketing agency with offices in South Boston, VA will serve as the Official Digital Marketing Agency of South Boston Speedway beginning with the 2021 season.

As the Official Digital Marketing Agency of South Boston Speedway Ad Nerds Media will handle all of the speedway's digital marketing needs.

"We are pleased to announce that the historic South Boston Speedway has teamed up with Ad Nerds Media for the 2021 racing season," Ad Nerds Media Owner and Founder Brian Rowland-Loftis and Director of Sales Tim VanAernem said in a joint statement.

"Ad Nerds Media will be providing all of the digital marketing and advertising for what is considered by many to be one of the best short tracks in the NASCAR Weekly Series. We are beyond excited about

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Tim Wagaman took the checkered flag for the first time in 8 years at Lincoln Speedway. (PAUL ARCH photo)

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working with Chase and Carly Brashears as well as Cathy Rice as they bring new and exciting ideas to the speedway that will undoubtedly provide a memorable and more interactive experience to the drivers and all of the speedway's loyal fans. South Boston Speedway opened in 1957 and has been home week-in and week-out to so many amazing drivers over the years. As fans ourselves, we are humbled and excited to be working with and being a part of South Boston Speedway and its rich history."

South Boston Speedway Assistant General Manager Chase Brashears points out that the speedway's partnership with Ad Nerds Media will help take the speedway's digital marketing efforts to a new higher level.

"We're very excited to bring Ad Nerds Media into the South Boston Speedway family," Brashears said.

"Ad Nerds Media is a national brand with small business thinking, and they are going to help propel our digital marketing efforts in a big way."

South Boston Speedway Marketing Manager Carly Brashears noted digital marketing is a vital part of today's marketing efforts.

"When we first sat down with Ad Nerds Media, they saw exactly what we needed and custom-tailored an approach for us," explained Carly Brashears.

"They have been great to work with, and we look forward to taking our partnership to the next level."

Rowland-Loftis founded Ad Nerds Media in 2008, and since that time has continuously built up his media properties. Ad Nerds Media's mission is to create and implement digital strategies that increase customer and user acquisition and revenue.

Ad Nerds Media, located in the new SOVA Innovation Hub in downtown South Boston, VA., works with a wide array of large national businesses as well as small businesses.

Persons wishing to learn more about Ad Nerds Media should visit the company's website at adnerds-media.com.

The latest information about South Boston Speedway and its events can be found on the speed-

way's new website www.south-bostonspeedway.com.

South Boston Speedway welcomes new partners. Information regarding partnership opportunities can be found on the speedway's website or by calling "America's Hometown Track" at 1-434-572-4947 or toll free 1-877-440-1540.

The speedway office is open Mondays through Thursdays from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Stafford Motor Speedway

STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT - Chris Meyer came to Stafford Speedway last year with 10+ years of experience driving a Street Stock but the 2020 season was his first campaign at the Connecticut half-mile facility. Meyer's lack of Stafford experience never showed though as he finished second in his first start and went on to win 2 races and finished 2nd in the final points standings. With a season's worth of experience under his belt, Meyer and the #87 D & L Services team have a wave of confidence heading into the 2021 season.

"Our goal is to win the championship this year," said Meyer. "I don't want to say that was our goal last season because we had no experience at Stafford. Our goal was to win a race and get a top-5 finish in the points standings. We won 2 races and finished 2nd in points in a shortened season so this season our goal is to get 4 wins and we'd like to win the championship but if we're in the top-3 at the end of the season that's all you can ask for. Anything less than a top-3 in the points and 4 wins would feel like we didn't do our jobs."

Meyer served notice to the Street Stock field that he would be a contender to be reckoned with in 2020 with his season opening second place finish. After finishing 19th in the second race of the season due to getting caught up in a wreck that happened in front of him, Meyer posted 8 top-5 and 12 top-10 finishes over the final 12 races, including 6 podium finishes with 2 wins, 1 second place, and 3 third place finishes. The team's success initially came as a surprise to Meyer but as the season progressed, the #87 team continued to acclimate themselves to Stafford and asserted themselves as one of the weekly favorites to win.

"I think we were surprised on opening day when we finished second but by the end of the year we weren't surprised," said Meyer. "The only race we missed the top-10 was week 2. I think we were

one of the fastest cars that night and we got caught up in a wreck. We had never been to a track with a tire rule before and I had never raced on a tire that was as good as the Hoosiers we raced on. I had to change my driving style and it was a huge learning curve for both myself and the team. It might seem like a small thing but we also had to adjust to racing on a Friday night rather than the weekend. We came to win races and we knew we would figure things out and we were willing to do whatever we needed to do to accomplish that. I'm not surprised my team was able to get adjusted and put together a couple of victories."

