Sports

Photo of the Day | Men's Hockey



UConn men's ice hockey faces No. 12 Colorado College on Friday, Oct. 16, 2026, at the Toscano Family Ice Forum. The Huskies upset the Tigers 3-2 in overtime for their second win of the season.
PHOTO BY PARKER MEYERS, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER/THE DAILY CAMPUS

NASCAR:
TYLER REDDICK TAKES PHOENIX FOR FIRST FIRST RACE IN 26 WEEKS

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Tyler Reddick won the Freeway Insurance 500 at Phoenix Raceway for his first race win since April 19, 2026.

"For us, this group never lost the motivation, never lost the drive, to keep searching and keep trying to find ways to make ourselves better and just be an all-around better team," Reddick said to USA Sports about working through the issues late in the season. "Just something about today, it didn't really start right, but just something about today, I had a really good feeling. Practice was amazing and yeah, we are back to victory lane."

This was Reddick's sixth win of the season as he is now only 56 points off Kyle Larson in first.

Ryan Blaney, who started on pole, finished second while Chase Elliott, Christopher Bell and Corey Heim rounded out the top five.

Meanwhile, Joey Logano, who led 84 laps, finished sixth while Daniel Suarez, Chase Briscoe, Ross Chastain and Ty Gibbs finished seventh through 10th.

While eight Chase drivers finished inside the top 10, the other eight didn't. Carson Hocevar was close to a top 10 in 12th but fell just short. Bubba Wallace, Ryan Preece and Austin Cindric finished back-to-back-to-back in 17th, 18th and 19th respectively. William Byron and Chris Buescher finished in 21st and 22nd while Denny Hamlin finished in 28th.

Kyle Larson didn't finish the race.

Stage one was by Logano and was followed by Hamlin, Bell, Blaney, Briscoe, Byron, Elliott, Chastain, Reddick and Josh Berry to round out the top 10.

Stage two was again won by Logano while Briscoe, Bell, Berry, Wallace, Blaney, Reddick, Hamlin, Todd Gilliland and Elliott rounded out the top 10.

A major moment for the championship happened with 30 laps to go when Larson blew his right front tire and hit the wall hard. That would bring out the caution and end a rather disappointing day for him.

Larson didn't score any stage points at Phoenix, finishing 22nd in stage one and 27th in stage two, leaving him with only three points on the day.

That now puts him just five points ahead of Bell, 24 points ahead of Briscoe, 31 points ahead of Hamlin, 40 points ahead of Blaney, 44 points ahead of Logano and 56 points ahead of Reddick in the standings.

Larson's wreck also led to one of the biggest turning points of the day when the field came to pit during a caution. Wallace was leading the race and had clear control before his team took four tires which dropped him from first to sixth off pit road and ninth overall since Briscoe, Elliott and Gibbs stayed out.

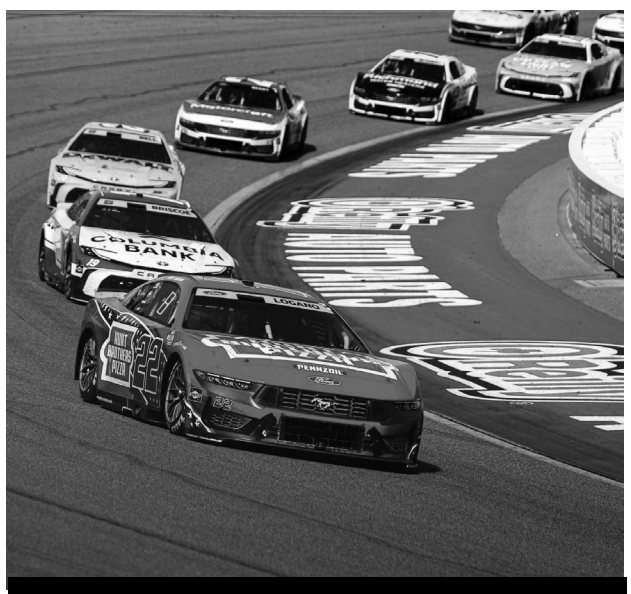
That wasn't the issue, though. With four tires, starting in ninth, and with the pace he showed all race, Wallace could have easily made up the ground on the cars that stayed out or took two tires during the pit stops. But he received a speeding penalty which dropped him to the back of the field and during a day that looked so good for him, Wallace would finish in 17th.

That opened the door for his 23XI Racing teammate Reddick who started on the second row, and he made quick work of Briscoe, Elliott and Gibbs as he took the lead with 18 laps to go and never looked back.

