



Information Provided by NASCAR Statistical Services

Today's Winner: Matt Kenseth

Team: No. 17 DeWalt Power Tools Ford

- **Matt Kenseth** won the **Sharpie 500 at Bristol Motor Speedway**, scoring his **10th** NASCAR NEXTEL Cup victory in his **208th** career start.
- **Kenseth climbed from 15th to 11th** in the NASCAR NEXTEL CUP point standings, **now 622 behind** first-place **Tony Stewart and just 11 behind 10th-place Jeff Gordon.**
- Kenseth's last victory came at Las Vegas in March 2004, **57 races ago.** He scored his **first victory** in 12 races at Bristol Motor Speedway. This was his **first victory in 2005.**
- Kenseth became **the 11th different race winner** in 2005.
- Kenseth has scored **nine top-10 finishes** in 24 races in 2005.
- This was Kenseth's **second victory** in 34 career short-track races.
- **Kenseth led the most laps for the second time** in a race this season. He also led the most at Chicagoland (176 of 267).
- **Kenseth led 415 laps**, the most laps that he has led in a single race in his NASCAR NEXTEL Cup career. Kenseth also led more laps in tonight's short-track race than he had led in his first 33-race short-track races (271 laps).
- **Kenseth scored the seventh victory** for car owner **Jack Roush** at Bristol Motor Speedway. This was **Roush's 84th victory** as a car owner and **ninth in 20 races this season.**
- This is the 10th **victory by a Ford** in 2005. **Chevrolet** has 12 and **Dodge** has two.

Race For The Chase to the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup

- **Tony Stewart, Jimmie Johnson** and **Greg Biffle** have clinched a spot in the 2005 Chase for the NEXTEL Cup.
- **Rusty Wallace** will secure a spot in the Chase for the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup this coming weekend in the Sony HD 500 at California Speedway simply by starting the race.
- Any driver who has a lead of 191 points or more over the 11th place driver following the conclusion of the race at California will clinch a berth in the Chase for the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup.
- The most points that can be gained or lost in a single race is 156. The drivers ranked **11th thru 17th** in the current point standings are all **139 or less behind** 10th-place **Jeff Gordon.**

Notebook Items

- **Jeff Burton** (second) posted his ninth top-10 finish in 24 races at Bristol Motor Speedway. It marked his **third top-10 finish** in 2005 and **his best finish of the season.**
- **Greg Biffle** (third) posted his **third top-10 finish** in six races at Bristol. Biffle scored his **13th top-10 finish in 2005.**
- **Ricky Rudd** (fourth) posted his **31st top-10 finish in 56 races** at Bristol. Rudd has scored six top-10 finishes in 2005.
- **Rusty Wallace** (fifth) posted his 29th top-10 finish in 44 races at Bristol Motor Speedway. He scored his 13th top-10 finish in 24 races in 2005. Wallace remained fourth in the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup point standings **now 351 points ahead of 11th place Matt Kenseth.** Wallace extended a **37-race streak of running at the finish** that began at Bristol last August. Wallace has scored **19 top-15 finishes** in 24 races in 2005.
- **Jeff Gordon** (sixth) posted his 16th top-10 finish in 26 races at Bristol Motor Speedway. Gordon has climbed from 15th to 10th in the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup point standings in his last four races. He is just **11 points ahead** of 11th-place Matt Kenseth.
- **Mike Bliss** (seventh) scored his best finish of 2005. It was his first top-10 finish in two races at Bristol. Bliss led four laps in the Sharpie 500 and became the **48th different driver to lead** in 2005.
- **Tony Stewart** (eighth) posted his fifth top-10 finish in 14 races at Bristol Motor Speedway. He scored his 16th top-10 finish in 24 races in 2005, the most of all drivers. Stewart remained first in the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup point standings **now 213 points ahead** of second place **Jimmie Johnson.** Stewart has scored **10 straight top-10 finishes** including eight top fives.
- **Jimmie Johnson** (36th) has ranked in the top-10 of the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Series point standings for **57 consecutive races**, the longest current streak. The streak began at Atlanta in March 2004.
- **Dale Earnhardt Jr.** (ninth) climbed from **16th to 15th** in the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup point standings, **117 points behind** 10th-place Jeff Gordon.
- **Three of the top-10 positions** in the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup point standings changed at Bristol Motor Speedway.
- The **NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Leader Bonus** will be worth **\$30,000** at California Speedway.