



GOOD YEAR

## STAR MAZDA GRADUATE AND MAZDA ROAD TO INDY STAR JAMES DAVISON TO TEST WITH ANDRETTI AUTOSPORT AT PALM BEACH INTERNATIONAL RACEWAY

INDIANAPOLIS (Nov. 7, 2011) - Andretti Autosport announced today that driver James Davison will test the No. 27 2011 IZOD IndyCar Series car on Nov. 10 at Palm Beach International Raceway in Jupiter, Fla.

The 25-year-old Australian is no stranger to INDYCAR. Davison's first experience in the Mazda Road to



Indy came in 2007, when he finished second in the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear with three wins, three pole positions and three additional podium finishes. In his rookie Firestone Indy Lights season in 2008, Davison secured one win, one pole position and five top-10 finishes. He also received the "Most Improved Driver" award. The following year he

earned four podiums (including one win), 14 top-10 finishes and three pole positions to finish second in the Firestone Indy Lights championship.

Earlier this year, Davison competed in a Daytona Prototype in the Grand-Am Rolex Sports Car race at Laguna Seca Raceway, leading seven laps on debut. He also has experience racing in the Champ Car Atlantic Series for Team Australia and won at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway in Formula BMW during the United States Grand Prix weekend.

Davison is a third-generation driver, with his grandfather Lex Davison a four-time winner of the Australian Grand Prix and his father Jon a former Formula 5000 competitor. His cousins Alex and Will Davison are also V8 Supercar drivers.

The 2012 IZOD IndyCar Series season begins March 25 on the streets of St. Petersburg, Fla. A full season schedule will be available at <a href="https://www.indyCar.com">www.indyCar.com</a>.

For more information, please visit <a href="https://www.AndrettiAutosport.com">www.AndrettiAutosport.com</a>.

MICHAEL ANDRETTI, CHAIRMAN, PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, ANDRETTI AUTOSPORT:

"We're glad to be able to offer James the chance to test an IZOD IndyCar Series car this week. He was a tough competitor for us in the Firestone Indy Lights series a couple of years ago, and has gained















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some experience in sports cars since then, so we think he'll be able to transfer a lot of knowledge to the IndyCar at Palm Beach."

## JAMES DAVISON, DRIVER:

"I'm really excited to have my first IZOD IndyCar Series test with Andretti Autosport at Palm Beach. I have worked very hard for an opportunity like this and I fully intend to maximize it. The team's Indy 500 and IndyCar Series championships give me full confidence in the people working with me. I'm looking forward to getting back on track, and hopefully this will give me some good experience for any possible opportunities in 2012. I must thank Michael [Andretti], J-F [Thormann] and everyone at Andretti Autosport for this opportunity."

## **About Andretti Autosport**

Based in Indianapolis and led by racing legend Michael Andretti, Andretti Autosport fields multiple entries in the IZOD IndyCar Series. Andretti Autosport also campaigns multiple cars in Firestone Indy Lights, the Star Mazda Championship and in the USF2000 National Championship. The company boasts three IZOD IndyCar Series championships (2004, 2005 and 2007), two Firestone Indy Lights titles (2008 and 2009), one USF2000 championship (2010) and has won the Indianapolis 500 twice (2005 and 2007). For more information, please visit www.AndrettiAutosport.com.

## **About Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear**

For 2012, the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear will be again be a major part of the Mazda Road to Indy. The schedule has yet to be announced, but all races will be on major motorsports weekends and most with IndyCar. Rising stars from around the world will be watched by more than a million fans as they compete for prizes valued at \$1.5 million, including a scholarship to move up and race in the 2013 Firestone Indy Lights series. Drivers 16 and older are welcome to compete and the Star Mazda Championship also features the Expert Series for drivers 30 and older. The Star Mazda Championship features standing starts, wheel-to-wheel racing at 160 mph and budgets a fraction of other top open-wheel ladder series. For more information on the Star Mazda Championship please visit <a href="https://www.starmazda.com">www.starmazda.com</a>.

For more information on the Star Mazda Championship and its drivers, as well as the Mazda Motorsports ladder system, please visit <a href="www.starmazda.com">www.mazdausa.com</a>. For information, interviews and photos, please contact Star Mazda Communications Director Peter Frey at (818) 398-5733 or <a href="starMazdaPR@aol.com">StarMazdaPR@aol.com</a>.

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