

RACING THIS WEEK

O'REILLY RECAP

• **Saturday's** MISSION 200 AT THE GLEN, Watkins Glen International



WINNER: CONNOR ZILISCH

With a last-corner pass in a wounded car, Connor Zilisch preserved his perfect record at Watkins Glen — at the expense of his best friend.

Running down Jesse Love after pitting with 25 laps left, Zilisch shot past Love's No. 2 RCR Chevrolet in Turn 7 and won a drag race to the finish line to win Saturday's Mission 200 at The Glen by 0.262 seconds.

The victory was Zilisch's third straight at the 2.45-mile road course in as many starts, and his second in his fifth O'Reilly Series start of the season. It is the 13th win of his O'Reilly career.

Zilisch joins Terry Labonte and Marcos Ambrose as the only drivers to win three consecutive O'Reilly Series races at Watkins Glen.

The victory came after Zilisch chased down Love, who pitted on Lap 48 of 72 and saved fuel the rest of the way, with Zilisch — after trailing by 18 seconds — chopping chunks out of Love's lead over the final 25 circuits.

With six laps left Zilisch hit the grass as he sped through the chicane and damaged the undercarriage. Adjusting to the feel of his Chevrolet, Zilisch continued pursuit and closed on Love.

Taylor Gray and Ross Chastain finished third and fourth. Brandon Jones was fifth, followed by Brent Crews, Parker Retzlaff, Shane van Gisbergen, Austin Green and Justin Allgaier.

TRUCKS RECAP

• **Friday's** BULLY HILL VINEYARDS 176 AT THE GLEN, Watkins Glen International



WINNER: KADEN HONEYCUTT

A week after chastising himself at Texas for repeated failure to win Truck Series races, Kaden Honeycutt pulled off his first career victory over the two drivers who have dominated NASCAR road courses over the past two years.

Honeycutt grabbed the lead from Connor Zilisch through a tight Turn 1 on the first lap of overtime and pulled away for his first victory in the series in Friday's Bully Hill Vineyards 176 at The Glen.

A few hours earlier, Honeycutt had won the ARCA Menards Series race on the 2.45-mile Watkins Glen International circuit. With the Truck Series win, he became the second driver to win both an ARCA race and Truck Series event on the same day, joining Sam Mayer (2020 at Bristol) in that distinction.

Five-time 2025 Cup Series road-course winner Shane van Gisbergen finished third, thanks to the New Zealander's ability to pick off cars during the series of late restarts.

Daniel Hemric was fourth and Chandler Smith fifth, followed by Ram Free Agent driver AJ Allmendinger, pole winner Brent Crews, Mini Tyrell, Brenden Queen and Connor Mosack

GO BOWLING AT THE GLEN

In defending last year's win at The Glen, Trackhouse Racing's Shane van Gisbergen scored his seventh Cup Series victory — all on road or street courses — and his first this season.



Shane van Gisbergen, driver of the #97 Superfile Chevrolet, takes the checkered flag to win the Cup Series Go Bowling at The Glen at Watkins Glen International Sunday. (Sean Gardner/Getty)

The rugby boot is back for SvG at Watkins Glen

WATKINS GLEN, N.Y. — Like a world-class hunter stalking defenseless prey, Shane van Gisbergen reasserted his claim to the status as the best road-course racer NASCAR has ever seen.

It's not just that the New Zealander beat runner-up Michael McDowell to the finish line to win Sunday's Go Bowling at The Glen by 7.288 seconds. It was the way SVG ran down late-race leader Ty Gibbs to the tune of 29.2 seconds in 18 laps at the 2.45-mile Watkins Glen International road course.

The mythical shark "Jaws" couldn't have been a more relentless or terrifying pursuer.

In defending last year's win at The Glen, Trackhouse Racing's van Gisbergen scored his seventh Cup Series victory — all on road or street courses — and his first this season.

"Unbelievable to win with the '97," van Gisbergen said. "Thank you to Trackhouse. We weren't very good in practice, and then qualifying was amazing. Good tweaks, and then today, so what a race car.

