

Pocono Raceway is Next Challenge for Clint Bowyer in the Sprint Cup Series This Sunday

Event: Pocono 500
Date: June 7, 2009
Venue: Pocono Raceway
Long Pond, Pennsylvania

NOTES:

This Week's Cheerios/Hamburger Helper Chevrolet at Pocono Raceway - Clint Bowyer will pilot Chassis No. 268 from the Richard Childress Racing NASCAR Sprint Cup Series stable. Built new for 2009, this is the same Chevrolet Impala SS that Bowyer drove to an 11th-place finish last weekend at Dover.

• Stat Facts

Pocono Facts ... In six NSCS starts at Pocono Raceway, Bowyer boasts three top-10 finishes. His best showing at the 2.5-mile, three-turn oval is a sixth-place finish, which he posted last August. Additionally, the 30-year-old driver has led nine laps of competition, has an average starting position of 23.5, an average finish of 20.8 and completed 95.4 percent of the laps contested (1,055 of 1,106).

Rearview Mirror ... Bowyer was able to overcome an early setback to finish 11th in last Sunday's Autism Speaks 400 at Dover International Speedway. The solid finish allowed him to advance one spot in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series point standings. With 13 races remaining before the 12-team Chase for the Sprint Cup playoff field is set, Bowyer is 16th in the standings, 118 markers behind 12th-place Mark Martin.

Statistically Speaking ... According to NASCAR's loop data statistics, Bowyer is the sport's second-best closer at Pocono. In the last eight events there, the Emporia, Kan., native has gained an average of 5.5 spots over the final 10 percent of laps in each race. Bowyer has improved a total of 33 positions, 10 spots shy of leader Jeff Gordon.

13 Down, 25 to Go ... Over the season's first 13 races, Bowyer has accumulated three top-five and four top-10 finishes, an average start of 20.1 and an average finish of 18.3. The two-time NSCS winner has led 16 laps of competition and has completed 3,918 of the 4,248 (92.2 percent) laps contested thus far.

RCR at Pocono ... In 98 starts at Pocono, RCR team owner Richard Childress has two wins, both of them coming with Dale Earnhardt, who won the Summer 500 on July 19, 1987 and the Miller Genuine Draft 500 on July 18, 1993. Additionally, RCR has earned one pole, 12 top-five and 41 top-10 finishes at the uniquely-shaped three-turn speedway. Childress, a former driver in NASCAR's top division, contributed two of those top 10s from 1976-1980.

- **Testing, 1-2-3 ...** Bowyer spent Tuesday testing at Virginia International Raceway in preparation for the upcoming SaveMart 350 at Infineon Raceway in Sonoma, Calif.
- **Prelude to the Dream ...** Bowyer heads to Eldora Speedway in Rossburg, Ohio for the Prelude to the Dream on Wednesday night. In addition to driving his own Cheerios-sponsored dirt late model, Bowyer will field a second car for defending Sprint Cup Series Champion Jimmie Johnson. It marks the second year that Clint Bowyer Racing has prepared Johnson's entry for the annual showdown. Live coverage of the Prelude will take the green flag Wednesday, June 3 beginning at 7 p.m. EDT on HBO Pay-Per-View.
- **Color Change ...** After debuting The Hartford's white, blue and maroon paint scheme last weekend in Dover, Bowyer's No. 33 Chevrolet returns to its traditional yellow and red colors of primary sponsors Cheerios and Hamburger Helper this weekend in Pocono.
- **Welcome Aboard ...** Jonathan Billy joins the Helping Hands pit crew this weekend as the new rear-tire changer. The 27-year-old Detroit, Mich., native is a former semi-professional hockey player, and is a general mechanic in the shop during the week.
- **Catch the Action ...** Live coverage of the Pocono 500 at Pocono Raceway will take the green flag Sunday, June 7 beginning at 12:30 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time. The race will be televised live on TNT and broadcast on the Motor Racing Network and Sirius XM Satellite Radio. Qualifying for the 14th points-paying race on the 2009 schedule will be telecast live on SPEED Friday, June 5 beginning at 3:30 p.m. EDT.

SHANE WILSON QUOTE:

It's been a busy week for the No. 33 team, hasn't it?

"It's been a very busy week for us. We planned to race our Dover car at Pocono all along, but a wrench was thrown in our plans when we were selected as the random tear-down car for inspection by NASCAR after the race. They didn't inspect the car until Tuesday, so it didn't get back to the shop until that afternoon. Most of the guys were at VIR testing our road course car and we had to leave a few at the shop to turn the car around. Between the test and the quick turnaround, the guys have logged some long hours. Hopefully, their hard work will give us a good finish at Pocono and have us prepared for Infineon Raceway in a few weeks."