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DTM – Stars and Stories from the Sachsenring

Hohenstein-Ernstthal. There was plenty going on away from the track during the DTM weekend at the Sachsenring, which was graced by many guests from the worlds of sport and entertainment. Discus icon Lars Riedel was on hand to present a trophy, actress Claudia Schmutzler crowned the most creative Trabi in the Red Bull Renpappe, and legendary referee Dr. Felix Brych visited the DTM. Two Olympic champions also paid a visit: luger Max Langenhan and bobsleigh driver Jörn Wenzel checked out the DTM cars at close quarters. A weekend full of Eastern nostalgia, sporting prominence, and motorsport passion.

Strong appearance: Discus legend Riedel presents trophy at the Sachsenring

Lars Riedel was back at a DTM race weekend on Saturday for the first time for two years. The Olympic gold medallist and five-time world champion was impressed by the event. "I always find it astounding how many people the DTM attracts. That is partly down to the passion, with which the drivers and teams go about their business here. They are all hungry to be here and taste success. It is impressive to experience it. I love the sound of the different manufacturers. You could identify the cars just by their sound in qualifying," said Riedel. After the race, the discus thrower presented the trophy to the top team, Schubert Motorsport.

High-profile visit from Niners Chemnitz basketball stars

Niners Chemnitz returned to action after a four-month break with their first competitive match on Saturday. Saxony's best ballers took on second-division outfit Gießen in the Netto BBL Cup, and won 77:70. After the successful start to the season, the players took the opportunity to visit the Sachsenring on Sunday for a taste of the DTM. "To be honest, I never thought I would be on the grid for a DTM race one day. We were given a tour by Mercedes-AMG Team Landgraf, and were given a lot of fascinating insights. I found it super interesting, said power forward Mateo Šerić.

TV partner broadcast 150th DTM race on Sunday

A milestone was reached at the Sachsenring: on Sunday, ProSiebenSat.1 broadcast its 150th DTM race live on free-to-air TV. The Munich-based broadcasting group became TV partner of the series in 2018, since when it has shown every race live on ProSieben. As usual, the team of presenter Andrea Kaiser, commentator Tobias Schimon, reporter Mike Stiefelbogen, and expert David Schumacher, began their coverage at 13:00. "The DTM and racing have become like a real family to me. Over the years, we have formed many friendships. Coming to the racetrack never feels like work to me. I really enjoy the DTM," said Kaiser.

Cult car parade with the Red Bull Rennpappe: Trabis take over the Sachsenring

After a fun rally through the Saxon Uplands, 50 Trabants made their way to the Sachsenring on Saturday. As part of the Red Bull Rennpappe, the individually designed cult cars from the GDR completed a lap of the undulating track with their two-stroke engines, to great applause from the spectators. Actress Claudia Schmutzler then honoured the most creative Trabant with the "Golden Rennpappe" award. This award is a homage to the Duroplast chassis of the cult car, which is known colloquially as the "Rennpappe" (cardboard racer). Schmutzler knows the legendary car well: she played the part of Jacqueline, daughter of the Struutz family, in the cinema hit "Go Trabi Go". Rather appropriately, the cult film from 1991 was shown on the big screen at the drive-in cinema at the Sachsenring on Saturday evening. Schmutzler was impressed: "It has been a nice and chilled event. Trabi fans are loving people, you always notice that. The lap here at the Sachsenring was mega. I would have loved to have gone round the track at 180 kilometres per hour. One thing became clear to me out there on the track: I am going to be a racing driver in my next life."

Cult car, instead of horsepower monster: Drift ace Hountondji gets the Trabi smoking

Elias Hountondji usually gets the tyres smoking on BMW cars with over 1,000 horsepower. On Sunday, however, the Red Bull Drift Brother swapped his powerful BMW for a cult chassis from GDR times ahead of the DTM race at the Sachsenring: at the wheel of a modified Trabant, the man from Ingolstadt put on a drift show for fans in Saxony. For years, Hountondji has been one of Europe's top drivers on the drift scene, and is usually to be found behind the steering wheel of highly-tuned BMW models like the M4 Competition and the M2. Spectators at the Sachsenring revelled in the unusual drifting combination of Eastern nostalgia and motorsport. Fans can also look forward to seeing the Drift Brothers at the season finale in Hockenheim.

Thuringia's Olympic champion Max Langenhan cheers on the DTM drivers

Olympic champion Max Langehan travelled to the Sachsenring from Ernströda on Sunday, in order to watch race 14 of the DTM season live. This was pretty much a home outing for the man from Thuringia. The luger's greatest success came in 2026 in Milan-Cortina, where he became the first German gold medallist of the Winter Games in the single luge. Langenhan sent the field into the 14th race of the season with the "Drivers start your engines" sign. "I was thrilled to receive the invitation from Haupt Racing Team. I am a big motorsport fan, and the title race is getting more exciting all the time, particularly in the closing stages of the season," said Langenhan.

Race car instead of whistle: Dr. Felix Brych watches the DTM

Dr. Felix Brych paid the Sachsenring a fleeting visit on Sunday. The former football referee called time on his successful national and international career last year, since when he has been a regular guest at the DTM. Brych was present again at the penultimate race weekend, where he sampled the atmosphere in the paddock and had a special task to perform: On Sunday, the two-time "World's Best Referee" presented the trophy to the winning team on the

DTM podium. "I really enjoy watching motor racing, and have followed the DTM for 25 years. It is always great to be there live," said Brych.

Olympic bobsleigh champion Jörn Wenzel gives the starting signal

Jörn Wenzel enjoyed his first visit to the DTM on Saturday at the Sachsenring. The gold medallist in the four-man bobsleigh at the 2026 Winter Games in Milan-Cortina strolled through the paddock and took a close look at the race cars in the garages. "I am a motorsport enthusiast, especially as I, as a bobsledder, am also at home in a form of racing - even if it is on ice," revealed Wenzel, who was at the Sachsenring as a guest of DTM partner Schaeffler. His summary: "As we do, racing drivers must be at the limit and make the right decision in the blink of an eye. Despite this, there is a friendly atmosphere here. Compared to Formula 1, you are much closer to the drivers and cars. The DTM is simply a cool series." The bobsleigh athlete gave the sign for the drivers to start their engines on Saturday afternoon, before sending the drivers into race 13 of the season.

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