



DuPont Motorsports Post-Race Report  
LifeLock.com 400  
Chicagoland Speedway  
July 12, 2008

**Gordon Remains Sixth in Standings After 11th-Place Run at Chicagoland**

While it was not the finish Team DuPont wanted, Jeff Gordon and the No. 24 team left Chicagoland Speedway with an 11th-place finish in the LifeLock.com 400 on Saturday night. They head into the final off weekend sixth in the standings -- with some extra confidence.

Chicagoland is an "intermediate" 1.5-mile speedway, and intermediate tracks have been the Achilles Heel of the team this season. Not so Saturday night as Gordon led laps and even maneuvered through the pack after an untimely pit road miscue left him deep in the field.

"We would have liked to have finished better, but this gives us something to build on," Gordon said after the race. "We were competitive and led laps, and that's something we need to do on a regular basis on these types of tracks."

Gordon, who started sixth in the 267-lap race, was running seventh when a mandatory caution waved on lap 35. After a quick four-tire stop by the No. 24 crew, Gordon restarted fifth.

But, when a caution waved on lap 47, crew chief Steve Letarte elected to leave Gordon on the track.

"No matter what the leaders do, stay out," Letarte radioed Gordon. "It's only been a few laps since our last stop, so stay out."

Gordon inherited the lead when others pitted, but only four cars chose the same strategy. On "older" tires, the four-time NASCAR Cup Series champion led until lap 56.

He was running sixth when he was forced to make a scheduled green flag stop at lap 92. Although he returned to the track one lap down in 37th, Gordon was back on the lead lap in fourth position when pit stops were completed.

On lap 112 during the event's third caution period, Gordon stopped for fuel and four new tires. However, he dropped 14 positions during the stop due to a miscue during the tire change. He restarted 19th on lap 116, but quickly began picking off positions. Six laps after the restart, he was up to 15th. By lap 142, he was up to 10th.

"The car's good," Gordon radioed the crew. "Probably the best it's been all night."

But Letarte was forced to constantly make chassis adjustments due to the cooling track temperatures. Running seventh on lap 226, Gordon stopped for new tires, fuel and another round of chassis adjustments. He restarted ninth, but fell to 11th before the checkered flag waved.

"We tried to 'stay ahead' of the changing conditions, but we were just too tight during our last run," Gordon said after the race won by Kyle Busch. "The speeds really picked up when the track cooled down, but we just didn't go far enough with our last set of changes.

"Still, it was a strong run. And we needed it on an intermediate track."

The NASCAR Sprint Cup Series returns to action on July 27 for the Allstate 400 at The Brickyard. ESPN will broadcast the race live from Indianapolis Motor Speedway beginning at 1 p.m. EDT. IMS Radio Network begins their live coverage at 2 p.m. EDT.

LifeLock.com 400 results (unofficial)

1. Kyle Busch
2. Jimmie Johnson
3. Kevin Harvick
4. Greg Biffle
5. Tony Stewart
6. Brian Vickers
7. Matt Kenseth
8. David Ragan
9. Martin Truex, Jr.
10. Ryan Newman
11. **Jeff Gordon**

Point standings (unofficial)

1. Kyle Busch
2. Dale Earnhardt, Jr.
3. Jeff Burton
4. Carl Edwards
5. Jimmie Johnson
6. **Jeff Gordon**
7. Greg Biffle
8. Matt Kenseth
9. Kevin Harvick
10. Tony Stewart