

= 2010 Heluva Good ! Sour Cream Dips 400 =

The 2010 Heluva Good ! Sour Cream Dips 400 was a NASCAR Sprint Cup Series stock car race that was held on June 13 , 2010 at Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn , Michigan . Contested over 200 laps , it was the fifteenth race of the 2010 Sprint Cup Series season . The race was won by Denny Hamlin for the Joe Gibbs Racing team . Kasey Kahne finished second , and Kurt Busch , who started first , clinched third .

Pole position driver Busch maintained his lead into the first turn to begin the race , but Jamie McMurray , who started in the second position on the grid , passed him to lead the first lap . Hamlin soon became the leader and would lead a race high of 123 laps . On the final restart , Hamlin started beside Kahne . Hamlin held onto first to claim his first Sprint Cup Series win at Michigan and his fifth of the season .

There were four cautions and nineteen lead changes among nine different drivers throughout the course of the race . The result left Kevin Harvick in the first position in the Drivers ' Championship , twenty @-@ two points ahead of second place driver Kyle Busch and forty @-@ seven ahead of Denny Hamlin . Chevrolet maintained its lead in the Manufacturers ' Championship , six points ahead of Toyota and thirty @-@ eight ahead of Dodge , with twenty @-@ one races remaining in the season . A total of 95 @,@ 000 people attended the race , while 4 @.@ 3 million watched it on television .

= = Report = =

= = = Background = = =

Michigan International Speedway is one of six superspeedways to hold NASCAR races , the others being Daytona International Speedway , Auto Club Speedway , Indianapolis Motor Speedway , Pocono Raceway and Talladega Superspeedway . The standard track at Michigan International Speedway is a four @-@ turn superspeedway that is 2 miles (3 @.@ 2 km) long . The track 's turns are banked at eighteen degrees , while the front stretch , the location of the finish line , is banked at twelve degrees . The back stretch , has a five degree banking . Michigan International Speedway can seat up to 119 @,@ 500 people .

Before the race , Kevin Harvick led the Drivers ' Championship with 2 @,@ 063 points , and Kyle Busch stood in second with 2 @,@ 044 points . Denny Hamlin was third in the Drivers ' Championship with 1 @,@ 927 points , Matt Kenseth was fourth with 1 @,@ 893 points , and Kurt Busch was in fifth with 1 @,@ 881 points . In the Manufacturers ' Championship , Chevrolet was leading with 100 points , twelve points ahead of their rival Toyota . Dodge , with 61 points , was three points ahead of Ford in the battle for third . Mark Martin was the race 's defending champion .

= = = Practice and qualifying = = =

Three practice sessions were scheduled before the race ? one on Friday , June 11 , 2010 , and two on Saturday , June 12 , 2010 . The first practice session lasted only 70 minutes , but was scheduled to be 90 minutes . The Saturday morning and afternoon sessions each lasted sixty minutes . In the first practice session , which was held under mostly cloudy conditions , Juan Pablo Montoya was fastest , ahead of Jimmie Johnson and Kurt Busch in second and third . Greg Biffle and Jeff Gordon followed in fourth and fifth . In the morning practice session , Paul Menard was the quickest , with a time of 38 @.@ 824 seconds while Carl Edwards , Jeff Burton , Jimmie Johnson , and Jeff Gordon followed in second , third , fourth and fifth . During the third practice session , Jimmie Johnson , was the fastest , ahead of Paul Menard in second , Denny Hamlin in third , Jeff Gordon in fourth , and Kevin Harvick in fifth .

During Friday afternoon 's qualifying session , forty @-@ six cars were entered , but only the fastest forty @-@ three were able to enter the race . Kurt Busch clinched his second pole position of 2010 ,

with a time of 37 @. @ 898 seconds . He was joined on the front row of the grid by Jamie McMurray . Jimmie Johnson and Kasey Kahne shared the second row in the third and fourth position , while Jeff Burton , with a time of 38 @. @ 00 seconds , qualified fifth . The three drivers that failed to qualify were Dave Blaney , Michael Waltrip and Johnny Sauter .

