



COUNTDOWN 2009



Volume III, Issue 10

June 2, 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

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)

All Quiet on Top 10 Front

Only movement on the Bubble is Warren Johnson


Among the dozens of drivers who entered the 21st annual O'Reilly NHRA Summer Nationals outside the Top 10, only one left with one of the coveted positions: Veteran Warren Johnson.

The driver of the K&N Filters Pontiac has had an up-and-down year, but he did just enough at Topeka — winning a round — to move around Johnny Gray and Larry Morgan and back into the Top 10. He is a scant three points clear of Morgan and Gray.

Still, he is miles from the top.

No class has as much disparity from top to bottom as Pro Stock, where three drivers in the Top 10 already have 700-plus points and two drivers still haven't accumulated 400.

In Top Fuel and Funny Car, only first place Tony



The Staging Lane
What's next: UA Route 66 NHRA Nationals
When: June 5-7, 2009
Where: Route 66 Raceway
ON TV (ESPN2, ET): Qualifying highlights, Sat. at 10:30 p.m.; Raceday (pre-race show), Sunday at 11 a.m.; Race, Sunday at 4 p.m.
Notable: Tony Schumacher is a smoldering 16-1 in his last 17 final rounds ... JR Todd will be racing for the first time this year when he straps into the Mach 1 Services dragster.

Schumacher and Ron Capps have eclipsed the 700-point mark and at the other end you have to drill down to 10th-place Joe Hartley (in TF) and 12th-place Robert Hight (in FC) to find a driver with less than 400 points.

One of the more interesting moves at Topeka was made by Clay Millican, who pulled to within 45 points of Hartley for the 10th and final playoff berth in Top Fuel.

But the real dogfight this summer figures to be in Funny Car where two of the JFR cars — Mike Neff's Ford Drive One Mustang and Robert Hight's Auto Club Ford Mustang — currently reside outside the Top 10.

It's hard to believe that either of those cars would miss the playoffs, but who are they going to replace?

The first two cars standing in their way — Cruz Pedregon's Advance Auto Parts Toyota Solara and John Force's Castrol GTX Ford Mustang — have combined to win 16 of the last 18 Funny Car championships.

2009 NHRA FULL THROTTLE SERIES STANDINGS (9 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 (4/17 races)	
Driver (Ws)	Pts	Driver (Ws)	Pts	Driver (Ws)	Pts	Rider (Ws)	Pts
1. T. Schumacher (3).....	715	1. Ron Capps (4).....	729	1. Jeg Coughlin (3).....	789	1. Eddie Krawiec (2).....	341
2. Antron Brown (2).....	672	2. Del Worsham (2).....	610	2. Jason Line (2).....	716	2. Matt Smith.....	325
3. Br. Bernstein.....	649	3. A. Force Hood (1).....	603	3. Mike Edwards (2).....	714	3. Andrew Hines.....	308
4. Larry Dixon (2).....	574	4. Tony Pedregon.....	584	4. Greg Anderson.....	650	4. Doug Home.....	291
5. C. McClenathan.....	563	5. Jack Beckman (1).....	553	5. Allen Johnson (1).....	552	5. Hector Arana (1).....	282
6t. Morgan Lucas (1).....	522	6. Tim Wilkerson.....	498	6. Greg Stanfield.....	482	6. Craig Treble (1).....	278
6t. Shawn Langdon.....	522	7. Matt Hagan.....	480	7. Ron Krisher (1).....	432	7. Shawn Gann.....	209
8. Sp. Massey.....	447	8. Bob Tasca (1).....	460	8. Kurt Johnson.....	423	8. Karen Stoffer.....	175
9. Doug Kalitta (1).....	443	9. John Force.....	453	9. Rickie Jones.....	388	9. Matt Guidera.....	168
10. Joe Hartley.....	365	10. Cruz Pedregon.....	420	10. Warren Johnson.....	330	10. Steve Johnson.....	167
11. Clay Millican.....	-45	11. Mike Neff.....	-16	11t. Johnny Gray.....	-3	11. Angie McBride.....	-7
12. Terry Haddock.....	-167	12. Robert Hight.....	-42	11t. Larry Morgan.....	-3	12. Michael Phillips.....	-38
13. Troy Buff.....	-208	13. Jeff Arend.....	-139	13. Scott Spiess.....	-73	13. Junior Pippin.....	-40
14. David Baca.....	-238	14. Jerry Toliver.....	-140	14. Tom Hammonds.....	-130	14. Wesley Wells.....	-60
15t. Cox, Urbacher.....	-241	15. Jim Head.....	-150	15. V Gaines.....	-134	15. Mike Berry.....	-85