



Information Provided by NASCAR Statistical Services

## Today's Winner: Jimmie Johnson

### Team: No. 48 Lowe's Chevrolet

- **Jimmie Johnson** won the 48th running of "The Great American Race" - the 2006 Daytona 500 - scoring his **19th** NASCAR NEXTEL Cup victory in his **148th** career start.
- Johnson's last victory came at Lowe's Motor Speedway in October 2005, **six races earlier**.
- Johnson's **first victory** in nine Daytona races is also his first in a restrictor-plate race.
- Johnson moved to **31st** on NASCAR's all-time winners list, tying **Davey Allison, Buddy Baker** and **Fonty Flock**.
- Johnson, who finished fifth in the 2005 NASCAR NEXTEL Cup point standings, begins the 2006 season atop the point standings.
- Johnson has **ranked among the top-10** in the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup point standings for **70 straight races**, a streak that began after race No. 4 at Atlanta in March 2004.
- Johnson led four times for **24 laps** including **the final 17**.
- This is Johnson's **fifth straight top-10 finish** at Daytona extending a streak that began here in 2004.
- Johnson has won at least one race each season 2002 – 2006, **five consecutive years**.
- Johnson scored the **10th victory** for team owner **Rick Hendrick** at Daytona. It is **Hendrick's 141st victory** as a car owner and **sixth Daytona 500 victory** with four different drivers.
- Team owner **Rick Hendrick** has won at least won race each season 1986 – 2006, **21 consecutive years**.

### Notebook Items

- **Dale Earnhardt Jr.**, led the **most laps** (32) in the 2006 Daytona 500. The last time he led the most laps in a race was at Atlanta last October, the **only** time in 2005 that he led the most laps.
- The **18 different leaders** in the 2006 Daytona 500 **set an all-time record** for the most leaders at Daytona. The previous record was 15 set in 1974, 1989 and 1996 – all in the Daytona 500.
- Three of the top-10 finishers in the 2006 Daytona 500 finished in the final top 10 in the 2005 NASCAR NEXTEL Cup point standings.
- **Casey Mears** (second) scored his career-best finish. It marked his first top-10 finish in seven races here.
- **Ryan Newman** (third) scored his best finish at Daytona. It marked his second top-10 finish in nine races here.
- **Elliott Sadler** (fourth) scored his fourth top-10 finish in 15 races at Daytona. It marked his best Daytona finish since he finished second in this race in 2002.
- **Tony Stewart** (fifth) scored his fifth straight top10 finish at Daytona. Stewart has scored eight top-10 finishes in 15 races at Daytona.
- **Clint Bowyer** (sixth) was the highest finishing Raybestos Rookie-of-the Year contender in the 2006 Daytona 500. **All seven** of the 2006 Raybestos Rookie-of-the Year contenders competed in the Daytona 500.
- **Joe Nemechek** (33rd) has been running at the finish in the last 33 races, a streak that began at Bristol last April, the longest current streak.
- Only **once since 1979** has the winner of the Daytona 500 gone on to win the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup championship in the same year: **Jeff Gordon** (1997). Three other drivers won the Daytona 500 also became the NASCAR champion in the same year: **Lee Petty** (1959), **Richard Petty** (1964, 1971, 1974 and 1979) and **Cale Yarborough** (1977).
- **Dale Earnhardt Jr.**, was the leader at lap 100. The race leader at the halfway point in the Daytona 500 has failed to win in **the last 14 years**. The last driver to lead at halfway and win was **Davey Allison** in 1992.
- The NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Leader Bonus will be worth **\$ 20,000** at California Speedway.
- **Heading to California Speedway**
  - \* **Greg Biffle** finished first and second in the two races last year at California Speedway.
  - \* **Carl Edwards** has finished sixth or better in his three races at California Speedway.
  - \* **Jamie McMurray** has scored top-15 finishes in all five of his races at California Speedway.