



Brad Keselowski Post-Race Notes & Quotes  
Samson Stone Ford F-150  
New Hampshire International Speedway  
Sylvania 200  
September 17, 2005  
Started 30th  
Finished 21st  
Points' Position 22nd

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## **HANDLING ISSUES KEEP KESELOWSKI FROM TOP TEN FINISH AT NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Brad Keselowski once again took on the challenge of racing at a difficult race track for the first time in his NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series career. Keselowski competed in the Sylvania 200 on Saturday afternoon at the New Hampshire International where he ran in the top ten for much of the event before handling problems would force him to settle for the 21st position at the drop of the checkered flag.

Keselowski experienced some handling issues during the two practice sessions on Friday afternoon, but a spring change on Saturday morning prior to qualifying was expected to make the proper adjustment to the No. 29 Samson Stone Ford. When Keselowski took his qualifying lap he bottomed out on the race track in turns three and four bouncing him into the outside wall and causing only slight cosmetic damage to the right rear of the truck. However, Keselowski would have to settle for a 30th place starting position for the race. Due to impound procedures the K Automotive team was not able to work on the truck before the event so they were forced to strategize about the adjustments to make once the race started and pit stops began.

On their first stop to pit road, tire pressure and wedge adjustments were in order along with a full tank of fuel as rain showers were still lingering in the area. Other lead lap trucks did not make the trip to pit road at the same time as Keselowski putting him off-sequence with some trucks in the field. On the next round of pit stops, Keselowski was able to show that not only were the adjustments helping the truck, but that he could run a completely different line on the top of the race track. Keselowski would take the lead on lap 109 of the event earning five bonus points before falling to the sixth position where he would run for nearly 40 laps of the event until his tires wore down and he would have to once again come to pit road in the closing laps. The final set of tires would not handle as well as those previous making the charge from the 27th

position on the restart much more challenging on a track so difficult to pass. A spinning truck on the final lap kept Keselowski from taking the 20th position and he was forced to take the 21st finishing spot.

"This was a really challenging track to get a handle on for my first time racing here," said Keselowski. "We struggled to get the truck where we needed to be in practice and then really went the other way in qualifying. The entire race seemed like a challenge to get the right set up in the truck. We were just way too tight for most of the race and without air on the nose of the truck; I just could not make a pass. But when we were up front and I could race against those guys on the high line, it was pretty fun. I think if we could have stayed up there we would have been able to bring home a top ten finish. But when the handling went away again at the end we just had to hold on and get the best finish possible. I am really impressed by the way we have run at some of these tracks lately for it being my first time to race on many of them. We are really just trying to get a respectable points' finish this season and get ready for 2006."

Keselowski maintained the 22nd position in driver points and is only 20 points away from the 21st position and 102 points away from the 20th position. The K Automotive team will prepare for their next event at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway this weekend on Saturday, September 24 before enjoying a three-week break prior to the last five events of the 2005 NCTS season.

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