

## Jet Dragsters Set New Pit Lane Drag Strip Record at O'Reilly Auto Parts Friday Night Drags

HAMPTON, Ga. (July 27, 2018) – People flock from all across the Southeast to see fast cars compete in the O'Reilly Auto Parts Friday Night Drags at Atlanta Motor Speedway each week. Eighteen different divisions from highly modified muscle cars to grocery-getters to everything in between, drivers bring the speed to see who is fastest each night.

Spectators and race fans were treated to the fastest cars to ever to take on the pit lane drag strip on Friday night. The Hanna Motorsports Jet Cars "Top Secret Eastern Raider" and "First Strike" wowed the crowd with a pair of exhibition races down the strip.

"We love it. We pulled around the corner [onto the grid] and I saw the crowd and I was stoked," exclaimed Rich Hanna, driver of "First Strike". "We did a few extra fireballs, a few extra burner pops and try to give them that little extra show."

The pair split the two exhibition races with the "Top Secret Eastern Raider" collecting the first win while "First Strike" extracted revenge in the second and final race between the two Jet Funny Cars at Atlanta Motor Speedway.

"It's crazy, it's 4-Gs of acceleration off the line with 6,000 pounds of thrust and 4,000 horsepower," said Hanna. "With Jet cars in particular its tough getting parts for them, that's why they are so rare and that's why people like to see them because there aren't too many of them in the county."

While the Jet Cars set track records ripping down the strip at breakneck speeds of more than 200 miles per hour in 3.9 seconds, the regular 18 different division battled for bragging rights and ever important points in the chase for a division championship.

A Locust Grove showdown in the finals of the Summit Racing Equipment Sportsman Division saw Richard Cocoran snag his third victory of the season as he defeated the 1988 Chevrolet S10 of David



Cobb in the final.

"Stay in the pedal," said Cocoran about the key to his final round win. "Don't lift. I was all over dancing, but it worked out for me. My car has been running real good."

Cocoran extended his points lead on David Waksman of Sharpsburg with the final round win as four points races remain in the season.

Kevin Mayo of McDonough and his 1969 Chevrolet Nova earned his fifth win of the season in the QuikTrip Pro division to take control of the points race. Mayo knocked off the Ford of Dale Cosby of Ellenwood in the finals.

Other notable winners included Robert Cheney of Jonesboro and his American Dragster in the Super Pro Division and the 1973 VW Bug of Rodney Bunn of Griffin in the Harbin's Mechanical Sportsman Division.

July 27 race winners:  
 Super Pro: Robert Cheney (Jonesboro); 2014 American Dragster  
 QuikTrip Pro: Kevin Mayo (McDonough); 1969 Chevy Nova  
 Harbin's Mechanical Services Street Outlaw: Rodney Bunn (Griffin); 1973 Volkswagen Bug  
 Summit Racing Equipment Sportsman: Richard Cocoran (Locust Grove); 1986 Ford Mustang  
 New Edge: James Walker (Fayetteville); 2016 Dodge Challenger  
 Street Performer: Brandon Sampler (Griffin); 1995 Chevrolet S10

Harding Plumbing, Heating and Cooling Domestic: Andrew Morgan (McDonough); 1987 Ford Mustang  
 Diamond Resorts Factory Street: Chad Greenway (Conyers); 2001 Pontiac Firebird  
 Street Modified: Kelly Morgan (Jonesboro); 1968 Ford Mustang  
 Starfire Automatic Gates Truck: Ed Blanford (McDonough); 1968 Ford F100  
 Diesel Truck: Justin Mercer (Barnesville); 2015 Ford F250  
 Tuner: Shane Kirkland (Marietta); 1983 Datsun 280ZX  
 Sport Compact: Brian Grieb (Newnan); 2004 Nissan 350Z  
 Super Bike: Robin Malcolm (Lithonia); 2003 Busa  
 Sport Bike: Robin Malcolm (Lithonia); 2006 GSXR 1000  
 US Marines Motorcycle: Keith Stamps (Tyronne); 2002 Honda  
 Cruiser: Billy Mueller (Stockbridge); 2006 Harley Davidson  
 ATV: Wayne Cline (Griffin); Yamaha Banshee  
 Jr. Dragsters: Gracie Haralson (Hampton); 2005 Mov. Tub Jr.  
 Peach Pass Burnout Zone: Jay Velez (Fayetteville);  
 Extreme Automotive 1979 Mazda RX7

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.

Classic Custom (Through 1972)  
 First Place: Ken Moore (Griffin), 1936 Plymouth  
 Second Place: Bruce Russell (Brooks), 1954 C-Heavy Sedan Delivery  
 Third Place: Scott Conaway (Griffin), Dodge Charger

Showroom Modern (1973 through 1999)  
 First Place: Chris Gallagher (Fayetteville), 1998 Pontiac Trans AM  
 Second Place: Ralph Aviles (Griffin), 1980 Chevrolet Camaro Z-28

Modern Custom (1973 through 1999)

First Place: Austin Lynch (Griffin), 1996 Chevrolet Camaro z28  
 Current (2000 through current)  
 First Place: Andrea Lawson (Jackson), 2018 Ford Mustang GT  
 Second Place: Trey Metzger (Macon), 2018 Ford Mustang  
 Third Place: Family First Custom Creations (Covington), 2016 Chevrolet Camaro

Trucks/SUV/Vans  
 First Place: Paul Kocsis (Fayette), 2004 Ford F250  
 Second Place: Chase Hembree (Notown), 1966 Chevrolet C-10  
 Third Place: Tanner Miller (Stockbridge), 1970 Ford Bronco

Open  
 First Place: Brandon Shaddix (Riverdale), Honda CRB 929  
 DragonBallZ  
 Second Place: Jeff Powell (Social Circle), 1968 Chevrolet Camaro  
 Third Place: Eric Perricone (Cleveland, OH), 2000 Fat Boy

Showroom Classic (Through 1972)  
 First Place: Bill Whitley (Hampton), Plymouth Superbird  
 Second Place: Bubba Dutton (Griffin), 1953 Dodge Fire Truck  
 Third Place: Richard Brackett (Forest Park), 1971 Chevrolet Monte Carlo

Entry to drag race or for the Show-N-Shine is just \$20 or competitors can purchase a combo ticket for \$30. Spectator tickets are just \$10, and children 5 and under are free. More information can be found at [www.atlantamotorspeedway.com/drags](http://www.atlantamotorspeedway.com/drags) or by calling the Atlanta Motor Speedway Ticket Office at (770) 946-4211.

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