

Metro Edition

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PIT STOPS

Monster Jam at Dome: Mark Hager, a world-record holding, car-crashing stunt driver who recently jumped the famed "General Lee" for the "Dukes of Hazard" movie, is scheduled to perform the "Suicide Spiral" car stunt tonight at the Monster Jam at the Edward Jones Dome.

The "Suicide Spiral" will send Hager and his car off a pipe ramp that stands 13 feet tall, and it will spiral his car 45 feet off the ground for more than 150 feet. Hager, a 17-year professional stunt veteran, and his stunt production company, Dangerous Moments Stunts Inc., are based in Orlando, Fla. He has produced hundreds of stunt performances and currently holds four world records for car stunts, including a 213-foot bus jump at a 1995 NASCAR event at Charlotte Motor Speedway.

Hager set and then beat his latest record three times last month

in events at the Alamo Dome in San Antonio and in Houston's Reliant Stadium. The record for distance jumped by a car in an indoor stadium was previously 115 feet, set in 1993 by another stunt car driver. However, last month at the Alamo Dome Monster Jam event, Hager broke the record by jumping 122 feet. Hager broke the record again the next day by jumping 124 feet. The following weekend at the Reliant Stadium Thrill Show event, Hager flew his car an astonishing 145 feet.

Hager is now in pre-production for his DVD called "Brotherhood of Destruction." It will feature Hager and his team performing extreme car and motorcycle stunts, including tonight's car stunt at the Edward Jones Dome.

Indy invitations in the mail: Entry invitations for the 90th Indianapolis 500 were mailed Wednesday to race teams eligible to com-

pete in the race May 28 at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. Entries must be postmarked by midnight April 5. All drivers named to an Indianapolis 500 entry will compete for one of the 33 starting spots in the race.

Daytona 500 TV record: NBC's coverage Sunday of the "Great American Race" attracted 37 million viewers and was seen in 11.3 percent of U.S. homes with a TV, making it the highest-rated NASCAR race in history, according to Nielsen Media Research.

Team Lexus moves to Le Mans: Team Lexus has announced its drivers for the American Le Mans Series: Terry Borcheller, Townsend Bell and Jean-Francois Dumoulin. Team Lexus has served as Lexus' factory team since 1999. It makes the move into the American Le Mans Series GT2S class this year with a two-car team. The American Le Mans Series begins its season

with the 12 Hours of Sebring March 18 at Sebring International Raceway.

Will Ferrell's NASCAR comedy: OK, the good 'ol boys better have a sense of humor when this movie comes out in August. Talladega Superspeedway officials announced the name of Will Ferrell's movie. It will be "Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby."

Sprint cars in Florida: Part of the Speedweeks action centered around the Daytona 500 this month was the opening of the All Star Circuit of Champions sprint-car season at Volusia Speedway Park near Daytona Beach. Terry McCarl dominated the main event, while Danny Lasoski and Donny Schatz won preliminary events.

Outlaws results: In a pair of World of Outlaws sprint-car races at Volusia, Chad Kemenah held off Schatz to capture the season opener and Joey Saldana passed Jac

Haudenschild on the final lap to win another feature.

Schrader to keep on racing: A story in the Feb. 15 edition of National Speed Sports News quoted St. Louis native and NASCAR Cup driver Kenny Schrader about his future: "When the day comes that one of these kids bumps me out, then I'm going to run the next best thing I can find at whatever level that is, and this deal will end when I just can't climb in the car anymore or my buddies aren't strong enough to lift me anymore."

Schrader, 50, isn't ready to join Rusty Wallace in retirement. They both began driving race cars as teenagers at the old Lake Hill Speedway in Valley Park.

Waltrip agrees to contract: Fox Sports and Darrell Waltrip have agreed upon a contract extension beginning with the 2007 season.

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