

THE MIDWEST RACING CONNECTION

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THE MIDWEST'S SHORT TRACK AUTO RACING AUTHORITY

October 2017 Vol. 21, No. 6

Inside...



Racing Nuggets



Rockford Walk of Fame



Midwest Thrills & Spills



Home Track Champions



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Publisher's Note

Racing According to Plan



Dan Plan

One of the items I enjoy about oval track racing is the prestige of an event can often outweigh the prize money. Even at the top levels of NASCAR, there are drivers that would probably enjoy winning the Southern 500 at Darlington versus a higher paying race at somewhere like Las Vegas or California.

Somebody like Clint Bowyer would probably cherish a win in his home state of Kansas over a win in Phoenix, or Brad Keselowski winning in his home state of Michigan would mean much more to him than a win at New Hampshire.

On a local level, races such as the National Short Track Championships in Rockford, Oktoberfest at LaCrosse Speedway or The Legendary 100 at Cedar Lake Speedway offer good prize money and are coveted event wins by drivers in the area. While there are other short track shows in the region that may

Prestige over Money

have more prize money, the money will only last so long. The prestige of winning events such as these will last forever.

Other notable events that have more prestige typically involve races held in the memory of some of the drivers in the upper-Midwest area. State Park Speedway hosts the annual Larry Detjens Memorial each year. To get a driver such as Dan Fredrickson to make a 3 hour drive from his home base shows how much these events mean to drivers.

A few years ago, Dells Raceway Park started running the twin 55's again in honor of Lyle Nabblefeldt. This year's running of the Nabblefeldt Memorial saw Sklyar Holzhausen accomplish a rare feat in the history of the event, winning both main events.

One of the memorial events closest to my home base that still carries a lot of prestige for the drivers is the Dwain Behrens Memorial at Elko Speedway. In the early days, the event was an extended lap affair for the old NASCAR Northern Series. Eventually, the race became a 40 lap affair for the local drivers. The 40 lap distance coincided with Dwain's car number, and was a perfect fit.

These days, the race format for the night of the Behrens Memorial is no different than a regular Saturday night. There was no increase in the payout at the end of the evening and the same number of laps were run. Yet the drivers circled this date on their calendars, provided one of the higher car counts of the year and seem to give just a little bit more to be crowned the overall champion of the event.

As a fan of the sport, I'm glad the prestige of an event still carries some weight. Nobody's going to get rich at the short track level, but at least we can still have fun.

The Midwest

RACING

Connection

October 2017

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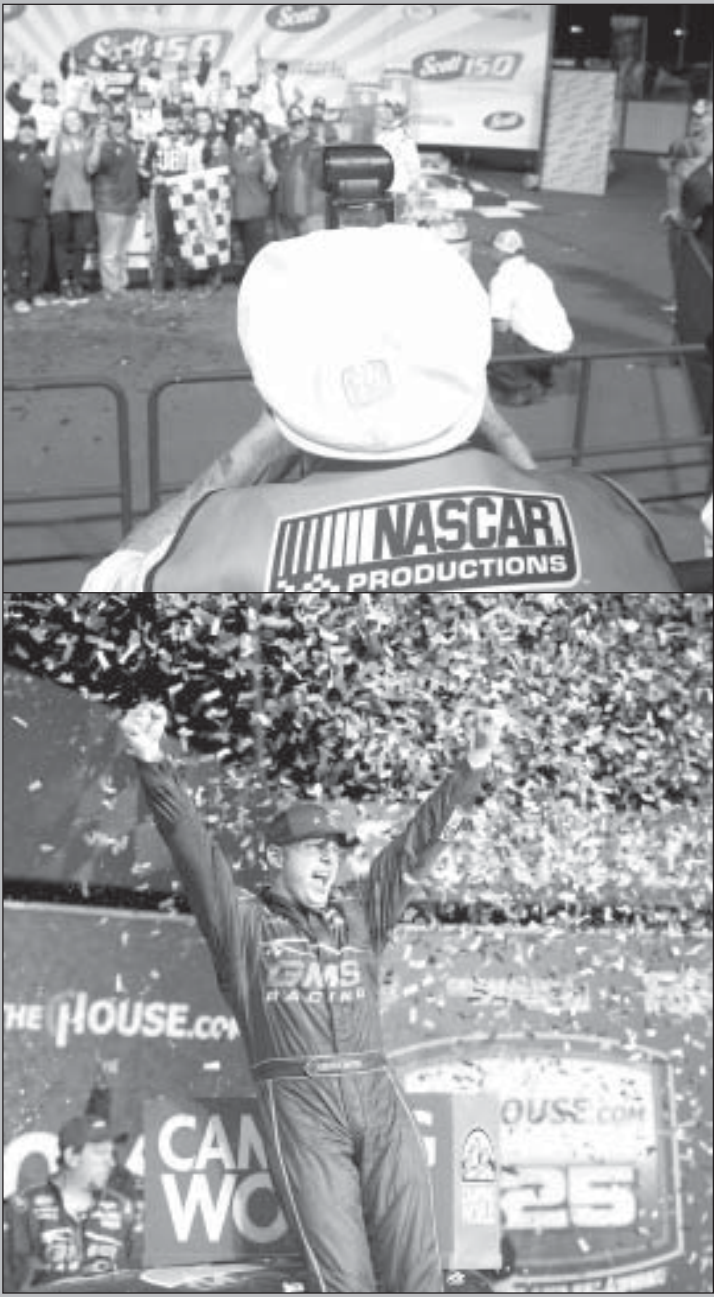
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Wisconsin in Chicagoland

Legendary Midwest photographer Russ Lake and 2016 NASCAR Truck Series champion Johnny Sauter both made visits to victory lane at Chicagoland Speedway.
(Bruce Nuttleman photos)



FALLOWEEN

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Going in Circles



Charlie Spry

Season championship time is always a little more tense for those teams involved in a point battle, and adds a little bit of flavor to the season for the fans as well.

