



MARCH 2, 2020

# FastTrack

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## Good-bye to Old Friends and... Hello to New Ones



### Alex Bowman Scores Win for Hendrick Motorsports



### Harrison Burton Keeps Family Winning Tradition Alive

## The Bowtie Comeback

Long before men wore their hair in a bun atop their heads like a 1962 librarian, and well before America fell in and out of love with kale, Chevrolets ruled NASCAR with unequalled authority.

Fast drivers and even faster cars put the car company on the fast track to 39 manufacturer championships – more than double of second-place Ford. And while the Bowtie brand has been knocked around a bit in the last three years, it seems to have found a second wind during NASCAR's western swing.

Not only was Alex Bowman dominant by leading 110 of 200 laps, Ford and Toyota left the racetrack at Fontana, Calif., Sunday with the realization Chevrolet's turnaround is far from a fluke.

"Yeah, we have a lot of work to do," Kyle Busch said. "Guys are doing all they can, I know, and all everybody at TRD. So, I appreciate all the hard work. We've just got to get a little bit better. We finished the end of last year so strong, I don't know what we're missing here, but obviously it's a little bit of something here or there, maybe a little bit of something in a few different areas, but overall, good car today."

"We're still slow. Our cars handled OK. If we don't have a draft, we're just run over," Denny Hamlin said. "It's tough because I feel like we're getting beat on throttle time, but we're also just getting murdered down the straightaways. Just need more horsepower, more downforce and less drag. If we can have all those, we'll be better."

Busch and Hamlin both drive for Joe Gibbs Racing – a Toyota team that combined to win 19 of the 36 races last year.

The difference between the early races of the current season and the past two years when Chevrolet won four times in 2018 and seven a year ago is the Chevrolet camp, particularly Hendrick Motorsports, appears to be showing up with cars that need little, if any, tweaking.

"I don't know that we've changed anything since we unloaded off the truck, so that really comes down to a lot of great preparation in the

shop, Greg [Ives, crew chief] making really good decisions with our package that we brought here this year," Bowman said. "This is a place we've struggled at for the last two years, so for him to be able to unload that close, really the last two weeks in a row, makes my job much easier. We can really fine tune the car throughout practice instead of having to make huge changes. It's really been our probably best couple practices the last two years that I've been driving for HMS, and I just attribute that to the hard work in the shop and great work over the off-season."



DON COBLE

As far as NASCAR is concerned, the competition couldn't be any better. Hamlin won the season-opening Daytona 500 in a Toyota. Joey Logano won a week ago at Las Vegas in a Ford, and Bowman gave Chevrolet its first victory on Sunday.

After years of promising a level playing field and giving Chevrolet a modest makeover during the off season, NASCAR is delivering.

"I think the one thing that I kind of talk about a lot is the fact that when Chevrolet said they're going to commit to working hard to try to improve the body, that put a sense of morale throughout the whole shop, throughout the whole team, a lot of positive attitudes towards it," Ives said. "It was our job as a team, my job as a crew chief, his job as a driver to go out there and execute it, right, and the last few years haven't been great for Hendrick Motorsports on what they're historically used to and the platform that we show up at the racetrack.

"We need to take that positive momentum of the hard work Chevy put in and we needed to put that to results on the racetrack, whether it was top 10, top 5s. It's great to have the win, but continuously building that momentum is something that is needed in the shop environment. It's needed when the guys turn on the TV and they see the racing we had today, and their product was on the racetrack competing for laps, competing on pit road. It's a totally different vibe, totally different feeling."

A year ago at Fontana, a Chevrolet was out front for just three laps. On Sunday, Chevrolets paced the field for 127 of 200.

"That's been very good from my standpoint to be able to unload and



Alex Bowman (88) leads teammate Jimmie Johnson (48), both in Chevrolets, during the Auto Club 400. (RUSSELL LABOUNTY/NKP photo)

know we have a solid baseline and not have to chase and try to find speed, and when you do that, sometimes you get desperate and sometimes you get over the line," Ives said.

Even Jimmie Johnson, a seven-time champion who seemingly has been banished to the carpool lane the past two years, is running up front. He left Fontana ranked fifth in points with two top-10 finishes in three starts.

Bowman believes the truest test of Chevrolet's rebound will come next Sunday at Phoenix. It's a tricky track that demands equal parts of balance, speed and driver.

"I feel like our mile-and-a-half program was very strong last year, so at the end of the year, I feel like if we would have come in here, we would have been strong anyway,"

he said. "I think the new body has helped us a lot, the new Camaro. Any change we make, we make for a reason, and Chevy did a good job with that car. So I think on the intermediate stuff it's really showing up. Phoenix I think we finished like 25th there in the fall last year. We were absolutely horrendous, so hopefully we can go there and run a ton better."

"But it's just hard to say this early in the year, but I think the new car is quite a bit better. I think Greg has done a really good job this year, too. Like I said earlier, we've never unloaded so close two weeks in a row. We've never unloaded that close, period, and to do it two weeks in a row has been really cool. He's making my job easy right now for sure. Not easy, but easier, and it's definitely paying off."

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ON THE COVER:

NIGEL KINRADE PHOTOGRAPHY

# Like Father, Like Son

It's been said for many years that NASCAR racing is a family sport. Last Saturday afternoon at Auto Club Speedway in Fontana, California, another chapter of the family tradition in our sport was written.

Harrison Burton is the 19-year old son of Jeff and Kim Burton. In only his 12th career NASCAR Xfinity Series start, Burton won

his first ever race in the top three divisions – Trucks, Xfinity, Cup – of NASCAR. With his victory, Harrison joined his father, Jeff, and became only the eighth father and son to win a race in the Xfinity Series.

race at Martinsville like his father, but that didn't happen. Regardless, I'm certain that the Burton family was just as excited that the victory came in the Production Alliance Group 300 at Auto Club Speedway last weekend.

And, did I mention another ironic statistic? Harrison's first NASCAR Xfinity victory came on February 29th. His uncle, Ward Burton, scored his first-ever Xfinity (Busch) Series win at the North Carolina Speedway in Rockingham, North Carolina on- you guessed it – February 29, 1992 – Leap Year Day!



**DENNIS PUNCH**

Harrison Burton began racing in the CARS Super Late Model Tour and the NASCAR K&N Pro Series West at 14 years old. His first CARS Tour victory came in 2017 at age 16. That same 2017 season, Harrison ran 17 ARCA (Automobile Racing Club of America) events. He won at Daytona, Pocono, and Toledo in '17 before moving to the NASCAR Gander RV & Outdoors Truck Series.

Harrison scored a best finish of third six times in his 38 career truck races. He posted 11 top-five and 18 top-ten finishes in his brief Gander Truck Series career. He also won the pole for the Iowa race in 2018.

Moving to the NASCAR Xfinity Series would be yet another major step in his racing career. His first

two races in the #20 car netted him a second at Daytona and a fifth at Las Vegas. Then, in only his 12th career Xfinity start, and first-ever at Auto Club Speedway, Harrison Burton put his name in the record books.

"Heck yeah man, that's awesome," Burton said in Victory Lane. "So proud of our guys. All we've heard is we can't do it, we can't do it, we'll never do what the 20 car driven by Christopher Bell did. We're off to a good start. It's awesome, it feels so good to win. There's times when you go through a little bit of a drought and just doubt yourself. To get a win feels so good, especially after last year when we struggled little bit (in NASCAR Trucks). Really proud of our guys. The DEX Imaging Supra was fast and once we moved up to the top at the end, it was going to be really hard for him (Riley Herbst) to pass us. Just trying to be smart and not put it in the wall leading."

"I'm just so happy, man," Harrison concluded. "This is something I've worked so hard for, and my team's worked so hard for."

"I'm really, really proud of Harrison," second-place finisher and Joe Gibbs Racing teammate Riley Herbst stated. "Me and him have been working so hard this off-season. We've read it all – everything – that we aren't ready for it, and that we can't do it in this series. Keep on talking because we're coming for more wins for sure."

With his win, Harrison Burton becomes the first driver born during or after the year 2000 to visit victory lane in the NASCAR Xfinity Series.

Another constant in both the racing careers of Jeff and Harrison Burton is Kim Burton. When Jeff won his first Xfinity (Busch) race at Martinsville, the Sam Ard team was pitting on the back stretch. In case you don't remember, teams used both the front and backstretch pit roads in 1990. When Jeff took the checkered flag to win the event, Kim, who was Jeff's girlfriend at the time, raced from their backstretch pit to meet Jeff in Victory Lane on the frontstretch. Kim's race to greet Jeff found her dashing through the Martinsville infield, dodging pit equipment, and leaping over pit wall to greet Jeff as he climbed from the car. The race, and Kim's dash to victory lane, can be found on YouTube. It's a "must see" for every race fan.

Kim and Jeff Burton were married in 1991 Kim has only missed one of Harrison's races (Memphis – K&N East) since he started. She was sitting in her familiar seat on the pit box last Saturday when Harrison won at Auto Club Speedway. Only this time, she didn't have to risk injury dashing to meet her son in Victory Lane. Harrison ran out of gas doing "doughnuts" and celebrating on the frontstretch and had to be "brought" to Victory Circle. Kim had plenty of time to walk down pit road to join Harrison and the celebration.

And, if the first three races of the 2020 NASCAR Xfinity Series season are any indication, Kim will have many more celebrations and trips to Victory Lane. After all, it's like father, like son.

The Burtons joined David and Larry Pearson, Joe and John Hunter Nemechek, Bill and Chase Elliott, Terry and Justin Labonte, Dave and Ryan Blaney, Dale Earnhardt and Dale Earnhardt Jr., and Bobby and Bobby Hamilton Jr. in the elite winners club. In fact, Jeff Burton won 27 Xfinity (Busch) races to top the father list, and Dale Earnhardt Jr. won 24 times to lead the sons category in this group.

Let's take a look back at how the Burtons reached this milestone and placed their names in the NASCAR record book.

Jeff Burton started his first NASCAR race at the ripe ol' age of 21 at Martinsville Speedway. The date was March 13, 1988 and he drove the #64 Chevrolet owned by his father, John Burton. Jeff started 16th and finished 28th.

Jeff won his first NASCAR race also at the historic Martinsville Speedway on September 22, 1990. He drove for legendary Busch Series Champion Sam Ard and led only the final 13 laps of the 150-lap event. Burton edged Robert Pressley and Dale Jarrett by 1.1 seconds to score his first victory.

Ironically, Harrison Burton made his NASCAR debut in the Gander RV & Outdoors Truck Series race at Martinsville Speedway on October 29, 2016. Burton, only 15 at the time, drove for Kyle Busch Motorsports, started 16th and finished 22nd.

It would have made a better story had Harrison also won his first



**Harrison Burton knows that racing is a family affair as he celebrates his first XFINITY win with mother Kim and dad, racing great, Jeff Burton in Auto Club Speedway's victory lane Saturday. (NIGEL KINRADE/NKP photo)**

# Alex Bowman Scores Dominating NASCAR Cup Victory at Fontana

FONTANA, CA - Alex Bowman had a new nose for the finish line Sunday at Auto Club Speedway.

Driving the No. 88 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet—a sleeker version of the Camaro with a new front fascia—Bowman ran

away with the final stage of the Auto Club 400 at the two-mile track in the Inland Empire.

In picking up his second career victory and his first at Fontana, Bowman led five times for 110 of the 200 laps in the third NASCAR Cup event of the season. He grabbed the top spot on Lap 133, gave it up briefly during a cycle of green-flag pit stops midway through the final run and regained it for the final time on Lap 167 when Brad Keselowski gave up the lead to come to pit road.

After Ryan Blaney—running second at the time—was forced to pit with three laps left because of a corded right rear tire, Bowman crossed the finish line 8.904 seconds ahead of runner-up Kyle Busch, who made a solid run forward from his 17th starting position.

