

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLOTTE (September 12, 2012) – Cassie Simonton and the Kon Rodz Racing team return to the site of their career-best run this weekend when they enter the O'Reilly Auto Parts NHRA Nationals at zMax Dragway. Simonton drove the Randy Anderson-tuned Top Alcohol Funny Car to a 5.53 at 261 mph run in qualifying at this track during the 4-Wide Nationals last spring. Similar performances are in order for this weekend.

“We’re all looking forward to racing at zMax again. Our career-best run at the 4-Wide will definitely be on our minds this weekend. The car has been qualifying in the top five consistently. We want to continue that trend and qualify as well as possible, but we also want to make up for the first-round loss from the spring race here,” said Simonton, referring to a bizarre instance where a fuel pump issue prevented the Minnesota driver from taking advantage of a first round bye.

The Spiro Kontos-owned Kon Rodz Racing team is going into the third race of three straight race weekends, the U.S. Nationals being the other two. The car showed promise in qualifying but struggled in eliminations.

“Unfortunately we didn’t do as well as we hoped to at Indy. Our 5.64 in qualifying during the first week held up for fifth once the field was set the following weekend. The car went into tire shake on the one qualifying shot last Saturday, and did the same during first round. Randy knows what caused the shake, so I’m confident that we’ll be able to have a smooth weekend,” Cassie claimed.

Cassie and the rest of the Top Alcohol Funny Car field will have three shots to qualify; 10:00 am and 12:30 pm on Friday and 11:30 am Saturday. First round of eliminations will begin at 5 pm Saturday.

Kon Rodz Racing is a NHRA Top Alcohol Funny Car team owned by Spiro Kontos, competing in the Lucas Oil Drag Racing Series. 25-year old Cassie Simonton drives the team’s 3,000 horsepower Chevy Monte Carlo funny car. Spiro, Cassie, and the whole Kon Rodz Racing team would like to thank the following sponsors for their continued support: Lucas Oil, NGK Spark Plugs, Goodson, BAE, Goodyear Tire, Clevite, Mac Tools, Artist ButchM, ithreesixty Music Infused Apparel, and Flaming River Industries.

For more information on Kon Rodz Racing, please visit www.konrodzracing.com. Keep up with Cassie and the team on Facebook (www.facebook.com/konrodzracing) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/cassiesimonton and www.twitter.com/konrodzpr).

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