

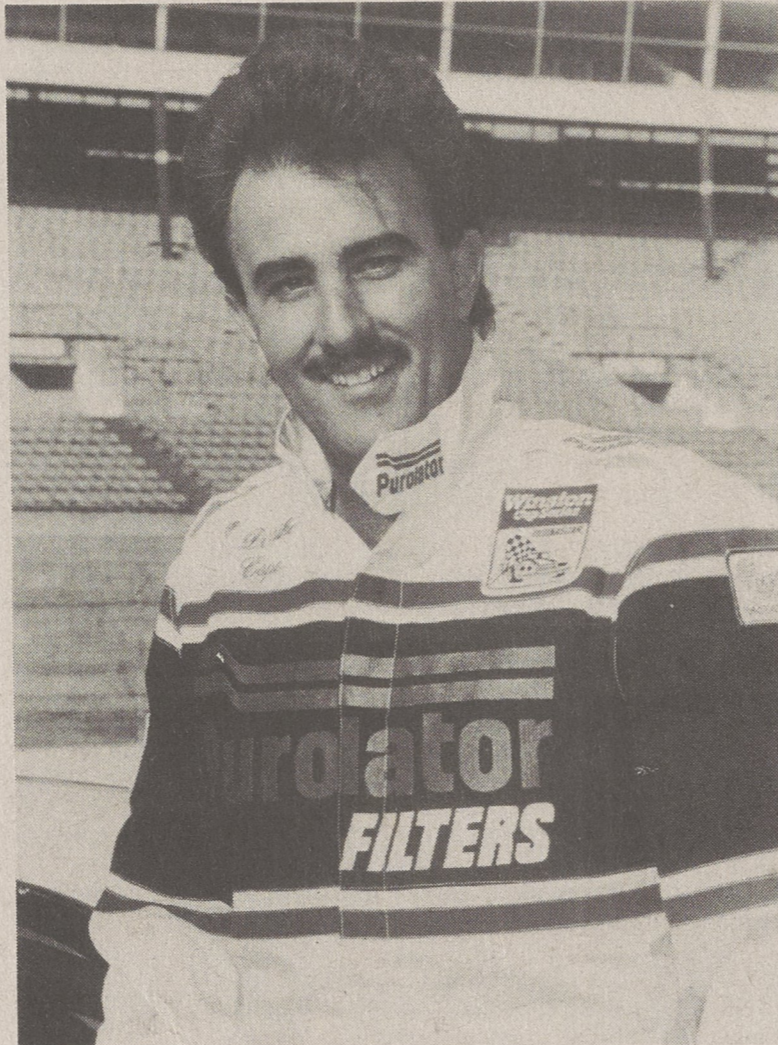
Another Chapter To Winning Story

Purolator Filters began another chapter in its proud history of stock car racing sponsorship when they announced their backing of driver Derrike Cope and Jim Testa racing team in the upcoming NASCAR season.

Cope, a former Winston West Rookie of the Year, will be trying to add even more luster to Purolator's legendary track record. As racing fans will no doubt recall, Purolator-sponsored cars dominated the NASCAR circuit a decade ago winning a total of 43 races at such tracks as Talladega, Daytona, Darlington, Rockingham, Atlanta, and others.

Purolator's involvement with NASCAR racing began in 1969 when it took over sponsorship of the Holman-Moody racing team which had David Pearson as its driver. But it wasn't until the company hooked up with the famed Wood Brothers team and driver A.J. Foyt in 1972, that its incredible string of victories began. Foyt, a four-time Indianapolis 500 winner, won the Daytona 500 that year in the Purolator Mercury. He led 167 laps of the 200-lap distance and finished a race a full lap in front of runner-up Charlie Glotzbach.

Later that year, Pearson replaced Foyt in the driver's seat and promptly won the race at Darlington. He went on to win five other races in 1972 in the gold-trimmed red and white Purolator Mercury. In fact, in 14 races for



Derrike Cope....

the Wood Brothers that first season, he placed in the top-five 11 times and placed in the top-ten twelve times. His racing earnings topped \$131,000.

In 1973, Pearson won an astonishing 10 superspeedway events including two

victories at Rockingham, Atlanta and Dover and victories at Talladega, Darlington, Daytona and Michigan. He also had a short track win at Martinsville. In all, he won 11 of the 18 races he entered that year.

Pearson won seven more in 1975. In 1976, he won the Daytona 500 in perhaps one of the most memorable finishes in racetrack history. He and Richard Petty tangled as they exited turn four and headed for the checkered flag. Both cars slid toward the finish line, but stopped just shy of the checkered flag. Pearson managed to keep his car running and limped past Petty, who frantically attempted to restart his racer, for the win.

Pearson went on to win more races before leaving the Wood Brothers team in 1978. In the six and a half years he drove the Purolator Mercury, won 43 NASCAR

Winston Cup races and more than \$2,000,000 in prize money.

Neil Bonnett picked up the gauntlet to win five more races for the Wood Brothers before Purolator ended its sponsorship in 1981. In 1988, the Tulsa, Oklahoma-based firm will sponsor Jim Testa Racing in all 29 races with Derrike Cope handling the driving chores. The Kings Mountain N.C. operation will field Ford Thunderbirds.

