

RACING THIS WEEK

XFINITY RECAP

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



WINNER: CONNOR ZILISCH

It was as hard-earned a victory as the 19-year old Connor Zilisch has claimed in his brief NASCAR career – answering his win from pole position a year ago in his Xfinity Series debut at the historic Watkins Glen International road course with a second consecutive victory Saturday afternoon in a crash-heavy Mission 200 at The Glen.

As Zilisch climbed out of the cockpit and onto the door ledge of his No. 88 JR Motorsports Chevrolet to celebrate his series-best sixth win of the season, he slipped and fell to the ground. Zilisch was taken to a local hospital for treatment of a broken collarbone, an injury that forced him to miss Sunday's Cup race, the Go Bowling at The Glen.

The incident followed a day of competition on the famed 2.45-mile road course that included fierce racing at the front of the field and a 45-minute red flag for a series' track record 16-car accident with eight laps remaining.

Ultimately, Zilisch – who led 60 of the race's 82 laps — motored off to a 2.326-second win over Haas Factory Team's Sam Mayer – that sixth win, one shy of Christopher Bell's rookie record six victories set in 2018.

Zilisch's JR Motorsports teammate Sammy Smith finished third followed by Hill and JRM's Carson Kvapil and Justin Allgaier. Austin Green, Christian Eckes, Joe Gibbs Racing's Brandon Jones and AM Racing's Harrison Burton rounded out the top-10.

TRUCKS RECAP

• **Friday's** MISSION 176 AT THE GLEN, Watkins Glen International



WINNER: COREY HEIM

Trucks championship leader Corey Heim scored his fourth consecutive road-course victory — the sixth of his career — in a dramatic triple overtime finish as nightfall approached in Friday's Mission 176 at The Glen at the historic Watkins Glen International.

Heim took the lead on a restart on the first OT, then held position in his No. 11 Tricon Garage Toyota with a pair of masterful restarts on the second and third OTs, ultimately holding off former Xfinity champion Daniel Hemric and rookie Gio Ruggiero by 0.202 seconds.

It was Heim's 17th series win; the youngest driver in series history to claim that total. It was the second time this year he's won from pole position.

For much of the final regular laps, it looked like Cup regular Christopher Bell may pull off an emotional victory. Bell — gambling on a late-race gas-saving strategy — was leading with one lap to go in regulation when a caution came out for a multitruck accident involving former series champion Ben Rhodes. But the multiple overtimes forced Bell to pit for fuel. His rally forward to a fourth-place finish was impressive.

Tyler Ankrum, Xfinity regular Sammy Smith, Ty Majeski, Xfinity leader Connor Zilisch, Matt Mills and Layne Riggs rounded out the top 10.

GO BOWLING AT THE GLEN

On Sunday, Shane van Gisbergen, former Australian SuperCars Series multi-time champion, joined racing legend Dan Gurney in scoring his first five career Cup Series victories on road courses.



Shane van Gisbergen, driver of the #88 WeatherTech Chevrolet, takes the checkered flag to win the Cup Series Go Bowling at The Glen at Watkins Glen International on Sunday. (Sean Gardner/Getty Images)



Road course ace SvG keeps rollin'

Shane van Gisbergen claimed his fourth Cup Series road course victory of the season Sunday afternoon and second win of more than 10-seconds on the field ... and he made it look effortless.

The 36-year-old New Zealander led a race-best 38 of 90 laps – including the final 17 – at the historic Watkins Glen International in upstate New York. His No. 88 Trackhouse Racing Chevrolet crossed the finish line by 11.116-seconds ahead of Joe Gibbs Racing's Christopher Bell.

SvG, a former Australian SuperCars Series multi-time champion, joins racing legend Dan Gurney in scoring his first five career NASCAR Cup Series victories on road courses; and he did it the same weekend as his Trackhouse team announced his multi-year contract extension.

“Good to get that one back,” said van Gisbergen, in a nod to finishing runner-up in this race last year. “What an awesome race. Coming back through (the field after his final pit stop) I had lot of fun.

“The car was just amazing again. Another win. Awesome.”

“It's the stuff you dream about right?” a smiling van Gisbergen acknowledged of the important weekend. “I'm just a very lucky guy to get to drive for an amazing bunch of people and just execute. The day just went flawlessly and I really enjoyed it. Thank you everyone.”

SvG, in his first fulltime season at NASCAR's elite level, has been essentially unstoppable on the road courses. His four victories on the year – also at Mexico City, Chicago and Sonoma, Calif. – gives him that rookie win record and he now ties perennial championship contender Denny Hamlin for most victories in the series this year.