"How about that, California?" an exultant Bowman shouted after exiting his car. "I grew up quarter-midget racing maybe 20 minutes from here in Pomona Valley. Went there every week, met a lot of great friends and I know a lot of you guys were here. I promised my buddy Aaron that we would get matching '88' tattoos if I won, and I think I have to go get a tattoo now, but that will be a good time.

"It's been a lot of fun. Thanks to



A very happy Alex Bowman and his Hendrick's Motorsports team pose for a selfie in Auto Club Speedway's victory lane after winning the Auto Club 400. (NIGEL KINRADE PHOTOGRAPHY photo)

(crew chief) Greg (Ives) and all the guys. He made great calls all day. We were up front when it counted."

Bowman looks for better things to come after winning at Fontana—the antithesis of the aftermath of his first career victory at Chicagoland Speedway in June of last year.

"The first one, it was a really enjoyable experience and then we sucked for six months," Bowman said. "We started this year so strong. I feel like I have a lot on my side that is much better. My life is a lot more organized than it was back then. Greg and all the guys are just on point.

"We've unloaded the last two

weeks - I don't think we've had to make a change in the race car from how it came off the truck. That makes my job a heck of a lot easier. I'm just so proud of this team. We put a lot of effort into this new car,

(Toyota Racing Development). So I appreciate all the hard work. We've just got to get a little bit better. We finished the end of last year so strong, I don't know what we're missing here, but, obviously, it's a

and it's obviously worked out really well."

Blaney led 54 laps, handily winning Stage 2 after finishing second to Bowman in Stage 1. But after Bowman pulled out to a five-second lead in the closing laps, Blaney came to pit road on Lap 197 to change the shredded tire and finished 19th, one lap down.

Busch inherited the second position after Blaney's issue and finished 1.013 seconds ahead of brother Kurt Busch, who rallied from a pit road snafu (missing his stall under the first caution on Lap 63) to run third.

Kyle Busch was pleased with his team's effort, but he leaves Fontana still searching for the speed that carried him to the championship last year.

"Yeah, we have a lot of work to do," Busch acknowledged. "Guys did a great job here, though, just trying to work on it and trying to make everything that we could out of it all day long, all weekend long. The Interstate Batteries Camry wasn't a second-place car, but thankfully we got a good finish out of here—we tried to get some points.

"Guys are doing all they can, I know, and all everybody at TRD

little bit of something here or there, maybe a little bit of something in a few different areas. But overall, good car today."

Chase Elliott came home fourth and Keselowski fifth. Denny Hamlin, Jimmie Johnson, Aric Almirola, Kevin Harvick and Erik Jones completed the top 10.

Johnson, who is retiring from full-time Cup racing at the end of the season, led three times for 10 laps but faded in the final run to finish seventh. Pole winner Clint Bowyer pounded the Turn 2 wall with a flat tire on Lap 93, the result of a valve stem cut during a green-flag pit stop four laps earlier.

Martin Truex Jr. started last (38th) after his car failed pre-qualifying inspection three times, but the 2017 series champion drove through the field to the second position. A green-flag pit stop on Lap 160, however, proved his undoing.

Truex's rear tire changer developed a cramp in his arm, and Truex never recovered from the resulting slow stop. He finished 14th.

Tyler Reddick was the top-finishing Sunoco Rookie of the Year contender with an 11th-place run. Ross Chastain came home 17th in his second race as a substitute for injured Ryan Newman.



Alex Bowman (88) battles with Kurt Busch (1) during the running of the Auto Club 400. (NIGEL KINRADE/NKP photo)

# Nineteen-Year-Old Harrison Burton Gets Breakthrough NASCAR Xfinity Win at Fontana

FONTANA, CA - Holding off teammate Riley Herbst with a determined run over the final 19 laps, 19-year-old rookie Harrison Burton charged to his first NASCAR Xfinity Series victory in Saturday's Production Alliance Group 300 at Auto Club Speedway.

Working his way through traffic in the closing laps in his No. 20 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota, Burton beat Herbst's No. 18 Camry to the finish line by .455 seconds, with Austin Cindric trailing the winner by .642 seconds in third.

The victory was redemption of sorts for Burton, son of former

NASCAR Cup Series star Jeff Burton, after last year's winless season in the NASCAR Gander RV & Outdoors Truck Series.

"Heck yeah, man, this is awesome," said Burton, who protected the top lane over the final 19-lap green-flag run. "All we've heard is that we can't do it... we'll never do what last year's (No. 20 team with driver Christopher Bell) did, but we're off to a good start. It feels so good to win.

"There's times when you go through a little bit of a drought, and you doubt yourself. But to get a win feels so good, especially after last year. We struggled a little bit. Once we moved up to the top (of the track) at the end, it was going to be

really hard for (Herbst) to pass us. I was trying to be smart and not put it in the wall in the lead. The whole team was huge. I'm just so happy, man. This is something I've worked so hard for, and my team's worked so hard for.

"Hell yeah, we won—that's awesome!"

Herbst, who has yet to win a race in one of NASCAR's top three national series, felt both he and Burton proved a point with their 1-2 run on Saturday. Herbst felt he needed a few more laps to make a winning pass.

"I'm really, really proud of Harrison as well," Herbst said. "We've been working so hard this off-season. We've heard it all—everything—(that) we're not ready for it, that we can't do this in this series. Well, keep on talking, because we're coming for more runs this year, for sure."

In a third Joe Gibbs Racing car, the No. 19 Toyota, Brandon Jones led the first 73 laps in sweeping both the first and second 35-lap stages of the race. But Jones suf-

fered a tire rub and subsequent flat tire after contact in traffic on a restart on Lap 102 of 150 and was relegated to 30th at the finish, four laps down.

Ryan Sieg ran fourth behind Cindric, posting his second straight top five and third straight top 10 to start the 2020 season. Justin Haley was fifth, followed by Anthony Alfredo (sixth in his first start in the series), Daniel Hemric, Ross Chastain, Jeremy Clements and Josh Williams.

Chase Briscoe, last week's winner at Las Vegas, led 16 laps, but his No. 98 Stewart-Haas Racing Ford spun off Turn 4 on Lap 26 while chasing Burton for the lead. Briscoe finished 19th, two laps down.

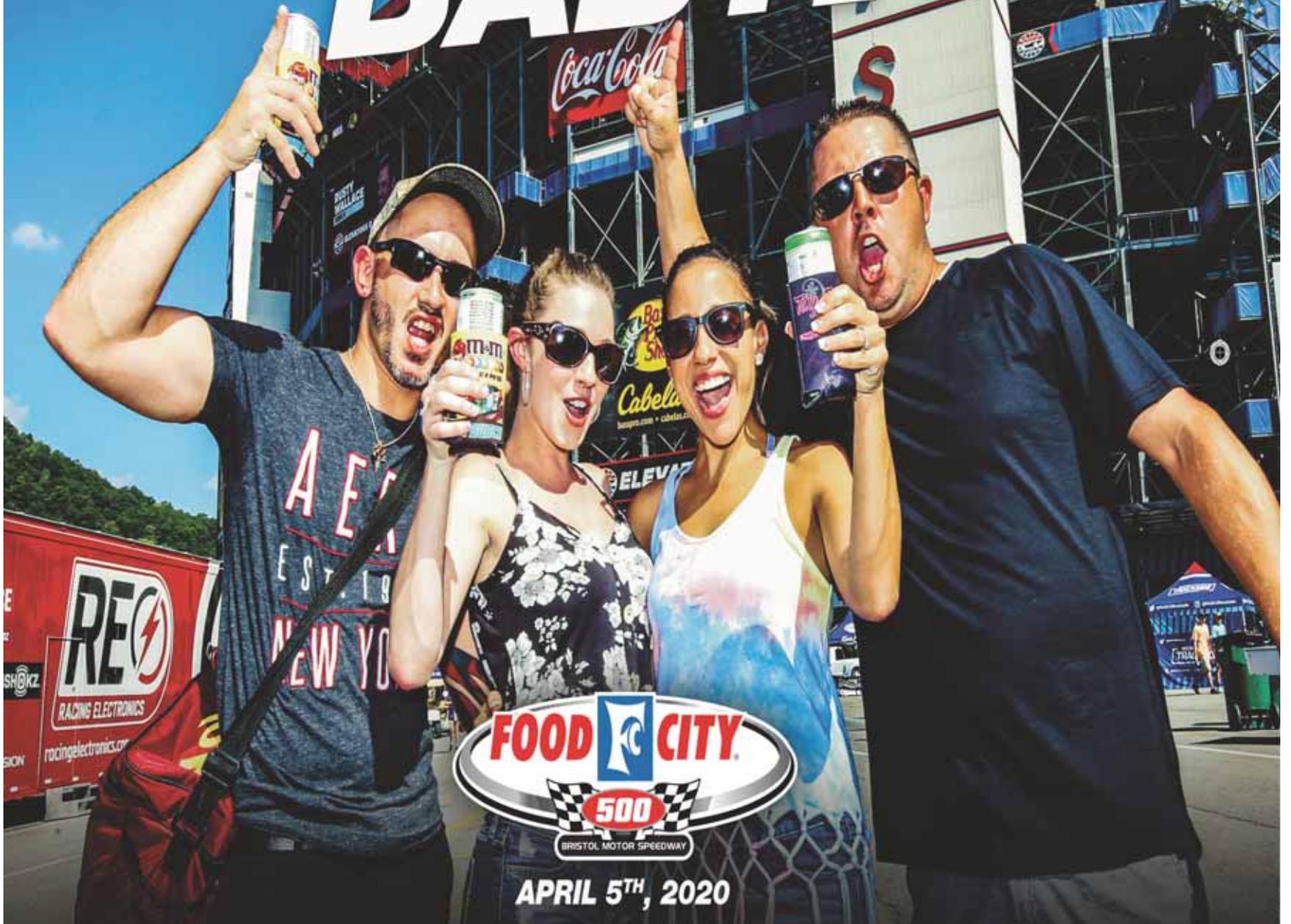
Burton leaves California with the series lead, 10 points ahead of second-place Briscoe. Cindric is 18 points back of Burton in third, followed by Sieg, who trails the leader by 24.

Coincidentally, Burton's uncle, Ward Burton, collected his first Xfinity Series victory on February 29, 1992—also a "Leap Day" win.



Harrison Burton is all smiles as he celebrates his first XFINITY win at Auto Club Speedway. (NIGEL KINRADE PHOTOGRAPHY photo)

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## CRA Masters of the Pro's 150 to Include Show Me the Money Series in 2020

SALEM, IN - The JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour Presented by Chevrolet Performance \$10,000 to win Masters of the Pro's 150 will take a couple of new twist for the 2020 version of the event. For the first time ever, the event will take place at the famed Nashville Fairgrounds Speedway in Nashville, Tennessee and the event will have promotional sanctioning from the Show Me the Money Pro Late Model Series from Montgomery Motor Speedway.

"We are really looking forward to having the Masters of the Pro's 150 at Nashville Fairgrounds Speedway and working with Stan (Narrison) and the Show Me the Money Series he has developed at Montgomery Motor Speedway," remarked R.J. Scott, Managing Partner with CRA. "Nashville will be the perfect place for this event to be held, the track has tons of history and the city has become a destination place with all the great food and entertainment establishments! This event is going to be one racers and fans will not want to miss!"

Narrison is the GM of Mont-

gomery Motor Speedway, which oversees the Show Me the Money Series. He is equally enthusiastic for the Masters of the Pro's event. He added, "I'm excited for the opportunity to work with CRA and Nashville Fairgrounds Speedway and for our racers to be eligible for the Show Me the Money Series Provisionals. The only way to grow our industry is to work together with common goals and provide great venues and events for our racers. The Show Me the Money Series is one of the strongest in the country and this extra exposure for our racers is priceless. We are looking forward to 2020 and beyond!"

