

O'REILLY RECAP

• **Saturday's** FOCUSED HEALTH 250, EchoPark Speedway Atlanta



WINNER: JUSTIN ALLGAIER

After a nearly four-hour race that ended in double overtime, a familiar name hoisted the trophy as O'Reilly Series leader Justin Allgaier made a last-lap pass to claim his sixth win of the season in Saturday night's Focused Health 250 at EchoPark Speedway.

Just after taking the white flag, signaling one lap remaining, race leader Brennan Poole and defending race winner Nick Sanchez collided during a final charge to the checkered flag. As their cars hit the outside wall at the 1.5-mile track, Allgaier drove underneath in his No. 7 JR Motorsports Chevrolet, with teammate Carson Kvapil giving chase in pursuit of his first career win.

But the 2024 series champion was too good at just the right time, holding off Kvapil by 0.139 seconds to secure a career-high sixth win of the season and clinch the 2026 regular-season championship.

The result also moved JR Motorsports within one top-10 finish of tying the record of 79 consecutive races with at least one team car finishing in the top 10. Roush Fenway Keselowski currently holds the mark.

Viking Motorsports' Parker Retzlaff and Anthony Alfredo, along with JGR's William Sawalich, survived the closing laps to finish top five.

Garrett Smithley, Brandon Jones, Kyle Sieg, Caruth and Jeremy Clements rounded out the top 10.

TRUCKS RECAP

• **Saturday's** LIUNA 150, Lime Rock Park



WINNER: GRANT ENFINGER

Popular veteran Grant Enfinger took the lead on a late race restart and held off a hard-charging Landen Lewis to make his first visit to the Truck Series Victory Lane in more than a season – earning his first career road course win Saturday afternoon in the LIUNA 150 at Connecticut's historic Lime Rock Park.

Enfinger, who lined up alongside Gio Ruggiero for a restart with three laps remaining, got the jump at the green flag and then held off Lewis – who was racing for his first career series win. It was a fittingly exhilarating way to close out the race which included an 18-minute red flag and thrilling door-to-door competition.

Enfinger's No. 9 CR7 Motorsports Chevrolet crossed the line only a slight .483-second ahead of the Niece Motorsports driver Lewis.

Of the final restart, Enfinger said he was enthused to get the edge on then-leader Gio Ruggiero at the drop of the green. He had considered taking the preferable position outside but opted to start alongside Guggiero on the front row and honorably vie for the lead that way. This marks his 13th career win.

Championship contender Kaden Honeycutt claimed third place.

QUAKER STATE 400

Ryan Blaney won Sunday's race at EchoPark Speedway in a wild overtime thriller, scoring his second victory of the season, leading a race-best 171 laps in a win that doubled as Ford's 750th in the series.



Eventual winner Ryan Blaney, driver of the #12 BODYARMOR FLASH I.V. Ford, leads the field to the green flag to start the Cup Series Quaker State 400 Available at Walmart at EchoPark Speedway on Sunday. (Meg Oliphant/Getty)

Blaney does what it takes for second win of season

HAMPTON, Ga. — Ryan Blaney led a dominating 171 of 263 laps to claim the trophy in overtime in Sunday-night-turned-Monday-morning's Quaker State 400 Available at Walmart NASCAR Cup Series race at EchoPark Speedway.

As impressive as the big number of laps led is the night-long extra effort Blaney turned in to mark his second win of the season and first since Phoenix in March. The 32-year-old North Carolinian made the winning pass on the last lap in what had been a dramatic lap-by-lap night-long battle up front, necessitating — some of the 2023 series champion's best work.

His laps-led total on the 1.5-mile Atlanta high-banks is the most for a race winner at a drafting track since Richard Petty led 184 of 200 laps in his 1964 Daytona 500 victory.

Blaney's No. 12 Team Penske Ford got the race-winning nudge forward on the last lap of overtime by Joe Gibbs Racing's Christopher Bell, whose No. 20 Toyota ultimately crossed the finish line three-wide alongside 23XI Racing's Bubba Wallace and Spires' Carson Hocevar. Hocevar was leading when the field took the white flag.

