

Cadillac DPi-V.R Conquers Rolex 24

IMSA >> 2017 Rolex 24 Hours at Daytona

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Top: Winner of the 55th Annual Rolex 24
- No. 10 Konica Minalta Cadillac DPi-V.R.

Daytona Beach, FL – January 29, 2017 – After covering 659 laps or 2,346 miles, the No. 10 Konica Minalta Cadillac DPi-V.R of Wayne Taylor Racing captured the checked flag with a razor thin 0.97 second victory margin. Teammates Jeff Gordon, Jordon Taylor, Ricky Taylor and Max Angelelli endured steady rain, frigid temperatures, 21 caution flags and the speed laden traffic of 54 other professionally prepared race cars to earn their 2017 race winning Rolex watches.

“I haven’t been this emotional for a win and an experience like this for a very long time,” Jeff Gordon told the press. “The reason is because I know what this means to this team. Oh my gosh. This is amazing -- Daytona has always been special, but this one sent me over the top. I’m just blown away right now.”

The drivers of No. 5 Mustang Sampling Cadillac Dpi-V.R weren’t so celebratory as a collision with the win-

Bottom: No. 10 driver Jeff Gordon with team owner Wayne Taylor.



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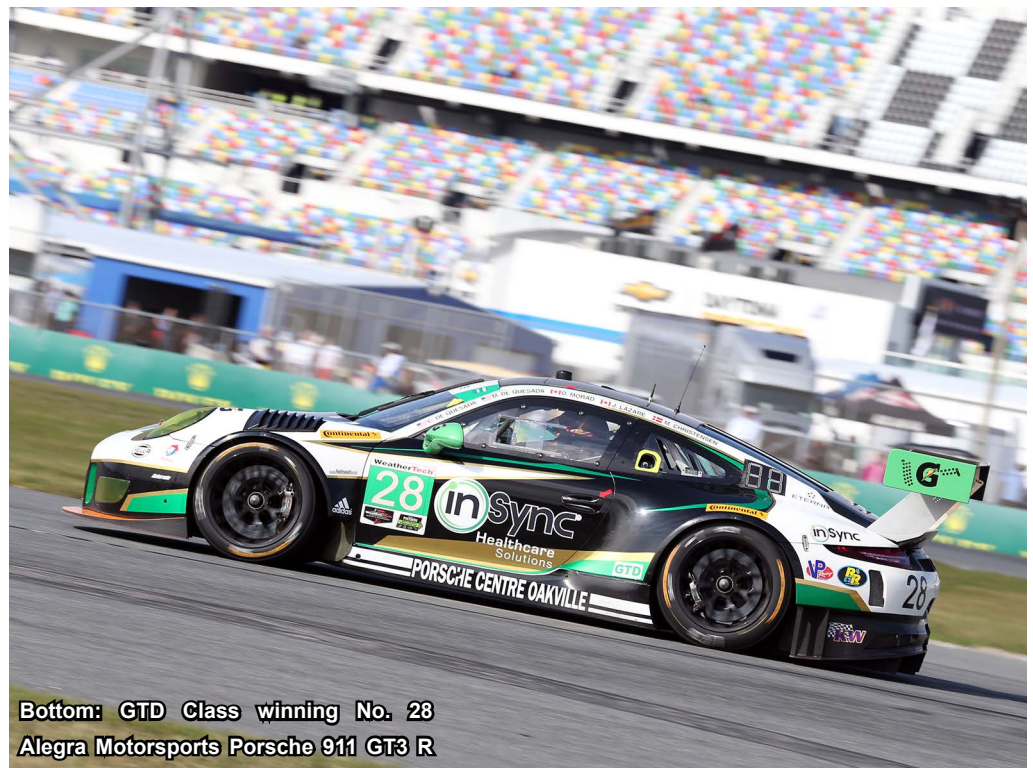


Top: 2017 Rolex 24 winning No. 10 Cadillac DPi-V.R. taking the checkered flag.

ning race car with 7 minutes remaining slowed them down. Prior to the incident, No. 5. teammates Joao Barbosa, Christian Fittipaldi and Filipe Albuquerque were sitting in the lead with Filipe driving and Ricky Taylor on his buttocks. At the end of the long front stretch, heading into a fast left turn, Taylor took the No. 10 car low and inside of Albuquerque. When the No. 5 machine positioned for the left turn, Taylor hit No. 5 in the rear, spinning it out and cementing their second-place fate.

Filipe was not happy with the way things ended. "The last hour, when we put new tires back on for the last stint, our Cadillac ran really well," Filipe said. "Unfortunately, the officials don't agree that his move was unfair and they are the most important guys. It is, what it is."

Meanwhile, the GTLM class gave Chip Ganassi yet another chance to show his Rolex 24 prowess, as the No. 66 Ford GT won its class and finished fifth overall



