

# Bell, Smith and Seavey Score Wins on Father's Day Weekend

June 17, 2019



Christopher Bell was victorious in the NASCAR Xfinity Series at Iowa Speedway while Chandler Smith added another ARCA Menards Series win and Logan Seavey earned two POWRi victories during the rain-shortened Illinois Speed Week.

## NASCAR

Christopher Bell earned a series-leading fourth NASCAR Xfinity Series (NXS) win of the season at Iowa Speedway on Sunday evening. Bell took the lead shortly before the end of the first stage and dominated after that, leading a total of 186 (of 250) laps.

“Man, I got to win at Dover on Mother’s Day weekend, or I guess the weekend before with my mom there and now I just won on Father’s Day weekend with my dad here, so it’s pretty special,” said Bell.

It was Bell’s second straight win at Iowa Speedway, and 12<sup>th</sup> of his NXS career. In his second career NXS start, Harrison Burton earned a fourth-place finish.

Due to consistent rain showers, the NASCAR Gander Outdoors Truck Series (NGOTS) race was postponed to

Sunday afternoon before the NXS event. Burton led the Toyota-contingent with a third-place result. With the finish, Burton scored his first career back-to-back Truck Series top-five finish.

“We had a good points day overall, just really had to battle there,” said Burton. “Really struggled firing off and couldn’t get spots on restarts, but over the long runs we could maintain and get better and better. Pretty fun. I love this race track. It’s a lot of fun to pull slide jobs on people and things like that – it’s like a dirt track sometimes. I’m proud of the way we fought and had good pit stops and made it work.”

Chandler Smith made his first career NGOTS start as he started on the pole after rain cancelled qualifying. Smith led the first 55 laps before an extended pit stop to fix radio issues pushed him to the back of the field. He would race his way back to finish eighth. Canadian Raphael Lessard scored his first top-10 finish in only his third career start as he finished ninth. Todd Gilliland rounded out the Tundra top-10 finishers with a 10<sup>th</sup>-place result.

### **NHRA**

Doug Kalitta earned his 50<sup>th</sup> No. 1 qualifier in his 500<sup>th</sup> career event in Bristol before advancing to the semifinals on Sunday.

“We really would have liked to get a win in our 500<sup>th</sup> race, but we just fell a little short in the semifinals,” said Kalitta. “All in all, it was a good weekend. My Mac Tools Toyota guys gave me a great car in some tough conditions. We picked up our 50<sup>th</sup> number one qualifier and we kept going rounds. We were really fortunate in that second round. We went up in smoke at the hit, but I looked down there and McMillen was having problems and we were able to run him down. If you’re going to go rounds in this sport, you have to some lucky ones and that one was ours. Now we have to get ready for Norwalk in a couple days.”

Antron Brown in Top Fuel, along with Shawn Langdon and J.R. Todd in Funny Car, also scored opening round wins at the Thunder Valley Nationals.

### **ARCA**

Before heading to Iowa for his debut in the Truck Series, Chandler Smith scored a dominating win at Madison International Raceway in Wisconsin. Smith led the first 150 laps (of 200) before late-race strategy shuffled the top spot. However, Smith took back the lead with 10 laps to go and took his fourth career ARCA win in his 14<sup>th</sup> career start. Smith has never finished outside of the top-10 in those 14 events and his average finish in five events this season is 2.6.

Toyota has now won eight of the 10 ARCA events this season. With his second-place result, Michael Self continues to lead the point standings.

### **USAC**

Logan Seavey continued his strong recent performance with two wins during the weather-affected Illinois Speed Week.

Seavey scored his first win at Fayette County Speedway on Thursday for his seventh overall midget feature victory in 2019. Seavey took the lead on the first lap (of 30) and never looked back. Tanner Thorson and Jesse Colwell finished right behind Seavey to give Toyota a sweep of the podium positions.

Seavey added another win on Saturday evening at Jacksonville Speedway. Seavey led all 25 laps to extend his points lead in the POWRi championship. Toyota swept the podium again for the second straight race with Tucker Klaasmeyer finishing second and Jesse Love scored in third.

### **What’s Next**

The Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series is back in action at Sonoma Raceway. The Toyota Save Mart 350 airs live on Sunday, June 23 at 3 p.m. EDT on FS1. The NASCAR K&N Pro Series West also competes at Sonoma Raceway this weekend. The tape-delayed coverage airs on Thursday, June 27 at 6 p.m. on NBCSN.

The Gander Outdoors Truck Series will compete at World Wide Technology Raceway at Gateway on Saturday, June 22 at 8:30 p.m. EDT on FS1. The ARCA Menards Series will compete prior to the Truck Series on Saturday, June 22 at 6:30 p.m. EDT on MAVTV.

The NHRA finishes a run of four straight events at Summit Motorsports Park in Norwalk, Ohio. The finals air on Sunday, June 23 at 6:30 p.m. EDT on FS1.