

27

RACE REPORT

PAUL MENARD

CERTAINTEED/MENARDS CHEVROLET

POCONO RACEWAY

AUGUST 7, 2011

Menard Claims 10th-Place Finish at Pocono

Paul Menard and the No. 27 CertainTeed/Menards Chevrolet team followed up their historic Brickyard 400 victory with a top-10 result in the Good Sam RV Insurance 500 at Pocono Raceway. Despite threatening skies and storms in the Long Pond, Pa. area, the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series was able to start their 200-lap event as scheduled with Menard in the seventh position as the 43-car field took the green flag. The bright yellow and black machine maintained its position in and around the top 10 for the majority of the day as Menard spent 176 of the 200 laps running in the top 15. With each pit stop throughout the day, crew chief Slugger Labbe made calls for minor adjustments on the No. 27 CertainTeed/Menards Chevrolet to assist Menard with the handling through the three distinct turns at 'The Tricky Triangle.' Though rain finally made its way into the area just after 3:30 p.m., causing a red-flag condition on lap 122 for close to two hours, NASCAR worked feverously to dry the track in hopes to run the race to its scheduled 200-lap distance. The effort paid off as the teams returned to green-flag conditions around 5:20 p.m. A quick ensuing pit stop by the Menards crew brought the No. 27 Impala to life. After restarting the event on lap 131 in the 11th position, the Eau Claire, Wis., native picked off positions and climbed into the sixth position just two laps later. As the laps ticked away at the 2.5-mile track, a tight-handling condition developed on the CertainTeed/Menards Chevrolet. Labbe and crew provided additional adjustments during the final pit stops of the day and Menard was able to claim his seventh top-10 finish of the 2011 season while maintaining the 14th position in the NSCS point standings.

Start – 7

Finish – 10

Laps Led – 0

Points – 14

PAUL MENARD QUOTES:

'It was a good follow-up to last week's win. We fought hard for this top-10 finish. The (No.) 27 pit crew gained us some spots on the stop coming off the red flag that really helped out a bunch. The race for the final Chase spots is shaping up to be really competitive and we're fighting hard to put ourselves in position to take one of those spots.'

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