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RACING THIS WEEK



O'REILLY BURNOUT ALERT! Corey Day celebrates after winning Saturday's Focused Health 302 at Las Vegas. **S. Gardner/Getty**

O'REILLY RECAP

• **Saturday's** FOCUSED HEALTH 302, Las Vegas Motor Speedway



WINNER: COREY DAY

In one of the most thrilling finishes of the season, 20-year-old Hendrick Motorsports rookie driver Corey Day prevailed in a final laps back-and-forth with 23-year-old JR Motorsports' racer Carson Kvapil to claim his third career O'Reilly Series victory in Saturday's Focused Health 302 at Las Vegas.

Day and Kvapil exchanged the lead four times in the last 12 laps before Day made a daring pass with two laps remaining to solidify a trophy hoist decided by a slight .287-seconds.

"Oh man, I just was so tight there and so scared I was going to go down and plow on the bottom let him get by me," said a grinning Day, who started his No. 17 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet from pole position, won the opening stage and led a career high 136 of the 201 laps.

Kvapil, who like Day also earned his first career series wins this season (at Indianapolis and Iowa), was understandably disappointed to lose out on Saturday's victory, but also encouraged with the showing. It moved him into second place in the championship standings, now 19 points behind Haas Factory Team's Sheldon Creed, who finished 13th.

Reigning series champion Jesse Love finished just behind the duel up front, followed by William Sawalich, one of four drivers among the top-10 not Chase eligible, and Taylor Gray.

Haas Factory Team's Sam Mayer, another Chase-eligible driver , finished sixth having turned in an impressive comeback. He won Stage 2 and led 40 laps (second to Day) but had to rally from the rear of the field after a pit stop penalty during the Stage 2 break.

Non-Chase eligible drivers Jeremy Clements, William Sawalich, and Anthony Alfredo finished seventh, eighth and 10th respectively, with Chase driver Austin Hill taking ninth.

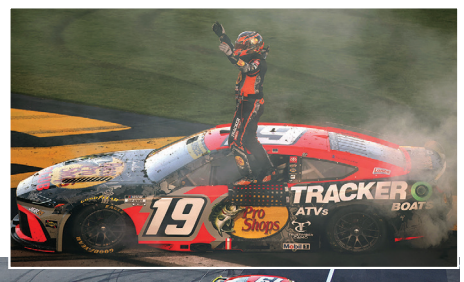
It was an especially impactful race for former series champion and the season's most productive team, JR Motorsports' Justin Allgaier. He was collected in an accident on Lap 55 with fellow Chase competitor, Joe Gibbs Racing's Brandon Jones.

Just after winning the race off pit road for the restart from the first stage break, Jones' No. 20 Toyota had a problem and drifted up into Allgaier's No. 7 Chevrolet in Turn 2 putting it into the wall. Both cars were towed back to the garage. Allgaier was able to return to the track with 84 laps remaining and made a single lap to move up a position in the race finishing order. Still, his 34th place result dropped the regular season champion from second to fourth in the standings, 31 points off leader Creed.

It was only the second DNF of the season for the six-race winner Allgaier, who held a 229-point advantage atop the regular season standings before the points reset for the Chase run.

The O'Reilly Auto Parts Series returns to action Saturday at Charlotte Motor Speedway with the Blue Cross NC 250 (4 p.m. ET on the CW, PRN, SiriusXM NASCAR Radio). This marks the first Fall race on the 1.5-mile Charlotte oval since 2017, when Alex Bowman hoisted the trophy driving for Chip Ganassi Racing.

SOUTH POINT 400
Chase Briscoe led a race-best 175 of the 267 laps, ultimately besting the field by 1.376-second to take his second Cup Series trophy of the season under Las Vegas temperatures in the mid-90s – one of the hottest race days of the season.





Chase Briscoe, driver of the #19 Bass Pro Shops Toyota, takes the checkered flag to win the Cup Series South Point 400 at Las Vegas Motor Speedway on Sunday. (Chris Graythen/Getty)

Vegas heat no problem for dominant Chase Briscoe

LAS VEGAS – Chase Briscoe left nothing to chance in the South Point 400 at Las Vegas Motor Speedway Sunday. The Joe Gibbs Racing driver swept both stage victories, led a race best 175 of the 267 laps and ultimately bested the field by 1.376-seconds to take his second Cup Series trophy of the season under temperatures in the mid-90s – one of the hottest race days of the season.

