



NASCAR WHELEN MODIFIED TOUR

News & Notes

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RACE 4 @ MARTINSVILLE SPEEDWAY

The Race: Made In America Whelen 200

The Place: Martinsville (Va.) Speedway

The Date: Sunday, June 6

The Time: 1 p.m. ET

The Distance: 200 laps / 105.2 miles

TV Schedule: TBA

Track Layout: .526-mile oval

Race Purse: \$93,046

2009 Winner: Mike Stefanik

2009 Polesitter: Ron Silk

Event Schedule:

Saturday: Practice 11:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.,
1:10-1:55 p.m., Qualifying 4:30 p.m.

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2010 STANDINGS

Rk	Driver	Points
1	Bobby Santos	550
2	Mike Stefanik	486
3	Ted Christopher	477
4	Todd Szegedy	475
5	Eric Berndt	436
6	Ryan Preece	429
7	Jimmy Blewett	411
8	Rowan Pennink	395
9	Erick Rudolph	391
10	Justin Bonsignore	346

- Whelen Modifieds Head To Martinsville
- Santos Surges To Early Championship Lead
- Tour Tidbits: Stafford Recap



Whelen Modifieds Head To Martinsville

The first instance of back-to-back weeks of racing on the 2010 schedule will see the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour head to historic Martinsville (Va.) Speedway this week following last Friday night's race at Stafford (Conn.) Motor Speedway.

A Modified racing venue long before the Whelen Modified Tour was formed, Martinsville will play host to the Tour's fourth race of the season on Sunday, June 6 with qualifying the preceding day. The 2010 Made In America Whelen 200 will mark the 35th time the Tour has raced Martinsville's unique paperclip oval, the most at any facility outside of the northeast.

Despite a four-year absence in the mid-1990s, Martinsville has been a staple of the Whelen Modified Tour schedule since its inception. Charlie Jarzombek won the first two races there during
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The 2010 Made In America Whelen 200 will be the 35th all-time Whelen Modified Tour race at Martinsville, the most at any track outside of the northeast.

Santos Surges To Early Championship Lead

The first championship chase in the diverse racing career of **Bobby Santos** is off to a stellar start.

Santos, a 24-year-old that grew up in a racing family, has been behind the wheel of various types of race cars and various levels of competition throughout his still-budding career. This season marks the first time the Franklin, Mass., native has competed for a championship at the higher levels of the sport.

Maybe he should have tried this before.

After just three 2010 NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour races Santos has already shot out to a 64-point lead in the championship standings. While the season is not even to the quarter pole, to put his fast start in perspective, that is the largest differential between first and second place after three races since **Mike McLaughlin** led **Reggie Ruggiero** by 73 tallies in 1989.

Santos' current margin is also the largest in the
(Continued on page 2)



In his first full-time campaign Santos has won two of the first three races and finished second in the other.



Raceday Notes

The Race ... The Made In America Whelen 200 on June 6 will be the fourth of 14 races on the 2010 NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour schedule, and the only trip to Martinsville Speedway and the state of Virginia.

The Procedure ... Starting positions 1-30 will be set from time trials. The remaining five will be filled through the provisional process. The race is 200 laps (105.2 miles).

The Track ... Martinsville is a .526-mile "paperclip" oval with flat straight-aways and 12-degree banking in the turns. The track originally opened in 1947 and has played host to each of NASCAR's three national series. There have been 34 Whelen Modified Tour races at Martinsville since 1985.

Race Winners ... There have been 16 different race winners at Martinsville, led by Mike Stefanik's five, including last year.

Pole Winners ... There have been 21 different pole winners at Martinsville, led by four apiece from Jeff Fuller, Jan Leaty and Stefanik. Ron Silk was the pole winner in last year's event.

35th Running Of Mods at Martinsville

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the inaugural season of 1985. This year's return to Martinsville will mark the 25th anniversary of the death of Modified legend **Richie Evans**, who passed away following an accident during practice prior to the 1985 season finale at the .526-mile track.

Some of the famed names of modern-day Modified racing have taken home the traditional Grandfather Clock at Martinsville. **Reggie Ruggiero**, **Jeff Fuller** and **Mike Ewanitsko** earned four wins apiece there while **Brett Bodine** and the late **Tom Baldwin** have a pair of triumphs.

