Prauner makes bold transition to touring series

By JAY PRAUNER
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Fifteen years ago, Kyle Prauner set up a profile account on dirtdrivers.com. Yet to attain a driver’s license, Prauner was eager to follow in his father’s tire tracks at Riviera Raceway near Norfolk.

Under a section labeled “career goals,” Prauner listed three: 1: Have fun; 2: Be competitive and win races; and 3: Win championships.

Having won six state championships, 16 track championships and 158 features since 2003 the 30-year-old Norfolk checked off those three goals years ago.

►Please see PRAUNER, page 6-A

Off Road Speedway near Norfolk to open Saturday . . . see page 3-A.

Stuart Raceway is marking 65 years. Meet Harry Swanson, who was part of the very first race at the Boyd County track . . . see page 7-A.
Race experience enhanced for fans

Race improvements at Off Road Speedway include stands, sound system

By JAY PRAUNER
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After two successful seasons, Off Road Speedway is keeping the pedal to the metal.

The dirt track located southeast of Norfolk is set to open for its third season Saturday, weather permitting.

“We’ve grown each season, so we want to keep improving the facility and make it even more enjoyable for the drivers and fans than it was last year,” track promoter Jerry Pospisil said.

After solving the facility’s No. 1 concern of drifting track dust late last season, Pospisil said owner Kevin Signor turned his focus to improving the race-day experience.

“Kevin is a music nut; so, he put in a new sound system because he wants the music played before and after the races to sound as good as possible,” Pospisil said.

Also new for 2017 will be digital stop lights. The old ones were old stop lights. The new ones are bigger and easier to see,” Pospisil said.

In anticipation of more fans, additional seating has been added, too.

“When we bring in special events, we really pushed our seating capacity, so we addressed that and put up additional bleachers,” Pospisil said.

Off Road Speedway will again host the

NEW LED CAUTION LIGHTS were added around the track at Off Road Speedway for the upcoming racing season, which, weather permitting, will be Saturday.

Super Late Model Racing (SMLR) series and 360 Sprint Cars.

The first of two SMLR shows is scheduled for May 27. The other will be during the Bob Haase Memorial program Sept. 9.

“We figured we’d end the season with a bang,” Pospisil said. “A couple of sponsors, Malvern Bank of Malvern, Iowa, and Borgmeyer Construction of Norfolk, have stepped up and are offering a $19,000 purse for our SMLR races. Of the 20 tracks where the series races, this will be the highest purse of the season.”

The 360 Sprint Cars will be in town June 17.

“Out racing surface is 90 feet wide in the corners and 70 feet wide in the straight-aways, which allows the 360 Sprint Cars to put on an awesome show,” Pospisil said.

According to Pospisil, last year’s late-season resurfacing of dumping black dirt over clay promises to make the racing in 2017 as good as it’s ever been at Off Road Speedway.

“I won’t tell you how many thousands of dollars we spent to haul clay in only to find out this black dirt was 15 feet away,” Pospisil said. “That changed the whole track. Our last few shows last season, we had zero dust and no ruts. Our drivers and fans were very happy.”

The speedway will once again feature five classification of racing. Four of them — SportMods, Street Stock, Hobby Stock and Sport Compacts — are sanctioned by the International Motor Car Association (IMCA). The fifth will be Late Models.

Another aspect of Off Road Speedway that Pospisil would like to see grow is its 19-race schedule.

“Right now we are restricted to racing Saturday nights only as per the agreement with the City of Norfolk,” Pospisil said. “In July, we race only once because out of politeness we do not run the Saturday nights of Madison County Fair, Big Bang Boom and the Silver Dollar Nationals, which a lot of our drivers and fans like to attend. When you add in rainouts, it would be nice to run a couple of Sunday nights in those situations.”

Raceway seeks stability

Boone County Raceway to open April 21

By MIKE RENNING
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ALBION — After a few years of track management instability, Boone County Raceway seems to be headed in the right direction by committee.

The Boone County Agricultural Society, which owns the property, enlisted a committee of racing enthusiasts in the middle of last season in the hopes of keeping racing alive here.

“There are a lot of people in the area who want to keep racing,” said Mike Trollope, one of the committee members. “All we’re trying to do is provide some stability and keep racing on the track.”

Along with Trollope, Travis Kumpf, Shawn Olnes, Tyler Starman and Delmer Pelster are on the committee.