For all intents and purposes, when it comes to this style of racing, his competition judges itself on how close it can come to him.

“I'm thrilled [today] because we've been struggling a little bit to find our rhythm,” said Bell, who passed Chris Buescher on the final lap to claim the runner-up position. “The cars have been good. Really awesome to have a good day, but frustrated to get our butts kicked by the 88 car doing such a great job. That team has really got it going on.”

The third-place finish for Buescher, who edged Van Gisbergen for the win at Watkins Glen in 2024, still had a good day as far as his championship chances are concerned. The driver of the No. 17 RFK Racing Ford holds onto the final Playoff position – by 34 points over RFK teammate Ryan Preece – among the 16 drivers currently eligible for the Playoff field.

Two regular season races – at Richmond, Va. and Daytona Beach – now remain.

“Had a fast race car again and definitely took the opportunity to capitalize on some stage points early,” said Buescher, who collected 10 important points in winning Stage 1. “Still got back into second [place] there and was making some pretty good headway but just got used up really hard getting by a couple cars to get track position and it fell off pretty hard there at the end.”

Current regular season championship leader, Hendrick Motorsports' William Byron finished fourth in the No. 24 Chevrolet. That showing coupled with his teammate Chase Elliott's 26th place finish extended Byron's lead in the points standings to 42 over Elliott. This marks the first time this season Elliott finished outside the top-20.

Joe Gibbs Racing's Chase Briscoe finished fifth in the No. 19 JGR Toyota, making a last-lap pass on race pacesetter, Team Penske's Ryan Blaney. Van Gisbergen's teammate Daniel Suarez was seventh, followed by 23XI Racing teammates Bubba Wallace and Tyler Reddick. Trackhouse's Ross Chastain rounded out the top-10.

Thirteen drivers have automatic Playoff bids by virtue of a regular season win. Reddick, Hendrick Motorsports' Alex Bowman and Buescher round out the 16-drivers currently eligible for the Playoffs.

Preece and Richard Childress Racing's Kyle Busch (-102 points) are just below the cutoff line. A new race winner at the Richmond short track or the Daytona Beach superspeedway, however, could drastically alter the Playoff look.

The Cup Series moves to the Richmond (Va.) Raceway for Saturday night's Cook Out 400 (7:30 p.m. ET, USA Network, MRN, SiriusXM NASCAR Radio).

TRUCKS BURNOUT ALERT! Corey Heim celebrates after winning Friday's Mission 176 at The Glen at Watkins Glen. S. Gardner/Getty



NEXT: COOK OUT 400



Richmond Raceway
7:30 p.m. ET Saturday, USA

Richmond Raceway, known as America's Premier Short Track, offers great racing action and a commitment to the fan experience as one of the most popular facilities among drivers and fans in all of motorsports.

- Originally known as the Atlantic Rural Exposition Fairgrounds, the circuit held its first race in 1946 as a half-mile dirt track.

- In 2017, the circuit announced a rebranding exercise, dropping the 'International' to become the simpler Richmond Raceway.

- The original track closed on Feb. 21, 1988 and the facility was enlarged to the current 3/4 mile oval, which reopened on Sept. 10, 1988.

- A modernized infield first debuted at the 2018 fall NASCAR Cup race, which was also the first NASCAR Playoff weekend.

LENGTH: 3/4-Mile, measured 13-½ feet in from SAFER Barrier.

SHAPE: “D”-Shaped Oval

WIDTH: 60 feet with a 10-foot apron.

BANKING: 14 degrees in turns, eight degrees at starting line on 1,290-foot front stretch, two degrees on 860-foot back stretch.

RADIUS OF TURNS: Turns 1 and 4: 1198.68. Turns 2 and 3: 365.00

PIT ROAD: 64-foot width with 43 concrete pit stalls, 28' x 19'. **SEATING:** 51,000 seats, plus 680 seats that are part of the TORQUE Club and 80-person Victory Lane Club. There are also 40 luxury suites.

SAFER WALLS: Added in 2003.

INFIELD REDEVELOPMENT: The FanGrounds allow fans access to the historic Richmond infield. The interactive infield gets fans closer than ever before with fan-viewing walkways in the Cup Series garages. Fans can also experience various neighborhoods throughout the infield that have something unique to offer as well as new concession stands.



