

Harder rain Friday brings second day Winternationals drag racers to halt again  
by JL Sherk

POMONA, Calif., Feb. 6, 2009 -- NHRA Top Fuel driver Clay Millican had a premonition about Friday's scheduled second day of qualifying for Sunday's Full Throttle Drag Racing Series' 2000 opener at Auto Club Raceway at Pomona.

"I knew we didn't have to go to the track," said the driver of the Hope4Sudan/Motorvation Top Fuel dragster moments after an early-afternoon heavy rain forced NHRA officials to send the teams home again without making a qualifying attempt. The same situation greeted the competitors on Thursday.

"We go into Saturday's qualifying without me or the car having gone down the track in 2009," Millican continued. "We decided to bypass pre-season testing, but we are confident we will be ready to go."

Millican and team owner Mark Pickens prefer completing the event Sunday afternoon as planned. And, if the current Saturday forecast of scattered thunder storms come true, it could provide enough time for those vital 1,000-foot qualifying times.

"We hope we can get everything done Saturday and Sunday," added Millican, of Drummonds, Tenn.