

1985

The 1985 Daytona 500 was the first race of 28 in the 1985 NASCAR season, on February 17. 58 race teams tried for 40 starting spots. Remember, our point system is 100 to win, 98 for second, and a one point drop to 64 points to 36<sup>th</sup> where all other starters and non-qualifiers get the same 64 points. So the 18 that missed the field weren't destroyed in the points. Bill Elliott took the Coors Ford to victory lane in the 500. It is said that nobody remembers who finished second, but it was Lake Speed, and it's interesting to note that they were the only two cars on the lead lap at the finish. Darrell Waltrip, Buddy Baker, and Ricky Rudd filled the top five and them along with sixth place finisher Greg Sacks were one lap down, Geoffrey Bodine in seventh was two laps down.

1, 100, 9, Bill Elliott  
2, 98, -2, 75, Lake Speed  
3, 97, -3, 11, Darrell Waltrip  
4, 96, -4, 88, Buddy Baker  
5, 95, -5, 15, Ricky Rudd

The second race of the 1985 season was at Richmond on February 24. Just 30 cars started, and there may have been DNQ's but they aren't available on my source. Dale Earnhardt was the winner over Bodine, new point leader Waltrip, Ron Bouchard, and Harry Gant.

1, 194, 11, Darrell Waltrip  
2, 191, -3, 5, Geoffrey Bodine  
3, 188, -6, 75, Lake Speed  
4, 180, -14, 8, Bobby Hillin, Jr.  
5, 178, -16, 9, Bill Elliott

Race 3 was on 3-3 as 40 of 41 cars took the green flag at Rockingham. And it would produce the third different winner of the season with Neil Bonnett getting the win over Harry Gant, Terry Labonte, new point leader Lake Speed, and Kyle Petty. Bodine stayed second in the standings, as previous leader Waltrip fell to third after finishing 18<sup>th</sup>. Bonnett moved into a tie for fourth with Gant, leaving Junior Johnson's Budweiser cars third and fourth in points.

1, 284, 0, 75, Lake Speed, ,  
2, 279, -5, 5, Geoffrey Bodine, ,  
3, 276, -8, 11, Darrell Waltrip, ,  
4, 267, -17, 33, Harry Gant, ,  
4, 267, -17, 12, Neil Bonnett, ,

The fourth race of 28 in 1985 was on March 17 at Atlanta. There were 41 starters with eight DNQ's. Lake Speed in the point lead lost speed as he finished 40<sup>th</sup>, dropping him to seventh in the standings. Bill Elliott was the first repeat winner of the season, over new point leader Bodine, Bonnett, Ricky Rudd, and Bobby Allison.

1, 377, 5, Geoffrey Bodine  
2, 364, -13, 12, Neil Bonnett  
3, 360, -17, 11, Darrell Waltrip

3, 360, -17, 44, Terry Labonte  
5, 349, -28, 9, Bill Elliott  
5, 349, -28, 3, Dale Earnhardt

1985's fifth race of the season was on April 6 at Bristol. 30 cars took the green flag. Dale Earnhardt took his second win of the season over Ricky Rudd, Terry Labonte, Buddy Baker, and Rusty Wallace. 18<sup>th</sup> place at the finish trimmed the Bodine point lead to just two over Labonte, with Earnhardt up two spots in the standings to third.

1, 459, 5, Geoffrey Bodine  
2, 457, -2, 44, Terry Labonte  
3, 449, -10, 3, Dale Earnhardt  
4, 445, -14, 12, Neil Bonnett  
5, 441, -18, 75, Lake Speed

The sixth race of 28 in 1985 was April 14 at Darlington. Bill Elliott was the winner, his series leading third of the season. Darrell Waltrip was second with Tim Richmond third, those three finished on the lead lap. Terry Labonte trailed point leader Geoffrey Bodine by two points entering the race. Labonte finished fourth, one lap down, with Bodine seventh. This gained him three points and he took over the point lead. Rusty Wallace finished fifth, two laps down. Elliott and Waltrip entered the top five in points, with Lake Speed and 24<sup>th</sup> finishing Dale Earnhardt fell from the top five, now sixth and seventh.

1, 553, 44, Terry Labonte  
2, 552, -1, 5, Geoffrey Bodine  
3, 539, -14, 12, Neil Bonnett  
4, 538, -15, 9, Bill Elliott  
5, 535, -18, 11, Darrell Waltrip

The seventh race of 28 in 1985 was April 21 at North Wilkesboro. Car owner Junior Johnson's home track was just what the doctor ordered, with his two cars finishing one-two with Neil Bonnett winning over Darrell Waltrip. It was Bonnett's second win of the season. Bobby Allison was third for his best finish of the season. Ricky Rudd was fourth. Geoffrey Bodine was fifth, as the point leader entering the race, Terry Labonte, finished seventh. Labonte led by a point pre race, so now Bodine was back in the point lead by a point.

1, 647, 5, Geoffrey Bodine  
2, 646, -1, 44, Terry Labonte  
3, 639, -8, 12, Neil Bonnett  
4, 633, -14, 11, Darrell Waltrip  
5, 632, -15, 9, Bill Elliott

Race 8 of 28 in 1985 was on April 28 at Martinsville. A first time winner this season was Harry Gant. Ricky Rudd was second over point leader Geoffrey Bodine, Bobby Allison, and Neil Bonnett, the top five on the lead lap. Bodine led by one point entering the race, and with Terry Labonte finishing sixth, stretched his point lead to four.

1, 744, 5, Geoffrey Bodine  
2, 740, -4, 44, Terry Labonte  
3, 734, -10, 12, Neil Bonnett  
4, 719, -25, 9, Bill Elliott

5, 715, -29, 75, Lake Speed

Race 9 of 28 in 1985 was May 5 at Talladega. Bill Elliott made up two lost laps, under green, and won the second of the four race Winston Million event, topping Kyle Petty, Cale Yarborough, Bobby Allison, and Ricky Rudd. The points are as close as they can be, with Geoffrey Bodine and Terry Labonte now tied for the lead.

1, 833, 5, Geoffrey Bodine

1, 833, 44, Terry Labonte

3, 819, -14, 9, Bill Elliott

4, 808, -25, 12, Neil Bonnett

5, 805, -28, 75, Lake Speed