



Statistical Advance:

Analyzing the New England Dodge Dealers 150 at Thompson Intl. Speedway

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (Aug. 12, 2008) – The New England Dodge Dealers 150 presented by Budweiser will be the third of five appearances in 2008 at Thompson (Conn.) International Speedway for the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour. The ninth race of the season will go green on Thursday, Aug. 14.

At Thompson International Speedway:

- Since the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour formed in 1985, there have been 102 races at Thompson International Speedway.
- There have been 29 different race winners at TIS, led by **Mike Stefanik's** 14 victories.
- **Tony Hirschman**, who will be honored prior to the race as part of NASCAR's celebration of 60 years of Modified champions, is tied with **Jeff Fuller** for the most poles won at TIS with 13 ... There have been 35 different pole winners at TIS.
- **Ed Flemke Jr.** won the first NWMT race of the year at TIS, the Icebreaker ... Ronnie Silk captured the June NWMT race at TIS.
- There have been 11 different winners in the last 13 races at TIS.
- This race will feature nine drivers who have previously reached Victory Lane at TIS.

Season Recap:

- **Chuck Hossfeld** is the current points leader ... He has victories at Stafford (5/23) Motor Speedway and New Hampshire Motor Speedway (6/28).
- **Jimmy Blewett** has won the last two races at Riverhead Raceway and SMS.

Thompson Intl. Speedway Data

Race # 9 of 16 (8-14-08)

Track Layout: .625-mile banked oval

- The first asphalt track in the United States, and the largest track in New England at the time, TIS opened on May 26, 1940.
- Has one of the oldest NASCAR affiliations in the nation.
- Has held a total of 102 NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour races.
- This is the third of five races that the NWMT will have at TIS in 2008.

Qualifying/Race Data

2007 pole winner: Todd Szegedy (119.084 mph, 18.743 seconds)

2007 race winner: Todd Szegedy, 65.797 mph, 1:27.42, 8-16-07)

Track qualifying record: Todd Szegedy (121.905 mph, 18.457 seconds, 4-14-07)

Track race record (150 L): Eric Beers (81.660 mph, 1:08.53, 9-10-06)

NWMT Active Win Leaders at TIS

1. Mike Stefanik	14
2. Rick Fuller.....	8
3. Ted Christopher.....	6
Reggie Ruggiero.....	6
4. Ed Flemke Jr.	4
5. Todd Szegedy	2

NWMT Active Pole Leaders at TIS

1. Mike Stefanik	8
2. Reggie Ruggiero.....	5
3. Ted Christopher.....	4
Ed Flemke Jr.	4
5. Todd Szegedy	3

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- **Ed Flemke Jr.** captured the season-opener at Thompson International Speedway, his first victory since 2004.
- **Ted Christopher** won the second race of the season at SMS to move into a tie for fifth place on the all-time wins list.
- **Ronnie Silk** won the 75-lap green flag-only race at TIS for his second career victory.
- **Matt Hirschman** earned his first career NWMT victory at Spencer Speedway on July 12.
- **James Civali, Bobby Grigas III and Ryan Preece** have earned their first career poles in 2008.

Last Time Out – Stafford, Aug. 8:

- **Jimmy Blewett** clinched the first back-to-back victories of his NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour career.
- **Mike Stefanik** recorded the 250th top-10 finish of his career, extending his own NWMT record.
- In his 65th NWMT start, **Kevin Goodale** registered the best finish of his career, sixth.
- Rookie **Erick Rudolph** led the first laps of his career.
- **Ryan Preece** led a career-high 71 laps.
- Brothers **Carl** and **Charles Pasteryak** finished in the top 10 in the same race for the first time since Oct. 25, 2003 at Thompson International Speedway.

Selected Driver Highlights:

Eric Beers (No. 46 Chevrolet)

- Has two wins and seven poles in 120 career starts.
- Has four top-five finishes in eight starts this year.
- Won at Thompson International Speedway on Sept. 10, 2006.

NWMT at TIS – Last Five Years

Best Avg. Start Position (Min. 5 Starts)

1. Todd Szegedy.....	8
2. Jimmy Blewett.....	10.3
3. Ronnie Silk.....	10.6
4. Ted Christopher.....	10.7
5. Tony Ferrante Jr.....	12.5

Best Avg. Finish (Min. 5 Starts)

1. Reggie Ruggiero.....	7.8
2. Chuck Hossfeld.....	9.4
3. Mike Stefanik.....	11.7
4. Ted Christopher.....	11.9
5. Todd Szegedy.....	13.8

Most Top-Fives

1. Ted Christopher.....	10
Chuck Hossfeld.....	10
3. Ed Flemke Jr.....	8
4. Mike Stefanik.....	7
5. Reggie Ruggiero.....	5

Most Top-10s

1. Mike Stefanik.....	13
2. Ted Christopher.....	12
3. Chuck Hossfeld.....	11
4. Ed Flemke Jr.....	9
5. Tony Ferrante Jr.....	7
Reggie Ruggiero.....	7

Most Laps Led

1. Ted Christopher.....	370
2. Eric Beers.....	165
3. James Civali.....	162
4. Todd Szegedy.....	141
5. Mike Stefanik.....	117

- 20 races held.
- 12-different winners.
- Only active drivers listed above.

