



FEBRUARY 29, 2016

FasTrack

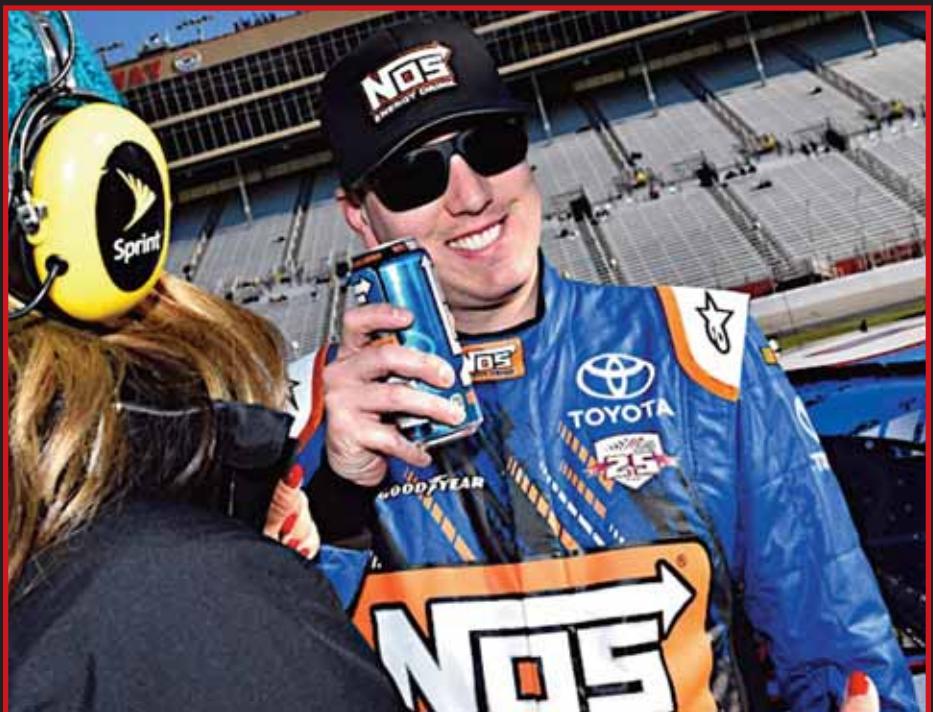
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Johnson
Ties Dale
Earnhardt
in Overall
Wins

Kyle Busch Finally Gets
Atlanta XFINITY Victory



John Hunter
Nemechek Wins
Close Truck Race in
Atlanta

Doctors Worry About Dangers of Noise in NASCAR is Falling on Deaf Ears

Richard Petty loved nothing better than the piercing sound of a race engine. For 35 years the screaming sound helped propel him to a NASCAR record 200 victories and seven championships.

But with each of his 307,836 career laps his ears were suffering irreversible damage.

A man who used to race without goggles and gloves; a man who survived horrific, tumbling crashes; and, a man who, at 78, remains remarkably fit has one inescapable scar:

He is deaf.

The roar of a 725-horsepower engine is exhilarating for many at the race track. But experts warn a good thing can be very bad for your ears.

"Every time you're in that environment it kills more and more," said Dr. Carolyn Hall, Director of Audiology and North Florida Center for Hearing and Balance in St. Augustine, Fla. "It makes the damage worse."

According to the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health, a decibel level of 85 sustained during an eight-hour period damages the ear. Since the levels can reach 130 on pit road and inside the car, NIOSH said that threshold of sound is broken "50 to 900" times a race.

"Sensory neural hearing loss is when the damage is in the inner ear," Hall said. "All of the conducting is going the way it should, but when it gets to the inner ear the nerve cells have been damaged. We don't get the nerve cells back. "Noise-induced hearing loss is most definitely sensory neural hearing loss."

The sound of 40 cars at full speed is louder – and more damaging – than a rock concert (115 decibels) or being 100 yards away from a jet on takeoff (125).

That's why Petty wears hearing aids in both ears to discern the simplest of conversations.

"I'm from the old school, you know what I mean?," Petty said. "The noise is part of racing."

NASCAR Camping World Truck Series managing director Elton

Sawyer said it's up to drivers, crews and fans to use common sense with their ears – and not distract from one of the popular elements of the sport.

"If these cars didn't make the noise, you really couldn't appreciate the power involved," he said. "Engines cranking [725] horsepower are just supposed to be loud."

"To me, if everyone uses common sense and protects their ears, there isn't a problem."

While most now wear ear plugs and headsets, Hall isn't convinced it's enough since properly installed foam ear plugs are designed to eliminate just 15 or 25 decibels.

"It really depends on what kind of noise protection you're using," she said. "If you're going down from 114 db [decibels] to 100, you're still getting a lot of noise exposure. Fans in the stands are getting roughly 96 dbs, from that study, which is why they go over the OSA recommendations in a couple hours and damage can happen. If you're still getting 100, it may not happen as fast, but they're there for a lot longer."

Tom Gideon, NASCAR director of safety for research and development, uses both foam ear plugs and a headset. He also said the noise levels at a race still don't reach the levels of many music ear buds.

"I put the foam protectors in and use the headsets. Believe me, you can still hear [the headset] just fine."

There are no rules requiring quieter engines or ear protection, NASCAR spokesman David Higdon said.

David Ragan grew up in a racing family. His father, Ken, raced part-time for 10 years before retiring after the 1993 season. The son said his father won't wear his prescribed hearing aids.

"Part of my father's problems was the result of poor radio equipment," David Ragan said. "We have better stuff now. You have to make a conscious effort to take care of your ears. It's no coincidence the old guys can't hear."

"If you want my father to hear you, you have to talk to him directly ... and talk loud."

David Ragan uses fitted ear plugs which allow him to hear his

crew during the race. His helmet also has noise-reducing couplers.

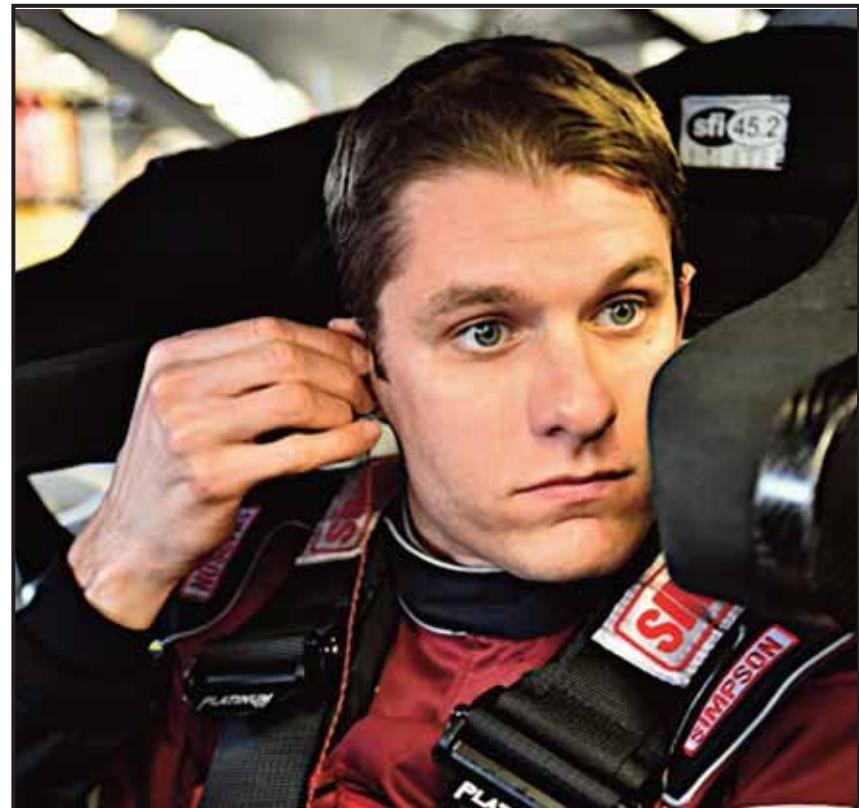
But it's still loud.

"Sometimes my ears are still ringing long after the race," he said.

"Ringing – you've been exposed to temporary threshold shift and you've done damage," Hall said. "If

you are down in the pits, one time could be enough to change your hearing permanently. Whether it affects you or not, or how much it affects you, is the luck of the draw of genetics."

"And when it happens, they wind up seeing me."



David Ragan prepares for every race by first inserting ear plugs before putting on his helmet which also has noise-reducing souplers. (NIGEL KINRADE PHOTOGRAPHY photo)

Welcome to 2016!

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

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

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KYLE BUSCH - NIGEL KINRADE/NKP
JOHN HUNTER NEMECHEK - MATT SULLIVAN/GETTY IMAGES

Johnson Wins at Atlanta; Ties Earnhardt Sr. Record with 76th Victory

HAMPTON, GA - With wrecks erupting behind him, Jimmie Johnson took the checkered flag in overtime under caution in Sunday's Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500 at Atlanta Motor Speedway—and then he remembered.

Almost lost in the euphoria of Johnson's second straight victory at the 1.54-mile track was the realization that, with his 76th NASCAR Sprint Cup Series victory, he had tied the late Dale Earnhardt for seventh on the all-time wins list.

But as the No. 48 Chevrolet rolled around the track on its victory lap, heading in a clockwise direction a la Alan Kulwicki, the six-time champion thrust his arm out the driver's side window with a three-finger salute to the crowd, acknowledging the bond he now shares with The Intimidator.

"It's such an honor," Johnson said. "With the chaos at the end and the crash and wondering about overtime and how it worked these days, I kind of lost sight of that.

"I remembered it on my victory lap coming down, and I had to come by and throw a '3' out the window to pay my respects to the man. There's a huge void in my career that I never had a chance to

race with him, but at least I was able to tie his record."

Dale Earnhardt Jr. ran second to his teammate, followed by Kyle Busch, who started 39th after his qualifying time was disallowed because the rear toe of his No. 18 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota exceeded NASCAR's tolerances.

Polesitter Kurt Busch was fourth, and Carl Edwards came home fifth.

Johnson's fifth victory at Atlanta probably wouldn't have occurred had crew chief Chad Knaus not made a strategic call that wrested control of the race from Kevin Harvick, whose dominant No. 4 Stewart-Haas Racing Chevrolet led a race-high 131 of the 330 laps.

As soon as Johnson hit the fuel window that would get him to the end of the race, Knaus brought the No. 48 Chevy to pit road for four tires and gas on Lap 276, nine laps before Harvick pitted from the lead. With the nine-lap advantage on fresh tires—not to mention issues with the left front tire that cost Harvick more than three seconds on pit road—Johnson was 13.631 seconds ahead of Harvick's No. 4 when the green-flag pit stop cycle was completed on Lap 287.

"Definitely a gutsy call," Johnson said. "It was just a great team effort. The No. 4 (Kevin Harvick) car was awfully tough and it was going to take some strategy to get by him. When he told me to whip it as hard



Race winner, Jimmie Johnson, and the Lowe's crew enjoy taking their "selfie" in Atlanta Motor Speedway's victory lane. (MATT THACKER/NKP photo)

as I could there (after the lap 276 pit stop), I just felt like I was going to take too much life out of the tires. But, it worked. And I got rolling around the top and got to where I got this Lowe's Chevy in Victory Lane."

But it wasn't easy. Harvick cut into Johnson's advantage, reducing it to 5.1 seconds before the speeds of the top two cars leveled out. When Ryan Newman blew a left rear tire and spun at the end of the frontstretch with two laps left in the regulation distance of 325 laps, the eight lead-lap cars came to pit road for tires.

Johnson held the lead, with Harvick second and Kyle Busch third. But on the overtime restart, Harvick had trouble in the outside lane and

Johnson surged ahead, pursued by Kyle Busch and Earnhardt.

A wild wreck on the backstretch caused the caution that ended the race under yellow five laps beyond its scheduled distance.

"We had issues about the last three runs," said Harvick, who suffered late-race brake problems and finished sixth. "I had to start driving the car different. It just required a little bit different handling. And then we had a slow pit stop there.

"We got way behind, and the No. 48 was way out front, and I had to drive the car really hard and got the right rear (tire) burned up. We just didn't execute today, but everybody on our Jimmy John's/Busch Chevrolet hung in there all day, and we'll keep at it."



Jimmie Johnson (48) gets the jump on Kevin Harvick (4) on the restart of the green-white-checkered finish at Atlanta Motor Speedway. Kyle Busch (18) follows Johnson with Earnhardt Jr. (88) hot on his bumper. (NIGEL KINRADE/NKP photo)

Kyle Busch Holds Off Kyle Larson for NASCAR XFINITY Series Win at Atlanta

HAMPTON, GA—Scratch another race track off Kyle Busch's checklist.

