



DuPont Motorsports Post-Race Report
Carfax 400
Michigan International Speedway
August 15, 2010

Strong Michigan Run for Team DuPont Hampered by Tire and Electrical Issues

Jeff Gordon raced his way from his 36th-starting position up to third, but a late cut tire and electrical issues relegated the four-time NASCAR Cup Series champion to a 27th-place finish in the Carfax 400 at Michigan International Speedway on Sunday. Points leader Kevin Harvick won the event while Gordon remained second in the standings.

The driver of the No. 24 DuPont Chevrolet wasted no time in moving up from his starting spot once the green flag waved just past 1 p.m. EDT. He gained seven positions in the first lap, and he was up to 16th by lap 15.

"We're killing everybody with our drive off the corner," Gordon radioed the crew. "But we can be better."

A chassis adjustment during a lap-35 caution period hurt the handling on the No. 24 Chevrolet and Gordon fell to 18th. He stopped again for four new tires and more chassis adjustments during a caution at lap 59 with the No. 24 car exiting pit road in 20th. The race restarted on lap 66 and Gordon passed 11 cars in 12 laps to move up to eighth.

The adjustments really seemed to help as Gordon broke into the top five at lap 114. When a caution waved at lap 147, he was up to third.

But the strong showing was cut short by a cut tire on the restart. Although some fender damage occurred after contact with another car, Gordon was able to keep his Impala out of the wall. He stopped three times during the ensuing caution so Team DuPont could work on the fenders and change tires, and Gordon was able to restart 27th. But his day took another bad turn with less than 15 laps to go.

"The Roush System lights up and the engine cuts off," Gordon reported to the crew. The Roush System shuts off the engine if a larger than 'normal' force is applied to the brakes – essentially a 'kill' switch to the power if the accelerator sticks and the driver 'slams' on the brake pedal in an attempt to slow down the car. With this system malfunctioning, Gordon was forced to restart his car – sometimes several times a lap – and battle hard just to cross the finish line in 27th.

"We had a great run going and I was really excited about how good the car was, especially being able to drive up from 36th," said Gordon. "I really thought we were going to give those guys a run for the win.

"But everything that could have of happened did happen. We cut the front tire and got damage to the right rear, and we had a problem with the [Roush] system. I don't know if we caused that or if the system failed or what. We've never had a problem with it.

"Everything just went wrong there at the end."

Gordon remains second in the point standings with a 387-point gap to 13th with only three races remaining before the 12-driver "Chase for the NASCAR Sprint Cup" field is set. Next Saturday night, the series visits Bristol Motor Speedway for the Irwin Tools Night Race. ABC and PRN Radio will broadcast the 7:30 p.m. EDT race live.

Carfax 400 results (unofficial)

1. Kevin Harvick
2. Denny Hamlin
3. Carl Edwards
4. Greg Biffle
5. Matt Kenseth
6. Tony Stewart
7. Juan Montoya
8. Martin Truex
9. Elliott Sadler
10. Joey Logano
27. **Jeff Gordon**

Point standings (unofficial)

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