



New Jersey Double Beckons Hacquard

Vancouver, Canada (September 10, 2008) – The 2008 Star Mazda Championship Presented by Goodyear gave Canada's Taylor Hacquard the challenge of a flat-out August schedule, with three consecutive race weekends, and now following a welcomed two-week break the 18-year-old returns to action with Rounds 9 and 10 hosted at Millville's New Jersey Motorsports Park this weekend, Friday 12th – Sunday 14th September.

The New Jersey event is only the second double-header race meeting on the 12-round Star Mazda schedule with the previous one, hosted at Portland International Raceway in Oregon, falling at the end of July. The Portland double proved to be a successful outing for Hacquard with the open-wheel rookie scoring a pair of top-ten finishes, including his highest placing of the season to-date, a fifth place effort in Round 4.

Taylor, who pilots the #15 Wolfe Auto Group/World Speed Motorsports entry, will be keen for a strong showing at the all-new 2.25-mile New Jersey Motorsports Park after a frustrating retirement in Canada last time out at Mosport International Raceway. His race exit, due to an oil-leak, was preceded by a significant qualifying crash earlier in the day but it failed to stop the determined teenager or the relentless World Speed Motorsports crew from making the grid for the race. Taylor's exit marked only the third time in eight starts this season that he's failed to record a top-ten finish.

"I don't think we should have any problems getting up to speed this weekend," stated a confident Hacquard. "I'm keen to put the disappointment of the Mosport meeting behind me and I've shown in the past that I can rebound from that type of situation. The New Jersey track is pretty much new to everyone competing this weekend so that helps level the playing field a little. The fact that it's a double-header meeting simply means I get two cracks at it to hopefully get a pair of decent finishes.

"I've been learning each time I'm in the car this season and that will continue as we head into the final races of the year. I wasn't necessarily expecting to be sitting as high as tenth in the championship at this stage of my rookie season so I'm definitely happy with how things are progressing. August was a busy race month and I'm feeling pretty refreshed now heading to New Jersey. Hopefully the time off and our preparation between races will pay off this weekend!"

Saturday 13th September hosts qualifying at 1pm EST followed by Round 9 at 3:30pm EST. Sunday 14th September sees qualifying underway at 9:20am EST followed by Round 10 at 2:15pm EST – www.starmazda.com / www.njmotorsportspark.com

SPEED will broadcast Round 9 from New Jersey Motorsports Park as a tape-delay on Sunday 5th October starting at 2pm ET with Round 10 following a week later on Sunday 12th October at 1pm – www.speedtv.com

2008 Top-10 Star Mazda Drivers – R8/12: 1st Joel Miller (274pts), 2nd Peter Dempsey (273pts), 3rd Alex Ardoin (271pts), 4th Charles Hall (262pts), 5th John Edwards (252pts), 6th Tom Gladdis (247pts), 7th Billy Goshen (227pts), 8th Ernesto Otero (208pts), 9th Kristy Kester (205pts), **10th TAYLOR HACQUARD (197pts)**

ENDS – www.taylorhacquard.com

Photo Credit: 'Hacquard races the #15 Wolfe Auto Group/World Speed Motorsports entry' – Eric McCombs

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