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## **AIM Autosport's Ostella finishes seventh at Road America**

Smart drive in wounded car yields important championship points

Elkhart Lake, Wis. (August 22, 2010) — David Ostella drove his Global Precast car to seventh place yesterday at Road America in round 11 of the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear. The seventh-place finish brought important points as David clings to tenth in the Drivers Standings and AIM hangs on the fifth in the Team Standings.

Driving the lone AIM Autosport entry this weekend as Walt Bowlin, driver of the Tampa Bay Jaw Surgery car, was unable to attend this race, David showed good pace in Friday's opening practice and set the fifth-best time. In the second session, however, he lost important track time and damaged the car when he put two wheels off the track and slid into a barrier tearing two wheels off the car.

The AIM Autosport crew repaired the Global Precast car and prepared it for Saturday morning's qualifying session. Although the car was good, David was unable to hook up with a vital drafting partner on the long, fast circuit and qualified tenth with a 184.606 km/h (114.709 mph) lap.

In the hours between the qualifying session and the race, the team made some set up adjustments and briefed David about how the track would change. They also showed him how the team used data collected from the car along with his feedback to help create a fast set up that suits his driving style.

When the 45-minute-long race began at 1pm, David had the pace to gain positions at the start, but was squeezed and settled to remain in tenth, before moving up to ninth on the second lap. On lap five, David's car was subjected to a hefty knock that threw out the alignment. Quickly falling to twelfth, David then did his utmost to simply hang on and keep going.

With time running out and David running in eleventh thanks to someone dropping out, the race was interrupted by a full course caution. When the track was cleared for a restart, there was only time for a single-lap dash to the checkered flag. Well aware that many drivers would make an all-or-nothing charge, David took advantage of the ensuing chaos to gain four places and finish seventh.

"We had a quick car, thanks to a good set up," said Chief engineer and AIM Autosport principal, Keith Willis. "But once the alignment got knocked out, it came down to David's driving and he did well to finish seventh."





The Star Mazda Championship now heads to Canada and AIM Autosport's home race at Mosport International Raceway in Bowmanville, Ont., on August 28.

### **Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear**

The 2010 Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear features an 11-weekend, 13-race schedule, most on major race weekends with American Le Mans and the Indy Racing League. Rising stars from around the world compete for prizes valued at \$1.5 million and benefit from two driver development programs, including the MAZDASPEED Motorsports Driver Development Ladder and the Indy Racing League's 'Road to Indy' program. Series alumni include Indy Car stars Marco Andretti, Graham Rahal and Raphael Matos; rising NASCAR drivers Michael McDowell, Scott Speed and Colin Braun; and prototype racers Dane Cameron and Guy Cosmo. For more information about the Star Mazda Championship visit [www.starmazda.com](http://www.starmazda.com).

### **AIM Autosport**

Established in 1995, AIM Autosport's mandate is to identify, train and manage emerging motorsport talent. AIM has provided many young drivers with a solid foundation on which to build a career in professional racing. The success of the AIM driver development programs has been achieved through the dedication of our employees and the ongoing support of our commercial and technical partners. Away from the track, AIM Autosport serves the needs of the racing community with a purpose-built preparation shop situated in the Toronto suburb of Woodbridge, Ontario. AIM fields the No. 61 Ford Riley with drivers Mark Wilkins and Burt Frisselle in the Grand-Am Rolex Sports Car Series. The team also competes in the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear and the Cooper Tires presents the USF2000 Series powered by Mazda. Both series are an integral part of the new Road to Indy driver development series. AIM won the 2008 Star Mazda Championship with driver John Edwards. For more information about AIM Autosport, visit [www.aimautosport.com](http://www.aimautosport.com).

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