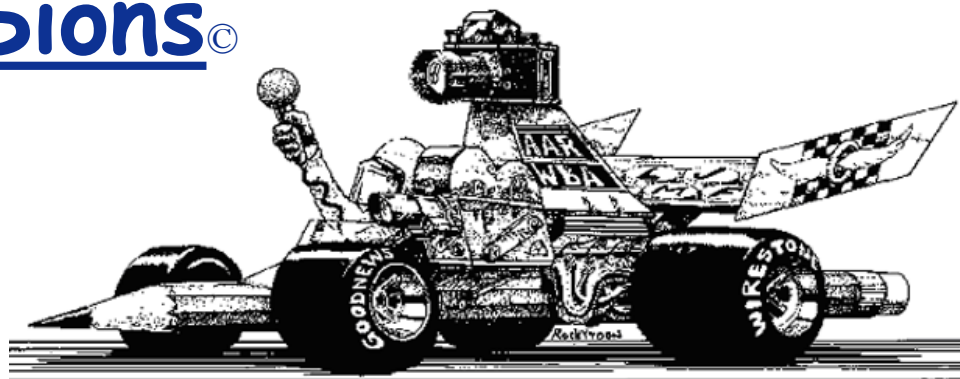


ImpRESSIONs[©]

50th
Anniversary



The Official Newsletter Of The American Auto Racing Writers and Broadcasters Association

Nov. 2005



Vol. 38 No. 9

AARWBA Thanks Our Official 50th Anniversary Sponsors:
(Click on any logo to go to that sponsor's website!)



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INDY RACING LEAGUE



Together with NEXTEL



American Auto Racing Writers & Broadcasters Association, Inc. (www.aarwba.org)
"Dedicated To Increasing Media Coverage of Motor Sports"

DEADLINE!

All journalists understand deadlines, so please note this important one:
All entries for the special Ford "Sweepstakes" contest MUST arrive by Nov. 29.
See full details on the contest elsewhere in this newsletter.



AARWBA 50th Anniversary Dinner



AARWBA President Dusty Brandel receives an award from the Board of Directors for her 50 years of motor sports coverage and service to the sport. Mike Harris of AP, AARWBA Southern Vice-President, makes the presentation. California Speedway presented Brandel with a cake to celebrate the occasion. Michael F. Hollander photos for AARWBA.



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All America Team Voting Results

2005 AUTO RACING ALL-AMERICA TEAM IS LARGEST EVER SELECTED

A 17-member Auto Racing All-America Team, the largest ever selected, has been chosen by voting members of the motorsports press. The champions of NASCAR Nextel Cup, IndyCar, Champ Car, NHRA Top Fuel and the World of Outlaws were among the top vote-getters. One of them will be announced as the winner of the Jerry Titus Award — an auto racing equivalent of the Heisman Trophy — at the annual banquet of the American Auto Racing Writers and Broadcasters Association Dec. 3 in Indianapolis, presented by Sprint Nextel.

The voters elect two drivers to the First Team in each of seven categories — Open Wheel, Stock Car, Road Racing, Drag Racing, Short Track, Touring Series and At Large. Last year AARWBA decided that endurance racing co-drivers with virtually identical records would be on the ballot as one, and three such pairs were elected this year to create the 17-driver team. Drivers placing third and fourth in the vote comprise the Second Team, while all others receiving at least a 5 percent vote earn Honorable Mention.

Champ Car's **Sébastien Bourdais** and IndyCar's **Dan Wheldon** gained First Team honors in the Open Wheel category. Bourdais won his championship for the second straight year. Wheldon won an IRL record six races, including the Indianapolis 500. Joining IRL runner-up **Tony Kanaan** (last year's Titus Award winner) on the second team was femme phenom **Danica Patrick**, who made the team on write-in votes. Patrick is the 11th driver to earn All-America status on write-ins, but the first ever to rise higher than Honorable Mention.

