

Daniel Erickson 'Stars' in Texas test!



Mundill co-owner Jeff Hill is please with Daniel's Performance

Daniel Erickson is ready to step up another rung on the motorsport ladder – that's the undeniable conclusion following his sensational test session with Mundill the Star Mazda team at MSR Houston Raceway.

In his first drive of a 'wings and slicks' open wheeler, Daniel lapped the 3.38km Texas road circuit on Thursday (USA time) within 0.1 seconds of the best time ever recorded by a current-spec Star Mazda. The AMSF International Rising Star almost certainly would have set a new benchmark for the category if the truncated test had continued to the end of the day. But he had to finish at lunchtime to catch his return flight to Sydney.

The test, originally scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday, was extended after rain on the first day limited Daniel to a handful of slow laps on the saturated track.

Having spent a cold and windy Wednesday familiarizing himself with the 'wings and slicks' car and the 3.38km MSR Houston layout, he got down to some serious laps in less windy but still chilly weather on Thursday morning. He recorded a 1m 25.4s lap on his first – and only, due to the time limitation – set of new tires during the session. Another 1m 25.4s lap in the same stint proved that the first one wasn't a fluke.

"Daniel got within a tenth of a second of the record this morning despite conditions that made the track about half a second 'slow!'" Hill said. "With a little more work, I am confident that he'd have lapped in the 1m 24s bracket. That would have been the quickest time here since Star Mazda switched from bias ply to radial tires."

Daniel, who this year completed a successful first international racing season in British Formula Ford, is due to arrive in Sydney on Saturday night after 10 months away from home.

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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www.mundillstore.com for all your racing supplies.