

DAN BEAVER'S FANTASY RACING NEWS

VOL. 2; ISSUE 7

O'REILLY AUTO PARTS 500
TEXAS MOTOR SPEEDWAY



Dan Beaver's Fantasy Racing News

Volume 2, Issue 6

OVERVIEW

It is almost as if NASCAR can't quite figure out what to do with Texas Motor Speedway. And that's all right. The state of Texas has always been iconoclastic, so the race might as well be also.

Depending on where one lives in its confines, Texas either considers itself a Western

rupts what would be a three-race, short track schedule. So, the Texas race stands alone just as many inhabitants the want state itself to.

SIBLINGS

Currently, 10 of 36 races are run on the similarly-configured, 1.5-mile tracks of Texas, Atlanta Motor Speedway, Charlotte Motor

less (hopefully) the rumors of Charlotte running an infield road course are wrong, 42 percent of NASCAR's races will be held on this track type.

Each track is different than the other, but perhaps the best way to think of them is as siblings. Sharing many of the same life experiences, they develop their own personalities,



state or part of the South. Dallas is has a more Southern feel, while Fort Worth with its heritage as a cattle hub is more Western.

The O'Reilly Auto Parts 500 could easily be part of the Western Swing, but it's not. Instead, it currently inter-

Speedway, Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Kansas Speedway, Chicagoland Speedway, and Kentucky Speedway. Three more are run on the two-milers of Michigan International Speedway and Auto Club Speedway. Vegas is scheduled to get a second date in 2018, so un-

but there is always a certain commonality.

Putting aside the impact that has on fans, the proliferation of this type of track is not a bad thing for fantasy players. One can look back at the most recent "cookie-cutter" race and use that as a baseline to set

this week's roster. In the first two races on similarly-configured, 1.5-mile tracks this year, three drivers swept the top five, four more finished between sixth and 10th, and another three swept the top 15.

Six of those 10 drivers finished within two positions on one another in the Folds of Honor QuikTrip 500 and Kobalt 400. In part, that might have been because these two races were run back-to-back when Kyle Larson, Chase Elliott, and Joey Logano had a ton of momentum on their side, but we stand convinced that the likeness of the tracks play a huge role in determining strength and weakness.

The nine 1.5-mile and two two-mile tracks listed above share a commonality in how the teams and drivers approach them, so even though each track is truly unique they favor the same drivers. Some tracks wear tires more than others. Atlanta fits into that category and it shares the trait with Auto Club.

Some allow for multiple grooves for which drivers can search. Texas hopes to become one of those courses.

RECONFIGURATION

Largely because of persistent weepers that have plagued this track since it opened, the decision was made to repave

Driver	Wins
Jimmie Johnson	6
Kyle Busch	2
Denny Hamlin	2
Matt Kenseth	2
Kurt Busch	1
Dale Earnhardt Jr	1
Kasey Kahne	1
Joey Logano	1
Ryan Newman	1

the surface before this week's race. The groove was widened in turns one and two with a reduction in banking from 24 to 20 degrees. That means both ends of the track are different and it should create more passing opportunities.

Speedway Motorsports Incorporated is known for making big moves. Adding progressive banking to Las Vegas was met with a bit of skepticism when they first attempted that innovation and it did not radically improve the competition—at least from the fans' point of view. The same may yet be true of Texas, but it is going to take at least a couple of years to find out.

New pavement typically results in a one-groove track for a while, so look for drivers who roll off the hauler fast and qualify near the front to be this week's favorites. They are likely to qualify well and run up front for most of the O'Reilly 500.

TOP-10 DRIVERS

This week, we will profile the top 10 instead of top 12 drivers because of generally smaller fields in 2017. This will al-

Driver	Top-5s
Jimmie Johnson	14
Matt Kenseth	13
Kyle Busch	11
Joey Logano	7
Dale Earnhardt Jr	6
Kevin Harvick	6
Denny Hamlin	5
Kasey Kahne	5
Brad Keselowski	4
Jamie McMurray	4
Clint Bowyer	3
Kurt Busch	3
Ryan Newman	3
Martin Truex Jr	3
Chase Elliott	2
Kyle Larson	1
Paul Menard	1

low us to select more relevant dark horses.

1. Chase Elliott

Yahoo! Group: B
 NASCAR.com Cap: \$27.75
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/2
 Top-fives: 2 (1.000)
 Top-10s: 2 (1.000)
 Last 3 Years
 Current Track: 4.50
 Yahoo! Points: 93.50
 NASCAR.com Points: 44.75
 Draft Kings Points: 47.25
 Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: 7.83

Chase Elliott finished fourth in last year's AAA Texas 500. That perfected a sweep of the top five on this track and kicked off three consecutive top-fives on 2016/17's combined similarly-configured, 1.5-mile tracks.

He was fifth at Atlanta this spring and third at Vegas. He slipped to 10th at Auto Club, but had one of the best cars in the 400-miler there.

It is not always the job of a handicapper to pick the outright winner on a given track. That is an especially difficult task for drivers seeking the first of their career, but Elliott will certainly be one of the top performers in the O'Reilly Auto Parts 500.

Driver	Top-10s
Jimmie Johnson	20
Matt Kenseth	18
Dale Earnhardt Jr	17
Kevin Harvick	16
Kurt Busch	15
Kyle Busch	12
Martin Truex Jr	12
Denny Hamlin	11
Clint Bowyer	10
Kasey Kahne	9
Jamie McMurray	9
Joey Logano	7
Brad Keselowski	6
Ryan Newman	6
Paul Menard	3
AJ Allmendinger	2
Chase Elliott	2
Kyle Larson	2
David Ragan	2
Aric Almirola	1

2. Kyle Busch

Yahoo! Group: 2/24
NASCAR.com Cap: \$27.00
Wins at Track/Attempts: 2/24
Top-fives: 11 (.458)
Top-10s: 12 (.500)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 3.40
Yahoo! Points: 93.80
NASCAR.com Points: 70.50
Draft Kings Points: 64.45
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 14.83

Busch could just as readily be the favorite as Elliott. He has a longer history of success at Texas Motor Speedway with five consecutive top-fives.

His second of two victories on this track came in 2013. The reason he is listed second this week is because his overall strength in 2017 has not been as great as Elliott's.

That is easily seen with their six-race averages, but even when one ignores the events in which he sustained damage, the No. 18 just has not been spending as much time among the top 10 during a race as the No. 24.



Original columns, commentary, photos, race coverage and fantasy NASCAR analysis by our staff of female writers and photographers.