“Everybody on the committee is committed to keep racing alive here,” Trollope said.

As far as the racing, Boone County has a regular schedule of plenty of racing action for the cars, drivers and the fans.

The slate starts with “test and tune up” night April 14 and culminates with the championship night Aug. 25.

The final night is in honor of fire departments and safety crews and will include a free-will offering barbecue.

In between, the track will have a veterans’ night May 5 and fireworks June 30.

DURING THE Boone County Fair, two nights will run on the track with the Good Old Time Racing Association on hand July 11 and a “big money” night July 12.

“Obviously, we want to keep the track running,” Pelster said. “We (the committee) all have been involved with racing for a long time so we want to keep it going here.”

Pelster’s son, Tanner, races at the track and his dad likes the fact his family can watch him race in Albion.

“I raced myself for a time and I think it’s great to see my son on the track right where I used to race,” Pelster said. “The family can go right out to the fairgrounds and watch him and cheer him on — that’s the best.”

The five-person committee is in it for the long haul, if necessary.

“Whatever it takes, we will do,” Pelster said. “We will try to get younger guys involved on the committee and just keep going. The main thing is to keep the sport alive here in Albion.”

The group has a healthy outlook about doing what it set out to do.

“We are all volunteers; our time to keep racing here,” Pelster said. “It’s all for the love of the sport.”
HEATH CLAUSEN of Norfolk poses with his Super Late Model Racing (SLMR) race car. In 2016, Clausen returned from a seven-year layoff to win Rookie of the Year honors in the division.

BACK ON TRACK
Clausen Family Racing features three generations

By RANDY POSPISHIL
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When Heath Clausen was 14 years old in 1999, he and his father, Junior, began racing as a two-car team. Heath's first car was a hand-me-down late model from his father that he drove at Riviera Raceway in Norfolk, continuing the Clausen family's connection to the former Norfolk track that began in the early 1960s. That was when Junior's father, Harold, played a role in the construction of the track and drove "open-wheelers." Heath would get his first win, a victory in the Late Model class at Riviera Raceway at age 17.

By 2006, the Clausen Family Racing Team became more of a one-car emphasis and began traveling to more and different racetracks. "We had two cars and couldn't give 100 percent to either one of them; he was a better driver, so we put him in the good car, and I became the mechanic," Junior said of his son.

The Clausens eventually moved up to an IMCA Late Model class and raced at tracks in other parts of Nebraska and Iowa. Rules became the determining factor in which tracks were available to Heath's car.

"Rules were based on the type of motors — aluminum-headed or steel-headed motors," Junior said. "We run an aluminum, which is an 800-horse motor, whereas the steel is a 400-horse."

Then came a break from full-time racing for about seven years as Heath was starting and raising a family. The Clausens sold their racing equipment and "tried fishing and camping," Heath said, until one particular year they attended a racetrack as spectators.

"My wife and I, and Mom and Dad, all went to the races," Heath said. "And Dad was like, 'We really need to get back into this.' We all thought he was joking, but when we came home (the following) Monday — he wasn't joking."

A family meeting was held, and a game plan was formed. The decision was to race in the Super Late Model Racing (SLMR) series. "We had brand new cars and good stuff when I sold out," Junior said. "But a friend of mine had this car (Heath's current car) for sale for a good deal. I had to buy everything back that I sold — the trailer, the truck — but it's all worth it."

The SLMR series is "more rule-friendly and allows more flexibility for drivers that results in 30-car fields," Junior said. The series also features a race schedule that fits the family's desire to "race with a purpose" while not being obligated to race every week.

"In the SLMR series, you don't have to race every weekend, so when you have kids that's kind of nice because you're not committed to going racing every weekend but can still race for points," Heath said. "In May and June, you're kind of busy (racing) and then September is pretty busy, but you kind of have your summer off. We did it last year, and it worked out pretty good."

"Pretty good" translates to the Rookie of the Year award Heath earned with a ninth-place finish in the SLMR standings.

Climbing the award didn't happen until the last race of the season at I-80 Speedway in Greenwood.

"It was neat; any time you set goals in anything and achieve them, it's a neat deal," he said. "When you've been out of racing for seven years and jump back in with that class of cars, just to be competitive is a great feeling."

So the Clausen Family Racing Team — with a new car and updated technology — is prepping for its second year of SLMR competition, and Heath said the team's goals have been raised to the pursuit of the points championship, fully aware that the "competition will get stouter and stouter."

