"Star-Crossed 300" For RED WHITE & BLUE RACIN' Stock Car Action Game

Keith Avallone, PLAAY Games

I was exchanging e-mails with Jerry Minks about the just-finished '99 Pro Season cards and somehow the name Hut Stricklin came up. "Poor ole Hut," Jerry wrote, "never won a race." Indeed, Hut ran 328 races over sixteen seasons, without ever getting a taste of Victory Champagne. It got me thinking--how many OTHER iconic pro drivers went their entire careers without winning a race? And, wouldn't it be fun to have a race between these drivers so that--on the tabletop at least--ONE of them could finally get the career win they never got in real-life?

As it turns out, there are quite a few long-time drivers who never got a win. Jerry came up with a list of 43 starting drivers for our all-time winless race, and we added a few more of our favorites. Now, most of these drivers DO have at least a few wins in other, lesser series--(national pro "B" series, regional, local, etc.) but none ever won a tier-one, top-level Cup race. Many of them never even cracked the top 10! Jerry also came up with a great name for our race: "The Star-Crossed 300!"

Together, these drivers combined for over 12,000 race starts, and not a single win! Leading the way in "Buzzard Luck" would be J. D. McDuffie, 653 career races over 28 years without a single win. Others with notably lengthy careers without a victory were Buddy Arrington [560 races], Dave Blaney [473], Jimmy Means [455], and Cecil Gordon [449].

In creating the set, I uncovered interesting facts about some of these drivers. Dick May competed in the 1975 running of the Mason-Dixon 500, driving five different cars in that one race! Fittingly, his fifth car conked out and he didn't finish the race. Herman Beam is famous for holding the longest streak of races without a DNF (84) from 1961 until 1963. His strategy was to finish, not win. There's one driver in our field who is still active and thus still has a chance to earn a win: Michael McDowell, who currently has +300 races.

We included a few "bonus" drivers, aside from Jerry's recommendations. Marty Robbins was country music star who ran NASCAR for fun, bank-rolled by his music royalties. He ran 35 NASCAR races between 1966 and 1982, his best performance was a 5th place finish at Michigan in 1974. Patty Moise was the Danica Patrick of the 1980s, running mainly in the "B" series (133 races, 0 wins). She did start 5 Cup races between '87 and '89, finishing two of them. Her best finish was 26th place, in the '88 Firecracker 400 at Daytona. Bobby Wawak ran 141 Cup races over 18 seasons (1965-88), his best season was 1976 when he finished 22nd in the point standings, despite running only 19 races. His career-best finish was that year, 6th place, at Ontario.

In putting together this commemorative set, we used "decade stars" cards where possible (broader context of a driver's career ability), full-season cards when necessary. We made a couple minor adjustments in the interest of balance and fairness. For example, Joe Millikan and Roger Hamby weren't included in the '70s Stars set, as each competed in fewer than 80 career Cup races. But their '79 seasons were decent. So, in fairness to guys who drove many more races we knocked their '79 ratings back just a bit to better reflect their career performances.

It was difficult to choose the racing venue for our "Star-Crossed 300." Our first thought was to run it on the Pioneers (1958) Daytona track, essentially putting all drivers in 1950s cars. Ultimately, we decided to run the race at Talladega, 2019--which will result in fewer PROBLEM results. We've made a couple of minor tweaks to the PIT Crew grades of the Pioneers drivers, but you can still expect a higher-than-normal attrition rate.

One final note: For Race Week, don't forget to use the driver's superscript trophy number, if he/she has one. It shouldn't keep them out of the race (unless you toss the bonus drivers into the mix), but it may well affect their placement.

Here's an alphabetical list of the Star-Crossed 300 drivers, with the number of Cup races in [brackets]...

Buddy Arrington [560] LD Austin [169] Herman Beam [194] Rich Bickle [85] Eddie Bierschwale [117]

Dave Blaney [473] Todd Bodine [241] Richard Childress [285] Wally Dallenbach, Jr.[226] Tommy Ellis [78]

Tommy Gale [246] Cecil Gordon [449] Steve Grissom [151] Janet Guthrie [33] Roger Hamby [68]

Kevin Lepage [201] Jimmy Lewallen [142] Chad Little [217] Coo Coo Marlin [165] Rick Mast [364] Dick May [185]

JD McDuffie [653, most-ever] Michael McDowell [300] Jimmy Means [455] Joe Millikan [79]

Ted Musgrave [305] Ed Negre [338] Danica Patrick [191] Larry Pearson [57] Robert Pressley [205]

Baxter Price [90] Joe Ruttman [225] Jim Sauter [76] Tighe Scott [89] Hut Stricklin [328]

Mike Skinner [286] Jabe Thomas [322] Ronnie Thomas [197] Dick Trickle [303] DK Ulrich [273]

Kenny Wallace [344] Frank Warren [396] Rick Wilson [206]

2019 TALLADEGA SUPERSPEEDWAY Super Speedway • Talladega, AL Star-Crossed 300 [30 turns] ESCAPE [NC] • REPAIR [NC]

TOP Gr	oup	MIDDLE Group		TTOM Group	DUEL!	
		ACE C	AM	Resu	lts	
METALLIC D	Dice					
2	RAR	_	2.66 miles length		th	
3	UCAT	ΓŢ				

