

# WINNERS OF THE NHRA ARBY'S SOUTHERN NATIONALS

Story: Jenelle Hanyon

Photos: MSA Staff (unless otherwise noted)

Defending Top Fuel Champion Steve Torrence won his second race event in a row at the 39th Annual Southern Nationals at Atlanta Dragway. Torrence's 1st win was at Atlanta Dragway in 2012. Steve took out Novelli Palmer Reed and the NO.1 qualifier Brittany Force with a 320.20 MPH run giving him his 29th career win and third win at the Atlanta track.

"When you have a group of guys that sticks together and that continuity is there that's the reason for success," Torrence said. "As a driver, I need to do my job and give them the best driving ability I possible can because they're giving me the best race car they possibly can. My guys are second to none and I would put them up against anybody out here. We went down the track every time we needed to and we've had a really good car. It's really cool to have Arby's out here and be the first guy to ever win the Arby's Southern Nationals."

Ron Capps secured his first Funny Car win of the 2019 season in his NAPA Auto Parts Dodge Charger SRT Hellcat, going 315.34 MPH to win on a holeshot against Tim Wilkerson's 310.05 in the final round. It gave Capps his 62nd career victory, 11 straight seasons with at least one win.

Capps defeated Langdon, John Force and teammate Tommy Johnson Jr, to reach the final round, earning his third career win at Atlanta Dragway.

"An average race car driver could have probably won in in that car today," said Capps, whose first win with crew chief Rahn Tobler came in Atlanta 2012. "This was a car you dream about driving. Rahn Tobler pulled out the vintage Rahn Tobler, and that just gave me more and more

confidence. It was just amazing and to get a Hellcat win was huge."

Andrew Hines- Five-time Pro Stock Motorcycle world champion earned his second straight victory, third overall of 2019 and 51st in his career after going 195.05 on his Screamin' Eagle Vance & Hines Harley- Davidson to defeat Jerry Savoie in the final round. It also marked the 100th career win for the Harley-Davidson in the class, a streak that Hines started win his first career victory in 2004.

"It was a good day and my motorcycle is nothing like I've ever had in my career," said Hines, who has now three wins at Atlanta Dragway. "It's working really well and doesn't do much wrong. All in all, it was a fantastic day. To get 100 wins for Harley-Davidson, it's monumental. It was a very big struggle at first, and there's been trials and tribulations, but it's really nice to get the 100th."

Sunday's final results from the 39th annual Arby's NHRA Southern Nationals at Atlanta Dragway. The race was the seventh of 24 in the NHRA Mello Yello Drag Racing Series:  
Top Fuel- Steve Torrence, 3.863 seconds, 320.20 MPH def. Brittany Force, 3.989 seconds, 274.00 mph.  
Funny Car- Ron Capps, Dodge Charger, 4.068, 315.34 def. Tim Wilkerson, Ford Mustang, 4.052, 310.05  
Pro Stock Motorcycle- Andrew Hines, Harley 195.05 mph def. Jerry Savoie



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