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Every summer, about the middle of August, a unique ritual occurs deep in the heart of Iowa. A band of outlaws gathers to ply their trade.

One would think that the townsfolk of little Knoxville, Iowa would shutter their windows and bring all the children in, when the outlaws come roaring into town.

However, that's not the case. Instead, the people of Knoxville are waving checkered flags, selling t-shirts that have names like Kenny Weld, Bobby Allen, or Roger Rager on them.

Or waving placquards that say "Parking \$2.00."

It just so happens that this is the weekend of the National Dirt Track Sprint Car Championship, and the outlaws aren't really outlaws after all, but race car drivers.

They are called outlaws only because they do not belong to the United States Auto Club.

