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Emmons Motorsports Hits Home Track With 7-Car Assault

Courtesy of Todd Veney

BAYTOWN, Texas -- The Lucas Oil-backed Emmons Motorsports team heads to its home track, Royal Purple Raceway in Baytown, Texas, for one of the biggest races of the team's season, the O'Reilly Auto Parts Spring Nationals, where Harvey "Speedy" Emmons III and his brothers - triplets Gary, Jerry, and Terry - have a history of success. All four have reached the final at this event and three of them have won, beginning with Jerry's Stock win over Rod Guilford in 1990, when Jerry was just 17 years old.

"Racing at your home track adds a little pressure, but it will be great to be able to compete in front of so many of our Emmons Motor Company customers and vendors," said Jerry, who picked up his first divisional win there in 1989 and three of his 11 career NHRA national event titles there. "We're hoping that a bunch of our friends and customers will be able stop by our pit area to catch up."

The Emmons brothers will bring a seven-car assault this weekend. Terry will race in Super Stock, and Harvey, Jerry, and - thanks to Mike Trumble Jr. - Gary will compete in both Super Stock and Stock. Gary, who won the Stock title in 1992, hurt the engine in his Super Stock car, and it looked like he'd be in only the Stocker this weekend, but Trumble, a nine-time national event winner himself, went took it upon himself to see that Gary's Stocker will be on the track.

"Mike didn't just throw something together so Gary can be out there," Jerry said. "This thing's a bullet. It's something Gary can win the race with. And he didn't just build the engine, he helped us get it in the car and helped us test it. Gary ran it last Friday, and it's fast."

Conditions are expected to be hot and sticky, but no team has more combined experience at newly named Royal Purple Raceway than the Emmons brothers, each of whom has made literally hundreds and hundreds of runs at the 23-year-old facility. "We just feel comfortable there," Jerry said. "We've all bracket raced there in the past, and we've all had some success at the track. Whatever the conditions are, we've probably already seen it."

If one of the Emmons clan brings home the gold this weekend, it won't be the team's first victory there this year. Former NHRA world champ Harvey III defeated Slate Cummings, the second-ranked Super Stock driver in the world last year, to win the Division 4 Lucas Oil Drag Racing Series season opener there March 6.