



Ostella's Hopes Dashed at the Line

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Maple, Ontario, Canada

David Ostella had his race plan dashed in an instant over the weekend as the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear raced Round 12 at Road Atlanta. Competing as part of the 12th Annual Petit Le Mans powered by Mazda 6 race weekend, Ostella took to the grid Friday, but didn't go much farther.

"I got to the line and then didn't even move," he said after a start, that would be better described as a non-start. "The diff broke right on the line; there was no warning and no indication of a problem on the formation lap. I don't really know what went wrong, but it was a shame as I was feeling really good about the race."

In his first ever visit to the famed road course in Braselton, Georgia, Ostella got up to speed as things progressed from Tuesday onward, to the point he was inside the top ten after a Thursday afternoon qualifying session.

"Practice ran clean and there were no problems," he said of two promoter test sessions and a pair of Official practice runs. "The track was awesome, kind of a mix between what I found at Three Rivers and Mosport. I just had to work on a few corners for qualifying, and it all came good. Considering I was out in the first group, posting P9 was a good run."

With hopes to advance deeper inside the top ten from a Star Mazda standing start, Ostella was instead left rolling to safety and into race retirement. One event now remains on the schedule as the 2009 Championship will wrap up at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca in two weeks. Ostella made his open-wheel debut there last season, and is eager to return.

"I love that track!" he said looking forward. "I can't wait to get back and go at it in the Mazda car." He will be racing in Monterey as always with support from Global Precast Intercontinental, Alpinestars, and RAW Integrated Ltd. For more information, visit www.davidostella.com and www.mazdaraceway.com