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Andersen Racing's Goring Salvages a Tenth In Rainy Portland Star Mazda Race

PORTLAND, Ore., June 9 — After Jonny Baker qualified third and Jonathan Goring qualified fifth, hopes were high for podium finishes for both Andersen Racing drivers in round five of the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear Saturday at Portland International Raceway.

The best finish for the Fairfield, N.J.-based team at the end of a very rainy race was Goring's tenth place result with his No. 14, which didn't reward the Norfolk, Conn.-based teen's effort. He dropped to 18th early, but fought his way back up to fourth with his car, which advertises the Skip Barber Racing School, Alfas Unlimited and NPA Graphics. Unfortunately a late spin in the treacherous conditions dropped him back to tenth at the checkered.

Baker was one of four drivers involved in a wild mishap in the first turn on the first lap, and the young driver from Farnham Common, Buckinghamshire, England didn't complete even a single lap of the 25-lap contest on PIR's 1.964-mile road course. Dane Cameron, Steve Hickham and Steve Cook were the others involved in that crash. Baker's official finishing position was 28th in the 30-car field assembled for the race, part of the Mazda Champ Car Grand Prix of Portland.

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Devin Cunningham ended up winning, followed by Natacha Gachnang and Ron White.

Saturday's race will be broadcast on SPEED on Sunday, July 1 at 2 p.m. ET.

The next Star Mazda event is June 22-24 in Cleveland, Ohio.

Andersen Racing is committed to offering a program that gives up-and-coming drivers the proper training to reach open-wheel racing's major leagues. It fields multiple cars in the F2000 Championship, the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear and the Indy Pro Series. More information on the team is available on its Web site at andersenracingteam.com.

The weekend stats:

Practice 1 (Friday, 11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.):

1. Ron White, 1:09.301
11. Jonny Baker, 1:10.086
27. Jonathan Goring, 1:15.060

Practice 2 (Friday, 4:10 p.m. to 5:10 p.m.):

1. Ron White, 1:09.393
6. Jonathan Goring, 1:09.963
10. Jonny Baker, 1:10.091

Quals (Saturday, 9:05 a.m. to 9:50 p.m.):

1. Marco Di Leo, 1:09.594
3. Jonny Baker, 1:09.928
5. Jonathan Goring, 1:10.111

Race (Saturday, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.):

1. Devin Cunningham
10. Jonathan Goring
28. Jonny Baker