



Media Release

Late Model state title on the line at Lismore



ABOVE : Reigning NSW Champion Nathan Disney (#11) will have to contend with quality opposition like Devin Moran in the Frank's Auto Parts entry when he goes into battle at Lucas Oil Lismore Speedway (NSW) Saturday January 14. Photo by Gary Reid.

Race fans in northern NSW are in for a treat this Saturday night (January 14) when the state title for Late Models is contested at Lucas Oil Lismore Speedway.

The powerful V8 left hand drive Sedan division is not a regular feature at the track, but that just adds to the excitement of the event, as it means the majority of the contenders are not familiar with the layout, adding to the overall spectacle, and making for an open championship.

Defending title holder Nathan Disney is looking forward to racing at Lismore.

"I've raced at Lismore in the past, in one of the East Coast Grand National's for Super Sedans, so I know a little about what to expect" Disney said.

"That won't give me much of an advantage though, as a lot has changed since those days, and we didn't have the horsepower that a Late Model engine can produce".

"I'd certainly like to make it two state titles in a row, after winning last season at Leeton, but it's going to be a huge challenge given the quality of the field that has nominated".

Disney is easily one of the most spectacular competitors in the division, renowned for his hard charging style, and desire to be on top of the podium in every race he contests.

Sure to keep the Hunter Valley charger honest though is a cast of stars, headed by US racers Steve Francis and Devin Moran.

Francis is fresh off a Western Australia four night tour that saw him display impressive speed and car control. He is a seasoned campaigner that has toured Australia in the past, and enjoys an outstanding career in the US Late Model Series. In the state title Francis will drive a Rocket owned by long time ACT racer Scott McPherson.

The other US racer in the field is also the youngest competitor, at just 17 years of age. Devin Moran is the son of legendary US racer Donnie Moran who is best known for winning one million dollars in a race held at Eldora Speedway (USA). Devin Moran is in Australia racing for the Nicastris Motorsport team and will be wheeling the car normally campaigned by Ross Nicastris. Moran recently raced in Western Australia, and at Tyrepower Sydney Speedway, performing well on both occasions.

One of the toughest racers in the field is Brad Blake who hails from Bunbury in Western Australia. Blake is a 4 times Australian Late Model Champion, who won his most recent title in January 2011 in Mildura. He also has 10 WA titles, and 1 NSW and Queensland title listed amongst his impressive career statistics. With the Frank's Auto Parts Australian Late Model Championship to be held at Tyrepower Sydney Speedway January 27/28 Blake would like nothing better than to stamp his authority on the opposition by collecting another state title crown.

A strong contingent of Queensland competitors are heading across the border intent on grabbing glory in the NSW title. Heading the sunshine state charge is Blair Granger, who has been a dominant force in this season's Thunder Series, winning three of the five rounds, and placing second in another. Granger also finished 2nd in last year's Australian title, and this season's Queensland title.

Several other Queensland racers have competed at Lismore in the past in the AMCA Nationals ranks, and will be able to draw on that experience.

The host state is also well represented by racers of the calibre of Darryl Grimson (duel A Main winner this season) and David Robertson (Sydney Grand National winner from last season).

The full entry list for the 2011/12 NSW Late Model Championship to be held at Lucas Oil Lismore Speedway Saturday January 14 reads :

0WA Brad Blake Nigels Hydraulics, Wynstra Engineering

3USA Devin Moran Franks Auto Parts

4X David Robertson Torque Diesel Gas, JW Proctor Builder, DSR Engines, G Force Dyno Tuning

5Q Blair Granger Mason Racin, Lucas Oils, Bert Transmission

7USA Steve Francis Time Target, Better Trailers

9Q Aaron Van Zeeland Pennant Commercial Equipment

11N Nathan Disney Adamstown Car Doctors, Safe n Sound Self Storage, Altapac Vehicle Signage, Wehrsmachine & Racing Products, Travis Kern Race Engines, Wynns, Pit Crew, Century Batteries, Brad Penn Oil. DJMR, Steve Smith Race Engines

12N Darryl Grimson United Acreage Marketing, Stahl Willie

12Q Jake Hawkins Bundamba Auto Wreckers, West Moreton Towing

17Q Kevin Stow Stows Transport Pty Ltd

24Q Russell Bonsey Stows Transport Pty Ltd, Taurus Employment Group

33Q Scott McKenzie Carline Mufflers Coloundra, GRP Motorsports, Trackstar Imports, Scott McKenzie Automotive

54Q Matthew Ingrey Stows Transport Pty Ltd

67N Ed Borg United Acreage Marketing, Darryl Grimson Race Car Fabrications

77Q Steve Van Zeeland Pennant Commercial Equipment

99N Ben Nicastri Franks Auto Parts

For more information on NSW Late Model racing visit www.nswlatemodels.com



ABOVE : US racer Steve Francis will be one to watch in the NSW Late Model Championship at Lucas Oil Lismore Speedway (NSW) January 14. Photo by Peter Roebuck.

Ends Release

12th January 2012 : Media Release by Rod Thurgood : www.ozmotorsportpromotions.com