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TOM *the* **Mongoose**
MCEWEN
1937 - 2018

The Mongoose logo, featuring a stylized orange and black mongoose character with its mouth open, showing sharp teeth. The character is positioned to the left of the text "Mongoose".

NOTES FROM THE PRO MOD REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

BY JIM LUIKENS

Last season, **Harry Hruska** was virtually a one-man Pro Mod highlight reel. While still running well this year, Hruska seems to have tamed his car's antics down. Into that void has stepped Midland, Texas' **Chad Green**. In Gainesville this year, Green qualified seventh, his highest starting spot of the season, and then put his new Corvette into the wall during eliminations. After acquiring an interim Camaro from Rickie Smith, Green returned his Corvette to builder Jerry Bickel for repairs.

At the Fitzgerald USA NHRA Thunder Valley Nationals, Green qualified 14th, his lowest position of the year, and upset No. 3 qualifier Mike Castellana in the first round when his 5.927-second run held off Castellana's close 5.950-second e.t. However, the second round did not go as well; Green ended up on his roof in the shutdown area after his match with Danny Rowe. Despite all the carnage, Green is currently in fourth place in the E3 Spark Plugs NHRA Pro Mod Drag Racing Series points chase at the halfway point of the 2018 season.

Southern Pro Mod legend **Todd Tutterow** is competing full time on the NHRA Pro Mod Series tour for the first time this year. He has qualified at every race, save Virginia, and had his finest outing in Bristol despite a



Eric Dillard

surprising 16th starting position. In the opening round, Tutterow ousted No. 1 qualifier Steven Whiteley and then had easy wins over Eric Dillard and Mike Janis. In the final round, he lost a very close race to Khalid alBalooshi, 5.948 to alBalooshi's slightly better 5.924. Tutterow is hitting his stride, and more good results are expected this season.

The freshly un-retired **Troy Coughlin Sr.** continued to work on his return. After not qualifying at the Virginia NHRA Nationals, he improved to a 13th starting position in Bristol and suffered a first-round loss to Janis. Coughlin admitted that they don't have everything right just yet, but he is looking forward to Pro Mod's two-month summer break after the Norwalk race. Because Coughlin is driving Jose Gonzalez's Shelby GT500, it is not his traditional yellow and black color scheme, which is strange to see.

Past Chevrolet Performance U.S. Nationals Pro Mod champion **Dillard** was back in

action this week driving the '68 Pontiac Firebird that is owned and normally driven by Shane Molinari, who was suffering from some medical problems and asked his friend Dillard to take over the steering wheel. At Bristol Dragway, Dillard did not disappoint by qualifying eighth and driving the iconic Firebird to a second-round finish. It's interesting to note that Molinari is from Battle Ground, Wash., and Dillard is from Bell Ground, Ga. Molinari is expected to return again this season, possibly as soon as the Chevrolet Performance U.S. Nationals.



Jeffrey Barker

Chicagoland's **Dan Stevenson** continues to show ever-improving form this year. After two DNQs and two first-round losses at his first four races this year, Stevenson has now gone to the second round at the last two events. Stevenson also recorded Pro Mod's top speed of the meet in Bristol during qualifying at 254.09 mph.

2017 NHRA Top Sportsman presented by Racing RVs champion **Jeffrey Barker** continues to work out the kinks in his Pro Mod program. After two DNQs at his first two events of the season, Barker qualified his Pontiac GXP in the 15th position in Bristol. Barker got loose in the first round and lost to Rick Hord.

Stevie "Fast" Jackson has yet to regain solid footing after crashing his primary Camaro in the final round at the NGK Spark Plugs NHRA Four-Wide Nationals in Charlotte. Jackson is using his Shadow 2.0 Camaro that is normally reserved for eighth-mile competition, and he failed to qualify in Bristol following first- and second-round losses at his

two previous races with the Shadow. Jackson has loads of positive energy and should return to his normal performance soon.

PRO MOD

1. Steven Whiteley, Grand Junction, Colo. ('18 Camaro) **5.823, 250.51**
2. Rick Hord, Belle Isle, Fla. ('16 Corvette) **5.855, 251.72**
3. Mike Castellana, Oyster Bay, N.Y. ('17 Camaro) **5.855, 249.58**
4. Mike Janis, Lancaster, N.Y. ('69 Camaro) **5.861, 244.69**
5. Jeremy Ray, Lugoff, S.C. ('63 Corvette) **5.870, 244.47**
6. Rickie Smith, King, N.C. ('18 Camaro) **5.872, 245.18**
7. Khalid alBalooshi, Ajman, United Arab Emirates ('18 Camaro) **5.872, 245.40**
8. Eric Dillard, Bell Ground, Ga. ('68 Firebird) **5.885, 252.85**
9. Sidnei Frigo, Itatiba, Brazil ('69 Corvette) **5.886, 251.58**
10. Bob Rahaim, Grosse Pointe, Mich. ('17 Camaro) **5.908, 246.62**
11. Danny Rowe, Laguna Hills, Calif. ('18 Camaro) **5.919, 246.75**
12. Dan Stevenson, Bolingbrook, Ill. ('16 Camaro) **5.925, 254.09**
13. Troy Coughlin Sr., Delaware, Ohio ('67 Mustang) **5.928, 249.58**
14. Chad Green, Midland, Texas ('18 Camaro) **5.939, 245.63**
15. Jeffery Barker, Kathleen, Ga. ('12 GXP) **5.945, 250.78**
16. Todd Tutterow, Yadkinville, N.C. ('68 Camaro) **5.952, 242.32**

ALTERNATES: Chip King - 5.954, 242.28; Michael Biehle - 5.958, 246.75; Jim Whiteley - 5.960, 241.07; Pete Farber - 5.964, 239.44; Steve Jackson - 5.989, 242.36; Doug Winters - 5.993, 239.31; Brandon Snider - 6.004, 241.45; Clint Satterfield - 6.015, 245.05; Steve Matussek - 6.017, 243.50; Richie Stevens - 6.034, 243.46; Chuck Little - 6.117, 233.76; Harry Hruska - 6.928, 170.69; Erica Enders - 7.881, 120.44.

PRO MOD CHAMPION
KHALID alBALOOSHI

8.561-112.21 S. WHITELEY (.072)	5.972-241.54 TUTTEROW (.038)	6.712-184.17 HORD (.093)
5.958-242.06 TUTTEROW (.018)	5.978-241.02 TUTTEROW (.020)	8.564-103.36 HORD (.071)
5.908-252.52 DILLARD (.033)	10.597-115.79 DILLARD (.026)	5.934-246.35 ALBALOOSHI (.104)
DISQ.-CLINE FRIGO (.065)	5.948-242.10 TUTTEROW (.093)	5.938-245.40 alBALOOSHI (.130)
5.892-243.94 JANIS (.044)	5.924-247.38 alBALOOSHI (.049)	6.792-179.71 alBALOOSHI (.070)
10.236-71.43 COUGHLIN (.016)	5.902-244.25 JANIS (.032)	6.887-204.79 RAHAIM (.044)
6.043-242.67 RAY (.024)	6.735-158.07 JANIS (.064)	5.950-247.70 CASTELLANA (.049)
5.953-240.72 STEVENSON (.042)	5.976-248.39 STEVENSON (.066)	6.526-226.51 GREEN (.045)
		5.927-246.80 GREEN (.031)
		6.019-243.77 ROWE (.071)
		7.553-136.63 SMITH (.032)
		5.989-244.78 ROWE (.066)

LOW E.T.: 5.823 - S. WHITELEY
TOP SPEED: 254.09 - STEVENSON