Austin Dillon hustled his way into the Playoffs with a win last year at Richmond. **GETTY**

2025 CUP SERIES STANDINGS

Top 30 as of August 10

| Rank/Driver | Points | Rank/Driver | Points |
|------------------------|--------|-------------------------|--------|
| 1 William Byron #24 | 812 | 16 Austin Cindric #2 | 502 |
| 2 Chase Elliott #9 | 770 | 17 Ty Gibbs #54 | 493 |
| 3 Denny Hamlin #11 | 731 | 18 AJ Allmendinger #16 | 489 |
| 4 Christopher Bell #20 | 727 | 19 Brad Keselowski #6 | 465 |
| 5 Kyle Larson #5 | 727 | 20 Carson Hocevar #77 | 462 |
| 6 Ryan Blaney #12 | 710 | 21 Erik Jones #43 | 461 |
| 7 Tyler Reddick #45 | 701 | 22 Michael McDowell #71 | 458 |
| 8 Chase Briscoe #19 | 674 | 23 J.H. Nemechek #42 | 458 |
| 9 Alex Bowman #48 | 644 | 24 Josh Berry #21 | 445 |
| 10 Chris Buescher #17 | 618 | 25 S. v. Gisbergen #88 | 441 |
| 11 Bubba Wallace #23 | 610 | 26 Ricky Stenhouse #47 | 420 |
| 12 Ryan Preece #60 | 584 | 27 Zane Smith #38 | 415 |
| 13 Joey Logano #22 | 583 | 28 Austin Dillon #3 | 406 |
| 14 Ross Chastain #1 | 571 | 29 Daniel Suárez #99 | 393 |
| 15 Kyle Busch #8 | 516 | 30 Justin Haley #7 | 388 |

2025 XFINITY SERIES STANDINGS

Top 20 as of August 9

| Rank/Driver | Points | Rank/Driver | Points |
|----------------------|--------|-------------------------|--------|
| 1 Connor Zilisch #88 | 823 | 11 Harrison Burton #25 | 578 |
| 2 Justin Allgaier #7 | 816 | 12 Nicholas Sanchez #48 | 555 |
| 3 Sam Mayer #41 | 799 | 13 Jeb Burton #27 | 548 |
| 4 Jesse Love #2 | 731 | 14 Ryan Sieg #39 | 540 |
| 5 Austin Hill #21 | 690 | 15 Christian Eckes #16 | 506 |
| 6 Carson Kvapil #1 | 660 | 16 Dean Thompson #26 | 496 |
| 7 Brandon Jones #20 | 646 | 17 Daniel Dye #10 | 465 |
| 8 Sheldon Creed #00 | 625 | 18 Brennan Poole #44 | 439 |
| 9 Taylor Gray #54 | 624 | 19 Jeremy Clements #51 | 406 |
| 10 Sammy Smith #8 | 603 | 20 William Sawalich #18 | 397 |

NEXT RACE: WAWA 250 POWERED BY COCA-COLA, Daytona, 7:30 p.m. ET Friday, Aug. 22, CW

2025 TRUCK SERIES STANDINGS

Top 20 as of August 8

| Rank/Driver | Points | Rank/Driver | Points |
|-----------------------|--------|-------------------------|--------|
| 1 Corey Heim #11 | 792 | 11 Gio Ruggiero #17 | 448 |
| 2 Layne Riggs #34 | 614 | 12 Rajah Caruth #71 | 420 |
| 3 Chandler Smith #38 | 606 | 13 Tanner Gray #15 | 400 |
| 4 Daniel Hemric #19 | 582 | 14 Stewart Friesen #52 | 397 |
| 5 Grant Enfinger #9 | 549 | 15 Connor Mosack #81 | 366 |
| 6 Ty Majeski #98 | 542 | 16 Matt Crafton #88 | 352 |
| 7 Tyler Ankrum #18 | 536 | 17 A. Perez De Lara #77 | 328 |
| 8 Kaden Honeycutt #02 | 523 | 18 Matt Mills #42 | 317 |
| 9 Jake Garcia #13 | 469 | 19 Jack Wood #91 | 308 |
| 10 Ben Rhodes #99 | 458 | 20 Dawson Sutton #26 | 297 |

NEXT RACE: EERO 250, Richmond Raceway, 7:30 p.m. ET Friday, FS1

GLEN WINNER QUOTE

“What an awesome race. Coming back through (the field after his final pit stop) I had lot of fun. The car was just amazing again. Another win. Awesome.”

— Shane van Gisbergen, who secured his fourth win of the Cup season Sunday at Watkins Glen



Shane van Gisbergen celebrates with his customary kicking of a rugby ball into the stands after winning at Watkins Glen Sunday.

SEAN GARDNER/GETTY IMAGES



ALL AMERICAN

SUB + MELT

Declare your freedom from hunger with ham, Smith's bologna, hard salami and cheese on a toasty pretzel bun or piled high on a Barnbuster sub.