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BRUCE BINNQUIST MAKES FIRST START FOR GOSHEN MOTORSPORTS

Placentia, CA- With team driver Ryan Booth having to make a last minute scratch for the Star Mazda event at Miller Motorsports Park, the Goshen Motorsports Team was still scrambling Thursday morning to find a driver for the # 83 car. Team owner Bill Goshen contacted Bruce Binnquist, owner of BDI Development Company, and negotiated a ride for the weekend. The agreement had Bruce quickly gathering his racing gear and seated in his private plane flying out of Irvine, California.

Bruce was determined to make the Thursday afternoon session, so the crew had the car prepped and ready to go. With the afternoon practice already underway, Binnquist made one pass over the track's 3600 foot straightaway to announce his arrival and landed at the adjacent Tooele airport. Within minutes, Bruce was in the car and out on the track to take a few laps before practice ended. Bruce has raced in both the F-2000 and Formula TR series, so the team expected him to adjust to the car quickly through the two practices on Friday. By the end of the day, Bruce was able to record a very respectable fast lap of 1:49.477. Team engineer, Andy Tagg, said "I was pleasantly surprised with the quality of Bruce's feedback and understanding of the car."

Crew chief, Richie Hearn, and Bruce arrived at the track early Saturday morning to finish fitting him for a new seat. With only two practices under his belt, Bruce continued to improve during qualifying recording a time of 1:48.219 on lap 9 putting him in the next to last row for the race.

Lining up on the grid for the start of his first Star Mazda race the adrenaline had to be flowing, but it also had to be a very challenging feeling looking at 30 cars lined up ahead of him. The track was much slower than the morning qualifying, but Binnquist was able to record his fastest lap of the two days with a time of 1:47.603. Considering how little experience Bruce had in the car, it was an excellent performance culminating in a 23rd place finish out of the 33 car field.

As he climbed out of the car Bruce was quoted as saying "Dude, that was fantastic. This is the best handling car I have ever driven. I got a terrible start and came out of the Turn 1 in last, but began picking off some cars before the first caution came out. On the restart, I got a good run, but had to check up and 4 cars went past me. I was really angry with myself. After several laps, I decided I wasn't doing myself any favors and needed to get my emotions under control. I settled down and gradually got in a groove and started moving through the field. I am really happy with the finish and want to thank the Goshen Motorsports Team for giving me the opportunity for the ride."

Documents and/or Photos available for this release:

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