



## Bud Pole Winner: Joe Nemechek

GFS Marketplace 400 – Michigan International Speedway  
Aug. 20, 2005

- **Joe Nemechek** won the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Series Bud Pole for the GFS Marketplace 400, lapping Michigan International Speedway in 37.582 seconds at 191.581 mph. **Ryan Newman** holds the track-qualifying record of 37.069 seconds, 194.232 mph, set June 18, 2005.
- This is Nemechek's ninth career Bud Pole in 381 NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Series races.
- This is Nemechek's first Bud Pole at Michigan and comes in his 24th race here. It is his first top-10 start in his last 10 races at Michigan. His best Michigan finish was sixth in June 2005.
- Nemechek became the **14th different Bud Pole winner** this season.
- There have been **seven different Bud Pole winners** in the past 10 NASCAR NEXTEL Cup races at Michigan. **Jeff Gordon** and **Bobby Labonte** (two each) are the repeat Bud Pole winners in the 10-race period. Qualifying was canceled in August 2004.
- **Jeff Gordon** posted the second-quickest qualifying lap of 37.627 seconds, 191.362 mph – and will join Nemechek on the front row for the GFS Marketplace 400. Gordon has started from a top-10 starting position in 17 of his 26 races at Michigan. It is his 10th top-10 start in 2005.
- This is the 10th Bud Pole for **Chevrolet** in 2005. **Dodge** has eight Bud Poles and **Ford** has three. Qualifying was canceled at Dover and Watkins Glen.
- **Kasey Kahne** (third) posted his 11th top-10 start in 2005 and his second in four races at Michigan – both this season.
- **Kyle Busch** (fourth) scored his first top-10 start in two races at Michigan.
- **Ryan Newman** (fifth) posted his Series-leading 20th top-10 start this season. It is his seventh top-10 start in nine races at Michigan.
- **Mike Bliss** (sixth) posted his career-best start in his 58 NASCAR NEXTEL Cup races. It is also his best in 2005 and his fourth top-10 start this season. It is his first start better than 12th in six races at Michigan.
- **Stuart Kirby** (21st) posted the best qualifying effort of his six-race NASCAR NEXTEL Cup career. His previous best start was 23rd at Charlotte in October 2001, in his career-first start. This will be his third race in 2005. His career-best finish (37th) came at Chicago this past July.
- **Johnny Benson** (34th) qualified for his first NASCAR NEXTEL Cup race since Talladega on April 25, 2004.
- Five drivers failed to qualify for the GFS Marketplace 400: **P.J. Jones**, **Carl Long**, **Eric McClure**, **Bryan Reffner** and **Morgan Shepherd**.