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CLERMONT, Ind. – NHRA Division 1 Top Alcohol Dragster driver Darren Nicholson and the J C Auto Glass/B.R.A.K.E.S Blown Alcohol Dragster team enter the 56th Mac Tools U.S. Nationals with high hopes.

“The first year I attended the U.S. Nationals, I won it, and that was my first national event win. That first win kind of spoiled the rest of the wins because no other race can compare to Indy,” said Nicholson.

Darren has had much success at the prestigious race, having not only won, but was runner up also. His average reaction time in the finals at Indy is .006, thanks to a perfect reaction time, .000, in 1999.

Nicholson and the team hopes their road to the Winner’s Circle isn’t as unfortunate as their road to the track.

“Last year, we were stranded on the side of the road for three days because the rear end literally fell out of our motor home, a Holiday Rambler. We made it to the track just in time for me to pull into the property, tech the car, jump in my fire suit and start qualifying. This year, we left two days early in case we ran into any similar problems. We ended up having to change five blown out tires during the trip. At one point, it got so bad that it took us twelve hours to cover 380 miles,” quoted the former event champ.

The Mission Viejo, California-based driver will have four chances, two on Friday, one each on Saturday and Sunday, with first round Sunday evening. Eliminations will continue at the Mac Tools U.S. Nationals presented by Lucas Oil on Monday morning. You can keep up with Darren and the J C Auto Glass/B.R.A.K.E.S. Top Alcohol Dragster by listening to the races live on NHRA.com or watching on ESPN2.

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