

Dixon's perfect drive nets 40th career win, fourth at Watkins Glen

Scott Dixon capped a perfect weekend with a perfect Sunday, Sept. 4 drive to win the INDYCAR Grand Prix at The Glen presented by Hitachi in the Verizon IndyCar Series' return to Watkins Glen International.

The No. 9 Target Chip Ganassi Racing driver led 50 of 60 laps to collect his fourth triumph on the 3.37-mile permanent road course steeped in open-wheel racing history. It was also the 40th victory of the 36-year-old's Indy car career, breaking a tie with legendary Al Unser for fourth on the all-time list.

Dixon, the four-time series champion, nursed his final tank of Sunoco E85R ethanol for 19 laps (64.03 miles) to cross the finish line 16.5308 seconds ahead of Josef Newgarden in the 10th Verizon IndyCar Series race at Watkins Glen and first since 2010. It was also the 102nd Indy car win for Chip Ganassi Racing Teams.

"I just love being back here," said Dixon,

Story and photos courtesy of IRL Media

who won three straight at the track from 2005-07. "I think we should have a double-points race here and probably race two or three times (a season) at The Glen.

"These are the weekends that you definitely don't forget, just in the sheer fact of we had such a smooth one. The car was just fantastic and the track, I love. I love coming to upstate New York and this track is one of the old-school great American tracks that we're lucky enough to come back here and race."

Despite the outcome, Dixon and five other drivers were eliminated from Verizon IndyCar Series championship contention with only the 2016 season finale - the Go-Pro Grand Prix of Sonoma on Sept. 18 that pays double race points - remaining on the schedule. Team Penske teammates Simon Pagenaud and Will Power are the two drivers still eligible, with Pagenaud holding a 43-point advantage.



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