



STAR MAZDA CHAMPIONSHIP ROOKIE DE PHILLIPPI TO TAKE A SHOT AT TURKEY... NIGHT, THAT IS, WITH A USAC MIDGET IN THE 70TH RUNNING OF THE PRESTIGIOUS 'TURKEY NIGHT GRAND PRIX'

Irwindale, CA / Nov. 2, 2010 -- Newly crowned Star Mazda Championship Rookie of the Year Connor De Phillippi will return to the oval racing ranks in late November via the prestigious Turkey Night Grand Prix at Irwindale Speedway in Southern California.



De Phillippi, a native of San Clemente, California, who has previously enjoyed circle track success in the Legends ranks, is scheduled to pilot a USAC Midget during the Thanksgiving day event.

The Turkey Night Grand Prix is a Thanksgiving classic; it started in 1934 at Gilmore Stadium in Los Angeles, California and is now at the half-mile, asphalt-paved speedway in Irwindale, California.

On-track action begins at 7:00 pm, Thursday, November 25. Gates open at 4:00 pm. The Midget Grand Prix is scheduled for 98 laps. Legendary drivers who have had their names inscribed on the towering Agajanian Trophy include A.J. Foyt, Tony Stewart, Jason Leffler, Mel Kenyon, Gary and Tony Bettenhausen, Bill Vukovich and Parnelli Jones.

"The midget was a really fun experience so far," says De Phillippi, who closed out his 2010 Star Mazda Championship season with a win from the pole at Road Atlanta. "We have tested so far at Orange Show Speedway in San Bernadino, which is a very small track so putting the power down was difficult. But in mid November I'll be doing a test day at Irwindale and that should be a whole different experience. I'm really looking forward to the bigger track and faster speeds. I really need to thank the car owner Ray Neveau for giving me this opportunity as well as Oakley, Justice Bros, Power Balance and Class Auto Care."

De Phillippi, the 2009 Skip Barber Pro Series champion, won his drive in the 2010 Star Mazda Championship courtesy of the MAZDASPEED Motorsports Driver Development Ladder, the unique automaker-





backed program that provides scholarships for champions from karting to the top levels of the sport to move up the ladder of Mazda-powered racing cars. De Phillippi finished 3rd in the championship in his rookie year, scoring one win from the pole, three podium finishes and eight top-5s.

For further information about Connor De Phillippi, visit www.connordephillippi.com, or e-mail C.DePhillippi@gmail.com.

For more information about the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear, visit www.starmazda.com or contact: Peter Frey / Communications Director / 818-398-5733 / StarMazdaPR@aol.com

