



Short Day for Rusty Mitchell at VIR

Strong start but taken out at turn 2

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(Danville, VA) 25 April, 2009—Entering round #2 of the 2009 Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear, Mitchell Motorsports racer Rusty Mitchell was looking to build on the momentum he started with an 11th place finish with the No. 66 Motorola Mazda at Sebring.

But the visit to the 3.27-mile natural terrain road circuit in rural Virginia didn't net the hoped-for results in Sunday's 50-minute event for the young Texan.

As the lights flicked off to set the field to action in the Star Mazda standing start, Mitchell got a good start from 14th on the grid, moving to the inside lane as the nearly 30-car field streamed into turn one. Despite having the inside line entering turn two, there was a car that went even further inside, riding the curb while a third Mazda simultaneously tried to make it three wide in the corner.

"I got clear by him, but then he just went really deep on the braking into the corner, and from there, he just had nowhere to go and turned down on me," said a frustrated Mitchell. "There just isn't enough room there for three cars to get through there. He came right across the front of my car and took off the front corner, and that was the end of the race for us. I was hoping to get back to the pits and get it fixed, but the damage was just too much to keep going. It's disappointing to have it end so quickly here today, but that's racing I guess."

Additional information:

www.starmazda.com
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