With NASCAR's Nextel Cup still having two races to go, AARWBA voters chose the top two points leaders, **Tony Stewart** and **Jimmie Johnson** to lead the Stock Car category. Fast-closing **Carl Edwards** and his Roush Racing teammate **Mark Martin** made Second Team.

Named as the Road Racing representatives were the top two Daytona Prototype pairs in the Grand-Am Rolex Sports Car Series — champions **Max Angelelli/Wayne Taylor** and runners-up **Scott Pruett/Luis Diaz**. Second team honors went to the top two GT1 teams from the American Le Mans Series, **Oliver Gavin/Olivier Beretta** and **Ron Fellows/Johnny O'Connell**.

The Drag Racing category may have been the most difficult for the voters. While NHRA Top Fuel champ **Tony Schumacher** was an easy choice, the tightest 3-way Funny Car race in NHRA history — not decided until after most had voted — meant five-time winner **John Force** made First Team for the 13th time. The Funny Car champion, three-time winner **Gary Scelzi**, was joined by the Pro Stock champ **Greg Anderson** on the second team.

Steve Kinser, on the heels of his 20th World of Outlaws crown, easily swept the Short Track category for the 18th time on the First Team and 23rd time as an All-America, both the records. Joining Kinser was USAC Silver Crown champion **Dave Steele**. Second team honors went to two more USAC drivers, sprint car points leader **Levi Jones** and midget champion **Josh Wise**.

The Touring Series category was swept by **Frank Kimmel**, winner of a record seventh ARCA championship, and NASCAR Busch Series points leader Martin Truex Jr. Chosen for second team were Truex's closest Busch pursuer **Clint Bowyer** and Craftsman Truck points leader **Ted Musgrave**.

...continued on next page

All America Team Voting Results

Road racers and an off-road racer topped the At Large category. **Rob MacCachren**, on pace to win championships in both SCORE desert racing and the Best in the Desert series, is joined by American Le Mans GT2 class champions **Patrick Long/Jorg Bergmeister**. A tie in the voting involving a co-driver pair resulted in four drivers making Second Team — Toyota Atlantic Champion **Charles Zwolsman**, IHRA Alcohol Funny Car champion **Rob Atchison**, and the Grand-Am Cup champions in the Sport Touring class **David Haskell/Sylvain Tremblay**.

Earning Honorable Mention were **Dario Franchitti, Sam Hornish Jr.** and **Paul Tracy** in Open Wheel; **Greg Biffle** and **Ryan Newman** in Stock Car; **Frank Biela/Emanuele Pirro, Klaus Graf** and **Greg Pickett** in Road Racing; **Ron Capps** and **Clay Millican** in Drag Racing; **Steve Francis** and **Damion Gardner** in Short Track, **Ted Christopher** and **Dennis Setzer** in Touring Series; **Katherine Legge, Carl Renezeder** and **Steve Torrence** in At Large.



FIRST TEAM

OPEN WHEEL: Sébastien Bourdais, Dan Wheldon
STOCK CAR: Jimmie Johnson, Tony Stewart
ROAD RACING: Max Angelelli/Wayne Taylor, Scott Pruett/Luis Diaz
DRAG RACING: John Force, Tony Schumacher
SHORT TRACK: Steve Kinser, Dave Steele
TOURING SERIES: Frank Kimmel, Martin Truex Jr.
AT LARGE: Patrick Long/Jorg Bergmeister, Rob MacCachren

SECOND TEAM

OPEN WHEEL: Tony Kanaan, *Danica Patrick
STOCK CAR: Carl Edwards, Mark Martin
ROAD RACING: Ron Fellows/Johnny O'Connell, Oliver Gavin, Olivier Beretta
DRAG RACING: Greg Anderson, Gary Scelzi
SHORT TRACK: Levi Jones, Josh Wise
TOURING SERIES: Clint Bowyer, Ted Musgrave
AT LARGE: Rob Atchison and David Haskell/Sylvain Tremblay (tie), Charles Zwolsman

