



FEBRUARY 4, 2019

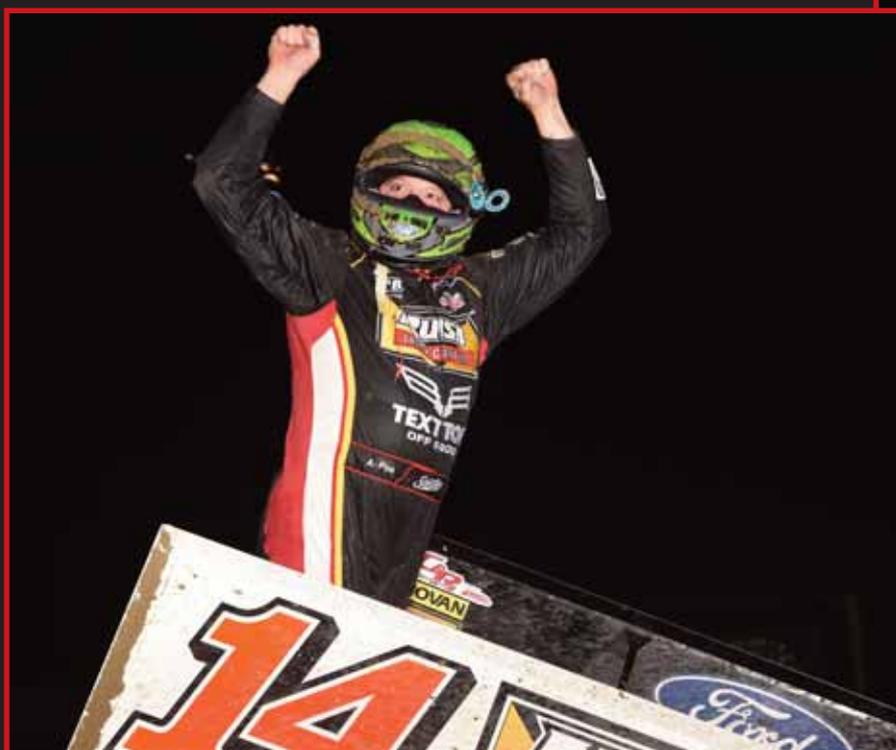
FastTrack

RACING JOURNAL ONLINE

Straight to your phone, tablet or computer...

Racing Starts Out in Florida

Stewart and Shaffer Score
Wins at Bubba Raceway
Park in Winter Nationals



Past and Present Come Together to Honor 2019 Hall of Fame Inductees



Denny Hamlin; A Man on a Mission

Although he qualified for the NASCAR Playoffs in 2018, Denny Hamlin knew a lot of things had to happen with his No. 11 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota Camry before he'd be in a position to contend for a championship.

Like winning just one single race.

Hamlin's streak of winning at least one race a year since he became a full-time driver ended in 2018. It broke a run that spanned 12 years, and along with Jimmie Johnson's winless draught, became one of the curious footnotes of the season.

"We tried as hard as we could," Hamlin said. "We definitely ran better the last half of the season and I'm happy about that. We're leading laps, kind of being up there in the stages a little bit better toward the end. It's something that's at least positive for next year."

Hamlin was eliminated from the playoffs after the first round, but he got a glimpse of what could be ahead with six finishes of 14th or better in the final seven races. While those hardly are championship caliber numbers, it marked a dramatic improvement of the first 30 races where he finished 32nd or worse four times following crashes.

From the start, Hamlin had a different focus than other drivers in the championship. "I'm not worried about the playoffs," he said. "I'm just worried about running better."

Hamlin clearly needed to shake things up ahead of 2019, and that certainly happened – both by design and heartbreaking surprise.

Gone is the man who signed him at Joe Gibbs Racing in 2004, team co-founder J.D. Gibbs. He died Jan. 11 of complications of a degenerative neurological disease. The son of team owner and Hall of Fame football coach Joe Gibbs took a personal interest in Hamlin's career, so the driver is even more committed to honoring his friend with a dramatic turnaround.

Gibbs discovered Hamlin when he was racing at local short tracks around his home at Chesterfield, Va. When he told his father he wanted to sign the young driver,

Joe Gibbs reportedly said, "Don't screw it up."

Hamlin used Twitter to pay his respects, saying: "His car. His number. His signature above my door. I will always be grateful for what His family did for mine and the opportunity he gave me 14 years ago. Now more than ever #doitforJD."

Also gone is crew chief Mike Wheeler. After working on Hamlin's crew for all 14 of his full-time seasons, including last three as his crew chief, Wheeler was moved over to JGR's satellite team, Leavine Family Racing with driver Matt DiBenedetto.

The highlight of their three-year run was a victory at the 2016 Daytona 500. But as a tandem, they finished sixth, sixth and 11th in the final point

standings.

Chris Gabehardt, who won nine races in the last three years with JGR's No. 19 Toyota in the Xfinity Series is the new crew chief, while and Eric Phillips, who was part of eight wins with JGR's No. 18 Xfinity car is the new car chief.

Together they will have to work through a new rules package that will change track-by-track.

"Yeah, with this year's rules package, it's really exciting because there's just so many different ways to attack it, and it's really going to depend on the weekend and the track," Gabehardt said. "I think you're going to see a lot of people, especially early on, trying to figure this out, and that's going to change from racetrack to racetrack, which is going to create good racing and I think a lot of comers and goers week to week."

Along with the noted improvements in the final six races in 2018 and a fresh approach for this new season, Hamlin is convinced his losing streak – which is 47 races heading into the Daytona 500 on Feb. 17 – will end quickly.

"I was kind of excited to see how we ran, really, the last five to six races of the season," he said. "That kind of [gives] me a little bit of motivation and ready to get going for 2019, obviously with some changes with our team and really the entire changes when it comes to the whole rules package and things like that. I'm ready to go. This was one of the few off-seasons I wish was a little bit shorter



DON COBLE



Denny Hamlin takes time to greet some of his youngest fans prior to the 2018 Clash at Daytona. (DIS photo)

versus longer.

"So, I'm ready to get going,"

What magnifies Hamlin's struggles was the success of other JGR teams. Kyle Busch won eight races and finished fourth in points, while Martin Truex Jr., who worked at JGR satellite team at Furniture Row Racing, had four wins and was the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series runner-up. Also, first-year JGR driver Erik Jones won during the summer race at Daytona.

"I certainly will go to work on anything that I need to do to do better, but sometimes need to be

shown that direction," Hamlin said. "I think Chris [Gabehardt] does a great job of analyzing that and lets me then go to work on how I can be a better race car driver, and certainly the last thing he needs to worry about when he's preparing a race car is, oh, 'I need to make sure that I have it running this way because that's the way Denny likes it even though it's not the fastest way.'

"My job is to adapt to the fastest way, and so that's what I'll be doing all year, and hopefully, it equals success."

And a long overdue victory.

Welcome Back Race Fans!

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

The changes that FasTrack Racing Journal made in 2015 have been successful. FasTrack is now available online only. We are covering all the racing series, off track news and other features that you have grown to love. We now bring you all the news in a weekly format throughout the racing season.

All you have to do to receive FasTrack Racing Journal Online for FREE is to send your email address to fastrackjournal@yahoo.com with the subject line SUBSCRIPTION. You can also download all issues of FasTrack Racing Journal, current and past.

Visit our website: www.fastrackracingjournal.com or Facebook and follow us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/FTRacingJournal

In This Issue:

Fast Forum	2-3	World of Outlaws	14-15
Monster Energy Cup	4	Lucas Oil LM Dirt	16
NASCAR News	5	ASCS	17-18
NASCAR Touring	6-7	Wild West Shootout	19-20
ARCA Racing	8	Tulsa Shootout	21
ARCA/CRA	9-10	Chili Bowl Nationals	22-23
P.A.S.S.	11	Midwest Sprint Cars	24
Circuit of Champions	12-13	OnTrack	25-29
		ShorTrack	30-33

ON THE COVER:

PAUL ARCH AND BRIAN LAWDERMILK/GETTY IMAGES

It's That Time Again!

Has it really been almost three months since we last talked? For some reason, it seems longer. Nevertheless, the NASCAR racing season is set to begin this week at Daytona Beach, Florida, and, I'm ready for some action on the high banks.

As is the case with most racing series, some things remain the same, and some things change. Let's take a long at some of each; then make our annual pre-season predictions for the top three divisions of NASCAR – Monster Energy Cup Series (MECS), Xfinity Series, and the Gander Outdoor Truck Series (formerly the Camping World Truck Series) – for the 2019 season.

Before the 2018 season was complete, NASCAR introduced a new baseline rules package for the '19 Monster Energy Cup Series. The basic concept was to bolster competition with enhanced aerodynamic and engine configurations.

The new packages will be specific to the MECS tracks, with a combination of a smaller tapered spacer to reduce engine horsepower to a target goal of 550 (from 750) and aero ducts to foster tighter racing on a majority of speedways measuring longer than one mile. These features will be used at 17 of the 36 races in '19. The exception is the Daytona 500 which will run with traditional restrictor-plate rules. Five other races in '19 will be raced with the smaller spacer, but without ducts.

Steve O'Donnell, NASCAR Executive Vice President and Chief Racing Development Officer said, "It's really been a two-year process, working with race teams, specifically the engine builders and probably the most collaborative effort we've had across the industry stakeholders, including the drivers, to get to this package. For us, it's really a focus on getting back to a true focus on the drivers and what NASCAR is all about – close side-by-side racing and trying to deliver more of that."

Besides being tested in computer simulations and wind-tunnel time, variations on the new configurations received actual field tests at the 2018 Monster Energy All-Star Race at Charlotte Motor Speedway as well as several Xfinity

Series races on specific speedways. The final '19 package took cues from those events, all of which promoted closer competition and increased opportunities for drafting.

NASCAR also announced that the enhanced vehicle chassis (EVC) will be mandatory at all tracks. Also, NASCAR reduced the number of organizational tests for the calendar year from four to



DENNIS PUNCH

three. Goodbye tires tests in '19 will be conducted by three teams, down from four. Obviously, the results of these rule package changes will be a "work in progress". Hopefully, the desired results will be achieved and the overall product on the track improved.

Another major NASCAR move came late last month when a number of "cuts" were made in the overall staff. Exact numbers have not been released, but it is rumored to have been between 50-60 total personnel from offices in Daytona Beach, Charlotte, Concord, and New York offices. How these changes will affect the product and procedures will face its first test this week at Daytona International Speedway.

Now, let's take a look at driver and team changes in the top three divisions.

Probably the biggest news on the driver front in the MECS was the closing of Furniture Row Racing after winning the title the previous season. Martin Truex Jr., champion driver, will move to Joe Gibbs Racing to team with Kyle Busch, Denny Hamlin, and Eric Jones in their potent Toyotas. Daniel Suarez moved to the #41 at Stewart-Haas Racing from JGR. Kurt Busch relocated from SHR to the #1 at Chip Ganassi Racing. Ryan Newman goes to the #6 at Roush-Fenway from the #31 at Richard Childress Racing. Other drivers changing seats include Matt DiBenedetto, Corey Lajoie, and Michael McDowell. Several drivers

will be missing from full-time rides at the beginning of 2019 include Trevor Bayne, AJ Allmendinger, and Jeffrey Earnhardt. Jamie McMurray will race at Daytona, then focus on the broadcasting end of our sport. Matt Kenseth and Kasey Kahne have no MECS plans in '19. Kahne announced that he was not going to compete fulltime in Cup, but will race Sprint Cars and dirt races.

The NASCAR Xfinity Series lost one of its most popular and competitive drivers after 2018 when Elliott Sadler announced his retirement. His talent and his veteran leadership in the garage area will certainly be missed when racing cranks up at Daytona this week. Top title contenders in the Series include Cole Custer, Tyler Reddick (now driving for RCR), Justin Allgaier, and Christopher Bell. New faces competing for Rookie of the Year are Noah Gragson, John Hunter Nemechek, Justin Haley, Chase Briscoe, and Gray Gaulding. And, as always, the NECS drivers will compete in a limited number of select Xfinity races.

The NASCAR Truck Series has

Davey Allison, Roger Penske, Jeff Gordon, Alan Kulwicki, and Jack Roush into their HoF in Charlotte on February 1st. Congratulations to all of these well-deserving gentlemen.

In 2019, I'm looking to get back on track with my Championship predictions. After going 0-3 last season, I'm looking to rebound with my selections. So, here we go. In the Gander Outdoors Truck Series, I select Todd Gilliland in the #4 KBM Toyota to hoist the trophy at Homestead in November. Gilliland has enjoyed success at every level of competition in his career, and I look for more of the same for the talented young driver. The Gander Outdoors Rookie of the Year race is wide open with Tyler Ankrum and Gus Dean among the growing list of candidates.

The Xfinity Series has an outstanding group of young drivers vying for both the Championship and Rookie of the Year crown. My pick for the overall champ is Christopher Bell with Cole Custer and Justin Allgaier close behind. A tough Rookie class in Xfinity this year, but my selection will be Noah Gragson edging John Hunter Nemechek and Chase Briscoe.

The list of title contenders in the MECS is a very long one. Picking a 2019 Champion is like throwing darts at a board. Last year, Joey Logano "upset" the Big Three of Kyle Busch, Kevin Harvick, and Martin Truex Jr. to capture his first MECS title. The storylines will be numerous. How will the new rules change the overall racing? Will Martin Truex Jr. make the move successful to JGR and bring them a title? What about Kyle Busch and Kevin Harvick? Will they both continue to win multiple races in search of the coveted title? Will Jimmie Johnson bounce back to win and battle for another title with a new crew chief? Will Brad Keselowski and Joey Logano carry the Penske Racing banner to the top again? What about the rise of young stars Kyle Larson, Chase Elliott and Ryan Blaney? Do you begin to see the problem that I have picking a champion?

After much consideration, I am going to select Kevin Harvick and the #4 SHR Team as the 2019 Champion. Also, look for Ryan Preece in the #47 JTG Daugherty Racing entry to capture the MECS Rookie of the Year title.

Here's hoping for a competitive, exciting, and safe 2019 racing season. Best of luck to all the drivers, crews, owners, and tracks for a very successful season.

2019
Great Racing to Come!

a new title sponsor this year with Gander Outdoors replacing Camping World. And, just like the Xfinity Series, the '18 champ will drive for another team in '19. Brett Moffitt, '18 champ, will drive for GMS Racing and Austin Hill will race for the Hattori Racing Championship team this year. Past Truck Series Champion and multi-race winner, Johnny Sauter, is without a ride going into Daytona, but don't believe that this talented competitor will go without a ride very long. While some veterans remain in the series, several new faces could change for the prestigious Gander Outdoors Truck Series crown. Kyle Busch Motorsports will have Todd Gilliland and Harrison Burton competing in the full slate to challenge Ben Rhodes, Matt Crafton, and Grant Enfinger at the top of the standings.

Before I make my predictions for the 2019 NASCAR season, I want to congratulate the new Hall of Fame member recently honored. The National Motorsports Press Association inducted Jeff Gordon and Red Farmer into their prestigious Hal on January 27th and the NASCAR Hall of Fame inducted

20 of NASCAR's Top Stars Eligible for 2019 Advance Auto Parts Clash at Daytona

DAYTONA BEACH, FL - Following a quiet offseason the engines will finally roar to signal the start of the 2019 season on February 10 at Daytona International Speedway with a power-packed Sunday doubleheader.

It begins at noon with Busch Pole Award Qualifying for the 61st running of the DAYTONA 500 (FOX, MRN and SiriusXM NASCAR Radio). The 2019 Advance Auto Parts Clash follows at 3 p.m. (FS1, MRN and SiriusXM NASCAR Radio) and will feature the sport's biggest stars battling side by side in a 75-lap showcase.

"There's no better way to start the season," said Steve O'Donnell, NASCAR executive vice president and chief racing development officer. "The close, door-to-door action you see in the Advance Auto Parts Clash is a precursor to the intense competition you'll see in the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series throughout 2019."

The annual preseason race will run in two segments, separated by a competition caution at lap 25.

"It's a tremendous day of racing for our fans," said Daytona International Speedway President Chip Wile. "Having DAYTONA 500 Qualifying Presented By Kroger followed by the Advance Auto Parts Clash makes for a sweet first Sunday of Speedweeks and will have fans fully tuned up for the 61st running of the 'Great American Race' on February 17."

The exclusive, star-studded field in the Advance Auto Parts Clash is limited to drivers who were 2018 Busch Pole Award winners, former Clash winners who competed full-time in 2018, former DAYTONA 500 champions who competed full-time in 2018, former DAYTONA 500 pole winners who competed full-time in 2018 and drivers who qualified for the 2018 Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Playoffs.

Tickets are available now at DaytonaInternationalSpeedway.com or by calling 1-800-PITSHOP.

Eligible drivers are as follows:

- 2018 Busch Pole Award Win-

ners (13): Ryan Blaney, Alex Bowman, Kurt Busch, Kyle Busch, Chase Elliott, Denny Hamlin, Kevin Harvick, Erik Jones, Kyle Larson, Joey Logano, Paul Menard, Daniel Suarez and Martin Truex Jr.

- Former Daytona 500 Champions (2): Jamie McMurray, Ryan Newman

- Former Daytona 500 Busch Pole Award Winners (2): Austin Dillon, Jimmie Johnson

- 2018 Playoff Drivers (3): Aric Almirola, Clint Bowyer, Brad Keselowski

NASCAR Hall of Fame Welcomes Distinguished Class of 2019 Inductees

CHARLOTTE, NC - Three legendary drivers and two of stock car racing's most influential owners were honored with well-deserved induction into the NASCAR Hall of Fame on Friday night.

Four-time Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series champion Jeff Gordon headlines a 2019 class that includes two drivers whose careers—and tragic loss of life—are inextricably intertwined. Alan Kulwicki, the last privateer to win a Cup championship, and Davey Allison, both played key roles in the 1992 title race, before both passed away the following year as the result of aviation accidents.

The Hall also welcomed reigning Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series champion owner Roger Penske, as well as Jack Roush, whose drivers won back to back Cup titles in 2003 (the last year of the season-long scoring system) and 2004 (the first year of the post-season Playoffs).

After an introduction from fellow California Cup driver Kyle Larson, team owner Rick Hendrick, along with Gordon's son Leo and daughter Ella, presented the final induction honors of the night for the newly inducted Hall of Famer, who won 93 Cup races, third most all-time.

"What a special evening," Gordon said. "So honored to be here surrounded by friends, family, fans and many people that have worked

very hard behind the scenes for me over the years. Thank you!

Gordon proceeded to thank those who played key parts in his storied career, from Hendrick to three-time champion crew chief Ray Evernham to stepfather John Bickford to his wife Ingrid and his children.

"Raising a family is similar to racing – some days you're hanging in the back, hanging on tight, holding on and hoping a caution falls at any second," Gordon said. "Other days you're pulling into victory lane celebrating and proud as you can be."

First to be inducted was team owner Roush, one of the foremost innovators in stock car racing. Roush fielded Fords for Cup champions Matt Kenseth (2003) and Kurt Busch (2004), winning the first title under NASCAR's new 10-race Playoff format.

In a career that has encompassed four decades, Roush has accumulated 137 victories in each of the Cup and Xfinity Series while nurturing the career of fellow NASCAR Hall of Famer Mark Martin, a 40-time winner in NASCAR's premier series.

It was Martin who presented Roush with his Hall of Fame ring, after an introduction by Ricky Stenhouse Jr., who won back-to-back NASCAR Xfinity Series titles under the Roush Fenway Racing banner in 2011 and 2012.

A fiercely competitive and singularly driven late model racer from Wisconsin, Kulwicki followed Roush into the NASCAR Hall of Fame. Winner of the 1992 title in the most closely contested championship race before the debut of the Playoff format, Kulwicki overcame a 278-point deficit in the final six races of the season to beat Bill Elliott and Allison for the championship trophy.

True to his calculating, mathematical approach to racing, Kulwicki won the title by leading 103 laps to 102 for Elliott, the race winner, in the final race of the season at Atlanta. The five-point bonus for leading the most laps propelled Kulwicki to the crown.

Kenseth introduced Kulwicki, and long-time NASCAR team owner Felix Sabates accepted induction on Kulwicki's behalf. Crew chief Paul Andrews, car chief Tony Gibson and hauler driver Peter Jellen were called to the stage to assist in the induction, with Sabates cajoling them to walk backwards in recognition of Kulwicki's trademark "Polish victory lap."

The winner of 19 Cup races, Allison was leading the championship standings by 30 points over Kulwicki entering the final race of the 1992 season but contact from Ernie Irvan early in the race ended his title hopes.

Nevertheless, Allison leaves a legacy on special talent that includes a second-place finish to his father and NASCAR Hall of Famer Bobby Allison in the 1988 Daytona 500 and a subsequent victory in the Great American Race in 1992.

"Although he was tragically lost too young, this bedrock of the Alabama Gang left an everlasting legacy," driver Regan Smith said in his introduction of Allison. "He always dreamed of beating his father Bobby to the finish line because to be the best, you had to beat the best."

"Today he joins him in the NASCAR Hall of Fame."

Davey's son, Robbie Allison performed the induction honors, assisted by Davey's wife, Liz Allison, and daughter, Krista Allison-Sheinfield.

Penske numbers Cup championships in 2012 (with Brad Keselowski) and 2017 (with Joey Logano) among his myriad accomplishments in motorsports. In addition to his record 17 Indianapolis 500 victories—the most recent with driver will power last year—Penske has amassed 111 victories at NASCAR's highest level and another 68 wins in the Xfinity Series to go with four owner's championships.

Penske's three Cup drivers—Logano, Keselowski and Ryan Blaney—provided the introduction and son Greg Penske completed the induction of his father, with Greg Penske noting that his father known to the family as "Mr. Fun."

"I guess tonight I won't be Mr. Fun—I'll be the Captain," Penske quipped in his acceptance speech, referring to his other, more well-known moniker.

"Racing has been a part of my life almost as long as I can remember. It is the common thread that is woven throughout all of our Penske businesses. Racing is simply who we are."

"The lessons we learn in racing help drive our success in business, and the exposure provided from NASCAR is a source of pride that builds our brand and our entire organization."

Former NASCAR vice president of corporate communications Jim Hunter was named recipient of the Landmark Award for Outstanding Contributions to NASCAR.

Legendary Hall of Fame Car Owner Glen Wood Dies at 93

One of NASCAR's most beloved pioneers and decorated competitors, Hall of Famer Glen Wood passed away Friday at the age of 93.

Wood was part of the legendary Wood Brothers Racing team along with his brother Leonard and together the family team fielded five Daytona 500 winning cars with five different drivers. And Glen Wood was a remarkable driving talent in his own right as well, officially named one of NASCAR's 50 Greatest Drivers.

The Stuart, Virginia native was a popular presence in the NASCAR garage for decades and formally inducted into the NASCAR Hall of Fame in 2012.

His Wood Brothers Racing team, formed in 1950, is an iconic part of the sport and still competing today with 99 Cup Series wins, including the 2011 Daytona 500 with Trevor Bayne. The team's last win came with driver Ryan Blaney in 2017 at Pocono Raceway.

"In every way, Glen Wood was an original," NASCAR Chairman and CEO Jim France said. "In building the famed Wood Brothers Racing at the very beginnings of our sport, Glen laid a foundation for NASCAR excellence that remains to this day.

"As both a driver and a team owner, he was, and always will be, the gold standard. But personally, even more significant than his exemplary on-track record, he was a true gentleman and a close confidant to my father, mother and brother.

"On behalf of the France family and all of NASCAR, I send my condolences to the entire Wood family for the loss of a NASCAR giant."

The list of drivers who competed for the Wood Brothers team is a Who's Who of the sport and includes many other NASCAR Hall of Famers from David Pearson, Junior Johnson and Cale Yarborough to Dale Jarrett and Bill Elliott. The Wood Brothers fielded cars for the late Dan Gurney and IndyCar great A.J. Foyt as well some of the biggest names in the sport such as

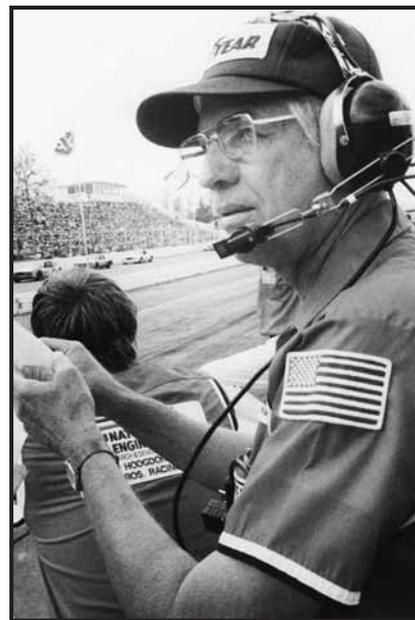
Neil Bonnett, Ricky Rudd and Ken Schrader.

Paul Menard currently drives the familiar No. 21 Ford in the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series.

As expected on the loss of such an important figure in the sport, social media was full of condolences and fond memories on Friday.

"Prayers for the @woodbrothers21 Glen Wood and his family," 2000 Cup champion Bobby Labonte said in a statement on Twitter. "Thanks for being a such a wonderful gentleman and paving the way for so many that followed."

Championship crew chief Ray Evernham offered his condolences, "Sorry to hear about the passing of Glen Wood. One of the most respected men ever in our sport. The captain of the incredible Wood Brothers legacy.



Glen Wood watches his Cup driver Neil Bonnett at Martinsville Speedway in 1982. (Archive Photo)

"Always a smile, a handshake and a word of wisdom. Thank you for setting the standard of excellence in racing. RIP."

And another racing legend, Mario Andretti sent his condolences as well, "Everybody who's anybody in our sport loves the Wood Bros. Love & respect for the standards they set."

Roger Penske, whose team has had a technical alliance with the Wood Brothers, issued a statement about his longtime friend and colleague.

"Glen Wood was one of NASCAR's true pioneers and leaders," 2019 NASCAR Hall of Fame inductee Penske said Friday. "From our earliest years in the sport, Wood Brothers Racing set the gold standard of NASCAR teams, and that was a result of the vision and

dedication of Glen and Leonard.

"Glen established himself in the sport first as a driver then as an innovator and team owner. Glen helped me and our team when we first became involved in NASCAR, he has been a trusted friend throughout the years. All of us at Team Penske are proud to be associated with the Wood Brothers organization to this day."

NASCAR Adds Disqualification to Officiating Procedures in 2019

CONCORD, N.C. – In a move that is both dramatic and emphatic, NASCAR announced on Monday that, for the first time as an official policy, cars will be subject to disqualification for post-race inspection failures.

And NASCAR will declare the official winner of races in its top three national series before leaving the track on race day.

"We're changing the culture," NASCAR executive vice president and chief racing development officer Steve O'Donnell said during a meeting with reporters at the NASCAR Research & Development Center.

"Going forward, post-race inspection will take place at the track..."

"If the first-place car has any penalties, that car will be disqualified. Second place will receive all the benefits of winning that race."

That marks a sea change in NASCAR's approach to the inspection and officiating process. The disqualified car and driver will receive last-place points and money and will lose all stage points and bonus points accrued during the race.

No longer will the penalized driver appear in the record books as the race winner in name only. NASCAR also will inspect the second-place car and a random car, but the inspections of the top two cars will conclude at the race track, with the winner announced soon thereafter.

O'Donnell said the at-track process would take approximately 90 minutes beyond the conclusion of the event.

The new policy is a move by NASCAR to discourage in no uncertain terms infractions designed

to give one team an undeserved advantage over another.

"We've made it very clear to the teams over the last six months that this is where we're headed," O'Donnell said. "Let's do stuff right. Let's concentrate on the best drivers in the world going out there and beating each other on the track versus the wind tunnel. We think this is going to do that."

Instead of roving inspectors who rotate between the top three series, NASCAR is creating dedicated teams for each of the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series, Xfinity Series and Gander Outdoors Truck Series. In addition, the inspection process won't be confined to specific times and stations but will be an ongoing process throughout the race weekend.

"Inspection is going to be open all the time," said Scott Miller, NASCAR's senior vice president of competition.

"With the inspectors in the garage, we will be inspecting cars all the time. It won't be just during the official inspections.

"When we find something wrong—and it's been in the rule book, but we're going to use it this year—if you bring illegal parts, and we make you take them off, you're going to be issued an L1 penalty right there at the race track.

