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Andries to Run Balance Of 2010 Star Mazda Schedule With Andersen Racing

PALMETTO, Fla., June 15 — Andersen Racing is pleased to announce that Nick Andries of Pinellas Park, Fla. will join its multi-car team for the nine remaining races in the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear, which includes Saturday night's Pizza Ranch 100 at Iowa Speedway in Newton, Iowa.

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“I’m excited to race in the remainder of the Star Mazda Championship,” said Andries, 19, who is a President's List scholar at St. Petersburg College in St. Petersburg, Fla., where he is studying mechanical engineering. “The opportunity was presented to continue in the Skip Barber National Championship, which is still a priority, and to come on board with Andersen Racing for the remaining nine Star Mazda races. I think this is a great opportunity for me to continue developing my talent, but I’m not going to lose focus of winning a national championship in Skip Barber.”

Andries is currently fourth in the Skip Barber National point standings, just two points out of third place, even though he is a rookie in that series. He was the champion and Rookie of the Year of the Skip Barber Regional Summer Series last season, recording 14 podium finishes in 14 races with 11 victories, one second and two thirds.

“Opportunities like this one do not come every day, and I felt it was an opportunity I could not turn down,” Andries added. “I’m just thankful to have the chance to race in both Skip Barber and Star Mazda, especially since at the beginning of the year I didn’t know what I was going to be racing. I’m looking forward to learning and getting wins during the second half of the season.”

Andries’ Star Mazda effort will advertise Julie Studer’s new book about the Indianapolis 500 entitled “Indy 500: An American Icon;” Team Pelfrey and Andersen Racing’s primary sponsor, Allied Building Products Corp. The book may be ordered on-line through Indy500AnAmericanIcon.com.

Andries made both his first start with Andersen Racing and his Star Mazda debut at St. Petersburg, Fla. in March. He also tested with the Palmetto, Fla.-based team during the first day of a two-day test on the oval at O’Reilly Raceway Park in Indianapolis last month. He was involved in an accident on the unforgiving street course at St. Petersburg, but he set the fifth-fastest time the day he tested at O’Reilly Raceway Park. He was never out of the top five in any session, and he posted the second-fastest time in the second session that day.

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"We are very pleased that Nick has signed on with Andersen Racing for the balance of the 2010 Star Mazda season," said team co-owner Dan Andersen. "He showed a lot of talent at the St. Pete race, and he was very fast at the early May oval test at O'Reilly Raceway Park. We expect great results from him, as he has adapted very quickly to the Star Mazda race car, and the team enjoys working with him a lot."

Also under the tent in the Andersen Racing paddock will be drivers Mikael Grenier of Stoneham, Quebec; Anders Krohn of Stavenger, Norway and Houston, Texas, and Tristan Vautier of Corenc, France. Grenier is currently second in the overall point standings while Krohn is third and Vautier is fifth. Andersen Racing is leading the team point standings.

More information on Andries is available on his Web site at NickAndries.com. More information on the team is on-line at andersenracingteam.com. The series' Web site is at starmazda.com.

Andersen Racing 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. Both the Star Mazda series and USF2000 are part of the Road to Indy and the MAZDASPEED Motorsports driver development programs.

This weekend's races at Iowa Speedway mark one of only two times this year that all three of the series that are part of the Road to Indy program (USF2000, Star Mazda and Firestone Indy Lights) will appear on the same card as the headlining IZOD IndyCar Series.

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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.

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.

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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, andersenkarting.com, andersenracepark.com and usf2000.com.