

Johnson, K. Busch & Nemechek Victorious at Atlanta Motor Speedway

Story: Phillip Prichard, MSA / Photos: MSA Staff

The Atlanta Sport Speedway (AMS) treated NASCAR Fans to a triple header weekend. AMS had made a perfect weather guarantee and they fulfilled it with sunny weather and temperatures in the high 60s on Sunday.

Using strategy with a short pitting call, Jimmie Johnson won the Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500 Sprint Cup Series race for his 1st win of the season. This was Johnson's 5th win in at Atlanta and 76 career win. He tied Dale Earnhardt, Sr. for 7th on the all-time career wins list and has one at least 1 race in each of the last 15 years. Johnson led 52 of the 330 laps.

Dale Earnhardt, Jr. finished 2nd, followed by Kyle Busch, Kurt Busch, Carl Edwards, Kevin Harvick, Martin Truex, Jr., Chase Elliott, Brad Keselowski, and Ricky Stenhouse. The 8th place finish is a career best for Chase Elliott in the Sprint Cup series, he was the highest finishing rookie.

The race went caution-free for the first 209 laps, the

longest green flag run to start a race in Atlanta history. A spin by Ryan Newman with 2 laps remaining sent the race into "NASCAR Overtime". A wreck on the backstretch after the leaders had already passed the overtime line, forced the race to end under caution. There were 28 lead changes among 8 drivers and 3 cautions for 13 yellow flag laps.

For a race with a mere three cautions, #88-Dale Earnhardt Jr. found Sunday's event with the new low-downforce competition package exhilarating. "I loved it," Earnhardt said. "We were sliding around and driving the hell out of the car. I had a blast! I had some good races there on the track with the #2 (Brad Keselowski) and the #18 (Kyle Busch) and a bunch of guys. Man, it was so much fun. And I post old pictures online all the time of the '80s and '90s, and that's when racing was racing. That's when it was good. That's what they (the fans) saw today."



CHASE GREETED AND SIGNED AUTOGRAPHS IN THE FAN ZONE PRE-RACE

Story continued on page 8



X GAMES GOLD MEDALIST COWBOY KENNY BORTAM AND THE STEEL RODEO MOTOR-CROSS EXHIBITION IN THE FAN ZONE



PRE RACE CONCERT-BLUE RIDGE GA.STAR-MARK WILLS

"WE KEEP YOUR FEET ON THE STREET"

BEST BONDING INC.
(770) 942-2000
8451 Earl Lee Blvd, Ste A in Douglasville

Hudson Hickory House
The Best BBQ in Georgia!

Restaurant Hours:
Mon-Thurs: 9:30AM - 9PM
Fri-Sat: 9:30AM - 11PM
Sunday: CLOSED

Proudly serving Douglasville since 1971

6874 Bankhead Highway
Douglasville, Georgia 30134
770-942-4828

Catering & Banquet Facilities Available for your Holiday Parties!