Wallace was later penalized for being out of bounds, dropping below the track's yellow line at one point as he corrected his car on that final overtime restart, battling Hocevar for position. The adjusted top-five with the penalty then placed Bell second to Blaney by 0.068 seconds — the JGR Toyota driver's fifth top-five in the last eight races. Hocevar was scored third, followed by the Toyotas of JGR's Ty Gibbs and Legacy Motor Club's Erik Jones.

"Pretty wild," said a smiling Blaney, who started on the pole and swept the stages.

"Bubba gave me really good shoves on the restart. We got hooked up really good and then Bubba and I got a huge run down the front straightaway and I was able to get to the outside of Carson. Wasn't able to clear him [then]. And then Bubba went three-wide bottom down the back, which lined up for a really cool finish at the line."

"I really have to shout out Christopher Bell being right on my bumper through [Turns] 3 and 4 and a big push. He was a big reason why we won the race, so I appreciate that, Christopher."

It was an adventurous victory for Blaney, who faced challenges every lap and was forced to re-establish his position out front even after a more than three-hour red flag

for weather at Lap 109 and the changing weather conditions.

Blaney has now earned Ford Motor Company's last six Cup Series wins, and it marks a significant 750th victory for Ford.

Despite the impressive race statistics, it took hard work and unrelenting spirit to pull off this second victory of the season. Hocevar ran among the frontrunners for much of the night and was a serious threat to win. The 23-year-old driver of the No. 77 Spire Motorsports Chevrolet earned his first career win in April at the series' previous drafting track stop – Talladega Superspeedway. And he came into the race full of confidence and vigor.

It was also an impressive night for Trackhouse Racing driver Shane van Gisbergen, finishing sixth for his third top-10 showing on an oval this season.

Richard Childress Racing's Austin Dillon was seventh, followed by the season's five-time race winner Tyler Reddick, who won at EchoPark in February. Blaney's Penske teammate, three-time series champ Joey Logano, was ninth, scoring his sixth top-10 of the season. RFKs Chris Buescher was 10th.

The night had a big effect on the \$1 million-to-win In-Season Challenge, with Bell's runner-up showing bettering his JGR teammate Denny Hamlin's 12th-place showing to advance to next week's semifinal round. He'll join Hendrick Motorsports' Chase Elliott, who finished 13th, out-dueling JGR's Chase Briscoe, who finished 36th after being collected in a crash.

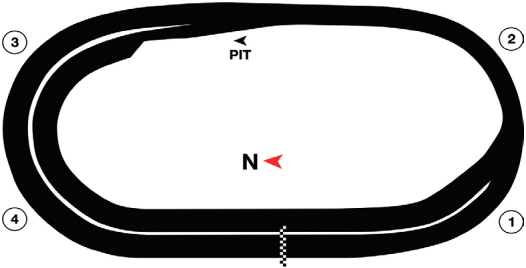
Blaney's win advances him past Hendrick's William Byron, who finished 16th. And Front Row Motorsports' Todd Gilliland advances with a 19th-place effort, bettering Hendrick's Alex Bowman, who finished 22nd.

The night also had major implications in the championship standings, now with only six races remaining to set the 16-driver field that will compete in the Chase.

Hamlin retains the championship points lead, however, Reddick cut the margin nearly in half at EchoPark with strong stage showings in addition to his top-10. He now trails his 23XI Racing team co-owner by 24 points. Blaney's victory also moved him into Regular Season Championship talk, cutting what was once a 100-plus-point deficit to now only 65 points.

Jones' finish kept him ranked 16th, but Logano's effort moved him up behind Jones.

NEXT: WINDOW WORLD 400



North Wilkesboro Speedway
7 p.m. ET Sunday, TNT

• **Location:** 381 Speedway Lane, North Wilkesboro, North Carolina

• **Owner:** Speedway Motorsports (2007–present); Bruton Smith and Bob Bahre (1995–2007); Staley and Combs families (1953–1995); Enoch Staley and Mastin brothers (1947–1953)

• **Opened:** May 1947

• **Capacity:** 19,800 (permanent seats, expandable to 25,000)

• **Surface:** Paved (asphalt)

• **Course:** Oval (1947–present)

• **Turns:** 4

• **Length:** 0.625 mi (1.006 km)

• **Banking:** Turns, 14°; Straights, 3°

• **Cup race lap record:** 0:18.362 (Kyle Larson, Chevrolet Camaro ZL1, 2024)

• **Of note:** Before 1957, North Wilkesboro utilized a dirt surface. In late August of that year, developers opted to pave the track.

