



**2013 Nationals at Texas Motorplex**

**KBEC Interview with Antron Brown 9/19 at 4pm**



## **NHRA: World's largest auto racing organization**

When Wally Parks founded the NHRA in 1951, he worked to get racing off the city streets and highways and into safer, organized venues. He wanted NHRA to provide guidance to timing clubs and tracks. Soon, NHRA was hosting national events, as tuning cars became a hobby rather than just a necessity. While the grassroots racing organization has come a long way in 60 years of operation, there are some things that will never change. NHRA fans continue to have the best access to the behind-the-scenes action of racing. Fans are privy to an up-close and personal view of teams rebuilding engines in less than 75 minutes between elimination rounds. Drivers are often found in their pit areas, signing autographs and chatting with fans. That is just one reason why NHRA fans continue to be some of the most loyal of any sport. NHRA is all about diversity. With more than 20 categories of competition, including Top Fuel, Funny Car, Pro Stock, and Pro Stock Motorcycle at the Professional level, to a multicultural array of high-octane personalities it calls world champions, NHRA thrives on unique competitors accomplishing unique achievements. For example, in 2008, Hispanic racer Cruz Pedregon won the NHRA Funny Car world championship, and Ashley Force Hood and Melanie Troxel became the first female winners in the Funny Car class. There are more than 40,000 licensed NHRA drivers that compete at 130 NHRA member tracks around the country.

That is real power, and it is the power of NHRA Mello Yello Drag Racing. Leave on Yello is the only way the competitors and fans of the NHRA know how to function, and it's what makes the quickest and loudest form of motorsports also the most exciting. Power is one of the key ingredients to success in NHRA Mello Yello Drag Racing, but it isn't the only one. Reaction and technology are both as important in this adrenaline-pumping sport. Technology is what transforms the parts and pieces of nitro-burning engines into high-powered race cars on the starting line. A driver's reaction is what gets the vehicle out of the gate first, while the power is what it takes to get the win light at the top end. Add desire and consistency, and you have all of the ingredients to create an NHRA Mello Yello Drag Racing Series world champion. The four categories in the NHRA Mello Yello Drag Racing Series will be full of young, freshfaced

competitors as well as seasoned veterans in 2013, and they will battle all season long to qualify for the Mello Yello Countdown to the Championship playoffs in hopes of winning NHRA world championship titles.

NHRA, the largest motorsports sanctioning body in the world, also is an active member of the Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA) and actively works with the SFI Foundation to promote safety in competition and the high-performance aftermarket industry. NHRA also is drag racing's representative in international motorsports through its membership in the Automobile Competition Committee for the United States (ACCUS). Participation on and off the track has made the NHRA Mello Yello Drag Racing Series one of the most popular forms of racing, reaching thousands of fans, members and sponsors at 300 mph. Now that's going on Yello.

[Visit the NHRA website](#)



## Antron Brown

Antron Brown is an American drag racer. He is known for winning the 2012 Top Fuel National Hot Rod Association championship. He is the sport's first African American champion. Brown had an appearance as an appraiser in episode 8 ("The Fast and The Curious") of the third season of

*Storage Wars*

. Brown studied at Northern Burlington County Regional High School before becoming a track star at

Mercer Community College

in New Jersey when he was contacted by football player Troy Vincent who was starting a racing team. He raced motorcycles until 2008 when he switched to Top Fuel dragsters.