

UNDER THREATENING SKIES, NEW NAMES EMERGE AT THE TOP OF THE STAR MAZDA CHAMPIONSHIP PRACTICE TIME SHEETS AT THE MILWAUKEE MILE



Milwaukee Mile, West Allis, WI (June 19, 2009) – After an overnight downpour left the track soaked and the infield tunnel flooded to the rafters, crews at the Milwaukee Mile performed heroically to get things dried out in time for both the NASCAR Camping World Trucks and Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear cars to get in their allotted

practice sessions.

During the first one-hour session for the Star Mazda Championship cars, it was second-year driver Rusty Mitchell who turned the fastest time in his #66 Mitchell Motorsports / Motorola Mazda; a 28.055 sec. (128.319 mph).

"I thought the track came around there a whole lot toward the last part of the session, so we just kind of waited, bided our time and made all our adjustments during the last part of the session," said Mitchell. "We were fast in New Jersey, but had some back luck in the races and when you're P1 in a session it always helps boost the team morale. We're not flat around here yet, though I think we'll need to get to that by tomorrow; but I'm not using brakes either, just rolling the throttle in and out."

He was followed in the order by Scandanavian racer Anders Krohn – in a performance nothing short of a miracle; his team arrived at the track in the morning to find the deluge and rain had destroyed their tent and the carbon fiber 'tub' of his Star Mazda race car lived up to its name by being half-full of water. The Mundill team got things sorted out in time for him to turn the second-fastest time of the session, a 28.094 sec. (128.141 mph) in the #27 Mundill / Trallfa / Colosseum Mazda.

Rounding out the top-5 were David Ostella with a 28.129 sec. (127.982 mph) in his #71 AIM Autosport/Global Precast Mazda, Jorge Goncalvez with a 28.272 sec. (127.334 mph) in the #72 AIM Autosport / Mazda and Brazilian Caio Lara with a 28.279 sec. (127.303n mph) in his #19 JDC Motorsports / MLD / ATW/ Molecule Mazda.

The top 19 cars in the 22-car field were covered by less than one second around the legendary 1-mile Milwaukee Motorsports oval. The same held true for the second session, in which the top 20 cars were all within one second of each other; Englishman Richard Kent led the second session with a 27.971 sec. (128.705 mph) in his (#33 Andersen Racing / Traka / Lafarge / Allied Interior Products Mazda. This may prove to be critical; while single-car qualifying is scheduled for early afternoon, if the weather does not cooperate on Saturday, qualifying will be cancelled and the cars will start the race based on a merge of the times in the two practice sessions.... putting Kent on the pole. And he carries with him the momentum of a win in the second of two Star Mazda Championship races held last weekend at New Jersey Motorsports Park.



"The car's been good, but you have to be careful; you make the smallest little changes on a course like this... and they make a BIG difference, it's unbelievable," says Kent. "But we keep edging away at it, like everyone else, and put on some new tires right at the end and got them scrubbed in so we're ready to go for tomorrow. The car seems good over

longer runs, but it's going to be interesting to see what the drop-off in tire performance is like. This is a new experience for everyone, and we're all running quite close together, but we'll all be running the same pace at the start of the race and as long as everyone keeps in their comfort zone, it should be good."

Second-fast in the second session was Jorge Goncalvez with a 27.972 sec (128.700 mph), followed by Rusty Mitchell with a 27.988 sec. (128.627 mph) and a new name on the list – Conor Daly, who won the Saturday race at last weekend's Star Mazda Championship double-header at New Jersey Motorsports Park. His lap of 27.993 sec. (128.604 mph) was good for fourth on the afternoon time sheet. Rounding out the top-5 was David Ostella with a 28.010 sec. (128.526 mph) lap.

Qualifying is scheduled to take place from Noon to 1:00 pm Saturday, June 20th, with the race getting the green flag at 2:30 pm.... weather permitting. The event will be 100 laps of flat-out, side-by-side racing with no pit stops. The Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear is now in its 19th year as one of the most successful open-wheel driver development series in North America; the Milwaukee Mile race is Round 6 of the 11-weekend, 13-race (two double-headers) 2009 Star Mazda Championship race schedule that includes road courses, oval tracks and street circuits in both the U.S. and Canada.

