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TENNESSEE MASON FRED CAMPBELL NAMED WORLD'S BEST BRICKLAYER!



The Best Craftsmen in North America Battled for a chance to Win a New Ford F250 4x4 Truck and ROXOR Off-Road Side by Side Sport Utility Vehicle.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HIGH RESOLUTION PHOTOS: [DOWNLOAD](#)

Las Vegas, NV— Thousands of spectators gathered in the Bronze Lot at the Las Vegas Convention, and thousands more watched live online, as the 18th annual SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500® World Championship ([See Photos](#)) took center stage at the World of Concrete expo. It's a battle of skill, speed and stamina as masons and tenders from across North America put their reputations on the line for a chance to win serious prizes. The concept is simple, each team has one hour to build a 26-foot-long brick wall as large as they can with as few errors as possible.

Mason Fred Campbell and mason tender Tony Shelton of Creative Masonry in Greeneville, TN took home top honors, claiming the title, “World’s Best Bricklayer.” With a brick count of 756. Campbell is now the proud owner of a new Ford F-250 XLT 4x4 truck, an Essick Pro 12 mortar mixer plus an addition \$10,000 in cash and prizes.

This marks the third time Fred Campbell has won the World Championship title, the first mason to claim that honor. The 47-year-old mason was excited to win again saying, “It’s great to be back on the podium. We put in a lot of work this year to make sure we came out on top.”

Mason Darian Douthit of Providence Masonry of Miami, OK took home the title SPEC MIX TOP CRAFTSMAN®, which goes to the mason whose wall was voted “most sellable,” by a 30-judge panel. For this honor Douthit is taking home a ROXOR Off-Road side-by-side sport utility vehicle.

Douthit is a repeat SPEC MIX TOP CRAFTSMAN winner, and took top honors with 550 qualifying brick laid with no deductions. “My goal was to take home the ROXOR, I’m going up against such tough competitors, it’s great to be considered one of the best.”

Standing beside first place and craftsman in the winners’ circle, second place honors went to last year’s World Champion, Mario Alves and tender Michael Alves of A&M Masonry in Hamilton, ON. Alves laid 735 brick to win \$4,000 and over \$1,500 in sponsor prizes.

Commonly referred to as the “Super Bowl of Masonry,” the bricklaying battle took place on Wednesday, Feb. 5th in the heart of the Masonry Madness® Day arena at the World of Concrete trade show in Las Vegas. Before a bricklayer is eligible to compete in the SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500® World Championship, they must first qualify by winning one of 24 Regional Series competitions held across North America. This earns them a shot at taking down the returning World Champion or SPEC MIX TOP CRAFTSMAN® title holders.

Four additional events were held in the Bronze Lot during Masonry Madness Day, rounding out 6 hours of masonry competitions. The MCAA’s Masonry Skills Challenge, MCAA’s Fastest Trowel on the Block, the SPEC MIX TOUGHEST TENDER and the JR. SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500.

SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500®

The SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500® World Championship Event is renowned as the top attraction for the World of Concrete trade show. The competition arena was filled with a crowd of over 6,000 spectators who witnessed an intense battle between 26 bricklayer and mason tender teams that raced against a 60-minute clock to build a 26 foot long brick wall. Representing the the best of North America, the duos worked at a tirelessly to install as many brick as possible while following strict quality workmanship standards. The bricklayer’s walls were judged by 30 highly experienced masonry experts, enforcing 10 sets of craftsmanship requirements. The SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 is recognized as the masonry industry’s only true test of skill, speed and stamina that annually awards the title “World’s Best Bricklayer” and total purse of over \$125,000 in cash and prizes including a new Ford F-250 4x4 XLT Super Duty truck and a ROXOR Off-Road Side by Side Sport Utility Vehicle. To see the full list of top ten finishers, visit: WWW.SPECMIX.COM

1st Place:

Mason: Fred Campbell
Tender: Tony Shelton
City: Greeneville, TN
Company: Creative Masonry
Brick Count: 756

2nd Place:

Mason: Mario Alves
Tender: Michael Alves
City: Hamilton, ON
Company: A&M Masonry
Brick Count: 735

3rd Place:

Mason: Jacob Ramirez
Tender: Miguel Contreras
City: Houston, TX
Company: Ranch Masonry
Brick Count: 719

The prizes for each category include:

1st Place:

