



Statistical Advance:
Analyzing The CARQUEST Fall Final At Stafford Motor Speedway

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (Sept. 22, 2008) – The fourth and final stop for the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour at Stafford (Conn.) Motor Speedway will take place this weekend for the CARQUEST Fall Final.

At Stafford Motor Speedway:

- Since the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour formed in 1985, there have been 89 races at Stafford Motor Speedway.
- There have been 28 different race winners at SMS, led by **Mike Stefanik's** 19 victories.
- There have been 34 different pole winners at SMS, led by Stefanik's 14.
- **Ted Christopher, Chuck Hossfeld** and **Jimmy Blewett** have reached Victory Lane in the first three races at Stafford in 2008.
- Christopher had the longest win streak in the history of the NWMT at SMS with four-straight victories from Sept. 30, 2001 to Aug. 23, 2002.
- No driver has swept every NWMT event at SMS during a calendar year. **Reggie Ruggiero** (1987), Stefanik (1990, 1997, 1998) and Christopher (2002) have won three races in the same year.

Last Time Out – Martinsville, Sept. 20:

- **Ryan Preece** captured the Coors Light Pole Award for the Made In America Whelen 300.
- Preece, who was second across the finish line, was the highest finishing NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour driver in the race, which was run in combination with drivers from the NASCAR Whelen Southern Modified Tour ... It was the best career finish for Preece in his 27th series start.

Stafford Motor Speedway Data

Race # 14 of 16 (9-28-08)

Track Layout: .5-mile flat oval

- A horse racing track for more than seven decades, the half-mile dirt oval started holding auto races following WW II.
- Became a NASCAR track in 1959.
- Was paved in 1967.
- Has held a total of 89 NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour races.
- This is the third of four races that the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour will have at Stafford Motor Speedway in 2008.

Qualifying/Race Data

2007 pole winner: Eric Beers (98.538 mph, 18.267 seconds)

2007 race winner: Mike Stefanik (151.311 mph)

Track qualifying record: Matt Hirschman (99.905 mph, 18.009 seconds, 4-28-07)

Track race record (150 L): Tony Hirschman (74.751 mph, 8-12-05)

NWMT Active Win Leaders at SMS

1. Mike Stefanik	19
2. Reggie Ruggiero.....	9
3. Ted Christopher.....	8
4. Rick Fuller.....	5
5. Ed Flemke, Jr.	3
Todd Szegedy	3

NWMT Active Pole Leaders at SMS

1. Mike Stefanik	14
2. Reggie Ruggiero.....	7
3. Rob Summers.....	4
4. Rick Fuller.....	3
Chuck Hossfeld	3

ANALYZING THE CARQUEST FALL FINAL

- **Matt Hirschman** gained 10 points on **Ted Christopher** in the season points tally and now trails by 10.
- **Reggie Ruggiero** recorded his best finish of the season, third overall and second among NWMT drivers.
- The race was the 500th in the history of the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour.

Season Recap:

- **Ted Christopher** assumed the season points lead for the first time at Mansfield (Ohio) Motorsports Park when he captured the Whelen 150 ... He also won the Tech-Net Spring Sizzler at Stafford (Conn.) Motor Speedway and the New Hampshire 100.
- **Ryan Preece** was credited with his first career NWMT victory in the most-recent race at Martinsville (Va.) Speedway.
- **Matt Hirschman** earned his first career NWMT victory at Spencer Speedway on July 12 ... He is second in points, 89 behind Christopher.
- **Chuck Hossfeld**, who led in points for eight straight races, is now 167 points behind Christopher... He has victories at SMS (5/23) and NHMS (6/28).
- **Todd Szegedy** won at Thompson (Conn.) International Speedway on Sept. 7 ... It was his first win of 2008, and 13th of his career.
- **Ronnie Silk** 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.
- **James Civali, Bobby Grigas III** and **Ryan Preece** have earned their first career poles in 2008.

Selected Driver Highlights:

Eric Beers (No. 46 Chevrolet)

- Has two wins and eight poles in 125 career starts.
- Has five top-five finishes in 13 starts this year.
- Has finished second, fifth and fifth in his previous three trips to SMS in 2008.

2008 Statistical Leaders

Driver Points

1. Ted Christopher	1965
2. Matt Hirschman	1876
3. Todd Szegedy	1788
4. Chuck Hossfeld	1756
5. Ronnie Silk	1720

Wins

1. Ted Christopher	3
2. Jimmy Blewett	2
Chuck Hossfeld	2
Ronnie Silk	2
5. Ed Flemke Jr.	1
Matt Hirschman	1
Ryan Preece	1
Todd Szegedy	1

Top-Five Finishes

1. Ted Christopher	9
2. Chuck Hossfeld	6
Ronnie Silk	6
4. Eric Beers	5
Jimmy Blewett	5
Mike Stefanik	5

Top-10 Finishes

1. Ted Christopher	10
2. Matt Hirschman	9
3. Eric Beers	8
Mike Stefanik	8
Todd Szegedy	8

Laps Led

1. Ted Christopher	572
2. Ryan Preece	401
3. Todd Szegedy	164
4. Chuck Hossfeld	130
5. Jimmy Blewett	119

Laps Completed

1. Matt Hirschman	1881 (all)
2. Todd Szegedy	1848
3. Rowan Pennink	1830
4. Ted Christopher	1775
5. Eric Beers	1775

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Jimmy Blewett (No. 19 Chevrolet)

- Has four wins and one pole in 59 career starts.
- Earned his first NWMT wins at Riverhead on Aug. 2, and at SMS on Aug. 8.
- Is currently ninth in NWMT points with five top fives.
- Finished 11th in the final 2008 NASCAR Whelen All-American Series Top 500 standings.

