

Bowyer Racing in Concord This Weekend and Hopes His Luck Changes

Event: Coca-Cola 600

Date: May 24, 2009

Venue: Lowe's Motor Speedway – Concord, N.C.

NOTES:

- **This Week's Cheerios/Hamburger Helper Chevrolet at Lowe's Motor Speedway ...** Clint Bowyer will pilot Chassis No. 265 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 a sixth-place finish at Atlanta Motor Speedway.
- **Stat Facts ...**
 - **Charlotte Facts ...** In six NSCS starts at Lowe's Motor Speedway, Bowyer has a runner-up finish to call his best at the 1.5-mile oval. Additionally, the 29-year-old driver has led 82 laps of competition, has an average starting position of 22.2, an average finish of 18.3 and completed 98.1 percent of the laps contested (2,164 of 2,205).
 - **Rearview Mirror ...** Bowyer started 17th and finished 37th at Darlington Raceway two weeks ago. The No. 33 team headed to the 1.366-mile oval looking to end a four-week slump that dropped them from second to eighth in the NSCS point standings. It appeared the Emporia, Kan., native was headed in the right direction, but a mid-race accident ended his chances for a strong finish and his modern-era record of 83 consecutive races without a DNF (did not finish).
 - **All Good Things Must Come To An End ...** Bowyer had been running at the end of every race dating back to Phoenix in November 2006, but when the two-time NSCS winner was involved in a lap 221 crash at Darlington, his modern-era record of 83 consecutive races without a DNF came to an end. Bowyer came one race shy of tying the all-time record held by Herman Beam, who did not run his races consecutively, but did make 84 starts from 1961-1963 without recording a DNF.
 - **Through the First 11 ...** In his fourth season of full-time NSCS competition, Bowyer has accumulated three top-five and four top-10 finishes, an average start of 19.3 and an average finish of 17.4. He is currently ranked 13th in points, a slim seven markers behind 12th-place point-man Carl Edwards and only 120 behind RCR teammate Jeff Burton in sixth.
 - **RCR at Charlotte ...** In 103 starts at LMS, RCR has earned five points-paying victories. Four of those were won by Dale Earnhardt, while Jeff Burton added to that total with a win in the October 2008 race. Kevin Harvick also recorded an impressive win at the 2007 All-Star Race to go along with Earnhardt's three victories at the annual all-star showcase, giving RCR nine total Sprint Cup Series checkered flags at LMS. Additionally, RCR boasts 19 top-five and 35 top-10 finishes at LMS with seven different drivers including Earnhardt, Ricky Rudd, Mike Skinner, Harvick, Burton and Bowyer. Richard Childress, a former driver on NASCAR's senior circuit, contributed two of those top 10s from 1978-1979.
- **Meet the Driver ...** On behalf of Prilosec OTC, Bowyer will sign autographs at the Walmart store located at 150 Concord Commons in Concord on Wednesday, May 20 from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. A limited number of tickets will be available for autographs on a first come, first served basis due to time constraints.
- **Coca-Cola Quarter-Mile Cookout ...** Bowyer will be at the Coca-Cola Quarter-Mile Cookout at Lowe's Motor Speedway Friday, May 22 from noon - 2 p.m. Festivities will take place on the race track near the speedway's start/finish line. The event is free and open to all ticket and annual credential holders for the historic 50th running of the Coca-Cola 600.
- **Meet the Team ...** The Helping Hands pit crew, along with other members of the No. 33 team, will make an appearance at Food Lion's Speed Street in uptown Charlotte on Friday, May 22 from 3 - 5 p.m. The crew will sign autographs and take part in a speed stacking competition at the Cheerios Stage in the Kid's Zone.
- **Speed Street ...** Bowyer will sign autographs at Speed Street on Friday, May 22 from 3 - 5 p.m. at the Chevrolet stage. Immediately following that, Bowyer will head to the Totinos tent for the Wii Challenge from 5 - 5:30, then to the Cheerios Stage in the Kid's Zone to sign autographs from 5:30 – 7 p.m.
- **Up to Speed ...** On Sunday, May 24, Bowyer will make a quick stop at the SPEED Stage, located in the display area at LMS. He will participate in a Q&A session from 1:15 - 1:30 p.m.
- **Catch the Action ...** Live coverage of the Coca-Cola 600 from Lowe's Motor Speedway will take the green flag Sunday, May 24 beginning at 5 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time. The race will be televised live on FOX and broadcast on the Performance Racing Network and Sirius XM Satellite Radio. Qualifying for the 12th points-paying race on the 2009 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series schedule will be telecast live on SPEED Thursday, May 21 beginning at 7 p.m. EDT. PRN and Sirius XM Satellite Radio will provide live qualifying updates.

CLINT BOWYER QUOTES:

You have finished outside the top 15 in the last five races. What happened?

"It's been real ugly. Our cars haven't been bad, we've just had terrible luck. We crashed out early at Talladega with one of the fastest cars I've ever had there and I got wrecked at Darlington. It was just a wrong place at the wrong time, bad luck thing. We probably gave up 250 points in two races and that's something that you just can't afford to do that this level. We're going to have to buckle down, get back after it and get that consistency back. Get the top 10's rolling again, then we can work on top five's and go for the wins. It seemed like at the beginning of the season we found ourselves swinging for the fences, looking for that victory because it seemed so close. We ended up falling just a little short, so we need to get our eye back on the ball, get the ground balls coming and we'll be just fine."

How disappointed were you that the streak ended one race shy of the all-time record?

"I was a little disappointed, obviously. The guy that has the record (Herman Beam) didn't even run all the races. It was a bummer that we couldn't officially have our name on the record but, nonetheless, it's a huge accomplishment for me and everyone at Richard Childress Racing. "

Last year at Charlotte you finished 25th and 12th. The race before that you were the runner-up in the fall.

"In the spring race we had a decent car, but we had some debris on the grill that forced us to come to pit road under the green flag and it cost us two laps. We just stayed there, rode around and never could get our laps back. I feel like we need to get out of the Coca-Cola 600 with a top-10 finish. We need to get back to recording consistent finishes and we need that to start this weekend."

How tough is the Coca-Cola 600 mentally and physically? It's the longest race of the year.

"It's tough, especially if your day isn't going well. If that's the case, it seems like it's never going to end. But if your day is going decent and you're running toward the front, then it's like any other race. Lowe's Motor Speedway is a fast track, so that helps. You get to the finish a lot quicker than you would if we ran 600 miles somewhere else."

600 miles is a long distance. Back in the day, do you think you raced 600 miles in an entire season?

"No. That's the thing, racing on the dirt tracks back home you wouldn't come close to racing that distance in an entire season. That's what's mind boggling about this race. It really makes you realize just how long it is when you put it in that perspective."