

# DAN BEAVER'S FANTASY RACING NEWS

VOL. 2; ISSUE 10

GEICO 500  
TALLADEGA  
SUPERSPEEDWAY





# Dan Beaver's Fantasy Racing News

Volume 2, Issue 6

## OVERVIEW

Four times a year, fantasy players can take all their analysis and throw it out the window. Both Talladega SuperSpeedway and both Daytona International Speedway's races defy any attempt to build an accurate predictive model.

That uncertainty can be excit-

have. In 2015, Dale Earnhardt Jr. swept the top-three in all four restrictor-plate, super-speedway races. The next year, he could not crack the top 20.

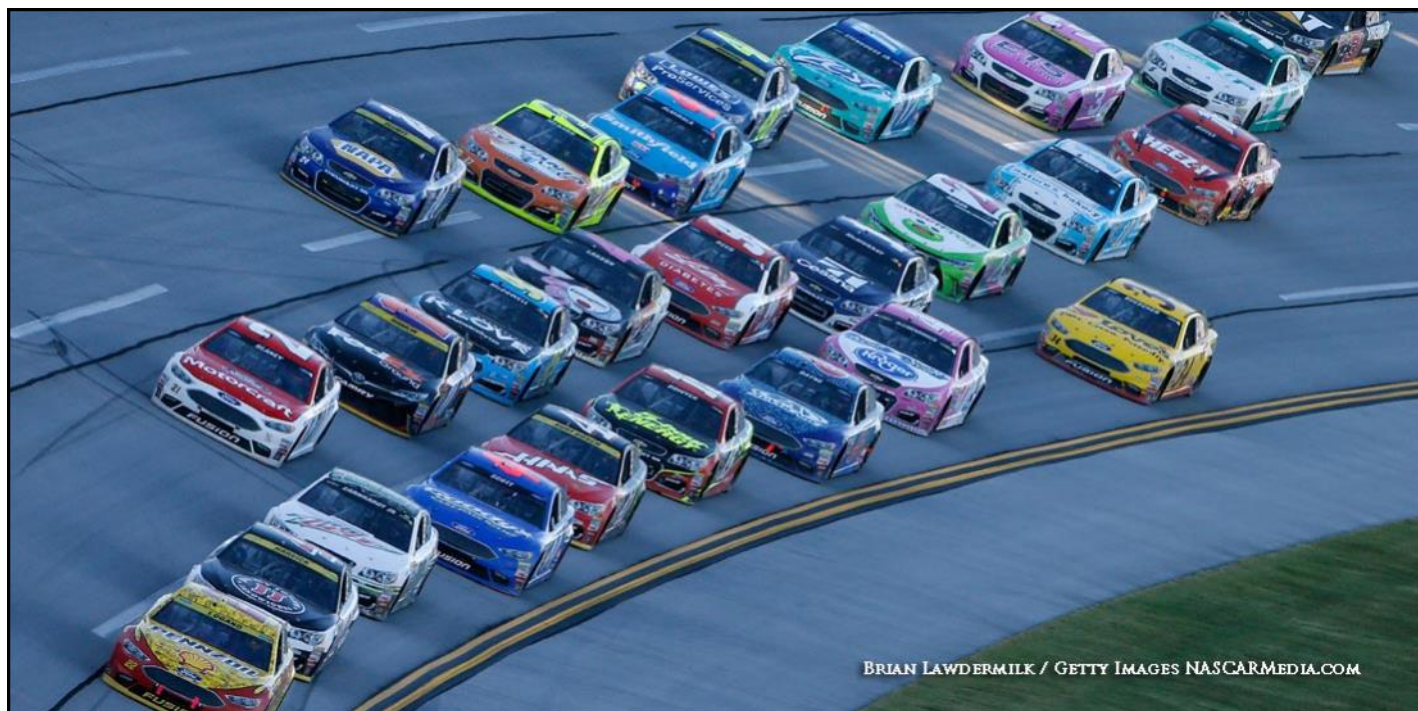
And, of course, there are those nagging exceptions that try to draw players into a sense of believing that something is truly predictive.

Kurt Busch has finished 12th

something to do with his misfortune as well.

## KEEP CALM AND CARRY ON

Fantasy players have to make decisions, however, and they have to base those on something other than just intuition. There are a few factors that suggest drivers will run well.



BRIAN LAWDERMILK / GETTY IMAGES NASCARMEDIA.COM

ing for fans without any skin in the game. Fantasy players have a different set of concerns, however, and that make this race much less enjoyable.

There a few statistics that suggest who is going to run well, but nothing screams that any given driver is a must-

or better in nine of his last 10 plate races and he was going to get another top-10 at Daytona last July before he was spun out of fourth on the final corner of the final lap.

Of course, the fact that he was on this writer's Draft Kings lineup that week probably had

In some cases, averages are meaningful. When a player sees one like that belonging to Busch, the record deserves some attention. When a driver gets progressively stronger with each passing race, like AJ Allmendinger who improved from 21st to second over the course of five events,

that should also catch a player's eye.

An attempt at logic can be applied to the plate tracks. Simple math suggests that the fewer cars there are in front of your fantasy pick, the fewer obstacles there are to run into. Average running position and laps in the top 10 will provide an idea of who spends the most time in the lead pack.

For years, some drivers have employed a strategy of dropping well out of the lead drafting pack to ride single file a quarter- or half-lap back. That has become increasingly less productive with NASCAR's no driver left behind policy, however. More and more cars finish on the lead lap these days and the competition has been elevated among the top drivers. The in-race stats for those drivers do not always match their finishing position.

## DARK HORSES ABOUND

The bottom line is that there is no predictive formula that can provide any level of assurance that a driver is or is not good at this track.

The restrictor-plate, superspeedways are host to more dark horse top-15 finishes than any other track type on the circuit. Players are met with the same challenges in

Driver	Wins
Dale Earnhardt Jr	6
Brad Keselowski	4
Clint Bowyer	2
Jimmie Johnson	2
Joey Logano	2
Jamie McMurray	2
Kyle Busch	1
Denny Hamlin	1
Kevin Harvick	1
Matt Kenseth	1
David Ragan	1

predicting sleepers as they are with favorites. That simple fact changes a player's outlook and strategy.

This has been written in previous newsletters and it will be written again: Spread the wealth around and do not overspend on any marquee driver. That does not mean they should absolutely be avoided, but a \$6,000 driver in Draft Kings or a Group C pick in Yahoo! has as much potential to earn a solid finish as the most popular driver in the field.

