



NATIONAL DRAGSTER

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SPEED SEASON



70 PAGES OF
COAST-TO-COAST
COVERAGE:

- CHARLOTTE
- ↓
- BOISE
- ↓
- COLUMBUS
- ↓
- ATLANTA



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NOTES FROM THE PRO MOD REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

BY JIM LUIKENS

One of the hardest working duos in the E3 Spark Plugs NHRA Pro Mod Drag Racing Series pits is the combination of Clint Satterfield and Bob Gardner. The Pro Mod Series has not been kind to this pair since they introduced their '69 Camaro. After three DNQs to start the season, the team broke through at Atlanta for their first race-day start of 2019. Unfortunately, their race day wasn't a long one because they lost to **Chad Green** in the first round.

Little did Green know that the excitement was just beginning for him because he took that first-round victory. With both of his parachutes failing to deploy properly, Green took a long ride into the deep end of Atlanta's sand trap. Damage was minimal, affecting only Green's body and not his chassis.

When Green got the car back to his pit, the first order of business was to remove all the sand and gravel that had accumulated during his long ride through the sand trap. Simultaneously, engine service began for his second-round matchup with **Doug Winters**. Very late in the game, it was discovered that Green's car would not start. With only about 15 minutes remaining before the call back to the lanes, the decision was made to swap engines.

By now, a large number of competing team members had



Chad Green

assembled at the Green pit eager to help. Special recognition needs to go to members of the Stevie Jackson team, the Elite team, and both the Jim Whiteley and Steven Whiteley crews. The engine swap was accomplished in the time allotted, and the car made it up to the line for its second-round pairing.

In that pair, Winters actually left the line first with a -0.019 red-light. Green did not see the red-light and set sail on an all-out pass. In doing so, he crossed

the centerline and gave the victory back to Winters. It was a long day with a lot of work for Green to leave with so little.

Winters had advanced to the second round by defeating Rickie Smith in the first round. Winters' 5.874-second elapsed time beat Smith's 5.903-second run straight up. It would be hard to remember a season where Smith, a perennial title threat, has gotten off to a slower start than 2019.

It has been a very un-**Mike**



Clint Satterfield

Castellana-like season so far for the New York veteran. Castellana had been a DNQ at the first three races of 2019, but he solved all that in Atlanta with a fine ninth qualifying position. On race day, Castellana advanced to the final, where he was the winner when Jose Gonzalez red-lighted. In the interest of fair reporting, it should be noted that Castellana had the better elapsed time and would have been hard to beat. Castellana became the fourth different winner in the four NHRA Pro Mod races that have been conducted this season.

Alex Laughlin qualified strongly for the third race in a row, this time locking down the No. 3 position. On race day, another streak of his also continued as he bowed out in the first round for the third consecutive race.

Eric Latino did not qualify in Atlanta after qualifying at every other race so far this year. His best qualifying time of 5.890 seconds barely missed the 5.885-second bump.

Jackson was leading the Pro Mod points going into this race. After qualifying No. 1, Jackson looked like he was on his way. However, an untimely -0.200 red-light knocked him out of competition in the first round. Second-place points man Todd Tutterow didn't fare much better, bowing out in the second round. The net result of all this was that Jackson still leads the points over Tutterow, but now by just a single marker.

PRO MOD

1. Steve Jackson, Evans, Ga. ('17 Camaro) **5.768, 250.69**
2. Chad Green, Midland, Texas ('19 Camaro) **5.778, 251.91**
3. Alex Laughlin, Bluff Dale, Texas ('18 Camaro) **5.790, 256.84**
4. Todd Tutterow, Lewisville, N.C. ('68 Camaro) **5.796, 248.02**
5. Mike Janis, Lancaster, N.Y. ('69 Camaro) **5.814, 246.26**
6. Sidnei Frigo, Sao Paulo, Brazil ('69 Camaro) **5.835, 254.71**
7. Doug Winters, Pleasant Garden, N.C. ('69 Chevelle) **5.840, 251.16**
8. Brandon Snider, Atmore, Ala. ('16 Corvette) **5.851, 243.77**
9. Mike Castellana, Muttontown, N.Y. ('17 Camaro) **5.859, 247.93**
10. Rickie Smith, King, N.C. ('67 Mustang) **5.861, 254.62**
11. Erica Enders, Houston, Texas ('18 Camaro) **5.871, 255.53**
12. Steven Whiteley, Grand Junction, Colo. ('18 Camaro) **5.873, 247.11**
13. Khalid alBalooshi, Duxbury, Mass. ('19 Camaro) **5.878, 253.14**
14. Jose Gonzalez, Ball Ground, Ga. ('17 Camaro) **5.879, 255.19**
15. Clint Satterfield, Albuquerque, N.M. ('69 Camaro) **5.885, 251.81**
16. Jeremy Ray, Lugoff, S.C. ('63 Corvette) **5.885, 245.49**

ALTERNATES: Eric Latino - 5.890, 239.31; Chip King - 5.892, 245.40; Michael Biehle - 5.900, 251.86; Bob Rahaim - 5.904, 245.40; Steve Matusek - 5.936, 251.67; Jim Whiteley - 5.946, 239.95; Rick Hord - 5.947, 251.06; Adam Flamholz - 6.056, 236.88; Harry Hruska - 10.700, 138.37.

PRO MOD CHAMPION
MIKE CASTELLANA

13.885-112.42 (FOUL) JACKSON (-200)	6.717-145.99 RAY (.053)	DISQ.-C/LINE GREEN (.055)	5.816-250.37 GREEN (.039)
9.778-89.19 RAY (.030)	5.809-248.48 CASTELLANA (.052)	NO-SHOW WINTERS	7.499-158.58 SATTERFIELD (.065)
6.016-239.14 SNIDER (.032)	5.851-247.25 CASTELLANA (.043)	6.044-223.91 WINTERS (-.019)	5.874-247.25 WINTERS (.051)
5.883-248.11 CASTELLANA (.027)	5.825-248.29 CASTELLANA (.051)	5.849-254.28 (FOUL) GONZALEZ (-.003)	5.903-248.75 SMITH (.044)
5.803-247.75 TUTTEROW (.049)	7.917-120.63 TUTTEROW (.005)	7.965-133.54 GONZALEZ (.131)	6.397-232.19 LAUGHLIN (.066)
5.997-202.52 alBALOOSHI (.059)	5.860-240.98 JANIS (.029)	5.865-254.71 GONZALEZ (.066)	5.844-249.86 GONZALEZ (.022)
6.278-200.14 JANIS (.030)	5.856-247.07 JANIS (.047)	LEFT BEFORE TREE FRIGO	5.853-254.47 FRIGO (.012)
12.181-71.45 S. WHITELEY (.010)			6.062-252.57 ENDERS (.065)

LOW E.T.: 5.768 - JACKSON
TOP SPEED: 256.84 - LAUGHLIN