

FEATURES

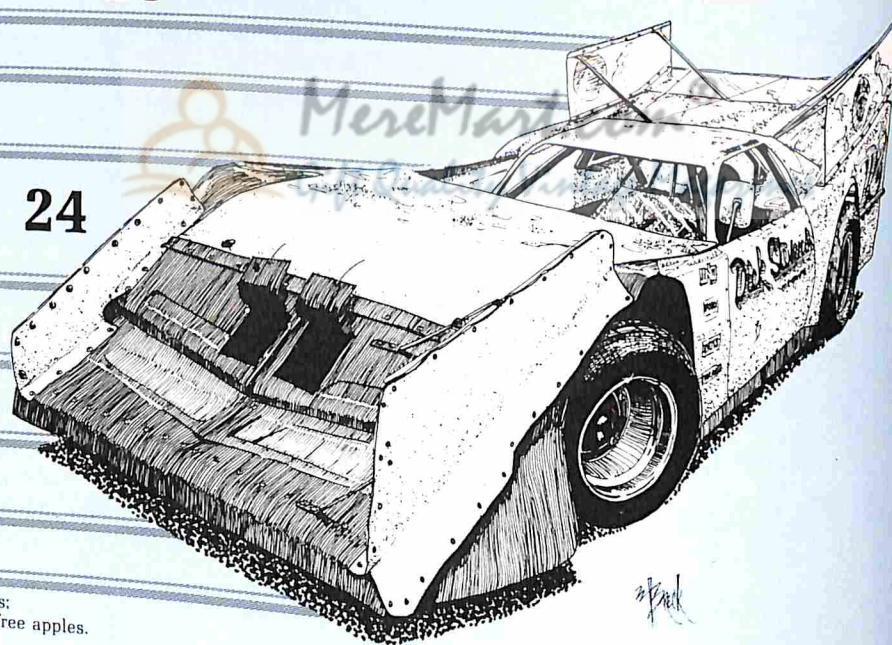
- 24 LATE MODELS!**
A full-color look at the country's most popular class of racers.
- 28 LONG ON SHORT TRACKS**
With a victory at Martinsville, Darrell Waltrip demonstrated his belief that short track wins are the way to championships.
- 40 CARB CHAOS**
At the Spring Sizzler, the carb rules of NASCAR's Modified Division were enforced to the limit.
- 47 DARLINGTON RACE FAN GUIDE**
The fans' best guide to Darlington—a CIRCLE TRACK bonus.
- 52 LOUIE'S CARS**
Louie Vermeil has a little bit of yesterday stored away.
- 55 PHASE II**
After an 18-year layoff, George Dunn is back in the winner's circle.
- 60 JOHNCOCK GETS THE JUMP**
Gordie cruised to victory at Atlanta's Kraco Dixie 200.
- 70 TOO GOOD?**
Dean Thompson is nearly untouchable at California's Ascot Park.
- 72 OO-LA-LA**
Maynard Troyer's former Modified is given the run by Frenchie's racing team.
- 75 ARTWORK**
Bob Trumper's Special is a picture-perfect Midget.
- 76 TRUE STOCK**
The '50 Plymouth Club Coupe is strictly factory, and a CIRCLE TRACK Classic.
- 88 SPRINT AMBASSADOR**
A talk with one of the first Outlaws, Rick Ferkel.



28

TECH

- 34 REAL WORLD RACE ENGINE**
The engine for the bill-paying, checkbook-balancing, "real world" race driver.
- 66 POWER CURVE**
How to tune bore-to-stroke and connecting-rod length-to-stroke ratio for various requirements.
- 82 RACE BRAKES**
The relationship between brake assemblies and race cars is more important than many racers think.
- 92 CRANK IT ON**
A look at the new premium crankshafts.
- 94 SMOKEY'S TRACK TECH**
Street Stocks; the future of V8s; low-dollar engine rules; cast crank tech; piston speed at TDC vs. BDC... and free apples.



24

DEPARTMENTS

- | | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 4 C.J.'s CORNER | 10 NEW PRODUCTS | 18 RACIN' AROUND | 99 TRACK TRADE |
| 6 LETTERS | 12 CHANGES | 22 READIN' & RACIN' | 100 PIT TIPS |
| 8 COMMENTARY | 16 STOCK REPORT | 98 ADVERTISER INDEX | |

COVER: When it comes to colorful Late Models, few are more striking than the Colorado-based Trans Am of Mike Bonicelli, captured in action last season by Dan Mahony at Mesa Marin Raceway in Bakersfield, California. Richard Oakley caught Greg Sacks (#5) and George Kent battling it out at the Spring Sizzler at Stafford Springs, Connecticut.

