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From: RaceTrack Insider [<mailto:jeff@safety-kleen.ccsend.com>] **On Behalf Of** RaceTrack Insider
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2010 5:50 PM
To: Judy, Buddy
Subject: RaceTrack Insider -- Harvick Back in Victory Lane; Keselowski Takes Nationwide Race



*News and Views from Drew Patey and Buddy Judy
 April 26, 2010*

Harvick Back in Victory Lane

[Kevin Harvick](#) grabbed the victory from [Jamie McMurray](#) in a close finish at the Talladega Superspeedway on Sunday. The Richard Childress [Safety-Kleen](#) driver had been winless for over 115 races and had enough horsepower and knowledge of the draft to outrun the Daytona 500 winner and fellow Safety-Kleen driver Jamie McMurray. The race on Sunday was just like the race last fall with drivers changing the lead back and forth. It seemed that all of the 43 cars led at one time during the 500 mile event. As the laps ran down, everyone knew with 30 laps to go that the action was about to start. With the checkered flag in sight, the wreck fest was on. Two incidents caused the race to be extended for 12 laps and forced three green white checkered restarts. New for this year is the green white checkered restart finish rule - 3 are permitted and when you get drivers who don't own the race cars - 3 is what you will get. Cars damaged or out of the race during the overtime periods were Jeff Gordon, Jimmie Johnson, Ryan Newman, Joey Lagano, Safety-Kleen's Jeff Burton and ten others. Harvick, however, was out in front of the wrecks and on the final restart, he made a move that was very typical of the late Dale Earnhardt as he drafted McMurray's car coming off turn four heading for the finish line. At the perfect spot, Harvick dove for the inside and managed to win by a nose. What makes this win special is not only the end of the long winless streak, but Harvick's win comes just days after his team learned that sponsor Pennzoil will move to Penske Racing next year. What a way to say thanks! So at the end of a wild finish, it was Harvick, McMurray followed by a strong Juan Montoya, then Denny Hamlin and Mark Martin rounding out the top five. Jimmie Johnson ended his day in the wall but still maintains the points lead as the Sprint Cup stars travel to Richmond next Saturday night. The Safety-Kleen crew from Birmingham, AL did a fantastic job this weekend servicing the teams and putting on a great tailgate party on Sunday. Todd and John coordinated the pit tours and entertained customers from all over the southeast on Sunday. A special shout out to Rodney Martin for coming over from Atlanta to lend a hand with the pit tours on Sunday.



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Penske's Brad Keselowski Takes Nationwide Race

Safety-Kleen's [Brad Keselowski](#), driving for Penske Racing, outran [Kevin Harvick](#) and won the Nationwide Series race at Talladega Superspeedway on Sunday afternoon. Yes, again this weekend the Nationwide race was delayed because of weather on Saturday. Keselowski was almost not able to race. The medical staff found a high level of carbon monoxide in Keselowski's system after the race and didn't release him to race until five minutes before the start. The race was a typical restrictor plate race with a ton of lead changes and the final green white checkered finish was set up by a crash with four laps to go when Steve Arpin and Colin Braun made contact taking out seven cars. Harvick, who was going for his second win of the day, had the strongest car all day and was the leader on the last lap, but Keselowski played his cards close to his vest and dashed up the middle to take the point from Harvick. Both were driving hard for the finish when McMurray's car drafting behind Harvick got loose and spun causing a big wreck which froze the field with the Penske Dodge out in front. Safety-Kleen was in victory lane for the second time in four hours. Now off to Richmond for a battle on the best track in the series next Friday night.



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Virginia Native Ryan Ellis Earns Second Win of the Weekend at VIR

Racing in his home state, [Ryan Ellis](#), a resident of Ashburn, VA started on the pole on Sunday at the VW Jetta Cup race at VIR and for the second time this weekend, he ended the afternoon clinching the victory after completing a last-lap pass on second-place finisher Juan Pablo Sierra Lendle. Jake Thompson rounded out the podium by earning a third-place result. Sierra Lendle showed promise to be a contender for the 2010 Series Championship as he turned in a pair of second place performances this weekend. Not only did Sierra Lendle finish second in both events, he qualified second as well.



