



## Bud Pole Winner: Jeff Gordon

Dover 400 – Dover International Speedway

Sept. 22, 2006

- **Jeff Gordon** won the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Series Bud Pole for the Dover 400, lapping Dover International Speedway in 23.053 seconds at 156.162 mph. **Jeremy Mayfield** holds the track-qualifying record of 22.288 seconds, 161.522 mph - set June 4, 2004.
- This is Gordon's 55th career Bud Pole in 465 NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Series races. He moved into a tie with **Bill Elliott** for sixth all-time on the Bud Pole winners list.
- This is Gordon's 14th consecutive year to score a Bud Pole, every season since his full-time career began in 1993. He ended a 47-race streak without a Bud Pole – the longest of his career.
- Gordon became the 13th different Bud Pole winner in 2006. This is his 13th top-10 start in 2006.
- This is Gordon's third Bud Pole and 18th top-10 start in 28 NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Series race at Dover International Speedway, but his first Bud Pole here since June 1996.
- Gordon became the third different Bud Pole winner in the past eight races at Dover International Speedway. **Ryan Newman** had three Bud Poles and **Jeremy Mayfield** two since 2002. Qualifying was canceled twice in the eight-race period.
- **Scott Riggs** posted the second-quickest qualifying lap of 23.068 seconds, 156.060 mph – and will join Gordon on the front row for the Dover 400. It is his fourth top-10 start this season, Riggs had not started better than 15th in his previous five races at Dover.
- This is the 11th Bud Pole for **Chevrolet** in 2006. **Dodge** has 12 Bud Poles and **Ford** has four. Qualifying was canceled at Bristol.
- **Matt Kenseth** (third) posted his fifth top-10 start in 16 races at Dover. Kenseth had just eight top-10 starts in the first 22 races of the season, but has posted four in the past six races.
- **Ryan Newman** (fourth), who started 38th in his career-first Dover race (June 2002), has posted nine top-10 starts in 10 races here – all top-fives. This is only qualifying effort that did not result in a front-row starting position for Newman since September 2002 when he started fourth in his second race here. His other non-front row starts were when qualifying was canceled in September 2003 (fifth) and again in June 2005 (fourth).
- **Joe Nemechek** (fifth) posted his ninth top-10 start in 25 races at Dover. It is also his eighth top-10 start of 2006 but just his second in the past 11 races.
- **Reed Sorenson** (seventh) was the highest qualifying rookie and posted his career-best qualifying effort.
- **David Ragan** (37th) qualified for his career-first NASCAR NEXTEL Cup race. He became the 86th driver to attempt to qualify this season and the 72nd to compete in 2006.
- Only three of the 10 Chase drivers qualified in the top 10: Gordon, Kenseth and **Mark Martin** (ninth). Point leader, **Kevin Harvick** (25th) was the lowest-qualifying of the Chase drivers.
- Four drivers failed to qualify for the Dover 400: **Morgan Shepherd**, **Kenny Wallace**, **Chad Blount** and **Donnie Neuenberger**.