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ALL EYES ON BOONE FOR SEPT. 6-11 SUPER NATIONALS

MANY FIRST-TIME COMPETITORS EXPECTED AT 22ND ANNUAL EVENT

BOONE, Iowa (Aug. 20) - Our racin' nation turns its full attention to Boone Speedway and the I.M.C.A. Speedway Motors Super Nationals Sept. 6-11.

The 22nd annual event opens on Labor Day, with the Deery Brothers Summer Series for Late Models headlining Monday's show. The Jackpot Junction Sprint Car Tour wings its way to town on Tuesday and Modified qualifying begins Wednesday.

With a 10-car field selected by fan voting throughout the summer, the Modified All-Star Invitational takes top billing Fri-day evening. Saturday's finale sees the Dirt Works Ron Efkamp Memorial Race of Champions, Sunoco Race Fuels Stock Car Race of Champions, and Hobby Stock, Stock Car and Modified main events.

"We've had 700-plus cars at Super Nationals each of the last three years and we're confident that we'll have a similar number for the 2004 event," I.M.C.A. Vice President of Operations Brett Root said. "The number of calls we've been get-ting for the last month or so tell us that a lot of drivers will be making their first visit to Super Nationals this year. They've heard about Boone and they want to experience it first-hand."

First-year Super Nationals competitors will include **Josh Wright** of Mooresville, N.C., who will be the first Tarheel State driver to race in Stock Car qualifying. Wright has secured a ride in the back-up car of Steve Jackson of Des Moines, a five-time Super Nationals champion.

Defending Hot Chassis Gulf Coast Region champion Chris Smith of Castleberry, Ala., will be among the first-time Modified drivers taking in the spectacle.

Pit gates open at 11 a.m. Monday through Wednesday and on Saturday, and at 1 p.m. Thursday and Friday. Hot laps are at 4 p.m. and racing starts at 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Pre-race ceremonies are at 3 p.m. Saturday, with racing at 4 p.m.

Day-by-day programs at Super Nationals are:

Monday, Sept. 6 - Deery Brothers Summer Series 50-lap Late Model feature; qualifying for Stock Cars and Hobby Stocks.

Tuesday, Sept. 7 - Jack-pot Junction Tour 20-lap Sprint Car feature; qualify-ing for Stock Cars and Hobby Stocks; qualifying for Sunoco Race Fuels Stock Car Race of Champions.

Wednesday, Sept. 8 - Qualifying for Stock Cars and for Modifieds.

Thursday, Sept. 9 - Qualifying for Modifieds and for the Dirt Works Ron Efkamp Memorial Race of Champions.

Friday, Sept. 10 - All-Star Invitational 10-lap feature; qualifying for Modifieds and the Efkamp race.

Saturday, Sept. 11 - Final qualifying for Modifieds; Efkamp and Sunoco races; Hobby Stock, Stock Car and Modified features.

Every Modified driver who races Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday is guaranteed \$300 against their winnings; every Stock Car driver who races Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday is guaranteed \$200.

I.M.C.A. and Speedway Motors will claim the engines of the top four cars in the Modified feature, the top two in the Stock Car feature and the Hobby Stock winner, as well as the winner of the Efkamp race. Those engines will be sold at a public auction to follow the Saturday night program. Proceeds above the amounts paid to the claimed driver will be divided among other drivers in the respective events.

This is also the 10th year the event has been sponsored by Speedway Motors, of Lincoln, Neb.

"A lot of the success that Super Nationals has enjoyed is due to Speedway Motors," Root said. "I don't believe Super Nationals would have become the caliber of event it is today without them."

The overall car count of 718 last year was the second-highest total in Super Nationals history, with a record 159 Stock Cars and 145 Hobby Stocks on hand.