

The latest news on NHRA Drag Racing's Super Team

SHOE'S NEWS...



DON SCHUMACHER RACING FRIDAY, SEPT. 21, 2012 BROWNSBURG, IND.

Shootout adds to big Texas weekend for Capps; 'Sarge' not ready to surrender Top Fuel lead

ENNIS, Texas (Sept. 21, 2012) – There are concrete reasons why this weekend's NHRA Full Throttle Drag Racing Series event could be the best ever at the Texas Motorplex outside of Dallas.

At least we hope it will be for Don Schumacher Racing, which is living up to its moniker as the "biggest and baddest team" in drag racing.

Heading to the 'Plex, the first all-concrete dragstrip, DSR is first in Top Fuel with the U.S. Army's Tony Schumacher and first in Funny Car with NAPA AUTO PARTS' Ron Capps in a Dodge Charger R/T after last weekend's opening round of the Countdown to the Championship.



The priority for the top-10 drivers in both nitro categories of the Countdown is going rounds and winning titles.

But there will be \$100,000 up for grabs among eight Funny Car drivers, including three from DSR. The inaugural Traxxas Nitro Shootout will be Saturday concurrently with qualifying that day and the Shootout champ will earn a \$100,000 bonus for his team.

Capps – the top seed – and DSR teammate Jack Beckman and Johnny Gray want to match the feat of teammate Spencer Massey, who won the Top Fuel version of the Shootout three weeks ago during the U.S. Nationals near Indianapolis.

DSR's 2012 Traxxas Nitro Shootout drivers



F/C No. 1 seed Ron Capps



F/C No. 3 seed Jack Beckman



F/C No. 4 seed Johnny Gray

TRAXXAS NITRO SHOOTOUT – FUNNY CAR

FIRST-ROUND – Saturday, 12:45 p.m. (ET)

1. **RON CAPPS (DSR)** vs. No. 8 Courtney Force
2. Robert Hight vs. No. 7 Jeff Arend
3. **JACK BECKMAN (DSR)** vs. No. 6 John Force
4. **JOHNNY GRAY (DSR)** vs. No. 5 Mike Neff

SEMIFINALS – Saturday, 2:30 p.m. (ET)

CAPPS/Courtney Force winner vs. **GRAY/Neff** winner
Hight/Arend winner vs. **BECKMAN/John Force** winner

FINALS – Saturday, 4 p.m.

DSR's Chase to 200

Can Don Schumacher Racing reach the plateau this year of 200 NHRA titles?

The magic number is down to eight after Capps won the Funny Car title Sunday at Charlotte Motor Speedway's zMAX Dragway in Concord, N.C.

DSR has won 18 titles this season – 10 in Top Fuel and 8 in Funny Car.

With only five events remaining in 2012 including this weekend's outside Dallas, it would require three DSR sweeps of Top Fuel and Funny Car titles and at least one title in the other two events.

DSR already has swept both nitro titles at the same event **three times this year** and that happened within the span of five events.

2012 DSR titles (through Sept. 16, Charlotte 2)

1. Pomona 1	TF – Massey	
2. Phoenix	TF – Brown	
3. Gainesville	none	
4. Las Vegas 1	TF – Massey	
5. Charlotte	TF – Massey	
6. Houston	none	
7. Atlanta		FC – Capps
8. Topeka		FC – Beckman
9. Englishtown		FC – Gray
10. Bristol/ DBL	TF – Schumacher	FC – Capps
11. Chicago	TF – Brown	
12. Norwalk	TF – Massey	
13. Denver/ DBL	TF – Brown	FC - Beckman
14. Sonoma/ DBL	TF – Brown	FC - Gray
15. Seattle	none	
16. Brainerd		FC - Capps
17. Indy	TF – Schumacher	(9th Indy title, most ever in TF at U.S. Nationals)

COUNTDOWN

18. Charlotte 2	FC – Capps
19. Dallas	
20. St. Louis	
21. Reading	
22. Las Vegas 2	
23. Pomona 2	

Avenging Don

It won't happen, but it would cool if team owner Don Schumacher called his seven drivers into a meeting before Friday qualifying and said something like:

"Alright boys, 38 years ago at the U.S. Nationals Billy Meyer beat me in the semifinals and it was my last race as a driver in NHRA competition. He built this track and still owns it, so to avenge my lost loss in NHRA you need to go out there and I want to leave with every Wally and every bit of prize money that's out here."

