



# PITPASS

## Newsletter

Official Student Monthly Insider

"Specialized Technical Training for the Real World"

June 2011



### OTC Celebrates Matco MotorSports Day with Antron Brown



Pro drag racer Antron Brown speaks to OTC students for his fourth year.

It's not everyday that students get an up close look at a real NHRA Drag Race Car, or the person who actually drives it! Antron Brown made at stop at OTC to visit with our students before competing in the NHRA Nationals at Summit Raceway Park June 25th. "This is my fourth year visiting OTC," says Antron. "I love

talking to young people who are getting started in this industry. It's a great opportunity for me to make it real for them, let them know what is out there for them, and how they can be successful. It's all about positive thinking and doing what's right when no one is looking." Antron Brown is sponsored in

part by Matco Tools, an educational partner of Ohio Technical College. Along with students getting some time with Antron, they were treated to some fun and games. Director of Marketing, Jordan Brenner, says, "We like to treat our students to some time off. Every year Antron comes to the campus, we try something different. This year we went with more of a game theme, and the students really had a great time." Rich D, who is known as "The Enforcer" at OTC, was kind enough to sit in the dunk tank. Throughout the day, staff and students raised \$157.00 for student services. "Our students work hard and deserve a break. This was our way of letting them blow off some steam," says Brenner. Matco Sports day didn't end that day for some; as Anthony Kruczek, OTC's Matco Representative says, "There really is no better way to see all of the behind the scenes action," so eight lucky students got the opportunity to attend the NHRA Nationals on Saturday, complete with meet & greet, and special photo opportunities in the Matco Hospitality Tent.



OTC students race toilets and have fun during Matco Motorsports Day.



Rich D takes his chances in the dunk tank. Staff & students raised \$157.00

### OTC Power Generator Student Wins Exclusive EGSA Scholarship



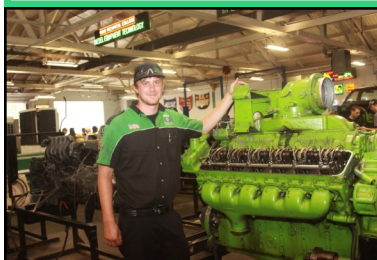
Scholarship winner and Power Generator student Joe Fedeli graduates June 30th

Two years ago, Joe Fedeli was a senior at Sandy Valley High School in Magnolia, Ohio, thinking he was going to become a lineman for the power company. He was pretty sure he knew what he wanted and how he was going to get there—until he took a slight detour that lead him to Ohio Technical College. "I skipped school one day to come up to Cleveland with my cousin because he was looking

at Power Sport Institute. We stopped at OTC first so he could take a scholarship test. I was like a kid in a candy store looking at all of the incredibly cool stuff here. I never knew a place like this existed." Joe enrolled in our 18 month Auto Diesel Program, and graduated in April 2011. He then rolled into our 3 month Power Generator Program. "I applied for the EGSA scholarship not really thinking I would get it, as only 12 students nationwide receive it." Mr. Mox Eggert, OTC's Generator Instructor is a EGSA member, and isn't surprised by Joe's success. "He's a terrific student. Very smart, and he will be extremely successful in this industry." Joe hasn't missed a single day of school, and has maintained Honor Roll status for seven consecutive quarters.



### OTC Diesel Student Wins SEMA Scholarship



2009 Joliet High School graduate James Seeley wins SEMA Scholarship.

What student wouldn't want to be called out of class by the President of the College to be notified he has won a scholarship that will pay for his entire program? Doesn't sound realistic does it? Well, just ask James Seeley, from OTC's Diesel Technology Program how he felt when he was informed he won the SEMA

Scholarship, which did just that. "Oh, how cool! I can't wait to tell my parents," James said. The SEMA Scholarship pays the entire 18 month tuition for James's program in Diesel Technology. James found the scholarship opportunity on the OTC website.

