

The Derrick. WHEELS

Thursday, July 2, 2026

O'REILLY RECAP

• Saturday's PIT BOSS/FOODMAXX 250, Sonoma Raceway



WINNER: SHANE VAN GISBERGEN

Shane van Gisbergen started his road-course weekend mastery with a convincing victory in Saturday's Pit Boss/FoodMaxx 250 at Sonoma Raceway.

Cruising behind lapped traffic on the final circuit at the 1.99-mile, 11-turn road course, the New Zealander nevertheless crossed the finish line 1.324 seconds ahead of runner-up Connor Zilisch, who had to come from the rear of the field twice to achieve the second-place result.

SvG's victory was his second at Sonoma in the O'Reilly Auto Parts Series and the sixth of his career, all on road or street courses.

With van Gisbergen and Zilisch running 1-2, JR Motorsports extended its streak of at least one car in the top 10 to 76 races, three behind all-time series leader RFK Racing (2008-2010).

SvG led 66 of 79 laps, short-pitting the second stage on Lap 43 to regain the top spot after the stage break. From that point to the finish, he saved fuel while maintaining the gap to Zilisch until the final lap, when Zilisch closed in as SVG was content to run behind traffic to the finish line.

"Luckily enough, I think I saved enough (fuel) early," said van Gisbergen, after executing his signature rugby ball kick from the frontstretch. "Sorry it wasn't the most exciting — I guess boring's good when you're the one leading. ..."

"What an amazing car, to lead like that. The car was so good the whole race. It's great to get another one for these guys."

If van Gisbergen spent most of the afternoon at the front of the field in the No. 9 JR Motorsports Chevrolet, Zilisch spent the bulk of the race passing cars and working his way to the front.

He started in the rear after changing a tire that had leaked air during qualifying — an unapproved adjustment. After cracking the top 15 in the opening stage, Zilisch short-pitted the 20-lap stage on Lap 17 but sped on pit road, earning a pass-through penalty that left him 33rd in the running order at start of Stage 2.

Another march through the field brought him to second behind van Gisbergen on Lap 35, and when van Gisbergen brought his car to pit road on Lap 43, Zilisch had the lead in the No. 1 JR Motorsports Camaro and went on to win the stage.

After pitting, Zilisch restarted 10th and quickly dispatched the cars in front of him, passing Jesse Love for second on Lap 57. But there was no catching van Gisbergen over the final 21 circuits.

Brent Crews finished third in the No. 19 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota, scoring a race-high 50 points and moving back into a Chase-eligible position (11th) in the O'Reilly Series standings.

Viking Motorsports enjoyed a banner day on Saturday, with drivers Anthony Alfredo and Parker Retzlaff finishing fourth and fifth, respectively.

Carson Kvapil, Corey Day, Sam Mayer, Love and Sheldon Creed completed the top 10.

The race featured eight lead changes among six drivers and four cautions for 11 laps.

TOYOTA/SAVE MART 350

For the second straight year, Shane van Gisbergen had to hold off a charging Chase Briscoe over the final laps to win at Sonoma on Sunday. Briscoe closed within one foot of SvG's bumper in the hairpin (Turn 11) on the final circuit.



Shane van Gisbergen, driver of the #97 Red Bull Chevrolet (top), kicks a rugby ball into the crowd in celebration of winning the Cup Series Toyota/Save Mart 350 at Sonoma Raceway on Sunday. (James Gilbert/Getty)

SvG up to his dominate ways at Sonoma again

SONOMA, Calif. — Sunday's Toyota/Save Mart 350 at Sonoma Raceway followed form, but not without the stiffest fight of Shane van Gisbergen's Cup Series career.

On the other hand, the opening race of the Cup Series' In-Season Challenge defied the handicappers — at least as far as top-seeded Tyler Reddick was concerned.

For the second straight year, van Gisbergen had to hold off a charging Chase Briscoe over the final laps to win at the 1.99-mile, 11-turn road course.

Briscoe closed within one foot of SvG's bumper in the hairpin (Turn 11) on the final circuit but couldn't get close enough to the New Zealander's No. 97 Trackhouse Racing Chevrolet to make a move for the win.