HONORABLE MENTION (At least 5% of the vote)

OPEN WHEEL: Dario Franchitti, Sam Hornish Jr., Paul Tracy
STOCK CAR: Greg Biffle, Ryan Newman
ROAD RACING: Frank Biela/Emanuele Pirro, Klaus Graf, Greg Pickett
DRAG RACING: Ron Capps, Clay Millican
SHORT TRACK: Steve Francis, Damion Gardner
TOURING SERIES: Ted Christopher, Dennis Setzer
AT LARGE: *Katherine Legge, Carl Renezeder, Steve Torrence

* on write-in vote

All-America Team Dinner Headlines

Drivers Confirmed For Dinner

As of Nov. 18, the following drivers have confirmed they will attend the All-America Team dinner presented by Sprint Nextel:

- | | | | |
|----------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| * Steve Kinser | * Tony Schumacher | * Wayne Taylor | * Max Angelelli |
| * Scott Pruett | * Luis Diaz Jr. | * Patrick Long | * Robert Hight |

1955-2005 Indy Cars Symbolize AARWBA's 50th

When members and guests enter the Hyatt's atrium for the All-America Team dinner, presented by Sprint Nextel, they will immediately see powerful symbols of AARWBA's 50 years. Indianapolis Motor Speedway PR director (and AARWBA member) Ron Green has arranged for the 1955 Indy 500 winning Kurtis-Kraft Offenhauser roadster to be on display. This is the famous "The Pink Zink" driven to victory by Bob Sweikert with A.J. Watson as chief mechanic. The car will be on loan from the Speedway's Hall of Fame Museum. Completing the visual contrast of our half-century history will be the 2005 Panoz-Honda fielded by Fernandez Racing (an official 50th anniversary sponsor), provided by co-owner Tom Anderson. The team visited victory lane last season with driver Scott Sharp. Walk the red carpet and savor the history symbolized by these two winning machines.



1955 Kurtis-Kraft Model
- By Carousel

Invitation to Tour the IMS Hall of Fame Museum

Ron Green also has kindly extended an invitation to tour the Speedway's Hall of Fame Museum while in town for the All-America Team dinner. Just show your current AARWBA membership card for free admission for you plus a guest on either Friday, Dec. 2 or Saturday, Dec. 3. Hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. both days.

Help Yourself to a Budweiser at the Dinner

Budweiser, the exclusive beer category sponsor of AARWBA's 50th Anniversary Celebration, will provide complimentary products for the All-America Team banquet. Guests will be able to enjoy Budweiser, Bud Light and Budweiser Select during the reception and throughout dinner and the ceremonies. Our thanks to Karen Holschlag of Anheuser-Busch for her continued support of AARWBA.



Or, Help Yourself to a Coca-Cola



Coca-Cola, twice an AARWBA newsletter sponsor (with Meijer stores) this year, also will provide complimentary products for the dinner. Guests will have a choice of Coca-Cola, Diet Coke, and Danasi bottled water. Thank you to Bret Holaday of Coca-Cola.

Also at the Dinner

- * NASCAR President Mike Helton will be the featured speaker, one night after the Nextel Cup awards ceremony in New York City.
- * Announcement of the Jerry Titus Memorial Trophy to the driver who receives the most All-America Team votes.
- * Presentation of the “Horsepower” Trophy to drivers elected to the Team by AARWBA members.
- * The Hulman-George family will accept the renamed Dusty Brandel President’s Award in recognition for outstanding long-term support of, and contributions to, AARWBA.
- * Presentation of one of the evening’s most special honors, the Jim Chapman Award, for outstanding achievement in motorsports public relations.
- * Presentation of the inaugural Bob Russo Founder’s Award.
- * Announcement of Ford’s “Sweepstakes” journalism contest winner.
- * Presentation of the Pioneer In Racing award to safety innovator Bob Falcon.
- * AARWBA 50th anniversary audio-visual tribute, produced and edited by Western VP Mike Hollander, with contributions from our members.
- * Bob Jenkins, long-time AARWBA member and award-winning broadcaster, will be the MC.
- * Plus, a surprise or two!

