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Today's Winner: Brian Vickers

Team: No. 25 GMAC Chevrolet

- **Brian Vickers** won the 2006 UAW-FORD 500 at Talladega Superspeedway, scoring his **first career** NASCAR NEXTEL Cup victory in his **107th** career start.
- Vickers became **the second first-time winner in 2006** joining **Denny Hamlin**, who swept both races at Pocono.
- Vickers has scored **three top-10 finishes in six races** at Talladega
- Vickers' victory today was the 19th **Chevrolet victory** in 30 races in 2006.
- Vickers won the race from **the ninth-place starting position**.
- Vickers **led the final lap** in the 2006 UAW-FORD 500 at Talladega. Vickers led five times for 17 laps.
- This is team owner **Rick Hendrick's 148th NASCAR NEXTEL Cup victory**. Hendrick has scored **eight victories** in 2006. It is Hendrick's **eighth victory** at Talladega.
- **Hendrick Motorsports** has won at least one race each season (1986-2006), **21 consecutive years**.

Notebook Items

- **The 63 lead changes** today were the most since there were 68 at Talladega in July 1984. The 63 lead changes ranks **sixth all-time** for the most in NASCAR history.
- The **63 lead changes** and **23 different lap leaders** is the most in a race in 2006.
- **Dale Earnhardt Jr.**, led seven times for 32 laps, leading the most laps for **the second time** in 2006 and first time since Daytona in February.
- **Kasey Kahne** (second) scored his 15th top-10 finish in 2006 and his first top-10 finish in six races at Talladega.
- **Kurt Busch** (third) scored his 10th top-10 finish in 2006. It marked his ninth top-10 finish in 12 races at Talladega.
- **Matt Kenseth** (fourth) scored his 14th top-five finish in 2006 and first in the last six races since he finished first at Bristol in August. It marked his sixth top-10 finish in 14 races at Talladega Superspeedway.
- **Martin Truex Jr.** (fifth) scored his career-best finish. It was his first career top-five finish and fourth top-10 finish in 2006. It was his first top-10 finish in four races at Talladega Superspeedway.
- **Mark Martin** (eighth) has been running at the finish in the last **37 races**, the longest current streak. Martin's streak began at Kansas City one year ago.
- **Martin Truex Jr.**, was the highest finishing rookie for the second time in 2006 - all in the last three races.
- At least one of the Raybestos Rookie-of-the Year contenders has scored **a top-15 finish** in all **30 races** this season.
- **Denny Hamlin** (21st) ended a streak of **20 straight top-20 finishes** that began at Richmond in May. His previous finish outside the top-20 came at Talladega in May where he finished 22nd.
- **Jimmie Johnson** (24th today) has been ranked among the top 10 for **99 consecutive races**. Johnson has gone **six straight races without scoring a top-10 finish**, the longest streak of his career. Johnson remained **eighth** in the point standings.
- **Tony Stewart** (22nd) remained **11th in the point standings**. He has a **236-point lead** over 12th-place Carl Edwards who finished ninth. This is the first year that Stewart will not finish among the top-10 **since 1999, ending a seven-year streak**. Stewart missed The Chase by **16 points**. Stewart is chasing the **\$1 million bonus** for finishing 11th in the final point standings. **Jeff Gordon** finished 11th in 2005 and **Jamie McMurray** finished 11th in 2004, the inaugural year of the Chase.
- **Jeff Burton** (27th) ended a streak of **four straight top-10** finishes that began at Richmond in September.
- **Race No. 30 at Talladega** marked the fourth of the 10 races in the 2006 Chase for the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup.
- **Four of the 10** Chase drivers finished in the top 10.
- **Seven of the 10** The Chase drivers changed point positions at Talladega.
- **Jeff Burton** remained **first** in the point standings by just six points over second-place **Matt Kenseth** and just 10 points ahead of third-place **Mark Martin**.