



Media Release

US Stars on top in Night 1 of Australian Late Model Championship



ABOVE : Steve Francis leads the way after Night 1 of the Frank's Auto Parts Australian Late Model Championship. Photo by Gary Reid.

US racers Steve Francis and Devin Moran were the stars of Night 1 of the Frank's Auto Parts Australian Late Model Championship held at Tyrepower Sydney Speedway Friday January 27.

Moran (USA99 Frank's Auto Parts Mastersbilt) started the evening well, topping Francis in Time Trials, before going on to win a Heat, and the second of the Time Target Mini Features. Moran would finish the evening second highest on points behind Francis.

Francis (USA7 Time Target Rocket) won two Heats, and looked solid all night, taking a strong victory in the first of the Time Target Mini Features. At nights end he was on top of the points table.

Apart from Moran and Francis, other Heat wins went to Nathan Smee, Jamie Oldfield, David Robertson, Koran Atkinson, and Mat Crimmins.

Smee's Heat win was sensational, given it was his first race in a Late Model, while Western Australia youngster Koran Atkinson was the real surprise packet, recording a Heat victory in such tough company, and finishing the evening 5th in Points.

Crimmins battled to get on track early in proceedings with the team very grateful to Col Robinson for providing them with a gearbox.

In general the racing was clean and fast, on a track that through up some challenges, starting hooky and gradually going slick. Wet weather leading up to the evening made track preparation difficult.

The final two Heats saw plenty of action with Kev Stow survive a wild ride and heavy car damage in Heat 7, while Blair Granger and Nathan Disney sustained major car damage in the final Heat. All three teams will be working hard to get back on track for Saturday evenings all important title.

Complete results from Night 1 of the Frank's Auto Parts Australian Late Model Championship are available on the NSW Late Models website at www.nswlatemodels.com



ABOVE : Devin Moran dives down the inside of Victorian racer David Mentiplay. Photo by Gary Reid.

Ends Release

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