Season of change

he new season has brought with it a significant shift. NASCAR unveiled the name for its premier series – the Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series – making it the third entitlement sponsor in the history of the sport. Also, beginning with the season-opening Daytona 500, a new award points format will divide races into three stages, giving drivers points depending on their running order at the end of each segment.



Daytona International Speedway • Daytona Beach, Fla. • Sunday, Feb. 26

RACE DISTANCE: 200 laps (500 miles)

BANKING IN CORNERS: 31 degrees TRACK DISTANCE: 2.5 miles

2016 season leaders

POINTS (top 5)		
Jimmie Johnson	5040	
Joey Logano	5037	
Kyle Busch	5035	
Carl Edwards	5007	
Matt Kenseth	2330	

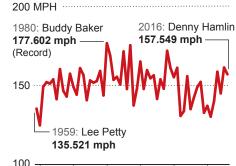


WINS



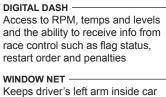
Need for speed

Average winning speed at the Daytona 500:



1960 1970 1980 1990 2000 2010

Inside the cockpit



during accidents SAFETY SEAT

Provides extra support for head, shoulder, ribs and lower extremities

HEAD/NECK RESTRAINT

HANS Device mandated by NASCAR FIRE EXTINGUISHER

SEAT BELT HARNESS

The cockpit of a stock car serves as the uniquely by each team, it features an extensive array of safety features, as well as a digital dash that allows the driver to monitor the car's performance.

AUXILIARY SWITCHES MAIN SWITCH PANEL Turns on backup Contains switches for ignition system,

starter, ignition, and ventilating fans, cooling fans cooling system **MASTER SWITCH** Shuts down electrical system

"weekend office" for the drivers. Configured

FIRE EXTINGUISHER SWITCH DISCHARGE NOZZLE

FIRE **EXTINGUISHER SWITCH** Discharges fire-suppressing chemicals

into the driving compartment

GEARSHIFT

Controls four-speed

manual transmission

Da	ytor	na 500 lineup	
POS	CAR	DRIVER	
1	(24)	Chase Elliott	С
2	(88)	Dale Earnhardt Jr.	С
3	(1)	Jamie McMurray	С
4	(11)	Denny Hamlin	
5	(4)	Kevin Harvick	
6	(14)	Clint Bowyer	
7	(2)	Brad Keselowski	
8	(41)	Kurt Busch	
9	(20)	Matt Kenseth	
10	(3)	Austin Dillon	С
11	(6)	Trevor Bayne	
12	(10)	Danica Patrick	
13	(43)	Aric Almirola	
14	(31)	Ryan Newman	С

16 (42) Kyle Larson 17 (72) Cole Whitt Ty Dillon

(22) Joey Logano

15

18 **Daniel Suarez** 19 (19)20 (38) David Ragan

21 (18) Kyle Busch 22 Michael McDov 23 (17) Ricky Stenhous 24 Jimmie Johnso

25 (32) Matt DiBenedet 26 Kasey Kahne 27 (34) Landon Cassill

(96) DJ Kennington 28 29 (23)Joey Gase 30 (15) Michael Waltrip 31 (83) Corey LaJoie

32 (33) Jeffrey Earnhai 33 (27) Paul Menard (77) Erik Jones

(78) Martin Truex Jr 35 36 (21) Ryan Blaney 37 Chris Buesche

38 (47) AJ Allmending 39 (75) Brendan Gaugl

Elliott Sadler

D PO

	MAKE
	Chevrolet
Jr.	Chevrolet
ay	Chevrolet
• y	Toyota
	Ford
	Ford
ki	Ford
	Ford
	Toyota
	Chevrolet
	Ford
	Ford
	Ford
	Chevrolet
	Ford
	Chevrolet
	Ford
	Chevrolet
	Toyota
	Ford
	Toyota
vell	Chevrolet
se Jr.	Ford
n	Chevrolet
tto	Ford
	Chevrolet
	Ford
l	Toyota
	Toyota
)	Toyota
	Toyota
rdt	Chevrolet
	Chevrolet
	Ioyota
	Toyota Ford
r	Chevrolet
ı er	Chevrolet
han	Chevrolet
iuii	CHEVIOLE

In the driver's seat The top 10 favorites to win the championship this season:



Kevin Harvick The 2014

champion was in contention for a second title all of last year. He'll be the anchor at Stewart-Haas Racing, as it adjusts to a manufacturer move to Ford.



Jimmie Johnson Tied NASCAR record with his

an eighth title.

seventh championship last year: goes into this season trying to surpass Hall of Famers Richard Petty and Dale Earnhardt Jr., with



Kyle Busch

Toyota.

The 2015 champion failed in his bid to win back-to-back championships last season despite a dominating year with Joe Gibbs Racing and



Denny Hamlin

Won Daytona 500 last year but failed for second season in a row to make it to the finals of NASCAR's playoffs. Set career highs with 22 top 10s and 11.8 average

finish in 2016.



Brad Keselowski

Taken a little bit of a backseat to Penske Racing teammate Joey Logano. He also has to now juggle the growth of Ford which just brought in four new drivers with Stewart-Haas Racing.



Joey Logano

Made it to the finals of the Chase for the second time in his career last year, but again came up short after a late wreck. He's still looking for his first Cup title.



Martin Truex Jr.

Easily the most dominating driver in the opening round of NASCAR's playoffs, but he was unexpectedly eliminated after the second

round



Chase **Elliott**

40

Opened his rookie season last year by winning the pole for the Daytona 500, but had a horrible race. Seeking first career Cup win, but came awfully close a handful of

times last year.



Kenseth

Drives for Joe Gibbs Racing and those Toyotas have consistently been the best in NASCAR. He's a two-time Daytona 500 winner but could have had more with many lost opportunities.



Chevrolet

Earnhardt Jr. NASCAR's most popular driver returns after missing the

second half of the season with a concussion. He's eager to run again and he's a two-time Daytona winner.