



DuPont Motorsports Post-Race Report
Dodge Challenger 500
Darlington Raceway
May 10, 2008

Gordon Moves Up to 10th in Standings Following Third-Place Finish at Darlington

Jeff Gordon and Team DuPont scored their fourth top-five finish of the 2008 season in the Dodge Challenger 500 at Darlington Raceway on Saturday night. Their third-place finish in the 500-mile event moved Gordon up three positions to 10th in the standings, 364 markers behind race winner and points leader Kyle Busch.

Gordon, who started the race from the eighth position, battled a loose condition early in the race but maneuvered up to third prior to his first pit stop on lap 60. During the green flag stop, the No. 24 crew added fuel, made an air pressure adjustment, changed four tires and removed a spring rubber from the left rear spring.

"I'm still tight in the middle," Gordon told crew chief Steve Letarte on lap 95 while running fifth. "And now I'm loose getting into all the turns."

During another round of green-flag stops, Gordon stayed out to lead a lap -- and gain five valuable points -- before diving onto pit road. Once again, chassis adjustments were made during the four-tire stop to help the handling.

Gordon was running sixth when a caution waved on lap 139. Quick pit work by the No. 24 crew allowed the four-time NASCAR Cup Series champion to return to the track in third.

"You guys are rock solid tonight," Letarte told the crew via the team radio. "Track position is going to be everything and you guys are doing great with these quick stops."

The over-the-wall DuPont crew kept up their fast pit stops the rest of the evening, including a stop on lap 281 that gave Gordon the lead exiting pit road. While Gordon led for 24 laps during the 367-lap race, he was unable to hold off Busch and Carl Edwards and trailed them across the finish line.

"It was a very solid effort by this DuPont Chevrolet team," Gordon said after the race. "That was all done in the pits. Steve Letarte did a great job calling the race. This No. 24 crew was just awesome in the pits, getting us out and gaining us spots all night long.

"We didn't really have a great car, we just got great track position and all I did was focus on not getting in to the wall.

"I'm happy with this top-five finish. However, I'm disappointed that we're still missing something. I'm extremely excited that we're moving in the right direction and I'm confident, with how hard the team is working, that we'll continue moving that way."

Next Saturday night, the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series heads to Lowe's Motor Speedway for the Sprint Cup All-Star race, a non-points race with over \$1 million on the line for the race winner. Live coverage begins at 7 p.m. EDT on SPEED -- with Gordon stopping by the SPEED set for an interview -- while MRN Radio's live coverage begins at 7:30 p.m. EDT.

Dodge Challenger 500 results (unofficial)

1. Kyle Busch
2. Carl Edwards
- 3. Jeff Gordon**
4. Dale Earnhardt, Jr.
5. David Ragan
6. Matt Kenseth
7. Denny Hamlin
8. Travis Kvapil
9. Dave Blaney
10. Jeff Burton

Points standings (unofficial)

1. Kyle Busch
2. Jeff Burton
3. Dale Earnhardt, Jr.
4. Denny Hamlin
5. Clint Bowyer
6. Jimmie Johnson
7. Carl Edwards
8. Tony Stewart
9. Kevin Harvick
- 10. Jeff Gordon**