



## **CHRISTODOULOU FASTEST IN FINAL FRIDAY PRACTICE FOR THIS WEEKEND'S ROUND THREE OF THE STAR MAZDA CHAMPIONSHIP AT MILLER MOTORSPORTS PARK**



MMP (May 15, 2009) – English racer Adam Christodoulou, fastest in three of the four practice sessions leading up to tomorrow morning's qualifying session is looking very much like the man to beat in tomorrow afternoon's Round Three of the 2009 Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear at Miller Motorsports Park. And his team, JDC Motorsports, is also looking strong with all four of their cars – Christodoulou, Joel Miller, Alex Ardoin and Caio Lara -- in the top four spots on the time sheet. Christodoulou, driving the #11 JDC Motorsports Mazda turned his lap of 1:44.710 (104.792 mph) on lap 12 of the 45-minute session.

"You've always got to find a happy medium in deciding how hard to drive on any particular track," said Christodoulou, who won the season-opener at Sebring and is currently tied with Round Two winner Peter Dempsey for the championship lead. "At the moment, we just put new tires on and it seems to be totally hooked up all the way around the track. The hairpins you drive extremely hard into and brake as late as possible; they've got some different tarmac down in the hairpins and it just seems to be that you put your foot down and the car just shoots off the corner. The track is extremely smooth and that generates more grip, which allows you to run the car lower-- the only thing you do fear is the stones that get on the track when people go off. The track is probably one of the smoothest I've been on and the facilities here are just awesome. The thing for qualifying will be to make sure I get some clear track, keep my head down and just do what I've been doing all day. If I can get three or four clear laps in and go a bit faster each lap, we'll be good. You can't help but think about the race a bit as you get this close, but qualifying is first and that's what we need to focus on."

His teammate, Joel Miller, driving the #2 JDC Motorsports / Fader Higher Productions / Mockett / Burns Truck & Trailer Mazda, has been among the fast runners since practice began Thursday morning and turned his fastest lap of 1:44.786 (104.716 mph) on lap 9 of the session.

"I definitely have something for Adam in qualifying tomorrow morning, especially after the way the car felt after this last session," said Miller, who won the 2008 season opener at Sebring and finished second in last year's championship. "He and the rest of the team came here and tested last week and I wasn't able to, so I've been just catching up through the first three sessions... we were nipping at it, nipping at it and I told my engineer Pete Mercier 'We've got to make a

big change.' So we did, and boom, straight to the front. Adam, being my teammate, I kind of know what he did, and I know he went out on new tires and I still had my used tires from the previous session. So fresh tires are one of the things I still have in my tool bag for tomorrow, tires are a little bit in there... also, the lap I did that was so close to his wasn't perfect. I went back out for a two-lap run after the red flag because there was still five minutes left in the session, and I was on pace to match his time and my guys were on the radio telling me 'push, push, push' and I pushed just a little hard and went off. There was no damage, just dust and stones. So I'll just back it off just a bit tomorrow. Qualifying should be entertaining to watch and fun to drive."

Louisiana racer Alex Ardoin, also a member of the JDC juggernaut, turned a lap of 1:44.982 (104.521 mph) in his #51 JDC Motorsports / Oral & Facial Surgery Center / Twister Trailer Mazda on lap 6 of the session, while Brazilian Caio Lara did his fast time on lap 3, turning a 1:45.205 (104.299 mph) in the #19 JDC Motorsports / MLD / ATW/ Molecule Mazda. The lone member of the top-5 not driving for JDC is Irishman Peter Dempsey who set a time of 1:45.452 (104.055 mph) in the #3 AIM Autosport / Motorsport Ireland / Queyside.ie Mazda. And putting in a splendid effort to set the 6th-fast time of the session was Michael Furfari, driving for a team new to the Star Mazda Championship series, Juncos Racing. He turned a lap of 1:45.485 (104.022) in his #13 Juncos Racing / Furfari Paving Mazda.

Pos No.	Name	Best Tm	Best Spd	On Lap	Diff	Gap
1	11 Adam Christodoulou	1:44.710	104.792	12		
2	2 Joel Miller	1:44.786	104.716	9	0.076	0.076
3	51 Alex Ardoin	1:44.982	104.521	6	0.272	0.196
4	19 Caio Lara	1:45.205	104.299	3	0.495	0.223
5	3 Peter Dempsey	1:45.452	104.055	17	0.742	0.247
6	13 Michael Furfari	1:45.485	104.022	9	0.775	0.033
7	22 Conor Daly	1:45.715	103.796	12	1.005	0.230
8	33 Richard Kent	1:45.758	103.754	13	1.048	0.043
9	27 Anders Krohn	1:45.769	103.743	7	1.059	0.011
10	17 Mikael Grenier	1:45.802	103.711	10	1.092	0.033
11	72 Jorge Goncalvez	1:45.850	103.664	16	1.140	0.048
12	66 Rusty Mitchell	1:46.235	103.288	11	1.525	0.385
13	71 David Ostella	1:46.248	103.275	6	1.538	0.013
14	61 Sean Burstyn	1:46.332	103.194	12	1.622	0.084
15	24 J.C. Kester	1:46.361	103.166	10	1.651	0.029
16	30 Rick Rosin	1:46.421	103.107	8	1.711	0.060
17	82 Billy Goshen	1:46.544	102.988	10	1.834	0.123
18	64 Patrick O'Neil	1:46.644	102.892	11	1.934	0.100
19	15 Taylor Hacquard	1:46.968	102.580	2	2.258	0.324
20	48 Kristy Kester	1:47.050	102.502	9	2.340	0.082
21	55 Gerry Kraut	1:47.232	102.328	4	2.522	0.182
22	91 Michael Guasch	1:47.481	102.091	13	2.771	0.249
23	20 Gustavo Linares	1:47.546	102.029	11	2.836	0.065
24	21 Dennis Navarro	1:47.612	101.966	1	2.902	0.066

25	12	Chuck Hulse	1:47.622	101.957	11	2.912	0.010
26	29	Phil Fogg	1:47.994	101.606	9	3.284	0.372
27	16	Chris Cumming	1:48.157	101.453	3	3.447	0.163
28	86	David House	1:48.679	100.965	13	3.969	0.522
29	18	Stan Kohls	1:48.980	100.686	15	4.270	0.301
30	80	Toshi Deki	1:49.215	100.470	10	4.505	0.235
31	83	Bruce Binnquest	1:49.477	100.229	14	4.767	0.262
32	77	Kevin Toledo	1:49.949	99.799	3	5.239	0.472
33	23	Walt Bowlin	1:52.592	97.456	16	7.882	2.643

Qualifying to set the grid for the Star Mazda Championship's spectacular, F1-style standing start takes place from 8:35 am - 9:20 am Saturday, May 16. Given the size of the field, 33 cars, qualifying will be a 2-part affair, with the slowest 17 cars going out for the first half while the top 16 take to the track for the final 22 minutes. The 45-minute Round 3 of the 2009 Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear at Miller Motorsports Park during the Larry H. Miller Dealerships Utah Grand Prix Presented by the Grand & Little America Hotels scheduled to get the green light at 6:05 pm Saturday afternoon.