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3. Kyle Larson

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$27.50
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/7
Top-fives: 1 (.143)
Top-10s: 2 (.286)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 17.17
Yahoo! Points: 57.67
NASCAR.com Points: 20.20
Draft Kings Points: 26.00
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 6.00

Larson was not in his element last week in Martinsville Speedway. He learned as he went along and actually got much better before the end of the STP 500. The results do not show it because he had mechanical issues late in the going—but after fading in the middle stages, he climbed back into contention for a top-10.

The fact that he ran well on a track that does not typically suit him should add to his confidence—not that he has any reason to be lacking in that regard. His victory at Auto Cub two weeks ago might have opened a floodgate that allows him to win several more in the first half of the season—predominantly on unrestricted, intermediate speedways. Larson could and should challenge Elliott and Busch for the O'Reilly 500 win and the favorite will come down to who performs best in practice.

4. Brad Keselowski

Yahoo! Group: A
NASCAR.com Cap: \$27.50
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/17
Top-fives: 4 (.235)
Top-10s: 6 (.353)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 9.50
Yahoo! Points: 84.50
NASCAR.com Points: 79.80
Draft Kings Points: 64.08
Avg. Last 6 races ^

Driver Rating: Texas			
Rank	Driver	Best	Avg.
1	Jimmie Johnson	150.0	107.1
8	Matt Kenseth	144.7	104.7
3	Kyle Busch	144.1	102.4
24	Chase Elliott	106.7	100.8
4	Dale Earnhardt Jr.	116.5	93.2
15	Martin Truex Jr.	132.8	93.0
42	Erik Jones	92.4	92.4
2	Denny Hamlin	123.1	90.4
5	Kevin Harvick	132.2	90.0
12	Kurt Busch	134.8	87.8
6	Brad Keselowski	145.0	86.7
13	Kasey Kahne	131.4	86.0
9	Clint Bowyer	123.6	85.0
7	Joey Logano	140.6	84.1
16	Kyle Larson	104.7	83.7
11	Jamie McMurray	124.0	78.3
10	Ryan Newman	108.4	75.1
40	Austin Dillon	90.7	70.9
21	Paul Menard	100.2	70.5
14	AJ Allmendinger	91.6	68.1
31	Ricky Stenhouse Jr.	89.3	66.5
18	Aric Almirola	101.4	65.5
25	Trevor Bayne	76.1	62.5
22	Elliott Sadler	87.1	60.4
39	Timmy Hill	31.9	59.5
19	Ryan Blaney	89.8	58.1
17	Ty Dillon	86.7	56.7
23	Danica Patrick	74.9	56.3
26	Michael Waltrip	108.8	55.3
28	Reed Sorenson	90.7	49.6
30	Alex Bowman	88.4	48.5
32	Chris Buescher	56.5	46.0
29	Landon Cassill	57.3	43.0
57	JJ Yeley	87.4	42.2
27	Cole Whitt	46.0	40.3
33	Michael McDowell	56.9	37.8
34	Matt DiBenedetto	32.8	32.4
37	Jeffrey Earnhardt	31.9	30.3
36	Joey Gase	28.0	27.9
35	Derrike Cope	25.8	25.8

Cup results: 6.83

Larson, Elliott, and Logano have had the most powerful machinery on similarly-configured, 1.5-mile tracks this year, but they have not come home with the trophy. Truex won Vegas, while Keselowski made a dramatic late-race pass on Larson at Atlanta.

Last week, he became the first repeat winner of the season. That was his fifth consecutive top-five this season and it is unfortunate that there cannot be four number one picks. In games that allow for multiple

rosters, spread the wealth among these divers at the very least.

5. Martin Truex Jr.

Yahoo! Group: A
NASCAR.com Cap: \$27.25
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/23
Top-fives: 3 (.130)
Top-10s: 12 (.522)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 10.50
Yahoo! Points: 78.17
NASCAR.com Points: 68.30
Draft Kings Points: 51.83
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 8.83

Truex earns his spot at the top of this week's chart with consistency and speed. He en-

tered last fall's AAA 500 with three consecutive Texas top-10s, but he had not scored a top-five since 2013. He came close in this race last year with a sixth. He continued to improve and crossed under the checkers third in the fall.

6. Joey Logano

Yahoo! Group: A
NASCAR.com Cap: \$28.00
Wins at Track/Attempts: 1/17
Top-fives: 7 (.412)
Top-10s: 7 (.412)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 10.33
Yahoo! Points: 81.50
NASCAR.com Points: 70.30
Draft Kings Points: 53.38
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 9.33

Logano has been the class of the field on similarly-

drivers out of the lead.

7. Jamie McMurray

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$21.50
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/26
Top-fives: 4 (.154)
Top-10s: 9 (.346)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 11.67
Yahoo! Points: 70.33
NASCAR.com Points: 36.60
Draft Kings Points: 40.63
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 17.50

When a driver starts to experience bad luck, it can be hard to shake. McMurray tried to ride out a tire problem last week at Martinsville in hopes of keeping from going two laps down to the leaders. The miscalculation ended with him in the wall.

Last year, McMurray failed to crack the top 10 at Texas in either race, but he came close in the spring with a 13th. That result came on the heels of a three-race, top-10 streak on this track. He also has back-to-back top-10s on the similarly-configured, 1.5-mile tracks in the opening races of 2016 as well as a sixth on the two-

mile Auto Club Speedway. He should easily challenge for a result on either side of 10th.

8. Jimmie Johnson

Yahoo! Group: A
NASCAR.com Cap: \$26.00
Wins at Track/Attempts: 6/27
Top-fives: 14 (.519)
Top-10s: 20 (.741)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 7.17
Yahoo! Points: 86.50
NASCAR.com Points: 58.40
Draft Kings Points: 68.54
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 18.17

Finding good things to say about Johnson on any track



Three weeks ago, Truex became the first driver to sweep a race weekend. He won both segments of the Kobalt 400 and won the race. That is the same kind of domination he showed a couple of times last year on similarly-configured,

configured, 1.5-mile tracks recently. He finished second in the Ninja Turtles 400 at Chicagoland, experienced trouble at Charlotte, and then rattled off four consecutive top-six finishes on the track type.

One of these strong finishes came at Texas. He was second in the AAA 500 and third last spring in the Duck Commander 500. There will be an abundance of speed at the front of the pack and only a mistake is going to drop one of these

DAILY FANTASY MOCK DRAFT

by Victoria Beaver

The men and woman of NASCAR head to Dan's and my current home of Texas this weekend. This is the third cookie-cutter track of the season, so fantasy team owners can look at their driver's recent performances to get a good glimpse of what's in store for the Sunday. There are enough drivers that are consistently good on this track that it shouldn't be hard to build a reliable team in DFS.

