

Clay Millican
Drummonds, Tenn.
Hope4Sudan/Motorvation/Matco/Lucas Oil Top Fuel Dragster

NHRA Lucas Slick Mist Nationals
February 20-22, 2009
Firebird Raceway, Chandler, Ariz.

Millican enthused by good weather forecast at Firebird Raceway

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The weekend weather forecast for the Chandler, Ariz.-area calls for temperatures in the high 70s and low 80s with no rain in sight for the Lucas Slick Mist Nationals, an outlook that thoroughly pleases Top Fuel driver Clay Millican.

Millican and the MPE Motorsports Hope4Sudan/Motorvation team saw enough unrelenting rain for two-plus days two weeks ago in Pomona, Calif., to last the remainder of Full Throttle Drag Racing Series season. The wet stuff shortened qualifying for the 16-car NHRA Winternationals lineup to one attempt.

His throttle-pedaling elapsed time of 5.142 seconds at 144.84 mph was his first -- and only -- 1,000-foot run of the season, and he wound up 17th, good for an early return home to Drummonds, Tenn.

“We are hoping for four good qualifying runs this weekend at Firebird Raceway,” Millican said. “We’ll be trying to go all the way down the race track on every run and be in a good qualifying position. And then we can do our thing and go some elimination rounds on Sunday.”

Crew chief Lance Larsen is eager to put his new tune-up to work in more optimum racing conditions.

“Our crew is fully rested and we are all ready to do some racing,” Millican concluded.

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Pro qualifying times are 2 and 4:30 p.m. Friday and noon and 2:30 3 p.m. on Saturday. Sunday’s eliminations begin at 11 a.m.

Television schedule on ESPN2 and ESPN2HD:

Sunday – two hours of qualifying, midnight-2 a.m.; repeat qualifying, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Eliminations, two hours, 10 p.m. All times ET

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