Madison International Speedway featured a close battle for the NASCAR Late Model title between Jeremy Miller and Bobby Wilberg. Wilberg started out the season behind the eight ball a bit, but sure did come on strong late in the season. Going into the final feature on championship night, Wilberg held a slight one point lead in the standings, but Miller dropped out of the second feature after hardly a lap had been completed, allowing Wilberg to cruise along in assurance that he had the title in his pocket. Zach Riddle won the feature with Wilberg runner up, giving him the title, his thirteenth overall in his career here at MIS. With Wilberg winning the first feature of the night and finishing second in the finale, he showed he truly was the man to beat late in the season.

Robert Hansberry Jr. won the first sportsman feature and finished third in the second feature, giving him the title in that division over Mike Taylor. Taylor had a great season this year, nonetheless, saying, "I don't know what we did this year, but it worked. It was my

best year ever." Trevor Robinson came home third in the final stats, and made great improvement throughout the season, even winning a feature late in the year.

The Bandit division came down to Dave Schmidt and Steve Dickson, with the pair splitting first and fifth place finishes in the pair of features, allowing Schmidt to hold onto his point lead and gain the title.

At the Rockford Speedway, Michael Bilderback won his second consecutive late model title here. Sometimes dominant, he didn't go through his season without his shares of troubles, and late in the season wrecked his car at another track, forcing him to race a borrowed car for a night. Racing the Jim Olson car, he gained valuable points to keep him ahead of the game. Matt Berger was strong all season, but engine failure one night hurt him in his championship quest.

Young Max Kahler took home the title of Rookie-Of-The-Year, ahead of Jake Vanoskey and Dennis Smith Jr. Kahler won a feature, while Vanoskey was incredibly consistent throughout the year, and Smith also took home a feature win. Vanoskey did take home the title of Illinois NASCAR Series rookie. It was quite a season for all of the rookies in the late model division.

In the sportsman division it was consistency that got the job done for Chad Smith. Smith won two features during the season, but raced near the top all season long. Johnny Robinson II came home in the runner-up



Jimmy Ambruoso photo

spot, also winning two features, but had some bad luck when his car was severely damaged during the year, forcing him to race another car until the primary one was repaired. Garrick Fry improved all season long and took home the honors as top rookie.

The American Short Tracker division was incredibly competitive all season, with Zach Rodriguez taking home his second consecutive track title, winning five features during the

season. Nick Cina Jr. won three features and was right in the running all season long, and Aaron Rude brought his Pinto home in third, winning five features, but also missing a night of racing and starting the season out a little bit behind. He came on incredibly strong at the end to make the whole thing one of the most interesting point battles all season. Shannon Stoltz was the only other driver to record a feature win, and took fourth and the ROY title.

Josh Thiering was at times dominant in the Roadrunner division, taking both the Wednesday and Saturday night track titles with many feature wins between the two nights. Rich Schinderling Jr. came home second. Both drivers were present whenever the Roadrunner class was running, which takes some real effort. Nice job!

Adam Cartwright won the Roadrunner Challenge series. This is comprised of various fun events throughout the season, including things such as the hare n' hound race, flagpole race, outhouse race, forwards/backwards race and others.

Southern Wisconsin late model racer Steve Dobbratz has announced that he plans on retiring from racing at the end of the season. "Dobie" raced often at tracks