2 RARE
3 HEAT† Tri-Oval
4 REFLEX 78,000 capacity
5 HEAT
6 SKILL † Use TROUBLE on final 10 turns.
8 CONTROL
9 TV
10 TROUBLE

11 SMART Red White & Blue RACIN' ©2019 PLAAY Games LLC



REFLEX STAR CONTROL SMART



FAST PIT: 6 ESCAPE: 9 ©2016 PLAAY Games



FAST PIT: 5 ESCAPE: 11 ©2018 PLAAY Games LLC



STAR CONTROL

FAST PIT: 6 ESCAPE: 11 ©2018 PLAAY Games LLC Does not DUEL, cannot be targeted.



SKILL HEAT FAST PIT: 4 ESCAPE: 8 ©2019 PLAAY Games LLC



SMART

HEAT FAST PIT: 3 ESCAPE: 6 ©2012 PLAAY Games



SKILL

FAST PIT: 3 ESCAPE: 4 ©2019 PLAAY Games LLC



TODD BODINE Star-Crossed 300 [1999]

REFLEX

SKILL FAST PIT: 3 '3 ESCAPE: 5 ©2019 PLAAY Games LLC

RICHARD CHILDRESS Star-Crossed 300 ['80s Stars] STAR CONTROL SMART

FAST PIT: 7 ESCAPE: 8 ©2012 PLAAY Games



CONTROL SMART



FAST PIT: 3 ESCAPE: 5 ©2014 PLAAY Games



Star-Crossed 300 [1989]



FAST PIT: 2 ESCAPE: 5 ©2012 PLAAY Games



TOMMY GALE Star-Crossed 300 ['70s Stars]

CONTROL

FAST PIT: 2 D ESCAPE: 11 ©2016 PLAAY Games

STAR



CECIL GORDON Star-Crossed 300 ['70s Stars]

REFLEX





CONTROL SKILL

> FAST PIT: 4 FSCAPF: 6 @2014 PLAAY Games



JANET GUTHRIE Star-Crossed 300 ['70s Stars]

REFLEX STAR

SKILL

FAST PIT: 4 ESCAPE: 10 ©2016 PLAAY Games



REFLEX



HEAT



REFLEX STAR **SMART**





CONTROL A SMART неат



CHAD LITTLE

Star-Crossed 300 ['90s Stars]

CONTROL SMART SKILL

FAST PIT: 3 ESCAPE: 5 ©2014 PLAAY Games



Coo Coo Marlin Star-Crossed 300 [1979]



FAST PIT: 3 ESCAPE: 7

©2013 PLAAY Games



RICK MAST Star-Crossed 300 ['90s Stars]

CONTROL **SKILL**



FAST PIT: 4 ESCAPE: 5 ©2014 PLAAY Games



DICK MAY Star-Crossed 300 ['70s Stars]

CONTROL **SKILL**



FAST PIT: 3 ESCAPE: 10 ©2016 PLAAY Games



Star-Crossed 300 ['80s Stars]

SMART SKILL

> FAST PIT: 3 ESCAPE: 3 ©2012 PLAAY Games



Star-Crossed 300 [2018]

SKILL

SMART FAST PIT: 4

ESCAPE: 6

©2019 PLAAY Games LLC



JIMMY MEANS

FAST PIT: 4 ESCAPE: 10 ©2013 PLAAY Games



REFLEX CONTROL SKILL HEAT





CONTROL SMART SKILL





STAR CONTROL

FAST PIT: 3 ESCAPE: 11 ©2016 PLAAY Games



STAR CONTROL **SKILL**





REFLEX

SKILL HEAT FAST PIT: 5 ESCAPE: 5 ©2012 PLAAY Games



CONTROL

FAST PIT: 3 ESCAPE: 7 @2019 PLAAY Games LLC

STAR



CONTROL

FAST PIT: 2 FSCAPE: 9 @2016 PLAAY Games







©2012 PLAAY Games









STAR



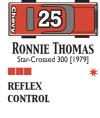
CONTROL



CONTROL SKILL FAST PIT: 6 QB2







FAST PIT: 4

ESCAPE: 9

©2013 PLAAY Games





HEAT

FAST PIT: 3

ESCAPE: 6

©2014 PLAAY Games



SMART

SKILL

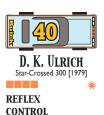
FAST PIT: 3 ESCAPE: 7 ©2014 PLAAY Games



REFLEX

SKILL

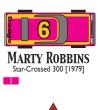
FAST PIT: 3 D ESCAPE: 7 ©2014 PLAAY Games







©2016 PLAAY Games



ESCAPE: 10

©2016 PLAAY Games













Star-Crossed 300 ** REFLEX



©2016 PLAAY Games









Star-Crossed 300 **





Star-Crossed 300 **





Star-Crossed 300 **









Star-Crossed 300 *** REFLEX STAR CONTROL **SMART** SKILL HEAT







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Star-Crossed 300 *** REFLEX STAR CONTROL **SMART** SKILL HEAT FAST PIT: ESCAPE: ©2018 PLAAY Games LLC