

AITS

ATLANTA MOTOR SPEEDWAY'S O'REILLY AUTO PARTS FRIDAY NIGHT DRAGS & SHOW-N-SHINE

High-octane drag racing returned to the pit lane drag strip at Atlanta Motor Speedway Friday night as the ninth season of O'Reilly Auto Parts Friday Night Drags got under way in Week 1.

Micah Patrick of Stockbridge earned his first win in the Truck Division in his 1955 Willy's, as he defeated Brian Leath of Hampton behind the wheel of a 1976 Chevy. It was a special win and one that won't be forgotten soon.

"I love it, man. I've been to the drags for the last four years,"

said Patrick. "I started racing last year, and I've been waiting all year for this race tonight.

Patrick and his father built the truck, a half-ton, that originally

belonged to his grandfather. "It's my first night ever winning.

My dad's in the hospital right now (undergoing) a heart transplant right now," he said. "He wished he could be here."

In the Atlanta Journal-Constitution Pro Division, David Clevenger of Hampton notched his first win of the season in a 1986 Corvette, a car he's never driven before Friday night, outrunning Ron of Worth in a 1989 Corvette.

"I love it down here," said Clevenger. "David Harmon actually let me drive his car. He gave me a shot to drive this and said 'do you think you can handle it?' I said 'I don't know, but I'll try.""

Other notable winners in the first week of O'Reilly Auto Parts Friday

Night Drags include Nick Blankenship of Locust Grove in the Domestic Advanced Division and Bobby Daiel of Stockbridge in the Harbin's Mechanical Services Super Pro Division.

Below is a list of the April 24 race winners:

* Harbin's Mechanical Services Super Pro: Bobby Daniel (Stockbridge);

1995 Chevy Lumina * Atlanta Journal-Constitution Pro: David Clevenger (Hampton); 1986

Corvette

* Street Outlaw: Nicolas Feliciano (Griffin); 1984 Mazda RX7

* Summit Racing Equipment Sportsman: Tony and Joshua Morse (Grantville);

1981 Chevy Malibu * Domestic: Doug Anglin (Griffin); 1988 Ford Mustang

* Domestic Advanced: Nick Blankenship (Locust Grove); 1989 Ford Mustang

* Truck Advanced: Danny Mason (Locust Grove); 1976 Chevy Pickup

* Street Modified: Michael Blackman (Atlanta); 1983 Ford Mustang

* Factory Street: John Schwarz (Locust Grove); 2014 Mustang GT



* Harding Plumbing, Heating and Cooling Domestic:

* Diesel Truck: Taylor Wilder (Locust Grove); 1994 Dodge Ram 1500 * Truck: Micah Patrick (Stockbridge); 1955

Willy's * Tuner: Nicolas Feliciano (Griffin); 2001 Toyota

MR2 * Sport Compact: Amanda Prince (Griffin): 2012

* Sport Compact: Amanda Prince (Griffin); 2012 Ford V6 Mustang * Super Bike: Cordero Woody (Locust Grove); 2011 BMW S1000 RR

* Sport Bike: Jeremy St. Julien; (Fairburn); 2013 KAW

* Motorcycle: Ryan O'Neal (Newnan); 2006 GSXR 750

* ATV: Terrill McClary (Fayetteville); 2007 Raptor 700

The Show-N-Shine competition featured everything from new imports to classic muscle cars and automobiles ranging as far back as the 1930s. Those vehicles then took part in the Speedway Cruise following judging.

Below is a complete list of the April 24 winners:

CLASSIC CUSTOM (THROUGH 1972) First Place: Marvin Reeves (Macon), 1970 Ford Mustang Mach 1 Second Place: Robert Morgan (Fayetteville), 1966 Chevrolet Corvette

Restomod Third Place: Jason Turner (McDonough), 1936

Ford Cabriolet

MODERN CUSTOM (1973 THROUGH 1999) First Place: Ricky Gresham (Griffin), 1981

Chevrolet Corvette

Second Place: Will Frazier (Panama City Beach, FL), 1973 Chevrolet Caprice Third Place: Tanner Perkins (Griffin), 1996 Ford

Mustang GT

CURRENT CUSTOM (2000 THROUGH CUR-RENT) First Place: Steve Kochik (Stockbridge), 2008

Ford Mustang Second Place: Amanda Prince (Milner), 2012 Ford V6 3.7L Convertible Mustang Third Place: Durant Hardwick (Atlanta), 2014

Ford Mustang GT 5.0

SHOWROOM CLASSIC (THROUGH 1972) First Place: Wayne Hausard (Tyrone), 1970 Chevrolet Camaro

Second Place: Jeff Powell (Social Circle), 1967 Chevrolet Nova SS Third Place: Fred Briggs (McDonough), 1971 Plymouth Duster

SHOWROOM MODERN (1973 THROUGH 1999)

First Place: Chris Gallagher (Fayetteville), 1998

Pontiac Trans Am Second Place: James Reeves (Macon), 1973

Ford Mustang Mach 1 Third Place: Earl Reed (McDonough), 1973 MG Midget

SHOWROOM CURRENT (2000 THROUGH CURRENT)

First Place: Alex Williams (Stockbridge), 2014 Ford Mustang

Second Place: Brad Turner (Hampton), 2012 Chevrolet Camaro ZLI Third Place: Jordan Reid (Newnan), 2010

Third Place: Jordan Reid (Newnan), 2010 Chevrolet Camaro SS

TUNER

First Place: Jose Lopez (Griffin), 2013 Hyundai Genesis

Second Place: Adam Wallace (McDonough),

2007 Mini Cooper Third Place: Kathryn Johnson (Conyers), Hyundai Genesis Coupe

TRUCK

ners: DM (THROUGH 1972) in Reeves (Macon), 1970 Ford Chevrolet Truck Second Place: Patrick Ellison (Savannah), 2004 Chevrolet Silvarada

Chevrolet Silverado Third Place: Karen Vise (Forest Park), 2015 Jeep

OPEN

First Place: Sherry Siriani (Georgia), 2004 Honda CRB

AMS's O'Reilly Auto Parts Friday Night Drags & Show-N-Shine continues with Week 2 on May 1. Grandstand gates open at 6:30 p.m. and nightly drag race eliminations start after 9:00 p.m.

Entry to drag race or for the Show-N-Shine is just \$20 or competitors can purchase a combo ticket for \$30. Spectator tickets at Drags are just \$8 for adults and children five and under are free. More information can be found at www.atlantamotorspeedway.com/drags or by calling the Atlanta Motor Speedway Ticket Office at (770) 946-4211.



Pit Stops

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