

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Moraine Park alumnus prepares for racing season

Moraine Park News Service

In 2005, when Jake Larson jumped out of the stands and onto the Slinger Speedway racetrack to help a racecar on the Slinger track, he never expected it would be the start of his own racing career. “I just loved being there, and I wanted to race,” said Larson.

Shortly after, he bought a four-cylinder car and began racing in the beginner division called the “Slinger Bee’s.” In 2007, he moved up to the Thunderstock division racing part time and in 2008 began full-time in that division.

Larson, a 2010 Automotive Technician graduate of Moraine Park Technical College, won his first feature race on June 13 last summer, and picked up a win the following week. He wrapped up the 2010 season with an eighth place finish in Thunderstock Championship points, even after missing four races because of his college studies. He is preparing for the 2011 racing season in the Thunderstock division and hopes to move up a division for the 2012 season.

With the season well underway, Larson has a goal in mind, “I’d like to race every week, and finish top five in points,” he said.

Attending college at Moraine Park’s Fond du Lac campus, Larson graduated with a degree from the Automotive Technician Program.

Timothy Moy was one of Larson’s automotive instructors at Moraine Park. “Jake was a student who was eager to learn, especially anything to do with engines, was a very pleasant, respectful and appreciative student. His racing career may have started in Moraine Park's parking lot.”

Larson said that Moraine Park prepared him with automotive diagnostic knowledge for both racing and his job now. Larson currently works at Interstate Auto/Truck Service Center in West Bend, which is a division

of Interstate Sawing. He works on everything from cars to semi-trucks to lawn mowers and company concrete saws.

Moraine Park's Automotive Technician is offered as a two-year technical diploma. Students learn to test, diagnose and service a variety of electronic, electrical and mechanical systems and components found in automotive vehicles. Graduates of the program are prepared to work as skilled technicians in dealerships and independent repair facilities.

Larson is pleased with his decision to attend and graduate from Moraine Park. When he started at Moraine Park, Larson said he thought he knew all he needed to about vehicles. "I learned so much more at Moraine Park because it was hands-on — we got to learn and work with actual customer cars," he said. "I enjoyed my time at Moraine Park, I made many friends who I still talk to, got along with the teachers and gained valuable information about automotive repair."

For more information on Moraine Park's automotive program, visit morainepark.edu/programs.

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