## TOP-10 DRIVERS

### 1. Joey Logano

Yahoo! Group: A  
Wins at Track/Attempts: 2/16  
Top-fives: 4 (.250)  
Top-10s: 6 (.375)  
Last 3 Years  
Current Track: 17.17  
Yahoo! Points: 65.33  
NASCAR.com Points: 35.20  
Draft Kings Points: 38.69  
Avg. Last 6 races ^  
Cup results: 8.17

Just because a player does not want to overspend on high-

Driver	Top-5s
Dale Earnhardt Jr	12
Kurt Busch	7
Jimmie Johnson	7
Jamie McMurray	7
Clint Bowyer	6
Kevin Harvick	6
Matt Kenseth	6
Brad Keselowski	6
Kyle Busch	5
Denny Hamlin	5
Ryan Newman	5
Joey Logano	4
David Ragan	4
Kasey Kahne	3
Paul Menard	3
Ricky Stenhouse Jr	2
Martin Truex Jr	2
AJ Allmendinger	1
Ryan Blaney	1
Landon Cassill	1
Austin Dillon	1
Chase Elliott	1
Brendan Gaughan	1
Elliott Sadler	1

priced drivers or waste an allocation in Yahoo!'s game, there is no reason to completely avoid racers who are strong at Talladega specifically or plate tracks in general. Logano won the past two fall races on this track and he has five results of sixth or better in his last six plate races. He won at Daytona in spring 2015, and that record suggests he is good at staying out of trouble.

### 2. Kurt Busch

Yahoo! Group: B  
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/32  
Top-fives: 7 (.218)  
Top-10s: 17 (.531)  
Last 3 Years  
Current Track: 12.33  
Yahoo! Points: 71.67  
NASCAR.com Points: 30.00  
Draft Kings Points: 42.00  
Avg. Last 6 races ^  
Cup results: 21.50

Because of inconsistent finishes, Busch often flies under the radar screen. That has affected his popularity on every track type unless one looks closely at his record. If the 2016 Coke Zero 400 had ended

Driver	Top-10s
Kurt Busch	17
Dale Earnhardt Jr	16
Kevin Harvick	14
Clint Bowyer	12
Jimmie Johnson	11
Ryan Newman	11
Matt Kenseth	10
Brad Keselowski	9
Denny Hamlin	8
Jamie McMurray	8
Martin Truex Jr	8
David Ragan	7
Kyle Busch	6
Joey Logano	6
Kasey Kahne	5
Paul Menard	5
Elliott Sadler	4
Ricky Stenhouse Jr	4
AJ Allmendinger	2
Aric Almirola	2
Trevor Bayne	2
Ryan Blaney	2
Austin Dillon	2
Kyle Larson	2
Landon Cassill	1
Chase Elliott	1
Brendan Gaughan	1
Reed Sorenson	1

in turn four instead of at the finish line, he would enter this weekend with an average finish of 6.4. That is better than anyone in the field by a wide margin and while his stats could not keep him off the front bumper of the No. 22 last summer, they are all fantasy players have to go on.

### 3. Austin Dillon

Yahoo! Group: B  
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/7  
Top-fives: 1 (.000)  
Top-10s: 2 (.000)  
Last 3 Years  
Current Track: 14.83  
Yahoo! Points: 54.00  
NASCAR.com Points: 25.70  
Draft Kings Points: 28.44  
Avg. Last 6 races ^  
Cup results: 16.67

Dillon is the only active driver in the field who swept the top 10 on plate tracks last year. In 2015, he scored three top-15s in four starts and in 2014 he had a worst result of 15th. This spring in the Daytona 500, he could manage only a 19th, but that is not much of a downside when one considers how badly things can go wrong

once "Big One" crashes begin to erupt. Consistency is an important factor when handicapping a driver.

### 4. Ryan Blaney

Yahoo! Group: B  
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/5  
Top-fives: 1 (.200)  
Top-10s: 2 (.400)  
Last 3 Years  
Current Track: 17.80  
Yahoo! Points: 61.60  
NASCAR.com Points: 22.00  
Draft Kings Points: 23.31  
Avg. Last 6 races ^  
Cup results: 23.00

Blaney is beginning to show the same kind of consistency as Austin Dillon. He finished 19th in last year's Daytona 500 and has swept the top 15 in four races since. One of these strong runs was a runner-up result in this year's Great American Race. His second-best effort in that span came at Talladega last spring with a ninth and he was 11th in the fall on this track.

### 5. Kyle Larson

Yahoo! Group: B  
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/6  
Top-fives: 0 (.000)  
Top-10s: 2 (.333)  
Last 3 Years  
Current Track: 21.17  
Yahoo! Points: 60.33  
NASCAR.com Points: 23.20  
Draft Kings Points: 16.19  
Avg. Last 6 races ^  
Cup results: 7.00

Larson is a conditionally good pick depending on the game one is playing. No one should start him in Yahoo!'s Group B because he is just as likely to get swept into an accident as anyone else and allocations must be protected fiercely.

He should not be the first pick in salary cap games either, because players should not build their roster from the top

Driver Rating: Talladega			
Rank	Driver	Best	Avg.
1	Chase Elliott	101.3	97.1
2	Dale Earnhardt Jr.	134.7	92.0
3	Kurt Busch	110.6	88.8
4	Matt Kenseth	132.7	88.0
5	Jimmie Johnson	119.2	87.9
6	Brad Keselowski	125.2	87.4
7	Denny Hamlin	125.0	84.0
8	Joey Logano	111.8	83.8
9	Ryan Blaney	103.0	83.5
10	Kevin Harvick	114.3	81.5
11	Kyle Larson	96.8	80.8
12	Jamie McMurray	115.2	80.4
13	Elliott Sadler	105.0	80.4
14	Kyle Busch	112.7	79.6
15	Ricky Stenhouse Jr.	105.5	78.7
16	Martin Truex Jr.	107.4	77.9
17	Clint Bowyer	125.0	77.3
18	Aric Almirola	105.3	76.8
19	Paul Menard	115.4	76.1
20	David Ragan	121.5	75.7
21	Austin Dillon	83.1	75.0
22	Kasey Kahne	104.4	72.1
23	Trevor Bayne	91.9	71.7
24	Danica Patrick	79.9	69.1
25	Ryan Newman	111.3	67.5
26	Michael Waltrip	100.7	63.4
27	Landon Cassill	86.1	59.1
28	Reed Sorenson	91.8	58.7
29	AJ Allmendinger	88.2	58.2
30	Alex Bowman	71.2	58.0
31	Chris Buescher	66.3	55.8
32	JJ Yeley	84.0	53.9
33	Michael McDowell	74.3	53.9
34	Cole Whitt	68.4	53.8
35	Jeffrey Earnhardt	44.1	44.1
36	Matt DiBenedetto	55.5	43.6
37	Brendan Gaughan	39.8	39.8
38	Derrike Cope	27.0	27.0
39	Timmy Hill	26.4	26.4

down on plate tracks. But if that final pick happens to have enough cap room to take him, he should be activated.

