

Kyle Busch resurrects season with spectacular victory At Sonoma

By Reid Spencer, NASCAR Media

Check the box. Kyle Busch has a NASCAR Sprint Cup Series victory.

That simple statement hardly plumbs the depth of emotion Kyle Busch was feeling after winning Sunday's Toyota/Save Mart 350 at Sonoma Raceway.

In the first-ever 1-2 finish in the series by the Busch brothers, Kyle Busch beat Kurt Busch to the finish line by .532 seconds to win for the first time since returning from an 11-race absence because of a broken right leg and left foot sustained in a Feb. 21 accident at Daytona International Speedway.



JIMMY NEEDED TIRES TO HOLD OFF THE CRISPY MACHINE

"First Busch brothers 1-2, boys," Kyle Busch exulted on his radio after taking the checkered flag. "Mom and Dad should be proud."

On Lap 106 of 110, Kyle Busch muscled Jimmie Johnson out of the way and took the lead on the way to his second victory at the 1.99-mile road course and the 30th of his career. Johnson had stayed out on old tires while Busch joined a parade to pit road for new rubber after the left rear wheel assembly separated from Casey Mears Chevrolet to cause the fifth and final caution of the race on Lap 99.

Johnson led the field to a restart on Lap 104, but the cars with fresh tires soon asserted their superiority, with Kurt Busch, Clint Bowyer, reigning series champion Kevin Harvick and Joey Logano all following Kyle Busch in putting the six-time champion behind them.

Kyle Busch restarted seventh and got past Bowyer, the eventual third-place finisher, soon thereafter in heavy traffic at the top of the hill in Turn 2. Two laps later, he passed Johnson for the lead.

All told, 46 races had passed since Kyle Busch last went to Victory Lane in NASCAR's premier series, including the 11 he missed because of the Daytona in-



HE'S BACK!

juries. Busch last won at Fontana, Calif., on Mar. 23, 2014. The victory extends his streak of winning at least one race per year to 11 years.

More significant, the triumph gives Busch the first element he needs to qualify for the Chase for the NASCAR Sprint Cup. Busch also must finish in

the top 30 in the series standings after 26 races in order to maintain his eligibility for NASCAR's playoff.

With the win, Busch gained two positions in the standings to 37th, 136 points behind 30th-place Cole Whit with 10 races left in the regular season.

Photos courtesy of NASCAR Media

NASCAR Preview: Sprint Cup Series at The Glen August 9, 2015

Watkins Glen International is located amidst the rolling hills of the beautiful Finger Lakes region of Upstate New York, providing a unique contrast between the sights and sounds of racing and the scenic beauty of majestic farmland. Natural wonders, unique attractions and some of the world's finest wine can all be found within the Finger Lakes region, an exciting area known for its ever-changing landscape patterns.

Traveling even the shortest of distances will find dramatic variations in scenery, which can range from forested hills and

rugged mountains to fertile farmland and meandering streams. Nestled at the southern tip of Seneca Lake, the largest of the five Finger Lakes, Watkins Glen is strategically located to allow access to several major metropolitan markets including Buffalo, Syracuse, Rochester and Binghamton.

Explore the history and unspoiled beauty of the lake country's quiet villages, dynamic nightlife, culture, shopping and sophistication of the cities, while enjoying the best racing action of the season. It's all available and easy to reach in the wonderful Finger Lakes region.



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At the track: Don't miss any of the action in 2015 with giant Jumbo Trons at every Grandstand! Off-track entertainment includes the Red Cat Summer Stage: come enjoy the fun and listen to some great music again in 2015 during the Friday night concert on the Red Cat Summer Stage.

For the younger fans there is the McDonald's Kids' Zone: open for kids of all ages, the McDonald's Kids' Zone offers inflatable attractions, games and appearances from Ronald and the rest of the

gang. Open Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Don't have your tickets yet? Choose from a variety of seating locations to get the best views of all the on-track action! All grandstands are available with Sprint Vision (large TV) views and check out the McDonald's Family Grandstand for a non-smoking, alcohol-free experience. General Admission is also available for viewing from all around the facility. Visit www.theglen.com to purchase tickets today. *(Photos: FL Hanyon, MSA)*