"Our first goal will be to win a race, because it's tough," he said. "You've got 10, 11 or maybe 12 guys you've got to try to beat. Any of those guys who finish in the top five in points are really fast."

But the racing season, which starts May 6 for the
WE ASKED . . . 1. Who or what inspired you to get into racing? 2. List up to five sponsors. 3. List up to five pit crew members. 4. Your favorite auto racing driver? 5. Your favorite racing moment of 2016?

No. 36
Jim Johnson, Plainview

1. Watched one week, got hooked, showed up next week with car. That was 27 years ago.
2. Frontier Insurance, MidWest Bank, Hennings Family, Stec Car Wash and HHKB Motorsports.
3. Harry Werner, Devin Johnson, Chris Johnson, Keanu Johnson and Beau Johnson.
4. Jimmie Johnson.
5. Winning three track championships and winning the Albion SMLR feature.

No. 22z
Zach Zentner, C. Rapids

1. John Schalk. All of our childhood we dreamed about racing stock cars and traveling from track to track. He started at age 15, and I followed a few years later.
2. DC Seed & Chemical, Moss & Stewart Insurance, Zoucha Hay Grinding, Country Partners and Mescher Farms.
3. Robin Roundback, Dave Primrose, Danny Beister, John Schalk and Jeff Vandewalle.
4. Tony Stewart.
5. My first Late Model “A” feature win at Off Road Speedway.

No. 14
Chase Osborne, Norfolk

1. My dad, Robert. He has always been my role model since I was a little kid and my dream was to someday be a better race car drive than he was. I’m still chasing that dream.
2. Osborne Motors, Voecks Drywall, BL Construction, Farm Bureau Financial Services — Agent: Rick Kuehner.
4. Robert Osborne.
5. Racing with the SLMR series when they came to our local tracks.

No. 3
Doug Tomka, Stanton

1. Going to the races as a kid.
2. Strong Trucking, BSE Racing Parts and Tomka Trucking.
3. Steve Jensen, Mark Tomka, Tanner Tomka, Jeff Foltz and Shawnette Tomka.
4. Scott Bloomquist.
5. Winning two “A” features at Off Road Speedway.

No. 07
Ben Sukup, Norfolk

1. I grew up watching my dad.
2. Southside Salvage, Powersportsnation, Quality Siding and Roofing, Uncle Jarrol’s Pub-B-Que and Alter Metal Recycling.
4. Scott Bloomquist.
5. Winning the last three regular-season shows at Off Road Speedway.
WE ASKED . . . 1. Who or what inspired you to get into racing? 2. List up to five sponsors. 3. List up to five pit crew members. 4. Your favorite auto racing driver? 5. Your favorite racing moment of 2016?

1. Our family went to the races quite often when I was a child. Started watching Jim and Nick Kimmel race and thought it looked like fun. Started racing the following year.
3. Terry Sehi, Kathy Sehi and Jamie Sehi.
4. Ken Schrader. He made it to the big time and didn’t forget where he came from.
5. Being able to finish in the top five in points at two tracks.

1. My whole family has been involved in racing long before I was even born so I never really had the option. Definitely the best decision I never had the luxury of making.
3. Adam Wortmann, Rob Uecker and Shannon Pospisil.
4. Would either be my dad, Shannon, or my older brother, Tad.
5. Winning the feature the night U.S. 30 Speedway had their SLMR show.

1. Growing up I loved to work on cars. My dad and uncle had friends in racing. In 1987, Jimmy Green gave me a car and said if you can fix it, you can race it.
2. Weinrich Trucking, Swanson Ag Wrap, Knigge Ranch, 6i Racing Family and friends and family.
3. Toby Ives, Lance Knigge, Clay Konopasek, Dillion Ives and anyone that wants to help.
5. Accomplishing my goal of finishing the season in the top 10 in points on the final night.

1. My dad loved muscle cars and I had a chance to try this ... 27 years later, here we are.
4. Mark Martin.
5. A career-best third-place finish on June 25 at Off Road Speedway.