"We have to stop this. We tried to do it a little softer, but it didn't work, so we're going to try a new approach.

"You can't unload your car with illegal stuff on it—period."

Clearly, the greatest potential jeopardy lies in post-race inspection, given the possibility of disqualification. But that prospect doesn't apply to one or two loose lug nuts, which are treated separately in the rule book. Three loose lugs, however, rise to the level of an L1 penalty and bring disqualification.

NASCAR is taking this approach as it begins to develop its next generation of race car—the Gen-7—which O'Donnell expects to have on the track in 2021. The expectation is that the new car will feature greater brand identity, something that both existing and potential new OEMs should find appealing.

O'Donnell said NASCAR's goal is to get to five manufacturers in the sport.

The Gen-7 almost certainly will feature a composite body, O'Donnell said, given the success and positive feedback the sanctioning body has received from the introduction of composites in the NASCAR Xfinity Series.

International, Regional & Local Champions Honored In Charlotte

CHARLOTTE, NC - Winless streaks, long layoffs and uncertain plans was how the seven drivers that gathered on stage at the end of the evening Friday entered the 2018 season.

The culmination was vastly different. They were NASCAR Champions.

"Today is my favorite victory of the year – to celebrate your accomplishments," Philip Morris told his crew after accepting the trophy and ring for his record-tying fifth NASCAR Whelen All-American Series Division I national championship.

Morris was joined by Alon Day (NASCAR Whelen Euro Series), LP Dumoulin (NASCAR Pinty's Series), Ruben Garcia Jr. (NASCAR PEAK Mexico Series), Justin Bonsignore (NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour), Derek Thorn (NASCAR K&N Pro Series West), and Tyler Ankrum (NASCAR K&N Pro Series East) on stage in the Grand Ballroom of the Charlotte Convention Center at the NASCAR Hall of Fame as the culminated their championship seasons with the NASCAR Awards Charlotte.

"As you can see, racing in NASCAR is alive and well," said Vice Chairman of NASCAR Mike Helton, "and the future of it is going to be pretty spectacular."

They shared common themes: Dominance (Bonsignore had eight wins and Day seven), repeat performances (in addition to Morris, Dumoulin, Thorn, Day and Garcia won their second titles) and championship teams that helped carry their drivers to the sport's ultimate heights.

"This year was probably the hardest of my racing career," said Day. "Winning back-to-back champ is a huge accomplishment in any sport, and I couldn't make it happen without all the people that helped me."

"This trophy, this ring, would be worthless without all that competition," Dumoulin said, in a nod to his fellow series drivers. "It's a lot of challenge, a lot of fun."

Bonsignore entered the season off a bitter end to 2017 that saw him come up just short to five-time tour champion Doug Coby. But an off-

season to regroup and refocus paid off, and the 30-year-old from Holtsville, New York, produced a season to remember.

"(Car owner) Ken (Massa) and I, we didn't give up on each other. We just went to work," said Bonsignore, who won half the tour races in 2018 and finished in the top five in all by four. "That's all you can do as a race car driver, be the best on who you're racing against."

"That's what it's all about – having fun at this level. And we definitely have a lot of fun."

The two K&N Pro Series champions entered the year with different goals. Thorn, the 2013 West champion, reunited with longtime series car owner Bob Bruncati in an effort to unseat Bill McAnally Racing from the top spot. Ankrum? He wasn't even sure of his racing plans past April.

"At the beginning of the year, I said I was happy with a top 5 – I wasn't expecting much," said Ankrum, who initially only planned to run a couple K&N races and some Late Model races.

The 17-year-old from San Bernardino, California, had three straight top fives to start the year and take the points lead. That led to a change and a full season slate lined up. He responded with four wins and became just the fifth driver to win the series' title and Sunoco Rookie of the Year in the same season.

"The thing I learn the most was the value of hard work – how hard you had to work," said Ankrum.

And Thorn made good on his goal, too. In his first full season since his title run, Thorn won three



From left, Philip Morris, Justin Bonsignore, Ruben Garcia Jr., Alon Day, LP Dumoulin, Derek Thorn and Tyler Ankrum share a moment on stage at the end of Friday night's NASCAR Awards Charlotte at the Grand Ballroom of the Charlotte Convention Center at the NASCAR Hall of Fame. (Rusty Jarrett/NKP photo)

times and had 13 top fives in 14 starts as Bruncati's Sunrise Racing went 1-2 in the championship points standings.

Dumoulin hadn't been to Victory Lane since 2013. He ended that drought in the NASCAR Pinty's Series opener at Canadian Tire Motorsport Park and won twice more en route to his second Canadian stock car championship.

"We do this for winning," said Dumoulin. "We started the season that way, and it was perfect for my team."

Garcia had an impressive year in two countries: He finished third in the NASCAR K&N Pro Series East championship standings and became just the third Mexico-born driver to win an oval race in the series, and he used a three-race win streak in the summer to pull away for his second NASCAR PEAK Mexico Series title.

The most experienced of them all, Morris, also overcame a layoff from his winning ways. The 53-year-old from Ruckersville, Virginia, went into semi-retirement after his fourth NASCAR Whelen All-Ameri-

can Series Division I national title in 2011. He came back to full-time competition in 2016, and resumed his spot at the top just two years later on the strength of 23 wins in 35 Late Model Stock Car starts.

He tied the late Larry Phillips, a NASCAR Hall of Fame nominee, for the most titles in series' history.

Together with Day, Garcia, Dumoulin, Bonsignore, Thorn and Ankrum, they were able to celebrate their hard-won success Friday night. And finally reflect on a season of triumph.

"It's a humbling experience like no other," said Thorn.

Friday night's NASCAR Awards Charlotte also recognized the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series Division II through V top five finishers, the U.S. state and Canadian provincial champions, as well as the championship car owners and crew chiefs, and series' rookie of the year winners. Brittney Zamora, a Super Late Model driver from Washington's Evergreen Speedway, received the Wendell Scott Trailblazer Award.

On the red carpet before the NASCAR Awards Charlotte show, NASCAR Whelen All-American Series U.S. state and Canadian provincial and track rookies of the year, as well as regional and international series special award winners were recognized for their achievements.

NASCAR Drive for Diversity Announces 2019 Driver Class

DAYTONA BEACH, FL - Six drivers with hopes of reaching the highest levels of NASCAR® will compete for Rev Racing next season in the NASCAR Drive for Diversity® Driver Development (Continued Next Page)



NASCAR Whelen All-American Series U.S. state and Canadian provincial champions are joined by track champions on stage during Friday night's NASCAR Awards Charlotte at the Grand Ballroom of the Charlotte Convention Center at the NASCAR Hall of Fame. (Rusty Jarrett/NKP photo)

Continued...

Program, NASCAR announced today on its digital and social media platforms.

The 2019 class includes returning NASCAR Drive for Diversity driver Rubén García Jr., who is fresh off his second NASCAR Peak Mexico Series Championship and finished third in points in the NASCAR K&N Pro Series East in 2018.

Ernie Francis Jr., who recently won his fifth-consecutive Trans-Am Series Championship, will join Chase Cabre and Nick Sanchez as the development program's other returning drivers.

Gracie Trotter and Brooke Storer will each make their NASCAR Drive for Diversity debuts for Rev Racing in 2019.

"This year's class features six highly-talented drivers who each possess an impressive blend of skill and experience," said Jusan Hamilton, NASCAR senior manager of racing operations and event management. "We're thrilled to see these drivers develop throughout the 2019 season and enjoy success both on and off the race track."

The six drivers were selected from among 12 national and international drivers invited to participate in the two-day NASCAR Drive for Diversity Driver Development Combine at New Smyrna Speedway and Bethune-Cookman University in October.

Beginning in February, the drivers will compete for Rev Racing in the NASCAR K&N Pro Series East and NASCAR Whelen All-American Series for one full season with mentoring and equipment provided by the race team.

"We are energized by the opportunity to work with the members of this year's class and foresee a very impactful year for Rev Racing," said Max Siegel, CEO and Owner of Rev Racing. "NASCAR Drive for Diversity and Rev Racing are proud of the impact that we have had in the sport and we look forward to graduating the next generation of athletes to the national series."

The NASCAR Drive for Diversity Driver Development Program aligns drivers with a team of executives, athletic directors, crew chiefs and mentors tasked with helping them achieve career successes, and thus improving their

goal of reaching one of the three NASCAR national series.

Since it began fielding cars for the NASCAR Drive for Diversity Driver Development Program in 2010, Rev Racing has been one of the most consistent teams in the NASCAR K&N Pro Series East, registering 19 wins, 88 top-five and 199 top-10 finishes with drivers finishing top-10 in points each season.

This year's class will look to follow in the footsteps of program graduates and current Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series drivers Kyle Larson, Daniel Suárez and Bubba Wallace.

NASCAR Drive for Diversity Driver Development Program Class of 2019

- Chase Cabre, 21, Tampa, Florida. Cabre will return to Rev Racing for his third season. In 2018, he competed in both the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series and NASCAR K&N Pro Series East, where he finished seventh in the championship standings. Cabre will again compete in the NASCAR K&N Pro Series East in 2019.

- Ernie Francis Jr., 20, Southwest Ranches, Florida. In 2014, Francis Jr. became the youngest Trans-Am champion in series history. This past season, he captured his fifth consecutive series championship title. Francis will race a Late Model for Rev Racing and run in select events in the K&N Pro Series East.

- Rubén García Jr., 23, México City, México. In 2015, García Jr. became the youngest driver to win the NASCAR Peak Mexico Series Championship, and this year, won his second championship in the series. García Jr. also earned his first NASCAR K&N Pro Series East race win at Memphis International Raceway in 2018 followed with a victory at Dover International Speedway in October. García Jr. will continue racing in the K&N Pro Series East.

- Nick Sanchez, 17, Homestead, Florida. Sanchez completed his NASCAR Whelen All-American Series rookie season in 2018. He also raced in the Bojangles Summer Shootout with Rev Racing's Legends Car program and finished sixth in championship points. Sanchez will race in a Late Model for Rev Racing.

- Brooke Storer, 20, Land O' Lakes, Florida. Storer is the 2016 Desoto Speedway Sportsman Champion. This past season, she raced in the Wheel Man Series Late Model Sportsman division capturing two 50 lap feature wins.

In 2017, she placed third in points in the Wheel Man Series. Storer will race in the Late Model for Rev Racing in 2019.

- Gracie Trotter, 17, Denver, North Carolina. Trotter is the winner of Round 5 of the Bojangles Summer Shootout in the Semi Pro division. In 2018 she competed in the CARS Tour & PASS Series at Concord, Hickory, Caraway, Orange Country, South Boston and Carteret County. She also raced

USLCI Legend cars at Charlotte Motor Speedway, Concord, Anderson, Tri-County and Caraway. Trotter will race in the Late Model for Rev Racing in 2019.

For more information on the NASCAR Drive for Diversity driver and crew member development programs, visit NASCARDiversity.com. For continuing coverage of this year's class, visit NASCAR.com or NASCAR's social media platforms.

Southern Super Series Releases 10-Race Schedule

PENSACOLA, FL - A perfect 10 races will make up the slate for the Southern Super Series presented by Sunoco in 2019. Seven total race tracks in four different states represent what some of the finest Super Late Model drivers in America will battle as series representatives released their schedule Monday.

The 2019 campaign will kickoff for the sixth consecutive year with one of most traditional Super Late Model races in America, "The Rattler," at South Alabama Speedway. The 43rd annual event will be held on March 15-17 on the four-tenths of a mile oval. The 250-lap race will attract a strong field of drivers and teams to the south-central part of Alabama.

Two weeks later, Five Flags Speedway will host race number two for the Southern Super Series on Friday, March 29. The race will also be the opener for the Deep South Cranes Blizzard Series at the track in the panhandle of Florida. In all, the series will visit Pensacola, FL four times. The other events will occur on June 21, July 19 and September 21. The first three races will be 125 lap events on Friday nights, with the finale for the Blizzard Series being 150 laps on a Saturday night.

The Southern Super Series will be part of two combination events in 2019 and both of them occur in the state of Tennessee. The Nashville 100 at the Fairgrounds Speedway Nashville on May 4 will be a joint venture with the ARCA / CRA Super Series and the CARS Tour Super Late Models. On June 1, the third-annual U.S. Short Track Nationals will take center stage on the high-banks of Bristol Motor

Speedway, once again with the ARCA / CRA Super Series and the CARS Tour.

The Rumble by the River is scheduled on Independence Day weekend at the lightning fast Montgomery Motor Speedway in Alabama. The July 6 event is sure to attract a host of cars from around the Southeast.

Crisp Motorsports Park will be part of the Southern Super Series for a third consecutive year. The Southern Georgia facility will host the series with the Lyle Farms 125 on Saturday, August 10. Last year's event recorded a top-notch field and one of the most exciting races of the season.

The finale for the Southern Super Series presented by Sunoco is currently listed as a TBA (to be announced) on October 19. Big plans are already underway for a prestigious race; stay tuned for an announcement in the coming weeks.

"We are confident 10 races will allow our teams the opportunity to experience some great racing with our series, while also being able to venture out to race some of the other great Super Late Model events in the country," said Tim Bryant, Series Director.

Casey Roderick won the championship in 2019 and earned a check for \$10,000 for doing so. He was awarded the championship laurels recently at the Five Flags Speedway banquet.

With the Southern Super Series championship, and the Super and Pro Late Model titles at Five Flags Speedway, Roderick walked away with more than \$14,000 in prize money.

In the six-year history of the Southern Super Series presented by Sunoco nobody has become a multiple-time champion.

For more information regarding the Southern Super Series, please visit southernsuperseries.com.

ARCA Open Garage to Welcome Fans on Raceday in Daytona

DAYTONA, FL - With the kickoff of the 2019 ARCA Racing Series presented by Menards season right around the corner, everyone is excited to make the trip to Daytona International Speedway for the Lucas Oil 200 Driven By General Tire. It is the first opportunity to

see the 2019 drivers and teams on track, and it's also an opportunity for fans to get up close and personal with the drivers, teams, and cars in the ARCA garage area on race day.

The ARCA Racing Series will open its garage area to fans who have purchased a UNOH Fanzone ticket. Those fans will have 90 minutes to walk through the garage, get autographs and selfies with the drivers, and get to see the racecars up close just before they are rolled to the grid for the start of the 56th annual Lucas Oil 200. Most, if not all, of the drivers entered will be at the back of their team transporters to sign autographs and take pictures with fans.

Several teams are preparing special activities for fans in the ARCA Open Garage, including last year's runner-up finisher Willie Mullins. Known for the flock of ducks that live with him and his wife Dinah near their business and race shop, Mullins will be giving away 200 Mullins Racing rubber ducks and have other opportunities for young fans as well.

"We'll be giving away 200 rubber ducks with our logo on it," Dinah Mullins said. "And we're going to have a couple of cardboard cutouts of Willie's uniform so kids can get their picture taken with it like they are a driver. We love this kind of fan interaction and we're really excited to get to Daytona and see everyone."

Fans can visit the ARCA Open Garage from 12:30 through 2 pm ET on Saturday, February 9, just prior to the start of pre-race activities for the Lucas Oil 200 Driven By General Tire.

The season-opener for the ARCA Racing Series presented by Menards is scheduled for live broadcast on FS1 starting at 4:30 pm ET. ARCA for Me members can access free live timing & scoring,

live chat, and live track updates throughout practice, qualifying, and the race. New members can register at ARCARacing.com/login.

ARCA Announces Broadcast Dates

The ARCA Racing Series presented by Menards will once again feature 20 races at 18 tracks in 2019, and all 20 are scheduled for live television broadcast on either FS1, FS2, or MAVTV.

Eight races are scheduled for broadcast on the Fox Sports networks, FS1 and FS2, all part of the General Tire Superspeedway Challenge. Twelve races are scheduled for broadcast on MAVTV, including the entire Sioux Chief Short Track Challenge schedule and one superspeedway event.

The FS1/FS2 broadcast schedule includes the season opener at Daytona International Speedway on Saturday, February 9 live on FS1 starting at 4:30 pm ET. Other FS1 events include races at Talladega Superspeedway on Friday, April 26, Charlotte Motor Speedway on Thursday, May 23, Michigan International Speedway on Friday, June 7, Chicagoland Speedway on Thursday, June 27, and Pocono Raceway on Friday, July 26. Two races will be broadcast on FS2, the first Pocono race on Friday, May 31 and the season



ARCA fans will be able to get garage access at Daytona on race day with a Fanzone ticket. (arcaracing.com photo)

finale at Kansas Speedway on Friday, October 18.

ARCA's relationship with Fox Sports reaches back to April 20, 1997 when SpeedVision covered the series' event at Salem Speedway. SpeedVision, SPEED, FS1 and FS2 have combined to broadcast 256 ARCA Racing Series presented by Menards races over the course of 22 years.

MAVTV's broadcast schedule begins with ARCA's return to Five Flags Speedway in Pensacola, Florida for the first time since 1996 on Saturday, March 9, and continues with races at Salem Speedway on Sunday, April 7, Fairgrounds Raceway Nashville on Saturday, May 4, Toledo Speedway on Sunday, May 19, Madison International Speedway on Friday, June 14, Gateway Motorsports Park on Saturday, June 22, Elko Speedway on Saturday, July 13, Iowa Speedway on Friday, July 19, the Springfield Mile on Sunday, August 18, the

DuQuoin State Fair on Saturday, August 31, Salem Speedway on Saturday, September 7, and Lucas Oil Raceway on Saturday, October 5.

"The ARCA series provides great race action on the track and we are delighted to bring it to our MAVTV viewers live in 2019," said Bob Patison, President of MAVTV Motorsports Network.

ARCA's current broadcast relationship with MAVTV started in 2017 with ten races, four of which were live and six shown on a tape-delayed basis. In 2018, that relationship grew to twelve races, eleven of which were scheduled for live coverage.

In 2019, the network is again scheduled to broadcast 12 races but for the first time each one is slated to be shown live.

Broadcast times for each of the remaining races after Daytona will be announced by the networks and ARCA in the coming weeks.

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

DAVIS
GOT TRACTION?
TECHNOLOGIES

NEW UNITS FOR 2019

DRIVER REMOVABLE
THE BEST TRACTION CONTROL... PERIOD.

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

SALES@MORETRACTION.COM WWW.MORETRACTION.COM

Champions and More Honored at 2018 Champion Racing Association Awards Banquet

INDIANAPOLIS, IN - The 2018 Champion Racing Association Powered by JEGS Awards Banquet, which was presented by Shepherd Insurance, was held Friday night at the Crowne Plaza Indianapolis Downtown at Union Station. The top 10 in 2018 ARCA/CRA Super Series Powered by JEGS points, JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour Presented by Chevrolet Performance points, Vore's Welding & Steel CRA Late Model Sportsman Powered by JEGS points and Lawrence Towing CRA Street Stocks Powered by JEGS points were all honored at the banquet along with several special awards.

Similar to the top levels of racing now and all major sports, CRA utilized a regular season of events again in 2018 to determine those who were eligible to compete in the post season for the championship. The final four scheduled races were utilized as the playoffs or Chase. Prior to the start of the final four races, the top 8 teams in Wins (then Points) that have attended 70% of the events were eligible for the Chase. Prior to the season's final Championship event, the top 4 Chase Teams in Wins (then points) during the Chase and were at all Chase events, raced for the season's championship in each division, with the highest finishing team in that event declared the season's champion.

Josh Brock was officially crowned the 2018 ARCA/CRA Super Series Champion during his "Comeback" season, after having to stop racing while leading the points in 2017 because of an illness. Brock also picked up his first ever series win at the May Anderson Speedway event in 2018. Austin Kunert was officially crowned the 2018 Senneker Performance Rookie of the Year, he was second in the series Championship battle and picked up his first ever series win in June at Kil-Kare Raceway.

Hunter Jack was the 2018 Sunoco Race Fuels Sportsman of the Year Award winner for the

ARCA/CRA Super Series. Championship contender Jon Beach was honored as the winner of the 2018 Allgaier Performance Parts Darrell Teal Outstanding Dedication Award for his dedication to CRA during the entire 2018 season and during the Labor Day Weekend event at Winchester Speedway. Jack was the winner of the Speed51.com Most Popular Driver award for the series. Wimmer Motorsports was awarded the 2018 Outerwears Crew Chief of the Year Award, Chris Wimmer and Travis Sauter were the Crew Chiefs for series Champion Josh Brock.

Jack Dossey III was officially crowned the 2018 JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour Presented by Chevrolet Performance Champion, in his third season with the series. Dossey III became the first driver to win back to back Championships and joined Cody Coughlin as the series only two-time Champions. Mason Keller was honored as the DGR-CROSLEY Rookie of the Year Award winner. The former CRA Street Stock competitor also picked up his first ever series win in 2018 at Winchester Speedway on Labor Day Weekend.

Mandy Chick was the 2018 Sunoco Race Fuel Sportsman of the Year Award winner for the JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour. The Jack Dossey III Racing Team was honored as the winner of the series 2018 Allgaier Performance Parts Dedication Award for coming back from some terrible luck during the 2018 season, including two destroyed race cars, to win the Championship. Dossey III was the winner of the Speed51.com Most Popular Driver Award with the series for the third season in a row. Carson Hovecar was honored as the 2018 JAS Expedited Trucking Michigan Cup Champion.

Tony Brutti was honored as the 2018 Vore's Welding CRA Late Model Sportsman Champion, his first ever Championship in anything he's raced in. Chris Shannon was honored as the 2018 DGR-CROSLEY Rookie of the Year Award winner for the series.

Rookie Zachary Tinkle was honored as the CRA Late Model Sportsman PGG Sportsman of the Year Award winner. Varney Brothers Racing, with driver Brandon Varney, were awarded the series

2018 Allgaier Performance Parts Dedication Award for their dedication in battling for the series Championship in their first season competing as regulars with a touring series and overcoming some engine problems. Tinkle was the winner of the series Speed51.com Most Popular Driver Award.

James Kirby III was honored as the 2018 Lawrence Towing CRA Street Stock Champion, his first ever CRA Championship, but not the first in his family. Kirby's father, veteran CRA competitor Jimmy Kirby, was the CRA Street Stock Champion in 2012. Brandon Tregemboe was awarded the 2018 DGR-CROSLEY Rookie of the Year Award for the series.

2018 Five Crown Champion Jake McElfresh was awarded the 2018 PGG Sportsman of the Year Award for the CRA Street Stocks. Schafer Racing, with driver J.J. Schafer, was awarded the series 2018 Allgaier Performance Parts Dedication Award, for their hard work with the series the past two seasons, finishing runner-up in Championship points both seasons and having one of the best appearing cars at every series event.

In all over \$125,000 in cash and product awards were distributed to the 40 CRA teams at the 2018 CRA Awards Banquet Presented by Shepherd Insurance.

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

2019 JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour Schedule Released

SALEM, IN - Champion Racing Association Powered by JEGS has officially released the 2019 schedule for the JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour Presented by Chevrolet Performance. The JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour 2019 schedule will consist of 11 to 12 races, currently there are 11 total events scheduled to date, ten of those are point events, with at least one event to be announced. 2019 will be the ninth season of competition for the crate late model touring series sanctioned by Champion Racing Association.

"We are really excited about the 2019 schedule with the JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour," remarked R.J. Scott, Managing Partner of CRA. "We have a great mix of events on the schedule again that will challenge our drivers throughout the season and provide some great racing for our fans!"

CRA will continue the Chase for

the Championship format for determining a series champion for the 2019 season. The playoff format has produced more teams competing for a championship in every CRA division, both in 2017 and the 2018 seasons.

The 2019 racing season kicks off with the traditional non-points opener for both the ARCA/CRA Super Series Powered by JEGS and the JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour with CRA SpeedFest 2019 at Watermelon Capital Speedway in Cordele, Georgia on Saturday-Sunday, January 25th & 26th. The JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour race will be a 125 lap four tire event, counting yellow flag laps up to lap 100. This event has traditionally attracted the best Pro Late Model drivers from all around the country.

The JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour will kick off its 2019 point season at Flat Rock Speedway located in Flat Rock, Michigan. This will be the series' first ever event at the historic quarter mile, the ARCA/CRA Super Series has competed at the track for several seasons with some very exciting and close racing.

The series will stay in Michigan for its second event of the season at the four tenths mile track at Birch Run Speedway & Event Center located in Birch Run on Sunday, May 18th.

The series will then head south to Bristol Motor Speedway as part of the huge Third Annual Short Track U.S. Nationals, in a 100 lap event on Saturday-Sunday, May 30th & June 1st. That event will be a 100 lap, \$5,000 to win event again in 2019.

The series will then return to Anderson Speedway, in Anderson, Indiana, where the series competed from 2011 through the 2016 season. Two-time series Champion Cody Coughlin won the last series event at Anderson Speedway in 2016, Trent Snyder is a three time series winner at Anderson, from 2011 through 2013.

The series will then visit Baer Field Motorsports Park, located in Fort Wayne, Indiana for a special Sunday, July 7th 100 lap event.

The series will return to Michigan for an August 10th race at Berlin Raceway. The fourth and final Michigan race of the 2019 season will take place at Owosso Speedway on Saturday, August 24th. The Owosso event will be the first race of the series Chase.

The series will then head to the legendary 1/2 mile high-banks of Winchester Speedway in

(Continued Next Page)

Continued...

Winchester, Indiana on Sunday, September 1st to kick off the famous World Stock Car Festival on Labor Day Weekend. That event will be the second race of the series Chase.

The series will then be the featured event at Fall Brawl 2019 at Lucas Oil Raceway just outside of Indianapolis, Indiana on Saturday-Sunday, September

14th & 15th, the third event of the series Chase.

The JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour will crown their 2019 Tour Champion at Winchester Speedway as part of the 48th Annual Winchester 400 Weekend on Friday, October 11th in its second visit of the season to Winchester Speedway.

For more information about all four touring series' within Champion Racing Association, please go to the series website at: www.cra-racing.com.

You can also follow CRA on Facebook at: [facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/cra-racing) and search for "Champion Racing Association" as well as Twitter at: www.twitter.com/CRAracing.

CRA Releases 2019 Vore's Welding CRA Late Model Sportsman Schedule

SALEM, IN - Champion Racing Association Powered by JEGS officials have released the 2019 schedule for the Vore's Welding CRA Late Model Sportsman Powered by JEGS. 2019 will be the 14th season of competition for the Vore's Welding CRA Late Model Sportsman Series that crowned Tony Brutti as its 2018 Champion.

The 2019 Vore's Welding CRA Late Model Sportsman schedule has 11 events scheduled to date with one TBA, including the Triple Crown Series that will feature three 100-lap, \$2000 to win events, and a points fund that will pay the Triple Crown Champion \$1000. There will also be two random draw winners for \$500 each from all teams that have attended all three Triple Crown events. Jeff Marcum won two of the three Triple Crown events in 2018 and was the 2018 Triple Crown Champion.

The Vore's Welding CRA Late Model Sportsman will have three events at Anderson Speedway lo-

cated in Anderson, Indiana, including one Triple Crown event. The series will have two events at Mt. Lawn Speedway, located in New Castle, Indiana and Baer Field Motorsports Park, located in Fort Wayne, Indiana, with each track hosting one Triple Crown event. The series will have two events each at Lucas Oil Raceway, located just west of Indianapolis in Brownsburg, Indiana, and at Winchester Speedway, located in Winchester, Indiana.

CRA will continue the Chase for the Championship format for determining a series champion for the 2019 season. The playoff format has produced more teams competing for a championship in every CRA division, both in 2017 and the 2018 seasons.

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

2019 ARCA/CRA Super Series Powered by JEGS Schedule Released

SALEM, IN - Champion Racing Association Powered by JEGS has officially released the 2019 Schedule for the ARCA/CRA Super Series Powered by JEGS. The ARCA/CRA Super Series 2019 season will consist of 14 total races, with 11 of those being point events. 2019 will be the 23rd season of competition for the Template Super Late Model touring series that first raced in 1997.

"We are really excited about the 2019 schedule with the ARCA/CRA Super Series," remarked R.J. Scott, Managing Partner of CRA. "Our 23rd season will provide our drivers with a great variety of challenging races on some of the best race tracks in the nation, with some of the most prestigious late model events in the country!"