- New Ford F-250 4x4 XLT Super Duty Truck
- \$5,000 check, SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 World Champion Jacket and 1st Place Trophy from SPEC MIX®
- ESSICKPRO 12 Mortar Mixer
- STIHL TSA 230 battery-powered cut-off machine, w/ accessories
- iQ Power Tools iQMS362 Table Saw Set w/ accessories and iQ Jacket
- Blaklader \$1,000 gift certificate
- STABILA Custom Trophy 24" level and plaque
- Marshalltown trophy trowel & loaded SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 tool bag
- GATORBACK Mortarboards - 10 pack

2nd Place:

- \$4,000 check from SPEC MIX
- Marshalltown loaded tool bag
- STIHL TSA 230 Cutquik Battery Powered Cut-Off Machine w/ accessories
- Blaklader \$750 gift certificate
- Stabila Custom trophy 24" level plaque
- Gatorback Mortarboards - 10 pack
- \$250 iQ gift pack, iQ Jacket and shirt from IQ Power Tools

3rd Place:

- \$3,000 check from SPEC MIX
- Marshalltown loaded tool bag
- \$700 product certificate from STIHL
- Blaklader \$500 gift certificate
- STABILA custom trophy 24" level plaque
- GATORBACK Mortarboards - 10 pack
- \$250 iQ gift pack, iQ Jacket and shirt from IQ Power Tools

SPEC MIX TOP CRAFTSMAN

The SPEC MIX TOP CRAFTSMAN® Award is the second most coveted title and prize package for the SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 and is given to the bricklayer who builds what judges deem the “most sellable wall” with over 500 brick and zero quality deductions.

Mason: Darian Douthit
Tender: Andy Zepeda
City: Miami, OK
Company: Providence Masonry
Brick Count: 550

- \$5,000 check from SPEC MIX
- Marshalltown Ceremonial Trophy Trowel and Tool Bag
- STIHL TSA 230 Cutquik Battery-Powered Cut-Off Machine w/ accessories
- iQ Power Tools iQMS362 Table Saw Set w/ accessories
- Blaklader \$1,000 gift certificate
- STABILA custom trophy 24” level and plaque
- GATORBACK Mortarboards - 10 pack

MCAA’s Masonry Skills Challenge

MCAA’s Masonry Skills Challenge is the national championship of masonry apprentices in first, second and third year skill levels. The contest consists of 31 aspiring masons who are given three hours to showcase their skills by challenging the winning apprentices from numerous regional U.S. and foreign competitions to determine the top masonry apprentice at each level. This exciting competition spotlights the industry’s finest young masons and focuses attention on careers in the masonry industry. Below are the 2020 Masonry Skills Challenge apprentice winners.

1st Year Apprentices

- First place (\$750): Wade Taylor - Huntley Brothers, Mint Hill, NC
- Second place (\$500): Jesse Steele - BAC 4 IN/KY Apprenticeship Program - Merrville, IN
- Third place (\$250): Ty’Shawn Pettway - Lovell’s Masonry, Columbia, TN

2nd Year Apprentices

- First place (\$750):
- Second place (\$500): Sebastian Drawdy - Leidel & Hart, Livonia, MI
- Third place (\$250): Jace Huntley - Huntley, Brothers, Mint Hill, NC

3rd Year Apprentices

- First place (\$750): Jake Freeman - Adams Masonry, INC. Chattanooga, TN
- Second place (\$500): David Sandoval - Jimmy’Z Masonry Corporation, Crystal Lake, IL
- Third place (\$250): Jean Carroll - Wave Crest Masonry - Inverness, FL

The SPEC MIX TOUGHEST TENDER® Competition is a combination of speed and detail that requires each of the 26 mason tenders of the SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 to strategically lift, carry and place thousands of pounds of materials and tools needed to set up the bricklayer's defined workstation. This year's SPEC MIX TOUGHEST TENDER title went to Rich Small with D.M. Sabia in Conshocken, PA. Small completed with a time of 14 minutes and 55 seconds, earning himself \$2500 from SPEC MIX and other great sponsor prizes.

- \$2,500 check & SPEC MIX TOUGHEST TENDER® Trophy from SPEC MIX
- STIHL \$700 Product Certificate
- iQ POWER TOOLS \$200 iQ gift pack & iQ jacket
- BLAKLADER \$500 Gift Certificate
- MARSHALLTOWN loaded SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 tool bag

MCAA's Fastest Trowel on the Block

The Fastest Trowel on the Block Competition, hosted by the Mason Contractors Association of America, is a showcase of industry craftsmanship and a testament of both the speed and skill of our industry's workforce. Only those journeymen masons who have the skill, confidence and courage to face-off with the industry's best are invited to compete. This is a contest that also proves how important teamwork is in accomplishing a final product.

