

Special guests American Top Fuel stars
Tommy Johnson Jr. & Melanie Troxel

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■ Athol Williams bolts the slick in preparation for a pass. Still familiarising himself with the bike, Athol is taking things one step at a time but he's still using up a few parts. Top Fuel is never an easy class to compete in.



■ Dave Lewien carries the front wheels of his '64 Plymouth Belvedere to another 9.50 pass. The big 556 Wedge engine is topped by win 1150 Dominator carbs and, wouldn't you know it? According to Dave, it drinks gas!

Drags on the boob tube

ZDRA has negotiated a comprehensive chunk of air time on Prime TV and Sky for its drag racing coverage. The events are somewhat delayed, with October's Powerbuilt Nationals at Rupuna in

October being screened on January 28 on Prime and February 2 on Sky. Part two of the Powerbuilt Nationals screens a week later, and then there's NZDRA drag racing being aired weekly right through until May 11.

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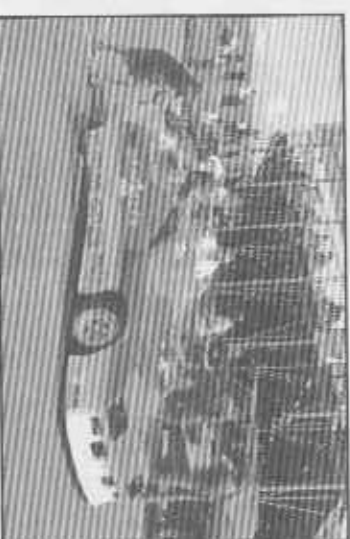
Champion Dragway test and tune

Champion put to the test

Pics by Wayne Bach

The promise of things to come was in evidence at Champion Dragway's test and tune on October 15. Mark Vincent fronted with his new ride, which is powered by 526 ci Keith Black with Brad Anderson heads. Mark imported the car from the US and is getting used to the new layout (like having one engine behind him for a change) and managed to kick off some high sixes.

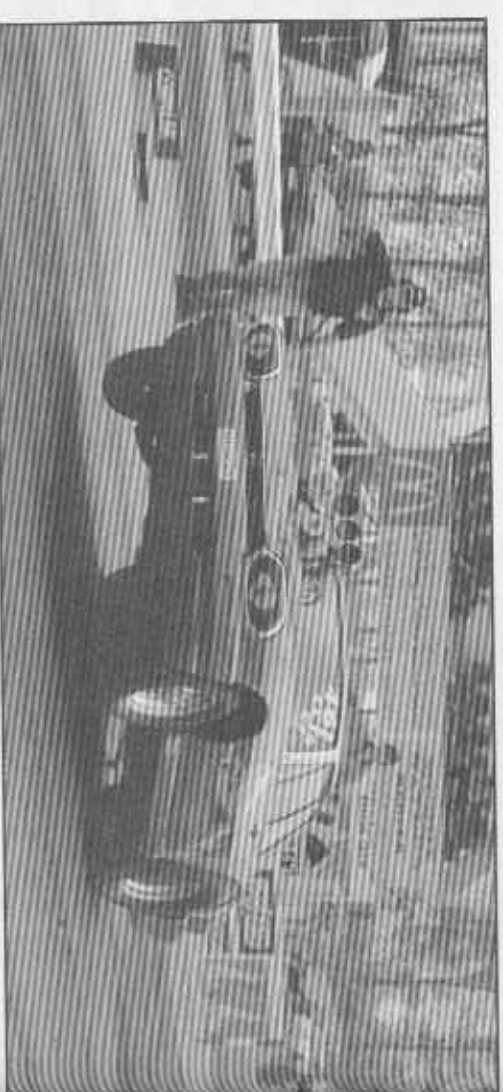
Athol Williams was getting to grips with his new ride also, a Top Fuel drag bike he imported from England. The on-board data logger told some interesting sto-



■ Getting a squirt of fuel to start his latest ride is Clarke Fiddes. No stranger to quick Camaros, Clark's another driver that looks set to rattle a few tail feathers this season.



■ Not only has Mark Holland totally revamped his Blue Thunder Doorslammer under the skin, he's also treated it to an incredible Thunder Gods' airbrushed paint job.



■ You're never far from a good, strong burnout or a great wheelstand when Graham Carter gets his bag rolling, as you can see. Just another day at the track for this guy.



■ Mark Vincent getting a little off line in the new (to New Zealand) dragster. Mark is no stranger to racing in the alcohol division, and he'll be one to watch this season.

Improvements at Champion

Champion Dragway is building a run-off turnaround area to help speed up the show on race day.

With special thanks to Abernethy Civil and team, this worthwhile improvement will be completed by the track's first comp meet weekend on December 10 (last test and tune) and December 11 (Pro Am).
(Champion Dragway pic)