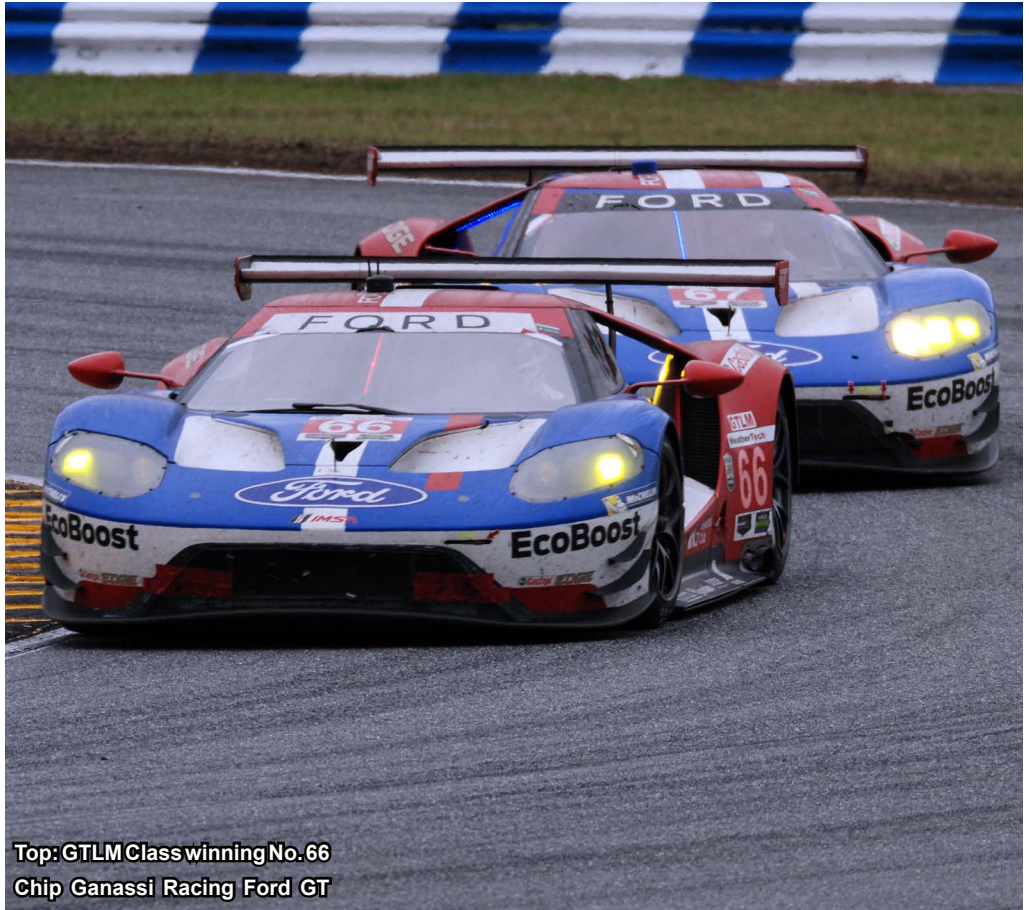
Bottom: GTD Class winning No. 28 Alegra Motorsports Porsche 911 GT3 R

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with drivers Joey Hand and Dirk Mueller. The newly developed mid-engine powered Porsche 911 RSR, after more than 20,000 miles of testing and preparation, finished with a solid second-place finish. For its first race, the all-new designed RSR fought to the checkered flag in a tight GTLM class battle that saw the No. 911 Porsche GT entry of Patrick Pilet, Dirk Werner and Frédéric Makowiecki crossing the finish line a narrow 2.98-seconds behind the race-winning Ford GT.

In the GTD class, the No. 28 Porsche 911 GT3 R of Alegra Motorsport took the class win.

“This is just unbelievable,” celebrated Carlos de Quesada, Driver/Owner of No. 28 Alegra Motorsports. “How everything unfolded is a dream come true. In a 24-hour race anything can happen and it happened again. It was the same back in 2007; you never give up hope. I am so proud to have gotten to do this with my son [Michael de Quesada], with Daniel Morad, with Jesse [Lazare] and Michael [Christensen]. This was just a phenomenal, phenomenal effort by the whole crew.” **AA**

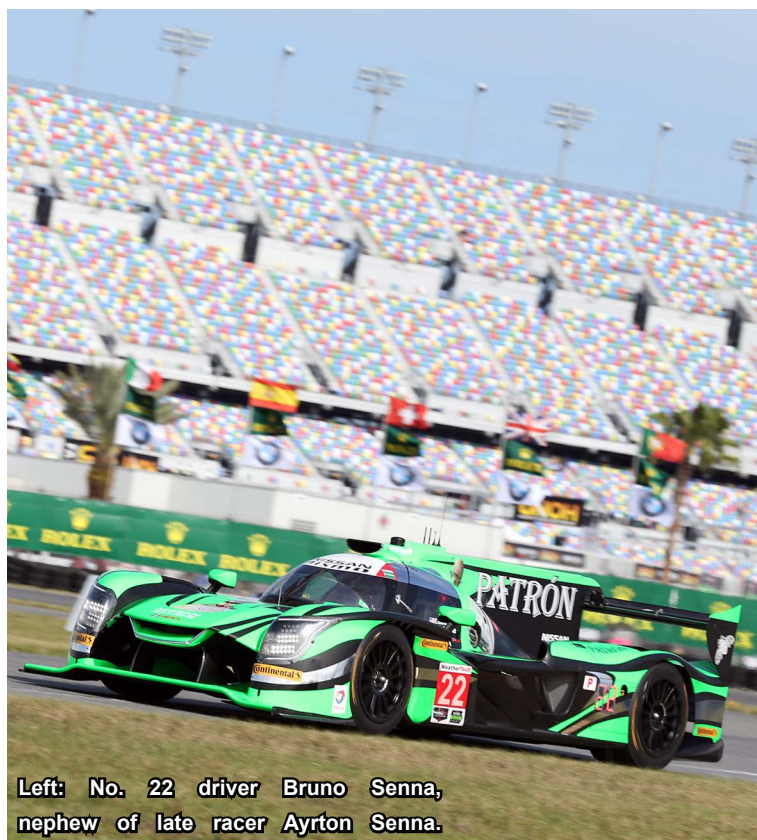


Top: GTLM Class winning No. 66
Chip Ganassi Racing Ford GT



Bottom: GTLM class second
placed No. 911 Porsche 911 RSR

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Left: No. 22 driver Bruno Senna, nephew of late racer Ayrton Senna.

