

# NASCAR 2011

By Gerald Hodges/the Racing Reporter

## Kyle Busch wins on fuel mileage

Kyle Busch beat his teammate Denny Hamlin to the finish line by 1.805 seconds as both drivers conserved fuel during an 86-lap green-flag run to the finish, Saturday night. Busch has won the last three spring races at Richmond, with Hamlin winning the last two fall races.

"We were late to the celebration," Busch said after his car was pushed to victory lane. "This is pretty awesome. We had a really good car, and we knew that if we could play through traffic a little bit better than the 11 (Hamlin) that we had a shot at the win, and we did that tonight."

"I learned from Denny Hamlin last fall — and I'm not going to say what I learned, but he might know. We did a good job of doing what we needed to do early in the run, and once we got out (in front) and had to go through traffic, the traffic kind of fell our way, so we were able to pick our way through there."

Both drivers were conserving fuel near the end, but they had enough of a lead over Kasey Kahne, who finished third, that they could maintain an even pace without fear of losing their positions on the track.

"Yeah, I opened my mouth — I never should have told him," Hamlin said, though he, too, declined to reveal the secret he had shared with his teammate. "That's the thing. If I don't tell him the things I know on short tracks, and the crew chiefs don't relay information, then it's not a good team."

Kahne has had surgery on one of his knees, and it was still bothering him last week during practice.

"My knee feels fine," said Kahne. "It's actually a little bit tight, you know, a bit swelled up maybe. But other than that, it feels fine. I never thought about it once throughout the race. So it was more about the car. So if you're not thinking about it, it's obviously not hurting."

David Ragan finished fourth, followed by series points leader Carl Edwards. Clint Bowyer, AJ Allmendinger, Jimmie Johnson, Tony Stewart, and Brian Vickers were the remaining top-10 finishers.

Jeff Gordon was out of the race after his Chevrolet slammed into the inside wall on lap 300, causing him to finish 39th.

Edwards increased his lead in the Cup standings to nine points over Johnson. Busch gained three spots to third, 30 behind Edwards. ... Juan Pablo Montoya and Ryan

Newman were involved in a succession of incidents, with Montoya retaliating against Newman on Lap 237. NASCAR warned both drivers. ... A late pit stop for fuel cost Dale Earnhardt Jr. a lead-lap finish. He came home 19th, two laps down and fell one position to fourth in points, 34 behind Edwards.

Top-12 Chase leaders after 9 of 36: 1. Edwards-335, 2. Johnson-326, 3. Kyle Busch-305, 4. Earnhardt-301, 5. Harvick-300, 6. Kurt Busch-289, 7. Bowyer-284, 8. Newman-277, 9. Kenseth-276, 10. Stewart-275, 11. Allmendinger-263, 12. Montoya-262

### HAMLIN DOMINATES NATIONWIDE RACE

With a dominant car that led 199 laps Friday night, Denny Hamlin won the Nationwide Series race when the third caution of the race slowed the action after Hamlin had taken the white flag to start Lap 251.

With seven laps left, Ricky Stenhouse Jr. ran out of gas while running second to bring out the second caution of the evening. That enabled Hamlin to pit for fuel and tires. It also set up a two-lap sprint to the finish that took the race one lap past its posted distance.

Paul Menard finished second, followed by series points leader Justin Allgaier, Elliott Sadler and Brad Keselowski. Those were the only cars scored on the lead lap.

Josh Wise, Sam Hornish, Ryan Truex, David Stremme, and Jason Leffler rounded out the top-10 finishers.

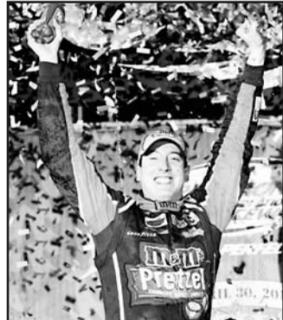
Top-10 leaders after 9 of 34: 1. Allgaier-305, 2. Sadler-299, 3. Almirola-297, 4. Leffler-295, 5. Sorenson-292, 6. Stenhouse-288, 7. Bayne-260, 8. Scott-257, 9. K. Wallace-246, 10. Wise-215

### STEWART LOVES RICHMOND

Despite finishing 9th this past weekend, Tony Stewart said Richmond is still his favorite track. He has three Sprint Cup wins and two Truck Series victories at Richmond.

