Earnhardt awarded most popular driver

By Genid Hodgewike Racing Reporter
Dale Earnhard: Ir. was awarded
the 2003 Grands Biscuits NASCAR
Most Popular Driver award today
during ceremonies at New York's
Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. The award is
based on-voting by race frass around
to world. Dale Ir. named more than
1,3 million votes, which represents
more than the yombined total of the
remaining top-10 vote getzers.
The "Most Popular Driver Award"
is presented by the National
Motorsports Press Association
(NMPA), and his been an active
award since 1956 Dale Ir. Joins his
dad, seven-time Wrindor Cup champion Dale Earnhardt, as the only if
they and so combination to with the
world.

ther and son combination to win the warnd.

"That's cool. I like big trophies..."
Junior joked at the award presentation. "No, really, this means a lot for me. It's a powerful thing to know how much fin support I have out there, and I try to never forget it. I'm grateful and thank all of the fans who voted for me."

Date Ir and the No. 8 Bustweiser

voted for me."
Dale Ir, and the No. 8 Budweiser team were also awarded a \$75,000 bonus for the 2003 Goodyear Gatorback Fastest Lap Award at eight races this season, more than any other team. They were also tied for

Tony Siewart led at the halfway mink of five races in 2003.

He also received a check well in excess of 51 million at the NASCAR Winston Cup Awards Banquet for his caree-best thind-place finish in the 2003 point standings.

Meanwhile Bill Elliott was nearly as hour late for his press conference, which was called to announce his plans for the 2004 racing season, which was called to announce his plans for the 2004 racing season. Billott, however, will run a reduced race schedule in an Evernham Elliott, however, will run a reduced race schedule in an Evernham Comports Dodge, while NASCAR Busch Series driver Kasey Kahne. Peremy Mayfield will continue as driver of the No. 19 Dodge.

Letterny Mayfield will continue as driver of the No. 19 Dodge.

Elliott announced his intensions to run a limited schedule for several and the continue as driver of the No. 19 Dodge.

years and remain with Evernham Motorsports as mentor and coach to the team's drivers. Elliotr's role will expand in a business, capacity with Evernham, on and off the track. Apparently, Elliott will make his exit from racing in much the same

Submitted by

Lora Hamilton

I am so thankful that our Savior was born.

I am looking forward to His home-coming as He splits the sky.

I hope to be standing by and shake His hand.

cautiful robe will shine like

goto.

He was born in a manger, that I know.

That beautiful smile upon His face,
it seems as if I can hardly wait.

The angels will begin to play their

harps.
All Heaven will be shining bright. There is our Savior standing at the door, as they all march in. There will be no sin. They all will join hands. Christ will be the first to enter, When He closes the door, no one else

money.

In a show of appreciation for their unending support, Elliott, says he is planning several celebrations to thank his loyal following for their devotion during his four decades of NASCAR competition.

Kahne will also compete full time in the NASCAR Busch Series next reason.

in the PASS-AR Guien Series next, season.

"I'm fortunate that things have fillen into place like they have," said Evernham. Bill and I worked closely to make sure we were taking this company in the right direction, but I also wanted to make sure that he had the space to really make the right decision for himself. In making that decision, I think we as an organization have made some strong person have made some strong person.

tion have made some strong person-nel moves."
While this year's banquet went over pretty smooth-at least from what. viewegs saw on television-it wasn't so easy for fans getting back home. The first hard snow storm of the year hit New York City on Friday morning, By 2 pm., the entire area was blanketed by a white coat. By

the time the award ceremonies began, over 6-inches had fallen.
Fans flying out LaGuardia, Aiport, including myself, were stuck. All of Delta Airlines* outbound flights were amounted to be a superior of the catches a fast to JFK Airport in hopes of eatching a different flight. By this time the total was up to 21-inches, and travel, even by taxi, was slow.

There was only one flight Saturday out of JFK to Atlanta, and that was at 2 pm. All the other eight flights had been cancelled. The 2 pm. light flights had been cancelled. The 2 pm. light flights pot off the ground at 7.30 pm., leaving behind hundreds of fans, reporters, and television journalists, trying to get home in Char-

lotte or Atlanta.

They were stranded for another

They were might.

Like in racing, you win some and lose some. But I was fortunate, because Immaged to get a seat on that last flight, and made it to Mobile, Alabama before the vlock struck middle.



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First Annual Books for Bikes Program

Sponsored by Rockcastle County Public Library and Jeffrey T. Burdette

Begins Friday, January 2, 2004 Ends Saturday, February 28, 2004

Who can participate: Children ages 9-12 years of age

Where: Children ages 9-12 will get age appropriate books from the Rockcastle County Public Library or from the Bookmobile to read. After reading each book, children will complete a small form about the book they have read.

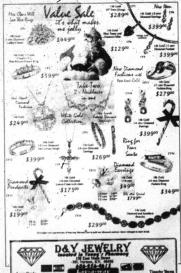
At the end of the reading program, all participants will be invited to the library for a reading social. At the social, the top 10 boy and top 10 girl readers will have their name put in for a drawing to win a bike. One boy winner will be drawn and one girl winner will be drawn.

Happy Reading!!

The bikes are on display at the library.



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