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RACING THIS WEEK

TRUCKS BURNOUT ALERT! Chandler Smith celebrates after winning Friday's Black's Tire 200 at Martinsville Speedway. **D. Jensen/Getty**



O'REILLY RECAP

• **Saturday's** NATIONAL DEBT RELIEF 250, Martinsville Speedway



WINNER: CARSON KVAPIL

Carson Kvapil book-ended Saturday's Halloween evening at Martinsville, leading early and llate to claim his third O'Reilly victory of the season in the National Debt Relief 250.

It was A clutch performance for the North Carolinian, who won the pole position and led the most laps on the day – 121 of 250 – in the No. 1 JR Motorsports Chevrolet to keep himself in the championship heading to Miami for Saturday's season finale.

Ultimately, Kvapil had to hold off his JRM teammate, Justin Allgaier, for the win by .434-second over Allgaier, who leaves Virginia the new championship leader by 22 points over Jesse Love.

Corey Day was third joining those three drivers atop the standings and positioning themselves for a thrilling season finale to decide the title.

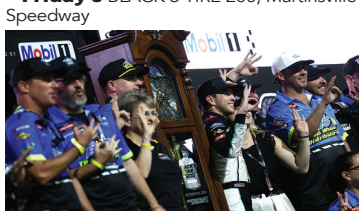
Allgaier leads Love by 22 points with Day 23 points back and Kvapil now 31 points out. Haas Factory Team driver Sheldon Creed finished sixth at Martinsville – good enough to keep him in the championship mix. He's ranked fifth, 42 points behind Allgaier.

The series' championship leader coming into the race, Richard Childress Racing's Love, had endured a tough night all night. He finished 30th, dropping him from the lead into second.

Brandon Jones finished fourth followed by Sam Mayer and Creed. Sammy Smith was seventh with William Sawalich, Brent Crews and Taylor Gray rounding out the top-10.

TRUCKS RECAP

• **Friday's** BLACK'S TIRE 200, Martinsville Speedway



WINNER: CHANDLER SMITH

Chandler Smith muscled to the lead on a restart with 12 laps remaining to take the trophy in Friday's Black's Tires 200 at Martinsville (Va) Speedway.

The 24-year old Georgia-native pulled ahead of his Front Row Motorsports teammate and the night's most dominant driver, Layne Riggs, who started alongside him on the front row for that final green-flag run. And while Smith went on to earn his first famous Martinsville grandfather clock trophy – by .574-second over ThorSport Racing's Ben Rhodes – the outcome ultimately made his teammate Riggs' title hopes just a bit harder heading into Friday's championship finale.

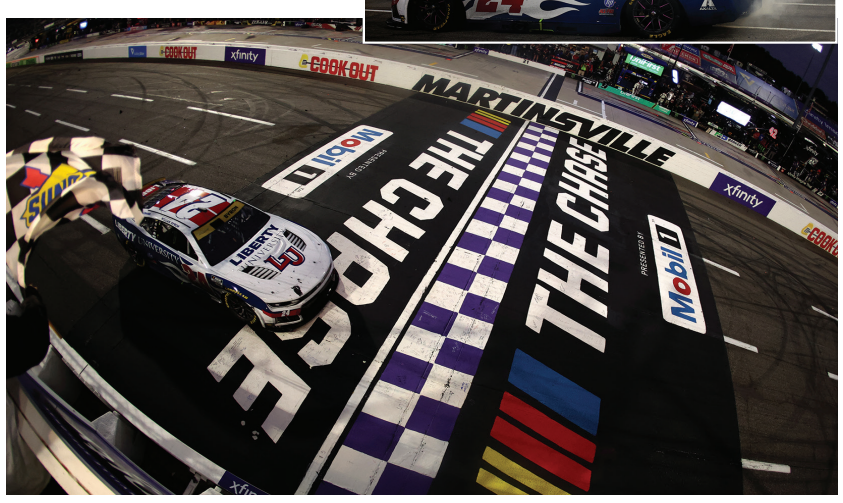
Riggs, who finished third, now trails TRICON driver Kaden Honeycutt by 20 points with one race remaining to settle the title. Had Riggs, who swept both stage wins and led a race best 156 of the 200 laps won, he would have taken the points lead by one point.

