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Slifko Wins USHRA's "Most Improved Driver" Award

Pottsville, Pa. – Andy Slifko, owner and driver of the Eradicator monster truck, was announced the winner of the United States Hot Rod Association's "Most Improved Driver" award at the USHRA Awards Banquet following the World Finals in Las Vegas last month.

The award is annually given to the driver or drivers whose programs have accelerated the most over the 3-month span that comprises the winter season. This year the committee, made up of industry members, voted Slifko and Brutus driver Chris Bergeron as the two most improved drivers.

"It's really an honor for me to be recognized," said Slifko. "It seems like every team has stepped up since last year, and to be recognized as the team that has stepped up the most is really a testament to our good sponsors and crew and to the fans for supporting us every week."

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Slifko's year started off with a stellar freestyle performance in front of 52,000 fans inside Houston's Reliant Stadium. Other highlights from the season included destroying a mobile home for a third place freestyle finish inside a wet and muddy Citrus Bowl in Orlando, Fla. and taking home racing and freestyle wins in Albany, N.Y., and State College, Pa. Additionally, Slifko secured second place freestyle finishes in Dallas and Pittsburgh.

Eradicator is regularly featured on the USHRA's new television program, "Monster Jam", on SPEED Channel. "Monster Jam" has become the network's second highest rated program, only behind NASCAR Nextel Cup coverage, in only two months. Additionally, Hot Wheels released a new 1:64 Eradicator toy truck earlier this year.

"We are looking forward to good competition at Summer Heat events starting in June," said Slifko, "and we're already planning a run at World Finals 6 in 2005."

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