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RACING THIS WEEK

TRUCKS FINISH: Layne Riggs takes the checkered flag to win Saturday's Team EJP 175 at New Hampshire Motor Speedway. **M. Oliphant/Getty**

TRUCKS RECAP

• **Saturday's** TEAM EJP 175, New Hampshire Motor Speedway

WINNER: LAYNE RIGGS

Layne Riggs capped his 2026 Truck Series regular season with his series-best sixth win of the year, claiming the Team EJP 175 at New Hampshire Saturday afternoon in a double-OT victory in the regular season finale.

The 24-year-old North Carolinian claimed a .293-second win over Front Row Motorsports teammate Chandler Smith – Riggs' pole-sitting No. 34 Front Row Ford leading a race high 106 of the 189 laps, including the last 71 through a pair of overtime restarts. It's his 11th career Truck Series win.

Riggs credited his team with making adjustments to his truck to close out the race and the talent took it from there in what's been his most successful season of competition.

Another big winner on the day was McAnally-Hilgemann Racing's Tyler Ankrum, claiming the 10th and final position for the seven-race Chase that will decide the season champion. Ankrum persevered after his No. 18 Chevrolet suffered mechanical gremlins mid-race, dropped nearly a lap down but rebounded for a 16th-place finish in the 36-truck field.

The finish was good enough to give Ankrum a seven-point edge over veteran Stewart Friesen and an 11-point edge over Jake Garcia who were vying with him for the final Chase position. Both of those drivers led multiple laps, but ultimately, Ankrum's points advantage coming into the race was enough cushion to keep him in that final championship transfer position. Friesen's No. 52 Halmar Friesen Racing Toyota finished fourth while Garcia's No. 98 ThorSport Racing Ford was 14th.

Friesen, whose fourth-place run at New Hampshire was his fourth top-five finish in the last five races, was proud of his team effort despite the near miss. A heart-breaking 36th-place finish at Richmond, Va. last week after an early-race crash, essentially made the mathematical difference.

TRICON Garage's Kaden Honeycutt finished third in another competitive recovery – a tire went down in the opening stage, and he ended up losing a lap but battled back to his 11th top-five on the season. He'll start the Chase ranked second in the standings.

Friesen was fourth with Zilisch rounding out the top-five in the No. 71 Spire Motorsports Chevrolet.

His Spire Motorsports teammate, Tristan McKee continued his impressive work, the 16-year-old answering an eighth-place finish in his series debut last week at Richmond with a sixth-place showing in the No. 77 Spire Motorsports Chevrolet.

Christopher Bell, a two-time Cup Series New Hampshire winner was seventh with McAnally-Hilgemann's Daniel Hemric, Kaulig Racing's Justin Haley and Niece Motorsports' Parker Eatmon rounding out the top-10.

The Truck Series takes a four-week break before starting its seven-race Chase run to the title. Joining Riggs and Honeycutt in that championship run are Smith, Christian Eckes, Gio Ruggiero, Ty Majeski, Grant Enfinger, Hemric, three-time series champion Ben Rhodes, and Ankrum.

The title run begins Sept. 17 with the UNOH 250 at Bristol.

DOLLAR TREE 301

Ryan Blaney overcame a slow mid-race pit stop that frustrated the 2024 Cup Series champion but ultimately helped motivate the team in the closing laps to a victory in Sunday's Dollar Tree 301 at the New England one-miler.

Ryan Blaney, driver of the #12 Menards/Dutch Boy Ford, takes the checkered flag to win the Cup Series Dollar Tree 301 at New Hampshire Motor Speedway on Sunday. (Sean Gardner/Getty)

Blaney developing a taste for giant Loudon lobster

LOUDON, N.H. – Under varying weather conditions, a rain delay, 40 laps driving on wet weather tires and then the race slowed nine times for caution flags before the bright sun emerged for the final run to the checkered flag, Ryan Blaney proved himself best again at New Hampshire Motor Speedway, hoisting his second consecutive giant lobster in Victory Lane and just as importantly making a bold statement about his Penske team's intent to surge into the Chase an absolute championship favorite.

Blaney's No. 12 Team Penske Ford overcame a slow mid-race pit stop that frustrated the 2024 Cup Series champion but ultimately helped motivate the team in the closing laps to a .587-second victory over 23XI Racing's Bubba Wallace in Sunday's Dollar Tree 301 at the New England one-miler. He led a race best 115 of the 301 laps.

It's Blaney's third win of the season – 20th of his career – and comes two weeks before the sport starts its 10-race Chase to decide the 2026 champion.

"It was a good call after our issue on pit road," Blaney said of his team's decision to change only two tires on the final pit stop instead of four. "We did two at the end to try to hopefully get the lead and we did.