Although Meyer and the #87 team finished half of the 2020 season on the podium, he feels like there is still room for himself and his crew to improve and be even better.

"You're always learning new things and there's always room for improvement," said Meyer. "I think we need to be a little better at making adjustments to the car in between the heat race and the feature. We had that figured out pretty well going into the last 2 or 3 races, but that's a very small sample size of the season. With the rubber that gets put down and the weather changing it makes a huge difference at Stafford, more so than Waterford or Thompson."

Meyer and his crew have been busy during the winter hanging a new body as well as changing out some of the steering components in his #87 Chevrolet. Meyer also returns with his entire crew for the 2020 season and with great partners behind him, he is ready to tackle the 2021 season.

"We put a new body on the car and we made some updates with the steering, but we have great equipment with a JMD drivetrain and a BFR chassis so there wasn't much room for improvement parts wise," said Meyer. "Everyone on the team is really excited. This is probably the most consistent team I've had since I started racing. Everyone that was involved with the team last year is coming back and we all have more experience. We're getting a back up car ready to go but hopefully we won't need that this season. We have great sponsors with D & L Services, 32 Signs came on board with us this season, 7-11 of Franklin, and R.A.D. Auto Machine. I have to give a big thank you to my Dad Joe, he's the glue that holds the team together and he makes this deal happen. We've been racing

together for 15 years and sometimes I forget about him because it's so ingrained racing together."

Meyer has previously won a track title at Waterford in the Street Stock division and he has placed second in the points on several occasions at Waterford and Thompson as well as last season at Stafford. Some drivers might consider having such a wealth of experience racing for a championship as an advantage but Meyer doesn't necessarily feel like his experience gives him any advantage at all in chasing a championship.

"So now that we have a season of experience at Stafford on top of my 10 plus years of experience racing Street Stocks, I feel like we're at least one of the top championship contenders," said Meyer. "Frank L'Etoile is going to be tough and if Travis Hydar races all year long, he's going to be tough and there's other guys that are also very competitive. A lot of the guys I'm racing against are younger and they don't feel the pressure of racing for a championship. You see a lot of young champions these days and they don't crack during the season so I don't know if my championship experience is an advantage for me or not. We have a full year of experience and our team is well put together so I feel like we're in pretty good shape."

Meyer will kick off his 2021 championship quest at Stafford on Saturday, April 24 as part of NAPA Auto Parts Opening Day festivities. The Street Stocks will be joined by the Granite State ProStock Series, the SK Modifieds®, Late Models, and Limited Late Models. Feature action at Stafford continues on Sunday, April 25 with the 49th Annual NAPA Spring Sizzler featuring the Whelen Modified Tour, the SK Modifieds® in the second race of a weekend doubleheader, the SK Lights, and the Vintage All-Stars. Ticket sales for these 2 events begin on March 1st.

For more information, visit www.staffordspeedway.com, checkout Stafford Speedway on Facebook or Twitter, or contact the track office at 860-684-2783.

Stafford Motor Speedway

STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT - When the green flag flies over the 2021 Street Stock season at Stafford Motor Speedway, Samantha Dell will be part of a robust rookie class with 10 rookie drivers currently signed up for competition. The 15-year old driver from Harrisville, RI began her racing ca

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reer at the age of 6 in the quarter midget ranks at Little T Speedway where she set a Sr. Honda track record in 2016 before moving up to the Bandolero division at Seekonk Speedway where she won the 2019 Rhode Island Outlaw Bandolero State Championship. The 2021 season will mark Dell's first time behind the wheel of a full-size race car and

she can't wait to hit the track behind the wheel of her #28 SRD Motorsports Chevrolet.

"I'm very excited for this season," said Dell. "It's interesting because it's going to be something totally new to me but it's exciting because I love trying new things in racing. I have a lot of nerves, but that's normal. I have to give a big thank you to 124 Welding and Fabrication, Mertz Racing, Hopkins Brothers Auto, and RJ's Plumbing and Heating for their support this season."

In order to help combat her nerves, Dell has been busy preparing the best that she can for her rookie season by watching Street Stock races on YouTube as well as seeking out advice from Meghan Fuller, who won 10 Street Stock races over the past 3 seasons at Stafford.

"I've talked to Meghan Fuller a few times and I've been watching some Street Stock videos on YouTube to help give me an idea of what the division will be like," said Dell. "Over time you naturally become more competitive and I think I can be competitive this year."

Dell is looking for her rookie season to be a learning year, soaking up as much information as she can.

