

VIKING VICTORIOUS – SCANDANAVIAN SPEEDSTER ANDERS KROHN SCORES HIS FIRST STAR MAZDA CHAMPIONSHIP WIN AT THE MILWAUKEE MILE



Milwaukee Mile, West Allis, WI (June 20, 2009) — In a race opening with a first-lap, first turn drama that took out two of the top qualifiers, it fell to a Scandinavian and an Irishman to provide the mid-race battle... and to an Englishman and a third-season driver from Louisiana to seize the late-race opportunity and fill out the podium.

Ultimately, after 100 laps of flat-out racing under a hot and cloudless Wisconsin sky, it was Anders 'The Viking' Krohn scoring his first-ever Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear victory in the #27 Mundill / Trallfa / Colosseum Mazda. Finishing second was Englishman Adam Christodoulou, who has scored two victories so far this season in the #11 JDC Motorsports / Molecule / Alpine Stars Mazda. Third place went to Alex Ardoin in the #51 JDC Motorsports / Oral & Facial

Surgery Center / Twister Trailer Mazda. Chris Cumming, the Vancouver B.C. driver who won the 2008 Expert Series championship, took the Expert Series (drivers 30 – 44) win in his #16 Kester Racing Team 3G / Texas World Speedway / Motul Oil Mazda.

"It was an unexpected win because we started in 7th and we weren't quite sure how it would be passing the cars, but our car was hooked up early on and I could stay down low and just drive past people wherever I needed to," says Krohn, the 2008 FF2000 series champion. "From there it was fairly easy pulling out a gap, but then by mid-race when I started passing back markers it was so difficult to stay in their draft and get around them that the fast cars behind me caught up a little bit. I got a really clean re-start from that last caution and managed to pull out a gap that I was able to maintain to the end of the race. I just kept my head down, key was to do consistent laps and not take too many risks when passing the back markers. I wanted to run a clean race and that's what I managed to do. I had Larry Nash on the radio, a very experienced guy and he just kept me cool and calm and we brought it home. It's a great feeling."

The first-turn drama came at the expense of pole sitter Richard Kent ((#33 Andersen Racing / Traka / Lafarge / Allied Interior Products Mazda) and 3rd-place starter Conor Daly (#22 Andersen Racing / College Network / Indeck / Cytomax Mazda) who tangled wheels during a passing attempt and wound up in the Turn One wall. Picking up the lead of the race and holding it for the first 27 laps, was ex-Formula BMW racer Jorge Goncalvez, who started third on the grid in the #72 AIM Autosport / Mazda. (Qualifying was cancelled due to a Friday rain delay of the NASCAR series, so the Star Mazda gridded on the basis of their practice times.)

Krohn took the lead on Lap 27 and it was Peter 'The Irish Steamroller' Dempsey in his first drive for his new team, Juncos Racing, who sliced his way up through the field from 9th on the grid to hound Krohn from second place in the #3 Juncos Racing / HOOTERS / Motorsport Ireland / Queyside.ie Mazda. While Dempsey got shuffled back to 4th in the closing laps, he did set the fastest lap of the race, a 28.652 sec. — all the more remarkable considering the sum total of his oval-track experience was the two Friday practice sessions

The final incident that set the stage for a late-race shootout came with an incident on lap 86 that caused a full-course yellow. On the re-start, a hair-raising, multi-car dive-bombing session into Turn One took place -- without further contact -- and shuffled the order as JDC Motorsports teammates Christodoulou (the only driver to win two races so far this season) and Ardoin (winner of the 2007 Star Mazda season-ender at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca) took advantage of the opportunity.

Jorge Goncalvez the early leader, ultimately finished 5th, with Rusty Mitchell, the young American who was fastest in the first session on Friday bringing his #66 Mitchell Motorsports / Motorola Mazda home in 6th. Rounding out the top-10 were Billy Goshen (7th/#82 Goshen Motorsports / Baker Commodities / GPSTrackit / OTTO / First Quality Concrete Mazda), Caio Lara (8th/#19 JDC Motorsports / MLD / ATW/ Molecule Mazda), Taylor Hacquard (9th/#15 Kester Racing Team 3G / Wolfe Auto Group / Texas World Speedway Mazda) and in 10th was Dempsey's Juncos Racing teammate, Michael Furfari – the youngest driver in the series — who set the fastest time at this track during two days of Star Mazda series testing last month in his #13 Juncos Racing / Furfari Paving Mazda.

