

## **3rd Annual Banjo Matthews Memorial 150**

*Press Release by: Kassie Hughes*

**This Saturday June 25, 2011 the UARA-STARS will be making their second appearance of the 2011 season at Hickory Motor Speedway. They will be there for the running of the 3rd Annual Banjo Matthews Memorial 150. Edwin Keith "Banjo" Matthews was one of the foremost racing fabricators in the history of racing. Banjo was very instrumental in the development of the safety guidelines that are still in effect for the automobile racing industry today.**

**This memorial race is to help raise awareness and money for The Banjo Matthews Motorsports Scholarship that was developed in honor of this amazing car builder. It is currently available to students of Buncombe County where Banjo lived a good portion of his life and housed Banjo's Performancenter. Members of the Buncombe County School Foundation will be on hand to help promote the scholarship and sell tee shirts**

**for the foundation. The scholarship was put in place to help promote the education of young men and women who wish to have a career in the racing industry.**



**One of Matthew's successful drivers, Donnie Allison of the Alabama Gang, will be making an appearance at the race at Hickory. The legendary driver will be the Grand Marshall for the race and will be available for autographs during the pit party. Allison drove for Matthews for many years and the two visited victory lanes at some of NASCAR's most popular tracks such as Daytona, Bristol, and Talladega.**

**Also signing autographs along with Allison will be NASCAR Hall of Fame Legend Junior Johnson. Johnson was a very good friend of Banjo Matthew's and they worked many an hour together when they were both on their way to becoming the cornerstones of racing as it is known today.**

**UARA point leader Brennan Poole has been tearing up the racing circuit with outstanding runs with both the UARA and ARCA racing series. Poole has won three out of five UARA races this year. Poole with a new team for 2011 at the season opener at Hickory posted the win there . The challenge is on and there is a good chance that one of his determined competitors will beat him out this week.**



**Andy Mercer is one driver that will give Poole a run for the money. Hickory Motor Speedway is the favorite track of Mercer, who is currently eighth in points. Mercer joined the UARA family after winning two consecutive championships at HMS (09' and 10'). This crowd favorite is definitely someone to keep your eye out for during the race as he hopes to turn around the season on his own turf. "The first four races haven't been what we've expected, but we are working hard and getting better and better," said Mercer.**

**Mercer will not be on his own in his quest to out duel Poole as 2010 UARA Champion Coleman Pressley will be making his first appearance of 2011 on the UARA circuit. During his UARA career, Pressley accomplished one UARA Hickory win.**

**Another strong competitor that will be in attendance on Saturday is Kyle Grissom. Grissom has a UARA victory at Hickory to**

**his credit and he also holds the pole record for the UARA-STARS at Hickory with a 14.997. This record was set at the 2011 season opener. Grissom would like nothing better than to best that time and then turn it into a win for his first UARA victory of 2011.**

**Adding action to the agenda of the UARA-STARS will be the Allison Legacy cars and the Vintage Racers.**

**Grandstands open at 4:30**

**Qualifying 5:00**

**Autograph session 6:30**

**Racing begins 7:30**

**General Admission:**

**Adults \$15**

**Students (12-17) \$10**

**Family Pass (Parents with children under 12) \$25**

**Children under 12 FREE**

*For more info visit [www.uara-stars.com](http://www.uara-stars.com) or call 828-692-3833*

*Press Release by: Kassie Hughes*

[Close Window](#)