



**DuPont Motorsports Post Race Report  
Dickies 500 – Texas Motor Speedway  
November 4, 2007**

### **Team DuPont Finishes Seventh at Texas; Now Second in the Point Standings**

Jeff Gordon scored another top-10 -- a seventh-place finish -- in the Dickies 500 at Texas Motor Speedway on Sunday. Unfortunately, Hendrick Motorsports teammate Jimmie Johnson scored another victory -- his third in a row -- and now leads the point standings by 30 over Gordon with only two races remaining in the 2007 season.

Gordon, who started second in the 334-lap event, led early. But he fought the handling on his No. 24 DuPont Chevrolet through the middle stages of the event.

"I'm tight," Gordon explained to the crew on lap 93 while running fourth. "The back end (of the car) is not hooked up enough to keep us from pushing (the front end)."

Crew chief Steve Letarte called for a spring rubber to be pulled from the left rear spring during the next pit stop. While the additional time for the change cost Gordon track position and he restarted ninth, the handling improved.

"It's decent now," he explained to Letarte via the team radio. "But I still need more 'security' in the back."

Letarte wanted to take additional spring rubbers out of the rear springs, but he elected not to during the next green flag pit stop on lap 191 due to additional time needed for the change. While Gordon remained on the lead lap after the completion of pit stops, he had fallen to 12th.

"Whatever changes you made helped early in the run," Gordon said on lap 198. "But it hurt on the long run."

With Gordon running 10th during a caution period with just over 100 laps to go, Letarte called Gordon onto pit road while many of the leaders elected to stay on the track. Once again a spring rubber was pulled, but this time from the right rear spring.

After only eight laps of green-flag racing, Gordon said the car was "much better." Letarte called Gordon back onto pit road again during a lap-234 caution period to pull another spring rubber from the right rear spring.

But, after restarting seventh, Gordon began losing positions.

"The back end is secure, but now I'm tighter than I've been all day," Gordon said while running 13th with less than 65 laps remaining.

On lap 297, the event's final caution waved. Gordon stopped for four new tires and more chassis adjustments. He restarted 10th with 29 laps remaining, and was able to pass three cars before the checkered flag waved.

"That was a great fight by this DuPont team to get to seventh," Gordon said after the race. "But we're having to fight too hard for these finishes. Instead of fighting for a top-10 finish, we need to be fighting for a win."

"The 48 team (of Johnson) is doing their job and winning. We'll still just focus on our program and try to get the best possible results we can in the final two races."

Next Sunday, the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Series visits Phoenix International Raceway for the Checker Auto Parts 500. Gordon, who won there earlier this year, will look to grab his 82nd career victory and move closer to the points lead. ABC and MRN Radio will broadcast the race live beginning at 3 p.m. EST.

Dickies 500 results (unofficial)

1. Jimmie Johnson
2. Matt Kenseth
3. Martin Truex, Jr.
4. Kyle Busch
5. Ryan Newman
6. Jeff Burton
- 7. Jeff Gordon**
8. Kurt Busch
9. Jamie McMurray
10. Kevin Harvick

Point standings (unofficial)

1. Jimmie Johnson
- 2. Jeff Gordon (-30)**
3. Clint Bowyer (-181)
4. Kyle Busch (-339)
5. Carl Edwards (-357)
6. Tony Stewart (-373)
7. Jeff Burton (-431)
8. Kevin Harvick (-439)
9. Kurt Busch (-453)
10. Matt Kenseth (-454)
11. Denny Hamlin (-524)
12. Martin Truex, Jr. (-524)