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## CHAMPIONSHIP CHARGE CONTINUES FOR TEAM PELFREY AT MOSPORT

### De Phillippi added another podium finish in Round Six and was joined in top-four by Andries

CLEARWATER, FLA. (July 26, 2011) – Team Pelfrey’s pursuit of a championship title in its inaugural season of Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear competition took another step forward on Sunday (July 24), with two very strong results at Mosport International Raceway. Standout second-year racer Connor De Phillippi added another podium trophy to the Florida squad’s mantle with a runner-up finish in Round Six, while his talented teammate Nick Andries just missed joining in the post-race ceremonies with a fourth place finish. Team Pelfrey now lies second in both the Team and Driver championship standings.

While Team Pelfrey enjoyed good success in the three-race oval run on the Star Mazda schedule, including a dominating one-two finish at Lucas Oil Raceway, the squad and its very talented driver line-up were looking forward returning to road course and street circuit action. That immediately became apparent during the promoter’s test day, with De Phillippi overcoming extreme hot and humid conditions to end the day P2 on the speedcharts.

With the high-speed 2.459-mile road course east of Toronto suiting both De Phillippi and Andries’ driving styles, it came as no surprise that the duo were among those worth keeping an eye on when the action officially got underway at Mosport via the lone practice session on Friday morning. In continued hot and humid conditions, the Yellow and Black livery cars were part of the mix for the fastest time right until the checkered flag waved. De Phillippi ultimately turned the second quickest lap in the No. 11 Oakley/Justice Brothers/Hernan Capdevila/Lithionics Battery/Trademark Garage Floors/HP Spartacote/Team Pelfrey Mazda, while Andries was right behind, P3, in his No. 81 Indy 500: An American Icon/Lithionics Battery/Trademark Garage Floors/HP Spartacote/Oakley/Justice Brothers/Team Pelfrey Mazda racing steed.

Given the performances in testing and practice, the Florida-based squad entered Saturday’s 45-minute qualifying session focused on battling for the pole position. The timed run, as expected, proved to be a strategic and entertaining affair. The Team Pelfrey duo, like their leading counterparts, tried to time their runs to get the most from their racing slicks. De Phillippi in the end just missed (less than seven hundredths of a second off) securing the pole position with the second best time. Andries, only a tenth of a second back of the top time, was fourth fastest, earning a starting position right behind his teammate.

When the Team Pelfrey standouts returned to their cockpits one day later for Round Six, the early goal was to get away cleanly from the traditional standing start. Both De Phillippi and Andries





promptly did just that, commencing what would be one of the most entertaining races of the 2011 season. With De Phillippi leading the initial portions of the 35-lap race thanks to a strong outside turn one pass, the top-five ran nose-to-tail and side-by-side lap after lap. In position to score a third win of the season, De Phillippi ultimately came home second following some light contact while battling for the lead. Andries, never far behind and engaged in some spirited dicing for position as well, crossed the line in fourth, further establishing Team Pelfrey as a title contender in its rookie season.

“Overall this was a good weekend for us, especially in the points championship,” commented De Phillippi. “We had a string of rough luck via things we have no control over, and we’ve managed to bounce right back on the podium where we belong. The entire race was a battle of trying to keep the lead, but also manage my tires while doing so. In the end, we didn’t get the win, but we beat the two guys ahead of us in the championship, and now we are right back in the thick of things. We have an excellent street course car, and I’m really looking forward to keeping this momentum going into the doubleheader in Trois-Rivieres! A big thank you goes out to everyone at Team Pelfrey for their tremendous efforts throughout the weekend, and an even bigger thank you to Dale Pelfrey himself.”

“I would summarize the weekend as a success,” stated Andries. “I didn’t win or finish on the podium, but we gained ground in the championship. The team did a great job all weekend giving Connor and me great cars. In qualifying we just were just a little bit off. I thought in the race we had a really good car and had potential for a podium, if I didn’t make a mistake in turn one. It was nice to collect a bonus point for the fastest race lap, and we did our job by closing in on the championship. Congrats to Connor on the podium, and I’m excited to get to the doubleheader at Trois-Rivieres and see if we can get a win!”

Team Pelfrey resumes its chase of the 2011 Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear title in a little over a week’s time (August 6-7), with a trip to the historic Trois-Rivieres street circuit in Quebec. De Phillippi enters the second Canadian event on the series calendar second in the championship points. Andries makes it two Team Pelfrey drivers in the top-three, placing the squad second in the Team standings.

Additional information on Team Pelfrey can be obtained via the team website at [www.Team-Pelfrey.com](http://www.Team-Pelfrey.com) For direct contact, please contact Geoff Fickling at [gf@team-pelfrey.com](mailto:gf@team-pelfrey.com) or (727) 329-8860.

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#### **About Team Pelfrey:**

After a multi-year hiatus from motorsports competition, Team Pelfrey rejoins the professional open-wheel ranks in 2011. With the primary goal of helping develop and train new talent, the Florida-based squad will run a multi-car effort in the highly-regarded Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear, which is part of the Mazda Road to Indy ladder system. Building on Team Pelfrey’s previous success in the IndyCar Series, which featured the likes of Danny Ongais, Memo Gidley, Bryan Tyler, Billy Boat, Robby Unser, Sarah Fisher and 1998 Indianapolis 500 race leader John Paul Jr. getting behind the wheel, Team Principal Dale Pelfrey has assembled a talented crew of personnel with a proven Star Mazda track record.

