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## **Andersen Racing's Grenier Wins Pole And Finishes Second in Star Mazda Race At O'Reilly Raceway Park; Krohn Finishes Fifth and Vautier Sixth**

INDIANAPOLIS, May 29 — Andersen Racing's Mikael Grenier of Stoneham, Quebec earned his first pole position of the year with an automatic new track record and then posted his second podium finish of the week when he finished second in the Star Mazda portion of the NOS Energy Drink "Night Before the 500" show presented by Comfort Suites of Brownsburg at O'Reilly Raceway Park Saturday night.

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After placing third last Sunday at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca, Grenier improved that finish by one position when he took the checkered under yellow in second position in his No. 17, which is sponsored by Slow Cow relaxation drink, April Super Flow, NAPA Auto Parts, HS Telecom and Desharnais.

Grenier wisely tried to save his Goodyear tires throughout the 45-minute event, which was scheduled for 125 laps but ended under yellow after 122 circuits of the 0.686-mile oval when a competitor stopped on the backstretch.

Conor Daly, who qualified second, passed Grenier on the outside of Turn 2 on the first lap and led the whole way.

Carlos Linares hit the wall between Turns 3 and 4 with 25 laps down to bring out a yellow, but Daly got a good jump on the restart and remained in first place. With no other restarts the field got very strung out and Grenier had no real chance to catch the hometown hero.

Grenier's teammates, Anders Krohn of Stavanger, Norway and Tristan Vautier of Corenc, France, finished fifth and sixth, respectively. They posted the fourth- and fifth-fastest times in time trials, but they started 10th and 11th after receiving penalties for stepping away from their cars for a moment while they waited in line to be weighed after qualifications.

Both worked hard to overcome the penalties. Krohn felt his No. 47, which is sponsored by Trallfa Industries, Colosseum Dental and Norse Cutting & Abandonment, was capable of achieving a podium finish for sure if he'd been able to start in his original position.

Vautier got off to a fabulous start, advancing from 11th to seventh by the end of lap one. Krohn moved up a bit more slowly, but they were running together in seventh and eighth by lap 15. They both moved up one spot when Linares crashed. Vautier passed Joao Horto for fifth on the restart, but Horto got him back a couple laps later.

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The teammates exchanged positions with 45 laps down. Krohn got fifth on lap 85 by passing Connor De Phillippi, and remained in that spot until the end. Vautier stayed in seventh until he got by De Phillippi too in Turn 4 on lap 95. Vautier's car developed handling problems and trouble with its right-rear tire at the end, so he felt lucky to finish and at least earn some points for his sponsors, Moulin T.P., Cecibon, Circuit du Laquis and Fontanel Promotion.

The next race is on the 0.875-mile trioval at Iowa Speedway in Newton, Iowa on June 20.

Andersen Racing, which is sponsored by Allied Building Products Corp., is one of the leading development teams in North America. It offers extensive karting programs from its base at Andersen RacePark, a 1-mile road course in Palmetto, Fla. In addition to its Star Mazda team it also fields cars in Firestone Indy Lights. A sister company, Andersen Promotions, administers the USF2000 National Championship presented by Cooper Tires and powered by Mazda.

For more information see [andersenracingteam.com](http://andersenracingteam.com), [starmazda.com](http://starmazda.com), [andersenkarting.com](http://andersenkarting.com), [andersenracepark.com](http://andersenracepark.com) and [usf2000.com](http://usf2000.com).

Post-race quotes follow:

**Mikael Grenier:** "It was pretty hard. I think we had the car to win. I backed off to save my tires, and I think that was the right strategy to do. If we would have had a late restart I wanted to have the tires to attack.

"It was good for the team. We know we can win.

"This was my first real oval race, so I'm really happy with what the team did. The team believes in me, and that gives me some energy. I had some things happen in Canada that made it hard to focus this week, so second in this race is good.

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"I think my fitness is good, but this was a little harder than a street course. There was no time to relax.

"I played with my bars when I was lapping traffic.

"We had a really fast car, but I just couldn't pass him. But I still think we did the right strategy.

"I'm not sure but maybe I'm second in the points now. For sure I moved forward."

**Anders Krohn:** "I think it's a shame that a small miscommunication resulted in such a big penalty after qualifying. I qualified fourth but I had to start 10th because I was penalized for not being in line in the post-qualifying tech when they weigh the cars. It seems like a very harsh penalty to me; it was not like either the team or I were trying to do anything wrong. It seemed like they were looking for an excuse to give us a penalty.

"We had a podium car for sure. But in the race we had to forget all that and focus on one car and one lap at a time. Tenth to fifth was the maximum we could have done today.