CRA will continue the Chase for the Championship format for determining a series champion for the 2019 season. The playoff format has produced more teams competing for a championship in every CRA division, both in 2017 and the 2018 seasons.

The 2019 racing season kicks off with the traditional non-points opener for both the ARCA/CRA Super Series and the JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour with CRA SpeedFest 2019 at Watermelon Capital Speedway in Cordele, Georgia on Saturday-Sunday, January 25th & 26th. The ARCA/CRA Super Series race will be a 200 lap event, counting yellow flag laps up to lap 175.

This event has traditionally attracted the best Super Late Model drivers from both the North and the South in this early season battle.

The ARCA/CRA Super Series will then kick off its 2019 point season on Saturday, April 6th at Anderson Speedway, located in Anderson, Indiana, with a 125 lap event, the first of two events on the fast quarter mile oval. The series will then travel to Toledo Speedway, located in Toledo, on Saturday, April 20th for a 100 lap event with the outlaw-bodied ARCA Late Models also having a 100 lap feature. That event will be the first of two series events at Toledo Speedway in 2019.

The series will then head to the famous Fairgrounds Speedway in Nashville, Tennessee for a 100 lap event on May 4th. The event will be a co-sanctioned event with the Southern Super Series and the CARS Tour and the race program will include the ARCA Racing Series Presented by Menards.

The series will then head to Bristol Motor Speedway as part of the huge Third Annual Short Track U.S. Nationals, an event that will be co-sanctioned by the Southern Super Series and the CARS Tour on Friday-Saturday May 30th & June 1st. That event will be a 100 lap, \$10,000 to win event again in 2019.

On Monday, June 10th the series will head to Berlin Raceway, in Marne, Michigan for the \$20,000 to win Money in the Bank 150. This will be a special non-points CRA sanctioned event again in 2019. The series stays in Michigan for its next event at Flat Rock Speedway on Saturday, June 22nd.

On Monday, July 15th the series returns to Anderson Speedway for the famed Redbud 400. The event returned to a Monday event last season, and will be held the Monday after the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series event at Kentucky Speedway. The series will then head to Baer Field Motorsports Park in Fort Wayne, IN on Saturday, July 27th.

The series will head back to Kalamazoo Speedway located just outside of Kalamazoo, Michigan to be part of the famous Kalamazoo Klash event on Wednesday, August 7th. That event will be the first Chase event for the series.

The series will then make its first of two visits to the famous High Banks of Winchester Speedway located in Winchester, Indiana for the traditional World Stock Car Festival over Labor Day Weekend, with the feature event on Monday, September 2nd. This event will be the sec-

ond Chase event for the series.

The series will then head to the famed Lucas Oil Raceway, located just outside of Indianapolis, Indiana on Saturday, September 7th. That event will be the Speed51 Super Select, a winner-take-all invitational non-points race that will pay the winner up to \$10,000. The event was cancel in 2018 because of heavy rain.

The second visit to Toledo Speedway on Saturday, September 21st is up next for a 100 lap event as part of the famed Glass City 200, which will also include a 100 lap event for the outlaw-bodied ARCA Late Models. That event will be the third Chase event for the series.

The ARCA/CRA Super Series will crown their 2019 Tour Champion with the 48th running of the prestigious Winchester 400 on Sunday, October 13th, in its second visit of the season to Winchester Speedway.

AP Racing Continues Official Product Sponsorship Program

SALEM, IN - Officials of Champion Racing Association Powered by JEGS and Essex Parts Services have announced that AP Racing will continue its Official Product Sponsor program with CRA for the 2019 racing season. AP Racing will continue to be the Official Brake System and Brake Fluid of the ARCA/CRA Super Series Powered by JEGS and the JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour Presented by Chevrolet Performance. 2019 will be the 14th straight season AP Racing, has supported the ARCA/CRA Super Series with the program and it will be the ninth straight season it has supported the JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour.

AP Racing, through its exclusive U.S. Stock Car Distributor Essex Parts Services, will award a pair of AP Racing Brake Discs to the 6th place finisher at each ARCA/CRA Super Series and JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour event during the 2019 season. In addition, AP Racing will award a pair AP Racing Brake Discs to the 6th place finisher in each series final points and to each series Champion, as well as each series Rookie of the Year. AP Racing will also continue to be a major point's fund sponsor of the ARCA/CRA Super Series and JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour CRA series.

AP Racing Brake Systems and Brake Fluid can be purchased at www.essexparts.com.

PASS Super Late Model Open Added For Richmond; Commonwealth Classic Entry Forms Posted

NAPLES, ME - Pro All Stars Series (PASS) officials announced an additional event for the inaugural PASS Commonwealth Classic at Richmond Raceway slated for Saturday, March 30. The PASS National Championship Super Late Models will headline the Commonwealth Classic and will now feature a Super Late Model Open race, along with a race for Stock Crate Super Late Models. Both races will be 75 laps and will pay \$7,000 to win and \$700 to start. For drivers opting to compete in both events, they will be allowed to use their highest finish to count towards the 2019 PASS National Championship.

"We originally looked at making this a race for Stock Crates only, but we received an overwhelming amount of feedback from teams with built, spec and other types of engine combinations so we decided to have two separate races," said PASS President Tom Mayberry. "In the end, the fans are definitely the biggest winners. Now instead of seeing five events, they will have six great races to watch at Richmond. It makes this weekend of grassroots racing even bigger."

In addition to the Twin 75s for the PASS Super Late Models, fans will see another 75-lapper for the Tour-Type Modifieds in their return to Richmond Raceway for the first time since 2002. Additionally, the MASS Street Stocks will race for 40 laps in their first trip to Richmond, while the American-Canadian Tour (ACT) Late Models will race for 65 laps. And, the 4-Cylinders will complete this amazing night of grassroots short track racing.

Entry forms for the PASS Super Late Model, Tour-Type Modifieds, and MASS Street Stocks, along with 2019 license forms and Richmond garage stall reservation forms, are now available at ProAllStarsSeries.com. ACT Late Model teams can find entry forms at act-tour.com and 4-Cylinder entry forms are available northeastmini-stocktour.com.

Optional hauler parking and safety inspection will be held on Thursday, March 28 from Noon to

4 PM. A practice day for all divisions is scheduled for Friday, March 29 from 11 AM to 5 PM. On Saturday, March 30, additional practice will start at 9 AM, followed by qualifying at 1 PM, and racing set to begin at 3 PM, all ending under the lights at Richmond Raceway. Sunday, March 31 has been confirmed and will be available if a rain date is needed.

The PASS Commonwealth Classic at Richmond Raceway will be a featured event on the expanded PASS National Championship Series in 2019. Now entering its 12th season, Super Late Model racing's only true national championship will bring drivers together from all over North America to compete this Spring at Richmond Raceway.

To purchase tickets or for entry forms and additional information on the PASS Commonwealth Classic at Richmond, please go to ProAllStarsSeries.com or RichmondRaceway.com.

The Pro All Stars Series is recognized as North America's premier sanctioning body for asphalt Super Late Models and boasts such marquee events as the legendary Oxford 250 at Oxford Plains Speedway, PASS South's Easter Bunny 150 at the historic Hickory Motor Speedway, and the inaugural Commonwealth Classic at Richmond Raceway.

For technical information concerning all PASS divisions send questions to passracing@roadrunner.com. For media or marketing questions, please contact Alan Dietz at 704-231-2039 or alandietzpass@live.com.

And, don't forget to "Like" the Pro All Stars Series on Facebook or follow us on Twitter @PASSSLM14 to keep up with breaking news as it happens.

Richmond Raceway is America's Premier Short Track annually hosting two NASCAR race weekends, featuring the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series and NASCAR XFINITY Series, on a ¾-mile D-shaped oval. Richmond is a regional leader for events including sports, live music and consumer trade shows. The Richmond Raceway Complex's 1,000 plus acre multipurpose facility hosts more than 200 live events annually in-

cluding concerts with top national recording artists at The Classic Amphitheater.

To learn more, visit richmond-draceway.com and richmond-racewaycomplex.com.

PASS Releases 2019 North & National Schedules

The Pro All Stars Series (PASS) released schedules for the 2019 PASS North and PASS National Championship seasons on Friday afternoon. In all, PASS will sanction 22 Super Late Model events next year, with six of those events being national events.

Once again, the schedule is highlighted by the 46th Annual Oxford 250 on August 25 at Oxford Plains Speedway (ME). The \$25,000-to-win crown jewel event attracted 55 Super Late Models in 2018.

The 2019 PASS National schedule will get underway on February 23 at Dillon Motor Speedway (SC) before heading to Richmond Raceway on March 30 for the inaugural Commonwealth Classic.

From there, the next national race will be the prestigious Easter Bunny 150 at Hickory Motor Speedway on April 20.

A new event on the national schedule, a visit to New Hampshire Motor Speedway for the New England Short Track Showdown, will be held June 23 at "The Magic Mile."

The Oxford 250 will serve as the penultimate PASS National Championship event, leading into the season finale at Seekonk Speedway on October 26.

Drivers from the north will kick off the 2019 PASS North season on April 14 at Oxford Plains Speedway, a track that averaged 41 Super Late Models for PASS events in 2018. That event includes a rain date of April 28 if Mother Nature chooses not to cooperate.

Following the opener at Oxford, the PASS North Super Late Models will travel south to Epping, New Hampshire for a battle at the Star Speedway bullring on May 11. A busy month of May will continue on May 19 before PASS makes its first stop at Thunder Road Int'l Speedbowl (VT) on May 26.

As the temperatures rise, the fastest full-bodied cars in the Northeast will return to Oxford Plains on

June 6. After a week off, the stars and cars of the Pro All Stars Series will make their annual trip north to Speedway 95 in Hermon, Maine on June 16.

After making a stop at "The Magic Mile" in Loudon, New Hampshire on June 23, PASS will return to Oxford for the Non-Winner's race on June 30. That race will not be a points-counting event for PASS North or the PASS National Championship.

A to-be-determined date is listed on the schedule for July 7, leading into the final Oxford 250 tune-up at Oxford Plains on July 14.

PASS North will make its first of two stops at White Mountain Motorsports Park (NH) on July 20. Another to-be-determined date is listed on the PASS North schedule for Wednesday, July 31.

The final race before the Oxford 250 will be held on August 4 when drivers and teams head north to Spud Speedway in Caribou, Maine.

Following the Oxford 250 on August 25, PASS North will have some time off before returning to Oxford Plains on September 15 for the fifth of six scheduled races at the track in 2019.

Six days later, PASS will head back to the White Mountains of New Hampshire for their second date at White Mountain Motorsports Park on September 21.

For the second straight year, PASS will race on Milk Bowl weekend at Thunder Road. After racing on Friday last year, PASS will have the spotlight on Saturday night, September 28 this time around.

PASS will return to Oxford Plains for the final time in 2019 on October 19 before heading to Seekonk Speedway in Seekonk, Massachusetts on October 26.

A final to-be-determined race for PASS Super Late Models is on the schedule for November 9.

In addition to announcing schedules for PASS North and the PASS National Championship, series officials also released the 2019 PASS Modified schedule. Officials anticipate adding two additional Sunday races to the schedule at a later date.



Tony Stewart Dominates Final Night of Action at Bubba Raceway Park

OCALA, FL - Despite an early afternoon rain shower nearly terminating the third and final night of Winter Nationals competition featuring the Ollie's Bargain Outlet All Star Circuit of Champions presented by Mobil 1, the show went on and so did Tony Stewart, eventually dominating the entire program for a fourth-ever All Star main event win, as well as a \$5,000 top prize. It was Stewart's first-ever All Star victory at Bubba Raceway Park.

Stewart, driver of the Tony Stewart/Curb-Agajanian Racing/Rush Truck Centers/Curb Records/Sage Fruit/No. 14 sprint car, started from the pole position and led all 30 circuits around Bubba Raceway Park, lapping nearly half of the 24 feature starters. On top of a dominating feature performance, Smoke kicked off the evening program with a heat race victory and a dash victory, ultimately setting up his main event starting position.

"This definitely feels great. We have our friends from Sage Fruit and Rush Truck Centers watching so to get a win for those guys is really special. I felt like I let one get away the other night. I'm still not sure what I did wrong, but we let that one get away," Tony Stewart said in Bubba Raceway Park victory lane. "This thing has been fast all weekend. We really didn't qualify that well tonight, but it put us on the pole of a heat race and that's where you need to be for these races. I

Not even lapped traffic gave Stewart a stir, actually separating himself from second place running Lucas Wolfe by nearly eight seconds through the midpoint of the main event. Unfortunately for Stewart, the second and final caution, appearing on lap 25, ended his commanding lead, eventually setting up a six lap dash to the checkers. Despite a slight slip off of turn four, nothing was stopping the former three-time NASCAR Cup Series champion from attaining his first sprint car win of the season.

"We were actually a little too tight, believe it or not, which made things a little difficult for us," Tony Stewart continued. "That's the thing about Bubba Raceway Park; you

won't find another race track in the world that is shaped like this, which sets up a lot of unique passing opportunities. You kinda have to watch traffic for a few laps before you get to those guys so you know how to get around them."

Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania's Lucas Wolfe finished second to close out the weekend in Ocala, followed by Paul McMahan, Mark Smith, and the winner of the Thursday and Friday programs, Tim Shaffer.

All Star teams will now make their way east across Route 40 and visit Volusia Speedway Park for DIRTcar Nationals competition on Wednesday and Thursday, February 6 & 7. The pair of Volusia visits will award \$5,000 top prizes, as well as conclude action in the Sunshine State for America's Series.

Those seeking additional news and notes regarding the DIRTcar Nationals at Volusia Speedway Park should visit the event online at www.dirtcarnationals.com.

Tim Shaffer Two-For-Two During Winter Nationals Action at Bubba Raceway Park

OCALA, FL - For the second time in as many nights, the 'Steel City Outlaw' Tim Shaffer is a main event winner with the Ollie's Bargain Outlet All Star Circuit of Champions presented by Mobil 1, padding a recent stretch of Florida dominance that now includes back-to-back \$5,000 top prizes. For Shaffer, the All Star victory was the product of patience and experience, forced to manhandle periods of slower traffic on a narrow, but ultra-fast racing surface, all while maintaining an advantage equal to just under four seconds for much of the 30-lap program.

World of Outlaws competitor and fellow Pennsylvania-native, Jacob Allen, finished just behind Tim Shaffer at the final checkers, followed by Visalia, California's Cory Eliason, Mark Smith and former All Star champion, Chad Kemenah. The victory, Shaffer's fifth All Star triumph at Bubba Raceway Park, increased his career win total with the Series to a staggering 66.

"This is really great. Everyone is doing a great job. It's great to have my car owners here this weekend.



Tony Stewart celebrates in victory lane after dominating the final night of action at Bubba Raceway Park, his first win at the track. (Paul Arch photo)

It's really special for them to be here and watch the car win," Tim Shaffer explained, driver of the Demyan-Rudzick Racing/Smith Titanium/Southern Pacific Farms/No. 49X sprint car. "Everyone plays a big part and I certainly wouldn't be here without them."

Starting third on the main event grid, it was not until after the feature's first and only caution on lap five, the product of a slowing Jim Shuster, that Shaffer commenced his pursuit toward the front. Restarting third on the grid when green flag action returned, it was the soon-to-be traffic that appeared on lap eight that allowed the Aliquippa, Pa., native to track down Cory Eliason and race-long leader, Jacob Allen.

A bold dive in turns three and four on lap 12 allowed Shaffer to squeeze underneath Eliason to take the runner-up position. Just two circuits later, Shaffer repeated his now patented move in turns three and four, eventually sneaking under Jacob Allen to snag the top spot.

From that point forward, Tim Shaffer was the main attraction. The four-time All Star Circuit of Champions champion was not distracted by periods of intense traffic, ultimately increasing his margin of victory to just shy of four seconds by the time the final checkers flew.

"I have a lot of years of experience. I've been in their shoes before and I hate to be there," Tim Shaffer said of Cory Eliason and Jacob Allen. "When you're leading and there are lap cars, it's tough to get your timing correct. Tonight was one of those nights where you had

to get your timing down. It's so tough down here."

The Ollie's Bargain Outlet All Star Circuit of Champions presented by Mobil 1 will conclude their three-day visit to Bubba Raceway Park on Saturday evening, February 2. Like the pair of evenings prior, the All Star Winter Nationals finale will award a \$5,000 top prize.

Once Winter Nationals action at Bubba Raceway Park is complete, All Star teams will make their way east across Route 40 and visit Volusia Speedway Park for DIRTcar Nationals competition on Wednesday and Thursdays, February 6 & 7. The pair of Volusia visits will award \$5,000 top prizes, as well as conclude action in the Sunshine State for America's Series.

Those seeking additional news and notes regarding Bubba Raceway Park's Winter Nationals program should visit the facility live on the Web at www.bubbaraceway-park.com. News and notes pertaining to Volusia Speedway Park can also be found online at www.dirtcarnationals.com.

Shaffer Opens 2019 All Star Season with Exciting Victory at Bubba Raceway Park

OCALA, FL - Tim Shaffer's effort on Thursday evening was relentless. Not only did the 'Steel City Outlaw' open the 2019 Ollie's Bargain Outlet All Star Circuit of Champions presented by Mobil 1 season by scoring the Winter Nationals opener at Bubba Raceway Park, (Continued Next Page)

Ollie's Bargain Outlet
All Star Circuit of Champions

Continued...

he was forced to battle, and hold back, three-time NASCAR Cup Series champion Tony Stewart and Bixby, Oklahoma's Shane Stewart in the process.

Shaffer, pilot of the Demyan-Rudzik Racing No. 49X sprint car, earned his \$5,000 top prize from the inside of row two, taking control over the field for the first time on lap 28.

Despite not earning the lead, officially, until the latter stages the 30-lap program, Shaffer was in the hunt the entire distance, actually taking command on lap 19 before it was negated due to the evening's first and only caution.

The All Star Circuit of Champions victory bumped Shaffer's all-time win total to 65 with the Series, now with four at Ocala, Florida's Bubba Raceway Park.

"Racing in second was definitely the ideal place to be tonight," Tim Shaffer explained. "My guys gave me a great race car. This whole team works so hard and it really pays off. The track was a little tricky tonight, some dry-slick spots and some spots with moisture. I just tried to find as much moisture as I could find. We are all standing here in victory lane and that's all that matters today."

Despite slipping back as far as fifth after the initial start, Shaffer re-



Tim Shaffer takes the checkered flag during the Winter Nationals at Bubba Raceway Park. Shaffer went two-for-two winning the opening night and the next night action as well. (Paul Arch photo)

covered in a hurry and battled his way into second around Chad Kernenah and Sheldon Haudenschild by the completion of lap four. With slower cars coming into play by lap six, the transition from clean air to dirty air acted as an advantage for the Aliquippa-native, actually allowing Shaffer to reel in race leader, Tony Stewart, to less than a car length by lap nine.

The top two cars raced nearly nose to tail until the main event's first and only caution appeared on lap 19. During that period before the yellow flags flew, Shaffer made countless attempts to work around Stewart in traffic, actually poking his nose ahead and racing his way alongside the familiar Tony Stewart/Curb-Agajanian Racing entry.

Despite getting the opportunity

to start on the tail tank of Stewart's No. 14, the lap 19 restart paid no favors to the four-time All Star Circuit of Champions title holder, actually losing one position to the machine driven by Shane Stewart. Five circuits later, Stewart advanced in the running order yet again, this time driving around Tony Stewart to take command for the first time on lap 24. Although dominant during his short tenure on top, Tony Stewart was able to battle back and regain the lead on lap 25, slipping up in front of Shane Stewart as the pair exited turn four.

Meanwhile, Shaffer, who was directly behind the lead pair as they weaved through traffic, garnered enough momentum to advance back into the runner-spot on lap 26. Just two circuits later, Shaffer was again in contention for the top spot, eventually beating Tony Stewart in drag race back to the flagstand to put lap 28 in the books. From that point forward, it was all Tim Shaffer, pulling ahead to just over one second by the time the final checkers flew.

"There is nothing wrong with finishing third to guys like Shane Stewart and Tim Shaffer," Tony Stewart said, who started second on the feature grid. "I think I may have sealed over my tires during that restart. I probably spun the tires more than I needed to. It doesn't actually wear down the tire, I just wasn't getting any bite. Making little mistakes like that shows you what kind of pressure you are under as a driver racing with this level of competition."

FIVE STAR RaceCar Bodies

ULTRAGLASS **DESIGNED TO WIN!**

BODY PANELS THAT DEFLECT 300% FURTHER BEFORE BREAKING=LESS DEBRIS ON THE TRACK!

CASEY RODERICK CHOOSES FIVE STAR!

PHOENIX 7

THE DIFFERENCE IS QUALITY!
www.FIVESTARBODIES.com | 262.877.2171

ISO 9001:2008 QUALITY CERTIFIED

NOS® Energy Drink Steps it Up as World of Outlaws Sprint Car Series Title Sponsor

CONCORD, NC - The World of Outlaws announced today a multi-year agreement with NOS® Energy Drink, elevating the brand as the new title sponsor of the now World of Outlaws NOS® Energy Drink Sprint Car Series.

"NOS Energy joined the World of Outlaws last season, and we couldn't be prouder to have them expand their involvement and become our title sponsor," said World of Outlaws CEO Brian Carter. "The Greatest Show on Dirt runs the fiercest schedule in all of motorsports, so our drivers, crews and fans need all the horsepower and stamina they can get."

NOS Energy contains CMLPX6 for high-performance energy and enhanced mental focus for those who want to stay ahead of the pack as the World of Outlaws drivers do. With 92 races at 47 tracks in 25 states, these teams live life in the fast lane, spending more than 250 days of the year and over 30,000 highway miles on the road from race to race.

"The response last season from World of Outlaws fans, drivers and really the whole community was pretty overwhelming and is really the biggest factor in our decision to expand our involvement," said Lauren Albano, Marketing Director for NOS Energy Drink. "The World of Outlaws brand of racing is authentic, raw and contagious, and we are more than excited to continue to fuel the sport's passion on and off the track."

In addition to the Series sponsorship, NOS Energy will continue as title sponsor of the No. 17 Stenhouse Jr. Marshall Racing team with Sheldon Haudenschield behind the wheel. Last year, the 2017 Rookie of the year scored his first-ever win in his new NOS Energy car, and went on to win four more for a total of five wins on the season. The NOS Energy team will compete full time with the World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Series again in 2019, kicking off the season in Florida at DIRTcar Nationals from Feb 5-16.

To learn more about NOS® Energy visit drinknos.com. Follow

NOS on Facebook, on Twitter and on Instagram.

Follow the World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

92 Races in 25 States

CONCORD, NC - With great excitement, the World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series announces its 2019 schedule that will see The Greatest Show on Dirt invade 25 different states and compete 92 times at 53 different facilities throughout the season. The full 2019 World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series schedule can be viewed here.

With driver and team changes taking the majority of the early off-season spotlight, the official announcement of the full schedule heightens the excitement for the 2019 season as the days wind down until the 48th Annual DIRTcar Nationals at Volusia Speedway Park on February 5th-16th in Barberville, FL.

Following Florida, the World of Outlaws will head west with stops in Texas and Las Vegas before spending the entire month of March in California, where the Series will stop at eight different facilities, including the return to Keller Auto Speedway in Hanford on Friday, March 29.

An additional date in Arizona at USA Raceway in Tucson will open April before the Series heads east for the \$20,000-to-win Texas Outlaw Nationals at Devil's Bowl Speedway in Mesquite, TX on April 12-13.

May remains consistent, with the Series' first visit of the season to the East Coast with stops in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York and North Carolina.

May crosses into June with the much-anticipated inaugural \$25,000-to-win Music City Outlaw Nationals at Nashville Fairgrounds Speedway that will take place Friday, May 31 and Saturday, June 1 in the heart of Music City, TN.

With the premier drivers comes premier events and as the summer begins to heat up, the World of Outlaws will take center stage at every marquee event, starting at the three-day, \$41,000-to-win Jackson

Nationals in Jackson, MN.

Kings Royal weekend at the famous Eldora Speedway promises to be one to remember as a significant purse increase has been confirmed.

Following Kings Royal, the Outlaws will take place in four straight events that pay at least \$20,000-to-win at Lernerville Speedway (Don Martin Memorial Silver Cup), Williams Grove Speedway (Champion Racing Oil Summer Nationals) and Federated Auto Parts Raceway at I-55 (Ironman 55) before ending the lucrative stretch at "The Granddaddy of Them All" the Knoxville Nationals.

Following the Nationals, the Outlaws will head west once again with stops in the Dakotas and Montana before their annual stop in Washington and Oregon and fall swing through California. Added to the fall West Coast swing is the Series inaugural visit to Fernley 95A Speedway in Nevada on Sunday, September 15.

A return of the two-day Boot Hill Showdown at Dodge City Raceway Park and the final stops of the year at the popular Eldora and Lernerville Speedway's lead the Outlaws to the Champion Racing Oil National Open at Williams Grove Speedway, which will pay \$56,000-to-win.

After a final cycle through the Midwest, the World of Outlaws will finish up on the East Coast at Port Royal Speedway before concluding the season alongside the World of Outlaws Craftsman Late Model Series and Super DIRTcar Series Big-Block Modifieds at the World Finals at The Dirt Track at Charlotte Motor Speedway on November 7-9.

With new faces, new partners and the same heart-pounding excitement of 800-plus horsepower Sprint Cars, the 2019 World of Outlaws season promises to be nothing short of spectacular.

All 92 nights of Outlaw racing will be available LIVE on DIRTVision.com.

Calistoga Speedway Removed Spring Date from Schedule

CONCORD, NC - Due to ongoing negotiations regarding the operation of the Calistoga Speedway, the World of Outlaws event on Saturday, March 23, has been removed from the 2019 schedule.

The Outlaws are working closely with the facility and new ownership to ensure World of Outlaws racing continues at the facility with plans to return in the fall on Saturday,

Sept. 14, for the Wine Country Outlaw Showdown.

Using the World of Outlaws new Tickets.com platform, tickets were returned and a credit was automatically placed ticketholders' accounts for use at future World of Outlaws events.

World of Outlaws Form California Fire Relief Tour in March

CONCORD, NC - In an effort to assist the healing from the devastating California wildfires, the World of Outlaws NOS® Energy Drink Sprint Car Series and California race tracks have come together to form the Outlaws California Fire Relief Tour, where \$1 of every ticket sold will be donated directly to the California Fire Foundation.

Two separate November wildfires in both Northern and Southern California have left thousands reeling in despair in preparation for the Holiday Season.

In Northern California, for more than a month, Silver Dollar Speedway was the home of the courageous firefighters combatting the country's deadliest wildfire in a century. Simultaneously, a separate wildfire in Southern California distressed their community.

In conjunction with the tracks, the World of Outlaws have formed the Outlaws California Fire Relief Tour that will officially start at Silver Dollar Speedway on Friday, March 15 and end on Saturday, March 30 at Perris Auto Speedway. In addition to the money donated from the ticket sales, Outlaws California Fire Relief Tour shirts will be sold with \$5 from each purchase also going to the California Fire Foundation. Also, a select number of tickets to each event will be donated to local firemen.

"One of the most anticipated stretches of the season, especially for California fans, is the World of Outlaws month-long tour in March through the Golden State," said World of Outlaws COO Tom Deery. "We wanted to do something to help those communities heal and we couldn't be prouder to raise money for the California Fire Foundation and to be donating tickets to the firefighters, who have become heroes to many families."

Fans unable to attend the races in California that would like to participate will be able to purchase the Outlaws California Fire Relief Tour shirt online and will be able to purchase additional tickets to donate the local firemen at WorldofOutlaws.com/tix.

Morton Buildings Joins the World of Outlaws Late Model Family as Title Sponsor

CONCORD, NC - The World of Outlaws announced today that Morton Buildings, the premium wood and steel building construction company in the country, is building on its involvement in dirt track racing by becoming title sponsor of

the Late Model series, now the World of Outlaws Morton Buildings Late Model Series.

"Morton Buildings has been an amazing partner over the past four seasons, and we are honored to have them expand their commitment to our series and sport," said World of Outlaws CEO Brian Carter. "Their level of enthusiasm and constant support has been second to none, and we're excited to have them by our side as we begin this next chapter for the World of Outlaws."