Splurge:

Kyle Busch

Fantasy Power Average: 6.97

Busch has finished in the top five in his last five starts at Texas. He's finished in the top five in 56.2% of his starts at the track since spring of 2008. If his consistency with finishing great isn't enough to sell fantasy owners on the No. 18 driver maybe his 81.2 percent top-15 finish record will close the deal. In his last 16 races Busch has only finished outside the top-15 three times. And one of those finishes fell right outside the line in 16th. He won this race a year ago after starting in the 15th posi-

tion. Busch has moved forward an average of 12.6 places in his last five races at Texas.

Brad Keselowski

Fantasy Power Average: 10.13

Keselowski is coming off of a win at Martinsville last week. That win was his fifth top-five finish in a row, which means he has recorded a top-five finish in every race of the season outside of Daytona. In his last five starts at Texas he's moved towards the front from his starting position only once, in his last four starts he's fallen back from his qualification spot. His place-differential averages out between the five starts for a net-zero. Keselowski has led laps in three of his last five starts at Texas, including in the fall of 2015 when he led 312 of 334 laps.

Mid-Range

Martin Truex Jr.

Fantasy Power Average: 8.70

Truex has five top-15 results this year, his worst finish came last week at Martinsville when he crossed under the checkers in 16th. Truex's last four finish-

has never been difficult. Unfortunately, it is getting easier to find some bad things to mutter under one's breath on tracks he once dominated. Everyone expects Johnson to break out of his funk and run with the leaders. They think he will rule again when that happens, but right now that seems like a long way off. He struggled to get his only top-10 of the season at Phoenix International Raceway and despite winning the Cup Championship, he was not consistently strong last fall either.

9. Ryan Blaney

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$21.00
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/4
Top-fives: 0 (.000)
Top-10s: 0 (.000)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 31.50
Yahoo! Points: 29.00
NASCAR.com Points: -4.50
Draft Kings Points: -2.88
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 14.00

Blaney has only one top-15, but looking at the stats' block above, there is a hidden secret. He has a negative points' average in both the NASCAR.com and Draft Kings

game, which means that he has qualified well in his Texas attempts only to experience trouble during the race. Last fall, he kept his nose clean and finished 12th. At Vegas three weeks ago, he finished seventh on another of the similarly-configured, 1.5-mile tracks and that makes him worth a look.

10. Clint Bowyer

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$18.00
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/22
Top-fives: 3 (.136)
Top-10s: 10 (.455)
Last 3 Years

es at Texas have all been top-10s. Fifty percent of his starts at Texas have ended with top-10 finishes since 2008. Truex's one win so far this season came at Las Vegas, which is also a cookie-cutter track.

He has moved forward an average of 3.2 positions in his last five races at Texas, advancing three times and falling back twice. Truex has led at least one lap in last three attempts at Texas, and held most laps led in last April's race.

Matt Kenseth

Fantasy Power Average: 8.99

Since 2008, Kenseth has finished in the top-15 82.4 percent of the time. That's better than Kyle Busch's metrics at the track, who I ranked has the best "Splurge" driver this week. His average finish in his 28 starts on the track is 9.43. Kenseth is the fourth-best current driver on cookie-cutter tracks. He's led laps in two of his last five starts there. Disappointedly he has fallen back from his qualification spot in three of his last five starts.

Steals

Ricky Stenhouse Jr.

Fantasy Power Average: 24.40

Stenhouse has only one top-15 finish in eight starts at Texas, but his last two results have both been 16th-place finishes. These 2016 finishes came in very different races for Stenhouse, in the fall he advanced to the position from 20th and in the spring he fell back from his career-best starting place of fifth at the track. He's advanced from his qualifying spot three times in his last five starts for an average place differential of +0.4. If Stenhouse can build off of his last two finishes at Texas combined with his three top-15s so far this season he could produce a good finish this weekend.

AJ Allmendinger

Fantasy Power Average: 25.64

Allmendinger has six top-15 finishes in his last 15 starts at Texas Motor Speedway and an average result of 20.63. In his last five races on the track he has a positive place-differential average of five spots, advancing from his qualification spot in four of those attempts. Allmendinger is coming off of a sixth-place finish at Martinsville, which was his second top-10

Current Track: 22.67
Yahoo! Points: 48.33
NASCAR.com Points: 27.10
Draft Kings Points: 27.13
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 12.67

Fantasy players can disregard Bowyer's numbers from the past couple of years and concentrate on how he is doing now. Tony Stewart left this team with a strong foundation even if his reflexes were getting to a point where he could not get the most out of the car. Bowyer was immediately comfortable behind the wheel, but it took a little while for most fantasy owners to trust him. If your competition is still questioning his ability,

now is a good time to jump on his bandwagon before he becomes even more expensive in salary cap games.

SLEEPERS

12. Erik Jones

Yahoo! Group: C
NASCAR.com Cap: \$20.25
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/1
Top-fives: 0 (.000)
Top-10s: 0 (.000)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 12.00
Yahoo! Points: 68.00
NASCAR.com Points: 26.50
Draft Kings Points: 26.50
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 16.67

Texas is one of the few tracks

on which Jones already has some laps. Racing for the suspended Matt Kenseth in fall 2015, he qualified sixth, finished all the laps, and narrowly missed finishing in the top 10. That was the day everyone knew he would make it to the NASCAR Cup series and be an early favorite to win whichever rookie class he joined. Joe Gibbs Racing chose to have him concentrate on his Xfinity campaign last year so he did not race at the top level at all.

This year, in his first race behind the wheel on a similarly-configured, 1.5-mile track, he finished 14th at Atlanta. He was 15th at Vegas and 12th at

Top-fives and Top-10s					
By Car Owner, Last Three Years					
Owner	Attempts	Top-5s		Top-10s	
Roger Penske	12	7	58%	7	58%
Rick Hendrick	24	9	38%	16	67%
Joe Gibbs	22	7	32%	13	59%
Barney Visser	6	1	17%	4	67%
Chip Ganassi	12	2	17%	5	42%
Tony Stewart	24	3	13%	9	38%
Michael Waltrip	9	1	11%	2	22%
Jack Roush	18			2	11%
Richard Childress	19			2	11%
BK Racing	16				
Front Row Motorsports	15				
Petty Enterprises	12				
Harry Scott	10				
Tommy Baldwin	8				
Bob Leavine	6				
Frank Stoddard	6				
Germain Bros	6				
Jay Robinson	6				
Tad Geschickter	6				
Wood Bros	6				
Michael Hillman	4				
Mike Curb	4				
Joe Falk	3				
Curtis Key	2				
Swan Racing	2				
Johnathan Cohen	1				
Randy Humphrey	1				

The same thing happened when he rolled out Florida into Georgia. Suarez finished only 21st on the first "cookie-cutter" track. He was 20th one week later at Vegas, but he scored back-to-back top-10s at Phoenix and Auto Club. Split the difference and Suarez can be expected to earn a result in the mid-teens this week. That will make him a good value in certain games.

