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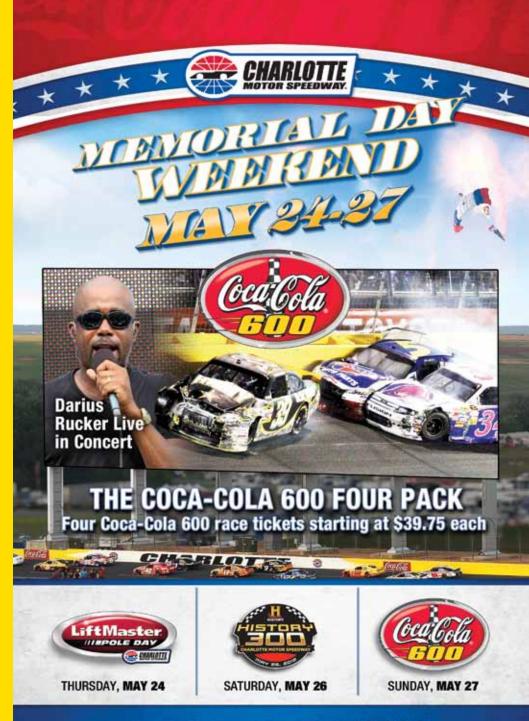






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Wood Eyeing Three-Peat

By Steve Post, NASCAR Automotive Group

His job generally is to stay out of the spotlight.

But every May, veteran gas man Scott Wood and his fellow pit road weekend warriors take center stage in one of the most exciting events of the season.

The 2012 Sprint Pit Crew Challenge is set for Thursday, May 17 at 7:00 p.m. ET at Time-Warner Cable Arena in Charlotte, N.C. The annual contest pits the top-24 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series pit crews head-to-head in a no-holds-barred, overthe-wall battle elimination tournament.

For Wood, a Liberty, S.C. native and gas man for the No. 11 FedEx Toyota driven by Denny Hamlin, the event could mean extraordinary bragging rights. He and his over-the-wall teammates are seeking a record third-straight consecutive victory in this year's eight annual NASCAR Sprint Pit Crew Challenge.

"It's awesome," said Wood, speaking about the event. "Of course, our main focus is pit stops during a race. But, that's just a treat we get and everybody would like to win it."

While intense for competitors, the JHE-produced contest is a family-fun event for the crowd, allowing team members the opportunity to perform their skills in front of family and friends

"They put it together really well, and we get a lot of fans there to scream for the guys who work on the racecars," explained Wood. "We don't get that kind of attention very often and it's really cool. We have a lot of families and friends who come out, they make signs and cheer, it's awesome for us guys."

During the competition, Wood and his No. 11 Joe Gibbs Racing teammates – Nate Bolling (jack man), Nick Krizmanich (front-tire changer), Brandon Pegram (front-tire carrier), Mike Hicks (rear-tire changer) and Heath Cherry (rear-tire carrier) – will try to perform a technical "dance" in 21 seconds or less.

The NASCAR Sprint Pit Crew Challenge features four individual skills stations where crew members from two teams simultaneously change front and rear tires, fill a car with 18 gallons of liquid, and jack up both sides of a car. After completing their individual tasks, the six crew members come together to push their race car 40 yards to the finish line.

Wood, a former linebacker for Mesa State University and running back/linebacker for the pro football Bergamo Lions

in Bergamo Italy, is no stranger to the 40-yard dash. He maintains training and conditioning are keys to the competition

"The thing we've got going for us is that we stay in good shape all the time," said Wood, who has logged over 15 years on pit road in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series. "We have specific things we have to do for our workouts, and most of us do more than that. We are gover-rats."

Wood says the No. 11 team will rely on their day-to-day conditioning regimen to be prepared for the competition, but will also put in a minimal amount of specific practice just for the event.

"A couple of weeks before the event, we start doing a couple of car-pushes after pit practice back in the lot [at Joe Gibbs Racing]," Wood explained. "That's about all we do extra."

Once teams complete the side-by-side 40-yard dash across the length of the arena, they'll focus back on NASCAR officials who will be there inspecting for loose lug nuts or other infractions.

"Mentally you don't want to make mistakes and that's the main thing," said Wood. "The rest of it is to do your job."

With bragging rights and over \$70,000 on the line for the team championship, it's not hard for teams to get motivated.

"Anytime there is something out there to win, we want to win it," added Wood. "There is a good bit of money and that helps with home projects, so it's quite a treat for sure."

The team that wins the 2012 Sprint Pit Crew Challenge also gets the very advantageous first pit stall for the NASCAR Sprint All-Star Race at Charlotte Motor Speedway two nights later.

