



Statistical Advance:

Analyzing the Whelen 150 at Mansfield Motorsports Park

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (Aug. 18, 2008) – The NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour will make its second-ever appearance in Ohio when it heads to Mansfield Motorsports Park for the Whelen 150 on Saturday, Aug. 23.

At Mansfield Motorsports Park:

- The NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour made its debut at Mansfield Motorsports Park in 2007.
- **Donny Lia** captured the Coors Light Pole Award in 2007 ... He is now a full-time driver in the NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series ... He won the NCTS Ohio 250 at MMP on May 24.
- **James Civali** won last year's Mansfield 150 ... He is currently not active to defend his race title.

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).
- **Ronnie Silk** won the last time out at Thompson (Conn.) International Speedway ... He has two wins this year, both at TIS.
- **Jimmy Blewett** won back-to-back races at Riverhead Raceway (8/2) and SMS (8/8).
- **Ed Flemke Jr.** captured the season-opener at TIS (4/6), his first victory since 2004.
- **Ted Christopher** won the second race of the season at SMS (4/27) to move into a tie for fifth place on the all-time wins list.
- **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.

Mansfield Motorsports Park Data

Race # 10 of 16 (8-23-08)

Track Layout: .5-mile banked oval

- Originally opened as a .375-mile dirt oval in 1959.
- The track was expanded to .5-miles in 1972 and was paved in 1999.
- Has held NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series races since 2004.
- The NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour made its debut at Mansfield in 2007.

Qualifying/Race Data

2007 pole winner: Donny Lia (117.847 mph, 15.274 seconds, 8-23-07)

2007 race winner: James Civali, 81.544 mph, 0:39.44, 8-23-07)

Track qualifying record: Donny Lia (117.847 mph, 15.274 seconds, 8-23-07)

Track race record: James Civali, 81.544 mph, 0:39.44, 8-23-07)

2007 Mansfield 150 Top 10 Finishers

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1. James Civali | 6. Ronnie Silk |
| 2. Doug Coby | 7. Matt Hirschman |
| 3. Woody Pitkat | 8. Ted Christopher |
| 4. Donny Lia | 9. Todd Szegedy |
| 5. Eric Beers | 10. Bobby Grigas III |

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ANALYZING THE WHELEN 150

Last Time Out – Thompson, Aug. 14:

- **Ronnie Silk** earned his second trip to Victory Lane of the season ... His first win in 2008 was also at TIS on June 19.
- **Matt Hirschman** was the race runner-up, his best career finish at the track ... He moved up to third in the season standings, his highest ranking this year.
- **Bobby Santos** finished third, marking the third time in four starts this year that he has finished in the top 10.
- Rookie **Glen Reen** tied his best career finish with a sixth-place effort.
- Points leader **Chuck Hossfeld** finished outside the top 10 for the third race in a row ... He had finished no worse than fourth in the season's first six races.
- **Todd Szegedy** led the most laps with 47, but finished 20th and slipped from third to fifth in the season standings.

Selected Driver Highlights:

Eric Beers (No. 46 Chevrolet)

- Has two wins and seven poles in 121 career starts.
- Has four top-five finishes in nine starts this year.
- Finished fifth at MMP in 2007.

Jimmy Blewett (No. 19 Chevrolet)

- Has four wins and one pole in 55 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 10th in the season standings in the last four races.
- Is 10th in the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series national rankings with three wins.
- Did not compete at MMP in 2007.

2008 Statistical Leaders

Driver Points

1. Chuck Hossfeld	1365
2. Ted Christopher	1324
3. Matt Hirschman	1268
4. Mike Stefanik	1236
5. Todd Szegedy	1235

Wins

1. Jimmy Blewett	2
Chuck Hossfeld	2
Ronnie Silk	2
4. Ted Christopher	1
Ed Flemke Jr.	1
Matt Hirschman	1

Top-Five Finishes

1. Ted Christopher	6
Chuck Hossfeld	6
3. Mike Stefanik	5
4. Eric Beers	4
Ronnie Silk	4

Top-10 Finishes

1. Ted Christopher	7
Mike Stefanik	7
3. Chuck Hossfeld	6
Todd Szegedy	6
5. three with	5

Laps Led

1. Ted Christopher	271
2. Todd Szegedy	142
3. Ryan Preece	135
4. Bobby Grigas III	118
5. Chuck Hossfeld	115

Laps Completed

1. Matt Hirschman	1171 (all)
2. Chuck Hossfeld	1170
3. Todd Szegedy	1149
4. Rowan Pennink	1145
5. Wade Cole	1122

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Ted Christopher (No. 36 Chevrolet)