25. Trevor Bayne

Yahoo! Group: B
 NASCAR.com Cap: \$17.75
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/13
 Top-fives: 0 (.000)
 Top-10s: 0 (.000)
 Last 3 Years
 Current Track: 26.67
 Yahoo! Points: 40.33
 NASCAR.com Points: 15.40
 Draft Kings Points: 11.60
 Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: 15.00

Auto Club, which is four straight top-15s on the unrestricted, intermediate speedways. No one will be surprised if he earns his second consecutive top-10 this week.

15. Ryan Newman

Yahoo! Group: B
 NASCAR.com Cap: \$18.50
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 1/27
 Top-fives: 3 (.111)
 Top-10s: 6 (.222)
 Last 3 Years
 Current Track: 15.33
 Yahoo! Points: 61.33
 NASCAR.com Points: 29.20
 Draft Kings Points: 29.75
 Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: 16.17

After gambling and winning at Phoenix, Newman is settling into a more predictable pattern. Organizations do not go from contending for top-15s to consistently running for wins overnight, but there is a comfortable place in the middle.

Newman and his teammate Austin Dillon are capable of

earning top-10s and that makes them attractive in fantasy NASCAR. Newman is the more consistent driver of the two and therefore a safer proposition.

17. Daniel Suarez

Yahoo! Group: C
 NASCAR.com Cap: \$17.25
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/0
 Top-fives: 0 (.000)
 Top-10s: 0 (.000)
 Last 3 Years
 Current Track: NA
 Yahoo! Points: NA
 NASCAR.com Points: NA
 Draft Kings Points: NA
 Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: 19.33

Last week was the most uncomfortable Suarez has been in a Cup car since leaving Daytona International Speedway. He rallied for a segment of the race, but crash damage kept him from truly showing fantasy owners whether he could contend for a decent result. He will enter Texas with his confidence a little shaken.

Bayne regained his rhythm last week. After struggling through a bad Phoenix and Auto Club, his 13th at Martinsville was a welcome relief. He was three spots behind teammate Ricky Stenhouse Jr., who could just as readily be one of this week's sleepers instead of Bayne.

The difference between those two is marginal, but Bayne performed well with the Wood Bros. in the past on this track type. Since that organization did not quite have the same resources as Roush-Fenway Racing, he was making up the difference with skill.

28. Chris Buescher

Yahoo! Group: B
 NASCAR.com Cap: \$9.00
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/3
 Top-fives: 0 (.000)
 Top-10s: 0 (.000)
 Last 3 Years
 Current Track: 26.33
 Yahoo! Points: 39.33
 NASCAR.com Points: 24.83
 Draft Kings Points: 28.33

Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 24.17

At the start of the season, Buescher was considered to be a mildly interesting dark horse. The addition of a second team to the JTG-Daugherty Racing stable was expected to raise the results of both drivers.

Buescher has been a little stronger even than anticipated and he is a good "filler" pick for that last spot on one's roster.

So far this year, he has earned a 24th and 23rd on the two "cookie-cutter" courses. In similar equipment, he was 21st or better in his last three attempts on the track type last year, so fantasy owners can expect a result in the low-20s for the O'Reilly 500.

BUSTS

14. Kasey Kahne

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$23.00
Wins at Track/Attempts: 1/25
Top-fives: 5 (.200)
Top-10s: 9 (.360)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 15.50
Yahoo! Points: 62.83
NASCAR.com Points: 42.80
Draft Kings Points: 37.42
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 12.83

Kahne is generally good on cookie-cutter tracks. He is currently on a seven-race top-15 streak at these similarly configured tracks, but his chances of a good showing this weekend are brought down by poor results in his last three races. That has shaken play-

ers' confidence and it might be best to give him a week to rebound.

Kahne will have better chances for top-five and top-ten finishes at other cookie-cutter tracks like Charlotte or Kansas as the year progresses.

16. Denny Hamlin

Yahoo! Group: A
NASCAR.com Cap: \$25.25
Wins at Track/Attempts: 2/22
Top-fives: 5 (.227)
Top-10s: 11 (.500)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 15.50
Yahoo! Points: 66.00
NASCAR.com Points: 24.80
Draft Kings Points: 28.42
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 19.17

3 Year Avg. Finish on Short-flat Tracks			
Rank	Driver	Avg.	Attempts
1	Kyle Busch	8.52	27
2	Joey Logano	9.77	31
3	Brad Keselowski	10.23	31
4	Kevin Harvick	10.55	31
5	Martin Truex Jr	10.65	31
6	Matt Kenseth	11.03	30
7	Ryan Newman	12.23	31
8	Jimmie Johnson	12.39	31
9	Dale Earnhardt Jr	13.44	27
10	Kurt Busch	13.48	29
11	Kasey Kahne	14.29	31
12	Chase Elliott	15.08	13
13	Denny Hamlin	15.74	31
14	Jamie McMurray	16.45	31
15	Kyle Larson	17.48	31
16	Austin Dillon	19.77	31
17	Erik Jones	20.25	4
18	Aric Almirola	20.39	31
19	Paul Menard	20.48	31
20	Daniel Suarez	20.50	2
21	AJ Allmendinger	20.90	31
22	Ricky Stenhouse Jr	21.00	31
23	Ryan Blaney	21.05	19
24	Danica Patrick	21.68	31
25	Ty Dillon	22.00	8
26	Trevor Bayne	22.81	26
27	Clint Bowyer	23.23	31
28	Chris Buescher	26.38	13
29	David Ragan	28.68	31
30	Michael McDowell	29.83	24
31	Landon Cassill	30.42	31
32	Cole Whitt	30.90	30
33	Matt DiBenedetto	32.52	22
34	Jeffrey Earnhardt	33.11	9
35	Reed Sorenson	34.38	26
36	Gray Gaulding	35.50	2
37	Corey LaJoie	36.00	3
38	Timmy Hill	38.88	8

Hamlin is coming off of a bad finish at Martinsville last week, where he suffered damage and ended the race in 30th; the problem is, that should have been a track he dominated. Denny only has three top-15 finishes so far this season, making him a worse value than similarly priced drivers.

Hamlin's history at Texas is varied. As soon as players get accustomed to seeing him with top-15 finishes he falls back in the next race to the middle of the field. He won back-to-back races at the track in 2010, but in seven years a lot changes in NASCAR.