2020 will be the eighth edition of the Masters of the Pro's, previous winners include Chase Elliott in 2013, Anderson Bowen in 2014, NASCAR Cup Series driver John Hunter Nemechek in 2015 and 2016, Cole Williams in 2017, all of those events were held at Lebanon I-44 Speedway. Bubba Pollard won the event in 2018 when it was held at Birch Run Speedway and again in 2019 when it was held at Memphis International Raceway.

The 150-lap green flag event will pay a minimum \$10,000 to win and \$1000 to start for the posted starting field, making it one of the highest paying Pro/Crate Late Model

events in the country. In addition, the winner will be awarded a signature green jacket, similar to the one that is known for adorning the champion of golf's Masters event. The event will be an eight-tire max race, utilizing controlled cautions, with teams only allowed to change a max of two tires per yellow. There will be two provisional starting spots for the Show Me the Money Series for this year's Masters of the Pro's 150 in addition to the provisional starting spots for the JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour and the Nashville competitors.

There will be a \$500 cash bonus to the highest finishing driver in the Masters of the Pro's 150 who has never raced in the Masters of the Pro's event prior to 2020. There will be a \$1000 cash bonus to the Highest Finisher that has raced with the JEGS/CRA All-Star Tour prior to that event in 2020 and a \$1000 cash bonus to the Highest Finisher that has not raced with the JEGS/CRA All-Star Tour in 2020 prior to that event.

The Show Me the Money Series at Montgomery Motor Speedway is a six-event series that begins with the famed Alabama 200 "Hunt for the BEAR" on Saturday, March 7th. That event will pay \$7,000 to win and will feature Controlled Cautions. More information on that series and the Alabama 200 is available at [www.montgomerymotorspeedway.org](http://www.montgomerymotorspeedway.org).

More event information and information on the JEGS/CRA All-

Stars Tour is available at [www.cra-racing.com](http://www.cra-racing.com).

## Dynamic Drivelines Continues Support of JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour for 2020

SALEM, IN - Champion Racing Association Powered by JEGS officials have announced that Dynamic Drivelines has agreed to continue as a marketing partner with CRA and its JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour Presented by Chevrolet Performance for the upcoming 2020 points season. The 2020 season is scheduled to begin at Flat Rock Speedway located in Flat Rock, Michigan on Saturday, April 25th.

Dynamic Drivelines will award a \$100 Product Certificate to each JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour event winner and a \$100 Product Certificate to the eighth-place finisher at each event. In addition, Dynamic Drivelines will award a \$500 Product Certificate to the 2020 JEGS/CRA All-Stars Tour Champion and a \$500 Product Certificate by random draw of the top ten in final series points at the 2020 CRA Awards Banquet.

Dynamic Drivelines has over 25 years of experience building custom driveshafts. Their foundation is built on products tested and proven on the race track. More information can be found at [www.dynamicdrivelines.com](http://www.dynamicdrivelines.com) or by calling 515-720-899.

## Phoenix Raceway Welcomes ARCA Series

The ARCA Menards Series will make its inaugural trip to Arizona, and will mark the occasion by kicking off the 10-race Sioux Chief Showdown.

Friday's General Tire 150 will feature a pair of drivers, in Michael Self and Ty Gibbs, who have already visited Victory Lane at the 1-mile

desert track, albeit in different formats. And it will provide a challenge to a host of drivers who are visiting for the first time.

**WHAT TO WATCH FOR:** Just four years ago, then 16-year-old Todd Gilliland won his first three races of the season – the East opener at Florida's New Smyrna Speedway, and 2016's first two

West events.

Now it's a 16-year-old from Wisconsin who's looking to duplicate that feat.

Sam Mayer won the ARCA Menards Series East New Smyrna, and then went back-to-back with an ARCA Menards Series West win at The Bullring at Las Vegas Motor Speedway. He'll head to a track where he won the pole and finished second in last year's West finale.

He'll have plenty of competition, namely Self and Gibbs.

Self, who came up short in the ARCA Menards Series title chase last year, opened the season with a win at Daytona International Speedway. He scored his Phoenix win back in 2012. And Gibbs, who was third at New Smyrna, outran Mayer in the closing stages of last year's Phoenix race.

They'll be joined in the field by Chandler Smith, who won five of

his 11 ARCA Menards Series starts last season in a limited schedule, and Hailie Deegan, who ran an impressive second to Self at Daytona. Drew Dollar, Thad Moffitt and Bret Holmes are all coming off top 10s runs at Daytona as well.

In addition to counting toward the larger ARCA Menards Series championship, Phoenix will be the first race for the Sioux Chief Showdown. That championship features a mix of short track speedways such as Phoenix, Iowa, Gateway, Bristol and Memphis; short-track bullrings like Salem, Elko and Lucas Oil Raceway; and road courses with Mid-Ohio and Watkins Glen.

**CREW CHIEF HANDOUT:** The starting field for the General Tire 150 is limited to 30, including provisional positions. The first 27 drivers will secure starting positions based on qualifying for the General Tire 150. The remaining three spots will be awarded through the provisional process. This event will be run under the 2020 ARCA Menards Se-

ries rules, procedures, regulations and specifications.

**QUALIFYING:** Group qualifying. No adjustments or repairs may be made on car after taking the green flag at Start/Finish line. All cars must make a qualifying attempt, and all drivers must practice before they can qualify.

**RACE PIT STOP:** Modified live pit stop procedure.

The General Tire 150 will be 150 laps (150 miles) and is to be run in one (1) segment.

The maximum tire allotment available for this event is as follows: Four (4) tires for the race plus eight (8) in the pits for a total of twelve (12) tires.

A team representative must designate qualifying and race tires to NASCAR Officials at the designated time. Teams will be allowed to bring one (1) set of tires from home to register for practice session(s). Tires must be proper code and registered with NASCAR Officials prior to the beginning of the practice sessions.

## World of Outlaws To Embark On Month-Long Trek Across Golden State

PERRIS, CA - This Spring from March 28 to April 18 the World of Outlaws NOS Energy Drink Sprint Car Series will bring its 900hp thrill ride to six cities across California.

The Greatest Show on Dirt will make stops at Perris Auto Speedway in Perris, Santa Maria Raceway in Nipomo, Thunderbowl Raceway in Tulare, Merced Speedway in Merced, Ocean Speedway in Watsonville, and Stockton Dirt Track in Stockton.

The first stop of the Spring California Swing on Saturday, March 28, at Perris Auto Speedway for the SoCal Showdown will be the Series' 20th visit to the half-mile track.

Then on Sunday, March 29, the World of Outlaws will return to Santa Maria Raceway for the first time in 21 years. All drivers on the tour will be competing for their first win at the 1/3-mile raceway.

Carson Macedo, the 2019 World of Outlaws Kevin Gobrecht Rookie of the Year, will then be on the hunt for a home win during the Thunderbowl Raceway doubleheader on Friday, April 3, and Saturday, April 4. The Kyle Larson Racing driver's hometown of Lemoore is only 30 minutes from the 1/3-mile track. He earned an impressive four wins in his rookie campaign and will be poised to grow his resume this year.

Merced Speedway will be another new stop for the World of Outlaws this year on Friday, April 10. It will be the Series' fifth appearance at the track. David Gravel, who returns for his second year with Jason Johnson Racing, won the last race at the quarter-mile track in 2014.

The next night, on Saturday, April 11, the World of Outlaws will return to Ocean Speedway for the Ocean Outlaw Showdown. It will be the Series' first visit to the track since 2016. Reigning Series champion Brad Sweet, of Grass Valley, CA, holds the crown as the last World of Outlaws winner at the quarter-mile track. He's already off to a strong start with his Kasey Kahne Racing team this season, winning the second race of the year in Florida.

For the conclusion of the Spring California Swing, the Series on Friday, April 17, and Saturday, April 18, will run the FVP Platinum Battery Showdown doubleheader at the Stockton Dirt Track. Logan Schuchart swept both races at the 3/8-mile track last year. He's already off to a career best start in 2020 with a win at the DIRTcar Nationals.

Fellow elite drivers, such as 10-time Series champion Donny Schatz and 2013 Series champion Daryn Pittman will also aim for good runs during the swing as they try to position themselves for another championship run.

With big prize money on the line each night, race fans are sure to see high-octane action from the winged warriors of the World of Outlaws.

You can get tickets for the events at [WorldofOutlaws.com/tix](http://WorldofOutlaws.com/tix). If you can't make it to the races, you can watch all of the action LIVE on DIRTvision.com.

### World of Outlaws Officials Complete Short Track Incident Response Training

A hand hanging out of a car window lies motionless in the dewy Florida grass. As a crew member checks for a pulse, other safety workers begin assessing the op-

tions for extraction and prepare a neck brace and backboard so that they can stabilize the victim once the driver is out. Sliding a specially constructed sling underneath the driver, the rescuers hoist the driver out through the roof and gently lay him on the ground for further assessment. The driver being extracted is actually World of Outlaws Sprint Car Series Director Carlton Reimers, and this is not an accident scene. This is a classroom.

As part of the continuing effort to make racing safer, World of Outlaws and DIRTcar Racing Officials gathered behind Volusia Speedway Park on a dank Florida morning for comprehensive hands-on safety and rescue training by ESI Race Track Safety Services as a part of their Short Track Incident Response Program.

The SFI-accredited course ran participants through a myriad of stations, allowing hands-on skill-building in situations such as airway and hemorrhage management, helmet and Hans removal, fire suppression and controlled rollover.

"I think the guys had their eyes opened," said Instructor Blaine Bates. "They learned about tools they had never heard of and techniques they had never thought of, so I think everyone walked away with some lessons."

After seeing the training course up close at last winter's PRI show, World of Outlaws Sprint Car Series Technical Director Tom Devitt and World of Outlaws Late Model Series Safety Coordinator Tyler Bachman knew they had to find a way to

bring this training to their touring series. While the course is mainly marketed to track owners and promoters, Bachman, who is also an experienced firefighter, saw the value of bringing that same methodology to the series. Because the series doesn't travel with its own rescue personnel — opting instead to use local fire and rescue units, as well as track-managed safety workers — this was an opportunity for crew members and officials to get up-close and hands-on training outside of their everyday realm.

Super DIRTcar Series Tech Director Mark Hitchcock experienced his first training of this kind. After the course he reflected, "I think that the whole thing was a good overview of safety applied under the motorsports banner. These guys go to race tracks and they have guys on staff that can do extractions, first aid and some of the basic stuff, but some of those guys don't know how to take a helmet or a Hans device off of a driver."

After wrapping his up his stint as a crash test dummy, Reimers said, "I thought it was very comprehensive and really opened my eyes to how intricate extricating a driver can be. I mean, who would have thought that a Sawzall with a special tipped blade was faster at cutting through a frame than the Jaws of Life."

To request a Short Track Incident Response Program at your facility, or attend a scheduled class, contact: USA: ESI Race Track Safety Services; 1-800-574-8228 | [info@esiequipment.com](mailto:info@esiequipment.com).

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## At the Line It's Hafertepe at Canyon Speedway Park

PEORIA, AZ - A narrow groove and slower traffic provided a race for the ages at Canyon Speedway Park with the battle to the checkered flag coming down to the final 100 feet as Sam Hafertepe, Jr. barely edged Justin Sanders for Saturday's Saw-Blade.com A-Feature win with the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car

Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network.

A huge turnaround from the start of his season in Florida, Hafertepe's goal for the weekend was to test and tune before returning to action with the Ollie's Bargain Outlet All Star Circuit of Champions presented by Mobil 1.

While very confident in his car during the A-Feature, that Florida frustration was lingering going into the night's races.