Larson has finished 12th or better in four of his last five restrictor-plate, superspeedway races, but he has not yet cracked the top five.

### 6. AJ Allmendinger

Yahoo! Group: B  
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/16  
Top-fives: 1 (.063)  
Top-10s: 2 (.125)  
Last 3 Years  
Current Track: 17.50  
Yahoo! Points: 49.00  
NASCAR.com Points: 37.60  
Draft Kings Points: 38.94  
Avg. Last 6 races ^  
Cup results: 22.67



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Allmendinger has gotten progressively better in each plate race he has run in the past two seasons. He was 21st in last year's Daytona 500, 14th in the Geico 500 at Talladega, 13th in the Coke Zero 400, and 10th in the Hellmann's 500. He was expected to run well at Daytona for this year's 500.

No one thought he would finish third, however. This streak of improvements will not continue this week, but even if he slips back into the top 15, the driver of the No. 47 should be considered a

much lined up by their average finish on plate tracks in an effort to allow the peaks and valleys to level off. Since so little is predictive of a driver's chances on this course type, one might as well pick a stat and commit to it. One is just as likely to make mistake by cherry picking the number they think are most important.

Save that exercise for the sleepers and busts.

Almirola has four top-15s in his last five restrictor-plate, superspeedway attempts.

spring when he sustained some crash damage. In today's era of racing these durable cars, getting in an accident is not always critical. In his last three starts, he has been involved in five separate incidents. This spring, he was in three accidents at Daytona and still managed to finish 10th.

## 9. Denny Hamlin

Yahoo! Group: A  
Wins at Track/Attempts: 1/22  
Top-fives: 5 (.227)  
Top-10s: 8 (.364)  
Last 3 Years  
Current Track: 16.50  
Yahoo! Points: 77.00

NASCAR.com Points: 30.90  
Draft Kings Points: 17.19  
Avg. Last 6 races ^  
Cup results: 15.33

Notably, Hamlin and Logano are the only Group A drivers in the top 10 this week. And since neither has gotten off to a lightning fast start that has them virtually exhausted in the Yahoo! game, fantasy players should be comfortable risking an allocation on them. In today's Modern Age of parity it is unlikely that any of the top-level drivers

will string long streak of top-fives together. Game management means something else in 2017.

## 10. Ryan Newman

Yahoo! Group: B  
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/30  
Top-fives: 5 (.167)  
Top-10s: 11 (.367)  
Last 3 Years  
Current Track: 14.00  
Yahoo! Points: 73.00  
NASCAR.com Points: 29.60  
Draft Kings Points: 34.25  
Avg. Last 6 races ^  
Cup results: 11.83

Since there are so many Group B drivers in the top 10 this

great value.

## 7. Aric Almirola

Yahoo! Group: B  
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/15  
Top-fives: 0 (.000)  
Top-10s: 2 (.000)  
Last 3 Years  
Current Track: 19.67  
Yahoo! Points: 51.33  
NASCAR.com Points: 36.20  
Draft Kings Points: 37.94  
Avg. Last 6 races ^  
Cup results: 17.17

By now, most fantasy players will probably have noted how many fresh faces there are in the list of the top 10. This week, the racers are pretty

## 8. Trevor Bayne

Yahoo! Group: B  
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/12  
Top-fives: 0 (.000)  
Top-10s: 2 (.167)  
Last 3 Years  
Current Track: 27.00  
Yahoo! Points: 39.67  
NASCAR.com Points: 11.20  
Draft Kings Points: 16.63  
Avg. Last 6 races ^  
Cup results: 15.33

Bayne fits in the same category at Almirola. He has a worst finish of 17th in his last four restrictor-plate races and the only time he struggled on this course type in the past two years was at Daytona last



## DAILY FANTASY MOCK DRAFT

by Victoria Beaver

It's extremely hard to predict who is going to do well at Talladega. The track is better known for giving DNF's than it is for giving victories. I based my fantasy team around those that have historically finished well at the track while also paying attention to their current season streaks and their performances at Daytona in February.

### Splurge:

#### Joey Logano

**Fantasy Power Average: 7.74**

Logano is fresh off of a first-place finish at Richmond, which is his eighth top-five of season. He also claimed the checkered flag at Talladega twice in the last three races.

He's finished in the top five at Talladega four times, which is a whopping fourth of his all time starts there. In the last five races he moved forward from his starting position three of five times for a place-

differential average of +7.6. Logano has led laps in five of his last seven starts.

#### Matt Kenseth

**Fantasy Power Average: 9.15**

Kenseth has had a string of bad finishes at Talladega over the last two years, with finishes between 23rd- and 28th-place. Before this poor run he had his second-best finish at the track—a second—coming after his single win at the track in 2012.

Kenseth has led at least a lap in 13 of his last 14 starts. He's finished on the lead lap in eight of the last 10 races on the 2.66-mile track. From a daily fantasy standpoint the problem with Kenseth is that he qualifies well, meaning that his place-differential is usually negative.

#### Kyle Larson

**Fantasy Power Average: 17.36**

Larson is leading the points' race and has been for the last six races. Larson had two top-10s at Daytona last year and one top-10 at Talladega. He came in sixth last fall. Larson has an average finish at the track of 17.4. Last fall he moved up 18

week and only two of them can be activated in the Yahoo! game, Newman is not recommended there. In salary cap games, his record makes him attractive even without the stellar consistency he shows elsewhere. He crashed in the 2015 Daytona 500 and lost 17 laps. He was banged about at Talladega last year and lost 10 laps. This spring, he dropped two off the pace at Daytona, but four of the remaining five races in that span ended in top-15s and the other was just outside that mark in 18th.

## SLEEPERS

### 11. Cole Whitt

Yahoo! Group: C  
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/7  
Top-fives: 0 (.000)  
Top-10s: 0 (.000)  
Last 3 Years  
Current Track: 17.80  
Yahoo! Points: 56.80  
NASCAR.com Points: 43.00  
Draft Kings Points: 46.92  
Avg. Last 6 races ^  
Cup results: 27.50

Whitt has been on the cusp of being a good value several times this season. Three of his last eight attempts on unre-

stricted tracks ended in the low-20s, which is absolutely great for a team with this level of funding. His best effort of 2017 came at Daytona, however, when he finished 18th after starting 17th.

Last year, Whitt was 18th another time at Talladega in the spring and he nearly cracked the top 10 with an 11th under the Daytona lights last July.

These are not isolated incidents. Whitt also earned top-15s on plate tracks in 2014 and 2015 as well as another

places for his sixth-place finish. Larson led laps in this race last year and could easily do that again if he stays out of early trouble.

Larson had his second-worst finish of the season last week when he finished 14th at Richmond. He'll be looking to rebound at Talladega.

