



COUNTDOWN 2009



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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

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.

UNITED ASSOCIATION ROUTE 66 NATIONALS

June 4-7 at Chicago (PSM)

UNITED ASSOCIATION 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)

Rookie Shows No Fear

Hagan reaches finals in LV, moves up to 2nd place

In arguably the toughest category (Funny Car) in the top drag racing league in the world (the NHRA Full Throttle Drag Racing Series), you'd think there might be a little intimidation factor.

But if there is, rookie Matt Hagan from Christiansburg, Va. sure isn't showing it.

In just his fifth career race, he powered his Shelor.com Dodge Charger R/T into the finals where he was outrun by teammate Ron Capps and the NAPA Auto Parts team that has been the best in class this season.

But while Capps and crew chief Ed "Ace" McCulloch were celebrating their third win in five races this season, there were no tears in the Shelor.com pits.

After a first-round loss at the season-opener at Pomona, Hagan cracked the



The Staging Lane
What's next: Summit Racing NHRA Southern Nat'l's
When: April 16-19, 2009
Where: Atlanta Dragway
ON TV (ESPN2, ET): Qualifying highlights, Sat. at 6 p.m.; Raceday (pre-race show), Sunday at 11 a.m.; Race, Sunday at 7 p.m.
Notable: Ashley Force Hood won her first career FC race here last season ... Jeg Coughlin's 43 career wins are one shy of Larry Dixon for 10th place on the NHRA Full Throttle Series' all-time wins list ...

Top 10 at Phoenix, was in seventh place entering Las Vegas and with his runner-up there he vaulted all the way up to second place.

Meanwhile, two new points leaders emerged in Las Vegas and they are familiar names to anyone

who has been even a casual follower of the NHRA Full Throttle Series.

Tony Schumacher won for the second straight week to move the U.S. Army team into first place for the first time this season as they seek to win their sixth straight championship and first since the departure of crew chief Alan Johnson.

Top Fuel figured to be a competitive category this season and the first quarter of this season has done nothing to alter that notion as Schumacher is the third different driver to lead Top Fuel this season (Doug Kalitta, Antron Brown).

And in Pro Stock, four-time — and two-time defending — champion Jeg Coughlin earned his second win this season (Phoenix) to move around Jason Line and into first place for the first time this season.

2009 NHRA FULL THROTTLE SERIES STANDINGS (5 Races Complete)

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		PSM (2/17 races)	
Driver (Ws)	Pts	Driver (Ws)	Pts	Driver (Ws)	Pts	Rider (Ws)	Pts
1. T. Schumacher (2).....	412	1. Ron Capps (3).....	408	1. Jeg Coughlin (2).....	430	1. Matt Smith.....	194
2. Antron Brown (1).....	394	2. Matt Hagan.....	302	2. Jason Line (2).....	418	2. Hector Arana (1).....	172
3. Br. Bernstein.....	388	3t. Force Hood (1).....	296	3. Mike Edwards.....	344	3. Andrew Hines.....	152
4. Larry Dixon (1).....	335	3t. Del Worsham.....	296	4. Greg Anderson.....	325	4. Craig Treble (1).....	151
5. C. McClenathan.....	324	5. Tony Pedregon.....	290	5. Allen Johnson.....	294	5. Doug Home.....	125
6. Morgan Lucas.....	263	6. Bob Tasca (1).....	289	6. Greg Stanfield.....	282	6. Eddie Krawiec.....	107
7. Doug Kalitta (1).....	256	7. Jack Beckman.....	282	7. Ron Krisher (1).....	257	7. Steve Johnson.....	105
8. Shawn Langdon.....	248	8. Robert Hight.....	273	8. Kurt Johnson.....	251	8. Shawn Gann.....	104
9. Joe Hartley.....	219	9. John Force.....	253	9. Rickie Jones.....	220	9. Karen Stoffer.....	87
10. Sp. Massey.....	190	10. Mike Neff.....	252	10. Larry Morgan.....	199	10. Matt Guidera.....	84
11. Clay Millican.....	-61	11. Cruz Pedregon.....	-27	11. Jim Yates.....	-10	11t. Michael Phillips.....	-19
12. David Baca.....	-63	12. Tim Wilkerson.....	-31	12. Warren Johnson.....	-16	11t. Wesley Wells.....	-19
13t. Del Cox.....	-66	13. Gary Densham.....	-85	13. Johnny Gray.....	-19	13. Junior Pippin.....	-22
13t. Urs Erbacher.....	-66	14t. Jerry Toliver.....	-96	14. Scott Spiess.....	-45	14. Angie McBride.....	-29
15. Terry Haddock.....	-87	14t. Jeff Arend.....	-96	15. Tom Hammonds.....	-62	15t. Berry, Harris.....	-43