

AMS PRESIDENT ED CLARK'S ANNUAL PREDICTIONS FOR 2016 NASCAR SEASON

With the 2016 NASCAR season set to kick off next month, Atlanta Motor Speedway president Ed Clark has offered his annual predictions of what to expect during the new year:

"Here we are! Another season of racing is almost here! Here at Atlanta Motor Speedway, everyone is working hard on getting ready for an exciting Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500 NASCAR weekend.

While I did pretty good with my 2014 predictions, my 2015 predictions were largely off-base, as I got about two and half of them correct. In fact, some of my staff begged me after last year to never make predictions again out of fear of embarrassment."

STEWART WILL WIN: "I'm not sure where it'll happen, but Tony Stewart will win a NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race in his final season behind the wheel. Remember, you heard it here first! If he pulls it off here in Atlanta, what a celebration it would be for both Tony and his many vocal fans that have supported him at Atlanta Motor Speedway through the years as he has won a total of three



times."

CREAM WILL RISE TO THE TOP: "Get ready to see something exciting this year. NASCAR's new low-downforce aero package for the intermediate tracks will produce much better racing. Look for racing to be more in the hands of the drivers and less about the cars than ever before, and those that can race best on the ragged edge will consistently rise to the top! Not only that, but it'll also make the chances of seeing a first-time winner a likely possibility." *Continued on page 13*

ATLANTA MOTOR SPEEDWAY'S WINTER FLURRY WEEK 2

Legends and Bandolero drivers returned to the quarter-mile Thunder Ring at Atlanta Motor Speedway for Week 2 action on Dec. 12 of the seven week Winter Flurry Series. Following the six feature races, drivers also had an opportunity to compete for the Dash for Cash among Legends or Bandolero competitors.

Winter Flurry action began with the Bandits feature race. Nathan Jackson of McDonough held off Bowersville's Clay Thompson over the final three laps to capture the win. The pair started from the front row, but Thompson outdrove Jackson to take an early lead. The battle lasted until lap eight when Thompson brought out the caution flag when he got loose and spun off of turn four. Despite falling to the back of the pack, Thompson drove through the field over the next 16 laps to pull up to the bumper of Jackson to finish second. Audrie Ruark of Suwanee finished third while Logan Nalley of Canton earned a sixth place finish in his first race in the Bandits division.

A spirited battle in the Outlaw feature saw Marietta's Corey Heim and McDonough's Rickie Springer battle for the win. Springer looked high and looked low but could not find a line that would get him to the front of the field. Heim held off



Springer for the final 15 laps and earned the win. The victory helped Heim move into the Winter Flurry division points as he jumped ahead of Connor Younginer of Stockbridge, who finished sixth in the feature race.

Canton's Dawson Fletcher earned his second consecutive Winter Flurry win in the Chargers division. It took Fletcher one lap from the third position to take the lead as he slipped past Canon Cochran of Ringgold in turn four to take the lead. Despite a handful of restarts, Fletcher held off Cochran and Senoia's David Lawrence for the win. An entertaining race for second saw Cochran muscle past Lawrence over the final six laps to take the spot.

For complete results on Week 2 and following weeks of the Winter Flurry Legends series, visit allantamotorspeedway.com

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