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WILD RACES, WILD WEATHER CAN'T STOP NGT MOTORSPORT AT UTAH

TOOELE, UT (May 1, 2011) – Not even an afternoon of snow flurries could slow NGT Motorsport teammates Henrique and Eduardo Cisneros in Rounds 3 and 4 of the IMSA GT3 Cup Challenge by Yokohama at Miller Motorsports Park in Utah, as the brothers earned podium finishes in both events, pole positions for Race 2 and fastest Race Lap Record for Henrique. Add to that a spectacular drive for Carlos Kauffman from 17th starting position to a third place finish in the first race, and it was another successful race weekend for the six-car Miami team.

With qualifying cancelled due to snow on Friday afternoon, the drivers started Round 3 with times from the two practice sessions. Henrique Cisneros started third in Platinum Cup class, with Eduardo Cisneros starting second in Gold Cup – but Kauffmann found himself starting 17th in Platinum Cup and overall in the 34-car field. Refusing to give up, Kauffman, driving the #24 NGT Motorsport Porsche 911 GT3 Cup car, avoided a first turn melee that took out three cars and carved his way forward throughout the 21-lap event. When the checkered flag flew, he had picked off enough positions to earn a podium finish and the Yokohama Hard Charger award.

“I didn’t know how today would go but I told myself, I’m starting from the back, let’s have some fun,” said Kauffmann. “And as always, I had a lot of fun! It was incredible – to finish on the podium is very gratifying!”

Henrique Cisneros started his #26 NGT Motorsport Porsche third behind Tim McKenzie and GTC competitor Brian Wong. With a sizable lead in the championship, Cisneros was determined to move forward but stay out of trouble. He got around Wong but could not make his way past McKenzie.

“So close, and yet so far!” sighed Cisneros. “I had (team owner) Ramez Wahab in my ear the whole time, reminding me not to do anything stupid. I did two or three moves trying to get around Tim, but it was an awesome race. We’re going for the championship – we have a great car this year, but the competition is even stronger than last year, so it will be interesting!”

For Eduardo Cisneros, driving the #29 NGT Porsche in the Gold Cup class, the story of the weekend were his battles with 15 year old Madison Snow. For Snow, who grew up near the Tooele track, local knowledge was hard to beat; Cisneros started second and couldn’t get around the youngster.

“I had a bad start and three or four Platinum Cup cars got between me and Madison,” explained Cisneros. “It was very tough for me to catch up, so I just ran a smooth and consistent race and was able to finish where I started.”

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Rounding out the NGT contingent were Ludovico Manfredi (#27) and Andres Cisneros (#25) finishing seventh and eighth, respectively, in Gold Cup, and Ray Arthur (#28) finishing 19th in Platinum Cup class.

Round 4 was a wild, 24-lap, caution-free event marked by multiple lead and position changes. Just like Sebring, it was a Cisneros brother pole sweep, with Henrique taking the Platinum Cup pole and Eduardo earning the top starting spot in Gold Cup. Kauffmann started fourth but with several brilliant moves, took the lead by the end of the first lap. However, the excitement didn't last, as several off course excursions resulted in a broken splitter that put him back in ninth spot.

But for both Cisneros brothers, the day was filled with dicing back and forth, with Henrique losing the Platinum Cup lead to his teammate, then gaining it back, only to have Tim McKenzie, who started second, get around him on lap 16 for the victory.

"The race was crazy!" said Cisneros. "A lot of lead changes. Carlos made a great move from fourth into first but made a mistake and went off track so I was able to take first. I had McKenzie on me the whole time – he pulled a beautiful move on me and got the position. I was in second but on the last lap, I wasn't protecting myself as well as I should have and Brian Wong made a great move to get around me. But I learned a lot in this race and will put this in the bag for the next race. I won't let it happen again."

Eduardo Cisneros earned his second pole position in the Gold Cup class, only to have the surging Madison Snow come inside at the end of lap 10 and make the pass going into turn one. Cisneros then had Glen Gatlin to contend with – Gatlin got around Cisneros, but Eduardo was able to take the position back.

"There were a couple of cars between me and Madison early," said Cisneros. "But he caught up and managed to squeeze by me. I couldn't catch back up, he really did a great job. I had a great battle with Glen and he got by me late, but I managed to back around before the finish. It was a great race."

Manfredi and Andres Cisneros finished eighth and ninth, respectively, in Gold Cup, while Ray Arthur finished 22nd in the Platinum Cup class.

NGT Motorsport will be on the track again next month, as the IMSA GT3 Cup Challenge by Yokohama competes as part of the Formula One Grand Prix du Canada weekend at the famed Circuit Gilles Villeneuve on the Île de Notre-Dame in Montreal, June 10-12. To see all the results for NGT Motorsport and for more information on the team, visit <http://www.ngtmotorsport.com/>.