20. Kurt Busch

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$22.25
Wins at Track/Attempts: 1/28
Top-fives: 3 (.107)
Top-10s: 15 (.535)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 16.17
Yahoo! Points: 64.83
NASCAR.com Points: 22.00
Draft Kings Points: 25.17
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 20.67

Busch has been uneven all season due to bad luck in the pits and beyond. Kurt hasn't had a good finish since Atlanta, the second race of the season. Since then he's averaged a 29th-place finish in the last four races.

Texas is a track on which he performs equally uneven. He's finished in the top-15 55.6% of the time since 2008 and snapped a two-race, top-10 streak in last fall's race. These finishes do not tip the scales away from his current



Allmendinger had a good run at Martinsville last week, but chances are it's not enough to propel him into the top-15 this weekend. He only has one such finish in his last five starts at Texas and has never finished better than 10th. He finished 24th and 26th at Vegas and Atlanta respectively this season and while that is acceptable for teammate Buescher, it does not excite fantasy owners at 'Dinger's level.

Allmendinger is a consistent value on many tracks in different contests. Using him this week would be a waste of that value.

Other Drivers

11. Kevin Harvick

Yahoo! Group: A
NASCAR.com Cap: \$26.75
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/28
Top-fives: 6 (.214)
Top-10s: 16 (.571)
Last 3 Years

Current Track: 10.83
Yahoo! Points: 81.33
NASCAR.com Points: 39.30
Draft Kings Points: 43.79
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 18.00

13. Matt Kenseth

Yahoo! Group: A
NASCAR.com Cap: \$25.00
Wins at Track/Attempts: 2/28
Top-fives: 13 (.464)
Top-10s: 18 (.642)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 14.60
Yahoo! Points: 68.80
NASCAR.com Points: 39.75
Draft Kings Points: 35.25
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 22.33

18. Austin Dillon

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$20.50
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/8
Top-fives: 0 (.000)
Top-10s: 0 (.000)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 21.50
Yahoo! Points: 52.00

failures this season.

21. Dale Earnhardt Jr.

Yahoo! Group: A
NASCAR.com Cap: \$20.75
Wins at Track/Attempts: 1/28
Top-fives: 6 (.214)
Top-10s: 17 (.607)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 12.00
Yahoo! Points: 68.00
NASCAR.com Points: 40.13
Draft Kings Points: 45.50
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 24.50

Dale Earnhardt Jr. won in his first attempt at Texas and hasn't been able to find Victory Lane there since. He came close last April when he surged towards the front late in the race after qualifying in 16th.

Earnhardt's average finish at the track is 13.43. At this

point in his season, sadly that would be a great result.

Looking at this season's performance so far, he's only recorded one top-15 when he came in 14th at Phoenix.

Last week, he seemed to mistakenly head to the garage to fix damages sustained in a crash instead of pulling into his pit stall.

24. AJ Allmendinger

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$15.75
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/17
Top-fives: 0 (.000) / Top-10s: 2 (.118)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 19.00
Yahoo! Points: 54.00
NASCAR.com Points: 28.20
Draft Kings Points: 31.67
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 17.00

Track Sweeps (Drivers Sweeping Top-5, -10, and -15s in a season)

Track	top-5s	10s	15s
2016 Michigan	4	7	10
2016 Texas	3	7	11
2016 Road Courses	3	5	9
2016 Phoenix	2	6	7
2016 Kansas	2	5	10
2016 Richmond	1	7	10
2016 Dover	2	5	8
2016 Martinsville	2	4	9
2016 New Hampshire	2	3	8
2016 Charlotte	1	5	7
2016 Pocono	1	4	9
2016 Daytona	1	4	6
2016 Bristol	0	3	6
2016 Talladega	0	2	6

Previous Seasons

2015 Road Courses	4	7	11
2015 Texas	3	8	9
2012 New Hampshire	3	7	13
2015 Daytona	4	5	7
2014 Dover	3	6	11
2013 Martinsville	3	6	10
2014 Michigan	2	8	10
2011 Pocono	3	6	9
2012 Charlotte	3	5	10
2011 Texas	3	5	10
2013 Pocono	2	7	10
2014 Phoenix	3	5	9
2010 Pocono	3	5	8
2010 Phoenix	2	6	11
2012 Phoenix	2	6	9
2011 Richmond	2	6	9
2013 Dover	2	6	8
2012 Talladega	2	6	7
2011 Kansas	2	5	11
2011 Dover	1	7	11
2015 Dover	2	5	10
2015 Michigan	2	5	9
2012 Texas	2	5	9
2015 Kansas	2	5	8
2014 Charlotte	2	5	8
2013 Road Courses	2	5	8
2010 Richmond	1	6	13
2011 Road Courses	1	6	12
2013 New Hampshire	1	6	11
2012 Kansas	2	4	10
2013 Michigan	1	6	10
2014 Richmond	2	4	9
2014 Martinsville	2	4	9
2012 Michigan	2	4	9
2015 Charlotte	1	6	9
2012 Road Courses	2	4	7
2010 Texas	1	5	8
2013 Texas	1	4	12
2014 Texas	1	2	8

NASCAR.com Points: 17.33
 Draft Kings Points: 21.00
 Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: 18.33

19. Aric Almirola
 Yahoo! Group: B
 NASCAR.com Cap: \$13.00
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/12

29. Matt DiBenedetto
 Yahoo! Group: C
 NASCAR.com Cap: \$7.25
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/4

Top-fives: 0 (.000)
 Top-10s: 1 (.083)
 Last 3 Years
 Current Track: 19.83
 Yahoo! Points: 52.33
 NASCAR.com Points: 28.90
 Draft Kings Points: 28.42
 Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: 16.50

22. Ty Dillon

Yahoo! Group: C
 NASCAR.com Cap: \$13.25
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/1
 Top-fives: 0 (.000)
 Top-10s: 0 (.000)
 Last 3 Years
 Current Track: 20.00
 Yahoo! Points: 52.00
 NASCAR.com Points: 31.50
 Draft Kings Points: 34.50
 Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: 20.33

23. Ricky Stenhouse Jr.

Yahoo! Group: B
 NASCAR.com Cap: \$14.25
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/8
 Top-fives: 0 (.000)
 Top-10s: 0 (.000)
 Last 3 Years
 Current Track: 19.50
 Yahoo! Points: 53.00
 NASCAR.com Points: 26.90
 Draft Kings Points: 26.92
 Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: 18.83