For more than 110 years, Morton Buildings has provided quality custom garages, horse barns, farm storage facilities, workshops, hobby buildings, homes, commercial and municipal facilities to customers across the United States. Today, Morton is the leader in the post-frame construction industry, and continues to innovate and improve building components and techniques. Whether you want a basic storage building or commercial facility, Morton offers a wide variety of features to fit your building vision.

"With over 100 construction centers across the country, we build where the World of Outlaws races," said Morton Buildings Director of Marketing Brian Haraf. "We have quickly learned that our employees love dirt track racing and that World of Outlaws fans are people like us

who believe in quality, craftsmanship and building their dreams from the ground up. We are honored to become a bigger part of the dirt track community as title sponsor of the series."

Through its relationship with the World of Outlaws, the 100-percent employee-owned company hopes to bolster recruiting efforts. "All of our crews are full-time constructing our buildings," said Haraf. "They are seasoned professionals who walk the walk and build the best. They get paid well, and they earn it. This isn't just a job; it's a career, and we hope to find new team members looking for the same at dirt tracks across the country."

The Morton culture of ownership means that from the construction crews and sales consultants, to the plant employees and delivery drivers, no matter who you interact with, you can rest assured you're speaking with a proud owner of the company who wants to make sure that you are completely satisfied and happy. And from a career perspective, it means having a true stake in all of your hard work.

"The dirt track racing community of fans, drivers, owners, tracks and sponsors are the proudest and hardest-working group in all of motorsports, unsurpassed in their passion and dedication, and we are excited to bring them opportunities to work with and for a company like Morton Buildings that shares the same values," said World of Outlaws Chief Marketing Officer Ben Geisler. "We would also like to thank everyone at Craftsman and Sears for their years of support and in some ways, it seems fitting that we move from America's #1 tool brand to America's leader in building."

The World of Outlaws Morton

Buildings Late Model Series enters 2019 with a strong schedule of 51 race nights at 36 different venues, including the season opener at Screven Motor Speedway in Sylvania, GA, before heading off to the legendary DIRTcar Nationals at Volusia Speedway Park.

To learn more about Morton Buildings and career opportunities, visit mortonbuildings.com.

Time to Ring in 2019 with the Release of the New Tour Schedule

CONCORD, NC - The World of Outlaws Craftsman Late Model Series 2019 tour will span 47 races at 36 total tracks in 16 states and includes nine new venues to the schedule, shown below.

The season kicks off on Feb. 8-9 with the Winter Freeze IX at the Screven Motorsports Complex for a two-night show in Sylvania, GA before heading down to Volusia Speedway Park in Barberville, FL for the 48th Annual DIRTcar Nationals, Feb. 13-16. Four straight nights of racing alongside the Super DIRTcar Series will showcase a 50-lap, \$10,000-to-win feature event each night, with each driver's best two finishes being counted towards their season points total.

Several of the multi-day destination events were announced last month (click here to see them), now the full picture of the 2019 season has come into focus.

From Florida, the Series invades Tennessee for a huge weekend, where it will compete March 8 at Duck River Raceway Park in for the first time since 2017 followed by the Tennessee Tipoff at Smoky Mountain Speedway on March 9.

Following the Illini 100 in April, the month of May features seven race nights, with the Outlaws visiting Muskingum County Speedway for the first time since 2010, where 2007 Series Champion Steve Francis picked up the win. Then, fast forward to the end of May and the Series caps off the month at a track

never before tamed by the Outlaws – Cochran Motor Speedway.

The new track trend continues the very next night, June 1 at Lancaster Speedway in Lancaster, SC. This will really throw the Outlaws a curveball, as it's not often the teams see uncharted territory in back-to-back nights. June features six race nights, including the three-day, \$30,000-to-win Firecracker and the third consecutive year where the Outlaws will take on the Summer Nationals stars at Terre Haute Action Track and Federated Auto Parts Raceway @ I-55.

An 11-race month of July, highlighted by the Prairie Dirt Classic, kicks off Independence Day weekend on July 5 at the appropriately named Independence Motor Speedway in Independence, IA. The month will also feature two tracks brand-new to the Series in Wisconsin – July 9 at ABC Raceway in Ashland and July 14 at Red Cedar Speedway in Menomonie.

August features nine race nights, beginning with the \$50,000-to-win USA Nationals at Cedar Lake Speedway in New Richmond, WI and finishes out with visits to the I-96 Speedway in Lake Odessa, MI, for the first time since 2014, and Sharon Speedway for the inaugural Battle at the Border in Hartford, OH. After this final Midwest swing, the stretch run to the championship winds through New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina and Tennessee before concluding with the World of Outlaws World Finals presented by Can-Am championship weekend at The Dirt Track at Charlotte.

"The schedule in 2019 will feature traditional venues and new tracks," Series Director Matt Curl said. "Our trend toward monthly destination events continues to grow while we also build on highly competitive races from Georgia to North Dakota, Missouri to New York. As we saw this past season, the battle for the championship will be intense and we expect it to go down to the wire once again in Charlotte."

Date	Track	Date	Track	Date	Track	Date	Track
Feb 8	Screven Mtspts Complex	May 11	Fayetteville Motor Spwy	July 12	River Cities Speedway	Aug 18	Eriez Speedway
Feb 9	Screven Mtspts Complex	May 17	Muskingum County Spwy	July 13	Ogilvie Speedway	Aug 29	I-96 Speedway
Feb 13	Volusia Speedway Park	May 18	Wayne County Spwy	July 14	Red Cedar Speedway	Aug 30	Sharon Speedway
Feb 14	Volusia Speedway Park	May 31	Cochran Motor Spwy	July 24	Davenport Speedway	Aug 31	Sharon Speedway
Feb	Volusia Speedway Park	June 1	Lancaster Speedway	July 26	Fairbury Speedway	Sept. 19	Stateline Speedway
Feb	Volusia Speedway Park	June 20	Lernerville Speedway	July 27	Fairbury Speedway	Sept. 20	Outlaw Speedway
March 8	Duck River Rwy Park	June 21	Lernerville Speedway	July 29	Plymouth Speedway	Sept. 21	Selinsgrove Speedway
March 9	Smoky Mountain Spwy	June 22	Lernerville Speedway	July 30	Shawano Speedway	Oct 4	Cherokee Speedway
April 5	Farmer City Raceway	June 28	Terre Haute Action Track	Aug 1	Cedar Lake Speedway	Oct 5	411 Motor Speedway
April 6	Farmer City Raceway	June 29	I-55 Raceway	Aug 2	Cedar Lake Speedway	Nov 7	Dirt Track at Charlotte
May 3	Cherokee Speedway	July 5	Independence Motor Spwy	Aug 3	Cedar Lake Speedway	Nov 8	Dirt Track at Charlotte
May 4	Lavonia Speedway	July 6	Deer Creek Speedway	Aug 16	Williams Grove Spwy	Nov 9	Dirt Track at Charlotte
May 10	Fayetteville Motor Spwy	July 9	ABC Raceway	Aug 17	Port Royal Speedway		

Pearson Stars in Front of Hometown Crowd

WAYNESVILLE, GA - Earl Pearson Jr. ran down Scott Bloomquist and took the lead on lap 33 en route to victory on Saturday night during the Rhino Ag Super Bowl of Racing presented by General Tire.

Pearson, the four-time series champion, won for the 38th time in his Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series career.

He leaves Golden Isles with the series points lead heading to East Bay Raceway Park next week. Jonathan Davenport finished second in the main event and trails Pearson by 30 points in the championship chase.

Scott Bloomquist started on the pole and led 23 laps during the feature, ultimately claiming third. Tyler Erb, who won the afternoon event, took fourth, and Brandon Sheppard rounded out the top five.

In a race that saw three different leaders, Jimmy Owens led the first nine laps of the race until Bloomquist forged ahead of him. The two frontrunners then made contact with Owens spinning and getting collected along with Josh Richards. Both cars had to pit for repairs.

With Bloomquist solidly in front and seemingly pulling away, Pearson, who started fifth began to close the gap on the three-time series champion. Pearson tracked down Bloomquist using the high-side of the race track passing him on the outside coming off of turn number two on lap 33. Pearson then saw the race go caution-free until the checkers as he went to victory lane for the first-time in 2019.

In Lucas Oil Victory Lane, Pearson first mentioned his car owner Ronnie Stuckey. "He's been awful sick the past few months. This one's for him. It's always great to win here for my home fans. Me, Scott [Bloomquist] and [Jonathan] Davenport had a heck of a race," said Pearson before the cheers of the fans at the track, which is less than an hour from his home in Jacksonville, Florida.

"Scott just got caught up there with all the lapped traffic. Our car has been good all weekend. Thanks to Lucas Oil and Sunoco and all my guys who came out to help with weekend. It's a dream come true to win here again at

Brunswick. I have seen so many guys that I used to race with down here. It is kind of like a home coming for us."

"Just like today when we got on top up there and kind of cleaned off the top. Our car worked great up top, we weren't as good on the bottom. The car has been good every time we have unloaded it this weekend."

Davenport who led the series with nine wins a year ago came home in second after starting alongside Pearson in row number three.

"Running the top just seemed to kill our tires. My tires got so hot I almost felt like I was getting a flat tire. I had to get off the top and get back down on the track. I cooled my tires off and then got back up top."

Pearson's Black Diamond house car is powered by a Clements Racing Engine and sponsored by: Lucas Oil Products, Tegeler Wrecker and Crane, Sunoco Race Fuels, Moring Motorsports, Etchberger Trucking and P&W Sales.

Completing the top ten were Don O'Neal, Dennis Erb Jr., Gregg Satterlee, Chase Junghans and Jason Jameson.

Tyler Erb Victorious in Best Performance Debut

WAYNESVILLE, GA - Tyler Erb, in his debut as driver of the Best

Performance Motorsports #1, made his way to victory lane in the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series season opener at Golden Isles Speedway.

Erb took the lead from Hudson O'Neal on lap 13 and held the point to claim the Rhino Ag Super Bowl of Racing presented General Tire opener.

Earl Pearson Jr. tried to track down Erb in the final ten laps of the race, but settled for second in the Lucas Oil Products, Clements-powered, Black Diamond Chassis for Ronnie and Terri Stuckey. Jonathan Davenport was third in the Nutrien Ag Solutions, Longhorn for Lance Landers Motorsports.

Completing the top five were Josh Richards and Brandon Sheppard.

Hudson O'Neal, who set a new track record in qualifying on Friday night, started from the pole and led the first 12 laps of the race. O'Neal held the point until he slipped a bit in turn two allowing three drivers to get by him. O'Neal recovered and made his way back to second until he got into the turn one wall, ending his race on lap 27.

Erb then set a steady pace for the remainder of the final 23 laps. Erb encountered lap traffic with ten laps to go. Pearson cut Erb's nearly three second lead down to just five-car lengths at the checkered flag.

Erb was ecstatic in Lucas Oil Victory Lane.

"I want to thank Eric and Kelly Brock and Randall Edwards for having faith in me to drive their car. This is a great way to start the sea-

son! There is so much tough competition here. I was a little worried in traffic, but those guys gave me plenty of room to get by. It was fast today, for sure. I want to thank Wayne Childress of New Point Lighting and Design, and Billy Franklin for helping us out this year."

Pearson, gave the winner his best shot at the end, but ran out of laps.

"I figured I would have to run the top to catch him and we were. We just ran out of time and laps. I was hoping that Davenport would clean off the top for me, but overall it was a good start to the season for us and we will come back tonight and hopefully be one spot better."

Davenport, the two-time and defending series champion, said he should have gone to the top earlier in the race.

"I waited too long to get there. Once we were there the car was really good. I tried to follow Earl [Pearson] up and catch him [Erb], but he was really good today. We have had a lot of success here. Maybe tonight we can pick up the win."

The winner's Best Performance Motorsports, Durham-powered Rocket Chassis is sponsored by: Roberts Bee Company, New Point Lighting and Design, Bazell Race Fuels, Sunoco, Franklin Enterprises, Valvoline, Keyser, and KBC Graphix.

Completing the top ten were Don O'Neal, Scott Bloomquist, Devin Moran, Chase Junghans, and Dennis Erb Jr.



Tyler Erb celebrates in victory lane after winning in the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series season opener at Golden Isles Speedway. (lucasdirt.com photo)

Zachary Madrid Takes San Tan Ford ASCS Desert Sprint Series Season Opener

CASA GRANDE, AZ - Kicking off 2019 the same way he did 2018, defending San Tan Ford ASCS Desert Sprint Series Zachary Madrid rolled the TGR/Maxim No. 34 into Victory Lane Saturday night at Casa Grande's Central Arizona Speedway.

Gridding the 25-lap affair sixth, Madrid worked into the runner-up spot on Lap 10 and began closing on race long leader, Aaron Jones. Having held onto the lead through several early race cautions, the yellow lights on Lap 11 would be the ones to give Madrid his shot with the pilot of the No. 34 taking advantage the following lap.

Able to hold off Jones the remainder of the event, Madrid's win is his 10th with the San Tan Ford ASCS Desert Sprint Series. Aaron Jones would settle for second with Dennis Gile moving from ninth to claim the final podium step. Austin Kuehl crossed fourth with Bruce St. James advancing seven positions to round out the top-five.

Matt Lundy in sixth was trailed by Sterling Cling with Ronald Wester going from 14th to eighth. Tyler Most moved from 17th to ninth with Rick Shuman coming in as the night's Hard Charger with a run from 19th to complete the top-ten.

The San Tan Ford ASCS Desert Sprint Series takes to the track again on Saturday, February 9 at Canyon Speedway Park in Peoria, Ariz. for the Steve Stroud Memorial.

For other news, notes, and information on the American Sprint Car Series, from the National Tour to any of the nine Regional Tours that make up ASCS Nation in 2019, log onto www.ascsracing.com, follow on Facebook, on Instagram, and on Twitter (@LucasOilASCS).

San Tan Ford Desert Sprint Cars Join American Sprint Car Series in 2019

TULSA, OK - Announcing the full 2019 lineup of events, a second ASCS series will be in play in Arizona this year as the San Tan Ford

Desert Sprint Car Series has joined the American Sprint Car Series.

The second Non-Wing Tour to join the American Sprint Car Series in 2019, the San Tan Ford ASCS Desert Sprint Car Series joins the ASCS Elite Non-Wing Series presented by Abilene Powder Coating with 17 dates spread between Arizona Speedway in Queen Creek, Canyon Speedway Park in Peoria, Central Arizona Speedway in Casa Grande, and USA Raceway in Tucson.

Just like the ASCS Elite Non-Wing Series, the series rules for the San Tan Ford ASCS Desert Sprint Car Series will not change.

The move to ASCS sanction provides drivers with the option for ASCS Membership and access to the insurance provided as well as added exposure and the addition of a \$7,500-point fund. The point fund provided by the American Sprint Car Series is in addition to efforts already in place with the series.

While the announcement comes just before this weekend's kickoff to the 2019 season on Saturday, February 2 at Central Arizona Speedway, the reason for the delay on finalizing the schedule was to make sure that USA Raceway in Tucson would be in play. The facility was recently taken over by Jonah Trussel, who also heads Arizona Speedway in Queen Creek, as well as the San Tan series.

A quick breakdown of the 2019 lineup has Arizona Speedway hosting the series on eight occasions with events in March, April, June, September, and November. Canyon Speedway Park will see five nights with Central Arizona Speedway and USA Raceway both seeing action twice.

Jason Rominger will serve as the Competition Director for San Tan Ford ASCS Desert Sprint Car Series. A page is being built for the season at www.ascsracing.com.

First Look: 2019 Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series Lineup

TULSA, OK - Getting a look at the 2019 lineup for the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by Sawblade.com, the Series 28th year of competition is looking at a slate of 51 events. With

a few nights of racing still in the works, more tracks will be finalized as series officials head into the Indoor Racing Season with the Tulsa Shootout and Chili Bowl Nationals.

"Right now, we have five events as TBA as we work out some details, but we're excited to see some tracks returning to the National Tour that has been absent for a few years, as well as continuing to add new tracks," commented ASCS Scheduling Coordinator, Terry Mattox. "We're hoping to announce a few of those TBA events between PRI and the Chili Bowl."

Kicking off the 2019 lineup with the 46th Devil's Bowl Spring Nationals on Friday, March 15 and Saturday, March 16, the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by Sawblade.com stays in the "Lone Star State" through the following weekend as Golden Triangle Raceway Park returns after a five year absence from the tour lineup on Friday, March 22 and Saturday, March 23 thanks to Griffith Truck and Equipment.

Followed by a trio of tracks that take the term "high-banked" very seriously, Eagle Raceway in Eagle, Neb. is set for April 25 with U.S. 36 Raceway on Osborn, Mo. on April 26 and Randolph County Raceway in Moberly, Mo. on April 27.

Setting teams east, the National Tour returns for the Battle of the Groves II at Williams Grove Speedway in Mechanicsburg, Penn. on Friday, May 3 and Selinsgrove Speedway in Selinsgrove, Penn. on Saturday, May 4. Sunday, May 5 is reserved as a rain date for Selinsgrove. Working on details for May 10 and 11, the series first new track of the season comes on May 17 at I-96 Speedway in Lake Odessa, Mich.

Working back to the Midwest for the Memorial Day Weekend, Lake Ozark Speedway is on board for Saturday, May 25 and Sunday, May 26. Steering west back into Texas, Route 66 Motor Speedway in Amarillo on Saturday, June 1 is followed by the Devil's Bowl Speedway Summer Nationals on Tuesday, June 4. Lawton Speedway in Lawton, Okla. follows on Wednesday, June 5 then Creek County Speedway on June 6 before the week wraps up at Salina Speedway in Salina, Kan. on Saturday, June 8.

Kicking off the march to the Northwest, Brown County Speedway in Aberdeen, S.D. is Friday, June 14 with Black Hills Speedway back on the lineup on Saturday, June 15.

A quick jog to Washington will

see a \$15,000 prize up for grabs once again at the 48th Annual Jim Raper Memorial Dirt Cup at Skagit Speedway in Alger, Wash. Thursday, June 20 through Saturday, June 22. On to the Fred Brownfield Classic at Grays Harbor Raceway in Elma, Wash. on June 28 and 29, the series does have a TBA to fill during the Independence Day Weekend.

Expanding the stay in Montana, the Grizzly Nationals at Gallatin Speedway in Belgrade, Mont. on Friday, July 12 and Saturday, July 13 is followed by the return to Billings, Mont. at Big Sky Speedway on Friday, July 19 and Saturday, July 20.

Getting teams back into Iowa for the 29th Knoxville 360 Nationals, the three-night, \$15,000 to win affair is August 1, 2, and 3 and kicks off Southern Iowa Sprint Week. The Ultimate Challenge at Southern Iowa Speedway in Oskaloosa, Iowa takes place on Tuesday, 6 with the tour off until August 18 with things firing back up at Missouri State Fair Speedway in Sedalia, Mo. Riverside International Speedway in West Memphis, Ark. on Saturday, August 24 will lead into Labor Day Weekend with West Burlington, Iowa's 34 Raceway getting its first taste of the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by Sawblade.com on Friday, August 30 before the return to Lake Ozark Speedway for the Lake Ozark 360 National on August 31 and September 1.

Three nights with \$10,000 on the line at the 9th annual Hockett/McMillin Memorial on September 19, 20, and 21, the Creek County Speedway Fall Fling will move to the early weeks of October with the dates falling on October 11, and 12. The Devil's Bowl Winter Nationals hits the following week on October 18 and 19 with the 2019 season wrapping up during NASCAR weekend at Texas Motor Speedway as Tony Stewart presents the Vankor Texas Sprint Nationals on November 1 and November 2.

Dates and venues are subject to change and will be updated at <http://www.ascsracing.com>. Any track interested in being a part of any available dates can contact Terry Mattox at (918) 838-3777. The 2019 Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by Sawblade.com will again be headed by Matt Ward as the series Competition Director. Ashleigh Ward will remain as the head of Timing and Scoring. Announcing

(Continued Next Page)

Continued...

and P.R. will continue to be handled by Bryan Hulbert.

The Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by Sawblade.com is pleased to continue its relationship with Racinboys.com as the series' official online broadcast. Several dates are in the works for broadcast on the MAVTV Motorsports Network as well as LucasOilRacing.tv.

Those events will be announced in the coming weeks.

Elite Non-Wing Sprints Sanctioning With American Sprint Car Series In 2019

TULSA, OK - For the second time, the American Sprint Car Series will sanction Non-Wing Sprint Car racing as the Texas-based Elite Non-Wing Tour will join as an ASCS Regional Tour starting in 2019.

Unlike the former Canyon Region, and all Winged Tours of the American Sprint Car Series, the newly sanctioned Non-Wing Series will not be required to run the ASCS Spec Head but will remain with the series current rules package.

Presented by Abilene Powder Coating, the ASCS Elite Non-Wing Series will see action in Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas in 2019 with 15 tracks making up a 26-race lineup. 281 Speedway in Stephenville, Texas and Big O Speedway in Ennis, Texas will split 10 events between the two ovals in 2019 for the largest share of appearances.

Tracks with a pair of nights include Ark-La-Tex Speedway in Vivian, LA as well as Heart O' Texas Speedway in Waco, I-30 Speedway in Little Rock, Ark., and Rose Bowl Speedway in Winona, Texas.

Remaining tracks on the 2019 tour include Devil's Bowl Speedway (Mesquite, Texas), Grayson County Speedway (Bells, Texas), Route 66 Motor Speedway (Amarillo, Texas), Superbowl Speedway (Greenville, Texas), Timberline Speedway (Corley, Texas), West Texas Raceway (Lubbock, Texas), 82 Speedway (Petty, Texas), and Diamond Park Speedway (Murfreestown, Ark.)

The Abilene Powder Coating ASCS Elite Non-Wing Series is headed by Nathan Moore. Informa-

tion on the series will be posted soon to www.ascsracing.com as the crew with MyRacePass.com finishes the series portal. Teams and tracks can contact Nathan Moore by phone at (903) 780-9934 or by email at elitenonwing-sprints@gmail.com.

ASCS Southwest Region Unveils 2019 Lineup

TULSA, OK - With action spread across Arizona and southern New Mexico, the ASCS Southwest Region is back for its 12th season of competition.

With 18 dates on the 2019 slate, the series will spend 14 of those in Arizona borders with the new Vado Speedway Park, located just south of Las Cruces, N.M. taking holiday weekends for four nights of racing.

Kicking off with a doubleheader at Canyon Speedway Park in Peoria, Ariz. the series will take on the one-third mile oval on Friday, February 22 and Saturday, February 23. The ASCS Southwest Region returns to Canyon Speedway Park again on October 12.

Arizona Speedway follows on Saturday, March 23 for the first of six trips to the Queen Creek oval. Remaining trips are set for May 11, June 29, October 5, and the 2019 Season Finale on November 29 and 30.

Central Arizona Speedway hits the lineup with three nights on April 13, June 22, and November 9. Breathing new life into USA Raceway in Tucson, Ariz. Jonah Trussel, who also heads Arizona Speedway, has taken over the lease on the facility and will have the ASCS Southwest Region in action on April 27 and September 14.

Taking Memorial Day and Labor Day Weekends in 2019, Vado Speedway Park is expected to see action on May 25 and 26 as well as August 31 and September 1.

The series lineup works together for the most part with the recently announced San Tan Ford ASCS Desert Sprint Car Series with several nights run in conjunction with each other. Only the Memorial Day Weekend dates conflict with each other as the San Tan Ford ASCS Desert Sprint Car Series will be at Canyon Speedway Park.

ASCS Sooner Region Returns In 2019 With 20 Dates

TULSA, OK - Making its return after four seasons on the shelf, the American Bank of Oklahoma

ASCS Sooner Region presented by Smiley's Racing Products will take on 20 nights of racing in 2019.

Combining the Sooner and Lone Star Regions in 2015 to form the ASCS Red River Region, the two tours will both return in 2019 to replace the Red River Region. The reason for the two separate regions returning falls back on the cost of travel as several North Texas ovals have come back on board.

"With Red River already going into four states, adding a bunch of dates in Texas would make the series to big for most of our teams," explained ASCS Sooner Region Director, Terry Mattox.

"We did that a little bit with races at Devil's Bowl, for example, with the National Tour and towards the end of the season, everyone was worn out so this way we are able to give teams a solid number of races and still give tracks and fans a quality show."

For the American Bank of Oklahoma ASCS Sooner Region presented by Smiley's Racing Products, the series will see action at 11 facilities across Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma.

Creek County Speedway in Sapulpa, Okla. takes the largest share of shows with seven. Of those, a trio will be co-sanctioned with the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by Sawblade.com. Other Oklahoma ovals include Lawton Speedway, Red Dirt Raceway in Meeker, and Tri-State Speedway in Pocola.

Three nights in Arkansas lands the series at I-30 Speedway in Little Rock with each night joining with the ASCS Mid-South Region.

Rolling into Kansas on six occasions, Heartland Park in Topeka will see a pair of nights with 81-Speedway combining NCRA with ASCS for a single night. Paring again with the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by Sawblade.com, the two tours will join up at Salina Speedway to wrap up the 2019 Sizzlin' Summer Speedweek. The Series will also visit Caney Valley Speedway and Humboldt Speedway.

The lone trip into the state of Missouri for the Impact Signs, Awnings, and Wraps Open Wheel Showdown at Lucas Oil Speedway, the showdown reconvenes between the ASCS Sooner and ASCS Warrior Regions.

The American Bank of Oklahoma ASCS Sooner Region presented by Smiley's Racing Products pays \$2,000 to win, \$300 to start at all events with \$150 going to all non-qualifiers who at-

tempt to race. Co-Sanctioned shows with the National Tour follow the National payout.

The 2019 season will again be headed by Terry Mattox. Any questions about scheduling or rules can be directed to him by calling (918) 838-3777 or emailing ascsterry@gmail.com.

2019 ASCS Registration Now Available

TULSA, OK - Driver and Crew Member Registration for the 2019 season with the American Sprint Car Series is now open.

Drivers can register for their intended series online at www.myracepass.com/register/?n=10044 until June 1, 2019. Drivers running the Brodix ASCS Frontier Region will have until July 1, 2019 due to the season starting later on account of prolonged cold weather in the region. Cost of Driver Membership is \$150.

Along with the required percentage of races contested to be eligible for point fund at the close of the season (70% Regionally and 80% Nationally) a driver must be a member before the deadlines, and remain a member in good standing. Membership Insurance is provided by Reel Media to all paid members and is a supplemental policy good at any ASCS sanctioned event.

Crew Members cannot register online, but instead by phone to (918) 838-3777 or mail to 1141 S. 83rd East Ave. Tulsa, OK 74112. Crew Members receive the same Insurance coverage as Drivers. Cost of the Crew Membership is \$100. All forms can also be turned into the Competition Director for your selected series.

Driver Membership can also be done by phone or mail. Forms can be downloaded at www.ascsracing.com/downloads. The American Sprint Car Series does not require a membership to compete at ASCS events.

It is also highly recommended that anyone who attends a race as a Driver, Crew Member, Official, Photographer, etc. purchase additional insurance through STIDA. ASCS Members receive a discount and with STIDA, is covered regardless of sanction. Information on STIDA can be found at stida.com.

Questions regarding Memberships can be directed to the office of the American Sprint Car Series by calling (918) 838-3777, Monday-Friday, 9:00AM-5:00PM (CT). All forms can also be faxed to (918)836-5517.

Weiss a Winner of \$14K in Wild West Shootout Finale; Sheppard Crowned Champion

SAN TAN VALLEY, AZ - The conclusion of the 13th Annual Keyser Manufacturing Wild West Shootout presented by O'Reilly Auto Parts atop the 1/3-mile FK Rod Ends Arizona Speedway played out in the most unpredictable of fashions with Manitoba's Ricky Weiss cashing for a \$14,000 payday in Sunday night's Shaw Trucking 50-lap Super Late Model finale.

Perhaps with a lucky horseshoe aboard the No. 7 entry, Weiss assumed the point for a green-white-checked restart after Scott Bloomquist crashed into a stopped car less than a half-lap away from the checkered flag.

Earlier in the race, Bloomquist had taken command when Bobby Pierce surrendered the point with rear end failure.

"I hate to see that," Weiss said of Bloomquist's last lap misfortune. "He was checked out, he was gone."

