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BRITTANY FORCE 2X?

WITH A NEW TUNER AND NEW CREW,
BRITTANY FORCE IS GUNNING FOR A
SECOND TOP FUEL CHAMPIONSHIP

TROY COUGHLIN JR.
THIRD-GENERATION PHENOM IS LOOKING FOR
MORE SUCCESS (AND A RETURN TO TOP FUEL)

NOTES FROM THE PRO MOD REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

BY JIM LUIKENS

During one of the most dominating seasons in drag racing history, regardless of eliminator, **Stevie "Fast" Jackson** did everything except move the home of the U.S. Nationals to his hometown of Evans, Ga.

Further evidence of that became obvious Sunday night at the E3 Spark Plugs NHRA Pro Mod Drag Racing Series banquet that takes place after the final race of the NHRA Pro Mod season.

Jackson himself, besides being the 2019 series champion, was named the 2019 Driver of the Year, had the best average reaction time, and had the most round-wins ever at 30 out of 48 possible rounds in a single season.

Just to put a bow on all this, Jackson's crew chief, **Billy Stocklin**, was named Crew Chief of the Year. In fact, the only award the talented duo at Killin' Time Racing did not win was Rookie of the Year.

This season marked a seismic shift in Pro Mod. Mainstays of the past were left behind as Pro Mod went off in a new direction with new cars and new stars.

The aforementioned Rookie of the Year Award went to Moorefield, W.Va.'s **Dwanye Wolfe**. Wolfe appeared at four 2019 NHRA Pro Mod races with his best outing at the Chevrolet Performance U.S. Nationals, where he went to the quarterfinals at the Big Go.



Michael Bowman

Jim Whiteley had his best outing of the season at the very last race. With Jackson now tuning his car, he recorded a quarterfinal finish. My insiders tell me that Whiteley is going to go "old school" in his 2020 body selection.

Real Pro Mod Association Board Member, and all-around good guy, **Steve Matussek** matched his best outing of the year here with his second semifinal finish of the season. Matussek's graphic package is one of the best out there, and his 2013 Mustang is one of the rarest body styles to boot. It all adds up to a very appealing combo, especially if you're a fan of the Blue Oval. Matussek rounded out his near-career weekend with top speed of the event at 254.52 mph.


Eric Latino had a very exciting first-round race in Las Vegas. Running against **Brandon Snyder**, Latino recorded a 5.791-second

winning elapsed time over Snyder's much quicker 5.753-second pass. Latino's 0.041-second reaction time left Snyder's 0.105-second response far in the dust. After a near-heads-up start in the second round, Latino kept Matussek's day rolling when his 5.846-second elapsed time was denied by Matussek's slightly better 5.813 lap.

A lot of things will be different next year as NHRA assumes the leadership and future direction of the eliminator. We've got a new power adder coming in Pro Charger and a new nitrous engine, the 959-cid, that will run at a new weight break.

We're expecting record fields as quotas are removed and lots of new twists on every aspect of E3 NHRA Pro Mod racing.

The Real Pro Mod Association and its prime movers Danny Rowe, Matussek, Jim Whiteley, Steven Whiteley, Chad Green, Eric Dillard, and John Waldie took something that NHRA didn't exactly know where to fit in and crafted it into one of the hottest eliminators in NHRA racing over the last seven years.

I've been lucky enough to serve as your pit reporter for every Pro Mod race over those last seven seasons. It has been a great ride, and I'm thankful for every moment of it. Canada's Stu Wotypka and I created the "Full Circle '59 Cadillac Pro Mod Color Wheel" with his Instinctive Drive Studio a few years ago. Please think of that with a smile until we meet again. 



PRO MOD

1. Steve Jackson, Evans, Ga. ('18 Camaro) **5.735, 250.37**
2. Todd Tutterow, Yadkinville, N.C. ('19 Camaro) **5.751, 250.04**
3. Steve Matussek, Olathe, Kan. ('13 Mustang) **5.757, 254.52**
4. Mike Castellana, Muttontown, N.Y. ('17 Camaro) **5.762, 248.07**
5. Steven Whiteley, Grand Junction, Colo. ('18 Camaro) **5.763, 249.95**
6. Brandon Snider, Atmore, Ala. ('16 Corvette) **5.772, 247.29**
7. Khalid alBalooshi, Duxbury, Mass. ('19 Camaro) **5.782, 253.37**
8. Michael Biehle, North Vernon, Ind. ('67 Mustang) **5.786, 253.90**
9. Scott Oksas, Saugus, Ga. ('18 Mustang) **5.797, 251.63**
10. Jim Whiteley, Grand Junction, Colo. ('63 Corvette) **5.805, 244.47**
11. Eric Latino, Port Perry, Ont. ('67 Camaro) **5.826, 246.80**
12. Doug Winters, Pleasant Garden, N.C. ('69 Chevelle) **5.834, 241.84**
13. Alex Laughlin, Bluff Dale, Texas ('18 Camaro) **5.840, 252.61**
14. Clint Satterfield, Albuquerque, N.M. ('69 Camaro) **5.860, 247.34**
15. Bob Rahaim, Grosse Pointe, Mich. ('18 Camaro) **5.869, 234.78**
16. Mike Janis, Lancaster, N.Y. ('69 Camaro) **5.896, 245.32**

ALTERNATE: Michael Bowman - 5.948, 248.07.

