

## 13x NHRA World Champions

# SHOE'S NEWS...



DON SCHUMACHER RACING

Oct. 9, 2015

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## THESE ARE BAD DUDES



## COUNTDOWN CRAZY AT DSR

### Antron extends lead, Jack back in hunt Next stop for Countdown: Dallas

Don Schumacher Racing couldn't have closed out the first half of the six-event NHRA Mello Yello Drag Racing Series Countdown to the Championship playoff any better than it did last weekend at Maple Grove Raceway near Reading, Pa.

After two days of cold, rainy days for the third Countdown event, the sun made an appearance Sunday afternoon and certainly shined on DSR with Antron Brown's Matco Tools' "Tools for the Cause" Top Fuel dragster and Jack Beckman's Infinite Hero Dodge Charger R/T Funny Car each earning career-best seventh NHRA event titles of the season.



Those victories in the Keystone NHRA Nationals is the seventh time in 21 events this year that DSR swept the nitro categories and raised the organization's total wins to 26 for the year and 266 since 2003.

DSR's total of 26 titles this year is the most ever by the group, and its 15 in Funny Car furthers the DSR record.

For Antron and the team led by crew chiefs Brian Corradi and Mark Oswald with team manager Brad Mason, it was a historic day as the Matco/U.S. Army team became the first in nitro competition to win the first three rounds of the Countdown that began in 2007. That gives them a 94-point lead over teammate Tony Schumacher (U.S. Army), who advanced to the championship round to face Antron.



"This day was just a true blessing," Antron said.

"To go out there and do what we did today, was a monumental statement. We just kept running what we thought the track would hold. We just raced the track, not the other competitors and we were fortunate enough to come out with a win."

The Matco team produced four times between 3.71 and 3.74 seconds while Antron's reaction times were mystical with three in the 0.03-second range.

In Funny Car, the Infinite Hero team led by crew chief Jimmy Prock with assistants John Medlen and Chris Cunningham enjoyed a near perfect weekend albeit a short one. Not only did the team win for a category-best seventh time it set a national record in the semifinals with a time of 3.897 seconds to earn 20 precious bonus points.



Jack finished the weekend earning 137 points that moved him to second and within 16 of leader Del Worsham, who held a 90-point lead over the field at the start of the weekend but was eliminated in the opening round by

DSR's Tommy Johnson Jr. and the Make-A-Wish Dodge.

After surprising first- and second-round losses to start the Countdown, the Infinite Hero team rocked the NHRA world again on Sunday by resetting the national elapsed time record for the third time in the past five races.

"We were running out of rounds," Jack said. "We had 16 rounds left and we were six rounds behind Del. Oh my goodness, maybe we should thank Mother Nature for doing what she did to us this weekend.



"This is such a special win because I had to pedal the car the first round, we won on a holeshot in the final round and the guys gave me the quickest car to get the national record. We got to touch on all the positive things from the crew side, the crew chief side and the driver's side and leaving with the Wally is as good as you could ever hope for.

"It was as good a weekend as we could have hoped to have."



### **... And Indy wasn't too bad for the Infinite Hero, Matco teams either**

After Jack Beckman and the Infinite Hero 2015 Dodge Charger R/T Funny Car set track records Saturday night (Sept. Sept. 5) in the 61st annual NHRA U.S. Nationals near Indianapolis, he said he was on Cloud 9.

It was a night when Antron Brown and the Matco Tools team won the Traxxas Top Fuel Shootout to earn Don Schumacher Racing its first \$100,000 deposit of the weekend.

Jack, a former elevator technician added a new stop and rested on Cloud 10 on Sunday after his time of 3.936 seconds at 323.74 mph held up for the team's fourth straight No. 1 qualifying position and, shot



up to Cloud 11 the next day when the team led by crew chief Jimmy Prock with assistants John Medlen and Chris Cunningham won the Traxxas Nitro Funny Car Shootout and \$100,000 another bonus for DSR.

"There's no time to celebrate, we have to get the car serviced, put it to bed," Jack said as the team headed into championship eliminations Monday in search of their sixth win in 18 races.