While Weiss topped the Late Model finale, Ricky Thornton, Jr., bested the Modifieds and Cole Searing added his fourth win of the six-race miniseries in X Modified competition with Darrell Nelson topping the makeup Modified main event from the previous night.

Brandon Sheppard earned the Wild West Shootout championship in the Modified ranks with Nelson capturing Modified title honors and Searing scoring X Modified championship honors for the second year in a row.

In the 50-lap Black Diamond Super Late Models presented by M&W Transport feature event, Bobby Pierce once again battled into the lead on the opening round and was gunning to bump Keyser Quarter Million Challenge bonus from \$10,000 to \$25,000 with a fourth win of the week.

And for much of the race, it appeared that the Illinois racer would do just that.

But for the second night in a row, Pierce slowed near the midway point to bring out a caution. This time, it came after 27 laps with race-ending rear end woes that handed the lead off to Bloomquist.

Closing in on his first career Wild West Shootout win, Bloomquist held nearly a half straightaway lead as he took the white flag only to have disaster strike when he tagged the car of R.C. Whitwell that was backed into the turn three wall.

Weiss, who had worked his way towards the front from 11th, found himself out front on the restart and raced on to his second victory of the week.

Brandon Overton chased Weiss to the line in second with Brandon Sheppard, Chase Junghans and Jimmy Mars rounding out the top five.

Sheppard's sixth top-five run in as many events including one runner-up finish, two third-place showing, one fourth-place finish and a fifth-place outing was enough to net the 13th Annual Wild West Shootout championship.

Darrell Nelson opened the night by fending off Rodney Sanders to win the 25-lap Mesilla Valley Transportation/Border International Modifieds presented by Arizona Differential feature event postponed from Saturday night while Ricky Thornton, Jr., became the first repeat winner of the week by leading Sanders and Dereck Ramirez to the stripe in the finale.

Five top-fives in six events including the makeup feature win gave Nelson the Wild West Shootout Modified championship by just nine points over Sanders.

South Dakota's Cole Searing put an exclamation point on a second consecutive Wild West Shootout championship effort in the RHR-Swag.com X-Mods presented by Barnett Harley-Davidson ranks by racing to his fourth win of the week ahead of Austin Hunter and Preston Carr in the 20-lap finale.

After winning three of six features last year, Searing upped it to four along with a runner-up and a third-place finish to take the title by a comfortable 76 point advantage.

Dillard Dials Up Wild West Shootout Saturday Loot as Searing Strikes Again

SAN TAN VALLEY, AZ - Cade Dillard got his first taste of Keyser Manufacturing Wild West Shootout presented by O'Reilly Auto Parts



Brandon Sheppard was crowned champion for the 13th Annual Keyser Manufacturing Wild West Shootout. (Tom Macht photo)

glory by racing to victory lane in the fifth of six rounds of the 13th Annual event on Saturday night atop the 1/3-mile FK Rod Ends Arizona Speedway clay oval.

The Robeline, Louisiana racer took quick advantage of Bobby Pierce's mid-race misfortune and then fought off a late-race bid from Scott Bloomquist in the 40-lapper to collect the \$5,000 winner's share in Hoker Trucking Victory Lane.

While Dillard took the spotlight amidst on-and-off light rain, Cole Searing added another X Modified triumph while the Modified feature was ultimately postponed to Sunday's finale due to persistent light showers that rendered track conditions unsafe to race upon.

In the 40-lap Black Diamond Super Late Models presented by M&W Transport feature event, Bobby Pierce battled into the early from the front row outside and appeared poised to capture a fourth Wild West Shootout win of the week that would have pushed his Keyser Quarter Million bonus from \$10,000 to \$25,000 with the potential to make it a cool \$100K with another triumph in the Sunday finale.

The storyline made a dramatic shift after 18 laps however when Pierce came to a stop in turn four with a cut right rear tire.

Suddenly, after battling past Hudson O'Neal for second a half-dozen rounds early, Dillard found himself in the driver's seat. And, he didn't squander the opportunity, even with the legendary Scott Bloomquist giving chase.

Racing through traffic over the final 15 rounds, Bloomquist's best opportunity came on the 35th lap when Dillard's momentum was briefly interrupted by a lapped car. Bloomquist pulled alongside on the backstretch, but Dillard countered adeptly and made a couple of swift moves through traffic to put the win

away.

Bloomquist settled for second with O'Neal filling out the podium with his second third-place finish of the mini-series. After winning the matinee feature earlier in the day, Canadian Ricky Weiss was fourth with Brandon Sheppard rounding out the top five.

After putting on a new right rear tire, Pierce started at the tail of the field and rallied through the pack to salvage a ninth-place finish that gives him an 18-point advantage over Sheppard in Wild West Shootout points going into Sunday's \$14,000-to-win Shaw Trucking finale.

In the 20-lap RHRSwag.com X-Mods presented by Barnett Harley-Davidson feature event, Huron, South Dakota's weathered a mid-race rain interruption and then collected his third win of the week after starting sixth.

Searing was chased to the line by Josh Cain with Skyler Smith, Jason VandeKamp and Steve Muilenburg among the top five.

Pierce Makes it Three in a Row at Wild West Shootout – Sanders and Cain Score as Well

SAN TAN VALLEY, AZ - Oakwood, Illinois' Bobby Pierce continues to find Arizona's desert setting to his liking as he raced to his third Keyser Manufacturing Wild West Shootout presented by O'Reilly Auto Parts feature win in as many events at FK Rod Ends Arizona Speedway by racing to victory lane in Friday night's 30-lap feature.

Pierce railed the topside around Kyle Beard on the 20th round en route to Hoker Trucking Victory Lane and another \$5,000 payday

(Continued Next Page)

Continued...

with Rodney Sanders and Josh Cain both picking off their first wins of the 13th Annual Wild West Shootout in Modified and X Modified action, respectively.

With his third win the six-race mini-series, Pierce has already secured a minimum \$10,000 bonus courtesy of the Keyser's Quarter-Million Challenge and is still in contention to

add more with three events over the next two days.

Another triumph by Pierce will push his bonus to \$25,000 while two more wins in the remaining events bumps it to \$100,000. A complete sweep of all six feature events would net Pierce a \$250,000 bonus.

While Pierce started Friday's Black Diamond Super Late Models presented by M&W Transport feature from the pole position, he spent a majority of the race in "chaser" mode rather than "chasee" after fellow front row starter Kyle Beard took advantage of the outside line to gun into the initial lead. Pierce fought off Hudson O'Neal for second in the ensuing laps until the race's first caution flew after seven circuits when Scott Bloomquist rolled to a stop on the backstretch.

Pierce fell back another position behind Jimmy Mars in the scramble behind Beard on the restart, only to start working his way back towards the front after the final caution flew three laps later for Chase Junghans' spin while running sixth.

"The Smooth Operator" worked his way back around O'Neal for second by the 14th round and then set his sights on Beard, taking advantage of traffic on the 20th lap. With Beard forced low by a lapped car, Pierce stuck to the high side of turns three and four and used his momentum to edge ahead of Beard at the line.

Keeping Beard at bay, Pierce survived several dicey moments through traffic over the final rounds to secure the win with Beard settling for second. O'Neal rounded out the podium in third with Brandon Sheppard and Mars rounding out the top five.

Rodney Sanders became the third Mesilla Valley Transportation/Border International Modifieds presented by Arizona Differential winner in as many events by wiring

the field in the 25-lapper.

Sanders jumped into the lead at the outset then denied some early bids from Ricky Thornton, Jr., and Darrell Nelson before cruising to the checkered flag over the final rounds unabated.

Sanders crossed the stripe ahead of Tyler Wolff, who rallied back from an early caution to capture runner-up honors and take over the Wild West Shootout points lead. Nelson claimed third with Matt Leer and Zane Devilbiss rounding out the top five.

Josh Cain put a stop to Cole Searing's RHRSwag.com X-Mods presented by Barnett Harley-Davidson domination by racing to victory lane in the 20-lapper.

Cain took advantage of his pole starting position, keeping a rim-riding Lance Schill and low-runner Searing at bay throughout.

Cain survived several cautions along the way to post the win ahead of Schill with Searing fending off Austin Ellis over the final rounds for another podium finish. Ellis was fourth while Steve Muilenberg rounded out the top five.

Pierce Pounces on Another Wild West Shootout Win with Thornton & Searing Victorious as Well

SAN TAN VALLEY, AZ - Bobby Pierce moved one step closer to a potential Keyser's Quarter-Million Challenge bonus payout by wiring Wednesday's Super Late Model field at the 13th Annual Keyser Manufacturing Wild West Shootout presented by O'Reilly Auto Parts atop the 1/3-mile FK Rod Ends Arizona Speedway clay oval.

While the Oakwood, IL, ace led all 30 non-stop rounds to collect the \$5,000 victory, it wasn't without strong challenges from Brandon Overton over the final dozen laps.

With Pierce adding his second win of the six-race miniseries, Ricky Thornton, Jr., bested the Modified ranks while Cole Searing made it two in a row in X Modified action.

Taking the green flag on the front row outside of the Black Diamond Super Late Models presented by M&W Transport feature event, Pierce gunned into the lead at the outset and set a torrid pace on the top side of the track.

In his wake, sixth-starter Overton worked his past Chase Junghans by the ninth round and chipped away at Pierce's advantage over the ensuing circuits.

Working through traffic, Overton closed to Pierce's rear bumper by the 20th round and challenged for the point several times before a pair of last lap efforts fell just short at the line.

With the triumph, Pierce is still eligible for a \$250,000 bonus courtesy of the Keyser's Quarter-Million Challenge should he win all six events. One more win on the week assures a \$10,000 bonus, two more is worth an extra \$25,000 and three more to push his total to five would be worth \$100,000.

While Pierce took the checkered flag just ahead of Overton, the battle for third a half straightaway back waged on between a handful of cars with Scott Bloomquist utilizing traffic to his advantage to surge into the show position in the final handful of laps after running fifth much of the way.

Hudson O'Neal held fourth until mechanical problems slowed him on the final round with Cade Dillard capitalizing to snare fourth with Brandon Sheppard slipping by Junghans on the final lap to round out the top five.

Ricky Thornton, Jr., took full advantage of his front row outside starting position in the 25-lap Mesilla Valley Transportation/Border International Modifieds presented by Arizona Differential feature event by leading all the way for his first Wild West Shootout win of the year.

Thornton, Jr., jumped out front immediately and never looked back, ultimately taking the checkered flag ahead of tenth-starter Dustin Strand with Matt Gilbertson, 21st starter Tyler Wolff and Alex Guthmiller in the top five.

After topping three of six events last year to take the Wild West Shootout title, Cole Searing continued his mastery of the RHR-Swag.com X-Mods presented by Barnett Harley-Davidson.

After starting the 20-lap feature event in fifth, Searing needed just three laps to make his way to the front and led the rest of the way to make it two-for-two thus far in this year's rendition of the Wild West Shootout.

Searing was chased to the stripe by 11th-starter Josh Cain with Jason VandeKamp, Preston Carr and 17th-starter Calvin Iverson rounding out the top five.

Pierce by a Nose over Bloomquist in Wild West Shootout Opener

SAN TAN VALLEY, AZ - The 13th Annual Keyser Manufacturing

Wild West Shootout presented by O'Reilly Auto Parts kicked off in rousing fashion on Saturday night with two of Super Late Model racing's biggest stars squaring off during the final lap for the first lucrative payday of the 2019 season.

And when the checkered flag flew on the 40-lap opening leg of the Wild West Shootout, it was Bobby Pierce edging Scott Bloomquist by a mere nose to collect the \$5,000 winner's bounty at FK Rod Ends Arizona Speedway.

While Pierce bested the Super Late Model ranks, other Wild West Shootout opening night winners included Casey Arneson in Modified action and Cole Searing in the X-Mods as 133 cars filled the pit area on the opening night of the six-night mini-series.

In the early portion of the 40-lap Black Diamond Super Late Models presented by M&W Transport feature event, Pierce was busy chasing down early pacesetter Chase Junghans after starting third.

The 2017 Wild West Shootout champion finally made his way past Junghans on the 13th round and was in command until heavy traffic began to take its toll. Bloomquist was on the move, racing past Sheppard for second with just two laps to go and then making a move on Pierce during the final circuit only to fall just inches short at the stripe.

After pocketing \$13,000 in last year's Wild West Shootout finale, Brandon Sheppard rounded out Saturday's podium in third with Louisiana's Cade Dillard rallying from the 17th starting position to capture fourth. Brandon Overton made forward progress as well, picking off a half-dozen positions to round out the top five.

With the opening round triumph, Pierce puts himself in prime position to cash in on the Keyser's Quarter-Million Challenge that could be worth as much as \$100,000 for a clean sweep of the six-race series. Five triumphs would offer up an extra \$100,000, four wins would be worth an added \$25,000 and three wins would net a bonus of \$10,000.

In the 25-lap Mesilla Valley Transportation/Border International Modifieds presented by Arizona Differential, Casey Arneson capitalized on his pole starting position by racing to the Wild West Shootout opening leg victory.

Arneson crossed the stripe ahead of fourth-row starter Darrell Nelson, Dereck Ramirez, Dustin Strand and Tyler Wolff completing the top five.

Hagopian Declared Winner Of 34th Lucas Oil Tulsa Shootout A-Class Feature Event

TULSA, Ok - Following the results of a test conducted on the Right Rear tire of the No. 81D owned by Jeffery Daniels and driven by James Morris, the A-Class Results have been amended as the No. 81D has been disqualified.

According to test results provided by Blue Ridge Labs, the tire sample submitted on January 8, 2019, by Tulsa Shootout Officials failed to conform to manufacture submitted benchmarks set forth by Hoosier Tire. The sample was tested in duplicate with failing results matching.

With the results of the tire test, California's Jake Hagopian has been declared the winner of the A-Class feature event. All prize money and awards will be released in the coming week. All other winners in the 34th Lucas Oil Tulsa Shootout are unchanged.

Worth Among Half-Dozen First Time Winners In 34th Lucas Oil Tulsa Shootout

TULSA, Ok - Seven Golden Drillers claimed, and six by first-time winners, the 34th Lucas Oil Tulsa Shootout wrapped up Saturday night with California's Ben Worth leading the charge of first-time winners with his victory in the night's 55-lap Outlaw A-Feature.

Chasing Frank Flud the first five laps, the Driven Midwest No. 81 suddenly stalled with Worth banking off Flud's right rear and nearly sailing into the fence. Able to save his No. 10J from disaster, Dylan Kadous was the driver giving chase with the Kansas racer's night ending on Lap 25 to advance Jake Hagopian into the runner-up spot.

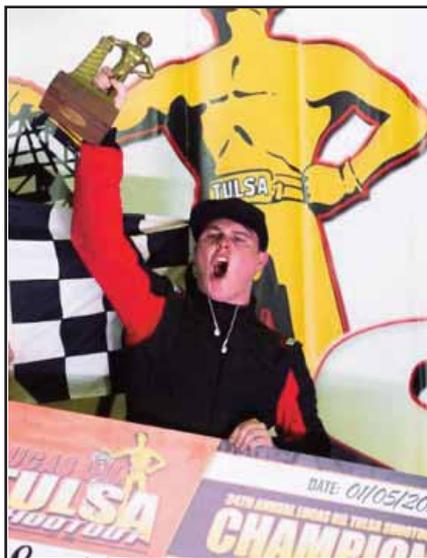
Able to build his lead to over two-seconds, slower traffic would begin changing the story line as Worth found himself boxed in with Jake Hagopian and Brady Bacon now closing in. Closing rapidly as the race worked past the 40th lap, a misstep on the cushion in traffic put Jake Hagopian to the point, but just as easily as traffic can give, it will take away as the caution light

came on before the field could complete the lap; putting Ben Worth back to the point on the restart.

Rolling a do or die slide job on the restart, the move would prove fatal to Hagopian's chances as the No. 14D went sideways into the infield with Brady Bacon and Joe B. Miller racing by. Not able to make up ground on the No. 10J, Ben Worth crossed the finish line 0.913 seconds ahead of Bacon. Third went to Joe B. Miller with K.J. Show fourth. Charging ahead 13 positions, Zeb Wise made up the top five.

Taking the lead from the pole, Indiana's Zeb Wise was the class of the field in Outlaw Non-Wing competition. Chased by Russ Dissinger, a nearly three-second advantage was cut down quickly as Wise worked into traffic with seven laps to go. Railing the cushion, the challenge for the lead was a corner away, but a car into the wall among the leaders brought the caution lights on with five laps to run. With the green displayed, Wise was able to run away as Dissinger held off the charge of Kyle Spence and Brady Bacon with Hank Davis rounding out the top five.

The second driver from Delaware to every top the Lucas Oil Tulsa Shootout, Kyle Spence capitalized on a bobble by Jonathan Beason on the seventh revolution of the Stock Non-Wing feature as the pair raced off the fourth turn. Keeping the field at bay



First time winner Ben Worth celebrates in victory lane after racing to the win in the 55-lap Outlaw A-Feature. (TeeJay Crawford photo)

until the final five laps, slower traffic entered the equation with Spence and Beason exchanging the lead several times with Jonathan threading his BA Lawn and Garden No. 36 through slower cars. Turning off the cushion with the checkered flag in sight, Beason would come up shy by 0.018 seconds as Kyle Spence grabbed the win. Beason in second was trailed by Chris Cochran with Chase Cabre and Gage Robb to complete the top five.

Taking the lead in A-Class from the front row, Oklahoma's Trey Robb kept pace on the field until Lap 19. Utilizing a mid-race restart, Hyper Racing shoe, James Morris, heaved his No. 81d upon the cushion to keep pace with Robb's No. 12G. Letting his momentum get right for the move, Morris pulled the trigger on the slide on Lap 19. Diving the bottom of the third turn, the move was answered swiftly, but through the next set of turns, Robb was not able to return the favor as Morris raced into the lead. Caution with two laps to run, the No. 81d of Morris was unchallenged for the win while the race for second saw Jake Hagopian charge from fifth. Garrett Hulsey followed Hagopian's form to score third with Gage Robb rolling to fourth from 17th to relegate Trey Robb to a fifth-place finish.

The results of the A-Class finish are unofficial pending the results of a tire test.

With a firm grasp on the lead, Garrett Benson looked to be on his way to victory in the Junior Sprints, but on Lap 17, that all changed as the No. 2B went spinning in turn-one after contact from a lapped car. Putting the lead in the hands of 13th starting, Colby Sokol, the No. 25b was stalked by California's Austin Wood. Patiently around the bottom, the final lap was anything but as Wood put the pressure to the No. 25B, taking the win off the final turn by 0.315 seconds. Colby Sokol settled for second with Jett Barnes third after starting 10th. Baron Silva and Jack Thomas made the top five.

Another instance of the lead well in hand, California's Ryan Rocha saw his night end with a violent hit on Lap 7 in Restricted competition after a slower car bounced off the front straightaway wall. With both drivers involved unharmed, the race resumed with Oklahoma's Shawn Mahaffey on the point. Unchallenged the rest of the race,

the No. Mahaffey's lead was nice as the checkered flag dropped. Racing side by side for the last half of the race, Ryan Timms bested Chase Hyland for the second podium step. Jake Avedisian and Xavier Doney made up the top five.

The first event at the Lucas Oil Tulsa Shootout for the Xcel 600cc Modifieds, a bump and run move by Blake Hahn on Lap 10 was the one that delivered the Oklahoma shoe his eighth career Golden Driller. Going door-to-door with the No. 127 of Korey Inglin through turns three and four for the pass, the New Jersey racer tried a couple for the lead with no success. Through several cautions, and a red flag for fence repair, Hahn would grab the win over AMA Hall of Fame Rider, Ronnie Jones, who debuted in the Xcel Modified division. Aaron Bowes from seventh came up to third with Chad Dugan fourth. A rough start to the weekend for Ty Hulsey, driver of the No. 4G the best of things with a run from 13th to fifth.

Bayer, Beason, and Berreth Lead Win Count At 34th Lucas Oil Tulsa Shootout

TULSA, Ok - With Thursday in the books at the 34th annual Lucas Oil Tulsa Shootout, 149 events of 275 have been contested with three drivers each earning three wins.

While the win on Saturday is the one that ultimately counts, winning along the way, for the most part, gives Saturday a much more peaceful feeling. For Oklahoma's Kevin Bayer and Jonathan Beason, those wins are all in Heat Race competition. For Brock Berreth, a pair of wins in Heat Race action is joined by a C-Feature triumph.

In all so far this week, 23 drivers have at least two wins between Heat, Qualifier, and C-Feature action.

With Friday's contest slated, to begin with more C-Features, the race is on to keep the dream of a Golden Driller alive and the sense of desperation is palpable as several hopes of transfer were already dashed in Outlaw Non-Wing; with margins for the final spot as close as 0.027 seconds as drivers fight for every inch they can.



Last Lap Pass Gives Christopher Bell His Third Lucas Oil Chili Bowl Nationals Victory

TULSA, OK - A finish for the ages, Kyle Larson looked to have his first Lucas Oil Chili Bowl Nationals presented by General Tire in hand, but with a furious run as the leaders worked into traffic, Christopher Bell found the hole on

the low line entering turn one on the white flag lap to win his third Golden Driller in a row aboard the iRacing/Keith Kunz Motorsports No. 71w.

"Never in my wildest dreams did I think I would be able to win the Chili Bowl. To do it three straight times is just unbelievable, but man, I don't even care about three-straight. What about that race? I don't think I've ever really been a part of a last lap race like that, so I'm just glad that thing came out in the end," stated Bell who earned Keith Kunz his eighth Golden Driller as a car owner.

"To win like I did there, it's something I'm going to cherish the rest of my life."

Taking several shots at the start, the fourth time proved the winner with Logan Seavey taking off with the race lead. Larson in tow with Justin Grant and Christopher Bell giving chase, the line began moving as the race worked past the 14th circuit.

Starting to diamond corners with traffic in the mix on Lap 17, Larson was glued to Seavey's back bumper. Getting the run on Lap 20, Larson's run to the lead came the following lap with a low side pass off the fourth turn.

Getting the run on Logan Seavey for the runner up spot working Lap 33, the caution negated the pass by Bell. Retaking the spot on Lap 34, Bell was on Larson for the lead the following lap before the caution on Lap 35. Swapping lines top to bottom on the restart, Larson began building some distance over Bell.

Finding traffic on Lap 48, Larson's advantage came under fire as slower traffic played to Bell's advantage. Racing to the final two laps, Bell was there. Looking for room to pass, the opportunity came as the pair raced past the white flag. Tapping tires through the first

two turns as Kyle slipped off the bottom, Larson and Bell came together again through the third and fourth turn with neither wanting to give in. Freeing himself from Larson, Bell was able grab the win by 0.350 seconds.

The victory puts Bell in an elite class with Kevin Swindell as the only two drivers to win three consecutive Chili Bowl titles. Swindell still stands as the only one to go four for four.

Falling back to fourth on Lap 23, Justin Grant retook the spot on Lap 36, and held on for the show position in the NOS Energy Drink No. 4a. Racing from seventh, Oklahoma's Brady Bacon crossed fourth with Zach Daum moving up three spots to round out the top-five. Involved in an earlier caution, Tyler Courtney ended up the night's Hard Charger as the Indiana shoe was able rebound from the tail to sixth. Brad Sweet in seventh was followed by C.J. Leary, Logan Seavey, and Tanner Thorson.

For the 33rd annual Lucas Oil Chili Bowl Nationals presented by General Tire, a total of 350 drivers took part in the 2019 event. The week's flip count reached 75 with the final car over being Christopher Bell. Attempting to rip victory donuts, Bell banked off the cushion and sent the car over. All drivers getting upside down were able to walk away.

The 34th annual Lucas Oil Chili Bowl Nationals presented by General Tire takes place January 13-18, 2020 at the River Spirit Expo Center in Tulsa, Okla. Reserved Seat tickets go on sale on Wednesday, March 6, 2019. Ticket holders will receive a notice in the mail. All are encouraged to sign up for email notifications through the Chili Bowl website.

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 and by visiting www.chilibowl.com.

Christopher Bell Fends Off Late Race Challenge Qualifying Night Triumph

TULSA, OK - Surviving a myriad of cautions in Thursday John



Christopher Bell celebrates in victory lane after a last lap pass awarded him the victory and his third Lucas Oil Chili Bowl Nationals. (Joe Orth photo)

Christner Trucking Qualifying Night, along with a late race challenge from Shane Golobic and C.J. Leary, two-time defending Lucas Oil Chili Bowl Nationals presented by General Tire Champion, Christopher Bell locked his iRacing No. 71w into his seventh Saturday A-Feature in as many years.

Asked about the last few laps, Bell stated, "It was a lot busier than what I wanted them to be. Shane (Golobic) definitely made a race out of it and I hope the last four laps were a good show. It was a lot of fun ... well it was fun because I won but if I hadn't won it wouldn't have been much fun."

Bell's fifth career Preliminary Night win, the final four laps turned into a shootout between the Oklahoma native, Shane Golobic, and C.J. Leary. Taking his Keith Kunz Motorsports mount on two wheels on the final restart, the misstep was enough to allow the Elk Grove Ford No. 17c a run to the inside line going into the third and fourth turn. Sliding across Bell's nose, Christopher turned down the track to re-take the point.

Challenging again, this time Bell and Golobic found themselves under fire with the Valvoline No. 55v of C.J. Leary nearly going to the point. Unable to hold, Leary battled close with Shane Golobic but neither were able to build the run needed to keep pace as Bell took the checkered flag 0.555 seconds to the good.

"Shane was able to sneak underneath me in three. It got so slick

off two and then all the way really until you got to pretty much four you were just kind of sitting there waiting on it and I knew that opening up my entry like that I was very vulnerable," commented Bell.

"I kept hitting the bottom off (turn) two on the restarts and going straight to the top, so I didn't really want to change what I was doing. I went down there, and I don't know if my tire was low or I got too much berm but I biked up and it allowed him to stay with me a little bit better and pull the trigger on me."

Shane Golobic's seventh ticket to the A-Feature since 2010, the California shoe was able to pull away from Leary by just under a half second. Finishing fourth was Danny Stratton with Josh Most making the very best of restarts and attrition to pick up 17 positions to pick up Hard Charger honors. Advancing 12 positions, Austin Brown crossed sixth.

Nearly clearing the turn one fence in his Heat Race, 2005 Chili Bowl Champion, Tracy Hines, was relegated to the 11th starting spot in the second C-Feature. Charging through the C and B-Features, the Wilke-Pak No. 11 advanced position 36 times to finish seventh. Tip-toeing his way through the field, Casey Shuman made up six positions with Kyle Cummins rebounding from a late race caution to finish ninth. Despite fighting mechanical issues throughout the A-Feature, cautions brought Andrew Felker back into the mix for a top ten finish.

Kyle Larson Motors To Warren CAT Qualifying Night Win

TULSA, OK - Winning in preliminary night competition for the fifth time at the Lucas Oil Chili Bowl Nationals presented by General Tire, California's Kyle Larson grabbed the lead on Lap 6 of Tuesday's Warren CAT Qualifying Night A-Feature then went unchallenged to punch his ticket into his eighth 55 Lap championship event.

Chasing Zach Daum, the first five laps, Larson tested top and bottom on the Tulsa Expo Raceway before rolling by the Illinois racer on the cushion exiting turn two. Moving top shelf in pursuit of the McDonalds No. 01, Daum as unable to keep pace as Larson reeled in slower traffic.

"That might be the second time I got Zach (Daum) in a prelim night," commented Larson. "They work the track before the feature so as the leader you just run the bottom until you hear somebody or see somebody. I was just able to get around him....It was just nice to get to the lead there and run a good pace, but I was hoping I would get a caution before I got close to traffic."

Working backmarkers by Lap 9, Larson's advantage changed very little before the caution lights lit up working Lap 16 a Kyle Jones spun his No. 7u almost directly in front of Kyle Larson. Able to avoid, Larson brought the field to speed with the lap count adjusted to the last fully completed lap.

Battling for second on the restart, Zach Daum came under fire from the Lonestar Speedway No. 15h of Sam Hafertepe, Jr. Briefly exchanging the runner-up spot, the Toyota No. 5d reclaimed the position, but the brief battle was enough to allow Kyle Larson room to run away.

Running into traffic once more, the caution flag flew again with five laps to run as Larry Wight's night ended with a cloud of smoke billowing out from beneath the bonnet of the No. 99.

