

WILDWOOD'S ANDERSON CAPTURES 2010 FAST TITLE

Wayne Anderson led wire-to-wire in the Sunoco Florida All Stars Tour's final race October 9 at Desoto Super Speedway, putting a cap on a season of domination in the inaugural running of Florida's newest



2010 Sunoco FAST Champion Wayne Anderson

Late Model Stock Car racing series. Anderson led throughout the Tour's 2010 season, winning four of the nine feature events and finishing with a 146-point margin over runner-up Austin Kirkpatrick of Ocala Florida. Along the way, Anderson set the fastest qualifying time twice, while compiling an average starting position of 2.7. His finishing record was by far the best among series members, with eight top five finishes and an average finishing position of 4.1.

17 year-old Kirkpatrick also posted a strong set of statistics during the Tour's nine-month span, finishing

four times in the top five and seven times in the top ten, with an average qualifying position of 7.7 and an average finishing position of 8.3. Kirkpatrick won the FAST "Rookie of the Year" title by a margin of 38 points over 16 year-old Randy Anderson of Wildwood, and captured the "Rookie of the Race" title—the honor awarded to the highest finishing rookie in each event—in five of the nine feature events. The younger Anderson was named "Rookie of the Race" three times (including the final race at Desoto Super Speedway), and recorded one top five finish and seven top ten finishes during 2010.



2010 Sunoco FAST Rookie of the Year Austin Kirkpatrick



2010 FAST "Rookie of the Year" Runner-up

In commenting on his success in the FAST series' first running, Wayne Anderson expressed his appreciation for the quality of competition exhibited by his fellow drivers. The 25-year racing veteran, with experience in the NASCAR, ASA, and ARCA ranks, had nothing but praise for the FAST participants, and especially for the "rookie class" and the strength they displayed against many seasoned drivers. "It's really great to see these young racers—the future stars of the sport—go head-to-head with us veterans and hold

their own." In fact, the rookie class nailed down five of the top ten positions in the Series final points standings, with eight top fives and 27 top tens during the year.

As one of the co-founders of the Sunoco FAST series, Wayne Anderson expressed satisfaction at the Tour's overall success. "We set out to accomplish several goals, perhaps the main one being to achieve

higher car counts for the tracks on the Tour,” he noted. “With an average car count of over 26 at each race, we were able to do that.” FAST Co-founders Dick Anderson, a Florida stock car racing icon, and businessman Alan Bruns, a racing veteran and track champion at multiple tracks, were in agreement with Anderson’s assessment, also citing another success indicator in that a total of 95 separate race teams participated in at least one of the Tour’s events. “We know the cars are out there,” commented Bruns. “We just needed to make it attractive for them to come out and race.”

“One of FAST’s truly unique features,” reports Dick Anderson, “Is the combination of Super Late Models, Limited Late Models, and Crate Late Models competing together.” He noted that FAST leveled the playing field through carburetion limitations (for example, Super Late Models will only be allowed to run two-barrel carburetors), equalized weight guidelines, and specific car body restrictions, so that all three car classes could compete head-to-head. “As designed, it is truly a series where driving skill comes to the top of what’s needed to win,” noted Anderson.

In addition to bringing a diverse field of cars together under a common umbrella, FAST focused on improving the economics of local stock car racing. With standardization in design, improved opportunities to win, and a more extensive payout schedule, the series sought to help control competitors’ and tracks’ costs, while ensuring a return on their racing investment. The co-founders all agreed that the first running of the Tour was a learning experience, and a variety of improvements are on the drawing board for the 2011 season. Scheduling and related information is in development now, and will be posted over the next several weeks on the Tour’s website, www.floridaallstarstour.com.