

ONE FAST GEAR BOXX

Gear Technology's bimonthly aberration — gear trivia, humor, weirdness and oddments for the edification and amusement of our readers. Contributions are welcome.

Yellow. You wait.

Yellow. You wait.

Yellow. You wait.

Green!

You go, and if your name is Ryan Boxx, you go faster than everyone else. Boxx became the fastest 15-year-old in America this summer when he won his division of the National Hot Rod Association's Junior Drag Racing League National Championship.

Boxx drove a car sponsored by B&R Machine and Gear Corp. of Sharon, TN. Bennie R. Boxx, Ryan's father, is president of B&R, and he says he couldn't be more proud of his son.

He won the 15-year-old bracket by beating out 97 other competitors in two days of time trials and two days of elimi-

nation rounds. In the championship race, Boxx drove the one-eighth mile distance in 9.12 seconds in his 5hp Briggs & Stratton engine-powered racer.

As national champion, Boxx received a \$5,000 college scholarship, a champion's medal, and a trophy known as the "Wally." In addition, Boxx will attend the NHRA annual awards banquet in November, where he will be presented with a custom made leather jacket and where he'll have a chance to compare notes with pro-level racers.

Boxx became involved in racing with the encouragement of his family—in particular, his cousin, Terry Boxx Jr., who also participates in the sport.

Over the summer, Boxx competed in local races at the Northwest Tennessee Motorsports park in Gleason, TN. There he earned enough points to qualify for an entry at the national championship, which was held in July 1999 at the Indianapolis Raceway Park in Indianapolis, IN.

Boxx plans to continue his racing career in 2000, but according to his father, he wants to move up to a full-size car. "He's been in this about five years," says the elder Boxx, "and he's ready to move up to the big cars."

Bennie Boxx plans to support his son in racing for as long as Ryan is interested, but it's obvious from talking to him that someday he'd like to see his son pursue the family business. Ryan Boxx has been hanging around the gear shop his entire life. "He usually comes around here after school," his father says. "Although he prefers to work more on the computers, I'd like to get him into cutting gears." ☀

The Addendometer: If you've read this far on the page and enjoyed it, please circle 225.



Ryan Boxx and his division-winning car.