1. My entire family races, but the one that inspired me the most was my dad, Randy Haase.
2. White Trucking, D&L Towing, Saw Flooring, Norfolk Specialities and Jamie Wright.
3. Preston Haase and Cory Haase.
4. Randy Haase, Ray Haase and Tony Stewart.
5. Watching my cousin, Matt Haase, win the Abe Lincoln Memorial at U.S. 30 Speedway in Columbus in his Northern Sport Mod.
Prauner

Continued from Page 1—

But there was a fourth career goal he listed in paragraph form back in 2003: “My ultimate racing goal/dream would be to race for a living. To maybe travel with the World of Outlaw Late Models, the Lucas Oil Late Model Series, or even the USMTS. Any of that would be a dream come true!”

USMTS stands for United States Modified Touring Series, and, as of April 20, Prauner will officially check off another item on his list of goals.

“We started talking about this toward the end of last year and things just kind of fell into place,” Prauner said. “We’ve run well on. “A friend of ours, Jeff Haase (Outback Motorsports), bought out all of our SportMod stuff. That was a bunch of time selling things off piece by piece and gave us a good chunk of cash to keep the ball rolling.”

A fair amount of horse-trading later, Prauner began to assemble his 2016 Razor Chassis by Roth Racing that is worth somewhere north of $30,000. Its engine has about 200 more horsepower than what he raced last season.

“Horsepower is the game,” said Prauner with a big grin. “As race-car drivers, we just want to go fast.”

And he’ll need to.

According to its website, the USMTS is the fastest growing and most popular open-wheel dirt modified touring series in the world. A Modified is, by far, the most popular and most widely-used type race car circling America’s dirt tracks today.

Embarking on its 19th season in 2017, the USMTS schedule boasts more than 80 events at 38 venues in 14 states.

“Some of these guys — not all of them — but some of them do this for a living or are paid to drive by car owners,” Prauner said. “I guess 20; Lakeside Speedway in Kansas City, Kan., on April 21, and I-35 Speedway in Winston, Mo., on April 22.

“That first swing is going to be tough because I recently lost my uncle, Joel, to a heart attack at the age of 53 in December. Joel loved traveling. He loved going to see new tracks,” Prauner said. “He would have helped tow the car. He didn’t sleep much and always had stories to tell to help pass the time. He was always the last one to go to sleep and the first one up. We’ll miss him.”

A decal of Joel Prauner, Kyle’s uncle who died on December 22, is displayed on the car’s right windsail panel.

I have a new goal.”

In leaving IMCA for USMTS, Prauner will be leaving the state for all but one of his scheduled 30-some races.

“Truth be told, I’m not big on traveling, but I’m hoping the excitement of the new challenge and getting to see new tracks will tide me over for a year,” Prauner said. “We’ve kind of planned out our season hoping to hit two or three races in a given week.”

For example, to open the season, Prauner Racing will travel more than 700 miles to compete in events at Atchison County Raceway in Atchison, Kan., on April 20; Lakeside Speedway in Kansas City, Kan., on April 21, and I-35 Speedway in Winston, Mo., on April 22.

“With a young marriage that includes a 21-month-old child, the timing of this couldn’t have been worse,” Prauner said. “But if we hadn’t done this, five years down the road I would have been kicking myself.”

Meaning it was definitely time to move on.

“The bottom line is win, lose or draw we’re going to learn some stuff. Information travels downhill. The guys at the top of this class will have the new technology first and I’d get to see it second-hand,” Prauner said. “If this doesn’t work out, financially, or talent-wise, I will have gained some knowledge and hopefully will bring it back home and use it for whatever happens down the road.”

KYLE PRAUNER of Norfolk, here leaning against his 2016 Razor Modified, is jumping against the SportMod division of the International Motor Contest Association (IMCA) to the United States Modified Touring Series (USMTS).
Participant in track’s first-ever race has a colorful history

By MIKE RENNING
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STUART — The Stuart Raceway has plenty of big nights planned in celebration of its 65th year of racing at the oval on the north end of town.

The season will begin with a bang with the Good Ol’ Time Racing Association on hand for a race April 30. The day will begin with a car show and culminate with a vintage stock car race in the afternoon.

The 1950s will be the theme of the day, including the admission prices at the track.

One of the people participating in that first race 65 years ago was Harry Swanson from Bassett. He’s been identified by track officials as the winner of the first race at the track, but Swanson says that’s not true.

“I didn’t win the first race,” Swanson said. “I got second, but I won the second race.”

Swanson had a successful racing career not only in Stuart, but also in a large portion of North Central and Northeast Nebraska.

“We raced at Valentine, Ainsworth, Clearwater, Sargent, Norfolk — it didn’t matter,” he said. “As long as the car would run, we would run it.”