26. Paul Menard

Yahoo! Group: B
 NASCAR.com Cap: \$15.25
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/21
 Top-fives: 1 (.048)
 Top-10s: 3 (.143)
 Last 3 Years
 Current Track: 22.33
 Yahoo! Points: 49.00
 NASCAR.com Points: 12.00
 Draft Kings Points: 25.54
 Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: 19.50

27. Landon Cassill

Yahoo! Group: C
 NASCAR.com Cap: \$8.25
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/13
 Top-fives: 0 (.000)
 Top-10s: 0 (.000)
 Last 3 Years
 Current Track: 31.33
 Yahoo! Points: 29.33
 NASCAR.com Points: 20.90
 Draft Kings Points: 18.00
 Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: 24.50

Laps in Top-10 at Texas (L 3Yrs)				
Rank	Driver	Laps	%	Possible Laps
1	Joey Logano	1,513	76.6%	1,976
2	Kevin Harvick	1,500	75.9%	1,976
3	Chase Elliott	465	74.2%	627
4	Jimmie Johnson	1,369	69.3%	1,976
5	Brad Keselowski	1,276	64.6%	1,976
6	Matt Kenseth	1,050	63.9%	1,642
7	Martin Truex Jr	1,189	60.2%	1,976
8	Kyle Busch	986	60.0%	1,642
9	Dale Earnhardt Jr	933	55.4%	1,683
10	Erik Jones	148	44.3%	334
11	Kasey Kahne	874	44.2%	1,976
12	Kurt Busch	842	42.6%	1,976
13	Kyle Larson	821	41.5%	1,976
14	Denny Hamlin	744	37.7%	1,976
15	Jamie McMurray	676	34.2%	1,976
16	Austin Dillon	449	22.7%	1,976
17	Ryan Newman	434	22.0%	1,976
18	Ryan Blaney	187	14.4%	1,295
19	Ricky Stenhouse Jr	268	13.6%	1,976
20	Paul Menard	267	13.5%	1,976
21	Clint Bowyer	224	11.3%	1,976
22	Trevor Bayne	114	5.8%	1,976
23	David Ragan	100	5.1%	1,976
24	AJ Allmendinger	17	0.9%	1,976
25	Danica Patrick	12	0.6%	1,976
26	Jeffrey Earnhardt	1	0.2%	627
27	Reed Sorenson	2	0.2%	1,308
28	Chris Buescher	1	0.1%	961
29	Aric Almirola	2	0.1%	1,976
30	Landon Cassill	2	0.1%	1,976
31	Matt DiBenedetto	1	0.1%	1,002
32	Cole Whitt	0	0.0%	1,683
33	Michael McDowell	0	0.0%	1,642
34	Timmy Hill	0	0.0%	341
35	Ty Dillon	0	0.0%	334

Top-fives: 0 (.000)
Top-10s: 0 (.000)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 34.33
Yahoo! Points: 26.67
NASCAR.com Points: 11.33
Draft Kings Points: 12.25
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 26.00

30. David Ragan

Yahoo! Group: C
NASCAR.com Cap: \$7.00
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/21
Top-fives: 0 (.000)
Top-10s: 2 (.095)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 28.17
Yahoo! Points: 39.00
NASCAR.com Points: 20.60
Draft Kings Points: 20.96
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 27.83

31. Danica Patrick

Yahoo! Group: B
NASCAR.com Cap: \$11.50
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/9
Top-fives: 0 (.000)

Top-10s: 0 (.000)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 23.33
Yahoo! Points: 45.33
NASCAR.com Points: 23.70
Draft Kings Points: 20.92
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 26.17

32. Michael McDowell

Yahoo! Group: C
NASCAR.com Cap: \$10.25
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/16
Top-fives: 0 (.000)
Top-10s: 0 (.000)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 29.60
Yahoo! Points: 32.00
NASCAR.com Points: 17.00
Draft Kings Points: 16.90
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 24.17

33. Reed Sorenson

Yahoo! Group: C
NASCAR.com Cap: \$5.00
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/18
Top-fives: 0 (.000)
Top-10s: 0 (.000)

Last 3 Years
Current Track: 36.40
Yahoo! Points: 26.00
NASCAR.com Points: 13.17
Draft Kings Points: 13.81
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 33.00

34. Cole Whitt

Yahoo! Group: C
NASCAR.com Cap: \$5.25
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/5
Top-fives: 0 (.000)
Top-10s: 0 (.000)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: 29.80
Yahoo! Points: 29.00
NASCAR.com Points: 19.00
Draft Kings Points: 22.70
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 25.50

35. Gray Gaulding

Yahoo! Group: C
NASCAR.com Cap: \$5.00
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/0
Top-fives: 0 (.000)
Top-10s: 0 (.000)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: NA
Yahoo! Points: NA
NASCAR.com Points: NA
Draft Kings Points: NA
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 34.60

36. Corey LaJoie

Yahoo! Group: C
NASCAR.com Cap: \$4.75
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/0
Top-fives: 0 (.000)
Top-10s: 0 (.000)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: NA
Yahoo! Points: NA
NASCAR.com Points: NA
Draft Kings Points: NA
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: 26.00

37. JJ Yeley

Yahoo! Group: C
NASCAR.com Cap: \$5.00
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/16
Top-fives: 0 (.000)
Top-10s: 0 (.000)
Last 3 Years
Current Track: NA
Yahoo! Points: NA
NASCAR.com Points: NA
Draft Kings Points: NA
Avg. Last 6 races ^
Cup results: NA

38. Timmy Hill

Yahoo! Group: C
NASCAR.com Cap: \$4.75
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/3
Top-fives: 0 (.000)
Top-10s: 0 (.000)



TEXAS

MOTOR SPEEDWAY®

Track Type: Intermediate
 Track Size: 1.5 Miles
 Banking/Corners 1 and 2: 20 degrees
 Banking/Corners 3 and 4: 24 degrees
 Banking /Dogleg & Backstretch: 5 degrees
 Race Length: 334 Laps / 501 Miles
 Stage 1 & 2: 85 Laps (each)
 Final Stage: 164 Laps

3 Things to Know

22

Most Cup Series races run
 without posting a DNF
 (Kyle Busch & Denny Hamlin)

1

Active drivers with consecutive
 Coors Light poles
 (Ryan Newman 2005)

6

Most wins at TMS
 (Jimmie Johnson)

- Carol D'Agostino, Skirtsandscuffs.com

Last 3 Years
 Current Track: 35.00
 Yahoo! Points: 22.00
 NASCAR.com Points: NA
 Draft Kings Points: 16.00
 Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: 35.60

Draft Kings Points: NA
 Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: NA

^ The last six races average is
 from the last six races of this
 season; the driver may not

39. Jeffrey Earnhardt

Yahoo! Group: C
 NASCAR.com Cap: \$4.75
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/2
 Top-fives: 0 (.000)
 Top-10s: 0 (.000)
 Last 3 Years
 Current Track: 34.50
 Yahoo! Points: 22.00
 NASCAR.com Points: 8.50
 Draft Kings Points: 12.00
 Avg. Last 6 races ^
 Cup results: 34.17

40. Derrike Cope

Yahoo! Group: C
 NASCAR.com Cap: \$4.75
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/6
 Top-fives: 0 (.000)
 Top-10s: 0 (.000)
 Last 3 Years
 Current Track: NA
 Yahoo! Points: NA
 NASCAR.com Points: NA



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have run in all of those events. This statistic and the average finish for the last three years include failures to qualify (DNQ) as if they were actually finishes; i.e. the first non-qualifier is credited with a 44th-place finish. This is true for the statistics at all levels of the game, but is more like to skew the numbers in Group C where DNQs are a more frequent way of life.

