Michael Andretti Breakfasts Raise over $8,000 for Charity

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Michael poses with fans

For many Andretti Green Racing fans, the end of the 2003 IRL season meant a competitive final race, a close-call championship, and an all-around successful year for the three AGR drivers. But to about 100 lucky fans, the 2003 season has had a personal affect that will be unforgettable.

Michael Andretti hosted â€œBreakfast with the Fansâ€• at three different race tracks: Nazareth Speedway, California Speedway and Texas Motor Speedway. Seated in the exclusive 7-Eleven hospitality tent, fans were treated to eggs, bacon, pancakes, muffins, etc. Different track officials volunteered their morning to speak to the guests about the behind-the-scenes of racing and give detailed tours of the AGR cars.

For most of the fans, however, the highlight of the Breakfasts was the time Michael Andretti spent with them. He answered questions, gave autographs and took pictures. In some cases, the other AGR drivers, Tony Kanaan, Bryan Herta and Dan Wheldon, were even able to make an appearance. To a racing fan, it was the experience of a lifetime.

And the best partâ€¦all the proceeds from the three events benefit the Michael Andretti Foundation, a charity organization started by Michael upon his retirement in May. The total funds earned from the Breakfasts exceeded $8,000.00. Due to the tremendous volunteer effort from the AGR team, the three tracks and the IRL, very little cost was involved and much of this amount will go directly to the Foundation.

The Michael Andretti Foundation provides services to children and citizens around the country. For 2004, the Michael Andretti Foundation will concentrate its funds on four main charities: Education is Freedom, Mercy Home for Children, the Jim Beam Drink Smart program, and Michael Andrettiâ€™s local charity, the Fund to Benefit Children and Youth.

Michael Andretti: â€œNow that I am retired, Iâ€™m glad I can use my time to have events like the Breakfasts. Itâ€™s always nic be able to give back to my fans and the community at the same time. I thank those who came out to make it a success.â€•

If you are interested in aiding the Michael Andretti Foundation, please contact foundation@andretti.com. Stay posted for more exciting fundraising events to come in 2004.