And Labor Day wasn't too bad either when the Infinite Hero Dodge and Jack took the championship points lead during eliminations and then went on to win its sixth title of the year on a holeshot over Robert Hight.

"I am so worn out. I guess it's about like getting to the top of Everest," Jack said after enjoying winner's circle. "You really don't get to celebrate until you get back home and into a cozy area. I don't know when it will sink in. It's interesting when something really good or really bad happens, human nature is the way we deal with it is to suppress the extreme ranges of emotion. But I gotta tell you, I'm pretty happy right now."

## ***DON, TONY INTO MGR WALK OF FAME***

DSR owner and Funny Car pioneer Don Schumacher and son Tony, the eight-time and reigning Top Fuel world champion, were inducted Sunday into Maple Grove Raceway's Alfred Stauffer Walk of Fame before completion of the annual Keystone NHRA Nationals at the track near Reading, Pa.

Joining the Schumachers in the Class of 15 are: Hank Endres, a pioneering Top Fuel racer from Pennsville, N.J., who campaigned the "Nirvana" dragster with partners Chip Brown and Bill Clark; and Paul "Dodger" Glenn of New Castle, Del., who raced in the 1960s and '70s and fielded the popular "Frantic Ford" Funny Cars during the glory years of match-racing.



## ***DON SCHUMACHER RECEIVES MIKE AIELLO AWARD***



Don Schumacher, who battled head and neck cancer during this past offseason and the first part of this year, is the 2015 recipient of CompetitionPlus.com's Mike Aiello "Spirit of Drag Racing" Award.

One of his DSR drivers, Jack Beckman, a past recipient of the honor, helped CompetitionPlus.com owner Bobby Bennett make the presentation on Monday of the U.S. Nationals.

The honor is presented to someone who has persevered and remained positive in spite of hardship.

The Mike Aiello Award honors the Houston native and standout college athlete at Texas Tech University who was a longtime drag-racing fan and former NHRA Pro Stock crew member. Aiello spent his final years

confined to a wheelchair after a workplace injury. Despite physical hardship and severe mobility limitations, he not only attended drag races but made dozens of friends among racers, crew members, and media with his positive outlook and unselfish behavior. Aiello died on Dec. 29, 2006. He was 39.

"NHRA is the best family there is," Don said upon receiving the award. "The fans, the competitors, the teammates ... I can only say thank you to all of them. They're the ones that caused me to do this day after day, year after year. And I love every one of them. I'm thrilled to be able to continue to do this. We're going forward."

## ***Langdon takes seat in DSR Top Fueler for Countdown***

Shawn Langdon, the 2013 NHRA Top Fuel world champion, joined Don Schumacher Racing after the U.S. Nationals to challenge for another world title. DSR owner Don Schumacher reached an agreement with Alan Johnson to make Shawn an “on-loan” driver to DSR for the six-race Countdown

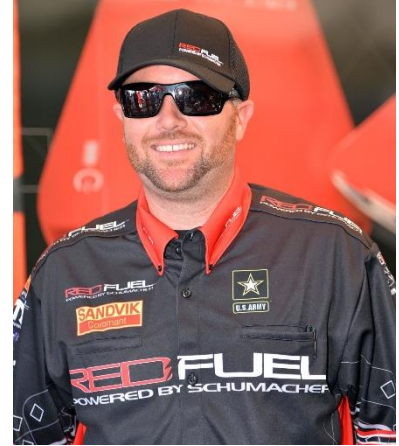
Shawn became available when Alan Johnson Racing, for whom he had driven the past four seasons, opted to not compete in this year’s last six events due to a lack of sponsorship funding.

Langdon, 33, who lives in Avon, Ind., replaced Khalid alBalooshi who drove for DSR in the U.S. Nationals.

“Khalid helped us when we needed a driver for the U.S. Nationals and this decision is only based on Shawn having qualified for the Countdown and the world championship,” said Don, who hired alBalooshi after former DSR driver Spencer Massey was released late in August.

“Our NHRA fans certainly should see the 10 best drivers battle it out in the Countdown and we are excited that Shawn and our Red Fuel/Sandvik/Odyssey Battery team will be in the fight.”

