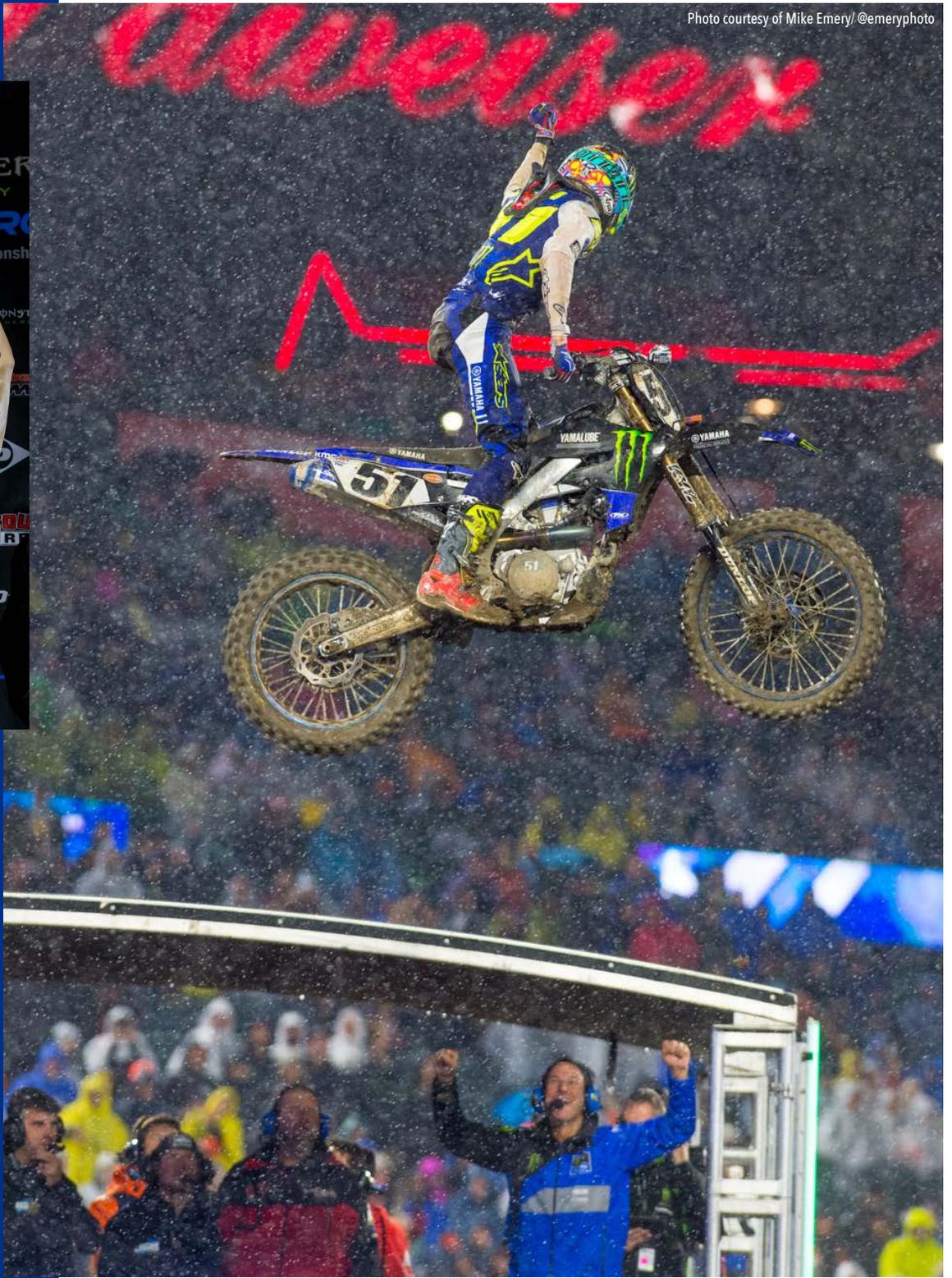


Photo courtesy of Mike Emery/@emeryphoto



## JUSTIN BARCIA AND COLT NICHOLS EACH CLAIM VICTORY IN ANAHEIM SUPERCROSS OPENER!

Justin Barcia fired the first shot of the 2019 Monster Energy AMA® Supercross season, taking a thrilling victory aboard his Monster Energy® Yamaha Factory Racing Team YZ450F™ at Anaheim 1.

It was a perfect night for Barcia, taking both heat and main event wins. The win didn't come easy either. In addition to the stacked field in the premier class, Mother Nature threw in an extra challenge, dumping more and more water on the track. Barcia put his head down though, and knocked down the laps to take his first 450SX win since Seattle Supercross 2013. Adding to an already stellar night for Yamaha, Barcia's teammate Aaron Plessinger had an impressive debut. The rookie was able to battle with the best, finishing third in his heat and sixth in the main event.



Meanwhile in the 250 class, Colt Nichols got the new year off to a sensational start taking his first career Monster Energy® AMA® Supercross 250SX win. It was a great night for Monster Energy®/Star/Yamaha Racing with teammate Dylan Ferrandis joining the Oklahoma native on the podium in 2<sup>nd</sup>-place.

Nichols started the night looking poised for a top result with his solid 2<sup>nd</sup>-place finish in his heat race. When the gate dropped for the Main Event, he was ready. He got a good start and went on to lead every lap of the race despite worsening weather conditions. The result was an impressive win for the 24-year old and a stunning debut for the all-new 2019 Yamaha YZ250F™.

It was a much more difficult night for Ferrandis, but the Frenchman never stopped fighting. He showed his resolve in his heat race, charging back through the field after breaking free of a first corner melee. By comparison, the Main Event was much smoother, Ferrandis battling in the mud to claim the second spot on the podium to make it a Yamaha 1-2 overall!

