

Hagan Qualifies Dodge Charger Funny Car No. 2 to Lead Mopar at Dodge NHRA Nationals

- Matt Hagan qualifies Mopar HEMI®-powered Funny Car from Don Schumacher Racing (DSR) No. 2 at Maple Grove Raceway for 33rd annual Dodge NHRA Nationals
- Three Mopar-powered Funny Cars from DSR qualify in top five
- Six Mopar Dodge Funny Cars will compete in 16-car field
- Tony Schumacher leads Mopar in Top Fuel with fifth-place qualifying effort
- Hagan defeats Mopar Top Fuel driver Leah Pritchett in Dodge Challenger SRT Demon match race
- Tom Baker Jr.'s Super Stock 1970 Plymouth Barracuda wins Best Appearing Car

September 23, 2017, Mohnton, Pa. - Led by Funny Car driver Matt Hagan and the Mopar 80th/Express Lane Dodge Charger R/T crew, Don Schumacher Racing (DSR) teams featuring Mopar HEMI® power made a number of strong qualifying runs in unseasonably warm conditions during the 33rd annual Dodge NHRA Nationals at Maple Grove Raceway. The solid efforts set up the opportunity for each team to go deep into Sunday's elimination rounds in both Funny Car and Top Fuel at the second event of the NHRA Mello Yello Drag Racing Series Countdown to the Championship playoffs.

Hagan made a best lap of 3.874 seconds at 335.82 mph during the second qualifying session on Friday evening at the famed track near Reading, a time which held throughout two more summer-like sessions on Saturday. Hagan has been No. 1 qualifier four times this season and missed out on his fifth top spot this weekend by .030. He was the No. 1 qualifier at Maple Grove during the 2016 campaign.

Two of Hagan's DSR teammates also put their Dodge Charger R/T Funny Cars in the quickest five positions, as Ron Capps qualified third and Jack Beckman turned in a fifth-place effort in the Infinite Hero car. Last year's event winner, Tommy Johnson Jr., will start from the 11th spot in his Make-A-Wish Dodge Charger R/T from DSR.

A total of six Mopar Dodge Funny Cars will compete in the 16-car field.

In Top Fuel, Mopar driver Tony Schumacher made a 3.736-second pass at 330.23 mph on Saturday afternoon in the DSR-prepared U.S. Army dragster, putting him No. 5. Leah Pritchett meanwhile qualified sixth in the the Mopar 80th Anniversary dragster from DSR at the Dodge-branded event.

A sellout crowd was on hand for Saturday's qualifying sessions.

Hagan Bests Pritchett in Second Dodge Challenger SRT Demon Match Race of Weekend

On Saturday afternoon, Pritchett and Hagan also took part in their second match race of the weekend in equally prepared 2018 Dodge Challenger SRT Demons. Pritchett won the matchup of the 840-horsepower machines on Friday, but two-time Funny Car champion Hagan came back to even the score with a victory in round two. The results on the season are now 3-1 in Pritchett's favor, as she defeated Hagan in a pair of Demon match races earlier this season during the Mopar Mile-High NHRA Nationals at Bandimere Speedway.

Tom Baker Jr.'s Barracuda Wins Best Appearing Car

Tom Baker Jr.'s SS/GA 1970 Plymouth Barracuda took home the Best Appearing Car honors from the 33rd annual Dodge NHRA Nationals. The car, known as "Trippin' Fish," has been in Baker's family since 1976. Baker hails from Kingsville, Maryland, and attended the very first Dodge NHRA Nationals in the car, driven to the race by his dad before it was converted into a race car.

Mopar/Dodge Notes & Quotes

(best elapsed time in bold)

Matt Hagan, Mopar 80th/Express Lane Dodge Charger R/T Funny Car

Qualified No. 2, will face No. 15 Jeff Diehl

Friday: (3.933 seconds at 329.58 mph – Q1); (**3.874**/335.82 – Q2)

Saturday: (3.927/334.65 – Q3); (3.948/329.91 – Q4)

"The race car's running great. We've had four good runs (all in the three-second range). It's been pretty warm out all four runs and the car's going down the racetrack. So I can't ask for much more than that, other than to get out here and just have a good race day tomorrow."

