

This is Talladega?

April 15-17, 2011 - According to NASCAR media, this year's spring event at Talladega was the best in the speedway's history as Johnson squeaked past Boyer by a NASCAR record tying 0.002-second at the finish. Jeff Gordon, Dale Earnhardt Jr., and Kevin Harvick rounded out the top five—and you could have thrown a blanket over the top eight as four two-car-tandems took the checkered in the Sprint Cup Series.

If we are honest with ourselves, we must admit—the exhibition that we observed was not racing!

Ty Dillion, the 18-year-old grandson of Richard Childress, making a classic slingshot move by the veteran-racer Frank Kimmel to grab his first ARCA win of the season, was the big story of the weekend.

Dillion made everything look easy at Talladega as he also captured the pole and led the most laps (50 of 94) on the way to his “win by a nose” in the ARCA/Menards 3 Amigos 250 (Tequila). Note: In five ARCA starts, Dillion has earned three poles and three wins!

“It looked like an Earnhardt move on that last

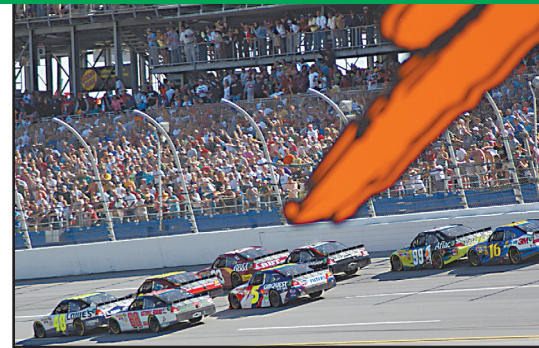
lap,” said a proud Childress in a post race interview. Bobby Gerhart, Brett Hudson, and Chris Buescher chased Dillion and Kimmel across the line.

Joe Nemechek scored his best Nationwide result since winning at Kansas in 2004. Nemechek finished third behind Kyle Busch and Joey Logano. Brad Keselowski and Elliott Sadler rounded out the top five in the Nationwide Series.

Friends—any race fan will have to appreciate the splendor of Talladega Superspeedway! The idea of the 2.66-mile high-banked tri-oval was conceived by Bill France, Sr. in the 1960s as he wanted to build a track faster and longer than Daytona.

On May 23, 1968—France broke ground at the now famous, abandoned airfield in Talladega County, Alabama. On September 13, 1969—he opened the Alabama International Motor Speedway (AIMS). Twenty years later—in 1989—the name would be changed to Talladega Superspeedway.

“Big Bill” France was a racer. He founded NASCAR in 1948 and remained its president through 1971. He passed away in 1992 at 82-years-of-age.



Race fans, I wonder what “Big Bill” would say about this year’s spring NASCAR events at Talladega if he could share his thoughts? What would he say about the current state of NASCAR? Would he approve of Brian France and his guardianship of NASCAR over the past few years?

Red Farmer, a member of the original Alabama Gang, commented on Wind Tunnel that the two-car-tandems remind him of “love-bugs”. Ponder on that for a while.

-Rocky Sinyard



Photos by MSA Staff

IF YOU HAVE ONE OF THESE ...



... THEN YOU NEED ONE OF THESE!

- Performance
- Custom Computer Tuning
- Drivability
- Service/Repair
- Parts/Fuel Tanks
- Transmissions

351 Six Flags Parkway
Mableton, GA 30126
www.fordspecialists.com

770-949-7191

Some items intended for off-road use only. Items that modify vehicle emissions control systems without carb certification are illegal for sale or use in California.

Not affiliated with Ford Motor Company - Independently owned and operated.