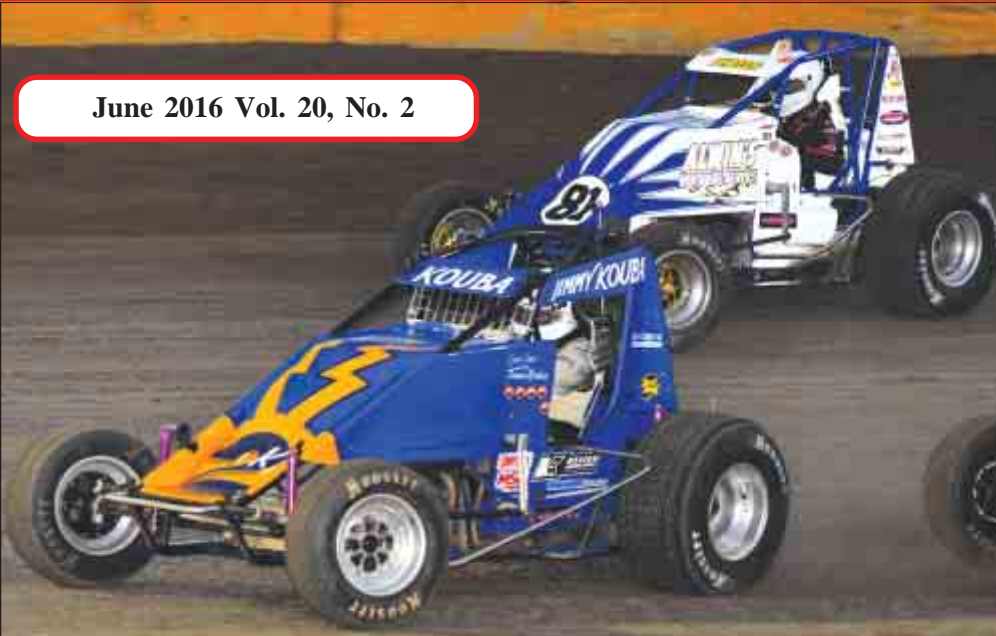


THE MIDWEST RACING CONNECTION

www.theracingconnection.com

THE MIDWEST'S SHORT TRACK AUTO RACING AUTHORITY

June 2016 Vol. 20, No. 2



Weekly Racing and Touring Series Action



Inside...



Youth Impact



Thrills and Spills



The Brothers Koski

**UMP DIRT CAR SUMMER NATIONALS TOURING LATE MODELS AND
USMTS MODIFIEDS INVADE CEDAR LAKE THE FOR THE MASTERS!**



Like Us On...



**18th ANNUAL
MASTERS
WEEKEND**



**Thursday, Friday & Saturday
JUNE 16th, 17th & 18th**

FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.cedarlakespeedway.com



**THURSDAY - DAY 1
COMPLETE SHOW**

**FEATURING...
ERIC HERBISON MEMORIAL
\$2,000 TO WIN
MIDWEST MODIFIEDS
& \$2,000 TO WIN
PRO STOCKS!**



**FRIDAY - DAY 2
COMPLETE SHOW**

**FEATURING...
UMP DIRT CAR SUMMER
NATIONALS TOURING
LATE MODELS AND
USMTS MODIFIEDS!**



**SATURDAY - DAY 3
COMPLETE SHOW**

**FEATURING...
UMP DIRT CAR SUMMER
NATIONALS TOURING
LATE MODELS AND
USMTS MODIFIEDS!**

Publisher's Note

Racing According to Plan



Dan Plan

The modern day short track event features many more items that are centered on activities for the kids. Maybe my memory is fading, but I don't remember this many activities when I was a kid. The only things I can remember where the nights when kids were allowed to ride in a race car. There's always the

Keeping the kids entertained

chance I was a bad kid and my parents simply didn't tell me about these other activities.

These days there are things like bus races, bike races, box car races and many other opportunities for kids to be part of the program. Years ago, the tracks didn't have to do things like this. The crowds of yesterday were more interested racing than there were in novelty events and the kids were just forced to tag along. Personally, I was never forced. I always wanted to go, and was pretty bummed when I didn't get to go. Times have changed and tracks are coming up with ways to get a new generation of fans out to the track. My kid is now getting ready to graduate high school, but I know he used to look forward to competing in the bike races and box car races. He's still a fan of the sport, so this theory appears to be working for the short tracks.

The bus race at Cedar Lake is an event that brings just about every school age student in the area out to the track to cheer on their bus. While the buses are

continued on page 20



Chuck Deery keeps a watchful eye on the start of the annual box car race at LaCrosse Fairgrounds Speedway. Local short tracks are providing plenty of opportunities for the kids to be involved in the program these days

The Midwest

RACING

Connection

June 2016

Vol. 20, No. 2

P.O. Box 22111

St. Paul MN, 55122

651-451-4036

info@theracingconnection.com

www.theracingconnection.com

Publisher

Dan Plan

Contributing Writers

Shane Carlson

Dale P. Danielski

Jacklyn Daniels-Nuttleman

Dean Reller

Jason Searcy

Charlie Spry

Photographers

Jim Ambruso (815-623-3200)

Jeff Blaser (715-498-7544)

Martin DeFries (651-346-1199)

TJ Harron (608-301-0993)

Doug Hornickel (920-563-0993)

Tom Loos (715-370-7895)

Mark Melchiori (414-463-0131)

Bruce Nuttleman (612-860-6622)

Vince Peterson (612-419-6372)

Mary Schill/Forte Design (608-792-1317)

Jerry Zimmer (715-792-2174)

The Midwest Racing Connection is published six times during the summer racing season by The Plan Company, Inc.

All material is copyrighted 2016 and may not be reprinted without permission. Subscriptions are \$20 for six issues. Call 651-451-4036.

Cover photos by: Jimmy Ambruso, Doug Hornickel, and Vince Peterson



AIRPORT SERVICE - CALL 24 HOURS

***Time Calls - Appointments**

DISCOUNT TAXI

FOR TRANSPORTATION

Toll Free 1-888-240-8294

612-723-5500

www.discounttaxiracing.com

DON'T NEGLECT

THE TOYS

**POUR IN POWER, PROTECTION
& ADDED PERFORMANCE!**



Justice Brothers products provide superior protection for all of your favorite extreme big-boy toys! By reducing friction and wear, keeping fuel systems clean and protecting engines against acid and corrosion, **Justice Brothers** additives will ensure that your toys run at peak power and performance, providing maximum enjoyment! Whether you ride for sport or for recreation, don't start that engine without **Justice Brothers** protection!

www.justicebrothers.com

- Justice Brothers Engine Tune Up
- Justice Brothers Fuel Injection System Cleaner
- Justice Brothers Gear Oil Treatment



Going in Circles



Charlie Spry

Rockford Speedway is now fully into regular racing season mode, with several drivers new to the scene or with new cars.

One of the new late model drivers is Jeff Wakeman. Jeff is racing with a car that he actually traded a street car for. He ran real well at the Bahama Brackets here last season and decided to run weekly in 2016. He also has a Mid-Am car that he races at Grundy on Friday nights, so he is a busy guy. Jeff takes a very "hands on" approach to his racing, even building his own racing engines, which is a rarity nowadays.

Kelly Evink had much success in the American Short Tracker division here and at other tracks, sometimes to the point of being dominant. His AST car was destroyed late last year when he impacted the "point" at the pit entrance, so he decided to move up to late model in 2016.

When I approached AST driver Aaron Rude, I commented on his color change to his Pinto racer, from red to blue, to which he replied, "It's a whole new car." The cage was taken out of the old racer which was getting kind of rough, and another Pinto was built. "We've done pretty good so far, haven't even had much time to make changes yet, so we are happy," Said Aaron. Dad Mike Rude said, "It's a brand-new 2016 Pinto."

New to the track and the sportsman division is Crystal O'Gorman. Previously racing a four cylinder on the dirt and a hobby stock on the asphalt at Jefferson, she noted, "It just happens that whenever I change division, I also change tracks."

Mike Coleman had a late model last season and brought it out only a couple of times. This year he is running more frequently and looks faster. He won a heat race on his first night out in 2016.

Kyle Voss raced on Wednesday nights here with an Allison Legacy car, and brought out an AST car to race this year. He is gaining speed every week as he gets used to the new car.