NUMBER OF TOP-10s BACKED UP WITH ANOTHER

This is the number of times in 2017 that a driver backed up one top-10 with another finish of 10th or better, (total number of top-10s for the season in parenthesis):

Brad Keselowski: 4 (5)
 Joey Logano: 3 (5)
 Kyle Larson: 3 (4)
 Chase Elliott: 2 (4)
 Kyle Busch: 2 (3)
 Martin Truex Jr.: 1 (3)
 Matt Kenseth: 1 (3)
 Clint Bowyer: 1 (3)
 Jamie McMurray: 1 (3)
 Kurt Busch: 1 (2)
 Kasey Kahne: 1 (2)
 Denny Hamlin: 1 (2)
 Daniel Suarez: 1 (2)
 Ryan Blaney: 0 (3)
 Ryan Newman: 0 (2)
 AJ Allmendinger: 0 (2)
 Ricky Stenhouse Jr.: 0 (2)
 Kevin Harvick: 0 (2)
 Aric Almirola: 0 (1)
 Paul Menard: 0 (1)
 Austin Dillon: 0 (1)
 Erik Jones: 0 (1)
 Michael Waltrip: 0 (1)

Avg. Start at Texas			
Rank	Driver	Avg. Start	Attempts
1	Joey Logano	5.67	6
2	Kevin Harvick	6.17	6
3	Brad Keselowski	7.33	6
4	Chase Elliott	7.50	2
5	Kurt Busch	9.00	6
6	Jimmie Johnson	10.33	6
7	Kyle Larson	11.67	6
8	Matt Kenseth	12.00	5
9	Denny Hamlin	12.67	6
10	Ryan Newman	13.00	6
11	Martin Truex Jr	13.17	6
12	Ryan Blaney	13.25	4
13	Paul Menard	14.50	6
14	Kyle Busch	16.00	5
15	Dale Earnhardt Jr	16.40	5
16	Austin Dillon	16.67	6
17	Jamie McMurray	17.67	6
18	Kasey Kahne	19.00	6
19	Trevor Bayne	20.33	6
20	Ricky Stenhouse Jr	20.67	6
21	Danica Patrick	21.83	6
22	Aric Almirola	23.33	6
23	AJ Allmendinger	24.83	6
24	Clint Bowyer	25.50	6
25	Michael McDowell	31.20	5
26	David Ragan	32.00	6
27	Chris Buescher	34.67	3
28	Landon Cassill	35.00	6
29	Matt DiBenedetto	35.50	4
30	Jeffrey Earnhardt	35.50	2
31	Reed Sorenson	37.00	5
32	Cole Whitt	37.80	5

Matt DiBenedetto: 0 (1)
 Jimmie Johnson: 0 (1)
 Trevor Bayne: 0 (1)
 Chris Buescher: 0 (0)
 Dale Earnhardt Jr.: 0 (0)
 Ty Dillon: 0 (0)
 Michael McDowell: 0 (0)
 Landon Cassill: 0 (0)
 Danica Patrick: 0 (0)
 Cole Whitt: 0 (0)
 David Ragan: 0 (0)
 Corey LaJoie: 0 (0)
 Jeffrey Earnhardt: 0 (0)
 Reed Sorenson: 0 (0)
 Timmy Hill: 0 (0)
 Gray Gaulding: 0 (0)
 Derrike Cope: 0 (0)
 Cody Ware: 0 (0)
 DJ Kennington: 0 (0)

DRIVER PERFORMANCE

Here are the top performances by driver so far this season. The full list can be found each

week by clicking on the "Driver Performance" link in the "Research" section of your team roster:

Yahoo! Group A:

(2) Martin Truex Jr.: Las Vegas (week 3), Auto Club (week 5)

(2) Kyle Busch: Phoenix (week 4), Martinsville 1 (week 6)

(1) Joey Logano: Daytona 1 (week 1)

(1) Kevin Harvick: Atlanta (week 2)

Yahoo! Group B:

Top two each week.

(4) Kyle Larson: Atlanta (week 2), Las Vegas (week 3), Phoenix (week 4), Auto Club (week 5)

(2) Chase Elliott: Las Vegas (week 3), Martinsville 1 (week 6)

(1) Kurt Busch: Daytona 1 (week 1)

(1) Ryan Blaney: Daytona 1 (week 1)

(1) Kasey Kahne: Atlanta (week 2)

(1) Ryan Newman: Phoenix (week 4)

(1) Clint Bowyer: Auto Club (week 5)

(1) Austin Dillon: Martinsville 1 (week 6)

Yahoo! Group C:

(2) Daniel Suarez: Phoenix (week 4), Auto Club (week 5)

