

## **Clint Bowyer Aims to Kick-Start the Magic Again at Daytona**

After BB&T Racing driver Clint Bowyer finished fourth at Daytona International Speedway in February to start the season, he gathered three more top-six finishes in the next five races and was ranked second in the standings. Bowyer hopes to kick-start the magic again this Saturday night as the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series returns to Daytona International Speedway.

In seven Sprint Cup starts at Daytona, Bowyer has one top-five and five top-10 finishes. Additionally, the 30-year-old driver has a 24th-place average starting position, an average finish of 11.1, and has completed 100 percent of the laps contested (1,239 of 1,239) and has led 59 circuits around the “World Center of Racing.”

It seems unusual for Bowyer, who grew up riding a motorcycle and driving cars on small dirt tracks, to be so successful at a 2.5 mile asphalt venue with high banks.

“I enjoy restrictor plate racing and drafting,” Bowyer explained. “But, I enjoy having handling come into play at Daytona as well. You’ve got to free your car up to get it to handle on the long runs there. You’re slipping and sliding around, beating and banging. It’s really a lot of fun to race at Daytona.”

This weekend’s race marks the halfway point of the 2009 Sprint Cup Series schedule. During the season’s first 17 races, Bowyer has accumulated three top-five and six top-10 finishes, an average start of 19.3 and an average finish of 16.9. The two-time race winner has led 16 laps of competition and has completed 4,704 of the 5,034 (93.4 percent) laps contested thus far.

Bowyer enters Daytona 15th in the Sprint Cup Series championship point standings. With nine races remaining before the Chase for the Sprint Cup kicks off in September at New Hampshire, Bowyer sits 94 markers behind 12th-place point man Juan Pablo Montoya and just 153 behind eighth-place Kyle Busch. The top 12 in the Sprint Cup Series points following the September 12 Chevy Rock & Roll 400 at Richmond International Raceway are locked into NASCAR’s 12-team Chase for the Sprint Cup playoff field.

Flag-to-flag coverage of the Coke Zero 400 from Daytona International Speedway will take the green flag Saturday, July 4 beginning at 6:30 p.m. ETT. The race will be televised live on TNT and broadcast on the Motor Racing Network and Sirius XM Satellite Radio. Qualifying will be telecast live on SPEED Friday, July 3, beginning at 4 p.m. ET.