



DuPont Motorsports Post-Race Report
Brickyard 400
Indianapolis Motor Speedway
July 25, 2010

Team DuPont Finishes 23rd in Brickyard 400 After Fighting Back from Cut Tire

Although Jeff Gordon cut a tire late in Sunday's Brickyard 400, Team DuPont recovered to finish 23rd. The finish allowed Gordon to remain second in the point standings after the 160-lap event won by Jamie McMurray.

Gordon, who started eighth, battled a "tight in, loose off" condition after the green flag waved. He had fallen to 12th before crew chief Steve Letarte called for chassis adjustments during a four-tire stop on lap 48. But the changes did not help the handling on Gordon's brightly painted Chevrolet.

"We have two different cars in the corner," Gordon radioed the crew at lap 66. "We have a tight one getting into the corner, and we have a loose one off."

Letarte called for more major chassis adjustments during lap 97 and lap 118 pit stops, but Gordon reported the condition remained "same old, same old" – and the four-time NASCAR Cup Series champion continued to run 12th.

Gordon was able to move back into the top 10 at lap 125, but that was short lived as he reported a problem only one lap later.

"I've got a vibration," Gordon radioed the crew.

"It's the front-end splitter brace (that's broken), so keep running," Letarte responded. But one lap later, Gordon informed Letarte that he had a flat tire.

After nursing the car to pit road for service on lap 127, Gordon returned to the race one lap down in 27th. When a caution came out 10 laps later, the 82-time winner returned to the lead lap as one of the beneficiaries of the "wave around" rule.

"We need another quick caution," Letarte told the No. 24 driver before the lap 142 restart. "We'll fix the (hole in the) splitter then."

And that caution came out with only 15 laps remaining. After stopping for repairs, Gordon restarted 24th. But the damage was too much to overcome and the four-time Brickyard 400 winner settled for a 23rd-place finish.

"The car was decent at times, and we really struggled at times today," said Gordon after the event. "I thought we might be able to battle hard and maybe get a top-10 finish.

"But I felt a vibration and cut a right rear tire down. I guess the right front was going down as well, so I must have run over something.

"Maybe the splitter brace? I just don't know."

Next Sunday, the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series will visit Pocono Raceway for the Sunoco Red Cross Pennsylvania 500. ESPN and MRN Radio will broadcast the 1 p.m. EDT race live.

Brickyard 400 results (unofficial)

1. Jamie McMurray
2. Kevin Harvick
3. Greg Biffle
4. Clint Bowyer
5. Tony Stewart
6. Jeff Burton
7. Carl Edwards
8. Kyle Busch
9. Joey Logano
10. Kurt Busch
23. **Jeff Gordon**

Point standings (unofficial)

1. Kevin Harvick
2. **Jeff Gordon**
3. Denny Hamlin
4. Jimmie Johnson
5. Kurt Busch
6. Kyle Busch
7. Jeff Burton
8. Matt Kenseth
9. Tony Stewart
10. Carl Edwards