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## **Andersen Racing's Hall Earns Second Starting Spot For 2008 Star Mazda Season Opener at Sebring**

SEBRING, Fla., March 13 — Andersen Racing's Charles Hall only had two laps to get down to business in Star Mazda qualifying Thursday afternoon at Sebring International Raceway, but he was up to the challenge.

A red flag just two laps into the Star Mazda series' fastest group's qualifying session gave its drivers only enough time to complete two additional flying laps before time ran out. Hall made the most of the opportunity, rising from fifth at the break in the action to second at the end of the session.

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Hall, whose arrangement to compete in this race only gelled last week, changed his car's number from 22 to 77 because he said 77 is a luckier number. Apparently it is, as he'll share Row 1 with polesitter Joel Miller thanks to a qualifying time that was just 1.091 seconds off Miller's best lap. Hall's Pardoes Solicitors-sponsored entry's best lap was done in 2:01.542 for an average speed of 109.592 miles an hour for the bumpy, 3.7-mile, 17-turn road course.

Despite it being his first Star Mazda race ever, the driver from Sheffield, England was able to get the series' brand-new Goodyear radial tires to come in fast enough on the restart. He'll have another challenge in the 45-minute race at 2:50 p.m. tomorrow, when the series stages its first standing start ever.

The great qualifying result was a big boost for Hall, who is resuming his career after receiving serious injuries in a traffic accident caused by a drunk driver in 2005. It also was cause for celebration by the team's sponsor, Allied Building Products Corp.

Hall was fifth fastest to Miller at the end of lap two when the second- and third-place cars of Ernesto Otero and Alex Ardoin brought out the red flag. Otero ended up in a tire wall at the exit of Turn 5, and Ardoin came to a halt with mechanical difficulties in Turn 7. Two other Andersen Racing drivers, Tom Gladdis and Yannick Hofman, were right behind Hall in the standings in sixth and seventh during the pause in the action.

There was only time for two more flying laps, but Hall made the most of them to rise to second in the qualifying rundown.

Otero and Ardoin weren't penalized for bringing out the red, so when the final starting line-up was posted Andersen Racing's Peter Dempsey of Ashbourne, County Meath, Ireland was sixth with his No. 21. Gladdis, of Gibraltar, ended up ninth in the Marrache & Co. No. 5. Hofman, who is from Rosemere, Quebec, was tenth in the Jig-A-Loo No. 00. Juliana Gonzalez of Mexico City, Mexico, who was one of the stars of the first group's qualifying session, will start 17th in tomorrow's race in the fifth Andersen Racing entry, the No. 11.

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Gladdis was the fastest of the five Andersen Racing drivers in five practice sessions here. Dempsey topped everyone in the second test session Monday, with Gladdis second.

Miller's pole was not a new track record. That is still held by Dane Cameron, who set the mark last year. In 2006 Andersen Racing won the pole for this race with a new track record set by Brad Jaeger, and also the race itself with Gerardo Bonilla's entry. Both are driving Prototypes now; Jaeger in the Rolex Series and Bonilla in the ALMS.

Tomorrow afternoon's 45-minute race supports Saturday's Mobil 1 Twelve Hours of Sebring American Le Mans Series season opener. It is scheduled to be shown on SPEED at 3 p.m. Eastern on Sunday, March 30.

The second Star Mazda race of the year is slated for May 17 at Miller Motorsports Park in Tooele, Utah. The series will then appear at Watkins Glen International in Watkins Glen, N.Y. on June 7, which replaces the cancelled Houston date. The complete schedule and other information are posted on the series' Web site at [starmazda.com](http://starmazda.com). The team's Web site is at [andersenracingteam.com](http://andersenracingteam.com).

The Andersen Racing drivers' post-qualifying quotes follow:

**Charles Hall:** "To be on the front row in my first race in two years and my first Star Mazda race ever, I'm just over the moon with the results and the car that Andersen Racing gave me.

"The red flag forced us all to try to go as fast as we could as quickly as we could. I just tried to get the most I could get out of the tires.

"These tires take about five laps to come in, and we didn't have five laps. I knew that every lap after the restart would count, so I just pushed, pushed, pushed.

"This is the first time I've been on this track since 2005, when I ran the Fran-Am Winter Series. It was about negative 8 for that race; today is nice and warm. It's also my first Star Mazda race ever."

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**Peter Dempsey:** "We just didn't go quick enough. We're still struggling a bit. I need to look at the data and see where we can make up some time. I'm a bit frustrated at the moment because we didn't have the results in qualifying that we had in practice."

**Tom Gladdis:** "Practice went real well. I got on pace well, and we had good results. We didn't get the results we wanted in qualifying because of the issue with the car that crashed in Turn 5 and the guy that stopped in Turn 7. That didn't give me enough time to really get going again. If we'd had a few laps more we would have done better, but the time frame we had to work with made things difficult. But I think we have a good car for the race."

**Yannick Hofman:** "Everything was on track to be perfect for qualifying; I started fast and everything was good. Then when we had the red, I just lost my momentum. I came back on the track but I had some mistakes on the next two laps."

"The Jig-A-Loo car was pretty good. We hope to be good during the race tomorrow. My goal tomorrow is to be certain to have a good finish. I think there's going to be lots of wrecks. I want to stay out of them and have a good finish. My focus is the championship, and every point is important."

