



Kevin Harvick snaps winless streak



By **Michael Manny**

Aug 7, 2022



Photo courtesy of Mike Mulholland | Getty Images

Stewart-Haas Racing's Kevin Harvick came into Sunday's race at Michigan International Speedway 96 points below the cutline and riding a 65-race winless streak.

In one afternoon, Harvick erased nearly two years of frustration and close calls to earn his first victory since Sept. 19, 2020 in a rain-delayed FireKeepers Casino 400.

After leading just 13 laps all year, the win vaults the 46-year-old Harvick into the playoffs in a clutch performance. It's Harvick's sixth victory at Michigan, a track he has been dominant at throughout his career.

Harvick has struggled at times this season adjusting to the Next Gen car. Through it all, he and his team never doubted themselves.

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.@KevinHarvick makes it happen in Michigan, snapping a 65-race winless streak. #NASCAR

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“Everybody who doubted us doesn’t know us,” Harvick said, laughing, to NBC Sports’ Marty Snider. “They obviously know that we thrive in these types of situations, and a lot of things went our way today, which we haven’t had all year long things go our way.”

Harvick led 38 laps, tied with Joe Gibbs Racing’s Denny Hamlin for the race-high.

Starting the race from pole position for the first time at the Cup level, 23XI Racing’s Bubba Wallace led the race’s first 22 laps and finished second. That finish gives Wallace his fourth top five this season, a career-best.

Wallace was visibly upset after the race while talking to NBC Sports’ Parker Kligerman.

“Replayed everything I could have done, took the top there on the restart, thought I could hang with the four and just got to racing the five and the 22,” Wallace said. “22 did a good job of getting another Ford contract, helping a Ford win.

“She was fast all week, man. I’ll wear this on my heart for a while. I failed everybody.”

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"I failed everybody."

Bubba Wallace showed emotion after a runner-up finish at Michigan, replaying what he could have done differently to get the win. [#NASCAR](#)

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Due to rain and lightning, the race was delayed over an hour, with concern that the weather would not clear up. However, the weather cleared up and the entire 200 laps were run.

Once engines were eventually fired and cars got on the track, Wallace led the field to green, leading the first 22 laps. During the competition caution that was implemented due to rain, Wallace elected to pit from the lead. He would be making up ground the rest of the day, leading just one more lap.

Just after the field returned to green on lap 24, the No. 15 of JJ Yeley got loose in turn 2, causing a massive wreck involving a chunk of the field:

- Kyle Busch (No. 18)
- Austin Cindric (No. 2)
- Aric Almirola (No. 10)
- Harrison Burton (No. 21)
- Michael McDowell (No. 34)
- Todd Gilliland (No. 38)
- Ty Gibbs (No. 45)
- Ricky Stenhouse Jr. (No. 47)

The wreck ended Busch, Cindric, Almirola, Burton and Stenhouse's days. It also extended Busch's streak without a top 10 finish to eight-consecutive races. McDowell ran 187 laps, finishing 13 laps down in 28th, while Gilliland finished 12 laps down in 27th.

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Multiple cars, including @AustinCindric and @KyleBusch, are involved in this accident in Turn 2.

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Joe Gibbs Racing's Christopher Bell, who took the lead on lap 22, held onto it to earn the Stage 1 win.


Gibbs, driving the No. 45 in place of Kurt Busch for the third-straight week, hit a milestone prior to the Stage 2 restart. By staying out, he led his first two laps at the Cup level.

Gibbs led the field into Turn 1 on the restart, but was quickly passed by Trackhouse Racing's Ross Chastain. Despite starting the race in 22nd, Chastain quickly moved through the field, and held the lead for the next 29 laps.

Bell made his way back towards Chastain, and pushed his JGR teammate Hamlin to the lead on lap 80.

The field would make green flag pit stops later on in the stage, with Chastain being penalized for an uncontrolled tire. He served a pass-through.

In the middle of the green flag stops, SHR No. 41 Cole Custer blew out a left-front tire, which burst into flames, drawing a caution. Due to this, several drivers who had pitted were put a lap down.

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A problem on [@ColeCuster's](#) No. 41 car brings out the yellow.

Cole exited the vehicle and stepped over the pit wall.

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Tyler Reddick, last week's winner on the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Road Course, exited the race due to engine trouble.



Noah Gragson, running part-time for Kaulig Racing, had one of his best runs of the season, spending time in the top five, briefly as high as third. Gragson then hit the wall and spun in Turn 2, however, bringing out the race's third caution for cause and ending his day.