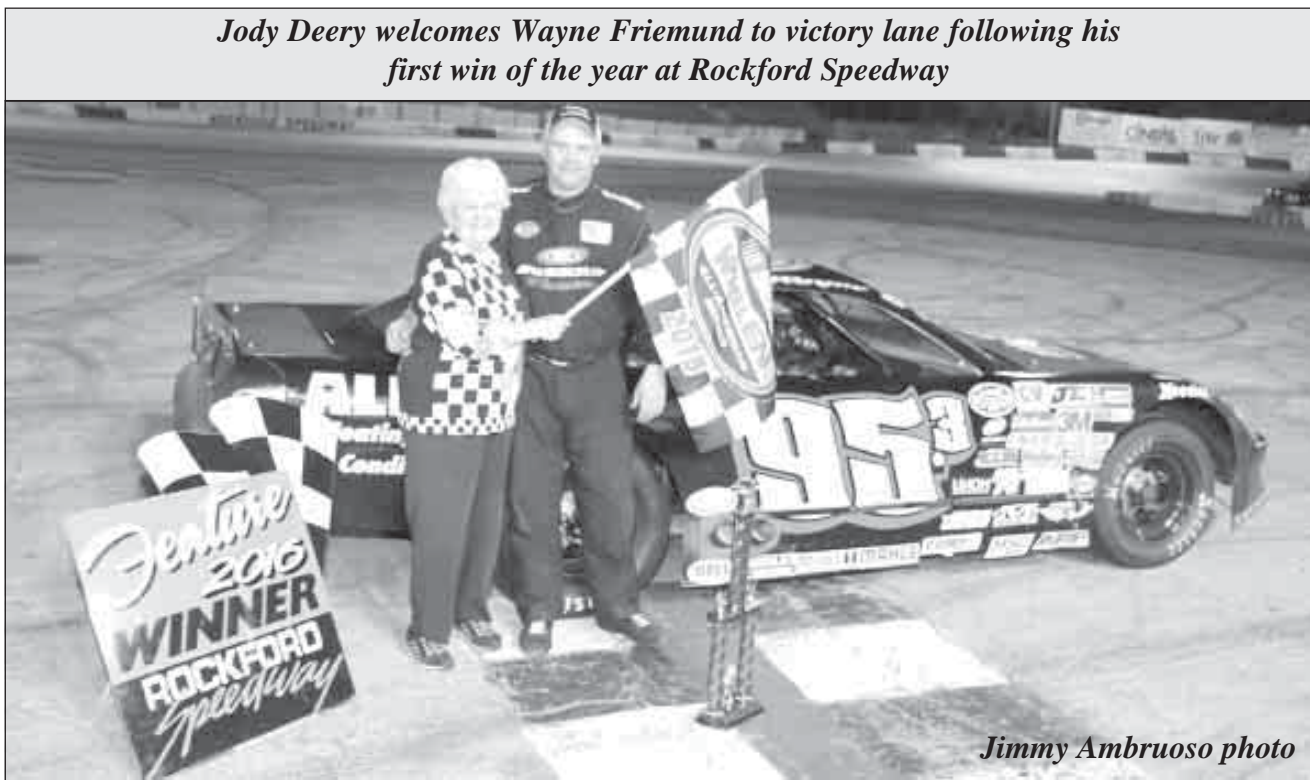
Leo Bujak III started racing in the AST division here a couple of years ago, usually one of the slower cars. He has gained a great deal since then and is now a definite threat to win a feature. He recently led a feature for many laps before settling for third. A win is coming.

Nice to see late model driver Wayne Freimund finally get his first feature win of the year. Earlier in the season he had led up until a very late fracas took him out at the end, but he finally got one, leading from start to finish and not letting anyone get near.

At Madison International Speedway, the season started a little later than at Rockford, but is going strong. The first race of the 2016 season here was the annual "Joe Shear Classic," featuring the ARCA Midwest Tour. To the surprise of no one in attendance, Ty Majeski took the win over a hard charging Johnny Sauter, who had to start way back in the field after a misunderstanding after the dash race. Majeski even said in the post-race interview that Sauter probably had a stronger car at the end. Nevertheless, Majeski added yet another chapter in his book of racing success. It will go even further, as

Going In Circles continued on page 10

Jody Deery welcomes Wayne Friemund to victory lane following his first win of the year at Rockford Speedway



Jimmy Ambruoso photo



**CEDAR VIEW
ELECTRIC, INC.**
952-469-2100

**New Construction - Remodel - Service Work
Pools/Hot Tubs - Basements - Additions**

Residential & Commercial

Lakeville, MN

www.cedarviewelectric.com

Dean & Jason Talkin' Racin'



Jason Searcy

When I was growing up getting your drivers license was very important. We all looked forward to passing the driving test so we could have some freedom. So we could get in our car and go somewhere, just get out of the house. Most of us worked on cars in the garage because we all drove junkers that broke down and it was a priority to keep that car running so that you kept your freedom.

Today our kids don't need a car nearly as much, they can escape so much easier now, they don't need a license. Teenagers can connect with friends and escape using social media and their entertainment options are much more varied. Fact is, they can escape without leaving the house.

That change in perspective provides a challenge when it comes to Motor Sports.

Fortunately some race tracks and organizations are changing with the times to help the youth of today acquire that same love of racing that we have.

Adam Brachle founder of Youth Impact Racing goes to local church parking lots with an enclosed trailer/shop and uses Radio Controlled Cars and Go-Karts to

reach kids and teach them about Motorsports. "Young kids can race R/C cars and learn about the suspension, struts and tie-rods, it's enough to wet their appetite in an environment where the liability is not so great" said Brachle. "We give kids the opportunity to use wrenches and learn about the four cycles of the motor and how brake calipers work."

All of the Youth Impact Racing events are free and usually take place on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings all over the Twin Cities. Plus special events at the Back to the 50's, the North St Paul car show, Elko Speedway and the Street Machine Nationals.

Many local drivers have participated in these events, displaying their cars and interacting with the kids. "I think what Adam is doing is amazing," says three time Elko Champion Conrad Jorgenson, "it keeps kids busy and out of trouble, I go to as many events as I can."

Former Raceway Park Champion Jeremy Wolff echo's the statement "I think kids need something nowadays, not video games and not running with a bad crowd, they need something like what Adam is doing."

Last summer, Youth Impact Racing exposed Motorsports to over 2,100 students and that number will grow extensively this year with 16 different church locations on the ever-growing schedule thanks in part to some local sponsors including Cedar View Electric and the Key Guys.

This program seems to be working, kids are really responding and local racetracks will benefit from that as the next generation grows up. Maybe even sooner, let's hope that those kids will want to come to the race track and their parents will bring them.

"The kids love when we bring the race cars," says Wolff "they sit in it, they touch it and look in the car, it makes racing real for them." Jorgenson adds "it's a lot of exposure to racing that they probably wouldn't normally get, so that is really cool."

Not as many of our kids are growing up in the garage, a place where

Reaching the youth of today



many of us learned some important life lessons and experienced some long lasting memories. His program helps fill that need for some and maybe it will be the spark of encouragement for others.

"Some of the neatest relationship building opportunities are when you are in the shop with somebody, working on something and you are learning and also talking, you share your burdens with each other and talk through real life situations" says Brachle.

Attendance at live sporting events has gone down across the country in the last decade. If auto racing is going to grow in the future, the marketing of our sport to the youth of today is going to have to change. This is a good example of how we all need to reach out and make it easier for kids to find out how fun all aspects of racing can be.

"For some kids, if it's not happening right now, it's just not happening for them at all" says Wolff. "Adam is right there, every week, and that's what those kids need."

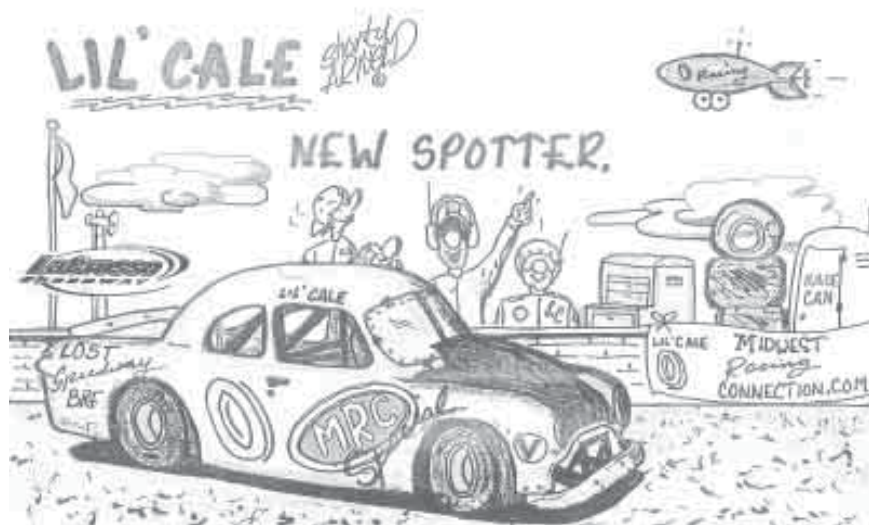
I think the sport of Auto Racing needs this just as much as the kids do.