• **'Shine' on:** Throughout the track's history, it became renowned for its connection to moonshine runners. The town of North Wilkesboro, considered the "Moonshine Capital of the World" by the 1950s, was a runner haven, with moonshine contributing to the North Wilkesboro economy. Many within the Carolinas who participated in moonshine running were also involved in the formation of stock car racing, which helped create NASCAR. In 1965, the track, along with North Wilkesboro native and former moonshine runner Junior Johnson, were featured in an *Esquire* article by Tom Wolfe. The article is considered key in expanding knowledge of NASCAR outside of its core Southeastern United States market.



Winston Cup racing action from 1983 at North Wilkesboro. (Getty)

2026 CUP SERIES STANDINGS

Top 30 as of July 12

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Denny Hamlin #11	791	16 Erik Jones #43	446
2 Tyler Reddick #45	767	17 Joey Logano #22	438
3 Ryan Blaney #12	726	18 Ryan Preece #60	420
4 Ty Gibbs #54	665	19 Brad Keselowski #6	403
5 Chase Elliott #9	610	20 Ross Chastain #1	401
6 Kyle Larson #5	594	21 Michael McDowell #71	399
7 Chris Buescher #17	568	22 AJ Allmendinger #16	396
8 Carson Hocevar #77	563	23 Zane Smith #38	356
9 Christopher Bell #20	551	24 Todd Gilliland #34	353
10 Chase Briscoe #19	542	25 Riley Herbst #35	350
11 Daniel Suárez #7	529	26 Ricky Stenhouse Jr #47	344
12 William Byron #24	520	27 J. H. Nemechek #42	344
13 Bubba Wallace #23	493	28 Austin Dillon #3	327
14 Austin Cindric #2	470	29 Alex Bowman #48	281
15 Shane van Gisbergen #97	469	30 Noah Gragson #4	241

2026 O'REILLY AUTO PARTS STANDINGS

Top 20 as of July 11

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Justin Allgaier #7	966	11 Brent Crews #19	540
2 Jesse Love #2	726	12 Taylor Gray #54	539
3 Sheldon Creed #00	693	13 Rajah Caruth #88	522
4 Corey Day #17	689	14 William Sawalich #18	518
5 Carson Kvapil #1	682	15 Ryan Sieg #39	473
6 Brandon Jones #20	664	16 Anthony Alfredo #96	423
7 Austin Hill #21	659	17 Brennan Poole #44	386
8 Sammy Smith #8	639	18 Dean Thompson #26	368
9 Parker Retzlaff #99	593	19 Jeremy Clements #51	362
10 Sam Mayer #41	555	20 Harrison Burton #24	319

NEXT RACE: SERIES RACE, Indianapolis Motor Speedway, 4 p.m. ET Saturday, July 25, CW

2026 CRAFTSMAN TRUCK STANDINGS

Top 20 as of July 11

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Layne Riggs #34	595	11 Stewart Friesen #52	301
2 Kaden Honeycutt #11	551	12 Jake Garcia #98	301
3 Chandler Smith #38	441	13 Brenden Queen #12	297
4 Christian Eckes #91	440	14 A. Perez De Lara #44	287
5 Giovanni Ruggiero #17	431	15 Justin Haley #16	284
6 Ty Majeski #88	363	16 Tanner Gray #15	277
7 Ben Rhodes #99	355	17 Corey Heim #1	274
8 Daniel Hemric #19	354	18 Dawson Sutton #26	219
9 Grant Enfinger #9	343	19 Mini Tyrrell #14	214
10 Tyler Ankrum #18	318	20 Cole Butcher #13	204

NEXT RACE: FAITHFEST 250, North Wilkesboro Speedway, 12:30 p.m. ET Saturday, FS1

ECHOPARK WINNER QUOTE

"Bubba (Wallace) gave me really good shoves on the restart. We got hooked up really good and then Bubba and I got a huge run down the front straightaway and I was able to get to the outside of Carson (Hocevar). And then Bubba went three-wide bottom down the back, which lined up for a really cool finish at the line."

— Ryan Blaney, who grabbed his second win of the season Sunday at EchoPark Speedway



Ryan Blaney (R) and crew chief Jonathan Hassler in Victory Lane Sunday at EchoPark Speedway. GETTY

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