

*Next Up:*

**Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>**  
ABC Supply/  
A.J. Foyt 225 at  
The Milwaukee Mile  
4:00 p.m. EST  
on ABC

**Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup>**  
Texas Motor  
Speedway  
10:00 p.m. EST  
ESPN2

*All TV times are subject  
to change*

## Race Report: 92nd Indianapolis 500

INDIANAPOLIS May 25, 2008—Darren Manning and A.J. Foyt's No. 14 ABC Supply team served notice with a strong performance in the Indianapolis 500 which saw them racing with the leaders, or charging back to the front after contact during a pit stop incident. The day didn't go quite as well for teammate Jeff Simmons whose day ended after contact with the wall on lap 112.

Manning gave no quarter and was given none. It may have cost him a top five finish, but the fact was he was charging forward from the drop of the green flag. After starting 14<sup>th</sup>, he placed ninth for his best start and finish in four 500s. It was the first top-10 finish for Foyt's team since

Eliseo Salazar's 7<sup>th</sup> place in 2001 and third place in 2000.

The trouble for Manning came on his

cutting across to his stall ahead of Lloyd. Manning lost his right front wing endplate and sustained a damaged wing which had to be replaced.

"Larry was yelling for me to stop, stop, stop, and I was thinking go, go, go!" said Manning afterwards. "I figured I'd sort it out when I got out there."

He almost made it. Had Rice given way just the slightest bit as he was trying to enter his pit stall, Manning might have come through unscathed. But there was little give-and-take in this race, either in the pits or on the track. Eight cautions for 69 laps slowed the event.

"I'm a bit frustrated with myself for making a mistake on the pit stop," Manning said. "I

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# 14 ABC Supply/A.J. Foyt Racing Team on the starting grid at the Indianapolis 500

third pitstop, while running sixth. Manning exited his pit stall, barely missing Alex Lloyd diving in ahead of him, but getting clipped by Buddy Rice who was



Changing the front wing of the #14 car

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wanted to go because we were in sixth place and running comfortably up there.

“We just knocked the front wing off and had to borrow Anthony (Foyt)’s front wing because (teammate) Jeff (Simmons) had already used one of our spares. So, at least it’s good to have another Foyt out there in the race.”

After replacing the nose and front wing assembly, Manning dropped to 24<sup>th</sup> but remained on the lead lap. He marched back through the field picking cars off one by one on the straightaways. The team tried running a fuel strategy in the final 40 laps that was pitched when Milka Duno spun with 30 laps to go. At that point, he was full throttle. He posted his fastest lap (222.208 mph) of the race on lap 181 when he went from 10<sup>th</sup> to ninth, where he remained.

Teammate Jeff Simmons in the No. 41 ABC Supply Dallara/Honda was running strong having come from 24<sup>th</sup>



# 41 car driving by Jeff Simmons leaving the pits at the 2008 Indianapolis 500

to 13<sup>th</sup> by the time of his second pit stop. The first miscue in the pits occurred when Lloyd clipped Simmons nose as Simmons exited his stall. They replaced his nose assembly but the car didn’t handle quite as well, despite adjustments in the pits.



A Pit stop during the Indy 500 on May 25th, 2008

Simmons’ luck went from bad to worse as he warmed his tires preparing for a restart on lap 112. The car veered sharply to the right into the outer wall and then careened across the track into the inside retaining wall.

“The car was getting pretty loose on those runs,” said Simmons. “I was trying to get the tires warm for the restart. I think it just hooked up, and I went into the wall. I’ve seen a lot of guys do it, but I never thought it would happen to me.”

Pole winner Scott Dixon won his first Indy 500 with an unparalleled performance. Although there nine leaders, Dixon dominated leading seven times for 115 of the 200 laps. Second through fifth were Vitor Meira, Marco Andretti, Helio Castroneves and Ed Carpenter who posted a career best showing at Indy.