Going In Circles continued on page 6



Jess Riedner photo

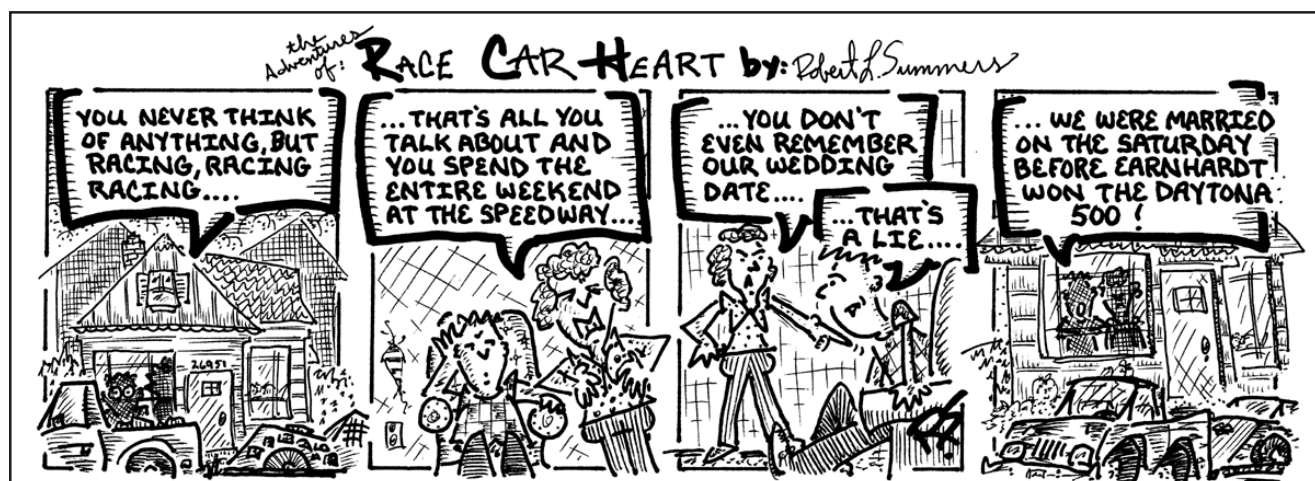


Going In Circles continued from page 5

such as Columbus 151, Dells and Jefferson. He started racing back in the 1980's in the old street stock division, so he has been at it for awhile. He noted that he just wants to spend more time with family and do some other things. He was quite good at his craft, as by my records I have him winning eight late model and two street stock features at Columbus 151, three limited late model features at the Dells, and nine late model feature wins at Jefferson. He was always a jovial person, and even when things didn't go right he just quietly went about his business, didn't ruffle anyone's feathers, and continued on. Always willing to help others, he was instrumental in helping me in the early days of my own racing career, if you can call it that. I hope he isn't a stranger at the tracks. He was well liked and respected by all. Just plain one of the "Good guys" you hate to lose in the sport, but his reasoning is completely understandable. He said that thirty years of racing is enough.

Took in my first of the annual special events at the Marshfield Motor Speedway in early September for the Fall Spectacular. As Dan talked about in his last column, I merely went to the races, paid my admission, and didn't even go in the pits, just kicked back and watched some good old short track racing. However, I did make some observations, namely, that anytime Dalton Zehr starts up front in any super late model race, he is probably going to win, however, Casey Johnson kept up with him, and for the longest time looked as if second would be the best he could do. Suddenly, Johnson worked alongside him and made the pass for the win.

All in all, it was an enjoyable night of relaxation, mingling in the stands, and watching some racing. Now, bring on the rest of the fall specials! The regular season is over and it's time to see how racers from one track fare against others from other tracks.



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Dean & Jason Talkin' Racin'



Jason D. Searcy

Jacob Goede spent the first decade of his racing career traveling all over the Midwest in numerous regional touring series and winning races at places like: Illiana Motor Speedway, Iowa Speedway, I-94 Raceway and even the famed Bristol Motor Speedway.

Starting a young family influenced his decision to come off the road after the 2013 season and race close to

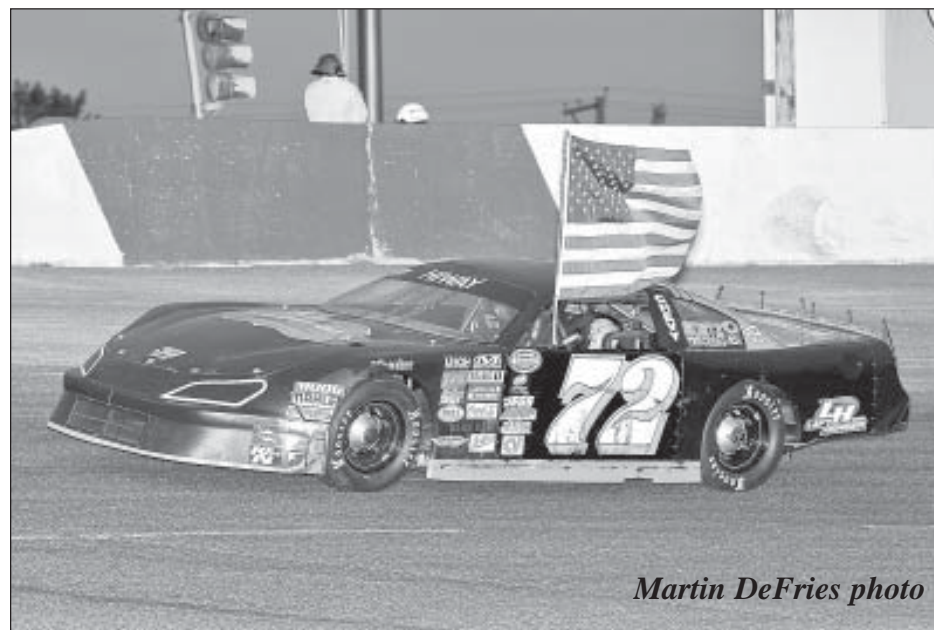
home at Elko (MN) Speedway. "The goal was to win one Championship" said Goede, now four years later he just wrapped up his fourth consecutive NASCAR Home Tracks Division I Title at ELKO, and this one might have been the most impressive of them all for 3G racing.

In 2017 Goede totaled Seventeen TOP 5 finishes in Twenty-seven Late Model starts at Elko Speedway.

"The competition out here is really stout when everybody shows up," said Goede "it's hard to get to the front in thirty laps, a lot of side by side racing and a lot of good cars to pass." Twelve different Late Model drivers scored a win at Elko Speedway in 2017 led by #72 Goede with eight, #75 Joe Neisius had four, #18 Michael Ostdiek scored three wins, #3 Chris Marek, #6 Owin Giles and #54 Dylan Moore all had two wins and #40 Michael Beamish, #42 Ryan Kamish, #71 Derek Lemke, #14 Grant Brown, #41 Donny Reuvers and #22 Nick Panitzke all had one win. A very impressive list of drivers.