That won't happen because Don doesn't hold a grudge.

And his departure from drag racing in 1974 enabled him to devote his energy to expanding his family's Schumacher Electric Corp into the country's largest manufacturer of battery chargers.

At Dallas, Beckman's Funny Car will be adorned in the red and black of Schumacher Electric.

After retiring from driving a Funny Car, Meyer revolutionized drag racing stadiums by building an all-concrete dragstrip and with luxury suites to become the world's first "super 'strip."

It's nice Shoe's "Super Team" is racing at the "Super Track."

Hagan raises calves, shows off his calves

Matt Hagan didn't qualify for the Countdown after winning the Funny Car world championship last season, but the cattle farmer from Christiansburg, Va., and his Aaron's Dream Machine/Mopar team are hotter than any of the Countdown Funny Cars.

Hagan, crew chief Tommy DeLago and their Dodge Charger R/T crew advanced to the semifinals Sunday near Charlotte marking the fifth consecutive event they've advanced that deep. Within the streak are two championship rounds.

That's a far cry from the first 13 events when the team lost in the first round nine times.

Hagan, the reigning Funny Car world champ, was pretty loose like when he sported a kilt in the pits last Sunday between eliminations at zMAX.



DSR DRIVER STATS, NHRA COUNTDOWN STANDINGS BELOW

WHAT'S PINK AND GOES REALLY, REALLY FAST?

You'll find out next week.

Expect a world record for a pink four-wheel vehicle to be set on Oct. 5 at the Full Throttle event at Maple Grove Raceway at Reading, Pa.

That's all you get to know for now. You'll hear more soon in time for October when it's breast cancer awareness month.

Don't be a boob ... start thinking pink!

UPDATE: ANTRON'S TOYOTA 'DRAGQUOIA'

Antron Brown's "Dragquoia" continues its journey to become a 21st century "grocery getter" for the family.

Brown, NHRA Funny Car driver Alexis DeJoria and NASCAR's Kyle Busch and Clint Bowyer are working with Toyota to create their own unique Toyota rides in the Toyota Racing Dream Build Challenge. (ToyotaRacingDreamBuild.com)



Brown's "Dragquoia" blends aspects of a Top Fuel Dragster with a Toyota Sequoia. The builds will be completed next month and unveiled Oct. 20 at the Special Equipment Market Association (SEMA) trade show in Las Vegas.

On-line voting will determine the winner who will receive \$50,000 for their designated charity; Brown has selected Racers for Christ. Voting will open on Oct. 20 and will continue through October 29. Fans will be able to vote once per day on Facebook, where they can also enter to win prizes, including a Toyota Racing "Dream Trip."

A 28-episode online reality series has been developed around the Challenge. Fans can see the progress of the builds at www.ToyotaRacingDreamBuild.com.

Make sure you vote for Brown.

DRAW: The perfect picture

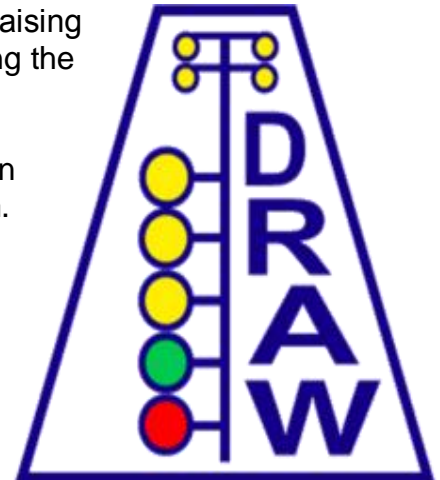
The fans are invited to attend one of DRAW's biggest fundraising activities. The annual DRAW Auction at the Texas Motorplex during the AAA Texas NHRA Fall Nationals begins 7 p.m. Saturday in the Champion Club. Everyone is invited, and admission is free.