"We were frustrated Thursday during practice. We were frustrated last night but we finally clicked on something in the feature tonight and as soon as we took the green and I felt it going into turn-one I said this race is over," stated Hafertepe.

Taking the lead away from Harli White on Lap 2, Hafertepe spent the first half of the A-Feature uncontested as the track began narrowing from the top to the bottom.

Losing the lead on Lap 22 to Justin Sanders, who took the point with a high line pass off the fourth turn, the No. 21k of Thomas Kennedy sat directly in front of the race for the lead.

Not able to clear Kennedy, who had been running third before going around on Lap 5, the advantage came back to Hafertepe on Lap 28. Stalked by Sanders with Harli White racing into the picture as well, the top three raced the white flag with Sanders diving under Hafertepe through the first and second turns.

Still having to contend with lapped traffic as the final two turns came onto view, Sanders was forced to the middle groove with Hafertepe diving as low as possible. Dead even off the final turn, both drivers mashed the throttle with the checkered flag in view and Sam Hafertepe, Jr. winning by 0.116 seconds.

Back to back podium finishes for Sanders, the California shoe bettered himself by one spot as Harli White made her second career podium appearance with the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network.

Moving up from seventh, Matt Covington retains the series point's lead with a fourth-place finish. Dominic Scelzi completed the top five after starting 14th. Roger Crockett moved from ninth to sixth with



Sam Hafertepe Jr. celebrates in victory lane after barely edging Justin Sanders for the win at Canyon Speedway Park. (Ben Thrasher photo)

Colby Copeland making moves from 12th to finish seventh. Tanner Carrick in eighth was trailed by Scott Bogucki with Seth Bergman making up the top ten.

A weekend total of 51 drivers from 15 states and a trio of counties, 48 returned for Saturday's showdown. A half-dozen SCE Gaskets Heat Races were won by Alex Pettas, Thomas Kennedy, Coton Hardy, Lorne Wofford, Giovanni Scelzi, and Jordon Mallett. Hoosier Tire Qualifiers went to Matt Covington, Blake Carrick, Harli White, and Dominic Scelzi. BMRS B-Features were topped by Giovanni Scelzi and D.J. Netto.

The Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Networks is on the road to California for three nights of racing. Merced Speedway begins the three-night affair on Friday, March 6 with Placerville

Speedway on Saturday, March 7, and finally Petaluma Speedway on Sunday, March 8.

Live coverage is available for those who cannot make the trip on [www.racinboys.com](http://www.racinboys.com).

For other news, notes, and information on the American Sprint Car Series, from the National Tour to any of the Regional Tours that make up ASCS Nation in 2020, log onto [www.ascsracing.com](http://www.ascsracing.com), follow on Facebook, on Instagram, and Twitter (@LucasOilASCS).

### Covington Victorious In 2020 Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series Opener

PEORIA, AZ - Besting a stout field of 51 drivers at Canyon Speedway Park, the first payday of the 2020 season with the Lucas Oil  
(Continued Next Page)

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American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network went to Oklahoma's Matt Covington with the Lucas Oil/A-Rock Material No. 95 leading start to finish on the first night of the Sands Chevrolet Meltdown.

Having to chase the line around the one-third mile oval as it moved top to bottom through the 25-lap preliminary A-Feature,

Covington held on through several late-race restarts to collect the night's \$3,000 paycheck.

"Several times when the track gets like that and moves around, I've made the wrong choice and tonight I made the right choice," commented Covington of the race. "The car felt good all night, and I had a lot of fun. I didn't really need to start babying it until right there at the end. It felt like my right rear was starting to go down about the last five laps, but Mike [Davenport] did a great job on the car tonight and I'm glad we were able to put on a show for these fans."

Taking the lead from the pole, Covington kept pace over John Carney II. Working the bottom of the Speedway, Carney tried for the lead on Lap 12 but hooked the inside berm off the exit of the second turn; sending the No. J2 skyward before slamming hard on the front suspension. Dropping to third in the process, Carney went three-wide with the Scelzi brothers before going around on Lap 13.

Taking off with Sanders and Scelzi in tow, the race for the runner-up spot was stout as Dominic and Giovanni battled back-and-forth with Giovanni finally getting the advantage on Lap 16. Leaving Dominic to content with Justin Sanders, the No. 17s was able to keep the No. 41x at bay as Giovanni set his sights on the lead.

Taking a shot on a Lap 17, Giovanni came up short on the pass. Getting another restart on Lap 18, Covington was able to pull away with his advantage growing to nearly a second at the drop of the checkered flag. Giovanni Scelzi crossed second with Justin Sanders third. Dominic Scelzi in fourth was trailed by Colby-Copeland to complete the top five.

Harli White grabbed sixth with Canada's Dylan Westbrook in seventh. Jason Solwold in eighth was



**Matt Covington celebrates in victory lane after winning the season opener for the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series. Covington lead from start to finish at Canyon Speedway Park. (ASCS photo)**

trailed by Roger Crockett with D.J. Netto completing the top-ten.

The field of 51 teams was split into six SCE Gaskets Heat Races with wins going to Blake Hahn, Dylan Westbrook, Harli White, Matt Covington, Colby Copeland, and Roger Crockett. Hoosier Tire Qualifiers were topped by John Carney II, Dominic Scelzi, Chase Randall, and Giovanni Scelzi. BMRS B-Features went to Jordon Mallett and Mitchell Faccinto. Two Provisionals were used by Robbie Price and Alex Hill.

### **Cling Tops San Tan Ford ASCS Desert Non-Wing at USA Raceway**

TUCSON, AZ - Picking up his second career victory with the San Tan Ford ASCS Desert Non-Wing Series, Tempe's Sterling Cling parked the Cling Racing No. 34 in Victory Lane at USA Raceway.

Advancing two positions from his third starting spot to take the win, Cling was hunted to the line by eighth starting Dennis Gile with Kyle Shipley charging through the field from 16th to complete Saturday's podium. Dustin Burkhart grabbed fourth with Ryan Murphy completing the top five.

Aaron Jones from 11th made it to sixth with Randy Nelson in tow. Jonas Reynolds, Ronald Webster, and Pete Yerkovich made up the top ten.

The San Tan Ford ASCS Desert Non-Wing Series races next at Central Arizona Speedway in Casa Grande on Saturday, March 7.

The San Tan Ford ASCS Desert Non-Wing Series can be found on-

line at [santanforddesertsprintcars.myracepass.com](http://santanforddesertsprintcars.myracepass.com) as well as [www.ascsracing.com](http://www.ascsracing.com). The series is also on Social Media at [www.facebook.com/groups/919363801451560](http://www.facebook.com/groups/919363801451560)

For other news, notes, and information on the American Sprint Car Series, from the National Tour to any of the Regional Tours that make up ASCS Nation in 2020, log onto [www.ascsracing.com](http://www.ascsracing.com), follow on Facebook, on Instagram, and Twitter (@LucasOilASCS).

### **Trio Of California Ovals Next For Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series**

MERCED, CA - Coming off a highly successful opening weekend in Arizona, the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network will look to carry that momentum into a weekend triple-header as the series makes it return to the state of California for the first time since 2012.

Kicking off Friday, March 6 the series will make its debut at Merced Speedway with the long-awaited return to Placerville Speedway on Saturday, March 7 before adding another new oval on Sunday, March 8 at Petaluma Speedway.

A stronghold for Sprint Car racing, some of the countries toughest teams and drivers call the golden state home. Seven previous events since 2011, California drivers have topped the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network three times.

Tim Kaeding won the series in-

augural visit to the state on February 9, 2011, at Thunderbowl Raceway in Tulare. Racing for Jason Johnson, who was still racing in Australia, a then 18-year-old Kyle Larson followed that up on February 12, 2011, at Kings Speedway in Hanford. The most recent win went to Mason Moore on July 25, 2012, at Placerville Speedway.

Friday, March 6 at Merced Speedway opens at 5:00 P.M. with racing slated for 7:00 P.M. (PT). Admission is \$30 for adults, \$25 for Seniors, \$5 for youth 6-12, and free for kids five and under. Merced Speedway is located at 900 Martin Luther King Jr. Way. Information on the quarter-mile oval can be found at [www.mercedspeedway.net](http://www.mercedspeedway.net) or by calling (209) 600-8382.

Saturday, March 7 at Placerville Speedway will open at 3:00 P.M. Autographs will begin in the grandstands at 4:30 P.M. with racing going green at 7:00 P.M. Admission is \$30 for adults, \$26 for Senior and Military, \$15 for youth, and free for kids five and under. Placerville Speedway is located at 100 Placerville Dr. on the El Dorado Country Fairgrounds. Information on the quarter-mile oval is online at [www.placervillespeedway.com](http://www.placervillespeedway.com) or by calling (530) 344-7592

Sunday, March 8 at Petaluma Speedway opens at 4:00 P.M. with racing at 6:00 P.M. Admission for adults is \$30, \$26 for Seniors, \$20 for youth 6-11, and free for kids five and under.

Petaluma Speedway can be found at 100 Fairgrounds Dr. on the Petaluma Fairgrounds. Information on the three-eighths mile oval can be found at [www.petaluma-speedway.com](http://www.petaluma-speedway.com) or by phone to (707) 763-7223. Note to teams, you are required to place a tarp under their car at all times in the Pit area.

To any team competing, the muffler rules in California are different. The ASCS Schoenfeld Muffler (Part #14272735-78) will not be allowed. The required Mufflers will be the Flowmaster (Part #56545-10) or SpinTech (Part #1545 Super Stock). Both can be used with turn-downs. The DBA requirements at all tracks are 95 dba @ 100'. This is strictly enforced.

Live coverage is available for those who cannot make the trip on [www.racinboys.com](http://www.racinboys.com).

For other news, notes, and information on the American Sprint Car Series, from the National Tour to any of the Regional Tours that make up ASCS Nation in 2020, log onto [www.ascsracing.com](http://www.ascsracing.com), follow on Facebook, on Instagram, and Twitter (@LucasOilASCS).

## **Bristol Motor Speedway**

BRISTOL, TN -

The legendary Marshall Tucker Band will perform prior to the milestone 60th running of the Food City 500 on Sunday April 5th as the official pre-race concert headliner, it was announced today by Bristol Motor Speedway officials. The group will take the stage at 12:20 p.m. during the BMS Pre-Race Pit Stop, a festive party held on the main stage in the center of the infield, facing the front-stretch grandstands.

“We’re thrilled to announce The Marshall Tucker Band as the pre-race concert for the Food City 500,” said Jerry Caldwell, executive vice president and general manager of Bristol Motor Speedway. “This group essentially invented Southern Rock and their massive following of fans continues to flock to their national concert tour every year. Most can sing their iconic songs by heart.”

The Marshall Tucker Band got its start in Spartanburg, S.C. and wowed critics and influenced major country acts like Alabama, The Kentucky Headhunters, Confederate Railroad, and Travis Tritt, among others, with its definitive blend of rock, rhythm & blues, jazz, country, and gospel.

Now, thanks to the expanding scope of today’s music, a new generation of fans is learning what the rest of their fans have known for so long – that good music knows no boundaries. Along the way, the band has recorded more than 20 studio albums, three DVDs, numerous live albums and many compilations.

Original band member Doug Gray continues to lead the current group of fine musicians, winning new young fans as well as satisfying the loyal fans of several generations. With hit singles like "Heard It In a Love Song," "Fire On The Mountain," "Can't You See," and "Take The Highway," The Marshall Tucker Band earned seven gold and three platinum albums while they were on the Capricorn Records label.

During the '90s, the group scored four hit singles on Billboard's country chart and one on Billboard's gospel chart. Their music has also been featured on the soundtracks of movies such as

Smokey and the Bandit, Blow, The Pursuit of D.B. Cooper, Shipwrecked, Crank 2, Don't Mess with Zohan, Stop Loss, Swing Vote, Taking Chance and many others as well as many TV Shows.

