



Information Provided by NASCAR Statistical Services

Today's Winner: Kasey Kahne

Team: No. 9 Dodge Dealers/UAW Dodge

- **Kasey Kahne** won the Golden Corral 500 at Atlanta Motor Speedway, scoring his **second career** NASCAR NEXTEL Cup victory in his **76th** career start. Kahne won from the Bud Pole.
- Kahne's last victory came at Richmond, **29 races ago**. He also won that race from the Bud Pole.
- It was his **first victory and fourth top-five finish** in five Atlanta races.
- Kahne scored his **third top-five** finish in four races this season. All four of his finishes in 2006 have been top 15s.
- Kahne moved into **second** in the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup point standings, the highest ranking of his career.
- Kahne led four times, including the final 80 laps. He did not lead the most laps
- **Dodge** scored its first Atlanta victory since **Richard Petty** won this race at Atlanta in 1977 – 29 years ago.
- The last victory from the Bud Pole at Atlanta came in the fall of 1996 by **Bobby Labonte**.
- **Eight of the last nine race winners** at Atlanta have won from a top-10 starting position.
- This was team owner **Ray Evernham**'s eighth NASCAR NEXTEL Cup victory and first at Atlanta Motor Speedway.
- **Evernham Motorsports** has won at least one race each season 2001– 2006, **six consecutive years**.

Notebook Items

- The last time a NASCAR NEXTEL Cup race was won from the Bud Pole was by **Matt Kenseth** at Bristol in August 2005.
- The best start to a season (after four races) was done twice. **Herb Thomas** (1954) and **Bill Elliott** (1992) each scored three victories in the first four races.
- **Mark Martin** (second) has finished in the top-five in the last four races at Atlanta Motor Speedway. He has scored four straight top-15 finishes to start the season. Martin climbed from fifth to fourth in the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup point standings. One year ago Martin ranked fifth.
- **Dale Earnhardt Jr.** (third) scored his sixth top-five finish in 14 races at Atlanta Motor Speedway. He climbed from **11th to seventh** in the NASCAR NEXTEL cup standings.
- **Jeff Gordon** (fourth) scored his 12th top-five finish in 28 races at Atlanta Motor Speedway. It marked his second top-five finish in 2006, both in the last two races.
- **Tony Stewart** (fifth) scored his fifth top-five finish in 15 races at Atlanta Motor Speedway. It was his second top-five finish in 2006. The defending NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Champion climbed from 19th to 12th in the point standings.
- **Jimmie Johnson** (sixth) has finished **four top-10 finishes**, including two victories, in the first four races in 2006. He is **the only driver** to start the 2006 season with four top-10 finishes. He remained first in the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup point standings. Johnson has **ranked among the top-10** in the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup point standings for **73 straight races**, a streak that began after race No. 4 at Atlanta in March 2004.
- **Paul Menard** (seventh) scored his career best NASCAR NEXTEL Cup finish.
- **Reed Sorenson** (10th) was the highest finishing Raybestos Rookie-of-the Year contender in the 2006 Golden Corral 500. It marked the first top-10 finish of his short career.
- **Greg Biffle** (16th) **led the most laps** (128) in the Golden Corral 500. The last time he led the most laps in a race was at California two races ago where he finished 42nd.
- **All seven** of the 2006 Raybestos Rookie-of-the Year contenders have competed in all four races in 2006 and two scored top-15 finishes in today's race.
- **Joe Nemechek** (17th) has been running at the finish in the last **36 races**, a streak that began at Bristol last April and is the longest current streak.
- **Heading to Bristol Motor Speedway**
 - **Eight of the last 12 races** at Bristol have been won by a Ford.
 - **Four of the last six races** at Bristol were won by a Jack Roush driver.
 - **Twenty-one of the 90 races** at Bristol Motor Speedway have been won from the Bud Pole, including last fall's victory by **Matt Kenseth**.
- The NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Leader bonus will be worth **\$ 20,000** at Bristol Motor Speedway.