Goede won the ELKO Championship by an astounding 291 points over young phenom Grant Brown, Goede maximized his points every week by scoring the most qualifying points and with the inversion he started further back in the features and scored the most passing points. Goede also won the prestigious Dwain Behrens memorial event at Elko Speedway for the second consecutive year.

Maybe the most amazing thing is that he



Martin DeFries photo

was driving his brother's car, "this was Matt's car, I need to thank him a bunch," said Goede. "When Matt got hurt last winter (in a snowmobile racing wreck) I wasn't sure what I was going to do but he said I could drive his car." That car is a 2008 Lefthander Chassis, "it's been a good car since day one," said Goede "it's had it's battle scars through the years but everything is where it needs to be and it's showed all year, the car was good."

Matt Goede wasn't competing against Jacob this year, he was helping in the pits every week, "it's nice to have another set of eyes," said Jacob "he knows what a car should feel like so just by watching he can tell what the car is doing before I even say anything, he's been a huge help."

The racing plan for next year is up in the air at this time for the Goede's. Everyone knows that Matt would love to get back behind the wheel, he is still recovering from his injuries and Jacob still has the Super Late Model car as well, as of now they are undecided. Something for sure is that 2017 was a year to remember for 3G racing and the time racing at home was very well spent.



Martin DeFries photo



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2017 Richert Memorial Highlights

Vince Peterson photos



The 2017 version of the annual Jerry Richert Sr. Memorial event at Cedar Lake Speedway started out with a surprise gift for Jerry Richert Jr. Tom Kamish presented Jerry Jr. with the driver's suit worn by Jerry Sr. at the Knoxville Nationals. Kamish and Richert Jr. are shown in the top left photo with open wheel announcer, Justin Zoch. Race winners for the weekend included: Mike Mueller in the UMSS Traditional Sprints (top right), Ryan Bowers in the UMSS 360 Winged Sprints (bottom left), and Ian Madsen in the IRA 410 Sprints (bottom right).

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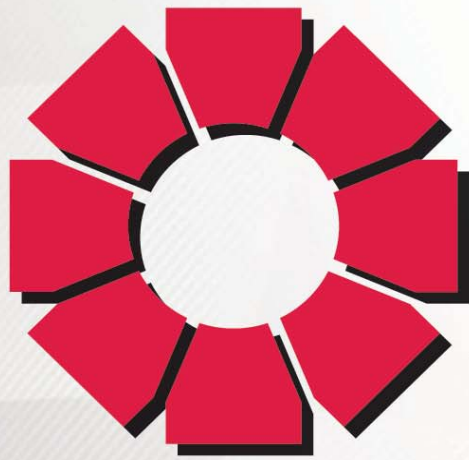
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Rockford Speedway Walk of Fame

By Jim Ambruoso Jr.

My father being inducted into The Walk of Fame at The Rockford Speedway is one of our proudest moments. It makes me so proud that he will be a part of the greatest in history like.

If you were to ask my dad about his participation at the Rockford Speedway he always started out by saying "I have been a Rockford Speedway employee since I was 12 years old". He is always so very proud

to tell people that fact. My father is so proud of being a part of Rockford Speedway, when you ask where he's from he will tell you "Rockford, IL home of The Fastest & Finest 1/4 mile Short Track, The Rockford Speedway".

I remember growing up on the holidays that all of the family would get together. For the holidays during the racing season everybody would be there, my dad (and many times me as well) at the speedway. He loved it that much, so much to be there than to be with his own family.

My father is well known at Rockford Speedway and it has brought some fame in the Midwest short track racing family. I talk to many people and they either say "Is that your dad taking pictures at Rockford Speedway" or "Boy I remember when your dad played ball (football, basketball and baseball), man was he good."

I end by saying on behalf of my family & me to the Rockford Speedway, thank you so much. You are forever loved in our hearts for loving "JIMMY A".



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SUNDAY OCTOBER 22ND 2017

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PLUS: TUNDRA SPORTSMAN SERIES 40

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A Family Sport



No matter what type of motorsport activity you're involved in, there are many opportunities for the family to be involved. This photo shows Trevor Sterzinger and his father Frank, along with a young helper in the midst of a gear change between AMA Flat Track motorcycle races. Following the gear change, Sterzinger would go on to capture both the Open A and Open B main events at the flat track race in New Ulm, MN hosted by the Flying Dutchman MC.

Midwest Thrills & Spills

Jeff Blaser photos



The TUNDRA travelers made their annual Labor Day visit to Golden Sands Speedway and provided the fans with plenty of excitement. Dalton Zehr, Bryan Syer-Keske, Cole Anderson and several others were involved in this early race melee. All three would continue on in the race, with Zehr working back up to third place, Keske in tenth and Anderson thirteenth. The “Cuatro-Cuatro” of Mike Litchfield held off a late race charge by Jordan Thiel to pick up the win.

