

# NEWS from TEAM

**GDT**  
general datatech, l.p.



Team GDT's Corey Lewis (No. 39), Andrés Méndez (No. 53) and Dom Bastien (No. 38, not pictured) tested at Barber Motorsports Park Monday during the Star Mazda series' "Spring Training." The team will be in action this coming weekend in St. Petersburg, Fla. before returning to Barber Motorsports Park at the end of the month. Testing continues at Barber Tuesday.

## Team GDT's Méndez, Lewis and Bastien Test Monday at Barber Motorsports Park

LEEDS, Ala., March 19 — Three Team GDT drivers got acquainted with Barber Motorsports Park on Monday during "Spring Training" for the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear.

Andrés Méndez of Bogota, Columbia; Corey Lewis of Nazareth, Pa. and Dom Bastien of West Palm Beach, Fla. logged about 65 laps on Monday during the first day of the two-day test at the picturesque 2.38-mile, 16-turn road course near Birmingham.

Two other drivers for the Dallas-based team — Ryan Tveter of Oyster Bay, N.Y. and team owner J.W. Roberts of Dallas, the reigning Expert Series champion — are not participating in Spring Training, but they are scheduled to join Méndez in the series' season-opening doubleheader this coming Saturday and Sunday at the Honda Grand Prix of St. Petersburg in St. Petersburg, Fla. Saturday's race is slated to begin at 1 p.m. Eastern time and Sunday's race is scheduled to get the green flag at 10:05 a.m. Eastern time.

Méndez and Lewis are also scheduled to compete in the Star Mazda doubleheader at Barber Motorsports Park March 30-April 1 during the Honda Indy Grand Prix of Alabama presented by Legacy. The first half of the Barber Motorsports Park doubleheader is slated for 4:45 p.m. Central time on Friday, March 30. The second 45-minute race is 10:20 a.m. Central time on Sunday, April 1. Tveter, Bastien and Roberts can't compete in that event due to schedule conflicts; 17-year-old Tveter can't miss school that week; Bastien

For more information:  
Linda Mansfield, Restart Communications  
Cell: (317) 201-0729  
E-mail: LKMRestart@gmail.com



is driving a BMW in another event at the famous Nurburgring in Germany and Roberts has a previous business commitment.

Méndez and Lewis's primary goals on Monday were to get acclimated to the track and to try to identify the fastest way around it since they'd never driven the course in the past. Bastien's primary goal was to simply get back in the swing of driving a Star Mazda car. His last race was the Star Mazda event at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca last September, and he didn't do any testing over the winter.

Lewis, 20, is an instructor at the Monticello Driving Club in New York. He has been testing with Team GDT numerous times over the off-season and he would like nothing better than to add other marketing partners to his assistance from Bell Racing Helmets so he can compete in the series full time.

"Since I'd never driven here before I have a lot to learn, but I have confidence in Team GDT," Lewis said. "I attended the IndyCar race here last year and I was really looking forward to driving here, so I'm glad I got the opportunity today."

Méndez, 19, has never competed on any of the tracks he'll face this year in Star Mazda, so getting some seat time at Barber Motorsports Park was also a welcome opportunity. Although the track was new to him some of the other drivers testing here were familiar, because he competed against Gabby Chaves and Gustavo Menezes in karting. Like



Drivers Andrés Méndez (left) and Corey Lewis (right) help provide input that assisted Team GDT's engineers Monday during Star Mazda "Spring Training" at Barber Motorsports Park.

Lewis he studied the course through iRacing's simulation to give him a base to work with when he got behind the wheel of the No. 53, which is sponsored by Datafile International SA and Grupo Kriterion.

"Before today I had six tests in a Star Mazda car," Méndez said. "Today I just wanted to get to know the track, learn a lot and try to go as fast as I can, see where we are with the other drivers and keep working on improving my skills and the car's set-up."

Tomorrow's test schedule finds the Star Mazda cars on the track from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.; 10:20 a.m. to 11:20 a.m.; 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. and 3:50 p.m. to 4:50 p.m. All times are Central.

For more information, including live timing and scoring, see the series' Web site at [starmazda.com](http://starmazda.com). Other news is posted on [indycar.com](http://indycar.com) and [barbermotorsports.com](http://barbermotorsports.com). Fans can learn more about Team GDT on its Facebook page or through Twitter @TeamGDT.

#### *About Team GDT:*

Team GDT is a multi-car professional race team headquartered in Dallas that is owned by businessman and racing driver J.W. Roberts. The team primarily focuses on the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear, the second step in the IZOD IndyCar Series' Mazda Road to Indy.

In 2011 Team GDT won its second Star Mazda Expert Series championship in a row with Roberts behind





Mechanics work on Andrés Méndez's Team GDT car on the set-up pad Monday at Barber Motorsports Park.

the wheel. The Expert Series is a race-within-a-race and a championship-within-a-championship for drivers 30 and older. Roberts won the Expert title driving his Team GDT/General Data Tech Mazda No. 65 with a total of five class victories. Team GDT is also well known for nurturing rising stars, including Motorsport Ireland 'Young Racing Driver of the Year' Patrick McKenna and multi-Star Mazda race winners Alex Ardoin and Richard Kent. Fans can learn more about Team GDT on its Facebook page or through Twitter @TeamGDT.

Founded in 1996, General Datatech (GDT) is an award-winning Cisco Gold Value-Added Reseller provid-

ing services for network infrastructure such as core routing and switching, unified communications, security, wireless, datacenter and storage solutions to clients nationwide. As the 25th largest Cisco reseller (VAR) in the world, GDT has built a solid reputation as the "go to" VAR for large, complex, and strategic technology engagements. Its experienced, Cisco-certified engineering staff and professional services team have the real-world experience, certifications

*About the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear:*

In 2012 the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear will again be a major part of the Mazda Road to Indy. The

2012 schedule currently includes 17 races on 10 weekends, most with the IZOD IndyCar Series. Rising stars from around the world will compete on road courses, street circuits and ovals in front of more than a million fans as they vie for prizes valued at \$1.2 million, including a scholarship to move up and race at the next level, Firestone Indy Lights, in 2013. Drivers 16 and older are eligible to compete. The Star Mazda Championship also has an Expert Series for drivers 30 and older. The Star Mazda Championship features standing starts, wheel-to-wheel racing at 160 miles per hour and budgets a fraction of other top open-wheel ladder series. For more information on the Star Mazda Championship please visit [starmazda.com](http://starmazda.com).

Team manager Paul Mata applies a number to the rear wing of one of Team GDT's Star Mazda cars Monday.



Team manager Paul Mata applies a number to the rear wing of one of Team GDT's Star Mazda cars Monday.