In what evolved into a two-man battle against Kyle Larson on Saturday at Atlanta Motor Speedway, the reigning NASCAR Sprint Cup Series champion continued his mastery in the

NASCAR XFINITY Series, beating Kyle Larson to the finish line to win the Heads Up Georgia 250.

The victory was Busch's first at the 1.54-mile track and the 77th of his career, extending his own series record.

But the outcome was far from a foregone conclusion when Busch led the field to green on the final restart with 29 laps left. Busch was strong in the short run, but Larson would start to close dramatically 20 laps into a green-flag run.

That's exactly what played out over the final 29 laps, as Larson began cutting into a lead that had reached more than 1.5 seconds. Making up ground in the top lane through Turns 1 and 2, Larson's No. 42 Chip Ganassi Racing Chevrolet was within eight car lengths of Busch's No. 18 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota with two laps left when Larson's progress was impeded by the lapped car of Ryan Preece through the first corner.

Larson lost ground, and Busch crossed the finish line with a lead of .466 seconds.

"I actually thought that last run was going to be too long," Busch said. "(Crew chief Chris) Gayle did a good job of making some adjustments to our car, and it helped me. It helped me definitely on the front side of a run, for the first 20 (laps), and I don't think it hurt me from there on to the end of the race.

"But Larson was just better than us. He could close and close and



Kyle Busch's lead grew to .466 seconds over Kyle Larson after lapped traffic blocked Larson's charge to the leader. (MATT THACKER/NKP photo)

close. Lapped traffic—they were really nice to me. I think they screwed him up a couple of times. So I kind of appreciated those guys."

Erik Jones, Busch's JGR teammate, rallied from an early penalty—beating Busch, the pole winner, to the start/finish at the start of the race after Busch spun his tires—to run third, followed by Paul Menard and series regular Ty Dillon, who earned a free pass to the lead lap under the final caution, took four tires and charged into the top five from 11th on the restart.

Larson clearly had a problem with lapped traffic, but he wasn't

sure he could have passed Busch for the victory, even if he had pulled up to his rear bumper.

"I definitely would have gotten closer to him, but it would have been still tough to pass him," Larson said. "He was saving his tires, I think, running the bottom, and I was running pretty hard at the top. He would definitely have moved up in front of me there in (Turns) 1 and 2, and it would have been tough to get underneath him."

Elliott Sadler came home ninth and retained the series lead by three points over seventh-place finisher Daniel Suarez and five points over Dillon.



Kyle Busch checks another box off his bucket list with a NASCAR XFINITY Series win at Atlanta Motor Speedway Saturday with is victory in the Heads Up Georgia 250. (NIGEL KINRADE/NKP photo)

John Hunter Nemechek Wins War of Attrition in Atlanta Truck Race

HAMPTON, GA - In a wild race that saw some of the best trucks in the field destroyed before the finish, John Hunter Nemechek held off Cameron Hayley in a two-lap dash to the checkers to win Saturday's Great Clips 200 NASCAR Camping World Truck Series event at Atlanta Motor

Speedway.

But it was a skull session with 2014 Sprint Cup champion Kevin Harvick the night before that was instrumental in guiding Nemechek to victory in his unsponsored No. 8 Chevrolet.

"I've got to give a shout-out," said Nemechek, who was racing at AMS for the first time. "I can't thank Kevin Harvick enough. I went and sat with him for about 30 minutes to an hour last night, trying to learn everything I could."

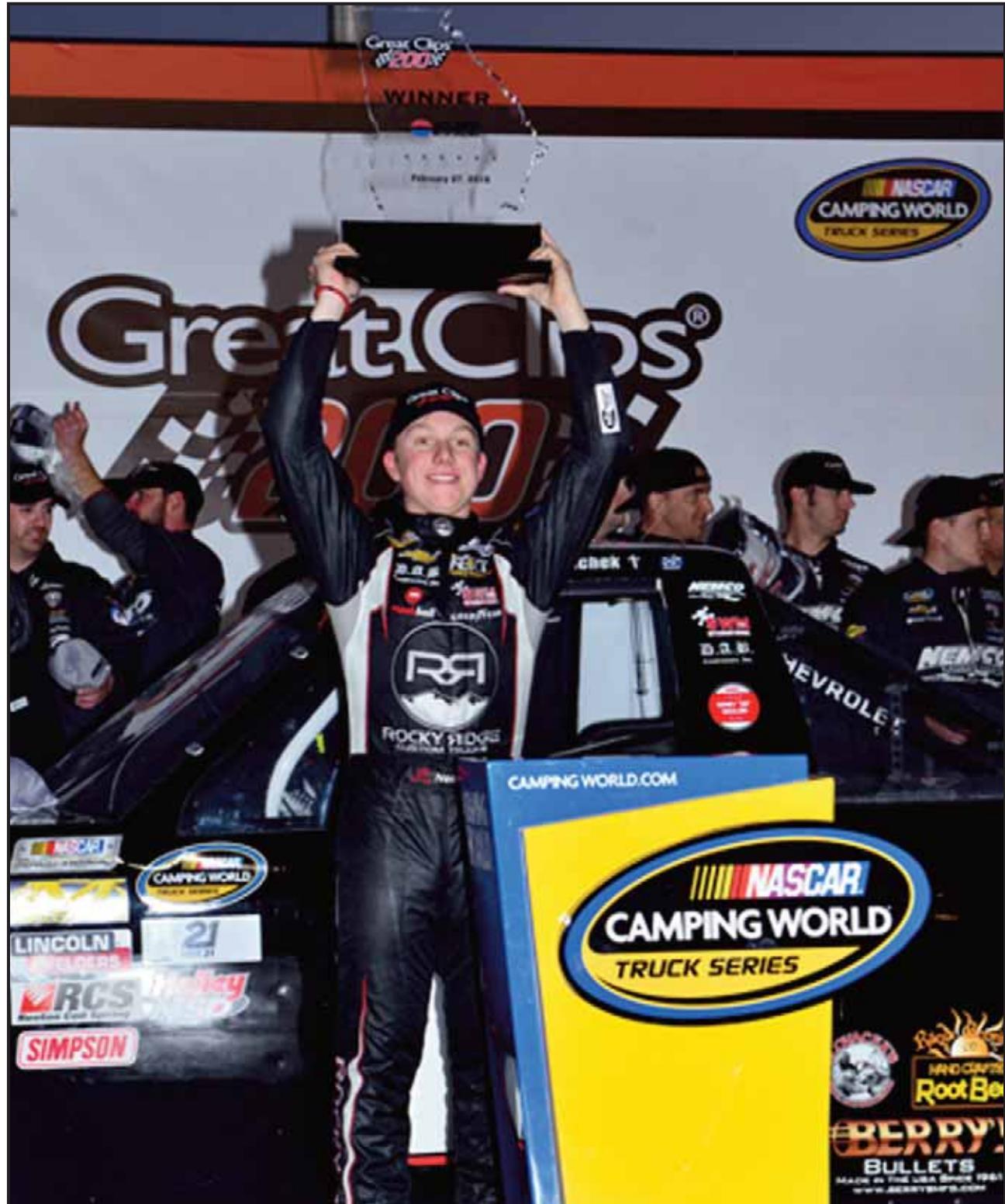
Obviously, the lesson paid off. After extensive cleanup from Christopher Bell's hard crash into the Turn 4 wall, Nemechek chose the inside line for a restart on Lap 199 of 200. When John Wes Townley spun his tires in the outside lane, Nemechek pulled away to beat Hayley to the stripe by .305 seconds.

The victory was Nemechek's second in 32 Truck Series starts and his second on a 1.5-mile intermediate speedway, the first coming last year at Chicagoland Speedway. At 18 years, 8 months and 16 days, Nemechek is the youngest NASCAR national series winner at Atlanta.

Before the family-owned team with a shoestring budget could get to Victory Lane, however, attrition took care of the drivers who led the majority of laps leading up to the finish.

Two corners after a restart on Lap 112—following the race's second expiration of the 20-minute caution clock—Bell lost the nose of his No. 4 Toyota, hooked Kyle Busch Motorsports teammate Daniel Suarez's No. 51 Tundra and turned Suarez into race leader Matt Crafton, who had spent 76 circuits at the front of the field.

The trucks of Crafton and Suarez were damaged beyond repair, leaving Bell, who lead 42 of the 130 laps, to grab the top spot



John Hunter Nemechek is happy to be the youngest driver to win in a national series NASCAR race at Atlanta Motor Speedway after taking the race in a two-lap dash to the checkers against Damerion Hayley. (RONDA GREER photo)

after the subsequent restart on Lap 116. Bell pulled away, but on Lap 123, a tire rub resulting from the earlier contact finally popped the right front, and Bell's Toyota swerved straight into the outside wall in Turn 4.

Behind Nemechek and Hayley, Timothy Peters came home third, followed by Daniel Hemric and Grant Enfinger.

Nemechek was circumspect about the circumstances surrounding his conversation with Harvick, but the information he received was

clearly valuable.

"That's kind of a secret," said Nemechek, who got pit crew help from Jimmie Johnson's No. 48 Sprint Cup team. "But Kevin's one of the best racers here in Atlanta, so I had to ask him. He's very good at conserving tires, very good at winning races here, so to go and talk to him was very special."

Nemechek also got advice from his father and team owner Joe Nemechek, who won a NASCAR XFINITY Series race at Atlanta in 2001.

Eighth-place finisher Parker Kligerman took the lead in the series standings by one point over Hemric and three over Nemechek.

The afternoon proved expensive for Kyle Busch, who as a driver won the first leg of the Saturday doubleheader in the XFINITY Series race, only to lose three trucks as an owner in the nightcap. In addition to the wrecked trucks of Bell and Suarez, Busch also had to write off the engine of William Byron, which blew on lap 59, with Byron running second.

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Auto Club Speedway

FONTANA, CA - Joey Logano, NASCAR Sprint Cup Driver of the No. 22 Automobile Club of Southern California Ford Fusion, is offering race fans double the fun to the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series Auto Club 400 race on March 20, 2016 at Auto Club Speedway.

The popular Double Deuce Package includes pair of reserved tickets to the Auto Club 400, a pair of pre-race pit passes and scanner rental with two sets of headphones. The total ticket package price is \$142 (a \$233 value). This package will go fast and is only available until March 10, 2016.

Enjoy all the benefits that this package including free parking, and access to the O'Reilly Auto Parts Fan Zone which includes live concerts, driver autograph sessions, stunt shows, and more!

Purchase the Double Deuce Package at www.autoclubspeedway.com/doubledeuce, call 1-800-944-RACE (7223), or stop by the Auto Club Speedway ticket office at 9300 Cherry Ave. in Fontana.

Pocono Raceway

LONG POND, PA - Pocono Raceway has launched "The Tricky Chronicles," a video series that will take fans inside the family-owned and operated raceway.

"The Tricky Chronicles," is broken into segments and showcases green initiatives, a day in the life of an employee, fan testimonials, a news section, tickets portion and specials and a welcome from Pocono Raceway President & CEO Brandon Igdalsky. Fans are encouraged to ask questions that will be answered during the show.

Senior Director of Communications Ryan Yanoshak and Director of Media Relations Kevin Heaney serve as hosts with track employees playing a large role.

"The Tricky Chronicles" will be housed on Pocono Raceway's YouTube page.

The first webisode debuted in January and can be viewed at www.youtube.com/poconoraceway.

February's show was recently posted and can be watched here and includes behind the scenes footage from Speedweeks at Daytona International Speedway and is

located at the same link.

To support the series, a page on the Pocono Raceway website has been created that features links to stories and tickets discussed and fan testimonials. That page can be accessed at poconoraceway.com/chronicles.

Pocono Raceway will host seven national motorsports events during the 2016 racing season, including a NASCAR XFINITY Series race for the inaugural time on June 4. The Axalta "We Paint Winners" 400 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series (NSCS) race is set for June 5, the Pennsylvania 400 NSCS race on July 31 and the ABC Supply 500 Verizon IndyCar Series race on August 21. The Pocono Mountains 150 NASCAR Camping World Truck race is scheduled for July 30 and two ARCA Series Presented by Menards races with General Tire #AnywhereIsPossible 200 on June 3 and the ModSpace 150 on July 29 offered as well.

Tickets for all races are now on sale at poconoraceway.com or by calling 1-800-RACEWAY.

Kansas Speedway

KANSAS CITY, KS - While NASCAR Sprint Cup Series drivers are thinking about taking home the trophy for the GoBowling.com 400 on May 7, race fans will be rocking out to legendary rock icon Eddie Money's "Take Me Home Tonight" prior to the race.

Rock icon Money is back on the road with an all-star band. A student of legendary vocal coach Judy Davis and prodigy of manager Bill Graham, Money began his career in the late 1970s belting out hit after hit. The early days of MTV and music videos launched Eddie Money into stardom. An accomplished musician, he sings, he writes, and plays the saxophone, harmonica and piano.

