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**Goshen Motorsports Announces Toshihiro Deki as a Third Team Member for 2009**

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Goshen Motorsports announces that Toshihiro Deki will be joining the team for the Star Mazda Series presented by Goodyear in 2009. Toshihiro is from Yokohama, Japan and all of his former racing has been in Asia. Goshen Motorsports used the Star Mazda Winter Series for testing "Toshi" and giving him seat time in an open wheel car.

Toshihiro has been racing in Japan since 1992 and raced the MX-5 Series in 2003 and 2005. In 2008, Toshihiro Deki was the Mazda RX-8 Masters Champion. Toshihiro climbed into an open wheel car for the first time on November 5th at Buttonwillow Raceway to prepare for the November 8th and 9th races at Infineon Raceway. Crew Chief Richie Hearn was pleased with the test and felt Toshihiro would be competitive at Infineon.

The team arrived at Infineon Raceway on Thursday morning in time for the first round of practice for Toshihiro. By Saturday's qualifying session Toshihiro had cut several seconds off his lap times and qualified 12th in the 17 car field. The weather for Saturday afternoon's race would be a mixture of rain and sun. With a wet track for the start, the crew elected to go with rain tires. Toshihiro got a great start and was able to pass several cars in the early going. At the mid point of the race Toshihiro had moved up to 4th, but with a drying track creating excessive wear on the tires he faded to 8th as he took the checkered flag in the first open wheel race of his career.

Sunday's race would be run on a dry track from start to finish and Toshihiro Deki was again 12th on the grid. Toshihiro made several nice passes during the race and took the checkered for 10th place. It was a very respectable finish for only his second race in an open wheel car. Also, most of the drivers that finished ahead of Toshihiro were very familiar with the Infineon track having raced there many times.

A commitment to his business in Japan prevented Toshi from competing in the balance of the winter series, but he is quoted as saying "I am looking forward to the first practice at Sebring, Florida in my new #80 car." "With several days of practice, I feel I will be competitive when qualifying starts." Team owner, Bill Goshen said "we are happy to have Toshi as a member of Goshen Motorsports and his many years of racing will bring valuable knowledge to the team." "Also Toshi will bring representation from Asia to the Star Mazda Series in what is an international field of drivers."

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