

Almirola Wins Inaugural Xfinity Race at Sonoma

Aric Almirola drove his Ford Mustang to victory today at Sonoma for his fourth career series win.

The win is Ford's second straight in the NASCAR Xfinity Series and the first for RSS Racing.

Ford Finishing Results:

1st – Aric Almirola
6th – Cole Custer
12th – Brett Moffitt
15th – Riley Herbst
22nd – Kyle Weatherman
25th – Alex Labbe
28th – Ryan Sieg
31st – Joe Graf Jr.

ARIC ALMIROLA, No. 28 Michael Roberts Construction Ford Mustang – VICTORY LANE INTERVIEW – “This is so special. It’s hard to explain. I know it’s an Xfinity win. It’s not a Cup win, but after COTA I told Davin and Drew, I was like, ‘Man, I really don’t think I should run anymore road course races in the Xfinity car. It makes me look like a wanker and I lose self-confidence going into Sunday.’

But I knew that this racetrack, this is one

I can run good at. I’ve run good here my whole career. I don’t know what it is about this place, but I love racing here. I’m just so thankful to everybody on this race team. Everybody at SHR in the Xfinity shop. They take on a lot to not only bring their two cars to the racetrack, but to prepare a third car. I’m so thankful to Mike with Michael Roberts Construction to come on. Without him and Largo Concrete, we don’t get to run this race. I’m thankful to Ford and everybody that makes this deal work. All of our partners, Shady Rays, Pit Boss Grills, Firstform. It’s been a really tough year on the Cup side and to come out here and get a win and get to celebrate. My kids came out. We’re gonna spend the week in California for our off week and they’re gonna get to go to Victory Lane. That is so special. The pictures we have at home with our family in Victory Lane mean the most to me, so I’m so excited to share this Victory Lane here. Also Caymus. We had a great dinner last night and drank a little bit of Caymus win with our team and this is their hometown, so, man, this is awesome. I can’t wait to get to Victory Lane.”

LARSON WAS ON YOUR TAIL. HOW

MUCH WERE YOU LOOKING IN THE REARVIEW MIRROR? “I was looking in my rearview mirror a lot, just trying to make sure that I could maintain the gap. Larson was certainly the class of the field, so to have the lead and get some clean air, I knew that if I just put some clean laps together I was gonna make it tough for him to get by me. A great race car. We made a lot of adjustments throughout the race to make it better and better and finally there at the end it was at its best.”

HOW MUCH CONFIDENCE DOES THIS GIVE YOU FOR TOMORROW? “A lot. The cars are totally different from the Xfinity Series to the Cup Series, but it’s still a win and it’s still a win at the NASCAR national level. These races are hard to win and you’re going against the best. You’re going against Kyle Larson and Allmendinger, Ty Gibbs. It was a stacked field today for the Xfinity race and I’m just so proud to go to Victory Lane here.”

THIS IS THE FIRST WIN FOR RSS RACING. WHAT DOES THAT MEAN TO YOU? “It’s awesome. I’m just really thankful that they allowed me to run this car and to come here and run with this team



and these guys and I’m just so proud of everybody’s hard work. Everybody at Sieg Racing. Everybody at Stewart-Haas Racing for the collaboration and I’m just really thankful.”

TRUEX BACK IN VICTORY LANE IN THE TOYOTA SAVE MART 350

Martin Truex Jr. earned his second victory of the season in dominating fashion at Sonoma Raceway. It is Martin’s fourth victory in the Toyota Save Mart 350. It is Toyota’s fifth victory of the season. With the victory, Truex has taken over the points lead for the first time this season.

Toyota Post-Race Recap

NASCAR Cup Series (NCS)

Sonoma Raceway
Race 16 of 36 – 218.9 miles, 110 laps
TOYOTA FINISHING POSITIONS
1st, MARTIN TRUEX JR.
2nd, Kyle Busch*
3rd, Joey Logano*
4th, Chris Buescher*
5th, Chase Elliott*
9th, CHRISTOPHER BELL
17th, BUBBA WALLACE
18th, TY GIBBS

33rd, TYLER REDDICK
36th, DENNY HAMLIN
*non-Toyota driver

TOYOTA QUOTES

MARTIN TRUEX JR., No. 19 Bass Pro Shops Toyota Camry TRD, Joe Gibbs Racing
Finishing Position: 1st
What made you so strong today?

“I felt like our Bass Pro Shops Camry TRD was really close yesterday in practice, if we could make a few adjustments, I thought we would be good. They definitely made the right adjustments. This place is all about rear traction, rear drive and being able to manage that and keep turning and keep momentum. We were able to do that today. The car was really, really good. Just a total team effort. Everybody works really, really hard. We were awful here last year, and at road course in general, so to come back here – this has kind of been a playground for us before, and to be able to get back here with this car and do it again feels really, really special. It’s really gratifying. We’ve worked hard for this one.

Is working through the traffic when you have that good of a car nerve-wracking? “Yeah, it is a little nerve-wracking. You get a restart, we restarted 10th in the middle the



race after leading – just strategy got kind of jumbled up – with that weird caution the way it fell. You are always nervous that you are going to get banded up or get off course. This track is narrow and it is hard to pass. When you are racing around guys with older tires, it is easy for them to make a mistake and slide into us, but everybody raced clean, raced hard, and we were able to pull it out.”

**“WE KEEP YOUR FEET
ON THE STREET”**

BEST BONDING INC.
(770) 942-2000