



Michael Shank Racing Packs Mid-Ohio Momentum for Return to Daytona

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Quick hits:

Michael Shank Racing/Championship Standings:

- P3 (178 points) No. 60 Crown Royal XR Ford-Riley
- P6 (169 points) No. 6 Michael Shank Racing Ford-Dallara
- Brian Frisselle qualified 3rd and won 2009 Brumos event in Ford-Dallara
- Practice crash forced No. 6 to miss qualifying before Pew and Valiante rallied to P4 at finish (2009)
- Michael Shank Racing--Brumos 250/2009: No. 6 P4 (Pew+Valiante), No. 60 P6 (Negri+Patterson)
Tune in to the Brumos 250 on SPEED Saturday, July 3rd at 1:00 p.m. ET (**note change in programming time**)
- Rocky Fork joins No. 6 as associate sponsor for remainder of 2010 <http://www.michaelshankracing.com/news/index.cfm?cid=38301>
Negri drove in first-ever Daytona Prototype race--series celebrating 100th DP event this weekend
Negri and No. 60 Engineer Dave Kanning featured in Grand-Am video about driver cooling: <http://www.michaelshankracing.com/multimedia/video.cfm>

COLUMBUS, OH (30 June 2010)- Fresh from the team's best-ever race result at the home track with a run to second (No. 60 Crown Royal XR Ford-Riley) and fourth (No. 6 Michael Shank Racing Ford-Dallara) at the Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course, Michael Shank Racing is looking forward to round seven of the 2010 GRAND-AM Rolex Sports Car Series championship and the Brumos 250 at Daytona International Speedway on Saturday.

The team carries the Mid-Ohio momentum into the sprint race weekend as well as a history of speed at Daytona International Speedway.

"Mid-Ohio was huge for us, but we didn't spend long celebrating because the focus immediately switched

to Daytona,” said team owner Mike Shank. “I’m happy to have Rocky Fork join us as a sponsor and hopefully we can bring them some good results starting this weekend. We have a great opportunity right now and we want to kick the second half of the season off with a good finish for both cars on Saturday. We’ve had fast cars at Daytona with the Riley through the years, but it will be a new learning curve for us with the Dallara so we will just try to make the most of every lap we get to learn and improve with the car.”

John Pew and Ozz Negri will look for a third visit to the podium in the 2010 Rolex Sports Car Series season with the No. 60 Crown Royal XR Ford-Riley as the duo enter the race weekend third in the team championship standings, just ten points back from second and twenty-two behind the lead No. 01 entry.

The Crown Royal XR machine will be a car to watch as Pew has traditionally shown well at the track and has been riding a streak of strong qualifying performances, with co-driver Negri knowing his way around the track as the previous track record holder.

“Taking a podium at Mike Shank’s home track was a great experience to be a part of and I think it was even better given how much effort the team put into being there and ready to go with both cars,” said Pew. “The Crown Royal car was very fast when we were in Daytona for the 24, and this team has always been strong there. We had a great comeback drive in the July race last year so we know we can move through the field--hopefully we can qualify well and I can turn the car over to Ozz and we can fight to the finish.”

The sister No. 6 Ford-Dallara of Michael Valiante and Brian Frisselle target a strong follow up to their run to fourth at Mid-Ohio. Beyond just having a strong team behind them, the young duo pack the right credentials for the July Daytona event as Brian Frisselle is the defending race winner after his 2009 Daytona July event saw him post a run to third in qualifying with a Dallara-Ford on his way to the victory.

Frisselle’s co-driver Valiante also packs a lot of speed when preparing for the 3.56-mile circuit. Last year he posted a storming drive that earned the team another SunTrust “Improve Your Position” Award as he finished fourth after the car started from the back of the pack.

“I’m looking forward to getting back to Daytona and picking up where we left off at Mid-Ohio,” said Frisselle. “We struggled so much that weekend and then everything came together in the race, and now the guys have had a little bit of time with the car so hopefully we can get started on the right foot on Friday. I have a lot of confidence in this team and coming back to a track where you have won before is also a great boost so I am very excited about getting down there and getting to work.”

While the schedule is not the same one-day format as has traditionally been the case, it is still an intense schedule with Friday morning hosting two practice sessions ahead of the 11:15 AM ET qualifying session. The team will have the opportunity to confirm final set-up analysis with a 9:45 AM final practice session ahead of the 11:00 AM race start.

SPEED will bring coverage of the event starting at 1:00 PM ET.

Source: www.michaelshankracing.com

www.sundaymanagement.com



About Michael Shank Racing:

Based in Columbus, Ohio, Michael Shank Racing was formed in 1989 when Mike Shank first began driving racing cars professionally. Shank retired from the cockpit in 1997 to focus his efforts on running the team, which quickly found success in the Champ Car Toyota Atlantic Championship. With several race wins under his belt, Shank was named as Team Owner of the Year twice in four years. Michael Shank Racing joined the Rolex Sports Car Series in 2004 as the team proved as quick in endurance racing as in the sprint formula car format. Michael Shank Racing scored a debut Rolex Series win in 2006 at Miller Motorsports Park, and fans selected the victory as the 2007 Rolex "Moment of the Year." After opening the 2008 season with a front-row sweep of the Rolex 24 At Daytona, the team closed out the year taking wins in the final two races of the year.



About Crown Royal Canadian Whisky:

Crown Royal Canadian whisky is the number one selling Canadian whisky brand in the US by value and has a tradition as long and distinctive as its taste. Specially blended to commemorate a grand tour of Canada made by King George VI and Queen Elizabeth of Great Britain in 1939, Crown Royal Canadian whisky's smooth, elegant style reflects its aristocratic origins and is considered the epitome of Canadian whisky.

For more information visit www.crownroyal.com.

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About Diageo:

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