Currently second in points in 2010, **Mike Stefanik** heads the list of Martinsville wins with five. His record fifth career triumph came in 2009.

In addition to Stefanik, the only other active drivers with career wins at Martinsville are **Jimmy Blewett**, **Ted Christopher** and **Ryan Preece**. A NASCAR Whelen Southern Modified Tour driver these days, **L.W. Miller** won at Martinsville in 2002 back when he was a Whelen Modified Tour competitor.

After five years of this being a combination



Stefanik captured his fifth Martinsville clock in last year's Made In America Whelen 200.

race with the Whelen Southern Modified Tour, the Martinsville date has gone back to just a Whelen Modified Tour event, although a number of Whelen Southern Modified Tour teams are expected to enter.

The Whelen Modified Tour will share the bill on race weekend with the NASCAR K&N Pro Series East. Practice and qualifying for both is scheduled for Saturday, June 5. The Tour will take the green flag on Sunday at 1 p.m. with the East to follow.

Santos Starts Fast In 2010

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midst of a season since **Ted Christopher** led by 89 points following the 13th race of the 2008 campaign. Christopher closed that season with a 127-point margin following the season finale, but neither Christopher nor eventual champion **Donny Lia** had a lead of more than 53 points a year ago.

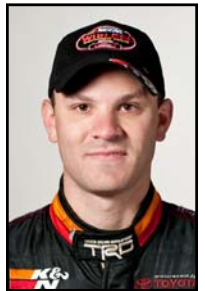
While Santos might not have experience with staying the course to a championship, his team does. Santos took over Bob Garbarino's famed No. 4 "Mystic Missile" this year after Lia had piloted it to the title in 2007 and 2008. **Chuck Hossfeld** also paced the points standings in the car for half of the 2008 campaign.

To Santos' credit, however, it's not just the car. In the same equipment that many have piloted before him, Santos set track qualifying records at the two most-raced tracks in the history of northeast Modified racing in Thompson (Conn.) International Speedway and Stafford (Conn.) Motor Speedway to begin the season. Santos earned the second win of his career in the opener at Thompson, was runner-up at Stafford in the second outing of the season after

he was spun mid-race, and then won in the return to Stafford last week.

Aside from the rally at Stafford in the second race after he was spun while in the lead, Santos has been at or near the front the entire season. He's led 37-percent (179 of 487) of all laps completed this year, and has taken advantage of the lap leader bonus points that are new to the Whelen Modified Tour this year by compiling 20 so far.

For Santos, who has participated in Whelen Modified Tour races as a part-timer since 2004 prior to this year, the majority of his starts have come at Stafford and Thompson. To keep up the pace he'll need to adapt to different tracks quickly. Next up is Martinsville Speedway, where he has just one career Modified appearance in which he started third and finished 20th. After that will be New Hampshire Motor Speedway where he has had mixed results in six starts.



Bobby Santos



Upcoming Broadcast Schedule

Race	Channel	Air Date, Time
Martinsville	SPEED	TBA
New Hampshire	SPEED	TBA
Riverhead	VERSUS	8/4, 7 p.m.
Riverhead *	VERSUS	8/8, 11 p.m.

All times ET *Replay



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Tour Tidbits: Stafford Recap



Santos has matched Christopher's record by starting the season with three-straight poles.

The third race of the 2010 NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour season was the TSI Harley-Davidson 125 at Stafford (Conn.) Motor Speedway on May 28.

Santos Ties Christopher's Mark ... In recent seasons **Ted Christopher** has had little in the way of competition for milestones and records, but in 2010 **Bobby Santos** is more than happy to oblige. Christopher became the first driver in Whelen Modified Tour history to start the season with three-straight pole awards in 2009, but the distinction lasted just one season as Santos matched it by taking his third pole in a row last time out at Stafford. Santos also set track records in his first two poles of the year at Thompson (Conn.) International Speedway and the first race at Stafford

Blewett Battles, but Settles for Second ... **Jimmy Blewett** recorded the best finish in three races with his new team at the TSI Harley-Davidson 125. Now with the Richard Barney-owned No. 14 after a number of years with Ed Partridge, Blewett finished 15th in each of the season's first two races. He provided Santos' main competition down the stretch at Stafford however, and missed his sixth career win by just 0.166 seconds.