"It was a long run to the end, the longest run we had. Just tried to manage my stuff. I knew those four tire guys would probably pressure me eventually and Bubba came on pretty hard. Was just trying to manage lapped traffic, while also trying to manage the tires and just try not to make a mistake.

"What a cool race, fun day, started in the rain and ended up being a beautiful day."

Wallace, who looks to be a lock on the Chase ranked 14th in the standings, was racing for his first win of the season. And he sure made his best friend Blaney work for it in the closing laps before locking his brakes while closing in with six laps remaining.

As with the tight racing in the closing laps, it was an especially busy day on track with varying tire strategies and plenty of restarts necessitated with the high number of caution flags flying on the afternoon.

Blaney's winning effort extended his hold on second place in the championship standings. He's now 77 points behind the leader, Joe Gibbs Racing's' Denny Hamlin, who finished seventh, overcoming a pit stop miscue himself. With his work Sunday, Hamlin officially claimed top seed in the Chase.

He's one of seven drivers that had already earned Chase positions. Six more drivers formally qualified Sunday including reigning series champion, Hendrick Motorsports Kyle Larson, who finished fifth, Team Penske's Joey Logano, who rallied to a 14th-place finish after being collected in an early race accident and Roush Fenway Keselowski's Chris Buescher, who finished 18th.

Spire Motorsports' Carson Hocevar, who brought out a pair of caution flags, also solidified his first ever Chase appearance, finishing 19th. Hendrick's William Byron, who finished 30th and Spire's Daniel Suarez, who finished 17th also formally claimed their Chase positions.

The final three positions are yet to be finalized, although Wallace holds a 75-point edge atop the cutoff line in 14th.

On that other end of the Playoff eligibility, Roush Fenway Keselowski Racing's Ryan Preece delivered big time – his ninth place in the race cutting his deficit to making that prized 16-driver field by nearly half. He now trails Sunday's 20th-place finisher, Trackhouse Racing's Shane Van Gisbergen by 31 points heading to Daytona International Speedway for next Saturday's regular season finale.

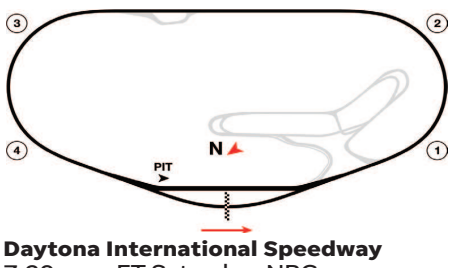
And Blaney's Penske teammate Austin Cindric finished 12th Sunday and is now only 13 points up on Van Gisbergen in the 15th position.

It was a productive day for several cars hoping to improve their positions in the standings in the closing weeks of the regular season. And for Wood Brothers Racing's Josh Berry, it was a productive day showing off his talent for future employment.

Berry finished third in the No. 21 Wood Brothers Racing Ford – his third consecutive top-five showing at New Hampshire and the fourth straight top-10 of the season. Berry's work is indicative of his effort since the team announced that the talented Tennessee driver will not be back next season.

Joe Gibbs Racing's Christopher Bell finished fourth – his third top-five finish in the last four races. Larson finished fifth followed by JGR drivers Ty Gibbs and Hamlin in sixth and seventh, respectively. The race polesitter, 23XI Racing's Tyler Reddick recovered from an opening lap spin in wet conditions to finish eighth. Preece was ninth and Front Row Motorsports' Noah Gragson was 10th – his second top-10 of the season and first since April.

NEXT: COKE ZERO SUGAR 400



Daytona International Speedway
7:30 p.m. ET Saturday, NBC

- **Course:** Tri-Oval (1959–present)
- **Location:** 1801 West International Speedway Blvd, Daytona Beach, Florida
- **Capacity:** 101,500 to 167,785 (w/ infield, depending on configuration); 123,500 (grandstand capacity)
- **Owner:** NASCAR (2019-present)
- **Opened:** February 22, 1959
- **Surface:** Asphalt
- **Length:** 2.5 miles
- **Turns:** 4
- **Banking:** Turns, 31°; Tri-oval, 18°; Back straightaway, 3°
- **Cup race lap record:** 0:43.682 (Erik Jones, Toyota Camry, 2020)
- **Of note:** NASCAR founder Bill France Sr. began planning for the track in 1953 as a way to promote the series, which at the time was racing on the Daytona Beach Road Course. France met with Daytona Beach engineer Charles Moneypenny to discuss his plans for the speedway. He wanted the track to have the highest banking possible to allow the cars to reach high speeds and to give fans a better view of the cars on track.

