

Daly now part of Andretti lineup for Indy 500

By JENNA FRYER
The Associated Press

Conor Daly has been chasing sponsorship money all across the country in a nonstop effort to continue his racing career. He's willing to drive anything, but the Indianapolis 500 is the priority.

The lean sponsorship landscape has pushed Daly and other drivers to the fringe of motorsports in that they can't land rides unless they bring a significant portion of the funding. But Daly shouldn't be such a hard sale: He's American, an Indianapolis native, he just turned 27 and has name recognition beyond IndyCar from one season on "The Amazing Race" reality show.

None if it has been enough to land him that one big deep-pocketed sponsor that can jump-start his career.

Daly did, however, impress the Air Force during a partnership at last year's Indy 500. Daly finished 21st driving for a smaller team and the Air Force received enough bang for its buck that it wanted to partner with Daly again this May. Only this time the Air Force wanted Daly with a team



MICHAEL CONROY/AP FILE PHOTO

Conor Daly is part of a five-car all-American lineup for Andretti Autosport for the Indianapolis 500.

that could win, and it landed him the fifth seat in the Andretti Autosport lineup.

"If you want to be with a team that can win, then Andretti, absolutely, that's the best choice, for sure," Daly told The Associated Press.

He gives the team an all-American roster, rounding out the lineup with Marco Andretti, former

Indy 500 winners Alexander Rossi and Ryan Hunter-Reay, and Zach Veach.

It will be Daly's sixth attempt to make the 500 but first with one of the series' elite organizations. The Andretti cars are consistently in contention and among the most watched during the buildup to the 500 because of the storied family organization. This year marks the

50th anniversary of Mario Andretti's victory, the only win for an Andretti.

Daly is close friends with most of the Andretti lineup and raced Rossi in Europe, but the two have been teammates only once before, during their fourth-place finish last year on the reality show.

The all-American element to the Andretti team is a genius marketing move that could have longer financial gains for Daly and the organization. The Air Force already has signed as an associate partner for the entire Andretti lineup during the full IndyCar season, and Daly was popular enough for them last year to warrant a return to Indy with him.

That alone is considered one of Daly's biggest victories.

"No one is being handing rides, this was a ride that was created through great partnerships," Daly said. "The system, the financials, nothing is going to change in the immediate future so you just have got to do your best with what you've got. I do feel good about the money and sponsors we've had the last few years because it is hard and I am starting with nothing."

The business model in motorsports has shifted in that almost ev-

eryone besides the very top stars need to bring some sort of funding to a team to secure a ride.

Daly ran four IndyCar races last season and one Xfinity Series race on a NASCAR road course. He ran the full IndyCar season in 2017 and, acting as his own agent, learned that most potential sponsors care only about his success in the Indy 500.

"My ideal goal is to do more races," he said. "I don't want to just do Indy, but that's all I've got so far and it makes it a little bit weird that you show up to the biggest race in the world having not raced at all in an Indy car since last year."

His priority is to seize this chance with Andretti and deliver the kind of showing he can parlay into more races. Until that happens, he'll be readying for the May 26 race by trying to find more work.

"I have four other deals I am working on, some of this year, some is already for 2020, but that's all I do, all day long I pound around on my laptop and take random meetings," Daly said. "I'm grateful for this opportunity with Andretti to show I'm a worthy investment."

SCOREBOARD

Local schedule

■ TODAY, JANUARY 31

Prep Boys Basketball

Barr-Reeve at Jasper (JV/V) 6:00
North Knox at Northeast Dubois (JV/V) 6:00
Gibson Southern at Southridge (JV/V) 6:30
Evansville Mater Dei at Forest Park (JV/V) 6:30
Heritage Hills at Boonville (JV/V) 6:30
South Spencer at Jasper (F) 6:30

Prep Girls Swimming

IHSAA Sectional Preliminaries at Jasper 6:30
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■ FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Prep Girls Basketball

IHSAA Sectional, semifinals
Heritage Hills at Gibson Southern (V) 7:00
Southridge vs. Princeton at Vincennes (V) 7:30
NE Dubois at Springs Valley (V) 8:00

■ SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Prep Boys Basketball

Evansville Mater Dei at Jasper (F) 11:00
Mitchell at Northeast Dubois (JV/V) 11:30
Jasper at Heritage Hills (JV/V) 1:00

Prep Wrestling

JAS, SR, FP at IHSAA Regional at Bedford 9:30
HH at IHSAA Regional at Ev. North 10:00

Prep Girls Swimming

IHSAA Sectional Finals at Jasper 10:00
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Grade basketball

AT JASPER

Monday

BOYS

GRADE 8

Jasper Tournament

Holy Trinity 48, South Spencer 40

South Spencer	5	13	12	10	—	40
Holy Trinity	17	13	7	11	—	48
Leading scorers: (HT) Begle 15, Mundy 12, Fallon 8						