Taking third prior to the caution, Jonathan Beason, from tenth, worked all over the back bumper of Zach Daum on the restart as the field continued to chase Larson. Smooth on the cushion, Larson

crossed with 1.087 seconds of breathing room. Able to hold off Beason the final five laps, Zach Daum made his seventh championship event. Racing in and out of the top five most of the A-Feature, Michael Faccinto grabbed fourth with Sam Hafertepe, Jr. finishing fifth.

Fourth the first 16 laps, Tyler Courtney's run dimmed in the closing laps to sixth. Dillon Welch in seventh was trailed by Chili Bowl Rookie, Jesse Colwell. Ninth went to Alex Bowman with Tanner Berryhill making up the top ten.

Going 20 laps in the 11th annual Vacuworx Invitational Race of Champions, Tanner Thorson led nonstop for his second victory. Bringing a brand-new Clyde Lamar owned entry, the famed No. 3c from California was untouchable. Outrunning Kyle Larson to the win, the final podium step went to the hard-charging Christopher Bell, who came up 12 positions. Ryan Bernal and J.J. Yeley completed the top-five.

Logan Seavey Perfect On Cummins Qualifying Night

TULSA, OK - Rolling into Chili Bowl Victory Lane for the first time in his career, California's Logan Seavey was perfect in the first every Monday Qualifying Night presented by Cummins. Taking advantage of his Heat and Qualifier wins to position the Keith Kunz Motorsports No. 67 on the pole, Seavey



Logan Seavey celebrates in victory lane at the Chili Bowl Nationals after racing his way to the win for the Cummins Qualifying Night. (Tim Aylwin photo)



Kyle Larson raced his way to victory lane during the Warren CAT Qualifying Night during the Chili Bowl Nationals. (Buck Monson photo)

led start to finish in Monday's 25 lap feature event to become the 44th different Preliminary Night winner.

"To have the night we had, everything just fell into place and that's kind of what it takes for this race is for stuff just to go your way," commented Seavey of his evening.

Rolling the bottom of the Tulsa Expo Raceway, Seavey quickly put distance over Brad Sweet who was under pressure from Brady Bacon. With traffic coming into play, Sweet with Bacon in tow closed rapidly on Seavey only to have the caution lights blink on for Hayden Williams with eight laps complete.

Seavey rolled away from the field again as Bacon dropped the hub to challenge for the runner-up spot. Not able to clear the Oil Fire Whiskey No. 1R, the pair traded lines numerous times with Chase Briscoe working into the mix. Approaching traffic again, the red lights would bring things to a halt as

several cars crashed entering the first turn. Thankfully, all driver involved were unharmed.

Asked if the caution and red flag helped him figure on the track, Seavey replied, "I was kind of watching the screen and watching these two (Bacon and Sweet) battle side by side and I felt like the bottom was a little bit better there in the first half. That first caution came right when I got to lapped traffic, which you can't ask for anything better than that, then the second one was right when I got to lapped traffic. By then, I was starting to feel the bottom slow down and I could see Brad (Sweet) closing in on me and as soon as we went yellow or red and I had about half the crowd telling me to move to the top."

Making the move to the cushion on the restart, Seavey would quickly put distance over the fight for second as Bacon continued his pursuit of the final lock-in spot for Saturday's feature event. Trading top to bottom again, Sweet bested Bacon until Lap 22 when Brady finally gained the upper hand off the second turn.

Peddling as hard as possible with the leader hitting traffic at the white flag, time would run short as Logan Seavey crossed 0.887 seconds ahead of Brady Bacon. Third would go to Brad Sweet with Jake Neuman fourth. Chase Briscoe rounded out the top five.

Oklahoma's Trey Marcham was sixth with Travis Rilat in tow. Moving up 13 positions after having to transfer from the first B-Feature, Indiana's Zeb Wise was the night's Hard Charger in eighth. Paul Nienhiser from 13th came up to ninth with "The Man" Sean McClelland moving ahead 10 positions to complete the top-ten.

Brandeis Signs on to Sponsor the Midwest Sprint Car Series

HAUBSTADT, IN - The Midwest Sprint Car Series announced today that a sponsorship deal has been finalized that will provide the series with a major sponsor for the 2019 season.

The series will now be referred to as the Brandeis Midwest Sprint Car Series.

Brandeis Machinery sells, services, and rents mining and construction equipment, products, and services. This full service equipment dealer has been in business since 1908.

The Corporate headquarters for Brandeis is located on Watterson Trail in Louisville, KY. There are currently eight locations across Indiana and Kentucky. The Indiana locations are in Evansville, Indianapolis, and Fort Wayne. In Kentucky the Brandeis locations are at Corbin, Lexington, Paducah, Stanville, and Louisville.

This season's first Brandeis Midwest Sprint Car Series race is set to be held on Saturday night April 13th. That is opening night at the Tri-State Speedway and the race is co-sanctioned with the United States Auto Club sprint cars. The feature will pay \$5,000 to win.

Brandeis will continue in its role as the presenting sponsor for the series all season. The 2019 schedule has 20 sanctioned non-wing sprint car races in the offering. Brandeis will have and enjoy a presence as the activity unfolds around each speedway and concludes with the victory lane ceremony.

The potential for a sponsorship opportunity with Brandeis came to light during the fall events closing out the 2018 season. Brandeis and MSCS share marketing territory across the region. It became evident as talks continued that Sprint Car racing was an extra exciting opportunity to promote their business.

As the owner of the series, Tom Helfrich stated: "We feel privileged and honored to have Brandeis Machinery as our presenting sponsor in 2019. This gives us the opportunity to pay a better point fund to our loyal drivers and also add credibility to our sport by having Brandeis on board."

The Brandeis Midwest Sprint Car Series will be entering it's 19th consecutive year of operation. This time though the series will have a major sponsor. Additional benefits resulting from this offer will be announced prior to the season or as they become available for release. Visit www.brandeismachinery.com or www.msccsprints.com to find relative information and timely updates.

MSCS Releases Their 2019 Schedule

HAUBSTADT, IN - The Midwest Sprint Car Series has released the schedule for the upcoming 2019 season. Twenty sanctioned events at six different speedways have been scheduled for drivers to participate in. The series will be venturing into its 19th season of presenting ever exciting 410 non-wing sprint car competition.

Upon release the MSCS schedule lists events for each month starting in early April and not ending until mid October. Racing begins on Saturday night April 13th with the series joining with USAC in the co-sanctioned "Spring Showdown" at Tri-State Speedway in Haubstadt. MSCS and USAC also compete together on September 14th in the "Haubstadt Hustler." That event each offers the biggest pay-out of the season with \$10,000 going to the winner.

Activity for MSCS picks up in May. Tri-State Speedway's "Midwest Madness" on Saturday May 18th will also include an appearance of the MOWA Wing Sprints.

MSCS will be in action Memorial Day weekend beginning on May 24th. First up will be the "Josh Burton Memorial Race" at Bloomington Speedway on Friday. The series will move to Lincoln Park Speedway on Saturday and finish with a third day of racing with the "Memorial Weekend Classic" at Tri-State Speedway Sunday. On all three nights the feature will pay \$2,500 to win. The Paragon Speedway will host the series for the first of three visits this season on Friday May 31st.

June action begins with the "Summer Showdown" at Tri-State Speedway on Saturday the 8th. The Winner will bank \$5,000! Then Brownstown Speedway will host the series on Saturday June 29th.

Mid-season will be busy. On July 4th MSCS will be racing at the Paragon Speedway. Friday and Saturday July 5th and 6th, the series will be at Lincoln Park Speedway. The occasion is the running of the "Bill Gardner Sprintacular." This event drew 42 cars in 2018. MSCS will make a fair appearance Wednesday night July 10th at the Terre Haute Action track. Saturday's "Sprint Stampede" at Haubstadt on July 13th will wrap up the

MSCS events for July. Five MSCS races are set to be held in a 10 day span.

In August it will be time for the 15th annual "Hoosier Sprint Nationals". The feature that Saturday at Tri-State Speedway will be the paying \$5,000 to win. The next night MSCS will return to the legendary Terre Haute Action Track for a second 2019 visit. Those important dates on the schedule are August 10th and 11th. The next weekend MSCS will be at Paragon Speedway on Friday August 16th. On the 17th the series will return to Putnamville's Lincoln Park Speedway for a fourth and final season visit.

The last three races of the season are all to be contested at the Tri-State Speedway in Haubstadt. The Labor Day Weekend Challenge on Sunday September 1st at Tri-State Speedway will pay \$3,000 to win. The "Haubstadt Hustler" is next on September 14th. MSCS will conclude the season on October 19th. The feature winner will receive the coveted "Harvest Cup" and \$5,000. Tradition dictates that the MSCS Champion will be crowned that night and the Rookie of the Year will be honored.

MAY 18	Tri-State Speedway	Haubstadt, IN
MAY 24	Bloomington Speedway	Bloomington, IN
MAY 25	Lincoln Park Speedway	Putnamville, IN
MAY 26	Tri-State Speedway	Haubstadt, IN
MAY 31	Paragon Speedway	Paragon, IN
JUN 08	Tri-State Speedway	Haubstadt, IN
JUN 29	Brownstown Speedway	Brownstown, IN
JUL 04	Paragon Speedway	Paragon, IN
JUL 05	Lincoln Park Speedway	Putnamville, IN
JUL 06	Lincoln Park Speedway	Putnamville, IN
JUL 10	Terre Haute Action Track	Terre Haute, IN
JUL 13	Tri-State Speedway	Haubstadt, IN
AUG 10	Tri-State Speedway	Haubstadt, IN
AUG 11	Terre Haute Action Track	Terre Haute, IN
AUG 16	Paragon Speedway	Paragon, IN
AUG 17	Lincoln Park Speedway	Putnamville, IN
SEP 01	Tri-State Speedway	Haubstadt, IN
SEP 14	Tri-State Speedway	Haubstadt, IN
OCT 19	Tri-State Speedway	Haubstadt, IN

DIRTcar Summer Nationals 2019 Tour Features 28 Races in 32 Days With Nearly \$800,000 At Stake

CONCORD, NC - The DIRTcar Summer Nationals "Hell Tour" is the most challenging month in dirt track racing, and 2019 will be no different.

The schedule features 28 race nights over 32 days covering about 3,800 miles from Peoria Speedway in Illinois on

Wednesday, June 12, through Saturday, July 13, at Oakshade Speedway in Ohio. It will wind from Illinois to Indiana, down to Tennessee, back to Kentucky, Missouri, Wisconsin and Michigan before finally crowning at champion in Ohio.

As daunting as it might sound, it's actually about 800 miles less than previous seasons, saving that bit of wear and tear on the com-

petitors.

At stake is nearly \$800,000 in purses alone. If a driver was to win every race and collect the champion's share of the point fund, he would pocket nearly \$250,000 ... a pretty decent month's work!

New in 2019, fans will be able to follow the tour much easier by watching races on DIRTVision.com with a Late Model Fast Pass when the event isn't at their home track. Know the stories before you get to the track by following along every night!

For more details on the Summer Nationals, go to TheHellTour.com, and for details on the Late Model Fast Pass to watching the Summer Nationals, go to DIRTVision.com.

Daytona Int'l Speedway

DAYTONA BEACH, FL - New this year, ONE DAYTONA, the area's premier lifestyle and entertainment destination, will host a "Kickoff to DAYTONA Speedweeks Presented By AdventHealth" on Thursday, February 7, from 6 - 8:30 p.m. This free community event kicks off the NASCAR season and the 61st running of the DAYTONA 500 on February 17 at

Daytona International Speedway.

The Kickoff to DAYTONA Speedweeks Presented By AdventHealth will have local dignitaries welcoming fans; free live entertainment by Kaleb Lee, a recent semifinalist on NBC's "The VOICE"; a performance by the acclaimed Seabreeze High School Marching Band; NASCAR driver Q&A; and photo opportunities with the Harley J. Earl DAYTONA 500 Trophy, AdventHealth show car, DAYTONA 500 show car and select NASCAR haulers on display.

"We are so excited to participate in Speedweeks with this unique fan-friendly event here at ONE DAYTONA," said Roxanne Ribakoff, ONE DAYTONA General Manager. "ONE DAYTONA is quickly becoming an entertainment epicenter for the Daytona Beach community and we are thrilled to offer this free programming for residents and fans as we kick off the 2019 NASCAR season."

The Kickoff to DAYTONA Speedweeks Presented By AdventHealth includes a full lineup of fan-friendly events:

- 6-7:30 p.m. - Select NASCAR haulers on display
- 6:20 p.m. - Seabreeze High School Marching Band performs in Victory Circle
- 6:30 p.m. - Welcome by local dignitaries and AdventHealth representative
- 6:35-6:45 p.m. - Q&A with NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series Driver Harrison Burton and NBC NASCAR analyst and former NASCAR driver Jeff Burton
- 6:45-8:30 p.m. - Performance by Kaleb Lee, recent semifinalist on NBC's "The VOICE"

"The first week of DAYTONA Speedweeks Presented by AdventHealth will have an atmosphere all of its own, giving our fans a perfect primer for Week 2 and the DAYTONA 500," said Daytona In-



Members of the famed Alabama Gang and racing legends Donnie Allison (left) and Red Farmer (right) made a pit stop at Talladega Superspeedway on Wednesday and got a first-hand look of the progress of the new Turn 3 Oversized Vehicle Tunnel, which is the first development of the Transformation Infield Project. (TS photo)

ternational Speedway President Chip Wile.

Tickets for the Advance Auto Parts Clash, DAYTONA 500 Qualifying Presented By Kroger, the Lucas Oil 200 Driven By General Tire, the DAYTONA Beer Festival, the 61st annual DAYTONA 500 and other Daytona International Speedway events can be purchased online at www.daytonainternational.com or by calling 1-800-PITSHOP. Fans can stay connected with Daytona International Speedway on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest, YouTube and Snapchat, and by downloading Daytona International Speedway's mobile app, for the latest speedway news throughout the season.

Talladega Superspeedway

TALLADEGA, AL - At various times over the years, racing legends Donnie Allison and Red Farmer of the original famed Alabama Gang were on top of the world at Talladega Superspeedway with victories and trips to Gatorade Victory Lane. Well, Wednesday, they found themselves on top again, but this time in a boom lift, getting a bird's eye view of the precast tunnel arches that were put into place as the roofline for the all-new Turn 3 Oversized Vehicle Tunnel, the first development of the 2019 Transformation Infield Project.

The iconic duo, who hailed from nearby Hueytown, AL and helped put racing on the map in the Yellowhammer State in the late 1950s, were at the 2.66-mile venue to help kick off the track's 50th Anniversary celebration. They toured the construction of the tunnel, as well as the new 69-spot Finish Line Pre-

mium RV area, both of which are scheduled for completion in time for the track's April 26-28, 2019 spring motorsports tripleheader weekend featuring the GEICO 500.

"I have done a lot of things in my day, but today was a first," joked 86-year-old Farmer, the two-time Talladega ARCA Series winner (1984, 1988) who will be inducted into the National Motorsports Press Association's Hall of Fame this coming Sunday night along with six-time Talladega victor Jeff Gordon. "It was cool. I almost felt like I was in my deer stand. I discovered, though, that I am much more apt to be on the ground, so would rather be driving through the tunnel rather than on it. The tunnel is going to be great for the fans and competitors alike this spring."

Allison, who went to Gatorade Victory Lane at Talladega in NASCAR's premier series in 1971 and 1977, said, "the timing of the tunnel and all the improvements the track is making with Transformation comes at the perfect time, as part of the 50th Anniversary. I have been coming here since 1968 when the first piece of dirt was dug and was excited then about the future. Have that same type of feeling today, knowing what is coming this year.

"Talladega Superspeedway is the absolute best," added Allison, who said he was the first driver to make laps in a race car during the first test at the track in '69. "It's why I am here today. It's just the greatest place, and the racing here is second to none. And, NASCAR continues to do things to make the racing even better so I can't wait to come back here in April. It's going to be incredible."

Transformation is the initial part of the approximately \$50 million Transformation Infield Project that is part of International Speedway Corporation's (Talladega's parent company) long-term capital allocation plan and reinvestment into its major motorsports complexes. The new 2-lane tunnel will be capable of allowing vehicles as large as race team haulers and fans' recreational vehicles to enter and exit the track simultaneously with ease. It will be open 24 hours during event weekends.

A total of 35 precast concrete arch sections are being placed on the concrete slab and foundation walls. They are approximately 6 feet wide x 28 feet long. Each arrived via 35 tractor trailers and were put into place by a 100-ton crane. Total weight of the 35 arches? An astonishing 731 tons.

"We've had to battle lots of inclement weather, but we're right on schedule for both the tunnel and Finish Line Premium RV," said Lance Taylor whose company Taylor Corporation (Oxford, AL) has spearheaded the construction efforts since groundbreaking in late October. "At some times, we have had crews here 24-7, to stay on pace and we are really seeing the fruits of labor right now. We're glad to be a part of the overall project."

Both Farmer and Allison, along with Donnie's brother Bobby Allison, are the original members of the Alabama Gang and plan to be at Talladega's spring tripleheader weekend.

Farmer is a member of several Halls of Fame, including the International Motorsports Hall of Fame, and is also on the ballot for the NASCAR Hall of Fame, which will enshrine fellow Alabama Gang member Davey Allison on Feb. 1. Farmer is a three-time NASCAR Late Model Sports Champion (1969, 1970, 1971) and was named one of NASCAR's 50 Greatest Drivers. He has won nearly 800 short track races in his career, and actually still competes at Talladega Short Track (dirt track) in the Late Model division on a regular basis.

Donnie captured a total of 10 Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series triumphs. He, too, is a member of several Halls of Fame, including the International Motorsports Hall of Fame and the National Motorsports Press Association Hall of Fame (inducted just a year ago). February's Daytona 500 marks the 40th Anniversary of one of NASCAR's most noted finishes in

(Continued Next Page)

Continued...

which Donnie and Cale Yarborough crashed on the final lap.

The culmination of Transformation will occur this October and will allow fans to be immersed into the sport of NASCAR with the one-of-a-kind Talladega Garage Experience, which will feature "up-close" access, interactive attractions and enhanced amenities

for fans, sponsors, teams and stakeholders in the iconic Talladega infield.

Fans can learn more about the project and view the progress 24/7 via the construction cam by visiting www.talladegasuperspeedway.com/transformation. For ticket information on the track's upcoming weekend, featuring the General Tire 200 (Friday, April 26), MoneyLion 300 (Saturday, April 27) or the GEICO 500 (Sunday, April 28), log onto www.talladegasuperspeedway.com or call 855-518-7223 (RACE).

Sonoma Raceway

SONOMA, CA - Sonoma Raceway will celebrate 50 years of racing during its 2019 race season, as the motorsports facility hosts a full slate of on-track activity while looking back at its incredible history in the Sonoma Valley.

The raceway kicked off its anniversary celebrations earlier this year, marking the 50th anniversary of the facility's groundbreaking on Aug. 14, 1968. Paving was completed on the road course in November of that year, and the raceway hosted its first non-spectator event, an SCCA Enduro, on Dec. 1, 1968. The raceway went on to host its first full season of racing in 1969, which included NHRA drag racing, AMA motorcycle racing and SCCA road racing.

Today, the raceway unveiled its 50th anniversary logo, which includes a nod to the raceway's signature Sears Point Raceway emblem. The 50th anniversary logo will be prominently featured throughout the 2019 season, including merchandise and promotional materials.

Honoring the raceway's history and memorable moments will be at the heart of the raceway's efforts in 2019, including celebrations to mark significant milestones in the raceway's history, signature cele-

brations at the raceway's major events featuring drivers and legends, and plenty of throwback images and memorabilia.

"Sonoma Raceway's legacy over the last half century covers the spectrum from iconic professional stars to thousands of amateur enthusiast racers who have turned laps on our road course or accelerated down the quarter-mile," said Steve Page, Sonoma Raceway president and general manager. "We look forward to celebrating with all of them in the coming year, and honoring our incredible history."

Race fans are invited to get in on the fun by sharing their personal memories, stories and pictures from events at Sonoma Raceway at www.sonomaraceway.com/50 or on social media using the hashtag #Race50noma.

On track, the 2019 major event schedule will be highlighted by the 31st return of the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series for the Toyota/Save Mart 350 (June 21-23) and the 32nd NHRA Sonoma Nationals (July 26-28).

The raceway announced earlier this year that NASCAR will return to the circuit's historic 12-turn, 2.52-mile road-course layout for the 2019 Toyota/Save Mart 350. The full track layout incorporates the raceway's signature sweeping downhill corner known as "The Carousel." The Carousel plunges from Turn 4, down through Turns 5 and 6 and navigates a more than 200-degree radius turn before dropping onto the raceway's longest straightaway into the Turn 7 hairpin.

The 2019 Sonoma Raceway calendar also features a number of new events, including the Sonoma Speed Festival historic car races (May 31-June 2) and the Blancpain GT World Challenge America Series (June 7-9), as well as a number of fan favorites, including the NHRA Division 7 Drag Races, presented by Korbel (July 17-21), MotoAmerica's CycleGear Championship of Sonoma (Aug. 10-11) and the CSRG Charity Challenge (Oct. 4-6). Make the Future California Featuring Shell Eco-Marathon Americas (April 3-6) returns for the second consecutive year.

For more information or to purchase tickets for any of the 2019 events at Sonoma Raceway, visit www.sonomaraceway.com or call 800-870-7223.

New Hampshire Motor Speedway

LOUDON, NH - It is known simply as 'The Flat Track,' but when

the green flag drops at New Hampshire Motor Speedway next spring, 'America's Original Extreme Sport' - American Flat Track - will make its first appearance in New Hampshire, giving race fans a new reason to enjoy the thrill of racing in Loudon. Construction crews are already hard at work on a brand-new racing surface, and in just a few weeks, the dirt and clay will be transformed into an exciting racing venue.

"Each year the facility hosts the oldest motorcycle race in America, the Loudon Classic, which is nearing its 100-year anniversary. New Hampshire Motor Speedway is adding an electrifying new chapter of two-wheeled racing to our summertime line-up," said David McGrath, executive vice president and general manager of New Hampshire Motor Speedway. "It's astonishing how much action can be packed onto a quarter-mile flat track when these pro riders enter the arena. We can't wait to host American Flat Track, and I'm confident this will quickly become a fan favorite."

'The Flat Track's' headline event - aptly dubbed the Laconia Short Track - will feature AFT on Saturday, June 15, 2019 during Laconia Motorcycle Week. AFT Twins and AFT Singles classes will compete in a full race program including heat races, semis and a main event, which will co-headline the racing action at New Hampshire Motor Speedway along with the 96th running of the Loudon Classic, the longest running motorcycle race in America, on Sunday, June 16, 2019.

Known as the fastest-growing sport on two wheels, AFT has added multiple new venues to its 2019 schedule to accommodate its growing fan base. With over 3 million viewers tuning into the sport in 2018, AFT plans to capitalize on the partnership with NHMS to further this momentum.

"We look forward to kicking up some dirt at New Hampshire Motor Speedway in 2019," said Cameron Gray, COO of American Flat Track Events. "We are bringing the American Flat Track experience to where our fans are, and New Hampshire is home to many devoted AFT fans. Working together to design and develop this racetrack means we can guarantee some truly exciting, wheel-to-wheel action that will excite fans and riders alike."

Located directly behind the North East Motor Sports Museum, crews are turning roughly 186,095 square feet of ground and 3,000

tons of clay to build the 0.25-mile track. Construction on 'The Flat Track' began in early October and is expected to take three months to complete, depending on winter weather conditions.

The weekend of on-track racing will be accompanied by off-track entertainment with Katancha featuring live music, interactive displays and demo rides for motorcycle enthusiasts as well as new camping options which will soon be rolled out at New Hampshire Motor Speedway during Laconia Motorcycle Week.

'The Flat Track' will become the fourth racing surface to be added to New Hampshire Motor Speedway, which already includes the famed 1.058-mile NASCAR oval, 1.6-mile road course and a 0.25-mile mini-oval.

Tickets for the 2019 Laconia Short Track will be available on www.americanflattrack.com in the coming weeks. A variety of ticketing options (including exclusive VIP packages) will be available so that race fans may experience all the bar-bangin' action exactly as they'd like. The race will also be streamed live on FansChoice.tv and broadcast on NBCSN.

For more information on other events at New Hampshire Motor Speedway, visit the speedway website at www.NHMS.com or call Fan Relations at (603) 783-4931.

Atlanta Motor Speedway

HAMPTON, GA - iHeart's "Best New Country Artist" nominee LANCO will perform on Atlanta Motor Speedway's pre-race stage ahead of the Folds of Honor Quik-Trip 500 on Sunday, February 24.

The "arena-rock leaning band" (Entertainment Weekly) paved the course for critical acclaim with the success of their 2x PLATINUM single "Greatest Love Story" which became a multi-week chart topper. Following the release of their No. One selling debut album HALLELUJAH NIGHTS, both moments were historical in Country music as Lancaster became the first artist in 10 years to have a No. One on the chart solely written by that artist while LANCO serves as the first Country group in a decade to appear at the top of the Billboard Country albums chart with a debut album, which now boasts over 426 million streams.

LANCO "won admirers among its peers" (Billboard) last year earning nominations from the ACM, CMT, CMA and American Music Awards while Lancaster became

(Continued Next Page)

Continued...

the first member of a group to ever win N S A I ' s "Songwriter/Artist of the Year." Following 2018's 26-city run that featured sold-out club runs in major markets such as New York City and Los Angeles, LANCO has built "a reputation as one of Country's most potent live acts" (Rolling Stone). They continue to host capacity

crowds during their first-ever headlining HALLELUJAH NIGHTS TOUR. LANCO's distinct Southern storytelling with a modern punch of rock and roll continues to unravel as they head back to the studio with award-winning producer Jay Joyce to begin recording their sophomore album. For more information and upcoming tour dates, visit www.lancomusic.com.

Pre-race pit passes will provide stage-front access for Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series driver introductions, as well as LANCO's pre-race performance. In addition, pre-race pit passes will allow fans to tour the pit area and photograph the 40-car field up close and personal prior to the start of the race.

A limited number of Sunday-only pre-race pit passes are available on a first-come, first-served basis for \$100, while a three-day weekend pre-race pit pass is just \$125 per person. Sunday-only pre-race passes for kids 12 and under are \$50. A grandstand or infield ticket is required for each pre-race pit pass holder.

Tickets and pre-race pit passes may be purchased at www.atlantamotorspeedway.com, Ticketmaster or by calling the Atlanta Motor Speedway ticket office. For more information or to purchase today, contact Atlanta Motor Speedway at (770) 946-4211, (877) 9-AMS-TIX or visit www.atlantamotorspeedway.com.

Bristol Motor Speedway

BRISTOL, TN - Formosa Productions Inc. and Bristol Motor Speedway (BMS) have today reached an agreement to explore bringing major NASCAR racing events back to Nashville. The joint effort intends to combine local racing and other major motorsports events that once made Fairgrounds Speedway one of the premier raceways in motorsports.

Formosa Productions has a

multi-year contract with the Metro Nashville Board of Fair Commissioners to promote and manage the Nashville Fairgrounds Speedway and operate a limited number of local racing events. BMS and Formosa Productions, who will continue to lead local racing efforts, have signed a contract to work with Metro Nashville and the Board of Fair Commissioners, owner of the historic raceway at the Nashville Fairgrounds, on a long-range plan of significant track improvements and high-profile race events that could include NASCAR events upon the facility meeting standards.

"This is terrific news for fans of racing and drivers all across the country and will bring a brighter future for Nashville Fairgrounds," said Tony Formosa, president of Formosa Productions. "I'm excited to work with Bruton and Marcus Smith and the Bristol team who I feel will bring this historic facility back to where it belongs. Today marks an exciting new beginning for the Fairgrounds Speedway Nashville."

Claire Formosa, vice president of Formosa Productions added, "This is exactly what the Fairgrounds Speedway Nashville needed. This is one of the most historic short tracks in the country. To know that we now have the chance to bring back NASCAR and restore this facility to what it once was, without losing any of its history is remarkable. I can not wait to see what the future holds for this facility and everyone involved."