"Then (crew chief) Stephen (Doran) made great calls. I wasn't sure how it was going to work. Then to run them down, very, very special to do two in a row. Just stoked for these guys, you know, to execute every facet of our game. Speechless. This is so cool."

Starting from the pole, van Gisbergen led the first 18 laps before short-pitting the first 20-lap stage. He pitted once again on Lap 41 under a bizarre caution caused by a tent blowing through the air from the camping area onto the race track.

After passing McDowell for the lead on Lap 47, van Gisbergen stayed on the track to win the second stage at Lap 50 and declined to pit on Lap 61 under caution for debris from Joey Logano's left-front tire. That strategy was contrary to most of the rest of the field.

SvG built a lead of more than six seconds before making a green-flag stop on Lap 76. That's when the heroics began in earnest.

Leaving pit road more than 29 seconds behind Gibbs and Trackhouse Racing teammate Connor Zilisch, van Gisbergen charged through the field in pursuit of the first- and second-place cars. Both Gibbs and Zilisch were saving fuel after pitting on Lap 61 and were racing on tires that were degrading rapidly.

Zilisch dropped from contention on Lap 92 with a flat right-front tire and finished 20th after posting the race's Xfinity Fastest Lap. One lap later, van Gisbergen muscled past a helpless Gibbs into the lead and stretched his advantage until the finish.

McDowell, on a similar pit strategy to SVG's, passed Gibbs for second on Lap 95. Gibbs held third, followed by Chase Briscoe and series leader Tyler Reddick, who leaves Watkins Glen with a 129-point lead over second place Denny Hamlin (16th on Sunday).

"Yeah, it's great. It's great to get this Chevrolet in the top five," said McDowell, who had to settle for best-in-class in his No. 71 Spire Motorsports Chevrolet. "There were moments where I thought, 'Oh, maybe we can hang with SVG,' and it felt like he was just pacing himself back off me, and he would take back off.

"In that second stage there, we got a little off strategy and then recovered well, which (crew chief) Travis (Peterson) did a great job of getting the track position when we needed it. Just not quite enough to run him down."

In fuel-saving mode over the last 39 laps, Gibbs couldn't run the pace he needed to stay ahead of the race winner.

"Honestly, just a little frustrating," said Gibbs, who picked up his first career Cup Series victory at Bristol in April. "I wish we could keep racing, but unfortunately, just had to save some fuel there."

Richard Childress Racing's Austin Dillon finished sixth — his first top 10 of the season — followed by AJ Allmendinger, RCR teammate Kyle Busch, Austin Cindric and John Hunter Nemechek.

In a race that featured six lead changes among four drivers, van Gisbergen led 74 of 100 laps, followed by Gibbs with 17. There were four cautions for 12 total laps.

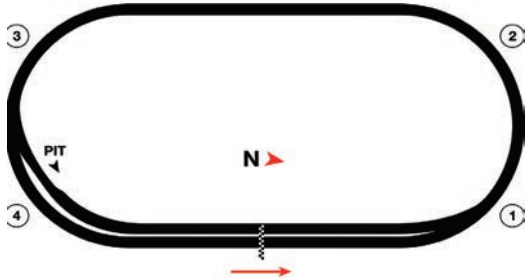
Ryan Blaney finished 11th with Chris Buescher, Daniel Suárez, Ryan Preece and Cole Custer rounding out the top 15.

A tough day for Hendrick Motorsports resulted in a 23rd-place finish for Kyle Larson with teammate Chase Elliott — last week's Texas winner — 24th and Alex Bowman 25th. William Byron suffered damage in Stage 2 that dropped the No. 24 car to a 36th-place finish, three laps down. Joey Logano finished last in 38th place.

TRUCKS FINISH: Kaden Honeycutt takes the checkered flag to win Friday's Bully Hill Vineyards 176 at Watkins Glen. S. Gardner/Getty



NEXT: ALL STAR RACE



Dover Motor Speedway
3 p.m. ET Sunday, FS1

• **Location:** 1131 North Dupont Highway, Dover, Delaware

• **Details:** Known as "The Monster Mile" and "The World's Fastest One-Mile Oval," Dover is one of NASCAR's most demanding tracks. The one-mile concrete oval opened in 1969 and has challenged the sport's best drivers for more than five decades. With steep 24-degree banking in the turns and a punishing racing surface, Dover has earned a reputation as a place where mistakes are costly and victories are hard-earned.

