



Guido succeeds in bettering 2008 semifinal showing

Last year, Alexandra Guido came *this* close to a chance to win a Wally, falling short in the semifinals at the NHRA Jr. Drag Racing League Eastern Conference Finals. Though it was tough to lose that round, it was a great motivator for Guido this year.

“I was so close last year, but it was just the wrong race to win,” said Guido. “The whole year, I was so determined. I worked really hard all the previous races to get my lights better.”

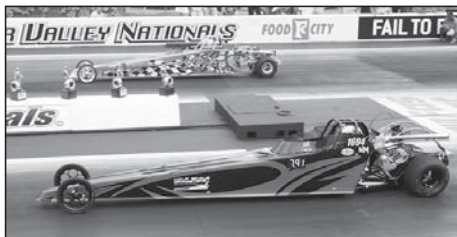
That determination and work certainly paid off for Guido, who had what she described as a perfect outing. After singing the national anthem prior to the start of eliminations – another dream come true, she said – Guido was on her game as she battled through the 76-car field. She left the starting line first in all her matches, including cutting a perfect light, and her car ran consistently on or near her 7.90 target.

Guido opened eliminations with victories over Shawn Pitts, Kelsey Greer, Lee Newmeyer, and Jeremy Lensing. In the quarterfinals, she paired a .017 light with a 7.92 (7.90 dial) to defeat Alex Paseka. Her reaction time gave her the bye in the semi’s.

Guido led her final-round match with JC Gloyd wire to wire, taking a .042 to .052 reaction-time advantage and crossing the finish line first, 7.92 (7.91) to 7.93 (7.90).

About the champ: Guido, a member of the Numidia Dragway team, began racing in 2006. In addition to her semifinal

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Alexandra Guido, near lane, paired a .042 light with a 7.92 (7.91 dial) to defeat JC Gloyd in the title round.

showing in Bristol last year, Guido won the 7.90 Index race at the MikeBosRacing.com Jr. Dragster Nationals in 2008 and was the 2006 Numidia track champion. Keith Albinson and Guido’s family serve as the crew on her Half Scale dragster, which is powered by a JR Race Car engine that is serviced by KLN. Guido is sponsored by The Graphic Center, Motorcycle Madness, and her family. Ashley Force Hood is Guido’s favorite NHRA driver, and her heroes are “the people who help me day to day with racing, like Keith [Albinson] and my dad.” Guido thanked God, her mom and dad, Albinson and his stepdaughter Kate Churchman, her sister Nicole, and Numidia Dragway.

The runner-up: Gloyd was highly impressive as he raced his Sunshine Motorsports-sponsored, Jimmy G’s Engine Shop-powered Quick Kids dragster to the final. Racing for Virginia Motorsports Park, Gloyd averaged a .010 reaction time as he bested Cody Harrison, Trevor Messamore, Mike Philpott, Austin Still, and Harley Patrick to earn a berth in the final.

Best packages: 1. Gloyd, .005/7.903 (7.90), round four; 2. Hunter May, .010/8.291 (8.29), round one; 3. Stephanie Torres, .004/8.100 (8.09), round one. **ND**

Quarterfinalists:

Harley Patrick (Amelia, Ohio); Brittany Boltz (Lancaster, Pa.); Alexandra Guido (Lake Hopatcong, N.J.); Alex Paseka (Dewitt, Mich.); JC Gloyd (Mount Airy, Md.).



Driver	R.T.	E.T.	(Dial)
Quarters			
Patrick	.033	8.056	(8.04)
Boltz	.065	7.933	(7.92)
Guido	.017	7.922	(7.90)
Paseka	.156	**8.360	(8.46)
Gloyd	.000	7.867	(7.90)
bye			
Semi's			
Gloyd	.017	7.926	(7.90)
Patrick	.061	**8.030	(8.05)
Guido	.079	7.942	(7.90)
bye			
Final			
Guido	.042	7.925	(7.91)
Gloyd	.052	7.937	(7.90)

**breakout