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CONTACT: Team Full Throttle

(704) 664-1755

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FIRST-TIMERS EXCEL AT TEAM FULL THROTTLE LATE MODEL SHAKEDOWN DAY

MOORESVILLE, N.C. – Five Team Full Throttle NASCAR Driver Development racers tested in a late-model for the first time Saturday Feb. 2 at the Team Full Throttle Late Model Shakedown Day at Hickory Motor Speedway (N.C.). The five drivers included Trevor Alspach, 14; Zack Alspach, 16; Bret Guzik, 16; Christian PaHud, 14; and Andrew Schartner, 18.

Tom Baker, Team Full Throttle's vice-president and founder, was impressed with the young driver's abilities to quickly adapt to the heavier, more powerful late-model. "Ed Cox from Tri-Star Motorsports brought a car out for us to use for the day. All of our first-timers did an exceptional job of being smooth and showing improvement through the day. Zack, Trevor, Andrew, and Christian got their laps in Ed's car and Bret had his own Cat Iron Racing Team car on hand.

"We're very excited about the diversity of our late-model group this year," Baker added. "The group includes drivers competing in the ASA North Series, the PASS South, the UARA-STARs Series, and racers in Tennessee, California, Pennsylvania, and North Carolina as well. We believe this could be a big year for us and we're looking forward to getting it started."

Eight late-models were on hand with 16 Team Full Throttle development drivers in attendance. The first-time event was planned by Team Full Throttle to get its late-model racers pre-season track time as well as its younger drivers a chance to test a full-size stock car. The aforementioned Christian PaHud was one of the drivers logging laps in a late-model for the first time.

"It was a lot of fun and I'm really happy TFT put the day together," PaHud said. "I am looking forward to the day when I can race a Late Model full time, but for now I think the plan is just to test as much as possible and get used to what it feels like and what it needs so that when the time comes, I'm ready. In the meantime, we'll concentrate on the Legends this year and maybe run some Pro Challenge races as well."

The day was concluded by a technical seminar by late-model legend Freddie Query.

The Team Full Throttle NASCAR Driver Development Program and Driver Development Services, Inc. are located in Mooresville, N.C. For more information on Team Full Throttle and its racers contact (704) 664-1755 or check www.goteamfullthrottle.com.

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