NASCAR Sprint Pit Crew Challenge ticket prices start at just \$15, while children two to 12 yrs. old cost \$7.50 each. Visit www.pitcrewchallenge.com or call the Time Warner Cable Arena box office at (800) 745-3000. SPEED will air the competition starting at 8 p.m. ET that evening.

Visit www.nascar.com/allstar for tickets and information on the NASCAR Sprint All-Star Race on May 19.



COMPETITION

Competition Format

Teams are seeded for the 2012 NASCAR Sprint Pit Crew Challenge based on the following: Competing teams will be seeded based on the 2012 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series car owner point standings as of May 14, 2012. The top eight (8) teams in NASCAR Sprint Cup Series owner points will receive a bye into the second round of the competition. The remaining eligible teams will be ranked in order of NASCAR Sprint Cup Series owner points as seeds 9-24 will compete in a head-to-head format in the first round of the NASCAR Sprint Pit Crew Challenge.

Competition Rounds

Seeding Round: The seeding round held at 4:30PM featured the top-eight teams in NASCAR Sprint Cup Series owner points. Teams competed in four head-to-head runs with the quickest time receiving the top, overall seed for the NASCAR Sprint Pit Crew Challenge. The remaining seven teams in the seeding round were seeded 2-8 in order of their times (quickest to slowest).

Round One

All teams seeded 9-24 will compete in a head-tohead, single-elimination competition with the eight winning teams advancing to the second round of competition.

Additionally, the fastest crew member at each station will be crowned as the individual champion in the following categories: front-tire changer and carrier, rear-tire changer and carrier, jack man, and gas man. Each of the winning individual crew members will receive a \$10,000 prize. Teams competing in the seeding round and first round will have individual skills' times count toward the individual skills' titles.

Round Two

The eight winning teams from round one advance to challenge the teams seeded 1-8. Eight heat winners advance to round three (Quarterfinals).

Round Three - Quarterfinals

The head-to-head competition continues with the same format as round two. Four heat winners advance to round four (Semifinals).

Round Four - Semifinals

The winning teams from round three compete headto-head with the two winners advancing to the championship round.

Round Five - Finals

The winning teams from round four compete head-to -head with the winner crowned as the 2012 NASCAR Sprint Pit Crew Challenge Champion.

Note: In the event of a tie in any of the rounds, the car owner who is ranked higher in the current 2012 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series car owner point standings as of May 14, 2012, will prevail.

The finishing order of the 2012 NASCAR Sprint Pit Crew Challenge determines the order of pit selection for the race that each competing team is eligible for - The Sprint Showdown or the NASCAR Sprint All-Star Race.

"The NASCAR Sprint Pit Crew Challenge has proven to be a fan favorite and helps showcase the true competitiveness and athleticism of our sport's pit crews," said Robin Pemberton, vice president of competition at NASCAR. "It's a great lead-in for the All-Star Race and it promises to deliver another exceptional experience for the fans and for the competitors."

Front Tire Changer/ Front Tire Carrier Pit Box

In this box, changers and carriers will work together to simulate race-day conditions. Just like a NASCAR Sprint Cup Series event, the front tire changers and carriers will start from along side the pit wall, attacking the right side of the car first, and then moving onto the left. The second tire will be pre-positioned by the carrier at the pit wall. Competitors will use their own air guns, and a time penalty will be administered for any lugs not properly installed. The tire changer must hit the split timer button on exit of pit box.

Gas Man Pit Box

In this box, the gas man will be responsible for filling a car with 18 gallons of non-flammable liquid, using two pre-loaded nine (9) gallon cans. A second gas can man (1st assistant) is allowed to hand the second can to the gas man, but not leave the established "batter's box". For this competition, the single point closed loop fueling system will not be utilized. The gas man will start with one fuel can in hand from just over the wall near the left rear of the car, and will be timed through setting the second can down. If the fuel cell is not full, the competitor will receive a time penalty. The gas man must hit a split timer on exit of the pit box. Only the gas man is allowed to leave the box and help push the car. Once the element is complete the NASCAR Official will take the cans to be weighed.

Rear Tire Changer/ Rear Tire Carrier Pit Box

Very similar to the front positions, but the starting position will be just over the wall, near the left rear of the car. The tire changer must hit the split timer button on exit of pit box.

Jack Man Pit Box

In this box, the jack man, using their own jack, must jack each side of the car high enough to lift both tires off the ground. A NASCAR Sprint Cup Series Official will signal when the tires on each side of the car are off the ground. The jack man must start from alongside pit wall and must set off both lights before hitting the split timer button and leaving his pit box.

