

27

PREVIEW

PAUL MENARD CERTAINTEED/MENARDS CHEVROLET

CHARLOTTE MOTOR SPEEDWAY

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This week's CertainTeed/Menards Chevrolet at Charlotte Motor Speedway ... Paul Menard will pilot Chassis No. 326 from the Richard Childress Racing NASCAR Sprint Cup Series stable. This No. 27 Chevrolet Impala was a brand new addition to the RCR fleet for the 2011 season and was last seen on track at Chicagoland Speedway, where Menard tied his season-best starting position of second and drove it to a 20th-place finish. This racer also saw competition at Michigan International Speedway (August) where he started 11th and finished 26th, at Bristol Motor Speedway (March) where he started fourth and finished fifth, The Sprint Showdown (May) where he started third and finished 11th, and again at MIS (June), where Menard started ninth and finished fourth.

By the Numbers at Charlotte ... In his nine previous starts at CMS, Menard completed 94.2 percent of his laps (2,985 of 3,168). He has an average starting position of 24.6 and an average finishing position of 24.4. Last fall, (October 2010), Menard made his best start of fifth and finished 24th. He scored his best finish of eighth in last year's May affair at the 1.5-mile speedway.

Charlotte in May ... The Eau Claire, Wis., native started his No. 27 Chevrolet from the 16th position in May's Coca-Cola 600 at Charlotte Motor Speedway, but an ill-timed spin and costly damage placed him 19 laps behind the leader and taking the checkered flag in the 29th position.

A Loopy Year in Review ... After 30 races, Menard has an average starting position of 12th, ranking him seventh among of all drivers and fifth among those competing full time. He maintains an average running position of 16.7, has made 3,198 green-flag passes (ranked sixth of all drivers), has spent 3,999 laps racing in the top 15 (ranked 17th of all drivers), is ranked fourth in the Loop Data category of Quality Passes (1639 green-flag passes while running in the Top 15). He has also completed 95.7 percent of his contest laps this season (8,341 of 8,715).

2011 Season Statistics:

Starts: 30 Win: 1 Top-five finishes: 4 Top-10 finishes: 7 Laps led: 81
Best start: 2nd (Pocono, June and Chicagoland) Best finish: 1st (Indianapolis)

About CertainTeed ... CertainTeed Corporation is a leading North American manufacturer of building materials including roofing, vinyl and fiber cement siding, trim, fence, railing, decking, foundations, insulation, gypsum, ceilings and pipe products. Headquartered in Valley Forge, Pa., CertainTeed has approximately 7,000 employees and 70 facilities throughout the United States and Canada. For more information, please visit www.certainteed.com.

Race Rewind ... Menard started the No. 27 Schrock/Menards Chevrolet from the sixth position in the Hollywood Casino 400 at Kansas Speedway last Sunday, and despite battling a loose-handling condition for the majority of the 272-lap event was able to finished 12th.

Double Duty Weekend ... In addition to his driving duties with RCR's No. 27 team, Menard will drive Kevin Harvick Incorporated's No. 33 Rheem/Menards Chevrolet in Saturday's 300-mile NASCAR Nationwide Series race at Charlotte. The race will air live on ESPN2 beginning at 7:30 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time and will be broadcast live on PRN Radio and Sirius Satellite Radio.

"We've had really strong cars at Charlotte. We had a really good car there in the spring. It's becoming a very racy track. They repaved it enough years ago that now it has several grooves and that makes it a lot of fun."

— Paul Menard