Shawn with crew chiefs Todd Okuhara and Phil Shuler have advanced to the quarterfinals in the past two races and are ranked seventh in championship points.



## ***Don assists Maple Grove with special 2016 ticket offer***

Maple Grove Raceway, in conjunction with Don Schumacher and the NHRA, is offering a ticket discount for the 2016 Saturday qualifying session of the NHRA Keystone Nationals to help ease the disappointment of fans who attended this Saturday’s racing at the track on a cold, rainy day.

Those who attended last weekend’s Saturday qualifying are eligible for a \$10 discount on a Saturday ticket for next year’s event to be held Sept. 29-Oct. 2. To be eligible for the special discount, ticketholders must mail their 2015 ticket stub to the Maple Grove Raceway ticket office during the renewal period for the 2016 NHRA Keystone Nationals.

This offer is available for advance purchase only and will not be offered at the gate next year. The discount is offered for Saturday ticketholders only.

“Don approached me and wanted to help with an offer that would aid the most loyal fans in all of motorsports here at Maple Grove Raceway,” said Lex Dudas, general manager and vice president of Maple Grove Raceway. “Maple Grove and the NHRA are pleased to extend this offer to the fans for the coming event.”

## ***Freightliner, DSR honors National Truck Driver Appreciation Week***

Professional truck drivers were honored during the Sept. 18-20 NHRA event near Charlotte by having their names applied on two-time NHRA Funny Car champion Matt Hagan’s Freightliner/Mopar/Rocky Dodge Charger R/T Funny Car during the Carolina NHRA Nationals.

“Professional drivers are at the heart of everything we do, so we wanted to find a unique way to thank them for their hard work and dedication to the trucking profession during National Truck Driver Appreciation Week,” said Mary Aufdemberg, director of product marketing for Freightliner Trucks.

In addition to the NHRA promotion, Freightliner’s parent company – Daimler Trucks North America – saluted drivers and their customers through customer service centers, websites and social media pages.

For more information go to [www.freightlinertrucks.com](http://www.freightlinertrucks.com).



## 2015 Countdown to the Championship: schedule, results

Sept. 25-27	St. Louis	TF: ANTRON BROWN	FC: Del Worsham
Sept. 18-20	Charlotte	TF: ANTRON BROWN	FC: Del Worsham
Oct. 2-4	Reading	TF: ANTRON BROWN	FC: JACK BECKMAN
Oct. 16-18	Dallas	TF:	FC:
Oct. 30-Nov. 1	Las Vegas	TF:	FC:
Nov. 13-15	Pomona	TF:	FC:

## 2015 NHRA MELLO YELLO STANDINGS – Countdown to the Championship

(Official after Reading; 3 of 6 in Countdown, 21 of 24 overall; *DSR drivers in CAPS*)

### **TOP FUEL**

<b>DRIVER (WINS)</b>	<b>PTS</b>	<b>BEHIND</b>
<b>1. ANTRON BROWN (7)</b>	<b>2432</b>	<b>-----</b>
<b>2. TONY SCHUMACHER (3)</b>	<b>2338</b>	<b>-94</b>
3. Brittany Force	2238	-194
4. Larry Dixon	2234	-198
5. Richie Crampton (4)	2187	-245
6. JR Todd (1)	2181	-251
<b>7. Shawn Langdon (1)</b>	<b>2177</b>	<b>-255</b>
8. Doug Kalitta (2)	2173	-259
9. Steve Torrence (1)	2160	-272
10. Dave Connolly	2158	-274

### **FUNNY CAR**

<b>DRIVER (WINS)</b>	<b>PTS</b>	<b>BEHIND</b>
1. Del Worsham (2)	2361	-----
<b>2. JACK BECKMAN (7)</b>	<b>2345</b>	<b>-16</b>
<b>3. MATT HAGAN (4)</b>	<b>2271</b>	<b>-90</b>
<b>4. TOMMY JOHNSON JR (3)</b>	<b>2263</b>	<b>-98</b>
<b>5. RON CAPPS (2)</b>	<b>2256</b>	<b>-105</b>
6. John Force (1)	2211	-150
7. Cruz Pedregon	2169	-192
8. Tim Wilkerson (1)	2162	-199
9. Alexis DeJoria	2154	-207
10. Robert Hight (1)	2140	-221

## 2016 NHRA MELLO YELLO DRAG RACING SERIES

### **Regular Season**

Feb. 11-14 Pomona, Calif.