40-Yard "Push"

As soon as each team member finishes their respective station, they go to the center of the Time Warner Cable Arena, where a special 40-yard lane is created. Each team will get to push their own 3,200-pound race car across the finish line. Timing for this individual non-purse element will begin when the car starts to move, finishing when the nose of the race car crosses the electronic finish line.



The individual skills stations are actual pit boxes with a full size NASCAR Sprint Cup Series car. The four cars and pit boxes will be set up specifically for the front tire changer + carrier, rear tire changer + carrier, jack man, and gas man. All team members will begin simultaneously at the sound of a starter's pistol. They will hit a stop button positioned on pit wall as they leave their respective pit box, creating their individual split time.



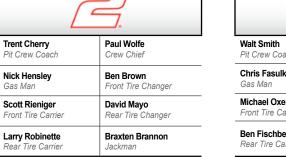
Date & Time:	Location:
Thursday, May 17, 2012	Time Warner Carbles
7:00 P.M. EDT	Cable

	Event:	Purse:
:	A two-tiered, skills competition that pairs up NASCAR Sprint Cup Series pit crews in a head-to-head battle against the clock	INDIVIDUAL COMPETITION WINNERS \$10,000 cash each position CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM \$80,675 cash plus prizes

NASCAR Sprint Pit Crew Challenge Eligibility:

All teams qualified for the 2012 NASCAR Sprint All-Star Race, which includes NASCAR Sprint Cup race winners from 2011 and 2012, past NASCAR Sprint All-Star Race Winners from the past 10 years, and past NASCAR Sprint Cup Series Champions of the past 10 years who are active drivers and have competed in at least one Series event during the 2011 or 2012 season. Also, eligible is the 2011 NSPCC winner. If there are no new event winners, the remaining unfilled positions will become available to the car owners ranked highest in the 2012 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series Championship Owner point standings as of May 14, 2012 who are not otherwise eligible for this event.

Due To Program Deadlines, Not All Eligible Teams Are Represented In This Program.



5	
Walt Smith	Kenny Francis
Pit Crew Coach	Crew Chief
Chris Fasulka	Kelly Kellis
Gas Man	Front Tire Changer
Michael Oxendine	Kip Walfmeier
Front Tire Carrier	Rear Tire Changer
Ben Fischbeck	Jeff Kerr
Rear Tire Carrier	Jackman



Andrew Carter Pit Crew Coach	Todd Parrott Crew Chief
Robert Smith	Aaron Powell
Gas Man	Front Tire Changer
Joel Coronel	Justin Fiedler
Front Tire Carrier	Rear Tire Changer
Eric Wallace	Rodney Fetters
Rear Tire Carrier	Jackman



Mike Lepp / Paul Alepa	Darian Grubb
Pit Crew Coach	Crew Chief
Scott Wood	Nick Kryzmanich
Gas Man	Front Tire Changer
Brandon Pegram	Michael Hicks
Front Tire Carrier	Rear Tire Changer
Heath Cherry	Nate Bolling
Rear Tire Carrier	Jackman



Joe Piette Jr.	Steve Addington
Pit Crew Coach	Crew Chief
Rick Pigeon	Ira-Jo Hussey
Gas Man	Front Tire Changer
Todd Drakulich	Daniel Smith
Front Tire Carrier	Rear Tire Changer
Michael Morneau	Mike Castro
Rear Tire Carrier	Jackman



Greg Miller Pit Crew Coach	Brian Pattie Crew Chief
Mike Metcalf	Danny Kincaid
Gas Man	Front Tire Changer
Jason Gay Front Tire Carrier	Lee Cunningham Rear Tire Changer
Richard Coleman	Shaun Peet
Rear Tire Carrier	Jackman



Andy Ward	Matt Puccia
Pit Crew Coach	Crew Chief
Justin Reissmann	Kevin Novak
Gas Man	Front Tire Changer
Bryan Huitt	Curtis Thompson
Front Tire Carrier	Rear Tire Changer
Justin Edgell	Sean Meckelson
Rear Tire Carrier	Jackman



Andy Ward	Jimmy Fennig
Pit Crew Coach	Crew Chief
Sean Ward	Justin Nottestad
Gas Man	Front Tire Changer
Collin Pasi	Jon Moore
Front Tire Carrier	Rear Tire Changer
Ryan McCray	Cameron Cobb
Rear Tire Carrier	Jackman



Mike Lepp	Dave Rogers
Pit Crew Coach	Crew Chief
Tom Lampe	Nick Odell
Gas Man	Front Tire Changer
Bradley Donaghy	Jame Seminara
Front Tire Carrier	Rear Tire Changer
Kenny Barber	Jeff Fender
Rear Tire Carrier	Jackman



