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Donoso to Drive One of Four Andersen Racing Cars In Saturday's Star Mazda Race at Road America

FAIRFIELD, N.J., Aug. 13 — Pablo Donoso, who won one race, recorded three podium finishes and placed ninth in the 2005 Star Mazda point standings driving for Andersen Walko Racing, will compete in the Star Mazda event at Road America this coming Saturday, Aug. 19, in a car fielded by Andersen Racing.

Dan Andersen said that Donoso's car will be one of four his Fairfield, N.J.-based team will field at the road course located in Elkhart Lake, Wis. The other three will be driven by Gerardo Bonilla of Orlando, Fla.; Ramiro Scuncio of Concepcion, Chile and Phil Saville of Oak Brook, Ill.

"I'm delighted to have a tremendous talent like Pablo back with us for Road America," Andersen said of Donoso, a native of Santiago, Chile. "I believe his driving ability and experience will help our whole team and especially Ramiro, who is also from South America," he added. "Pablo not only knows how to go fast; he also knows how to race, and I'm sure his input will be very beneficial to all of us."

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Former Formula 1 and Indy Car driver Eliseo Salazar, who is a mentor to both Donoso and Scuncio, will be with the team at Road America too, coming to the track after competing in a Grand Prix Masters event himself this weekend at Silverstone, England.

Donoso will drive Brad Jaeger's mount at Road America while that Cincinnati-based driver continues to recuperate from head injuries sustained in the Star Mazda race at Montreal June 24.

Donoso is delighted for the opportunity to once again work with many of the engineers and mechanics he worked with last year. He also is looking forward to completing some unfinished business he has with the 4.048-mile road course. Last August he qualified sixth at Road America with his Cristal Beer No. 22, just 0.594 of a second off the pole. Unfortunately nearly a quarter of the field was involved in an accident in the first turn at the start, and Donoso was among them. Neither Donoso, Graham Rahal, Jaeger or the Star Mazda series' current point leader, Adrian Carrio, completed even one lap of that race, and Donoso got airborne to boot.

This year Donoso's goal is to finish every lap and be at the front when the checkered falls.

All sorts of drivers have the same goal, including Bonilla and Scuncio, who have been running with Andersen Racing for the entire 2006 schedule of the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear. Bonilla, who won the season opener, is leading its Expert Series point standings. Scuncio, a rookie, is coming off his best finish ever in the series, as he placed seventh on the streets of Trois-Rivieres, Quebec Aug. 6. Both he and Bonilla are in the top 10 in the overall current point standings. Bonilla is seventh and Scuncio is ninth.

Saville has tested successfully with the team several times. He will be making his first pro Star Mazda start at Road America.

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Last year Donoso's Star Mazda victory came in the first half of the doubleheader at Infineon Raceway in Sonoma, Calif. He has been driving the new-generation USAC Silver Crown cars this season.

This year's Road America race schedule shows the Star Mazda set testing on Thursday, Aug. 17 before the first official practice session gets underway at 8 a.m. Friday, Aug. 18. There's another practice session at 2:50 p.m. that afternoon, with qualifying following the next morning at 8 a.m. The race itself, which supports an American Le Mans Series (ALMS) headliner, is slated to get the green flag at 1:05 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 19.

The recent Trois-Rivieres race is scheduled to be shown on SPEED at 1 p.m. Eastern time today. The Road America race is scheduled to be broadcast on the same network at 3 p.m. Eastern time on Aug. 26.

For more information see andersenracingteam.com and starmazda.com.