Feb. 26-28 Phoenix

March 17-20 Gainesville, Fla.

April 1-3 Las Vegas

April 22-24 Charlotte, N.C.

April 29-May 1 Houston

May 13-15 Atlanta

June 3-5 Epping, N.H.

June 9-12 Englishtown, N.J.

June 17-19 Bristol, Tenn.

June 23-26 Norwalk, Ohio

July 7-10 Chicago

July 22-24 Denver

July 29-31 Sonoma, Calif.

Aug. 5-7 Seattle

Aug. 18-21 Brainerd, Minn.

Aug. 31-Sept. 5 Indianapolis

### **NHRA Mello Yello Countdown to the Championship**

Sept. 16-18 Charlotte, N.C.

Sept. 23-25 St. Louis

Sept. 29-Oct. 2 Reading, Pa.

Oct. 13-16 Dallas

Oct. 27-30 Las Vegas

Nov. 10-13 Pomona, Calif.



## **DSR PHOTO PAGE, PROVIDED BY ...**

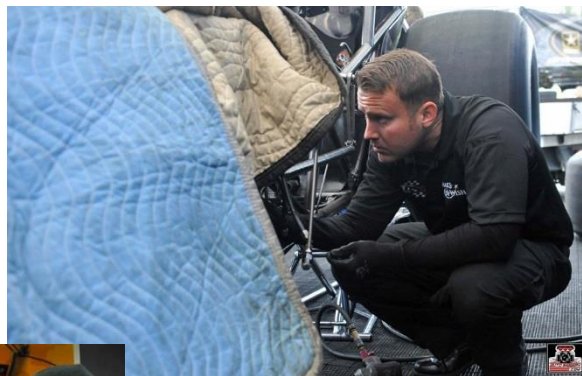


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*Jack Beckman is walking on air after winning Sunday at Reading, Pa.*

## **How cold was it at Reading?**



*Cold enough for DSR crew to bring out the winter gear. Above, Ryan Elliott of the Make-A-Wish team uses quilts to keep the engine warm while, left, Tom Turkal, and Wes Barber of the U.S. Army team revert to head wear. At right, DSR track specialist David Fletcher went with the layered look.*







**Shawn Langdon advances to the quarterfinals at Reading with the Odyssey Battery/Sandvik/Red Fuel dragster.**



**Make-A-Wish crew chief John Collins explains to Terry Chandler the set-up for Tommy Johnson Jr.'s next run at Reading.**



**Antron Brown's Matco Tools' "Tools for the Cause" dragster will continue at Dallas and Las Vegas to carry 262 names of those affected by breast cancer submitted by Matco Tools distributors, employees and field personnel.**



**Ron Capps visits the DSR Merchandise trailer on the NHRA Midway during every race.**

**Visit [Store.ShoeRacingStore.com](http://Store.ShoeRacingStore.com) for all current DSR merchandise.**

**Matt Hagan and the Rocky Boots/Mopar Dodge Charger R/T moved to within 90 points of the championship points lead at Maple Grove Raceway in their quest to defend the world title.**







***Former U.S. Army special ops officer Gary Linfoot, who was paralyzed below the waist after his helicopter crashed in 2008 during his last of 20 combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, stands to join the Honor Guard for the National Anthem during the U.S. Nationals near Indy. Linfoot stands and walks with assistance from an Ekso exoskeleton suit provided through a grant from the Infinite Hero Foundation.***



## DSR drivers 2015: career statistics, standings (thru Reading)

### DSR TOP FUEL

#### ANTRON BROWN: Matco Tools/U.S. Army

	Pts	Events	Wins	Rup	Semi	Qtr	1st rd	Poles	DNQ	W/L
2015	1st	21	7	2	4	3	5	5	0	44-14
CAREER		331	54 (38 TF/16 PSB)	42	67	86	78	42	3	561-274