"We couldn't make our car turn for anything. I mean, we have a lot of work to do right now," said Stewart. "We just never got it right. But Richmond is my favorite track. It's not one of them, it's the favorite track of mine on the circuit. I've just always thought it's the perfect-sized track for a Cup race. The other short tracks we run — Bristol and Martinsville — they're cool in their own right, but there's a lot of congestion at those two tracks."

"It just reminds me of some of the shorter tracks that I've run. It has kind of the same feel that three-quarter-mile tracks did with some of



Kyle Busch celebrates his Richmond win

the other cars I've run with. It was a place where I became very comfortable right away.

"I had that same feeling when I went to Richmond for the first time. I think every driver has a track they go to where they get that same feeling. There are just some places you go to where you adjust, and it really suits your driving style."

"I'd really like to see another small track built. Everybody that wants to build a mile-and-a-half track are the ones we look at and wonder why they're doing that, especially when Richmond is as good a race as it is and Martinsville and Bristol are as good as they are."

"You have three of the best tracks on the circuit, but everybody wants to build a mile-and-a-half track and put grandstands down the front of it and not put as many seats as you can around places like Richmond, Martinsville or Bristol. You can get just as many people around a smaller track and have more room to park them and everything else. I'm all for it. I'm sick of seeing guys build mile-and-a-half triovals. Be creative, be unique. Build something that is your own. Don't copy somebody else's track."

**Weekend Racing:** The Sprint and Nationwide teams are at Darlington with Friday and Saturday night races. The Truck teams do not race again until May 20.

Fri., May 6, Nationwide Series, race 10 of 34, Starting time: 7:30 pm; TV: ESPN.

Sat., May 7, Sprint Cup Southern 500, race 10 of 36, Starting time: 7:30 pm; TV: FOX.

All times are Eastern.  
**Racing Trivia Question:** Who is the driver of Kevin Harvick's No. 2 Nationwide car?

**Last Week's Question:** When does Mark Martin plan on retiring? **Answer:** He has not announced any retirement goals. His contract with Hendrick Motorsports expires at the end of 2011, but Martin said he plans to race in 2012.

You may contact the Racing Reporter at hodges@race500.com. NT(May4,C1)ac

## Congratulations Towns County Sharpshooters



Rear L—R: Brandon Beazley, Tyler Cisco, McKenzie Henderson, Alexis Ledford, William Lovelady and Walker Ross. Front: Colton West, Cody Bowman, Devin Hunter, Corbin Henderson and Daniel Crowder

It was a long hot day at Rock Eagle 4H Center near Eatonton, GA, where 547 top shooters from 49 counties from Georgia shot from 8 a.m. thru 4 p.m. in relays in the hot sun all vying for top honors and scores.

When the dust settled at the end of the day Towns County's William Lovelady tied for 2nd place out of 547 shooters with a score of 98 out of 100 in the sitting position. Towns County's top shoot-

ers for the day were: 1st place William Lovelady, 2nd place Walker Ross, 3rd place Cody Bowman, and McKenzie Henderson came in 4th out of the 11 shooters and 2 teams that made it to the state championships on April 9th.

Six NRA Firearms Instructors from the Chatuge Gun Club accompanied the shooters after 5 months of training and practice and they were: Ed Jones, AT Sorells, Dazy Perry, Ruby Rhinesmith,

Carol Rosenqvist, and Rob Stoneham. Shooting Coach Rob Stoneham stated that the kids worked and practiced hard for the last 5 months for the chance to get where they are.

Plaques and trophies were paid for by the Sons of the American Legion. Stoneham also wishes to thank the parents who supported the kids all year long and for their help at the matches. Way to go, kids! T(May4,G3)SH

## Banquet celebration for the Mountain Area Christian Academy's Lady Lions

Temple Baptist Church recently hosted a Celebration Banquet for the Mountain Area Christian Academy's Lady Lions basketball team. The team was the GCAA's Class A state winner. Two players, Alex Kiernan and Alley Norton, were chosen for the all-tournament team. Miss Norton was selected as the Most Valuable Player.

The theme of the evening was "More than Conquerors," and the pastor, Dr. Roger Beck, gave an inspirational talk to the parents and team after the meal. The food for the dinner was prepared by Leslie Perenich and served to the assembly by members of Temple's youth

group and parent volunteers.