Washington 46, Forest Park 43

Washington	11	15	10	10	—	46
Forest Park	11	12	10	10	—	43
Leading scorers: (FP) Marks 13, Hinson 12; (W) Neidigh 23						

AT DUBOIS

Monday

BOYS

GRADE 8

Blue Chip Tourney

Northeast Dubois 48, Vincennes Rivet 18
Leading scorers: (NED) Dodd 17, Hughes 9; (VR) Frederick 6

AT HOLLAND

Tuesday

BOYS

GRADE 5-A

Cedar Crest Green 41, Holland 11
Leading scorers: (CC) Welp 12, Gray 11, Burger 10; (H) Steckler 4, Sherman 4

GRADE 5-B

Holland 23, Cedar Crest Green 11
Leading scorers: (H) Smoker 9, Wibbler 6; (CC) Whitehead 4, Lubbbers 3

Prep basketball

AREA SCORING LEADERS

BOYS

Murray Becher (HH)	355	30	20.9
Colson Montgomery (SR)	348	35	20.5
Simon Scherry (HH)	259	23	15.2
Curt Hopf (FP)	247	26	14.5
Jaden Hayes (SR)	237	26	13.9
Reece Bauer (NED)	208	23	13.9
Blake Sisley (HH)	233	24	13.7
Jackson Kabrick (J)	215	203	13.5
Joe LaGrange (SR)	189	20	11.1
Isaac Uebelhor (FP)	9	97	10.8

GIRLS

Rebekah Gordon (HH)	362	27	16.5
Myah Montgomery (SR)	336	38	16.0
Madison Cave (NED)	256	26	13.5
Kortney Ruhe (J)	282	34	12.8
Macie Zink (FP)	292	29	12.2

Brooke Nottingham (J)	22	243	26	11.0
Mady Neukam (SR)	21	214	21	10.2
Hadley Lytton (HH)	22	211	22	9.6
Claire Knies (J)	22	208	25	9.5
Faith Zazzetti (FP)	24	217	18	9.0

AREA CONFERENCE STANDINGS

BOYS

BIG EIGHT	CONF	ALL	PF	PA
Jasper	40	105	52.5	48.7
Vincennes Lincoln	22	8-10	56.2	58.0
Princeton	31	143	65.1	51.4
Washington	31	115	62.6	52.0
Vincennes Rivet	22	8-10	56.2	58.0
Boonville	13	1-12	54.2	66.4
Mount Carmel	02	10-11	57.9	55.1
Mount Vernon	04	1-16	53.2	71.4

BLUE CHIP

CONF	ALL	PF	PA	
Barr-Reeve	50	152	61.3	44.6
South Knox	50	123	52.9	43.7
Vincennes Rivet	31	9-7	53.2	46.9
Shoals	42	116	61.8	46.0
Northeast Dubois	23	6-9	44.3	46.3
Wood Memorial	13	3-13	50.5	58.4
Loogootee	14	6-10	50.3	47.7
North Knox	14	3-14	49.8	71.7
Washington Catholic	05	1-12	37.7	63.3

POCKET ATHLETIC

CONF	ALL	PF	PA	
Heritage Hills	60	161	69.6	46.9
Southridge	51	125	55.1	47.0
Tell City	31	13-4	55.2	43.0
Forest Park	32	10-7	54.1	50.9
North Posey	23	5-11	56.1	63.3
South Spencer	25	7-9	53.5	62.0
Tecumseh	15	9-8	48.3	48.8
Gibson Southern	02	4-8	44.9	56.4
Pike Central	03	2-12	40.8	58.9

GIRLS

BIG EIGHT	CONF	ALL	PF	PA
Jasper	60	158	54.3	48.2
Vincennes Lincoln	42	21-3	62.0	41.6
Washington	42	15-7	46.5	38.0
Princeton	42	14-8	47.7	45.5
Mount Vernon	24	13-10	42.0	43.7
Boonville	15	8-14	49.8	57.9
Mount Carmel	06	13-14	49.6	47.4

BLUE CHIP

CONF	ALL	PF	PA	
Vincennes Rivet	80	240	61.5	34.7
Loogootee	71	203	54.6	38.5
North Knox	62	16-7	52.1	42.9
South Knox	53	14-11	50.4	42.9
Wood Memorial	44	13-11	45.8	43.8
Northeast Dubois	35	5-17	34.6	48.2
Barr-Reeve	26	7-13	40.6	42.1
Shoals	17	3-18	36.0	59.5
Washington Catholic	08	1-20	22.7	57.0

