



# TONY STEWART

## Office Depot / Old Spice Racing Team Report

### Round 5 of 36 – Food City 500 – Bristol

**Car No.:** 14 – Office Depot/Old Spice Chevrolet Impala SS for Stewart-Haas Racing

**Teammate:** Ryan Newman, driver No. 39 U.S. Army Chevrolet Impala SS for Stewart-Haas Racing

**At Track PR Contact:** Mike Arning with True Speed Communication (704-875-3388 or [Mike.Arning@TrueSpeedCommunication.com](mailto:Mike.Arning@TrueSpeedCommunication.com))

**Primary Team Members:**

Driver: Tony Stewart  
Hometown: Columbus, Ind.

Car Chief: Jeff Meendering  
Hometown: Concord, N.C.

Engine Specialist: Randy Hefner  
Hometown: Denver, N.C.

Crew Chief: Darian Grubb  
Hometown: Floyd, Va.  
Engine Builder: Hendrick Motorsports  
Headquarters: Concord, N.C.  
Spotter: Bob Jeffrey  
Hometown: Bristol, Tenn.

**Over-The-Wall Crew Members:**

Gas Man: Jeff “Gooch” Patterson  
Hometown: Escondido, Calif.

Catch Can: Scott Radel (pronounced “Ray-del”)  
Hometown: Massillon, Ohio

Windshield: Troy Welty  
Hometown: Manchester, Pa.

Jackman: Mike Casto  
Hometown: Proctor, W.Va.

Front Tire Changer: Kelly Kellis  
Hometown: Concord, N.C.  
Front Tire Carrier: Todd Drakulich  
Hometown: Tucson, Ariz.  
Rear Tire Changer: Daniel Smith  
Hometown: Concord, N.C.  
Rear Tire Carrier: Mike “Shrek” Morneau  
Hometown: Oxford, Maine

**Other Crew Members:**

Truck Drivers: Jerry Honeycutt and Tim Harrison  
Hometown: Mooresville, N.C., and Richfield, N.C., respectively

Shock Specialist: Adam Gravitt  
Hometown: South Boston, Va.

Mechanics: Brian Taylor and Darrell Haskins  
Hometowns: Cuthbert, Ga., and Danville, Va., respectively

Tire Specialist: Aaron Keuhn (pronounced “Q-un”)  
Hometown: New Britain, Conn.  
Engineer: Jonathan Toney  
Hometown: Newton, N.C.  
Gas Runner/Pit Support: Jerry Honeycutt  
Hometown: Mooresville, N.C.

**Chassis No. 14-511:**

This car is a carryover chassis from the former Haas CNC team, with a new nose and bumper installed prior to the 2009 season. Chassis No. 14-511 made its debut at Indianapolis Motor Speedway in July 2008 with Jason Leffler at the wheel. There, it qualified 21<sup>st</sup> and finished on the lead lap in 32<sup>nd</sup>. Its next start came at Atlanta Motor Speedway in October 2008 where Tony Raines wheeled it to a 32<sup>nd</sup>-place finish after starting 43<sup>rd</sup>. Qualifying was rained-out at Atlanta, and Raines earned a spot in the field by the number of qualifying attempts made by Haas CNC’s No. 70 car during the course of the 2008 season. Raines piloted Chassis No. 14-511 in the season finale at Homestead-Miami Speedway, where it qualified 32<sup>nd</sup> and finished 37<sup>th</sup>.

Year	Driver	Event	Start	Finish	Status/Laps	Laps Led	Earnings
2008	Jason Leffler	Indianapolis	21	32	Running, 160/160	0	\$140,700
	Tony Raines	†Atlanta (Fall)	43	32	Running, 322/325	0	\$82,400
	Tony Raines	Homestead	32	37	Running, 264/267	0	\$63,200

† Qualifying canceled due to weather, starting position set via car owner points.