Best Time, Speed: 3.680 sec.-first ever 3.6 (2015, Brainerd); 330.88 mph (2015, Brainerd)

#### TONY SCHUMACHER: U.S. Army

	Pts	Events	Wins	Rup	Semi	Qtr	1st rd	Poles	DNQ	W/L
2015	2nd	21	3	4	4	6	4	3	0	38-18
CAREER		429	80	58	68	113	102	79	8	741-341

Best Time, Speed: 3.719 sec. (2015, Topeka); 330.55 mph (2014, Las Vegas 2)

#### SHAWN LANGDON: Odyssey Battery/Sandvik/Red Fuel Powered dragster

	Pts	Events	Wins	Rup	Semi	Qtr	1st rd	Poles	DNQ	W/L
2015	7th	21 (first 18 with AJR)	1	1	4	7	8	2	0	22-20
CAREER		161	10	14	32	50	51	18	3	195-148

Langdon's Best Time, Speed: 3.662 Sec. (quickest ever, 2015, Brainerd); 334.25 mph (both with Alan Johnson Racing)

2015/TEAM	---	21	1	0	4	6	11	1	0	17-20
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Team's best Time, Speed: 3.728 sec. (2012, Englishtown, N.J.); 332.75 mph (2015, Brainerd, Minn.)

### DSR FUNNY CAR

#### JACK BECKMAN: Infinite Hero Dodge Charger R/T

	Pts	Events	Wins	Rup	Semi	Qtr	1st rd	Poles	DNQ	W/L
2015	2nd	21	7	1	3	4	5	5	1	40-13
CAREER		225	22	21	40	62	73	15	7	291-196

Best Time, Speed: 3.897 sec.-national record (2015, Reading); 326.87 (2015, Reading)

#### MATT HAGAN: Rocky Boots/Mopar Express Lane Dodge Charger R/T

	Pts	Events	Wins	Rup	Semi	Qtr	1st rd	Poles	DNQ	W/L
2015	3rd	21	4	2	2	8	5	3	0	34-17
CAREER		165	18	18	23	52	50	20	4	223-143

Best Time, Speed: 3.879 sec.-quickest ever (2015, Brainerd); 330.47 mph-national record (2015, St. Louis)

#### TOMMY JOHNSON JR.: Make-A-Wish Dodge Charger R/T

	Pts	Events	Wins	Rup	Semi	Qtr	1st rd	Poles	DNQ	W/L
2015	4th	21	2	4	3	7	5	2	0	33-19
CAREER		367	12 (10 FC/2 TF)	19	48	87	157	12	47	288-311

Best Time, Speed: 3.941 sec. (2015, St. Louis); 322.73 mph (2014, Pomona 1)

#### RON CAPPS: NAPA AUTO PARTS Dodge Charger R/T

	Pts	Events	Wins	Rup	Semi	Qtr	1st rd	Poles	DNQ	W/L
2015	5th	21	2	3	3	5	8	0	0	28-19
CAREER		456	45 (44 FC/1 TF)	45	78	93	176	16	18	566-393

Best Time, Speed: 3.937 sec., (2015, St. Louis); 327.19 mph (2015, St. Louis)

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## NHRA Mello Yello Drag Racing Series results (NOTE: order of events only correct for 2015)