Leah Pritchett, Mopar 80th Anniversary Top Fuel Dragster

Qualified No. 6, will face No. 11 Terry McMillen

Friday: (4.080 seconds at 218.23 mph – Q1); (**3.741**/328.14 – Q2)

Saturday: (3.776/327.11 – Q3); (10.214/72.39 – Q4)

"We feel like Q3 was probably one of our stronger (runs), we learned a lot from it. We feel good about race day, we feel like we've overcome what happened in Charlotte (first-round loss). We think we're long past that and it's going to be a tough Sunday but we're ready for it."

Ron Capps, NAPA Dodge Charger R/T Funny Car

Qualified No. 3, will face No. 14 Jim Campbell

Friday: (4.697 seconds at 171.42 mph – Q1); (**3.877**/327.43 – Q2)

Saturday: (3.981/324.20 – Q3); (3.901/332.10 – Q4)

Jack Beckman, Infinite Hero Dodge Charger R/T Funny Car

Qualified No. 5, will face No. 12 Cruz Pedregon

Friday: (**3.914** seconds at 330.55 mph – Q1); (3.925/327.82 – Q2)

Saturday: (4.527/186.67 – Q3); (3.936/331.20 – Q4)

Tommy Johnson Jr., Make-A-Wish Dodge Charger R/T Funny Car

Qualified No. 11, will face No. 6 Alexis DeJoria

Friday: (5.058 seconds at 148.49 mph – Q1); (**3.957**/326.00 – Q2)

Saturday: (4.208/236.80 – Q3); (4.003/317.64 – Q4)

Tony Schumacher, U.S. Army Top Fuel Dragster

Qualified No. 5, will face No. 12 Scott Palmer

Friday: (3.747 seconds at 329.42 mph – Q1); (4.247/189.20 – Q2)

Saturday: (**3.736**/330.23 – Q3); (6.724/98.12 – Q4)

Tune-in Info

FOX Sports 1 will broadcast the elimination rounds of the 33rd annual Dodge NHRA Nationals LIVE at 2:00 p.m. ET on Sunday, September 24.

For more information on Mopar and Dodge in NHRA, check out the Mopar brand's official blog, <http://blog.mopar.com>.

About Mopar Motorsports

The Mopar brand's commitment to professional motorsports competition was established in the 1950s when a partnership ignited with drag racing pioneer Don Garlits, resulting in the breaking of numerous speed and performance barriers in HEMI-powered vehicles over the next several decades. In 2016, thanks to Don Schumacher Racing driver Ron Capps, Mopar captured its fourth NHRA Funny Car World Championship in the last six years. As Mopar celebrates 80 years as a brand in 2017, it will focus its NHRA Mello Yello Drag Racing Series efforts on NHRA Funny Car and, with rising star Leah Pritchett, NHRA Top Fuel Dragster. Mopar will also bolster its commitment to NHRA Sportsman racing with new contingency rewards, factory support and at-track technical advice and guidance.

Mopar-First Features

During the brand's 80 years, Mopar has introduced numerous industry-first features including:

- Vehicle-information apps: first to introduce smartphone vehicle-information applications, a new channel of communication with consumers
- wiADVISOR: first to incorporate a tablet-based service lane tool
- Electronic Vehicle Tracking System (EVTs): first to market with a new interactive vehicle tracking device that sends owner a text when vehicle is driven too fast or too far based on pre-set parameters
- Wi-Fi: first to offer customers the ability to make their vehicle a wireless hot spot
- Electronic owner manuals: first to introduce traditional owner manuals on a smartphone app

Mopar

Mopar is the global name for Stellantis genuine parts and authentic accessories.

A simple combination of the words MOTO and PARTS, Mopar offers exceptional service, parts and customer-care. Born in 1937 as the name of a line of antifreeze products, Mopar has evolved over more than 85 years to represent both complete vehicle care and authentic performance for owners and enthusiasts worldwide.

Mopar made its mark in the 1960s during the muscle-car era with performance parts to enhance speed and handling for both on-road and racing use. Later, Mopar expanded to include technical service and customer support, and today integrates service, parts and customer-care operations in order to enhance customer and dealer support worldwide.

Complete information on Mopar is available at www.mopar.com and the newly redesigned Mopar blog at www.blog.mopar.com. For more information regarding Stellantis (NYSE: STLA), please visit www.stellantis.com.

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