

**Newman/Haas/Lanigan Racing**  
**Meijer Indy 300 – Kentucky Speedway**  
**RACE NOTES/QUOTES – Saturday, August 9, 2008**

**McDONALD'S® DRIVER WILSON AND HOLE IN THE WALL CAMPS DRIVER RAHAL**  
**BOTH RETIRE WITH GEARBOX RELATED PROBLEMS IN THE MEIJER INDY 300**

24th: Wilson (completed 82 / 200 laps)

25th: Rahal (completed 28 / 200 laps)

**Justin Wilson, No. 02 McDonald's Dallara/Honda/Firestone:** "It was a tough race for the McDonald's team. I was held up at the start by the guy in front of me (Manning). He couldn't make his mind up on if he wanted to go on the green flag or if he wanted the bottom lane or the high lane. I think I was about second to last by the time I came out of the back straight. It was a frustrating start but then we just picked them off one by one and worked our way back up. I saw that Graham got a great start and I was five or six places behind him. I was feeling comfortable and was catching the pack but then I saw Graham have his problem and I didn't know what had happened. About 10 or 15 laps later I couldn't keep up with the pack I had caught and I was slowly dropping back. I guess that was the first sign but I didn't realize it at the time. I was hoping that everyone else had picked up some speed but we were actually getting slower. Eventually we were coming into the pits on the yellow and I was in Turn 2 and downshifted from sixth to fifth and got neutral and couldn't get a gear after that and that was the end. The team had to come get me at pit in and push me back to the pits to figure out what had gone wrong. I'm obviously looking forward to the next road course race."

**FAST FACTS:** Was his first race here, ninth on an oval this season and 14th on an oval in his career...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 seventh on the one-mile oval in Milwaukee and ¾ mile track in Richmond.

**Graham Rahal, No. 06 Hole in the Wall Camps Dallara/Honda/Firestone:** "To have this happen is unfortunate because we had a great car. We went from 20<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> I think. The car was really good and I was moving forward but we kept losing drive. We keep shearing the teeth off of fifth gear for some reason and can't figure out why. We had to problem and went behind the wall to try to fix it and got back out but lost fifth gear a second time. We moved up so quickly and surprised ourselves. I felt very racy. It's unfortunate but it's all part of the learning process. On the other ovals I felt I was overly caution so this time I thought 'Well, I've got to go for it.' I ran the high line for the first 10 laps of the race and I think I got up to 12<sup>th</sup> or so. I was going around the outside of Oriol when I started having problems. Later on the restart I got by a couple of cars and felt pretty good about how the race was going but unfortunately it didn't last."

- **FAST FACTS:** Was his first race here and 10th on a new track this season of 14 races...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...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 AT KENTUCKY SPEEDWAY:** Was Newman/Haas/Lanigan Racing's first race here.