

## **Clint Bowyer is Attracting Attention as the BB&T Chevrolet Debuts in Atlanta**

BB&T Racing driver Clint Bowyer slid in to second place (+4) in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series standings after finishing in the runner-up position in Las Vegas last weekend. This Sunday Atlanta Motor Speedway provides the test for the 29-year-old Kansas native with two top-five finishes in this season's first three races.

BB&T decals will ride along with Bowyer on the No. 33 Chevrolet Impala for the entire season, and for 11 of the races, including Sunday's 500-mile test on the 1.54-mile track, the car will display a burgundy and gold BB&T paint scheme. This is BB&T's third race as a primary sponsor in the Sprint Cup Series. Bowyer finished 10<sup>th</sup> at Martinsville Speedway in Virginia on March 30, 2008, in the first-ever Sprint Cup Series race for BB&T. On May 3, 2008, Bowyer won the Sprint Cup Series race at Richmond International Raceway while driving the BB&T Chevrolet.

In six Sprint Cup Series starts at Atlanta Motor Speedway, Bowyer boasts three top-10 finishes. His best finish is sixth, where he has finished three times. The last time Bowyer visited the track, an ill-handling race car along with a late-race incident on pit road left Bowyer with a 20th-place finish in October 2008.

Given his high ranking in the standings and a great finish at Las Vegas, one of his weaker tracks, Bowyer says the new team is displaying more confidence each week.

"It does a lot for our confidence," Bowyer said. "I think we'll be good in Atlanta. It's been a good track for me over the years; we've run well there. It's important for us to have a strong finish there to continue building on the good points base that we've built thus far."

In his fourth season of full-time Sprint Cup Series competition, Bowyer is off to the strongest start of his career. In the three races held thus far in 2009, Bowyer has accumulated two top-five finishes. The two-time race winner has an average finish of eighth and has collected \$970,588 in earnings.

Bowyer has been running at the end of every race dating back to Phoenix in November 2006, a streak of 76 races. He is now credited with having the longest current streak of running at the finish, taking over from RCR teammate Kevin Harvick, who failed to finish the Auto Club 500 two weeks ago and saw his streak end at 81 consecutive races without a DNF (did not finish).

Bowyer was asked if his team tries to deflect thoughts of making the NASCAR playoffs this early in the season.

"Absolutely not; I don't think it's too early to start thinking big picture," Bowyer answered. "It starts at Daytona. Everything we do is focused on making the Chase. Everyone on the BB&T team has worked hard to put us in the position we're in. We were able to overcome going down a lap and sustaining some damage to rebound with a big finish last week at Las Vegas. Strong performances early in the season are key."

The Kobalt Tools 500 will be televised live this Sunday, March 8, beginning at 1:30 p.m. ET on FOX and will be broadcast live on the Performance Racing Network and Sirius XM Satellite Radio. Qualifying for the fourth of 36 races will be televised live on SPEED Friday, March 6, at 6:30 p.m. ET.