= = = Race summary = = =

The race , the fifteenth out of a total of thirty @-@ six in the season , began at 1 p.m. EDT and was televised live in the United States on TNT . To begin pre @-@ race ceremonies , at 1 : 00 p.m. EDT , Fr . Geoff Rose , OSFS , from Lumen Christi High School in Jackson , Michigan , gave the invocation . Then , the Army Chorus A Capella Team performed the national anthem , and Adam Sandler and Kevin James delivered the command , " Gentlemen , start your engines ! " Three drivers had to move to the rear from making major adjustments to their race car after first practice , they were Kyle Busch , with an engine change , Clint Bowyer , who changed to a back @-@ up car , and Kevin Conway because of a transmission change .

Kurt Busch made a good start , retaining the first position ; Jamie McMurray behind him maintained the second position . At the end of the first lap , McMurray passed Busch . One lap later , Busch reclaimed the first position . By lap 3 , Kasey Kahne and Jimmie Johnson had passed McMurray to put him in the fourth position . McMurray dropped to sixth place on the sixth lap . On lap 7 , Kahne started catching the leader , and McMurray announced on the team 's radio that his car was loose . On lap 11 , Max Papis went to the garage (the place where teams repair or park their car) because of overheating problems . On lap 18 , Marcos Ambrose spun through the grass , to cause the first caution . Afterward , most drivers made pit stops for fuel and tires while Joe Nemechek decided to stay out to lead one lap . On the same lap , Todd Bodine drove his car to the garage .

On lap 22 , the green flag waved , as Tony Stewart led Kurt Busch , Jimmie Johnson , Juan Pablo Montoya , and Kasey Kahne on the restart . Stewart dropped to third after being passed by Kurt Busch and Montoya . Two laps later , Joe Nemechek went to garage with electrical problems . On lap 26 , Jimmie Johnson moved into the third position after passing Montoya . By lap 27 , Kurt Busch had a two @-@ second lead over Tony Stewart . Johnson , Stewart and Kahne were battling three @-@ wide for the second position on lap 30 . One lap later , Nemechek returned to the track after having electrical problems . On lap 33 , the top @-@ five positions were single file with Kurt Busch in first , Kahne in second , Johnson in third , Denny Hamlin in fourth and Stewart in fifth . A lap later , Bobby Labonte went to garage because of overheating problems . On lap 37 , Landon Cassill went to the garage with rear gear problems . Afterward , on lap 41 , J.J. Yeley drove to the garage because of overheating problems , but he returned to the track four laps later .

On the forty @-@ eighth lap , debris in turn two brought out the second caution . Robby Gordon and David Gilliland stayed out while the other teams made pit stops . Gordon and Gilliland made pit stops the next lap and gave the lead to Kurt Busch . Kurt Busch brought the field to the green flag with Hamlin in second , Montoya in third , Johnson in fourth , and Kahne in fifth on lap 51 . After Hamlin made a good restart he passed Kurt Busch on lap 52 . Afterward , on lap 54 , Landon Cassill returned to the track while J.J. Yeley returned to the garage . Kahne passed Montoya for the third position . After 67 laps , Hamlin had a 2 @. @ 4 second lead over Kurt Busch in the second position . On lap 87 , green flag pit stops began . One lap later , most drivers in the first ten positions made pit stops . Denny Hamlin , who was in the first position , came to pit road on lap 92 , but had problems leaving which gave Kurt Busch the lead .

On laps 94 ? 95 , Kurt Busch in first , and Kahne in second were battling for the lead , but Kahne did not pass Kurt Busch until one lap later . After the green flag pit stops , Kahne was first , Kurt Busch in second , Hamlin in third , Montoya in fourth and Jeff Gordon in fifth . On lap 99 , Scott Speed spun after contact with his team @-@ mate Casey Mears , and brought out the third caution . One lap later , Sam Hornish , Jr. stayed out as other teams made pit stops . On lap 101 , Casey Mears collided with David Ragan while on pit road . Mears drove to the garage the following lap . On lap 103 , Hornish , Jr. led Kurt Busch , Jeff Gordon , Hamlin and Kahne on the restart . Three laps later , Kurt Busch passed team @-@ mate Hornish , Jr. Afterward , Hornish , Jr. dropped to fourth .

