

# RACING THIS WEEK

**TRUCKS FINISH:**  
Spire Motorsports  
Carson Hocevar  
takes the  
checkered  
flag Saturday  
at Kansas  
Speedway.  
**J. Squire/Getty**



## TRUCKS RECAP

• **Saturday's** HEART OF HEALTH CARE 200, Kansas Speedway



**WINNER: CARSON HOCEVAR**

Carson Hocevar survived last-lap contact from the Ford of Layne Riggs, bounced off the outside wall and half a lap later took the checkered flag to win Saturday night's Heart of Health Care 200 at Kansas Speedway.

The victory was Hocevar's first of the season in his second Truck Series start this year, his first at the 1.5-mile track and the fifth of his career.

But Hocevar had to keep the fast-closing truck of Riggs behind him. On the final lap, Riggs steered to the inside of Hocevar's No. 7 Spire Motorsports Chevrolet, got to the left rear quarter of the Silverado and slid up the track into Hocevar's truck.

After the contact, both Hocevar and Riggs maintained control, and both scraped the outside wall before continuing toward the finish line. With William Byron looking on from what was then third place, Hocevar arrived 0.262 seconds ahead of Riggs, who appeared to have finished second at Kansas for the second straight time.

However, Riggs was disqualified after post-race inspection found a truck bed cover violation on his No. 34 Front Row Motorsports Ford, elevating Byron to second place.

"I was just hoping they would crash, but they didn't," said Byron, who fought a tight-handling No. 07 Spire truck as the final run progressed and finished 0.718 seconds behind the race winner.

"I just thought I'd make it entertaining," Hocevar quipped after climbing from his truck for an interview. "That 34 (Riggs) was super, super good. This truck was really good on the short runs—I didn't think he would get to us for how far back he was, but he was super good."

"Yeah, it's been a while since I've been in a finish like that where it's been all out there. So credit to him. I know he was going for everything there."

Riggs and third-place finisher Corey Heim lost track position on the wrong side of a cycle of green-flag pit stops midway through the final stage. Riggs recovered to challenge for the lead, while Heim incurred a penalty for an improper restart to squander his chances at victory.

Heim led 52 of the first 53 laps and won the first stage but lost 15 positions on pit road under caution on Lap 53 when the rear tire changer's air gun broke. Heim charged back to fourth in the running order, but lost all his progress when the sixth caution, for Frankie Muniz's spin into the infield grass, interrupted the cycle of green-flag stops on Lap 97, trapped Heim a lap down and forced a wave-around.

That's when Hocevar, who remained on the lead lap after pitting, gained control of the race, which featured seven cautions for 33 laps. Hocevar led three times for 75 laps.

Heim did further damage to his chances by changing lanes to outside behind the truck of Toni Breidinger before the start/finish line on a Lap 103 restart. Thwarted in his attempt to win a third straight race at Kansas, Heim charged back to third at the finish.

Gio Ruggiero ran fourth, followed by Stewart Friesen, Brandon Jones, pole winner Jake Garcia, Kaden Honeycutt, Grant Enfinger and Daniel Hemric.

## ADVENTHEALTH 400

Sunday's triumph was Kyle Larson's third of the season, tying Christopher Bell for most in the series this year. The win was Larson's third at Kansas and the 32nd of his career.



**Kyle Larson, driver of the #5 HendrickCars.com Chevrolet, takes the checkered flag to win the Cup Series AdventHealth 400 at Kansas Speedway on Sunday.**

(Jamie Squire/Getty Images)

# Larson getting used to winning at Kansas

**K**ANSAS CITY, Kan.—Last year, Kyle Larson won the spring race at Kansas Speedway by the thinnest of margins—0.001 seconds in the closest finish in NASCAR Cup Series history.

On Sunday, after putting his No. 5 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet on the pole on Saturday, Larson defended his victory in far more decisive fashion, leading 221 of 267 laps in winning the AdventHealth 400 at the 1.5-mile track.