For more information about Youth Impact Racing go to YouthImpactRacing.org or talk to Adam Brachle after he does the invocation weekly at Elko Speedway.





trackratphotos.vfcfunding.com



Coming in the July issue of

THE MIDWEST RACING CONNECTION

**Highlights from the 20th Annual Masters at
Cedar Lake Speedway, ARCA Midwest Tour
from Rockford Speedway and more**

www.theracingconnection.com

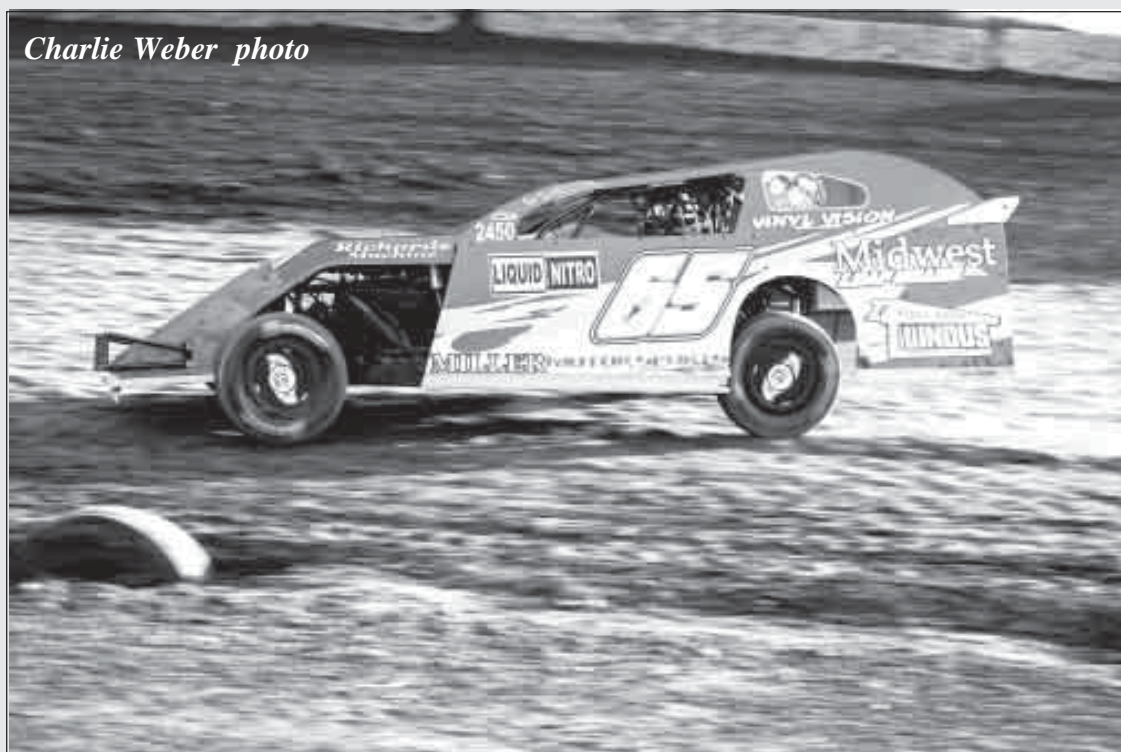


***Driver of the
Month***

Jacob Miller

**Division - *Modified*
Home Town - *New Richmond, WI***

Charlie Weber photo



Racing Nuggets

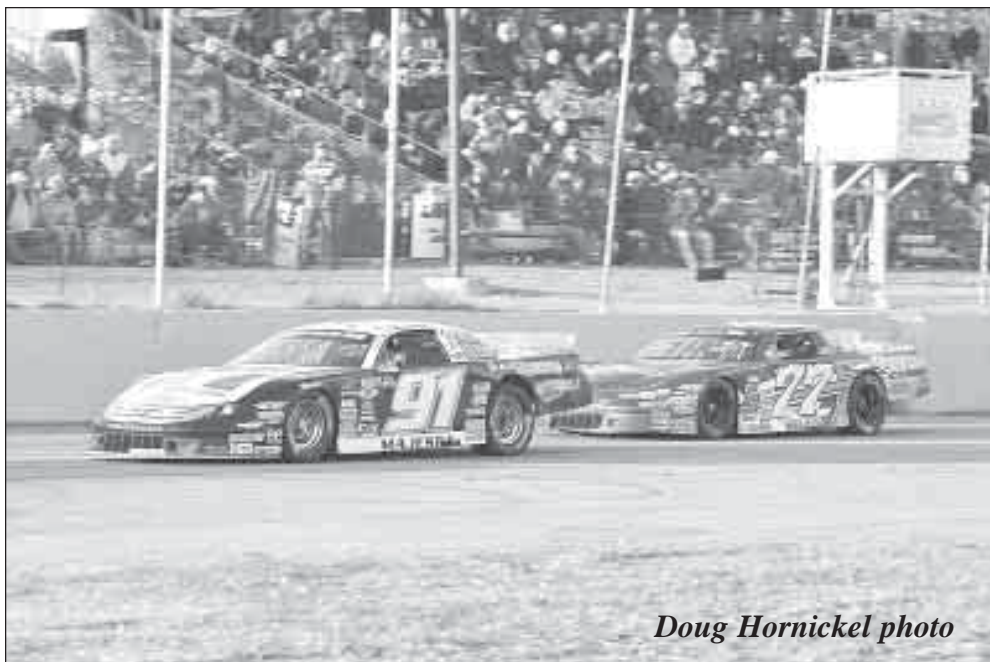


Jacklyn Daniels-Nuttleman

I've seen guys act like imbeciles trying to get a girl's attention. Many of us have witnessed THAT guy who attempted to be tough by crushing aluminum cans into his forehead. Whether it was for laughs, or to show toughness, it was amusing to watch the guy pretend it didn't hurt, or that he wasn't freaked out by the blood trickling down his brow. It was negative attention, and really didn't do much to help his cause.

Sometimes a racer gets noticed for the wrong reasons after losing his cool on the track and doing something that many perceive as heinous, like dialing another driver out. When that happens, a reputation is born—or bolstered, if those type of actions have been habitual. I don't need to name names; we've all seen these things unfold over the years, so I know that you get the idea. Again, that's negative attention, and it doesn't do much to help acquire the desirable result that can lead to big things.

The favorable variety of attention is generally had in racing by winning. Popping up consistently in Victory



Doug Hornickel photo

Lane will earn a driver a pretty solid reputation. Winning in more arenas than just the home track can become the start of something pretty incredible.

Just ask Ty Majeski. He has garnered the attention of many in the upper echelon of NASCAR through his numerous accomplishments in racing this past year. It's been pretty cool to watch the story unfold, with the incredible news finally becoming public knowledge that he has signed a driver development deal with Roush-Fenway.

These are exciting times; and Majeski surely knows that it's not all due to talent, team, and triumphs. While he possesses all of the desired attributes of a successful driver, including a very adept speaking style in post-race interviews, I'm quite certain that Majeski knows that a degree of luck also played a role in this new opportunity that he is about to embark upon. Luck of timing, more specifically.

Trends are more fluid than we realize. Back when Midwest standout, Steve Carlson's star was initially rising and he was winning all kinds of races in various series, many anticipated that he might get the opportunity to move into the big leagues. Unfortunately for Carlson, that was also during the time when NASCAR teams began looking for pre-pubescent hot shoes to sign and develop in their stables.

Those changing times ultimately meant that Carlson would not find an opportunity to truly showcase his abilities at the pinnacle of auto racing. It's unfortunate, and makes one wonder what might have been, had he been afforded that chance. And truthfully, this search for younger talent continues to be a mainstay for teams in NASCAR, and not one that appears to be going away any time soon.

Bucking The Trend

exploring outside of the norms of the industry; not exclusively pursuing the almighty dollar, like every other team. Instead, Roush-Fenway is trying to find a driver with the proven potential for performance and adaptability to grow with their organization.

This kind of opportunity hasn't really happened since another Wisconsin driver got his chance, with the same NASCAR team: Matt Kenseth. It's sort of poetic that things are coming full circle again. Another Wisconsin driver to Roush-Fenway, based on talent; it's pretty cool.

Will Majeski be the guy to buck the current trend and break through the gates with success in NASCAR—without having to bring sponsorship dollars with him? Of course, I personally hope so. I think a lot of people do, because it will breathe life once again into the dreams of other aspiring racers.

I liken it to putting the horse back in front of the cart, as it used to be that talent WAS what drove decisions, not money. We can only hope that Majeski's situation with Roush-Fenway signifies the start of a change in culture for future opportunities in the sport; opportunities that do not require every potential superstar to come bearing oodles of money. This could even be the ticket to reviving grassroots interest to the masses in motorsports.

Wouldn't that be great if Majeski's shot sparks a flurry of similar opportunities for other talented drivers around the country?

Can I get an "Amen?"



Majeski family photo

The need for a thick wallet has also been part of the equation to help pry open doors of opportunity. But trends can change; albeit not in a wide and sweeping fashion, however in the case of Majeski, he was not required to bring sponsorship to the developmental deal with Roush-Fenway. That's a rarity in this day and age.

