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AIM wraps up Star Mazda Season at Road Atlanta

Sees progress in Pegram and Bowlin

Woodbridge, Ont. (October 4, 2010) — AIM Autosport's Star Mazda team finished its 2010 race season on Friday at Road Atlanta, helping drivers, Walt Bowlin and Larry Pegram, find their feet in auto racing. Larry, an AMA Superbike competitor, is racing formula cars to round out his racing skills, while his friend Walt, a successful jaw surgeon, races purely for the thrill. Season-long driver, David Ostella, skipped this event, electing to try his hand in the Indy Lights series.

Both Walt and Larry, faced a steep learning curve as neither of them had been in their Tampa Bay Jaw Surgery-sponsored racing cars for some time. Walt's last appearance was at Trois Rivieres a over six weeks ago and Larry's last appearance was his debut in June.

Walt had only one other Masters Class competitor out for this event, one of the top racers in the class, Dom Bastion. In the first practice session, Walt's best lap around the famous track was the better part of three seconds slower than Dom's, but after taking more than 1.5 seconds off his time, Walt looked forward to a good effort in Thursday afternoon's qualifying session.

In the Expert Class, Larry also had just one competitor, Class Champion, JW Roberts. Looking rusty, Larry began practice more than two seconds off JW's pace, but made significant gains and actually went faster than JW in one session. Larry's biggest challenge is getting used to the aerodynamic downforce of a formula car which results in grip increasing with speed. That simply does not occur with a motorcycle.

Qualifying went well only for those who posted a quick lap before rain hit just a few minutes in to the session. Walt and Larry were on their out laps when the rain began and the session was soon red flagged following a collision.

Walt had excellent speed in the race and posted a best lap that was slightly quicker than Dom's best. Unfortunately, a couple of spins, including one late in the race that resulted in his car being damaged, prevented Walt from racing with Dom as he had hoped. Larry began with good pace, but slowed as the race progressed. Unnerved by a gradually-increasing oversteer condition, Larry simply backed off, staying out of the way and avoiding any damage to his car.

"We thoroughly enjoyed having Walt and Larry with us for a handful of races this season," said Chief





Engineer and AIM Autosport principal, Keith Willis. “We wish David the best as he attempts the next step up the ladder and I hope that he learned some useful lessons during his time at AIM Autosport.”

AIM Autosport has already begun speaking with candidates to join the team next year and will organize a series of test during the off season to evaluate and build relationships with those individuals. Inquiries regarding next season’s driver opportunities may be directed to AIM Autosport at 905-851-1968 or www.aimautosport.com.

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.

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.

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