

NHRA News

SMITH ANNOUNCES MULTIRACE SPONSORSHIP

Matt Smith Racing has entered into a multirace agreement with Stockseth Racing and Nitro Fish, which will include associate sponsorship for the 2014 NHRA Mello Yello Drag Racing Series and five races each as the primary sponsor for two-time NHRA Pro Stock Motorcycle world champion Matt Smith. "When Mark and Kenny heard that Viper had shut down operations and were going to be unable to honor their commitment of my race team, they both stepped up in a big way to help us out," said Smith. "Stockseth Racing and Nitro Fish will each be the primary sponsor for five races and an associate for the entire season; that leaves us only needing support for six additional races."

GRAY MOTORSPORTS INKS SPONSORSHIP WITH KYMCO USA

Gray Motorsports and KYMCO USA, the official scooter and ATV of NHRA, have entered a multirace agreement that will include primary sponsorship of the team for the 2014 season of NHRA's Mello Yello Drag Racing Series. KYMCO USA has long been associated with the Gray Motorsports family, an NHRA Pro Stock team owned by veteran motorsports enthusiast Johnny Gray and managed by Pro Stock mainstay Victor Cagnazzi. "We're just thrilled to pieces that KYMCO USA has established themselves as such a great supporter of the Gray Motorsports team because we sure love their product," said Gray, a three-time winner on the NHRA circuit. "It's a great match for us, and I'm proud to represent them."

COLLINS PROMOTED TO CREW CHIEF FOR MAKE-A-WISH CHARGER

John Collins, in his seventh season with Don Schumacher Racing and fifth as an assistant crew chief to Rahn Tobler, has been promoted to crew chief for the Make-A-Wish Funny Car team with driver Tommy Johnson Jr., beginning with the Amalie Motor Oil NHRA Gatornationals in Gainesville. Collins has worked with Tobler the past five seasons, including the last two as the assistant crew chief on the NAPA Auto Parts Dodge team.



2014 NHRA MELLO YELLO DRAG RACING SERIES

Feb. 6-9
Auto Club Raceway at Pomona • Pomona, CA
Feb. 21-23
Wild Horse Pass Motorsports Park • Phoenix, AZ
March 13-16
Auto Plus Raceway At Gainesville • Gainesville, FL
March 28-30
The Strip at Las Vegas Motor Speedway • Las Vegas, NV
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

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

Inside the Numbers

4 : Number of consecutive track records John Force has written during the past four NHRA Mello Yello Drag Racing Series events. He established the new marks for elapsed time at Las Vegas 2, the 2013 season ending event in Pomona, the 2014 opening event in Pomona as well as at the most recent race at Wild Horse Pass Motorsports Park in Phoenix. The Funny Car E.T. track record at Auto-Plus Raceway at Gainesville is 4.026 seconds held by John Force Racing teammate Robert Hight, set in 2012.

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