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Kester 3G's Cumming Leaves New Jersey with Expert Series Championship Lead

MILLVILLE, N.J., June 14 – Kester 3G's Chris Cumming of Vancouver, B.C. claimed his third win in the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear Expert Series in today's race at the Mazda Formula X event in New Jersey Motorsports Park. The 2008 Expert Series champion now leaves New Jersey taking with him an impressive championship lead over his Expert Series competitors.

Teammate Taylor Hacquard, a fellow Vancouver native, struggled to find another top-five result like he had in Friday's qualifying session. The young Canadian found the Thunderbolt Raceway challenging to pass on, causing him to ultimately finish the race in 14th position.

Brother and Sister J.C. and Kristy Kester of College Station, Tex., both experienced difficulties with their cars in today's race. Kristy Kester, who started in 17th position, was able to work her way up to 13th position. Once there, she found herself racing in a pack of five cars and unable to overtake any of them on the difficult 2.170 mile track. J.C. Kester also had trouble overtaking any cars, finishing the race in 21st position.

Chris on the race: "I had a great car that was consistent from the beginning of the race until the end. Everything was really smooth, and I was able to match the pace of the group in front of me and open up a gap behind me. I'm so happy to win another race, and I want to thank the team for a great weekend."

Taylor on the race: "It was a good race for me. I had a good car for the most part, but as soon as I came up behind someone, the car had a lot more push, so I had a hard time passing. I want to say thank to the guys on the team for all their hard work. I was sorry I couldn't get a better result today, but we'll do it next time."

J.C. on the race: "This track is not the greatest or the easiest track to pass on. I had the same car as I ran with yesterday, but even though it was the best setup of the weekend, I had a difficult time racing today. It wasn't the best weekend for me, so I'm looking forward to getting to the next race and doing better there."

Kristy on the race: "To start, we didn't qualify where we wanted to or should have been. I got a bad start in the race today, but I worked my way up through the field as far as I could. Once I caught a few others, I had nothing for them and couldn't make a pass. We didn't have the car we had yesterday, so I just didn't have the capability to overtake the people in front of me once I got up to 13th position."

Round six of the Star Mazda Championship continues next weekend, June 20, at the Milwaukee Mile in Wisconsin. This track is the first ever oval that the series has raced on, and Kester 3G hopes their recent test on this track will give them the advantage they need to advance in the championship.

Chris Cumming, #16

| Session | Started | Finished | Best Lap Time | Best Speed |
|---------|------------------|------------------|---------------|------------|
| Race 2 | 19 th | 15 th | 1:17.378 | 100.959 |

Taylor Hacquard, #15

| Session | Started | Finished | Best Lap Time | Best Speed |
|---------|------------------|------------------|---------------|------------|
| Race 2 | 13 th | 14 th | 1:17.172 | 101.228 |

J.C. Kester, #24

| Session | Started | Finished | Best Lap Time | Best Speed |
|---------|------------------|------------------|---------------|------------|
| Race 2 | 20 th | 21 st | 1:17.413 | 100.913 |

Kristy Kester, #48

| Session | Started | Finished | Best Lap Time | Best Speed |
|---------|------------------|------------------|---------------|------------|
| Race 2 | 17 th | 13 th | 1:17.107 | 101.314 |

About Kester Racing with Team 3G: Based in College Station, Texas, home of Texas World Speedway and Texas A&M University, Kester Racing has the advantages of a Speedway that is in operation year round and a University that provides talented young engineers and students with the opportunity to be involved in professional motorsports. Kester Racing operates in conjunction with Team 3G, an exciting relationship that establishes a ladder system involving the Star Mazda Championship Series, Indy Lights Series, and the IndyCar Series. Kester Racing also features some of the most unique and talented drivers for the 2009 Star Mazda Championship Series including the talent of a young Canadian driver, an Expert's Series Champion, and the only brother-sister team in professional motorsports. For more information, go to <u>www.kesterracing.com</u>.

