

NHRA NEWSBITS

ASHLEY FORCE HOOD RENEWS FUNNY CAR LICENSE:

Showing absolutely no signs of rust after more than three years out of the cockpit, Ashley Force Hood made runs of 4.11, 4.04 and 4.01 at a top speed on the final run of 322 mph in sister Courtney's Traxxas Mustang during Monday testing at The Strip at Las Vegas Motor Speedway. Force Hood, who had not wheeled a Funny Car since the 2010 Auto Club NHRA Finals, was renewing her license. She rattled off a trouble-free first pass of 4.11, shutting off a bit early to a 292-mph speed. "The run was really smooth," she said. "Everything went better than I was expecting actually. It was nice, but it was nerve-racking. I feel like I have added five years to my life."

Inside the Numbers

98: Victories at Las Vegas by Alexis DeJoria and Erica Enders-Stevens pushed the total number of wins in the NHRA Mello Yello Drag Racing Series by females to a total of 98. Those two drivers are part of the 14 females who have contributed to that pro category total of 98 wins in NHRA history. Angelle Sampey has won 41 races, while Top Fuel legend Shirley Muldowney has claimed 18 event wins. With her win Sunday in Las Vegas, Enders-Stevens moves to third on the all-time

NHRA female wins list, with seven career victories. DeJoria now has two career victories.

Did You Know

NHRA, SEALMASTER SIGN MARKETING PARTNERSHIP: NHRA has signed a marketing partnership with SealMaster, a global leader in the manufacturing and distribution of pavement maintenance products and equipment. As part of the agreement, SealMaster will have a presence at all NHRA Mello Yello Drag Racing Series events in 2014, with an on-site promotional display at select events. Through its on-site presence, SealMaster will receive promotional video spots on the track big screen, conduct hospitality for corporate guests, and have track banner rights. Another component of the marketing partnership designates SealMaster as the title sponsor of the popular NHRA Track Walks. SealMaster NHRA Track Walks will be held in the morning hours prior to eliminations or in the evening after eliminations are completed at most NHRA Mello Yello Drag Racing Series events. During the SealMaster NHRA Track Walk, an NHRA driver or legend of the sport will lead spectators in a round-trip walk of the dragstrip, from the starting line to the finish line and back to the starting line.

- April 11-13**
zMAX Dragway • Charlotte, NC
- April 25-27**
Royal Purple Raceway • Houston, TX
- May 16-18**
Atlanta Dragway • Atlanta, GA
- May 23-25**
Heartland Park Topeka • Topeka, KS
- May 29-June 1**
Old Bridge Township Raceway Park • Englishtown, NJ
- June 13-15**
Bristol Dragway • Bristol, TN
- June 19-22**
New England Dragway and Motorsports Park • Epping, NH
- June 26-29**
Route 66 Raceway • Chicago, IL
- July 3-6**
Summit Motorsports Park • Norwalk, OH
- July 18-20**
Bandimere Speedway • Denver, CO
- July 25-27**
Sonoma Raceway • Sonoma, CA
- Aug. 1-3**
Pacific Raceways • Seattle, WA
- Aug. 14-17**
Brainerd Int'l Raceway • Brainerd, MN
- Aug. 27-Sept. 1**
Lucas Oil Raceway at Indianapolis • Indianapolis, IN

COUNTDOWN TO THE CHAMPIONSHIP

- Sept. 12-14**
zMAX Dragway • Charlotte, NC
- Sept. 18-21**
Texas Motorplex • Dallas, TX
- Sept. 26-28**
Gateway Motorsports Park • St Louis, MO
- Oct. 2-5**
Maple Grove Raceway • Reading, PA
- Oct. 30-Nov. 2**
The Strip at Las Vegas Motor Speedway • Las Vegas, NV
- Nov. 13-16**
Auto Club Raceway at Pomona • Pomona, CA

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