The Cup Series will return to action on Sunday, Oct. 25 at 2 p.m. EST from Talladega Superspeedway for the 34th race of the season and the eighth race of The Chase. The race will be broadcast on NBC.



Tyler Reddick celebrating his first place win at the Freeway Insurance 500 at Phoenix Raceway. This was his first race win since April, 2026.
PHOTO COURTESY OF TYLER REDDICKN ON FACEBOOK



NASCAR drivers took the raceway on Oct. 18, 2026. Tyler Reddick took home first place.
PHOTO COURTESY OF NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTION ON FACEBOOK

TAKEAWAYS FROM THE USWNT'S TEST AGAINST SPAIN



Two USA Women's Soccer players hug after a game against Spain on Oct. 13. The teams tied 2-2 after the U.S. lost their previous matchup
PHOTO COURTESY OFNATIONAL WOMEN'S SOCCER LEAGUE ON FACEBOOK

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The United States women's national team had a mixed but revealing test against Spain in a two-match friendly series. After a 2-0 defeat in the opening match, the U.S. responded with a 2-2 draw after conceding twice early.

The series offered reason for optimism and exposed areas of concern ahead of the Concacaf W Championship. With qualification for the 2027 FIFA Women's World Cup on the line, the U.S. must address mistakes quickly. Because of the NWSL postseason schedule, the USWNT is without a traditional training camp before the tournament, leaving the team with limited time to prepare.

With an important qualifier approaching, the friendlies provided a glimpse of what the USWNT can do — and what they need to improve as the stakes rise.

Slow starts are a problem for the US

The U.S. struggled to settle into both matches, allowing Spain to take control early. In the opener, it took just three minutes for Spanish midfielder Patricia Guijarro to fire a long-range shot past goalkeeper Claudia Dickey. Then, 10 minutes later, forward Eva Navarro doubled the lead, scoring off a cross from midfielder Salma Paralluelo. In the second match, the U.S. made a similar start, chasing from behind after giving up two goals in the first 32 minutes.

In the tournament, the USWNT must establish urgency and focus from the kickoff, especially against opponents that are capable of quickly punishing mistakes. Stronger starts will help the U.S. dictate the pace rather than play from a disadvantage.

Defensive mistakes leave room for concern

The U.S. backline struggled to contain Spanish players, who capitalized on defensive lapses and poor decision-making. Playing without veterans Naomi Girma and Emily Sonnett, the U.S. lacked defensive organization and supporting coverage.

Turnovers, including defensive breakdowns and poor clearances, also contributed to Spain's early advantages. Ahead of the W Championship, the U.S. defenders must turn their focus to communication, positioning and ball security. With Sonnett out for the tournament and Girma's status uncertain, the backline will need to step up.

The US must convert its chances

The American players showed that they could create opportunities against Spain, but their attacking pressure did not translate to goals. Despite recording 10 shots on target in the first match, the U.S. finished scoreless. Goalkeeper Adriana Nanclares made key saves, but the U.S. offense must improve their finishing.

In that match, forward Sophia Wilson created promising chances. In the 53rd minute, she found the back of the net, but the goal was ruled offside. The U.S. earned another opportunity when Wilson drew a penalty kick. Midfielder Lily Yohannes stepped up to take it but sent it directly to Nanclares for an easy save.

In upcoming knockout matches, outshooting opponents won't matter. Failure to convert chances will leave the U.S. vulnerable.

The comeback highlighted the USWNT's attacking potential

Despite another slow start, the second match showcased the USWNT's ability to respond. Unwilling to let the deficit determine the outcome, the team answered with a stronger second half. In the 49th minute, midfielder Ashley Sanchez scored the first American goal of the series off an isolation play.

Head coach Emma Hayes made important substitutions that increased the team's intensity. In the 61st minute, forwards Mallory Swanson and Michelle Cooper entered the match, adding energy to the U.S. attack. Cooper assisted Swanson's game-tying finish in the 86th.

The second half showed the USWNT's capabilities when they play with urgency and execution. This should reassure American players, who proved that they could contend when everyone comes ready to play.

Lessons from the friendlies will help the USWNT tie up loose ends

Regardless of the results, these friendlies provided the USWNT with a valuable opportunity before the qualifying tournament. Spain already qualified for the 2027 World Cup, but the U.S. still has to secure their spot. By competing against the reigning world champions, the American squad left with a wake-up call.

Just five weeks away from the W Championship, the tournament will be the ultimate test of the USWNT's ability to correct mistakes promptly. Addressing weak spots and upholding team strengths will be critical as the U.S. advances to the next step in their pursuit of a fifth World Cup title.