### Steal:

#### **Ricky Stenhouse Jr.**

**Fantasy Power Average: 15.59**

Stenhouse has two top-fives at the track and four top-10s in eight starts. He has six top-15 finishes so far this season making him a consistent value for a moderately-priced driver.

He had his best finish last week when he came in fourth at Richmond. Stenhouse has moved up an average of 3.4 spots in the last five Talladega races. He has better finishes during the fall race on this track but if he can match this year's consistency he could pull one of his best season results.

#### **Aric Almirola**

**Fantasy Power Average: 16.77**

Almirola had his best finish at the track last fall when he finished eighth. He's moved up in three of the last four Talladega races for an average of nine spots.

He has six top-15s at the track in 14 starts. Almirola's second-best finish came last week when he finished ninth at Richmond. His best finish came at Daytona where he finished in fourth just behind the next driver on my DFS team AJ Allmendinger.

#### **AJ Allmendinger**

**Fantasy Power Average: 22.90**

Allmendinger had his best result of the season with a third at Daytona. He has an average finish at Talladega of 22.90 but finished in the top 15 in both of last year's races.

In the last four races he a positive place-differential of 8.75 spots, falling back in the fall of 2013. He's led some laps at the track but only one in the last four races.

couple of results in the low-20s.

#### **13. Michael McDowell**

Yahoo! Group: C  
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/15  
Top-fives: 0 (.000)  
Top-10s: 0 (.000)  
Last 3 Years  
Current Track: 31.00  
Yahoo! Points: 37.60  
NASCAR.com Points: 20.50  
Draft Kings Points: 32.67  
Avg. Last 6 races ^  
Cup results: 26.83

People use the word "literally" when they mean practically, figuratively, or often. The word means exactly and if you are one of those folks that do this: Stop it, because that drives editors and writers

nuts. At Talladega, however, "literally" anyone who starts the race can earn a top-15 finish.

Winning this week is going to be much less reliant on picking the right marquee drivers. A player will dominate their league based on their sleeper pick. There are so many from which to choose that the same challenges that plague fantasy owners at the top of the order are repeated here. Go with the numbers. Drivers like Whitt and McDowell did not record their streaks without a knack for staying out of trouble.

McDowell enters the weekend

with a worst finish of 21st in the past two seasons on this track type and an average finish of 15.4. That is plenty of incentive to start him in salary cap or pick 'em games.

#### **21. Brendan Gaughan**

Yahoo! Group: C  
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/3  
Top-fives: 1 (.333)  
Top-10s: 1 (.333)  
Last 3 Years  
Current Track: 40.00  
Yahoo! Points: 12.00  
NASCAR.com Points: 0.50  
Draft Kings Points: 0.50  
Avg. Last 6 races ^  
Cup results: NA

We will admit to not being very enthusiastic about Gaughan at Daytona. He had not been in a Cup car in a long

Top-fives and Top-10s					
By Car Owner, Last Three Years					
Owner	Attempts	Top-5s		Top-10s	
Roger Penske	13	5	38%	5	38%
Michael Waltrip	10	3	30%	4	40%
Michael Hillman	4	1	25%	1	25%
Joe Gibbs	22	5	23%	6	27%
Rick Hendrick	24	5	21%	6	25%
Barney Visser	6	1	17%	2	33%
Tad Geschickter	6	1	17%	2	33%
Wood Bros	6	1	17%	2	33%
Richard Childress	20	3	15%	7	35%
Jack Roush	19	2	11%	5	26%
Petty Enterprises	12	1	8%	4	33%
Chip Ganassi	12	1	8%	3	25%
Tony Stewart	24	1	4%	9	38%
Joe Falk	2			1	50%
Mike Curb	4			1	25%
Germain Bros	6			1	17%
Harry Scott	10			1	10%
BK Racing	17				
Front Row Motorsports	17				
Tommy Baldwin	8				
Jay Robinson	7				
Bob Leavine	6				
Frank Stoddard	6				
Curtis Key	1				
Johnathan Cohen	1				
Randy Humphrey	1				
Robby Benton	1				

time and this seemed like an opportunistic start that was liable to end with him running at the back of the pack. He is a bulldog, however, and once he got a sniff of the lead he went after it like a Sunday ham left unattended on the dining room table.

Despite getting dents in his fenders in two separate incidents, he finished all the laps and almost cracked the top 10 with an 11th. Can lightning strike the same place twice? Who knows, but this is Talladega where surprising first time winners abound.

## 22. Elliott Sadler

Yahoo! Group: C  
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/24  
Top-fives: 1 (.042)  
Top-10s: 4 (.167)  
Last 3 Years  
Current Track: NA  
Yahoo! Points: NA  
NASCAR.com Points: NA  
Draft Kings Points: NA  
Avg. Last 6 races ^  
Cup results: NA

Experience matters on plate tracks. After a certain number of races, the best drivers develop a sense of when things are going to happen. Some ignore that little voice in their head; but the best do not and backing out a split second before an incident or being prepared to dodge can make a huge difference. Sadler was involved in two accidents in the Daytona 500 and he did lose a lap, but he managed to finish 20th nevertheless. After starting 40th on the field, he added a ton of place-differential points.

## 25. Corey LaJoie

Yahoo! Group:  
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: NA

Lucky and good is an unbeatable combination, but when a driver has only one of those traits—and worst yet, when he confuses one for the other—he can tear up a lot of equipment. LaJoie finished 24th in the Daytona 500 and may have thought he could parlay that into early season momentum. Instead, he crashed in three of his next four races as he drove beyond the limitations of the car. Once he found the sweet spot, he settled down to finish 28th at Martinsville Speedway and 24th at Bristol Motor Speedway.

At Talladega, the cars all have the exact same limitation. It's called a restrictor plate and it allows every driver in the field to have a shot at running well.

## BUSTS

### 12. Kyle Busch

Yahoo! Group: A  
Wins at Track/Attempts: 1/23  
Top-fives: 5 (.217)  
Top-10s: 6 (.261)  
Last 3 Years  
Current Track: 19.00  
Yahoo! Points: 48.80  
NASCAR.com Points: 36.88  
Draft Kings Points: 35.42  
Avg. Last 6 races ^  
Cup results: 13.17

Busch had his worst finish of the season at Daytona when he came in 38th after crashing. Busch's plate track record is inflated by a recent run of great finishes in 2016, when he finished third in the Daytona 500 and then second at both Talladega and in the Summer Daytona race. Busch lost his momentum last fall Talladega last fall with a 30th-place finish and that malaise carried into this February's Great American Race.

