

## MODEL DRAGS

longed to Gary Hetrick. Hetrick must have wanted to beat Yates pretty bad because he didn't even wait for the green light and so eliminated himself, giving Gas Top Eliminator win to Yates with a quick 1.22. I don't know if this had any bearing on the outcome of the last race, but I overheard Yates telling Hetrick he would make him walk home if he beat Ray — a matter of 30 miles.

In the Special Novice Class, which was open only to competitors who have not previously run in one of the meets covered by R&C Magazine, the action was hot and heavy. This class was composed of Fuel Top Eliminator cars only, and the most outstanding car belonged to Pete Zimmerman. His dragster turned times of 1.10 and 1.11 in competition, which was a lot better than some of the more experienced racers. Between Zimmerman and Don Hollingsworth, who won the class, the two of them disposed of the rest of the competition. Hollingsworth was running a car that was built by Bob Braverman and was turning e.t.'s of 1.18 and 1.10 which, together with his fast reflexes on the start button, was what it took to win Novice Class.

And this brings us to the largest and most popular class, Fuel Top Eliminator. It started with Chuck Blaney's six volt Ram powered rail turning a 1.13 e.t. to beat Shaver's 1.24. Jed Donahoe's super quick thumb, a good hole job, and a 1.19 e.t. put Wayne Cartmell's rail on the trailer although Cartmell had a much better 1.11. Jim Rhoden had the timing of the Christmas tree perfect as he put a good hole shot on Otis Austin for the win. Joe Merrill spun

a gear to give the next race to Gary Venem. Bob Braverman was up next to face Bob Murdock, but it was all over in the very fast time of 1.06 as Braverman laid claim to the lowest e.t. of the meet thus far. Craig Smith red lighted on the next start to give the race to John Cukras. The final run of the first round was a bye run for Manual Maldonado. Manual's car won Best Constructed Car of the Meet earlier. It was a brand new car which was just completed the day of the meet and this was its very first run. He made his bye run on 30 volts and with a beautiful run of 1.06 he tied Braverman's 1.06! The start of round two saw Blaney turn a real quick 1.09 to beat Donahoe's slower 1.19. Jim Rhoden took the next race against Gary Venem. Next up were the two fastest cars of the meet, Braverman and Maldonado with identical 1.06 e.t.'s. The tension on this race was terrific as both men knew the Christmas tree would be the deciding factor. Both cars were carefully prepared, the track cleaned from one end to the other and then the cars were placed on the track. The Christmas tree started its countdown, yellow, yellow, yellow, then green and Braverman was off the line first with a half a car lead over Maldonado. It stayed this way 'till the halfway point when all of a sudden Manual's car passed Bob's and won pulling away. A check of the clocks showed Maldonado with a 1.05 for low e.t. of the meet to Bob's 1.15. Bob checked his car over and found a frozen bearing which accounted for his slower e.t. The final run in the second round was a 1.13 bye run by John Cukras. Chuck Blaney's quick 1.08 put Jim Rhoden on the trailer. John Cukras put a hole shot on Maldonado but another

1.05 by Manual won the race to John's losing 1.13. This left the final two cars in Fuel Dragster class, Chuck Blaney and Manual Maldonado. With Chuck's previous low e.t. of 1.08 and Manual's 1.05 this promised to be another good race. The spectators lined the track from one end to the other and were standing on chairs and anything else handy straining to get a good view of the track. Chuck put a fantastic hole job on Manual, at least three feet, and although Manual was closing the gap, it was just too big as Chuck Blaney won Fuel Dragster class. In a way, Manual won too as he had built the car that Chuck won with.

For the Fuel Top Eliminator runoffs, Jim Gallagher, owner of J&J Raceways, drew the bye run and soloed his Fuel Competition Coupe winner on 30 volts at 1.21. This brought up Chuck Blaney to race Ray Yates' Fuel Modified Roadster winner, which beat out his competition turning 1.11. Ray had won Best Constructed Car of the Meet at the last four R&C meets but at this one he pulled a switch. His brand new fuel modified roadster was judged Best Appearing Car. I don't believe Ray has a car in his box that wouldn't be capable of winning either best constructed or best appearing. They're all beauties. Well, Ray put his roadster on the starting line and Blaney put his rail on the line and 1.08 seconds later it was all over as Blaney won. This brought the final run for Fuel Top Eliminator to the line, Blaney and Jim Gallagher. Blaney had been cutting that green light pretty close and the question arose whether he would foul on the next one. But Chuck had the lights synchronized perfectly as he beat Gallagher's coupe with another quick 1.09 e.t.!



The best race of the meet pitted Bob Braverman, on the left, against Manual Maldonado. Manual won with a quick 1.05 e.t.



Chuck Blaney had to wade through some stiff competition to win "Fuel Top Eliminator", track manager Jim Mills is on right.



Gary Hetrick's 12-volt Ram 850 powered gas modified roadster was runner-up to Ray Yates for top gas eliminator. Note lettering.

### MOTORAMA DRAG MEET RESULTS

LITTLE ELIMINATOR CLASSES		
Stock	Gustin	1.49
Gas	Jim Rhoden	1.54
Sports Car	Bob Braverman	1.81
MIDDLE ELIMINATOR CLASSES		
Roadster	None	
Altered	Don Hollingsworth	1.36
Modified Sports	G. Cain	1.60
GAS TOP ELIMINATOR CLASSES		
Competition Coupe	None	
Modified Roadster	Ray Yates	1.22
Dragster	None	
FUEL TOP ELIMINATOR CLASSES		
Competition Coupe	Jim Gallagher	1.17
Modified Roadster	Ray Yates	1.11
Dragster	Chuck Blaney	1.08
NOVICE CLASS		
	Don Hollingsworth	1.18
UNLIMITED CLASS		
	Riley Davis	1.17
TRACK RECORD		
FUEL DRAGSTER	GENE HUSTING	1.01
FUEL MODIFIED ROAD.	GENE HUSTING	1.02
LITTLE ELIMINATOR	JIM RHODEN	1.56
MIDDLE ELIMINATOR	DON HOLLINGSWORTH	1.36
GAS TOP ELIMINATOR	RAY YATES	1.22
FUEL TOP ELIMINATOR	CHUCK BLANEY	1.08
LOW E.T. OF MEET	MANUAL MALDONADO	1.05
BEST CONSTRUCTION	MANUAL MALDONADO	
BEST APPEARING	RAY YATES	