

NHRA ACDelco Nationals
March 12-15, 2009
Gainesville (Fla.) Raceway

Clay Millican looks for better elapsed times at Gainesville

Contact: Joe Sherk, jlsherk@aol.com/360-981-4806

The problem area has been isolated and crew chief Lance Larsen hopes his vast tuning expertise – culled over several decades of on-the-job training – will eradicate it, thereby delivering a much-needed boost when Clay Millican mashes the throttle on the Hope4Sudan/Motorvation Top Fuel dragster Friday afternoon at Gainesville Raceway.

Simply put, the car is not accelerating quickly enough in the first 330 feet to deliver 1000-foot numbers to consistently turn on win lights Sunday in ACDelco Gatornationals eliminations.

“I am looking forward to getting to Gainesville and getting back in the car,” said Millican. “Lance and the guys feel like they may have found the elusive problem that has us running slow to the 330-foot mark,” said Millican. “We’re getting there. Lance told me that the most aggravating thing about it is that I would be the first one to know if they found what the problem was.”

Millican’s quickest 2009 elapsed time of 3.907 seconds at 311.13 mph came in qualifying at Phoenix last month. He qualified 10th and lost in the opening round.

“We made some improvements in Phoenix and the car responded, but it still didn’t leave the starting line like it should,” said Larsen. “I did a lot of research last week and spoke with several others about it and I’m as confident as I can be – being a professional drag racer – that we fixed things. The problem is there are so many things that can go wrong on these cars.”

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Millican Adds Pinks All Out to his TV duties

Millican, already the host Drag Race High, is assisting Rich Christensen with his hit Pinks All Out program. Both are on Speed TV.

“I did my first Pinks All Out show last week and it’s absolutely incredible what happens there,” Millican said. “It’s good for drag racing. It is a huge event and gets a lot of people to drag races that may not go otherwise, but that may move them into Full Throttle drag racing so they can watch the big boys run. I know there were a lot of people there who had never been to a drag race before and now are huge fans.

“This race is the beginning of a very busy part of the year for me. Last weekend was my last one at home until August. On weekends when I’m not at NHRA events, I’ll be working on the Pinks All Out show.”

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Pro qualifying times are 11:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday. Sunday’s eliminations begin at 11 a.m.

Television schedule on ESPN2 and ESPN2HD, all times ET

Sunday – two hours of qualifying highlights, 2 a.m.; repeat 90-minute qualifying, 10 a.m.; Eliminations, three hours, 3 p.m.

Sunday -- NHRA Race Day, 30 minutes, 11:30 a.m.