Why is this? Maybe Roush-Fenway is seeking to shake up their program a bit by

Full Throttle



Shane Carlson

Over the years, the NASCAR Chase for the Championship has created a new degree of excitement at the Sprint Cup level, and this year, the XFINITY Series and the Truck Series will also have a Chase for the Championship.

No doubt, the Chase has produced some great racing, but one of the knocks on the Chase format is the lack of rotation of racetracks within.

Granted, there are a lot of factors in play that keep race dates and tracks from changing, mainly money, but let's pretend none of those factors limit which tracks are included in the Chase. Here's a hypothetical 10-race Chase schedule.

When I comprised this list, the only rules I kept were the tracks have to be on the current NASCAR circuit, and every track configuration needed to be in the Chase. Here's my dream Chase schedule.

Note: Bold indicates an elimination race.

1. Atlanta Motor Speedway: Start the Chase off on a high-speed intermediate, and it would be a larger draw than the current spring date. It's a fairly neutral track, so it wouldn't favor certain drivers right off the drop of the green.
2. Iowa Speedway: It's about time the Cup Series adds a date to the Midwest, particularly this venue and it would have to be in the early round of the Chase before the weather gets cold. Drivers want it, fans want it, make it happen NASCAR.
3. **Darlington Raceway:** I want two Darlington dates on the schedule. Keep the Labor Day weekend race, and add a second date in the Chase. The first

elimination race in the Chase, the true drivers can show their colors in a high-stakes race at one of NASCAR's crown jewels.

4. Sonoma: I'm still scratching my head as to why there is not a road course in the Chase currently. A championship-caliber driver needs to be tested on a roadie and at least hold their own.

5. Charlotte Motor Speedway: The most cookie-cutter track on the circuit in my opinion gives drivers who struggled at Sonoma a chance to recover before heading to an elimination race the following weekend.

6. **Talladega Superspeedway:** I like Talladega as an elimination race, though I can understand why some hate it. It has the capability to produce some intense racing and sometimes champions just need to get lucky every now and then.

7. Martinsville Speedway: My personal favorite track on the circuit has produced some dramatic

endings as of late, and there's no way a champion can sneak his way past a true short track.

8. Auto Club Speedway: ACS has gotten a lot better in recent years, and the wide intermediate plays to those who bring the horsepower. Restarts would have the potential to be insane with all the room there is to race in sunny California.

9. **Texas Motor Speedway:** The only reason I kept Texas over Phoenix on this list is so there's not an all but guaranteed winner in Kevin Harvick locking himself into the final four in Homestead.

10. **Homestead-Miami Speedway:** I really see no reason to change the venue for the season finale. It may not be as sexy as some of the older tracks on the schedule, but it still produces some great racing, with a flair for the dramatics. Who wouldn't want to be in Florida in November?

NASCAR HOME TRACK

JUNE 25 - AUTOGRAPH NIGHT
JULY 1 - TUNDRA SUPER LATE MODELS
JULY 16 - 40 LAPS OF LATE MODEL RACING
AUG. 20 - BUCK NIGHT & 40 LAPS LM RACING
OCT. 6-9 - 47TH OKTOBERFEST RACE WEEKEND
 Weekly Race Events - Qualifying: 6:15 • Racing: 7:30

NASCAR WHEN ALL-AMERICAN SERIES

Oktoberfest Race Weekend

LaCrosse Speedway

STREET DRAGS

LACROSSESPEEDWAY.COM • 608.786.1525
N4985 CTY RD M • WEST SALEM, WISCONSIN 54669
TWITTER.COM/@LAXSPEEDWAY • FACEBOOK.COM/LACROSSESPEEDWAY



SCAG Racing
FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI
Keeper of the Fire
Hoosier RACING TIRE
SUNOCO RACE FUELS

ARCA MIDWEST TOUR

SUNDAY 1-MAY / MADISON INTERNATIONAL SPEEDWAY
SATURDAY 14-MAY / STATE PARK SPEEDWAY
SATURDAY 11-JUN / ROCKFORD SPEEDWAY
SATURDAY 25-JUN / GATEWAY MOTORSPORTS PARK
FRIDAY 15-JUL / GRUNDY COUNTY SPEEDWAY
TUESDAY 2-AUG / WISCONSIN INTERNATIONAL RACEWAY
SATURDAY 13-AUG / MARSHFIELD MOTOR SPEEDWAY
SATURDAY 3-SEP / DELLS RACEWAY PARK
SATURDAY 24-SEP / ELKO SPEEDWAY
SAT/SUN OCT 8-9 / LACROSSE FAIRGROUNDS SPEEDWAY

Sunday 1-May 2:00PM Joe Shear Classic
Friday 13-May 7:30PM Pepsi Season Opener
Thursday 19-May 7:30PM Thursday Night Street Drags
Friday 20-May 7:30PM MADtown Meltdown
Friday 27-May 7:30PM Kid's Night
Friday 3-Jun 7:30PM Must See Racing Sprint Car Series
Thursday 9-Jun 7:30PM Thursday Night Street Drags
Friday 10-Jun 7:30PM Badgerland Challenge
Friday 17-Jun 7:30PM Super Late Model Triple Crown
Sunday 19-Jun 2:00PM ARCA Racing Series
Friday 24-Jun 7:30PM Salute to America

THURSDAY NIGHT STREET DRAGS

Madison INTERNATIONAL SPEEDWAY

MISRACING.COM | 608.835.9700
1122 SUNRISE ROAD, OREGON, WISCONSIN 53575
FACEBOOK.COM/MADISONINTERNATIONALSPEEDWAY | TWITTER.COM/MISRACING

Going In Circles continued from page 5

shortly after this race he was tabbed for the driver development program with Roush-Fenway Racing, and will likely race about five ARCA races in 2016 I remember meeting Ty when he first started racing late models a few years ago, as I talked with him one night at Columbus 151. Turns out that this was his very first race in a late model, and the only time he raced at that track. It was interesting to get this information, as I didn't realize that at the time it was his first race in a late model. I'll be watching his progress intently.

Kenny Joosten took the win in the Mid-Am car headliner, and it was a pleasurable race to watch. Rick Tackman Jr. led early, before Ryan Gutknecht took over as Joosten was threading his way to the front. Joosten and Gutknecht raced each other side by side for many laps, each giving the other plenty of room. Joosten even had to tuck in back behind Gutknecht once, but gave another try and made the pass and win. It was pleasurable to watch two racers respect each other and race so clean. Well done by both.

Chester Ace took the win in the trucks, using a late caution as an advantage to pull along race leader Jeremy Lepak in the Devine Motorsports truck. Ace traded a little paint to get the job done, even admitting so after, but it was another interesting race to watch. Michael Raskovic came home third.

Later in May the regular season opened a week late here at MIS after rain cancelled the regular season opener. "Magic Shoes" Trevor Robinson has moved up from the Roadrunner division at Rockford to the sportsman division here, racing a car he got late last year from Brett McCoy. The car is a very sharp multi-purple hued machine. "This is kind of a throwback to a car my Dad raced back in the early 1990's," Said Trevor.

Sportsman racer Tim Wondrash came out a couple of times last year after many years off from racing. This year he said that he hopes to race a full season. "It's all about seat time for me. I'm getting faster all the time and hope to be right up there as the season goes along."

On a recent night here the vintage racers were on hand, which is always a fun time. Whenever they race, a mandatory stop at Butch Mierendorf's trailer is required. He has been racing a long time and always has some good stories. "At this point in my career, I just want to go out there and have fun, and bring the car home in one piece," Said Butch. He also had a story about a bad wreck he had here on the half-mile many years ago with a late model, saying, "I was racing with a young kid alongside me, he lost it, then I didn't see him, and all of a sudden he came back and clipped me. It sent me up on top of the wall and upside down. I knew It was bad when I watched the dash panel bend up in front of me while it was happening."

Chris Matz is racing his Chrysler product in the vintage series after racing it locally on and off for a few years. "I am having fun doing this. I'm going to be getting a chance to race at least three different tracks that I've never been on. Until tonight I had never raced here on the half-mile. I came once and hot lapped, but it got rained out after that and I never had another chance."

Recently, speed trials were held on a Friday night show just to see if someone could break the all-time track record on the big track. Two sprint cars showed up and attempted this, with Matt Byrne breaking the old record with a lap of 14.624. That is flying. Sportsman division racer Matt Lundberg moved up to the late model division with a new ride, and looks to be doing well thus far. Lyle Phillips purchased Dan Snyder's Bandit car and looks to be in the thick of things this year as Snyder moves on to a sportsman car.

On a final note, I'd like to extend my condolences to the family of Bobby Adams, who passed away a few weeks ago. Bobby was the second of four generations of this family to race, and ran during the 1970's at local tracks, but also raced some CWRA events in the central part of the state. It was always fun chatting with Bobby, my last time was at the Rockford opener.