Les Esbert / Rodney Fetters Pit Crew Coach	Donnie Wingo Crew Chief
Mike Smith Gas Man	Corey Baldwin Front Tire Changer
Brian Thomas Front Tire Carrier	Dwayne Ogles Rear Tire Changer
Garrett Reding Rear Tire Carrier	Jeremy Neeley Jackman



Joe Piette Jr.	Tony Gibson
Pit Crew Coach	Crew Chief
Andy Rueger	Scott Brzozowski
Gas Man	Front Tire Changer
Brad Robison	Jonathan Sherman
Front Tire Carrier	Rear Tire Changer
James Hook	Andy Turner
Rear Tire Carrier	Jackman



•	Greg Morin Pit Crew Coach	Chad Knaus Crew Chief
	Brandon Harder Gas Man	Dave Collins Front Tire Changer
	RJ Barnette Front Tire Carrier	Calvin Teague Rear Tire Changer
	Matt Tyrrell Rear Tire Carrier	TJ Ford Jackman



Walt Smith	Alan Gustafson
Pit Crew Coach	Crew Chief
Brad Pickens Gas Man	Cory DeMarco Front Tire Changer
Dion Williams Front Tire Carrier	Chad Avrit Rear Tire Changer
Gene Cornwell	Bailey Walker
Rear Tire Carrier	Jackman



Eric Wilson	Slugger Labbe
Pit Crew Coach	Crew Chief
Matt Kreuter Gas Man	Terry Spalding <i>Front Tire Changer</i>
Erik Pringle	Aaron Smith
Front Tire Carrier	Rear Tire Changer
Ray Wright	Carey Wimbish
Rear Tire Carrier	Jackman



Chris Burkey	Nick Harrison	
Pit Crew Coach	Crew Chief	
Tim Whelan	Anthony O'Brien	
Gas Man	Front Tire Changer	
Art Simmons	Cam Waugh	
Front Tire Carrier	Rear Tire Changer	
Jeff Knight	Eric Ludwig	
Rear Tire Carrier	Jackman	



Greg Miller Pit Crew Coach	Rodney Childers Crew Chief
Brian Dheel	Ryan Langley
Gas Man	Front Tire Changer
Chris Hall	Shannon Myers
Front Tire Carrier	Rear Tire Changer
Mark Kennerly	Tony Cardomone
Rear Tire Carrier	Jackman



Eric Wilson	Shane Wilson
Pit Crew Coach	Crew Chief
Bryan Smith	Jason Pulver
Gas Man	Front Tire Changer
Austin Craven Front Tire Carrier	Dustin Necaise Rear Tire Changer
Aa ron Schields	Jason Hunt
Rear Tire Carrier	Jackman

Ike Sneed Pit Crew Coach	Jay Guy Crew Chief
Justin Lages Gas Man	Austin Dickey Front Tire Changer
A.J. Heister Front Tire Carrier	Chris Letourneau Rear Tire Changer
Mike Keels Rear Tire Carrier	William Sturgill Jackman



Joe Piette Jr.	Peter Rondeau
Pit Crew Coach	Crew Chief
Justin White	Shayne Pipala
Gas Man	Front Tire Changer
Jon Bernal	Coleman Dollarhide
Front Tire Carrier	Rear Tire Changer
Dwayne Moore	Gabe Martin
Rear Tire Carrier	Jackman



Andy Ward	Bob Osborne
Pit Crew Coach	Crew Chief
Joe Karasinski	Mike Lingerfelt
Gas Man	Front Tire Changer
Alan Troutman	Kale Uphoff
Front Tire Carrier	Rear Tire Changer
Josh Shipplett	Dennis Killian
Rear Tire Carrier	Jackman





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Once again the NASCAR Sprint Pit Crew Challenge promises to be among the most anticipated events during the 2012 NASCAR Sprint All-Star Race week. Race fans will have the unique opportunity to see NASCAR's elite over-the-wall athletes compete in head – to – head skill competition May 17th at the Time Warner Cable Arena.

Each of the pit crew members identified as champions of their respective station, as well as the fastest overall team, will earn a coveted one-of-a-kind championship ring designed by Jostens, Inc., the same company that designs all of the NASCAR sanctioned racing series championship rings including the most recent NASCAR Sprint Cup Series champion ring for Tony Stewart. Each NASCAR Sprint Pit Crew Challenge Championship ring will be presented in an authentic cherry wood box displaying the official 2012 NASCAR Sprint Pit Crew Challenge logo!



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