Honeycutt finished 14th, ran top-10 most of the night but did not lead. Ty Majeski finished fourth. Tristan McKee was fifth after becoming the youngest driver in history to win a pole position in the truck series. Andres Perez de Lara was sixth with Tyler Ankrum, Gio Ruggero, William Sawalich and Christian Eckes rounding out top-10.

XFINITY 500

William Byron led a dominating 362 of the 500 laps at the historic .524-mile Martinsville Speedway Sunday, ultimately claiming a 2.049-second victory over Hendrick teammate Chase Elliott.





William Byron, driver of the #24 Liberty University Chevrolet, takes the checkered flag to win the Cup Series Xfinity 500 at Martinsville Speedway on Sunday. (David Jensen/Getty)

Byron grabs first win of the season at Martinsville

MARTINSVILLE, Va. – William Byron claimed his first victory of the season in Sunday's Cup Series Xfinity 500 at Martinsville (Va.) Speedway and his Hendrick Motorsports teammate Kyle Larson put himself into championship position with one Chase race to go.

The 28-year-old Charlotte native Byron led 362 of the 500 laps at the historic .524-mile speedway, ultimately claiming a 2.049-second victory over Hendrick teammate Chase Elliott. It was the most laps that Byron had led in a single race in his nine-year career in NASCAR's premier series and resulted in his fourth win at the track, the 17th victory of his career.

His No. 24 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet was so dominant that Byron swept both stage wins and was able to put all but seven cars in the 37-car field a lap down by the checkered flag.

"We're always pretty good here," Byron said smiling in understatement.

"Man, it's been a long road this year and this team's worked really hard and I just appreciate them. We've had our struggles but today feels damn good. Man, we never quit and there's something to be said about that."

Beyond Byron's pace out front to deliver the Hendrick team its 32nd Martinsville victory, the drivers still chasing down the 2026 championship trophy had an eventful afternoon. Polesitter and Joe Gibbs Racing's Denny Hamlin, who came into the race ranked second to Larson, finished sixth. Larson finished ninth and JGR's Christopher Bell was 10th.

Heading to the Cup Series Championship Race Sunday at Homestead-Miami, Larson now only needs to finish 28th or better – or simply gain nine points – to hoist his third career championship trophy.

He holds a 67-point lead on Bell and a 70-point advantage over Hamlin heading to South Florida. They are now the only three drivers still eligible for the title.

"I absolutely will feel some pressure this week," Larson conceded. "I know it's a large gap. Crazy things can happen. Just got to go there and execute like we have all Chase, yeah, just be ready to capitalize."

The reigning series champion Larson won the race held last spring at the Homestead 1.5-mile oval and should he claim the title, the 33-year-old Californian would become only the 10th driver in NASCAR's 78-year history to win three championships or more.

An unsuccessful strategy call early in the race essentially forced Larson and Martinsville pole winner Hamlin to play catch up early in the going.

Unlike most of the field, neither Larson's nor Hamlin's teams opted to pit mid-stage in the opening 160-lap Stage. But left on older tires they could not keep the top five pace they had shown in the opening laps and their competition who did pit was able to blow by.

The loss of track position forced a change to their strategy with Larson going down a lap and Hamlin falling to the rear of the lead lap. And Hamlin said the setback really proved too much to recover from.

Bell, who steers the No. 20 JGR Toyota, was not immune from challenges. After running top 10 for much of the early race, it looked like he would benefit from some fortunate pit stop timing – having been on pit road when a caution came out on lap 198. But he was issued a speeding penalty on pit exit and dropped from what would have been the lead to 14th position on the restart.