"Yeah, what a day," said van Gisbergen, who finished 0.357 seconds ahead of Briscoe. "We were really bad yesterday (sixth in qualifying), and these guys (the No. 97 crew) did an amazing job turning this car into a winner. The 19 (Briscoe) was coming. He was really, really good, and I ran out at the end."

SvG led three times for 74 for the 110 laps in securing his eighth Cup Series victory in his 68th start, tying Hall of Famer Tony Stewart for second-most all-time road-course wins, one behind Jeff Gordon's nine. He completed a weekend sweep, claiming NASCAR O'Reilly Auto Parts Series laurels on Saturday.

The victory was SvG's second of the season and second straight at Sonoma, and it helped to assuage the frustration of last Sunday's race at Naval Base Coronado, where he was eliminated in a multicar wreck 32 laps into the contest.

"I was back to normal by the weekend, but, yeah, I was certainly pissed at the start of the week," van Gisbergen said. "This really makes up for it, sharing it with these guys. They went through it at the start of the week. Pretty special to win."

But the win was anything but easy, given that the handling of the winning car deteriorated noticeably over the final 27 laps.

"We had these (lapped cars) come out (of the pits) in front, and they were wobbling all over the track and putting dust, and I just kept struggling. Chase was just really, really good. Yeah, a couple more laps (and) we would have had some problems."

Briscoe might have been able to overtake

SVG had he not slipped in Turn 1 with four laps left. The mistake cost him a second and made his task all the more difficult.

"Yeah, just frustrated with myself," Briscoe said. "I felt like I definitely had the better car. I didn't do as good of a job as he did driving. I just made a mistake with, like, three or four to go getting into (Turn) 1."

"I was having to push so hard, and that was where I would make up my ground. It was just such a razor's edge, and I about crashed. Gave up a (full) second, and then I was able to obviously run him back down at the end. If I don't make that mistake, I'm probably ahead of him, I feel like, at the end."

Running the first two stages to the end, versus the short-pitting strategy of both SvG and Briscoe, pole winner Ty Gibbs finished third after winning Stage 1 and Stage 2. The defending winner of the \$1 million winner-take-all In-Season Challenge eliminated 27th-place finisher Austin Dillon from this year's tournament.

Reddick wasn't as fortunate. The 23XI Racing driver lost six laps on pit road with a power steering issue and finished last (36th), as his first-round opponent, 32nd-seeded Alex Bowman, advanced with a 10th-place finish.

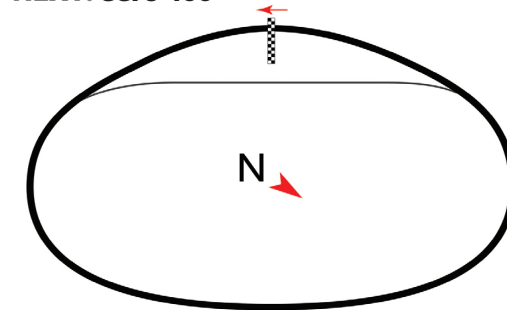
Kyle Larson ran a consistent, solid race and finished fourth, followed by Christopher Bell, who came home fifth despite managing a broken wrist.

Ryan Blaney, Connor Zilisch, Ryan Preece, Michael McDowell and Bowman completed the top 10, with Zilisch scoring his first top-10 finish in the Cup Series. Despite his eighth-place run, Preece was eliminated from the In-Season Challenge by SVG.

Despite finishing 26th after spinning off the bumper of Carson Hocevar's Chevrolet on Lap 64, Denny Hamlin took the series lead by one point over Reddick. Second-seeded Hamlin also avoided elimination from the In-Season Challenge when his first-round opponent, Ty Dillon, developed power steering issues late in the race and came home 35th.

In other In-Season Challenge matchups of note, 12th-seeded Briscoe eliminated 21st-seeded AJ Allmendinger; 25th seed Todd Gilliland upset No. 8 seed Daniel Suárez; 20th-seeded McDowell defeated No. 13 Bubba Wallace; and Austin Cindric topped Brad Keselowski in a battle of 16th and 17th seeds.

NEXT: eero 400



Chicagoland Speedway
6 p.m. ET Sunday, TNT

Chicagoland Speedway is a 1.5 miles (2.4 km) tri-oval speedway in Joliet, Illinois, about 40 miles southwest of Chicago. Until 2011, the speedway hosted the IndyCar Series, recording numerous close finishes including the closest finish in IndyCar history. The speedway is adjacent to Route 66 Raceway. Sunday's race marks the Cup Series' return to Chicagoland Speedway for the first time since 2019.



