

RACING THIS WEEK

TRUCKS RECAP

• **Saturday's** WINDOW WORLD 250, North Wilkesboro Speedway



WINNER: CHANDLER SMITH

Chandler Smith owes Front Row Motorsports teammate Layne Riggs a vote of thanks after Saturday's Window World 250 at North Wilkesboro Speedway.

After Riggs' Ford slid up into the No. 11 Toyota of Corey Heim in Turn 2 of the final lap, Smith took the lead and held on for the win, his first at the 0.625-mile short track and his second of the season in the Truck Series.

Heim, who led 162 of 255 laps, left North Wilkesboro with a 17th-place finish and a percolating rivalry with Riggs, his nemesis throughout the race.

Corey Heim knocks Layne Riggs for 'scum racing' after last-lap clash at North Wilkesboro

Riding on tires that were 68 laps older than Smith's, Heim had the lead for the overtime restart on Lap 254. He quickly cleared Smith on his inside and Riggs behind him, but Riggs mounted a strong run through Turns 3 and 4 on the white-flag lap and steered to Heim's inside.

Riggs slid up into Heim's truck, which turned sideways as Smith claimed the lead and headed for the finish line with Riggs in his wake. Smith's margin of victory over his teammate was 0.611 seconds.

The final overtime lap was the only one Smith led on Saturday in collecting his seventh career Truck Series win.

"I feel like this place... tires kind of mattered, but they also kind of didn't," said Smith, who started from the rear of the field after unapproved adjustments to fix a brake issue in his No. 38 Ford. "I didn't think we were as good as the 11 — obviously we had a tire advantage on him there.

"That last restart, I did everything but the right thing. My teammate, Layne Riggs, executed perfectly, and we came out on the right end of the stick."

Heim took exception to the the "perfect" execution.

On a Lap 81 restart after the first stage break, Riggs ran Heim toward the outside wall, handing the lead and ultimately Stage 2 win to Grant Enfinger. Then came OT controversy.

After the race, Heim expressed his displeasure to Riggs on pit road.

"He tried to do it to the 7 (Carson Hocevar) last week for the win, and mission accomplished for him, I guess, this week," Heim said. "And it cost him one, too. I don't know. We've given up so many of them this year, after dominating the race.

"The 38 (Smith) was the only other guy that was rightfully good. I felt like he deserved to win over anyone else, not the 34 (Riggs). I got really loose into (Turn) 3. Just struggled being loose on the short runs, and he had an opportunity to wreck me. Just disappointed."

Riggs had a different perception of the final lap. "I had a huge run, and I went bottom. I didn't fence him," Riggs said. I slid him up the track and gave him one lane there. I feel like I didn't really do anything wrong there."

Tyler Ankrum finished third, followed by Daniel Hemric and Enfinger. Ty Majeski, Gio Ruggiero, Kaden Honeycutt, Kyle Busch and Sammy Smith completed the top 10.

NASCAR ALL-STAR RACE

Christopher Bell took the checkered flag in Sunday's All-Star Race at North Wilkesboro Speedway. The No. 20 Joe Gibbs Racing driver outdueled the 2024 winner of the event, Joey Logano, in the final 10 laps.



Christopher Bell, driver of the #20 Mobil 1 Toyota, takes the checkered flag to win the NASCAR Cup Series All-Star Race at North Wilkesboro Speedway on Sunday.

(David Jensen/Getty Images)

Bell grabs the All-Star crown from Logano

NORTH WILKESBORO, N.C. — Fireworks lit up the sky, and smoke billowed from the tires of the No. 20 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota as Christopher Bell celebrated his first victory in the NASCAR All-Star Race at North Wilkesboro Speedway.

On Sunday night, Bell climbed from his car to a standing ovation. Scratch that—virtually everyone in the packed grandstands already had been standing for the final 28 lap green-flag run, as Bell battled Joey Logano side-by-side and finally cleared last year's winner for the lead on Lap 241 of 250.

At that point, Bell had better right-side tires than Logano, who had stayed out under the promoter's caution signaled by unofficial flagman Michael Waltrip on Lap 215.

Bell pitted for two tires under the yellow, restarted sixth on Lap 223 behind five cars that stayed out and quickly advanced to second with a pass of Ross Chastain on Lap 227.