Important Schedule Reminder!

The reception starts at 6:30 p.m, but arrive at the Hyatt early, because you need to stop at the registration desk first to get your tickets. Valet and self-parking will be available. Registration will be just inside the main hotel entrance. A coat check will be just past the registration table. During the reception, enjoy a selection of hors d’oeuvres as well as Budweiser and Coca-Cola products, and mingle with fellow members and guests. Drivers and industry leaders will be available for interviews. **Dinner service will begin at 7:30 p.m.**

The Indianapolis Hyatt is located downtown, near the State Capitol, at One South Capitol Ave. The hotel telephone number is 317/632-1234. Reminder, the dinner is black tie optional (semi-formal attire).

If you have last-minute questions: President Dusty Brandel expects to arrive at the Hyatt Thursday night, Dec. 1. 50th Anniversary Chairman Michael Knight will be there early Friday night, Dec. 2.

THIS MAY WELL BE THE MOST IMPORTANT NIGHT IN AARWBA’S PROUD HISTORY AS WE OFFICIALLY CONCLUDE THE 50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION. WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT THE HYATT!



ARRIVE EARLY!

Due to expected heavy traffic in downtown Indianapolis and the large number of people attending the AARWBA dinner — and other functions — in the Hyatt on Saturday, Dec. 3, guests are strongly encouraged to arrive early. Allow time to park your car, either valet or self-service. If you have to check-in for your room at the Hyatt, leave extra time for that. Everyone will need to stop at the registration table in the lobby to get your dinner tickets. The reception “officially” starts at 6:30 p.m. but food and drink service will be ready before that and we plan to ask guests to start taking their dinner seats about 7:15 p.m. Please plan ahead and arrive early!

Mattioli Foundation Starts Motorsports Academy

Mattioli's Donate Go-Karts and Track For Diversity Program

South Boston Speedway has announced that the Mattioli Foundation, in conjunction with Halifax County (Va.) Public Schools has started a Motorsports Academy. The Mattioli Foundation will donate up to 50 go-karts and use of the track and garage facility at South Boston Speedway to the Motorsports Academy.

In addition, the Mattioli Foundation will provide two four-cylinder race cars to be used by 11th and 12th grade competitors at Halifax County High School to compete during the 2006 season in the Virginia Army National Guard Pure Stock Division at South Boston Speedway.

The 11th and 12th grade students will serve as pit crews and competitors in the Pure Stock Division. Students in the Motorsports Academy will be able to race for free. The majority of racing expenses will be covered by the Mattioli Foundation.

The program is designed primarily for diversity and development of young motorsports competitors. The purpose of the program is the continued development of young drivers in motorsports. The program is available to all students, male and female.

"South Boston Speedway has always been dedicated to the development of young competitors," General Manager Cathy Rice said. "This is another way for the speedway to reach out to the community and offer an excellent opportunity for the youth of Halifax County. We are so thankful that the Mattioli Foundation has made this generous effort to aid the cause."

Phil Pash Now Caught On The Net!



You now can go online to www.philpash.com and read Up & Down the Rock, The World of Wheels, The Great Outdoors or Simply Sports.

This site is a retirement hobby for **Phil Pash**, who wrote for newspapers, big and small, for 50 years. The archives for the site (where you can read past columns going back to Aug. 13, 2005), still are being worked on, but the latest columns are available.

Phil and his wife, **Donna**, have been married more than 40 years. They have two sons—**Chris** and **Kevin**—and one grandson, **Brett**.

