

McMurray Masters Talladega

As Johnson Pads Point Lead With Unlikely Top-10 Finish

By **BRUCE MARTIN**
NSSN CORRESPONDENT

TALLADEGA, Ala. — Jamie McMurray's victory in Sunday's wild NASCAR Sprint Cup AMP Energy 500 at Talladega Superspeedway couldn't have come at a more opportune time for the driver who is about to be out of a ride at Roush Fenway Racing at the end of this season.

SPRINT CUP

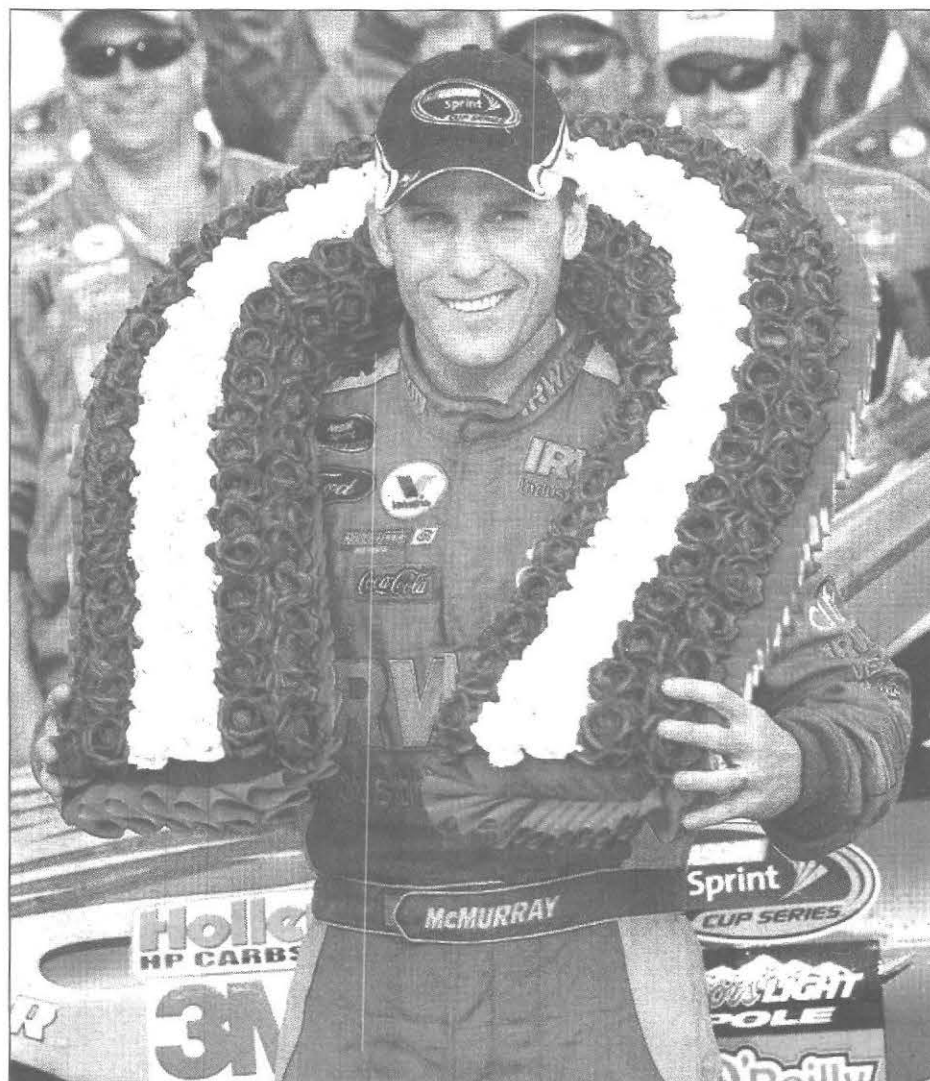
The victory snapped an 86-race winless streak for McMurray. But it was Jimmie Johnson who left Talladega Superspeedway with the most to celebrate after finishing sixth while his closest championship pursuers Mark Martin and Jeff Gordon were both involved in a massive 13-car crash heading toward the white flag.

Because of that, NASCAR can make plans on engraving Johnson's name on his fourth-straight Sprint Cup championship.

On a day when it looked like Johnson's sizeable point lead would dramatically shrink, Johnson gained by not racing.

Johnson drove from the mid-30s to a sixth-place finish as his two leading contenders for the title, Martin and Gordon, were swallowed up in a huge crash on the frontstretch that ended the

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MAC DADDY: Jamie McMurray celebrates his third NASCAR Sprint Cup Series triumph and his first in 86 events Sunday at Talladega (Ala.) Superspeedway.

Izod Puts Mark On IndyCar As Series Sponsor

Title Package Worth \$10M Annually

By **BRUCE MARTIN**
NSSN CORRESPONDENT

ATLANTA — After 10 years without a series sponsor, the IndyCar Series will unveil Izod as the title sponsor beginning with the 2010 season.

IRL INDYCAR

The clothing company just concluded its first season as an IndyCar partner and was pleased with the success it had with IndyCar and the Macy's department store chain.

Izod's series sponsorship is expected to be worth \$10 million annually.

The last time IndyCar had a series sponsor was 2001 when Northern Light — an Internet search engine — finished the second year of what was supposed to be a long-term contract with the Indy Racing League.