The Marshall Tucker Band continues to be played on classic rock and country radio, and they have never stopped touring. More than 40 years after forming, The Marshall Tucker Band continues to perform more than 130 live dates each year.

To purchase Pre-Race Pit Stop passes as well as reserved seat tickets for the Food City 500, please call 423-BRISTOL or buy them online at [www.BRISTOLTIX.com](http://www.BRISTOLTIX.com). The Pre-Race Pit Stop pass is an exclusive add-on experience available to Food City 500 ticket holders (ages 12 and older) that provides several amenities, including a Cold Pass for infield access, opportunity to see the teams, cars and haulers up close, access to Food City 500 pre-race ceremonies including the pre-race concert as well as driver intros.

Bristol Motor Speedway officials are making it easier than ever for families to enjoy the weekend. Kids' tickets (12 and under) and adult tickets are free for Fun Friday, where race teams in all three featured racing series will hit the high banks to make critical practice laps. On Saturday, fans will be treated to Bush's Beans Qualifying for both Cup and Xfinity Series and an amazing racing double-header featuring the Cheddar's 300 presented by AlSCO NASCAR Xfinity Series race and the ARCA Menards Series East Zombie Auto 150 race. Saturday's tickets for adults start at \$30 and are free for kids 12 and under.

On Sunday, adult tickets start at \$48 for the Food City 500 NASCAR Cup Series race through the special Jimmie Johnson ticket package that includes a Q&A with the seven-time champ and kids' tickets start at \$10.

For all races, each child must have a physical ticket in hand to enter the gates. The Bristol Motor Speedway ticket office is the only authorized location that can produce the free kids' tickets.

## **Talladega Superspeedway**

TALLADEGA, AL - With world's greatest drivers set to return to Talladega Superspeedway April 26, for the 2020 GEICO 500 NASCAR Cup Series event, fans have an easy way to plan their trip to experience the three- and four-wide, nail-biting action LIVE with an Official Travel Package from PRIMESPORT, the Official Fan Travel Partner of Talladega Superspeedway.

PRIMESPORT, a division of On Location Experiences, is the leader in providing direct access to the largest events in sports and entertainment. Official Travel Packages through PRIMESPORT allow fans to relax and avoid the hassle of handling every aspect of their travel individually. Packages offer a premium selection of race tickets, bundled with deluxe hotel accommodations, worry-free transportation, concierge on-site staff, weekend FanVision Rental, and much more.

Fans who are looking to enhance their race day experience can upgrade their package to include seating in the luxurious, open-air Pit Road Club. Located directly behind pit road where race teams change tires and refuel their drivers' cars, the Pit Road Club gives fans the chance to take in the most exciting racing on the planet, and feel like they're in the middle of the action at the 2.66-mile venue. The 600-person Pit Road Club includes covered, chair back seating, all-inclusive food and drink, plus more!

Guests with Pit Road Club admission also gain entree to the one-of-a-kind Talladega Garage Experience and receive incredible access where they can be under the same roof where the race cars are being prepped by the race teams throughout race weekend. The Garage Experience also offers FREE Wi-Fi, a reserved area at Gatorade Victory Lane to witness the winner's celebration, entertainment stage for local music, Driver Q&As and other interviews in Fr8Auctions Celebration Plaza, social areas including the Tito's Lemonade Lounge and Clyde May's Courtyard, Kids Zone, and the opportunity to take part in Sunday pre-race ceremonies and Driver Introductions at the start-finish line.

For more information on PRIMESPORT and Official Talladega Superspeedway travel packages, visit [PRIMESPORT.com](http://PRIMESPORT.com). For tickets and more information about the Talladega Garage Experience and Talladega Superspeedway's tripleheader NASCAR weekend featuring the GEICO 500, MoneyLion 300, and General Tire 200, please visit [www.talladegasuperspeedway.com](http://www.talladegasuperspeedway.com) or call 855-518-RACE (7223).

## **Atlanta Motor Speedway**

HAMPTON, GA - During this year's NASCAR weekend at Atlanta Motor Speedway race fans will get a better look at the slick machines that will race on the high banks as they roll onto the grid for the Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500.

As part of its 20 in 20 Initiative, AMS is adding car introductions to its slate of pre-race activities. As teams push their cars from the garage to pit road they will make a grand entrance in front of the crowd before taking their position on the starting grid.

“The cars in our sport are as iconic as the drivers that pilot them,” said AMS Executive Vice President and General Manager Brandon Hutchison. “With these car introductions we’re adding an exciting opportunity for race fans to get closer to these awesome machines and packing even more value into the pre-race experience.”

The new car introductions will compliment a host of other pre-race activities available to fans with a pre-race pit pass, including stage-front access to a performance by rising country music star Chris Lane, driver introductions, and more on Sunday, March 15.

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.

Pre-race car introductions are the 19th enhancement come from Atlanta Motor Speedway's "20 in 20" initiative. All told, the Speedway will announce 20 individual enhancements to increase fan value and the overall enjoyment of the Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500 NASCAR weekend.

Tickets for the Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500 weekend at Atlanta Motor Speedway March 13-15 are available now by calling 877-9-AMS-TIX or visiting [www.atlantamotorspeedway.com](http://www.atlantamotorspeedway.com).

## **Texas Motor Speedway**

FORT WORTH, TX - A celebration of hardworking drivers and their custom rigs will be a major fan  
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attraction during Texas Motor Speedway's NTT INDYCAR SERIES Genesys 600® weekend, June 4-6, with the addition of Shell Rotella® SuperRigs®.

Shell Rotella SuperRigs is the premier truck beauty contest for actively working trucks. Hard working owner/operator truckers from across the United States and Canada attend each year and compete for cash and prizes.

Competitors also hope to be selected to have their truck featured in the Shell Rotella SuperRigs calendar. The 2021 calendar will feature Texas Motor Speedway and other attractions nearby.

Shell Rotella SuperRigs will take command of the majority of the South Paddock parking area of the Texas Motor Speedway infield, just inside the South Tunnel entrance.

"The Shell Rotella brand is thrilled to have the 38th Shell Rotella SuperRigs as part of the NTT INDYCAR SERIES Genesys 600® race weekend at Texas Motor Speedway," said Annie Peter, North American marketing manager, Shell Rotella. "Race fans will be able to see the amazing looking trucks that compete at SuperRigs all of which are working and hauling goods across North America each day."

Judges score the rigs on exterior appearance, design, detail/finish, originality and workmanship. In total, 24 working trucks receive awards for categories such as Best of Show, Tractor, Tractor/Trailer Combination and Classic.

"Texas Motor Speedway is, and always has been, about honoring hardworking drivers," said Eddie Gossage, President and General Manager of Texas Motor Speedway. "To do so through Shell Rotella SuperRigs® will be a great addition to our already exciting NTT INDYCAR SERIES/NASCAR Gander RV & Outdoors Truck Series weekend. These hardworking drivers often go underappreciated so it will be an honor to recognize them at No Limits, Texas."

The June Genesys 600® marks the 33rd race and 24th consecutive year that INDYCAR has competed on the 1.5-mile tri-oval since the first race in the track's inaugural season in 1997. The race will run in

conjunction with the June 5 NASCAR Gander RV & Outdoors Truck Series SpeedyCash.com 400.

The Texas Motor Speedway season opens March 27-29 with the O'Reilly Auto Parts 500 NASCAR tripleheader. The race weekend features the Gander RV & Outdoors Truck Series Vankor 350 on Friday, March 27; the Xfinity Series My Bariatric Solutions 300 on Saturday, March 28; and the NASCAR Cup Series O'Reilly Auto Parts 500 on Sunday, March 29.

For ticket information, contact the Texas Motor Speedway ticket office at 817.215.8500 or online at <https://www.texasmotorspeedway.com/tickets/>.

### **Bristol Motor Speedway**

BRISTOL, TN - When one takes a quick glance at the NASCAR Cup Series winners' list from Bristol Motor Speedway, there are a couple of side notes attached to the track's first two seasons – 1961 and 1962.

For all of you serious stat geeks, your mind is about to be blown.

Technically, in 1961 and 1962, NASCAR's second stop in East Tennessee during each those seasons was actually to conduct the race that we now refer to as the Spring Race – the Southeastern 500 -- or better known today as the Food City 500.

Yes, most people think Jack Smith, with assistance from Johnny Allen, was the inaugural winner of the first ever Spring Race. That event, known as the Volunteer 500 at the time, was held in July of 1961 and it is technically what BMS officials commonly refer to these days as America's Night Race.

The 1961 Southeastern 500 was actually held in late October that year. The race was won by popular Virginia driver Joe Weatherly and it was surrounded by championship implications. The championship points structure was very complicated back in those days as some races paid quite a bit more points than others.

You can put your calculator away. The main thing you need to know is that to successfully defend his title from the year before, Rex White needed a victory that afternoon and also needed rival Ned Jarrett to have a bad race. Well, White did all he could do by finishing second to the super-fast Weatherly, but Jarrett finished sixth and in doing so locked away the season long championship crown.

So it wasn't officially the stock car racing post-season as we know

it now, or like we will see in mid-September when BMS hosts the first cut off race of the 2020 NASCAR Playoffs, but that was Bristol Motor Speedway's first and only true taste of NASCAR season-long championship drama unfolding on its high-banked half-mile speedway.

You see, shortly after that race BMS ownership decided for a variety of reasons that the Southeastern 500 would actually be a better fit if it was held in the spring. NASCAR gave track president Larry Carrier and his group of associates its blessing and the race moved to the Spring in 1963 and has been held in March, April or May ever since.

So, in a nutshell, that's how the famed BMS Spring Race was born – in grand championship style. In October.

As the NASCAR Cup Series heads to Bristol Motor Speedway April 3-5 for the milestone 60th running of the Food City 500, the modern day relative of the Southeastern 500, race teams will be working hard to earn victories and gain valuable regular season points in the new era of NASCAR, which includes three stages during the event, with stage breaks at 125 laps, 250 laps and then onto 500 in the winner take all 250-lap final stage.

No matter the era or the NASCAR rules, one thing remains constant. Bristol Motor Speedway is still the tough old hombre that it has always been, challenging the best stock car racers in the world and bringing out their best as they try to navigate the .533-mile high-banked all-concrete bullring for a grueling 500 laps.

Speaking of the ultra-fast half-mile oval, one of the most interesting tidbits from those early years of the Food City 500 was the beginning of the battle behind the scenes among racing's top short track promoters to officially claim the moniker of the "World's Fastest Half-Mile."

Carrier and his team made it well know that they were after the title and even promoted it during their pre-race ticket pushes.

"Being the fastest was very important to Larry," said Speedway ownership partner Carl Moore, as told by David McGee in his popular book, *Tales of Bristol Motor Speedway*. "He made getting that title a priority."

Bristol's main rival for the title was a high-banked half-mile paved track just over the mountain in North Carolina called Asheville-

Weaverville Speedway. The two tracks traded speed records in the 80-mph range over several years, but Carrier was determined to leave absolutely no doubt that Bristol Motor Speedway was indeed the world's fastest half-mile short track.

In a press conference in 1969, Carrier announced his plan to totally reconfigure the track and give the banking a lift to the 30 degree range. In the next race, Cale Yarborough powered to a pole-winning speed of 103.432 mph, which was 13 mph faster than Asheville-Weaverville and 15 mph faster than any other half-mile track. In fact, seven cars topped 100 mph in that weekend's qualifying, solidifying the claim even more.

Asheville-Weaverville hosted only one more NASCAR Cup Series race after that and didn't threaten the new BMS mark. The NC-track became a victim of urban sprawl as the site where the race-track once stood is now the location of the North Buncombe High School.

Carrier could officially proclaim BMS as "The World's Fastest Half-Mile" and the moniker remains proudly displayed today affixed in bright red letters on the suites overlooking the backstretch.