T-shirts, donated by TDS Telecom, were presented to each of the girls by Mr. Steve Shamblin, Head Coach. Assistant Coaches, Randy Hallmark and Chris Spry, also received the championship T-shirts, along with Administrator Keith Scott and Mrs. Scott.

A perfect ending to the evening was the replay of the



All tournament team players Alex Kiernan and Alley Norton kissing Winner's trophy

game. Everyone agreed that seeing the ebb and flow on the court was much easier the second time, knowing what the final outcome was. N(May4,Z15)CA



Back (L-R): Coach Steve Shamblin, Lydia McCray, Sophie McCray, Coach Randy Hallmark, (2nd row): Emma Williams, Christine Stone, Emily Shamblin, Catherine Scoggins, Alex Kiernan, Alley Norton, (front): Chantel Hogsed, Jessica Marr, Cassie Roath, Sophia McLaughlin, and Andy Houston

## Softball tournament for Project Hope

Building Christian Ministries is sponsoring a Men's League 1-Pitch Softball Tournament on May 7, 2011, starting at 9 a.m. at Meeks Park, Blairsville, GA.

Rain date is scheduled for May 14, 2011. The cost is \$150 entry per team and the deadline to enter is May 5th.

Please come out and help us raise money to support Project Hope, a girls home in Aracaju, Brazil. For more information on this project and BCM please visit www.bcm-forgod.org.

For more tournament information contact Jason at 706-835-6978 or Mary at 706-781-8416. N(May4,Z16)CA

## VFW Golf League

VFW Golf League third playday of the 2011 season at Chatuge Shores Golf Club took place on Thursday, April 28th.

We were very fortunate to be able to play with the serious weather the night before. It turned out to be a pleasant day of golf for the small group that showed up.

The winning team was burning the course up with the conditions. They are Frontz Goring, Charlie Logan and Ray Ward with a score of 68 coming in -4 under par. We have to also mention that this team EAGLED the 18th hole.

We're looking for new members, call Myron Grizio 706-896-3183 or Glenda Geddings 706-896-7992. T(May4,G2)SH

## YHC Summer Baseball Camps

2 camp weeks: June 13-17 & July 11-15. 3 camps offered each week: Instructional ~ Ages 5-12. Jr. Elite ~ Completed 5th grade - Completed 8th grade. Sr. Elite ~ Completed 8th grade - just graduated.

For more details visit our website www.TheRockSports.com. Discounts available for multi camp registration and for 2 or more siblings registering. Call 706-897-2363 for details. NT(May4,A1)SH

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## Jo Kilmer at 2011 Butternut Creek Festival



Jo Kilmer

High Country Artisans, Inc. is pleased to announce that Jo Kilmer of Spirit Tall in Murphy, NC will be demonstrating willow weaving at the upcoming Butternut Creek Festival to be held in Meeks Park, Blairsville, GA, on July 23 and 24, 2011. Jo is an accomplished artist and does amazing work so mark your calendars!

The Butternut Creek Festival is a family orientated experience in the world of art.

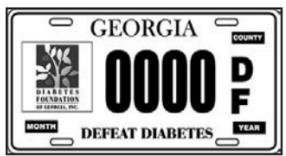
There are no admission fees and parking is free. Seventy of the areas finest artists, craftsmen, and demonstrators will be displaying their artwork. The festival also provides free musical entertainment on the shady shores of the Butternut Creek.

Visitors will be given an opportunity to assist local non-profit organizations while at the park. Misty Mountain Quilters will be selling raffle tickets and quilted items. Satisfy your sweet tooth at the Union County Hospital Auxiliary's bake sale or purchase items from the Union

County Senior Center's booth. Look for friends and smiling faces during the two day event!

The High Country Artisans, Inc. is a small group of 20 local volunteers working to introduce people to new and unique arts and crafts. Help is needed to help keep the Butternut Creek Festival a free event. Donations of any amount are appreciated. For more information please visit www.butternut-creekfestival.com or call 706-781-1221.

## Diabetes Foundation of Georgia, Inc. group



The Diabetes Foundation of Georgia Inc. has a support group in Blairsville. This group meets at the Old Nursing Home location on the second Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. We would like to invite everyone who is involved with diabetes, or is interested in learning about diabetes, to attend the meetings.

