



DuPont Motorsports Post-Race Report  
Shelby American  
Las Vegas Motor Speedway  
February 28, 2010

**Jeff Gordon Finishes a "Disappointing" Third at Las Vegas**

Disappointed with a third-place finish? Definitely when you dominate a race like Jeff Gordon and the No. 24 team did on Sunday in the Shelby American at Las Vegas Motor Speedway.

Gordon, who qualified his DuPont/Pepsi Max Chevrolet second, passed polesitter Kurt Busch on the first lap. The four-time NASCAR Cup Series champion led 202 of the next 228 laps before a caution waved with less than 40 laps to go.

"Pit, pit, pit," crew chief Steve Letarte radioed Gordon. "We're gonna take right-side tires only." While the move allowed Gordon to exit pit road first, there were varying strategies – including that of teammate Jimmie Johnson who elected to stop for four new tires.

And that decision ultimately led to victory. Johnson passed Gordon with 16 laps remaining in the 267-lap race while Kevin Harvick passed him for second with less than three laps to go.

"I thought two tires was the right decision," Gordon said after the race. "We thought more teams were going to use that same strategy, and that would have given us a bit of a buffer to the first guy with four (new tires).

"But too many changed four and Jimmie was able to start right behind us. We were definitely the strongest car out there today, it's just tough to beat that team with only two new tires versus their four.

"This will give us momentum, but it sure is disappointing not to be celebrating in Victory Lane right now."

Gordon, who moved up to 13th in the standings, will attempt to win his first race of the 2010 season next Sunday in the Kobalt Tools 500 at Atlanta Motor Speedway. The 1 p.m. EST start will be broadcast live on FOX and PRN Radio.

Shelby American results (unofficial)

1. Jimmie Johnson
2. Kevin Harvick
- 3. Jeff Gordon**
4. Mark Martin
5. Matt Kenseth
6. Joey Logano
7. Tony Stewart
8. Clint Bowyer
9. Kasey Kahne
10. Greg Biffle

Point standings (unofficial)

1. Kevin Harvick
2. Clint Bowyer
3. Mark Martin
4. Matt Kenseth
5. Jimmie Johnson
6. Greg Biffle
7. Jeff Burton
8. Joey Logano
9. David Reutimann
10. Carl Edwards
- 13. Jeff Gordon**