

Gordyville Part Nine:

Whatssmokin Productions Whips Up Another Classic

Compiled by Pulloff.com and The HOOK Magazine



Greg Lamb had his hands full on this run, throttle in one hand and a loose steering wheel in the other!

The test and tune session is a valuable tool for all involved—the track crew, the sled operator, and the pullers of course. What they found out early into the test and tune was a track that would take lots of power and create lots of carnage along the way, claiming an axle on a pro farm tractor in that beginning session. Among the more exciting rides were by Jerry Sipes on his MXM Light Limited Super Stock, who broke the left axle in qualifying competition. According to Sipes he had broken two axles in the past, but this was his first left axle in the 40 plus years of competition he'd experienced. Another big break, literally, was the run by Henry Everman and his "Final Decision" MX from New York, running in the Pro Stock class on Saturday evening. Everman had made an impressive pass in his qualifying run the evening prior and was on yet another good run when his left rear wheel liberated itself from the tractor, causing the front end of the tractor to crash down and wrecking the front of the tractor as well. With the assistance

of a wheel loader and a boom loader they carefully extracted the machine from the track and loaded it for

Since that first tractor made that first pass down the track at the Midwest Winter Nationals at the Gordyville USA complex in Gifford, IL in 2005, the event has grown from a fringe element of the sport to one of the most important pulling events pullers can participate in. It is the puller's pull, with a mix of tractors that represent the breadth and depth of the sport. It is also a labor of love for a group known as Whatssmokin Productions, who spend an entire year in the planning and preparation of this event. While most of that preparation is a mix of meetings and phone calls through the year the work kicks into overdrive in the week prior to the show. The setup of the pit area with scales, smoke tube warm-up stations, and the construction of the track and main smoke tube are completed by the Wednesday evening before the pull for what has become a pre-show ritual for some, the test and tune evening.

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Mark Wyttenback and the Code Blue NH were a player in LLSS

the long ride home. Everman got the tractor home and had it repaired in a matter of days in preparation for Louisville.

The weekend had a pair of unique classes, The HOOK-sponsored NA/Pro Field/V8 class and the Pull-off Invitational, which combined alcohol and diesel powered Super Stock tractors into one class. In The HOOK class held during the Saturday afternoon session, John Simpson and his John Deere 4010 made it to the sand pile for the win, ahead of 16 other outstanding competitors. The Pulloff Invitational class Mike Chizek went 1-2 with his MXM machines driven by Brian Korth, in a class of 15.

There are key thoughts to take away from this event. First was a noticeably better environment for the fans. The ventilation of the building of the fumes that can build up was a welcome thing and even



Dustin Hook was the big winner in PS action on the T Bone IH



Jerry Sipes went three wheeling in the LLSS class



Allen Legrand on his Pro Stock JD

when the alcohol powered tractors ran the ability to open the end doors of the facility up helped considerably. There's also not a bad seat in the house, as track equipment is tucked into beside the sand pile on either side allowing folks in the grandstands a clear view of a hook from start to finish. The announcing crew is literally a who's-who of the sport, with Illinois legend Art Downs surrounded by the father and son team of Butch and Miles Krieger offering great information and keeping the crowd entertained. The parking for everyone, from fans to haulers is top notch, and the quality of the vendor's row on both sides of the track gave pullers and pulling fans the opportunity to see some great products in person. The sponsors of this event which make this pull possible are to be thanked for their efforts as well, it doesn't happen without their help. The tractor raffle (see sidebar) was an important part of the event showing how charitable pullers can be, in this instance for the American Diabetes Association.

Next year will mark the tenth year of this important event. It should already be considered a classic tractor pull, a can't miss event for the wintertime pulling blues. With the continuous improvement from the Whatsmokin group we should soon see this event emerge from being a "classic" to a "legend" in the sport. Just wait and see.

