



Rusty Mitchell Ready To Race at Virginia International Raceway

Seventh-row qualifying

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(Danville, VA) 25 April, 2009—Rusty Mitchell will start round two of the 2009 Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear from the seventh row after setting his fastest lap of the Virginia International Raceway weekend so far with a flyer of 1:47.574-seconds in the Motorola Mazda prepared by Mitchell Racing.

The Texan will look to move up in Sunday afternoon's weekend-closing race and build on the momentum he started with the season opener at Sebring.

Mitchell's Saturday morning fast time was quicker than the existing Star Mazda track record and marked a significant comeback for both Rusty and Mitchell Racing after an off-course excursion in Thursday's Promoter Test session caused some damage and kept Mitchell from getting all the track time he was looking for.

But with two Friday practice sessions to generate new data for the ever-changing conditions on the 3.27-mile natural terrain circuit, Mitchell made the most of his 22 minutes of qualifying track time on Saturday morning to set his fastest lap of the weekend.

"The car was pretty good, but we still had a bit of a push in the 4, 5,-and 5A corners so that cost us just a little bit of time," said Mitchell, who will look to break into the top ten and improve on his Sebring race result of 11th. "We've been getting faster all weekend long, and it was great to get down into the 47's, but we still have a little bit more work to do with the car. I think we should be good enough to move up once the race starts. We were really hoping for a top-ten at Sebring, so hopefully we can come out of here with a top ten or if things play our way, even better."

Round 2 of the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear will take the green flag at 1:00 PM on Sunday.

Promoter test day:

P/15 1:51.424

P/27 1:53.962

P16 1:49.926

Practice

P20 1:49.481

P19 1:49.164

Qualifying:

P14/1:47.574

Additional information:

www.starmazda.com

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Sunday Group Management/Mitchell Racing