



DuPont Motorsports Post-Race Report
Bank of America 500
Charlotte Motor Speedway
October 16, 2010

Gordon Remains Fourth in Standings After 23rd-Place Finish

"We had about everything go wrong that could go wrong," Jeff Gordon said after alternator issues, a pit road speeding penalty and a loose wheel resulted in a 23rd-place finish in Saturday night's Bank of America 500 at Charlotte Motor Speedway. Gordon remained fourth in the standings but he now trails leader Jimmie Johnson by 156 halfway through the "Chase for the NASCAR Sprint Cup." Jamie McMurray won the 500-mile event.

Pole-winner Gordon led early and was running second when a caution waved at lap 128. After stopping for fuel only, Gordon restarted seventh on lap 131. But his race changed dramatically less than 60 laps later.

"All the power is gone!" Gordon radioed the crew as he exited turn 4. He coasted down the frontstretch and through turns 1 and 2 before he could make the switch to the backup battery and restart the car, falling to 23rd and losing a lap to the leader during the process.

A caution waved on lap 203 giving the driver of the No. 24 DuPont Chevrolet a "free pass" onto the lead lap. During the caution, the primary battery was replaced. If it was an alternator failure, this would ensure the No. 24 Impala could run the remaining distance with two fully charged batteries.

But when the race restarted, Gordon reported another issue to the crew. "I have a vibration," he radioed the crew on lap 226. "Get ready (in the pits), because it's getting worse."

The four-time NASCAR Cup Series champion held on until a caution waved 14 laps later, and the DuPont crew reviewed the situation on lap 242 with the field circulating behind the safety car. After checking the right-rear wheel and changing the tire, Gordon restarted 23rd on lap 243.

The 82-time winner battled his way up to 16th as he approached his final four-tire pit stop at lap 291, but Gordon was forced to make an additional trip down pit road after being assessed a penalty for exceeding the pit road speed limit. That dropped him down a lap to 23rd – his final finishing position.

"We had the battery issue which took me a little while to figure out," Gordon said after the race. "I've never had that happen before."

"I've had them stumble, but I've never had them just shut off. So, it took me a few seconds to figure that out. We lost a lap; and then speeding (on pit road) and a tire coming loose."

"We had it all happen."

"[Being over 150 points down] won't make us race any different. We race to win every weekend, so that's all we can continue to do going forward."

Next Sunday, the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series visits Martinsville Speedway for the TUMS Fast Relief 500. ESPN and MRN Radio will broadcast the 1 p.m. EDT race live.

Bank of America 500 results (unofficial)

1. Jamie McMurray
2. Kyle Busch
3. Jimmie Johnson
4. Denny Hamlin
5. Greg Biffle
6. Matt Kenseth
7. Joey Logano
8. Kevin Harvick
9. David Reutimann
10. David Ragan

23. Jeff Gordon

Point standings (unofficial)

1. Jimmie Johnson
2. Denny Hamlin (-41)
3. Kevin Harvick (-77)
4. **Jeff Gordon (-156)**
5. Kyle Busch (-177)
6. Tony Stewart (-177)
7. Carl Edwards (-200)
8. Greg Biffle (-225)
9. Kurt Busch (-237)
10. Jeff Burton (-239)
11. Matt Kenseth (-256)
12. Clint Bowyer (-300)