

# NEWS RELEASE



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

SummitRacing.com NHRA Nationals  
***Las Vegas Day 2 Recap***

## **TEAM HAMMONDS DOES WELL AFTER ONE QUALIFYING**

**(LAS VEGAS, Apr. 3, 2009)** - - Regulated to one session of qualifying due to weather today at SummitRacing.com NHRA Nationals, Team Hammonds ran an elapsed time of 6.759 seconds against Steve Spiess (11.154 sec./86.20 mph) to sit in sixth place.

"We really feel great about the first session," said Tomi Laine, Team Hammonds crew chief. "It was pretty hard to come from Houston to completely different the conditions here in Las Vegas."

Winds were very high and the air was humid causing the No. 20 Race for Achievement Chevy Cobalt to lose power. Laine said they gave up a little at the 60-ft mark and decided to make quite a few changes to the car in preparation for the second session, which was called.

"Since the second round was called today, we just need to get a good night sleep, and see what the weather and air will be tomorrow to decide what the whole package will be. We are close enough that we can make small changes and try to make the car better, faster, and move up in the field."

Laine is pleased with the team's performance and is much happier with the start of this race than in Houston.

**-MORE-**

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Greg Anderson (6.718 sec./205.32mph) is sitting in the number one spot. Two qualifying session are scheduled for tomorrow at noon and 3:00 PM PT at The Strip at the Las Vegas Speedway. Check your local listings for coverage on ESPN2.

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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 on the NHRA circuit. 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 on the NHRA circuit. For more information, visit [www.tomhammondsracing.com](http://www.tomhammondsracing.com).