



# Smithfield



## ARIC ALMIROLA

### Smithfield Racing Team Report

#### Round 2 of 36 – Las Vegas 400 – Las Vegas

**Car No.:** 10 – Smithfield Ford Mustang

**At-Track PR Contact:** Dakota Hunter, True Speed Communication (704-875-3388 ext. 813, Dakota.Hunter@TrueSpeedCommunication.com)

#### **Primary Team Members:**

Driver: Aric Almirola  
Hometown: Tampa, Florida  
Car Chief: Jerry Cook  
Hometown: Toledo, Ohio  
Engine Tuner: Matt Moeller  
Hometown: Monroe, New York

Crew Chief: Mike Bugarewicz  
Hometown: Lehighton, Pennsylvania  
Engine Builder: Roush Yates Racing  
Headquarters: Mooresville, North Carolina  
Spotter: Joel Edmonds  
Hometown: Dobson, North Carolina

#### **Over-The-Wall Crew Members:**

Gas Man: James “Ace” Keener  
Hometown: Fortuna, California  
Tire Carrier: Tyler Bullard  
Hometown: King, North Carolina  
Jackman: Corbin Martin  
Hometown: Winston Salem, North Carolina

Front Tire Changer: Clay Robinson  
Hometown: Simi Valley, Calif.  
Rear Tire Changer: Chris McMullen  
Hometown: Canton, Michigan

#### **Road Crew Members:**

Truck Drivers: Dale Lackey and Christopher Hamilton  
Hometowns: Taylorsville, North Carolina and Muncie, Indiana, respectively  
Engineers: Lee Deese and James Kimbrough  
Hometowns: Rockingham, North Carolina, and Pensacola, Florida, respectively  
Mechanics: Tony Silvestri and Robbie Fairweather  
Hometowns: Sylvania, Ohio, and Westbrookville, New York respectively

Tire Specialist: Russell Simpson  
Hometown: Medford, New York  
Shock Specialist: Wayne Smith  
Hometown: Melbourne, Australia

#### **Las Vegas Notes of Interest:**

- Aric Almirola will make his 13<sup>th</sup> Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series start at Las Vegas Motor Speedway Sunday to bring his total **Cup Series career starts to 318**.
- He has a best finish of sixth at the 1.5-mile oval located along North Las Vegas Boulevard.
  - The Tampa, Florida, native has a best starting position of fourth in the Cup Series at the mile-and-a-half track.
  - Almirola earned three consecutive top-10 finishes at Las Vegas in his first three starts there with SHR.
- Almirola also has starts in NASCAR’s Xfinity Series and Gander RV & Outdoors Truck Series competition at Las Vegas.
  - In the Xfinity Series, the Smithfield driver has made four starts, all resulting in top-17 finishes.
  - Almirola has made three starts in the Truck Series, all top-10 finishes.
- **Career:** Almirola has career totals of two wins, two poles, 18 top-five finishes, 61 top-10s and 543 laps led in 317 starts.
- **Last weekend at Daytona,** Almirola led six laps and earned eight bonus points in Stage 1 of the Daytona 500. He was caught in “The Big One” on lap 183 while running third. He finished 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- **Last win:** Almirola’s Oct. 14, 2018 win at Talladega was his most recent in the Cup Series.
- **‘Beyond the 10’** – Almirola is back with season two of his YouTube documentary series, where fans can get VIP, behind-the-scenes access by subscribing to his YouTube channel. Episodes showcase never-before-seen footage of Almirola at the racetrack, on family trips, and “A Day in the Life” during the week, as well as all that goes into a NASCAR Cup Series driver’s season. Click [here](#) to subscribe on YouTube and watch the latest episode.

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- **Smithfield** rejoined SHR this season and is the primary partner for the majority of the season on the No. 10 Ford Mustang piloted by Almirola. Headquartered since 1936 in Smithfield, Va., Smithfield Foods Inc., is an American food company with agricultural roots and a global reach. Its 40,000 U.S. employees are dedicated to producing “Good food. Responsibly®” and have made the company one of the world’s leading vertically integrated protein companies. It has pioneered sustainability standards for more than two decades, including many industry firsts, such as its ambitious commitment to cut carbon impact by 25 percent by 2025. The company believes in the power of protein to end food insecurity and has donated hundreds of millions of food servings to neighbors in need. Smithfield boasts a portfolio of high-quality iconic brands, such as Smithfield®, Eckrich®, and Nathan’s Famous®, among many others. For more information, visit [www.smithfieldfoods.com](http://www.smithfieldfoods.com), and connect on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Instagram](#).
- **Crew chief** Mike Bugarewicz is in his fifth full-time season at SHR and his first with Almirola. To learn more click [here](#).

#### Crew Chief Mike Bugarewicz’s Top-3 Finishes at SHR (2016-Present):

- **Wins:**
  - Martinsville (Va.) Speedway (Bowyer, March 27, 2018)
  - Michigan Intl. Speedway (Bowyer, June 10, 2018)
  - Sonoma (Calif.) Speedway (Stewart, June 26, 2016)
- **Second place:**
  - Texas Motor Speedway in Fort Worth (March 31, 2019)
  - Talladega (Ala.) Superspeedway (Oct. 14, 2018)
  - Dover (Del) International Speedway (May 6, 2018)
  - Bristol (Tenn.) Motor Speedway (April 24, 2017)
  - Sonoma (Calif.) Raceway (June 25, 2017)
  - Daytona (Fla.) International Speedway (July 1, 2017)
- **Third place**
  - Richmond (Va.) Raceway (April 13, 2019)
  - Charlotte (N.C.) Motor Speedway Roval (Sept. 30, 2018)
  - Sonoma (Calif.) Raceway (June 24, 2018)
  - Atlanta Motor Speedway (Feb. 25, 2018)
  - Martinsville (Va.) Speedway (Oct. 29, 2017)
  - Auto Club Speedway in Fontana, Calif. (March 26, 2017)

#### Aric Almirola’s History at Las Vegas Motor Speedway:

Year	Date	Event	Start	Finish	Status/Laps	Laps Led	Earnings
2019	9/15	South Point 400	4	13	Running, 267/267	3	N/A
	3/3	Las Vegas 400	25	7	Running, 267/267	0	N/A
2018	3/4	Las Vegas 400	29	10	Running, 267/267	0	N/A
	9/16	South Point 400	16	6	Running, 267/267	0	N/A
2017	3/12	Kobalt 400	30	14	Running, 267/267	0	N/A
2016	3/6	Kobalt 400	7	24	Running, 266/267	0	N/A
2015	3/8	Kobalt 400	15	26	Running, 264/267	0	\$134,771
2014	3/9	Kobalt 400	8	25	Running, 264/267	0	\$136,771
2013	3/10	†Kobalt Tools 400	22	16	Running, 267/267	0	\$144,166
2012	3/11	Kobalt Tools 400	27	24	Running, 266/267	0	\$130,366
2010	2/28	Shelby American	43	43	Vibration, 23/267	0	\$79,431
2009	3/1	×Shelby 427	27	39	Accident, 143/285	0	\$91,775

\* Race cut short due to weather.

× Race length extended due to green-white-checkered finish.

= Qualifying canceled due to weather, starting position set via practice speed

◇ Race length was extended due to overtime finish