

by Diane Dale



A great shot of the dash and new gauges of Danny's 240z

Well... welcome to spring. Time to bring the Z cars out of their hibernation and back to the streets! Typically this column has visited Z cars on different tracks around North America. This issue we're going to a different type of pavement. The drag strip! Many of you take your cars down to St Thomas Dragway with the club every year – and our very own club member Danny Singh has been hooked! Danny has a great passion for Z cars and looks forward to the coming season. I've seen Danny's car up at Whitehead Performance (you can't miss it –

it's beautiful) and got a chance to talk to him at the Swap meet this past Saturday.

Danny's passion of Z cars started back in his childhood. As a young boy in Trinidad he went to racing events with his dad. A neighbour of theirs raced and Danny fell in love with the racing circuit. The Z car was very rare back then in Trinidad, but it was the one that caught his eye. His favourite paint scheme came from a couple of Datsun's he saw running one weekend. He only hoped that one day his dreams would come true...

And that they did! Danny has owned 4 Z cars (three of which he still has). A 1971, 1972 and 1973 240z, as well as a 1977 280z. It's his 1971 Datsun 240z that is the prized possession. Back in 1999 he used to drive past this lonely Z car sitting in someone's driveway... apparently not moving... and not having work done on it. Finally he got up the nerve to approach the owner. The car didn't have a motor and the owner was humming and hawing with what to do with the car. Was it for sale? Sure... Danny bought the car for about \$1500 – originally with a green body – and put in a stock motor from our own Charlie Osborne.

Danny then set in for the long and involved process of restoring the car to mint condition. Years of work went into the car with various mechanics and detailing experts. Most notably Mario from Maplecrest Upholstery redid the interior. If you can't tell by the pictures – then you need to check out this car in person – it's stunning. The interior was completely redone – floor, trunk area, pedals, dash, carpeting, seats. The seats are custom Fiero seats with speakers in the headrests. The dash has a cover protector and all new



Danny Singh and his 240z place 1st at ZedFest in 2005



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The beautiful BRE styling of the 1971 Datsun 240z

Best of luck Danny – we're looking forward to seeing you and the magical Z back in action!

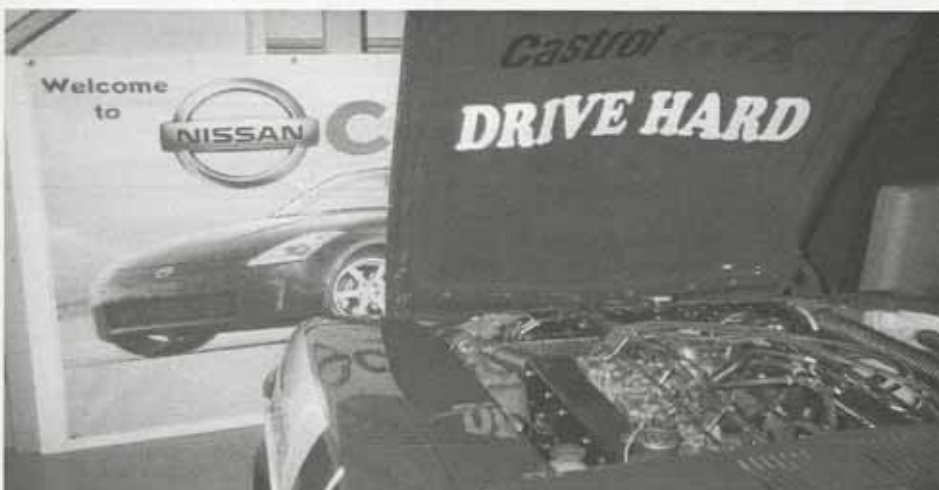
SIDEBAR

Name: Danny Singh
 Occupation: Appliance Technician
 Family: Wife - Donna, daughter – Anita, son - Brendan
 Hometown: Brampton, Ontario

1971 Datsun 240z (among others!)
 2.8L turbo – blow through system
 Weber triple carburetors 40s
 Suspension, lboc springs, Tokico Shocks
 3" stainless steel exhaust
 Stock body
 AutoMeter Gauges

gauges installed (with additional toys to boot). The hard work has paid off. Last year Danny's car placed 1st in the ZedFest 240z modified category.

Some final tuning last fall and the now car is ready to go. This year Danny is hoping to get down to 12 seconds – to beat his best time of 14.7 seconds.



Modifications make this a very fun car to drive



Danny takes his 280z out for an Ontario Z Car track day

But where Danny has had his most fun with his car is at the drag strip. His first experience was with the Ontario Z Car club. It was a little nerve wracking as he wasn't quite sure how the whole process worked – but he quickly picked up the pace and realized there was much more fun to be had. Since then he's been a frequent visitor to the Cayuga Drag Strip for practice, practice and more practice.

As many Z car enthusiasts, Danny has spent much time (and money) trying to tune his car for the best performance. He has tried different modifications such as adding triple Webers, installing a True Blue turbo system, suspension adjustments, changing gear boxes, different tires... the list goes on. Subsequent visits to Whitehead Performance have pulled it all together nicely.



Custom seats, steering wheel and interior carpeting make a stunning difference

