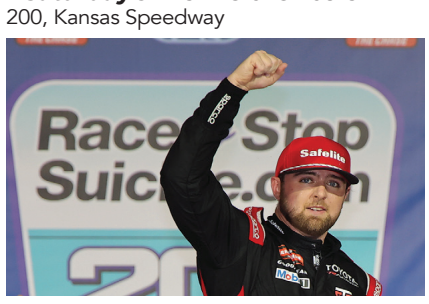
The Derrick.

WHEELS

Thursday, October 1, 2026

TRUCKS RECAP

• **Saturday's** RACE TO STOP SUICIDE 200, Kansas Speedway



WINNER: KADEN HONEYCUTT

On a near-perfect day, Kaden Honeycutt left Kansas Speedway with a victory in the Race to Stop Suicide 200 and control of the Truck Series Chase.

Honeycutt led 111 of 134 laps on Saturday, won the first two stages and asserted the superiority of his No. 11 TRICON Garage Toyota late in the race to claim the series lead by 37 points over star-crossed Layne Riggs, who clipped the outside wall in the closing laps and finished 19th.

Riggs overcame a bungled stop on pit road to run second until contact with the wall dropped him through the field on the final two laps.

Intermittent rainstorms halted the race after 70 laps, with drivers and their crews waiting through a red-flag period of 4 hours 47 minutes for the resumption.

When the second Chase event of the postseason restarted on Lap 78, Honeycutt resumed his dominance, passing Grant Enfinger and Ben Rhodes—who had taken the top two spots by staying out on older tires.

From that point, it was clear sailing until Riggs took two tires to Honeycutt's four on the final pit stop under caution on Lap 117. Riggs restarted third and grabbed the lead on Lap 122, but Honeycutt powered past him a lap later and held the lead the rest of the way, through a caution for Enfinger's blown tire and contact with the outside wall.

With Riggs fading on the final two laps, Honeycutt finished 1.358 seconds ahead of runner-up Christian Eckes. Brent Crews ran third, followed by Chase drivers Daniel Hemric, Ben Rhodes and Chandler Smith.

Taking the initial green flag from the fourth position, Honeycutt grabbed the lead from Nick Sanchez on the opening lap and won the first stage wire-to-wire.

In fact, Honeycutt didn't surrender the top spot until Lap 48, when Riggs got to the stripe first on a restart after Connor Hall spun on the backstretch to cause the second caution.

Riggs' lead was short-lived. On Lap 50, Honeycutt tapped the rear bumper of Riggs' No. 34 Front Row Motorsports Ford—with Riggs' truck suffering a glancing blow against the outside wall. Honeycutt passed Riggs to the inside and retook the lead.

When Hall spun for the second time on Lap 54, bringing the second stage to an early end, Honeycutt held the top spot and completed the sweep of the first two stages. Honeycutt pitted for tires and fuel under caution for the stage break on Lap 61 and gave up the lead, as eight trucks remained on the track for a Lap 65 restart.

Riggs restarted 25th and gained six spots on the restart lap before the wreck and rain stopped the race.

Non-Chase drivers Nick Leitz, Tanner Gray, Jake Garcia and Corey LaJoie completed the top 10 in the finishing order. Chase driver Giovanni Ruggiero was 13th. Tyler Ankrum finished 25th after a late flat tire, Ty Majeski 29th and Enfinger 31st.

All told, Honeycutt scored 75 points, scoring every possible marker except for one point for posting the fastest lap, a distinction that went to Ankrum.

HOLLYWOOD CASINO 400
Kyle Larson won for the second time in three races Sunday and took control of the Cup Series Chase. Larson's fourth victory at Kansas left him 26 points ahead of second-place Denny Hamlin, who entered the Chase as the top seed.





Kyle Larson, driver of the #5 HendrickCars.com Chevrolet, takes the checkered flag to win the Cup Series Hollywood Casino 400 at Kansas Speedway on Sunday.
(Jonathan Bachman/Getty)

Kyle outlasts Chase and takes control of the Chase

KANSAS CITY, Kan. — Kyle Larson made a statement in Sunday's Hollywood Casino 400 at Kansas Speedway.

Retaking the lead from Chase Briscoe with seven laps, Larson won for the second time in three races and took control of the Cup Series Chase presented by Mobil 1.