Money has recorded over a dozen albums of his own (selling over 28 million records), and has done numerous projects in television and film. Spring 2001's David Spade film "Joe Dirt" features Money as Joe Dirt's rock and roll idol. He also turned up as Mimi's ex-husband in an episode of "The Drew Carey Show". He's currently working on theme songs for Arena Football and Major League Baseball.

"Everything I do, I do it for you". Eddie Money says it at least once, every show. And he means it. This straight up rock and roll icon has been making music and delivering it to his fans since the mid 70's, and wouldn't have it any other way.

With hits like "Two Tickets To Paradise", "Baby Hold On", "Walk On Water", "Think I'm In Love" and "Shakin", Money continues to be one of the hardest working men in rock and roll.

To see Eddie Money and all of the action at Kansas Speedway, purchase season tickets today by calling 866.460.7223 or logging onto www.kansasspeedway.com. Season ticket holders receive a Pre-Race Track Pass, free of charge, as part of their season ticket package that allows for access into the infield for the pre-race concert, driver introductions and, access to Sprint FanWalk for the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series driver's meeting.

Tickets for Kansas Speedway's 2016 events are currently on sale by calling 866.460.7223 or logging on to www.kansasspeedway.com. In May, Kansas Speedway will host the GoBowling.com 400 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race on May 7 and the Toyota Tundra 250 NASCAR Camping World Truck Series race on May 6. In October, the Chase for the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series returns with the Hollywood Casino 400 on Oct. 16. The Kansas Lottery 300 NASCAR XFINITY Series race will take center stage on Oct. 15, while the ARCA Racing Series presented by Menards championship race will run on Oct. 14.

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

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

Darlington Raceway

DARLINGTON, SC - Darlington Raceway will serve as the historic backdrop for a fun day of running activities on Saturday, April 30.

Run Darlington will feature a 1.366-mile fun run, which encompasses one lap around the historic Darlington track, a 5K and Bojangles' half-marathon. Similar to the 2014 Darlington Marathon, this year's Bojangles' half-marathon course will take runners through Darlington's five historical districts and the beautiful Williamson Park. The event concludes on the track's iconic start-finish line.

"We're always looking at different ways to showcase our facility and Darlington County. The Run Darlington event

helps us in both of those efforts," track President Chip Wile said. "It will be a fun day of racing activities for the running enthusiast. We're proud to be hosting this event for the third time in the last four years."

Early registration for Run Darlington is taking place now with non-refundable prices of:

- Bojangles' Half-marathon - \$60
 - 5K - \$30
 - 1.366-mile fun run - \$15
- Prices after March 1:
- Bojangles' Half-marathon - \$70
 - 5K - \$35
 - 1.366-mile fun run - \$15

USA Track & Field will recognize times from Run Darlington as official finishing times. The races will be timed by Race Management Systems (RMS) of Marion, S.C.

Partnership opportunities are available by calling Darlington Raceway Senior Director of Corporate Partnerships Jeff Taylor at 843-395-8877.

For more information on Run Darlington or to register visit www.DarlingtonRaceway.com/RunDarlington.

The Tradition Continues on Labor Day weekend as the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series Bojangles' Southern 500® is set for Sunday, Sept. 4, 2016. The NASCAR XFINITY Series VFW Sport Clips Help A Hero 200 will race on Saturday, Sept. 3, 2016.

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

Iowa Speedway

NEWTON, IA - Race fans and music lovers will come together at Iowa Speedway for three weekends of top-notch entertainment this summer. The Speedway has announced the full NAPA Auto Parts Concert Series lineup, featuring three dynamic acts at the Pork Party Pavilion, complementing eight thrilling races on the 7/8-mile oval.

"The NAPA Auto Parts Concert Series is a really fun benefit that we

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provide to our guests to enhance the fan experience," said Iowa Speedway President Jimmy Small. "The concerts have become a very important part of each event weekend. We received an overwhelmingly positive response from our fans when we brought back concerts each weekend last season at the Pork Party Pavilion."

The NAPA Auto Parts Concert Series kicks off on Saturday, June 18, when party-rock act Buckcherry, takes center stage. The Los Angeles-based group will perform following the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series 200 Saturday night prior to the only NASCAR XFINITY Series race scheduled on a Sunday in 2016.

Country singer and songwriter, Eric Paslay, will keep fans cheering following the conclusion of the ARCA Racing Series 150 presented by Casey's General Stores on Saturday, July 9. Paslay will hit the Pork Party Pavilion, overlooking Turn 4, after the checkered flag is waved.

The INDYCAR Series will speed things up the following day with the 10th running of the Iowa Corn 300, as INDYCAR's stars solidify Iowa Speedway's claim as the "Fastest Short Track on the Planet".

Snake Oil, a beloved rock tribute band, will close out the NAPA Auto Parts Concert Series in style on Friday, July 29. Following the NASCAR K&N Pro Series Casey's General Stores 150, fans can sing their hearts out to classic songs made famous by some of the biggest names in music.

Each installment of the NAPA Auto Parts Concert Series will take place at the Pork Party Pavilion, following the conclusion of the first race of each race weekend.

But that's not all.

Before drivers turn a wheel in hopes of celebrating in Casey's General Stores Victory Lane, international music producer and DJ – Michaelis – will charge up the crowd each race weekend.

After the roar of the engines has subsided following the NASCAR XFINITY Series U.S. Cellular 250, country music star Tim Dugger, will perform at Iowa Speedway's third annual Post-Race Party on the frontstretch. Iowa Speedway was

the first track to open the catch-fence and throw a Post-Race Party for fans on the race surface, but this signature event is quickly being adopted at other venues as well.

Headlining clubs and performing at other NASCAR tracks, Dugger has amassed a loyal following of race fans, drivers, and crew chiefs. Dugger, an Alabama-native, has performed with a wide variety of popular country artists including Trace Adkins, Sarah Evans, Diamond Rio and Craig Morgan.

Iowa Speedway season tickets, which are currently on sale, include eight high-powered races over three weekends. Wide Opening Weekend will feature both the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series and the NASCAR XFINITY Series American Ethanol 250 during Father's Day Weekend on June 18-19. The second weekend of racing will showcase the ARCA Racing Series 150 presented by Casey's General Stores, the INDYCAR Series Iowa Corn 300 and Indy Lights and Pro Mazda Championship on July 9-10. The 2016 race season will close on July 29-30 with the NASCAR K&N Pro Series Casey's General Stores 150 and NASCAR XFINITY Series U.S. Cellular 250.

Iowa Speedway, "The Fastest Short Track on the Planet," is a state-of-the-art 7/8 mile asphalt paved tri-oval race track and motorsports facility located in Newton, Iowa.

For tickets, call 1-866-787-8946. To learn more, visit www.iowaspeedway.com, "like" us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter at @IowaSpeedway.

Talladega Superspeedway

TALLADEGA, AL - Talladega Superspeedway, the "Party Capital" of NASCAR, and its "can't-miss event" – The BIG ONE ON THE BLVD - was honored by NASCAR last week as the "Most Innovative Driver Integration Event/Program" for 2015.

The announcement was made during NASCAR's Marketing and Communications Awards ceremony in Daytona Beach, FL. The Big One on the Blvd, part of the biggest and best party in NASCAR, is held on the Friday evening of each of Talladega's NASCAR weekends. The outrageous fun is reserved for both the amazing fans who attend Talladega Superspeedway and also the NASCAR drivers who make it a "must-see event" of the weekend.

Since the inaugural event in the spring of 2014, The Big One on the Blvd has proven to be an interac-

tion - and connection - between thousands of fans and the drivers that is unlike anything ever seen before. The drivers are paraded down the infamous Talladega Blvd. on a float in a Mardi Gras-style theme, tossing out Talladega 'swag' items, including rally towels, beads and more.

The drivers then oversee, judge and give commentary for unique and incredibly fun fan competitions. In 2015, the drivers witnessed contests that included: BBQ Sauce Wrestling (Alabama is well-known for its many varieties of famous BBQ), the Jell-O Crawl, Costume Contests, an Obstacle Course, the Wiener Toss and Body Pong.

Industry wide, drivers and teams have made it part of their race-week schedule to come out and cut loose for the infamous event. Participating drivers who were on hand in 2015 included: Jeff Gordon, Brad Keselowski, Clint Bowyer, Ricky Stenhouse, Jr., Austin Dillon, Ryan Blaney, Kyle Larson, Greg Biffle, Denny Hamlin, Kurt Busch, Brendan Gaughan, Michael Waltrip, Danica Patrick, Jeff Burton, Kenny Wallace, Steve Letarte and Rick Allen. Kevin Harvick, Tony Stewart and Kasey Kahne have also joined the fun in the past.

"The track has done a good job of making this event bigger and better since it started," said Bowyer of The Big One on the Blvd. "It's not very often you get to see some of the drivers outside the garage or the race track, so this is a cool opportunity for us to kind of kick back and interact with some of the fans. There's no way you won't have a great time. It's Talladega baby!"

The Big One on the Blvd will be back with some new competitions on Friday, April 29, during the GEICO 500 weekend. Earlier that day, the weekend kicks off with practice sessions for both the GEICO 500 (Dale Earnhardt, Jr. is the defending champion) and Talladega 300 (Joey Logano is the defending champion), as well as the green flag for the traditional General Tire 200 ARCA Racing Series Presented by Menards event. Saturday morning will feature qualifying for both the GEICO 500 and the Talladega 300 (NASCAR XFINITY Series), which also gets the green flag later in the day at 2 p.m. CDT. Sunday's GEICO 500 gets the green flag at 12 Noon CDT.

For ticket information, call 1-877-GO2-DEGA or log on to www.talladegasuperspeedway.com.

Homestead-Miami Speedway
MIAMI, FL - Homestead-Miami

Speedway's charitable outreach program, Driving for a Cause, is now accepting applications for financial gifts to be awarded to eligible 501(c) (3) charities as part of its 2016 grant program. Applications can be found at www.HomesteadMiamiSpeedway.com/DrivingForACause.www.homesteadmiamispeedway.com.

Established after the devastation of Hurricane Andrew in 1992, Homestead-Miami Speedway was developed by the City of Homestead as a state-of-the-art track that would forever change the economy of Homestead, Greater Miami and the entire South Florida region. The track generates an annual economic impact of more than \$301 million to Miami-Dade County.

A large portion of that can be attributed to hosting Ford Championship Weekend each year – the final race weekend of the NASCAR schedule in which champions are crowned in each of the sport's three premier series.

Homestead-Miami Speedway's Driving for a Cause uses the popularity of motorsports to focus public attention and funding on South Florida youth and educational programs. Driving for a Cause is a donor-advised fund under the umbrella of The NASCAR Foundation, a 501(c) (3) organization that hosts numerous annual charity events.

The program is dedicated to making a lasting impact on the community, supporting growth with volunteer and non-profit efforts.

Recipients are also honored during the pre-race ceremonies prior to the Ford EcoBoost 400, NASCAR's championship finale event at Homestead-Miami Speedway in November. The 2016 Ford EcoBoost 400 will be held on Sunday, November 20.

In addition to the charitable contributions from Driving for a Cause, Homestead-Miami Speedway donates more than \$320,000 annually to dozens of South Florida organizations, including track rental opportunities throughout the year, an annual car wash, food drive, holiday toy drive and much more.

All financial contributions are administered through Driving for a Cause. Applications must be post-marked by July 27 at 5 p.m. ET. Please note that this application does not guarantee a donation.

Requests will be reviewed and all applicants will be notified of the grant decisions by September 21. Please contact driveforcause@homesteadmiamispeedway.com with any questions.

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FAST TIME QUALIFIER & 2X FEATURE WINNER

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DENNY HAMLIN

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FEATURE WINNER

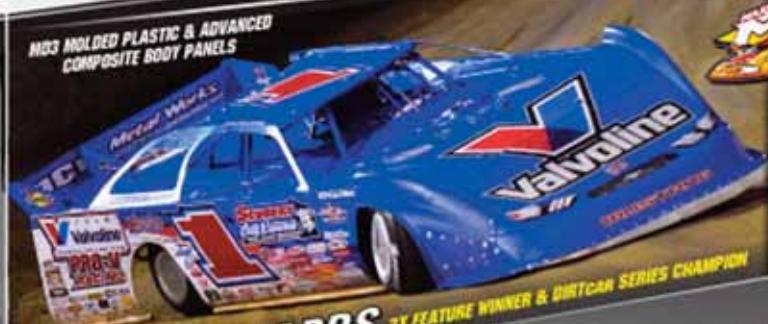
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CRA and SSS Officials Release Entry Forms for Nashville Event in April

SALEM, IN - Officials from the ARCA/CRA Super Series Powered by JEGS and the Southern Super Series Presented by Sunoco have released their entry forms for the North/South Super Late Model Challenge 125 Presented by Team Construction that will take place at Fairgrounds Speedway Nashville on April 8th &

9th. Teams running for points with the ARCA/CRA Super Series or that reside North of Nashville should enter with the entry form from the ARCA/CRA Super Series. Teams running for points with the Southern Super Series or that reside South of Nashville should enter with the entry form from the Southern Super Series.

