

John Clark/NASCAR This Week

Dave Marcis says he plans to run in the Winston Cup Series next year.

Meet Dave Marcis

By Monte Dutton
NASCAR This Week

Dave Marcis is perhaps the only holdout — and certainly the most notable — in a long tradition of struggling independents. He hasn't won a race since 1982, yet still he keeps coming to the track, doing his best to be competitive.

While Marcis rarely runs at the front anymore, he is widely beloved by NASCAR fans who respect his perseverance and determination to succeed against incredible odds.

AGE: 57
WIFE: Helen
CHILDREN: Shawn Marie (28), Richard (26).

HOMETOWN: Born and raised in Wausau, Wis., lives in Avery's Creek, N.C.

CAR: No. 71 Realtree Chevrolet Monte Carlo, which he owns.

CAREER RECORD: 724 starts, 12 poles, 5 wins, 75 top fives, 180 top 10s, nearly \$6 million in earnings.

FIRSTS: Start (Feb. 20, 1968, at Daytona),

pole (March 7, 1971, at Richmond), win (Sept. 28, 1975, at Martinsville).

HOW DID YOU GET INTO RACING? "Basically, it all began in Wausau, Wis., on just a little short track there.

I decided if I wanted to get into racing for a living, needed to come down to NASCAR. Racing was pretty seasonal back in Wisconsin, and there were only about three months per year that we could really race. I've seen so many things change in NASCAR over the years in the growth of it. It's growing so fast, so big, I don't think any of us realized it could get so big."

WHAT'S IN YOUR FUTURE? "My plans are, for 1999, to run in the Winston Cup Series again. I think we'll have an announcement real shortly that Realtree will be with us again. We are a small team, but I really enjoy the sport. It's been my whole life. I'd like to be a team owner one day, but I can't afford to put anyone else in the car right now. My plan right now is to spend another year as a driver. I would like to be in the Daytona 500 in the year 2000.

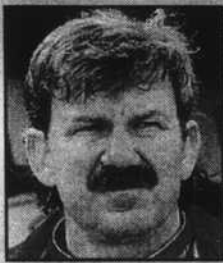
Then I'd make a decision about putting someone else in the car."

WHAT KEEPS YOU GOING? "I don't know. I've been racing since I was 16 years old. I love to drive the race car. There are days when you say, I'm not competitive, I'm tired of this deal, but there are days when you are pretty competitive. I've got five Winston Cup wins and 14 pole positions. I've had a good career. There are a lot of guys with good teams, plenty of money and lots of people, and they don't have any wins. There is a tremendous amount of freedom also in being your own boss. I love it. It's been my life. I'm really proud of being able to hang in there as an independent, one of the little guys. I've never had to lay anyone off. I've been able to pay for things as I go along. I sent both of our children through college. Helen and I are proud of that. I've got a good name in the sport. I've got a good reputation, always kept my nose clean in that respect."

THE WINSTON CUP CIRCUIT

THE WINSTON CUP SERIES

COMING UP: Dura Lube/Kmart 500K
WHERE: Phoenix International Raceway, Avondale, Ariz.
WHEN: Sunday, Oct. 25
DEFENDING CHAMPION: Dale Jarrett
EVENT QUALIFYING RECORD: Bobby Hamilton, Pontiac, 131.579 mph, Oct. 31, 1997.
RACE RECORD: Dale Jarrett, Ford, 110.824 mph, Nov. 2, 1997.
OTHER FORMER WINNERS: The late Davey Allison is the only driver ever to win here twice since the Winston Cup began holding races in Phoenix, Ariz., 10 years ago. Single-time winners include the



Jarrett

late Alan Kulwicki, Bill Elliott, Dale Earnhardt, Mark Martin, Terry Labonte, Bobby Hamilton and Ricky Rudd.
NOTABLE: This historic venue hosts a wide variety of events, including CART Championship cars the annual festival known as the Copper World Classic.

CRAFTSMAN TRUCK SERIES
COMING UP: GM Goodwrench Service/AC Delco 300K

WHERE: Phoenix International Raceway, Avondale, Ariz.
WHEN: Saturday, Oct. 24
DEFENDING CHAMPION: Joe Ruttman
TRACK QUALIFYING RECORD: Joe Ruttman, Ford, 127.741 mph, Oct. 30, 1997.
RACE RECORD: Joe Ruttman, Ford, 103.942 mph, Nov. 1, 1997.
OTHER FORMER WINNERS: Jack Sprague won three Phoenix races in a row before Ruttman's victory last year. Mike Skinner is a two-time winner of this race.
NOTABLE: This mile track has a "dogleg" on the back stretch. It is the next-to-last event on the schedule.

