

Nathan Disney ready for local campaign after US trip



ABOVE : Nathan Disney gets ready to go racing in the Crate Late Model at Brownstown Speedway. Photo by Mark Schaefer of www.schaefer11.smugmug.com

After an exciting racing holiday in the US Nathan Disney is back at his Hunter Valley base, making plans for a busy summer racing campaign.

“I jetted off to the US in August for a month long racing holiday, and although I’ve been over to the US several times, I have to say this was my most enjoyable trip yet” Nathan said.

“My parents (Des and Bev) and girlfriend (Nicole Hill) went with me, and we had a great time. Apart from doing some racing, we did the tourist thing, visiting places like the Indianapolis Motor Speedway”.

“After landing in the US I had to cool my heels the first weekend as rain stopped me racing. The following weekend though I got to compete at the Plymouth Dirt Track in the Al Atkinson Wild Late Model prepared by the Badger Motorsports team. We had some car problems, and I battled a slick track, so could only manage 20th in the Main”.

“The night before Nicole had her first ever speedway race, in an IMCA Modified at Luxemburg Speedway in Wisconsin. She had a ball, and it was great evening”.

“With that weekend out of the way it was off to the Manitowoc County Fairgrounds in Wisconsin for a Tuesday night (August 23) show with the Late Model. After the fan belt broke as I rolled onto the track in my Heat I was forced to start rear of field in the

\$3000 to win 40 lap Main that was ultimately won by Jimmy Mars. My night never got any better though, finishing 19th after I once again had to adapt to slick track conditions” Nathan said.

Friday August 26 saw Nathan back at Luxemburg Speedway, at the wheel of the #25 IMCA Modified that Nicole had raced the previous week. After being black flagged for an insecure window net in his Heat, Nathan finished 7th in the 2nd B Main, meaning he missed a transfer spot into the A.

Next night (Saturday August 27) Nathan was racing his third different car in five days, steering the Jeff Mounce owned #81 Crate Late Model at Brownstown Speedway in Indiana.

“The Crate required a completely different driving style to the Wild Super Late Model, with you having to compensate for the power difference by keeping the car a lot straighter. The car was well prepared, and I had a great time, despite running with no power steering in the Heat. I started out of 21 in the Main, and used the bottom part of the track well to eventually finish 9th, which was very satisfying”.

The next stop for the Disney Motorsports entourage was Twin Cities Raceway Park in Indiana (Saturday September 3) where Nathan raced the Crate once again. After finishing 7th in his Heat, Nathan started out of 13 in the A Main and brought the car home 12th, having to battle extremely dusty conditions all race.

With the Sunday portion of the double header being rained out for 24 hours Nathan’s final drive on his US racing holiday was on the Monday at Twin Cities (September 5) where he attempted to qualify the #81 Crate into a field of Super Late Models.

“I started 7th in my Heat, and got tagged while running 3rd, dropping me back to 6th at the finish, which was frustrating given the top 5 automatically transferred to the A Main”.

“In the B Main I started off pole, but fell back to 5th in the early laps as the track had gone off down low. Once I moved up track I got some momentum going and fought back to finish 3rd, meaning I was the final qualifier for the A Main”.

“I stayed up top in the A and was running 10th when I scored a flat left rear. After the tyre was changed I slowly worked my way back towards the front and finished up 12th. I had an absolute ball racing the Crate in Indiana!” Nathan said.

With his own racing commitments out of the way Nathan’s next stop was the famous Eldora Speedway in Ohio, where he was part of the crew assisting Queensland racer Geoff Phillips in his quest to qualify for the World 100.

“Although Geoff didn’t make it past the Heat stage just being at Eldora was a fantastic experience. It’s definitely a place I’d like to race at some time in the future”.

“That wrapped up one of the best months of my life. I’d like to thank Jeff Mounce, Travis Kern, Brad Mueller, Al Atkinson, Art & Mary Jo Seifert, Beth for making us so welcome, Geoff Phillips, and all the other great people Nicole, mum, dad, and I met while over there. It was truly an amazing experience, and I can’t wait to get back” Nathan said.

With his US racing holiday now just a memory Nathan is knuckling down to the task of getting prepared for what is arguably the biggest Australian Late Model season yet.

“I’m really pumped about this season. We have our NSW title to defend, and with the National title being held in Sydney it’s going to be huge! Then there are big races at Mildura, and in Queensland, so we are going to be spending plenty of time on the road”.

“The Disney Motorsports team couldn’t attend all these shows without the strong support of our sponsors, so it’s great to have everyone back on board for the new season, especially Adamstown Car Doctors who have been with us 8 years”.

“The US trip has got me really fired up to do well, so it’s time to get into the workshop and prepare the Rocket for battle” Nathan said.

Disney Motorsports has retained the services of Rod Thurgood from Oz Motorsport Promotions to handle its media responsibilities in season 2011/12. Oz Motorsport Promotions will also be maintaining the Disney Motorsports website at www.disneymotorsports.net where all the latest team news, results, and photos can be found.

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**ABOVE : Nathan Disney steers the #81 Crate Late Model around Brownstown Speedway.
Photo by Mark Schaefer of www.schaefer11.smugmug.com**

Ends Release

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