

Newman/Haas/Lanigan Racing
Detroit Indy Grand Prix Presented by Firestone – The Raceway at Belle Isle
QUALIFYING NOTES/QUOTES – Saturday, August 30, 2008

McDONALD’S DRIVER WILSON TO START FOURTH IN THE DETROIT INDY
GRAND PRIX PRESENTED BY FIRESTONE; HOLE IN THE WALL CAMPS DRIVER
RAHAL TO START SIXTH

POLE: Scott Dixon 1:12.2861 / 103.090 mph
4th: Justin Wilson 1:13.0530 / 102.008 mph
6th: Graham Rahal 1:13.6464 / 101.186 mph

Justin Wilson, No. 02 McDonald’s Dallara/Honda/Firestone: “In the first qualifying session there were quite a lot of yellows and I just never got a lap time in. Finally I got one lap at the end and managed to put it in the lap time to be sixth and get the McDonald’s car into the next (session with) 12. It was a pretty stressful event but we got through that and into the next session. Then we made it into the final six and the McDonalds car was working well. I was really pleased and I was going into the final six hoping the McDonald’s car was going to be good enough for pole but Scott (Dixon) stepped it up and I couldn’t quite get my car to hook up. I couldn’t feel the limit, the bite. I wasn’t happy with my lap in the final stretch but we just have to make the most of it now and look forward to the race and make a good race car to try and hopefully finish on the podium with the McDonald’s team.”

- **FAST FACTS:** Progressed to Round 3 of qualifying for the fifth of six possible times...Will be his first race here and 13th on a new track this season of 16...His highest start on a road/street course this season is pole in the Long Beach Champ Car finale. On road/street course in the IndyCar series, he has started 3rd (St. Pete), 2nd (Watkins Glen), 4th (Mid-Ohio), 6th (Edmonton; brushed wall in Q2) and 7th (Sonoma) and his highest finish is 3rd in Edmonton...Is ranked 16th in the point standings with 271...Finished runner up in the Champ Car championship to the driver he recently replaced, four-time champion Sebastien Bourdais, in 2006 and 2007. Was a title contender until the conclusion of the penultimate race of each season...Highest start this season is pole on the streets of Long Beach and his highest finish is third on the street course in Edmonton.

Graham Rahal, No. 06 Hole in the Wall Camps Dallara/Honda/Firestone: “Overall I think it was a pretty good day for us. It was my first time in the Firestone Fast Six so we’re pretty happy about that. I think we, as a team, we felt this was a great opportunity for us to be competitive. Obviously in St. Pete Justin and myself were pretty quick so we felt that being back on a street course would play into our hands and certainly today kind of proved that. It was a bit of a trying weekend up to this point. We started out okay. Yesterday morning the car was pretty good and it just seemed like we could never quite get back to that point. Today my car was really good, especially in the second round of qualifying and we were able to put a pretty quick lap time in but unfortunately could never match it again. At the end of the day we came up a little short in the Firestone Fast Six but we are definitely happy to be there! It’s difficult to pass so we knew that qualifying would be important.”

- **FAST FACTS:** Progressed to Round 3 of qualifying for the first time this season to earn his highest starting position on a road/street course this season and highest since he started fourth in Elkhart Lake, Round 10 of 14 in the 2007 Champ Car season...Will be his first race here and 12th on a new track this season of 16...Highest start on a road/street course this season is eighth

in Edmonton and highest finish is his win in his IndyCar Series debut in St. Pete. His highest start in his one season in Champ Car was fourth, three times and his highest finish was second in Houston seventh event this season on a road/street course after he won in St. Pete (April 6), finishing 13th in Long Beach, eighth in Watkins Glen, 16th in Mid-Ohio, 26th in Edmonton after being hit twice and eighth in Sonoma...In his IndyCar Series debut on a road/street course he became the youngest winner in major open-wheel racing in North America after winning in St. Pete on 4-6-08 at 19 years, 93 days old...He is ranked 18th in series points with 259 points...His highest start this season is second on the one-mile oval in Milwaukee where he narrowly lost becoming the youngest pole winner in series history to Marco Andretti. His highest oval finish is 10th place on the .894 mile oval at Iowa Speedway.

- **NHLR IN DETROIT:** This will be the team's 14th event here and first since 2001 (1989 – 2001). They have earned TWO WINS (Michael Andretti 1996, 1990), SIX POLES (Mansell 1994, 1993; Mi. Andretti 1989-1992), and SIX PODIUM finishes (2nd – Mi. Andretti 1997, C. Fittipaldi 1996; 3rd – Mario Andretti 1993, 1989). Of their 106 wins, 79 have come on road/street courses while 89 of their 107 poles have also come on this type of track.