

Local Dirt Late Model Superstar Tony Jackson, Jr. to Return to Lebanon I-44 Speedway

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By Dylan Bates (Lebanon, MO) – The No. 15 Willard Quarries Pro Late Model has had its fair share of talented drivers behind the wheel over the years. From NASCAR Superstar, Jamie McMurray, all the way to last year's Pro Late Model Champion, Kennie Dickinson. A new shoe will be stepping into this car for 2019 and it is a driver we are all very familiar with. Lebanon native, Tony Jackson Jr., will be competing in his first full season since the early 2000s at Lebanon I-44 Speedway.

PHOTO: Tony Jackson Jr. behind the wheel of the No.15 Willard Quarries Pro Late Model in the 2014 JEGS CRA Masters of the Pros 144 at Lebanon I-44 Speedway--
CREDIT: speed51.com



Tony Jackson Jr. currently races for a living out of the TJR Motorsports shop based in Lebanon Missouri, but Tony's career started way back in the 90s in the Street Stock division at Lebanon I-44 Speedway. Tony began to move up the ranks quickly and went on to win numerous races on the High-Banks from 1998 to 2001 including a Track Championship in the Late Model Stock Division.

In 2002, Jackson Jr. finished 2nd in the Pro Late Model Championship at I-70 Speedway and in 2003 he made a run at the Championship at Lebanon I-44 Speedway and finished 2nd points. Tony then shifted his focus to the dirt, while still running an occasional asphalt race here and there. In 2010, Jackson Jr. made 7 starts in the NASCAR Camping World Truck Series in the No. 07 SS Green Light Truck. He averaged finishes in the top 20 throughout these 7 races. In 2013, Jackson Jr. hit his stride on the dirt tracks winning the MLRA and MARS Series Championships in the same year. He went on to win the MARS Championship four additional times. His last start at Lebanon I-44 Speedway came in 2014 when he ran the JEGS CRA Masters of the Pros 144. He started 29th due to a car failure and passed 16 cars to finish 13th.

Tony Jackson Jr. will now be competing for the Championship in the new 5-race Pro Late Model Series in 2019. "It will be fun to race in front of the hometown crowd again and race for David Willard. A lot of great racers have raced for him and it is a privilege to have that opportunity," added Jackson Jr. Tony has been traveling since 2006 racing Dirt Late Models and Modifieds and some Asphalt Late Models here and there. "My little girl is 5-years-old now and I'm just looking to cut down on some of the travelling," said Tony. Although, he does plan on racing the regional and local "Crown Jewel" events like the Show-Me 100 at Lucas Oil Speedway as well as the majority of the MLRA Series.

Opening night for Lebanon I-44 Speedway will be Saturday, March 30th. This event will feature the March Madness 100 which is a 100-lap Pro Lap Model race and the first race of five for the Ozark's Asphalt Late Model Series. We hope to see you there cheering on Tony Jackson Jr. and the rest of the talented drivers. Until then, watch our website and Facebook page for track news and updates!

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March 22 **Texarkana 67 Speedway, Texarkana, AR**

Sanction: *Comp Cams Super Dirt Series - \$2,500*

Information provided by: *Series reports (last updated March 25, 9:40 am)*

Jackson wins at Texarkana in tour's new era

1. Tony Jackson Jr.
2. Billy Moyer
3. Jesse Stovall
4. Jon Mitchell
5. Morgan Bagley
6. Hunter Rasdon
7. Kyle Beard
8. B.J. Robinson
9. Charlie Cole
10. Timothy Culp
11. Trey Beene
12. Gavin Landers
13. David Payne
14. Scott Crigler
15. Brandon Hightower
16. Billy Moyer Jr.
17. Robert Baker
18. Brian Rickman
19. Sawyer Crigler
20. Patrik Daniel

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Tony Jackson Jr. takes the checkers at Texarkana 67 Speedway.

What won the race: Tony Jackson Jr. of Lebanon, Mo., survived Friday's caution-plagued 40-lapper at Texarkana 67 Speedway to capture a \$2,500 victory in the Comp Cams Super Dirt Series season opener. Jackson took the checkers ahead of Billy Moyer and Jesse Stovall in the tour's first race under the ownership of Chris and Jack Sullivan.

Key notes: Several cautions slowed the 40-lap feature. ... Runner-up Billy Moyer of Batesville, Ark., not quite ready to debut his new Black Diamond Chassis, piloted a Billy Moyer Victory Race Car. ... A dozen drivers completed 40 circuits. ... Brian Rickman retired on lap eight after getting involved in an early tangle. ... Jackson's victory marked his seventh overall series win; his most recent tour score came June 28, 2018, at Tri-State Speedway in Pocola, Okla. ... Timothy Culp rebounded to finish 10th after shredding a tire late. ... Series action returns Saturday with the

\$3,000-to-win event at Boothill Speedway in Greenwood, La.

On the move: Morgan Bagley of Longview, Texas started 12th and finished fifth.

Winner's sponsors: Jackson's Longhorn Chassis is powered by a Cornett Racing Engine and sponsored by Merrill Bonding, Merrill Self Storage, Carget Motors, Go Lithium Batteries, Midwest Sheet Metal, Champion Oil, Levi Storage and Burger Fusion.

Points chase: Tony Jackson Jr. shot into the lead in the Comp Cams Super Dirt Series with his win on Friday night.

Current weather: Clear, 58°F

Car count: 24

Fast qualifier: Tony Jackson Jr.

Time: 15.275 seconds

Heat race winners: Tony Jackson Jr.,

Jesse Stovall, Jon Mitchell

Consolation race winners: Scott Crigler

Next series race: April 13, I-30 Speedway (Little Rock, AR) \$5,000

Feature lineup

- Row 1: Jackson, Stovall
- Row 2: Mitchell, Culp
- Row 3: Daniel, Moyer
- Row 4: Rickman, Rasdon
- Row 5: Robinson, Beard
- Row 6: Landers, Bagley
- Row 7: Moyer Jr., Hightower
- Row 8: Beene, Crigler
- Row 8: Baker, Cole
- Row 9: Unavailable
- Row 10: Unavailable

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