



## Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **“Young Guns” Set to Headline Joliet’s Race Fan Rally**

*Dale Earnhardt Incorporated’s future to greet fans at Joliet’s Race Fan Rally*

**JOLIET, Ill.** – July 7, 2008 – The future fulltime driver of Dale Earnhardt Incorporated’s No. 8 Chevrolet will meet and greet race fans in Downtown Joliet this Wednesday, July 9<sup>th</sup> from 6pm to 8pm. The event is a free to the public festival from 5pm to 11pm celebrating the NASCAR race week in the Chicagoland area.

Aric Almirola was named the fulltime driver of the No. 8 NASCAR Sprint Cup Chevrolet just last week. The 24-year-old Almirola takes over driving duties of the No. 8 team fulltime from NASCAR driving legend Mark Martin at the end of this season.

“We are really excited about having a driver from the Dale Earnhardt Incorporated team participating at Race Fan Rally this year,” said Tom Mahalik, Vice President, Joliet City Center Partnership. “Aric not only drives for one of the premier teams in NASCAR, DEI, he also takes over one of the most famous cars in the sport, the number 8 Chevy so area fans have a lot to be excited about.”

Joining Almirola on the entertainment stage are three other talented drivers of tomorrow. Gillett – Evernham Motorsports is banking on the future of Patrick Carpentier, driver of the No. 10 NASCAR Sprint Cup Dodge Charger. Carpentier turned heads in the motorsports world last year winning the pole in his first ever NASCAR event. This season, Carpentier won another pole at the NASCAR Sprint Cup race in New Hampshire. Carpentier will appear at Race Fan Rally starting at 7pm.

Other confirmed drivers include Jason Leffler and Kertus Davis of the Nationwide Series. Leffler drives the Great Clips No. 30 Toyota Camry. Leffler has two Nationwide Series wins to his credit and is coming off arguably his best year in the sport with winnings totaling over one million dollars. Davis recently joined Jay Robinson Racing and has been very busy seeing action in 19 Nationwide events in 2008.

The Joliet Race Fan Rally presented by Allstate is a family-friendly festival that is free of charge and open to the public. The Joliet Race Fan Rally presented by Allstate includes live bands, driver appearances, show cars and other motorsports exhibits. The 2008 Race Fan Rally takes place in Downtown Joliet, Ill. on Wednesday, July 9<sup>th</sup> from 5pm to 11pm. For more information please visit [www.racefanrally.com](http://www.racefanrally.com).

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