Season to Date Grid										
Driver	Starts	Wins	Top-5s	Top-10s	Avg Fin	Start	Laps	Poles	DNFs	DNQs
Kyle Larson	6	1	4	4	6.00	5.83	1,808	1		
Brad Keselowski	6	2	5	5	6.83	4.33	1,751	1	1	
Chase Elliott	6		3	4	7.83	7.67	1,808	1		
Michael Waltrip	1			1	8.00	30.00	200			
Martin Truex Jr	6	1	2	3	8.83	11.50	1,808			
Joey Logano	6		3	5	9.33	11.33	1,801	1	1	
Brendan Gaughan	1				11.00	39.00	200			
Clint Bowyer	6		1	3	12.67	13.67	1,736		1	
Kasey Kahne	6		1	2	12.83	16.17	1,808			
Ryan Blaney	6		1	3	14.00	13.50	1,805			
Kyle Busch	6		2	3	14.83	10.17	1,711		1	
Trevor Bayne	6			1	15.00	20.33	1,808			
Ryan Newman	6	1	1	2	16.17	12.50	1,790			
Aric Almirola	6		1	1	16.50	25.00	1,804			
Erik Jones	6			1	16.67	17.00	1,711		1	
AJ Allmendinger	6		1	2	17.00	25.83	1,804			
Jamie McMurray	6			3	17.50	6.50	1,354		2	
Kevin Harvick	6			2	18.00	10.67	1,606		1	
Jimmie Johnson	6			1	18.17	21.00	1,734		1	
Austin Dillon	6		1	1	18.33	16.50	1,800			
Ricky Stenhouse Jr	6		1	2	18.83	21.17	1,735		1	
Denny Hamlin	6			2	19.17	10.33	1,657		1	
Daniel Suarez	6			2	19.33	17.83	1,736		1	
Paul Menard	6		1	1	19.50	21.17	1,803			
Elliott Sadler	1				20.00	40.00	199			
Ty Dillon	6				20.33	21.17	1,747		1	
Kurt Busch	6	1	1	2	20.67	13.00	1,598		1	
Matt Kenseth	6		1	3	22.33	12.00	1,569		3	
Joey Gase	1				23.00	29.00	196			
Chris Buescher	6				24.17	29.33	1,731		1	
Michael McDowell	6				24.17	26.67	1,796			
Landon Cassill	6				24.50	27.17	1,796			
Dale Earnhardt Jr	6				24.50	12.33	1,627		2	
Cole Whitt	6				25.50	29.67	1,741		1	
Matt DiBenedetto	6			1	26.00	29.00	1,700		1	
Danica Patrick	6				26.17	23.50	1,712		2	
David Ragan	6				27.83	30.17	1,676		1	
Reed Sorenson	5				31.40	33.20	1,583			1
Corey LaJoie	6				32.17	32.17	1,333		2	
Jeffrey Earnhardt	6				34.17	34.83	1,216		4	
Timmy Hill	4				34.25	37.50	1,121		1	1
Gray Gaulding	5				34.60	35.40	1,382		3	
Derrike Cope	4				35.50	36.50	976			
DJ Kennington	1				36.00	28.00	127		1	
Cody Ware	1				39.00	39.00	74		1	

(2) Erik Jones: Atlanta (week 2), Martinsville 1 (week 6)

(1) Michael Waltrip: Daytona 1 (week 1)

(1) Michael McDowell: Las Vegas (week 3)

NASCAR.com Fantasy Live

Top five game finishes

(5) Chase Elliott: Atlanta (week 2), Las Vegas (week 3), Phoenix 1 (week 4), Auto Club

(week 5), Martinsville 1 (week 6)

(4) Kyle Larson: Atlanta (week 2), Las Vegas (week 3), Phoenix 1 (week 4), Auto Club (week 5)

(4) Brad Keselowski: Atlanta (week 2), Las Vegas (week 3), Phoenix 1 (week 4), Martinsville 1 (week 6)

(3) Joey Logano: Daytona 1 (week 1), Auto Club (week 5),

Martinsville 1 (week 6)

(2) Martin Truex Jr.: Las Vegas (week 3), Auto Club (week 5)

(2) AJ Allmendinger: Daytona 1 (week 1), Martinsville 1 (week 6)

(2) Kyle Busch: Phoenix 1 (week 4), Martinsville 1 (week 6)

(1) Ryan Blaney: Daytona 1 (week 1)

(1) Paul Menard: Daytona 1
(week 1)

(1) Kurt Busch: Daytona 1
(week 1)

(1) Kevin Harvick: Atlanta
(week 2)

(1) Kasey Kahne: Atlanta
(week 2)

(1) Jimmie Johnson: Las Vegas
(week 3)

(1) Ryan Newman: Phoenix 1
(week 4)

(1) Clint Bowyer: Auto Club
(week 5)

TWITTER LEAGUE

It's not too late to join the Dan Beaver Twitter League. Players can join or leave groups throughout the season and your team can accumulate points in up to three leagues. This is one of the most competitive leagues in the game since most or all of the players get their excellent information from the pages of these previews. Simply log onto Yahoo! Sports and navigate to the fantasy racing page (<http://racing.fantasysports.ya>

Total Top-5s: Season	
Driver	Top-5s
Brad Keselowski	5
Kyle Larson	4
Chase Elliott	3
Joey Logano	3
Kyle Busch	2
Martin Truex Jr	2
Aric Almirola	1
Austin Dillon	1
Clint Bowyer	1
AJ Allmendinger	1
Kurt Busch	1
Ryan Newman	1
Matt Kenseth	1
Paul Menard	1
Ricky Stenhouse Jr	1
Ryan Blaney	1
Kasey Kahne	1

Driver Rating: Season to Date			
Rank	Driver	Standings	Rating
1	Brad Keselowski	4	113.8
2	Kyle Larson	1	113.3
3	Chase Elliott	2	112.5
4	Martin Truex Jr.	3	106.4
5	Joey Logano	5	101.0
6	Kyle Busch	6	100.1
7	Ryan Blaney	7	89.7
8	Kevin Harvick	10	87.3
9	Jamie McMurray	9	86.0
10	Jimmie Johnson	14	85.1
11	Erik Jones	13	83.5
12	Clint Bowyer	8	82.2
13	Dale Earnhardt Jr.	25	81.1
14	Ryan Newman	11	80.1
15	Kasey Kahne	12	78.6
16	Denny Hamlin	16	76.5
17	Austin Dillon	18	75.7
18	Ricky Stenhouse Jr.	20	75.0
19	Kurt Busch	19	72.8
20	Matt Kenseth	22	72.8
21	Trevor Bayne	15	72.5
22	AJ Allmendinger	26	64.5
23	Aric Almirola	17	63.2
24	Paul Menard	23	62.9
25	Ty Dillon	24	62.2
26	Chris Buescher	27	56.1
27	Daniel Suarez	21	56.0
28	Danica Patrick	29	55.4
29	Michael McDowell	28	52.2
30	David Ragan	33	47.9
31	Landon Cassill	30	45.2
32	Cole Whitt	31	44.7
33	Matt DiBenedetto	32	44.5
34	Gray Gaulding	38	32.8
35	Corey Lajoie	34	31.7
36	Jeffrey Earnhardt	37	28.2
37	Reed Sorenson	36	3.5

hoo.com/auto). Click on the "create or join a group" button and follow the instructions.

Dan Beaver's Twitter League

Group ID#: 38

Password: FantasyRace

ANY LAST MINUTE QUESTIONS?

Follow Dan Beaver on Twitter:
<https://twitter.com/FantasyRace> and chat during the week-end.

That is also a great place to comment on what you read in the preview and let us know what stats you would like to see in future articles.