Member Takes Flack For Publisher Error

Photographer member Frank B. Mormillo has taken a lot of flack on a book published with his photos and his name as a co-author, which is not true. Other photographers are complaining that no one has been paid for the photos. The real author, David Oliver, of England, writes:

I have been asked by Frank B. Mormillo to confirm that I was the sole author of the book titled "Great American Race Tracks" and I would like to make it clear that Frank B. Mormillo was not the co-author and that his name appeared on the finished book in error. I did not see any proofs of the book before it was published (in the United States) if I had this error would not have occurred.

Frank contributed a number of photographs and captions for the book from his own archives, all of which were his own copyright. I was commissioned to write the text, provide photographs and captions for the book for a UK-based company, not a US-based publisher. The UK-based company sent it to a US-based publisher and thus the errors began.

I apologize for any inconvenience caused by this error.
David Oliver, 36 Barnet Gate Lane, Arkley Herts EN5 2AB UK

(AARWBA has learned that the photographers with copyright contracts, should receive payments for their photos.)

Doug Stokes Moves Behind The Counter

Doug Stokes recently wrote us to say, "This is to notify everyone 'officially' that I have a new business address as of September 20, 2005. After nearly eight years as the director of communications at Irwindale Speedway I will now be found behind the counter and on the phone at the legendary Autobooks-Aerobooks store in Burbank, California.



"My title will have something to do with management, and I'll be a partner in the operation; but my real mission is to alert every passionate partisan of motoring, motorsports, and aircraft everywhere that the 50+ year-old fixture of the southern California car culture is as serious as they are about the subject(s) and just as much fun as ever.

"Autobooks is the place where great people have been congregating since the early 50's. More than a just a 'car and airplane' bookstore, this is a place where information gets passed, old friends meet, and new friendships are made, all centering around the wonderful world(s) of automobiles and airplanes. If that doesn't sound like a great place to be a part of, I don't know what does.

"After IKF, Honda, Mickey Thompson, Suzuki, Chevrolet-Geo, the LAVGP, Perris Auto Speedway, a whole bunch of 'independent assignments', 12 years of car reviewing, and the aforementioned past eight years as the PR guy at the fabulous Irwindale Speedway & Dragstrip, this is going to be another 'dream job' for this particular car (and airplane) nut.

"I'll be seeing you at Autobooks-Aerobooks much more regularly now. If you've ever been here, you know why I'm so energized about this opportunity. If you've never been here, you've got a wonderful treat (and I don't mean my presence!) coming. Either way, let's stay in touch. "

"My boss, good guy Chet Knox, understands that this business is much more than just selling cool car and airplane stuff. I'm pretty sure that's why he asked me to join him at Autobooks. We've got a great new adventure ahead! Please drop by and say hello, my treat on the bottled water.

"See you soon!"
- Stokes

AARWBA Jerry Titus Award Winners – In Chronological Order



First ever Jerry Titus Award
Recipient Al Unser with
Mrs. Jerry Titus

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1970 - Al Unser | 1989 - Emerson Fittipaldi |
| 1971 - Mark Donohue | 1990 - Al Unser Jr, |
| 1972 - George Follmer | 1991 - Harry Gant |
| 1973 - Mark Donohue | 1992 - Juan Fangio II |
| 1974 - Johnny Rutherford | 1993 - Nigel Mansell |
| 1975 - A.J. Foyt | 1994 - Al Unser Jr |
| 1976 - Don Prudhomme | 1995 - Jeff Gordon |
| 1977 - Mario Andretti | 1996 - John Force |
| 1978 - Mario Andretti | 1997 - Tommy Kendall |
| 1979 - Rick Mears | 1998 - Jeff Gordon |
| 1980 - Johnny Rutherford | 1999 - John Force |
| 1981 - Darrell Waltrip | 2000 - John Force |
| 1982 - Shirley Muldowney | 2001 - Jeff Gordon |
| 1983 - Bobby Allison | 2002 - John Force |
| 1984 - Mario Andretti | 2003 - J.J. Yeley |
| 1985 - Bill Elliott | 2004 - Tony Kanaan |
| 1986 - Bobby Rahal | 2005 - |
| 1987 - Dale Earnhardt | |
| 1988 - Geoff Brabham | |

AARWBA Members! Tell Us Your Story!

