



**SHAKE-UP IN THE STREETS – TEXAN RUSTY MITCHELL TAKES THE POLE FOR THE START OF TOMORROW'S ROUND 10 OF THE 2009 STAR MAZDA CHAMPIONSHIP AT THE 40TH RUNNING OF THE GP3R**



Trois Rivières, Quebec (August 15, 2009) – With the smart money betting that the pole would go to Irishman Peter Dempsey – who, after all, has won four races this year, the last three in a row... and won this event last year – it was instead Rusty Mitchell, of Midland, Texas, who stepped up, turned in his best qualifying effort ever and put the #66 Mitchell Motorsports / Motorola Mazda on the inside of the front row with a lap of 1:01.341. The time, a new lap record for the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear at this legendary 1.52-mile temporary road circuit at this track, eclipses the old mark of 1:01.978 set last year by... Peter Dempsey.

Dempsey, running the Juncos Racing spare car -- now that Walt Bowlin, owner of the car in which Dempsey has scored his remarkable string of three straight victories, has returned to competition – had his session cut short by contact with the wall, but still managed a 1:01.489 on lap 8 to claim the outside

of the front row.

"Pretty much everything went right for me and I have to thank the Mitchell Motorsports team for that," said Mitchell, the second-year driver who put in strong drives on the two ovals earlier in the season, finishing 6th at the Milwaukee Mile and 4th at the Iowa Speedway. "The car was awesome. It was just 'stuck,' and on a street circuit like this one, that's really important. It was one of those great cars that you have every so often. We actually did the fast time on older tires in the early part of the session; we put new ones on and they weren't any faster, so I just came in and parked it and we waited to see if anyone could beat the time. My strategy for tomorrow is pretty simple: get a good start and do my best to run away from the field."

Starting third will be Louisiana racer Alex Ardoin with a lap of 1:01.604 in his #51 JDC Motorsports / Oral & Facial Surgery Center / Twister Trailer Mazda. Ardoin finished 4th in the championship in 2008 and won the 2007 Star Mazda season finale at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca. Lining up alongside him

will be the only other driver in the field who has won more than one race this season, Englishman Adam Christodoulou, the 2008 U.K. Formula Renault champion. The two-time winner turned a lap of 1:01.641 to put his #11 JDC Motorsports / Molecule / Alpinestars Mazda third on the starting grid. Californian Joel Miller, the 2007 Skip Barber Pro Series champion and 2008 MAZDASPEED Motorsports Driver Development Ladder scholarship winner, turned the 5th-fast time of 1:02.041 in the #2 Andersen Racing / Fader Higher Productions / eSoles / Doug Mockett & Co. Mazda. This year's MAZDASPEED Ladder driver, Conor Daly, who turned the fastest lap in Friday practice, had to settle for 7th on the grid with a lap of 1:02.118 in the #22 Andersen Racing / College Network / Indeck / Cytomax Mazda.

The quickest driver in the Master Series (for drivers 45 years and older) was Californian Mike Guasch, who is currently leading the class championship battle with five in-class wins. His lap of 1:02.761 in the #91 JDC Motorsports / Molecule Mazda was two seconds faster than his best time in practice and good for the 13th starting spot on the grid. The top qualifier among the Expert Series (racers 30-44 years old) was another Texan J.W. Roberts from Dallas. Back after taking a few races off to welcome a new member of his family into the world, Roberts turned a 16th-fast lap of 1:02.905 in the #65 Team GDT / General Data Tech Mazda.

### **Grand Prix Trois Rivieres Trois Rivieres Street Course Results of Formula Mazda - Qualifying**

<b>Pos No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Best Tm</b>	<b>In Lap</b>	<b>Team</b>	<b>Hometown</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>
1	66 Rusty Mitchell	1:01.341	10	Mitchell Motorsports	Midland, TX	Motorola
2	3 Peter Dempsey	1:01.498	8	Juncos Racing	Ashbourne, Ireland	HOOTERS / Irish Sports Council / Queyside.ie
3	51 Alex Ardoin	1:01.604	8	JDC Motorsports	Lafayette, LA	Oral & Facial Surgery Center / Twister Trailer
4	11 Adam Christodoulou	1:01.641	16	JDC Motorsports	Birmingham, England	Molecule / Alpine Stars
5	2 Joel Miller	1:02.041	12	Andersen Racing	Hesperia, Ca	Fader Higher Productions / eSoles / Doug Mockett & Co.
6	21 Denis Navarro	1:02.103	13	Andersen Racing	Sao Paulo, Brazil	Navarro Medicines Distribution / Allied
7	22 Conor Daly	1:02.118	11	Andersen Racing	Noblesville, In	Indeck / Cytomax / Merchant Services / College Network
8	71 David Ostella	1:02.122	19	AIM	Maple, Canada	GP Global Precast
9	33 Richard Kent	1:02.166	14	Andersen Racing	Milton Keynes, England	Traka / Allied Interior Products
10	27 Anders Krohn	1:02.265	14	Mundill	Sandnes, Norway	Trallfa / Colosseum
11	19 Caio Lara	1:02.441	16	JDC	Sao Paulo, Brazil	MLD / ATW / Molecule

12	13	Michael Furfari	1:02.469	18	Motorsports Juncos Racing	Toronto, Canada	Furfari Paving
13	91	Michael Guasch	1:02.761	20	JDC Motorsports	Benicia, CA	Molecule
14	77	Kevin Toledo	1:02.810	15	Eliseo THL Motorsports	Rancaqua, Chile	
15	61	Sean Burstyn	1:02.868	7	Juncos Racing	Miami Beach, Fl	The Collection
16	65	JW Roberts	1:02.905	16	Team GDT	Dallas, Tx	General Data Tech
17	72	Jorge Goncalvez	1:02.988	6	AIM	Los Teques, Venezuela	
18	80	Toshihiro Deki	1:03.934	9	Goshen Motorsports	Yokohama, Japan	
19	17	Mikael Grenier	1:05.066	12	Andersen Racing	Stoneham, Canada	NAPA Autoparts / CAA- Quebec / HS Telecom / Allied
20	23	Walter Bowlin	1:07.467	13	Juncos Racing	Tarpon Springs, Fl	HOOTERS

Sunday's race will be Round 10 of an 11-weekend, 13-race 2009 schedule that has seen five different drivers score wins so far this season. The exciting, F1-style standing start that begins each 45-minute Star Mazda Championship race is scheduled to take place at 11:15am on Sunday, August 16.

Next up on the 2009 schedule for the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear is the second of two Canadian races; the Mobil 1 presents the Grand Prix of Mosport on August 29. The 2009 season wraps up with a final pair of ALMS races; at Road Atlanta on September 25 and at Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca on October 10.

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

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:

[www.atlantic-championship.com](http://www.atlantic-championship.com)      [www.starmazda.com](http://www.starmazda.com)  
[www.skipbarber.com](http://www.skipbarber.com)                      [www.mx-5cup.com](http://www.mx-5cup.com)

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