



Bud Pole Winner: Matt Kenseth

Sharpie 500 – Bristol Motor Speedway
Aug. 26, 2005

- **Matt Kenseth** won the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Series Bud Pole for the Sharpie 500, lapping Bristol Motor Speedway in 15.073 seconds at 127.300 mph. **Ryan Newman** track-qualifying record of 14.908 seconds, 128.709 mph, set March 21, 2003.
- This is Kenseth's second career Bud Pole in 208 NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Series races. His other Bud Pole was at Dover in May 2002, 119 races ago.
- This is Kenseth's fourth top-10 start in 10 NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Series race at Bristol Motor Speedway.
- Kenseth became the **15th different Bud Pole winner** this season.
- There have been **10 different Bud Pole winners** in the last 14 NASCAR NEXTEL Cup races at Bristol Motor Speedway, but only three in the past eight. **Jeff Gordon** (four), **Ryan Newman** (two) and **Rusty Wallace** (two) are the repeat Bud Pole winner in the 14-race period.
- **Jeff Gordon** posted the second-quickest qualifying lap of 15.085 seconds, 127.199 mph – and will join Kenseth on the front row for the Sharpie 500. Gordon his 23rd top-10 start in his 26 races at Bristol. It is his eight straight top-five start here. This is his 11 th top 10 start this season.
- This is the fourth Bud Pole for **Ford** in 2005 and second in the past four races. **Chevrolet** has 10 Bud Poles and **Dodge** has eight. Qualifying was canceled at Dover and second Michigan.
- **Dave Blaney** (third) posted his third top-10 start in 10 races at Bristol. He started second here in the spring race this season and eighth in the spring of 2001.
- **Greg Biffle** (fourth) scored his fourth top-10 start in six races at Bristol, all in the past four races. It is his 15th top-10 start this season.
- **Ricky Rudd** (fifth) Rudd, who posted 13 top-10 starts in his first 18 races at Bristol posted his 28th top-10 start overall here. It is his just his third in his past 13 races here.
- Ryan Newman (sixth) posted his Series-leading 22nd top-10 start of 2005. Newman has started form the top-10 in all but one of his eight Bristol races.
- Six drivers failed to qualify for the Sharpie 500: **Wayne Anderson, Mike Garvey, Johnny Sauter, Morgan Shepherd, P.J. Jones** and **Tony Raines**.
- **Forty-eight** races at Bristol have been won from the first four starting positions (54 percent).
- Only **16 races** have been won from a starting position outside the top 10, including six of the past nine.
- The **furthest back** in the field that a Bristol race winner has started was **38th** by **Elliott Sadler** in the 2001 Food City 500.