



COUNTDOWN 2009



Volume III, Issue 4

March 18, 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

March 27-29 at Houston (PSM)

SUMMITRACING.COM NHRA NATIONALS

April 2-5 at Las Vegas

SUMMIT RACING NHRA SOUTHERN NATIONALS

April 16-19 at Atlanta (PSM)

O'REILLY NHRA MIDWEST NATIONALS

May 1-3 at St. Louis (PSM)

NHRA THUNDER VALLEY NATIONALS

May 15-17 at Bristol, Tenn.

O'REILLY NHRA SUMMER NATIONALS

May 29-31 at Topeka, Kan.

NHRA ROUTE 66 NATIONALS

June 4-7 at Chicago (PSM)

NHRA SUPERNATIONALS

June 11-14 at Englishtown, N.J. (PSM)

SUMMIT RACING EQUIPMENT NHRA NATIONALS

June 25-28 at Norwalk, Ohio (PSM)

MOPAR MILE-HIGH NHRA NATIONALS

July 10-12 at Denver (PSM)

NHRA NORTHWEST NATIONALS

July 17-19 at Seattle

FRAM-AUTOLITE NHRA NATIONALS

July 24-26 at Sonoma, Calif. (PSM)

LUCAS OIL NHRA NATIONALS

Aug. 13-16 at Brainerd, Minn. (PSM)

TOYO TIRES NHRA NATIONALS

Aug. 20-23 at Reading, Pa. (PSM)

MAC TOOLS U.S. NATIONALS

Sept. 2-7 at Indianapolis (PSM)

COUNTDOWN TO 1 (Playoffs)

NHRA NATIONALS

Sept. 17-20 at Charlotte, N.C. (PSM)

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)

Bob is Up to the 'Tasc'a

Second-year driver earns first win in 27th race

They always say your first win is the hardest and you're not going to get any argument from Bob Tasca.

After getting by Jim Head in the first round of last Sunday's 40th annual ACDelco NHRA Gatornationals, the second-year driver from Providence, R.I. had to face in succession:


■ Tim Wilkerson, a six-time winner in 2008;

■ John Force, a 14-time world champion; and

■ Tony Pedregon, a two-time world champion.

It doesn't get any tougher than that and the reward for Tasca, in addition to collecting his first Wally, was a move up to second place in the Funny Car standings.

For Tony Pedregon, the weekend was far from a total loss. The 2003 and 2007 Funny Car world champion picked up his first three round wins of the year



The Staging Lane

What's next: O'Reilly NHRA Spring Nationals
When: March 27-29, 2009
Where: Houston Raceway Park
ON TV (ESPN2, ET): Qualifying highlights, Sat. at 8 p.m.; Raceday (pre-race show), Sunday at 11 a.m.; Race, Sunday at 4:30 p.m.
Notable: This marks the second straight race that will include the Pro Stock Motorcycle class ... Antron Brown celebrated his first TF win — and 17th overall — here last year ... This will be Karen Stoffer's 100th career race.

to move solidly into the Top 10.

In Pro Stock, Jason Line continued his torrid start with his second win to open up a 57-point lead over second place Allen John-

son; it's the largest lead in any of the four Full Throttle Series classes.

Gainesville is also the traditional starting point for the two-wheel class and the big early story belonged to Hector Arana.

The rider of the Lucas Oil Buell was the No. 2 qualifier and he turned in four six-second runs on Sunday to earn his second win in the last seven PSM races after an 0-for-153 start to his career.

It gives him a slim margin over perennial contenders Matt Smith and Andrew Hines; defending champion Eddie Krawiec lost in the quarterfinals and will open 2009 in a tie for seventh.

In Top Fuel, the Alan Johnson Al-Anabi team celebrated their first win when Larry Dixon sped past Cory McClenathan in the final.

2009 NHRA FULL THROTTLE SERIES STANDINGS

NOTE: The season consists of an 18-race regular season and a six-race playoff; the Top 10 drivers qualify for the playoffs.

TOP FUEL		FUNNY CAR		PRO STOCK		PS MOTORCYCLE	
Driver (Ws)	Pts	Driver (Ws)	Pts	Driver (Ws)	Pts	Rider (Ws)	Pts
1. Antron Brown (1)	259	1. R. Capps (2)	263	1. J. Line (2)	285	1. Hector Arana (1)	117
2. B. Bernstein	239	2. Bob Tasca (1)	225	2. Allen Johnson	228	2. Matt Smith	98
3. Larry Dixon (1)	206	3. Del Worsham	188	3. J. Coughlin (1)	223	3. Andrew Hines	74
4. Doug Kalitta (1)	194	4. Robert Hight	164	4. G. Anderson	212	4. Shawn Gann	72
5. T. Schumacher	181	5. Mike Neff	163	5. M. Edwards	211	5. Karen Stoffer	56
6. C. McClenathan	178	6. T. Pedregon	160	6. Kurt Johnson	182	6. Angie McBride	55
7. Morgan Lucas	176	7. Matt Hagan	157	7. Greg Stanfield	176	7. Steve Johnson	53
8. Shawn Langdon	137	8. Jim Head	155	8. Rickie Jones	137	7t. Eddie Krawiec	53
9. Spencer Massey	122	9. John Force	146	9. Ron Krisher	134	9. Craig Treble	34
10. Joe Hartley	95	10. A. Force Hood	145	10t. Jim Yates	116	10t. M. Guidera	32
				10t. Johnny Gray	116	10t. Michael Phillips	32
11. Del Cox	-2	11. Jack Beckman	-8			10t. Wesley Wells	32
12. Clay Millican	-21	12. Tim Wilkerson	-11	12. Larry Morgan	-20		
13. B. Lagana Jr.	-24	13. Jerry Toliver	-30	13. V. Gaines	-23	13t. Junior Pippin, Redell	
14. David Baca	-33	14. Gary Densham	-41	14. Warren Johnson	-41	Harris, Douglas Home and	
15t. Personett, Strasburg ..	-34	15t. Arend, C. Pedregon ..	-51	15. Tom Hammonds	-43	Ryan Schnitz	-1