This is a great move for IndyCar because Izod is a company that can market its product to all age groups and is a consumer-based entity that can help bring IndyCar back into the mainstream.

And because IndyCar Series racing has always been as much about lifestyle as the extreme form of racing, perhaps Izod can help make this brand of racing more fashionable again.

Memphis Complex Shutting Its Doors

DOVER, Del. — The Oct. 24 NASCAR Nationwide Series race at Memphis Motorsports Park may have been the last NASCAR event at the three-quarter-mile asphalt oval.

INDUSTRY

Dover Motorsports, Inc., owner of the facility, has announced that it is ceasing operation of the track and that it will promote no races there in 2010. Previously scheduled NASCAR Nationwide Series and NACAR Camping World Truck Series events at the track will be moved to other Dover Motorsports facilities.

Dover Motorsports had previously entered into an agreement to sell the track to Gulf Coast Entertainment, but the sale fell through when Gulf Coast could not secure funding to

make the purchase.

"This was a difficult decision for us, but one that ultimately was dictated by economics," said Denis McGlynn, president and CEO of Dover Motorsports. "We greatly appreciate the many years of dedication shown by our Memphis employees and their efforts to make Memphis such a great destination for the racing community — from racing fans and drivers to sponsors, team owners and sanctioning bodies.

"For all concerned, including the Memphis community, it is truly sad to see Memphis Motorsports Park taken off the racing schedule. NASCAR has approved the realignment of our NASCAR Camping World Truck Series and NASCAR Nationwide Series events from Memphis Motorsports Park to our Nashville and

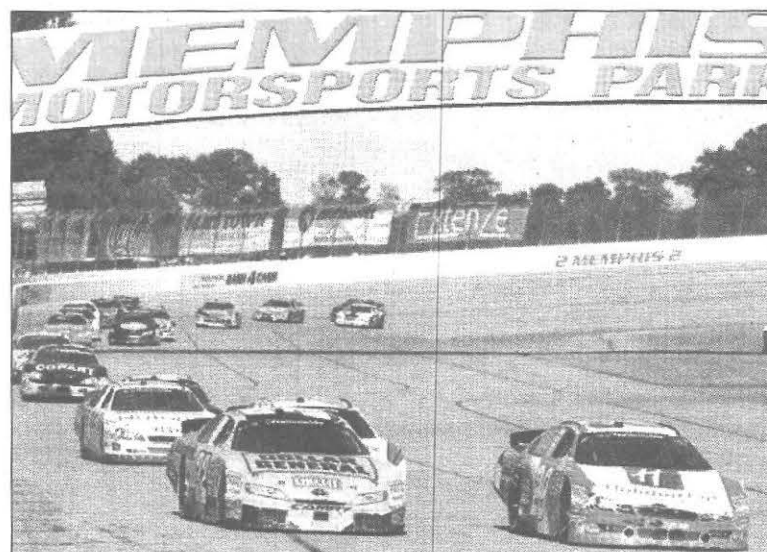
Gateway facilities."

The NASCAR Camping World Truck Series event scheduled for Memphis will be held April 2 at Nashville Superspeedway in conjunction with a previously scheduled Nationwide Series race.

The Nationwide Series event will move to Gateway Int'l Raceway and will be held Oct. 23.

The move also means the end of the NHRA drag race at the adjacent drag strip. NHRA officials announced that the Full Throttle Drag Racing Series schedule will be reduced to 23 events with the elimination of the race in Memphis.

Brad Keselowski won the Oct. 24 Nationwide Series event at the track and an ASA race scheduled for Saturday will still be held at the track.



HHP/ERIK PEREL PHOTO

FINAL GO AROUND: Stephen Leicht (29) and Brian Ickler (32) race side by side during the Oct. 24 NASCAR Nationwide Series race at Memphis (Tenn.) Motorsports Park.

OPINIONS

ECONOMAKI: Recalling the ARDC's glory days at Flemington. **PAGE 4**
WADE: Humble Edwards deserving of 2009 Pro Stock title. **PAGE 19**
MARTIN: Newman has harsh words for NASCAR and Talladega. **PAGE 21**

Waltz	4	Shampine	5
Fletcher	5	Knutson	23
Flowers	5	London	31

EXCLUSIVE

New Products To Make Race Cars Faster, Safer

NSSN's annual Car Builder's Guide is a marketplace of performance parts, accessories and services. See

CAR BUILDER'S GUIDE
PAGE CB1

what's new, what's coming and what's legal.



WINNER'S LIST

Series	Winner	Where	Page
NHRA TF	Spencer Massey	Las Vegas	2
NHRA FC	Robert Hight	Las Vegas	2
NHRA PS	Larry Morgan	Las Vegas	2
NHRA PSM	Andrew Hines	Las Vegas	2
Formula One	Sebastian Vettel	Abu Dhabi	22
ROC Mods	Stewart Friesen	Kirkwood, N.Y.	11
USAC W. Midget	Bryan Clauson	Las Vegas	17
ISCARS	Danny Bagwell	Rougemont, N.C.	29

THE FINISH

"The more rules, the more NASCAR is telling us how to drive the race cars, the less we can race and the less we can put on a show for the fans."

RYAN NEWMAN ON SUNDAY'S NASCAR SPRINT CUP SERIES RACE AT TALLADEGA (ALA.) SUPERSPEEDWAY