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Maxwell Paper Racing Has 'Magnificent Weekend' at Mid-Ohio

Lexington, OH -- August 11, 2010 -- MPR drivers Ross and Kendall Smith continued to dominate the competition as the Patrón GT3 Challenge Series tackled the legendary Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course on August 6th and 7th. Over the course of the weekend, the team collected two poles, two second place finishes, and one win.

Adding to the Maxwell Paper Racing paddock this weekend was the addition of their Mazda RX-8 World Challenge Touring Car, driven by Ryan Eversley, which dominated the World Challenge weekend by winning both Touring Car class races.

Ross Smith, the Platinum Cup points leader, began the weekend with a disappointing result in round nine of the GT3 Challenge Series. After capturing the pole and leading the first eight laps of the race, Smith drove off-track and surrendered the lead. Smith later retired from the race and finished fourteen laps behind the race winner.

"On lap eleven, we had a gearbox bobble going into turn two only to find myself soaring into the gravel trap. I couldn't believe this happened with me having the car to beat," said Ross Smith. "I felt as if I let the team down when our boys gave me a spectacular machine. It was now time to redeem myself in the following race on Saturday."

Ross Smith quickly rebounded from the last place finish in Friday's race by earning his second pole of the weekend. Smith led all thirty laps and claimed his seventh checkered flag of the season. The victory also guaranteed that he remain the points leader in the Platinum Cup Class.

"I can't thank the team enough for sticking it out by putting my gearbox together for the final race in Ohio. We really needed this win," said Smith about Saturday's victory.

In addition to Ross Smith's win in the Platinum Cup Class, MPR teammate and older brother, Kendall Smith had back-to-back second place finishes in the Gold Cup Class. Although Kendall was hoping to capture a victory at the famed 2.25 mile track, consistency paid off as his two runner-up finishes were sufficient to seize the Gold Cup points lead.

"I had the fastest car on track at the end of the race, just not enough time to make the pass for the lead," Kendall Smith said about his race Saturday. "However, second place was good enough points to take over championship lead in points and that's the ultimate goal at the end of the day."

The team's success last weekend was not limited to the Patrón GT3 Challenge Series. Ryan Eversley, typically spotting and coaching the Smith Bros., was also driving a MPR Mazda RX-8, and won both races in the World Challenge Touring Car Series.

Eversley had some positive words to share after the podium-filled weekend came to a close. "What an amazing weekend for MPR! Ross gets a win and two poles, while Kendall gets back to back 2nd place finishes! Both these guys have been great to work with and are getting stronger and stronger with each race! We are all pushing hard for the championships and having a blast doing it! On top of their success I was fortunate enough to drive the MPR Mazda RX-8 in World Challenge Touring Car and we won both races! I can't thank Rod, Kendall, Ross and everyone from Maxwell Paper enough for allowing me to race. If it wasn't for them none of this would've happened and I think by pulling off a double win I showed them just how grateful I am!!

"It was a magnificent weekend for Maxwell Paper Racing and a testament to the team's ability to prep winning sports cars," said Kendall Smith. "Maxwell Paper Racing prepped three different class cars in one weekend and put all three on the podium."

The team will be readying their stable for the next round of competition in the Patrón GT3 Challenge by Yokohama at Road America scheduled for August 20-22, 2010.

Maxwell Paper Racing has established itself as one of the nation's premiere road racing teams, with years of road racing and open wheel experience. Based out of the Motorsport Ranch in Cresson, Texas, Maxwell Paper Racing maintains a fleet of track ready race cars, while simultaneously competing in several professional racing series. 2010 has proven to be an excellent year for the team and their goal to achieve dual IMSA championships in the Platinum and Gold Classes of the Patrón GT3 Challenge by Yokohama series. Brothers Ross and Kendall headline the team, with Kendall taking double duty as manager. The team is committed to clean, smart racing and a love of the track.

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