### 27. Jimmie Johnson

Yahoo! Group: A



Wins at Track/Attempts: 2/30  
 Top-fives: 7 (.233)  
 Top-10s: 11 (.367)  
 Last 3 Years  
 Current Track: 18.67  
 Yahoo! Points: 65.00  
 NASCAR.com Points: 27.40  
 Draft Kings Points: 25.38  
 Avg. Last 6 races ^  
 Cup results: 9.67

Johnson has finished in the 20s in four of his last six starts at Talladega. He has fallen back in the last three races, with the worst coming in this race last year when he finished 17 positions behind than he qualified.

Johnson has six top-15s so far this season, including his back-to-back wins at Texas Motor Speedway and Bristol, his worst finish of the season came at sister plate track Daytona where he finished 34th after being involved in a crash and failing to finish. There are still many chances for Johnson to rack up wins and top-fives this season, Talladega might be a good time to leave him in the garage.

## 28. Matt Kenseth

Yahoo! Group: A  
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 1/35  
 Top-fives: 6 (.171)  
 Top-10s: 10 (.286)  
 Last 3 Years  
 Current Track: 23.50  
 Yahoo! Points: 61.33  
 NASCAR.com Points: 1.40  
 Draft Kings Points: 2.56  
 Avg. Last 6 races ^  
 Cup results: 20.83

Kenseth has finished 23rd or worse in the last four starts at Talladega, these four poor finishes are not enough to drag down his average finish, so in salary cap games he's still valued high despite these low

3 Year Avg. Finish on SuperSpeedways			
Rank	Driver	Avg.	Attempts
1	Kurt Busch	10.55	12
2	Denny Hamlin	12.25	12
3	Austin Dillon	12.50	12
4	Joey Logano	13.25	12
5	Clint Bowyer	14.08	12
6	Kevin Harvick	14.25	12
7	Aric Almirola	16.58	12
8	Ryan Newman	17.00	12
9	Paul Menard	17.17	12
10	Martin Truex Jr	17.83	12
11	Ryan Blaney	18.11	9
12	Kyle Busch	18.30	11
13	AJ Allmendinger	18.83	12
14	Dale Earnhardt Jr	19.27	11
15	Chase Elliott	20.00	5
16	Brad Keselowski	20.00	12
17	Jimmie Johnson	20.50	12
18	Ricky Stenhouse Jr	21.42	12
19	Kyle Larson	21.75	12
20	Kasey Kahne	22.08	12
21	Cole Whitt	22.09	11
22	Landon Cassill	23.08	12
23	Trevor Bayne	23.33	12
24	Jamie McMurray	24.00	12
25	Michael McDowell	24.00	11
26	Danica Patrick	24.33	12
27	Matt Kenseth	25.08	12
28	David Ragan	26.00	12
29	Brendan Gaughan	26.33	3
30	Ty Dillon	27.67	4
31	Matt DiBenedetto	28.63	8
32	Jeffrey Earnhardt	30.00	2
33	Reed Sorenson	32.00	8
34	Chris Buescher	32.83	6
35	Timmy Hill	41.00	2

yields. Kenseth's worst finish this year came at Daytona where he crashed early and finished 40th.

## 31. Daniel Suarez

Yahoo! Group: C  
 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: NA

As a rookie Suarez is not yet fully comfortable with plate tracks, this was displayed in his first race at Daytona where he finished 29th after starting 19th. He had a reason to be ill at ease because he was involved in two crashes. Suarez could surprise owners

this week, but with only his Daytona performance to base a decision on this could be a week to save an allocation on him.

## 32. Dale Earnhardt Jr.

Yahoo! Group: A  
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 6/33  
 Top-fives: 12 (.364)  
 Top-10s: 16 (.485)  
 Last 3 Years  
 Current Track: 20.00  
 Yahoo! Points: 67.20  
 NASCAR.com Points: 40.75  
 Draft Kings Points: 31.83  
 Avg. Last 6 races ^  
 Cup results: 22.83

Earnhardt Jr. finished 40th at Talladega last spring before missing the fall race. His return to plate tracks this year did not go much better with a 37th-place finish.

Last week, Earnhardt was involved in his fifth wreck of this season. More than half of his races so far have ended with him either off the lead lap or being the wall. For a driver trying to put thoughts of a concussion out of his mind, that has to be terrifying.

## Other Drivers

### 14. Ricky Stenhouse Jr.

Yahoo! Group: B  
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/8  
 Top-fives: 2 (.250)  
 Top-10s: 4 (.500)  
 Last 3 Years  
 Current Track: 18.33  
 Yahoo! Points: 72.40  
 NASCAR.com Points: 36.70  
 Draft Kings Points: 33.94  
 Avg. Last 6 races ^  
 Cup results: 10.50

### 15. Kevin Harvick

Yahoo! Group: A  
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 1/32  
 Top-fives: 6 (.188)  
 Top-10s: 14 (.438)  
 Last 3 Years



Top-fives: 1 (.500)  
 Top-10s: 1 (.500)  
 Last 3 Years  
 Current Track: 8.50  
 Yahoo! Points: 82.50  
 NASCAR.com Points: 36.50  
 Draft Kings Points: 35.00  
 Avg. Last 6 races ^  
 Cup results: 10.83

### 23. Landon Cassill

Yahoo! Group: C  
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/13  
 Top-fives: 1 (.077)  
 Top-10s: 1 (.077)  
 Last 3 Years  
 Current Track: 20.00  
 Yahoo! Points: 57.29  
 NASCAR.com Points: 33.50  
 Draft Kings Points: 26.63  
 Avg. Last 6 races ^  
 Cup results: 27.33

### 24. Jamie McMurray

Yahoo! Group: B  
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 2/29  
 Top-fives: 7 (.241)  
 Top-10s: 8 (.276)  
 Last 3 Years  
 Current Track: 22.83  
 Yahoo! Points: 42.33  
 NASCAR.com Points: 31.10  
 Draft Kings Points: 35.75  
 Avg. Last 6 races ^  
 Cup results: 14.00

### 26. Kasey Kahne

Yahoo! Group: B  
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/26

Top-fives: 3 (.115)  
 Top-10s: 5 (.192)  
 Last 3 Years  
 Current Track: 24.50  
 Yahoo! Points: 61.33  
 NASCAR.com Points: 9.70  
 Draft Kings Points: -5.58  
 Avg. Last 6 races ^  
 Cup results: 22.33

### 29. Ty Dillon

Yahoo! Group: C  
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/1  
 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: 19.00

### 30. Danica Patrick

Yahoo! Group: B  
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/8  
 Top-fives: 0 (.000) / Top-10s: 0 (.000)  
 Last 3 Years  
 Current Track: 22.17  
 Yahoo! Points: 54.67

Current Track: 10.17  
 Yahoo! Points: 81.67  
 NASCAR.com Points: 44.30  
 Draft Kings Points: 44.50  
 Avg. Last 6 races ^  
 Cup results: 8.50