We think AARWBA members would enjoy hearing about the events and activities their peers are involved with. That is why we are encouraging every member to always feel free to send a "News Note" to AARWBA President **Dusty Brandel** at AARWBA@compuserve.com or to your Newsletter Editor **Andy Hartwell** at ashartwell@att.net

AARWBA - Where The Professionals Are (But not all of them!)

***Talk up the AARWBA with your peers, who should be
AARWBA members but aren't - yet.***

"Subscribe A Scribe" / "Bring In A Broadcaster"

***Let your peers know they should become a member of the only
national organization that speaks for the working press.***

PR Rep?

Local reporter covering a local track event?

Photographer working for a magazine?

Writer or editor posting stories and photos to a racing web site?

They all should be part of the AARWBA membership roster!

***Next time you are at a race event, ask your peers to visit the AARWBA web site.
Show them an on-line newsletter! Tell them about the organization! Help us grow!***

Did You Know...

In honor of the late **Dave Overpeck**, an outstanding motor sports reporter for the Indianapolis Star and former AARWBA President, AARWBA provides a scholarship at Indiana State University to an incoming freshman journalism student. (Students may use this link to apply: <http://www.indstate.edu/finaid/>)

Overpeck was a graduate of ISU. The \$1,000 award is designed to further the student's journalism education. It is presented annually at the AARWBA breakfast at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway on the morning before the Indianapolis 500 Mile Race.

The 2005 winner was Henry Boguslavsky, a junior at Indiana State University. He is an Indianapolis resident and a graduate of North Central High School. A marketing and journalism major at Indiana State, Boguslavsky carries a 3.0 grade point average. He is currently performing an internship at Fox Sports in Pittsburgh, PA.

“Sweepstakes” Motorsports Journalism Award of Excellence Contest

- Ford Racing will host a new contest open to all journalists who cover auto racing and are members in good standing of the American Auto Racing Writers and Broadcasters Association (AARWBA). The contest will take place in 2005, in honor of AARWBA's 50th anniversary, and additional contests will take place in 2006 and 2007.
- The contest – the “Sweepstakes” Motorsports Journalism Award of Excellence – will honor the best feature, commentary or news story about a Ford driver, team owner, crew person, team or the Ford Racing program, that best captures the spirit and passion of auto racing that Henry Ford portrayed when he climbed behind the wheel of his race car, “Sweepstakes,” in October, 1901 for his first and only race as a driver. Ford's victory over Alexander Winton on that day marked the beginning of the Ford Racing program.



Entries

- Entries with publish/air dates between January 1, 2005 and November 22, 2005 (two days after the NASCAR, season-ending Ford 400) will be accepted.
- Entries can be from print, radio, television or internet news sites.
- Each AARWBA member in good standing may submit up to three (3) entries per calendar year.
- Original copies of the entries will be sent to Andrew Casselberry of Campbell & Co., 15010 Commerce Dr. South, Suite 507, Dearborn, MI 48120. Entries must be received by November 29, 2005, to be eligible for competition. (*MEMBERS: Please remember to take into consideration the Thanksgiving holiday when submitting late entries.*)

Winners

- Entries will be judged and a winner will be announced at the AARWBA All-American Banquet in Indianapolis on December 3, 2005. The 2006 and 2007 winners will be named at the banquet in the following two years.
- The “Sweepstakes” Motorsports Journalism Award of Excellence winner will receive a cash prize of \$1,000.00, along with a framed artwork of Henry Ford's “Sweepstakes” race car.
- Second and third-place winners will receive a gift package from Ford Racing.

This month's issue of ImPRESSions is presented by