It's a multiyear contract and, if operated successfully, it probably will be long-term deal similar to what they had with the Wood Brothers," Testa said. "They want to stay with one organization."



MARK BYERS (33), PATRIOTS GUN FOR 25TH IN ROW

Patriots Win 24th Straight

Kings Mountain Junior High's basketballers split a twinbill with Crest Wednesday with the girls losing 61-51 and the boys winning 64-39.

It was the eighth straight victory this season and 24th in a row over the past 2½ seasons for Coach Gary Blake's Patriots.

The Kings Mountain teams host Castle Heights of Rock Hill, S.C., in their final home games Thursday at 5 p.m. They then close out the season with doubleheaders at Rawlinson Road and Sullivan next week.

Blake's Patriots, who have already established a school record for most consecutive victories, will be trying to close out their second straight undefeated season and run their victory string to 27 straight in the final three contests.

Darius Ross scored 28 points in last week's win over Crest. Tony Currence added 11 and Marquiz Williamson 10 and Mark Byers played a fine defensive game.

Others in the scoring act for KM included Era Vaughn with four, Quam Jackson and Kevin Moss with three each, Rick Lewis and Darrell Patterson with two each and Shane Crocker with one.

Golf Privilege Card Available

The American Lung Association's Golf Privilege Card makes a wonderful valentine present for the golfer in your life.

The 1988 card entitles the golfer to one free round (no green fee) at 57 different courses in Piedmont and Western North Carolina. The cost of the card is only \$30 and it is valid through 1988.

Cards are available at the Lung Association office on Main Street in Conover or write Post Office Box 130, Conover, North Carolina 28613 or call (704) 464-2413.

JIM TESTA - KINGS MOUNTAIN, N.C.

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Red in color. Tilt, cruise, stereo cassette, sunroof, 26,000 miles. Just like new inside & out.

1985 CHEVY CAPRICE 4 DR. SEDAN

White with blue vinyl top, tilt, cruise, stereo, wire wheels, new tires, V-8 engine, nicest 85 Caprice you can buy. 48,000 miles.

1983 CHRYSLER FIFTH AVENUE

Charcoal grey in color with grey leather seats, fully loaded, stereo, cassette, wire wheels. Just like new inside & out. 53,000 miles.

1985 CHEVY CAPRICE ESTATE WAGON

Light brown with the wood grain. Tilt, cruise, stereo cassette, power windows, power seats, power locks, new tires. This car has only 28,000 miles. Nicest wagon in town.

1987 CHEVY CAMARO COUPE

Red with black inside. Tilt, cruise, stereo cassette, rally wheels. This car also has t-tops and only 7,300 miles. Showroom condition.

1985 ISUZU IMPULSE 2 DR. COUPE

White with saddle inside. 5 spd., air, stereo, cassette, power windows, tilt, cruise, sunroof, alloy wheels. A super nice car.

1985 FORD CROWN VICTORIA WAGON

Beige on beige with tilt, cruise, AM/FM stereo, wire wheels. This car has only 43,000 miles on it.

1985 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS

4 dr. Sedan. Silver with maroon inside. This car is fully loaded, wire wheels, stereo, power windows.

1983 BUICK REGAL ESTATE WAGON

Beige with brown inside, tilt, cruise, and wheels. A super nice car.

1984 BUICK SKYLARK 4 DR.

Maroon on maroon. tilt, cruise, stereo, wire wheels. This car has only 49,000 miles on it.

THIS LIST OF CARS HAVE BEEN MARKED DOWN FOR BIG SAVINGS!

1984 CHEVY CORVETTE

Brown with brown leather seats. This car has only 13,000 miles on it, power windows, power seats, stereo cassette, aluminum wheels.

1986 BUICK REGAL COUPE

White with maroon vinyl top. This car has 31,000 miles on it. AM/FM stereo, rally wheels and t-tops.

1986 RENAULT ENCORE S

White with blue inside. Auto, air, power steering, sunroof. This car has only 19,000 miles.

1986 MERKUR

Silver on silver, auto, air, power steering, sunroof, fully loaded and has only 21,000 miles.

1982 CHEVY CHEVETTE 4 DR.

White with maroon inside. Auto, air, power steering. A super nice buy!

1986 JEEP COMMANCHE TRUCK

Gold & tan in color. Auto, air, power steering, power brakes, rally wheels. This truck has only 3,000 miles.

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Navy blue, V-8 engine, auto, air, power steering, AM/FM stereo cassette, rally wheels, white lettered tires. This beauty has only 22,000 miles on it.

1985 CHEVY CUSTOM DELUXE LONGBED

Red in color. V-8 engine, auto, air, power steering, AM/FM stereo, wire wheels, 45,000 miles.

1986 GMC HIGH SIERRA LONGBED

Two-tone blue, V-8 engine, auto, air, power steering, AM/FM stereo cassette, rally wheels, 57,000 miles.

1986 FORD RANGER F150 XLT LARIAT SHORTBED

Light blue with blue cloth inside. Tilt, cruise, stereo cassette, power windows, power locks, dual tanks, sharpest Ford truck in town. 13,000 miles.

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