**Tony Stewart's NASCAR Sprint Cup Series History at Bristol (Tenn.) Motor Speedway:**

Year	Event	Start	Finish	Status/Laps	Laps Led	Earnings
2008	×Food City 500	6	14	Running, 506/506	267	\$139,911
	Sharpie 500	28	8	Running, 500/500	0	\$152,261
2007	×Food City 500	4	35	Running, 479/504	257	\$133,911
	Sharpie 500	23	4	Running, 500/500	0	\$178,386
2006	†Food City 500	1	12	Running, 500/500	245	\$168,886
	Sharpie 500	5	22	Running, 498/500	0	\$140,761
2005	Food City 500	11	3	Running, 500/500	0	\$151,986
	Sharpie 500	17	8	Running, 500/500	0	\$146,086
2004	Food City 500	12	24	Running, 498/500	25	\$115,518
	Sharpie 500	6	19	Running, 497/500	0	\$121,528
2003	Food City 500	10	26	Accident, 487/500	0	\$111,518
	Sharpie 500	18	23	Running, 494/500	0	\$119,138
2002	■ Food City 500	13	15	Running, 500/500	74	\$103,043
	Sharpie 500	26	24	Running, 497/500	0	\$103,788
2001	Food City 500	37	25	Running, 500/500	0	\$64,820
	<b>Sharpie 500</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Running, 500/500</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>\$189,415</b>
2000	Food City 500	19	42	Overheating, 73/500	0	\$45,525
	goracing.com 500	6	2	Running, 500/500	133	\$92,540
1999	Food City 500	4	15	Running, 498/500	55	\$48,505
	Goody's Headache Powder 500	1	5	Running, 500/500	225	\$64,915

× Race length extended due to green-white-checker finish.

† Qualifying canceled due to weather, starting position set via car owner points.

■ Race was finished by Todd Bodine, who took over for Stewart in a relief role on lap 367.

**Notes of Interest:**

- The Food City 500 will mark Stewart's 361<sup>st</sup> career NASCAR Sprint Cup Series start and his 21<sup>st</sup> career Sprint Cup start at Bristol (Tenn.) Motor Speedway.
- Stewart is currently sixth in the Sprint Cup point standings with 521 points, 113 markers behind series leader Jeff Gordon. **Stewart picked up two positions as a result of his eighth-place finish March 8 at Atlanta Motor Speedway.** At this point last year Stewart was eighth in the standings with 525 points, 140 markers behind series leader Kyle Busch. Stewart has scored four fewer points this year than he did last year heading into the fifth race of the season.
- Stewart has a career total of 33 wins, 10 poles, 129 top-fives, 210 top-10s and 10,254 laps led in 360 career Sprint Cup races. **His most recent Sprint Cup win came 10 races ago at Talladega (Ala.) Superspeedway, where he broke a 43-race winless streak dating back to Watkins Glen (N.Y.) International in 2007.** Stewart's last pole came 117 races ago at Martinsville (Va.) Speedway in October 2005.
- Stewart has led a total of 1,352 laps out of a possible 10,010 laps at Bristol. **Stewart has paced the field at Bristol 13.5 percent of the time since his first start at the 1999 spring race.**
- **Stewart earned his 12<sup>th</sup> career Sprint Cup win in the 2001 Bristol night race.**
- Stewart scored his **second career Sprint Cup pole at Bristol** during his rookie year in August 1999. In doing so, **Stewart broke a string of five Bristol poles won by the Wallace family.** Kenny Wallace won the pole for the 1997 spring race, while older brother Rusty won the other four.
- **Feast or Famine** – After enduring six straight finishes of 15<sup>th</sup> or worse since winning the 2001 Bristol night race, Stewart finished third in the 2005 spring race and eighth in the 2005 night race. In his next three races at Bristol, Stewart couldn't crack the top-10, finishing 12<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> in the 2006 spring and fall races, respectively, and 35<sup>th</sup> in the 2007 spring race. He finally broke through with a solid fourth-place finish in the 2007 night race. Stewart has a **total of five top-fives and seven top-10s in 20 career Sprint Cup races at Bristol.**
- In addition to his win at the 2001 Bristol night race, Stewart finished second in the 2000 night race, fifth in the 1999 night race and eighth in the 2005 night race. **In those four races he led a total of 429 laps, or 21.5 percent of the 2,000 laps available.**
- Stewart led 74 laps in the 2002 spring race at Bristol before pain from injuries sustained in an accident the week earlier at Darlington (S.C.) Raceway prompted Stewart to hand over the driving duties to Todd Bodine on lap 367. Bodine finished 15<sup>th</sup> in the relief role.

