



## Bud Pole Winner: Elliott Sadler

- **Elliott Sadler** won the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Series Bud Pole for the Food City 500, lapping Bristol Motor Speedway in 15.022 seconds at 127.733 mph. **Ryan Newman** holds the track-qualifying record of 14.908 seconds, 128.709 mph, set March 21, 2003.
- This is the 42nd Bud Pole for **Robert Yates Racing**. Those Bud Poles have come with six different drivers: **Dale Jarrett** (16), **Ernie Irvan** (10), **Davey Allison** (six), **Ricky Rudd** (four), **Kenny Irwin** (three) and Sadler (three).
- This is Sadler's third career Bud Pole in 218 NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Series races. His most recent Bud Pole was at Talladega in September 2003.
- This is Sadler's first Bud Pole and sixth top-10 start in 14 races at Bristol Motor Speedway. It is his third consecutive top-10 start here. It is his second top-10 start in 2005.
- **Dave Blaney** posted the second-quickest qualifying lap of 15.056 seconds, 127.444 mph – and will join Sadler on the front row for the Food City 500. It is second top-10 start in nine races at Bristol. It is his first start better than 27th this season.
- This is the second Bud Pole for **Ford** in 2005. **Dodge** also has two Bud Poles and **Chevrolet** has one.
- **Rusty Wallace** (third) posted his first start better than 21st in 2005. It is his best start at Bristol since he won the Bud Pole here in August 2000.
- **Jeff Gordon** (fourth) scored his 22nd top-10 start in 25 races at Bristol. It is his first top-10 start this season.
- **Travis Kvapil** (fifth) posted his career-best and his second top-10 start in 2005.
- There were five sets of ties in this qualifying session: **Ryan Newman** and **Jeremy Mayfield** (seventh and eighth); **Kasey Kahne** and **Greg Biffle** (ninth and 10th); **Dale Earnhardt Jr.**, and **Ricky Rudd** (19th and 20th); **Dale Jarrett** and **Mike Wallace** (21st and 22nd); **Scott Wimmer** and **Shane Hmiel** (32nd and 33rd) The ties were broken by 2004 owner points.
- There have been **eight different Bud Pole winners** in the last 13 NASCAR NEXTEL Cup races at Bristol Motor Speedway, but only three in the past seven. **Jeff Gordon** (four), **Ryan Newman** (two) and **Rusty Wallace** (two) are the repeat Bud Pole winner in the 12-race period.
- **Forty-eight** races at Bristol have been won from the first four starting positions (54 percent).
- Only **15 races** have been won from a starting position outside the top 10, including five of the past eight.
- The **furthest back** in the field that a Bristol race winner has started was **38th** by **Elliott Sadler** in the 2001 Food City 500.
- **Kurt Busch** is the defending champion of the Food City 500. He has won the last three spring races and four of the last six races at Bristol.