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CRAFTON LOOKS TO CAP SEASON WITH WIN AT HOMESTEAD

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Matt Crafton raced to an eighth-place finish in the Lucas Oil 150 at Phoenix International Raceway on Friday, and heads for Homestead-Miami Speedway with victory on his mind.

Crafton has finished in the top-ten in twenty of twenty-four races this season, and owns a career-high ten top-five finishes entering Friday's Ford 200 season-finale at Homestead-Miami Speedway. He has won a couple of Keystone Light Pole Awards this season, and battled for a championship throughout the season. He is in second-place in the NCWTS standings. Victory at Homestead-Miami would seem a fitting cap to Crafton's ultra-consistent season.

"We always talk about putting ourselves in position to win races, and, for the most part, we've done a really good job of it this season," Crafton said. "We've been right there at the end with a shot to win so many times, but it just hasn't fallen our way yet. We've had strong trucks all season, and I'm really thankful to Bud (crew chief Haefele) and the guys for their efforts. A win at Homestead would be a great way to end the season for us." In eight career starts at Homestead-Miami, Crafton owns three top-ten finishes. His best finish at the track is fifth.

"The banking at Homestead makes for great racing," said Crafton. "You can race side-by-side, and from up against the wall down to the bottom. It's a fast, wide, multi-groove track, and it keeps getting better. I think drivers in all forms of racing love to race at Homestead. It's always an exciting show for our fans."

As consistent as Crafton has been this season, he continues to seek improvement. "We've done some good things this season, and we keep looking for ways to get better, and I'm proud as heck of our guys," Crafton said. "We're happy with our performance, but far from satisfied. We expect to take our No. 88 Menards Chevy to Victory Lane each week, to win a championship, and we'll keep pushing to do it. I feel like we're right there on the verge. We'll just keep bringing our best, and see where it takes us."