"It's the perfect designation for a short track that races like a superspeedway," said racing historian and journalist David McGee. "It remains an integral part of the track's identity, marketing, and fan appeal."

Today the track qualifying record for the Cup Series is a jaw-dropping 131.668 mph, set by two-time Bristol winner Denny Hamlin in August 2016.

If you want to see many of the best NASCAR drivers try to overtake the current BMS speed record and bring home a Bristol victory, like BMS dominator Kyle Busch, who is going for his third Food City 500 win in a row and sixth overall, Chase Elliott, Kyle Larson, 2019 Night Race winner Hamlin, Clint Bowyer, Kurt Busch, Jimmie Johnson and Ryan Blaney, among others, you'll want to get your tickets now.

In addition to cheering on their favorite drivers this weekend, Bristol Motor Speedway fans will definitely want to take advantage of so many activities to make a complete weekend of family fun. There will be great video entertainment provided by Colossus TV, the world's largest outdoor center-hung video screen, premium VIP experiences

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like the Chairman's Experience, tailgating, a visit to the Kids Zone, on-site camping, concerts, a college area, great food and beverages, and so much more.

Bristol Motor Speedway officials are making it easier than ever for families to enjoy the weekend. Kids' tickets (12 and under) and adult tickets are free for Fun Friday, where race

teams in all three featured racing series will hit the high banks to make critical practice laps. On Saturday, fans will be treated to Bush's Beans Qualifying for both Cup and Xfinity Series and an amazing racing double-header featuring the Cheddar's 300 presented by Alcoso NASCAR Xfinity Series race and the ARCA Menards Series East Zombie Auto 150 race. Saturday's tickets for adults start at \$30 and are free for kids 12 and under. On Sunday, adult tickets start at \$48 for the Food City 500 NASCAR Cup Series race through the special Jimmie Johnson ticket package that includes a Q&A with the seven-time champ and kids' tickets start at \$10. For all races, each child must have a physical ticket in hand to enter the gates. The Bristol Motor Speedway ticket office is the only authorized location that can produce the free kids' tickets.

Fans can also grab Food City 500 tickets at their neighborhood Food City while supplies last and in doing so can add an extra 500 points to their Food City ValuCards. But act fast, in-store sales end at store closing time on Tuesday, March 31st. Visit BristolTix.com or call 423-BRISTOL.

### Pocono Raceway

LONG POND, PA - Pocono Raceway is reporting a major increase in ticket sales ahead of the first-ever NASCAR Doubleheader Week, taking place at 'The Tricky Triangle' from June 25-28, 2020. The Raceway will host five NASCAR and ARCA races in four days, including two NASCAR Cup Series races taking place on back-to-back days – a first in NASCAR history.

Many of the Raceway's 2019 initiatives remain in place for this summer's epic motorsports event. Kids, ages 12 and under, will continue to receive free admission to

the 100 and 200 Levels of the Grandstand, as well as Fan Fair, for all days during the NASCAR Doubleheader Week. A Saturday and/or Sunday adult Grandstand ticket holder can select up to four complimentary kids tickets with their purchase. Kids can camp for free, as well. The Raceway also recently announced the return of the Tricky Track Pack, available for either Saturday or Sunday, which includes four 100-Level Grandstand tickets, four Coca-Cola soft drinks and four hot dogs for only \$125.

"Everyone seems to be embracing the doubleheader concept and fans are sharing their excitement about our event this June," said Pocono Raceway President, Ben May. "We made a conscious effort to not increase ticket prices this year, to still allow for kids to attend all events free of charge and to continue initiatives Raceway guests have enjoyed over the last few summers. Our staff remains committed to offering fans the best possible experience and they get double the value for their dollar with more on-track action than ever before at Pocono. These factors have resulted in an increase of year-to-year ticket sales, which are not commonly seen this early in the season. We have more announcements on the horizon which will further enhance this incredible, bucket-list event of the summer."

The Raceway's carnival, Fan Stage and Lehigh Valley Reilly Children's Hospital Kids Zone will return in Fan Fair and are free for all gate admission ticket holders, as well as children. Coolers are always welcome and daily Grandstand parking will remain free for all NASCAR Doubleheader Week events.

Also returning this year is Pocono Raceway's Worry-Free Weather Guarantee. Fans can buy with confidence ahead of our events as the ticket guarantee is included with the purchase of Saturday and/or Sunday NASCAR Cup Series race tickets at Pocono. If a NASCAR Cup Series race is postponed due to inclement weather and the ticket holders is unable to attend the rescheduled date, Pocono Raceway will mail a check for the face value of those tickets to the ticket account holder. This guarantee comes with no additional costs or fees for the purchaser.

Tickets for the 2020 NASCAR Doubleheader Week are available while supplies last. To purchase tickets, visit [www.poconoraceway.com/tickets](http://www.poconoraceway.com/tickets) or call 1-800-RACEWAY (1-800-722-3929.)

The 2020 NASCAR Doubleheader week will open with ARCA Menards Series practice, qualifying and the General Tire #Anywheres-Possible 200 race on Thursday. On-track action on Friday will include NASCAR Gander RV & Outdoors Truck Series (Gander Trucks) practice and qualifying, along with two NASCAR Cup Series (Cup Series) practice sessions. Saturday's events will feature NASCAR Xfinity Series (Xfinity Series) practice, Cup Series qualifying to set the field for that day's race, a 150-mile Gander Trucks race and a 325-mile Cup Series race. Xfinity Series Qualifying, the Pocono Green 225 Recycled by J.P. Mascaro & Sons Xfinity Series race and a 350-mile Cup Series race, with the starting field being set by a lead-lap invert based on the finishing order from Saturday's Cup race, rounds out the bucket-list motorsports week on Sunday.

Note: All events, dates, race lengths and times are subject to change without notice. Children must be accompanied by an adult ticket holder for gate admission and at all times while on Pocono Raceway property. Certain terms, conditions and fees may apply for ticket purchases.

### Charlotte Motor Speedway

CHARLOTTE, NC - Today, Bojangles' and Speedway Motorsports are officially unveiling a new relationship that will engage fans during the NASCAR races at Atlanta Motor Speedway and Charlotte Motor Speedway. Bojangles' is revving its engines by giving fans the chance to win a VIP experience to the Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500 on March 15.

"Race fans have always been important to Bojangles', and we look forward to shaking and biscuit baking our way through this season with them in Atlanta and Charlotte," said Jackie Woodward, chief marketing officer of Bojangles'. "This giveaway is just the first way we'll use this partnership to invite fans to join us as we Bo racing!"

Fans can register to win the VIP experience at [www.bojangles.com/ams](http://www.bojangles.com/ams), and the one-of-a-kind prize package includes:

- Four race tickets;
- Hot Passes and Victory lane access;
- AMS and Bojangles' swag bag, featuring a \$50 Bojangles' gift card; and
- Pace car rides.

The lucky winner will be notified by email on March 9.

The agreement between Bojangles' and Speedway Motorsports is a three-year deal, extending through the 2022 season.

"With a significant presence in Atlanta and Charlotte, Bojangles' is an important neighbor to both our tracks and a staple among NASCAR fans, so we're thrilled to extend our relationship with them for the next three seasons," said Kevin Camper, chief sales officer of Speedway Motorsports.

Bojangles, Inc. is a highly differentiated and growing restaurant operator and franchisor dedicated to serving customers high-quality, craveable food made from our Southern recipes, including breakfast served All Day, Every Day. Founded in 1977 in Charlotte, N.C., Bojangles® serves menu items such as made-from-scratch biscuit breakfast sandwiches, delicious hand-breaded bone-in chicken, flavorful fixin's (sides) and Legendary Iced Tea®. Currently, Bojangles has approximately 750 system-wide restaurants in 11 states. For more information, visit [www.bojangles.com](http://www.bojangles.com) or follow Bojangles on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

### Darlington Raceway

DARLINGTON, SC - Darlington Raceway is celebrating 'NASCAR Champions...Past, Present and Future' for its throwback weekend celebration on Sept. 4-6, 2020. Another champion will be crowned in 2020 and Darlington Raceway will host the opening round of the NASCAR Cup Series Playoffs, which will declare its 72nd champion since 1949.

Each month, the track is recognizing NASCAR Cup Series champions from specific decades – this month (February) is the 1960's.

In the 1960s, drivers became more household names as the sport continued to grow from its grassroots efforts in the 1950s. Some of the most legendary names (which are celebrated even today) in the sport's history had careers and championships that

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started in the 1960s. Many of the decade's champions became NASCAR Hall of Famers such as Richard Petty, David Pearson, Ned Jarrett and Rex White.

"There's no question that the 1960s was a decade of growth, not only for NASCAR, but for drivers and their own personal brands," Darlington Raceway president Kerry Tharp said. "Winning NASCAR championships in the 1960's propelled the careers of drivers such as Richard Petty, David Pearson and Joe Weatherly."

Here's a look at the five different champions from the 1960s:

- 1960 NASCAR Grand National Champion – Rex White: Rex White took the points lead in June of 1960 and went on to win his one and only NASCAR championship. White thoroughly dominated the 1960 campaign, posting the most wins (six), top-five (25) and top-10 finishes (35) in 40 starts. By comparison, championship runner-up Richard Petty finished the season with three wins, 16 top-five and 30 top-10 finishes, respectively. White would win 15 more races and finish second and fifth in the 1961 and 1962 seasons before retiring in 1964 at age 35. White was inducted into the NASCAR Hall of Fame in 2015.

- 1961 and 1965 NASCAR Grand National Champion – Ned Jarrett: Ned Jarrett, a 2011 NASCAR Hall of Fame inductee, scored two NASCAR Grand National Championships in the decade, 1961 and 1965. He won only one race during the 1961 campaign but won a tight points battle with Rex White.

The 1965 championship saw Jarrett race with a back injury throughout the middle part of the season. After winning the 1965 Southern 500 by a record 14 laps, Jarrett firmly held the points lead over rookie Dick Hutcherson and went on to win his second championship. He had 13 wins during the 1965 season with 42 top-five finishes in 54 starts.

- 1962 and 1963 NASCAR Grand National Champion – Joe Weatherly: Joe Weatherly won his only two NASCAR Grand National Championships in back-to-back years in 1962 and 1963. He domi-

nated the 1962 season by winning a series-best nine races and posting 39 top-five and 45 top-10 finishes in 52 starts.

In 1963, he drove for nine different team owners during the season. Despite winning only three races (compared to second-place Petty's 14 wins), Weatherly won the championship due to the fact that he was more successful at superspeedway tracks, which awarded more points back then. He averaged an eighth-place finish at superspeedways, compared to 17th for Petty.

Weatherly, a 2015 NASCAR Hall of Fame inductee, lost his life in a 1964 crash at the Riverside, Calif., road course. The stock car museum at Darlington Raceway has been named after Weatherly since 1965.

- 1964 and 1967 NASCAR Grand National Champion – Richard Petty: Richard Petty won the NASCAR championship twice in the 1960s (1964 and '67). His 1964 title featured nine wins, 37 top-five, 43 top-10 finishes and a DAYTONA 500 victory. He dominated the first of his seven championships, winning the title by nearly 6,000 points.

In 1967, Petty showed his dominance again by winning a record 27 races, including his one and only Southern 500 at Darlington. His May victory at Darlington that same year gave him 55 career NASCAR Cup Series wins passing his father Lee as the all-time series leader. He also won 10 races in a row in 1967 in what is considered one of the dominant seasons in NASCAR history.

Petty was elected to the NASCAR Hall of Fame in 2010 as part of the inaugural class.

