

Brad Keselowski capitalizes on Dale Earnhardt Jr.'s fuel shortage in Las Vegas

Unfortunately for Dale Earnhardt Jr., crew chief Steve Letarte's words proved prophetic.

"If it runs out, stay on the track and coast to the finish," Letarte told his driver as he took the white flag in Sunday's Kobalt 400 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race at Las Vegas Motor Speedway.

And that's exactly what happened.

After pulling away slightly from race winner Brad Keselowski during a dramatic battle over the last 15 of 267 laps, Earnhardt ran out of fuel on the backstretch, a half-lap from the finish, and coasted home in second place, 1.531 seconds behind the driver of the No. 2 Team Penske Ford.

Following a scrape with the outside wall and an off-sequence pit strategy, Keselowski took the checkered flag for the first time this season, the first time at LVMS and the 11th time in his Sprint Cup career.

The winner of Saturday's NASCAR Nationwide Series race, Keselowski completed the first weekend sweep by a Ford driver since Carl Edwards won both races at Phoenix in 2010.

Earnhardt, the Daytona 500 winner,

was runner-up for the second-straight race. Paul Menard ran third, followed by pole winner Joey Logano and Carl Edwards, as Fords grabbed three of the top five positions.

Six-time series champion Jimmie Johnson, Ryan Newman, Kasey Kahne, Jeff Gordon and Matt Kenseth completed the top 10.

With a victory, all but guaranteeing a spot in the Chase for the NASCAR Sprint Cup, Keselowski wasn't surprised that Earnhardt and Letarte were willing to gamble.

"It's such a [relief] for myself and everyone on the team to get that win in early and being able to enjoy the racing opportunities that we have, rather than being stressed out about it," Keselowski said. "The chance that Dale and Stevie took with the 88 car was way out there."

"It was a good, risky move on their part, because they had nothing to lose because of this [new Chase] format. I think that shows some of the opportunities that come (from having) stress-free days, and I'm looking forward to being able to take those same opportunities, because I'm



not scared to take 'em, and I know (crew chief) Paul (Wolfe) is not, so look out."

(Photo courtesy of NASCAR Media)

DON'T BE LEFT BEHIND

**NATIONAL
GUARD**

The National Guard provides opportunity for you to get more out of life while serving your country and community.

By joining our team you will gain the education, experience and expertise that will put you on the right track to success.



Earn Extra Money for College • 100% Tuition
Montgomery GI Bill • Part-time Paycheck
Student Loan Repayment

**EXPLORE YOUR PATH TO HONOR AT
www.NATIONALGUARD.com**

ALL CIGARETTES

\$16.80
PER
CARTON
New Customers
Only

**ELECTRONIC
CIGARETTES
VAPOR**

Over 100 Flavors of E-Juice

TOBACCO ROAD

7214 Douglas Blvd. • Douglasville, GA 30135
Open 7 Days a Week

Mon-Fri: 10am to 8pm • Sunday: 11am to 5pm

Money-Saving Coupon

\$4 OFF a carton!
Regular price \$23.80

YOU pay \$21^{tax incl}
with coupon

Not valid with any other coupon. Offer
expires 4/15/14

15% OFF

Any E-Cigarette Kit
Plus 1 Free Bottle of Juice

Not valid with any other offer. With coupon.
Expires 4/15/14.

New Customers: Mention Motorsport America!