



**DuPont Motorsports Post Race Report
Bank of America 500 – Lowe's Motor Speedway
October 13, 2007**

Team DuPont Increases Point Lead with Win at Charlotte

"It's never easy, is it?" Jeff Gordon asked crew chief Steve Letarte. Only five laps remained in Saturday night's Bank of America 500 at Lowe's Motor Speedway, and Gordon's commanding five-second lead at the 1.5-mile speedway had just been erased by a caution flag.

And the drama was only beginning.

The race restarted on lap 329 of the scheduled 334-lap event with Gordon first and his Hendrick Motorsports teammate Kyle Busch second. As the field entered turn 1, Gordon's engine stumbled -- he had enough fuel to make it to the end, but the high banking at the speedway had limited fuel "pick up" to his Chevrolet's engine. Busch and third-place Clint Bowyer took evasive action to miss Gordon, but fourth-place Ryan Newman charged around the outside to take the lead.

The engine in the No. 24 DuPont Chevrolet stumbled only momentarily, and Gordon quickly began his pursuit of Newman. But, with only three laps remaining, Newman's lead appeared too great to overcome. Until Newman wrecked.

Which set up a "green-white-checkered" finish -- a two lap sprint to determine the race winner -- with Gordon restarting first, Bowyer second and Busch third. During the caution period, Gordon drove on the apron of the track -- not on the banking -- in an effort to maximize fuel pick up. It worked, but he spun the tires on the restart.

And was hit by Bowyer.

Luckily, Gordon was able to maintain control of the car. He led to the checkered flag to capture his sixth victory of the season and 81st career win. Jimmie Johnson, Gordon's closest competitor in the standings, finished 14th and now trails the four-time NASCAR Cup Series champion by 68 points with five of the 10 Chase races completed.

"(Kyle) could have run right over the back of me and spun me out so easy," said Gordon, referring to restart with five laps to go. "I had no power as we went into turn one, and then Newman was smoking by us on the outside.

"I don't think anybody would have touched us had we not had that fuel issue. But we did, and Newman just checked out on us. I don't know if something happened to his car, but he just lost it in turn 2.

"On the last caution, I just ran around the flat. All I cared was making sure there was enough fuel pick up. It took off great. It took off so good that I spun the tires. Luckily, (Bowyer) hit me.

"He came to Victory Lane and said he was sorry he hit me. I told him, 'No, if you hadn't hit me, you would have passed me.'

"Call it luck, karma -- whatever you want to call it. There's some great things happening with this DuPont team.

"But there are still five races to go and all that has to continue in order for us to get this championship."

Next Sunday, the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Series visits Martinsville Speedway for Subway 500. ABC and MRN Radio will broadcast the race live beginning at 1 p.m. EDT.

Bank of America 500 results (unofficial)

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|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Jeff Gordon | 6. Dave Blaney |
| 2. Clint Bowyer | 7. Tony Stewart |
| 3. Kyle Busch | 8. Kasey Kahne |
| 4. Jeff Burton | 9. David Stremme |
| 5. Carl Edwards | 10. Michael Waltrip |

Point standings (unofficial)

1. Jeff Gordon

2. Jimmie Johnson (-68)
3. Clint Bowyer (-78)
4. Tony Stewart (-198)
5. Carl Edwards (-240)
6. Kyle Busch (-280)
7. Kurt Busch (-315)
8. Kevin Harvick (-328)
9. Denny Hamlin (-349)
10. Jeff Burton (-366)
11. Martin Truex, Jr. (-378)
12. Matt Kenseth (-442)