The North/South Super Late Model Challenge 125 Presented by Team Construction will consist of a combined two hour practice and qualifying on Friday, April 8th, along

with a 50 lap points feature for the ARCA/CRA Super Series and North Teams and a 50 lap points feature for the Southern Super Series and South Teams. The top 12 finishing teams in each 50 lap feature will automatically transfer to the final 75 lap Challenge that will take place on Saturday, April 9th. Each series will also have two point provisionals for the 75 lap Challenge. There will be a last chance race on Saturday that will add four more starters completing the 32 car field for the 75 lap Challenge that will be for no series points, but will pay \$5000 to win.

Guitar Trophies will be awarded to both 50 lap feature winners and for the 75 lap Challenge winner. Friday's feature events will be four tire

races. Teams may put on two new tires for Saturday's 75 lap Challenge. The ARCA Racing Series Presented by Menards will have a 200 lap event on Saturday following the 75 lap Challenge.

For more information on the ARCA/CRA Super Series, including the ARCA/CRA Super Series Nashville entry form, visit www.cra-racing.com. For more information on the Southern Super Series, including the Southern Super Series Nashville entry form, visit www.southern superseries.com.

Track Enterprise has discount presale tickets on sale for the event. For event ticket information, contact Track Enterprises at 217-764-3200 or visit their web site at www.trackenterprises.com.

The Dale Jr. Foundation "Driven to Give Gloves" Program Set for '16 Debut

MOORESVILLE, NC - The Dale Jr. Foundation (TDJF) announced today that its successful Driven to Give Gloves program will focus on four Patient Champions from Nationwide Children's Hospital (NCH) for its 2016 initiative. As it did last year in its debut, the program will feature the auctioning of Dale Earnhardt Jr.'s race-worn gloves four times during the 10-month NASCAR season.

"The Driven to Give Gloves program was very successful for The Foundation last year," said Earnhardt Jr. "I'm looking forward to doing it again with a little different format in 2016. We're teaming up with Nationwide Children's Hospital to represent four Patient Champions that we will have coming to Kentucky Speedway in July. Nationwide's commitment to our team and our Foundation is very gratifying and means a lot to everyone involved."

The signature skeleton-themed design of Earnhardt Jr.'s Alpinestars gloves will feature a different color for each of the Nationwide Children's Hospital Patient Champions to raise awareness and funds for the Hospital's clinical and research programs. Nationwide Children's is America's largest pediatric hospital and research center with all care provided regardless of a family's ability to pay.

"Nationwide Children's is grate-

ful to The Dale Jr. Foundation and Nationwide for this innovative and exciting collaboration," Jim Digan, president of the Nationwide Children's Hospital Foundation, said.

Driven to Give Gloves will kick off in April with Earnhardt Jr. wearing gloves accented in blue to raise awareness and funds for Autism. The Patient Champion will be Aiden Vanwagner. In May, Earnhardt Jr.'s gloves will have lavender accents for Pediatric Cancer and highlight Patient Champion Grant Reed. (Complete list below).

In July, the glove color switches to gold for Hearing Impairment and fans will meet Patient Champion Tarissa Susecki, and in November, they'll have a gray hue for Diabetes with featured Patient Champion Dalton Miller. At the end of each month, Earnhardt Jr. will sign the gloves for auction at TDJF's eBay store with all of the proceeds going to benefit care and research.

"Last year we brought out the Driven to Give Gloves program as an initiative to help spread the word about The Foundation and its mission," said Kelley Earnhardt Miller, general manager of JR Motorsports and vice-president of TDJF. "It was very successful in doing that, and highlighting Patient Champions from Nationwide Children's Hospital sharpens our focus on helping children in need. This program also allows us to help further Nationwide Children's Hospital's pioneering work in pediatric medicine."

TDJF's mission is to give underprivileged individuals, with a focus

on youth, the resources to improve their confidence and education, and the opportunity to achieve extraordinary goals. Since 2007, TDJF has contributed to charities on local, regional and national levels through donations and non-monetary aids. The Driven to Give Gloves program has raised more than \$97,000.

The complete list of glove colors to be worn by Earnhardt Jr. and the Patient Champions the TDJF will aid in 2016 is as follows:

- April – Blue Gloves (Autism) 8-year-old Aiden Vanwagner: Aiden was diagnosed with Autism at an early age but under the care of Nationwide Children's Hospital's Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders, Aiden has received individualized and comprehensive interventions and is enjoying school in a mainstream classroom. Researchers at Nationwide Children's have many active research projects underway to determine causes and effective new treatments for autism.

- May – Lavender Gloves (Pediatric Cancer) 15-year-old Grant Reed: On May 7, 2012, Grant was diagnosed with Medullablastoma, a brain tumor in the back of the head near the brain stem. The tumor was removed three days later but through the removal he developed a syndrome that left him with severe complications and he was admitted to the inpatient

rehabilitation unit at Nationwide Children's where he regained control of his speech and physical abilities. An avid NASCAR fan, Grant loves following this sport and his father has a history of working in the industry.

- July – Gold Gloves (Hearing Impairment) 11-year-old Tarissa Susecki: Tarissa was born more than two months premature and suffered from complications of prematurity. She spent the first seven months of her life at Nationwide Children's. One of the complications was profound hearing loss. Despite many challenges, Tarissa has grown into a beautiful young lady who enjoys fourth grade and pageant competitions. Nationwide Children's is home to America's largest neonatal care network and research center.

- November – Gray Gloves (Diabetes) 11-year-old Dalton Miller: In December 2012, Dalton was diagnosed with Type I diabetes but that has not stopped him from being a very active young man. He works closely with his clinical team to manage his condition carefully letting him live a normal life. He is very aware of his illness and constant monitoring of his food and beverages has helped him learn his math skills.

The Dale Jr. Foundation is a charity dedicated to giving underprivileged individuals with a focus on youth, the resources to improve their confidence and education, and the opportunity to achieve extraordinary goals.

For more information, visit www.thedalejrfoundation.org.





NASCAR Announces Nominees for NASCAR Hall of Fame Class of 2017, Landmark Award

D A Y T O N A BEACH, FL - Legendary engine builders, crew chiefs, owners, drivers and the most recognizable voice in motorsports. The talents, eras and levels may differ, but all share a common thread. They shaped NASCAR, and on Wednesday, they were recognized as nominees for the highest honor the sport bestows – enshrinement into the NASCAR Hall of Fame.

NASCAR today announced the 20 nominees for the NASCAR Hall of Fame's Class of 2017, as well as the five nominees for the Landmark Award for Outstanding Contributions to NASCAR. Included among the list are five first-time nominees, all legends who made excellence a habit through their various contributions to the sport.

Among them are record-holding four-time NASCAR Camping World Truck Series champion Ron Hornaday Jr.; the man with the most car owner wins in NASCAR national series history with 322, Jack Roush; former all-time consecutive starts leader Ricky Rudd; legendary motorsports broadcasting pioneer Ken Squier; and three-time premier series champion engine builder and three-time Daytona 500-winning crew chief Waddell Wilson. For a full list of nominees, please see below.

The nominees were selected by a nominating committee consisting of representatives from NASCAR and the NASCAR Hall of Fame, track owners from both major facilities and historic short tracks and the media. The committee's votes were tabulated by accounting firm Ernst & Young.

From the list of 20 NASCAR Hall of Fame nominees, five inductees will be elected by the NASCAR Hall of Fame Voting Panel, which includes a nationwide fan vote on NASCAR.com. Voting Day for the 2017 class will be Wednesday, May 25.

Added to this year's list of Landmark Award nominees is Janet Guthrie – the first female driver to compete in a NASCAR premier series superspeedway race. The four returning nominees for the Landmark Award are H. Clay Earles, Raymond Parks, Ralph Seagraves

and Squier (more on each below). Potential Landmark Award recipients include competitors or those working in the sport as a member of a racing organization, track facility, race team, sponsor, media partner or being a general ambassador for the sport through a professional or non-professional role. Award winners remain eligible for NHOF enshrinement.

Following are the 20 nominees:

- Buddy Baker, won 19 times in NASCAR's premier (now Sprint Cup) series, including the Daytona 500 and Southern 500
- Red Byron, first NASCAR premier series champion, in 1949
- Richard Childress, 11-time car owner champion in NASCAR's three national series
- Ray Evernham, three-time NASCAR premier series championship crew chief
- Ray Fox, legendary engine builder, crew chief and car owner
- Rick Hendrick, 14-time car owner champion in NASCAR's three national series
- Ron Hornaday Jr., four-time NASCAR Camping World Truck Series champion
- Harry Hyde, 1970 NASCAR premier series championship crew chief
- Alan Kulwicki, 1992 NASCAR premier series champion
- Mark Martin, 96-time race winner in NASCAR national series competition
- Hershel McGriff, 1986 NASCAR west series champion
- Raymond Parks, NASCAR's first champion car owner
- Benny Parsons, 1973 NASCAR premier series champion
- Larry Phillips, only five-time NASCAR weekly series national champion
- Jack Roush, five-time car owner champion in NASCAR's three national series
- Ricky Rudd, won 23 times in NASCAR's premier series, including the 1997 Brickyard 400
- Ken Squier, legendary radio and television broadcaster; inaugural winner/namesake of Squier-Hall Award for NASCAR Media Excellence
- Mike Stefanik, winner of record-tying nine NASCAR championships
- Waddell Wilson, won three NASCAR premier series championships as an engine builder
- Robert Yates, won NASCAR

premier series championship as both an engine builder and owner

The five nominees for the Landmark Award, listed alphabetically, are as follows...

- H. Clay Earles, founder of Martinsville Speedway
- Janet Guthrie, the first female to compete in a NASCAR premier series superspeedway race
- Raymond Parks, NASCAR's first champion car owner
- Ralph Seagraves, formed groundbreaking Winston-NASCAR partnership as executive with R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company

- Ken Squier, legendary radio and television broadcaster; inaugural winner / namesake of Squier-Hall Award for NASCAR Media Excellence

NASCAR Hall of Fame Nomination Eligibility

Drivers who have competed in NASCAR for at least 10 years and been retired for two years are eligible for nomination to the NHOF. Previously, eligible drivers must have been retired for three years.

In addition, drivers who have competed for a minimum of 10 years and reached their 55th birthday on or before Dec. 31 of the year prior to the nominating year are immediately eligible for the NHOF.

Any driver who has competed for 30 or more years in NASCAR competition by Dec. 31 of the year prior to the nominating year is automatically eligible, regardless of age.

Drivers may continue to compete after reaching any of the aforementioned milestones without compromising eligibility for nomination or induction.

For non-drivers, individuals must have worked at least 10 years in the NASCAR industry.

Individuals may also be considered who made significant achievements in the sport, but left the sport early due to a variety of circumstances.

Hope for the Warriors Uses NASCAR to Assist Transitioning Service Members

DAYTONA BEACH, FL - Hope For The Warriors continued to work toward their mission of restoring self, family and hope during last weekend's Daytona 500 at Daytona International Speedway in

Daytona Beach, Fla. The organization hosted more than 10 service members and military family members at the iconic race through its Drive For Hope program, which focuses on engaging transitioning service members in a unique social setting while giving them an opportunity to learn about prospective careers, make networking connections and realize different ways their skills can transition as they reintegrate into the civilian sector.

"I've wanted to go to the Daytona 500 since I was a little kid, and Hope For The Warriors made this once-in-a-lifetime experience possible for my family," said Major Seely, who retired from the USMC after 27 years of service on 1 February 2016. "When the opportunity came up to attend the Daytona 500, I couldn't believe it. I've been trying to get my family to attend a race for years. Through Drive For Hope, we were able to go to the biggest race of the year and now they're hooked."

Maj Seely (USMC Ret) joined a group of Critical Skills Operators from the Marines Special Operations School in Stone Bay, N.C., and US Marine Corp and US Army Veterans for the Daytona 500. With nearly everyone in the group having either at Purple Heart or a Bronze Star, the highly decorated group was able to uncover similarities between the sport and the military that most civilians can not identify.

"To me, the fascinating aspect of NASCAR is the Driver and Pit Crew relationship," said one of the active duty participants. "When a Driver wins a race he immediately credits his Pit Crew with the win. The understanding that it takes the whole team to accomplish the mission is as critical to winning a NASCAR race as it is to defeating the enemy on today's battlefields."

