

**THIS WEEK'S
EVENTS**

NASCAR SPRINT CUP

UAW-Dodge 400

Site: Las Vegas

Schedule: Today, qualifying (Speed Channel, 6:30 p.m.); Sunday, race (FOX, 3:30 p.m.).

Track: Las Vegas Motor Speedway (D-shaped oval, 1.5 miles, 20 degrees banking in turns).

Race distance: 400 miles, 267 laps.

Last race: Carl Edwards charged past reigning champ Jimmie Johnson with 13 laps remaining and went on to win the rain-delayed Auto Club 500. Johnson came out of the final pit stop in the lead with 26 laps remaining, but Edwards came from third to grab the eighth win of his career. The race was stopped Sunday night after 87 of the scheduled 250 laps, and resumed Monday.

Last year: Johnson beat teammate Jeff Gordon to win his third straight Cup race at Las Vegas Motor Speedway. Johnson had few problems navigating his way around the track, which was under intense scrutiny all weekend because of changes owner Bruton Smith made to the 1.5-mile speedway. Johnson overcame a pit-road penalty and a minor brush with the wall to lead 89 of the 267 laps en route to the 150th NASCAR victory for Hendrick Motorsports.

Next race: Kobalt Tools 500, March 9, Hampton, Ga.

NASCAR NATIONWIDE

Sam's Town 300

Site: Las Vegas

Schedule: Saturday, qualifying (Speed Channel, noon), race (ESPN2, 4 p.m.).

Track: Las Vegas Motor Speedway (D-shaped oval, 1.5 miles, 20 degrees banking in turns).

Race distance: 300 miles, 200 laps.

Last race: Tony Stewart was dominant in winning his second straight Nationwide race, holding off hard-charging Kyle Busch again. Stewart beat Busch, his teammate in the Sprint Cup series, in a 1-2 Toyota sweep in the Nationwide season-opener at Daytona. He made it look a lot easier in the rain-postponed race at Auto Club Speedway as he led 136 of the 150 laps on the 2-mile track formerly known as California Speedway.

Last year: Jeff Burton nudged a spinning Busch across the finish line to win a chaotic, caution-marred Sam's Town 300. The race had 12 cautions for 58 laps, and the post-race debate overshadowed a spectacular finish that denied Busch a victory on his home track. The repaved track made speeds high and forced Goodyear to bring a hard left tire to the track.

Next event: Nicroette 300, March 8, Hampton, Ga.

CRAFTSMAN TRUCKS

Last race: Kyle Busch continued his string of strong runs, adding a victory in the San Bernardino County 200 at Fontana, Calif., to his runner-up finish in the truck race the previous week at Daytona. He also finished second in the Daytona Nationwide Series event and fourth in the Daytona 500.

Next event: American Commercial Lines 200, March 7, Hampton, Ga.

NHRA

Last event: Larry Dixon raced to his first Top Fuel victory of the season and 42nd overall, beating Dave Grubnic in the final of the Checker Schuck's Kragen Nationals at Firebird International Raceway. Jack Beckman took the Funny Car category and V. Gaines won in Pro Stock for the first time in seven years.

Next event: ACDelco Gatornationals, March 16, Gainesville.