

DUELING CON(N)ORS CONTINUED -- CONOR DALY DOES A LAST LAP FLIER TO THE TOP TIME SHEETS, CONNOR DE PHILLIPPI SETS SECOND FAST TIME IN FINAL STAR MAZDA CHAMPIONSHIP PRACTICE FOR THIS WEEKEND'S ROUND 12 AT THE MOBIL 1 PRESENTS THE GRAND PRIX OF MOSPORT

Mosport Raceway (August 27, 2010) - Continuing a high-speed duel that began last weekend when they



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qualified side-by-side on the front row for Round 11 at Road America, Star Mazda Championship leader Conor Daly did a last-lap flier in the final practice session for Round 12 at Mosport to top the time sheets and bump Connor De Phillippi down to second... but it was a close thing; Daly's lap of 1:15.413 (117.386 mph) in the #22 Juncos Racing / INDECK / The College Network / Merchant Services Ltd. Mazda was the fastest lap of the weekend so far, but only 2/10ths quicker than De Phillippi's 1:15.567

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(117.007 mph) in the #11 JDC Motorsports / MAZDASPEED Motorsports / Skip Barber Mazda.

De Phillippi, the 2009 Skip Barber Pro Series champion is racing this season in Star Mazda with funding provided by the *MAZDASPEED* Motorsports Driver Development Ladder and scored his first Star Mazda podium finish at Road America. Interestingly, Daly was also the Skip Barber champion (in 2008) and drove last year with backing from the *MAZDASPEED* Ladder.

The third driver 'in the 15s' was Tristan Vautier, a two-race winner so far this season in the #38 Andersen Racing / Moulin TP / Cecibon / Circuit du Laquais / Fontanel Mazda; he turned a lap of 1:15.763 (116.843 mph). In point of fact, the top-8 drivers in today's practice were all within a second of each other, an almost negligible gap on the high-speed, highly-technical 10-turn, 2.4-mile Mosport road course... although it did serve as a clear statement about championship leader Conor Daly's weekend strategy; although he needs finish only 12th or better this weekend to clinch the championship, he has no plans to play it safe.

The sole remaining driver in the field who has a chance to keep Daly from clinching the championship this weekend, Norwegian racer Anders 'The Viking' Krohn, turned the quick time in this morning's session, a 1:15.891 (116.646 mph), but dropped down to 6th-quick in the final session with a lap of 1:16.163 (116.230 mph) in his #47 Andersen Racing / Norse Cutting & Abandonment / Trallfa / Colosseum Mazda.

While Daly and Krohn are the only two drivers left in competition for the overall series championship, the top-8 drivers in the field are all still in the running for the inaugural VISIT**FLORIDA** Cup, a 7-race championship-within-a-championship sponsored by the series' television partner, VISIT FLORIDA, the official tourism and marketing organization for the state of Florida. The live HDnet broadcasts and global

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syndication package made possible by the VISIT**FLORIDA** partnership brings Star Mazda Championship racing to more than 150 million households worldwide. The prize, a custom 'dream vacation' provided by VISIT Florida goes to the driver scoring the most points in the seven races that are part of the Cup, including this weekend's Mobil 1 Presents the Grand Prix of Mosport and the season finale at the 13th Annual Petit Le Mans at Road Atlanta, September 29 – October 2. For information about where and when you can see the Mosport race (and other Star Mazda VISIT**FLORIDA** races) on television, visit www.MazdaRacing.tv.

Conor Daly also leads this competition with 192 points scored in races, and Anders Krohn is in second with 179 VISIT**FLORIDA** points. But with 90 points remaining to be won in the final two races, that leaves the top-17 drivers still in contention, including two of the four Canadians in the field. Young Quebec Racer Mikael Grenier is 4th in the overall championship and won from the pole in Round 8 at Autobahn driving the #17 Andersen Racing / Slow Cow / April Super Flow / NAPA Auto Parts / HS Telecom / Desharnais Mazda. Local driver, David Ostella, from Maple, Ontario is 10th in the championship, but has two top-4 and six-top-10 finishes in the #16 AIM Autosport / GP Global Precast Mazda.

Pos	No. Name	Best Tm	Best Speed	In Lap	Sponsor
1	22 Conor Daly	1:15.413	117.386	16	INDECK, The College Network, Merchant Services Ltd.
2	11 Connor De Phillippi	1:15.657	117.007	10	Mazdaspeed Motorsports, Skip Barber
3	38 Tristan Vautier	1:15.763	116.843	11	Moulin TP, Cecibon, Circuit du Laquais, Fontanel
4	17 Mikael Grenier	1:16.037	116.422	18	Slow Cow, April Super Flow, NAPA Auto Parts, HS Telecom, Desharnais
5	19 Caio Lara	1:16.160	116.234	16	MLD/ATW/Molecule
6	47 Anders Krohn	1:16.163	116.230	17	Norse Cutting and Abandonment, Trallfa Industries, Colosseum
7	66 Rusty Mitchell	1:16.255	116.089	16	Motorola, Petro Comm.
8	81 Nick Andries	1:16.371	115.913	19	Indy 500/ American Icon Team Pelfrey
9	16 David Ostella	1:16.636	115.512	12	GP Global Precast
10	9 Jorge Goncalvez	1:16.651	115.490	4	Wabash Capital Investments
11	85 Chris Miller	1:16.724	115.380	17	Miller Milling, Red Line Oil
12	18 Joao Horto	1:17.132	114.769	5	Wabash Capital Investments, BomBril - Programa LeiLoes
13	25 Tatiana Calderon	1:17.167	114.717	13	JAC Motors
14	28 Juan Piedrahita	1:17.308	114.508	19	Petrosur, GFK Motors
15	44 Zack Meyer	1:17.695	113.938	16	AIM
16	78 Mikhail Goikhberg	g 1:17.738	113.875	19	Chetverg Motorsport
17	55 Gerry Kraut	1:17.820	113.755	18	Dougherty and Co./Dougherty Funding LLC.
18	20 Carlos Linares	1:18.420	112.884	16	Instituto Nacional De Deportes
19	31 Carlos Conde	1:18.929	112.156	19	Pronto-GMT, Olympus Securities

Qualifying for the race takes place at 8:00 am Saturday, August 28, with the traditional Star Mazda F1style 'standing start' getting the green light at 1:15 pm Saturday afternoon.







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About Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear

For 2010, the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear will feature an 11-weekend, 13-race schedule, most on major race weekends with American Le Mans and the Indy Racing League. Rising stars from around the world will compete for prizes valued at \$1.5 million and benefit from two driver development programs, including the MAZDASPEED Motorsports Driver Development Ladder and the Indy Racing League's 'Road to Indy' program. Series alumni include Indy Car stars Marco Andretti, Graham Rahal and Raphael Matos, rising NASCAR drivers Michael McDowell, Scott Speed and Colin Braun and prototype racers Dane Cameron and Guy Cosmo. 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 more information on the Star Mazda Championship please visit <u>www.starmazda.com</u>.

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:

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