In 2016, the Drive For Hope program is scheduled to visit over 20 NASCAR races with service members from across the country. To learn more about the program or find out how you can get involved, visit HopeForTheWarriors.org.

Additionally, you can support Hope For The Warriors and its various programs by making a gift online, by phone at 877-246-7349, or by mail to 5101C Backlick Road, Annandale, VA 22003. Text the word WARRIOR to 20222 to donate.

PASS South Rookies Offer Differing Opinions On How To Handle Dillon

CHARLOTTE, NC

- Short track racers from across the Southeast are busy building and testing their machines as they prepare for the upcoming South Carolina Clash for the Pro All Stars Series (PASS) South Super Late Models at Dillon Motor Speedway on Saturday, March 5. The 4/10 mile, egg-shaped speedway in South Carolina's Pee Dee region has long been one of the toughest tracks on the PASS South schedule and this year's 125 lapper looks to be an equally tough task.

Darlington, SC's Hayes Goodson is the third generation from his family to race at Dillon Motor Speedway. His grandfather, Howard, raced and won on the original dirt track back in the 1960's, while his father, Hal, has been a consistent winner in the Truck and Late Model divisions at Dillon throughout the 2000's. Goodson is excited for the opportunity to step back behind the wheel of the #16, reminiscent of the machines his father campaigned in the 1990's, but knows it will not be easy.

"Dillon can be very tricky to get around," said Goodson, driver of the Florence-Darlington Technical College/AAR entry. "Turns 1 and 2 differ from turns 3 and 4 a great deal. It's easy to overcharge the corner or pick the gas up too early. Dillon also has very tight straightaways, which tends to cause problems exiting the corner. Without much leeway between the walls, a single car spin can quickly turn into a multi-car pileup."

Kannapolis, NC's Kodie Conner is making the jump in 2016 from the Pro Late Model division, where he won the championship last year, to racing full-time in PASS South Super Late Models. Despite a top 10 finish in the season opener at Greenville-Pickens, the learning curve is steep and it's made even tougher when racing at quirky speedways like Dillon.

"Going from a Pro Late Model to a PASS Super Late Model has been a big step in my driving career," says Conner, driver of the Jerry Conner Insurance #45 Toyota. "At Greenville, it took me a few

laps to adapt to the car on the track. Dillon is not my best track and it will take a practice or two to get used to the car again. My team and I have been working hard to be able to make it to victory lane. This season my goal is to get a win and finish top 5 in points. I will stop at nothing to reach my goal."

This year's 11th Annual South Carolina Clash will be 125 laps, which is 25 laps shorter than in years past. Goodson recently tested at Dillon and believes the shorter race will put more of an emphasis on qualifying.

"The PASS race at Dillon is always a good show so we'll try to secure a decent starting position, find a place in line, keep the fenders and nose on all 125 laps, and hopefully find ourselves battling near the front at the end," said Goodson.

Goodson and Conner will not only have to deal with a tough race track, but also by another stellar field of racers led by defending PASS South Super Late Model champion Tate Fogleman, who led 82 laps there last year, and defending South Carolina Clash winner Tyler Church. Veterans Jeff Batten and Jimmy Doyle will be joined by PASS South rookies Kyle Desouza and Derek Scott, Jr. at Dillon. Washington state's Nicole Behar will make her first PASS South start, along with teammate



Kodie Conner is making the jump to PASS South Super Late Models this season and he hopes that the "quirky" Dillon Motor Speedway presents him the opportunity to get to victory lane.

(PASS photo)

Raphael Lessard from Quebec. Fellow Canadian JP Josiasse will also be making the trek from Ontario for his first start at Dillon Motor Speedway.

All the action gets under way on Friday, March 4 at Dillon Motor Speedway with open practice for all competing divisions from 3 – 6:05 PM. On Saturday, March 5, practice will begin at 12 Noon with qualifying starting at 3:30 PM for the PASS South Super Late Models, DMS Late Models, and Pro 4-Cylinders, followed by main events starting at approximately 5 PM.

PASS South Super Late Model entry forms for the upcoming events at Dillon, Concord, and Hickory can be found at ProAllStarsSeries.com.

The Pro All Stars Series is recognized as North America's premier sanctioning body for asphalt Super Late Models and boasts such marquee events as the legendary Oxford 250 at Oxford Plains Speedway and PASS South's Easter Bunny 150 at the historic Hickory Motor Speedway. For technical information concerning all PASS divisions please send questions to passracing@roadrunner.com. For media or marketing questions, please contact Alan Dietz at 704-231-2039 or alandietzpass@live.com. And, don't forget to "Like" the Pro All Stars Series on Facebook or follow us on Twitter @PASSSLM14 to keep up with breaking news as it happens.

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Pittman Pulls off Win at Royal Purple Raceway

BAYTOWN, TX - After coming just short the night before, Daryn Pittman was redeemed Saturday night as he scored the O'Reilly Auto Parts presents the World of Outlaws hosted by Kasey Kahne at Royal Purple Raceway Park, his first World of Outlaws Craftsman® Sprint Car Series victory of the season.

"This is a big relief," Pittman said. "I have had a lot of races slip away from me as the driver. My cars have been fast and we have been up front, but these races are just so hard to win so when you put yourself in position you've got to get the job done. We've let too many of these slip away."

Pittman's Kasey Kahne Racing with Mike Curb teammate Brad Sweet passed him on the final turn of the final lap for the win on Friday night at Cotton Bowl Speedway. It was the second time since the start of the season Sweet had passed Pittman on the final lap for a win.

The wins by Sweet and Pittman capped off a Kasey Kahne Racing sweep of the Texas weekend.

Pittman took the feature green flag in his Great Clips/Team ASE No. 9 from the front row with Sheldon Haudenschild starting on his outside.

Pittman pulled out to an early lead over Haudenschild, as fifth place starter Jason Johnson in the Priority Aviation/MVT No. 41 made his way to the third position, passing reigning series champion Donny Schatz.

An early caution allowed Johnson and Schatz to pass Haudenschild who began to slip back.

With a track that allowed two and three lanes of racing, Johnson, Schatz and fourth-place starter Shane Stewart swapped the runner-up position back-and-forth, allowing Sweet to join the battle.

As Pittman started to encounter lapped traffic, the rest of the top five closed the gap on the leader creating a five-car battle for the lead near the halfway point in the feature.

Pittman increased the margin between he and the rest of the top five as Schatz worked his way past Johnson who slipped back to fifth after bobbling on the bottom of the race track. As Schatz claimed the

second position, the leader controlled a one second lead with just 10 laps left.

With 5 laps remaining, Schatz reeled in the leader as he set up a shootout that Pittman has seen many times already this season. Schatz tried multiple times to complete a pass for the lead on the inside, but could not build up enough momentum to complete the pass.

Pittman fought off the hard charges from Schatz as he held on for his first victory of the World of Outlaws season.

"[Jason] Sides gave me a heart attack there at the end," Pittman said. "He beat me off of turn four to the line and I didn't see who it was until we had already passed the flag stand. I don't remember lapsing him so I just thought we lost again off of turn four coming to the checkered. I'm not sure how I would've dealt with another one like that back-to-back."

"That's all I had physically. I'm probably in the best physical shape that I've ever been in my life to start a season but the race track was just so physically demanding, especially up top where I was running most of the race."

Schatz finished second after fending off a late-race challenge from Stewart. After the feature, Schatz said his car was good and that he tried everything to get the victory but Pittman was really good tonight and they had the best car.

Stewart's third-place finish was



Daryn Pittman scored his first World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series of the season at Royal Purple Raceway Park Saturday night. (PAUL ARCH photo)

his best so far of the season.

"A podium finish is good because we have been struggling a little bit this year," Stewart said. "Last year we struggled in Florida then went to Vegas and were able to win the first night out, and last night we weren't able to do that. We got our work cut out for us. The KKR (Kasey Kahne Racing) guys have stepped their program up from last year and we have to get a little bit quicker."

Statement Regarding the Qualifying Change at Royal Purple Raceway Park: Due to a critical failure of the electronic timing and scoring system during qualifying time trials at Royal Purple Raceway Park on Saturday night, World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Se-

ries officials made to the decision to line up Heat races based on the qualifying pill draw. The extraordinary circumstance is covered by Rule 5.6C.

The World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series will continue the western swing when the series travels to Sin City for the FVP Outlaw Showdown at the Dirt Track at Las Vegas (Nev.) for a double header on Thursday, March 3 and 4.

Follow the World of Outlaws Craftsman Sprint Car Series on Twitter at www.twitter.com/WorldofOutlaws, like it on Facebook at www.facebook.com/WorldofOutlaws, or check out the latest videos at www.youtube.com/WorldofOutlaws.

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Sweet Surges to Victory in Inaugural Outlaws Race at Cotton Bowl Speedway

PAIGE, TX - Brad Sweet led just the final lap of the inaugural ATX Rentals Outlaw Shootout feature at Cotton Bowl Speedway Friday night as he outdueled teammate Daryn Pittman on the final turn to capture his third World of Outlaws Craftsman® Sprint Car Series win of the season in a thrilling photo finish.

Sweet, who led the series points coming into the night after he piloted his Razorback/Sage Fruit No. 49 to two victories at the 45th Annual DIRTcar Nationals, posted the sixth fastest time in qualifying then finished second in his heat, putting him in the dash.

The Grass Valley, Calif.-native

finished fifth in the dash, while Joey Saldana claimed the top spot in his Roth Enterprises/HR Livestock No. 83, putting him on the pole for the feature event.

Once the green flag fell, Saldana pulled out to an early lead over Daryn Pittman in the Great Clips/Team ASE No. 9. Pittman, who started in the third position, passed the second place starter David Gravel on the initial start.

The race was slowed by three cautions early which gave Pittman the chances he needed to challenge race leader Saldana. Saldana fought Pittman off each time the 2013 series champ tried to muscle his way to the lead. Saldana led the opening 23 laps but was eventually slowed just enough by lapped traffic for Pittman to complete the pass with less than 10

laps remaining.

Pittman enjoyed the top spot for only a few laps as his teammate Sweet applied pressure after he quickly made his way around Saldana for second. Sweet lurked behind Pittman but the leader looked to be the car to beat as the laps wended down.

As the white flag waved, Sweet utilized a run off of turn two to power his way to Pittman's inside as the leader encountered issues lapped traffic.

Sweet pulled even with Pittman as they entered the final turn. Sweet caught the inside cushion just enough to send his car into Pittman's as the two made slight contact at the checkered flag.

Sweet bested his teammate by a tenth of a second.

"I just got a really good run off of turn two and I couldn't really pass it up," Sweet said. "It's good that we're both racing for the win, but I hate to make contact and hopefully there are no hard feelings because I didn't mean to do that."

"It's a long season and we're off to a good start...(this win) says a lot about Kasey Kahne Racing. It seems like me and Daryn are racing for the win every single night and it's a testament to our good guys."

Pittman settled for the runner up position, the second time he has finished second to his teammate with the first coming on the first night of the DIRTcar Nationals.

Rounding out the top three was second place starter David Gravel in the Big Game Treestands/JRC No. 5.

"I am so lucky to drive such a good race car," the native of Watertown, Conn. said. "This early in the year we are running really strong, so I am really looking forward to the rest of the year. We were really close at the end but it's one of those things where we'll get a win here shortly."

Danny Lasoski set the new track record at Cotton Bowl Speedway during time trials with a lap of 13.517 seconds.

ULTIMATE Super Late Model Teams to Receive Free Sponsor Commercials During Sportsmedianet.com Broadcasts

CARNESVILLE, GA - The 2016 ULTIMATE Super Late Model member teams will begin receiving free sponsor ads during theSportsmedianet.com Live Broadcasts for the 2016 racing season. "We are always looking for ways to promote our teams and I think this will

be one of those tools our teams can utilize to help them get additional sponsors." said Stan Lester Founder of the ULTIMATE Super Late Model Series.

"I thought he was on vacation last week, but now I see what he was doing. This could be a tremendous opportunity for the ULTIMATE teams if they use it right. Can you imagine a sponsor ad with the team's car in it too? It truly could be great for everyone concerned" said

David Craig Vice President ofSportsmedianet.com.

"If we help our teams by helping their sponsors then we win" said Lester. "They have a few more dollars to go up and down the road to race. The tracks have additional cars and the sponsor gets air time they may not have gotten otherwise. The ULTIMATE Series truly is one big family and now we are adding another facet to it".

"The events that were broadcast averaged over 13,000 viewers per event in 2015. Tat was in year one. Many people have talked about how great the quality of the shows have been and based upon that we look for it to grow to 20,000-25,000 in 2016" said Craig.