We have different speakers each month. Come on out and get involved with Union County Diabetic Support Group. 706-781-1200.

## Community Blood Drive

The Blairsville Community Blood Drive will be held at the Haralson Civic Center on Tuesday, May 10th from 12 noon - 5 p.m.

Please come out and donate blood, all types are needed. Call Betty Easter for an appointment at 706-745-2335, walk-ins welcome, appointments preferred! Bring photo I.D. All presenting donors have a chance to win one of two pairs of Delta Air Line tickets!

## Appalachian Duplicate Bridge Club news

On Monday, April 25, eleven full tables played a Mitchell movement at All Saints Lutheran Church in Blairsville, GA with the following results: North-South, first, Joan and Joe Lane; second, Jim Bell and Gwen Weaver; third, Dorothy Smith and Diane Seely; and fourth, Barbara Fogle and Marilyn Demers.

First, East-West, Chris Thompson and Myrna Ponkauskas; second, Joyce Geiger and Kitty Tomkinson; third, Marilyn Bulkley and Joan Neville; fourth, Ray Berry and Harry Reynolds; and fifth, Jean Pittman and Barbara Mitchell.

On Thursday, April 28, eight full tables were in play. Again, the Mitchell movement was used. First, East-West, Fran Egan and Martha Brewer; second, Austin and Starling Bradley; third, Carolyn Neighbors and Joyce Geiger; and fourth, Myrna Ponkauskas and Chris Thompson.

North-South, first, Anne Mincey and Ned Cahill; second, Jim Bell and Gwen Weaver; third, Mary Talbert and Eleanor Rank; fourth, Debbie Foster and Susan Palmich; and fifth, Karen Miller and Peg Kieffer.

The club meets every Monday and Thursday and would love to have any interested bridge players to join them. If you are interested, please call Myrna Ponkauskas at 828-389-8065 for more details. NT(May4,C2)ac

**Did you know?**  
*By: Lynda Farren*  
**Property Manager**

The laws that govern landlord/tenant rights are sometime/often in favor of the tenant especially in North Carolina. There seems to be a sense that landlords are bad people who do terrible things to tenants. Yes, I agree there are a few landlords that are considered slumlords. They have no concern for the tenant. They do not care if the electrical system is up to code. They do not care if the house has mold growing in the bathroom or if the tenant has clean water. They do not return security deposits even though there is no damage. They take advantage of the tenants. Sometimes tenants do not know or understand their rights. These types of landlords are few and far between.

Then there are landlords that take pride in the property they own. They treat the property as an investment. That means repairs are handled in a timely manner. They want their property maintained. Many times these owners hire an experienced property manager. They want the property manager to screen the prospective tenant. They take the time to qualify the prospective tenant by verifying their income. They talk to the existing landlord and the previous landlord. They do a credit and a background check.

These owners and/or property managers need to know the laws relating to the property. Some of these laws that they need to know about are Megan's Law, Lead Base Paint, Fair Housing & Disability Act, just to mention a few.

It is imperative that there is a good lease in place that both parties understand. More importantly, the lease must be written to protect the landlord and also be fair to the tenant. The lease must abide by the laws of the state where the property is located. If there is no lease then neither party is protected.

Many landlords and tenants take the word of the other party and do not do a move in/move out inspection. This one thing causes major problems if not done. The tenant takes possession of the property and before he/she moves in, you, the owner/property manager require that they do an inspection and write down any DAMAGE. Then when they move out there is a written document in their handwriting of what was damaged when

they took possession. Generally when this is done there are no arguments about what was damaged and what was not. Taking photos are also helpful but sometimes can not address something like "Are the windows clean or dirty?" It is amazing how many owners do not do this one thing that can make move outs go more smoothly.

Once a tenant has taken possession of the property and has signed a lease make sure that the tenants have given written proof that all utilities have been put in their name. If the utilities have not changed and are still in the owner's name, then the owner and/or property manager is NOT allowed to turn the utilities off.

Also, related to utilities, many water companies are now requiring owners to be responsible for water bills that have not been paid by the tenant. So when tenant moves out make sure they show written proof that the final water bill has been paid. If it has not, then you can charge them and use part of the security deposit as payment.

Managing rental property can be done effectively as long as you pay attention to detail and keep abreast of current laws in your state.

Call Lynda Farren if you have questions. 706-896-8907. N(May4,Z10)CA