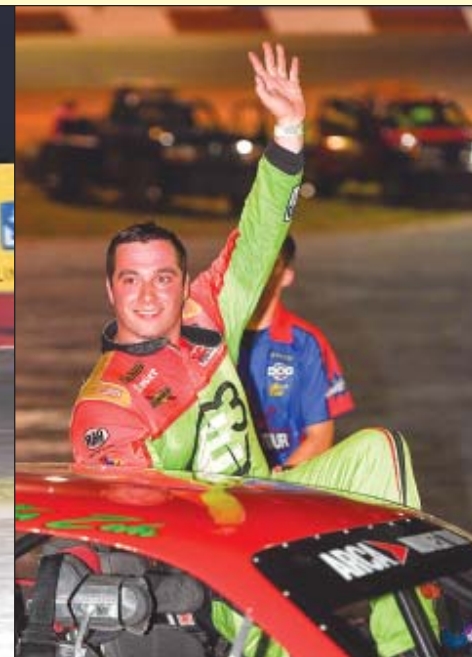
Zehr Captures Thunderstruck at Elko

Dalton Zehr picked up the win in the annual Thunderstruck 93 ARCA Midwest Tour event at Elko Speedway. Zehr utilized the two mandatory breaks in the 125-lap affair to fine tune his ride, charge to the front, and make a late race pass of series champion Ty Majeski. Jonathan Eilen finished out the podium behind Zehr and Majeski, with local drivers Billy Mohn and Jacob Goede rounding out the top 5.

Zehr races past Billy Mohn and Dennis Prunty on his way to the front (left) and is all smiles climbing out in victory lane (right).



Doug Hornickel photos



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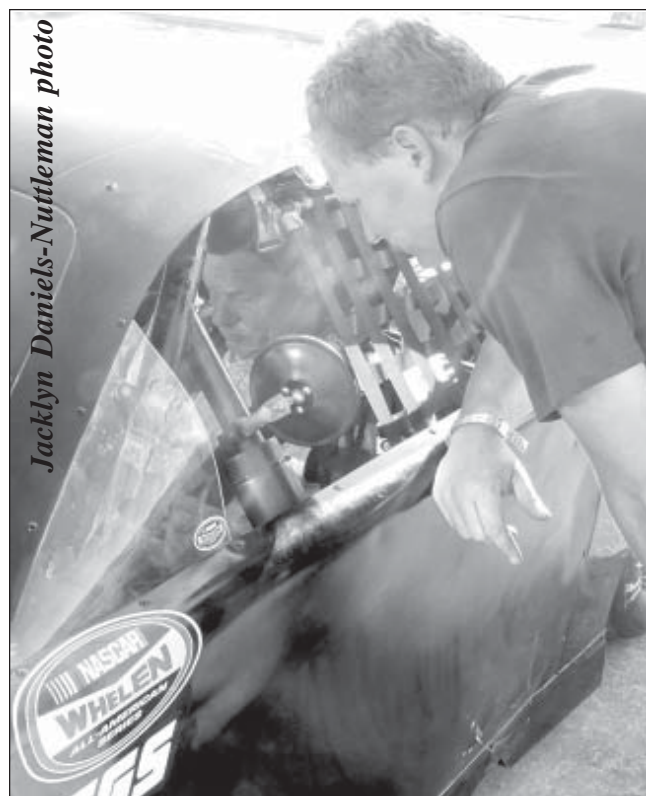


Jacklyn Daniels-Nuttleman

It was around spring of 2007 when Kevin Nuttleman surprised his father with a female German shepherd puppy. It was quite the moment to see Erv's eyes light up while holding the fuzzy little pup in his thick, calloused hands. I still remember Erv's belly laughs echoing in the kitchen over the puppy's antics as she explored with a keen nose and oversized ears that would take months to grow into.

Eventually Erv settled on a name for the new Nuttleman: Bretta—after his favorite Green Bay Packer—Brett Favre... the same Favre that would retire almost a year later, only to eventually make a return to the sport again.

And now we're on the cusp of another "great" in sports returning to the field—only this time it's not a gridiron, but the 5/8-mile asphalt track at La Crosse Fairgrounds Speedway. The 10-time track champion, Kevin Nuttleman will make a bid for Victory Lane



Jacklyn Daniels-Nuttleman photo

Retire Means Four Fresh Hoosiers

with the NASCAR Late Models once again during the 48th Annual Oktoberfest Race Weekend at La Crosse Fairgrounds Speedway on Thursday, October 5th.

The whole venture was like rush hour traffic executing a perfect zipper merge in a construction zone. Two different groups had similar ideas for entirely different reasons and it fit together seamlessly.

Kevin's oldest brother, Toby has worked with Justin Zmyewski at the C&C Motorsports race shop in West Salem for quite some time. Zmyewski has been running a NASCAR Late Model, but admittedly he's still learning the finer points to conquer La Crosse. Toby suggested that "ol' 10-time," his brother Kevin, get into Zmyewski's car and turn a few laps to help dial the car in and show him a solid line for turning circuits. Both drivers have similar stature, so fitting into the car would be fairly simple.