Thrills and Spills

Kelly Evink (# 98) Machesney Park, IL and Patrick Featherston II (#71) of Byron, IL tangle on the backstretch at Rockford Speedway. Evink encountered heavy damage to his race car. Featherston was able to continue after making a short pit stop.

Upcoming Events
July 30, 2016
Cedar Lake Speedway

www.IMCAoldtimers.com

Cedar View Electric, Inc
 22776 Pine Trail, Lakeville, MN 55044

Presents Race Car Alley!
Friday July 8th
Downtown Lakeville, MN 5:00PM-8:00PM

- Meet & Greet Autograph Session
- Scavenger Hunt For The Kids
- Test Your Skills at the Tire Changing Station
- Prizes, Giveaways, and Drawings for Tickets To Elko Speedway

For More Information, Call 952-469-2100
 or visit www.panoprogram.org

Like us on Facebook

THE MIDWEST RACING CONNECTION

Photo Gallery



Kris Peterson in his AMC Rambler at Princeton
Scott Searcy photo



A full field of Briggs 206 karts at Eau Claire Raceway
Brewster Baker photo



Three-wide Road Runner action at Rockford
Jimmy Ambruoso photo



Paul Dolphy and his vintage Torino at Cedar Lake
Vince Peterson photo



David Byrne on his way to touring MIS in 14.624 seconds
TJ Harron photo



Mike Carlson holds off Steve Carlson for the win on Twin 20's night
Bruce Nuttleman photo

THE MIDWEST RACING CONNECTION

Photo Gallery



Chris Weinkauff and Nick Murgic in Midwest Tour action at MIS
Doug Hornickel photo



Jimmy Kouba and Rick Kobs battle for position in Traditional Sprint action
Vince Peterson photo



Sportsmen action at LaCrosse Fairgrounds Speedway
Bruce Nuttleman photo



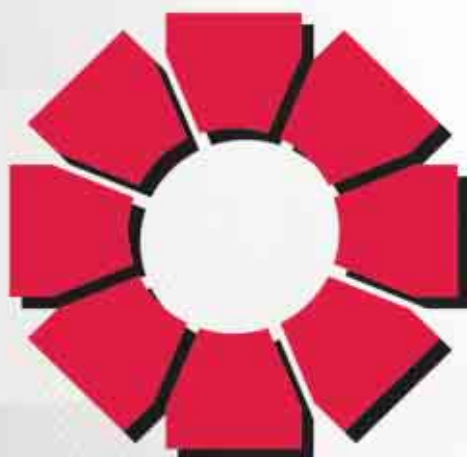
Great North Legends will be on the schedule each week at Elko again in 2016
Martin DeFries photo



Power Stock Test and Tune action at Elko
Martin DeFries photo



Late Model action at MIS
TJ Harron photo



PIRTEK®

"FLUID TRANSFER SOLUTIONS"

PIRTEK fluid transfer solutions for automotive, marine, off-road and custom applications work to your advantage and your budget. Get the right part the first time. No more leaks or endless trips to the parts store. *No More Headaches!*



Proudly Serving The Construction And Racing Communities Since 1996!



- **Hoses-Adapters-Fittings**
- **Standard-Metric D.O.T. Certified Brake Hoses and Lines**
- **Power Steering • Oil Lines**
- **Transmission Lines • Fuel • A/C**



PIRTEK HAS AUTOMOTIVE SOLUTIONS

MPLS/ST. PAUL

(651) 641-1414

2161 University Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55114

BURNSVILLE

952-895-5400

1409 Cliff Road East
Burnsville, MN 55337

PLYMOUTH

(763) 475-0475

11350 Highway 55
Plymouth, MN 55441

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT DELLS RACEWAYPARK!

6/18 - Lyle Nabbefeldt Memorial 55 / CWRA
Super Late Model 55, Sportsman, Outlaws, Legends

6/19 - Sunday: Afternoon (Noon-5pm) #3
Slide Society Drifting Association – Club Day

6/25 - Students & Seniors Night (\$5 admission)
Late Model 50, Bandits, Legends, CSR Cars,
Tomah Thunder Modifieds, WI Sport Trucks

7/2 - Saturday: Independence Night of Thrills
Thrill Show Starts at 6pm / Gates Open at 4pm

7/3 - Sunday: Afternoon (Noon-5pm) #4
Slide Society Drifting Association – Club Day

7/9 - Walbeck Classic 60 / CWRA
Super Late Model, Sportsman, Outlaws,
American Super Cups

7/16 - Ethanol Racing Research Clean Air 50
Assembly Products Shootout Rd-1 LM
Super Truck 50, Late Model 50, & Bandits
Plus: Tomah Thunder Modifieds



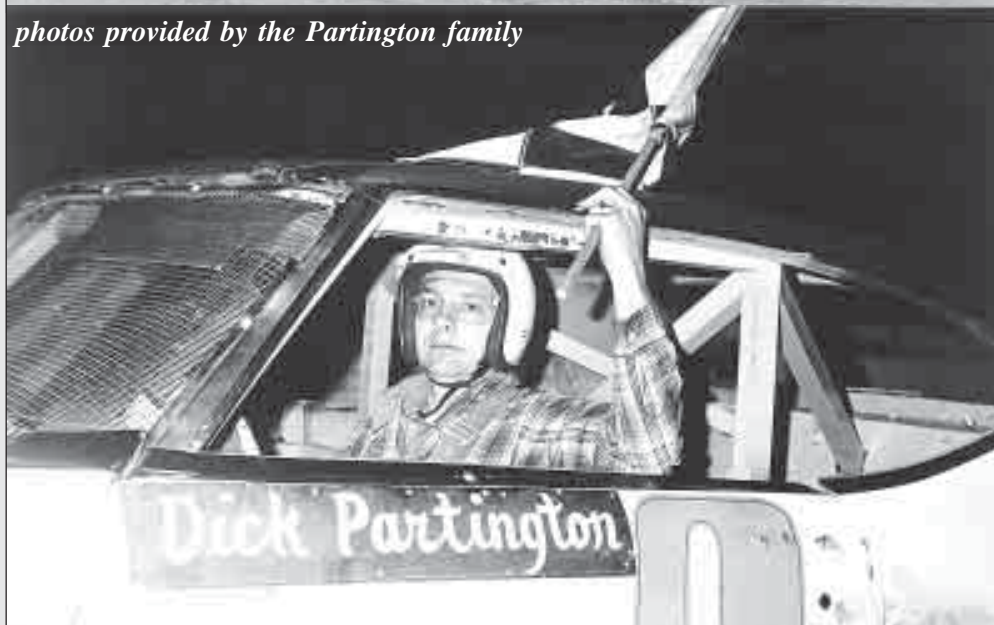
**Tickets/info at dellsracewaypark.com
or call (608) 253-RACE (7223)**

Classic Corner

Dick Partington was inducted into the Elko Hall of Fame 10 years ago in 2006. Here are a few shots of Dick early in racing his career.



photos provided by the Partington family



KEITH'S MARINA .COM
TIM KEITH
Owner
262-334-9389
4339 Hwy 33
West Bend, WI
Keith@Keithsmarina.com

Huge Indoor Showroom!

SunChaser
by 
MERCURY



18' Oasis cruise
or fish 20 HP
MERC 4-stroke
Top-Stereo
\$10,695.00

Wisconsin's Pontoon Center!

Bruce Nuttleman
Phone/Fax: 612-860-6622



www.ultimatelapphoto.com

Photos-Marketing-Media



Redline Graphics Inc.

651-346-1199
www.redlinegraphics.net

Joe Shear Classic and Cabin Fever 100

The ARCA Midwest Tour kicked off the 2016 season by visiting two of Wisconsin's historic paved facilities; Madison International Speedway in Oregon for the Joe Shear Classic and State Park Speedway in Wausau for the Cabin Fever 100. Both races ended with the same outcome, Ty Majeski in victory lane. The two-time Midwest Tour champ also recently announced he has been recruited into the Roush/Fenway racing program as well as being part of the 2016 NASCAR Next group.

(All photos by Doug Hornickel)



Eventual winner Ty Majeski and Dennis Prunty battle for the lead at MIS.



