

Defending Daytona 500 Champion Austin Dillon Has Magical Day at Walt Disney World Resort Before The “Great American Race”

Just days before he defends his Daytona 500 victory, NASCAR star Austin Dillon spent his day off from the speedway Tuesday having a magical day at Walt Disney World Resort.

Dillon, 28, interacted with popular Disney characters, posed for photos wearing Mickey Mouse ears and experienced several signature attractions, such as Seven Dwarfs Mine Train and Dumbo the Flying Elephant.

He also surprised a young racing fan, who had given him a lucky penny just before he won the Daytona 500 last year. Dillon presented the young fan, 12-year-old Jordan Wade of Bradenton, FL., with a Daytona 500 champions ring.

It was Dillon's first visit to Walt Disney World Resort since his family brought him to the famous theme park as a child. Dillon was joined by his mother, wife and friends.

Dillon returns to the track on Thursday for the 150-mile qualifying races at Daytona International Speedway. Dillon will once again drive the famous No. 3 Dow Chevrolet for Richard Childress Racing during the Daytona 500 on Sunday.