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Andersen Racing's Bonilla Finishes Second In Saturday's Star Mazda Race at Mosport

BOWMANVILLE, Ont., Sept. 4 — A day after Andersen Racing announced exciting plans for 2007 that include the team's entrance into the Indy Racing League's Indy Pro Series, one of its drivers finished on the podium Saturday in Round 10 of the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear at Mosport International Raceway.

Andersen Racing's Gerardo Bonilla of Orlando, Fla. started third and led most of the way but Ron White passed him in turn eight on the last lap for the victory in the 21-lap race. Bonilla's Skip Barber Racing School-sponsored car was just 0.540 of a second behind White's car at the checkered in the race, held in poor conditions due to the remnants of Tropical Storm Ernesto.

"Ron White was really fast in the Turn Five complex and that was my weakest point, so on the final lap I saw him coming up on me there and we both went into the corner excited and slid around a bit," Bonilla told Star Mazda officials afterwards. "We exited the corner side by side and were side by side down the entire backstraight, and then we went into Turn Eight both thinking we were going to win. Ron was able to edge out just a bit and I backed out, as I figured second place was better than a crash after all the work Andersen Racing has done for me."

Bonilla's fine finish further increased his lead in the Expert Series' point standings.

Phil Saville of Oak Brook, Ill. finished eighth in the 29-car field in another Andersen Racing entry sponsored by New York Jewelers of Chicago, NVG Residential, and Mac Marketing

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& Advertising Corp. Saville started 14th and finished right behind current point leader Adrian Carrio.

A third Andersen Racing driver, Ramiro Scuncio of Conception, Chile, started 11th and finished 14th with his Sky Airlinc No. 22. He did particularly well in practice here despite it being his first time at this track, but his race was marred by a spin on the wet and slippery surface. It was also Scuncio's first race in the rain.

The 45-minute event was part of the Labour Day Grand Prix of Mosport and supported an American Le Mans Series (ALMS) headliner.

The Mosport Star Mazda race will be shown on SPEED at 1 p.m. Eastern time on Saturday, Sept. 9.

Only two more races remain in 2006: Road Atlanta in Braselton, Ga. on Sept. 30 and Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca in Monterey, Calif. on Oct. 21.

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

The stats from Mosport:

Promoter Test session one (Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 9 a.m.):

- 1. Ryan Justice, 1:14.855 (118.261 mph)
- 5. Gerardo Bonilla, 1:15.552 (117.170 mph)
- 6. Ramiro Scuncio, 1:15.566 (117.148 mph)
- 19. Phil Saville, 1:17.491 (114.238 mph)

Promoter Test session two (Thursday, 11:25 a.m. to 11:55 a.m.):

- 1. Adrian Carrio, 1:14.751 (118.425 mph)
- 6. Gerardo Bonilla, 1:15.604 (117.089 mph)
- 7. Ramiro Scuncio, 1:15.609 (117.081 mph)
- 22. Phil Saville, 1:16.774 (115.305 mph)

Promoter Test session three (Thursday, 3:25 to 3:55 p.m.):

- 1. Mark Wilkins, 1:14.926 (118.149 mph)
- 4. Gerardo Bonilla, 1:15.700 (116.941 mph)
- 11. Ramiro Scuncio, 1:16.077 (116.361 mph)
- 15. Phil Saville, 1:16.657 (115.481 mph)

Andersen Racing Mosport results

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Thursday Combined Times

- 1. Adrian Carrio, 1:14.751 (118.425 mph)
- 8. Gerardo Bonilla, 1:15.552 (117.17 mph)
- 10. Ramiro Scuncio, 1:15.566 (117.148 mph)
- 23. Phil Saville, 1:16.774 (115.305 mph)

Official Practice Session One (Friday, 9:10 a.m. to 9:55 a.m.)

- 1. Mark Wilkins, 1:14.361 (119.046 mph)
- 6. Ramiro Scuncio, 1:15.226 (117.677 mph)
- 7. Gerardo Bonilla, 1:15.479 (117.283 mph)
- 20. Phil Saville, 1:16.457 (115.783 mph)

Official Practice Session Two (Friday, 4:35 p.m. to 5:20 p.m.)

- 1. Adrian Carrio, 1:14.587 (118.686 mph)
- 7. Ramiro Scuncio, 1:15.792 (116.799 mph)
- 8. Gerardo Bonilla, 1:15.901 (116.631 mph)
- 17. Phil Saville, 1:16.625 (115.529)

Qualifying (Saturday, 8 a.m. to 8:45 a.m)

- 1. Adrian Carrio, 1:14.169 (119.354 mph)
- 3. Gerardo Bonilla, 1:14.797 (118.352 mph)
- 11. Ramiro Scuncio, 1:15.383 (117.432 mph)
- 14. Phil Saville, 1:15.502 (117.247 mph)

Race (Saturday, 1:05 p.m. to 1:50 p.m.)

- 1. Ron White
- 2. Gerardo Bonilla
- 8. Phil Saville
- 14. Ramiro Scuncio