Local favorite Natalie Decker signs a cast during the autograph session



Jonathan Eilen's son Kelby made some adjustments to Dad's car after qualifying



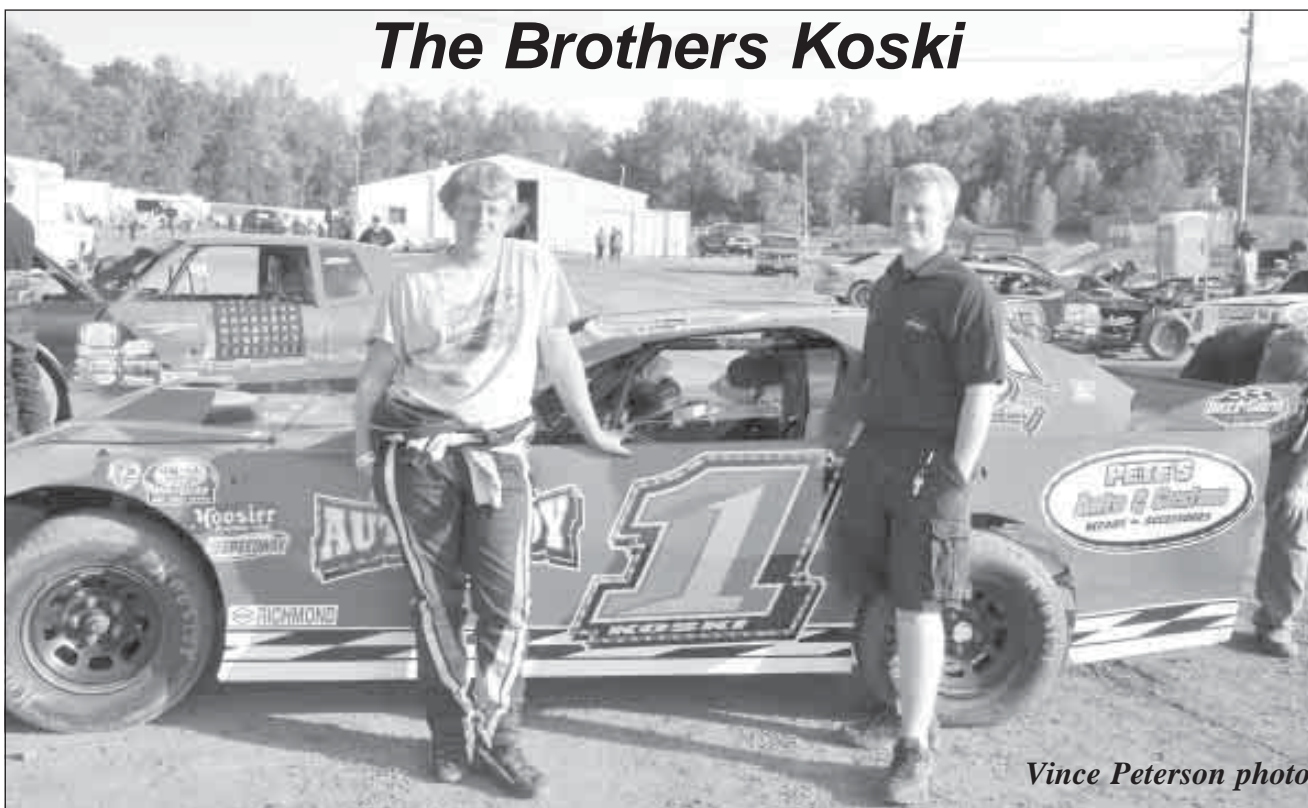
Left photo; Joe Shear Classic top-3, Johnny Sauter, Ty Majeski, & Dennis Prunty. Right photo: Cabin Fever top -3, Andrew Morrissey, Ty Majeski, & MG Gajewski



Dirty Talkin'**Kris Peterson**

Twin brothers Matt and Lukas Koski are no strangers to dirt track racing, after all their grandfather is the legendary and champion racer Tom Nesbitt. The twins began their racing careers in Karts but last year decided to make the move to the Super Stock division and are sharing, yes that is correct sharing a race car.

Currently Lukas is racing at Cedar Lake Speedway on Saturday nights and Matt is racing at St. Croix Speedway on Sunday nights. I have heard of brothers especially twins sharing a room, a bicycle, maybe even some shoes but a racecar? I was imagining this being comparable to sharing a girlfriend, but when I asked the boys about sharing a car they both said they want to race bad enough and currently can only put one car on the track so they will share a car all race season.

The Brothers Koski*Vince Peterson photo*

The boys who are currently Juniors at New Richmond High School, work after school jobs and both work full time on summer break and contribute most of their earnings in order to help pay for the car. Their mom a single parent also makes many sacrifices in order to help them live their dream.

There is a bit of competition between the two and while they are not competing against each other for points at any one facility, they do have bragging rights if one finishes in a better position on the track then the other. With sharing the car both must be somewhat careful and do their best not to wreck the car so that the other can race the next time out. In talking with them I got a sense of comradery even in competition with each other and when one of them is piloting the car you can expect the other will be right there working on the car and giving driving advice. Grandpa Tom has also been on hand during the recent race nights.

I have watched both kids race this year and have been very impressed with these young men with very little experience running in this class, as all of us race fans know some of these super stock features are very intense and can be real wreck fests. I was very impressed with Matt in his first ever trip to St. Croix Speedway this month in a very stout field of 21 cars, he started at the rear of the field was able to avoid all the carnage and even passed a few cars to come home 15th and Lukas was just as impressive in his second trip to Cedar Lake Speedway coming home with a 13th place finish.

While the Koski boys have some big shoes to fill in following in their grandfathers footsteps, I have no doubt we will be talking about them at our area dirt tracks for a long time to come.

Vince Peterson photo*Vince Peterson photo*

Auto Racing Facts,
Observances and
Opinions



Dale P. Danielski

If not for families continuing their racing tradition through generations you really wonder where racing would be these days. Many of the names that were a part of the sport many years ago are still present today and this certainly holds true at La Crosse Fairgrounds Speedway, West Salem, WI.

The name Lockington is definitely one that has appeared through the years in race results in the region. Going back to the North La Crosse Speedbowl days Lockington's have seen four generations compete going back over 50 years. Don Lockington raced in the area way back when and Ron then raced after him. Other family members getting involved include Tory and Todd whose son Ryan also raced. Nephew to Ron, Shawn Lockington is a racer and has

a son Kyle that races. And of course if you head out to the track on a Saturday you'll be watching Kayla tooling around in her Thunderstock machine.

Of course you don't have to go too far back to recognize the Carlson name in racing. As a matter of fact you have the father son duo of Steve and Mike competing every week in the NASCAR Late Model division. I can remember when brothers Steve and Tom were going at it in Sportsman division racing. Tim also found himself in the mix racing for awhile in Wisconsin. Jim Carlson raced for many years in the Late Model division only recently giving up driving.

Carter Christenson has been racing in the NASCAR Late Model division for the last several years as he follows in the footsteps of his father Ken Christenson Jr. Jim and John have also raced as they followed their father Ken Sr. into racing.

Mike Niles who still handles wrecker responsibilities at the speedway had the opportunity to get into the sport when in his 20s and competed for many years before helping sons Andy and Bill in the sport. I can remember some epic battles between the two competitive brothers and they didn't always end with the best possible result. With both brothers on the



Continuing the family tradition of racing #28 Sam Niles and #30 Kayla Lockington



sidelines Mike took on the ownership role fielding cars for Greg Scheck. With Scheck retiring after winning a championship in the Sportsman division it was on to the next generation as Andy's son Sam informed the family he wanted to race. With the Scheck championship car still in Niles's possession the only barrier was getting Grandma Niles approval which Sam grudgingly received. Result; The Niles racing tradition continues on.

The Oliver name in racing continues on as dad of sons Greg and Todd purchased an ex Dick Trickle Ford and raced for a number of years. Greg raced for awhile and continues in the sport as a racing series promoter. Of course you'll also recognize that name as the long time flagman at the speedway. Todd meanwhile still races his NASCAR Late Model and also introduced his daughter to the sport as she raced awhile back in the Sportsman division.

Dale's Picture from the past

Marv Marzofka #99 (Yes, Marzofka drove this car along with Dick Trickle) and Dave Marcis #2 racing at Marathon Park, Wausau, WI., in 1963. (left - Gary Hall photo) Dewey Moore driving the #3 which would become famous as the Chicken Coupe goes for a ride at marathon park, Wausau, WI., in 1964. (right - from the Gary Hall collection)



Racing Facts, Observances and Opinions from page 18

The name Korish goes all the way back to the 1950s in area racing and in recent years we've seen Todd race and become track champion in the NASCAR Late Model division at the speedway. Relation John and Lucas have also raced.

Shawn Pfaff has had a stellar career racing at the speedway and now has daughter Jacinda and son Radlee behind the wheel of race cars.

The Eckelberg family has been a familiar name at the track for the last number of years as dad Kurt, son Jonathan and daughter Mandi have all raced. Kurt has retired from driving but can still be seen every Saturday night helping the kids with their racing careers with mom who has been behind the wheel herself not too far away.