## OTC Campus Expansion

Over the past two years, OTC has been expanding at a faster than normal rate. "We have purchased four buildings adjacent to our main facility in the past twenty-four months," Tom King, Director of Training said. "We are currently in the process of expanding custom paint and graphics as well as our engines and transmissions lab. Classic car restoration has grown faster than anticipated, and they need more space." The North Coast Litho building on 49th Street is the most recent acquisition, and will be the new building for classic car restoration. The classic car restoration program is just five years old, and has seen the biggest increase in enrollment. One big goal for this program is not to have a waiting list for students who want into the program. "As soon as we get the keys, I will have crews in there getting it ready," assured King. "With nineteen cars undergoing restoration, and more students wanting into that program, we need more space to operate it efficiently. The Edelbrock Academy also needs space, so some programs are moving to different labs to accommodate their specific needs. The new Edelbrock Academy is slated to begin accepting students in late fall 2011. OTC's staff is also growing and currently there isn't room in our main facility for new hires to have an office. We are beyond the breaking point and need office as well as classroom space for future staff and students.



*North Coast Litho will be the new home for classic car restoration.*



*A view of the new basketball court from the new outdoor deck.*

Other additions to the campus this year include a new student resource center and an outdoor basketball court. "The student resource center will be a quiet place for our students to study or do on-line research. We've even added an outdoor deck where students can come to just relax when they have down time. We are trying to create more of a campus atmosphere, and with these new buildings, students will be moving around more to get to different labs and classrooms." Marc Brenner is adding his own ideas on how the school should look, "I'm having our buildings painted all the same colors, outside doors covered with cool looking vinyl graphics, adding trees and other landscaping, and doing my best to supply our students with both a positive learning and social atmosphere." What's his next big project?



*This 4 story brick building known as The City Desk. It will be the new home of custom paint & graphics and engines.*

"To re-design the student cafeteria." Marc Brenner has several different plans drawn up, and needs to choose one. Once the design is selected, work crews will once again be brought in to handle the demo and construction. "My goal is to have a new, relaxed atmosphere for our students and visitors. Ideally it will be completed by the end of the year," says Brenner.

## High Performance Student is Lighting up the Track

OTC's High Performance and Racing Program has hit the track racing this spring! Some of our students have been offered tremendous opportunities within the racing circuit, including Brian Khongmaly—one of our students who is taking advantage of what comes along. Brian got a call from an OTC driver offering him the opportunity of a lifetime, to be an extra set of hands and work the fire bottle for Mazda RX8 car #69 in the Grand Touring Class during Shalen's 6 Hours at Watkins Glen, New York.



*Brian is originally from Kansas. He served in the US Army and then made his way to OTC's High Performance program.*

"This is a pretty big deal and a great opportunity," says Khongmaly, "I've always wanted to go to The Glen and experience the track for myself." Brian made the five and a half hour drive to Watkins Glen, New York not really knowing what to expect. "The entire crew was very welcoming and made me feel comfortable. Once the race got started, I forgot about being nervous and did my job. The next six hours went by so fast!" Brian explained. Brian wore his OTC hat, and got calls from family and friends letting him know they saw him at work during the nationally televised race. "Music to my ears was when the race was over, and a crewmate said, 'Hey, congratulations rookie on your first race, we placed 3rd, and you did a great job.'"

## PSI Student Gets Real World Experience



*Zach Douglas graduates June 30th and heads back on the road with Tony Gallo.*

2009 Unity High School (Illinois) graduate Zachary Douglas has a lot to talk about. Zach was originally scheduled to graduate from PSI back in February, but got such an awesome opportunity, he took a LOA to live out a dream. AMA Super Motocross rider Tony Gallo's parents contacted PSI looking for a student to work as a dirt bike technician for their son. Tony is a Brunswick, Ohio native, and has been a professional dirt bike rider since he was 17. Zach got the job, and left to travel to Canada, Indiana, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Florida, and Utah to name just a few states. Zach gets food and travel expenses covered, but that's it. Zach says he rebuilt the race bike about every three races, which is a 2011 Honda 450. "The amount of experience I gained is priceless. PSI gave me the skills to be confident in even applying for this opportunity. It has been awesome." Zach will finally get his PSI diploma June 30th, spend a few months at home in Illinois, and then go back out with Tony as a paid technician.



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