

NEWS RELEASE



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*Virginia NHRA Nationals
Petersburg, Va. -Day 2/ Final Recap*

TEAM HAMMONDS FAILED TO QUALIFY WITH NEW CHASSIS

(PETERSBURG, Va., Oct. 11, 2008) - - Team Hammonds failed to qualify with their new chassis today at the third annual Virginia NHRA Nationals.

The team had two runs to make it into the 16-car qualifying field to compete in tomorrow's elimination competition. Running a best elapsed time of 6.629 seconds (207.24 mph) in the fourth session and 6.632 seconds (207.59 mph) in the third session, the No. 20 Race for Achievement Chevy Cobalt's new chassis did not run as well as they expected.

"It is just a new car, a new car deal. We have no notes. We are starting over from scratch with no notes. I think the car is fine. We just have not hit it yet," said Kenny Tom, Team Hammonds crew chief.

Tom qualifies that they still have a lot to learn about the new chassis in order to be competitive. Though the car seems it will prove to be very fast, the crew will need to start from scratch by going baseline. The upside is the new chassis allows the changes they made throughout the day to register on the computer graph, which did not happen with their previously flawed chassis. He anticipates their next steps will need to be to figure out the data from this weekend's race so that the crew can make correct decisions in order to run at the speeds he feels the THE engine is capable of running in future races.

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"I am disappointed we did not qualify," said Tom Hammonds, owner/driver, "and we know our car is capable of a lot more."

The team is now looking forward to the Las Vegas race at the end of the month, which they preparing for better results.

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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. Visit www.tomhammondsracing.com.