REGULAR SEASON	2013 DSR WINNERS	2014 WINNERS	2015 WINNERS		
1. Feb. 6-8 Pomona, Calif.	TF Langdon/FC C. Force	TF alBalooshi	FC J. Force	TF Langdon	FC MATT
2. Feb. 20-22 Phoenix	TF TONY/FC RON	TF ANTRON	FC DeJoria	TF TONY	FC MATT
3. March 13-15 G'ville, Fla.	TF ANTRON/FC GRAY	TF Kalitta	FC Hight	TF SPENCER	FC RON
4. March 27-29 Charlotte	TF SPENCER/FC MATT	TF ANTRON	FC Hight	TF ANTRON	FC JACK #100
5. April 10-12 Las Vegas	TF TONY/FC Cruz	TF TONY	FC DeJoria	TF Crampton	FC J. Force
6. April 24-26 Houston	TF Vandergriff/FC Cruz	TF ANTRON	FC Hight	TF Kalitta	FC RON
7. May 15-17 Atlanta (PSM)	TF ANTRON/FC GRAY	TF SPENCER	FC Hight	TF ANTRON	FC Wilkerson
8. May 22-24 Topeka, Kan.	TF Langdon/FC GRAY	TF SPENCER	FC C. Force	TF Crampton	FC JACK #250
9. June 5-7 Englishtown	TF Langdon/FC MATT	TF Crampton	FC C. Pedregon	TF ANTRON	FC MATT
10. June 12-14 Epping, N.H.	TF SPENCER/FC C. Force	TF TONY	FC RON	TF TONY	FC J. Force
11. June 19-21 Bristol	TF S. Torrence/FC J. Force	TF Langdon	FC TOMMY	TF Crampton	FC MATT
12. July 3-5 Norwalk, Ohio	TF alBalloshi/FC GRAY	TF ANTRON	FC J. Force	TF Kalitta	FC JACK
13. July 10-12 Chicago	TF TONY/FC MATT	TF ANTRON	FC MATT	TF TONY	FC TOMMY
14. July 24-26 Denver	TF SPENCER/FC Cruz	TF Todd	FC Hight	TF Torrence	FC JACK
15. Jul 31-Au. 2 Sonoma	TF Langdon/FC RON	TF alBalooshi	FC C. Force	TF ANTRON	FC JACK
16. Aug. 7-9 Seattle	TF Lucas/FC MATT	TF Kalitta	FC J. Force	TF Todd	FC TOMMY
17. Aug. 21-23 Brainerd	TF SPENCER/FC RON	TF Lucas	FC RON (Indy)	TF Crampton	FC Hight
18. Sep. 3-7 Indianapolis	TF Langdon/FC Hight	TF Crampton	FC DeJoria	TF Lucas	FC JACK
	FC Traxxas JACK	TF Traxxas TONY			FC JACK
COUNTDOWN	2013 DSR WINNERS	2014 WINNERS	2015 WINNERS		
19. Sept. 18-20 Charlotte	TF Lucas/FC Hight	TF TONY (Dallas)	FC MATT (Dallas)	TF ANTRON	FC Worsham
20. Sept.25-27 St. Louis	TF ANTRON/FC J. Force	TF ANTRON	FC C. Force	TF ANTRON	FC Worsham
21. Oct. 2-4 Reading, Pa.	TF Langdon/FC J. Force	TF TONY	FC MATT	TF ANTRON	FC JACK
22. Oct. 16-18 Dallas	TF Kalitta/FC Cruz	TF TONY	FC C. Force	TF	FC
23. Oc. 30-Nv. 1 Las Vegas	TF ANTRON/FC J. Force	TF SPENCER	FC Worsham	TF	FC
24. Nov. 13-15 Pomona	TF Langdon/FC MATT	TF Lucas	FC MATT	TF	FC
<b>DSR TOTALS:</b>	TF = 11/FC = 12	TF = 14	FC = 7	TF = 11	FC = 15

### DSR 2015 SEASON TOTALS

11 - Top Fuel event titles (Antron 7, Tony 3, Spencer 1)  
15 - Funny Car event titles (Jack 7, Matt 4, Ron 2, Tommy 2)

### DSR 2014 SEASON TOTALS

2 - World championships (Tony's 8<sup>th</sup> in Top Fuel, Matt's 2<sup>nd</sup> in Funny Car)  
14 - Top Fuel event titles (Antron 6, Tony 5, Spencer 3)  
7 - Funny Car event titles (Matt 4, Ron 2, Tommy 1, Jack 0)

### DSR ALL-TIME TOTALS

13 - World championships (Tony 8, Matt 2, Antron 1, Jack Beckman 1, Gary Scelzi 1)  
261 - NHRA Mello Yello event titles (Top Fuel 130, Funny Car 106, Pro Stock 3, Pro Stock Motorcycles 18)

## Don Schumacher Racing

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