Stefanik Up to Second in Points ... Although

he actually lost points to Santos during the race, **Mike Stefanik** surpassed Christopher at Stafford to move up to second in the season standings with a seventh-place finish. The Whelen Modified Tour legend has not had a serious championship run since his seventh title in 2006.

High Marks for Berndt, Summers ... Every race seems to be better than the previous for **Eric Berndt**. In the second race of the season he tied his previous career-best finish of seventh, and in the third race he surpassed that effort as he led a career-high 101 laps and finished sixth. **Rob Summers** also matched his previous career-best finish of fifth, which he had done twice previously. Both are part-time drivers on the Tour.

Race Wrap ... Although it was to be a 125-lap race, the event went 137 circuits with three green-white-checker attempts ... Summers earned the Featherlite Most Improved Driver Award, **Erick Rudolph** captured the Coca-Cola Move of the Race Award and **Justin Bonsignore** was the Sunoco Rookie of the Race for the second event in a row ... **Andy Seuss** finished 10th to mark his best Whelen Modified Tour effort since 2007 ... **George Brunnhoezl III** finished ninth for his first Whelen Modified Tour top 10 ... **Chuck Hossfeld** was leading with 13 laps to go but made contact with Blewett and was shuffled to a 15th-place finish ... Christopher - second in points entering the race - had a top-10 car but spun as the field started to slow down during a late-race caution and finished 12th ... **Rowan Pennink** had a streak of four straight top 10s broken as he finished 26th, his worst finish since he also crossed the line 26th in the 2009 Spring Sizzler ... **James Civali** was 27th, which marked his fifth finish of 25th or worse in nine Whelen Modified Tour starts with Hillbilly Racing, yet he currently leads the Whelen Southern Modified Tour points with the same team.

TBR To Pay Tribute To Evans

There will be plenty of connections to NASCAR Modified racing at Daytona International Speedway next month when Tommy Baldwin Racing enters its No. 36 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series car for the Coke Zero 400 powered by Coca-Cola on July 3.

TBR will field a **Richie Evans** themed paint scheme on the car, sure to feature the traditional colors of orange and black, in honor of the late Modified legend. TBR has also tabbed former

NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour driver **Steve Park** to attempt to qualify the car.

Team owner **Tommy Baldwin** is the son of the late **Tom Baldwin**, a longtime Whelen Modified Tour competitor. The younger Baldwin also is co-owner of the No. 98 currently run in the Tour by **Erick Rudolph**.

Regarded as the greatest Modified racer, Evans was a nine-time NASCAR titlist and was the inaugural Whelen Modified Tour champion.



Up Next: Loudon

Often regarded as the highlight event of New Hampshire Motor Speedway's race weekends, the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour will make the first of its two annual trips to Loudon, N.H., for the New England 100 on June 26.

The Whelen Modified Tour and NHMS have been a match made in heaven since the inaugural event at the 1.058-mile oval in September, 1990. With its long straightaways that produce drafting unique to the Whelen Modifieds, the races feature an abundance of lead changes, often with multiple passes per lap.

The Whelen Modified Tour's race in Loudon this past September marked the 50th all-time Tour event at the "Magic Mile," which is more than any facility outside of the state of Connecticut.

Tony Hirschman holds the Whelen Modified Tour record for wins at New Hampshire with seven. Among current competitors **Mike Stefanik** leads with six victories while **Ted Christopher** has five.

The Whelen Modified Tour will share the bill on race weekend with the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series, NASCAR Nationwide Series and NASCAR K&N Pro Series East. Practice and qualifying for the Whelen Modified Tour and K&N Pro Series East is scheduled for Thursday, June 24. The Whelen Modified Tour will take the green flag on Saturday at 1 p.m. with the Nationwide Series to follow.

"Get In The Groove" At Martinsville

With the new NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour - NASCAR K&N Pro Series East doubleheader format at Martinsville (Va.) Speedway also comes a new special event known as "Get In The Groove."

Following practice and qualifying for both series on Saturday, June 5 there will be a concert on the frontstretch of the historic speedway. The event will start at 6 p.m. and will feature live music from Fatz.