The auction area for the Drag Racing Association of Women opens at 6:30 p.m., and the auction is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m.

Donations for the live auction may be dropped off at the DRAW booth at the track prior to the auction.

Also during the evening's activities, DRAW Persons of the Year, Company of the Year, and Volunteer of the Year will be named.

For information: drawfasthelp.org



NEXT FULL THROTTLE EVENT: Ennis, Texas

Friday: Qualifying, 3 p.m., 6 p.m.

Saturday: Qualifying, 11:45 a.m.

Saturday: Traxxas Shootout/Funny Car qualifying, 12:45 p.m., 2:30 p.m., 4 p.m.

Sunday: Championship eliminations, 11 a.m.

ON ESPN2 (times are ET)

SATURDAY: Qualifying, 1 p.m.

SUNDAY: Eliminations, 8:30 p.m.

WEATHER.COM FORECAST

FRIDAY: High 93 degrees; 0 percent chance of rain

SATURDAY: High 93 degrees; 0 percent chance of rain

SUNDAY: High 91 degrees; 0 percent chance of rain

NOTE: FORECAST FOR ZERO PERCENT CHANCE OF RAIN IS NOT A MISPRINT.



NHRA FULL THROTTLE STANDINGS

Countdown to the Championship

(Thru Sept. 16, 2012; DSR drivers in CAPS)

TOP FUEL

1. TONY SCHUMACHER, 2,170
2. SPENCER MASSEY, 2,160
3. Shawn Langdon, 2,151
4. ANTRON BROWN, 2,142
5. Doug Kalitta, 2,105
6. Morgan Lucas, 2,099
7. Brandon Bernstein, 2,095
8. Steve Torrence, 2,093
9. Bob Vandergriff Jr., 2,053
10. David Grubnic, 2,043

FUNNY CAR

1. RON CAPPS, 2,230
2. Mike Neff, 2,157
3. JACK BECKMAN, 2,152
4. Robert Hight, 2,113
5. Cruz Pedregon, 2,087
6. JOHNNY GRAY, 2,081
7. Courtney Force, 2,074
8. John Force, 2,072
9. Jeff Arend, 2,064
10. Tim Wilkerson, 2,064
11. MATT HAGAN, 885

Don Schumacher Racing driver statistics

DSR DRIVER STATS AT TEXAS MOTORPLEX

TOP FUEL

Tony Schumacher, U.S. Army dragster

Career at Texas Motorplex: Wins 6 (1999, 2004-05, 2009-2010); Runner-ups 1 (2008); Poles 3 (2003, 2006, 2011)

2011 at Texas Motorplex: Qualified No. 1; lost in second round

Spencer Massey, FRAM/Prestone dragster

Career at Texas Motorplex: Wins 0; Runner-ups 1 (2011); Poles 0

2011 at Texas Motorplex: Qualified No. 7; lost in championship round to Bob Vandergriff

Antron Brown, Matco Tools dragster

Career at Texas Motorplex: Wins 1 (1999-Pro Stock Motorcycle); Runner-ups 0; Poles 0

2011 at Texas Motorplex: Qualified No. 11; lost in semifinals to Spencer Massey

FUNNY CAR

Ron Capps, NAPA AUTO PARTS Dodge Charger R/T

Career at Texas Motorplex: Wins 1 (1998); Runner-ups 1 (2011); Poles 2 (1997, 2005)
2011 at Texas Motorplex: Qualified No. 7; lost in championship round to Cruz Pedregon