"This season I just want to make it be the best learning year that I possibly can," said Dell. "I need to figure things out like how I need to drive and how the other competitors drive. I'm going to try to not only watch but follow a bunch of different drivers and see what they do on the track and what would work best for me when I'm on the track."

While Dell feels like she can be competitive during her rookie season, she is not worried at all about her finishing positions but she wouldn't mind taking home Rookie of the Year honors.

"If I can finish all the races with the car in one piece, that would be



Samantha Dell will be taking her place in the Street Stock Division at Stafford in 2021. (SMS photo)

an ideal season for me," said Dell. "If I could get a top-10 finish this season that would be pretty cool and exciting. I'm going to be focused on learning as much as I can and if I'm able to win Rookie of the Year, I wouldn't be upset about that."

Dell and her father Jason have purchased a car from John Carpenter and they have been busy this winter getting the car ready to hit the track at the end of April.

"Being able to work with my Dad is pretty cool and it's going to be a fun time," said Dell. "We bought a car from John Carpenter and it's a pretty good car. Right now we're doing the work that we have to do on it with some welding and replacing some of the bars in the frame. Hopefully we have everything that we need to have a good learning season."

Dell will kick off her 2021 rookie season at Stafford on Saturday, April 24 as part of NAPA Auto Parts Opening Day festivities. The Street Stocks will be joined by the Granite State ProStock Series, the SK Modifieds®, Late Models, and Limited Late Models. Feature action at Stafford continues on Sunday, April 25 with the 49th Annual NAPA Spring Sizzler featuring the Whelen Modified Tour, the SK Modifieds® in the second race of a weekend doubleheader, the SK Lights, and the Vintage All-Stars. Ticket sales for these 2 events begin on March 1st.

For more information, visit www.staffordspeedway.com, checkout Stafford Speedway on Facebook or Twitter, or contact the track office at 860-684-2783.

Williams Grove Speedway

MECHANICSBURG, PA - Reigning Williams Grove Speedway track champion Freddie Rah-

mer may only be 25 years old as he embarks on the 2021 racing season, but he has the perspective of a driver twenty years his elder as he eyes the oval's season opener coming up in just two weeks.

The Cumberland County track will open the new season with a 410 sprint car only racing program coming up on on Sunday afternoon, March 14 at 2 pm.

The Lawrence Chevrolet 410 sprints will race in a \$5,500 to win, 25-lap main event to cap off the afternoon, presented by Hoosier Tire.

Rahmer and his RBR Racing No. 51 sprint car team are ready to defend his 2020 track title when they hit the clay at Williams Grove in two weeks.

"I think we are in good shape. We might be a little more prepared than we've been the last couple years," Rahmer says of his team's readiness for another assault on the prestigious track laurels. "We work as hard as you can all winter. We don't take too much time off at all. If we don't start off good, we'll work at it and make it good."

"We are gonna' shoot for that," Rahmer says of his intentions to put up back to back track crowns during the new season ahead.

"We're gonna' try to win races first but that's a goal. We're gonna' try again for sure."

Rahmer also took a track crown in 2017, his first in the sport.

"I don't think I've shown what we're capable of yet and hopefully this year me and my dad and everyone else can just break through and show what we're capable of really," he says of his past performances and how they might stack up against the races to come.

"I think we've been close in the last couple years, I know we're ca-

pable of going to the next step up."

Rahmer says mostly he thinks it all will come down to him, personally, as he sits in the race car, at speed.

"I don't think we're missing anything equipment-wise or anything you can purchase," Rahmer says.

"I'm always focused when we're there but to try to get the best we can out of every lap - I think things build on each other but I think it's mostly me, being in a good mental spot at the race track and I think we're in a good position to do that."

And according to Rahmer, all the extra purse money that Williams Grove announced for the 2021 season in December made it a, "no-brainer," to decide to stay at Williams Grove on Fridays for the new season when the team was making its plans during the winter months.

"It's a no-brainer. We're 100 miles from the track. They didn't have to do it and they did and it's the best paying local track and one of the best in the whole country so we're definitely gonna' support them," Rahmer noted.

"We're lucky to race there."

Fans will be treated to a pleasing \$15 adult general admission price for what is sure to be a great field of sprinters on hand for the lidlifter.

Youth ages 13 - 20 will be admitted for \$10 while kids ages 12 and under are always FREE at Williams Grove Speedway.

View the entire 2021 Williams Grove Speedway schedule of events and keep up to date on all the latest speedway news and information by visiting the oval's official website located at www.williamsgrrove.com or by following the track on Twitter and Facebook.