Hamlin took the lead back on lap 103, holding on to it to win Stage 2. Instead of pitting again like some of the field late in the stage, Hamlin and crew chief Chris Gabehart made the decision to stay out for the points and stage win.

Daniel Suárez led the field to the final stage restart, holding it for 18 laps. In yet another outstanding showing for Trackhouse, their cars ran 1-2 at one point in the stage. Chastain finished 24th while Suarez finished 25th.

Throughout practice and qualifying, Toyota looked like the manufacturer to beat, but bad luck struck nearly their entire camp throughout the race.


Later in the stage, Hamlin was penalized for a safety violation after an extra crew member came onto pit road to grab a loose tire. It was Hamlin's 31st pit road penalty this season, according to the broadcast. Bell stayed near the front, but hit the wall hard in Turn 4 with 41 to go.




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Harvick stayed out late in the final stage while much of the rest of the field pitted. He led the pack into the restart with 35 to go, and didn't relinquish it.

With Harvick's victory, JGR's Martin Truex Jr. has fallen below the playoff cutline. Only one spot remains for drivers to clinch on points.

The series next heads to Richmond Raceway for the Federated Auto Parts 400 next Sunday, Aug. 14, at 3 p.m. ET. Coverage will be on USA Network, MRN and SiriusXM NASCAR Radio.

***NOTE:** Post-race inspection is complete in the NASCAR Cup Series garage. There were no issues, confirming Harvick as the winner. The cars of Chase Elliott & Denny Hamlin will return to the NASCAR R&D Center for teardown.*

Results



NASCAR Cup Series Race Number 23
 Race Results for the 66th Annual FireKeepers Casino 400 - Sunday, August 7, 2022
 Michigan International Speedway - Brooklyn, MI - 2.1-Mile Oval
 Total Race Length - 200 Laps - 400 Miles



Fin.	No.	Car	Driver	Team	Laps	Stage 1		Stage 2		Status	Time	Laps	Playoff
						Pos.	Pos.	Pos.	Pos.				
1	14	4	Kevin Harvick	Stewart-Haas Racing/Haas Automation	200	4		46	Running	1	1:00	5	
2	1	23	Bubba Wallace	Michael Waltrip Racing	200			25	Running	2	1:01	1	
3	3	11	Braxton Soler	Frontier Racing	200	2	1	30	Running	3	1:01	1	
4	4	22	Joey Logano	Stewart-Haas Racing	200	5	10	28	Running				
5	24	10	Ryan Blaney	Michael Waltrip Racing	200			10	Running				
6	7	14	Matt Toner Jr.	Auto Club of Southern California	200	4		28	Running				
7	8	3	Kyle Larson	Frontier Racing	200		2	28	Running				
8	16	43	Erik Jones	Stewart-Haas Racing	200	3	8	40	Running	1	1:01	5	
9	20	48	Logan Sargeant	Stewart-Haas Racing	200		4	10	Running				
10	11	25	Ty Dillon	Michael Waltrip Racing	200			7	Running	1	1:02	2	
11	13	9	Chase Elliott	JTG Daugherty Racing	200			28	Running				
12	26	24	William Byron	Liberty University Chevrolet	200	7	9	10	Running				
13	28	1	Justin Haley	Frontier Racing	200		1	28	Running				
14	28	42	Ty Dillon	Frontier Racing	200			22	Running				
15	12	9	Brad Keselowski	Chevrolet	200		3	28	Running				
16	15	17	Chris Buescher	Leavine Family Racing	200	3		27	Running	1	1:02	1	
17	17	27	Justin Haley	Leavine Family Racing	200			27	Running				
18	21	22	Scott McLaughlin	Stewart-Haas Racing	200			5	Running				
19	18	7	Corey LaJoie	Frontier Racing	200			18	Running				
20	25	16	Chase Briscoe	Stewart-Haas Racing	200	10		18	Running				
21	20	17	Joey Logano	Stewart-Haas Racing	200			8	Running				
22	24	21	Corey LaJoie	Frontier Racing	200			15	Running				
23	26	29	Blayne Perkins	Stewart-Haas Racing	199			2	Running	1	1:03	1	
24	24	1	Reese Brabaker	Stewart-Haas Racing	199	6		18	Running	1	1:03	28	
25	19	34	David Ragan	Frontier Racing	199		2	27	Running	2	1:03	1	
26	2	20	Christopher Bell	Stewart-Haas Racing	198	1	4	28	Accident	2	1:03	1	
27	23	26	Todd Gilliland	Frontier Racing	198			10	Running				
28	14	14	Michael McDowell	Motor Transportation Systems	147			8	Running				
29	5	2	Tyler Reddick	Stewart-Haas Racing	118			8	Engine				
30	13	19	Kevin Harvick	Stewart-Haas Racing	109			2	Accident				
31	11	41	Cole Custer	Stewart-Haas Racing	94			8	Accident				
32	10	21	Harvick Burton II	Frontier Racing	79			5	Accident				
33	28	47	Robby Stenhouse Jr.	Stewart-Haas Racing	75			4	Accident				
34	16	10	Joey Logano	Stewart-Haas Racing	25			2	Accident				
35	29	15	J.J. Yeary	Frontier Racing	24			2	Accident				
36	3	18	Kyle Busch	Stewart-Haas Racing	24			1	Accident				
37	9	2	Justin Chase Jr.	Frontier Racing	24			1	Accident				

