

Patrick Rummerfield and Miller Motorsports Park join forces to honor wounded veterans

ST. LAKE CITY, UT (May 3, 2009).

Patrick Rummerfield, the first fully functional quadriplegic in the history of medicine, and Miller Motorsports Park have announced that they have joined forces to develop a program designed to allow wounded veterans to experience the thrill and excitement of racetrack driving.

At the upcoming American Le Mans series race weekend at the Utah Grand Prix, Patrick Rummerfield and Miller Motorsports have teamed with the Salt Lake City VA Hospital to host four wounded soldiers and make racecars and professional drivers available to allow them to ride around the track in a once-in-a-lifetime experience, before the cheering spectators of Miller Motorsports Park.

The event, scheduled for Thursday, May 14, was designed by Patrick Rummerfield, of the International Center for Spinal Cord Injury at Kennedy Krieger Institute. Patrick is an active figure in the world of spinal cord injury research, and the co-founder of Adventures on Wheels, the nonprofit organization designed to bring the world of adventure to those affected by paralysis.

Miller Motorsports Park will provide the facilities, racetrack time, vehicles, and professional drivers to ensure that the experience is unforgettable, unique, and safe.

"We owe a debt of gratitude to these brave men and women" said Patrick Rummerfield, who in 2007 flew to Germany to visit wounded American soldiers at the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center. "Many people love this Country and its freedom, but few show it by putting themselves in harm's way to defend that belief, and even less pay the very large price that wounded veterans have paid. I am glad that we are able to show this small token of our appreciation through this program."

"It is our pleasure to work with 'Adventures on Wheels' and give these brave veterans an opportunity to have a once-in-a-lifetime experience," said Miller Motorsports Park President and CEO Dan Davis. "It is a small gesture on our part, but one we hope conveys the message that all of us in the racing community appreciate their service and sacrifice and that we're pulling for them to make as complete a recovery as is possible."

Miller Motorsports Park has also arranged for these US Armed Forces guests to receive a private tour of their museum, passes to meet the racing crews, and tickets to watch the weekend races. "These deserving veterans are working hard on their recovery and healing process" said Maria Fruin, Program Manager for Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom (OEF/OIF) Veterans at the VA Medical Center in Salt Lake City. "The VA appreciates organizations that support our veterans and is grateful for this exciting opportunity."

Patrick Rummerfield hopes that this will be the first of many such efforts to bring adventure to the lives of these brave men and women.