

Media Release



## Late Models go for Gold at Sydney Speedway



**ABOVE : #11 Nathan Disney and #12 Darryl Grimson know the fast way around Tyrepower Sydney Speedway. Both will be keen to win the United Acreage Marketing Gold Cup. Photo by Gary Reid.**

It will be a case of stand on the gas and take no prisoners when many of the nation's leading Late Model racers contest the United Acreage Marketing Gold Cup at Tyrepower Sydney Speedway (NSW) Saturday January 15.

The lightning fast clayway has been home to east coast Late Model racing for many seasons but its only once a year that the numbers swell significantly as the out of town raiders come in search of gold and glory at the inner Sydney track.

The 2011 version of the Gold Cup, sponsored by South West Sydney Real Estate firm United Acreage Marketing, promises to test racers and teams to the max with

victory in the A Main holding a lot of 'bragging rights' given that most of the combatants will be in action again the following weekend in the Australian Late Model Championship at Mildura.

Heading the out of town gun fighters looking to take the hardware home is Brad Blake all the way from Western Australia. With three National Late Model titles to his credit the Bunbury racer only knows one way to race, hard! When fellow racers see his name on the nomination list they know that victory will be even tougher to obtain. For the past few seasons Blake has been heading east chasing the major Late Model races and on each occasion he has been at the wheel of the Marc Zimmer owned #0, and the pair have once again teamed up for an assault on this year's Gold Cup.

Escaping the Queensland 'big wet' for the weekend are leading racers Geoff Phillips and Blair Granger. The pair are accomplished drivers with plenty of experience between them. Both represented Australia in the Trans Tasman Challenge held in Victoria earlier in the season that saw an Australian Late Model Team take on a New Zealand Super Saloon squad. Granger is a well travelled racer who has campaigned Late Models for many seasons. He also won the most recent Round of the GFR Industries Series held in Queensland. Phillips is a real hard charger, and certain to be a front runner in the Gold Cup. A third Queensland car in the field will be campaigned by AMCA racer David Robertson.

South Australian Late Model Association President Mat Crimmins is making the long haul across with his #10 Warrior and will be keen to get a good result. Crimmins has had an up and down season thus far, with some niggling car issues. Despite the problems, he has still secured victory in two Rounds of the South Australian Series, with the most recent only being two weeks ago at Waikerie.

Headlining the local racers looking to turn back the interstate challenge is NSW Champion Nathan Disney. The popular Hunter Valley racer won the title at Leeton in December. It was his first major race win since jumping behind the wheel of a Late Model a number of years ago. Disney has been in dynamic form this season, having won four of the five Feature races he has contested, and finished second in the other. Disney's 'stand-on-the-gas' driving style ensures he has plenty of spectator support.

While Disney powers around the track, mostly on the limit, others adopt a more thoughtful approach to their racing. Ross Nicastrì, driver of the #99 Frank's Auto Mastersbilt, is an accomplished racer with many years of experience to draw on. At twice the age of Disney, Nicastrì prefers to use a cool head to get the job done. Nicastrì has undertaken a lot of racing this season, and recently returned from a two race stint in Western Australia. Although success did not come his way in the west, he has proven successful at Tyrepower Sydney Speedway this season, being the only driver to defeat Disney in a Feature.

Other leading local racers to keep an eye on are Darryl Grimson, who won the last Round of the NSW Series at Nowra and is the reigning South Australian Champion, and Scott McPherson from the ACT in the Better Trailers Rayburn. McPherson has a

wealth of experience racing these high power machines and is a former NSW, Western Australia, and South Australian Champion.

Other notable entries include Dave Mentiplay from Victoria, Ben Nicastrì in the John Hector #95, and Newcastles John Brown in the Greg Cassidy #2, who could prove to be the real 'dark horse' in the race.

The full field for the United Acreage Marketing Gold Cup reads :

Q0 Geoff Phillips  
W0 Brad Blake  
N2 John Brown  
V3 Dave Mentiplay  
N4 Lyle Dicker  
Q4 David Robertson  
Q5 Blair Granger  
N6 Bruce Mackenzie  
N7 Scott McPherson  
S10 Mat Crimmins  
N11 Nathan Disney  
N12 Darryl Grimson  
N18 Alan Oates  
N65 Barry Kelleher  
N67 Ed Borg  
N75 Stewart Jordan  
N95 Ben Nicastrì  
N99 Ross Nicastrì

The **United Acreage Marketing Gold Cup** will comprise two rounds of Heats, and the huge 30 lap A Main.

Heat sponsors are :

Heat 1 : **Annandale Auto's** Tel: 0403 185 830

Heat 2 : **Adamstown Car Doctors** (Newcastle) Tel: 02 4957 1886

Heat 3 : **Trade and General Towing** (Newcastle) Tel: 02 4960 2475

Heat 4 : **Annandale Auto's** Tel: 0403 185 830

Lap sponsors are : 1. Frank's Auto Parts 2. Lillford Exhaust (Newcastle) 3. Go Karts Go (Newcastle) 4. Rhino Truck Bodies (Newcastle) 5. Smithfield Diff & Gearbox 6. Time Target 7. Time Target 8. Time Target 9. Time Target 10. Time Target 11. Time Target 12. Better Trailers (Canberra) 13. Better Trailers (Canberra) 15. Altapac Vehicle Graphics (Newcastle) 16. Nationwide Air Conditioning (Newcastle) 20. National Dirt Racers Association 21. Rhino Truck Bodies (Newcastle) 25. National Dirt Racers Association 28. South Australian Late Model Association 29. Oz Motorsport Promotions (Kempsey) 30. Frank's Auto Parts

For the latest information on the United Acreage Marketing Gold Cup visit [www.nswlatemodels.com](http://www.nswlatemodels.com) and [www.sydney Speedway.com.au](http://www.sydney Speedway.com.au)

For more information on United Acreage Marketing visit [www.acreagesales.com.au](http://www.acreagesales.com.au)



**ABOVE : Ed Borg in the #67 endeavours to stay ahead of Ross Nicastrì in the #99 at Tyrepower Sydney Speedway. Photo by Gary Reid.**

*Ends Release*

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