

# 5 ROSS ZUMBACH

## CELEBRATES IN VICTORY LANE



Eighteen year-old Ross Zumbach recently became one of the youngest race winners ever at The Milwaukee Mile after capturing the Governor's Cup 40 Mid-American Stock Car Series event in August.

Zumbach, of Racine, Minnesota began the race in the fourth row but was able to take the lead on lap 23 of the race. A late race caution flag would set up an exciting finish for the teenager as he battled it out with a handful of seasoned competitors over the final five laps. However, Zumbach maintained his lead and found himself in the historic speedway's A.J. Foyt Victory Lane.

"I don't really know what to say," Zumbach stated from Victory Lane. "We haven't even had a top ten this year but we've been working really hard to get where we are."

One thing was very clear after the race, Zumbach will remember his first big win of his young career for a long time.

### Where It All Began

In 1995, Ross joined the family team of racing when he was five years old, racing Go-Karts. He continued to compete in series events as well as national events through the age of 11.

In 2002, he made a move the Legends Series at Hawkeye Downs in Cedar Rapid, Iowa. Again, Zumbach would be successful as he was awarded a fourth place finish in points at Hawkeye Downs and earned Rookie of the Year honors for the Iowa Legends Series.

In December 2002, Ross was given the opportunity to drive a car owned by Gene Peterson Racing, based out of Des Moines, IA. The GPR consists of #5 Chevy Coupe, asphalt Mid American Sportsman and the ASL ride of Curtis Van Der Wal.

The year 2003 would prove to be a very successful one for the

young driver and crew. They were able to chalk up 7 top three finishes including Ross's First career Legends victory. At the early age of 13, Ross had become the youngest driver to win a feature race at Hawkeye Downs Friday Night Racing Series.

Ross continued to work hard on improving his skills as a driver during the 2004 season and now was qualifying and carrying much more speed into the corners. Even



*Ross Zumbach celebrates in the historic A.J. Foyt Victory Lane at the Milwaukee Mile after winning the Governor's Cup 40 Mid-American Stock Car Series event.*

with a limited schedule Ross used the 2004 season to make the changes and adjustments needed to obtain his racing goals.

The following racing season would be plagued by motor problems and mother nature rearing her ugly head. Snow, rain and tornados kept Ross off the track for much of the season. But the team also had to deal with power loss from a bad head that proved to be a little more than Ross could overcome.

The biggest news of the season came when Ross was offered the

chance to test the Mid American Sportsman that Gene Peterson owned. At the hands of Curtis Van Der Wal, a current ASL Racing Series driver as his spotter, Ross was able to finish about .6 seconds off the race winners speed from the night before.

Gene Peterson gave Ross the opportunity to drive the Mid-Am car for the entire 2006 season. The team ran a full season at Hawkeye Downs in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. This partnership led to a great deal of success for the team as Ross earned Rookie of the Year honors, while winning 4 features along with numerous top 5 and top 10 performances.

To help prepare himself for the 2006 season, Ross attended the Finishline Racing School in Edgewater, Florida. This was another huge step in the growth of the young driver and provided him with the opportunity to learn the arts, skills and business side of motorsports.

Ross spent 2007 racing in as

many Mid-American races as possible, but also ran occasionally at Elko Speedway as well as Hawkeye Downs Speedway. The team had its share of trials and tribulations throughout the 2007 season, but all of that helped in the growth and maturity of the young driver. This season also led to the opportunity for Ross to race at the worlds oldest racing facility, the Milwaukee Mile. Ross finished 14th despite having mechanical and physical issues along the way.

This was a huge step in Ross Zumbachs young racing career and would set him up for his most recent victory, coming this year at the Governor's Cup 40 at that same legendary track the Milwaukee Mile.

SATA Spray Equipment is proud to sponsor and support Ross Zumbach Motorsports and share in the growth of a great young man and driver. Congratulations on the big victory Ross!

## Get To Know Ross Zumbach

**Age:** 18

**Years Driving:** 14

**Team:** Brad Zumbach, Jill Zumbach, KayLea Zumbach, Trevor Wiles, Nate Nelson, Larry Felt, Bruce Babcock, Robert Fernandez

**Series:** Mid-American Stock Car Series

**Body:** "03" Five Star Chevy Monte Carlo

**Motor Builder:** Premier Machining/ Brian Shaw

**Car Owner:** Gene Peterson Racing

**Chassis Builder:** Johnny Spaw

**Favorite Food:** Spaghetti, Pizza, and Chicken

**Favorite Music:** AC/DC, Airbourne, Krokus, The Exies, Chevelle, Seether, Three Days Grace, Breaking Benjamin, Skidrow and Motley Crue

**Hobbies:** Deer & Turkey Hunting, Archery, Intramural Sports

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