Time of Race: 2 hrs, 04 mins, 43 secs. Average Speed: 117.104 MPH. Number of Safety: 2 (113 seconds)
 Stage 1 Top 10: 25, 11, 41, 19, 17, 1, 24, 4, 22, 14
 Stage 2 Top 10: 11, 10, 2, 20, 15, 23, 5, 28, 24, 22

Points report

Points Report
 Michigan International Speedway
 54th Annual FireKeepers Casino 400

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Rank	Driver	Car	Starts	OL	Points	Lea	Net	Stage Wins	Stage Wins	Playoff Pos
1.	Chase Elliott	9	23	0	847	0	0	8	3	25
2.	Ryan Blaney	12	23	0	728	-118	118	0	8	8
3.	Ross Chastain	1	23	0	716	-137	15	2	4	14
4.	Matt Toner Jr.	14	23	0	709	-138	1	0	7	7
5.	Kyle Larson	5	23	0	705	-142	8	1	3	8
6.	Joey Logano	22	23	1	673	-174	32	2	2	12
7.	Christopher Bell	20	23	-1	668	-179	5	1	2	7
8.	Kyle Busch	18	23	0	624	-223	24	1	1	6
9.	Kevin Harvick	6	23	1	618	-229	16	1	0	5
10.	William Byron	24	23	-1	617	-230	1	2	3	13
11.	Alex Bowman	46	23	1	572	-275	45	1	1	6
12.	Tyler Reddick	8	23	-1	557	-290	15	2	2	12
13.	David Suarez	99	23	0	556	-291	1	1	2	7
14.	Erik Jones	43	23	3	538	-309	10	0	0	9
15.	Chase Briscoe	14	23	0	533	-314	5	1	3	8
16.	Austin Cindric II	2	23	-2	521	-326	2	1	1	9
17.	Darby Henton	11	23	2	524	-323	7	2	3	13
18.	Aric Almirola	10	23	-2	518	-329	8	0	0	9
19.	Bubba Wallace	23	23	1	493	-354	25	0	1	1
20.	Kurt Busch		20	-3	485	-362	8	1	2	7
21.	Austin Dillon	3	23	0	483	-364	2	0	0	9
22.	Justin Haley	31	23	0	445	-402	38	0	0	9
23.	Chris Buescher	17	23	0	442	-405	3	0	0	9
24.	Robby Stenhouse Jr.	47	23	0	385	-462	47	0	0	9
25.	Cole Custer	41	23	0	380	-467	5	0	0	9
26.	Michael McDowell	34	23	0	385	-462	5	0	0	-10
27.	Harrison Burton II	31	23	0	374	-473	11	0	0	9
28.	Brad Keselowski	6	23	1	364	-483	10	0	0	-10
29.	Todd Gilliland II	38	23	-1	358	-491	8	0	0	9
30.	Ty Dillon	42	23	0	328	-521	30	0	0	9
31.	Corey LaJoie	7	23	0	284	-583	42	0	0	9
32.	Cole Ware	54	23	0	195	-652	89	0	0	9
33.	David Ragan	3	23	0	81	-786	134	0	0	9

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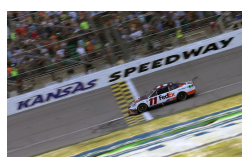
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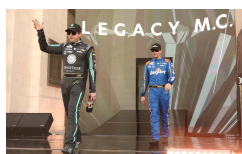
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