

FASTEST FOOT FORWARD -- RICHARD KENT WINS FROM THE POLE IN STAR MAZDA CHAMPIONSHIP RACE 2 AT NEW JERSEY MOTORSPORTS PARK



New Jersey Motorsports Park (June 14, 2009) – Completing a return to form that has seen stops and starts to his Star Mazda Championship season, Englishman Richard Kent won Race 2 of the double-header Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear Mazda Formula X weekend at New Jersey Motorsports Park. Kent led every lap from the pole after smashing the existing Star Mazda Championship lap record at New Jersey Motorsports Park by more than 4/10ths of a second in the #33

Andersen Racing / Traka / Lafarge N.A. / Allied Interior Products Mazda .

"I won the last race of last year at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca and then sat on the pole at this year's season-opener at Sebring but missed the second race due to an injury and this race really marks the start of my 2009 season," says the driver from Milton Keynes, England. "We just have to keep up on these podiums and winning these races and hopefully misfortune will come a few other people's way as well, as it has for me. My leg still hurts a bit, but not in the car and it isn't affecting my on-track performance; I just have to be sensible with it when I'm away from the track. But right now nothing hurts at all... Remy my engineer and Alan my mechanic have done a fantastic job putting together the car. And the heat out there wasn't as hot as yesterday, but when you're running out front on your own trying to maintain concentration is always a struggle, so I just kept my head down and kept focused and it all worked out."

Finishing second, after starting on the outside of the front row, was Louisiana racer Alex Ardoin, driving the #51 JDC Motorsports / Oral & Facial Surgery Center / Twister Trailer Mazda. It was a great comeback after a difficult day yesterday in which an off-course excursion jarred an ignition wire loose and left him stranded on course with no power. Rounding out the top-3 was a familiar face in a familiar place from yesterday's race – Canadian racer Mikael Grenier, driving the #17 Andersen Racing / NAPA Auto Parts / CAA-Quebec / HS Telecom Mazda – who also finished third yesterday.

The top-finishing Master Series (aged 45 and over) driver was Californian Mike Guasch who costarred in the biggest accident of Saturday's race when he spun his #91 JDC Motorsports / Molecule Mazda and was hit, hard, from behind while trying to re-enter the track. His victory today brings him back to the form that has him leading the Master Series championship with three in-class wins. He finished 18th overall in the 26-car field. Bringing his #16 Kester Racing Team 3G / Texas World Speedway / Motul Oil Mazda home 15th overall and first in the Expert Series was Chris Cumming of Vancouver B.C. He is the reigning 2008 Expert Series champion and is currently leading the 2009 Expert battle with three in-class wins.

Rounding out the top-5 overall were 2008 MAZDASPEED ladder driver Joel Miller who finished 4th in the #2 JDC Motorsports / Fader Higher Productions / eSoles / Doug Mockett & Co. Mazda, and Brazilian racer Caio Lara who moved up from 8th on the grid to finish 5th in his #19 JDC Motorsports / MLD / ATW/ Molecule Mazda. And Peter 'The Irish Steamroller' Dempsey, who finished 6th on Saturday and 7th today in an altogether tough weekend in his #3 AIM Autosport / Motorsport Ireland / Queyside.ie Mazda, still managed to emerge as the points leader when former leader and 2-race winner Adam Christodoulou spent three laps in the pits to repair a suspension failure and finished 25th out of 26 cars. Dempsey, in his second season of Star Mazda Championship racing, won four races last year, and also won Round 2 at Virginia International Raceway earlier this season.

Saturday's pole-sitter and race winner, Conor Daly, the MAZDASPEED Motorsports Driver Development Ladder winner, had a loose (oversteering) car in qualifying and started from 9th on the grid. With only a single full-course yellow to bunch up the field during the entire 40-minute event, he drove every lap at 10/10ths and could do no better than 8th at the finish. Daly, the son of racing legend and noted motorsports broadcaster Derek Daly, is the 2008 Skip Barber Pro Series champion and won his ride in the 2009 Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear courtesy of the *MAZDASPEED* Motorsports Driver Development Ladder. This unique program, the only one supported by a major automaker, provides champions from karting through the top levels of the sport with sponsorship to move up to the next level.

Pos	No.	Name	Laps	Total Tm	Diff	Gap	Hometown	Team	Sponsor
1	33	Richard Kent	29	41:08.993			Milton Keynes, England	Andersen Racing	Traka/Allied Interior Products/Lafarge N.A.
2	51	Alex Ardoin	29	41:11.827	2.834	2.834	Lafayette,La	JDC Motorsports	Oral & Facial Surgery Center/Twister Trailer
3	17	Mikael Grenier	29	41:12.546	3.553	0.719	Stoneham, Canada	Andersen Racing	NAPA Auto Parts/CAA- Quebec/HS Telecomm/Allied
4	2	Joel Miller	29	41:12.899	3.906	0.353	Hesperia, Ca	JDC Motorsports	Fader High Productions/eSoles/Doug Mockett & Co
5	19	Caio Lara	29	41:15.792	6.799	2.893	Sao Paulo, Brazil	JDC Motorsports	MLD/ATW/Molecule
6	27	Anders Krohn	29	41:21.207	12.214	5.415	Sandnes, Norway	Team Mundill	Trallfa/Colosseum
7	3	Peter Dempsey	29	41:21.694	12.701	0.487	Ashbourne, Ireland	Aim Autosport	Irish Sports Council/Queyside.ie
8	22	Conor Daly	29	41:21.794	12.801	0.100	Noblesville, In	Andersen Racing	Indeck/Cytomax/Merchant Services/College Network
9	21	Denis Navarro	29	41:22.799	13.806	1.005	Sao Paulo, Brazil	Andersen Racing	Navarro Medicines Distribution/Allied/Lafarge N.A.
10	72	Jorge Goncalvez	29	41:26.069	17.076	3.270	Los Teques, Venezuela	Aim Autosport	
11	13	Michael Furfari	29	41:32.516	23.523	6.447	Toronto, Canada	Juncos Racing	Furfari Paving
12	82	Billy Goshen	29	41:36.572	27.579	4.056	Brea,CA	Goshen Motorsports	Baker Commodities/GPSTrackit/OTTO