Swanson would race for the next quarter-of-a-century except for some time off in the military and not racing for four years after his wife, Karen, died from leukemia in 1966.

Wally Woodhead, who is a longtime friend and sometimes racing rival — of Swanson’s, helped build Swanson’s first car and was a member of the pit crew for the first couple of years before taking the driver’s seat himself.

“Wally and I are great friends and always have been,” Swanson said. “We built that first car together and then we went to a lot of the tracks together.”

In those days, drivers towed their cars behind a pickup instead of putting them on trailers, as is customary today.

“We would just throw them in neutral and take off,” Swanson said. “Once in a while we’d actually drive the car to tracks — mostly taking country roads.”

Although the two were great friends, they had moments where they didn’t exactly see eye-to-eye.

“I remember when I was a sophomore in high school,” Woodhead said. “It was time to bring the car back to town to get it ready for racing. I had a blowout and put the car in Twin Lakes. Harry wasn’t happy about that at all.”

“He lost the speedometer off of it,” Swanson added.

Another time the two didn’t get along was on the track. “It would always make me mad when he beat me,” Swanson said.

But not every racer believed the two were competing.

“I got accused of running interference for him,” Woodhead said. “That’s the way it worked out during the race, so be it. But I was trying to win.”

Tracks at that time also gave out “rollover” money where a driver would receive $10 if his car rolled over during the race as compensation for the crash.

“I had that figured out when I drove,” Woodhead said with a smile. “I could roll my car over and end up on four wheels and keep right on going. Ten bucks is 10 bucks.”

Woodhead, who drove car number 66 for most of his racing days, may have been single-handedly responsible for a lot of tracks getting rid of the “rollover” money.

Both drivers agreed today’s racers have much better cars. The cars are wider and have a much better suspension system than the cars either of them raced.

“We did a lot of bouncing around in those old cars,” Swanson said. “But we sure had a lot of fun.”

Another fact the duo always agreed with each other was the car company they used for their cars.

“Always a Ford,” they said simultaneously.

Stuart Raceway will begin its 2017 regular racing show May 21; have a powder puff race June 25; a fireworks show July 2; and a Tribute Race on July 23.

The 65th season will end with championship night on Aug. 6.

“We look forward to a great and fun season,” said Keith Larabee, President of the Stuart Stock Car Association, Inc. “We have a lot of special things planned and we feel we have something for everyone.”
Norfolk MXers looking to build up membership

By JAY PRAUNER
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Eddie Myrick and his family enjoy the sport of motocross. So much so that they, along with friends, recently formed a company under the name Norfolk MXers. Motocross is a form of off-road motorcycle racing held on enclosed off-road circuits.

The Norfolk MXers practice and race at Off Road Ranch, located southeast of Norfolk. “The big problem is a lot of people don’t even know this place is here,” Myrick said.

The Norfolk MXers are part of the Dirt Warrior Motocross Series (DWMS), which recently replaced the Nebraska Motocross Series. The DWMS includes tracks in Yankton and Homer. The Off Road Ranch course will host the series this weekend, weather permitting.

“The original owner of this property liked to race off-road pickups, but that never took off,” said Myrick, who is 53. “A few years back, a bunch of us got together and made it into a motocross track.”

For the past several weeks, members of the organization and volunteers have been transforming the original 1.7-mile layout into a new 1.3-mile configuration.

“We wanted to make it more challenging. I can ride this track with my eyes closed because I’ve done so many laps around here,” said Eddie’s 30-year-old son, John. “The new layout will give us something different, hopefully, attract more people to come and check out something they are not use to.”

To help entice fans, the MXers will charge $5 for a weekend pass (Saturday practice, Sunday races), which is half the normal charge.

“Easter weekend is typically when the motocross season kicks off,” Myrick said. “A few weeks ago, we raced in Homer and there had to be close to 200 racers — the place was packed. With it being Easter and all, I’m not quite sure what to expect this weekend.”

Last season, attendance at Off Road Ranch ranged from 60 to 160. “What I enjoy about the sport is that it is family oriented,” Eddie Myrick said. “I do it, my son does it, his son (Martin, a third-grader at Washington Elementary) does it, and someday my great grandson will do it.”

Divisions range from ages 4 and up and from beginner to masters. “We’re the only three-generation family actually riding in the state of Nebraska,” John Myrick said. “I started about the same age my son is now, and grew up riding on privately-owned tracks until we built this course.”

