

Dixon, Hines bolster points leads; Cruz, Connolly upset playoff contenders - Sunday, October 10, 2010

by Phil Burgess

Larry Dixon and Andrew Hines used respective wins in Top Fuel and Pro Stock Motorcycle at the Toyo Tires NHRA Nationals to bolster their leads, and non-playoff runners Cruz Pedregon and Dave Connolly played spoilers in Funny Car and Pro Stock, respectively, at Maple Grove Raceway.

Matt Hagan and Greg Anderson may have been turned away in their respective Funny Car and Pro Stock finals, but both took over the points lead after the early losses of front-runners John Force and Mike Edwards. Dixon now leads by 89 points after defeating his closest challenger, Cory McClenathan, in the Top Fuel final, and Hagan leads by 64 over Force. Anderson's lead over Edwards is 36, and Hines is in front of nemesis LE Tonglet by 72 markers after beating him in the Pro Stock Motorcycle final. The NHRA Full Throttle Drag Racing Series Countdown to the Championship playoffs reached the two-thirds-complete mark, with only the NHRA Las Vegas Nationals (Oct. 28-31) and the Automobile Club of Southern California NHRA Finals (Nov. 11-14) left to decide this year's season champions.



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