



**RACE REPORT:
No. 98 RICHMOND / MENARDS FORD FUSION**

COPART 300
Two-Mile Auto Club Speedway
Fontana, Calif.
Saturday, October 10, 2009

RACE SUMMARY

Paul Menard

Started: 22nd

Finished: 11th

Top Three

1. Joey Logano, Toyota
2. Brian Vickers, Toyota
3. Carl Edwards, Ford

Complete Race Results:

<http://www.yatesracing.com/index.php?q=/articles/recaps98>

POINTS SUMMARY

Paul Menard

Race Total: 130 points

Season Total: 1,710 points, Ranked 36th

SEASON SUMMARY

Paul Menard

Starts	Wins	Top Fives	Top 10s	Poles
14	0	1	4	0

No. 98 RICHMOND / MENARDS FORD FUSION RECAP:

MENARD EARNS 11th TOP-15 FINISH OF 2009 SEASON WITH AN 11th-PLACE FINISH AT AUTO CLUB SPEEDWAY

FONTANA, Calif. (October 10, 2009) – After starting Saturday’s Copart 300 from the 22nd position, Yates Racing driver Paul Menard and his No. 98 Richmond / Menards crew carefully worked their way up the leaderboard to finish the race 11th. The race marked Menard’s 11th top-15 finish in the Nationwide Series this season.

On Friday afternoon, the No. 98 Richmond / Menards crew unloaded their Ford Fusion off the truck and immediately were pleased with the speed and handling in their race car. After a long practice on Friday, the team came back early on Saturday morning for qualifying, where Menard posted the 22nd fastest lap of the session.

Before a crowd of 30,000 fans, Menard took the green flag and quickly found his preferred line around the two-mile speedway. During the first run, Menard noted the car was pretty good, but was a little free at the beginning of the race. During the first pit stop, crew chief Matt Puccia called for an air pressure adjustment as well as four tires and fuel.

As the race continued, Menard noted the car was too tight in the center of the corner. The No. 98 Richmond / Menard crew continued to make adjustments to Menard’s Ford Fusion improving the handling over the long run.

In a wreck filled finish to the Copart 300, Menard avoided the accidents and maneuvered his way to an 11th-place finish.

Joey Logano took the checkered flag, followed by Brian Vickers and Carl Edwards rounding out the top three.

“We had a pretty good No. 98 Richmond / Menards Ford Fusion this afternoon,” said Menard following the race. “Matt (Puccia) and the whole crew did a good job of adjusting on the car throughout the race. We’ve had some great runs in the No. 98 car this season and hopefully can pick up some solid finishes in our last two races of the season.”

Menard will race next in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race at Auto Club Speedway on Sunday again in the Nationwide Series race at Phoenix International Raceway in Avondale, Ariz. on Nov. 13th, 2009.

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