The triumph was Larson's third of the season, tying race runner-up Christopher Bell for most in the series so far this year. The win was Larson's third at Kansas and the 32nd of his career, tying NASCAR Hall of Famer Dale Jarrett for 29th on the career list.

"Great car, great execution today, too, for our team," said Larson, who now will start to concentrate on the Indianapolis 500/Coca-Cola 600 double he'll attempt for the second time later this month.

"Glad to not win by an inch right here this time and a little bit safer gap. But thanks again to the team. Congrats to all of Hendrick Motorsports, the engine shop, everybody there."

Larson reached several significant milestones on Sunday. His career laps led reached 10,073, behind only Kyle Busch (19,440) and Denny Hamlin (15,613) among full-time active drivers.

Sweeping the first and second stages, Larson now has eight stage wins this season, a record for the first 12 Cup races of a season. His stage sweep was the 14th of his career.

Larson now leads the series standings by 35 points over Hendrick Motorsports teammate William Byron, who finished 24th after falling off the lead lap with an early flat tire.

The colossal numbers, however, don't tell the full story. At the end of the final 49-lap green-flag run, Larson had to manage his right-side tires, and his advantage over Bell shrank from a comfortable two seconds to just 0.712 seconds at the finish line.

Closing fast in third, Ryan Blaney finished just 0.832 seconds behind the race winner.

As close as Bell got at the finish, it wasn't a particularly satisfying runner-up finish for the driver of the No. 20 Joe Gibbs Racing Toyota.

"I didn't feel like we were very good today,"



**Kyle Larson, driver of the #5 HendrickCars.com Chevrolet, takes the checkered flag to win the Cup Series AdventHealth 400 at Kansas Speedway on Sunday.**

(Jamie Squire/Getty Images)

Bell said. "We qualified well, had good pit stops, never really had any issues to set us back. But on the track, we were constantly going the wrong direction instead of going forward. But everyone fought hard on this Reser's Camry and got us a good finish. I don't know. I'm sure I will be a lot happier about it tomorrow and later in the week."

Helping Larson's cause was the sequence of events at the start of the race's final stage, which also was emblematic of hapless Brad Keselowski's entire season.

A quick pit stop got Keselowski's No. 6 Ford out in fourth place behind Chase Elliott, Larson and Blaney for a restart. As Elliott widened his lead, Keselowski took third and battled Larson side-by-side for second, with Keselowski prevailing on Lap 179.

Chasing Elliott with the prospect of a season-altering victory in sight, Keselowski narrowed Elliott's lead from nearly two seconds to 0.913 seconds, but on Lap 195, Keselowski blew a right-front tire entering Turn 1 and slapped the outside wall.

"I hit pretty hard, so I doubt it's fixable, but we'll see," Keselowski radioed to his team.

He was right. The No. 6 Ford left the track on a wrecker, out of the race in 37th place. The 2012 Cup champion has yet to score a top 10 or lead a lap this season.

Nevertheless, Keselowski's accident was a boon for Larson, who regained control of the race thereafter. Elliott had usurped the top spot out of the pits on Lap 169 and gapped the rest of the field after a Lap 174 restart.

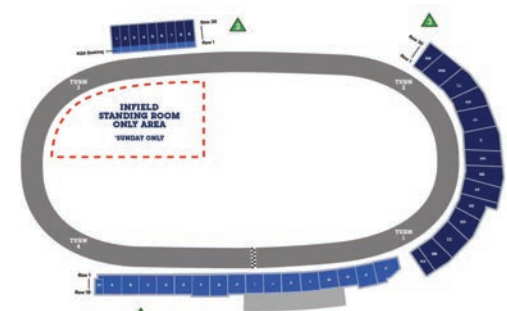
During pit stops under the fourth caution for Keselowski's wreck, however, Elliott's crew had trouble with the right rear tire, and Elliott lost 11 positions for the subsequent restart on Lap 201. He never recovered and faded to 15th at the finish.

Chase Briscoe ran fourth for the fourth time this season. Alex Bowman scraped the wall in the closing laps and held fifth ahead of Ford drivers Josh Berry, Ryan Preece, Chris Buescher and Joey Logano.