Results
Ninth Annual Midwest Winter Nationals
Gordyville USA
Gifford, IL

10,000 Pro Farm Finals Friday-Evening

1. Kevin Johnson Built For Business IH
2. Jon Reeves Possessed Ford
3. Kevin Shepard Running Guilty IH



Henry Everman's DSS created some carnage on Saturday Night

10,000 Pro Stock: Final Saturday-Evening

1. Dustin Hook T-Bone IH
2. Randy Barreau Tool Time JD
3. Philip Parish El Nino CIH

11,000 Pro Farm: Finals

Saturday-Afternoon

1. Scott Burkhart Git-R-Done IH
2. Joe Nemetz Nemetz Nemesis JD
3. Ryan Anderson Checkin Out IH

6,200 Pro Field/5,800 Small Block Hot Rod

Saturday-Afternoon

1. Jon Simpson JD 4010
2. David Brooks Domestic Disturbance IH 460
3. James Rodgers Cummin Atcha OL 88

6,400 Limited Super Stock: Finals

Saturday-Afternoon

1. Scott Spiegelberg Rattitude MM
2. Mark Wyttenbach Code Blue NH
3. Alan Mohr Malfunction Junction IH

7,900 Classic Super Stock

Friday-Evening

1. Todd Kendle IH 1206
2. Jon Jones Survivor IH

3. John Rose Jr. AC D21

8,500 Light Pro Stock: Finals

Saturday-Evening

1. Bob Campbell Green Gangster JD
2. Randy DeVaughn Road Gear Farmer IH
3. Thurman Munford Jr. Mechanical Bull IH

8,500 Limited Pro Stock: Finals

Saturday-Evening

1. Rich Johnson Shagnasty IH
2. Mark Smith Ford 9600
3. Danny Barker Rhapsody in Blue NH

9,000 Limited Pro Stock: Finals

Saturday-Evening

1. Tommy Williams Fire Storm IH
2. Jim Barman Hooked Up IH
3. Charlie Cosler All In JD

9,000 Super Farm: Finals

Saturday-Evening

1. Dan Meier 466 Xpress IH
2. Mike Meier Double Trouble IH
3. Jeremy Ploetz Big One JD

9,300 Super Farm (NO INTERCOOLER): Finals

Saturday-Evening



Jeremiah Shipley and the Young Gun Classic Super were a sharp entry at Gordyville



Jon Simpson came up the winner



Thurman Munford Jr on the Mechanical Bull

1. Julia Conny MAC Daddy JD
2. Bryan Deck One Bad Apple IH
3. Mike Conny Mr. MAC Daddy JD

9,300 Super Farm: PPL: Finals

Saturday-Evening

1. Jay Smithback Bleedin Green JD
2. James Slama Fast and Furious JD
3. Chad Weitzenkamp Someday IH

9,500 Hot Farm: Finals

Saturday-Afternoon

1. Dan Meier 466 Xpress IH
2. Tony McDonald Well Spent MX240
3. Bryan Gerling Family Tradition IH

9,500 Limited Pro Stock: Finals

Saturday-Evening

1. Dustin Hart Beyond Limits CIH
2. Denny Jackson JD 8520
3. Chris Little JD 4755

9,500 Pro Farm: Finals Friday-Afternoon

1. Lee Ruf Fair Warning IH
2. Caleb Perkins Perkalator IH
3. John Meier Sr. 466 Xpress IH

PULLOFF.COM Super Stock INVITATIONAL

Saturday-Evening

1. Mike Chizek A&D-Exc. Force MXM CIH
2. Mike Chizek Considered A&D MXM CIH
3. Rex Kuhn Git-Er-Dun JD



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Tractor Raffle Comes Up Big For ADA



Bobbie and Bob Barbee with their winnings from the Raffle

This year's tractor raffle at the Midwest Winter Nationals was an even bigger hit than it has been in past years. First off, none of this would not be possible without the talented work of Justin Stuckenschneider. This year his creation was a replica of Carlton Cope's "Warpath" 2805

Massey Ferguson. Next off a vigorous campaign took place on Pulloff.com (who are ardent supporters of the ADA) to promote the prize, along with other social media outlets. The cause at hand inspired Full Pull Motorsports owners Bob and Bobbie Barbee to get involved as well, with a twist: They put \$1000 into the ADA fund but also offered a \$1000 prize in exchange for the tractor. Others also got heavily involved; Eastern Extreme offered DVD sets, MAD Pulling Pics added a framed photo of the Warpath machine, and The HOOK gave away a subscription as a prize as well. Another wonderful donation was made by Mike and Julia Conny who chipped in \$1000 to the pot for ADA as well, a fantastic gesture indeed. All of the announcing team, especially Miles Krieger who made the presentation when the tractor was given away, made sure to keep the crowd amped up and investing in the raffle. Their work certainly cannot go unnoticed.

In the end, the gentleman who possessed the winning ticket decided to take the cash instead of the tractor, thereby putting the tractor in the hands of Bob and Bobbie. The raffle brought in almost \$6000 for the American Diabetes Association and showed how pullers and pulling fans can make a difference in others' lives.



Miles Krieger and the ADA Raffle winner discuss his decision

Next year promises to be an even bigger project, with the outcome providing a helping hand to a cause in great need.



The ADA Raffle Team in the Award Presentation