### 16. Brad Keselowski

Yahoo! Group: A  
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 4/16  
 Top-fives: 6 (.375) / Top-10s: 9 (.562)  
 Last 3 Years  
 Current Track: 17.33  
 Yahoo! Points: 64.83  
 NASCAR.com Points: 27.30  
 Draft Kings Points: 30.38  
 Avg. Last 6 races ^  
 Cup results: 8.33

### 17. Martin Truex Jr.

Yahoo! Group: A  
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/24  
 Top-fives: 2 (.083) / Top-10s: 8 (.233)  
 Last 3 Years  
 Current Track: 18.17  
 Yahoo! Points: 63.67  
 NASCAR.com Points: 37.20  
 Draft Kings Points: 36.25  
 Avg. Last 6 races ^  
 Cup results: 9.50

### 18. Paul Menard

Yahoo! Group: B  
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/21  
 Top-fives: 3 (.143)  
 Top-10s: 5 (.238)  
 Last 3 Years  
 Current Track: 15.00  
 Yahoo! Points: 71.17  
 NASCAR.com Points: 33.40  
 Draft Kings Points: 32.25  
 Avg. Last 6 races ^  
 Cup results: 24.17

### 19. Clint Bowyer

Yahoo! Group: B  
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 2/22  
 Top-fives: 6 (.273)  
 Top-10s: 12 (.455)  
 Last 3 Years  
 Current Track: 11.50  
 Yahoo! Points: 69.00  
 NASCAR.com Points: 46.50  
 Draft Kings Points: 42.75  
 Avg. Last 6 races ^  
 Cup results: 8.50

### 20. Chase Elliott

Yahoo! Group: B  
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/2

## 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
2010 Talladega	2	4	7
2015 Talladega	1	3	6
2014 Talladega	1	2	6
2011 Talladega	1	1	6
2013 Talladega	0	3	6

NASCAR.com Points: 23.00  
Draft Kings Points: 28.31  
Avg. Last 6 races ^  
Cup results: 24.83

### 33. Joey Gase

Yahoo! Group: C  
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: NA

### 34. Matt DiBenedetto

Yahoo! Group: C  
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/4  
Top-fives: 0 (.000)  
Top-10s: 0 (.000)  
Last 3 Years  
Current Track: 30.25  
Yahoo! Points: 29.50  
NASCAR.com Points: 20.38  
Draft Kings Points: 21.88  
Avg. Last 6 races ^  
Cup results: 28.50

### 35. David Ragan

Yahoo! Group: C  
Wins at Track/Attempts: 1/20  
Top-fives: 4 (.200)  
Top-10s: 7 (.350)  
Last 3 Years  
Current Track: 31.83  
Yahoo! Points: 39.00  
NASCAR.com Points: 10.40  
Draft Kings Points: 10.56  
Avg. Last 6 races ^  
Cup results: 26.67

### 36. Jeffrey Earnhardt

Yahoo! Group: C  
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/1  
Top-fives: 0 (.000)  
Top-10s: 0 (.000)  
Last 3 Years  
Current Track: 34.00  
Yahoo! Points: 23.00  
NASCAR.com Points: 15.50  
Draft Kings Points: 18.50  
Avg. Last 6 races ^  
Cup results: 36.00

### 37. Erik Jones

Yahoo! Group: C  
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: 18.17

### 38. Chris Buescher

Yahoo! Group: B  
Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/3  
Top-fives: 0 (.000)  
Top-10s: 0 (.000)

Last 3 Years  
Current Track: 27.67  
Yahoo! Points: 49.33  
NASCAR.com Points: 20.67



Draft Kings Points: 22.67  
 Avg. Last 6 races ^  
 Cup results: 23.33

### 39. R Sorenson

Yahoo! Group: C  
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/11  
 Top-fives: 0 (.000)  
 Top-10s: 1 (.091)  
 Last 3 Years  
 Current Track: 28.33  
 Yahoo! Points: 33.00  
 NASCAR.com Points: -11.00  
 Draft Kings Points: -18.00  
 Avg. Last 6 races ^  
 Cup results: 31.83

### 40. G Gaulding

Yahoo! Group: C  
 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: 32.67

### 41. Timmy Hill

Yahoo! Group: C  
 Wins at Track/Attempts: 0/2  
 Top-fives: 0 (.000)  
 Top-10s: 0 (.000)  
 Last 3 Years  
 Current Track: 41.00  
 Yahoo! Points: 10.00  
 NASCAR.com Points: -5.50  
 Draft Kings Points: -5.50  
 Avg. Last 6 races ^  
 Cup results: 35.00

### 42. DJ Kennington

Yahoo! Group: C  
 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: NA

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

Laps in Top-10 at Talladega (L 3Yrs)				
Rank	Driver	Laps	%	Possible Laps
1	Jimmie Johnson	703	73.7%	954
2	Kevin Harvick	524	54.9%	954
3	Dale Earnhardt Jr	522	54.7%	954
4	Brad Keselowski	516	54.1%	954
5	Chase Elliott	99	52.7%	188
6	Matt Kenseth	469	49.2%	954
7	Kyle Busch	367	47.9%	766
8	Kurt Busch	444	46.5%	954
9	Denny Hamlin	429	45.0%	954
10	Joey Logano	416	43.6%	954
11	Martin Truex Jr	389	40.8%	954
12	Kasey Kahne	357	37.4%	954
13	Paul Menard	331	34.7%	954
14	Trevor Bayne	310	32.5%	954
15	Kyle Larson	295	30.9%	954
16	Jamie McMurray	291	30.5%	954
17	Ryan Blaney	212	27.7%	766
18	Clint Bowyer	217	22.7%	954
19	Austin Dillon	165	17.3%	954
20	Danica Patrick	132	13.8%	954
21	David Ragan	116	12.2%	954
22	Ricky Stenhouse Jr	91	12.0%	760
23	Michael McDowell	90	11.7%	766
24	Aric Almirola	96	10.1%	954
25	Landon Cassill	88	9.2%	954
26	AJ Allmendinger	73	7.7%	954
27	Reed Sorenson	28	7.3%	382
28	Ryan Newman	62	6.5%	954
29	Cole Whitt	45	4.7%	954
30	Brendan Gaughan	4	2.1%	188
31	Ty Dillon	3	1.6%	188
32	Matt DiBenedetto	4	0.7%	572
33	Chris Buescher	0	0.0%	376
34	Timmy Hill	0	0.0%	196

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):

Joey Logano: 6 (8)  
 Brad Keselowski: 5 (7)  
 Kyle Larson: 4 (6)  
 Chase Elliott: 4 (6)  
 Martin Truex Jr.: 3 (6)  
 Kevin Harvick: 2 (5)