Team Criteria for free ads:

- *Be a member of ULTIMATE in good standing

- * Participate in a ULTIMATE Super Late model tour (SE or BOB)

- *Suggested that teams do this for sponsors of \$2500 and up in current value

- * 30 day lead time if commercial production is needed

- * 2 week lead time if they already have a HD commercial

The new spotsmedianet.com web site is being completed soon.

Commercial Contact :David Craig of Sportsmedianet.com at (828)280-2899, or Stan Lester of ULTIMATE (678) 935-7304, www.ulimatesupers.com, www.ulimatesupers.com/bob.

ASi Racewear Extends Partnership with Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series

WAYCROSS, GA - ASi Racewear - the best choice in motorsports apparel for superior quality, excellent service, and competitive pricing - has agreed to be the "Official Merchandise Vendor" of the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series through 2018.

ASi is a state-of-the-art screen printing, embroidery, and digital printing company, located in Patchogue, NY. Not only

does ASi service the racing community, but also fire and rescue, as well as local business and community organizations. Gene Ullmann, Founder and CEO of ASi, began designing and producing crew and driver apparel in the late 90's. In 2006, ASi Racewear purchased their first vending trailer, and began selling apparel for some of the top dirt late model drivers, including Earl Pearson Jr. and Brian Birkhofer. Since then, ASi Racewear has become a leader in motorsports apparel, producing multiple drivers, series, teams, and tracks

merchandise. More information on ASi Racewear and other products is available online at: www.asiracewear.com or by calling (631) 242-8400.

ASi Racewear will continue as the title sponsor of the Crown Jewel Cup. The ASi Racewear Crown Jewel Cup program will award points to drivers at the thirteen crown jewel events, within the series schedule, that pay \$20,000 or more to the winner.

'The driver that maintains perfect attendance throughout the season and earns the most points, within these thirteen events, will receive a \$10,000 bonus at the championship awards banquet. Drivers finishing second and third in the Crown Jewel Cup will also receive cash awards.

"It's been an honor to be a marketing partner of the nation's premier dirt late model national touring sanction for over eight years," stated Gene Ullmann. "We are extremely excited to have thirteen ASi Racewear Crown Jewel Cup events on the schedule in 2016; a true testament to the growth and popularity of the Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series."

Fans can visit the ASi Racewear souvenir trailer at any event for the latest Lucas Oil Late Model Dirt Series merchandise, driver apparel, and more. Official merchandise is also available online at: www.asiracewear.com/store/racewear_Store.htm.

For the latest breaking news concerning visit the official website at: www.lucasdirt.com.

Logan Forler Strikes First with ASCS Southwest at Central Arizona Speedway

CASA GRANDE, AZ - Off and running, the ASCS Southwest Region kicked off their 2016 season at the Central Arizona Speedway with Washington's Logan Forler putting the No. 2L in Victory Lane.

Forler's sixth career ASCS Southwest triumph, the No. 2L gave chase from the seventh starting position, taking the lead from Bob Ream, Jr. in the closing laps for the night's \$1,500 score.

Ream held on to finish second with early race leader, James Mosher, completing the podium. J.T. Imperial from eighth crossed fourth with Wes Wofford picking up the SpeedMart Hard Charger of the Night; coming from 17th to finish fifth.

R.J. Johnson crossed sixth with Ryan Linder seventh. Eleventh starting Lorne Wofford was eighth with Chris Masters and Rick Ziehl completing the top-ten.

Photographer, Ron Gilson, put up \$25 to the night's Heat Race winners with Ryan Linder, Bob Ream, Jr., and James Mosher taking Heat Race wins. Jeremy McCune picked up a \$50 gift certificate at the night's long tow award (1,275 miles) from Speed-Mart.

In honor of Steve Stroud, \$100 was awarded to the first non-transfer in the B-Feature with T.K. (Kristine) Lindahl picked up the bonus. The Race Shack also awarded \$100 to the driver who finished ninth in the A-Feature. Chris Masters picked up the extra cash.

The ASCS Southwest Region takes to the track again on Saturday, March 12 at the Canyon Speedway Park in Peoria, Ariz. For continued updates on the ASCS Southwest Region, log onto www.ascsracing.com.

Presenting the \$50,000 Lucas Oil ASCS Triple Crown

TULSA, OK - Winning races is the goal of any team. But winning consecutive, high paying events; now that's a challenge. Enter the Lucas Oil Triple Crown. A \$50,000 carrot that awaits any driver who can top three of the Midwest's

biggest ASCS events in 2016.

Which events? For starters, you have to win the finale of the Arnold Motor Supply ASCS 360 Knoxville Nationals at the famed Knoxville Raceway. Next, you'll have to top the High Roller Classic at the Missouri State Fair Speedway. The final step; winning the final night of the Hockett/McMillin Memorial at the "Diamond of Dirt Tracks" at the Lucas Oil Speedway.

"We wanted to tie together three big events, that are easy for drivers to get to and with Knoxville announcing an increased payout, plus the High Roller going to \$15,000 to win, and the Hockett/McMillin going to three days and \$10,000 to win, they made the choice of events easy, plus, it just adds to the excitement that these events are already building," said ASCS National Coordinator, Matt Ward.

"We can't thank Lucas Oil enough for their continued support of ASCS and the drivers in making it possible to put together the Triple Crown."

The Arnold Motor Supply ASCS 360 Knoxville Nationals at the Knoxville Raceway takes place August 4-6, 2016. More information on the Knoxville Raceway can be found online at www.knoxvilleraceway.com.

The High Roller Classic at the Missouri State Fair Speedway is slated for Sunday, August 21, 2016. More information can be found at www.facebook.com/MISSOURISTATEFAIR SPEEDWAY/timeline.

The Hockett/McMillin Memorial at the Lucas Oil Speedway is scheduled for September 22-24, 2016. More information is online at www.lucasoil speedway.com.

ASCS Gulf South Announces \$30,250 Point Fund For 2016

TULSA, OK - While the 2016 lineup has been public since December, the Griffith Truck and Equipment ASCS Gulf South Region presented by Southern Trailer Works has announced the 2016 Point Fund payout that tops \$30,250.

In a memo sent out to owner and drivers, ASCS Gulf South Director, Keith Johnson, explained...

"Driver must compete in all ASCS Gulf South scheduled events and be in attendance at the

banquet. Car Owner's using more than one driver MUST complete in all ASCS Gulf South scheduled events and be in attendance at the banquet. If less than 15 drivers compete in all events the drivers who did will split the point money. Top ten drivers in points will receive an ASCS Hoosier jacket and trophy. Eleventh to fifteenth will receive a trophy."

The potential season ending payout structure is as follows: 1. \$7,000; 2. \$4,000; 3. \$3,000; 4. \$2,000; 5. \$1,700; 6. \$1,600; 7. \$1,500; 8. \$1,400; 9. \$1,300; 10. \$1,250; 11. \$1,200; 12. \$1,150; 13. \$1,100; 14. \$1,050; 15. \$1,000

Along with Point Fund payout, other awards for the end of the 2016 season include:

Gulf South Champion - \$750 Certificate from Simpson

Sportsmanship Award - \$500

Rookie of the Year - \$500

Best Appearing Team - \$300

Best Appearing Car - \$300

Spills & Thrills Driver - \$300

Most Improved Driver - \$300

Hard Luck Driver - \$300

Spirit Award - \$300

Claimed only a handful of times in the past year, a \$1,000 bonus will again be in place for any driver who can sweep a weekend with the ASCS Gulf South Region. This includes weekends that are co-sanctioned with the ASCS Southern Outlaw Sprints and Lucas Oil ASCS National Tour.

During three night runs, the \$1,000 will be offered to win two out of three, with a three night sweep earning an extra \$2,000. The series will again offer payouts of \$2,000 and \$3,000 to win with all regional nights paying a minimum of \$310 to start.

The 2016 season begins Friday, March 11 at the Golden Triangle Raceway Park in Beaumont, Texas and Saturday, March 12 at the Battleground Speedway in Highlands, Texas.

Fans can follow along with the ASCS Gulf South Region on Facebook for updates throughout race nights and during the week.

Brodix Steps On As ASCS Frontier Title Sponsor; 2016 Lineup Revealed

TULSA, OK - The Frontier Region of the American Sprint Car Series has released their 2016 lineup of 17 dates as well as a new title sponsor with Brodix Cylinder Heads coming on to form the Brodix ASCS Frontier Region.

The official Cylinder Head of the

American Sprint Car Series, the addition of Brodix will lift the 2016 point fund to \$15,000.

Along with the point fund, drivers in the Top 10 in series points will also be in line to receive contingencies from SpeedMart, Hoosier Tire, Brodix, Schoenfeld, and BMRS with more on the way.

Expanding the region's reach in 2016, tracks in Idaho, Montana, South Dakota, and Wyoming will make up the 17 race lineup. Kicking off in May, the season will go through September.

Black Hills Speedway in Rapid City, S.D. will start the 2016 season on Friday, May 13 followed by Gillette Thunder Speedway in Gillette, Wy. on Saturday, May 14.

June 3 heads to the Gallatin Speedway in Belgrade, Mont. with Cloud Peak Raceway in Sheridan, Wy. taking on Tuesday, June 21 along with the Lucas Oil American Sprint Car Series presented by the MAVTV Motorsports Network as the National Tour heads for Dirt Cup at the Skagit Speedway in Alger, Wash.

A new stop on the National Tour lineup, and a regular for the Frontier Region, the Gallatin Speedway in Belgrade, Mont. will see two nights of action on July 15 and 16. Following the Lucas Oil ASCS, the next dates on the Frontier Regional lineup are Friday, July 22 at Black Hills Speedway with Gillette Thunder Speedway on Saturday, July 23.

While the National Tour heads for Badlands Speedway and Knoxville, the Frontier Region will return to the Gallatin Speedway on July 29.

August kicks off with a trip to the Valentine Speedway in Glenrock, Wy. on August 5 and 6 followed by Black Hills Speedway on August 12 and Gillette Thunder Speedway on August 13.

Four nights in September, the season's final appearance at the Gallatin Speedway will be September 9 with Cloud Peak Raceway on September 10.

The season finale is scheduled for Friday, September 23 and Saturday, September 24 at the Atomic Motor Raceway in Blackfoot, Idaho.

Kass Cornell is the Competition Director for the ASCS Frontier Region.

For questions concerning scheduling, tech, or event procedures, Kass can be contacted at kass_cornell@yahoo.com or by calling (307) 351-1412.

For continued updates on the ASCS Frontier Region, log onto www.ascsracing.com.

Rudolph Wins the Battle, Claims LSMP VP Racing Series TQ Midget Title

TRENTON, NJ - Erick Rudolph wrapped a near-perfect weekend Saturday night at Sun National Bank Center in Trenton, N.J., when he won the 40-lap Battle Of Trenton TQ Midget Indoor race. The victory was his second of the three race Len Sammons Motorsports Productions VP Racing Series 2016 season and he earned his second straight Series title with the win.

Tony DiMatta, driving one of the four 600 Micro Sprint cars that qualified for the 26-car feature, moved by Jimmy Blewett off the final turn on the last lap to finish a shocking second; Blewett settled for third.

The finish was so close that DiMatta had to be told by his crew after the race that he had edged Blewett for the second spot.

Scott Kreutter's advance through the field was even more profound than DiMatta's. He earned fourth at the line from 20th starting spot. Patrick Emerling was fifth.

Jonathan Reid, pole starter Ryan Susice, Bobby Holmes, Nick Ladyga and Shawn Nye rounded out the top ten.

An eight-car, five-lap Dash that determined the order of the first four rows for the 40-lap headliner was won by Susice over Rudolph and Blewett.

Five 10-lap TQ Midget heat races with the top two finishers in each transferring to the A-Main were won by Zane Zeiner over Andrew Krause, by Andy Jankowiak ahead of Matt Roselli, by Emerling over Bobby Holmes, by Justin Bonsignore ahead of Earl Paules and by DiMatta ahead of John Ivy.

Krause's second place finish in heat one was particularly noteworthy in that he started from the rear of the field. Holmes' runnerup finish in heat three was remarkable in that he gained the spot over Joey Payne on a daring inside turn three pass on the final lap, and Ivy's second spot result was worthy of note in that it was his first successful qualifying effort after previous difficulties in Atlantic City.

Mike Lichty won the D-Main for the TQs, and Ryan Tidman the C-Main. The B-Main which secured starting spots for the first four cars in the A-Main was won by Joey Payne.

Jesse Hartman started on the pole in the 20-lap Slingshot feature and stayed there throughout the race. It was a remarkable race in that Anthony Raisner challenged Hartman for the final ten laps as lapped traffic interfered with the leaders' pace. But Hartman held, to win a race that took just four minutes and three seconds to run.