Then only a handful of laps later, Bell collided with his teammate Hamlin after slight contact from Team Penske's Joey Logano in Turn 2 – all fighting for position. There wasn't any significant damage and the two JGR cars returned to track. Larson was also able to get his lap back on the yellow that came out for the incident.

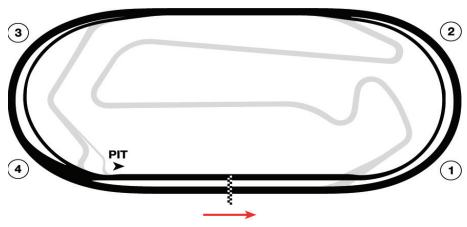
The longest green flag run (230 laps) in nearly 40 years closed out the race, however, and all three were able to rally forward for their top 10 finishes.

JGR's Ty Gibbs ran among the top five for most of the day and finished third with Wood Brothers' Josh Berry and Trackhouse Racing's Shane van Gisbergen finishing fourth and fifth – quite a showing for the New Zealander SvG, who started 29th.

Richard Childress Racing's Austin Dillon finished seventh, just behind Hamlin. 23XI Racing's Bubba Wallace, Larson and Bell completed the top 10.

And so, it all comes down to Sunday's Cup Series Championship Race at Homestead-Miami Speedway (3 p.m. ET, NBC, MRN, SiriusXM NASCAR Radio) where Larson arrives the defending winner and all three championship-eligible drivers have previously hoisted trophies.

CUP CHASE CHAMPIONSHIP



Homestead-Miami Speedway
3 p.m. ET Sunday, NBC

For the first time since 2019, champions will be crowned in South Florida, as the NASCAR Chase returns.

Location: 1 Ralph Sanchez Speedway Boulevard, Homestead, Florida
Track type: Oval
Surface: Asphalt
Capacity: 43,000
Owner: City of Homestead
Operator: NASCAR (2019-present)
Opened: November 3, 1995
Length: 1.5 miles
Banking: Turns, 18–20°; Straights, 4°
Cup lap record: Brad Keselowski, 29.816 seconds, 181.238 mph
Inaugural Cup race: Pennzoil 400 , Nov. 14, 1999; winner Tony Stewart



Kyle Larson won the Cup Chase championship at Phoenix last year, with a third place finish. Will he hoist the hardware in Miami? GETTY

2026 CUP SERIES STANDINGS

*Top 30 w/ **Playoff 16** as of Nov. 1*

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Kyle Larson Chevy	2469	16 Chris Buescher Ford	2199
2 Chris Bell Toyota	2402	17 S v Gisbergen Chevrolet	771
3 Denny Hamlin Toyota	2399	18 Ross Chastain Chevrolet	742
4 Chase Briscoe Toyota	2385	19 Brad Keselowski Ford	714
5 Joey Logano Ford	2366	20 Mike McDowell Chevy	664
6 Tyler Reddick Toyota	2344	21 Josh Berry Ford	652
7 Ryan Blaney Ford	2336	22 Todd Gilliland Ford	637
8 Ty Gibbs Toyota	2309	23 Erik Jones Toyota	626
9 William Byron Chevy	2303	24 Austin Dillon Chevrolet	596
10 Chase Elliott Chevy	2268	25 AJ Allmendinger Chevy	592
11 Austin Cindric Ford	2263	26 Alex Bowman Chevrolet	569
12 Car. Hocevar Chevy	2259	27 Zane Smith Ford	559
13 Bubba Wallace Toy.	2257	28 Ricky Stenhouse Chevy	522
14 Ryan Preece Ford	2214	29 J H Nemechek Toyota	510
15 Daniel Suarez Chevy	2210	30 Riley Herbst Toyota	491