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Image of a race car.

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NASCAR This Week
On TV All Times Eastern
■ Trucks, Goodwrench/AC Delco 300K 3:35 p.m. • Saturday • TBS
■ Winston, Dura Lube/Kmart 500K 2 p.m. • Sunday • TNN
■ NHRA Revell Nationals 5:30 p.m. • Sunday • TNN
On Radio
AM 1540-WTXY "Your Racing Station"
■ Bush Poll Live Qualifying • 5:30 p.m. Friday
■ Winston Cup Weekend • 9 a.m. Saturday
■ Dura Lube 500 • 1:45 p.m. • Sunday

ON THE SCHEDULE

Date	Race	1997 Winner	Pole
Oct. 25	Dura Lube/Kmart 500K, Avondale, Ariz.	Jarrett	Hamilton
Nov. 1	AC-Delco 400, Rockingham, N.C.	Hamilton	B. Labonte
Nov. 8	NAPA 500, Hampton, Ga.	B. Labonte	G. Bodine

TOP TEN
Weekly rankings by NASCAR This Week writer Monte Dutton. Last week's ranking is in parentheses.

1. Jeff Gordon (1)	6. Rusty Wallace (6)
2. Mark Martin (2)	7. Terry Labonte (NR)
3. Dale Jarrett (3)	8. Dale Earnhardt (8)
4. Bobby Labonte (5)	9. Mike Skinner (9)
5. Jeff Burton (4)	10. Ricky Rudd (10)
Two wins and holding	Likes next two tracks

POINTS STANDINGS

WINSTON CUP	BUSCH	TRUCK
1. Jeff Gordon, 4,817	1. D. Earnhardt Jr., 4,121	1. Jack Sprague, 3,765
2. Mark Martin, 4,459	2. Matt Kenseth, 4,019	2. Ron Hornaday, 3,737
3. Dale Jarrett, 4,197	3. M. McLaughlin, 3,815	3. Joe Ruttman, 3,568
4. Rusty Wallace, 4,043	4. Randy LaJoie, 3,292	4. Jay Sauter, 3,385
5. Bobby Labonte, 3,934	5. Elton Sawyer, 3,257	5. Tony Raines, 3,365
6. Jeff Burton, 3,930	6. Elliot Sadler, 3,178	6. Stacy Compton, 3,288
7. Jeremy Mayfield, 3,926	7. Phil Parsons, 3,168	7. Jimmy Hensley, 3,267
8. Dale Earnhardt, 3,496	8. Tim Fedewa, 3,161	8. Rick Carelli, 3,007
9. Terry Labonte, 3,473	9. Buckshot Jones, 3,120	9. Randy Tolson, 2,972
10. John Andretti, 3,399	10. Hermie Sadler, 2,984	10. Ron Barfield, 2,971

FROM LAST WEEK
WINSTON CUP SERIES
At Daytona Jeff Gordon earned his 11th victory of the season, the 40th of his career and the first ever in either October or November. So much for the notion of Gordon stroking to his third Winston Cup title. By winning, he improved his Winston Cup lead over 16th-place finisher Mark Martin to 358 points with just three races to go.

BUSCH GRAND NATIONAL
Dale Earnhardt Jr. padded his point lead with a victory in Madison, Ill., near St. Louis. Bad luck ended a memorable battle between Earnhardt and Buckshot Jones, who had an oil line come loose on his Pontiac near the end.

RACING ON THE WEB
Shorttrack USA Web site
www.shorttrack-usa.com/
Features: A poll enables visitors to choose their favorite form of short-track racing. Fun site that's well worth a visit.
Background info: This site is maintained by Doug Auld of WQYK-AM 1010, a radio station in St. Petersburg, Fla.

FROM THE ARCHIVES:
The rich history of NASCAR
When Bobby Hamilton drove Richard Petty's Pontiac into victory lane at Phoenix two years ago, it marked the first victory for Petty since he won his 200th race at Daytona on July 4, 1984. The race was also a notable achievement for the injured Terry Labonte, who had broken his wrist in a practice crash. He finished fifth en route to the Winston Cup championship.

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