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CRAFTON HELPS THORSport TO 1-2 FINISH AT VEGAS

Matt Crafton charged to a 2nd place finish in the Qwik Liner 350 at Las Vegas Motor Speedway on Saturday, teaming with race-winner Johnny Sauter to give Sandusky, Ohio-based ThorSport Racing the organization's first 1-2 finish in NCWTS competition. Earlier this season, both ThorSport drivers finished a race in the top-5 together for the first time.

The finish was Crafton's second consecutive in the top-5, and he gained valuable points in his quest for a first NCWTS championship. He remains in 2nd place in the points-standings with five races remaining this season.

"I'm happy for Johnny that he won the race, and it's a strong showing for ThorSport Racing that we finished in the top couple of spots," Crafton said. "It's an example of the commitment that (ThorSport Racing owners) Duke and Rhonda Thorson made to this team a long time ago, of the resources we have available to us. Our No. 88 Australian Gold Chevy was really good, but it just didn't have quite the speed that Johnny's did. His truck was super fast. Track position was everything, and, for the most part, we just didn't have it. It was a decent night for us, and we gained a few points, but I'm most happy about finishing 1-2 for ThorSport."

Crafton and crew will fine-tune during the four-week break in NCWTS action. The next race is at Martinsville on October 24. Crafton has a track record of success at Martinsville. In fifteen career starts there, he owns seven top-10 and a pair of top-5 finishes, including a second-place finish in the spring race last season.

"We'll work on some things during the break with an eye on Martinsville," said Crafton. "We've always been pretty strong there. For the most part, we've been strong at all of the tracks left on our schedule this season, so there's no reason to think we won't be in position for wins. We'll enjoy the break and regroup a little bit, and be ready to go in a few weeks."