2026 O'REILLY AUTO PARTS STANDINGS

*Top 20 w/ **Playoff 12** as of Oct. 31*

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Justin Allgaier #7	2436	11 Parker Retzlaff #99	2226
2 Jesse Love #2	2414	12 Rajah Caruth #88	2205
3 Corey Day #17	2413	13 Brent Crews #19	834
4 Carson Kvapil #1	2405	14 William Sawalich #18	810
5 Sheldon Creed #00	2394	15 Ryan Sieg #39	733
6 Sam Mayer #41	2339	16 Anthony Alfredo #96	717
7 Sammy Smith #8	2329	17 Dean Thompson #26	616
8 Taylor Gray #54	2277	18 Brennan Poole #44	595
9 Brandon Jones #20	2253	19 Jeremy Clements #51	558
10 Austin Hill #21	2239	20 Harrison Burton #24	557

NEXT RACE: O'REILLY AUTO PARTS SERIES CHAMPIONSHIP, Miami, 5 p.m. ET Saturday, CW

2026 CRAFTSMAN TRUCK STANDINGS

*Top 20 w/ **Playoff 10** as of Oct. 30*

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Kad. Honeycutt #11	2403	11 Jake Garcia #98	584
2 Layne Riggs #34	2383	12 Stewart Friesen #52	499
3 Chandler Smith #38	2300	13 Tanner Gray #15	499
4 Ty Majeski #88	2275	14 Brenden Queen #12	497
5 Christian Eckes #91	2263	15 A. Perez De Lara #44	483
6 Gio Ruggiero #17	2224	16 Justin Haley #16	478
7 Ben Rhodes #99	2217	17 Corey Heim #1	380
8 Daniel Hemric #19	2199	18 Dawson Sutton #27	366
9 Tyler Ankrum #18	2193	19 Cole Butcher #13	363
10 Grant Enfinger #9	2178	20 Landen Lewis #45	352

NEXT RACE: CRAFTSMAN TRUCK SERIES CHAMPIONSHIP, Miami, 7:30 p.m. ET Friday, FS1

XFINITY 500 WINNER QUOTE

"We're always pretty good here. Man, it's been a long road this year and this team's worked really hard and I just appreciate them. We've had our struggles but today feels damn good. Man, we never quit and there's something to be said about that."
— William Byron, who claimed his first victory of the season Sunday at Martinsville



William Byron in Victory Lane Sunday at Martinsville. JARED C. TILTON/GETTY

BONUS O'REILLY PIC



Eventual winner Carson Kvapil, driver of the #1 Bass Pro Shops Chevrolet, battles up front with Corey Day, driver of the #17 HendrickCars.com Chevrolet, during Saturday's National Debt Relief 250 at Martinsville Speedway. Day would go on to finish 3rd. **M. Oliphant/Getty**