Hartman, often a Slingshot feature contender in LSMP races, won for the first time. Raisner was second and Paul Hartwig, Jr. ran his best race ever indoors to take third. Teenager Dylan Steuer was fourth

and Seth Spayd fifth.

In the Slingshot preliminary racing action, Jesse Hartman, Anthony Raisner and Robbie Albreda won the three Slingshot heat races and Ed Stangle took the checkered flag in the Slingshot B feature.

Rudolph was named the LSMP Slingshot champion, based on points accrued in the Allentown, Atlantic City and Trenton Slingshot races.

The Battle Of Trenton concluded the Len Sammons Motorsports Productions VP Racing Series. Prior events at Allentown, Pa., won by Rudolph and Atlantic City, N.J., won by Sesely preceded the Trenton race.

Ladyga, Blewett, Susice Win TQ Midget Triple 20 Races

TRENTON, NJ - Nick Ladyga of Voluntown, Ct., Jimmy Blewett of Howell, N.J., and Ryan Susice of Ransomville, N.Y., each punched their ticket into the 40-lap Battle Of Trenton TQ Midget feature Saturday by winning 20-lap TQ Qualifier races Friday at Sun National Bank Center. Their wins guaranteed them starting berths in Saturday night's 40-lap Battle Of Trenton feature race.

The Len Sammons Motorsports Productions event also saw Erick Rudolph and Blewett tie for fast time, with identical 7.045 clockings to best a 63-car TQ field.

The Champ Kart feature, run over a 20-lap distance, was won by Chris Daley of Pleasant Valley, N.Y. over Cale Ross. The win was Daley's seventh career LSMP Indoor Champ Kart feature and second in Sun National Bank Center.

Ladyga, a New England Modified racer, and Susice, the 2015 Ransomville Raceway Small Block Modified DIRTcar champion, had never won indoor races before.

The common denominator among all three heat winners was their car builder, Mark Lafler.

In the Champ Kart race, Daley moved swiftly through the field to assume command but when a caution flag flew at mid-distance, Ross muscled by Daley for the lead. Two laps later, however, Daley reasserted himself and went on to win with Ross second, James Hayden third, Dalton Rovira fourth and AJ Jadacki fifth.

Anthony Colandro, Jadacki, and Daley won the three Champ Kart heat races, and Brianna Page won the Champ Kart B Main.

Disqualification of Tony DiMatta Moves Jimmy Blewett to Second

Len Sammons Motorsports Productions (LSMP) officials have announced a revised finish for Saturday night's TQ Midget feature at Sun National Bank Center in Trenton, N.J.

The revision came when apparent second finisher Tony DiMatta was disqualified for a motor infraction discovered during a routine post-race inspection.

The post-race disqualification elevates Jimmy Blewett to the runner-up spot in the official finish and Scott Kreutter is now credited with a third place result. Kreutter was acknowledged as the race's Hard Charger, an award sponsored by Dr. William Lowe. Kreutter started 20th in the 26-car field.

Each of the other drivers moves up one spot in the official finish with DiMatta disqualified and placed 26th and last in the running order.

cars and fans than ever before. It's always fun to go to different tracks and it seems to make it more even on the competition when you're not at your home track."

Fellow North Carolina driver Brewer agrees with Melton and believes the new Southern Outlaw Street Stock Tour will provide even more great side-by-side racing for the fans.

"I think it's awesome that Darren and Renee [Hackett] have put together a series for the Street Stock class," says Brewer. "It gives us an opportunity to experience some different tracks. Hopefully with more money on the line to win it will bring new drivers in and build the Street Stocks back to where they used to be when I started."

The first Southern Outlaw Street

Stock Tour event will be on Saturday, April 2 at Caraway Speedway. Other tracks hosting M.A.L.L.S events in 2016 include, Ace Motor Speedway, Concord Speedway, and Tri-County Motor Speedway. Points will be awarded throughout the season for the entire nine race series and the inaugural M.A.L.L.S champion will be crowned at the season finale on Sunday, November 27 at Caraway Speedway as part of the Turkey Trot.

Rules for the Southern Outlaw Street Stock Tour can be found at carawayspeedway.com. For technical questions, please contact David Saunders at 434-222-0437. For all other inquiries related to Southern Outlaw Street Stock Tour, please contact Renee Hackett at 336-302-5803.

Southern Outlaw Street Stock Tour Set To Launch Inaugural Season

SOPHIA, NC - Caraway Speedway's Darren and Renee Hackett have announced the creation of a new touring series aimed at weekly Street Stock racers in the Southeast. The Southern Outlaw Street Stock Tour will give local track competitors the opportunity to travel to different speedways in the region with some of the most classic car models in racing. The new series

will be made up of a nine race schedule and will compete at four different North Carolina race tracks. Each Southern Outlaw Street Stock Tour event will pay \$500 to win and \$75 to start, consisting primarily of 40 lap events. Scuffed Hoosier F45s will be the official tire for the new series. Several veteran Street Stock drivers including Jeff Melton and Danny Brewer have toured in recent years and are excited about the opportunities the new series brings.

"It's really cool and makes you feel like the big boys," says Melton. "We seem to be bringing in more

Lincoln Speedway

ABBOTTSTOWN, PA - Six weeks removed from the largest snowstorm to hit Central Pennsylvania, Lincoln Speedway wasn't fazed as the Icebreaker 30 for 410 Sprints officially kicked off the dirt track season Sunday afternoon in front of a very big crowd who enjoyed sunny skies and temperatures around 60 degrees.

And on the race track, it was Spring Grove racer Greg Hodnett leading all 30 laps to capture his second consecutive win in the Ice-breaker 30.

Aboard the Heffner Racing Enterprises owned, No 27, Hodnett took advantage of good starting spots, kept out of trouble on the race track and earned the \$4,000 payday for his 30th career win in the Pigeon Hills.

"I still really struggle here, we just took advantage of some good starting spots today," said the 2015 Central Pennsylvania Sprint Car Champion. "We are very, very fortunate to be up here today because it's a tough race track. There are a lot of good competitors here and it's a very technical race track, which is why Fred (Rahmer) always went good here."

While it may have looked easy for Hodnett out front, that wasn't the case for many other drivers in the field as the event saw one red flag, seven cautions and a fuel stop.

Adam Wilt and Hodnett lined up on the front row and two straight times saw Hodnett grab the lead in turn one only to have cautions realign the field.

On the third restart, Aaron Ott and Bill Jones, Jr. both flipped in turn one, Neither driver was injured.

Hodnett once again outgunned Wilt on ensuing restart as Ohio invader Cole Duncan motored into the second spot.

Four cautions during laps three through seven kept the field slow but defending track champion Brian Montieth was blasting his way through the field after starting 11th.

A fuel stop was needed with nine laps complete as Danny Dietrich, Glenndon Forsythe and David Quackenbush crashed in turn three.

Following the fuel stop, Montieth



Greg Hodnett takes the turn in his #27 Heffner Racing Enterprises winged sprint car. (PAUL ARCH photo)

took fourth spot as he continued his charge to the front as Hodnett worked through slower traffic at the rear of the field as Duncan, Wilt and Montieth were in a great battle.

Duncan lost the runner-up spot on a lap 20 restart as Wilt and Montieth drove by but Duncan's great run ended with a spin on lap 22.

Hodnett was home free over the final eight laps as he picked up the win aboard the Lelands.com/Trone Outdoor/Eagle Steel sponsored sprint.

"I couldn't run real hard because it would just spin but I figured it would be real tough for those guys to get around me," Hodnett stated. "So I just kind of cruised and felt like I could go harder if I needed to or felt pressure. We came here way different than we would ever would have before. We wanted to try something totally different and it worked out okay.. I think we'll come back with it next time."

Wilt, of York settled for the runner-up spot trailed by Phoenixville's Montieth with New Oxford racers Gerard McIntyre, Jr. and Jim Siegel completing the top five.

Rounding out the top 10 finishers were Alan Kimes, Chase Dietz, Freddie Rahmer, Danny Dietrich and Kyle Moody.

Heats for the 24 410 sprint cars were won by Scott Fisher, Brian Montieth and Gerard McIntyre, Jr.

Lincoln Speedway returns to action next Saturday, March 5th with another 410 Sprints only program beginning at 2PM. Gates open at noon. A Sunday, March 6th rain date will be used if needed.

Canyon Speedway Park

PEORIA, AZ - Ricky Thornton, Jr., remains virtually invincible atop the 1/3-mile Canyon Speedway

second row outside to top Micro Sprint action ahead of Logan Heath, Jarrett Martin, Dennis Carrier and Pat Wing.

After an idle weekend, Canyon Speedway Park fires back to life with the Saturday night, March 12, Season Opener featuring the ASCS Southwest winged Sprint Cars, Arizona Differential IMCA Modifieds, Dwarf Cars, Micro Sprints and Napa Sprint Cars.

Canyon Speedway Park

PEORIA, AZ - Cody Laney and Ricky Thornton, Jr., opened the 28th Annual Desert Classic by racing to victory lane in Friday night's Arizona Differential IMCA Modified Twin Twenties atop the 1/3-mile Canyon Speedway Park clay oval.

While Laney and Thornton, Jr., earned front row starting positions for Saturday's \$5,000-to-win Desert Classic finale, other Friday night winners included Cody Center in Stock Car action, Jason Beshears in Hobby Stocks, Cory Brown in Dwarf Cars and Colton Hardy in Micro Sprints.

After setting quick time in IMCA Modified qualifying, Torrance, California's Laney led all the way in the first 20-lapper to earn Saturday night's pole starting position. Laney raced to the stripe ahead of 2014 Desert Classic champ Jason Noll with Tim Ward, R.C. Whitwell, Alex Stanford and Hunter Marriott also locking into the main event.

In the second 20-lapper, reigning Desert Classic king Ricky Thornton, Jr., led all the way from the pole position, taking the checkered flag ahead of Ryan Ruter, Ryan Gaylord, tenth-starter Mike Jergens and Brian Schultz with Mike Wedelstadt making a last-corner pass to capture the sixth and final lock-in position to the \$5,000-to-win finale.

Cody Center prevailed in Allscapes IMCA Stock Cars vs. SCRA Stock Car honors ahead of Justin Thornton, tenth-starter Cody Center, pole starter Lonnie Foss and Speedy Madrid.

Richard Bennett charged from the ninth starting position as well to win the IMCA Hobby Stocks vs. Renegades presented by Scottsdale Muffler & Automotive feature ahead of eighth-starter Jason Crowe, Mark Kilian, Merle Zachrisson and tenth-starter Jason Beshears.

Ed Schule beat Rusty Degroat to the line for Dwarf Car honors, with Cale Rudy charging from 19th to fill out the podium as Heather Hennessey and Tony Martin rounded out the top five.

Tyler Merrill advanced from the

posting a one-two finish in "B" Main action, Cory Brown and Tony Martin raced from the seventh row to another one-two finish in the Dwarf Car feature with Kevin Davis, (Continued on next page...)



(Continued...)

Brian Stehr and Eddie Schule also among the top five.

Colton Hardy rounded out the night's feature winners by taking Micro Sprint honors ahead of Tyler Merrill, Dennis Carrier, Paul Martin and Kyle Huttenhow.

Dodge City Raceway Park

DODGE CITY, KS

- Forty days. That's all that remains until Dodge City Raceway Park kicks off the 2016 racing season.

Opening night atop the 3/8-mile DCRP clay oval on Saturday, April 2, will feature the Precise Racing Products DRRP Sprint Cars along with IMCA Modifieds, IMCA Sport Modifieds, IMCA Stock Cars and IMCA Hobby Stocks.

The April 2 opener will be the first of 17 action-packed nights of competition at the southwest Kansas track and the opening round of championship points action.

Along with title chase action for each of the regular five divisions throughout the season, other special events over the course of the year include the \$10,000-to-win NSL/NCRA Sprint Car Steve King Memorial on July 1-2, the Fourth Annual Modified Stampede on April 9, NCRA Late Models on June 4, Driver Appreciation Night on July 29, the USAC Southwest Sprint Car Freedom Tour along with POWRi West Midgets on August 20, the Third Annual Sport Modified Mayhem event on August 27 and the season-ending Fourth Annual Jerry Soderberg Memorial on September 24.

The complete 2016 schedule of events at Dodge City Raceway Park is available at www.dodgecityraceway.com/schedule/.

Driver registration is available as well at www.dodgecityraceway.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/DCRP-2016-Registration.pdf for those set to contend for championship points in 2016.

Ness City native Luke Cranston reigns as the inaugural Precise Racing Products DCRP Sprint Car champion with other defending champions including Goddard's Austin Allen in IMCA Modifieds, Woodward, Oklahoma's Jeff Kaup

in IMCA Sport Modifieds, Michael Pepper in IMCA Stock Cars and Cody Davis in IMCA Hobby Stocks.

