

MPE Motorsports, the home of 6-time Top Fuel world champion Clay Millican, has been conspicuously absent from competition in 2010. The lack of a full time sponsor has necessitated a break in the action for the team.

The year, however, has not been short of excitement for MPE. May 1, 2010 marked a true high water mark for the team. The only problem is the high water was the result of a severe flood that enveloped the MPE race shop. The true extent of the event has not been realized to date. There were personal vehicles as well as race vehicles involved, some of which were a total loss. The race shop was devastated by the flood waters. The offices, containing much of Clay's championship memorabilia, and a source of tremendous pride, were inundated. The machine room, clutch room, and engine room received an unbelievable amount of damage that has required months of work to restore to working order. The good news is, the shop is back to functioning.

Clay's wife Donna, who literally runs the show at MPE, has been working out of her garage for two and a half months and is finally settling back into her chair at the office.

In keeping with the competitive spirit of the team, the salvage work began immediately... some with the help of family, friends and fans. Team owner Mark Pickens expressed his gratitude for the community support, and his immense pride in the efforts put forth by the Team members. "I can't begin to tell you how proud I am of the hard work and sacrifice these guys have made, and continue to make to get us ready to go back on the track. I truly believe that the perseverance they have displayed is indicative of the championship mettle they possess. The truth is we can't wait to get back out there running for championships where we belong."

Clay has continued to do his television work and is actually in preparations for an upcoming show, details of which are forthcoming.

He has remained busy supporting son Dalton's ATV motocross career, which is really taking off. Dalton's competitive fire and nose for the front prove that the fruit doesn't fall far from the tree.

He has been getting in some valuable, albeit unsolicited work on his golf game. This should pay off when the charity golf tournaments beckon.

Mark and his Motorvation powered Top Sportsman GTO have had a successful start to the year as a follow-up to their National Top Sportsman Invitational win in Atlanta in 2009. Mark drove the car to the win at the NHRA DIV. 4 race in Tulsa, OK in June. This the fourth consecutive year that Mark's Motorvation tuned cars have registered a win since joining the Top Sportsman wars. Tuned by Motorvation's T.J. Tracey, the Goat was flawless throughout eliminations. "Anytime your car runs the number five straight passes, you better do your job at the tree or your guys are gonna be plenty upset", Mark was quoted as saying.

Good things are on the horizon for Clay's Top Fuel entry. MPE is in the process of active pursuit and negotiations with several sponsors for the 2011 season. "We can't really talk specifics at this time, but

we are really excited about the progress we are making”, said Clay. “You will definitely see us back out a few times in 2010, as we prepare for a full run in 2011.”

In the meantime, Mark’s Top Sportsman chase, Clay’s TV work, and T.J.’s bracket racing endeavors, along with his upcoming return to Top Sportsman racing with the much decorated orange ’63 Corvette should keep everyone plenty busy.

Please check back regularly for updates on Team MPE’s progress, and if you happen to see us at the races, please come by and say hello!