



DuPont Motorsports Post-Race Report
Sylvania 300
New Hampshire Motor Speedway
September 14, 2008

Gordon Finishes 14th in Race 1 of The Chase at New Hampshire Motor Speedway

After narrowly avoiding a spinning car and losing eight positions with less than 17 laps to go in the Sylvania 300 on Sunday, Jeff Gordon and Team DuPont battled back to finish 14th in the 300-lap event at New Hampshire Motor Speedway. Greg Biffle won the event while second-place finisher Jimmie Johnson moved into a tie for the points lead with Carl Edwards. Gordon trails the co-leaders by 99 with nine races remaining in the 2008 "Chase for the NASCAR Sprint Cup."

With rain canceling the qualifying session on Friday, Gordon started the race on Sunday from the 10th position. He picked off four positions in the first four laps, but was running seventh when a caution waved on lap 35.

"I started off real good," Gordon said. "But now I'm tight when I pick up the throttle, and then it jumps sideways on me late off the corner."

Although Team DuPont made a quick four-tire stop during the caution period, Gordon lost seven positions when he was forced to back up before driving out of his pit stall to avoid the car pitted ahead of him.

The four-time NASCAR Cup Series champion restarted 14th on lap 40 and methodically worked his way through traffic. By lap 117, Gordon was running 11th and posting the quickest times on the 1.058-mile layout. When green flag pit stops began at lap 150, he had moved up to ninth.

"It turns the middle (of the corner) good," Gordon said prior to his stop on lap 157. "But I'm tight through the middle of the corner and loose late."

Once again, Team DuPont quickly changed four tires and added fuel and, once again, Gordon lost valuable time when he was "trapped" in his pit by the car pitting in the stall ahead. When pit stops were completed, Gordon was down to 15th due to the unfortunate delay.

But he clawed his way back into the top 10 in less than 60 laps and, with less than 20 laps to go, he was running ninth.

And once again, all the hard work was gone in an instant. As the field exited turn 2 on lap 283, the No. 10 car spun just ahead of the DuPont Chevrolet. Gordon narrowly missed the spinning car, but he lost eight positions while slowing down to avoid contact.

After stopping for new tires, the 81-time race winner restarted 19th on lap 287 and picked off five spots before the checkered flag waved at lap 300.

"We were better than that," Gordon said. "We had trouble with cars pitting ahead of us all day, and we had trouble with cars spinning ahead of us on the track."

"Track position was important, and we just always seemed to give it up after we had worked so hard to get it. But this DuPont team fought hard the entire race."

"And we're gonna fight hard through the final race in Miami."

Next Sunday, the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series visits Dover International Speedway for the Camping World RV 400. ABC will broadcast the race live beginning at 1 p.m. EDT while MRN Radio begins their live broadcast at 1:15 p.m. EDT.

Sylvania 300 results (unofficial)

1. Greg Biffle
2. Jimmie Johnson
3. Carl Edwards
4. Jeff Burton
5. Dale Earnhardt, Jr.
6. Kurt Busch
7. Martin Truex, Jr.
8. Tony Stewart
9. Denny Hamlin
10. Kevin Harvick

14. Jeff Gordon

Point standings (unofficial)

1. (tie) Carl Edwards
1. (tie) Jimmie Johnson
3. Greg Biffle (-30)
4. (tie) Dale Earnhardt, Jr. (-50)
4. (tie) Jeff Burton (-50)
6. Denny Hamlin (-72)
7. Tony Stewart (-73)
8. Kyle Busch (-74)
9. Clint Bowyer (-83)
10. Kevin Harvick (-86)
- 11. Jeff Gordon (-99)**
12. Matt Kenseth (-177)