From that point, it was game-on for Bell, who pursued Logano relentlessly. On Lap 241, Bell pulled even with Logano, drifted out toward the wall, taking Logano with him and completed the decisive pass. His winning margin was 0.744 seconds.

"North Wilkesboro, how about that one?" Bell shouted after climbing from his car with the smoke still lingering from his celebratory burnout. "That right there is absolutely incredible. North Wilkesboro, best short track on the schedule."

The victory was the first for a Toyota driver since JGR's Kyle Busch took the checkered flag in 2017.

Logano, who led 199 of 200 laps in last year's All-Star Race victory at the historic 0.625-mile short track, led a race-high 139 laps on Sunday to 28 for Bell. The driver of the No. 22 Team Penske Ford held a comfortable lead when the yellow flag for the promoter's caution—a new wrinkle introduced by Speedway Motorsports CEO Marcus Smith—slowed the action, forced a pit stop choice and bunched the field.

The caution and the tire disadvantage prevented Logano from winning his second straight All-Star Race and third overall.

"Thought maybe we could hold him off, but the 20 had a good enough restart, cleared too many of them too fast," Logano said. "I couldn't get away in time. It took me



Christopher Bell, driver of the #20 Mobil 1 Toyota, takes the checkered flag to win the NASCAR Cup Series All-Star Race at North Wilkesboro Speedway on Sunday.

(David Jensen/Getty Images)

six, seven laps to get my car up and rolling again.

"I did all I could do to hold him off, and he got under me and released the brake and gave me no option. Kind of just ran me up into the wall, and if I could've got to him, he was going around after a move like that. I just couldn't get back to him. Just too much to try to make up with the tire deficit.

"Just frustrated after you lead so many laps and the car is so fast and you don't win, it hurts quite a bit."

It hurt even more because first prize money for the exhibition race is \$1 million, and second place pays a small fraction of that amount. Bell was happy to line his pockets with the lion's share of the purse.

It was the quality of the competition, however, that excited Bell the most.

"Man, that was an amazing race," he said. "There were so many guys up there racing for the lead. We saw two-wide, three-wide for the lead. It's just a pleasure to race here, and especially whenever you get to drive this Mobil 1 Toyota Camry.

"These boys (the No. 20 crew) have done such a good job on this thing. I told them going into it, this was the best car we've had in a long time. Joey was fast. He gave us a lot of competition, and the 12 (Ryan Blaney) was really good there and the 9 (Chase Elliott). They had competitive cars. The strategy—we knew it would be all over the place and it fell our way."

Bell acknowledged that the urgency of passing Logano in the closing run forced him to push the issue.

On the same tire strategy as Logano, Chastain held third at the finish, followed by Hendrick Motorsports drivers Alex Bowman, Elliott and William Byron. Tyler Reddick, Kyle Busch, Chase Briscoe and Chris Buescher completed the top 10.

Kyle Larson, fresh from Saturday's 21st-place qualifying effort for the Indianapolis 500, turned his first laps in the No. 5 Chevrolet on Sunday night. After a two-tire stop on Lap 178, he was running third when he slapped the wall on Lap 214 and finished 21st, three laps down.

Carson Hocevar and John Hunter Nemechek transferred into the main event as the top two finishers in the All-Star Open. Hocevar finished 11th in the All-Star Race. Gragson was 13th and Nemechek 19th.

NEXT: COCA-COLA 600



Charlotte Motor Speedway

6 p.m. ET Sunday, PRIME

For more than 60 years, Charlotte Motor Speedway has set the standard for motorsports entertainment and evolved into "America's Home for Racing." Nestled in the heart of NASCAR country, the iconic superspeedway is the only race vacation destination where fans can immerse themselves in the sport by taking in an event at the legendary facility, visit race team shops and explore the NASCAR Hall of Fame in the same weekend.