Ryan Blaney drank in the win in last August's Coke Zero Sugar 400. (Getty)

2026 CUP SERIES STANDINGS

Top 30 as of August 23

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Denny Hamlin #11	1001	16 Shane v Gisbergen #97	586
2 Ryan Blaney #12	924	17 Ryan Preece #60	555
3 Ty Gibbs #54	880	18 Brad Keselowski #6	520
4 Tyler Reddick #45	860	19 Ross Chastain #1	505
5 Christopher Bell #20	738	20 Erik Jones #43	490
6 Chase Briscoe #19	727	21 Michael McDowell #71	484
7 Kyle Larson #5	708	22 AJ Allmendinger #16	456
8 Chase Elliott #9	707	23 Todd Gilliland #34	444
9 Joey Logano #22	682	24 Zane Smith #38	442
10 Chris Buescher #17	676	25 Austin Dillon #3	405
11 Carson Hocevar #77	672	26 Riley Herbst #35	402
12 William Byron #24	644	27 Ricky Stenhouse #47	398
13 Daniel Suárez #7	638	28 John H. Nemechek #42	394
14 Bubba Wallace #23	630	29 Josh Berry #21	386
15 Austin Cindric #2	599	30 Alex Bowman #48	362

2026 O'REILLY AUTO PARTS STANDINGS

Top 20 as of August 8

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Justin Allgaier #7	1048	11 William Sawalich #18	598
2 Carson Kvapil #1	810	12 Brent Crews #19	598
3 Sheldon Creed #00	782	13 Taylor Gray #54	597
4 Jesse Love #2	749	14 Rajah Caruth #88	583
5 Corey Day #17	727	15 Ryan Sieg #39	514
6 Brandon Jones #20	718	16 Anthony Alfredo #96	464
7 Austin Hill #21	716	17 Brennan Poole #44	421
8 Sammy Smith #8	692	18 Dean Thompson #26	418
9 Parker Retzlaff #99	643	19 Jeremy Clements #51	380
10 Sam Mayer #41	616	20 Harrison Burton #24	366

NEXT RACE: WINN-DIXIE 250, Daytona International, 7:30 p.m. ET Friday, CW

2026 CRAFTSMAN TRUCK STANDINGS

Top 20 as of August 22

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Layne Riggs #34	2100	11 Stewart Friesen #52	408
2 Kaden Honeycutt #11	2075	12 Jake Garcia #98	404
3 Chandler Smith #38	2065	13 Brenden Queen #12	364
4 Christian Eckes #91	2060	14 A. Perez De Lara #44	355
5 Gio Ruggiero #17	2055	15 Justin Haley #16	352
6 Ty Majeski #88	2050	16 Tanner Gray #15	351
7 Grant Enfinger #9	2045	17 Corey Heim #5	346
8 Daniel Hemric #19	2040	18 Dawson Sutton #27	283
9 Ben Rhodes #99	2035	19 Cole Butcher #13	268
10 Tyler Ankrum #18	2030	20 Mini Tyrrell #14	255

NEXT RACE: UNOH 250, Bristol Motor Speedway, 8 p.m. ET Thursday, Sept. 17, FS1

NEW HAMPSHIRE WINNER QUOTE

"It was a long run to the end, the longest run we had. Just tried to manage my stuff. I knew those four tire guys would probably pressure me eventually and Bubba came on pretty hard. Was just trying to manage lapped traffic, while also trying to manage the tires and just try not to make a mistake. What a cool race. …"
— Ryan Blaney, who grabbed his third win of the season Sunday at New Hampshire

Ryan Blaney in Victory Lane Sunday at New Hampshire. MEG 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. Blaney)

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

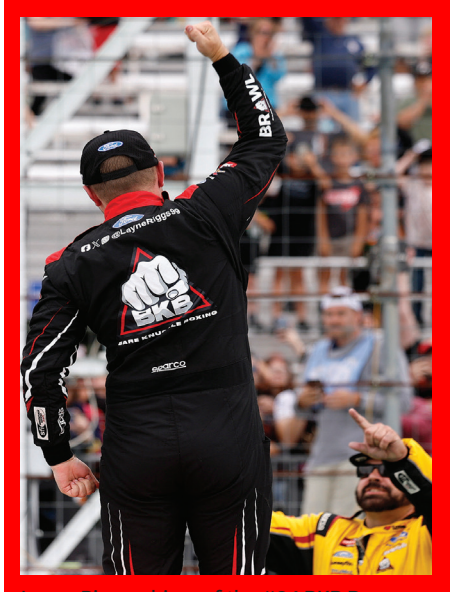
PLAYOFFS ROUND OF 12
SEPT. 27, 3 PM, USA: Hollywood Casino 400 at KANSAS (C. Elliott)
OCT. 4, 5:30 PM, USA: South Point 400 at LAS VEGAS (D. Hamlin)
OCT. 11, 3 PM, USA: BofA ROVAL 400 at CHARLOTTE (S. v. Gisbergen)

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 TRUCKS PIC



Layne Riggs, driver of the #34 BKB Bare Knuckle Boxing Ford, celebrates after winning Saturday's Team EJP 175 at New Hampshire Motor Speedway.
S. Gardner/Getty

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