• **Capacity:** 54,000

• **Owner:** Speedway Motorsports (November 2021–present)

• **Course:** Oval

• **Surface:** Concrete

• **Length:** 1 mile (1.609 km)

• **Turns:** 4

• **Banking:** 24° in turns; 9° in straights



Christopher Bell made it to Victory Lane in last year's All-Star race. GETTY

2026 CUP SERIES STANDINGS

Top 30 as of May 10

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Tyler Reddick 23XI	567	16 S v Gisbergen Trkhouse	283
2 Denny Hamlin JGR	438	17 Chase Briscoe JGR	277
3 Chase Elliott Hendrick	422	18 Joey Logano Penske	245
4 Ryan Blaney Penske	405	19 Ross Chastain Trkhouse	236
5 Chris Buescher RFK	375	20 AJ Allmendinger Kaulig	235
6 Ty Gibbs JGR	372	21 Mke McDowell Spire	225
7 Carson Hocevar Spire	342	22 Austin Dillon RCR	220
8 Kyle Larson Hendrick	332	23 Zane Smith Front Row	217
9 Brad Keselowski RFK	318	24 Kyle Busch RCR	217
10 Bubba Wallace 23XI	313	25 Erik Jones Legacy	214
11 Christopher Bell JGR	311	26 Todd Gilliland Fr. Row	206
12 William Byron Hendrick	309	27 Ricky Stenhouse Hyak	193
13 Ryan Preece RFK	296	28 J.H. Nemechek Legacy	189
14 Daniel Suárez Spire	295	29 Riley Herbst 23XI	186
15 Austin Cindric Penske	287	30 Noah Gragson Fr. Row	168

2026 O'REILLY AUTO PARTS STANDINGS

Top 20 as of May 9

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Justin Allgaier #7	640	11 Brent Crews #19	324
2 Sheldon Creed #00	485	12 Sam Mayer #41	321
3 Jesse Love #2	479	13 William Sawalich #18	304
4 Brandon Jones #20	433	14 Rajah Caruth #88	300
5 Corey Day #17	422	15 Ryan Sieg #39	292
6 Sammy Smith #8	399	16 Brennan Poole #44	257
7 Austin Hill #21	392	17 Jeb Burton #27	223
8 Carson Kvapil #91	380	18 Dean Thompson #26	219
9 Parker Retzlaff #99	362	19 Anthony Alfredo #96	215
10 Taylor Gray #54	345	20 Jeremy Clements #51	212

NEXT RACE: BETRIVERS 200, Dover Motor Speedway, 4 p.m. ET Saturday, CW

2026 CRAFTSMAN TRUCK STANDINGS

Top 20 as of May 8

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Kaden Honeycutt #11	313	11 Stewart Friesen #52	181
2 Chandler Smith #38	283	12 Justin Haley #16	181
3 Layne Riggs #34	266	13 Jake Garcia #98	180
4 Giovanni Ruggieri #17255	239	14 Brenden Queen #12	172
5 Christian Eckes #91	239	15 A. Perez De Lara #44	156
6 Ty Majeski #88	233	16 Tanner Gray #15	145
7 Ben Rhodes #99	228	17 Grant Enfinger #9	140
8 Corey Heim #1	204	18 Dawson Sutton #26	132
9 Tyler Ankrum #18	190	19 Mini Tyrell #14	128
10 Daniel Hemric #19	189	20 Cole Butcher #13	108

NEXT RACE: ECOSAVE 200, Dover Motor Speedway, 5 p.m. ET Friday, FS1

THE GLEN WINNER QUOTE

"Then (crew chief) Stephen (Doran) made great calls. I wasn't sure how it was going to work. Then to run them down, very, very special to do two in a row. Just stoked for these guys, you know, to execute every facet of our game. Speechless. This is so cool."

— Shane van Gisbergen, who once again proved his mastery of the road course Sunday at Watkins Glen



Shane van Gisbergen celebrates in Victory Lane Sunday at Watkins Glen.

SEAN GARDNER/GETTY

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