The cost for safety equipment and a top-of-the-line motocross motorcycle can run in the neighborhood of $10,000.

The elder Myrick was born in Oklahoma and raised in California but has called Nebraska home the past 22 years.

“Growing up my dad took me to the desert to ride. Back then, it was hard to find other kids who liked to ride dirt bikes,” Eddie Myrick said. “One thing about motocross, if you like it, you can be around it all day.”
WE ASKED . . .

1. Who or what inspired you to get into racing?
2. List up to five sponsors.
3. List up to five pit crew members.
4. Your favorite auto racing driver?
5. Your favorite racing moment of the 2016?

No. 28
Tracy Buck, Neligh

1. My high school math teacher, Shannon Pospisil.
2. GCX LLC, Burger King, Norfolk GM Auto Center, Columbus Motor Company, Volkman Plumbing and Heating and D&D Motorsports.
3. Morgan Reinke, Jordan Uehling, Jason Uehling, Doug Ohlrich and Dustin Jackson.
4. Mike Nichols, a stock car driver from Harlan, Iowa.
5. All the people you meet and friends you make along the way makes racing fun.

No. 31K
Nate DeSive, Verdigre

1. My grandpa, dad and uncles all raced. As a kid it was cool watching how the cars’ suspension worked in the corners, seeing where people were getting runs on other drivers.
2. DeSive Repair, CarQuest, Xyience, Aunt Marlene and Venum.
3. Fast Fred DeSive, Madi Voborny, Jacob Dickau, Brandi Mikkelsen and Levi Stueve.
5. Winning the championship at Stuart Raceway and winning at Off Road Speedway is always a good time.

No. 15m
Max Anderson, Norfolk

1. My dad (Brian) raced when I was a kid, and I have always loved the sport.
2. Cable One, Northern Plains Supply (Bassett), K. Porter Construction, UHOP and Graham Tire.
5. Winning my second career IMCA Hobby Stock feature.

No. 50
Jared Relitz, Emerson

1. My brother, Cody, bought a Hornet for Riviera Raceway. It looked like a blast so the next winter we built another one.
2. Relitz Repair, Craig’s Body and Glass, Lamp Auto Parts, Gralheer Insurance LLC, Janke Auto Company.
3. Craig Relitz, Randy Bargholz, Deb Relitz and Jayme Bargholz.
4. Mark Martin.
5. Won two heat races and had a few top-five finishes.

Get Your Racing Fuel at Cubby’s...
WE ASKED . . . 1. Who or what inspired you to get into racing?  2. List up to five sponsors.  3. List up to five pit crew members.  4. Your favorite auto racing driver?  5. Your favorite racing moment of 2016?

1. Dad (Dale) and Ron (Pettitt) and the local Riviera Raceway competitors that I remember from the 1990s.  
2. Pettitt Plumbing and Heating, Primrose Car Trailer Rentals, Dean’s Market of Elgin, S&W Underground and Herbert Feed & Grain of Verdigris.  
4. I enjoy watching NASCAR but am impartial. I haven’t chosen a favorite.  
5. June 4 feature win at Off Road Speedway.

1. Jim Scheffler from Creston, Iowa, in the early 1980s.  
2. Only Pro Decaling, RJ Machine, Kramer’s Towing, Groteluschen Construction and Nacora LTD.  
4. Dale Earnhardt Sr.  
5. Winning an “A” feature at Off Road Speedway.

1. Watching my dad race.  
2. Ranchland Auto Supply (Carquest), Aunt Marlene, Reiman Hay & Grain, South Fork Seed and A&J Tire.  
3. Nate DeSive, Deven Fritz, Jacob Dickau, Madi Voborny and Brandy Mikkelsen.  
5. Getting third in an ‘A’ feature at Off Road Speedway and winning the ‘A’ feature at Stuart Raceway.

1. My dad, Ron. It’s always what we’ve done as a family.  
4. Zach Zentner and Brian Koch.  
5. Getting to race at the Boone Super Nationals against some of the best stock car drivers in the country.

1. My dad, Dale. I loved going to the races and watching him race. When he won the trophy dash, I would take it up to the grandstands with a smile from ear to ear.  
WE ASKED . . .

1. Who or what inspired you to get into racing?
2. List up to five sponsors.
3. List up to five pit crew members.
4. Your favorite auto racing driver?
5. Your favorite racing moment of 2016?

