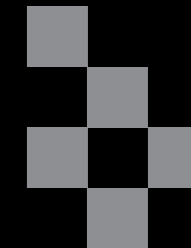






NASCAR



It was another strong points finish for Kurt Busch and his Miller Lite Dodge team with his 6th place finish at the Phoenix International Raceway.



### CHECKER O'REILLY AUTO PARTS 500 November 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2009

Kurt Busch and the No. 2 Miller Lite team led the way for the Cup Series teams as they qualified 2nd and posted a 6th place finish. The result solidified Busch's 4th place standing in the Chase for the Cup Series Championship and he edged closer to 3rd place as he is now just 42 points behind Jeff Gordon with one race remaining.

The Mobil 1 team and driver Sam Hornish Jr. also had a strong weekend at Phoenix. After earning a 12th place starting spot, Hornish and the No. 77 team overcame minor incidents on pit road and on the race track to secure a 17th place finish.

Brad Keselowski and the No. 12 Penske Dodge squad also appeared to be headed for a top-20 result. A multi-car accident just past the midway point of the race, however, collected the No. 12 and Keselowski was forced to the garage for repairs. He returned to the track and finished the race in the 37th position.

### DRIVERS

**KURT** **2**  
BUSCH

"It was a good start. We had a great car in the beginning, a good feel, but lost the handle. It was a tough day for the Miller Lite Dodge. We wanted to be right up there in the mix going for the win. 6th place, we'll take it; last week was a win. We're gaining points and we're still doing a good job."

**BRAD** **12**  
KESELOWSKI

Keselowski started Sunday's race in the 26th position. The Penske Dodge driver did all he could to avoid an impending accident on lap 119 but he was hit from behind, which caused minor damage to the No.12 machine. Keselowski brought the No. 12 car back onto pit lane and the team made the appropriate repairs. On lap 170, several cars got together coming out of turn 4, which blocked the entire racing surface. Keselowski did his best to slow his machine down, but the Penske Dodge was collected in the incident. The damage to the No. 12 machine was too extensive to repair on pit lane, so Keselowski drove his car to the garage. The team did an outstanding job repairing the car in quick order and as a result Keselowski picked up three valuable positions on the track by finishing the race in the 37th position.

**SAM** **77**  
HORNISH JR.

Hornish started the 312-lap race from the 12th position. As the Mobil 1 machine entered the pit stall on lap 71, the rear of the car snapped loose and the No. 77 was positioned on an angle. Hornish was able to pit for four fresh tires and fuel, along with air pressure and track bar adjustments however, the incident cost the team valuable time. A multi-car melee took place directly behind Hornish on lap 170 and the Mobil 1 Dodge received minor damage as a result. Hornish came to pit road for service and repairs and restarted the race in the 21st position. When the checkered flag waved, Hornish crossed the finish line in the 17th position.

Busch, Hornish and Keselowski will compete in the Cup Series Championship Ford 400 race in Miami next week to close out the 2009 season, which will be seen live on Sunday, November 22 on ABC-TV with coverage beginning at 4 p.m. ET.

CAR	DRIVER	START	FINISH	POINTS	DRIVER STANDINGS	Notes
No. 2	Kurt Busch	2nd	6th	6281	4th	- 211 points from 1st
No. 12	Brad Keselowski	26th	37th	1440	38th	- 5052 points from 1st
No. 77	Sam Hornish Jr.	12th	17th	3103	29th	- 3389 points from 1st



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