

# Lone Star State Sweep

April 01, 2019



Toyota swept the NASCAR race weekend at Texas Motor Speedway, earning wins in the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series (MENCs), NASCAR Xfinity Series (NXS) and NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series (NGOTS). With the victories at Texas, Toyota continues to lead the manufacturer point standings in all three NASCAR national series.

## **NASCAR**

Denny Hamlin won Sunday afternoon's MENCs event at Texas Motor Speedway. Hamlin led the race three times for 45 laps (of 334) en route to his second win of the season.

The win marks Hamlin's third-career victory at Texas and the seventh Cup Series victory at Texas for Toyota. Camry drivers have won four of the first seven MENCs races in 2019.

"Our car was really, really fast," said Hamlin. "Once we got out front, we were actually able to pull away from the pack a little bit. We had a super-fast car and that's why we won. I missed pit road under green, that cost us three or four seconds as well. We tried every way we could to just give it away and we found a way to do it with this FedEx Camry."

All four Joe Gibbs Racing (JGR) teammates took turns leading the field in Sunday's race with Kyle Busch

leading a race-high 66 laps while Erik Jones (30 laps) and Martin Truex Jr. (10 laps) also paced the field.

Although he came up short in Sunday's Cup race, Busch continued his winning ways with victories in both the NXS and NGOTS over the weekend. Busch was victorious for the third time this season in the NXS, winning Saturday afternoon's race at Texas.

'This Toyota Supra was awesome today,' said Busch. 'I just could never get people away from me on the front side of the run to just settle into my rhythm and settle into my run and be able to go. We were just all over the place. Certainly, a fast race car once I could get rolling.'

Busch led the field three times for a total of 33 laps (of 200) en route to Saturday's win. Toyota teammate Christopher Bell started from the pole and led a race-high 127 laps before finishing in third place.

On Friday night Busch won his fourth-consecutive NGOTS race, leading a race-high 97 laps (of 147) to earn his 55<sup>th</sup>-career Truck Series victory. Tundras have won seven straight races, dating back to ISM Raceway last November.

'It was a pretty good night for us,' said Busch. 'Obviously, the Cessna Beechcraft Tundra was fast. The 24 (Brett Moffitt) was really fast and the 52 (Stewart Friesen) was really fast. They made me work for it. They certainly got my money's worth tonight.'

## **NKNPSW**

Three Camry drivers Tanner Gray (second), Derek Kraus (third) and Hallie Deegan (fifth) finished in the top five in Saturday night's NASCAR K&N Pro Series West (NKNPSW) race at Irwindale Speedway. Deegan earned her third series pole award and continues to lead the NKNPSW point standings.

## **What's Next**

NASCAR heads to Tennessee where the Monster Energy Cup Series, Xfinity Series and K&N Pro Series East are set to compete at Bristol Motor Speedway. The NXS race is on Saturday, April 6 at 1 p.m. EDT on FS1, and the MENCs race takes place on Sunday, April 7 at 2 p.m. EDT on FS1.

NHRA returns to action at the Four-Wide Nationals at the Strip at Las Vegas Motor Speedway with coverage on Sunday, April 7 at 5:30 p.m. ETD on Fox Sports 1.

Formula Drift opens its season on the streets of Long Beach on Saturday, April 6.