3-3-3-3

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Jimmy Blewett (No. 19 Chevrolet)

- Has four wins and one pole in 54 career starts.
- Earned his first NWMT wins at Riverhead Raceway on Aug. 2, and at Stafford Motor Speedway on Aug. 8.
- Has improved from 22nd to eighth in the season standings in the last three races.
- Is 10th in the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series national rankings with three wins, including two at TIS.

Ted Christopher (No. 36 Chevrolet)

- Has 28 wins and 13 poles in 253 career starts.
- Won the Tech-Net Spring Sizzler at SMS on April 27.
- Has at least one victory in 10 consecutive seasons.
- Is 86 points behind leader Chuck Hossfeld in the season standings.
- Has led 240 of 1017 (23.5%) total laps this year, most of any driver.
- Has six career NWMT wins at TIS ... His next would put him in sole possession of fifth on the win list at TIS.

Ed Flemke Jr. (No. 10 Chevrolet)

- Won the season-opener at TIS.
- Has 17 wins and 16 poles in 362 career starts.
- Has made a record 303 consecutive starts ... The last time he did not start an NWMT event was on July 22, 1992 at Riverside Park Speedway.

Rick Fuller (No. 77)

- 1993 NWMT Champion ... Will be honored prior to Sept. 7 event at TIS.
- Has 20 wins and 11 poles in 432 career starts ... Last won at Waterford in May, 2003.
- Has eight career wins at TIS, tied for third-most all-time ... Last win was the 2001 Icebreaker.

Bobby Grigas III (No. 09 Chevrolet)

- Captured his first career Coors Light Pole Award at TIS on June 19.
- Registered best career finish (third) at the Icebreaker, also at TIS.

Matt Hirschman (No. 59 Chevrolet)

- Has 22 top 10s in 47 career starts.
- Earned his first NWMT win at Spencer on July 12.
- Has finished on the lead lap in 25 consecutive races, the most among all drivers ... Is the only driver to complete all 1017 laps this year.
- Has top-10s in four of the last six races and is fourth in the standings.

4-4-4-4

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Chuck Hossfeld (No. 4 Dodge)

- Current NWMT points leader, 86 ahead of Ted Christopher ... Has maintained the lead since the second race of the year.
- Finished in the top four in each of the season's first six races ... Last two outings have resulted in finishes of 17th and 15th.
- Has won this year at SMS (5/23) and NHMS (6/28).
- Has seven wins, 42 top fives and 61 top 10s in 103 career starts.
- Has one win at TIS, the 2003 Icebreaker.

Woody Pitkat (No. 28 Chevrolet)

- Will share the No. 28 with Doug Coby the remainder of the season.
- Had four top 10s in 10 starts last year driving the No. 79.
- Is 12th in the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series national rankings with six wins.

Ryan Preece (No. 3 Chevrolet)

- Has one pole and seven top 10s in 22 career starts.
- Currently ranks 10th in the season standings with four top 10s in eight starts.
- Recorded his first career top-five finish at Riverhead.
- Has led 135 laps this year, second only to Ted Christopher's 240.

Ronnie Silk (No. 79 Pontiac)

- Earned his second career victory at TIS on June 19.
- Is ninth in the standings ... Had four top-10 finishes in a row, including a win and consecutive runner-ups, before a DNF last time out.
- Has 18 top-10s in 48 career NWMT starts.

Mike Stefanik (No. 16 Pontiac)

- Seven-time NWMT Champion ... Was honored as part of NASCAR's 60 years of Modified champions celebration prior to the TSI Harley-Davidson 150 at SMS.
- Has a NWMT record 68 victories in 373 career starts.
- Has six top 10s in 2008 and is sixth in the season standings.
- Is the all-time NWMT wins leader at TIS with 14 ... Last win was the 2006 Icebreaker.

Todd Szegedy (No. 2 Ford)

- The 2003 NWMT Champion ... Will be honored at New Hampshire on Sept. 13.
- Has 12 wins in 102 career starts, the best start-to-victory ratio (8.5:1) of any active driver.
- Is in third place in season points, 118 behind leader Chuck Hossfeld.
- Along with Hossfeld, he finished in the top 10 in each of the season's first six races.

5-5-5-5

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Jamie Tomaino (No. 99 Chevrolet)

- The 1990 NWMT Champion ... Was honored at Spencer as part of NASCAR's celebration of 60 years of Modified champions.
- Has missed only four of the 497 races in the history of the NWMT (1985-pr.).
- Is one of three drivers (Rick Fuller, Carl Pasteryak) to make a start in all 24 years of the NWMT.

Upcoming Milestones/Benchmarks:

- **Ted Christopher** has 28 career victories ... The next win would put him in sole possession of fifth place on all-time list, breaking a tie **Mike Ewanitsko**.
- **Todd Szegedy's** next win would be the 13th of his career, which would put him in sole possession of 13th on the all-time list.
- **Mike Stefanik** has 40 career poles ... The next would place him in a tie with **Tony Hirschman** for the all-time lead.
- **Jamie Tomaino** will extend his own series record by making his 494th career start.
- **Ed Flemke Jr.** is expected to extend his record consecutive starts streak to 304.
- **Jimmy Blewett** will look to become the first driver to earn three-straight NWMT wins since Donny Lia in May-June, 2007.

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