

NEWS RELEASE



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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*NHRA MacTools US Nationals
Day 2 Recap*

TEAM HAMMONDS MAINTAINS AT NHRA US NATIONALS

-Chevy Cobalt Has Best Performance in Third Session -

(INDIANAPOLIS, Aug. 30, 2008) – Team Hammonds participated in two qualifying sessions today at the 54th annual NHRA MacTools U.S. Nationals at the O'Reilly Raceway Park resulting in maintaining 21st place.

Team Hammonds ran the team's best elapsed time of 6.708 seconds at 205.19 seconds in the third session, almost bumping into the 12-car qualifying field. Driver/Owner Tom Hammonds felt his performance was right with the pack due to the solid changes made to the chassis, clutch, and transmission gear ratio of the Chevy Cobalt before the run to improve their time.

"Overall, we are happy about the third session run. Yes, we almost bumped into the qualifying field, but I am pleased because this is the best I've felt our Chevy Cobalt launch off the starting line in a long, long time," said a hopeful Hammonds. "I give all the credit to the crew for the great decisions they made to allow the Chevy Cobalt to perform."

The outcome was not so favorable for the earlier round of qualifying. Team Hammonds was too aggressive on the initial hit from the start line. Missed calculations for the transmission gear ratios caused the car to spin from the start line for Hammonds to register an elapsed time of 6.730 seconds at 204.94 mph.

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"My crew is doing an excellent job, especially in the last run today. This last run gives us momentum going into tomorrow morning's session. If we make this same type of run in tomorrow morning's session, given the good conditions, then I feel confident we will have a chance to race on Monday."

Team Hammonds will use tomorrow's qualifying sessions to secure a spot in the top 16 to participate in eliminations on Labor Day. The weather conditions for the first session are expected to be the most favorable for the weekend for dragsters to produce faster times. The air quality will be better than today, along with the track being cooler.

"We will be in the favored left lane for the first session tomorrow; so we just have to make the same type of run we did tonight tomorrow morning. I like our chances."

Pro Stock action resumes on Sunday at 11:00 a.m. EST.

Richie Stevens, driver of the No. 9 GXP, is running a THE engine and sits in 22nd place after three rounds of qualifying.

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About Tom Hammonds

As an achiever in his own right and 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.

About Tom Hammonds Enterprises, LLC (THE)

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.