

## Busch - Winston Cup - IROC Champion!

**B**obby Labonte won another championship; this year it was in the IROC Series. By winning the 25th Anniversary True Value IROC finale and the IROC Championship at Indianapolis Motor Speedway on Aug. 4, he made racing history:

- Bobby is the first to win the Winston Cup (2000), Busch (1991) and IROC (2001) championships — actually, he's still the only one to win both the Winston Cup and Busch championships.
- Bobby and his brother, Terry, join the Unser brothers, Bobby and Al, as the only racing brothers to win an IROC Championship.
- Bobby is the first driver to win at Indianapolis Motor Speedway in two major series: Winston Cup's Brickyard 400 in 2000 and the IROC Indy victory this year.

In the IROC series, 12 drivers — all champions from different racing series — compete in four 40-lap races without pit stops.

“You just show up with your helmet and drive!” said Bobby.

The 2001 IROC points race was tight to the end. With one race to go, CART driver Kenny Brack trailed Bobby by a single point. Brack finished the finale third. Bobby finished in the Top Five at Daytona and Michigan, won at Talladega and, driving the black Pontiac Trans Am, won at the Brickyard, adding the IROC Championship to his list of accomplishments.

“The elite group that has won over the past 25 years includes some awesome race-car drivers throughout history,” said Bobby, “so to be part of that is really special.” ■



Busch photo by Jim Fluharty

Bobby Labonte is the only driver to win all three championships.

## Results Are In ... Interstate Dealer Opinions Count

**T**he annual Interstate Batteries Dealer Survey results have been tallied. The 652 Interstate Dealers who responded gave us grades on our product quality and our Route Sales Manager performance. On Interstate's battery quality, 97% of you rated it as either “Excellent,” “Very Good” or “Good.” On what you liked best about the Interstate program, 54% liked the Interstate brand name the most, which is a 24% increase from

Survey Category	Excellent	Very Good/Good	Totals
Hot Shot Service	62%	37%	99%
Stocking Rotation	57%	43%	100%
Courtesy	60%	39%	99%
Knowledge of Product	60%	40%	100%
Warranty Process	57%	41%	98%

This chart is a summary of Interstate Batteries Dealer survey responses. We use your input to improve Interstate products and service.

last year, and 12% selected product quality. Your high marks regarding Route Sales Manager performance reflect that nearly all of you are pleased with the level of personal service that you are receiving. Your responses to the survey are an indication of what makes Interstate Batteries the #1 replacement battery in North America; it's the combination of high-quality product, exceptional service and brand recognition. ■

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Texas Honors Labontes, p. 2

Winterizing Batteries Poster, p. 4 **Hang it now!**

Purchase Your Pit Crew Shirt, p. 8

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# Where Was God?

## Reflection on Terrorism and God's Goodness

This article by Chuck Colson came out shortly after the September 11 terrorist attack on the U.S.

This weekend I received a call from a Christian friend who was deeply troubled. The husband of a woman to whom she had been witnessing had been killed in the World Trade Center attack. The woman called my friend and demanded bitterly: "Where was your God that you've been telling me about this week?"

Everywhere, people are raising the same question: How could a good God have allowed such massive evil? No question poses a greater stumbling block to Christian faith; no question is more difficult for Christians to answer. Yet, the Biblical worldview does give us a good answer.

The simple answer to why bad things happen to so-called good people is that God loved us so much that he made us free moral agents in his image. He designed creatures with the ability to make choices, to choose either good or evil. The original humans, Adam and Eve, exercised that choice — and chose to disobey God. In doing so, they rejected God's good, thus creating sin and opening the door to death and evil.

What happened last week was raw, naked evil — committed by men who made evil choices. But it was something else as well: It was merely a consequence of the fact that there is sin in the world. God could erase the consequences of sin immediately. But then we'd no longer be free moral agents; we would be robots. For without consequences, there is no real choice. God cannot simultaneously offer us free choice and then compel one choice over another — which is what would happen if he stopped all evil.

Jesus himself was asked why bad things happen to good people. In Luke 13, we read that people asked him if the Galileans who were killed while

worshipping at the altar were worse sinners than anyone else. "No," Jesus answered. And then he added, "Unless you repent you will all likewise perish." Jesus then reinforced his point. Recently, a tower in a nearby city had fallen; eighteen people had been crushed to death. Jesus said, "Do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who dwelt in Jerusalem? I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish."

This is one of the hard sayings of Jesus, but there's great truth in it. We are in no position to ask God why terrible things happen. We're only to seek forgiveness ourselves.

What happened last week was one of the worst tragedies in American history. But God can bring good out of evil, and he often works through adversity. Since the terrorist attacks, we have seen the nation come together with greater unity than I've witnessed since Pearl Harbor. And this Sunday my church was filled to capacity at all services — very unusual in Florida at this time of year. Churches all over the country were packed, and were in England as well. People may be angry at God, but they're also asking questions about the meaning of life and God's role in it. You and I need to be prepared to answer the questions of people in pain.

Where was God last week? He was with us — just as he always is. He gave us everything we need to cope with this or any other evils: He gave us Himself at the cross at Calvary.

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From BreakPoint with Chuck Colson, 9/18/01  
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[www.christianity.com/breakpoint](http://www.christianity.com/breakpoint). ■

## Three Miles From Manhattan on September 11: A Distributor's Perspective

Reflections from Brian Judge,  
Interstate Distributor for Manhattan...

*"We were in the warehouse loading up the trucks at 9 in the morning when my route driver called in: 'Turn on your radio. You're not going to believe what's happening.'"*

*"From there, we all walked outside and saw a big plume of smoke coming from the Battery Park area of Manhattan. The wind was blowing it all our way — black smoke and papers thousands of feet in the air. There was nothing we could do."*

*"Then we saw a second plane coming straight up the Hudson. I said, 'What in God's name is that doing there?' In less than a minute it came over the radio that a second plane had hit the Trade Center. After a while, we could smell the building burning. Never smelled anything like it before — it was a metallic smell that made you kind of nauseous. This smell lingered in the air for a good week and a half."*

*"Another route manager in Staten Island watched the buildings come down — the first one and then 20 minutes later the second one. Staring in disbelief, he had a perfect view. You look at the skyline of Manhattan now, and it's like we've been defrocked."*

*"We're all going to fight this war together. We're going to recover. The people here are more resilient than the terrorists."*

*To help NYPD with the crisis, Art Corrie's Interstate distributorship in Queens donated nearly 3,000 alkaline batteries and more than 40 flashlights.*

*"I'd like to see the peace and harmony stay together within our country," said Art. "And we need to keep the American flag flying."*