

Title:

Drivers Need to Stop Complaining

Word Count:

815

Summary:

A summary of the Kobalt Tools 500 and commentary on NASCAR's constant whining about track conditions.

Keywords:

nascar, earnhardt, kahne, stewart, biffle

Article Body:

Looking like he is already in championship form, Jimmie Johnson passed Tony Stewart with three laps to go.

Johnson led 132 of the first 238 laps and then the last three to win the 25th Nextel Cup race at Atlanta.

Stewart had the lead on the final restart but after some exciting side by side racing with Johnson, he was overtaken.

Johnson moved to within 28 points of chase leader Mark Martin in the Nextel Cup standings. Mark Martin leads the race by 10 points.

Juan Pablo Montoya continues his rapid learning curve as he carded the best result of his Nextel Cup career with a top 10 finish.

Most drivers were obviously concerned about tire wear and tear and took it easy early in the race. The race was a caution free affair.

Atlanta Race Notes:

Dale Earnhardt Jr.'s struggles in 2007 continue. He is 26th in the point standings.

Brian Vickers became the first driver to lead a lap in a Nextel Cup race in a Toyota. His joy was short lived as he was overtaken.

The biggest wreck of the day was a four car incident that included Kasey Kahne, Greg Biffle, Dale Earnhardt Jr. and Tony Stewart.

Many drivers in Atlanta couldn't help but thinking about next weeks Bristol race and the debut of the new Nextel Cup race.

Kyle Busch will showcase endangered wildlife on his car this year to call attention to animal conservation.

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Tony Stewart said "They screwed up a great racetrack!" Mark Martin predicted gloom and doom for the rest of the season.

In reality it was not "black ice" as Greg Biffle called it, or was there a wreck on every lap. The race was a caution free affair.

What's the big deal? NASCAR Nextel Cup drivers are paid big bucks to make left turns and complete laps. They are professionals.

Different conditions at different tracks make NASCAR racing much more interesting to Joe Fan than any other sport.

These drivers are too good to be pouting each time a track doesn't suit their cars perfectly. They are professionals.

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