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Race Update

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The 2007 Nitro Champs to be held at WSID on the 4th and 5th of May will be a critical meeting for Parker Racing's chase for points in the 2006/07 season.

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Being the second last round of the Top Bike season, Phil Parker is hoping to make some waves at this event. "We really feel as if we can go a

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round or two at this meeting. The competition will be tough however we believe that we have the Puma Yamaha Nitro Bike performing to a level that will qualify it in the top half of the field, giving us an easier first round match up than what we are used to. We have a great crew available for this meeting, helped by the fact that Sammy will be in Comp bike, means we can dedicate the entire crew to his bike and then to mine later in the day. This just isn't possible when he is in his usual class, Pro Stock Bike, as we usually run one after another."

Phil took the Puma Yamaha to the Sunset Drag Strip in Mildura to do some exhibition/testing passes recently and was very happy with the result. "We turned the wick up a bit and started to take this bike to its potential. The sunset strip has fantastic grip and we decided that it would be a great opportunity to try going that little bit harder without any pressure. We did three solid runs and gathered some more data which we hope will help us at the Nitro Champs."

This weekend will be a familiar experience for the second of Parker Racing's riders, Sam Parker. Entered in Comp Bike, a class he previously has com-

pleted two seasons in and also had some success.

"The entire team were already going to Sydney for the Nitro Champs so we thought that despite the fact that Pro Bike doesn't actually feature at the event, we would enter my bike into Competition Bike and get some laps before the season finals in Queensland. The fact that comp bike is usually up well before top bike during the day means that it will still allow us to focus the entire team on Dad during qualifying and eliminations, giving him the best possible chance at the event."

While there are no Pro Stock Bike Points on offer at this meeting, Sam considers this the best place to get more familiar on the bike and to also

tweak the tune up on the 1640cc machine. Tweak the tune up some more, so that come Winternationals time, the team are ready to give it their best.

"I'll be running under the P/M comp bike index this weekend which is really pretty tough, however I'm hoping that we will be able to go a round or two - maybe even more!" Sam said enthusiastically. "That being said we are really trying to focus more on getting a couple of tune ups for the Winters rather than just winning this meeting, mind you if I get a sniff at a winners trophy, that strategy might change!" Launched Sam.

Phil Launching his Puma Yamaha Nitro Bike at the Mildura Sunset Strip. This was a vital testing session for Phil and the team were very happy with the results. This photo courtesy of Dave Murray TAD Photography



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Crew Talk: Simone

Hello race fans, my name is Simone or you may know me better as Crew Chief of Sam's Pro Stock Motorcycle. I joined the Parker Racing team in early 2005, starting off just watching from the sidelines I then began filming and taking photos at the major events. I was eventually comfortable enough to start getting more involved.

My first experience was with Sam's Modified Bike and firing the bike up for a warm up, holding the starter motor I felt a real exhilaration and I knew from then on I wanted to be involved in this sport. As time went on I became more confident, from starting the bike in the pits, to starting it on the start line, pushing

him into the water for the burn out, clipping on the dead man switch, pulling his visor down and giving him a pat on the back before watching him fly down the track. Having this knowledge was certainly helpful when Sam introduced his new Pro Stock Motorcycle this season. The clutch has been my major job on this bike, having to pull it apart after every run, wash and dry the plates and put it all back together before the next run is extremely challenging. Sam and I have I tried different combinations in order to receive better race results, we are starting to gather some useful data.

This season has proved challenging for the team, not only did we have

Sam's new bike to get used to but Phil also introduced his forward to our first 7.4 second pass or better before the end of the season. Sam has had plenty of ups and downs with the bike, despite this I think this season has been extremely successful. We have appeared on National TV on numerous occasions, I have been featured a few times helping Sam on the start line, it feels quite nice to be a TV star! Both Phil and Sam have been interviewed and appeared on both Speedweek and Speedmachine. Sam and Phil have both achieved their fist 7 second passes and are both placed respectively in their classes.

I am extremely proud of what Sam has accomplished. We now look



forward to our first 7.4 second pass or better before the end of the season.

Crew Chief working on the bike



Parker Racing Needs Your Help!

Parker racing is looking for a person in both Sydney and Queensland that would be able to take video footage of both Phil and Sam racing. The team are willing to pro-

vide full access tickets to each race meeting they attend and would be a great opportunity to become involved with a professional race team. Video footage is such a

valuable tool at analyzing each run and also to provide some footage to our sponsor's and fans. If you think you can help the team out and would like free entry to the next

race meeting - please contact Sam at sparker@deakin.edu.au or 0438414011. Video camera can be provided, or you can use your own if you wish.