

10



ARIC ALMIROLA

Eckrich Racing Team Report

Round 5 of 36 – Folds of Honor 500 – Atlanta

Car No.: 10 – Eckrich 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

Atlanta Notes of Interest:

- Almirola will make his 10th Cup Series start at Atlanta this weekend to bring his total of career **Cup Series starts to 321**.
 - The Smithfield driver is looking to capture his third consecutive top-10 finish of the season
 - Almirola has earned two top-10s Atlanta.
- In addition to his eight Cup Series starts at Atlanta, Almirola has three NASCAR Xfinity Series starts and four NASCAR Gander RV & Outdoors Truck Series starts.
 - Almirola’s Xfinity Series statistics at Atlanta feature one top-10 with 99.5 percent of all possible laps completed.
 - The Tampa, Florida native has two top-five finishes and two top-10s there in the Truck Series.
 - Atlanta is the second intermediate race of the 2020 season for Almirola and the No. 10 Smithfield Ford Mustang team.
- **Career:** Almirola has career totals of two wins, two poles, 18 top-five finishes, 63 top-10s and 543 laps led in 320 starts.
- **Last weekend at Phoenix Raceway,** Almirola finished eighth and earned eight bonus points after running as high as fifth.
- **Points:** Almirola sits eighth in the season standings with 121 points – 43 points behind leader Kevin Harvick .
- **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.
- Founded in 1894, Eckrich, owned by Smithfield Foods, will adorn the No. 10 Ford Mustang this weekend at Atlanta in college football fashion. Eckrich was founded as a local meat market in Fort Wayne, Indiana, by Peter Eckrich, an immigrant from Waldsee, Germany. Eckrich sells high quality smoked sausages, cold cuts, hot dogs, corn dogs, Vienna sausages, breakfast sausages, and bacon.
- **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 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 Atlanta Motor Speedway:

Year	Date	Event	Start	Finish	Status/Laps	Laps Led	Earnings
2019	2/24	Folds of Honor 5001	1	8	Running, 325/325	36	N/A
2018	2/25	Folds of Honor 500	11	13	Running, 325/325	0	N/A
2017	3/5	Folds of Honor 500	30	27	Running, 321/325	0	N/A
2016	2/28	◇Folds of Honor 500	27	15	Running, 328/330	0	N/A
2015	3/1	Folds of Honor 500	23	11	Running, 325/325	0	\$148,746
2014	8/31	×Oral-B USA 500	7	9	Running, 335/335	0	\$151,506
2013	9/1	AdvoCare 500	29	20	Running, 323/325	0	\$140,091
2012	9/2	×AdvoCare 500	13	32	Running, 297/327	0	\$124,291
2009	3/8	×Kobalt Tools 500	37	21	Running, 327/330	0	\$84,550

* 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