CMS BY THE NUMBERS

Length: 1.5 miles or 7,920 feet
Frontstretch: 1,980 feet
Backstretch: 1,500 feet
Turns 1 & 2: 2,400 feet
Turns 3 & 4: 2,040
Radius Turns 1 & 2: 685 feet
Radius Turns 3 & 4: 625 feet
Banking in corners: 24-degrees
Banking in straightaways: 5-degrees
Facility capacity: 95,000
Suites: 57

CMS FUN FACTS

- President George Washington ate lunch and rested in a house that once served as the speedway's offices.
- During a typical race weekend, fans consume more than 34,000 slices of pizza, 9,500 gallons of soda and water, 13,500 feet of hot dogs and 309,000 pounds of ice.
- Charlotte Motor Speedway became the first modern superspeedway to host night racing in 1992.
- In 2011, Charlotte Motor Speedway set a Guinness World Record with the debut of the world's largest HDTV at a sports venue, spanning nearly 16,000 square feet of viewing pleasure for fans.



Christopher bell took the trophy last May at Charlotte. (Getty)

2025 CUP SERIES STANDINGS

Top 30 as of May 11

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 K. Larson Chevrolet	469	16 R. Preece Ford	251
2 W. Byron Chevrolet	434	17 J. Berry Ford	244
3 C. Bell Toyota	384	18 Ky. Busch Chevrolet	244
4 C. Elliott Chevrolet	378	19 J. Nemechek Toyota	234
5 R. Blaney Ford	362	20 C. Hocevar Chevrolet	230
6 T. Reddick Toyota	357	21 M. McDowell Chevy	228
7 D. Hamlin Toyota	346	22 A. Dillon Chevrolet	227
8 A. Bowman Chevrolet	325	23 Z. Smith Ford	227
9 J. Logano Ford	318	24 T. Gilliland Ford	227
10 D. Wallace Jr. Toyota	310	25 A. J. Allmendinger Ch.	218
11 R. Chastain Chevrolet	300	26 T. Gibbs Toyota	217
12 C. Buescher Ford	284	27 D. Suárez Chevrolet	209
13 C. Briscoe Toyota	278	28 J. Haley Chevrolet	206
14 A. Cindric Ford	273	29 E. Jones Toyota	196
15 R. Stenhouse Chevy	258	30 T. Dillon Chevrolet	188

2025 XFINITY SERIES STANDINGS

Top 20 as of May 3

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Justin Allgaier #7	471	11 Sheldon Creed #00	304
2 Austin Hill #21	420	12 Connor Zilisch #88	299
3 Sam Mayer #41	391	13 Daniel Dye #10	293
4 Jesse Love #2	374	14 Taylor Gray #54	285
5 Brandon Jones #20	326	15 Nicholas Sanchez #48	283
6 Carson Kvapil #1	324	16 Dean Thompson #26	249
7 Jeb Burton #27	320	17 Brennan Poole #44	238
8 Ryan Sieg #39	317	18 Christian Eckes #16	238
9 Sammy Smith #8	312	19 Jeremy Clements #51	215
10 Harrison Burton #25	307	20 Anthony Alfredo #42	212

NEXT RACE: BETMGM 300, Charlotte Motor Speedway, 4:30 p.m. ET Saturday, CW

2025 TRUCK SERIES STANDINGS

Top 20 as of May 17

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Corey Heim #11	450	11 Ben Rhodes #99	261
2 Chandler Smith #38	403	12 Gio Ruggiero #17	260
3 Daniel Hemric #19	363	13 Rajah Caruth #71	246
4 Tyler Ankrum #18	357	14 Tanner Gray #15	242
5 Grant Enfinger #9	339	15 Matt Crafton #88	221
6 Ty Majeski #98	316	16 Jack Wood #91	203
7 Jake Garcia #13	306	17 Connor Mosack #81	187
8 Layne Riggs #34	294	18 Matt Mills #42	185
9 Kaden Honeycutt #45	285	19 Dawson Sutton #26	184
10 Stewart Friesen #52	267	20 A. Perez De Lara #77	179

NEXT RACE: NORTH CAROLINA EDUCATION LOTTERY 200, Charlotte, 8:30 p.m. ET Friday, FS1

ALL-STAR WINNER QUOTE

"North Wilkesboro, how about that one? That right there is absolutely incredible. North Wilkesboro, best short track on the schedule."

- Christopher Bell, who overtook last year's All-Star champ Joey Logano Sunday at North Wilkesboro



Christopher Bell with the big check Sunday at North Wilkesboro.

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