Of course back in the 1970s when I was really taking an interest in the sport I can recall the names Mahlum and Thicke competing. Pete Mahlum was one I remember racing some powerful Chevrolet products at a number of tracks. With so many folks with these names in the area I can't tell you exactly how they are related but I remember watching Larry Mahlum, Paul Mahlum, Paul Thicke and Leon Thicke race back in the day. Those names are still appearing today as Paul Mahlum, Paul Mahlum III, Scott Mahlum, Patrick, Thicke and Garrett Thicke can all be found in the track results on any given race night.

Rick Johnson was another familiar name in racing mostly competing in the Sportsman division through the years. His son R.J. has carried on the tradition as he has raced for a number of years.

I can remember Al Dobbs racing the number #3 in the Sportsman division years ago and we continue to see that name at the track as both Taylor and Jonathan are racers.

Some pretty well known brothers acts have been involved in the sport as Larry Bolster, Jr., and Jason Bolster (who is still competing) have both been champions at the speedway. The ageless Don Turner, (Frank Thornton) and his brother George raced against each other back in the '70s.

I am sure I have missed some of the many generations of racers competing through the years in our region and feel free to let me know who you are for future column material. But the bottom line here is where would the sport be if not for each generation of racer following the other to keep the tradition alive. The sport may well have died a long time ago as these folks make up 2/3 of the field racing on any given night.

Here and there...It was a Carlson kind of a night at Lax Fairgrounds 5/21/16 as Mike won the first 20 lap NASCAR Late Model Feature with dad Steve following suit winning the 20 lap Feature night cap. Steve Carlson also took the 25 lap Feature on 5/14/16 at the track and if not for Ty Majeski winning the

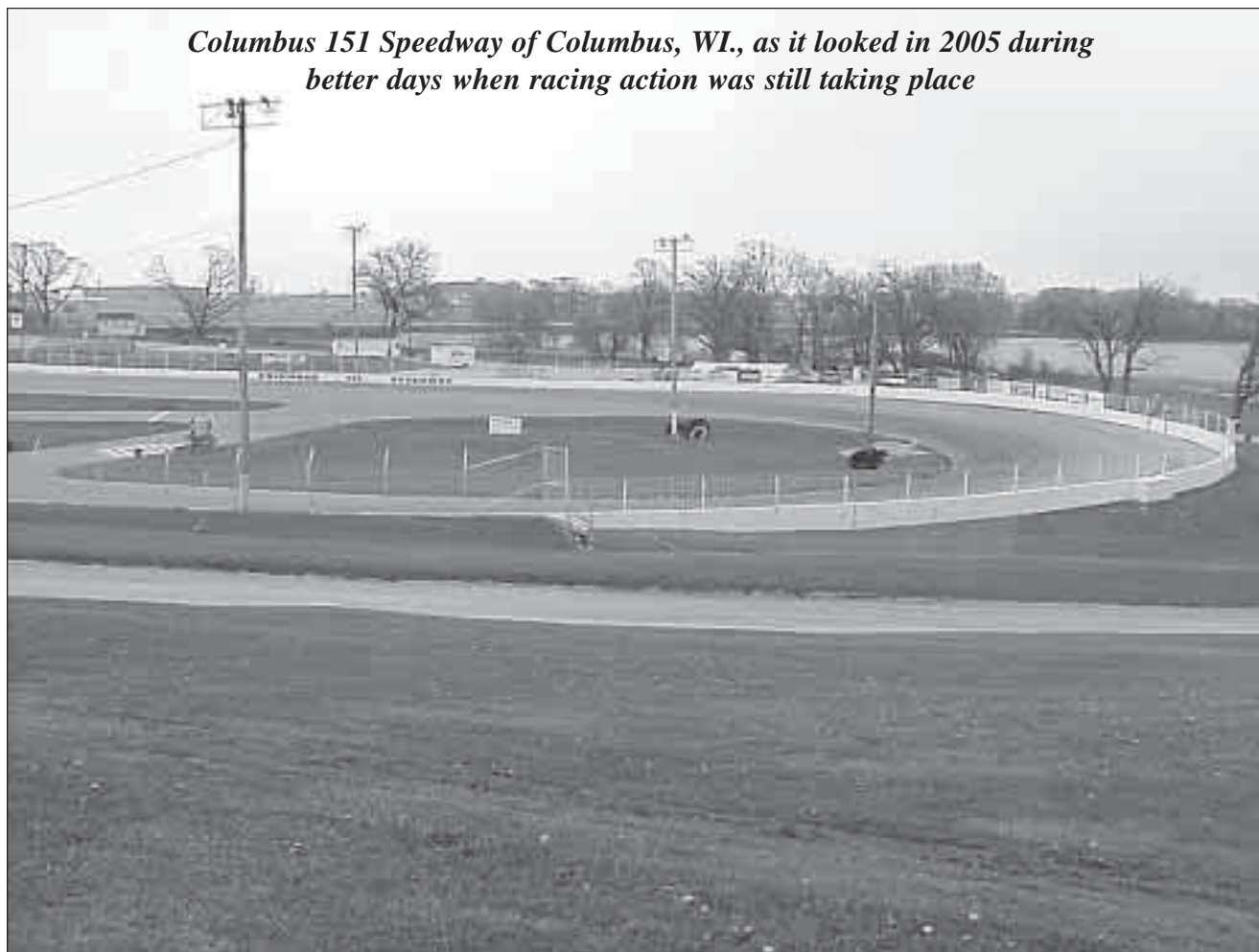
track opener 4/24/16 it would be all Carlson so far in 2016....The Carlson name in victory lane at the track may become even more prevalent this season without Ty Majeski being able to compete on a regular basis. Majeski has signed a Driver Development deal with Roush Racing which is supposed to lead to bigger things in first ARCA then NASCAR racing. I just hope it doesn't go the way of other talented Wisconsin racers Nate Haseleu and Todd Kleuver as neither was given a fair shot down South. But in Majeski's case, with a favorable agreement in place why not give it a shot?...Cam Dezelske picked up his first ever NASCAR Late Model win in a heat race at Lax Fairgrounds here 5/14/16. He kept the momentum going by winning again at the track on 5/21/16...The Central Wisconsin Racing Association has a couple events once again scheduled at the Dells Raceway Park, Wis. Dells, WI. The Lyle Nabbefeldt Memorial race will be held on June 18th with the Walbeck Classic following on July 9th. Two to four additional events could also be scheduled before the year is out...

In the defunct race track file it's the Columbus 151 Speedway of Columbus, WI., as it looked in 2005 during better days when racing action was still taking place. Back on June 18th, 1972 it was John Ziegler winning the 30 lap Feature there over Bill Retallick, Rich Bickle, Steve Arndt and Fred Bender. Ziegler also set fast time around the 1/3 mile oval at 14:41 seconds. Heat race winners were Len Swalheim, Jerry Eckardt, and Roy Schackelford. The consolation race winner was Dave Drost while Rich Zickert won the Semi-feature. The Hobby stock main event winner was Ray Kreyer.

And going back in time to September 3, 1951 it was Herb Kurth winning the feature at Marathon Park of Wausau, WI. Following Kurth were Sam Wadzinski, Milt Schavie, John Ryan and Carmello Oliva. Interesting to note that soon to be racing star Augie Winkleman was not allowed to compete because he wasn't considered a local driver, as in from Marathon County. Winkleman was from Merrill, WI., less than ½ hour away.. Thanks to Gary Hall for this information... Going back to September 22, 1985 which was the 86th race of the year attended by this scribe, it was Joe Shear winning the National Short Track Championship 200 at Rockford Speedway, Rockford, IL...

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

Columbus 151 Speedway of Columbus, WI., as it looked in 2005 during better days when racing action was still taking place



Publishers note from page 3

the main attraction on this night, they also include several of their regular Saturday night divisions. Hopefully some of these first time fans are encouraged to come out a few more times during the year.

Another way to keep the kids entertained is by moving the show along. Again, this is just my opinion, but I don't think fans are as willing to stay up late or sit out in the cold as they were back in my younger years. I can remember sitting in the bleachers with my dad and wearing my little snowmobile suit. I don't think I've seen this in some time, but maybe once again this was just a way for my parents to publicly embarrass me for being a bad kid.

I've always enjoyed the fact that a short track has the ability to adjust their schedule given the conditions that are presented on a particular evening. Sometimes there might be rain on the way, and they'll adjust the schedule to get the feature race for the main division in. Other times circumstances might lead to the show going longer than expected and the main attraction is pushed up in the order of events to keep the majority of the fans happy. Granted, not everyone is going to be happy when the schedule is changed, but in the end it's ultimately about putting on a good show for the majority of the fans.

There were three events in the area recently where the schedule was adjusted; the Frostbuster at LaCrosse, the Bus race at Cedar Lake and the ARCA Midwest Tour at State Park Speedway. I was lucky enough to be on hand for two of them. Personally, I'm glad the schedules were adjusted. The annual Frostbuster at LaCrosse was scheduled for mid-April. The day started out with rain in the area, but we took a gamble and made the 2+ hour drive from home. While the sun wasn't shining, the rain had moved out and the track was dry when we arrived. The show started on time, but there was a chance of rain returning later in the afternoon. The original schedule was moved around to have the Late Model feature run first to do everything possible to make sure this event got in the books. While the other divisions may have felt slighted if they would have ended up getting rained out, that's just how the cookie crumbles sometimes. Ultimately the rain stayed away and the entire show was completed.

