

## RICHARD KENT WINS FROM THE POLE AT MOSTPORT TO BECOME THE THIRD MULTI-RACE WINNER OF THE 2009 STAR MAZDA CHAMPIONSHIP SEASON

Mosport International (August 29, 2009) – On a day turned from gloom to glory, Englishman Richard Kent, who won the pole in morning fog and rain, converted his advantage to a



dominating race win in Round 11 of the 2009 Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear at Mosport. In doing so, he became — along with Peter Dempsey and Adam Christodoulou — one of only three multi-race winners so far this season driving the #33 Andersen Racing / Traka Allied Interior Products Mazda. Kent, who has started from the pole four times this so

far this season – the most of any driver – also won from the pole in Round 5 at New Jersey Motorsports Park.

"I was pushing hard right from the start and my win was a combination of a good car and good luck," said Kent. "I made a small mistake in turn 5b that allowed Conor to pass me on the outside in turn 8 and I wasn't able to close the gap. When I saw the nose of his car disappear into the grass in Turn 10 about mid-way through the race, I knew the race was mine. Its been an off-and-on season for me, but hopefully this will give me some momentum headed into the final two races and give me a shot at the championship."

Finishing second after a spirited drive that saw him start from the outside of the front row, move into the lead, spin and fall back to third, then make a daring pass in the closing laps, was Conor Daly in the #22 Andersen Racing / College Network / Indeck / Cytomax Mazda. Daly, the 2008 Skip Barber Pro Series champion, is racing in Star Mazda this season courtesy of the MAZDASPEED Motorsports Driver Development Ladder scholarship. Finishing third, after qualifying fourth, was Adam Christodoulou in the #11 JDC Motorsports / Molecule / Alpinestars Mazda. This result was little short of miraculous given that he suffered two major crashes in practice on Thursday.

Peter Dempsey, the championship points heading into the race, retained his lead – albeit a slimmer one – with a 4th-place finish in the #3 Juncos Racing / The Collection / Motorsport Ireland / Queyside.ie Mazda. And rounding out the top-5 was another stellar performance, Scandinavian racer Anders Krohn, the winner on the Iowa Speedway Oval, who worked his way

up through the field from his 13th spot on the starting grid in the #27 Mundill / Trallfa / Colosseum Mazda.

Carrying the flag for Canada and Toronto, Ontario fans was native son David Ostella who, like Christodoulou, suffered a major wreck in Thursday testing. The AIM Autosport crew put together a 'Frankenstein' car with bits and pieces from several vehicles to get him back on track and after qualifying 17th in the #71 AIM Autosport/Global Precast Mazda, he rewarded them with a 10th-place finish. Louisiana racer Alex Ardoin, winner of Round 10 at Trois-Rivieres, qualified third in the #51 JDC Motorsports / Oral & Facial Surgery Center / Twister Trailer Mazda and was a major factor in the fight at the front early on in the race until a spin dropped him to 10th at the finish.

Master Series racer (drivers 45 and older) Gerry Kraut put in a superb qualifying performance in the wet morning session to line up 9th on the grid in the #55 JDC Motorsports / Dougherty & Co. / Dougherty Funding LLC Mazda and won his class is his return to competition after a several-race hiatus. Japanese racers Toshihiro Deki, currently leading the Expert Series Championship (drivers 30-44 years old), scored his third in-class victory of the season driving his #80 Mazda for a new team, Juncos Racing.

With the outcome of this weekend's race, Peter Dempsey remains in the championship lead with 399 points. Adam Christodoulou closed the gap from 10 points to seven and now has 392. Conor Daly moves from fourth to third in the championship with 342 points and Joel Miller, who started 7th and finished 12th today due to a mechanical problem with his #2 Andersen Racing / Fader Higher Productions / eSoles / Doug Mockett & Co. Mazda, drops from third to fourth with 336 points. Alex Ardoin remains in fifth with 301 points. A win in the Star Mazda Championship is worth 44 points, and with 90 points up for grabs in the remaining two races (88 plus one point each for pole), eight drivers remain mathematically in competition for the championship. 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 – a race Richard Kent won in 2008.

Pos	Start Pos	No.	Name	Hometown	Sponsor
1	1	33	Richard Kent	Millton Keynes, England	Traka/Allied Interior Products
2	2	22	Conor Daly	Noblesville, In	Indeck/Cytomax/Merchant Services/College Network
3	4	11	Adam Christodoulou	Birmingham, England	Molecule/AlpineStars/Miller Milling Co
4	5	3	Peter Dempsey	Ashbourne, Ireland	Juncos Racing / The Collection / Motorsports Ireland
5	13	27	Anders Krohn	Sandnes, Norway	Trallfa/Colosseum
6	11	72	Jorge Goncalvez	Los Teques, Venezuela	

7	8	19	Caio Lara	Sao Paulo, Brazil	MLD/ATW/Molecule
8	3	51	Alex Ardoin	Lafayette,La	Oral & Facial Surgery Center/Twister Trailer
9	17	71	David Ostella	Maple, Canada	GP Global Precast
10	10	21	Denis Navarro	Sao Paulo, Brazil	Navarro Medicines Distribution/Allied
11	6	66	Rusty Mitchell	Midland, Tx	Motorola
12	7	2	Joel Miller	Hesperia, Ca	Fader High Productions/eSoles/Doug Mockett & Co
13	14	13	Michael Furfari	Toronto, Canada	Furfari Paving
14	9	55	Gerry Kraut	North Oaks, Mn	Dougherty and Co./Dougherty Funding LLC.
15	16	80	Toshihiro Deki	Yokohama, Japan	
16	12	91	Michael Guasch	Benicia, Ca	Molecule
17	15	23	Walt Bowlin	Tarpon Springs, Fl	Hooters/Tampa Bay Jaw Surgery

## About The Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear

For 2009, the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear (<a href="www.starmazda.com">www.starmazda.com</a>) will feature an 11-weekend, 13-race schedule on major race weekends with American Le Mans, Grand-Am, the Atlantic Championship, NASCAR Nationwide and Craftsman Truck Series. Prize money is \$1.5 million, including a fully-funded drive in the 2010 Atlantic Championship. Drivers 16 and older are welcome to compete and the Star Mazda Championship also features Expert (30 to 44) and Master (45 and older) classes for more mature racers. The Star Mazda Championship features standing starts, wheel-to-wheel racing at 150 mph and budgets a fraction of other top open-wheel ladder series. For drivers interested in competing in the series, detailed information is available at <a href="www.starmazda.com/newdriver">www.starmazda.com/newdriver</a>.

\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_

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

Dean Case / Communications Officer / MAZDASPEED Motorsports (310) 318-4582 / E-mail: MAZDASPEED@MazdaUSA.com

