

## McDowell to make NASCAR Busch Series debut at Texas

### ARCA's Rookie of the Year will pilot a second car for MWR

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CORNELIUS, NC (October 31, 2007) - ARCA RE/MAX Series Rookie of the Year Michael McDowell will make his NASCAR Busch Series debut this weekend at Texas Motor Speedway. A former Star Mazda Series champion, McDowell will pilot the No. 00 NAPA Auto Parts Toyota from the Michael Waltrip Racing stable for the final three races of the Busch Series schedule.

McDowell is coming off a four-win season in ARCA, one that earned him second place honors in the series championship standings. He also recently made his NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series debut at Martinsville Speedway.

While McDowell has visited many tracks-thanks in part to his eclectic background of sports car racing, open-wheel racing, and stock cars, this will be his first trek to Texas Motor Speedway. The prospect of making his series debut at the Fort Worth, Texas quad-oval has the Arizona native intrigued:

"I can't wait for this weekend. Anytime you get to race is great but to be making your debut in the Busch Series is extra special," said McDowell. "MWR has prepared an awesome car for this weekend and with the short notice (that I'd be racing) that meant a lot of extra hours for the crew. I have a new crew chief this weekend in Butch (Hylton), so hopefully his experience will speed up my learning curve. I just want to make all the laps and get some seat time at a track that is this fast."

After this weekend's foray in the Lone Star State, McDowell will travel to hometown track Phoenix International Raceway and the series season finale at the Homestead-Miami Speedway.

For more information on Michael McDowell, visit [www.mmcdowell.com](http://www.mmcdowell.com).

#### **RACE:**

*Texas 300*

**Date:** Saturday, November 3, 2007

**Track:** Texas Motor Speedway (Fort Worth, TX)

**Race Distance:** 200 Laps (300 miles)

**Television:** ESPN2 at 3 pm EST

**Team:** Michael Waltrip Racing

**Crew Chief:** Butch Hylton

#### **McFACTS:**

McDowell is coming off a record-setting rookie ARCA season, scoring four victories (Kentucky Speedway, Pocono Raceway, Chicagoland Speedway, and Toledo Raceway) and leading 822 laps (both tops for the series).

The 22 year-old also competed in the Rolex Sports Car Series, collecting two Daytona Prototype wins for team Finlay Motorsports.

McDowell will have to qualify into the Texas 300 on time. His résumé speaks well of his qualifying prowess: nine poles in ARCA in 2007.

A sim-racing enthusiast, McDowell spends on average, three hours per day playing computer simulation racing featuring tracks of every major American racing series.

In his ARCA career, McDowell scored a top-five finish on every type of track: a win at a short track (Salem - October 2007), a win at an intermediate track (Kentucky - July 2007), and a fifth place finish at a superspeedway (Talladega - October 2006).