The competition will pit journeyman masons, accompanied by their favorite tender, against one another in a show of both speed and craftsmanship. Each contestant's goal is to complete as much of a 30 foot long wall as possible, using 8"x8"x16" CMU and the provided mortar in a twenty-minute heat. Contestants must have a high degree of workmanship using normal masonry practices and hand tools.

The contest promotes quality training and pride in workmanship among journeymen and contractors, as well as promoting the craftsmanship, speed and versatility of masonry systems and the masonry workforce. This contest also rewards and highlights the country's best mason journeymen for their hard work and dedication to the trade.

1st Place (\$8,000): Mason Gerardo Patlan, Tender Roberto Patlan - Adams Fence, LLC - Phoenix, AZ - Block Count: 136

2nd Place (\$2,500): Mason Noe Martinez, Tender Heriberto Mendoza - Sargon Masonry - Phoenix, AZ - Block Count: 125

3rd Place (\$1,500): Mason Roberto Cimental, Tender Saul Escarega - Arizona State Masonry - Phoenix, AZ - Block Count: 141

For more information on these events go to:

SPECMIX BRICKLAYER 500® WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP & SPEC MIX TOUGHEST TENDER®

WWW.SPECMIX.COM or go to [The 2020 SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 World Championship Digital Magazine](#) that will give you a history and background of the Regional Qualifying Series and World Championship competition program.

MCAA FASTEST TROWEL ON THE BLOCK

For more information on this event go to: <http://www.fastesttrowel.com/>

MCAA MASONRY SKILLS CHALLENGE

For more information on this event go to: <http://www.masoncontractors.org/masonry-skills-challenge/>

2020 World of Concrete: <http://www.worldofconcrete.com>

Additional information:

SPEC MIX® is the construction industry's national source for high quality; factory preblended cement-based building products for the construction industry. With more than 60 manufacturing facilities in all major markets across the US and Canada, SPEC MIX production plants utilize state of the art batching equipment and the finest materials to ensure total quality control throughout your project. In addition to its full line of masonry, stucco and specialty cementitious products, SPEC MIX offers various silo systems to maximize a contractor's proficiency and safety rating. The mission of SPEC MIX is to provide the industry with solutions that keep construction crews going, moving and working safely—all day, every day.

The Mason Contractors Association of America (MCAA) is the national trade association representing mason contractors. The MCAA is committed to preserving and promoting the masonry industry by providing continuing education, advocating fair codes and standards, fostering a safe work environment, recruiting future manpower, and marketing the benefits of masonry materials.

MCAA was incorporated in 1950. Its purpose is to help educate, train, and represent the mason contractor through its various programs aiding members to maintain its competitive edge against other construction methods. In addition, the MCAA promotes the use of masonry, recruits and assists in training of the industries workforce, impacts federal legislative and standard issues affecting contractors and provides educational programs for the key employees of member firms.

World of Concrete is the industry's ONLY annual international event dedicated to the commercial concrete and masonry construction industries. Featuring indoor and outdoor exhibits with the industry's leading suppliers showcasing innovative products and technologies, exciting demonstrations and competitions, and a world-class education program. Visit www.worldofconcrete.com for complete show details

NOTE USE OF TERMS: Please respect all legal trademarks for trade use. In print, the correct way to refer to the competition event is the 2020 SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500® World Championship, and MASONRY MADNESS® or MASONRY MADNESS® Day, case use as shown. The award titles for SPEC MIX TOP CRAFTSMAN®, and SPEC MIX TOUGHEST TENDER® should be in all caps followed by the word, "award." When writing about our corporation the correct way to write our corporate name is SPEC MIX®. If referring to SPEC MIX brand the correct way is SPEC MIX®. The ® mark should always be used on the 2020 SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500®, and SPEC MIX® the first time either term is used in body copy and always used when either term is in a headline or sub-headline. The same is correct for MASONRY MADNESS® or MASONRY MADNESS® Day.

If any of these title terms are used for mass media news or editorial use, we ask that the full term be used at least once at the beginning of the article, thereafter, "event or competition" would be acceptable terms. Please do not cut, rename or edit the legal trademarked name of the event so as to maintain the legal brand name and its integrity.

If you have any questions regarding this event, need images, video footage or logos, contact Greg Hutchinson by email: greg.hutchinson@specmix.com, or phone 316-650-8419.