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TOPSY-TURVY IN TOPEKA

MILLICAN, C. FORCE,
KRAMER WIN RAIN-
DELAYED EVENT



ANOTHER FIRST
Kramer is latest first-time
Pro Stock champ

ALSO INSIDE
JEGS NHRA
SPORTSnationals coverage

NOTES FROM THE PRO MOD REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

BY JIM LUIKENS

Keith Haney made his E3 Spark Plugs NHRA Pro Mod Drag Racing Series presented by J&A Service debut at the Menards NHRA Heartland Nationals presented by Minties in Topeka. The Tulsa, Okla., car dealer, a well-known driver in eighth-mile Pro Mod racing, was competing on the full quarter-mile for the first time. He was driving a nitrous-assisted Camaro that had been prepared by Rickie Smith and carried an outrageous Kryptonite Kustomz wrap that proclaimed Haney's signature "You Know My Name" moniker.

Haney's first NHRA weekend started out well enough. After a ceremonial debut of his car and his Summit Racing sponsorship, Haney roared to a 5.900-second elapsed time in the very first Pro Mod qualifying session that was good enough at that time for the ninth position in the starting field. In three subsequent qualifying sessions, Haney was not able to improve on that time and finished up 21st on the final qualifying sheet. We'll see Haney again later this year at the St. Louis and Dallas NHRA national events.

Probably the happiest No. 16 qualifier in the history of the NHRA was New Mexico's **Clint Satterfield**. A 5.860-second pass put him on the bump spot and into his first NHRA starting field in more than two years. Congratulations to Satterfield, crew chief Bob Gardner, Carl



Keith Haney

Stevens Jr.'s Xtreme Racing Engines, and everyone else who helped make this happen.

On the other hand, probably the most disappointed racer at Heartland Motorsports Park was hometown boy **Steve Matusek**. Matusek's 5.864-second elapsed time left him 17th and just fractionally short of the aforementioned Satterfield's 5.860-second bump-riding elapsed time. Despite not qualifying, subsequent testing has shown Matusek's problem to be defective front shocks. All should be good for Matusek at the next NHRA Pro Mod event.

Harry Hruska has been a human highlight reel since he started driving his HPL Racing Oil '14 Camaro. In Topeka, he outdid himself with his longest powerstand to date, and despite his theatrics, Hruska qualified on that run with a 5.865-second elapsed time. On race day, Hruska left before the Tree was activated and lost in the first round. If you haven't seen Hruska's remarkable run

yet, just search "Harry Hruska HeartlandNats" on YouTube.

Steven Whiteley debuted his beautiful, new '18 Camaro at this event. The paint scheme is similar to the one that is seen on his mom Annie Whiteley's Top Alcohol Funny Car. Steven qualified a strong second in the overall field but lost in the first round to Todd Tutterow when he got loose and shut off to a 7.271-second elapsed time.

Stevie "Fast" Jackson suffered a devastating crash in the shutdown area at the last event in Charlotte. For Topeka, he debuted his Shadow 2.0 Camaro. Jackson previously used this car to compete in Small Tire

events but has converted it to full NHRA status, and his plan is to use it for the remainder of the 2018 NHRA season.

Khalid alBalooshi recorded the quickest NHRA nitrous run ever in a second-round losing effort to eventual winner Chad Green. alBalooshi's 5.728-second elapsed time not only was good for the quickest nitrous run ever, but it also held up as low e.t. of the meet for the Pro Mod cars.

Speaking of **Green**, his excellent rookie season continues in the NHRA. He has qualified at all four NHRA Pro Mod races this year despite a devastating crash at the very first race in Gainesville. Here, he qualified No. 1 and went to the final round. It was interesting that the final was an all-nitrous affair with both engines being prepared by Pat Musi.

It appears that there may have been a shift in power with the recent resurgence of the nitrous-assisted cars. The situation is very fluid, and it will be interesting to see what the warmer summer weather brings to the Pro Mod community.



Steve Whiteley

PRO MOD

1. Chad Green, Midland, Texas ('17 Camaro) **5.762, 250.13**
2. Steven Whiteley, Grand Junction, Colo. ('18 Camaro) . . . **5.782, 252.28**
3. Rickie Smith, King, N.C. ('18 Camaro) **5.800, 248.43**
4. Danny Rowe, Laguna Hills, Calif. ('18 Camaro) **5.808, 250.00**
5. Bob Rahaim, Grosse Pointe, Mich. ('17 Camaro) **5.815, 248.66**
6. Jeremy Ray, Lugoff, S.C. ('63 Corvette) **5.818, 247.16**
7. Sidnei Frigo, Itatiba, Brazil ('16 Corvette) **5.821, 251.11**
8. Khalid alBalooshi, Ajman, United Arab Emirates ('18 Camaro) . . . **5.821, 248.25**
9. Jose Gonzalez, Ball Ground, Ga. ('17 Camaro) **5.822, 250.83**
10. Steve Jackson, Evans, Ga. ('18 Camaro) **5.823, 248.02**
11. Shane Molinari, Battle Ground, Wash. ('68 Firebird) **5.833, 252.57**
12. Mike Castellana, Oyster Bay, N.Y. ('17 Camaro) **5.833, 249.39**
13. Mike Janis, Lancaster, N.Y. ('69 Camaro) **5.853, 241.71**
14. Harry Hruska, Hebron, Ind. ('14 Camaro) **5.856, 247.57**
15. Todd Tutterow, Yadkinville, N.C. ('68 Camaro) **5.858, 244.25**
16. Clint Satterfield, Albuquerque, N.M. ('69 Camaro) **5.860, 251.86**

ALTERNATES: Steve Matusek - 5.864, 247.34; Richie Stevens - 5.869, 247.75; Michael Biehle - 5.871, 251.77; Brandon Snider - 5.879, 245.09; Keith Haney - 5.900, 245.90; Jim Whiteley - 5.901, 243.11; Doug Winters - 5.903, 241.20; Dan Stevenson - 5.919, 251.67.

PRO MOD CHAMPION

RICKIE SMITH

5.997-245.23 GREEN (.041)	5.761-248.61 GREEN (.047)	5.769-247.70 TUTTEROW (.049)	7.271-137.93 S. WHITELEY (.046)
6.025-252.00 SATTERFIELD (.080)	5.775-248.57 GREEN (.020)	5.879-216.48 TUTTEROW (.026)	5.809-245.36 TUTTEROW (.029)
5.751-247.43 alBALOOSHI (.124)	5.728-250.00 alBALOOSHI (.089)	11.965-66.76 FRIGO (.063)	6.525-168.05 FRIGO (.037)
8.610-112.21 GONZALEZ (.017)	8.805-107.70 GREEN (.055)	6.262-233.52 SMITH (.048)	9.837-90.61 (FOUL) JACKSON (-.018)
8.277-113.89 ROWE (.043)	5.910-240.00 JANIS (.051)	5.770-250.04 SMITH (.029)	7.021-144.01 SMITH (.131)
5.911-241.84 JANIS (.035)	5.798-245.58 JANIS (.040)	5.760-249.90 SMITH (.064)	LEFT BEFORE TREE HRUSKA
9.080-108.97 RAHAIM (.072)	5.961-218.37 CASTELLANA (.027)	5.810-252.47 MOLINARI (.040)	5.762-248.75 (FOUL) RAY (-.012)
5.800-251.02 CASTELLANA (.040)			9.341-112.73 MOLINARI (.044)

LOW E.T.: 5.728 - alBALOOSHI
TOP SPEED: 252.57 - MOLINARI