Larson's fourth victory at the 1.5-mile track left him 26 points ahead of second-place Denny Hamlin, who entered the Chase as the top seed. Christopher Bell is 50 points back in third after finishing sixth on Sunday.

"I really thought when Chase got by, he was just going to stretch out, but I got some lines going where I could settle in and try to take care of my tires," said Larson, who lost the lead to Briscoe on Lap 238 of 267. "I don't know. I think it's just easier to be the hunter rather than the hunted.

"With me out front, I'm just defending and trying to guess on what lines are fast. When he got in front of me, I could see he started getting really loose. Yeah, that was fun. That was such a good day. Max points. I was going to be happy with second with how the race went, but to get the lead, that's a big deal for the points."

The victory was Larson's second of the season and 34th of his career, tying him with Kurt Busch and Martin Truex Jr. for 26th.

Though Larson, the defending series champion, won the first two stages, led 235 laps, and set the fastest lap (30.076 seconds on Lap 2) to score a maximum 76 points for the day, the win was hardly a foregone conclusion after the final cycle of green-flag pit stops.

After following Briscoe to pit road on Lap 216 with a last-second call, Larson regained the top spot at the end of the pit cycle, but he scraped the wall early in the final run. Briscoe ran Larson down from 1.5 seconds back and passed the No. 5 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet for the lead on Lap 238.

Briscoe held the top spot for 23 laps, but his No. 19 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota developed a loose condition late in the run, and Larson made up the ground he had lost. On Lap 261, Larson darted to the inside of Briscoe's Camry and completed the winning pass.

Contact with the wall cost Briscoe in the final laps, as both runner-up Austin Cindric and third-place Hamlin passed him on the way to the checkered flag. Briscoe held fourth, followed by Ryan Blaney, who is now fifth in the standings, 91 points behind Larson.

"Yeah, just went really, really loose," Briscoe said of the closing laps. "I kind of had that the run before when we did the green-flag pit stop. I got it in the wall so many times that I had a little bit of a leak. Just went really, really free ultimately.

"It was better for me to be in second. Just being behind (Larson), especially with how much he was aero blocking, it would just tighten me up and allow me to actually be a little bit better. And then as soon as I would get the lead, I would just go really, really free again.

"So, yeah, frustrating for sure. Yeah, just felt like I had a win there to stay in contention for a championship, and obviously now losing, I don't know, 123 points back (in eighth place), that's probably not going to happen."

With perhaps the fastest long-run car in the race, Cindric closed to 0.565 seconds behind Larson at the finish.

Cindric, however, lost time on the track by pitting one lap later than Larson and Briscoe. He was 4.6 seconds down to the leader when pit stops cycled out and spent the rest of the race trying to close the gap.

Cindric scored 52 points to Larson's 76 and is tied with Bubba Wallace for ninth in the Chase standings, 140 points behind Larson.

Behind Bell, William Byron ran seventh, followed by Chase Elliott, Wallace and Ryan Preece. Tyler Reddick made a remarkable recovery after running 33rd in his ill-handling Toyota early in the race and finished 11th. Reddick's rally could have been even better, but for a blown pit stop under green in the final cycle.

Joey Logano, who started from the pole by the rule book when rain washed out time trials, finished 20th and fell from third to fourth in the standings, a distant 67 points out of the lead.

Ten of the 16 Chase drivers are now 111 points or more behind Larson, with 14th-place finisher Daniel Suarez 187 points down in 16th place.

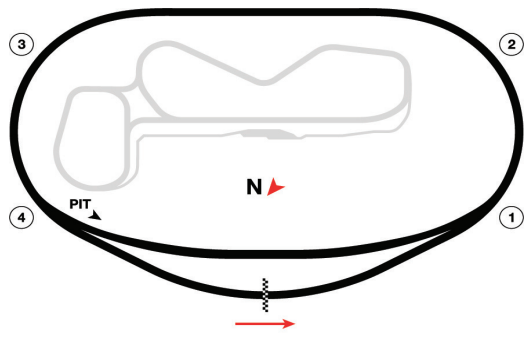
After finishing fourth in Stage 1, Bristol pugilist Carson Hocevar was part of a six-car restart wreck on Lap 122. With severe damage to the splitter on his No. 77 Spire Motorsports Chevrolet, Hocevar finished 33rd and dropped three spots to 11th in the standings, 150 points in arrears.

