



GOODYEAR



MAZDASPEED
MOTORSPORTS DEVELOPMENT



-- SEEING YELLOW, AGAIN --

***FOR THE SECOND OVAL IN A ROW, NICK ANDRIES AND CONNOR DE PHILLIPPI
MAKE IT A TEAM PELFREY FRONT ROW FOR STAR MAZDA ROUND 4 AT MILWAUKEE***

The Milwaukee Mile (June 18, 2011) – It was in the opposite order last time, but for the second oval in a row, Team Pelfrey made it an all-Pelfrey front row for the start of tomorrow's Round 4



of the 2011 Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear. In today's qualifying, Florida racer Nick Andries -- who finished 2nd in Round 3 at the Night Before the 500 and turned the quickest time in practice yesterday -- put his #81 Team Pelfrey / Lithionics Battery / GS610 Brake Fluid / Trademark Garage Floors Mazda on the pole with a 27.269 (133.998 mph), just 2/100ths of a second off the official Star Mazda track record at Milwaukee, a 27.249 set by Adrian Carrio in 2006.

"I can't say I expected to win the pole because it's a very competitive field and you need to work at it every lap that you're on the track," said Andries. "That said, it wasn't a complete surprise; I was quickest yesterday and even though we struggled a little bit with the balance of the car this morning, Connor was the quickest so we had something to work from. The track is very grippy from all the IndyCar and Indy Lights rubber they've put down over the last two days, but it was hotter this afternoon than we'd seen before so it was a little greasy and it seemed like a couple of the guys might have been a bit looser. We're in the best position we can be going into the race, and since it's difficult to pass here, being in clean air with no traffic should help us open up a lead...

and then all we need to do is keep it."

Sitting next to him on the front row for the start of tomorrow's race will be his teammate, California driver Connor De Phillippi with a lap of 27.272 (133.479 mph) in the Team Pelfrey / Justice Brothers Products / Trademark Garage Floors Mazda. De Phillippi, 2009 Skip Barber Pro Series champion and 2010 Mazda Road to Indy scholarship driver, won the final race of the 2010 season and has won twice so far this year, in Round 1 at the Grand Prix of St. Petersburg and in Round 3 at the Night Before the 500 at Lucas Oil Raceway at Indianapolis.

And the pairing of top oval Star Mazda competitors expands to a quartet when you take into account that 2010 USF2000 champion and 2011 Mazda Road to Indy scholarship driver Sage Karam both qualified and finished 3rd at the Night Before the 500 – and will start third at Milwaukee with a lap of 27.375 (133.479 mph) in the #88 Andretti Autosport / MAZDASPEED / Comfort Revolution Mazda. Karam topped the times during Star Mazda testing at Milwaukee on Thursday and has been at the sharp end of the time sheets throughout. And founding out the fierce foursome is French racer Tristan Vautier, the current championship points leader who finished 4th at the Night Before the 500 and qualified on the outside of the second row today with a lap of 27.530 (132.728 mph) in his #5 JDC Motorsports / Cecibon / Circuit du Laquais Mazda.

Rounding out the top-5 is California racer Gustavo Menezes, a top international kart racer who made the jump directly to the Star Mazda Championship at the start of the 2011 season. He has been quick in practice and will start from the inside of the third row for tomorrow's race with a lap of 27.643 (132.185 mph) in the #28 Juncos Racing / Truecar / Safety Park Mazda.

The conditions for qualifying were hot and humid, with just a slight breeze blowing across the track from turn 3 to turn 4. Drivers expressed surprise that the track had 'rubbered up' quite as much as it did, and all were experiencing various levels of understeer (the desirable setup for an oval), which the exception of Karam, who set his time sprint-car style with an oversteering car.

The one-hour Round 4 of the 2011 Star Mazda Championship will take the green flag at 11am, Sunday, June 19. Round 6 at Iowa Speedway on June 25, will be the third of three ovals in a row for the Star Mazda Championship drivers and teams.

Pos No.	Name	Best Tm	Best Speed	In Lap	Diff	Gap	Sponsor
1	81 Nick Andries	27.269	133.998	1			Lithionics Battery / GS610 Brake Fluid / Trademark Garage Floors
2	11 Connor De Phillippi	27.272	133.984	2	0.003	0.003	Justice Brothers Products / Trademark Garage Floors
3	88 Sage Karam	27.375	133.479	2	0.106	0.103	MAZDASPEED / Comfort Revolution
4	5 Tristan Vautier	27.530	132.728	1	0.261	0.155	Cecibon, Circuit du Laquais, Fontanel
5	28 Gustavo Menezes	27.643	132.185	2	0.374	0.113	www.truecar.com / Truecar, Inc.
6	7 J.V. Horto	27.745	131.699	2	0.476	0.102	Programa LeiLoes
7	60 Martin Scuncio	27.754	131.657	1	0.485	0.009	Bia Comunicaciones / Cable Del Pacifico
8	10 Tatiana Calderon	27.863	131.142	2	0.594	0.109	JAC Motors
9	39 Joao Jardim	27.963	130.673	2	0.694	0.100	Shopping M
10	26 Jérimy Daniel	28.377	128.766	2	1.108	0.414	FixAuto / Sherwin-Williams
11	20 Carlos Linares	28.665	127.473	2	1.396	0.288	Mindeporte
12	27 Nick Mancuso	28.847	126.668	2	1.578	0.182	Jimmy Johns Sandwiches /Indeck / Lake Forest Sportscars



About Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear

For 2011, the Star Mazda Championship presented by Goodyear will be a major part of the Mazda Road to Indy and will feature a 10-weekend, 11-race schedule, all on major race weekends and most with IndyCar. Two weekends are with the American Le Mans series, and one is a double-header with Indy Lights. Rising stars from around the world will be watched by more than a million fans as they compete for prizes valued at \$1.5 million, including a scholarship to move up and race in the 2012 Firestone Indy Lights series. Drivers 16 and older are welcome to compete and the Star Mazda Championship also features the Expert Series for drivers 30 and older. The Star Mazda Championship features standing starts, wheel-to-wheel racing at 160 mph and budgets a fraction of other top open-wheel ladder series. For more information on the Star Mazda Championship please visit www.starmazda.com.

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

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