- **Owner:** International Speedway Corporation
- **Opened:** 2001
- **Surface:** Asphalt
- **Length:** 1.5 miles (2.446 km)
- **Course:** Tri-oval



Alex Bowman scored his first career Cup Series win in the 2019 Camping World 400 at Chicagoland Speedway, the last Cup race at the facility.



Upper Deck collectibles is commemorating the 30th anniversary of the film Space Jam by sponsoring Michael Jordan 23XII driver Bubba Wallace in the eero 400 at Chicagoland.

2026 CUP SERIES STANDINGS

Top 30 as of June 28

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Denny Hamlin #11	719	16 Austin Cindric #2	401
2 Tyler Reddick #45	718	17 Erik Jones #43	389
3 Ryan Blaney #12	615	18 Brad Keselowski #6	376
4 Ty Gibbs #54	589	19 AJ Allmendinger #16	375
5 Kyle Larson #5	571	20 Joey Logano #22	370
6 Chase Elliott #9	554	21 Michael McDowell #71	369
7 Chris Buescher #17	518	22 Ross Chastain #1	356
8 Carson Hocevar #77	509	23 Zane Smith #38	340
9 Daniel Suárez #7	484	24 Ricky Stenhouse Jr #47	319
10 Christopher Bell #20	472	25 Riley Herbst #35	317
11 Chase Briscoe #19	468	26 Todd Gilliland #34	314
12 William Byron #24	446	27 John H. Nemechek #42	310
13 Bubba Wallace #23	444	28 Austin Dillon #3	280
14 Shane v Gisbergen #97	425	29 Alex Bowman #48	231
15 Ryan Preece #60	402	30 Noah Gragson #4	221

2026 O'REILLY AUTO PARTS STANDINGS

Top 20 as of June 27

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Justin Allgaier #7	858	11 Brent Crews #19	493
2 Jesse Love #2	651	12 Taylor Gray #54	492
3 Corey Day #17	645	13 William Sawalich #18	472
4 Sheldon Creed #00	642	14 Rajah Caruth #88	466
5 Austin Hill #21	611	15 Ryan Sieg #39	446
6 Carson Kvapil #91	604	16 Anthony Alfredo #96	379
7 Sammy Smith #8	578	17 Brennan Poole #44	354
8 Brandon Jones #20	573	18 Dean Thompson #26	324
9 Parker Retzlaff #99	533	19 Jeremy Clements #51	323
10 Sam Mayer #41	510	20 Jeb Burton #27	298

NEXT RACE: O'REILLY AUTO PARTS SERIES RACE, Chicagoland Speedway, 5:30 p.m. ET Saturday, CW

2026 CRAFTSMAN TRUCK STANDINGS

Top 20 as of June 19

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Layne Riggs #34	562	11 Grant Enfinger #9	278
2 Kaden Honeycutt #11	497	12 Corey Heim #1	274
3 Chandler Smith #38	434	13 Stewart Friesen #52	273
4 Gio Ruggiero #17	410	14 Brenden Queen #12	272
5 Christian Eckes #91	408	15 Justin Haley #16	261
6 Ty Majeski #88	353	16 A. Perez De Lara #44	250
7 Ben Rhodes #99	349	17 Tanner Gray #15	246
8 Daniel Hemric #19	313	18 Mini Tyrrell #14	201
9 Tyler Ankrum #18	301	19 Dawson Sutton #26	197
10 Jake Garcia #98	283	20 Cole Butcher #13	177

NEXT RACE: TRUCKS RACE, Lime Rock Park, Lakeville, CT, 1 p.m. ET Saturday, July 11, FS1

SONOMA WINNER QUOTE

"Yeah, what a day. We were really bad yesterday (sixth in qualifying), and these guys (the No. 97 crew) did an amazing job turning this car into a winner. The 19 (Chase Briscoe) was coming. He was really, really good, and I ran out at the end."

— Shane van Gisbergen, who grabbed his second win of the season Sunday at Sonoma Raceway



SvG in Victory Lane Sunday at Sonoma. GETTY

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