On lap 113 , Hamlin passed Kurt Busch for the lead in turn three . On lap 119 , Kahne passed Kurt Busch for the second position .

On lap 126 , Hamlin had a 2 @. @ 8 second lead over Kahne . Seven laps later , Stewart passed Jeff Burton for the fifth position . By lap 134 , the green flag pit stops began . Hamlin , Kahne , and Stewart made pit stops , as Matt Kenseth became the new leader . Two laps later , Hamlin regained the lead from Kenseth . On lap 146 , Hamlin was in first , Kahne in second , Kurt Busch in third , Jeff Gordon in fourth , and Greg Biffle in fifth . Four laps later , Ryan Newman told his crew that his car was not running correctly from hitting a piece of aluminum . On lap 154 , Hamlin was leading by seven seconds over Kahne . Most teams started making pit stops for fuel only on lap 161 . On lap 177 , Kahne became the leader as Hamlin made a pit stop . Kahne made a pit stop on lap 178 to give the lead back to Hamlin ; . On lap 179 , Hamlin was leading by nine seconds . With twenty laps to go , Hamlin was first , Kahne was second , Kurt Busch was third , Jeff Gordon was fourth , and Biffle was fifth .

The fourth caution came out on lap 181 because of debris on the back straightaway . The first nine positions stayed off of pit road while the rest made pit stops . On lap 186 , Hamlin made a good start and maintained the first position . On lap 188 , Jimmie Johnson , who restarted twelfth , had moved up to the sixth position . On lap 193 , Hamlin had a growing lead over Kahne . Denny Hamlin crossed the line to win the race , a second ahead of second place Kasey Kahne . Kurt Busch maintained third while Jeff Gordon and Tony Stewart finished fourth and fifth .

= = = Post @-@ race = = =

Denny Hamlin appeared in victory lane after his victory lap to start celebrating his fifth win of the season , and his first Sprint Cup win at Michigan International Speedway , in front of a crowd of 95 @, @ 000 people . " It ? s so easy to drive cars like this , " Hamlin said . He also stated , " We never stop working , regardless of whether we ? ve got a nine @-@ 10ths @-@ of @-@ a @-@ second lead or a nine @-@ second lead . "

Kasey Kahne , who finished second , said , " I hung with him for about three laps running in his kind of dirty air . I was right there . Then he just slowly crept away . It felt good . We were close . That ? s a huge improvement . I was pretty happy . " " We had a similar [fuel] issue at the start of the Pocono race last year where we broke a fuel cable , " Hamlin said after the race . " I thought maybe that ? s what we did . When I went to take off [after his stop] , it immediately shut off . While it was " a downer , I was pretty confident we weren ? t going to have it again . Because Mike [Ford , crew chief] never really gave me an alarm we were going to be stretching it on fuel . " In the subsequent press conference , Hamlin 's crew chief said , " Towards the end of last season , where I said the best is yet to come , I strongly felt that way because towards the end of last season we closed out the season strong . I knew that was a catalyst to really turn up the team , to get a little bit more out of everyone . Denny goes down with his knee injury . He comes back , obviously not 100 percent . The team steps up . We narrow the gap to try to pick him up knowing he 's not going to be there , and we start winning races , even with a driver that is not 100 percent . Now that he 's coming back healthier each week , we 're winning more and more . I simply think that 's the catalyst for us to move forward . It 's easier when the morale is high to get a little bit more out of your guys . Our benchmark is ourselves and we 're just trying to work on that . "

The race left Kevin Harvick leading the Driver 's Championship with 2 @, @ 169 points . Kyle Busch , who finished twentieth , was second on 2 @, @ 147 , twenty @-@ five points ahead of Hamlin in second and ninety @-@ six ahead of Kurt Busch in third . Matt Kenseth was fifth with 2 @, @ 019 points . Chevrolet maintained their lead in the Manufacturers ' Championship with 103 points . Toyota placed second with 97 points , and Dodge followed with 65 points , now even with Ford . 4 @. @ 3 million people watched the race on television . The race took two hours , thirty @-@ three minutes and twenty @-@ eight seconds to complete , and the margin of victory was 1 @. @ 246 seconds .

= = Race results = =

= = Standings after the race = =

Note : Only the top five positions are included for both sets of standings .