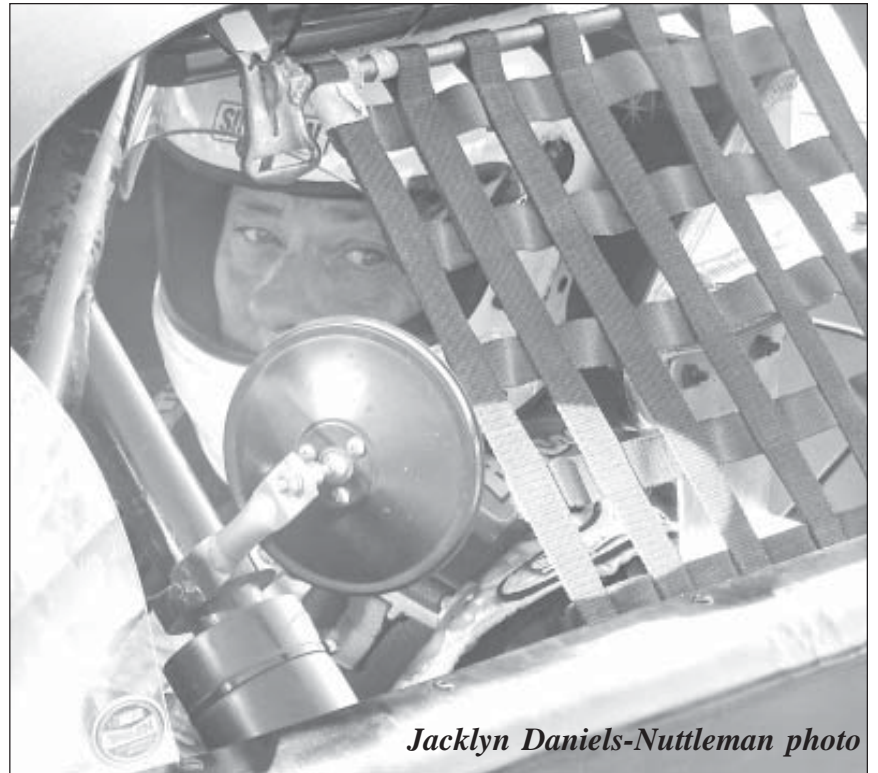
Around that same time, somewhere on a boat sipping a few barley pops, Kevin Nuttleman was enjoying a hot summer day with Todd Miller, some family, and friends. Miller has long been a fan and supporter of Nuttleman and other Bangor area racers, such as Steve Holzhausen.

According to Miller, Nuttleman had been lamenting about missing racing and dealing with the "itch" of wanting to get back on the track. Despite Nuttleman's wife, Lottie gassing the boat hard and nearly dumping Miller off the back and into the water that fateful afternoon—he still found a way to plant some seeds to see if the idea would grow.

As it turns out, Miller also is involved with another racer, Gabe Sommers from Plover, WI. Sommers and company had reached out to Toby Nuttleman to help with some race set ups and they were all gathered at the C&C Motorsports race shop one day.

This is where the zipper merge thing truly came together about the idea of putting Kevin Nuttleman not just in Zmyewski's car, but possibly having him actually pilot it at Oktoberfest.

But how hard is it for a racer to sit out arguably one of the biggest events in the short track world to let someone else drive his car? "As a racer you always want to run, but it's a good opportunity to have one of the best drivers run your car and for me to see what



Jacklyn Daniels-Nuttleman photo

Kevin likes for a set-up and get his feedback—that will help me improve," Zmyewski said.

With 106 wins to his credit, Kevin Nuttleman knows garnering #107 is going to be a tough nut to crack at Oktoberfest with the deep field of talent. "I am really impressed with the level of competition this year at La Crosse, and the car counts are good too."

He also admits he's a little nervous about getting back behind the wheel. "Reaction time slows up when you get older." Yet Nuttleman still says he thinks he has some juice left in the tank to be competitive. Ultimately though, he is adamant that they're doing this to have fun. A full time ride in 2018 is not at all the end-game. He's far too busy with his own business of seed cleaning, custom planting & harvesting to have time to devote to doing the racing thing for a whole season again.

Instead, he'll savor the moment at Oktoberfest Race Weekend for what it is—a brief and sweet return to his roots in front of the home crowd, piloting Zmyewski's black machine with the famous NJ4 on the sides.

"I'll finally get the chance to wear my 2009 Wisconsin State Champion driver suit," Kevin said. "It used to be a little snug, but since I've switched to DIET Mountain Dew, it fits perfectly," he quipped with a wink.



Auto Racing Facts,
Observances and
Opinions



Dale P. Danielski

It was good to see Frank Nitzke take the Championship title in this year’s Central Wisconsin Racing Association Stars to Legends Tour after placing 5th and 2nd in the two features in the season finale at Marshfield Motor Speedway, Marshfield, WI., here September 8th. Nitzke was never dominant in the eight races contested this year but as we know championships are won via consistency and Frank was certainly that throughout the season.

Nitzke is from a racing family as his Dad, Stu raced for many seasons mostly in the Fox Valley region of Wisconsin. With the elder Nitzke having done very

well through the years on both dirt and pavement, it was a natural that Frank would tag along and eventually get involved as a driver in the sport. His career includes numerous wins at tracks throughout Wisconsin and now through CWRA, his second career Championship winning season. According to Frank, “This Championship ranks right at the top in my career of racing. It was fun, fun, fun and we plan to defend our title next year.”

Having raced for 19 years Nitzke is giving no indication of leaving the sport in the near future, but Frank knows his son Josh would at some point like to get behind the wheel. “I know Josh would love to drive, but then I wouldn’t have anyone helping me on the car.” We’ll see how long this arrangement remains status quo, as Josh has served as crew chief for his dad for quite some time now. And who knows, Frank with two cars has indicated he would be willing to put someone in his other car. Talk was of having a two car effort on the CWRA Tour in 2018. Regardless of how things shake out for next year, it was good to see Nitzke get a Super Late Model season title this year as he is truly one of the nice guys in racing and very deserving of the championship.

