

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Atlanta racer Matt Varsha to make Star Mazda debut at Sebring

Atlanta, GA (March 6, 2006) - All racing drivers have a dream. It usually involves winning in front of a cheering crowd. For Matt Varsha, the dream is winning with his father telling the world about it from the television booth.

An 18-year old Atlanta native, and son of well-known SPEED Channel announcer Bob Varsha, Matt will make his debut in the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear at the season-opening race in Sebring, Florida, Friday, March 17th. The Mazda series, a stepping-stone to the upper levels of auto racing, features open-wheel race cars on both road courses and oval tracks at speeds up to 165 miles per hour. The series will showcase the newest generation of young driving stars at Sebring the day before the world-renowned Mobil 1 Twelve Hours of Sebring sports car endurance classic.

With a resume that includes a 2005 Skip Barber regional championship and a fourth-place finish in the Barber national title chase with a win, 4 poles and 8 podium finishes in 14 races, Varsha has another important reason for wanting to do well: he lacks sufficient sponsorship to tackle the entire Star Mazda season.

"I'm really grateful for this opportunity," said Varsha, a recent graduate of Atlanta's Ben Franklin Academy. "I've tested four times with Racers Edge Motorsports, and I really feel at home with the team. Despite the lack of a sponsor we're going to run Sebring and hope to do well enough to attract funding to run for the championship. Besides that, my dad is busy with Formula One on SPEED over the Sebring weekend, and I want him to be able to watch me race this fantastic car in person later in the season.."

Team owner Jon Mirachi, a respected judge of young driving talent who took Luis Schiavo to the 2003 Star Mazda championship, is confident he's found a new star.

"We are excited and ready for the Sebring season opener," said Mirachi. "The team has been busy developing the cars over the off-season, and in the testing we've done Matt has been nothing short of sensational. We knew he would be quick, but he turned out to have even more natural speed than we expected. We can't wait to go racing with this kid!"

SPEED coverage of the Sebring round of the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear is scheduled to air tape-delayed on Sunday, April 9th at 4pm eastern time.

mattvarsha.com
racersedgemotorsports.com
starmazda.com