**Juliana Gonzalez:** "We started out first or second in our group, but then in the middle of the session we had a problem and we went backwards. We were consistent in our times and we were fast until we had the problem. We're working on it, and if we can make that problem go away we can be strong contenders tomorrow."

"This track is fast and real physical. It's super fun to drive!"

The Star Mazda stats so far this week follow:

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### Promoter Test Session 1 (Monday, 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.):

1. Nick Haye, 2:00.793, 110.271 mph
3. Tom Gladdis, 2:01.016, 110.068 mph
4. Peter Dempsey, 2:01.712, 109.439 mph
6. Charles Hall, 2:02.345, 108.872 mph
8. Juliana Gonzalez, 2:03.056, 108.243 mph
10. Yannick Hofman, 2:04.783, 106.745 mph

### Promoter Test Session 2 (Monday, 1:20 p.m. to 2:20 p.m.):

1. Peter Dempsey, 2:00.141, 110.870 mph
2. Tom Gladdis, 2:00.177, 110.837 mph
6. Charles Hall, 2:01.726, 109.426 mph
10. Yannick Hofman, 2:02.435, 108.792 mph
14. Juliana Gonzalez, 2:03.054, 108.245 mph

### Promoter Test Session 3 (Tuesday, 10:05 a.m. to 10:40 a.m.):

1. Joel Miller, 1:59.653, 111.322 mph
2. Tom Gladdis, 1:59.984, 111.015 mph
3. Peter Dempsey, 2:00.172, 110.841 mph
4. Yannick Hofman, 2:00.839, 110.229 mph
6. Charles Hall, 2:01.066, 110.023 mph
13. Juliana Gonzalez, 2:02.509, 108.727 mph

### Promoter Test Session 4 (Tuesday, 4:40 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.):

1. Joel Miller, 2:00.635, 110.416 mph
2. Tom Gladdis, 2:01.018, 110.066 mph
3. Charles Hall, 2:01.256, 109.850 mph
5. Peter Dempsey, 2:01.675, 109.472 mph
8. Yannick Hofman, 2:02.242, 108.964 mph
17. Juliana Gonzalez, 2:03.646, 107.727 mph

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Official Practice Session 1 (Wednesday, 12:40 p.m. to 1:20 p.m.):

1. Joel Miller, 2:01.151, 109.945 mph
2. Tom Gladdis, 2:01.159, 109.938 mph
4. Peter Dempsey, 2:02.182, 109.018 mph
6. Charles Hall, 2:02.516, 108.720 mph
7. Yannick Hofman, 2:02.691, 108.565 mph
14. Juliana Gonzalez, 2:03.999, 107.420 mph

Official Practice Session 2 (Thursday, 8:40 a.m. to 9:20 a.m.):

1. Joel Miller, 2:00.332, 110.694 mph
2. Tom Gladdis, 2:01.007, 110.076 mph
3. Peter Dempsey, 2:01.388, 109.731 mph
10. Charles Hall, 2:02.179, 109.020 mph
12. Yannick Hofman, 2:02.550, 108.690 mph
19. Juliana Gonzalez, 2:03.981, 107.436 mph

Qualifications (Thursday, 1:20 p.m. to 2:05 p.m.):

1. Joel Miller, 2:00.451, 110.584 mph
2. Charles Hall, 2:01.542, 109.592 mph
6. Peter Dempsey, 2:02.003, 109.178
9. Tom Gladdis, 2:02.333, 108.883 mph
10. Yannick Hofman, 2:02.461, 108.769 mph
17. Juliana Gonzalez, 2:03.542, 107.818 mph

### *About Allied Building Products Corp.:*

Allied Building Products Corp., headquartered in East Rutherford, N.J., is one of the largest roofing and siding distributors in the United States. Founded in 1950 with five employees and two trucks, today it is a \$1.8 billion building material distribution company with over 3,500 employees, more than 200 branches in 30 states, well over one million square feet of office and warehouse space, and an inventory of approximately 85,000 products, from residential roofing and siding to doors, windows, waterproofing, manufactured stone, interior products and commercial roofing systems. For more information see [alliedbuilding.com](http://alliedbuilding.com).

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### *About Andersen Racing:*

Andersen Racing strives to provide the best and most comprehensive training possible for future open-wheel superstars while giving its marketing partners media exposure and hospitality opportunities at some of the most prestigious events in North America. It provides a unique, three-step program utilizing multiple entries in three different series: the F2000 Championship (webcast), Star Mazda (televised on SPEED) and the Indy Pro Series (televised on ESPN2). In 2008 it will field multiple entries in 42 races in 19 states and provinces at some of the best facilities on the continent, including the famed Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Andersen Racing's principals, brother Dan and John Andersen, have extensive experience in series administration as well as team management. They've worked with many of today's top open-wheel stars, including several Indy 500 winners.

Andersen Racing is sponsored by Allied Building Products Corp. It is the official development team of Rahal Letterman Racing, which competes in the IndyCar Series and the American Le Mans Series. In addition, its F2000 team is also the official factory team of Van Diemen. The team is headquartered at Andersen RacePark, an 18-acre facility in Palmetto, Fla. that includes a 1-mile test track. For more information see [andersenracingteam.com](http://andersenracingteam.com) and [andersenracepark.com](http://andersenracepark.com).