No. 2B
Brook Fluckinger, Columbus

1. When I was little, I spent weekends watching Damian and Dylan Smith race. In high school I met Jeff Ware. He made my dream come true helping me purchase my first race car.
2. My parents, Jeff Ware, Barber and Sons Trucking, DSR and Oborny’s Husker Bar.
3. Jeff Ware.
4. I don’t have a favorite auto racing driver.
5. Getting my first feature win at Off Road Speedway.

No. 2K
Kandie Smidt, Norfolk

1. My father, Ray Haase.
2. Southside Salvage, Renner Auto Body, Advanced Auto Parts and The Link.
3. Rocky Smidt, Bobby Ellis and Dave Parrin.
4. Ray Haase.
5. The Robert Haase Memorial program to end the season.

No. 42
Kyle Reed, Hoskins

1. My dad, Ken Reed.
4. Scott Bloomquist.
5. Being able to hang out and get cars fixed with my friends and being able to race all year.

No. 4D
Devon Davidson, O’Neill

1. I was inspired by a neighbor growing up who used to let me come and work on his car.
2. Davidson Guns and Tackle, Jackson Custom Detail, Cody Beckner and Adam Layman.
3. Jackson Latzel, Dustin Jackson, Stephany Jackson, Ashlyn Schmidt and Adam Layman.
4. Kevin Harvick.
5. Racing at the Spring Nationals for the first time. After winning my heat, I got turned into the back stretch wall later that night in the feature and rolled.

No. 12X
Parker Vollbrecht, Stanton

1. My uncle, Todd Vollbrecht, and my cousin, Nelson Vollbrecht.
2. Outback Motorsports, Kyger Glass, BRK Construction, MAC tools and Bloomfield Tire and Auto.
5. Every time my cousin, Nelson, did well.

Mahaska Bottling Company
2017 SCHEDULE

APRIL
15 - Regular Race Night
22 - Regular Race Night
29 - Regular Race Night

MAY
6 - Regular Race Night (NECC Night, students in free with student ID) (SUMMER STORM SERIES)
13 - Regular Race Night plus GOTRA
20 - Regular Race Night plus MOD LITES
27 - Regular Classes + MALVERN BANK SLMR (NO GRAND NATIONAL LATE MODELS)

JUNE
3 - Regular Race Night (Law Enforcement/Fire Fighter Night. Free admission with ID)
10 - Regular Race Night plus MIDWEST STOCK CARS (SUMMER STORM DIRT SERIES)
17 - Regular Race + 360 Sprint Cars sponsored by Big Daddy Race Cars & Renner Wraps plus MOD LITES (NO LATE MODELS OR HOBBY STOCKS)
24 - Regular Race Night (FREE Bikes and giveaways)

(OTHER CLASSES TO BE ADDED)
($1000 to win, $200 to start A feature for Memorial Race)
(more details to come)

JULY
1 - CLOSED
8 - Regular Race Night (Armed Forced Night. Free admission to all branches with ID)
15 - CLOSED (Madison County Fair)
22 - CLOSED (Silver Dollar Nationals)
29 - Regular Race Night

AUGUST
5 - Regular Race Night (kids get free rides in a race car)
12 - Regular Race Night
19 - Regular Race Night plus Midwest Classic Stock Cars
26 - Regular Race Night

SEPTEMBER
2 - Championship Night (Regular classes)
9 - BOB HAASE MEMORIAL CHAMPIONSHIP, MALVERN BANK SLMR plus GOTRA (NO GRAND NATIONAL LATE MODELS)

**Regular Race Night consists of Late Models, IMCA Sport Mods, IMCA Stock Cars, IMCA Hobby Stock and IMCA Sport Compacts

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR TRACK SPONSORS

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Todd Borgmeyer
Tom’s Service
TWO Locksmith
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Volkman Plumbing & Heating
Weidner Big Boy Toys
West Hudson
Window World
Windshield Doctors
Wetzel & Truex Jewelry
Wolf’s Den

**Pit passes $25 **Pit passes on special purse nights will be $30 for all classes

• Pit Gate Opens At 4:30 • Hot Laps Start At 6:30 • Racing Starts At 7:00

• Admission- Ages 16 & Up- $12 • Ages 7-15- $6 • Ages 6 & Under- Free

• Other Classes To Be Added

($1000 to win, $200 to start A feature for Memorial Race)
(more details to come)