



COUNTDOWN 2009



Volume III, Issue 18

Sept. 21, 2009

Full Throttle Series Schedule

COUNTDOWN TO 10 (Regular Season)

KRAGEN O'REILLY NHRA WINTERNATIONALS

Winners: D. Kalitta, Capps, Line

LUCAS OIL SLICK MIST NHRA NATIONALS

Winners: Brown, Capps, Coughlin

ACDELCO NHRA GATORNATIONALS

Winners: Dixon, Tasca, Line, Arana

O'REILLY NHRA SPRING NATIONALS

Winners: Schumacher, Force Hood, Krisher, Treble

SUMMITRACING.COM NHRA NATIONALS

Winners: Schumacher, Capps, Coughlin

SUMMIT RACING NHRA SOUTHERN NATIONALS

Winners: Lucas, Beckman, Edwards, Krawiec

O'REILLY NHRA MIDWEST NATIONALS

Winners: Brown, Worsham, Coughlin, Krawiec

NHRA THUNDER VALLEY NATIONALS

Winners: Schumacher, Worsham, Edwards

O'REILLY NHRA SUMMER NATIONALS

Winners: Dixon, Capps, Allen Johnson

UNITED ASSOCIATION ROUTE 66 NATIONALS

Winners: Massey, T. Pedregon, Coughlin, Guidera

UNITED ASSOCIATION SUPERNATIONALS

Winners: Dixon, T. Pedregon, Coughlin, Treble

SUMMIT RACING EQUIPMENT NHRA NATIONALS

Winners: Dixon, Beckman, Line, Hines

MOPAR MILE-HIGH NHRA NATIONALS

Winners: Brown, Capps, A. Johnson, Krawiec

NHRA NORTHWEST NATIONALS

Winners: Brown, Wilkerson, Edwards

FRAM-AUTOLITE NHRA NATIONALS

Winners: Brown, Wilkerson, Line, Hines

LUCAS OIL NHRA NATIONALS

Winners: Lucas, T. Pedregon, Anderson, Arana

TOYO TIRES NHRA NATIONALS

Winners: Dixon, Tasca, Coughlin, Krawiec

MAC TOOLS U.S. NATIONALS

Winners: Schumacher, Force Hood, Coughlin, Arana

COUNTDOWN TO 1 (Playoffs)

NHRA CAROLINAS NATIONALS

Winners: McClenathan, Hight, Edwards, Arana

O'REILLY SUPER-START NHRA FALL NATIONALS

Sept. 24-27 at Dallas (PSM)

O'REILLY NHRA MID-SOUTH NATIONALS

Oct. 2-4 at Memphis, Tenn. (PSM)

NHRA VIRGINIA NATIONALS

Oct. 9-11 at Richmond, Va.

NHRA LAS VEGAS NATIONALS

Oct. 29-Nov. 1 at Las Vegas (PSM)

AUTO CLUB NHRA FINALS

Nov. 12-15 at Pomona (PSM)

Hight continues Ascent

In last two races, has risen from 12th to 10th to 3rd

Robert Hight earned a spot in the Countdown with his runner-up at the Mac Tools U.S. Nationals and he earned a spot in the championship conversation with his win at the NHRA Carolinas Nationals.

With its first win in 24 races dating back to the 2008 Mac Tools U.S. Nationals, the resurgent Auto Club team is indeed back in the championship mix.

Hight moved up to sixth place by reaching the final round and with his win over rookie Matt Hagan he moved around three more drivers into third place.

He now trails first-place Tony Pedregon by just 28 points.

Hight wasn't the only driver to make a big move in the first race in the six-race NHRA playoff.

With his first win since



The Staging Lane

What's next: O'Reilly Super Start Batteries NHRA Fall Nationals

When: Sept. 25-27, 2009

Where: Texas Motorplex
ON TV (ESPN2HD, ET): Qualifying highlights, Sat. (late night) at 12:15-2:15 a.m. (re-air Sunday 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.); Raceday (pre-race show), Sun. at 11 a.m.; Race, Sun. at 7 p.m.

Notable: This is the second race of the six-race NHRA Playoffs, the Countdown to 1 ... Three of the four categories saw changes at the top of the points order after the Carolinas Nationals.

Las Vegas 1 2008, Cory McClenathan officially ignited the championship aspirations of the FRAM Tough Guard team, which jumped up from fifth place

to first place.

The challenge now will be to stay there. With 31 career wins and seven Top 3 points finishes, McClenathan is among the most decorated drivers who has yet to win a Full Throttle Series world championship.

There were also new points leaders in Pro Stock and Pro Stock Motorcycle where Mike Edwards and Hector Arana delivered convincing performances.

Each was the No. 1 qualifier and each overwhelmed the field on Sunday to win and assume the top spot in the standings.

It marks the first time in his career that Edwards has led the point standings.

For Arana, it's the first time since his season-opening win at Pomona that he is back atop the point standings.

2009 NHRA FULL THROTTLE SERIES (Countdown to 1, 1 of 6 races complete)

NOTE: The Countdown to 1 consists of 6 races. The Top 10 drivers after the 18-race regular season qualified and had their points reset in 10-point increments (20-point bonus to the reg. season champ). (RS pp*)=Final Reg. Season pts. position.



TOP FUEL		FUNNY CAR		PRO STOCK		PSM (13/17 races)	
Driver (RS pp*)	Pts	Driver (RS pp*)	Pts	Driver (RS pp*)	Pts	Rider (RS pp*)	Pts
1. McClenathan (5).....	2162	1. T. Pedregon (1).....	2148	1. Edwards (3).....	2198	1. Arana (3).....	2194
2t. Brown (1).....	-10	2. Force Hood (3).....	-1	2. Coughlin (1).....	-56	2. Krawiec (1).....	-9
2t. Schumacher (3).....	-10	3. Hight (10).....	-28	3t. Stanfield (6).....	-62	3. Hines (2).....	-69
4. Dixon (2).....	-21	4. Capps (2).....	-33	3t. Line (2).....	-62	4. Home (5).....	-93
5. Langdon (8).....	-49	5. Tasca (4).....	-36	5. A. Johnson (5).....	-70	5. Stoffer (10).....	-100
6. Bernstein (4).....	-64	6. Beckman (5).....	-45	6. Anderson (4).....	-106	6. Smith (4).....	-101
7. Massey (6).....	-86	7. Wilkerson (6).....	-72	7. K. Johnson (8).....	-119	7. Gann (9).....	-102
8. Lucas (7).....	-97	8. J. Force (7).....	-78	8. Gray (10).....	-145	8. Phillips (7).....	-109
9. Kalitta (9).....	-120	9. Worsham (8).....	-95	9. Krisher (7).....	-158	9. Treble (6).....	-122
10. Millican (10).....	-131	10. Neff (9).....	-103	10. Jones (9).....	-178	10. Guidera (8).....	-174