



DuPont Motorsports Post Race Report  
Ford 400 – Homestead-Miami Speedway  
November 18, 2007

### **Gordon Finishes Second in Standings; Team DuPont Sets Record**

With their fourth-place finish in the Ford 400 at Homestead-Miami Speedway on Sunday, Jeff Gordon and Team DuPont set a modern-era (1972 - present) record for most top-10 finishes in a season with 30. But that record was not enough to dethrone Hendrick Motorsports teammate Jimmie Johnson, who won his second consecutive "Chase for the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup."

During the first three editions of the Chase, average finishing positions of 8.9 in 2004, 8.7 in 2005 and 10.8 in 2006 were recorded by that year's champion in the 10-race playoff. Gordon and Team DuPont posted a stout 5.1 average finish in the year's Chase, but fell 77 points short of championship No. 5 at season's end.

"I have mixed emotions," said Gordon following the Miami event. "I'm happy for Jimmie, for the 48 team and for Rick Hendrick. And it's been an awesome year for this DuPont Chevrolet team.

"But I'm disappointed because I thought this was going to be our year. We were consistent, won two races in the Chase and six overall, we had an incredible average finish in the final 10 races -- and we lost.

"I'll take that average finish every year because that type of number will win championships. It just didn't this year."

Gordon, who started 11th, ran in the top-10 for much of the 400-mile event. But Johnson, who started on the pole and was passed by Gordon on lap 43, never let his closest pursuer in the point standings get too far ahead. In fact, he finished three positions behind Gordon to easily capture consecutive championships.

"Jimmie and the 48 guys outperformed us this year during the Chase, especially with the four consecutive wins they had before this event," said Gordon. "We thought consistency would win the title, but they showed -- at least this year -- that wins would be needed, as well.

"We're going to have step up our game even further next year."

The 2008 NASCAR Sprint Cup begins with the "Super Bowl," the Daytona 500, on February 17, 2008. FOX and MRN Radio will broadcast the race live. Please check local listings for time and station.

#### Ford 400 results (unofficial)

1. Matt Kenseth
2. Kurt Busch
3. Denny Hamlin
- 4. Jeff Gordon**
5. Carl Edwards
6. Martin Truex, Jr.
7. Jimmie Johnson
8. Jeff Burton
9. Mark Martin
10. David Ragan

#### Final point standings (unofficial)

1. Jimmie Johnson - Champion
- 2. Jeff Gordon**
3. Clint Bowyer
4. Matt Kenseth
5. Kyle Busch
6. Tony Stewart
7. Kurt Busch
8. Jeff Burton
9. Carl Edwards
10. Kevin Harvick
11. Martin Truex, Jr.
12. Denny Hamlin