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After two rounds of the Jetta TDI Cup, the Championship standings have the winner of both events at VIR: Ryan Ellis in the lead with 60 points. Juan Pablo Sierra Lendle (48), AJ Nealey (37), Taylor Broekemeier (29) and Jarvis Gennari (29) round out the top five. The Volkswagen Jetta TDI Cup series returns to action May 8-9 at New Jersey Motorsports Park in Millville, NJ.



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Another Virginia native was in the race - Jenna Wagner - who is a senior at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA and weekly racer for several years at Lonesome Pine Raceway near her family's home in Bristol, VA. Jenna finished her first road course race with her car intact and ahead of 5 competitors. She bettered that mark in Sunday's race finishing 21st out of the 27 entrants. Jenna is special to [Safety-Kleen](#) not only because she has carried our brand on her late model Chevy at Lonesome Pine as well as on her Jetta, but because her brother and uncle help Safety-Kleen "Make Green Work" daily for our Piney Flats, TN branch. Brother Jack Wagner has been the Lead Material Handler for five years and Uncle Stephen Wright has been around since the early 90's and currently is an Industrial Sales Specialist for the Tennessee Valley. Having strong ties to Safety-Kleen and racing, it was a natural fit to move into the Green Racing Series. "Having only worried about turning left for years, it is a challenge just to make the field - now I have to learn when to brake and how hard and get back on the gas as well as turn right," Jenna said after her first race Saturday. Dad Jack, Sr pointed out that a huge help in making the leap from Virginia short-track to big-time road racing is "the data collection that is done by the Jetta Series tracks when you brake, accelerate, how hard you brake, every shift of gears it will make the learning curve much shorter." [Safety-Kleen](#) Motorsports thinks that Jack is correct and that the only girl in the 2010 Jetta TDi Cup will be in a Top Ten finish before the summer is over.



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Pruett Wins Again, Again and Again

[Scott Pruett](#) survived a pair of late-race restarts and a strong challenge by [Burt Frisselle](#) to win Saturday's Grand Am race at Virginia International Raceway. The victory gave the [Safety-Kleen](#) sponsored Chip Ganassi Racing with Felix Sabates BMW Riley its third consecutive GRAND-AM Rolex Sports Car Series victory in a row. Pruett, with co-driver Remo Rojas, led all but nine of the 84 laps in the event. But it got exciting when in the final laps of the race, Pruett brushed a GT car and half of his rear spoiler came off, causing the caution flag to come out. On the restart, however, a number of his challengers got together bringing out another caution. With only five laps to go, Pruett held off Brian Frisselle to win by .293 seconds. Frisselle scored his career-best finish, sharing the drive with Mark Wilkins. Max Angelelli and Ricky Taylor finished third in the Ford Dallara. Darren Law and David Donohue finished fourth in the Porsche Riley, followed by Jon Fogarty and Gurney. Ryan Dalziel teamed with Mike Forest to finish sixth in a BMW Riley. After four races, Pruett and Rojas hold 21 point lead over Dalziel in the Daytona Prototype standings. Safety-Kleen's Andy Lally, making his 100th career start, had contact with Bill Auberln with two laps remaining but held on to win in GT, driving TRG's Porsche GT3 started by Ted Ballou. Lally then held off Jeff Segal by .712 seconds, ending the two-race winning streak of Segal and Emil Assentato in the SpeedSource Mazda RX-8. The next Rolex Series race will be on Monday, May 31, at Lime Rock Park. Thanks to the Vinton, VA branch, especially Steve Keller and his fellow crew members for a great job at the track all week.



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Dungey Champion - Windham Wins Seattle

[Ryan Dungey](#) is the 2010 Supercross Series Champion but the race in Seattle belonged to the veteran [Kevin Windham](#) as he dominated the race on Saturday night. Windham led all 20 laps of the main event and won by over 20 seconds showing the crowd that old guys can still win in this league. Second place went to Thomas Hahn and third was Justin Brayton, while the newly crowned champ Ryan Dungey was fourth.



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