Admission to the event is just \$5 for the general public, which will benefit the Martinsville Speedway Children's Foundation.



Contingency Awards

COORS LIGHT POLE AWARD

Bobby Santos 3



COCA-COLA MOVE OF THE RACE AWARD

James Civali 1
Woody Pitkat 1
Erick Rudolph 1



FEATHERLITE MOST IMPROVED DRIVER AWARD

Chuck Hossfeld 1
Bobby Santos 1
Rob Summers 1



WHELEN WINNER OF THE RACE

Bobby Santos 2
Ted Christopher 1



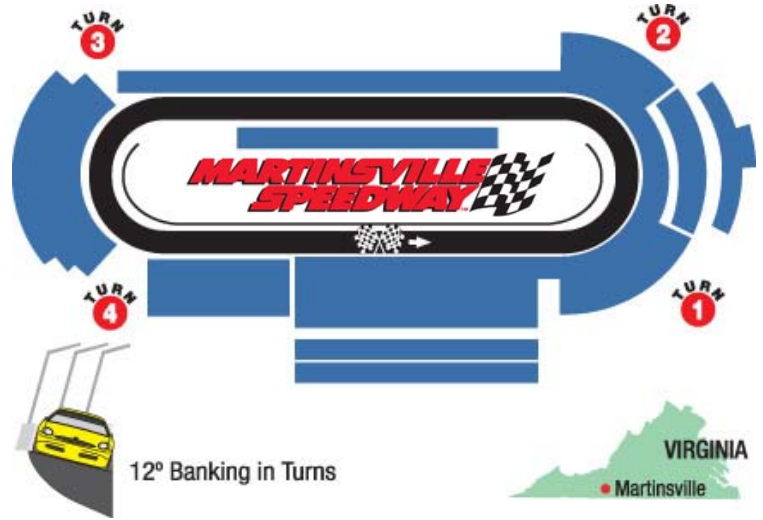
SUNOCO ROOKIE OF THE RACE AWARD

Justin Bonsignore 2
Richie Pallai Jr. 1



SUNOCO ROOKIE OF THE YEAR STANDINGS

Justin Bonsignore 29
Richie Pallai Jr. 28



The on-track autograph session at Martinsville is a fan favorite.

2010 NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour Schedule

DATE	RACE	FACILITY	2010 POLESITTER	2010 RACE WINNER
April 11	Icebreaker	Thompson (Conn.) International Speedway	Bobby Santos	Bobby Santos
April 25	Tech-Net Spring Sizzler pres. by CARQUEST	Stafford (Conn.) Motor Speedway	Bobby Santos	Ted Christopher
May 28	TSI Harley-Davidson 125	Stafford (Conn.) Motor Speedway	Bobby Santos	Bobby Santos
DATE	RACE	FACILITY	2009 POLESITTER	2009 RACE WINNER
June 6	Made In America Whelen 200	Martinsville (Va.) Speedway	Ron Silk	Mike Stefanik
June 26	New England 100	New Hampshire Motor Speedway, Loudon, N.H.	Doug Coby	Donny Lia
July 3	NWMT at Lime Rock	Lime Rock Park, Lakeville, Conn.	—	—
July 17	NWMT at Monadnock *	Monadnock Speedway, Winchester, N.H.	—	—
July 31	NWMT at Riverhead *	Riverhead (N.Y.) Raceway	Ryan Preece	Ryan Preece
Aug. 6	Town Fair Tire 150	Stafford (Conn.) Motor Speedway	Eric Berndt	Ryan Preece
Aug. 12	Budweiser 150	Thompson (Conn.) International Speedway	Donny Lia	Donny Lia
Aug. 18	UNOH Perfect Storm 150 +	Bristol (Tenn.) Motor Speedway	None (rain)	Donny Lia
Sept. 18	New Hampshire 100	New Hampshire Motor Speedway, Loudon, N.H.	Ryan Preece	Ron Silk
Oct. 3	CARQUEST Fall Final	Stafford (Conn.) Motor Speedway	Donny Lia	Donny Lia
Oct. 17	World Series of Speedway Racing	Thompson (Conn.) International Speedway	None (rain)	Ted Christopher

* Qualifying Format Race

+ Combined Race With Whelen Southern Modified Tour