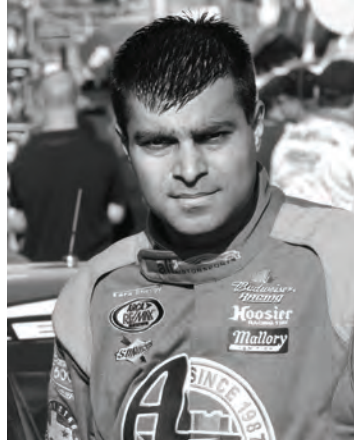


10,000 HOURS

Malcolm Gladwell's book *Outliers: The Story of Success* offers a formula for success—being born at the right place and time and investing at least 10,000 hours in pursuit of your goal. It's about being focused and impassioned and pursuing a dream. Meet one of AU's outliers: auto racing wonk Nur Ali, SIS/BA '98.



1975 Moved to Germany.

1974 Born in Karachi, Pakistan.



1983 Family moved to Fort Worth, Texas. Learned English. Watched NASCAR. Dale Earnhardt Sr. was his favorite driver.



1994-1998 Watched auto racing on TV. Drove his Mercedes coupe on the D.C. Beltway "to get my fix."

1994 Graduated from high school with dreams of becoming a race car driver. Father insisted he earn a college degree first.

2005 Became driver for the (now defunct) Pakistani A1 Grand Prix World Cup of Motorsport team. Promoted the team in Lahore, Pakistan, with then president Musharraf.



2007 Transitioned from open-wheel racing to stock-car racing.



2009 Suffered worst crash, at Daytona.

2008 Debuted in the ARCA Racing Series at Daytona International Speedway.



1978 Recalls watching Formula 1 (the world's preeminent racing circuit) on TV and riding on the Autobahn at 140 mph in his father's Mercedes.



1985 Earned go-kart license at the Malibu Grand Prix in Dallas.

1986-1990

At 12 he went with his father to parking lots to drive. "I sat on his lap and steered."

1993 Became a Jeff Gordon fan.



1998 Graduated from SIS. Told his father "it's time to race" and attended a racing school in Ohio. Drove competitively for the first time in a Skip Barber Southern Series race in Sebring, Florida.



1998-1999 Wrote to hundreds of corporate sponsors and was routinely rejected. The family recruited locals as crew members and bought two race cars, including an open-wheel Star Mazda.

1999-2005 Rented tracks in Texas and Oklahoma to practice, driving "until the sun went down."

2006-2007

Raced in 12 countries. Best finish was a top 10 in Durban, South Africa, in his V8, Indy-style, open-wheel car.



2000 Local Budweiser distributor became his first major sponsor.

2012 Finished 33rd in his first NASCAR event, the Nationwide Series Kansas Lottery 300, becoming the first Pakistani American to compete in the top racing circuit in the U.S.

2013 Competing in the ARCA series and working toward his ultimate goal: driving in NASCAR's Sprint Cup Series.

