

# 27

# RACE REPORT

## PAUL MENARD SCHROCK/MENARDS CHEVROLET

KANSAS SPEEDWAY

OCTOBER 9, 2011

### Paul Menard and the No. 27 Schrock/Menards Team Finish 12<sup>th</sup> at Kansas Speedway

Paul Menard started Richard Childress Racing's No. 27 Schrock/Menards Chevrolet from the sixth position in the Hollywood Casino 400, and finished 12<sup>th</sup> despite battling a loose-handling condition for the majority of the 272-lap event. Menard raced in the top 10 for the first 75 laps at the Kansas City, Kan.-based facility. Following a two-tire pit stop during the lap-83 caution period, the Eau Claire, Wis., native reported that the handling on the car had shifted to become extremely loose. He fell back to the 14<sup>th</sup> position before coming to pit road on lap 126 under green-flag conditions. Crew chief Slugger Labbe called for four new Goodyear tires and Sunoco E15 fuel, instructing the No. 27 pit crew to pull a spring rubber out of the right-rear spring. On the ensuing run, Menard reported the handling was better in the center and exit, but was still a little loose driving into the turns. During the second half of the 400 miler, the No. 27 Chevrolet maintained track position between 13<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> while Labbe called for a variety of chassis and air pressure adjustments and the driver searched for a line to counteract a slight tight-center and loose-exit condition. With two laps remaining, the caution flag was displayed for oil on the racing surface, setting the stage for a green-white-checkered finish. Menard brought the bright yellow Chevrolet Impala to pit road for four fresh tires, a splash of fuel and a windshield tear-off removed before restarting 14<sup>th</sup> for the two-lap dash to the checkers. Menard powered forward into the top 10, but was relegated to a 12<sup>th</sup>-place finish after the car in front of him checked up coming out of turn four on the final lap.

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Start – 6

Finish – 12

Laps Led – 0

Points – 21

#### PAUL MENARD QUOTES:

"Slugger (Labbe, crew chief) and the guys did a good job today. The pit crew had a solid afternoon. Unfortunately, we fell out of the top 10 when the car's handling got really loose on a run and just couldn't quite get back there."

