



Driver Spotlight

Husband and Wife Duo to Compete at Lebanon I-44 Speedway

When it comes to family race teams here at Lebanon I-44 Speedway we have seen it all, from father son duos to battling brothers. Very few times have we seen a husband and wife race team here at the High Banks. Crystal and Justin Blake from Lebanon Missouri are the anomaly. Crystal and Justin married in 2007 and have been competing at I-44 Speedway as a single car team since 2013, but now it is time for Crystal Blake to step into her very own race car and experience the feeling of racing door-to-door for herself.

The 2018 Lebanon I-44 Speedway racing season will be Crystal Blake's first season behind the wheel of a race car and she could not be more excited. The Missouri State Probation and Parole Officer will be piloting the No.7 Charger that propelled her husband to a solid runner-up championship finish in the 2017 season. Crystal wants to be just as competitive in this car as her



Justin and Crystal Blake posing for a photo in Victory Lane in 2013. *Photo Provided by Justin Blake*

husband was, if not more competitive! Her goal is to win at least one race this season and be battling up front each weekend. "I want to be competitive and put on a good show for the fans. There are not very many female drivers and I think we need more of them," stated Crystal. While Crystal is excited to be in race-winning equipment, she is also excited to get on the track and have fun with her family. "I would like to see if I could win at least one race. I'm excited to meet new people and get out there and have a good time with my family," added Crystal. Crystal's first race will be Saturday, May 5. Be sure to come out to the track and cheer her on!

Crystal Blake is not the only Blake that will be competing this summer, Justin, her husband plans on racing a Big 10 Late Model this season! Justin's racing career started in 2013 where he won the Track

Championship and the Rookie of the Year title in his very first season in a Street Stock. Justin is hoping for some success this season in I-44 Speedway's newest class. "I want to get a win, and race against champion drivers for the win. I want to be competitive with the fastest guys around and come home with a clean car every night," added Justin. While Justin is excited to race his new car this year he is just as excited to have his wife join him on track. "I am almost more excited to get her out there than myself. If I can't get her up front I am in trouble (laughs). I have seen her drive on the highway, she will fit right in on the track," added Justin. The couple cannot wait to get to the track and just have fun racing each week with their family and friends.

Be sure you come out to Lebanon I-44 Speedway on May 5th for the Spring Sizzler and root for Crystal and Justin Blake, along with all the other talented racers here at the High Banks. To keep up with track news and updates be sure to like our Facebook page at Lebanon I-44 Speedway, follow us on Instagram at @i44_Speedway, or follow us on Twitter at @i44speedway and visit our website at www.i44speedway.net! We hope to see all of you at the Spring Sizzler!

By Dylan Bates