

# NEWS RELEASE



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**TEAM HAMMONDS PRE-STARTS  
SEASON AT 2009 LAS VEGAS SHOWDOWN**

***(HOLT, Fla., Jan. 28, 2009)*** - - Team Hammonds will have a preliminary start to the 2009 NHRA Full Throttle Pro Stock season by competing in the Las Vegas Pro Stock Showdown this weekend.

Coming off of a disappointing season, Team Hammonds is excited about using the Showdown to take inventory of what is ahead for this coming drag racing season.

"The showdown gives us a chance to shake down our brand new Chevrolet Cobalt to get ready for the first race of the year," explains Tom Hammonds, Team Hammonds owner/driver. "This is a good situation in that pretty much all of the competitors are there that are going to race in Pomona the following weekend. It gives us a chance to see how we stack up against the better teams that will be racing on the NHRA circuit this season."

"It also allows us to test extensively in a competitive situation, which will give us a jump start to the year as to what we need to do to be competitive, at least for the first race of the season."

Racing the Race for Achievement Chevrolet Cobalt, equipped with new chassis, Team Hammonds will begin qualifying noon, Friday, Jan. 30 and continue throughout the weekend at The Strip at Las Vegas Motor Speedway in Las Vegas.

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**About Tom Hammonds and Tom Hammonds Enterprises, LLC (THE)**

Racing since the age of 16, Chevrolet backed Tom Hammonds made a triumphant return to full-time drag racing at the Gatornationals Gainesville Raceway in March 2007. He is the only African

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American owner (Tom Hammonds Enterprises, LLC) and driver of a race team in professional motor sports. Previous owner of a Chevrolet dealership, Hammonds was drafted 9th overall in the 1989 NBA draft and enjoyed his career with Washington, Denver, Charlotte, and Minnesota, where he completed his career. Before his illustrious NBA career, he played college basketball at Georgia Tech, where his jersey was retired for being the fourth all time leading scorer and received a bachelors of science in business management. A native of Crestview, Fla., he was inducted into the All Sports Association Hall of Fame of Fort Walton Beach, Fla. in March 2007.

Tom Hammonds Enterprises, LLC (THE) is located in Holt, Fla. and was formed in 2005. THE takes pride in promoting high performance and safety in the sport of drag racing. Housing such programs as Tom Hammonds Engines, a program specifically for performance drivers to rent custom built engines, and Tom Hammonds Race for Achievement, a school program dedicated to revving the engines of education through student achievement, the company's mission is to make an impact on the sport of drag racing. THE is the only African American owned and driven team in professional motor sports. For more information, visit [www.tomhammondsracing.com](http://www.tomhammondsracing.com).