



DuPont Motorsports Post-Race Report  
Price Chopper 400 presented by Kraft Foods  
Kansas Speedway  
October 4, 2009

**Gordon Up to Seventh in Standings After Second-Place Finish at Kansas**

Asked if crew chief Steve Letarte was his hero following a second-place finish in the Price Chopper 400 presented by Kraft Foods at Kansas Speedway on Sunday, Jeff Gordon replied, "Almost."

Gordon, who started seventh, began losing positions quickly once the green flag waved to start the 400-mile race.

"I have no grip in the front end of the car for the first three-quarters of the corner, then I have all the grip in the world," he radioed Letarte while running 12th on lap 47. "If you fix this thing, you're my hero."

Letarte began adjusting on the No. 24 DuPont Chevrolet during a green-flag, four-tire stop on lap 52, and he made additional adjustments during a caution period stop on lap 70.

"It's an improvement, but I need more (adjustments like the previous ones)," the four-time NASCAR Cup Series champion said on lap 90 while running ninth. By the time green-flag pit stops began on lap 123, Gordon was up to sixth.

Following quick work by the No. 24 crew, Gordon exited pit road fourth. He remained in the top five until the day's final caution waved at lap 236. While some teams changed two tires to gain track position, Letarte elected to change four tires on the No. 24 Chevrolet Impala SS. Gordon lost several positions during the exchange, but he had the benefit of four new Goodyear tires for the 26-lap run to the checkered flag.

And he made the most of it. On the restart, he quickly bypassed Denny Hamlin and teammate Jimmie Johnson to move into fourth. On lap 244, he bypassed Kasey Kahne for third and, with 13 laps remaining, Gordon passed Greg Biffle for the runner-up spot. Although he cut into the deficit, Gordon was unable to catch Tony Stewart before the race ended.

"Steve is almost my hero," Gordon joked after the race. "When the race started, I thought we were going to be lucky to finish on the lead lap. I wondered how long it was going to be before we were lapped."

"But Steve made some incredible adjustments and we kept getting better and better," said Gordon, who is now seventh in the standings and 103 markers behind points leader Mark Martin. "The pit crew was on their game and I thought the four tires at the end were going to enable us to catch those who took two. But when I caught Tony, my car was just too tight behind him."

"This was a good track for us and it was a good finish. We need to carry it to California next week."

Next Sunday, the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series visits Auto Club Speedway in Fontana, Calif., for the Pepsi 500. ABC's live coverage begins at 2:30 p.m. EDT while MRN Radio's live coverage begins at 3:15 p.m. EDT.

Price Chopper 400 presented by Kraft Foods  
results (unofficial)

1. Tony Stewart
- 2. Jeff Gordon**
3. Greg Biffle
4. Juan Pablo Montoya
5. Denny Hamlin
6. Kasey Kahne
7. Mark Martin
8. David Reutimann
9. Jimmie Johnson
10. Carl Edwards

Point standings (unofficial)

1. Mark Martin
2. Jimmie Johnson (-18)
3. Juan Pablo Montoya (-51)
4. Tony Stewart (-67)
5. Kurt Busch (-91)
6. Denny Hamlin (-99)
- 7. Jeff Gordon (-103)**
8. Greg Biffle (-114)
9. Ryan Newman (-164)
10. Carl Edwards (-165)
11. Kasey Kahne (-190)
12. Brian Vickers (-250)