Said Jerry Caldwell, executive vice president and general manager of Bristol Motor Speedway, "Tony and our team both see the same bright future for Fairgrounds Speedway. Nashville has a special reputation as one of the most exciting tracks in the history of motorsports, and the region has a remarkably large and passionate fan base. The motorsports industry – the sanctioning bodies, drivers and race teams – is excited about Nashville's potential to be a regular site for major events. With Metro supportive of that vision, we are eager to start working tomorrow with the city, Tony and other stakeholders at the Fairgrounds and beyond, to develop a first-class racing facility and program."

Dover International Speedway

DOVER, DE - One lucky fan has the chance to attend each NASCAR Cup Series event at Dover International Speedway for the next 50 years as part of the Monster Mile's "Golden Tickets"

promotion.

The winner of the "Golden Tickets" contest receives four tickets to each Dover International Speedway NASCAR Cup Series race through the year 2069, starting with the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series race on Sunday, May 5, 2019.

To enter, fans just need to complete a simple online survey. The contest begins today and ends on Monday, April 1, with the winner announced later that week. Fans can access the form at www.doverspeedway.com/goldenticketscontest.

"This is certainly the longest-lasting prize we've ever offered in a fan contest," said Dover International Speedway president and CEO Mike Tatroian. "Fifty years of Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series tickets is a reward that generations of family members and friends can enjoy for years to come. We look forward to selecting a winner."

The Monster Mile's 50th anniversary racing season begins with a NASCAR tripleheader weekend May 3-5, which includes the "JEGS 200" NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series race on Friday, May 3 and the NASCAR Xfinity Series Dash 4 Cash race on Saturday, May 4.

The Oct. 4-6 NASCAR tripleheader weekend includes the NASCAR K&N Pro Series East race on Friday, Oct. 4, the NASCAR Xfinity Series playoff race on Saturday, Oct. 5 and the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series playoff race on Sunday, Oct. 6. The Oct. 6, 2019 Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series playoff race will be the 100th NASCAR Cup Series race in track history. Dover International Speedway will be the 10th track in the nation to host 100 NASCAR Cup Series races.

Keep up to date on all 50th Anniversary announcements and schedules by calling (800) 441-RACE or visiting DoverSpeedway.com. You can also keep up with all track activities at [Facebook.com/DoverInternationalSpeedway](https://www.facebook.com/DoverInternationalSpeedway), or on Twitter and Instagram at @MonsterMile.

Auto Club Speedway

FONTANA, CA - For the first time ever on the NASCAR circuit, Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series drivers will line up five wide during the pace laps prior to the drop of the green flag for the Auto Club 400 on March 17, 2019. The "Five Wide Salute" not only pays homage to Saturday night short tracks, but also celebrates Auto

Club Speedway's signature racing style of flat out and five wide.

Racers saluting their fans is a long-standing tradition and now NASCAR drivers will have the chance to do it in Southern California on the 2-mile oval that is Auto Club Speedway.

"This five wide salute will be an impressive sight and is a nod to both our race fans and the grassroots of the sport," said Dave Allen, President of Auto Club Speedway. "I grew up going to and racing at dirt tracks, and I am very passionate about the community because at the end of the day, we're all family. I look forward to seeing everyone's reaction in the grandstands, infield and along pit road."

To kick-off the excitement for the upcoming Five Wide Salute experience, Auto Club Speedway has launched a special promotion called the "Five Wide Happy Hour" a five-hour period on the fifth of every month - fans will get \$5.00 off any reserved grandstand ticket to the Auto Club 400 NASCAR race.

"Five Wide Happy Hour" Promotion:

- January 5, 2019 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. PT
- February 5, 2019 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. PT
- March 5, 2019 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. PT

To purchase tickets or ticket packages to NASCAR's Auto Club 400 Weekend at Auto Club Speedway, call 1-800-944-RACE (7223), shop online at www.autoclubspeedway.com or stop by the Auto Club Speedway ticket office at 9300 Cherry Ave. in Fontana.

Follow @AutoClubSpeedway on Facebook/Instagram and @AC-Speedway on Twitter and tag photos using #FiveWideSalute

Daytona Int'l Speedway

DAYTONA BEACH, FL - Two-time DAYTONA 500 champion Dale Earnhardt Jr. will serve as the Honorary Pace Truck Driver for the 61st annual running of "The Great American Race" on Feb. 17 at Daytona International Speedway. Earnhardt will drive a 2019 Chevrolet Silverado, marking the first time a truck has paced the DAYTONA 500 field.

A special Dale Earnhardt Jr. DAYTONA 500 Ticket Package is available as part of Earnhardt's appearance. The package includes a reserved ticket to the DAYTONA 500, UNOH Fanzone/Pre-Race access, a collectable item signed by Earnhardt and an exclusive race-day question-and-answer session

(Continued Next Page)

Continued...

with Earnhardt in the speedway's Midway Suites.

The Dale Earnhardt Jr. DAYTONA 500 Ticket Package is available for \$288 and capacity is limited. For fans that have already purchased their DAYTONA 500 tickets and want to add to their experience, a limited amount of upgrades are available for \$139. To purchase, fans can visit www.daytonainternationalspeedway.com or call 1-800-PITSHOP.

Earnhardt's victories in the 2004 and 2014 DAYTONA 500 were the highlights of a NASCAR career that saw him win two NASCAR Xfinity Series titles (1998-99) and 15 consecutive (2003-17) NASCAR Cup Series Most Popular Driver awards.

In 2017 Earnhardt Jr. announced that season would be his last as a full-time Cup driver. A short time later NBC Universal announced that Earnhardt would join NBC Sports Group in 2018 as an analyst and influencer in its NASCAR coverage.

Earnhardt is joining a special fraternity exclusive to the "World Center of Racing." The list of past pace-car drivers includes three-time DAYTONA 500 champion Jeff Gordon, actor Tom Cruise, legendary NFL quarterback Peyton Manning and professional wrestling star John Cena.

"Dale Earnhardt Jr.'s popularity is as strong as ever," said Daytona International Speedway President Chip Wile. "We know our fans will love seeing him return to the DIS high banks – even if he will be driving a good bit slower than what he's used to at our track.

"So much of Dale's legacy was formed on those high banks. It will be an honor to have one of our greatest champions pace the DAYTONA 500."

Tickets for the 61st annual DAYTONA 500 and other Daytona International Speedway events can be purchased online at www.daytonainternationalspeedway.com or by calling 1-800-PITSHOP. Fans can stay connected with Daytona International Speedway on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest, YouTube and Snapchat, and by downloading Daytona International Speedway's mobile app, for the latest speedway news throughout the season.

Charlotte Motor Speedway

CONCORD, NC - Charlotte Motor Speedway's spectacular 60th season promises to be bigger, better and more entertaining than any year in the illustrious history of America's Home for Racing. From the 60th running of the iconic Coca-Cola 600 to the 35th Monster Energy NASCAR All-Star Race and the return of the Bank of America ROVAL™ 400, speed merchants will have more than their fill of thrills when visiting Charlotte Motor Speedway this year.

"We're always looking to up the ante here at Charlotte Motor Speedway, and with 2019 featuring so many notable anniversaries of events, our fans are in for an unforgettable year of excitement," said Greg Walter, Charlotte's executive vice president and general manager. "Our lineup of new events features something for fans of all ages, and our returning classics are sure to feature more adrenaline rushes than ever. We can't wait to wave the green flag on the 60th season of America's Home for Racing."

Here's a quick look at some of Charlotte Motor Speedway's coming attractions:

- Pennzoil AutoFair Presented by Advance Auto Parts - Thursday-Sunday, April 4-7, and Oct. 17-19: Two world-class car shows return to America's Home for Racing this year, with the Pennzoil AutoFair presented by Advance Auto Parts bringing a colorful cavalcade of classics, customs and hot rods to Charlotte Motor Speedway April 4-7 and Oct. 17-19.

- NGK Spark Plugs NHRA Four-Wide Nationals - Friday-Sunday, April 26-28: The thunderous roar of 44,000-horsepower excitement returns to zMAX Dragway, the Bellagio of drag strips, for the April 26-28 NGK Spark Plugs NHRA Four-Wide Nationals. The stars of the NHRA Mello Yello Drag Racing Series' nitro categories will fight for the original four-wide Wally in a high-octane showdown like no other.

- 35th Monster Energy NASCAR All-Star Race - Saturday, May 18: The 35th Monster Energy NASCAR All-Star Race on May 18 brings NASCAR's biggest stars to the forefront for a no-holds-barred, wheel-to-wheel battle for \$1 million. Last year's exciting "All-Star" aerodynamics package returns this season, bringing the same challenges back to drivers and teams in their efforts to reign supreme on All-Star night.

- 60th Coca-Cola 600 - Sunday,

May 26: The 60th running of the nation's most patriotic sports event will see Kyle Busch attempt to defend his title as Coca-Cola 600 winner after 400 laps of racing action in NASCAR's toughest test of man and machine on May 26. Arrive early to take in an unparalleled pre-race Salute to the Troops, featuring more firepower and starpower than any of Charlotte's first 59 iterations of the venerable Coca-Cola 600. Don't miss NASCAR's rising stars competing in the May 25 Alsco 300, a daytime donnybrook for sun-drenched supremacy.

Bank of America ROVAL™ 400 - Sunday, Sept. 29: One of the most unforgettable finishes in Charlotte Motor Speedway history catapulted the Bank of America ROVAL™ 400 into instant-classic status. Be there for the return of the ROVAL™, a 2.28-mile, 17-turn challenge unlike anything else on NASCAR's schedule and the cutoff race in the first round of NASCAR's Playoffs.

NHRA Carolina Nationals - Friday-Sunday, Oct. 11-13: The NHRA Carolina Nationals roars into zMAX Dragway for a crucial Countdown to the Championship weekend, giving drivers and teams a golden opportunity to stake their claim as world champions.

World of Outlaws World Finals presented by Can-Am - Friday-Sunday, Nov. 5-7: Dirt racing's biggest showcase of speed and excitement returns, as the stars of the World of Outlaws NOS Energy Sprint Cars, the World of Outlaws Morton Buildings Late Models and the Super DIRTcar Big-Block Modifieds converge on Charlotte's four-tenths-mile dirt oval for the Nov. 5-7 World of Outlaws World Finals presented by Can-Am.

Speedway Christmas presented by Disconnect & Drive - Nov. 24-Jan. 5: The Carolinas' most breathtaking holiday lights show, Speedway Christmas boasts more than 1,000 strands of 12-foot lights, new displays and more than 3.5 million lights around a 3.75-mile course including Charlotte Motor Speedway's oval, infield and concourse. The speedway's Christmas Village brings the holidays to life, with photos with Santa, holiday foods, gifts and plenty of family-friendly fun.

Among the new events coming to Charlotte Motor Speedway are:

- CARS AND COFFEE CONCORD: A FREE gathering place for fans of all things automotive and caffeinated, the speedway's Fan Zone hosts car owners and enthusiasts to celebrate their shared passion for cars and their prized

classics, customs and hot rods. Cars and Coffee Concord kicks off on Saturday, Feb. 16, and continues the third Saturday of every month, excluding May and October.

- STEM EXPO: A double dose of racing entertainment and educational value adds to the fun surrounding the 35th Monster Energy NASCAR All-Star Race weekend, as the speedway's STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Expo takes place May 17-18.

- USAC QUARTER-MIDGETS: All-Star Race weekend also brings the stars of the United States Auto Club's quarter-midgets to zMAX Dragway for a three-day collection of quarter-midget races May 17-19.

TICKETS: For tickets to all of Charlotte Motor Speedway's 2019 events, including the 60th running of the Coca-Cola 600 on May 26, visit www.charlottemotorspeedway.com/tickets.

FOLLOW US: Keep track of all of Charlotte Motor Speedways attractions and 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.

Darlington Raceway

DARLINGTON, SC - Darlington Raceway will celebrate Daytona Day and the start of the 2019 NASCAR season by hosting its eighth annual Community Watch Party for the Daytona 500 on Sunday, Feb. 17.

The event will start at 1:30 p.m. and continue until the conclusion of the Daytona 500. The party will be hosted at Mellow Mushroom, located at 120 Dunbarton Dr., in Florence, S.C.

The Community Watch Party will feature a food and drink specials courtesy of Mellow Mushroom and Crown Beverages. Fans who attend will have the chance to win tickets, pit passes and pre-race ceremony wristbands, along with other prizes and giveaways to the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Bojangles' Southern 500 on Labor Day weekend.

"Now in our eighth year, our community watch party is a great way for us to engage with our local race fans and celebrate Daytona Day and the start of the 2019 NASCAR season," track President Kerry Tharp said. "We're excited that the event will once again be held at Mellow Mushroom for the third consecutive year, which is an outstanding venue to watch The Great American Race on

(Continued Next Page)

Continued...

February 17.”

A new feature of the watch party this year will be a video gaming area at Mellow Mushroom where fans will be able to simulate racing at Daytona International Speedway. Top times posted during the contest will receive prizes during the party.

Proud partners of the eighth annual Community Watch Party are Coca-Cola, Crown Beverages and WEGX Eagle 92.9 FM.

Additionally, with the Daytona 500 quickly approaching, Darlington Raceway will be a presenting sponsor of live coverage from Daytona Speedweeks. Local media partners WWFN 100.1 FM ‘The Fan’ and WEGX Eagle 92.9 FM will broadcast live from Daytona International Speedway on February 14 and 15. The Daytona 500 will also be available live on Eagle 92.9 FM (MRN) beginning at 1:30 p.m. on Feb. 17.

Local TV partners WBTW CBS and WMBF NBC will also serve as partners on Daytona coverage and the watch party during Speedweeks.

“We appreciate all of our local media partners for their assistance in covering the Daytona 500, the Super Bowl of our sport, as well as their involvement in supporting our Community Watch Party,” Sharp said. “We encourage fans to tune in to either Eagle 92.9 FM or The Fan 100.1 FM on Thursday and Friday evening for live coverage from Daytona, which will feature a wide variety of interviews and news updates from the World Center of Racing.”

Darlington Raceway’s award-winning throwback campaign is The Official Throwback Weekend of NASCAR featuring the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Bojangles’ Southern 500® on Sunday, Sept. 1, 2019. The NASCAR XFINITY Series Sport Clips Haircuts VFW 200 will race on Saturday, Aug. 31, 2019. Tickets can be purchased now by calling 866-459-7223 or visiting DarlingtonRaceway.com.

You can keep up with all of the latest news from Darlington Raceway at DarlingtonRaceway.com, on Facebook at [Facebook.com/DarlingtonRaceway](https://www.facebook.com/DarlingtonRaceway) and on Twitter at [Twitter.com/TooToughToTame](https://twitter.com/TooToughToTame).

Fans are encouraged to post their Bojangles’ Southern 500 stories and memories at, #BojanglesSo500 and #SportClips200.

Texas Motor Speedway

FORT WORTH, TX - Texas Motor Speedway can't do 'bigger and better' without the fans, and with less than three weeks until engines fire for the Daytona 500, early indications show the World's Largest Daytona 500 Watching Party will be the biggest bash yet.

More than 400 RSVPs from as far as California and Pennsylvania have streamed into the TMS ticket office already for the two-day (Feb. 16-17) free event; 66 percent more than at this time a year ago. Both RV Camping (38 percent) and Tailgating (236 percent) are up substantially as more and more race fans make the watching party their season-opening tradition. In fact, the number of RSVPs for tailgaters has already surpassed 2018's total.

"In only its third year at Texas Motor Speedway, it's amazing to see the growth of the 'World's Largest' Daytona 500 Watching Party," TMS President/GM Eddie Gossage said. "Of course, word gets out quickly when you welcome people into your home to watch the NASCAR season kick off on Big Hoss, the world's largest TV. I couldn't think of a better way to do it myself."

Last year's event attracted approximately 5,000 fans along with nearly 300 RVs to watch the racing action from Daytona Beach, Fla., on 'Big Hoss TV', the 12-story tall Guinness World Record holder as largest HDTV in the world. (For finished and b-roll packages of last year's event, [click here](#).)

The event is open to the public and fans planning to tailgate or camp can RSVP by visiting www.texasmotorspeedway.com. Fans are not required to RSVP. They can simply show up on either day. The South Tunnel into the TMS infield opens at 8:00 a.m. CT on Saturday, Feb. 16, for overnight campers and fans wanting to tailgate for the Xfinity Series race (1:30 p.m. CT, FOX). The weekend culminates with the 61st running of the Daytona 500, Sunday, Feb. 17 (1:30 p.m. CT, FOX).

In addition to racing, pre-race NASCAR TV, and post-race on-screen entertainment on 'Big Hoss', fans can enjoy Chevrolet Impala and Camaro SS pace car rides on track; a campsite and tailgate decorating competition; and promotions and live remotes from 95.9 The Ranch and Hank FM.

They can even stake a claim to their version of the best seat in the house. Speedway ticket representatives will give guided tours to fans wanting to hand pick their season ticket spots in both the grandstands and campgrounds.

The 2019 season at Texas Motor Speedway opens March 29-31 with the O'Reilly Auto Parts 500 NASCAR tripleheader. The weekend features all three NASCAR series: the Vankor 350 Gander Outdoors Truck Series race Friday, March 29; the My Bariatric Solutions 300 Xfinity Series race Saturday, March 30; and the O'Reilly Auto Parts 500 Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series race Sunday, March 31. The weekend also features Robby Gordon's Stadium Super Trucks on both Saturday and Sunday.

For more information on the O'Reilly Auto Parts 500 weekend or TMS season tickets, please visit www.texasmotorspeedway.com or call the speedway ticket office at 817.215.8500.

Kansas Speedway

KANSAS CITY, KS - Ready to see who visits Gatorade Victory Lane at Kansas Speedway in 2019? Now is your chance – 2019 Kansas Speedway tickets are on sale.

Tickets for the May 11 Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series, and May 10 NASCAR Gander Outdoor Truck Series races under the lights are available and begin at \$64 and \$25, respectively. On May 10, children 12 and under are free with an adult admission, and youth tickets, available in select sections, start at just \$29 for the May 11 Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series race.

In the fall, tickets for the Hollywood Casino 400 playoff race start at \$64 for adults and \$29 for youth 12 and under in select sections. For the Kansas Lottery 300 on Oct. 19, tickets start at \$40 and children 12 and under are free with an adult ticket. On Oct. 18, tickets for Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series qualifying and the ARCA Racing Series presented by Menards series finale are just \$10 for general admission.

Fans can upgrade their experience with a pre-race pass, Ignition Garage hospitality, a reserved tailgating space and more.

Kansas Speedway also has re-

served camping spots for the season that start at just \$230, or tent camping that is \$190 for the season. A limited number of weekend camping spots are available in Kansas Speedway's Phoenix and Richmond Campgrounds, along with tent camping.

In preparation for the upcoming Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series season, Kansas Speedway is giving fans a chance to predict the DAYTONA 500 winner, with one contest winner receiving two Hot Passes to their choice of one of Kansas Speedway's 2019 Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series races (May 11 or Oct. 20). Fans can register at www.kansasspeedway.com/500Winner. One winner will be selected at random from the correct predictors. Official rules can be found at www.kansasspeedway.com/500winner.

Racing returns to Kansas Speedway on Friday, May 10 with the NASCAR Gander Outdoor Truck Series and on Saturday, May 11 with the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series races. In October, the NASCAR XFINITY Series (Kansas Lottery 300) returns on Saturday, Oct. 19 and the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series (Hollywood Casino 400) on Oct. 20, both of which are playoff races.

Kansas Speedway, a premier motorsports facility in the Midwest, hosts two NASCAR race weekends a year, in addition to hosting approximately 200 other events throughout the year. Kansas Speedway's first race weekend of the season is in May with the NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series and Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series under the lights. In the fall, the NASCAR playoffs return in with the NASCAR XFINITY Series and Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series. To purchase season or single day tickets, call 866.460.RACE (7223) or log onto www.kansasspeedway.com.

General parking is always free at Kansas Speedway and fans can bring in one 14x14x14-inch soft-sided cooler with their favorite food and beverages.

Fans can follow Kansas Speedway on Facebook at www.facebook.com/kansasspeedway, Twitter (@kansasspeedway), Instagram (kansasspeedway) and Snapchat (kansasspeedway).

**Visit us at www.fastrackracingjournal.com
to read FasTrack Racing Journal for
FREE - even past issues!!**

Antioch Speedway

MORGANTON, NC - Ricky Weeks #1W from Forest City LED flag2flag Easley winning the Blue Ridge Outlaw late model final race of the season. 2018 points champion David Menton #3D passed Bryson Harper #20H with five laps remaining to finish second, Harper third, Jonathan Jennings #20 fourth

and Billy South #98 fifth.

Jeff Parsons #44 from Union Grove led every lap on his way to Victory in the Blue Ridge modified race. Zack Tate #T9 finish second, Andrew Durham #06 third and Ritchie Watson #80L fourth.

Brady Kirk #16K from Lancaster led all the laps on his way to victory in the Renegade Crate sportsman event. Kade Langley #38 cross the line 2nd but was disqualified at post-race inspection (carburetor) relegating Jeff Parsons #36 who came from the rear of the field to finish second, Duck Rowland #8 third, Rodney Lail #26 overcame an earlier race pin to finish fourth and Randy Young #21R rounded out the top five.

Willie Fowler #00 from Forest City led the entire event taking home the victory in the Thunder bombers/psv8 division. Justin Austin #1 came in second but was disqualified at post-race inspection. Timmy Wilson #777 cross the line in 3rd but was awarded second, Blake Walker #9 third, Josh Hamby #92 fourth and Justin Mauney #95 fifth.

Austin Caudle #11 from Cooleemee NC led the last 5 laps taking home the victory in the pure stock 4 race. Willie Fowler #78 second, Stephanie Caudle #05 third, Randy Powell #88 overcame a mid-race spin to finish fourth, Colby Burks #73 moved up from Young Guns came home in fifth place.

Marc White #2.0 from Gastonia Led the entire event bring home the victory in the extreme front-wheel drive race. Dan Benson #3C second, Brad McManus #3B third, Curtis Wood #22S fourth and Tim Jennings #4J came home in fifth.

Cody Yerbos #01 from Denver overcame an early race caution to take the victory in the Young Guns race. Kelly Rash #41 second, Chesnie Chatham #9 third and Matthew Wallace #1/2 fourth.



Ricky Weeks along with friends and family celebrate in Antioch Speedway's victory lane after winning the Blue Ridge Outlaw late model race. (ANTIOCH SPEEDWAY photo)

Carteret County Speedway

PELETIER, NC - An action packed 2019 schedule was announced at Bobby Watson's Carteret County Speedway on Friday night, featuring 17 races throughout the year.

The highlights of the 2019 season schedule include the INEX Legends Asphalt Nationals on October 19th, the CARS Response Energy Tour on July 13th, the \$10,000-to-win Solid Rock Carriers 150 on August 10th and the Carolina Mini-Stock Challenge on November 16th.

The 2019 season will commence on Saturday, March 30th with a \$5,000-to-win Late Model race. In addition to Late Models, the season opener will feature racing for Street Stocks, Mini-Stocks, U-CARS, Legends, Mini Cups and Champ Karts. The race will have a 2pm start time.

The season continues on April 13th with a race headlined by Street Stocks. Events will also take place on April 27th, May 11th, May 26th, June 8th, June 22nd, July 6th, July 27th, September 1st, September 21st, October 5th and November 2nd.

In addition to the CARS Tour and Legends Nationals, the Virginia Mini Cups will make their first appearance at Bobby Watson's Carteret County Speedway on Saturday, July 27th. The East Coast Flathead Fords will compete on Saturday, April 13th and September 21st while the Southern Ground Pounders will make appearances on May 26th and November 2nd. Super Trucks will headline racing on October 5th. Other touring series races may be added to the schedule in the weeks ahead.

For more information about

Bobby Watson's Carteret County Speedway, visit the track's official website at www.carteretspeedway.com, "like" Carteret County Speedway on Facebook or follow @carteretcoswy on Twitter.

Carteret County Speedway

PELETIER, NC - Another one of the late Bobby Watson's dreams is poised to become a reality in October 2019 when Bobby Watson's Carteret County Speedway hosts the INEX Legends Asphalt Nationals.

The event is the biggest race weekend of the year for the Legend Cars that run at Carteret County Speedway and most other short tracks across the country. Watson became a fan of the Legends division which boasted some of the strongest car counts and produced some of the most entertaining racing during the season. Watson often talked about how much he had wanted the Legends Nationals - and now, from October 17th through October 19th, his track will play host to the prestigious event.

"Congratulations Bobby Watson, the INEX Legends Asphalt Nationals are being held at your facility," track owner Bob Lowery said. "What an honor to host the world's largest Legends race at Bobby Watson's Carteret County Speedway. This prestigious race is selected by drivers and race officials of the INEX series. The staff and I are humbled yet extremely excited to host this year's event."

Lowery, a long-time friend and business partner of the late Bobby Watson, plans to carry out Watson's dream at the 4/10-mile track in Peletier, North Carolina.

"I know Bobby Watson is looking down today with a big smile on his

face," track media relations director Andy Marquis said. "The Legends division really became one of Bobby's favorites. He came up to me on more than one occasion talking about how he wanted to host the Legends Asphalt Nationals out here. I'm so happy to see another part of his dream come true."

A press release by U.S. Legend Cars and INEX International stated: The "Crystal Coast" will host the INEX Legends Asphalt Nationals for the first time at Bobby Watson's Carteret County Speedway in Swansboro, North Carolina. Carteret County Speedway has put a growing effort into the Legends class since the track's inception in 2015 by hosting several big money paying events. Drivers will all converge to the 4/10ths flat mile on October 17th, 18th and 19th, 2019 to crown USLCI national champions.

The October 17-19th event joins a series of big races that have been announced at Bobby Watson's Carteret County Speedway. The CARS Response Energy Tour will come back to Carteret for the second time on July 13th and the Carolina Mini-Stock Challenge will run its 2nd Annual 4-Cylinder Nationals on November 16th.

"We're excited to continue the tradition of being leaders in the eastern United States with short track's premier races and series. The 2019 season will be one of the best yet. To again host the CARS Tour and the 4-Cylinder Nationals, we're proud to carry on Bobby Watson's dream and having the Legends Nationals was part of that dream. Every race is an event that will keep you coming back race after race."

The 2019 season will officially commence on Saturday, March 30th. Tickets at Bobby Watson's Carteret County Speedway will be \$15 for adults most races, \$20 for special events. Kids 10 and under always get in free.

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

Dodge City Raceway Park

DODGE CITY, KS - Dodge City Raceway Park fans, racers and crew members will gather to enjoy an evening filled with food, music and awards at the Saturday, January 26, DCRP Awards Banquet.

The festivities will take place at the Western Expo Center located
(Continued on Next Page...)

(Continued ...)

adjacent to Dodge City intersection of US 56 and US 283 on the south edge of Dodge City, KS.

Doors will open at 6:00 p.m., with dinner served at 7:00 p.m. and the awards ceremony to follow.

Tickets to the event are just \$25 per person and must be ordered by January 19, 2018, to determine an accurate headcount. Tickets may be

ordered by calling Gina Wilson at 620-339-9873 or Tommie Estes, Jr., at 405-238-8485. Fans and team members alike are encouraged to join in on the fun.

The top ten in points in all five divisions (Precise Racing Products DCRP Sprint Cars, IMCA Modifieds, IMCA Sport Modifieds, IMCA Stock Cars and IMCA Hobby Stocks) that competed in at least 80% of the events will receive trophies and point fund money.

A handful of drivers earned championships at Dodge City Raceway Park during the 2018 season including Steven Richardson (Precise Racing Products DCRP Sprint Cars), Nick Link (IMCA Modifieds), Jeff Kaup (IMCA Sport Modifieds), Dusty Witthuhn (IMCA Stock Cars) and Reagan Sellard (IMCA Hobby Stocks).

Dodge City Raceway Park is located on the south edge of Dodge City, KS, on US 283, then 0.9 miles west on US 56, then 0.1 miles south. For more information, contact the track at 620-225-3277 or check www.dodgecityraceway.com.

Eldora Speedway

ROSSBURG, OH - Eldora Speedway officials have released the final 2019 schedule of events. A total of 21 spectator events spanning the 22 weeks from the final Saturday nights of April and September comprise the 66th consecutive season of racing at the high-banked half-mile clay oval in northwest Darke County.

