



the
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Katie Hagar

March 9, 1986 – Present

Nationality: American

Raced: 1996 – Present

Background: Katie Hagar was born in 1986 and grew up in Damariscotta, Maine. She started racing go-karts at age eleven and slowly began to fall in love with motor sports. In 1999, she won the Southern Maine Karting Inc. (SMKI) “Rookie of the Year” title at Beech Ridge Motorway Speedway. She continued to compete with SMKI for three more years, finishing in the top 10 in Junior and Sprint Cage division points standings. From 2000-2004, Hagar attended Lincoln Academy High School. During this period, she successfully juggled racing, school sports, and her academics. She played varsity basketball, soccer, and softball, and in 2003, twenty-five high school coaches selected her for the All-Conference Soccer Team. During that same year, Hagar began to race in the New England Allison Legacy Series (NEALS) and came just shy of winning the “Rookie of the Year” title. She continued to divide her time between school and racing over the next few years, graduating from the Kennebec Valley Community College EMT Program and from the Women in the Winner’s Circle Driver Development Academy in 2005. The following year, she graduated from the Miles Memorial Hospital CAN Program and the Finish Line Driving School in New Smyrna, Florida. She was the only female racer to participate in the New England Pro All-Star Series in 2007, driving an Open Wheel Modified car and a Super Late Model. In 2008, Hagar became involved with NASCAR’s Drive for Diversity Program. She raced for Bill McAnally’s team and had a very successful year competing at Roseville All-American Speedway in California in the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series. Hagar participated in the Drive for Diversity Testing & Evaluation Combine at South Boston Speedway in Virginia later that season and landed a place in the 2009 Drive for Diversity class with Golden State Racing. For the 2010 season, Hagar plans on competing in the NASCAR Grand National Series in the Drive for Diversity Program.

Inspiration and Influences: Katie Hagar first got involved with racing on account of her father, Mark. He owned a race car at a track close to their home in Damariscotta and Katie occasionally went to races with him as she was growing up. Although it took her some time, she fell in love with the sport and decided to pursue it, while also continuing her studies. After graduating from two driving programs, she moved to North Carolina to gain more experience behind the wheel. Hagar later relocated to Sacramento, California in order to be closer to Roseville All-American Speedway, and she currently resides there.

Racing Accomplishments:

- Raced in Southern Maine Karting competitions at Beech Ridge Motor Speedway from 1999-2002.
 - She had 5 wins, 9 top 5 finishes, and 12 top 10 finishes, finishing second in point standings in 2002.
- Competed in the New England Allison Legacy Series in 2003 and 2004.
 - She had 5 wins, 8 top 5 finishes, and 12 top 10 finishes in 2003, and became the first woman to win a race at Canaan Fair Speedway in New Hampshire.
 - She earned another 2 wins in 2004.
- Participated in the New England Pro All-Star Series North Modified Division in 2004 and 2005 with 1 top 5 finish and 5 top 10 finishes.
- Attended Women in the Winner's Circle Driver Development Academy in 2005.
- She was the runner-up for "Rookie of the Year" at Oxford Plains Speedway, ME in 2006.
- She was the only female to compete in the New England Pro All-Star Series North Outlaw Division in 2007.
 - She had 2 top 5 finishes and 4 top 10's.
- Raced in the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series at Roseville All-American Speedway, CA in NASCAR's Drive for Diversity Program in 2008, with 11 top 10 finishes.
- She was one of 12 candidates racing for the Drive for Diversity Program in 2009.
- Set the track record at Stockton 99 Speedway in California on June 13, 2009 with a lap of 13.576 seconds, becoming the first woman to ever hold a track record there.

Awards and Recognition:

- Earned the Southern Maine Karting Inc. (SMKI) "Rookie of the Year" title at Beech Ridge Motor Speedway in Scarborough, Maine in 1999.

Life off the Track: Hagar showed a talent in balancing her racing career with her school work and extracurricular activities while she was in high school. In addition to participating on several varsity sports teams, she graduated with honors. Hagar also became involved in the fight against cancer. She is a strong supporter of the American Cancer Society and has helped raise money for Making Strides Against Breast Cancer and the Make A Wish Foundation.

Personal Website:

<http://www.katiehagar.com/katiehagar.htm>

Sources Consulted

Newspaper and Online Articles:

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- Lenzi, Rachel. "Hagar Following Her Dream Right into Racing's Heartland; Maine's Katie Hagar, Now Based in North Carolina, is Well Aware of the Challenges Ahead," *Portland Press Herald*. Portland, ME, 20 April 2008. <<http://proquest.umi.com.proxy.ulib.iupui.edu/pqdweb?index=31&did=1466728501&SrchMode=3&sid=1&Fmt=3&VInst=PROD&VType=PQD&RQT=309&VName=PQD&TS=1265779316&clientId=13225&aid=2>>.
- Linesburgh, Scott. "Diversity driver riding in the fast lane at 99," Stockton 99 Speedway. 27 June 2009. <<http://www.stockton99speedway.com/99%20Articles/2009articles/09-KatieHagerdiversitydriver.htm>>.

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