KANSAS WINNER QUOTE

"I really thought when Chase (Briscoe) got by, he was just going to stretch out. When he got in front of me, I could see he started getting really loose. I was going to be happy with second with how the race went, but to get the lead, that's a big deal for the points."
— Kyle Larson, who grabbed the Chase top spot with Sunday's win at Kansas

Kyle Larson in Victory Lane Sunday at Kansas Speedway. SEAN GARDNER/ GETTY

PLAYOFF 5: SOUTH POINT 400



Las Vegas Motor Speedway
5:30 p.m. ET Sunday, USA

• **Location:** 7000 North Las Vegas Boulevard Las Vegas, Nevada
• **Capacity:** 80,000
• **Owner:** Speedway Motorsports (1999–present)
• **Opened:** May 1971
• **Course:** Tri-oval intermediate speedway
• **Surface:** Asphalt
• **Length:** 1.5 miles
• **Banking:** Turns, 20°; Frontstretch, 9°; Backstretch, 9°
• **First Cup race:** March 1, 1998 — Inaugural Las Vegas 400, won by Mark Martin



Denny Hamlin and crew celebrated in Victory Lane in March at Las Vegas. GETTY



2026 CUP SERIES STANDINGS

*Top 30 w/ **Playoff 16** as of Sept. 27*

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Kyle Larson #5	2282	16 Daniel Suárez #7	2095
2 Denny Hamlin #11	2256	17 Shane v Gisbergen #97	660
3 Christopher Bell #20	2232	18 Brad Keselowski #6	641
4 Joey Logano #22	2215	19 Ross Chastain #1	614
5 Ryan Blaney #12	2191	20 Michael McDowell #71	580
6 Ty Gibbs #54	2188	21 Erik Jones #43	570
7 Tyler Reddick #45	2171	22 Todd Gilliland #34	538
8 Chase Briscoe #19	2159	23 AJ Allmendinger #16	529
9 Bubba Wallace #23	2142	24 Austin Dillon #3	510
10 Austin Cindric #2	2142	25 Josh Berry #21	503
11 Carson Hocevar #77	2132	26 J.H. Nemechek #42	489
12 William Byron #24	2124	27 Zane Smith #38	483
13 Chase Elliott #9	2121	28 Alex Bowman #48	475
14 Ryan Preece #60	2109	29 Ricky Stenhouse Jr #47	455
15 Chris Buescher #17	2096	30 Riley Herbst #35	427

2026 O'REILLY AUTO PARTS STANDINGS

*Top 20 w/ **Playoff 12** as of Sept. 18*

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Sheldon Creed #00	2235	11 Brandon Jones #20	2121
2 Justin Allgaier #7	2224	12 Rajah Caruth #88	2071
3 Carson Kvapil #1	2198	13 Brent Crews #19	715
4 Jesse Love #2	2194	14 William Sawalich #18	676
5 Sam Mayer #41	2157	15 Ryan Sieg #39	619
6 Corey Day #17	214	16 Anthony Alfredo #96	579
7 Sammy Smith #8	2143	17 Brennan Poole #44	515
8 Taylor Gray #54	2131	18 Dean Thompson #26	507
9 Austin Hill #21	2129	19 Jeremy Clements #51	445
10 Parker Retzlaff #99	2124	20 Harrison Burton #24	444

NEXT RACE: FOCUSED HEALTH 302, Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 7:30 p.m. ET Saturday, CW

2026 CRAFTSMAN TRUCK STANDINGS

*Top 20 w/ **Playoff 10** as of Sept. 26*

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 K. Honeycutt #11	2197	11 Jake Garcia #98	501
2 Layne Riggs #34	2160	12 Stewart Friesen #52	465
3 Chandler Smith #38	2126	13 Justin Haley #16	412
4 Gio Ruggiero #17	2125	14 Tanner Gray #15	404
5 Christian Eckes #91	2115	15 Brenden Queen #12	403
6 Daniel Hemric #19	2110	16 A. Perez De Lara #44	388
7 Ty Majeski #88	2109	17 Corey Heim #5	346
8 Ben Rhodes #99	2099	18 Dawson Sutton #27	305
9 Grant Enfinger #9	2079	19 Cole Butcher #13	302
10 Tyler Ankrum #18	2070	20 Mini Tyrrell #14	285

NEXT RACE: ECOSAVE 250, Charlotte Motor Speedway, 5 p.m. ET Friday, Oct. 9, FOX

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