The dominating win over the series championship leader Kyle Larson comes a week after Briscoe just missed beating Larson in the closing laps at Kansas Speedway. It moves Briscoe up two positions in the Chase championship standings with five races remaining on the season. It was redemption for him and the team.

"I don't think I'd be able to get on the [team] plane [if I didn't win]," the 31-year-old Indiana-native and driver of the No. 19 JGR Toyota said with a smile referring to last week's race outcome.

"So thankful to get this Toyota back in Victory Lane," he added. "It's been not a rough year, but just not the results we necessarily want. So, glad to get all our partners back in Victory Lane."

The margin of victory Sunday was larger and a bit misleading as Larson and 23XI Racing's Tyler Reddick had chased Briscoe down in the closing laps – cutting his lead to less than four-tenths of a second with a lap remaining – only to have Larson hit the wall directly in front of Reddick on the final lap corner push toward Briscoe.

Larson was able to settle his No. 5 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet enough to maintain his second-place position behind Briscoe. And after tagging Larson's bumper in the incident, Reddick was also able to regroup and manhandle his No. 45 23XI Racing Toyota after it slid across the infield grass onto pit road – ultimately maintaining his third-place position.

"It was a fight," said a smiling Larson, who increased his championship points lead from 26 points to 40 over Briscoe's JGR teammate Denny Hamlin, who finished 16th. "I was surprised how far off we were that first run [of the race].

"My car got better but track position was so important, and we just chipped away at it all race long," Larson added. "Just tried to stay patient but my tires were pretty much burnt off by the time I got there [to Briscoe]. Just tried to do what I could to try to win. Felt like I moved up at the right time and did a decent job with it just was trying to push hard in [turns] three and four to build some momentum out and I don't know, and just got really loose and overcorrected in the wall. Thankfully I was able to limp it home and Reddick was able to come away third as well. That got exciting.

"I wish we could have won in this paint scheme honoring [Las Vegas native] Kyle [Busch]," Larson said of the first race back in Busch's hometown after the late two-time series champion passed away in May.

Team Penske teammates Austin Cindric and Ryan Blaney rounded out the top-five. Hendrick Motorsports teammates William Byron and Chase Elliott were sixth and seventh, followed by 23XI Racing's Bubba Wallace, Trackhouse Racing's Shane Van Gisbergen and Team Penske's Joey Logano. Van Gisbergen is the only top-10 finisher not Chase-eligible.

The JGR driver Hamlin, who has won the last two Las Vegas races and started Sunday from pole position, rallied from a mid-race spin and finished 16th. His teammate, Ty Gibbs – whose 24th birthday was Sunday – finished 17th after starting on the front row. An early race pit stop penalty forced him into playing catch up and he finished 17th. Their teammate Christopher Bell, who also led laps in the No. 20 JGR Toyota, finished 23rd forced to wrangle his Camry without power steering the second half of the race.

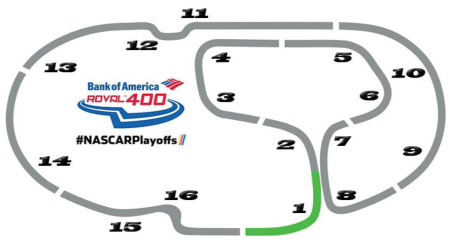
"Was just trying to get back track position that we lost and just went up there got into the marbles and spun out," Hamlin said of his incident. "Obviously damaged the car so it was nothing like it was before.

"Just got to go on to the next race and see if we can't find a way to win. Charlotte will be good for us but today certainly didn't live up to what we expected."

Bell maintained his third place in the championship standings, but is now 55 points off the reigning series champ Larson's pace. Logano is fourth, 71 points back and Blaney is fifth, 80 points off the pace.

Five races remain to settle the 2026 trophy. The series returns to action next weekend with the Bank of America 400 (3 p.m. ET on USA, PRN, SiriusXM NASCAR Radio) on the Charlotte Motor Speedway – marking the first time the Fall event will be held on the oval since 2017 when Martin Truex Jr. won the race. Daniel Suarez won the rain-shortened race on the oval this May.

CUP PLAYOFFS: 6TH RACE
BANK OF AMERICA ROVAL 400



Charlotte Motor Speedway
3 p.m. ET Sunday, USA

• The Charlotte Roval is a 17-turn, 2.28-mile road course at Charlotte Motor Speedway, known for being a hybrid of a road and oval track.

• The course includes two chicanes and was designed in 2018 for NASCAR competition, integrating a portion of the existing oval with a newly built infield road course to create a challenging and exciting venue.

