



## Aaron's No. 55 Driver Vickers Makes 2015 Debut in Las Vegas

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### Return to Racing Follows Successful Recovery From Heart Surgery

ATLANTA, March 6, 2015 /PRNewswire/ -- A healthy Brian Vickers makes an emotional return to the NASCAR Sprint Series at this weekend's Kobalt 400 in Las Vegas.



Vickers is driving for the first time this year following heart surgery in mid-December. Last month, he was given a clean bill of health by doctors to participate in the March 8th race at Las Vegas Motor Speedway.

The three-time winner in NASCAR's top division will once again be at the wheel of the No. 55 Aaron's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dream Machine Toyota, which was commandeered last week in Atlanta by Michael Waltrip Racing teammate Brett Moffitt to an eighth-place finish, and by team founder Michael Waltrip at the Daytona 500 on Feb. 22.

"The wait has been difficult but I am so grateful for the excellent medical care from my doctors and wonderful support from my NASCAR, MWR and Aaron's families," Vickers said. "I feel healthier than I have in a long time and more ready than ever to start racing and winning in my Aaron's Dream Machine."

The nearly three-month medical leave was the third for the 31-year-old Vickers since he joined the Sprint Cup in 2004. Blood clots and surgery to repair a hole in his heart sidelined him for much of the 2010 season, and a recurrence of clots interrupted his 2013 campaign. His body was rejecting an artificial patch inserted in the 2010 surgery, prompting the December procedure.

"Brian serves as an inspiration to everyone for the way he has battled back from difficult circumstances," said John Robinson, CEO of Aaron's, Inc. "I'm happy to see him get the chance again to do what he does best -- race cars."

The car Vickers is driving will sport a different look than his previous models. As part of Aaron's, Inc.'s yearlong celebration of its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the No. 55 car has been emblazoned with large navy letters reading "60<sup>th</sup> Aaron's Anniversary" on its white hood.

The 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Aaron's runs throughout 2015 and will be marked by numerous events, festivities and store promotions. Aaron's was founded in 1955 by Charlie Loudermilk with a partner and a \$500 loan, and today is a publicly traded company with more than 2,100 stores in the United States and Canada.

#### About Aaron's, Inc.

Aaron's, Inc. (NYSE: AAN), a leader in the sales and lease ownership and specialty retailing of furniture, consumer electronics, home appliances and accessories, currently has more than 2,100 Company-operated and franchised stores in 48 states and Canada. Aaron's was founded in 1955, is headquartered in Atlanta and has been publicly traded since 1982. Progressive Leasing, a wholly owned subsidiary and leading virtual lease-to-own company, provides lease-purchase solutions through approximately 15,000 retail locations in 46 states. Aaron's, Inc. includes the Aarons.com, ShopHomeSmart.com and ProgLeasing.com brands. For more information, visit [www.aarons.com](http://www.aarons.com).

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