Star Mazda Friday Practice 1

Pos	No.	Name	Best Tm	Diff	Best Spd	In Lap	Team	Sponsor
1	66	Rusty Mitchell	28.055		128.319	88	Mitchell Motorsports	Motorola
2	27	Anders Krohn	28.094	0.039	128.141	18	Team Mundill	Trallfa/Colosseum
3	71	David Ostella	28.129	0.074	127.982	68	Aim Autosport	GP Global Precast
4	72	Jorge Goncalvez	28.272	0.217	127.334	16	Aim Autosport	
5	19	Caio Lara	28.279	0.224	127.303	44	JDC Motorsports	MLD/ATW/Molecule
6	22	Conor Daly	28.292	0.237	127.244	47	Andersen Racing	Indeck/Cytomax/Merchant Services/College Network
7	51	Alex Ardoin	28.313	0.258	127.150	58	JDC Motorsports	Oral & Facial Surgery Center/Twister Trailer
8	33	Richard Kent	28.343	0.288	127.015	71	Andersen Racing	Traka/Allied Interior Products/Lafarge N.A.
9	82	Billy Goshen	28.400	0.345	126.761	59	Goshen Motorsports	Baker Commodities/GPSTrackit/OTTO
10	77	Kevin Toledo	28.494	0.439	126.342	55	Eliseo THL Motorsports	
11	48	Kristy Kester	28.569	0.514	126.011	70	Kester Racing Team 3G	Texas World Speedway/Motul Oil/K&N Filters +
12	2	Joel Miller	28.593	0.538	125.905	47	JDC Motorsports	Fader High Productions/eSoles/Doug Mockett & Co
13	17	Mikael Grenier	28.684	0.629	125.506	26	Andersen Racing	NAPA Auto Parts/CAA-Quebec/HS Telecomm/Allied
14	24	J.C. Kester	28.711	0.656	125.387	75	Kester Racing Team 3G	Texas World Speedway/Motul Oil/K&N Filters +
15	13	Michael Furfari	28.719	0.664	125.353	12	Juncos Racing	Furfari Paving
16	3	Peter Dempsey	28.780	0.725	125.087	53	Juncos Racing	
17	11	Adam Christodoulou	28.842	0.787	124.818	53	JDC Motorsports	Molecule/Alpine Stars
18	15	Taylor Hacquard	28.861	0.806	124.736	38	Kester Racing Team 3G	Wolfe Automotive Group/
19	21	Denis Navarro	28.950	0.895	124.352	8	Andersen Racing	Navarro Medicines Distribution/Allied/Lafarge N.A.
20	16	Chris Cumming	29.499	1.444	122.038	101	Kester Racing Team 3G	Texas World Speedway/Motul Oil/K&N Filters +
21	20	Gustavo Linares	29.505	1.450	122.013	51		
22	80	Toshihiro Deki	31.451	3.396	114.464	53	Goshen Motorsports	

Star Mazda Friday Practice 2

Pos	No.	Name	Best Tm	Diff	Best Spd	In Lap	Team	Sponsor
1	33	Richard Kent	27.971		128.705	39	Andersen Racing	Traka/Allied Interior Products/Lafarge N.A.
2	72	Jorge Goncalvez	27.972	0.001	128.700	51	Aim Autosport	
3	66	Rusty Mitchell	27.988	0.017	128.627	21	Mitchell Motorsports	Motorola
4	22	Conor Daly	27.993	0.022	128.604	22	Andersen Racing	Indeck/Cytomax/Merchant Services/College Network
5	71	David Ostella	28.010	0.039	128.526	29	Aim Autosport	GP Global Precast
6	19	Caio Lara	28.079	0.108	128.210	45	JDC Motorsports	MLD/ATW/Molecule
7	15	Taylor Hacquard	28.146	0.175	127.904	36	Kester Racing Team 3G	Wolfe Automotive Group/
8	3	Peter Dempsey	28.273	0.302	127.330	41	Juncos Racing	
9	51	Alex Ardoin	28.275	0.304	127.321	32	JDC Motorsports	Oral & Facial Surgery Center/Twister Trailer
10	2	Joel Miller	28.277	0.306	127.312	31	JDC Motorsports	Fader High Productions/eSoles/Doug Mockett & Co
11	11	Adam Christodoulou	28.327	0.356	127.087	30	JDC Motorsports	Molecule/Alpine Stars
12	21	Denis Navarro	28.329	0.358	127.078	36	Andersen Racing	Navarro Medicines Distribution/Allied/Lafarge N.A.
13	82	Billy Goshen	28.335	0.364	127.051	40	Goshen Motorsports	Baker Commodities/GPSTrackit/OTTO
14	77	Kevin Toledo	28.471	0.500	126.444	28	Eliseo THL Motorsports	
15	17	Mikael Grenier	28.481	0.510	126.400	20	Andersen Racing	NAPA Auto Parts/CAA-Quebec/HS Telecomm/Allied
16	27	Anders Krohn	28.493	0.522	126.347	17	Team Mundill	Trallfa/Colosseum
17	24	J.C. Kester	28.530	0.559	126.183	9	Kester Racing Team 3G	Texas World Speedway/Motul Oil/K&N Filters +
18	20	Gustavo Linares	28.657	0.686	125.624	21		
19	13	Michael Furfari	28.665	0.694	125.589	44	Juncos Racing	Furfari Paving
20	48	Kristy Kester	28.812	0.841	124.948	32	Kester Racing Team 3G	Texas World Speedway/Motul Oil/K&N Filters +
21	16	Chris Cumming	29.047	1.076	123.937	53	Kester Racing Team 3G	Texas World Speedway/Motul Oil/K&N Filters +
22	80	Toshihiro Deki	30.533	2.562	117.905	39	Goshen Motorsports	

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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