- 1966, 1968 and 1969 NASCAR Grand National Champion – David Pearson: David Pearson won three NASCAR championships in the 60s (1966, 1968 and 1969). His 1966 campaign featured 15 victories, seven more than Petty's eight that year. The Spartanburg, S.C. native had equally impressive championship seasons in 1968 and 1969, where he won 27 races and posted 78 top-five finishes in 99 starts over those two years.

The "Silver Fox" as he was known, ended his storied career as the second winningest all-time driver in series history with 105 victories. He was inducted into the NASCAR Hall of Fame in 2011. As the 60s concluded, Pearson left the decade with more championships (three) than Petty (two).

The Tradition Continues on

Labor Day weekend as the NASCAR Cup Series Southern 500® is set for Sunday, Sept. 6, 2020. Throwback Weekend coverage will once again be covered in its entirety on NBCSN, MRN and SiriusXM. The NASCAR Xfinity Series Sport Clips Haircuts VFW 200 will race on Saturday, Sept. 5, 2020.

You can keep up with all of the latest news from Darlington Raceway at DarlingtonRaceway.com, on Facebook at Facebook.com/DarlingtonRaceway and on Twitter at Twitter.com/TooToughToTame.

### Atlanta Motor Speedway

HAMPTON, GA - Speedway Motorsports President and CEO Marcus Smith and Atlanta Motor Speedway are upping the ante for the \$100,000 bounty to beat Kyle Busch during the March 14 Georgia 200, and driver charities will bank the rewards.

NASCAR driver Kevin Harvick and Gander Outdoors Chairman and CEO Marcus Lemonis placed a \$100,000 bounty on NASCAR Gander RV & Outdoors Truck Series ace Kyle Busch, payable to any NASCAR Cup Series driver who can beat him in a truck race.

With Georgia native Chase Elliott now on the entry list, the March 14 race at AMS is promising to be a high-stakes, thrilling affair.

Smith and AMS have raised the stakes, vowing to give \$5 to a driver charity from each eligible ticket purchase.

Race fans who purchase a ticket to the March 14 NASCAR doubleheader – which includes the Georgia 200 bounty challenge race (1:30 p.m. on FS1) and a NASCAR Xfinity Series race (4:00 p.m. on FS1) – can now choose the driver and driver foundations that will benefit.

Eligible drivers currently include Busch, the NASCAR Cup Series champion who has currently won seven straight NASCAR Truck Series races; Harvick, who stirred the pot when he put the initial \$50,000 up as a bounty; and Elliott, the first Cup driver to accept the challenge for the Georgia 200 at AMS. If additional challengers emerge, the drivers and their respective charities will also become eligible.

Fans can ensure their ticket purchase helps the driver charity of their choice by purchasing through the AMS ticket office (877-9-AMSTIX) and stating the driver and foundation of choice or by going to <https://www.atlantamotorspeedway.com/bounty/> and choosing their preferred driver. Tickets for the

Saturday NASCAR Doubleheader – which includes the Georgia 200 bounty challenge race – are free for children 12 and under.

### Bristol Motor Speedway

BRISTOL, TN - The All-American patriotic feel of a race weekend at Bristol Motor Speedway is headed to another level as Tri-Cities Navy Week and the Food City 500 race weekend overlap March 30 – April 5.

As Navy Week brings sailors and equipment from 12 units to the region to help educate the public about the capabilities, importance and value of today's Navy, race fans will also get to experience the power of the Navy firsthand at the track, April 3-5.

From an impressive flyover featuring F/A-18E Super Hornets to appearances by numerous Navy musical ensembles and patriotic occurrences in pre-race, Bristol Motor Speedway will be the place to be to witness the strength of the US military.

The pinnacle of Navy Week festivities at the race track will come on Sunday with an impressive flyover. F/A-18E Super Hornets from the VFA-143 Squadron will take to the skies to celebrate the start of the 60th running of the Food City 500. Based out of Naval Air Station Oceana in Hampton Roads, Va., "The Pukin Dogs" of VFA-143 are a prime example of the Navy's strike fighter capabilities.

Guests visiting the Fan Zone will have the chance to see multiple units up-close and in person. This includes Navy divers who will appear in the Navy Expeditionary Combat Command portable dive tank as well as other interactive displays.

Pre-race festivities on Friday and Saturday will both feature a Navy flair. On both days, Navy Sailors will lead the Pledge of Allegiance and the Navy Drill Team will perform for the crowd.

Saturday will feature the National Anthem sung by a member of the Navy Band while Sunday will welcome crewmembers from the world's oldest active warship, USS Constitution, to perform color guard.

With all the festivities surrounding Navy Week at the track, Bristol Motor Speedway has a special offer for members of the Navy and their families. All active and retired Navy personnel can call the BMS ticket office and purchase a half-priced ticket to the Food City 500. Those interested can call 423-BRISTOL.

## Dodge City Raceway Park

DODGE CITY, KS - With the 2020 racing season at Dodge City Raceway Park clearly within sight, Driver Registrations forms are now available.

Those planning on competing at Dodge City as well as Little DCRP may register in advance via the Driver Registration form at [https://www.dodgecityraceway.com/wp-content/uploads/2020](https://www.dodgecityraceway.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/DCRP-2020-Registration.pdf)

/02/DCRP-2020-Registration.pdf.

It will not only reserve each registered racer's number for the year, it was also save considerable time signing in on opening night.

Following an open practice session on Saturday March 21, the season gets under way with the DCRP season opener atop the 3/8-mile clay oval on Saturday, April 4. The 1/7-mile Little DCRP clay oval will kick off its second season the following day on Sunday, April 5.

The DCRP championship chase divisions will again feature the Precise Racing Products DCRP Sprint Cars, IMCA Modifieds, IMCA Sport Modifieds, IMCA Stock Cars and IMCA Hobby Stocks.

The Little DCRP classes will include Winged and Non-Wing "A" Class, Restricted "A" Class and Junior Sprints among the Micro Sprint divisions with Kart divisions including Adult, Junior and Open Outlaw.

The opening weekend marks the first of 13 nights of racing action atop the 3/8-mile clay oval and 11 rounds of Little DCRP competition.

The complete 2020 schedule of events at Dodge City Raceway Park and Little DCRP is available at <https://www.dodgecityraceway.com/schedule/>.

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](http://www.dodgecityraceway.com).

## Lincoln Speedway

ABBOTTSTOWN, PA - Dylan Cisney's first career Lincoln Speedway win was not as easy as it may appear on paper. Cisney started on the pole of the 25-lap feature, but it wasn't smooth sailing to land in victory lane.

Cisney took the lead at the drop of the green flag, with defending



**Dylan Cisney battles on the dirt of Lincoln Speedway to win his first career win. (PAUL ARCH photo)**

track champion, Brian Montieth moving up to third from his fifth starting spot coming out of turn 2 on the first lap. Montieth was up to second on the next lap and got around Cisney using the middle of turns 1 and 2 for the lead but the caution would come out before Montieth's lead was official. Chase Dietz got spun around at the end of the front stretch and was able to re-join the field.

Dylan led Montieth, Gerard McIntyre, Brandon Rahmer and Glenndon Forsythe to the cone for the race's only restart.

Montieth went to the bottom of turn 1 and got by Cisney for the top spot. Cisney and Montieth raced wheel to wheel down the backstretch with Cisney gaining the advantage into turn 3. Montieth went low again into the turns and had the lead coming out of turn 4.

As Montieth drove away from Cisney, he encountered lapped traffic on lap 6. As Montieth drove through lapped traffic Cisney held off McIntyre to hold onto the second spot.

Lap 13 saw trouble for the leader as he worked through heavy lapped traffic. Montieth did a 360 spin coming out of turn 2 and dropped back to sixth. The car never stopped so the caution did not come out. Montieth's misfortune moved Cisney into the lead with McIntyre running second and Brandon Rahmer in third.

As Montieth worked his way back to the front of the pack there was plenty of racing throughout the field. Last week's winner, Danny Dietrich, started to work his way to the front of the field from seventh.

With seven laps to go Dietrich was running third and Montieth had driven back up to fourth. Dietrich tried to get by McIntyre for second

which allowed Montieth to make a move for third with Dietrich falling back to fourth. Two laps later, Montieth made a move on McIntyre for second allowing Dietrich to take the third spot back.

Montieth got back by Dietrich with five laps to go to take third and wanted to get by McIntyre for second. Montieth tried to slide up the track in turn 2 to get by McIntyre with four laps to go, but it wasn't enough to make the pass. Dietrich got by Montieth down the backstretch with Montieth taking the third spot back out of turn 4.

Montieth tried to get by McIntyre in turns 1 and 2 with three laps to go and this time he was able to complete the pass. McIntyre lost third to Dietrich as he had to check up due to Montieth's pass.

Dietrich got under Montieth in turns 3 and 4 to take second with two laps to go. Despite the back and forth, Dietrich and Montieth were closing in on the leader but did not have enough laps to make a run for the lead.

Cisney made it to the checkered flag .240 seconds ahead of Dietrich for his first career Lincoln Speedway victory. Dietrich nosed out second place over Montieth by less than a tenth of a second. Brock Zearfoss finished fourth from his thirteenth starting spot earning the hard charger award. McIntyre held on for a fifth place finish.

Also, of note was a visit from Plainfield, Indiana native, Zach Hampton. Hampton made the nine hour trip to the pigeon hills and finished tenth in his heat and eleventh in the B-main. It was Hampton's first trip to Pennsylvania to race.

410 Sprint Car heat winners were Dylan Cisney, Gerard McIntyre and Brian Montieth.

Next Saturday, March 7, Lincoln

Speedway is back in action with 410 Sprint Cars and open practice for all divisions racing at the track this season. Racing starts at 2PM with pit gates opening at 11:30AM and grandstand gates opening at noon.

To get all the latest news, results, schedule changes and rule changes, visit Lincoln Speedway's website at [www.lincolnspeedway.com](http://www.lincolnspeedway.com) to stay up-to-date on all the action or pending weather conditions at Central Pennsylvania's "Premier" Saturday night race track - The Fabulous Lincoln Speedway.

## Selinsgrove Speedway

SELINGROVE, PA - The 2020 Selinsgrove Speedway season opener is now just three weeks away, featuring the return of the Icebreaker 40 for combined big and small block modifieds coming up on Saturday, March 21 at 2 pm.

The Icebreaker 40 will pay \$5,000 to win while the main event for the 602 sportsman modifieds will pay \$1,000 to take the victory.

Just this week, Larry Wight of Phoenix, New York, confirmed his entry for the big event, last run in any form back in 2013.

Wight recently picked up three big block mod wins in a row while competing with the Super DIRTcar Series in Volusia, Florida.

Last week, it was veteran modified star Billy Pauch Sr. and his accomplished son Billy Pauch Jr. that announced their expected entry.

Drivers want to be sure to get their names on the pre-registry lists in order to be eligible for posted bonus money!

Any driver pre-registered by March 12 for the \$24,000-plus Icebreaker 40 event will be eligible for a \$500 bonus. Likewise, any crate 602 sportsman mod driver who is pre-registered before March 12 will be eligible for a \$200 bonus.

Grandstand and pit gates will open at 11 am on March 21 with qualifying slated for 2 pm.

Adult general admission is set at \$20 with grandstand reserved seats priced at an additional \$2. Student general admission for ages 12 - 17 is just \$15. Kids ages 11 and under will be admitted for free. Pit Passes are \$40.

As the track ramps up for the 2020 season, eyes are also on Sunday afternoon, March 29 when March Mayhem featuring the Modern Heritage 410 sprints and the Jeff's Auto Body and Recycling super late models hit the track for the first time this season.

The sprint cars will race for  
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\$4,000 to win while the super lates compete for \$2,000 to take the victory.

Gates for that show will open at noon with qualifying slated for 2 pm.

Selinsgrove Speedway will team with Selinsgrove Ford to hold "Race Day at the Dealership," coming up this Saturday, March 7 from 10 – 3 pm.