POCKET ATHLETIC

CONF	ALL	PF	PA	
Gibson Southern	80	21-3	69.6	45.8
Tecumseh	62	16-5	55.8	45.8
Heritage Hills	53	17-5	50.8	38.2
Southridge	53	7-14	41.9	46.9
Forest Park	44	11-13	46.0	45.6
Tel City	35	14-10	37.8	38.0
South Spencer	35	11-12	47.7	44.6
Pike Central	16	5-17	43.2	54.4
North Posey	07	1-21	32.0	61.4

Prep basketball

BOYS TOP 10 RANKINGS

The Associated Press Top 10 Indiana high school boys basketball teams, with first-place votes in parentheses, records, rating points and previous rankings:

Class 4A

	W-L	PTS	PRV
1. Warren Central (12)	17-1	274	1
2. Carmel (1)	14-1	248	2
3. Lawrence Central (1)	15-3	204	3
4. Floyd Central	13-2	170	5
5. Penn	15-2	112	NR
6. Munster	16-1	111	NR
7. Indpls Cathedral	14-4	100	4
8. S. Bend Riley	14-2	74	NR
9. Zionville	13-5	64	7
10. Bloomington South	16-3	63	NR

Others receiving votes: Homestead 56, Indpls Pike 54, Lawrence North 50, Plainfield 27, Center Grove 23, Brownsburg 20, Logansport 18, Elkhart

Memorial 12.

Class 3A

	W-L	PTS	PRV
1. Northwestern (9)	15-0	252	1
2. Delta	17-1	230	3
3. Greensburg (1)	15-1	228	2
4. Culver Academy (4)	9-2	210	4
5. Heritage Hills	16-1	146	6
6. Mishawaka Marian	11-2	136	7
7. Edgewood	14-2	117	8
8. Silver Creek	14-3	105	9
9. Brownstown	13-2	90	10
10. Indianapolis Attucks	12-5	82	5

Others receiving votes: Indpls Brebeuf 47, Greencastle 21, Marion 9, Griffith 7.

Class 2A

	W-L	PTS	PRV
1. Southwestern (Jefferson) (11)	17-1	272	1
2. Shenandoah (2)	13-1	250	2
3. Westview (1)	15-4	198	5
4. Linton-Stockton	15-2	185	4
5. Tipton	12-3	134	3
6. Heritage Christian	13-3	125	9
7. LaVille	13-3	114	8
8. Frankton	15-3	100	10
9. Indpls Howe	11-4	82	7
10. Wabash	12-2	41	NR

Others receiving votes: Rossville 39, Andean 27, Tell City 24, Paoli 21, N. Daviess 20, Ev. Mater Dei 19, Winamac 15, Covington 7, Michigan City Marquette 7.

Class A

	W-L	PTS	PRV
1. Ft. Wayne Blackhawk (10)	14-2	272	1
2. Barr-Reeve (3)	15-2	242	2
3. Lafayette Catholic (1)	13-2	210	3
4. Kouts	14-1	191	4
5. University	14-3	156	76
6. Covenant Christian (DeMotte)	12-2	152	T6
7. Washington Twp.	12-4	113	8
8. Morristown	15-3	111	9
9. Gary 21st Century	11-6	90	NR
10. Oldenburg	12-4	58	10

Others receiving votes: Morgan Twp. 50, Bloomfield 13, Springs Valley 12, Argos 10.

GIRLS TOP 10 RANKINGS

The Indiana Coaches of Girls Sports Association Top 10 basketball teams, with first-place votes in parentheses and previous rankings:

Class 4A

	W-L	PTS	PRV
1. Hamilton Southeastern (9)	21-1	99	1
2. Penn (1)	21-0	85	3
3. Warren Central	18-2	78	4
4. Crown Point	23-0	73	5
5. Homestead	22-3	57	2
6. Brownsburg	19-3	32	6
7. Indpls N. Central	18-6	31	8
8. Center Grove	19-3	27	7
9. Bloomington South	19-3	19	9
10. Lawrence North	17-6	11	9
(tie) Elkhart Central	16-6	11	NR

Others receiving votes: Michigan City, Kankakee Valley, Indianapolis Cathedral, Ben Davis, Bloomington North, Zionsville, Mount Vernon, Castle, East Chicago Central.

Class 3A

	W-L	PTS	PRV
1. Northwestern (9)	21-3	90	1
2. Salem	19-3	66	3
3. Bellmont	19-2	64	3
4. Norwell	19-3	59	5
5. Mishawaka Marian	19-3	41	2
6. Vincennes Lincoln	20-3	35	7
7. Benton Central	20-4	34	6
8. Greensburg	18-4	31	9
9. Danville	17-5	28	8
10. Gibson Southern	20-3	20	10

Others receiving votes: Marion, Northwood, Evansville Memorial.

Class