Ted Christopher (No. 36 Chevrolet)

- Has 30 wins and 13 poles in 258 career starts.
- Has an 89-point lead in the season standings over Matt Hirschman.
- Has 2008 wins at SMS (April 27), Mansfield Motorsports Park (Aug. 23) and New Hampshire Motor Speedway (Sept. 13).
- Has at least one victory in 10 consecutive seasons.
- Has led 572 of 1881 (30%) total laps this year, more than any other driver.
- Is the all-time SMS wins leader ... Will also contend this weekend for the SK Modified track championship at SMS in the season finale.

Doug Coby (No. 28 Chevrolet)

- Shares the ride with Woody Pitkat ... Has two top fives in three starts this year.
- Has one win, 12 top fives and 24 top 10s in 79 career starts.
- Finished 17th in the 2008 NWAAS Top 500 standings.

Ed Flemke Jr. (No. 10 Chevrolet)

- Won the season-opener at TIS.
- Has 17 wins and 16 poles in 366 career starts.
- Has made a record 307 consecutive starts ... The last time he did not start an NWMT race was on July 22, 1992 at Riverside Park Speedway.
- Has finished 27th, sixth and second in his previous three trips to SMS in 2008.

Rick Fuller (No. 77)

- 1993 NWMT Champion ... Was honored on Sept. 7 at TIS.
- Has 20 wins and 11 poles in 437 career starts ... Last won at Waterford in May, 2003.
- Has five career wins at SMS ... Last came on April 30, 2000.

Matt Hirschman (No. 59 Chevrolet)

- Has a win and 27 top 10s in 52 career starts ... Earned his first NWMT win at Spencer on July 12.
- Has finished on the lead lap in 30 consecutive races, the most among all drivers ... Is the only driver to complete all 1881 laps this year.
- Has top-10s in nine of the last 11 races, including the last six in a row.

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Chuck Hossfeld (No. 4 Dodge)

- Is now fourth in the season standings, 209 behind leader Ted Christopher ... Maintained the points lead for eight weeks before Christopher passed him at MMP.
- Finished in the top four in each of the season's first six races ... Last seven outings have resulted in finishes ranging from 15th to 28th.
- Has wins this year at SMS (May 23) and NHMS (June 28) ... Won the pole and the race at SMS.
- Has seven wins, 42 top fives and 61 top 10s in 108 career starts.

Rowan Pennink (No. 93 Chevrolet)

- Is 10th in the season standings.
- Has four top 10s in 13 starts in 2008 and five total in 27 career starts.

Ryan Preece (No. 3 Chevrolet)

- Has two poles, a win and nine top 10s in 27 career starts.
- Currently ranks eighth in the season standings with seven top 10s in 13 starts.
- Was credited with first career NWMT win last time out at Martinsville.
- Has led 401 laps this year, second among all drivers.

Glen Reen (No. 17 Chevrolet)

- Top-ranking rookie ... Is 18th in the season standings and first in rookie points.
- Has three top 10s in 13 starts with best finishes of sixth at Spencer and TIS.

Ronnie Silk (No. 79 Pontiac)

- Has won two races in 2008, both at TIS.
- Is fifth in the standings ... Has top-10 finishes in seven of the last 10 races, including two wins.
- Has three wins and 20 top-10s in 52 career NWMT starts ... All three wins have come at TIS.

Mike Stefanik (No. 16 Pontiac)

- Seven-time NWMT Champion ... Was honored at SMS on May 23.
- Has a NWMT record 68 victories in 378 career starts ... Last win was the 2007 Fall Final.
- Has eight top 10s in 2008 and is seventh in the season standings.
- Has finished fourth, fourth and seventh in the first three SMS races in 2008.

Todd Szegedy (No. 2 Ford)

- The 2003 NWMT Champion ... Was honored at NHMS on Sept. 13.
- Has 13 wins in 107 career starts, the best start-to-victory ratio (8:1) of any active driver.
- Has finished ninth, second and 22nd in the first three 2008 races at SMS.

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ANALYZING THE CARQUEST FALL FINAL

Jamie Tomaino (No. 99 Chevrolet)

- The 1990 NWMT Champion ... Was honored at Spencer on July 12.
- Has missed only four of the 500 races in the history of the NWMT (1985-pr.).
- Has two top 10s in a row, four on the year and 233 in his career.
- Is one of three drivers (Rick Fuller, Carl Pasteryak) to make a start in all 24 years of the NWMT.

Upcoming Milestones/Benchmarks:

- **Jamie Tomaino** will extend his own series record by making his 497th career start.
- **Ed Flemke Jr.** is expected to extend his record consecutive starts streak to 309.
- **Ted Christopher's** next win would place him in a tie with **Jeff Fuller** for fourth on the NWMT all-time wins list at 31.

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