Denny Hamlin: 2 (4)  
 Kyle Busch: 2 (3)  
 Jamie McMurray: 1 (5)  
 Kurt Busch: 1 (4)  
 C Bowyer: 1 (4)  
 M Kenseth: 1 (4)  
 Stenhouse: 1 (4)  
 J Johnson: 1 (3)  
 K Kahne: 1 (2)  
 D Suarez: 1 (2)  
 R Newman: 0 (3)  
 R Blaney: 0 (3)  
 Allmendinger: 0 (2)  
 A Almirola: 0 (2)  
 P Menard: 0 (1)  
 A Dillon: 0 (1)  
 D Earnhardt Jr.: 0 (1)  
 Erik Jones: 0 (1)  
 M Waltrip: 0 (1)  
 DiBenedetto: 0 (1)  
 T Bayne: 0 (1)  
 C Buescher: 0 (0)  
 Ty Dillon: 0 (0)  
 M McDowell: 0 (0)  
 L Cassill: 0 (0)  
 D Patrick: 0 (0)  
 Cole Whitt: 0 (0)  
 D Ragan: 0 (0)  
 C LaJoie: 0 (0)  
 J Earnhardt: 0 (0)  
 R Sorenson: 0 (0)  
 G Gaulding: 0 (0)  
 Timmy Hill: 0 (0)

Derrike Cope: 0 (0)  
 JJ Yeley: 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)



Track Type: Superspeedway  
Track Size: 2.66-Miles  
Turns: 33 degrees  
Banking/Frontstretch: 16.5 degrees  
Banking /Backstretch: 2 degrees  
Race Length: 188 Laps/500 Miles  
Stage 1 & 2: 55 Laps (each)  
Final Stage: 78 Laps

## 3 Things to Know

6

Most wins among active drivers  
(Dale Earnhardt Jr.)

12

Most wins in Cup Series  
among race teams  
(Richard Childress Racing  
& Hendrick Motorsports )

960

Most laps led among active drivers  
(Dale Earnhardt Jr.)

- Carol D'Agostino, [Skirtsandscuffs.com](http://Skirtsandscuffs.com)

(2) Kevin Harvick: Atlanta (week 2), Texas 1 (week 7)

(2) Joey Logano: Daytona 1 (week 1), Richmond 1 (week 9)

(1) Jimmie Johnson: Bristol 1 (week 8)

### Yahoo! Group B:

Top two each week.

(6) Kyle Larson: Atlanta (week 2), Las Vegas (week 3), Phoenix (week 4), Auto Club (week 5), Texas 1 (week 7), Bristol 1 (week 8)

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

(2) Ryan Blaney: Daytona 1 (week 1), Texas 1 (week 7)

(2) Clint Bowyer: Auto Club

(week 5), Bristol 1 (week 8)

(2) Ryan Newman: Phoenix (week 4), Richmond 1 (week 9)

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

(1) Kasey Kahne: Atlanta (week 2)

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

(1) Ricky Stenhouse Jr.: Richmond 1 (week 9)

### Yahoo! Group C:

(3) Daniel Suarez: Phoenix (week 4), Auto Club (week 5), Richmond 1 (week 9)

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

(2) Ty Dillon: Texas 1 (week

7), Bristol 1 (week 8)

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

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

### NASCAR.com Fantasy Live

Top five game finishes

(6) Kyle Larson: Atlanta (week 2), Las Vegas (week 3), Phoenix 1 (week 4), Auto Club (week 5), Texas 1 (week 7), Bristol 1 (week 8)

(5) Chase Elliott: Atlanta (week 2), Las Vegas (week 3), Phoenix 1 (week 4), Auto Club (week 5), Martinsville 1 (week 6)

(5) Brad Keselowski: Atlanta (week 2), Las Vegas (week 3), Phoenix 1 (week 4), Martins-

Avg. Start at Talladega			
Rank	Driver	Avg. Start	Attempts
1	Chase Elliott	2.50	2
2	Jimmie Johnson	8.67	6
3	Brad Keselowski	8.83	6
4	Matt Kenseth	8.83	6
5	Ryan Blaney	10.00	5
6	Paul Menard	10.33	6
7	Dale Earnhardt Jr	14.00	5
8	Kurt Busch	14.17	6
9	Austin Dillon	14.33	6
10	Ryan Newman	14.67	6
11	Kasey Kahne	15.33	6
12	Trevor Bayne	15.83	6
13	Ricky Stenhouse Jr	16.60	6
14	Denny Hamlin	18.83	6
15	Joey Logano	20.83	6
16	AJ Allmendinger	21.33	6
17	Kyle Busch	21.40	5
18	Kevin Harvick	21.67	6
19	Aric Almirola	22.33	6
20	Michael McDowell	22.40	6
21	Reed Sorenson	23.33	3
22	Danica Patrick	24.33	6
23	Martin Truex Jr	24.50	6
24	Kyle Larson	25.83	6
25	Jamie McMurray	27.83	6
26	Clint Bowyer	28.17	6
27	David Ragan	29.17	6
28	Chris Buescher	32.67	3
29	Cole Whitt	32.80	5
30	Landon Cassill	34.00	6
31	Matt DiBenedetto	37.25	4

ville 1 (week 6), Richmond 1 (week 9)

(5) Joey Logano: Daytona 1 (week 1), Auto Club (week 5), Martinsville 1 (week 6), Bristol 1 (week 8), Richmond 1 (week 9)

(4) Martin Truex Jr.: Las Vegas (week 3), Auto Club (week 5), Texas 1 (week 7 – tied for fifth with Earnhardt), Bristol 1 (week 8)

(4) Kevin Harvick: Atlanta (week 2), Texas 1 (week 7), Bristol 1 (week 8), Richmond 1 (week 9)

(3) Jimmie Johnson: Las Vegas (week 3), Texas 1 (week 7), Bristol 1 (week 8)

(week 4)

(1) Clint Bowyer: Auto Club

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

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

(2) Ryan Blaney: Daytona 1 (week 1), Texas 1 (week 7)

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

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

(1) Kasey Kahne: Atlanta (week 2)

(1) Ryan Newman: Phoenix 1

Driver	Top-5s
Joey Logano	6
Brad Keselowski	6
Kyle Larson	5
Chase Elliott	3
Kevin Harvick	3
Jimmie Johnson	2
Matt Kenseth	2
Kyle Busch	2
Ricky Stenhouse Jr	2
Martin Truex Jr	2
Clint Bowyer	2
Aric Almirola	1
Austin Dillon	1
Ryan Blaney	1
Kasey Kahne	1
Denny Hamlin	1
AJ Allmendinger	1
Paul Menard	1
Ryan Newman	1
Kurt Busch	1
Dale Earnhardt Jr	1

(week 5)