Among the highlights are a giant four division season opener on Saturday, April 27 with \$5,000-to-win for the Sunoco Late Models, the K&L Ready Mix NRA 360 Sprint Invaders, DIRTcar UMP Modifieds and Eldora Stock Cars. The Sunoco Late Model division will also race for \$5,000-to-win on the traditional holiday Sunday events:

the Johnny Appleseed Classic on Memorial Day Weekend and the Baltus Classic on Labor Day Weekend.

The popular #LetsRaceTwo Doubleheader Weekend, featuring both the World of Outlaws NOS® Energy Sprint Cars and the USAC AMSOIL National Sprint Cars, returns Friday and Saturday, May 10 and 11. The winged and non-winged worlds mix again at the 38th running of the 4-Crown Nationals Weekend in Eldora's season finale on September 27 and 28.

The first \$8 Family FIREWORKS Night gets a jolt of speed on May 18 when the K&L Ready Mix NRA Sprint Invaders makes their second of three stops in 2019. The winged 360 c.i. sprint cars join the DIRTcar UMP Modifieds and Eldora Stocks prior to a spectacular fireworks extravaganza. The NRA group also returns the next Sunday to be part of the Johnny Appleseed Classic.

One week after the 25th running of the Dirt Late Model Dream, sprint car racing returns when the Ollie's Bargain Outlet All Star Circuit of Champions presented by Mobil 1 brings Round #2 of Ohio Sprint Speedweek to Eldora on Saturday, June 15. Eldora will once again play host to the ASCoC championship event, as part of the 4-Crown Nationals, on Saturday, September 28.

Eldora's second \$8 Family FIREWORKS Night slated for on Saturday, August 3, will cap off activities surrounding the Eldora Dirt Derby. With the NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series, Super DIRTcar Big-Block Modifieds and "The 127 Yard Sale – The World's Longest Yard Sale" all taking place in short order beginning Wednesday, July 31, there will be something for everyone leading up to a fun-filled night of family fun, fireworks and racing featuring the DIRTcar UMP Modifieds, Eldora Stocks and Vores Compact Touring Series.

Tickets and campsites for Eldora's previously announced marquee events renewed at record rates. Since made available in December, the public's appetite for dirt racing remains strong for the 25th running of the \$125,000-to-win Dirt Late Model Dream on June 6-7-8, the 36th Kings Royal Weekend on July 18-19-20, the NASCAR Gander Outdoor Truck Series Eldora Dirt Derby on a new day of Thursday, August 1, and the 49th World 100 on September 5-6-7.

The announced events will go

on sale to the public at 10 a.m. on Monday, February 11 via www.EldoraSpeedway.com or by calling the box office at (937) 338-3815. Children aged 12 are still admitted free to all general admission and grass hillside festival seating areas with an adult.

Hickory Motor Speedway

NEWTON, NC - Hickory Motor Speedway has just released their schedule for the 2019 race season, and it is packed full of excitement. The Historic Race Track will open up their 69th season of racing on March 9th, 2019 with the Cosmo Motors Spring Classic, and the track will once again be headlined each week with the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series Late Models.

Paramount Auto Group will return as the title sponsor for the Paramount Auto Group Limited Late Models and Paramount KIA will return for the popular Paramount KIA "Big 10" Racing Challenge, which provides 10 races with feature events that provide additional purse money and a championship of its own.

Hickory Motor Speedway will continue promoting events for the Paramount Auto Group Limited Late Models, Cosmo Motors Street Stocks, One Design Super Trucks, Carolina Custom Golf Carts 4-Cylinders, Renegades and the Hickory Vintage Racing Series during their weekly events.

The PASS Super Late Models will return to America's Most Famous Short Track in 2019, including the Easter Bunny 150 on April 20th, 2019.

The track will play host to the Cars Racing Tour again in 2018 with two dates. The Cars Racing Tour has had a long history at The Birthplace of the NASCAR Stars and will return on March 23rd and Aug, 3rd for the Throwback Series event.

The Knights of Destruction will return with two events beginning on June 1st and is sure to deliver excitement and thrills for all that attend. This event provides a fun filled night of special racing including a school bus race, skid plate race, chain race, and much more. The second event will be Oct. 5th and prove to be just as exciting.

Also on tap will be one event for the popular Southern Modified Series on Oct. 12th. The Southern Modified Series has provided some great racing for their events with multiple Modified stars in attendance.

The season will also include the

running of the Paramount Auto Group Bobby Isaac Memorial race presented by Black Tire and Auto Service on the Saturday August 31st of Labor Day weekend, a very special tradition at the legendary track, honoring the late Bobby Isaac. The Cosmo Motors Fall Brawl presented by Calico Coatings will be held on October 19th which is a 200-lap feature special event for the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series Late Models, 100-lap Paramount Auto Group Limited Late Model, 50-lap One Design Super Trucks and more.

Hickory Motor Speedway continues to be more than a race track with Hog Happenin on June 15th which will feature live bands and great food. The SunDown Audio Competition on Aug. 17th featuring elaborate car stereos from around the United States and the Cosmo Motors Cops for Tots Toy Drive and Car Show to end the season on Nov. 16th.

There are still a few dates to be secured and some to be announced later, but several of our sponsors have already secured their dates for 2019 at The Birthplace of the NASCAR Stars. This is a tentative schedule and could be subject to minimal changes.

Ticket prices will remain the same in 2019 (excluding special events) for weekly NASCAR events (\$12.50 for adults, \$10.50 for seniors and teens, with kids 12 and under free).

Hickory Motor Speedway has been voted the Finest Sports Venue in Hickory Daily Records Best of Catawba Valley for 2017 and 2018.

Hickory Motor Speedway will remain open for testing throughout the off season.

Hickory Motor Speedway management will continue to work hard for the sponsors, fans, and competitors, to provide a level field of competition and great entertainment in a family oriented atmosphere. We look forward to seeing you at the track in 2019.

Kingsport Speedway

KINGSPORT, Tenn. (December 19, 2018) – Another exciting season is coming to The Concrete Jungle for 2019!

With the news of longtime racers and business men Ervin and Keith Stiltner purchasing the track, it is gearing up to be one of the best years to date.

"We couldn't be happier to take the reins at Kingsport," said Ervin Stiltner. "We've seen great support

(Continued on Next Page...)

(Continued...)

from the competitors, fans, sponsors and local community since we started leasing the track in 2014.”

“We appreciate everyone’s support and look forward to waving the green flag on 2019 and beyond.”

The season gets underway on Saturday, March 23rd. Divisions that will be featured at Kingsport in the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series opener will be - Modified 4

division, Pure 4, Mod Street, Pure Street, LMSC, and the Vintage class are also on the schedule.

The first two races of the season are slated for Saturday days, then we move back under the lights on Friday nights starting on April 12th.

The 2019 schedule features a jampacked lineup, featuring the return of the Super Cup Stock Car Series, celebrating our fans and our nation on fan appreciation night on July 5th, that will end with a fireworks display, and crown our 2019 track champions on September 13th.

More news about the go-kart track will be announced soon! Stay tuned for more news of upcoming events

For more information on Kingsport Speedway, visit our website at www.newkingsportspeedway.com

Fresh content and updates can also be found on the tracks Facebook page (@KingsportSpeedway), Twitter (@KpSpeedway), Instagram (@KingsportSpeedway), Snapchat (@KptSpeedway)

Orange County Fair Speedway

MIDDLETOWN, NY - Orange County New York is home to one of racing’s hidden gems and a true historic site, a ½ mile dirt track located in the heart of the Town of Wallkill that has been continuously operated since 1919, making it the oldest in the nation. While New York state plays host to a number of dirt short tracks, none have as rich or interesting a history as what has long been known as “The Orange County Fair Speedway.”

At the time of the first automobile race on August 16, 1919, “OCFS” was known as “The Harry Clay Oval.” It had been constructed in 1857 at the Orange County Fairgrounds as a horse racing track.

Despite the existence of older horse tracks, The Harry Clay Oval/OCFS may be the oldest continuously operated racing facility in the world. Starting in 1913, auto racing enthusiast, George Martin lobbied to bring cars to the track, eventually succeeding in 1919 assembling a field of drivers for a crowd of 5,000.

That first race, run mostly by cars with Duesenberg motors, was won by James Benedict of Katonah, NY, driving the “Benedict Special”. To Martin’s relief, the races were a huge success, with fair directors admitting that by next year, they’d need to accommodate a much larger crowd.

Auto racing at OCFS would continue regularly for the next 100 years, excluding a short government mandated break during WWII due to metal and gasoline conservation efforts. In 1946, full time racing returned to the newly dubbed “Victory Speedway,” now officially an auto racing track featuring “American Racing Drivers Club” sanctioned Midget Car racing. Stock car racing officially began at the speedway on September 18, 1948 as Rocky Dinatale is credited with the first-ever stock car win. The first fully contested championship season began on April 16, 1950 and the first race of the season was won by Tex Enright driving the no. 407 Modified coupe. Eventually, Victory Speedway would transition into being known as “The Orange County Fair Speedway” as it is still today.

Now, in 2019, the track referred to by some as “The Hard Clay” or “The House of Power” features some of the most exciting racing action you’ll see in the country.

Many racing legends like Mario Andretti competed in Middletown early in their careers. Even Nascar stars like Tony Stewart are known to make yearly appearances, but all season long, local grassroots stock car teams can be seen giving their all in 850+ HP V8 powered Dirt Modified race cars, battling for the OCFS Championship. For around the same price as a night at the movies, your family can witness this spectacle that has captivated fans for 100 Years.

Orange Motorsports and Entertainment, the new managing company at OCFS as of 2018, will celebrate this hundredth season with a special 3-day Centennial event in August as well as specially curated, year-long tributes to OCFS’ history and legendary cast of drivers, car owners, car builders and track personalities. Weekly

events will feature live music at “The 31st Lap Tavern” the track bar where fans and racers meet for drinks, delicious food and of course some racing talk after the night’s events. Fans of racing, history, Americana, car culture, classic cars or just those looking for a fun night out with the family will be treated to a season steeped in nostalgia, local history and the finest racing you’ll see at this newly upgraded facility.

2018 saw the restoration of OCFS’ half covered grandstand, the addition of party deck seating with high top tables for four, new turn 4 bleachers, new restrooms, new VIP areas, new official merchandise store, the return of the “Super DIRTcar Series” and more. With last year’s upgrades, OCFS offers a more comfortable experience for all in this unprecedented anniversary season. It all starts the first weekend in April, 2019 with The Short Track Super Series’ “Hard Clay Open,” followed by the OCFS 100th Anniversary Season Opener on Saturday, April 13th.

For a preview of the season to come, fans are encouraged to attend our 2019 Motorsports Show on March 23rd - 24th where they can get up close and personal with the cars, drivers and teams.

For a full schedule of speedway events and news, visit the official site at orangecountyfairspeedway.com and follow @ocfsracing on Instagram and Facebook for daily posts, giveaways, breaking news and exciting video content.

Selinsgrove Speedway

SELINGROVE, PA - Selinsgrove Speedway officials released the 2019 schedule of events featuring 25 action-packed race dates at the historic Snyder County half-mile clay oval.

Opening Day is slated for 6 p.m. Saturday, April 6, with the 360 sprint cars, super late models, pro stocks, and roadrunners making up the racing card. Pit gates will open at 3 p.m. and grandstand gates at 4 p.m.

The 360 sprints cars will make 18 appearances at the track this coming season. The United Racing Club (URC) will sanction six of those events including a full-points race April 20, Jack Gunn Memorial May 25, Kramer Kup June 22, Firecracker 30 July 4, 360 National Open July 13, and the Summer Spectacular Sept. 1. The Patriot Sprint Tour (PST) will sanction the Joe Whitcomb Memorial 360 sprint car race on June 15.

The Lucas Oil American Sprint

Car Series (ASCS) returns May 4 for the second annual Eleven Oaks Farm “Battle of the Groves” with Williams Grove Speedway (May 3). This year’s northeast swing of the ASCS at Williams Grove and Selinsgrove, with the United Racing Club, will be televised by the MAVTV Motorsports Network.

The super late model division will also compete at the track on 18 dates. Special events this year will include the Ron Keister Memorial May 18, KRS Graphics Super Late Model Challenge Series June 8, Firecracker 30 July 4, Northeast Ultimate Super Late Model Series “Showdown on Sand Hill Road” Aug. 10, United Late Model Series Summer Spectacular Sept. 1, and World of Outlaws Late Model Series National Open Sept. 21.

Pro stocks will share the racing card on 17 occasions this season with the annual Pro Stock 20 slated for June 1. The roadrunners will race 16 times including the Roadrunner 20 Aug. 17.

The limited late models will run six races in 2019, while the PASS/IMCA 305 sprint cars will make four appearances.

Four high-profile races for the 410 sprint cars will be held at the track this season including the Ray Tilley Classic April 28, PA Speedweek Opperman/Bogar Memorial June 30, Summer Spectacular Sept. 1, and Jim Nace Memorial/37th Annual National Open Sept. 14.

The speedway will hold two open practice sessions on the half-mile track from 1-4 p.m. March 23 and March 30.

Selinsgrove Raceway Park, the one-fifth mile oval located inside of the half-mile track, will kick off its 19th anniversary season with a program of go kart racing at 7:30 p.m. Friday, April 5.

Go kart racing will be featured on all but one of the 27 race dates at Selinsgrove Raceway Park this year. The 270 micro sprint cars and slingshots will duel on the small track Friday, June 7.

Burris Money Series (BMS) Sunday events for karts are slated for April 7, May 19, and June 23.

The speedway’s annual Motorsports Show at the Susquehanna Valley Mall will run Sunday, Feb. 24 through Friday, March 1. Teams can register their cars for the show by emailing publicrelations@selinsgrovespeedway.com or calling 570.523.8420.

For the latest news, results, and race status, visit selinsgrovespeedway.com or follow us on Twitter and

(Continued on Next Page...)

(Continued...)

way office can also be reached at 570.374.2266.

Selinsgrove Speedway

SELINS - GROVE / PORT ROYAL, PA - Grit House, a premium lifestyle apparel brand, has been named the new title sponsor of the 2019 edition of the Route 35 Super Late Model Challenge Series between Selinsgrove and Port Royal Speedway competitors.

For the fourth consecutive season, the Snyder County and Juniata County half-mile clay ovals, separated by a 35-mile stretch of Route 35, will showcase a six-race Challenge Series for the super late model drivers, with each track slated to once again host three events.

Selinsgrove Speedway's three Challenge Series dates include Sunday, April 28; Thursday, July 4; and Saturday, Aug. 24. Port Royal will hold series races on Saturday, May 4; Saturday, July 6; and Saturday, July 20.

Each track will get one rain date attempt, if needed. Selinsgrove's rain date will be Sunday, Sept. 1 and Port Royal's designated makeup date will be Friday, Sept. 6.

The Grit House point fund will be distributed among the top 10 drivers in the series standings, with the champion receiving a \$1,000 bonus. The series champion's name will be engraved on the perpetual Route 35 Challenge Series Championship Cup. Series feature winners will also be presented a Grit House Gift Pack in Victory Lane.

Moon Shine Camo was the title sponsor for the series' first three seasons, in which Jeff Rine (2016, Selinsgrove), Colebry Frye (2017, Port Royal), and Andy Haus (2018, Port Royal) clinched titles. Port Royal leads the Challenge Series history 2-1 for "bragging rights" and Championship Cup possession.

Moon Shine Camo invested years in marketing Lifestyle Camo® patterns and established Muddy Girl® as the go-to female brand in the outdoor industry. In order to further diversify, new designs and company restructuring were required. On Sept. 15, 2018, Moon Shine Camo announced

their company's rebranding to Sirphis.

"Everything has and can be identified by its surface," said Travis Mattern, President of Sirphis. "We specialize in the design and application of surfaces, so it was only appropriate for our company to be named Sirphis. Sirphis is a cutting-edge designer of quality brand name apparel and patterns, including Lifestyle Camo, Muddy Girl, Pulse, and Grit House.

"The Grit House brand says everything about hard-working Americans who share a love for their country and the freedom to express it. From professional race shops to backyard mechanics, we all have our go-to place that is our Grit House. It's this love for creating horsepower for the rides we build that makes Grit House the perfect brand to represent the Route 35 Super Late Model Challenge Series."

Visit sirphis.com for additional company and product information. For the latest raceway news, visit selinsgrovespeedway.com and portroyalspeedway.com.

Smoky Mountain Speedway

MARYVILLE, TN - Smoky Mountain Speedway has announced the 2019 schedule of events. Under the sole ownership of Roger Sellers, the 4/10-mile dirt oval will host ten total events in 2019 with bigger purses and more variety added to the schedule.

In addition to a number of national and regional racing series visiting the Maryville, Tennessee track, Smoky Mountain Speedway will also host a mini-series for limited late models and for the sportsman late models. Rules and specific details for those will be released soon.

The 2019 season kicks off with the 6th annual Tennessee Tip-Off on Saturday, March 9 when the World of Outlaws Late Model Series returns for a one-day, \$12,000 to win race. The limited late models and the Cajun Mini Stocks will also race for \$1,500 to win each.

A busy month of April starts off with the return of Schaeffer's Spring Nationals for the \$10,000 to win Smoky Mountain Spring Showdown. The Southern All-Stars and the USCS sprint cars will visit on Friday, April 26.

For motorcycle fans, the Harley Hooligan race presented by Smoky Mountain Harley Davidson will be at Smoky Mountain Speedway on May 3 and 4. Practice takes place

on Friday, May 3 and the Hooligan racing takes place on Saturday, May 4.

The annual stop for the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series at Smoky Mountain Speedway is on Saturday, June 15 for the Big Daddy 75. This year's race will pay \$15,000 to win. Limited late models for \$1,200 to win and sportsman late models for \$800 to win will accompany the LOLMDS.

Schaeffer's Southern Nationals will make its annual visit on Tuesday, July 16 for a \$3,500 to win race. Smoky Mountain Speedway will host the debut race for the Schaeffer's Fall Nationals on Friday, August 16 for \$4,000 to win.

The 2019 season will cap off on Saturday, September 28 with the King of the Mountain Fall Classic. The Southern All-Stars highlight the racing activity with a \$7,500 to win race. Cajun Mini Stocks, limited late models, and sportsman late models will also be racing.

The 2019 schedule is just part of an exciting season and future for Smoky Mountain Speedway. More speedway announcements will be coming in the weeks ahead. Visit our web site at www.SmokyMountainSpeedway.com or follow us on our Facebook page for upcoming news and information.

Stafford Motor Speedway

STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT - After a stellar rookie campaign at Stafford Motor Speedway, Enfield, CT native Darrell Keane is ready to return and challenge for the Late Model track title this season. The initial plan for 2018 was to run a partial season as Keane knew race nights would take a backseat mid-season as wedding plans would take center stage. A strong start to the season found Keane and the #79 Botticello, Inc. team in NAPA Victory Lane in the third race of the season which enticed the team to stay on track.

"Last year we only planned on doing around 10 races spread throughout the season and before we knew it, when we took our break I think we were at 10 races," said Keane. "Taking that break was the best decision for us because we did our homework and we came back even stronger than we were at the beginning of the season. Everyone is really excited to get back at it and I'm excited for this season. We're making some changes on the car over the winter to update some things and we're all really anxious. Now we know what we need to be very competitive and

it looks like the Late Model field will be even tougher this year. We have to dot all our i's and cross all our t's to make sure that we can come out of the box just as good or even better than we were at the end of last season."

Keane and the #79 Botticello, Inc. team served notice that they would be championship contenders last season by nearly winning the season opening NAPA Spring Sizzler® feature event and winning his first race in his third start. Keane was the Late Model points standings leader for two weeks early in the season before Tom Fearn took control of the championship race.

"I expected to run somewhat decent but we never expected to win in our third start after almost winning the Sizzler," said Keane. "After the Sizzler I thought that we had something good and to win our third race was shocking. I was figuring on getting a win maybe towards the end of the season. My original thought was if we could get a top-5 at the Sizzler we'd all be pretty happy with that and then before we knew it we led for pretty much the whole race except for the last 2 laps where I made a rookie mistake and I blew it. That just goes to show that races at Stafford are never over until the checkered flag. Our performance is all down to the good people I have helping me out. Between Botticello, Inc., Valhome Productions, BFR Chassis, Cap N Hitch of New England, my wife for dealing with me every week, my Uncle Chucky, and my nephews Nicholas and Darren, if it wasn't for all those guys, I wouldn't have a good car to bring to the track every week"

With a season's worth of experience under his belt, Keane and his #79 team will be better prepared to start the 2019 season and he has set the bar for himself as not only being a championship contender, but exceeding his win total from 2018.

"Our goal last year was to win one race and we got two, so anything more than that this season would be good," said Keane. "We're going to run the full season and try to really focus on points. You really can't start to worry about points until towards the end of the season but you have to have consistency and that will be our focus. I think we showed at the end of last season we could be consistent and the results really started to show. Everyone wants to have the season that Tom Fearn had but if we could get 3 wins we'd be happy and

(Continued on Next Page...)

(Continued ...)

we really want to be in championship. If wins don't come for us this season, we'd still be happy being in contention at the end of the year."

After his 5-race break, Keane closed out the 2018 season on a high note with a second win and four consecutive podium finishes. Keane will be looking to carry that positive momentum into the start of the

2019 season and he will be hoping for a repeat performance at the NAPA Spring Sizzler® without losing the lead in the final laps.

"The first three weeks seems to set a precedent for how the season is going to go, so it'll be important for us to get off to a good, strong start," said Keane. "If we should encounter a rough spell at the start, the main thing for us will be to not give up and buckle down and stay positive. Luck has a lot to do with racing and sometimes you create your own luck and sometimes you're dealt a bad hand. We know what we have to do and how things run once we get to the racetrack, and all those little things add up to make you more comfortable. There's always a chance that something might happen that catches you off guard, but I think we're well prepared to have all our bases covered and we'll be ready to go."

The 2019 Late Model season will kick off at the 48th Annual NAPA Spring Sizzler® on April 26-28. Tickets for the "Greatest Race in the History of Spring" are on sale now by calling the Speedway Box Office 860-684-2783 or online at www.staffordspeedway.com.

Stafford Motor Speedway

iRacing is a one stop shop for Simracing. Returning for the 2019 season, iRacing.com, the global leader in online racing simulation, will present a weekly \$125 bonus to the winner of the Late Model feature. Developed as a centralized racing and competition service, iRacing has evolved into the next generation of sim-racing software used by professional drivers and casual gamers alike. At Stafford, the list of drivers that prepare for the season by using the iRacing service is long with countless drivers improving their craft online.

"It's really amazing how many

drivers are on the iRacing platform," explained Stafford Motor Speedway General Manager Mark Arute. "Pretty much all the young drivers are on iRacing, logging countless laps before they turn their first laps in a real car. The iRacing service helps them become competitive quickly and really fine tune their skills. We want to thank Tony Gardner and the entire team at iRacing for continuing their support of Stafford Speedway and the Late Model division."

The 2018 Late Model season was dominated by Stafford veteran Tom Fearn. Fearn and the #92 team racked up an incredible 12 wins over 21 events and set multiple records including a summer stretch of 6 consecutive wins while also passing Ryan Posocco to become the all-time winningest driver in Stafford Late Model history. Fearn is set to return to Stafford weekly racing in 2019 in search of his 6th Stafford track championship but will have tough competition with nearly all of the top-10 in points returning to full-time competition in 2019.

Though the season was dominated by Fearn, 6 other drivers reached NAPA Victory Lane with Mike Wray, Glen Reen, and Darrell Keane each scoring 2 wins and Paul Arute, Al Saunders, and Kevin Gambacorta each scoring 1. Competition will be high in 2019 with many new names and returning drivers expected to compete including Scott Cook, Dave Wray, and Ed Ricard. Also expected to rejoin the Late Model field for select shows in 2019 is two-time Stafford Champion Adam Gray who is known for his aggressive driving style and is no stranger to NAPA Victory Lane.

"The 2019 Late Model field is shaping up to be strong," continued Stafford General Manager Mark Arute. "We have had a good group of drivers move into the Late Models from the Limited Late Model division and 2019 looks to have more of the same with both RJ Surdell and Ryan Fearn entering the Late Model ranks."

To take the green flag for iRacing and join the thousands that compete online check out www.iRacing.com

The Late Model division kicks off their season at the 48th Annual NAPA Auto Parts Spring Sizzler® on April 26-28. Tickets for the "Greatest Race in the History of Spring" are on sale now at the Speedway Box Office. Tickets are priced at \$40.00 for adult general admission tickets, \$10.00 for chil-

dren ages 6-14, and children ages 5 and under are admitted free of charge when accompanied by an adult. Reserved seating is priced at \$45.00 for all ages. As always, Stafford Motor Speedway offers free parking with overnight parking available. All tickets are good for both Saturday and Sunday admission. All ticket prices include 10% CT Admission Tax. Discount Spring Sizzler® tickets will be available beginning in March at participating NAPA Auto Parts stores.

Stafford Motor Speedway

With the kickoff to the 2019 NASCAR Whelen All-American Series season at Stafford Speedway fast approaching, the track's SK Light division continues to add to its 2019 rookie class. Oxford, CT native Nick Anglace will join his father Vinny as a 2-car SK Light team and campaign for Rookie of the Year honors behind the wheel of his #10 Anglace Racing Enterprises / Fox Pest Control Chevrolet. Anglace finished fourth in SK Light points as a rookie driver at Waterford in 2018 and he is looking forward to racing as a teammate with his father.

"I'm super excited to get out on the track at Stafford," said Anglace. "I grew up watching my father race at Stafford and I always remember thinking how cool it would be to be on the other side of the fence and racing with my dad. I ran go karts for two years at Nutmeg Kart Club before I tested my father's SK Light car in 2017 at Waterford. I was running competitive lap times so I said let's try this out and last year we did better than we expected to do with a fourth place finish in the points and a best finish of second.

"I've always wanted to race against my dad and now we can see who the better driver is between the two of us. I have to thank my father and Anglace Racing Enterprises, Fox Pest Control, CWPM, my Uncle Mark, and a few friends that help us out."

While Nick Anglace will be seeing Stafford for the first time when he takes to the track during the season opening NAPA Spring Sizzler Weekend set for April 26-28, his father Vinny raced SK Modifieds® from 2005-2008 and he has been racing SK Lights from 2015-present. Nick has been busy preparing for his rookie season by logging virtual laps at Stafford in the world of iRacing and he hopes the combination of the virtual laps and his father's experience at Stafford will help lead to a shortened learning curve.

"Obviously we'd like to run as well as possible," said Anglace. "Last season at Waterford was all about getting some seat time in an SK Light car, so we got that out of the way. With Stafford being a new track for me, I've been doing as much iRacing as I can lately. Hopefully that will allow me to get the hang of the track quickly and we can start trying to run up front. My father says that Stafford is a hard track to master and obviously I've never driven there before so I'm not sure what to expect. He's given me some tips and I've talked with some other drivers like Jonathan Puleo to get some insight from them. It's definitely going to be helpful for both of us being teammates this season. With my father racing for wins, he can try some stuff in my car and if it works, he can use it in his car and maybe win a race this year."

Another area where Anglace will look to ease the burden of learning a new track is to lean on his experience in helping his father around the shop working on his racecar. The Anglace team is also looking for any additional help that they can get at the track and in the shop during the week.

Anglace can also take solace in the fact that over the past five seasons of SK Light competition, there are over 10 drivers who won races as rookies with Jeremy Sorel and Cory DiMatteo also winning track championships as rookies. Anglace would like to emulate their rookie success and at least be in contention for the Rookie of the Year award this season.

"Watching guys like Brian Narducci and Marcello Rufrano was comforting knowing that if they can do what they did as young drivers, hopefully I can do some of the same things and have the same kind of success they did," said Anglace. "It's not going to be easy at all. Some of these guys have been racing longer than I've been alive so it's going to be tough for sure. Winning Rookie of the Year is something that at least I hope we can be in contention for at the end of the season. That would be a pretty cool honor to finish the year out with and I think we can get it done with the equipment that we have."

The 2019 SK Light season will kick off at the 48th Annual NAPA Spring Sizzler® on April 26-28. Tickets for the "Greatest Race in the History of Spring" are on sale now by calling the Speedway Box Office 860-684-2783 or online at www.staffordspeedway.com.