- Has 28 wins and 13 poles in 254 career starts.
- Won the Tech-Net Spring Sizzler at SMS on April 27.
- Has at least one victory in 10 consecutive seasons.
- Is 41 points behind leader Chuck Hossfeld in the season standings.
- Has led 271 of 1171 (23%) total laps this year, most of any driver.
- Finished eighth at MMP in 2007.

Ed Flemke Jr. (No. 10 Chevrolet)

- Won the season-opener at TIS.
- Has 17 wins and 16 poles in 363 career starts.
- Has made a record 304 consecutive starts ... The last time he did not start an NWMT event was on July 22, 1992 at Riverside Park Speedway.
- Finished 18th at MMP in 2007.

Rick Fuller (No. 77)

- 1993 NWMT Champion ... Will be honored prior to Sept. 7 event at TIS.
- Has 20 wins and 11 poles in 433 career starts ... Last won at Waterford in May, 2003.
- Did not enter at MMP in 2007.

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.
- Finished 10th at MMP in 2007.

Matt Hirschman (No. 59 Chevrolet)

- Has 23 top 10s in 48 career starts ... Earned his first NWMT win at Spencer on July 12.
- Has finished on the lead lap in 26 consecutive races, the most among all drivers ... Is the only driver to complete all 1171 laps this year.
- Has top-10s in five of the last seven races and is third in the standings.
- Finished seventh at MMP in 2007.

Chuck Hossfeld (No. 4 Dodge)

- Current NWMT points leader, 41 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 with wins at SMS and NHMS.
- Has seven wins, 42 top fives and 61 top 10s in 104 career starts.
- Did not race at MMP in 2007.

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Woody Pitkat (No. 28 Chevrolet)

- Will share the No. 28 with Doug Coby the remainder of the season.
- Had four top 10s in 11 career NWMT starts.
- Finished third at MMP in 2007 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 23 career starts.
- Recorded his first career top-five finish at Riverhead.
- Has led 135 laps this year, third-most among all drivers.

Andy Seuss (No. 70 Chevrolet)

- Currently ranks sixth in the NASCAR Whelen Southern Modified Tour standings with two top fives in four races.
- Will make his fourth NWMT start of the year at MMP ... Finished 24th at MMP in 2007.
- Will run the NWSMT race at Caraway Speedway (Sophia, N.C.) on Friday night, then drive to MMP for the NWMT race on Saturday.

Ronnie Silk (No. 79 Pontiac)

- Has won two of three NWMT races at TIS this year.
- Is sixth in the standings ... Has top-10 finishes in five of the last six races, including two wins.
- Has 19 top-10s in 49 career NWMT starts.
- Led 38 laps and finished sixth at MMP in 2007 driving the No. 19.

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 374 career starts.
- Has seven top 10s in 2008, including five top fives, and is fourth in the season standings.
- Finished 12th at MMP in 2007.

Todd Szegedy (No. 2 Ford)

- The 2003 NWMT Champion ... Will be honored at New Hampshire on Sept. 13.
- Has 12 wins in 103 career starts, the best start-to-victory ratio (8.5:1) of any active driver.
- Is in fifth place in season points.
- Finished in the top 10 in each of the season's first six races, but not in the last three.
- Finished ninth at MMP in 2007.

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ANALYZING THE WHELEN 150

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 498 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.
- Finished 14th at MMP in 2007.

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 495th career start.
- **Ed Flemke Jr.** is expected to extend his record consecutive starts streak to 305.

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