



JR Motorsports Race Report

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Race 2 of 33: Rinnai 250 at Atlanta Motor Speedway

Track Specs: 1.54-mile quad-oval / 163 laps

Weather: Sunny, 63 degrees

Race Winner: Kyle Busch

Sadler's Finish: 5th

Saturday, March 4, 2017 - Elliott Sadler and the Hunt Brothers Pizza team persevered during the Rinnai 250 to battle back for a fifth-place finish Saturday afternoon at Atlanta Motor Speedway. After earning 37 points in the event, Sadler is now first-place in driver standings for the NASCAR Xfinity Series.

After starting 22nd at the 1.54-mile speedway due to a tire issue in qualifying, Sadler quickly began to gain track position once the green flag waved. By the first caution of the race on lap 3, the Hunt Brothers Pizza Chevrolet was up to 16th place. As the Emporia, Va., native continued to make his way through the field, he began to report his Chevrolet as "tight in the center." Driving through the tough-handling condition, the No. 1 team finished Stage One in 10th place.

Throughout Stage Two, Sadler and JR Motorsports teammate, William Byron, battled for the highest running position amongst NXS full-time drivers. The duo raced for sixth place as the end of the stage neared. The Hunt Brothers Pizza Chevrolet ultimately finished Stage Two in the 7th position.

With the right adjustments following Stage Two, Sadler was able to drive his way back into the top five. A strong restart, following the event's final caution on Lap 143, allowed Sadler to hold onto his position. When the second race of the season concluded, the No. 1 team claimed their first top-five finish.

Kyle Busch took the NXS checkered flag, followed by Brad Keselowski, Kyle Larson, Kevin Harvick and Sadler to round out the top five.

Elliott Sadler, driver No. 1 Hunt Brothers Pizza team

"It was a great effort by my Hunt Brothers Pizza team today. Everyone worked hard and our fifth-place finish shows it. They made great adjustments to improve my Chevrolet throughout the race and did a great job on pit road. I'm proud of my guys and look forward to building on our strong efforts as we look towards next weekend's race in Vegas."

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