

STP 500

500 Laps at Martinsville Speedway

Martinsville, Virginia

263 Miles on 0.526 mile Short Track

Fin	St	No	Driver	Sponsor	Make	Laps	Laps Led	Race Pts	Bonus Pts	Pts	Status	Earnings
1	3	2	Brad Keselowsk	Reese / DrawTite	Ford	500	446	40		60	running	
2	7	9	Chase Elliott	NAPA Auto Parts	Chevrolet	500	49	35		51	running	
3	13	18	Kyle Busch	M&M's Chocolate Bar	Toyota	500	0	34		36	running	
4	17	12	Ryan Blaney	Menards / Libman	Ford	500	0	33		48	running	
5	5	11	Denny Hamlin	FedEx Ground	Toyota	500	0	32		47	running	
6	4	4	Kevin Harvick	Mobil 1	Ford	500	0	31		35	running	
7	10	14	Clint Bowyer	Mobil 1 / Rush Truck Centers	Ford	500	0	30		38	running	
8	8	19	Martin Truex,	SiriusXM	Toyota	500	0	29		38	running	
9	2	10	Aric Almirola	Shazam! / Smithfield	Ford	500	0	28		41	running	
10	9	41	Daniel Suarez	Haas Automation	Ford	500	0	27		29	running	
11	29	3	Austin Dillon	Symbicort	Chevrolet	500	0	26		27	running	
12	19	1	Kurt Busch	Gear Wrench / Monster Energy	Chevrolet	500	0	25		25	running	
13	22	13	Ty Dillon	GEICO	Chevrolet	500	0	24		24	running	
14	16	88	Alex Bowman	Nationwide	Chevrolet	500	0	23		23	running	
15	14	21	Paul Menard	Motorcraft / Quick Lane Tire	Ford	500	0	22		22	running	
16	15	47	Ryan Preece	Kroger / Viva / Clorox	Chevrolet	500	0	21		21	running	
17	26	43	Darrell Wallac	Transportation Impact	Chevrolet	500	0	20		20	running	
18	6	42	Kyle Larson	Credit One Bank	Chevrolet	500	0	19		19	running	
19	1	22	Joey Logano	Shell / Pennzoil	Ford	500	5	18		23	running	
20	21	95	Matt DiBenedet	Toyota Express Maintenance	Toyota	500	0	17		17	running	
21	12	37	Chris Buescher	Kroger / Speed Up Your Clean	Chevrolet	499	0	16		16	running	
22	34	24	William Byron	Axalta	Chevrolet	499	0	15		15	running	
23	20	6	Ryan Newman	Acorns	Ford	499	0	14		14	running	
24	11	48	Jimmie Johnson	Ally	Chevrolet	498	0	13		13	running	
25	24	17	Ricky Stenhous	Fastenal / Weiler Abrasives	Ford	498	0	12		12	running	
26	25	38	David Ragan	MDS Transport	Ford	496	0	11		11	running	
27	28	8	Daniel Hemric	Bass Pro Shops / Tracker Boa	Chevrolet	496	0	10		10	running	
28	27	0	Landon Cassill	CGS Imaging	Chevrolet	494	0	9		9	running	
29	31	36	Matt Tift	Surface Sunscreen / Tunity	Ford	494	0	8		8	running	
30	18	20	Erik Jones	DeWalt	Toyota	491	0	7		7	running	
31	23	34	Michael McDowe	A&W All American Foods	Ford	491	0	6		6	running	
32	35	77	D.J. Kenningto	Go-Parts	Chevrolet	489	0	0		0	running	
33	32	32	Corey LaJoie	Keen Parts / CorvetteParts.n	Ford	489	0	4		4	running	
34	30	15	Ross Chastain	Rim Ryderz	Chevrolet	365	0	3		0	engine	
35	36	52	Jeb Burton	Muzzy Bowfishing	Chevrolet	163	0	0		0	brakes	
36	33	51	Cody Ware	Jacob Companies	Chevrolet	55	0	1		1	brakes	

Race Time: 3:21:54

Average Speed: 78.158

Lead Change: 3

LeadDrivers: 4

Cautions: 7

Caution Laps: 56

Margin: 0.594 sec

Qualifying Speed: 97.83

Qualifying Notes Failed to Qualify: None

Leaders: J. Logano 1-5; B. Keselowski 6-324; C. Elliott 325-373; B. Keselowski 374-500.

Keselowski cruises to dominant Martinsville win

NASCAR WIRE SERVICE MARCH 24, 2019 AT 5:38 PM

MARTINSVILLE, Va. - Brad Keselowski led 446 of 500 laps in winning Sunday's STP 500 at Martinsville Speedway.

An easy victory, right?

Well, not exactly. After Keselowski's pit crew put him in the lead for a restart on Lap 380, the driver of the No. 2 Team Penske Ford spent the rest of the race fending off a determined charge from Chase Elliott.

Ultimately, Keselowski got to the finish line .594 seconds ahead of Elliott and 1.335 seconds in front of Kyle Busch, who was attempting to win his third straight Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series race in his 1,000th national series start. But it wasn't easy, as both Elliott and Busch were close enough to capitalize on even the smallest potential mistake.



The victory was Keselowski's second of the season, second at Martinsville and the 29th of his career. It was also Team Penske's third triumph of the season in six races, equaling the total of Joe Gibbs Racing and the third Cup win for the Ford Mustang, which debuted in the series this year.

"The car was really good," Keselowski said. "This Ford Mustang. ... Ford worked really hard in the offseason to build these cars and make them real strong, and so far, so good. Just a great day for our team.

"Awesome execution on pit road, and big credit to (engine builder) Doug Yates and all the engine stuff. Those guys worked really hard. But just one of those days you dream of as a race car driver where you've got a great car."

Before Keselowski could claim the grandfather clock trophy that goes to the winner, he had to go to school. Elliott's No. 9 Hendrick Motorsports Chevrolet was a superior short-run car, enabling Elliott to pass Keselowski for the lead on Lap 325, five laps after a restart necessitated by a caution for William Byron's spin in Turn 4.

Keselowski followed Elliott for 48 green-flag laps – until Matt Tifft spun in Turn 2 on Lap 372 – and learned a valuable lesson.

"I don't know if we were as good as the 9 car, Chase Elliott," Keselowski said. "He was really strong, but he passed me there with about 200 to go, and I watched him and studied him and kind of broke it down and knew what I had to do to hold him off with that fast of a car.

"And we were able to pull it off that last run."

Busch was hounding Elliott as fiercely as Elliott was dogging Keselowski, but when Busch was held up in traffic in the late going, Elliott began experimenting with a higher line in the corners.

"I felt like we were about as even with him as we could be," Elliott said. "I felt like when he did get the lead, there was a little advantage to being out front, being able to work traffic your way and kind of play off it and whatnot.

"But, yeah, I tried to move up there at the end, and I don't know if I could have got to him. Maybe if I moved up a little sooner. But I tried to get to him there in (Turn) 3 (on the final lap). I was pretty well content on moving him out of the way. But maybe next time."

Ryan Blaney finished fourth, followed by Denny Hamlin, who recovered from a penalty for an uncontrolled tire. Kevin Harvick was sixth, Clint Bowyer came home seventh, despite being sent to the rear twice for speeding on pit road. Martin Truex Jr., Aric Almirola and Daniel Suarez completed the top 10.

