

# NEWS RELEASE



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

4<sup>th</sup> Annual Las Vegas Pro Stock Showdown  
The Strip at Las Vegas Motor Speedway  
Eliminations - Day 2 Recap

## **TEAM HAMMONDS BUMPED IN SEMI-FINAL ROUND AT LAS VEGAS PRO STOCK SHOWDOWN**

**(LAS VEGAS, Jan. 31, 2009)** --- Team Hammonds loses to Jeg Coughlin Jr. in the semi-final round of the fourth annual Las Vegas Pro Stock Showdown. Hammonds registered an elapsed time of 6.719 seconds, only .007 seconds behind Jeg (6.726 seconds).

"It was really a lot of fun to get behind the wheel, which I have not been since the Richmond," said a happy Tom Hammonds, team owner/driver of the No. 20 Race for Achievement Chevy Cobalt. "I am really proud of my team."

Hammonds defeated David Beckley in the first round of eliminations and Rickie Jones in the second round to advance to the semi-final round.

"We worked really hard on our engines in the off season, but I always knew we had power in our engines and are hoping to carry this into the start of the NHRA season in Pomona, [Ca]."

With a great start one week before the beginning of the 2009 NHRA Full Throttle Series season, Hammonds hopes to carry this performance to Pomona, Ca.. The team will spend the rest of the weekend testing in preparation for competition next weekend.

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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 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).