Jack Beckman, Schumacher Electric Corp. Dodge Charger R/T

Career at Texas Motorplex: Wins 0; Runner-ups 1 (2009); Poles 0
2011 at Texas Motorplex: Qualified No. 6; lost in second round

Johnny Gray, NTB/Service Central Dodge Charger R/T

Career at Texas Motorplex: Wins 0; Runner-ups 1 (2009-Pro Stock); Poles 0
2011 at Texas Motorplex: Qualified No. 2; lost in semifinals

Matt Hagan, Aaron's Dream Machine/Mopar Dodge Charger R/T

Career at Texas Motorplex: Wins 1 (2010), Runner-ups 0, Poles 0
2011 at Texas Motorplex: Qualified No. 12; lost in second round

2012

	Pts	Races	Wins	Rup	Poles	DNQ	Win/Loss
--	-----	-------	------	-----	-------	-----	----------

TOP FUEL ...

Tony Schumacher	1st	18	2	5	3	0	35-16
Spencer Massey	2nd	18	4	2	3	0	37-14
Antron Brown	3rd	18	4	5	2	0	38-14

FUNNY CAR ...

Ron Capps	1st	18	4	3	2	1	36-13
Jack Beckman	3rd	18	2	0	2	1	26-15
Johnny Gray	6th	18	2	1	2	0	23-16
Matt Hagan	11th	18	0	2	0	1	16-17

CAREER

	Races	Titles	Rup	Poles	DNQ	Win/Loss
--	-------	--------	-----	-------	-----	----------

TOP FUEL ...

Tony Schumacher	355	69	48	70	8	623-277
Antron Brown	257	35*	35	31	2	432-220 (*19 TF)
Spencer Massey	66	10	10	8	2	114-54

FUNNY CAR ...

Ron Capps	382	37	39	13	17	461-328
Jack Beckman	151	14	15	6	6	194-131
Johnny Gray	199	3	11	3	40	124-156
Matt Hagan	90	5	8	10	4	102-82

DSR Career Best Times and Speeds

TOP FUEL

Driver's best time (date, location)

Massey 3.728* (May 31, 2012, Englishtown)
Schumacher 3.746 (Englishtown, 2012)
Antron Brown 3.762 (Indy, Sept. 8, 2012)

Top speed (date, location)

332.18 (April 15, 2012, Charlotte 1)**
330.30* (April 15, 2012, Charlotte 1)**
328.22 (Topeka, 2012)

FUNNY CAR

Driver's best time (date, location)

Hagan 3.995 (Charlotte 2, 2011)
Capps 3.964* (May 31, 2012, Englishtown)
Beckman 4.018 (Aug. 18, 2012 Brainerd)
Gray 4.010 (2011, Reading)

Top speed (date, location)

322.27 (Charlotte 2, 2011)
320.89 (May 31, 2012, Englishtown)
318.99 (Charlotte 2, 2011)**
318.84 (Englishtown, 2012)

* Quickest ever

** NHRA national record

*** First 330-mph run since NHRA started 1,000-foot races in mid-2008

About Don Schumacher Racing

Don Schumacher Racing, headquartered in Brownsburg, Ind., consists of seven professional NHRA teams: in Top Fuel, the U.S. Army dragster driven by seven-time world champion Tony Schumacher, the FRAM/Prestone dragster of Spencer Massey and the Matco Tools dragster of Antron Brown; and in Funny Car, 2011 NHRA Funny Car champion Matt Hagan in the Aaron's Dream Machine/Mopar Dodge Charger R/T, Valvoline NextGen Dodge piloted by Jack Beckman, the NAPA AUTO PARTS Dodge of Ron Capps and the Service Central Dodge of Johnny Gray. DSR has won 192 NHRA national event titles and nine world championships.

Follow Don Schumacher Racing at ShoeRacing.com, on Twitter at [@shoeracing](https://twitter.com/shoeracing) and [Facebook.com/shoeracing](https://www.facebook.com/shoeracing).