

MPE Motorsports Report:

NHRA Thunder Valley Nationals

Bristol Dragway, Bristol, Tenn.

May 17, 2009

Clay Millican

Drummonds, Tenn.

Hope4Sudan/Motorvation Top Fuel Dragster

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Dropped cylinder sends Millican home early from Bristol (Tenn.)

A dropped cylinder at the hit of the throttle Sunday set off a chain reaction that ultimately sent Clay Millican to an opening-round loss to Morgan Lucas in the NHRA Thunder Valley Nationals at Bristol Dragway.

Millican, who qualified the Hope4Sudan/Motorvation Top Fuel dragster in the No. 6 position, never had a chance to challenge Lucas for the round win.

“When the engine dropped the cylinder that quickly, that’s about it as far as winning the round goes,” said a disappointed Millican. “That led to the tires smoking, and when that happened, we really were done because Morgan (Lucas) just pulled away from us. He had the second-quickest elapsed time of the round (3.836 seconds at 319.75 mph to Millican’s shutting off 6.778 at 87.35). It would have been tough to beat that run.

“So now we’ll go home and get ready to go to Topeka (May 29-31).”

