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DAVID HIGGINS WINS 2014 OREGON TRAIL RALLY, TRAVIS PASTRANA 2ND IN 1-2 FINISHED FOR SUBARU RALLY TEAM USA

Cherry Hill, N.J., May 5, 2014 - Defending Rally America Champion David Higgins has won the 2014 Oregon Trail Rally over his teammate Travis Pastrana after a massive comeback that came down to the last two stages of the three-day, 18 stage event. Pastrana had led the Oregon Trail Rally from the first stages and held his lead through all three days of competition until the penultimate stage, where two flat tires combined with a hard charging David Higgins forced Pastrana to relinquish the lead and settle for second overall. Pastrana and Higgins each drove Vermont SportsCar-prepared 2014 Subaru WRX STI rally cars in what was a Subaru dominated event with the top five finishers at the wheel of Subaru rally cars. Higgins' supremacy in Oregon is further solidified with this being his fourth win in a row and sixth total, having won every Oregon Trail Rally he has entered.

The Oregon Trail Rally represents round three of the 2014 Rally America National Championship. The event began with unique mixed gravel and tarmac stages at Portland International Raceway and then moved to the scenic yet challenging gravel roads around the Hood River and Dufur regions east of Portland for the bulk of the event. The Oregon Trail Rally will air on NBC Sports Network on June 1, 2014 at 6pm EDT.

"We had nothing to lose and pushed like mad in places, it's a shame Travis (Pastrana) had his tire issue at the very end but it was a good fight," explained Higgins. "I'm so happy for the team; a Subaru 1-2 finish is great. This is now my sixth win here and we definitely worked for this one!"

The Oregon Trail Rally was the second event back with the Subaru team for Travis Pastrana after over three years away from the sport. Pastrana has been getting up to speed with his new 2014 Subaru WRX STI while working for the first time with veteran co-driver Chrissie Beavis. The duo were clearly another step faster in Oregon and took the lead of the event early, winning three of the four stages held on day one.

David Higgins and co-driver Craig Drew hit trouble early on the second day-two, driving 14 miles of a stage with a punctured and then destroyed tire and dropping over a minute to Pastrana in the process. As Higgins began to charge back he was then hit with time penalties for allegedly hitting cones in a chicane, thus putting himself even farther behind Pastrana. Although Higgins won all but one of second day's eight stages he found himself still nearly 40 seconds adrift of Pastrana at the start of the final day.

Higgins and Drew had just six stages covering 40 miles to make up those 40 seconds and they went flat out to do so. Winning every stage of the final day, they whittled Pastrana's lead down to 6.2 seconds with just two stages remaining.

The battle between the two teammates would end on the next stage though as Pastrana was struck with two flat tires in the stage losing several minutes and the lead. Pastrana was able to continue and retain second Overall.

"It was great to start off so well and grab the lead on the tarmac stages, maybe my NASCAR experienced helped there!" joked Travis Pastrana at the podium. "I definitely felt more comfortable at this event but I'm still getting up to speed and learning my new Subaru. We went flat out in spots and it was great to be competitive against David, but I think even without our tire issue at the end he probably would have got us either way, but it was fun to have a battle like that all day."

About Subaru Rally Team USA

Subaru Rally Team USA is managed by Vermont SportsCar and proudly supported by Subaru of America, Inc., Subaru Tecnica International (STI), Method Race Wheels, Royal Purple, RECARO, PIAA and Race Proven. Follow the team on twitter: [@srtusa](#), Instagram: [@srtusa](#) and online at www.subaru.com/rally

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Subaru of America, Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Fuji Heavy Industries Ltd. of Japan. Headquartered in Cherry Hill, N.J., the company markets and distributes Subaru Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive vehicles, parts and accessories through a network of more than 600 dealers across the United States. All Subaru products are manufactured in zero-landfill production plants and Subaru of Indiana Automotive Inc. is the only U.S. automobile production plant to be designated a backyard wildlife habitat by the National Wildlife Federation. For additional information visit www.subaru.com.

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