John Hunter Nemechek came home 10th, scoring his second straight top 10 on an intermediate track.

The race featured seven cautions—four in the final stage—for a total of 37 laps. Elliott led 29 laps, the only driver other than Larson to lead more than four.

## NEXT: NASCAR ALL-STAR RACE



**North Wilkesboro Speedway, NC**  
8 p.m. ET Sunday, FS1

NASCAR celebrated the 40th running of its All-Star Race at legendary North Wilkesboro Speedway last year, and returns Sunday ready to hand out another \$1 million check to the winner.

### Winners of each NASCAR All-Star Race

Year	Driver	Location
1985	Darrell Waltrip	Charlotte
1986	Bill Elliott	Atlanta
1987	Dale Earnhardt Sr.	Charlotte
1988	Terry Labonte	Charlotte
1989	Rusty Wallace	Charlotte
1990	Dale Earnhardt Sr.	Charlotte
1991	Davey Allison	Charlotte
1992	Davey Allison	Charlotte
1993	Dale Earnhardt Sr.	Charlotte
1994	Geoff Bodine	Charlotte
1995	Jeff Gordon	Charlotte
1996	Michael Waltrip	Charlotte
1997	Jeff Gordon	Charlotte
1998	Mark Martin	Charlotte
1999	Terry Labonte	Charlotte
2000	Dale Earnhardt Jr.	Charlotte
2001	Jeff Gordon	Charlotte
2002	Ryan Newman	Charlotte
2003	Jimmie Johnson	Charlotte
2004	Matt Kenseth	Charlotte
2005	Mark Martin	Charlotte
2006	Jimmie Johnson	Charlotte
2007	Kevin Harvick	Charlotte
2008	Kasey Kahne	Charlotte
2009	Tony Stewart	Charlotte
2010	Kurt Busch	Charlotte
2011	Carl Edwards	Charlotte
2012	Jimmie Johnson	Charlotte
2013	Jimmie Johnson	Charlotte
2014	Jamie McMurray	Charlotte
2015	Denny Hamlin	Charlotte
2016	Joey Logano	Charlotte
2017	Kyle Busch	Charlotte
2018	Kevin Harvick	Charlotte
2019	Kyle Larson	Charlotte
2020	Chase Elliott	Bristol
2021	Kyle Larson	Ft. Worth
2022	Ryan Blaney	Ft. Worth
2023	Kyle Larson	North Wilkesboro
2024	Joey Logano	North Wilkesboro



Joey Logano cashed the giant All-Star check last year at North Wilkesboro. (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, May 24, CW

## 2025 TRUCK SERIES STANDINGS

*Top 20 as of May 10*

Rank/Driver	Points	Rank/Driver	Points
1 Corey Heim #11	412	11 Stewart Friesen #52	236
2 Chandler Smith #38	348	12 Gio Ruggiero #17	220
3 Daniel Hemric #19	327	13 Rajah Caruth #71	220
4 Tyler Ankrum #18	312	14 Tanner Gray #15	216
5 Grant Enfinger #9	295	15 Matt Crafton #88	202
6 Ty Majeski #98	285	16 Jack Wood #91	186
7 Jake Garcia #13	274	17 Dawson Sutton #26	173
8 Kaden Honeycutt #45	256	18 Matt Mills #42	173
9 Layne Riggs #34	248	19 A. Perez De Lara #77	166
10 Ben Rhodes #99	245	20 Connor Mosack #81	166

**NEXT RACE:** WINDOW WORLD 250, North Wilkesboro Speedway, 1:30 p.m. ET Saturday, FS1

## KANSAS WINNER QUOTE

"Great car, great execution today, too, for our team. Glad to not win by an inch right here this time and a little bit safer gap. But thanks again to the team. Congrats to all of Hendrick Motorsports, the engine shop, everybody there."

- Kyle Larson, who rumbled to his third Cup win of the season Sunday at Kansas Speedway



Kyle Larson and crew celebrate in Victory Lane Sunday at Kansas.

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