Notes of Interest, continued:

- **Domination Derailed, Part I:** Stewart led eight times for a race-high 245 laps in the 2006 Food City 500 and appeared ready to log his second career win at the .533-mile oval. But with 25 laps to go the handling went away, dropping Stewart to 12<sup>th</sup> when the checkered flag waved.

“I am really disappointed,” said Stewart after the race. “We had an awesome car all day. **I felt like I ran the most patient race I have ever run at Bristol.** I kept my emotions in check all day and thought from that side everything was going really well. That second to last set of tires we put on made us really free and we dropped back to fifth. Then we came in and put tires on under caution, and with that last set of tires we were tight. I couldn’t turn it through the center (of the corner) at all. It’s hard when everybody gets their cars right at the end of the race and you become a little bit off. It was hard to hold those guys back. So we just tried to race smart there and bring our car home in one piece.”

- **Domination Derailed, Part II** – For the first half and then some of the 2007 Food City 500, Stewart was performing his own rendition of the Bristol Stomp. He had led four times for a race-high 257 laps, with his nearest pursuers resigned to the fact they were running for second. But misfortune struck Stewart on lap 289 when his car’s fuel pump cable broke. With no fuel pressure, the engine shut off, forcing Stewart to come to pit road. Crew members were able to replace the cable, but the process was lengthy. Stewart returned to the 504-lap race, albeit 25 laps down. After dominating the race, Stewart was forced to simply ride around to the finish, where he posted a gut-wrenching 35<sup>th</sup>-place result.
- **Domination Derailed, Part III** – Stewart led six times for a race-high 267 laps in the 2008 Food City 500, but a late-race accident with Kevin Harvick relegated Stewart to a disappointing 14<sup>th</sup>-place finish. The unfortunate chain of events began when Brian Vickers crashed on lap 491. Stewart was leading with less than 10 laps to go, and he and his crew chief at the time, Greg Zipadelli, had to make a critical decision: pit and take four tires to ensure more grip and a faster car, as the tires had over 100 laps on them, or stay out on the racetrack and keep the lead.

Stewart and Zipadelli elected to stay out, as did second-place Denny Hamlin and third-place Dale Earnhardt Jr. When the race restarted, Hamlin got by Stewart on lap 496 while Richard Childress Racing teammates Harvick and Jeff Burton, who had pitted for new tires, were fast approaching. As Harvick and Stewart battled for second, Harvick’s Chevrolet slid up into Stewart’s machine on lap 499 as they raced into turn one. Contact was made and Stewart spun backward into the SAFER Barrier on the outside retaining wall. The rear of his car was badly damaged, but after some quick service on pit road, Stewart was able to stay on the lead lap and remain in the race to finish 14<sup>th</sup>.

- **“You Must Be a Local”** – Spotter Bob Jeffrey is originally from Bristol, Tenn. Jeffrey joined Stewart-Haas Racing on Jan. 1, 2009 after spending the last three seasons as spotter for Matt Kenseth at Roush Fenway Racing. Prior to his time with Kenseth, Jeffrey spent more than 10 years as spotter for Dale Jarrett at Robert Yates Racing and was on the spotter’s stand for Jarrett’s 1999 Sprint Cup championship, two Brickyard 400 wins (1996 and 1999) and two of his Daytona 500 wins (1996 and 2000). Jeffrey has also spotted in NASCAR Nationwide Series events for Bobby Labonte, David Green and the late Dale Earnhardt.

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