Well, we stepped over to the other side a bit here recently from our normal pursuits in racing, taking in the “Redneck 200” Enduro race at Mississippi Thunder Speedway of Fountain City, WI. The event was boasting of a \$10,000 pay-off for the winner contingent on a 100 car field. Actually lining up for the race were 38 cars but a good race was seen with a fair amount of money still being distributed. It’s always interesting to witness the different strategies used by racers in these events as some choose to be more patient and get to the end of the race, while others charge from the drop of the green with the main intent to put on a show! Bob Fort who has raced at various tracks through the years was one that chose the

charge strategy moving from the back of the field into 3rd position before 50 laps were completed. That strategy proved very entertaining for fans, but proved to be Fort’s undoing as his car didn’t last to even the halfway point. Meanwhile, Nate Coopman who had an up front starting position paced himself throughout letting early leader Scott Vetter head the field for the bulk of the race. When it was time to move however, Coopman still had something left in his car while Vetter used up his equipment just a bit more allowing Coopman to take a lead with 50 or so laps left that he would maintain to the finish. All in all a fun and entertaining race and hopefully the track chooses to again run this event next year. Generally these types of events are racer driven in terms of pay-out, but a decent crowd was actually on hand for this one. Maybe with that in mind, the \$200 entry fee could be cut back a bit, hopefully resulting in a better car count and some bills being paid by fans in attendance next year.

Here and there... Discussions are taking place for a 12-16 event schedule for the CWRA Tour group in 2018. With added sponsorship and contingency programs included for next years slate, the Stars to Legends Tour which saw increased interest and substantial growth in 2017 looks to be a lucrative series to run for Super Late Model competitors...We see where Ty Majeski captured his 4th consecutive ARCA Midwest Tour Championship with yet an event to go, with a 2nd place finish in the Thunderstruck event at Elko Speedway, of Elko, MN., this past weekend. Dalton Zehr won the event with Jonathan Eilen placing 3rd. Majeski who is still hopeful of getting to the top level of NASCAR has not fared all that well so far racing in ARCA and NASCAR Xfinity

continued on page 15

Dale's pictures from the past



Dale’s pics from the past. Marv Marzofka in 1973 says, “I won that race” to promoter Larry Wehrs, and he did. The Camaro Marv Marzofka drove to 1973 Oktoberfest 200 win. Dick Trickle puts his car through its paces at the 2006 Oktoberfest event.

*Racing Facts, Observances and Opinions
from page 14*

events, but all it takes is one good run to hopefully get things turned around. Can only hope that he is given a fair shot by the Roush organization who he is currently racing for to do just that...Speaking of Championships, many will be decided as part of this years Oktoberfest Racing Weekend at La Crosse Fairgrounds Speedway, West Salem, WI. One that local fans will for sure be watching is for the weekly NASCAR Late Model Championship as Nick Panitzke holds a narrow 11 point lead over Steve Carlson. Carlson of late has not been accustomed to being in that position heading into the last points race, so it will be interesting to see who handles the pressure the best and walks off with the title...And, with 'Fest of course comes the annual Champions Reunion to be held Sunday, October 8th, from 11am-2pm in the Hospitality Chalet in turn two. Highlights this year with the Reunion theme being "60 Years of Racing at the 'Fest" will be the appearance of a Late Model that actually raced with the IMCA group in the 1960s. IMCA was the first sanctioning

body to hold races at the track when it opened as a dirt track in 1957. Also appearing will be a car raced by Dick Trickle in the 1980s restored to original. A look alike car to the one racing pioneer Ken Christenson, Sr., drove back in the 1960s will also be on display. Other cars will be on hand along with over 50 championship winning drivers. It's an event fans past and present won't want to miss...

And looking back in time on October 7th, 1973 it was Marv Marzofka winning the Oktoberfest 200 race at La Crosse Interstate Speedway, West Salem, WI. Marzofka wasn't deemed the winner until some time had passed after the checkered flag waved as scoring missed his early pit stop which actually put him in the lead after several others running up front had pitted. At one point Bill Oas was thought to be the winner along with Rich Somers. It was Marzofka ultimately the winner after 200 laps...On August 15th, 1971 it was Dick Trickle winning the feature event at La Crosse Interstate Speedway. Dick Giles and Dan Prziborowski placed 2nd and 3rd. The 15 lap semi-feature went to John Scott with heat race wins going

