

## A MEMORABLE 'PERFORMANCE BY FISHER'

Story by Matt Zapp • Photos by Bryan Epps

The Performance by Fisher, Incorporated dragster of Kathy Fisher was the final Quick Rod entry to turn on the win light during the recent IHRA Canadian Nationals presented by Part-Source. Fisher defeated the extremely successful Pat Martin to secure her first ever Ironman. Fisher drove her 98' Bolton Dragster/ '07 Cannister ride to the win. The dragster was completely updated this past winter, including a new body, by Dale Cannister.

The Lima, Ohio based team of Kathy and Kevin Fisher are owners of Performance by Fisher, Incorporated. Professionally, Kathy is the company's bookkeeper.

Many things have changed for the Fisher family in the past few years. Kathy had been a very recognizable personality (for 15 years) within the radio and television segments of Clear Channel Communications. She made the move to the family business full-time and now races a more intense schedule.

"This is only my third full year of running Quick Rod, but I absolutely love it," explained Fisher. "In regard to this win, I would like to thank my husband Kevin, Casey Davis (first year crewmember), Dale and Laurie Cannister, Bill and Connie Rudy and the entire Elrod clan and my mom for watching the house. Also I want to thank our sponsors that make it possible including Torco Racing Fuels, Amalie Oil, Tom "The Tool Man" Hirt at Snap On, George and The Rose Shoppe, Autometer, American Racing Equipment and Frank Hawley's Drag Racing School."

To earn herself the Ironman, Fisher defeated the likes of D. Markle, Paul Bradley, and Brett Nesbitt. Nesbitt has been nearly flawless this season, but an .0017 difference at the stripe gave the 8.906 win to Fisher.

"My lights were not anywhere near what they

should have been this weekend. Thank God I was driving the stripe well. I made it to the third round and had to run Brett Nesbitt," admitted Fisher. "I knew he was leading the points. I just did not want to go red because it was getting to be late at night. We played the game at the finish line and then I saw my win light come on. At that point, I felt like I had already won the national event."

"I am not sure IHRA ever started a national event quarter-mile and finished it eighth mile. No matter; I was just happy to win it. I had a bye-run into the final on Monday. IHRA gave us two time runs that morning and I went 5.698 on the first run," remarked Fisher. "I opted out of the second time session and just took the bye run."

The decision proved to be a good one for Fisher. She went 5.685 in the semifinal and prepared for her battle with Martin. The winning pass included a .030 bulb and 5.720 effort. Martin was .022 at the tree and slowed to 5.735 for the loss.

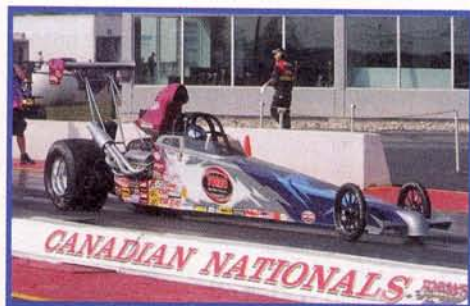
"I have been in two divisional finals this year and one last year. I have never made a final round at a national event until this weekend. To run a damn good racer like Pat Martin just made this win even more special," explained Fisher. "We just love the fans in Canada. It has to be one of our favorite places to race. We thought that if one of us ever made it to the final and won, we knew it was going to be at a Canadian race."

Since the race was only half-track, Fisher was able to look up at the scoreboards and see her winning run. It was a dream come true to view the large "W" on her side of the track.

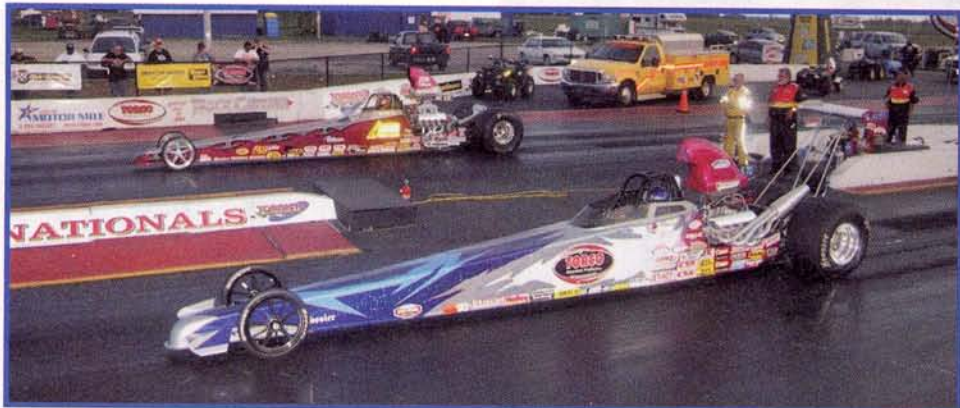
"Everyone at IHRA was just amazing. From the safety staff to the IHRA staff, they congratulated me after I made the turn. You would have thought I had won the world championship or something," said Fisher.



IHRA Canadian Nationals Quick Rod Champion  
Kathy Fisher.



Kathy Fisher continued her race team's strong season with a Quick Rod win at Toronto Motorsports Park.



Pat Martin could not drive past fellow Ohio resident Kathy Fisher in the Quick Rod final round in Cayuga.