Tickets to the April 2 season opener featuring all five championship chase divisions are just \$15 for adults with children eleven and under admitted free when accompanied by an adult.

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.

Grandview Speedway

BECHTELSVILLE, PA - Jeff Strunk, Craig VonDohren and Duane Howard have pretty much dominated the TP Trailers NASCAR 358 Modified stock car championships at Grandview Speedway for the last 16 seasons. Terry Meitzler, now retired, won the title in 1999 and the "big three" have shared the championships between them since then. Strunk has won ten, VonDohren claimed four including last season and Howard topped the standings twice.

However all that could change this season. Doug Manmiller is looking for his first title and is planning on a strong effort at the one-third-mile, banked clay oval. Young Tim Buckwalter, Hall of Famer Frank Cozze along with veterans Meme DeSantis, Danny Erb, Mike Gular, Ray Swinehart and others are planning to chase the title. Young Brett Kressley moving up from the Sportsman ranks to Modifieds is another driver with his sights on a title.

The Modifieds are coming off one of the most competitive seasons seen at the track in a number of years.

Fans will get to see what is new for 2016 when many of the teams planning to race in the NASCAR stock car action at Grandview take part in the free-to-the-public-practice session on Saturday, March 26th starting at noon.

And on Saturday, April 2nd, 7 p.m. the chase for the lucrative championships in the Modifieds, BRC Late Models and Sportsman gets underway.

Season pass holders are invited to the track on Saturday, March 5th at 1 p.m. (weather permitting) to pick the seat that they will use each Saturday night during the season, April through September). Those who have not purchased their season pass can do so on that day for

just \$350.

Track owners Bruce and Teresa Rogers continue to recover from the auto accident in Daytona Beach, Florida with Teresa now getting therapy attention at their Florida home. Bruce continues his stay in the local hospital. The family is most appreciative of all the cards, notes and social media messages that have been received wishing Bruce and Teresa well as they continue their recovery.

A complete schedule of events can be found at www.grandviewspeedway.com and information can be had on the website, Facebook or at 610.754.7688.

Businesses interested in program book advertising, sponsorship nights, billboard advertising and other marketing opportunities should be in touch with Ernie Saxton, Director of Marketing, at Esaxton144@aol.com or telephone 267.934.7286.

Grandview Speedway is located on Passmore Road in Bechtelsville, Pa, just a short distance off Route 100, 10 miles north of Pottstown.

Selinsgrove Speedway

SELINSGROVE/PORT ROYAL, PA - A coordinated dual track point fund has been announced for the inaugural Moon Shine Camo Port Royal and Selinsgrove Speedways' Rt. 35 Super Late Model Challenge Series.

Moon Shine Camo, aptly located along Rt. 35, approximately halfway between both historic ovals, will be the title sponsor of the six-race series, allowing for a pivotal point fund payout of a guaranteed \$3,500 to go along with contingency prizes for the top ten in the final point standings.

Moon Shine and oval officials announced the title sponsorship at the annual Selinsgrove Speedway kickoff ceremony held at the Susquehanna Valley Mall in Hummels Wharf on Saturday night.

The inaugural six-race series between the two ovals was announced in mid-January, featuring a trio of races at each speedway that will culminate with the crowning of a champion and a perpetual trophy with the series champion's name inscribed upon it.

Whether the champion is a Port Royal or Selinsgrove regular will dictate on which end of Route 35—Juniata or Snyder County—the trophy will reside until the following year's champion is crowned.

The super late models will be at one track or the other on the selected challenge series dates. Port Royal will kick off the competition

on April 23 and will also host series races on July 2 and September 9. Selinsgrove's three challenge dates will include May 21, July 23, and August 13.

All races will pay \$2,000 to win, \$200 to start, go 25 laps in distance and will utilize Delaware style double file restarts.

Moon Shine Camo will conduct series-long promotions at its Rt. 35 factory store with fans reaping the benefits including ticket giveaways and special promotional prices for series attendees.

The company will also award products to series event winners.

"The chance to be part of this groundbreaking series between both tracks as they cooperate with one another in the spirit of racing is great," says Moon Shine Camo Licensing Manager Brett Erb.

"We are proud to have this opportunity and couldn't have asked for a better way to promote our company and products, while helping both tracks, the racers and the fans as they travel back and forth past our store along Rt. 35."

Visit www.moonshinemcamo.com to learn more about the growing company and purchase their line of products.

Moon Shine Camo was founded in 2010 by Beavertown entrepreneur Travis Mattern and is one of the fastest growing Lifestyle Camo™ designers and camouflage clothing distributors in the country for outdoor sporting enthusiasts.

South Boston Speedway

SOUTH BOSTON, VA - Joey Throckmorton has been around racing long enough to know there are no givens, so he shrugs off the talk of him being a sure-bet to win this season's Limited Division championship at South Boston Speedway.

"Danny (Willis Jr.) and Trey (Crews) are moving up (to Late Model) and everybody thinks it's going to be kind of easy for me this year," said Throckmorton. "But there are always going to be new people or (Tommy) Perego or (Brandon) Jones. You still have to beat somebody. You have to win races."

"I feel good (about the season), as long as I don't have any bad luck. If you race, you're going to wreck. And sometimes some crazy people on the track add a little drama. We just gotta do what we did last year."

And last season was a pretty good one for Throckmorton as he finished fourth in the final Limited

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Sportsman standings. Considering he missed a couple of races midway through the season and fell out of the next-to-last race with mechanical problems, his fourth-place points finish is impressive. In seven starts he wound up with two wins, five top 5s and six top 10s.

He earned post-season awards for most poles won and most laps lead for the year.

"We do the best we can with what we've got," said Throckmorton, who has been racing in the Limited class since about "2008 or 2009" and has won at least one race a year since he started racing in 2005.

Throckmorton is bringing the same car back this season he piloted a year ago, but with a few changes. It will be sporting a new Toyota body and a few other tweaks.

"We've got the same car we ran last year. We put a new body on it. We've done some small upgrades to it, but being a smaller team, we have to pick and choose what we do," said Throckmorton.

Throckmorton hasn't taken his Toyota to the track yet this season, but expects to be on hand and ready to go for the open practice session on March 5.

"We haven't finished our car up totally. We should be finished this week with it," said Throckmorton, who has sponsorship help from Crider Law Office of Chatham, Fru-topia of South Boston, Martin Trucking, H and M Logging, Kajeah Enterprises and Creed Home Improvement.

Throckmorton also said he's been pleased with all the changes that have come out of South Boston Speedway during the off season.

"We're excited to get back (to the track). All the changes I've heard about and see have been good," said Throckmorton.

Registration and pit gate opens at 9 a.m. on March 5. Practice will occur from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. with a one-hour break for lunch from noon until 1 p.m. Grandstands will be open to fans at no charge.

The South Boston regular season kicks off with the Danville Toyota NASCAR Whelen Late Model Twin 100's on Saturday, March 12.

There will also be a 50-lap Limited race, 30-lap Pure Stock race, 50-lap Modified race and a 15-lap Hornet race.

Adult admission is \$10. Children, ages six and under, will be admitted free with an adult.

For more information visit the track's website or phone the track at (434) 572-4947 or toll free at 1-877-440-1540. Information can also be found by following South Boston Speedway on Facebook and Twitter.

Stafford Motor Speedway

STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT - For Rowan Pennink, the NAPA Spring Sizzler at Stafford Motor Speedway has been a race that has seemingly been within arms' length from Pennink taking the checkered flag. Pennink has made 8 career starts in "The Greatest Race in the History of Spring" recording an impressive 4 top-5 and 6 top-10 finishes. Pennink's best finish in the Sizzler was a second place effort back in 2011 and he had another podium finish with a 3rd place effort in 2014, both with his family owned #93. When the green flag drops on this year's 45th Annual NAPA Spring Sizzler, Pennink will be with a new team and behind the wheel of one of the most famous rides on the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour, the #3 "Ole Blue" Boehler Racing Enterprises Modified, with sponsorship from Cape Cod Copper and Bridgewater-Raynham Overhead Door.

"It's really cool and I'm really happy about the opportunity to be driving the #3 Boehler car," said Pennink. "I can't wait to get behind the wheel, the Sizzler is one of the biggest races of the year on the Tour and I'm looking forward to the race and hopefully we can get a good finish and put on a good show for all the fans. We've been so close so many times at Stafford, it would be nice to get that one extra spot and be able to put the #3 into victory lane. I know it's been a while since the #3 car had a win and between that and me getting my first tour win at Stafford, it would be really cool."

Pennink has driven his family owned car on the Tour since 2007 but it was a phone call from Michael Boehler at the conclusion of the 2015 season that got the ball rolling on bringing the two together for the 2016 season.

"We ran our Tour car out of Bob Hitchcock and Kelly Iverson's shop last year and we had our struggles," said Pennink. "When the season was over, Michael gave me

a call and asked if we would be interested in setting up a deal. We ended up working out a deal and I'm really excited to be racing for them. We're going to use the engines that we ran last year and they'll work on the car and maintain it at their shop."

The two parties will both be looking to end winless streaks. The last time the #3 was in victory lane was August 2009 at Stafford Speedway when Ryan Preece won the Stafford 150 and Pennink's last Tour win was the 2013 season finale at Thompson Speedway. Pennink is hopeful that he can put an end to both streaks by winning this year's NAPA Spring Sizzler and believes that his winning ways in the SK Modified® division could help him down that path.

Pennink is the defending SK Modified® champion at Stafford and he will have a new crew chief for the 2016 season with Kevin Crowley joining the #99 Van Wickle NAPA Auto Supply team. Despite the challenge of a new crew chief calling the shots, Pennink is confident that he and the #99 team can continue their run of good fortune that has seen them win 11 features over the last 2 seasons.

Tickets for the "Greatest Race in the History of Spring" are on sale now at the Speedway Box Office. Tickets are priced at \$38.50 for adult general admission tickets, \$5.00 for children ages 6-14, and children ages 5 and under are admitted free of charge when accompanied by an adult. Reserved seating is priced at \$42.00.

For more information on the 45th Annual NAPA Auto Parts Spring Sizzler, or to order tickets, contact the Stafford Motor Speedway track office at 860-684-2783 or visit us on the web at www.stafford-speedway.com.

Kern County Raceway Park

SENOIA, GA - In its two years of existence, the SRL Winter Showdown has only seen one winner - Bubba Pollard.

The Senoia, Georgia driver held off a late-race charge from Parker Stephens at Kern Country Raceway Park in Bakersfield, California Sunday afternoon to take the checkered flag and win his second-straight Winter Showdown.

With the win, Pollard also padded his bank account. In addition to the \$30,000 pay day for winning, he also claimed the \$10,000 Coors Light/Speed51.com bonus to take home a check for \$40,000.

"The first time was cool; the sec-

ond time awesome," said Pollard. "This is unbelievable. A small team like us can do a lot with a little money. It's big for us."

Pollard's encore performance at Kern County, however, wasn't quite as easy as round one. The No. 26 Super Late Model lacked handling the first few days and Pollard wasn't sure he had what he needed to back-up his performance from a year ago. Just before the 250-lap event Pollard and his crew found an issue with the rear-end and from there it was smooth sailing.

"I woke up this morning and didn't have any confidence at all. I knew we had to go to work," said Pollard. "Making that rear end change before the race is what won us the race. That was the only thing we had to change on this race car. It wasn't to my liking all weekend. It showed good speed, but just didn't drive well."

"When we went off on the green flag on lap one I knew we had something. We came in and put it back to where it was last year and that thing came along the second half. It was awful good."

Pollard spent the first half of the Winter Showdown riding inside the top 10. A myriad of cautions slowed the pace of the first 125 laps, but Pollard put himself in fifth position when the halfway break arrived.

Pollard bounced between positions three and four over the next 30 laps, then used the outside lane on a lap 154 restart to take second spot. When another caution flew on lap 167, Pollard got a good jump on the restart and took the lead for the first time.

As the laps wound down, Parker Stephens began to chase down the black-and-yellow ride of Pollard's. He was able to close within half a car length, but never able to set alongside Pollard.

"(Stephens) probably had a better car at the end," said Pollard. "I knew if we hit our marks and ran the line we needed to it was going to be tough for him to pass us. Our cars were pretty equal there, but you have a lot of respect for a guy like that to come out and race you clean in a big event like this is pretty cool."

Armed with a \$40,000 payday, Pollard will now head back home to Georgia to begin preparing his Super Late Models for action in his home region in the coming weeks. Pollard will next look to head to victory lane in the Rattler 250 Southern Super Series season-opening event at South Alabama Speedway March 18-20.