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## Grand Prix Returns This Weekend

This international racing series brings methanol-powered Champ Cars to Denver for an exciting weekend of turbo-powered entertainment.

### Grand Prix Information

August 12-14, 2005



AUGUST 09, 2005 -- Start your engines! Champ Car racing is returning to Denver this weekend, August 12-14, for the CENTRIX Financial Grand Prix of Denver Presented by PacifiCare. This event marks round nine of the exciting 14-race international series which began its 2005 schedule earlier this year in Long Beach, California.

- [Official Web site](#)
- [Race Tickets](#)

The Champ Car World Series features racing stars such as defending champion Sebastien Bourdais from France, Canadians Paul Tracy and Alex Tagliani, Brazilians Cristiano da Matta and Bruno Junqueira, Jimmy Vasser from Nevada, and Colorado's own A.J. Allmendinger.

### Location

Pepsi Center  
1000 Chopper Circle  
Denver, CO 80204



Drivers will compete at speeds of up to 190 miles per hour on Denver's temporary street circuit, which is 1.65 miles long with nine challenging turns. Practice sessions and qualifying races take place throughout the weekend on Friday and Saturday. The Grand Prix race begins at 1:45 p.m. on Sunday.

Other races are planned during the weekend, including the Toyota Atlantic Championship featuring up-and-coming young drivers racing in open-wheel, Toyota-powered racecars; the Trans-Am Series featuring the top "muscle cars" in racing; Formula BMW Championship racing; and the SPEED World Challenge Touring and GT Series.

### Admission

Tickets vary in price.

### Street Closures

### Racing Links

- [Bridgestone Champ Car World Series](#)
- [Toyota Atlantic Championship](#)

Weekend events will bring a variety of street closings that may affect your downtown travel. Beginning Wednesday, August 10, outbound (westbound) Auraria Parkway between Speer Boulevard and I-25 will be closed at approximately 7 p.m.

At 10 a.m. on Thursday, inbound (eastbound) Auraria Parkway between Speer Boulevard and 7th Street will be closed. Additionally, 14th Street between Market and Lawrence Streets, and Larimer Street from 15th Street to Speer Boulevard, will be closed on Thursday from 9 a.m. until 10 p.m.

- [Trans-Am Series](#)

The length of Auraria Parkway will be closed from Friday, August 12 through Sunday, August 14, reopening early Monday morning. Other streets adjacent to the Pepsi Center also are closed throughout the weekend, including 7th, 9th, 11th and 12th Streets and Chopper Circle.

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## Traffic Alerts

If you do drive downtown this weekend, tune in to 530 AM for live traffic and parking updates.

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## Street Festival Events

Street festival events will surround the three days of international auto racing, including boxing, a celebrity charity event, live music, and a vintage car show.

On Wednesday night, the BoSPOKER.com Celebrity Bowling, Billiards & Texas Hold 'Em Charity Tournament will take place at Lucky Strike Lanes in the Denver Pavilions to raise funds for local youth-oriented charities.

On Thursday, August 11, spectators can attend the free Rocky Mountain Concours, a display from 3-7 p.m. in Larimer Square of more than 75 elite classic automobiles. Beginning at 7 p.m., the free Champ Car Street Party starts: Donavon Frankenreiter will perform, and drivers will be available for autographs.

Other ticketed events will take place on Friday and Saturday nights, including the Patron Friday Night Fights boxing event, and Saturday's Vanity Project Charity Concert featuring Steven Page and Clarias to benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

A variety of sports and youth activities will also take place, including Freestyle Moto X, toddler zones, and more.

## Tickets and Parking

Tickets are still available for the CENTRIX Financial Grand Prix of Denver and weekend events. Prices vary, and ticket packages include three-day seating packages, Sunday-only seating packages, general admission, Paddock passes, and special family deals. Tickets can be purchased online, or by calling Ticketmaster at 303-830-TIXS.

All parking is located at the Auraria Higher Education Center, across Auraria Parkway from the track. Parking is extremely limited, and spectators are encouraged to take public transportation, including the RTD Light Rail.

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Written by [Betsy Kimak](#), Internet Site Administrator, Customer Information Services.

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