



Global Perspectives

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News From The Global Automotive Aftermarket Symposium



In celebration of the 10th anniversary of the Symposium, the theme for the 2005 event will take both a look back and a look forward.

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Joe Gibbs Will Make 2nd Symposium Appearance

Joe Gibbs, NASCAR team owner and NFL head coach, will address "Teamwork, Perseverance, and Excellence" at the 2005 Global Automotive Aftermarket Symposium (GAAS) in Chicago. Gibbs was highly rated at GAAS 2000 in Detroit.

Thanks to Tony Stewart's NASCAR championship in 2002 and Bobby Labonte's title run in 2000, the respective championship rings that read "20" and "18" fit nicely with the three maroon and gold rings team owner Gibbs earned as coach of the NFL's Washington Redskins. Gibbs led the Redskins to four Super Bowl appearances and three championships, while garnering AP Coach of the Year honors in 1982 and 1983.

And as Gibbs entered his 13th year as a NASCAR team owner in 2004, he returned to the NFL sidelines after an 11-year hiatus. Just as he did when he started Joe Gibbs Racing (JGR) in the spring of 1991, Gibbs is performing double-duty as NASCAR team owner and head coach of the Washington Redskins.

"It's a thrill to go back, and when the opportunity presented itself to return to the Redskins, the timing was right," said Gibbs, who first retired from football following the 1992 NFL season. "JGR is well established, with a solid management team that's been in place for years. But rest assured, I remain personally committed to the race team and each and every sponsor who supports our



Joe Gibbs

many employees."

Commitment is nothing new to Gibbs. While his career as NASCAR team owner began in 1991, his football calling came when Gibbs graduated from San Diego State University in 1964, whereupon he proved himself as a successful assistant football coach in the NCAA and NFL ranks for 17 years. So

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Northwood's Dr. David Fry To Speak at GAAS 2005

Among those who have made multi-presentations to the Global Symposium, Dr. David Fry of Northwood University has been well received each time he has spoken. At the 2005 Symposium in Chicago, Dr. Fry will tackle the subject of "Past, Present, and Future."

"Dr. Fry has the unique ability to synthesize information and instantly provide expert analysis and perspective," said Mort Schwartz, GAAS founder and chairman. "I have asked Dr. Fry to look back on the 10 years of our Symposium and to provide his perspective on

where our industry has come from, and more importantly, where he sees it going. We are in for a real treat," concluded Schwartz.

Dr. Fry joined Northwood in 1965 as an instructor of economics. He developed and taught over 20 course titles during his service as a faculty member. He became an administrator, campus dean, a part of the central administration, and was named president and CEO in 1982.

In addition to Northwood responsibilities, he is past president and past chairman of the

American Association of Presidents of Independent Colleges and Universities; director, Reynolds and Reynolds Company; director, Lear Corporation; director, Chemical Bank and Trust (Midland); director, Decker Energy International; and past chairman of the Michigan Higher Education Facilities Authority, a bonding agency to which he was appointed by the Governor.

He earned a B.A. from Hillsdale College, an M.B.A. from Wayne State University, and a D.B.A. from Kent State University. ♦

2005 Symposium Registration Is Now Available

Special Early Bird cost savings are now available for the 2005 Global Automotive Aftermarket Symposium (GAAS), May 11-12, 2005. Those who register before February 28, 2005, will receive \$200 off regular registration fees.



In addition, those who are members of the GAAS sponsoring associations are entitled to reduced registration rates.

You may register for the Symposium by visit-

ing, www.globalsymposium.org. A flyer and registration form are available for download there.

As in previous years, the net proceeds from the Symposium go toward scholarships to benefit students preparing for automotive aftermarket careers. ♦

Joe Gibbs - *continued from p. 1*

successful was Gibbs that in 1981 he was named head coach of the Washington Redskins. By 1983, Gibbs was enjoying his first Super Bowl victory, with two more to follow in 1988 and 1992.

But even with all that success from his team on the gridiron, the lure of success from a team on the race track pulled at Gibbs. That's why he ventured into NASCAR, with JGR making its first NASCAR start in the 1992 Daytona 500.

It took nine years for Gibbs to see dividends from that leap of faith, but twice in the past four seasons it has been the man frequently called "Coach" who has accepted the accolades as championship team owner.

"The thing that has always amazed me about championship runs in pro sports, at least in the two I've been involved with here and the three I had in the NFL, is how hard they are and how different they are, and that one year doesn't buy you the next," said Gibbs. "I love that about pro sports. It's why I'm here."

But Gibbs isn't content to just be "here." After running only the #18 team since the time JGR was founded, Gibbs saw that the motorsports landscape was changing. Multi-car teams were becoming more prevalent and more successful than their single-car counterparts. Enter Stewart, crew chief Greg Zipadelli and sponsor Home Depot.

In 1999, this group burst onto the Winston Cup scene, with Stewart becoming the winningest rookie in series history, taking three checkered flags en route to the Rookie of the Year title and a fourth-place position in the championship

point standings. Thanks in large part to the coaching administered by the young and talented Zipadelli, the #20 team proved itself worthy of being a championship contender in just its first year of existence.

In 2000, the #18 Pontiac of Labonte and the #20 Pontiac of Stewart proved to be a

"Whether in racing or in coaching, Gibbs has found a way to merge his competitive spirit with his love for family."

formidable one-two punch. The two drivers combined to win 10 of the series' 34 races, with Labonte winning four events and Stewart taking six. Labonte's consistency proved to be unparalleled, as he took his first career Winston Cup championship. Stewart, meanwhile, won two more races than anyone else on the circuit, and finished a solid sixth in the season-ending point standings.

The 2001 season was another solid year for Gibbs, with his two drivers collecting a total of five wins, as they were the only Pontiac drivers to win races. Labonte wound up sixth in points, while a late-season run by Stewart enabled him to finish the season in the runner-up spot to championship winner Jeff Gordon.

That laid the groundwork for Stewart's championship season in 2002, which saw the Indiana native score three wins en route to his first NASCAR title. Labonte, the quintessential teammate, scored a victory as well.

The mighty two-car Gibbs enterprise didn't happen overnight. The planning of this effort dates back to 1997, when Gibbs

ran Stewart in five NASCAR Busch Series races. Stewart recorded one top-five and two top-10 finishes. All the while, he was busy wrapping up the Indy Racing League (IRL) championship. In 1998, Stewart ran 22 Busch Series races for JGR, again while running a full slate of IRL races. Nonetheless, Stewart quickly developed a feel for stock car racing, garnering two poles, two second-place finishes and five top-10 performances. The rest is history.

But the pinnacle of NASCAR racing isn't the only form of motorsports where Gibbs is involved. From his fifth-year Busch Series stable, Gibbs runs 2002 NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series champion Mike Bliss in the #20 Chevrolet, while USAC standout J.J. Yeley runs an A-B-C developmental program of ARCA, Busch Series and NASCAR Nextel Cup Series races.

While speed and competition, whether on the race track or on the football field, are definitely passions for Gibbs, so too is helping out those around him. He is the founder of Youth for Tomorrow, a home for troubled teens (14-18) in Bristow, Va.

Whether in racing or in coaching, Gibbs has also found a way to merge his competitive spirit with his love for family. A perfect example of that merger is having Coy, a former middle linebacker at Stanford University, join Gibbs on the Redskins coaching staff, while older brother, J.D., a former defensive back at William & Mary, enters his seventh year as president of JGR. Gibbs makes his permanent home in Charlotte, N.C., with his wife Pat. He enjoys life as a grandfather to six. ♦

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