

Paying tribute



(From left) Rick Hendrick and his wife, Linda Hendrick; Jim Farmer, retired GMAC vice president; scholarship recipient Darius Whitney; NASCAR driver Brian Vickers; scholarship recipient Chris Clark; and Barbara Stokel, GMAC Eastern Region vice president.

GMAC has established a scholarship fund in memory of Ricky Hendrick — son of Hendrick Motorsports founder Rick Hendrick — whose life was tragically cut short in October.

The Ricky Hendrick Memorial Scholarship Fund will help send Team Focus participants to college after high school graduation. Chosen by the GMAC Bowl committee, the first two recipients were announced at the GMAC Bowl Mayor's Luncheon in Mobile, Ala., in December. The presentation also featured a tribute to Hendrick.

Ricky Hendrick, owner of the No. 25 GMAC Financial Services Chevrolet driven in the 2004 NASCAR Nextel Cup Series by Brian Vickers, was a strong supporter of Team Focus. He visited the Team Focus camps every summer, speaking and working with the campers. Hendrick provided a shining example of what focus, attitude and dedication are all about.

The Ricky Hendrick Memorial Scholarship Fund is made possible through contributions from GMAC North American Operations, GMAC Insurance-Personal Lines, the GM Protection Plan group at GMAC Insurance, GMAC Mortgage, Ditech and the GM Family First Division, which have made a five-year commitment to help fund the scholarship.

Chevy's

“The new Z06 is the fastest, most powerful production car ever offered by Chevrolet and GM.”



The production 2006 Corvette Z06 and 2005 Corvette C6.R race car

dynamic duo

Born and bred side-by-side, Chevrolet's 2005 Corvette C6.R race car and 2006 Corvette Z06 debuted at the North American International Auto Show in Detroit last month. In fact, the Z06 took home the AutoWeek Editors' Choice Award for Best in Show at the event.

Although destined for distinctly different environments, the Z06 and C6.R are the products of a two-way exchange of technology, personnel and

experience between the realms of production and racing.

"Which way did the technology flow — from the race car into production, or from production to the racer? It went both directions," said Dave Hill, Performance Cars vehicle line executive and Corvette chief engineer. "The race car looks like the production car, and our customers know that the car that won the 24 Hours of Le Mans three times is based on the cars in

their driveways."

Both the Z06 and C6.R are powered by the same LS7 7-liter small-block V8 engine with dry-sump lubrication systems, CNC-ported cylinder heads and more. Further, lessons learned in the race car and applied to the C6 improved the latter's performance using features such as flush headlamps and a central air intake providing more airflow.

The new Z06 is the fastest, most powerful production car ever offered by Chevrolet and GM. Achieving 500 hp in an approximately 3130-pound package, it's expected to deliver supercar performance, with a 0-60 time in less than four seconds. Dealers can expect the Z06 in showrooms beginning in the fourth quarter of 2005, and race fans can expect the C6.R to open the season at the 12 Hours of Sebring in March.

"Corvette shows that GM has the knowledge, the know-how, the passion, the craftsmanship and the spirit to be the best," added Hill. "Corvette competes with entries from the best manufacturers, and racing puts the exclamation point on that."

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Giving thanks

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