13	48	Kristy Kester	29	41:38.304	29.311	1.732	College Station, Tx	Kester Racing Team 3G	Texas World Speedway/Motul Oil/K&N Filters +
14	15	Taylor Hacquard	29	41:39.008	30.015	0.704	Vancouver, Canada	Kester Racing Team 3G	Wolfe Automotive Group/
15	16	Chris Cumming	29	41:41.781	32.788	2.773	Vancouver, Canada	Kester Racing Team 3G	Texas World Speedway/Motul Oil/K&N Filters +
16	77	Kevin Toledo	29	41:43.832	34.839	2.051	Rancagua, Chile	Eliseo THL Motorsports	
17	30	Rick Rosin	29	41:47.119	38.126	3.287	Brusque, Brazil	Team GDT	FundeSporte/Governo Do ESTADO SANTA Catarina
18	91	Michael Guasch	29	41:57.759	48.766	10.640	Benicia, Ca	JDC Motorsports	Molecule
19	71	David Ostella	29	41:58.388	49.395	0.629	Maple, Canada	Aim Autosport	GP Global Precast
20	61	Sean Burstyn	29	41:58.943	49.950	0.555	Miami Beach, Fl	Juncos Racing	The Collection
21	24	J.C. Kester	29	42:07.333	58.340	8.390	College Station, Tx	Kester Racing Team 3G	Texas World Speedway/Motul Oil/K&N Filters +
22	80	Toshihiro Deki	28	41:22.659	1 Lap	1 Lap	Yokohama, Japan	Goshen Motorsports	
23	31	Carlos Conde	28	41:26.078	1 Lap	3.419	San Juan, Puerto Rico	American Speed Factory	MIO.TV
24	23	Walt Bowlin	28	42:17.756	1 Lap	51.678	Tarpon Springs, Fl	Juncos Racing	Hooters/Tampa Bay Jaw Surgery
25	11	Adam Christodoulou	24	41:21.298	5 Laps	4 Laps	Birmingham, England	JDC Motorsports	Molecule/Alpine Stars
26	66	Rusty Mitchell		5.791	29 Laps	24 Laps	Midland, Tx	Mitchell Motorsports	Motorola

The next race on the schedule, Round 6 of the 2009 Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear, is next weekend, June 20, at the Milwaukee Mile. This will be the first of two oval-track races this season and the first time the Star Mazda Championship has raced on an oval since 2006. Adrian Carrio qualified on the pole for that race with a lap of 27.249 sec. (136.343 mph), and the race was won by Michael Potekhen. In two days of Star Mazda Championship series testing at Milwaukee last month, the best time was set by young Michael Furfari, at 16 the youngest driver in the series. Driving the #13 Juncos Racing / Furfari Paving Mazda, the 5-ft.5-in., 120-pound student from Toronto turned a lap of 27.548 (130.681 mph).

The Star Mazda Championship double-header from the second annual Mazda Formula X event at New Jersey Motorsports Park was broadcast live as part of a three-hour block of all-Mazda racing on HDnet. Another live HDnet broadcast, three hours each day for a total of six hours, will take place at Autobahn Grand Prix Presented by Mazda at The Autobahn Country Club – July 25-26. All the wheel-to-wheel Star Mazda Championship action will be covered live on both days. To receive HDNet information via email simply go to <u>www.hd.net/listpage</u>. And be sure to check the Star Mazda Championship web site (<u>www.StarMazda.com</u>) for upcoming announcements about the 2009 TV package and expanded distribution through syndication around the world. A web site with comprehensive day/date programming information will be announced shortly, and will be linked to the Star Mazda web site. The current distribution network includes:

Affiliate	# of households	Territory
Bright House Sports Network	1.6million hh	Tampa and Orlando
Time Warner Cable SportsNet	300,000 hh	Buffalo, NY
Time Warner Cable SportsNet	330,000 hh	Rochester, NY
LoneStar Sports	300, 000 khh	Texas
Cox 3, OC	350,000 khh	Orange County, CA
@ Sports Network	10 million hh	National and International Programming Service
In Country Television Network	13.7million hh	National Cable Network (Dish Network)
AMG TV	17million hh	Digital Over the Air Programming Service Provider
MavTV Network	7 million hh	National Cable Network
CaribVision	500,000 hh	The Caribbean Islands
Total 51.1 million households		

For more information on the Star Mazda Championship and its drivers, as well as the Mazda Motorsports ladder system, please visit <u>www.starmazda.com</u> and <u>www.mazdausa.com</u>. For information, interviews and photos, contact Star Mazda Communications Director Peter Frey at (818) 398-5733 or <u>StarMazdaPR@aol.com</u>.

On any given weekend, there are more Mazdas on the road-race tracks of America than any other brand of vehicle. At the track, you'll see MX-5 Miata, RX-8, MAZDA3, MAZDA6, RX-7 and other vintage Mazda models competing, because every Mazda has the Soul of a Sports Car.

For more information on the various Mazda spec series, visit:

<u>www.atlanticchampionship.com</u> <u>www.starmazda.com</u> <u>www.skipbarber.com</u> <u>www.mx-5cup.com</u>

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