2026 CUP SCHEDULE & WINNERS

FEB. 4, 3 PM, FOX: Cook Out Clash at BOWMAN GRAY (**R. Preece**)
FEB. 12, 7 PM, FS1: America 250 Florida Duel 1 at DAYTONA (**J. Logano**)
FEB. 12, 8:45 PM, FS1: America 250 Florida Duel 2 at DAYTONA (**C. Elliott**)
FEB. 15, 2:30 PM, FOX: DAYTONA 500 (**T. Reddick**)
FEB. 22, 3 PM FOX: AutoTrader 400 at ECHOPARK ATLANTA (**T. Reddick**)
MARCH 1, 3:30 PM, FOX: DuraMax Grand Prix at COTA (TX) (**T. Reddick**)
MARCH 8, 3:30 PM, FS1: Straight Talk Wireless 500 at PHOENIX (**R. Blaney**)
MARCH 15, 4 PM, FS1: Pennzoil 400 at LAS VEGAS (**D. Hamlin**)
MARCH 22, 3 PM, FS1: Goodyear 400 at DARLINGTON (**T. Reddick**)
MARCH 29, 3:30 PM, FS1: Cook Out 400 at MARTINSVILLE (**C. Elliott**)
APRIL 12, 3 PM, FS1: Food City 500 at BRISTOL (**T. Gibbs**)
APRIL 19, 2 PM, FOX: AdventHealth 400 at KANSAS (**T. Reddick**)
APRIL 26, 3 PM, FOX: Jack Link's 500 at TALLADEGA (**C. Hocevar**)
MAY 3, 3:30 PM, FS1: Würth 400 at TEXAS (**C. Elliott**)
MAY 10, 3 PM, FS1: Go Bowling at the Glen at WATKINS GLEN (**S. v. Gisbergen**)
MAY 17, 3 PM, FS1: NASCAR All-Star Race at DOVER (**D. Hamlin**)
MAY 24, 6 PM, PRIME: Coca-Cola 600 at CHARLOTTE (**D. Saurez**)
MAY 31, 7 PM, PRIME: Cracker Barrel 400 at NASHVILLE (**D. Hamlin**)
JUNE 7, 3 PM, PRIME: FireKeepers Casino 400 at MICHIGAN (**D. Hamlin**)
JUNE 14, 3 PM, PRIME: Great American Getaway 400 at POCONO (**D. Hamlin**)
JUNE 21, 4 PM, PRIME: Anduril 250 at NAVAL BASE CORONADO (**C. Heim**)
JUNE 28, 3:30 PM, TNT: Toyota/Save Mart 350 at SONOMA (**S. v. Gisbergen**)
JULY 5, 6 PM, TNT: eero 400 at CHICAGOLAND SPEEDWAY (**C. Briscoe**)
JULY 12, 7 PM, TNT: Quaker State 400 at ECHOPARK ATLANTA (**R. Blaney**)
JULY 19, 7 PM, TNT: Window World 400 at NORTH WILKESBORO (**J. Logano**)
JULY 26, 2 PM, TNT: Brickyard 400 at INDIANAPOLIS (**C. Heim**)
AUG. 9, 3:30 PM, USA: Iowa Corn 350 at IOWA (**T. Gibbs**)
AUG. 15, 7 PM, USA: Cook Out 400 at RICHMOND (**J. Logano**)
AUG. 23, 3 PM, USA: Dollar Tree 301 at NEW HAMPSHIRE (**R. Blaney**)
AUG. 29, 7:30 PM, NBC: Coke Zero Sugar 400 at DAYTONA (**R. Preece**)

PLAYOFFS ROUND OF 16
SEPT. 6, 5 PM, USA: Southern 500 at DARLINGTON (**C. Bell**)
SEPT. 13, 3 PM, USA: Enjoy Illinois 300 at WORLD WIDE TECH (**K. Larson**)
SEPT. 19, 7:30 PM, USA: Bass Pro Shops Night Race at BRISTOL (**J. Logano**)

PLAYOFFS ROUND OF 12
SEPT. 27, 3 PM, USA: Hollywood Casino 400 at KANSAS (**K. Larson**)
OCT. 4, 5:30 PM, USA: South Point 400 at LAS VEGAS (**C. Briscoe**)
OCT. 11, 3 PM, USA: BofA ROVAL 400 at CHARLOTTE (**C. Briscoe**)

PLAYOFFS ROUND OF 8
OCT. 18, 3 PM, USA: Freeway Insurance 500 at PHOENIX (**T. Reddick**)
OCT. 25, 2 PM, NBC: YellaWood 500 at TALLADEGA (**K. Larson**)
NOV. 1, 2 PM, NBC: Xfinity 500 at MARTINSVILLE (**W. Byron**)

PLAYOFFS CHAMPIONSHIP 4
NOV. 8, 3 PM, NBC: Championship at MIAMI (K. Larson title; R. Blaney race)

*2025 winners in parenthesis; **2026 winners in bold** as the schedule unfolds; times ET*



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