"I'm so proud of the Andersen Racing team. All of us are working well together. It was a shame we couldn't capitalize on the effort we produced here. We have the team and the speed. The wins will come."

**Tristan Vautier:** "I was penalized after qualifying because I arrived 1 minute after they wanted me to be there. I went back to the trailer for a minute. I came right back to the line, but they were looking for a mistake by us. It is very upsetting. When you consider the investment it takes to be P5 in qualifying, to be penalized for something like that is very difficult. It wasn't like we were trying to do something wrong.

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"I asked for my car to be quite free in the race, but the track changed a lot and we had a lot of oversteer to deal with. I was always on the edge. At the end the car was really hard to drive. The right-rear tire had a wear mark that was about the size of a saucer. That explains the problem.

"I had a good restart, except I got sixth gear by mistake when I should have been in fifth.

"We scored some points, but we could have done much better here with the cars Andersen Racing gave us."

The weekend stats:

Practice Session 1 (Friday, 4:10 p.m. to 5:10 p.m.):

1. Anders Krohn, 20.465 seconds, 120.674 mph on lap 43
4. Mikael Grenier, 20.738 seconds, 119.086 mph on lap 65
8. Tristan Vautier, 20.817 seconds, 118.634 mph on lap 37

Practice Session 2 (Friday, 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.):

1. Conor Daly, 20.340 seconds, 121.416 mph on lap 78
2. Mikael Grenier, 20.575 seconds, 120.029 mph on lap 76
3. Anders Krohn, 20.635 seconds, 119.680 mph on lap 14
5. Tristan Vautier, 20.814 seconds, 118.651 mph on lap 72

Practice Session 3 (Friday, 9:50 p.m. to 10:50 p.m.):

1. Carlos Linares, 20.255 seconds, 121.925 mph on lap 59
2. Anders Krohn, 20.832 seconds, 118.548 mph on lap 10
6. Mikael Grenier, 20.957 seconds, 117.841 mph on lap 13
8. Tristan Vautier, 21.061 seconds, 117.259 mph on lap 3

Practice Session 4 (Saturday, 10:25 a.m. to 10:50 a.m.):

1. Conor Daly, 20.432 seconds, 120.869 mph on lap 24
- (Andersen Racing did not participate in this session.)

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Practice Session 5 (11:35 a.m. to 12 p.m.):

1. Conor Daly, 20.540 seconds, 120.234 mph on lap 3
2. Anders Krohn, 20.613 seconds, 119.808 mph on lap 13
3. Tristan Vautier, 20.634 seconds, 119.686 mph on lap 18
4. Mikael Grenier, 20.690 seconds, 119.362 mph on lap 20

Time Trials (2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.):

1. Mikael Grenier, 20.665 seconds, 119.506 mph\*
10. Anders Krohn, 20.764 seconds, 118.937 mph\*\*
11. Tristan Vautier, 20.812 seconds, 118.662 mph\*\*\*

\* Automatic new track record

\*\* Originally qualified fourth but started 10th due to a technical infraction.

\*\*\* Originally qualified fifth but started 11th due to a technical infraction.

Race (122 laps, 45 minutes)

1. Conor Daly
2. Mikael Grenier
5. Anders Krohn
6. Tristan Vautier

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### *About Allied Building Products Corp.:*

Allied Building Products Corp., headquartered in East Rutherford, N.J., is one of the largest roofing and siding distributors in the United States. Founded in 1950 with five employees and two trucks, today it is a \$1.8 billion building material distribution company with over 3,500 employees, more than 200 branches in 30 states, well over one million square feet of office and warehouse space, and an inventory of approximately 85,000 products, from residential roofing and siding to doors, windows, waterproofing, manufactured stone, interior products and commercial roofing systems. For more information see [alliedbuilding.com](http://alliedbuilding.com).

### *About Andersen Racing:*

Andersen Racing strives to provide the best and most comprehensive training possible for future open-wheel superstars while giving its marketing partners media exposure and hospitality opportunities at some of the most prestigious events in North America. It provides a unique program utilizing multiple entries in three different platforms: karting, Star Mazda and Firestone Indy Lights.

A sister company, Andersen Promotions, administers the USF2000 National Championship presented by Cooper Tires and powered by Mazda. It is part of both the Indy Racing League's Road to Indy program and the MAZDASPEED Motorsports driver development system.

Andersen Racing is sponsored by Allied Building Products Corp. The team is headquartered at Andersen RacePark, an 18-acre facility in Palmetto, Fla. that includes a 1-mile road course test track. For more information see [andersenracingteam.com](http://andersenracingteam.com), [andersenkarting.com](http://andersenkarting.com), [andersenracepark.com](http://andersenracepark.com) and [usf2000.com](http://usf2000.com).