STAFF

PUBLISHER
HARRY HIBLER

ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER AND EDITOR
C. J. BAKER

MANAGING EDITOR
ANNE SLATER

ART DIRECTOR
CRAIG KORN

FEATURE EDITOR
JOE SCALZO

TECHNICAL EDITOR
BILL VON HELMOLT

PHOTO EDITOR
ERIC RICKMAN

COPY EDITOR
BRAD BONHALL

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS
HARRY COOPER
BILL CORYELL
TOM ELLIMAN
CHRISTOPHER FARRAN
AL KIRSCHENBAUM
BUD LANG
BOB MYERS
RICHARD OAKLEY
MIKE ROWELL
BILL SESSA
RUSSELL WM. SIMPSON
RICK VOEGELIN
SMOKEY YUNICK

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT
NANCEY VAN DYKE

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS
DAN MAHONY
DOZIER MESSLER
RICK NELSON
NEIL NISSON
DAVE PARRISH
JOHN PARKER
PAL PARKER
DORSEY PATRICK
LARRY RUDOLPH
MIKE SLADE

R. E. Petersen
Chairman of the Board

F. R. Waingrow
President

Robert E. Brown
Sr. Vice President, Corporate Development

Dick Day
Sr. Vice President, Hot Rod Publications Division

Jim P. Walsh
Sr. Vice President, National Advertising Director

William Porter
Sr. Vice President, Circulation & Marketing Development

Robert MacLeod
Vice President, Publisher

Thomas J. Siatos
Vice President, Group Publisher

Philip E. Trimbach
Vice President, Financial Administration

James J. Krenk
Vice President, Manufacturing

Leo D. LaRew
Treasurer/Assistant Secretary

Dick Watson
Corporate Controller

David E. Lewis
Controller

Raymond Price
Director, Financial Planning & Analysis

Lou Abbott
Director, Production

Maria Cox
Director, Data Processing

Bob D'Olivo
Director, Photography

Nigel P. Heaton
Director, Circulation

Al Isaacs
Director, Corporate Art

Carol Johnson
Director, Advertising Administration

Don McGlathery
Director, Advertising Research

Jack Thompson
Assistant Director, Circulation

Vern Ball
Director, Fulfillment Services

Lee Kelley
Publisher and Editorial Director, Specialty Publications

Henson Lacon
Director, Subscription Sales

Stan Schuler
Director, Single Copy Sales

ADVERTISING BRANCH OFFICES

Los Angeles, Ralph Panico, Western Advertising Director, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, Third Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90069, (213) 656-5425.

New York, James J. Rainford, Eastern Advertising Director, 437 Madison Avenue, 28th Floor New York, NY 10022, (212) 935-9150.

Detroit, McLaughlin, Detroit Advertising Director, 333 West Fort Street Building, Suite 1800 Detroit, MI 48226, (313) 964-6680.

Chicago, William Walker, Midwest Regional Advertising Director, John Hancock Center, 875 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite 3131 Chicago, IL 60611, (312) 222-1920.

Cleveland, Dewey F. Patterson, Branch Manager, Three Commerce Park Square, 23200 Chagrin Boulevard, Suite 605 Cleveland, OH 44122, (216) 464-1522.

Atlanta, Richard Holcomb, Branch Manager, 44122, (216) 464-1522.

Atlanta, Richard Holcomb, Branch Manager, 44122, (216) 464-1522.

Dallas, Jeff Young, Branch Manager, 800 West Airport Freeway, Suite 201 Irving, TX 75061, (214) 579-0454.

CIRCLE TRACK ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVES

LOS ANGELES Mike Snow (213) 656-5425

NEW YORK/ATLANTA Linn Remling (703) 971-8021

DETROIT Marshall Flemion (313) 964-6680

CHICAGO Mike Arens (312) 222-1920

CLEVELAND Bill Harrington (216) 464-1522

CIRCLE TRACK (ISSN 0734-5437) Copyright © 1983 by Petersen Publishing Co. Published monthly by Petersen Publishing Co., 8490 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90069. "Application to mail at Second Class postage rates is pending at Los Angeles, CA 90052, and at additional mailing offices." Single copy: \$2.50. Subscription rates: U.S., military, and possessions, one year \$19.95. Canada and other countries, one year \$25.95. Subscription inquiries (213) 657-5100.

POSTMASTER: Please send form 3579 to CIRCLE TRACK, P.O. Box 800, Los Angeles, CA 90078.

No part of this magazine may be reproduced without written permission. This magazine is purchased with the understanding that the information presented is from many varied sources from which there can be no warranty or responsibility by the publisher as to accuracy or completeness.

Contributions should be mailed to CIRCLE TRACK Magazine, 8490 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90069. They must be accompanied by return postage and we assume no responsibility for loss or damage thereto. Any material accepted is subject to such revision as is necessary in our sole discretion to meet the requirements of this publication. Upon acceptance, payment will be made of our current rate, which covers the author's and/or contributor's right, title, and interest in and to the material mailed, including but not limited to photos, drawings, charts, and designs, which shall be considered as text. The act of mailing a manuscript and/or material shall constitute an express warranty by the contributor that the material is original and in no way an infringement upon the rights of others.

DICK DAY, Sr. Vice President, HOT ROD Publications Division

DARLINGTON RACE FAN GUIDE



PETERSEN'S \$2.50 AUGUST 1983

CIRCLE TRACK



MODIFIEDS AT THE SIZZLER

LATE MODELS!

A WORLD OF
COLOR & ACTION
ON ASPHALT
& DIRT



- RACE COVERAGE:**
- ATLANTA 200
 - VIRGINIA NATIONAL BANK 500

SUPER TECH!

- REAL WORLD ENGINE BUILDUP
- POWER CURVE CONTOURING
- RACE BRAKE SCIENCE



76956-14412