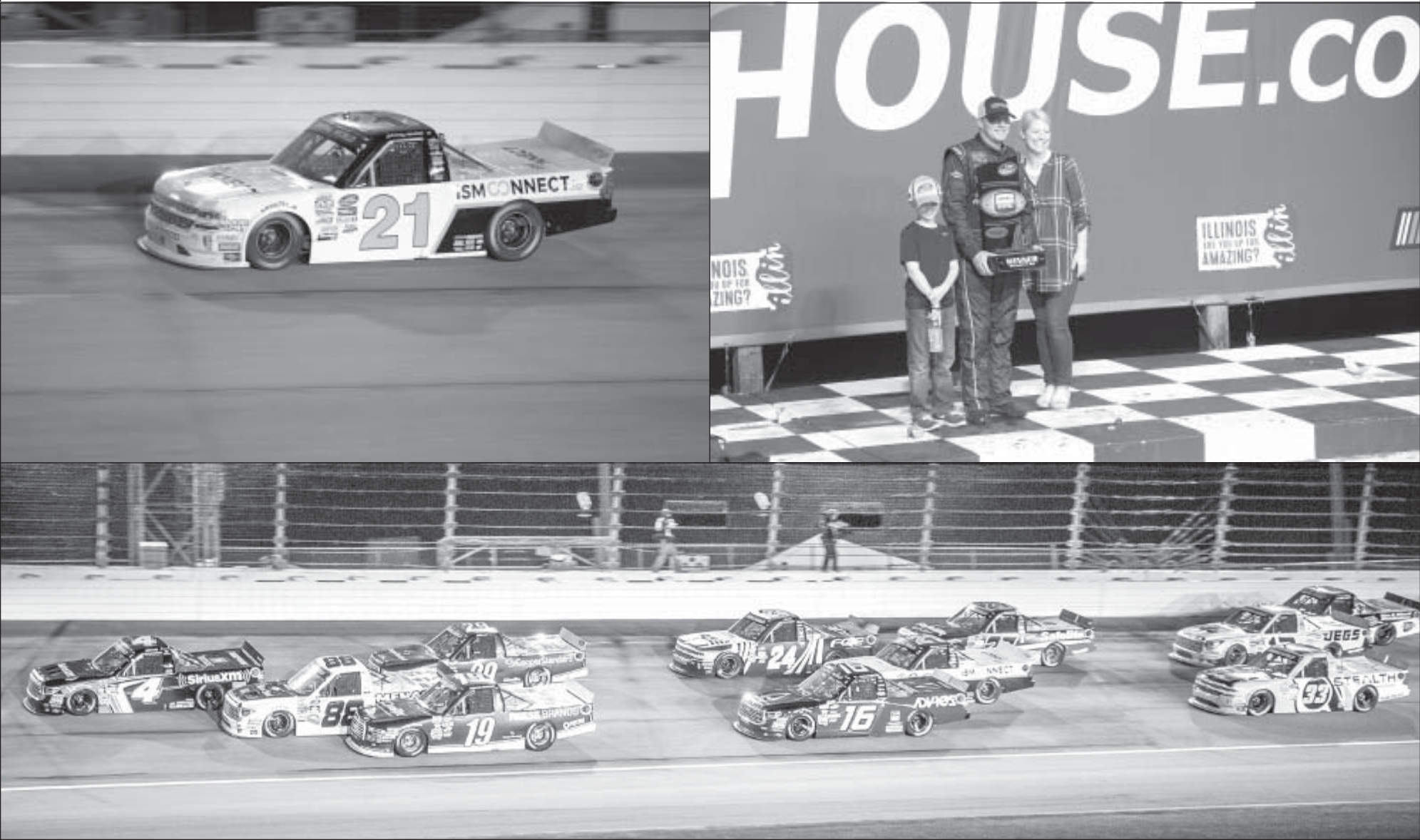
to Curt Iverson, John Brevik, and Giles. The Trophy Dash winner was Prziborowski...On May 5th, 1985, it was Jim Back winning the feature at La Crosse Interstate Speedway. Following Back were Steve Holzhausen, Rick Wateski, Jim Weber and Don Turner. The semi-feature went to Spike Lindly with heat race winners, Geno Broesch, Ted Musgrave, and Greg Holzhausen. Back was the dash winner with Steve Carlson setting fast time...On July 14th, 1999, it was Mark Eswein winning the CWRA Feature at La Crosse Fairgrounds. Following Eswein were Wayne Breitenfeldt, Rory Melbinger, Gary Back and Jeff Fritz...

That puts a wrap on it for another round. And heading into Fall, go outside and live a little. Get off the phone!

Questions, comments, opinions and other information welcome at Starmaker Multimedia 967 10th Ave N Ste A, Onalaska, WI 54650 608-783-5827 or at dale@starmakermultimedia.com

Truckin' in Chicagoland

Wisconsin native and defending NASCAR Truck series champion Johnny Sauter picked up the win at Chicagoland Speedway. Photos below courtesy of Bruce Nuttleman.



Local Teams Shine at Thunderstruck

Martin DeFries photos



Thunderstruck weekend is one of the biggest weekends for the local drivers at Elko Speedway. This year’s event featured one driver picking up his first-career win, and another finished off the season at home strong.

Tristan Swanson (shown in the left two photos with parents Renee and Gordy) picked up his first win in the Great North Legends by holding off a determined Tim Brockhouse. It’s quite possible some fence repair may be needed in turn 2 after watching Renee Swanson cheer on her son in the closing laps of the feature. It appeared that everyone one on hand enjoyed seeing Tristan pick up his first win.

Chris “Cruiser” Marek (right photo) put an exclamation point on what was a challenging season for the team. After sitting out a week earlier in the year to regroup, the Marek team finished out the season strong and picked up the win in the Big 8 Late Model Series portion of the show.

THE MONTH OF MONEY



The month of September is known as “The Month of Money” to many of the drivers in the area. AJ Diemel had a successful start to the month, sweeping both Late Model features during Cedar Lake Speedways Legendary 100 and picking up the win at Red Cedar Speedway’s Punky Manor Challenge of Champions (left photo). The driver known as the Sherrif, John Kaanta (right photo) also had a successful month of money. In addition to capturing the NASCAR Dash title at Cedar Lake Speedway, Kaanta would also win the WISSOTA Challenge Series championship and the Labor Day Shootout at Hibbing Raceway.

Charlie's Corner

The Midwest Karting Association recently dedicated a section of their course to Charles Karau, who passed away earlier this year. Charlie raced karts for 50 years and was one of the oldest active club members. The corner formerly known as the horseshoe will now be known as Charlie's Corner. The entire field of karts took a pace lap during the dedication ceremony.



Brian Baker photo

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Discount Taxi Driver of the Month



Martin DeFries photo

Name - Brent Kane
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Hometown - Lonsdale, MN



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