• The track features significant elevation changes, with a 35-foot difference between its highest and lowest points, and has undergone several reconfigurations to improve racing dynamics and passing opportunities.



Shane van Gisbergen executed his customary rugby ball kick into the stands after winning last year's Charlotte Roval Chase race.
DAVID JENSEN/GETTY IMAGES

2026 CUP SERIES STANDINGS

*Top 30 w/ **Playoff 16** as of Oct. 4*

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Kyle Larson #5	2318	16 Ryan Preece #60	2118
2 Denny Hamlin #11	2278	17 Shane v Gisbergen #97	688
3 Christopher Bell #20	2263	18 Brad Keselowski #6	654
4 Joey Logano #22	2247	19 Ross Chastain #1	621
5 Ryan Blaney #12	2238	20 Michael McDowell #71	597
6 Chase Briscoe #19	2234	21 Erik Jones #43	582
7 Tyler Reddick #45	2212	22 AJ Allmendinger #16	551
8 Ty Gibbs #54	2208	23 Todd Gilliland #34	542
9 Austin Cindric #2	2190	24 Austin Dillon #3	528
10 Bubba Wallace #23	2181	25 Josh Berry #21	514
11 Carson Hocevar #77	2160	26 Alex Bowman #48	503
12 William Byron #24	2158	27 John H. Nemechek #42	497
13 Chase Elliott #9	2155	28 Zane Smith #38	484
14 Daniel Suárez #7	2123	29 Ricky Stenhouse Jr #47	460
15 Chris Buescher #17	2122	30 Riley Herbst #35	446

2026 O'REILLY AUTO PARTS STANDINGS

*Top 20 w/ **Playoff 12** as of Oct. 3*

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Sheldon Creed #00	2259	11 Brandon Jones #20	2122
2 Carson Kvapil #1	2240	12 Rajah Caruth #88	2113
3 Jesse Love #2	2238	13 Brent Crews #19	758
4 Justin Allgaier #7	2229	14 William Sawalich #18	711
5 Corey Day #17	2218	15 Ryan Sieg #39	650
6 Sam Mayer #41	2207	16 Anthony Alfredo #96	606
7 Taylor Gray #54	2169	17 Brennan Poole #44	535
8 Sammy Smith #8	2165	18 Dean Thompson #26	528
9 Austin Hill #21	2160	19 Jeremy Clements #51	481
10 Parker Retzlaff #99	2142	20 Harrison Burton #24	467

NEXT RACE: BLUE CROSS NC 300, Charlotte Motor Speedway, 4 p.m. ET Saturday, CW

2026 CRAFTSMAN TRUCK STANDINGS

*Top 20 w/ **Playoff 10** as of Sept. 26*

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 K. Honeycutt #11	2197	11 Jake Garcia #98	501
2 Layne Riggs #34	2160	12 Stewart Friesen #52	465
3 Chandler Smith #38	2126	13 Justin Haley #16	412
4 Gio Ruggiero #17	2125	14 Tanner Gray #15	404
5 Christian Eckes #91	2115	15 Brenden Queen #12	403
6 Daniel Hemric #19	2110	16 A. Perez De Lara #44	388
7 Ty Majeski #88	2109	17 Corey Heim #5	346
8 Ben Rhodes #99	2099	18 Dawson Sutton #27	305
9 Grant Enfinger #9	2079	19 Cole Butcher #13	302
10 Tyler Ankrum #18	2070	20 Mini Tyrrell #14	285

NEXT RACE: ECOSAVE 250, Charlotte Motor Speedway, 5 p.m. ET Friday, FOX

VEGAS WINNER QUOTE

"I don't think I'd be able to get on the [team] plane [if I didn't win]. So thankful to get this Toyota back in Victory Lane. It's been not a rough year, but just not the results we necessarily want. So, glad to get all our partners back in Victory Lane."
— Chase Briscoe, who dominated Sunday to take the Chase race at Las Vegas



Chase Briscoe in Victory Lane Sunday at Las Vegas Motor Speedway. SEAN GARDNER/ 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 (S. v. Gisbergen)
PLAYOFFS ROUND OF 8
OCT. 18, 3 PM, USA: Freeway Insurance 500 at PHOENIX (New)
OCT. 25, 2 PM, NBC: YellaWood 500 at TALLADEGA (C. Briscoe)
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*

BONUS CUP PIC



Chase Briscoe, driver of the #19 Bass Pro Shops Toyota, takes a bow in tribute to the late Kyle Busch after winning Sunday's South Point 400 at Las Vegas Motor Speedway. **J. Bachman/Getty**



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