

DRAG RACER MEAN STREET MAGAZINE

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Behind the Lens: The FSC Staff

RACE WRAPS



NEW SHERIFF?

Alan Von Ahnen Gets Roush Power

Alan Von Ahnen has been a contender in Mean Street since its inception a few years ago and has definitely steadily bettered his performances at each race since then. For the past couple years we had heard that the brothers from New Jersey were working on putting a new engine program together, but it wasn't until this year, at the 7th Annual Ross Racing Pistons NMCA Muscle Car Nationals, that the Von Ahnen's debuted their secret weapon, a Roush-built 347. Von Ahnen's Mustang has always been able to perform well in the front half of the track, it was the top end horsepower the car was lacking for a while, but judging by his performances and mph in Bradenton, that's all changed. Don Baskin is also another racer that has stepped it up in the last few races. In 2008 he ended the year by winning the World Finals in Memphis and he too was trying a few new upgrades in Bradenton. After taking

a break last year, Jeremy Gillam also came to Florida with his Mustang, but he had issues all weekend. Lamar Fox was another racer trying out the newly allowed slicks in Mean Street, he ran in the 10.70 range, but was failed to make the call on Sunday.

In qualifying, Von Ahnen topped the field with a 10.17 at 131 mph, followed by Don Baskin with a 10.17 also. Coming in third on the qualifying spot was Jeremy Gillam who ran a 10.59 and the fourth to qualify was Lamar Fox who posted a 10.78. The stage was set and once the rain stopped on Sunday, each of the four Mean Streeters were locked and loaded to do battle and with the newly allowed slicks. Onlookers were wondering what type of effect it will have on the class, but so far the benefits have not made themselves apparent.

When eliminations started, the number one qualifier Von Ahnen faced Jeremy Gillam to see who

would go to the final round. Von Ahnen got a slight advantage out of the hole, .123 to .185, and managed to stay ahead of Gillam the entire 1320 to get the win. The results were a 10.07 to 10.33, making Von Ahnen the victor. On the other side of the ladder Baskin was set to face Fox, but he failed to make the call to the lanes, giving Baskin the go ahead straight into the final. Unfortunately, the final round couldn't take place in Bradenton, after a horrendous crash, pushing the final to a later event this season. Will Von Ahnen's Roush-powered Mustang be able to take out Baskin's BES-powered Nova? ■

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the CARS

► Jeremy Gillam

made the tow to Florida from Indiana, but was having some transmission difficulties that prevented the class heavy-hitter from laying down his usually quick E.Ts. It was over for Gillam when Alan Von Ahnen busted a holeshot against him in the first round and took him out with a 10.07 pass.

► Nova racer **Lamar Fox** was trying out a set of drag slicks in Bradenton.

By the looks of his wheels-up launch they were working for him, but he failed to make the call on Sunday giving the win to Baskin.



Jeremy Gillam



Lamar Fox