The 12th annual School Bus race at Cedar Lake in early May saw unseasonably cool temps. While hard-

core race fans may not consider this a "real" race, it is a real display of putting on a show. Due to the cold temperatures and various events on the track, things were taking longer than the CLS staff had planned for. The Bus race was moved up in the schedule to give the massive crowd an opportunity to see the show they wanted to see before it became too late or too cold. Now some of the drivers in the regular racing divisions may not have agreed with this change, in the end it's about putting on the show the majority of fans came to see. There's not a doubt in my mind that the majority of fans on hand this night came to see buses race and wreck, and that's exactly what they had a chance to see.

Miscellaneous News & Notes: And speaking of putting on a show, Rockford Speedway has been known for years for putting on some wild and crazy events. The late Hugh Deery was the consummate showman. Hugh's wife Jody and the rest of the Deery kids have continued with the tradition of unique events at the historic speedway in Illinois. Early in the month of May, Rockford Speedway announced they will host a onetime only, dirt track special event. Yes, you read that correctly, Rockford will be a dirt track for a two-day, mid-week special event at the end of June.

While the concept of putting dirt on top of asphalt is not new, it is new for Rockford. In years past, historic speedways such as I-70 Speedway in Missouri and Capital Speedway (now Madison International Speedway) we're converted to dirt on seasonal basis before returning to asphalt. More recently, tracks such as Berlin Raceway, Bristol Speedway and Elko Speedway have hosted special events with a temporary dirt surface. By all accounts, the temporary events have been successful, and the tight confines of Rockford should make for an exciting show for the World of Outlaws Sprints and Late Models.



Jimmy Ambruoso photo



The annual Hog Wash mini grand prix at Rockford (top) a packed grandstand for the annual bus race at Cedar Lake (bottom)

During the Bus race mentioned previously in this column, Chase Viebrock had a nasty flip in the UMSS Traditional Sprint main event. Chase tumbled down the backstretch and was awake and alert following the wreck, but transported to a local hospital. Chase will be out of the race car and in a back brace for the next 3 months. We wish a speedy recovery to Chase and hope to see him back out on the track soon.

And finally, one of the great racing historians in my neck of the woods recently passed away. Marge Elftman spent countless hours putting together books of newspaper clippings from the early days of Elko, Raceway Park and Twin City Speedway. Marge and her homemade bread will be missed by many.

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube

www.facebook.com/themidwestracingconnection

@MidwestRace

www.youtube.com/theracingconnection

facebook



You Tube

**ALL SPRINT
CAR SHOW!**



**WITH
FULL PROGRAM
OF UMSS 360
SPRINT CARS
AND UMSS
TRADITIONAL
SPRINT CARS**

**2nd Annual
WORLD OF OUTLAW
SPRINT CAR SHOWDOWN
FRI & SAT, JULY 8th & 9th**



For More Information

www.cedarlakespeedway.com

**RACE AT 7PM
EACH NIGHT**

The Midwest Racing Connection Directory Page

CLUB LAMARK
Madison's Race Car Bar

Where cold beer & good friends meet

1525 N. Stoughton Rd.
Madison WI 53704
608.244.4004

Weekday Lunch specials
Breakfast
Saturday & Sunday

WILSON
RACE FUELS

Methanol Available

SUNOCO RACE FUELS

RED WING, MN
1-800-634-9666
www.wilsonoilcompany.com

FOREIGN & DOMESTIC REPAIR SINCE 1957

MAREK'S
TOWING & REPAIR, INC.

Repair Shop
Mon-Fri 7:00-5:30
Office: 952.469.3182
Fax: 952.469.7724
Imponnd Lot
Mon-Fri 7:00-5:30
Sat & Sun 10:00-12:00
20152 Kenrick Avenue - Lakeville, MN 55044
www.MAREKTOWINGANDREPAIR.com

Hillside Drywall

Shakopee, MN
612-812-0278

DCA
RaceFab

Street Stock/Sportsmen Parts
LaCrosse, WI
www.dcaracefab.com

Turtle's
BAR & GRILL

Downtown Shakopee
952-445-9668

WEHR'S MACHINE
1710 Pearl St.
Bangor, WI 54614
877-460-7211

CLAMP
WHEEL
STEERING
BRAKING
DISC
FRAM
TIRE
RACING
ONLINE
ACCESS
DAMP
CARB

www.wehrsmachine.com

ALS
A RACE WORTH WINNING

www.aRaceWorthWinning.org

Products — **MOTORSPORTS MARKETING TOOLS**

STARMAKER
Multimedia

www.starmakermultimedia.com

Sponsorship Packages
DVD Marketing Packages
Star Cards • Consulting

Dale P. Danielski
dale@starmakermultimedia.com
608.783.5827

Services



The Big One at DRP

*This incident happened on lap 17 of the 40 Late Model feature Saturday night at the Dells Raceway Park. It involved 7 drivers all of whom would not return. Brad Muller, Jesse Bernhagen, Shane Morrissey, Nick Roehl, Steve Dobbratz, Chad Miller and Ken Jacoby.
(Jeff Blaser photos)*

Spring Lake Speedway Inaugural NASCAR Season

Spring Lake Speedway in Unity, Wisconsin started of their first season under new ownership and NASCAR sanctioning on Memorial Day weekend. Fans and drivers flocked to the recently updated facility.
(Tom Loos photos)



Indianapolis 2016

The 100th running of the Indianapolis 500 saw a record breaking crowd on hand.




The crowd wasn't too shabby for for the annual Little 500 held at Anderson Speedway the night before the Indy 500



(Bruce Nuttleman photos)

ALL NATURAL PRODUCT


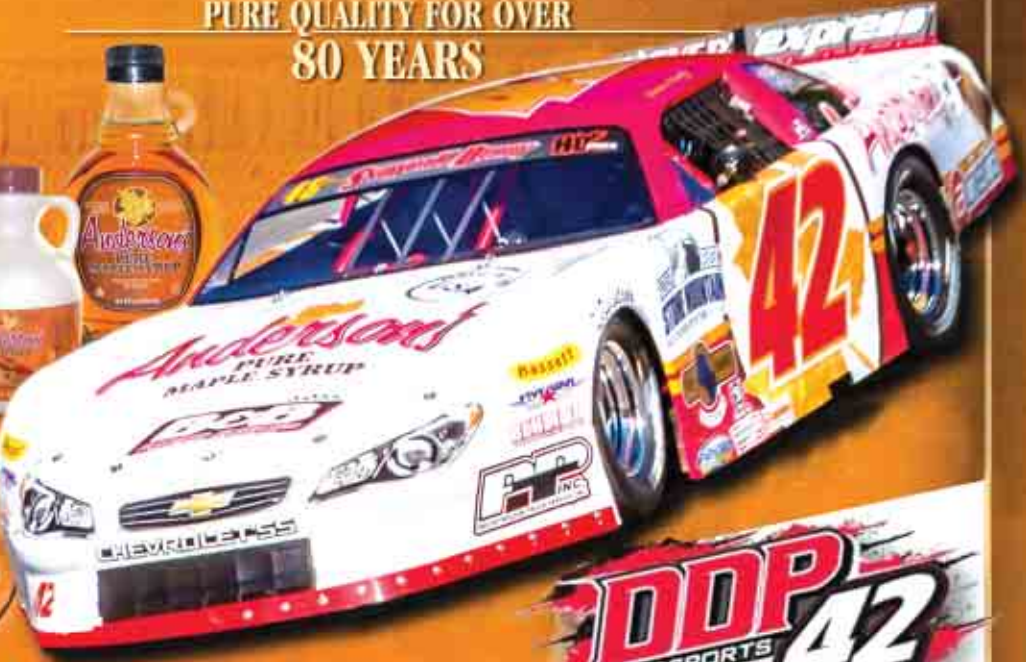
PRODUCT OF THE USA



Anderson's

PURE MAPLE SYRUP

PURE QUALITY FOR OVER
80 YEARS

MADE IN THE USA

DDP 42
MOTORSPORTS

*Breakfast Never Tasted So Good!
Follow Our Racing Experiences at:*

www.AndersonsMapleSyrup.com



✓ Easy to Use Website



✗ Waiting in Line



✓ Huge Selection



✓ Fast Shipping

ALL THE PARTS YOUR CAR WILL EVER NEED

www.RockAuto.com



For Quality Work at a Fair Price use IBEW Local 110



www.ibewpros.org

www.stpaulneca.org



IBEW 100 YEARS OF BROTHERHOOD