Speedway supporter Selinsgrove Ford is located just blocks north of the speedway at the intersection of Rt. 522 and business Rt. 15, in Selinsgrove.

Fans will be able to view the new Selinsgrove Ford F-150 pace truck at the show as well as pick up 2020 printed schedules and renew season seats and suites before they go on sale to the general public.

The deadline to renew seats and suites is March 7. Seats and suites will go on sale to the general public beginning March 9.

Weather permitting, "Race Day at the Dealership" will feature stock cars and sprint cars on display.

For a complete 2020 schedule, the latest news, results, and race status, visit the speedway's official website at [www.selinsgrovespeedway.com](http://www.selinsgrovespeedway.com) or follow the track on Twitter and Facebook.

The speedway office can be reached at 570.374.2266.

## South Boston Speedway

SOUTH BOSTON, VA - The start of South Boston Speedway's 2020 season is right around the corner, and drivers and race teams throughout the region are busy getting ready for the start of on-track activity.

South Boston Speedway's first on-track activity comes on Saturday, March 14, when the track hosts its annual Open Practice/Media Day event, weather permitting. Fans will be admitted free and can watch the day's activities from the frontstretch grandstands and from the tailgate section on the backstretch.

The first race of the season follows one week later, when South Boston Speedway will host the running of the WhosYourDriver.org NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour 150/NASCAR Late Model Twin 75s on Saturday afternoon, March 21.

"Area race teams and drivers look forward to our Open Practice

Day because it gives them an opportunity to get their cars on the track, make needed adjustments, and prepare for the start of the season," said South Boston Speedway General Manager Cathy Rice.

"It also gives fans an opportunity to see some of the cars that will be competing here this season."

The Open Practice Day schedule has registration and pit gates opening at 9 a.m. Practice will run from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., with the pit area closing at 4 p.m.

South Boston Speedway's season-opening event, the WhosYourDriver.org NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour 150/NASCAR Late Model Twin 75s on Saturday afternoon, March 21, will feature the stars and cars of the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour and the region's NASCAR Late Model Stock Car Division teams. The touring NASCAR Whelen Modified will be featured in a 150-lap race, and the region's NASCAR Late Model Stock Car Division drivers will be featured in a pair of 75-lap races.

The WhosYourDriver.org NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour 150 is the season-opening race for the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour. It is also the first of only two events that the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour will have in the south this season.

Ron Silk, the winner of last year's NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour race at South Boston Speedway, last year's South Boston Speedway pole winner, Tommy Catalano, who qualified with a speed of over 103 mph, and Southern favorites Burt Myers and Frank Fleming are among the competitors fans will be looking forward to seeing in South Boston Speedway's season-opener.

"We are looking forward to the return of the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour to South Boston Speedway," Rice remarked.

"Last year's race was an exciting



one, and we are expecting this season's race will be exciting as well."

The twin 75-lap races for the NASCAR Late Model Stock Car Division will kick off the chase for the 2020 South Boston Speedway championship and a busy start to South Boston Speedway's 2020 season schedule, which features twin NASCAR Late Model Stock Car Division race events on the first two dates of the season schedule.

The race day schedule for the season-opening WhosYourDriver.org NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour 150/NASCAR Late Model Twin 75s on Saturday afternoon, March 21, has practice running from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m., grandstand gates opening at 11:30 a.m., and qualifying starting at 12 noon.

An autograph session is scheduled for 1 p.m., and the first race is slated to get the green flag at 2 p.m.

Advance adult general admission tickets for the March 21 WhosYourDriver.org NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour 150/NASCAR Late Model Twin 75s are available for \$10 each until 5 p.m. on Friday, March 20.

Tickets may be purchased by calling the South Boston Speedway office at 434-572-4947 or 1-877-440-1540 Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Children 12-and-under will be admitted free with a paying adult.

Adult general admission tickets will be \$15 each on race day.

## Stafford Motor Speedway

STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT - With his last race at Stafford Speedway coming in the Fall Final of 2015, Pro Late Model driver Michael Scorzelli is looking forward to the Inaugural Call before You Dig Pro Late Model Open 81 on May 29. Scorzelli was a Stafford Late Model regular from 2013-2015 and his prior track experience was a major factor in Scorzelli adding the race to his 2020 schedule for his #18 Syracuse Utilities Chevrolet

**NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour drivers make their way along pit road as they head out onto the speedway for the start of a practice session during last year's NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour event at South Boston Speedway. South Boston Speedway opens its 2020 season on Saturday afternoon March 21 with the WhosYourDriver.org NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour 150/NASCAR Late Model Twin 75s. (SBS photo)**

team.

"We're really looking forward to the race," said Scorzelli. "I had nothing but good experiences at Stafford, I have a few wins there, and Bob Fill has things pretty well figured out with our chassis so we're all pretty excited. This was one of the first races that we put on our 2020 schedule as soon as the Stafford schedule came out and we saw they were going to be hosting this race. One of the biggest reasons why we're looking forward to Stafford is I run better on the larger tracks like Stafford, Thompson, and Loudon. With the runs we've had at Stafford and the competition we faced in the past, I think we can do pretty well. I'm hoping we can race at Stafford once or twice a year every year. I have to thank my sponsors Syracuse Utilities and BNC Motorsports, Bob Fill for setting the car up, and we just hooked up with Larry's Auto Machine so we're looking forward to what we can do with their engines."

After changing engine builders to Larry's Auto Machine in the off-season, Scorzelli is anxious to see how his new engine combination will work in his #18 car and he is hoping to carry the momentum he gained at the end of the 2019 Granite State ProStock Series into the CBYD Pro Late Model 81.

"We needed to have a sealed motor for this race so we have a new engine and new transmission to put into the car and pretty much everything except for the frame is new on our car," said Scorzelli. "We ran 6 or 7 Granite State races last year and I think we figured some things out towards the end of the season. We have good equipment and we're heading in the right direction with our car so we're hoping that can carry all of that over to the 2020 season."

Scorzelli raced three full seasons in Stafford's Late Model division from 2013-2015, scoring two wins and a best finish of fourth in the points standings in 2014. While Scorzelli will be leaning on his previous experience to help get a leg up on the competition, he isn't the only driver on the entry list with a Stafford background to lean on.

"I think it's going to be a tremendous mix of drivers between modified drivers who have raced a lot at Stafford versus Late Model guys like Cory Casagrande who has a lot of Stafford experience, Ray Christian, who is good whatever track he goes to, Devin O'Connell is always fast in the Super Late Models, and Mike O'Sullivan is going to be

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tough,” said Scorzelli. “I don’t think Ray or Devin have any laps around the big track at Stafford but that doesn’t seem to slow them down at all. I’ve seen them both go to tracks they’ve never been to before and they qualify and race up front. I’m sure more of the Granite State drivers will be joining the field along with some modified regulars so it should be an interesting

race.”

With 2 Stafford Late Model wins to his credit, Scorzelli knows what it takes to win a race at Stafford and he would like nothing more than to add a third Stafford win to his racing resume.

“I think we have a shot at winning the race if we can stay out of trouble and take care of the car,” said Scorzelli. “We have some laps at Stafford so we’re comfortable there but a lot of the other guys have the same experience level. To win the first race in a Super Late Model since the PASS cars were at Stafford, it would be one of the biggest wins I’ve ever been a part of.”

With a tire compound for the Inaugural CBYD Pro Late Model 81 still to be determined, Scorzelli feels like handling characteristics will play a major factor in who is able to come away with the checkered flag.

“Stafford is a super fast track and in order to win you’ll have to play it smart for 81 laps,” said Scorzelli. “I’m not quite sure what

tires we’re going to be using for the race but you’ll have to have patience and conserve the tires to be there at the end. If we can be there at the end of the race, that’s where things happen. The motors we have are probably slightly less than what the Late Model cars at Stafford run but it’s all about handling with our cars. The shock package and setup in your car is what’s going to carry you through the race.”

Scorzelli and the Pro Late Model field will take to the track for the CBYD 811 Pro LM Open on Friday, May 29. For more information, visit [www.staffordspeedway.com](http://www.staffordspeedway.com), checkout Stafford Speedway on Facebook or Twitter, or contact the track office at 860-684-2783.

## Stafford Motor Speedway

STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT - Marvin Minkler came to Stafford Speedway’s Street Stock division last season as a rookie driver with virtually zero racing experience. After posting three top-10 finishes in 15 starts last season, Minkler is ready to take his #71 CT Oil Kings Chevrolet to the next step and start posting some top-5 finishes.

“Last year was my first season without having any prior experience so I knew it was going to be a huge learning curve and there was tons of learning both on the track and in the shop,” said Minkler. “Last year our goal was to get track time, finish races, and get some top-10 finishes, which wasn’t very often but we hovered around 10th all year. This year we’d like to start getting some top-5 finishes and maybe then we can start to be in the conversation about getting a win, but I’m a realist and I know I have to crawl before I can walk.”



Marvin Minkler (71) battles the stiff competition in the Street Stock division at Stafford Motor Speedway. (SMS photo)

Minkler got a late start to last season, purchasing a car in March, less than 2 months away from the season opener. With the late start, Minkler quickly got his #71 car together so he could race but as the season wore on, he found several things that weren’t right and has spent the winter fixing the car so it will be practically brand new when the curtain is raised on the 2020 season.

“We’ve updated everything on the car this winter,” said Minkler. “I purchased the car in late March last season so it was a scramble just to get it on the track. There were a lot of things that were bent so we’ve done a complete rebuild with a new rear clip, new rear end, and the car just got back from powder coating. Not being a guy who grew up around cars, it’s been a lot of fun to get under the car and turn a wrench and learn what’s going on.”

In order for Minkler to meet his 2020 goals, he will have to contend with a new rules package for the Street Stock division that sees the cars add a Ford 9” rear end and the removal of restrictor plates from the engines. With the new rules in place, Minkler feels like handling will become a big factor in determining who is running up front and winning races during the season.

“I think everyone has a lot to learn with the new package we have with the Ford 9 inch rear end and no restrictor plates,” said Minkler.

“The experienced drivers will probably adapt quicker than the newer drivers, so I’d look for a lot of the same faces from last season to be on the podium again this season. With the plates on the car last season, there wasn’t a big threat of spinning the tires so I think this season will be more about having throttle control and drivers will have

to work on the handling of their cars a little more than in the past.”

One area that Minkler needs to work on in 2020 is his consistency. Minkler finished 11th or 12th in 9 of his 15 starts last season and with some extra consistency, those near top-10 finishes will start turning into top-10’s and get him closer to his goal of top-5 finishes.

“If we can get in the top-10 every week and be close to the top-5, that would be a good season for us,” said Minkler. “I have to work on my consistency this season. Last year, I’d have a really good lap time one lap and then I would fall off the next lap, which was a byproduct of being a rookie. If I can be a little more consistent, we can run with the drivers who are up front rather than hanging with them for a couple of laps before fading backwards.”

Minkler is working on nailing down sponsorship this season to go along with CT Oil Kings and he is very grateful to the Rent a Racecar team for all their advice and help maintaining his #71 car.

“Right now I’m working on sponsors for this season,” said Minkler. “My car is kept at the Rent A Racecar shop and Paul Varricchio and all the guys at Rent A Racecar do a ton of work on the car and they help point me in the right direction so I’m very grateful for all their help.”

The 2020 Street Stock season begins in earnest with the 49th Annual NAPA Spring Sizzler® on April 24-26. 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](http://www.staffordspeedway.com).

For more information, visit [www.staffordspeedway.com](http://www.staffordspeedway.com), checkout Stafford Speedway on Facebook or Twitter, or contact the track office at 860-684-2783.



Michael Scorzelli is looking forward to visiting Stafford Motor Speedway’s victory lane like he did in 2015. (SMS photo)