Rob Bunker Montreal Review

The June 24 Star Mazda Championship race at le Circuit Gilles Villeneuve in Montréal was shortened from 26 laps to 11 because of a crash that took 15 cars out on the first lap. Rob Bunker's race was even shorter: his was one of the cars caught in the mêlée.

Bunker, of Bridgewater, N.J., had moved up five positions in the first three turns of the first lap. He was charging for another position when the cars ahead crashed, blocking the track. Contact with another car broke the suspension on his No. 18 AIM Autosport Pro Formula Mazda and he was out of the race.

"We had a good setup on the car and definitely had a great start. After the first three corners, I was five positions up," Bunker said. "Then I rounded the turn and there was already a pile-up of nine cars. There was nothing I could do – the only entrance to the track was closed."

Despite the race result, Bunker was pleased with his progress during the race weekend.

"We were only six-tenths [of a second] off the fast time in practice, and we knew exactly where to find it," he said.

Bunker will participate in a two-day test to prepare for the next Star Mazda Championship race, at Miller Motorsports Park in Tooele, Utah, in July.

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