(1) Dale Earnhardt Jr.: Texas 1 (week 7 – tied for fifth with Earnhardt)

(1) Matt Kenseth: Richmond 1 (week 9)

(1) Denny Hamlin: Richmond 1 (week 9)



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Season to Date Grid										
Driver	Starts	Wins	Top-5s	Top-10s	Avg Fin	Start	Laps	Poles	DNFs	DNQs
Kyle Larson	9	1	5	6	6.44	9.56	3,042	1		
Joey Logano	9	1	6	8	7.22	9.11	3,035	1	1	
Michael Waltrip	1			1	8.00	30.00	200			
Martin Truex Jr	9	1	2	6	8.78	9.11	3,042			
Brad Keselowski	9	2	6	7	9.22	5.56	2,918	1	1	
Chase Elliott	9		3	6	9.67	10.56	3,042	1		
Brendan Gaughan	1				11.00	39.00	200			
Clint Bowyer	9		2	4	11.56	11.33	2,970		1	
Kevin Harvick	9		3	5	13.33	9.00	2,840	2	1	
Jimmie Johnson	9	2	2	3	13.56	19.78	2,968		1	
Trevor Bayne	9			1	14.11	19.44	3,042			
Jamie McMurray	9			5	14.44	7.00	2,588		2	
Ricky Stenhouse Jr	9		2	4	15.56	17.89	2,969		1	
Ryan Newman	9	1	1	3	16.00	12.22	3,022			
Aric Almirola	9		1	2	16.44	23.44	3,035			
Denny Hamlin	9		1	4	17.00	12.33	2,890		1	
Kyle Busch	9		2	3	17.22	12.11	2,828		2	
Kasey Kahne	9		1	2	17.44	18.67	3,009			
Ryan Blaney	9		1	3	18.33	10.11	2,969		1	
Daniel Suarez	9			2	18.33	17.89	2,969		1	
Kurt Busch	9	1	1	4	18.56	12.44	2,826		1	
Austin Dillon	9		1	1	19.56	20.33	3,022			
Erik Jones	9			1	19.67	19.11	2,547		2	
Matt Kenseth	9		2	4	19.67	11.44	2,803	1	3	
Ty Dillon	9				20.00	21.00	2,981		1	
Elliott Sadler	1				20.00	40.00	199			
AJ Allmendinger	9		1	2	21.00	24.22	2,953			
Paul Menard	9		1	1	21.56	22.33	3,016			
Joey Gase	1				23.00	29.00	196			
Dale Earnhardt Jr	9		1	1	24.44	15.89	2,577		3	
Chris Buescher	9				24.67	29.33	2,517		2	
Michael McDowell	9				24.78	25.33	3,022			
Landon Cassill	9				25.44	26.22	2,983			
Cole Whitt	9				25.67	30.33	2,966		1	
Matt DiBenedetto	9			1	26.00	29.33	2,925		1	
Danica Patrick	9				26.11	23.33	2,765		3	
David Ragan	9				26.33	29.44	2,902		1	
JJ Yeley	1				27.00	27.00	330			
Corey LaJoie	9				31.22	31.67	2,552		2	
Reed Sorenson	8				31.63	32.88	2,787			1
Gray Gaulding	8				33.38	34.13	2,589		3	
Jeffrey Earnhardt	9				34.11	34.67	2,108		5	
Derrike Cope	6				35.00	37.50	1,754			
Timmy Hill	7				35.29	37.71	1,852		3	1
DJ Kennington	1				36.00	28.00	127		1	
Cody Ware	1				39.00	39.00	74		1	

## 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.yahoo.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.

Driver Rating: Season to Date			
Rank	Driver	Standings	Rating
1	Kyle Larson	1	112.1
2	Brad Keselowski	5	110.0
3	Martin Truex Jr.	2	109.7
4	Chase Elliott	3	105.0
5	Joey Logano	4	104.2
6	Kevin Harvick	6	97.8
7	Kyle Busch	10	93.4
8	Jimmie Johnson	8	92.5
9	Jamie McMurray	7	89.7
10	Clint Bowyer	9	86.4
11	Ryan Blaney	12	86.3
12	Denny Hamlin	11	80.9
13	Ryan Newman	13	79.3
14	Ricky Stenhouse Jr.	15	79.2
15	Matt Kenseth	18	78.9
16	Dale Earnhardt Jr.	24	76.8
17	Erik Jones	16	75.2
18	Kasey Kahne	20	74.5
19	Trevor Bayne	14	73.7
20	Kurt Busch	17	72.9
21	Austin Dillon	21	69.8
22	Aric Almirola	19	65.0
23	Ty Dillon	23	64.4
24	AJ Allmendinger	26	61.8
25	Paul Menard	25	59.4
26	Daniel Suarez	22	58.5
27	Chris Buescher	27	55.5
28	Danica Patrick	29	54.1
29	Michael McDowell	28	50.9
30	David Ragan	33	48.0
31	Landon Cassill	30	47.9
32	Matt DiBenedetto	32	44.4
33	Cole Whitt	31	44.1
34	Reed Sorenson	35	34.2
35	Corey Lajoie	34	34.0
36	Gray Gaulding	37	33.2
37	Jeffrey Earnhardt	36	28.6
38	Timmy Hill	46	27.3

3 Yr. Avg. Yahoo! Points at Talladega			
Rank	Driver	Avg. Points	Attempts
1	Chase Elliott	82.50	2
2	Kevin Harvick	81.67	6
3	Denny Hamlin	77.00	6
4	Ryan Newman	73.00	6
5	Ricky Stenhouse Jr	72.40	5
6	Kurt Busch	71.67	6
7	Paul Menard	71.17	6
8	Clint Bowyer	69.00	6
9	Dale Earnhardt Jr	67.20	5
10	Joey Logano	65.33	6
11	Jimmie Johnson	65.00	6
12	Brad Keselowski	64.83	6
13	Martin Truex Jr	63.67	6
14	Ryan Blaney	61.60	5
15	Kasey Kahne	61.33	6
16	Matt Kenseth	61.33	6
17	Kyle Larson	60.33	6
18	Landon Cassill	57.29	7
19	Cole Whitt	56.80	5
20	Danica Patrick	54.67	6
21	Austin Dillon	54.00	6
22	Aric Almirola	51.33	6
23	Chris Buescher	49.33	3
24	AJ Allmendinger	49.00	5
25	Kyle Busch	48.80	5
26	Jamie McMurray	42.33	6
27	Trevor Bayne	39.67	6
28	David Ragan	39.00	6
29	Michael McDowell	37.60	5
30	Reed Sorenson	33.00	4
31	Matt DiBenedetto	29.50	4
32	Jeffrey Earnhardt	23.00	2
33	Brendan Gaughan	12.00	1
34	Timmy Hill	10.00	1