Taking into account the results of today's race, Adam Christodoulou regains his lead in the Star Mazda point's championship with 211. Peter Dempsey, who came to Milwaukee leading the points, is now second with 207. American Joel Miller, who battled through a tough weekend to finish 14th in the #2 JDC Motorsports / Fader Higher Productions / eSoles / Doug Mockett & Co. Mazda, is third with 194. Third-place finisher Alex Ardoin is fourth in the points with 187, Caio Lara is fifth with 186 and race winner Anders Krohn jumps up the chart from 10th to seventh with 172 points.

Star Mazda Championship Round 6 - Milwaukee Mile Results

Pos	No.	Name	Laps	Total Tm	Diff	Gap	Team	Sponsor
1	27	Anders Krohn	100	1:01:05.992			Mundill	Trallfa/Colosseum
2	11	Adam Christodoulou	100	1:01:07.215	1.223	1.223	JDC Motorsports	Molecule/Alpine Stars
3	51	Alex Ardoin	100	1:01:07.769	1.777	0.554	JDC Motorsports	Oral & Facial Surgery Center/Twister Trailer
4	3	Peter Dempsey	100	1:01:08.267	2.275	0.498	Juncos Racing	Hooters/Irish Sports Council/Quasie.ie
5	72	Jorge Goncalvez	100	1:01:08.977	2.985	0.710	Aim Autosport	
6	66	Rusty Mitchell	100	1:01:09.437	3.445	0.460	Mitchell Motorsports	Motorola
7	82	Billy Goshen	100	1:01:10.994	5.002	1.557	Goshen Motorsports	Baker Commodities/GPSTrackit/OTTO
8	19	Caio Lara	100	1:01:11.858	5.866	0.864	JDC Motorsports	MLD/ATW/Molecule
9	15	Taylor Hacquard	100	1:01:13.401	7.409	1.543	Kester Racing Team 3G	Wolfe Automotive Group/Texas World Speedway
10	13	Michael Furfari	100	1:01:14.873	8.881	1.472	Juncos Racing	Furfari Paving
11	24	J.C. Kester	100	1:01:15.859	9.867	0.986	Kester Racing Team 3G	Texas World Speedway/Motul Oil/K&N Filters +
12	17	Mikael Grenier	100	1:01:16.648	10.656	0.789	Andersen Racing	NAPA Auto Parts/CAA-Quebec/HS Telecomm/Allied
13	21	Denis Navarro	100	1:01:17.761	11.769	1.113	Andersen Racing	Navarro Medicines Distribution/Allied
14	2	Joel Miller	100	1:01:18.144	12.152	0.383	JDC Motorsports	Fader High Productions/eSoles/Doug Mockett & Co
15	48	Kristy Kester	99	1:01:14.506	1 Lap	1 Lap	Kester Racing Team 3G	Texas World Speedway/Motul Oil/K&N Filters +
16	16	Chris Cumming	99	1:01:22.847	1 Lap	8.341	Kester Racing Team 3G	Texas World Speedway/Motul Oil/K&N Filters +
17	80	Toshihiro Deki	96	1:01:27.905	4 Laps	3 Laps	Goshen Motorsports	
18	71	David Ostella	85	51:21.176	15 Laps	11 Laps	Aim Autosport	GP Global Precast
19	77	Kevin Toledo	48	38:33.121	52 Laps	37 Laps	Eliseo THL Motorsports	
20	20	Gustavo Linares	13	12:07.713	87 Laps	35 Laps	JDC Motorsports	CAN TV/IND
21	33	Richard Kent	1	1:18.070	99 Laps	12 Laps	Andersen Racing	Traka/Allied Interior Products
22	22	Conor Daly	1	1:18.134	99 Laps	0.064	Andersen Racing	Indeck/Cytomax/Merchant Services/College Network

The next race, Round 7 of the 13-race 2009 Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear, takes place on July 10 at the Iowa Speedway – the second of two oval track races on the schedule.

For more information on the Star Mazda Championship and its drivers, as well as the Mazda Motorsports ladder system, please visit www.mazdausa.com. 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:

 $\underline{www.atlanticchampionship.com} \qquad \underline{www.starmazda.com}$

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

Dean Case / Communications Officer / MAZDASPEED Motorsports
Office - (310) 755-7403 / Cell - (310) 318-4582 / E-mail: dean@RWB-LLC.com

