

**Will & Penske OverPOWER Alabama
Gran Prix at Barber Motorsports
Park—Sunday—April 10, 2011**

Aussie Will Power stormed from the pole and led every lap of the IZOD IndyCar Honda Grand Prix of Alabama capturing Team Penske's first win of the season. Scott Dixon, Dario Franchitti, and Marco Andretti followed him to the checkered.

This was Team Penske's second win at Barber Motorsports Park in as many seasons. Helio Castroneves won last year's inaugural event at the beautiful 2.38-mile road course.

Power—who became the first IZOD IndyCar driver to lead wire-to-wire since Franchitti at Sonoma in 2009—said after the race, "It was one of the most relaxing races I've ever had. I was just really cruising."

Danica Patrick had a disappointing 17th place finish to her day. In the latter stages of the race, after she had driven her GoDaddy.com sponsored ride into seventh place from a 22nd starting position, her crew decided on a fuel only stop (meaning no new tires). This strategy had Danica out of the pits in third; however, it did not pay off

in the long run as she was passed "early and often" after the restart by drivers on fresh tires.

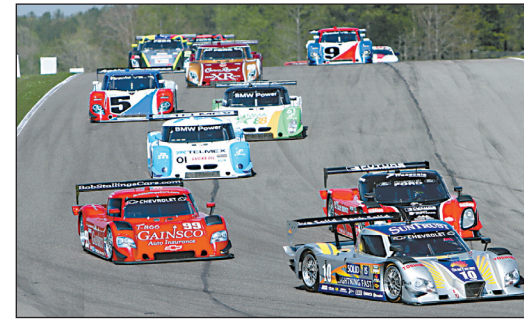
"This is a frustrating way to finish what had been a decent race for us. We had a good car to start the race and our [early] strategy helped put us in a good position for the finish. And then we decided to gamble on our last stop," Danica commenting on the no tires decision.

Victor Garcia earned his first career Firestone Indy Lights Series win in a close race as he held off Stefan Wilson by less than one-second at the line. The pair managed to drive away from the field in "a race-long duel" on their way to an exciting one-two finish.

This was Garcia's second start in the Indy Lights racing series. He started from the pole and led every circuit of the 40-lap event.

Friends, this was a fantastic day—weekend—of racing! Beautiful Barber!

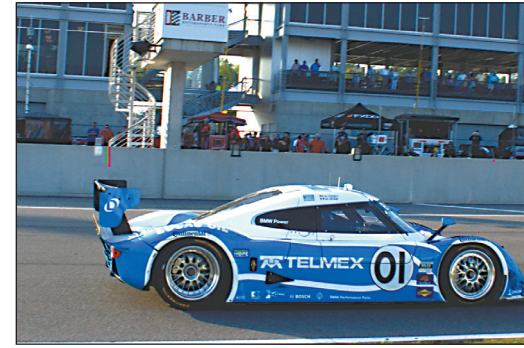
"Have you ever been on vacation or visited a place so stunning or picturesque, that it's almost impossible to take a bad photo? Not to take away from the work of our professional photographers that work in the IZOD IndyCar Series, but at Barber Motorsports Park, I really do think



it's hard to take a bad photo. It's beautiful, with rolling hills, a manicured landscape, a museum, and a scattering of art installations." (A quote from the IRL blog.)

Race fans, if you missed this year's IndyCar weekend at BMP—make sure you are there next year—it is an awesome experience!

-Rocky Sinyard



**Pruett / Rojas - Auberlen / Lana -
Foster / Maxwell - Galati / Jonsson
Barber Motorsports Park
Saturday—April 9, 2011**

Scott Pruett and Memo Rojas captured their record setting sixth straight Daytona Prototype victory as they grabbed the checkered for the Grand Am Rolex Series Porsche 250 at Barber Motorsports Park.

Pruett and Rojas, the fantastic duo in charge of wheeling the BMW Riley prototype sled for car owners Chip Ganassi and Felix Sabates, are the defending champions of the DP class. They also picked up wins at BMP in 2008 and 2010.

Ganassi has been very successful with the Rolex Daytona Prototypes—scoring 12 wins in the last 14 races. And stats show that the winners of the last six races at BMP have gone on to win the series championship. Perhaps there is another title in this team's future.

An underlying story on this day was the strong run by the Spirit of Daytona. After capturing the first pole of his DP career—and the first pole position for the Spirit of Daytona and its Earnhardt-Childress powered Coyote Chassis—Antonio Garcia blasted into a dominating lead early in the DP event.

The Spirit of Daytona occupied the first position for 50 laps of the 104-lap event—and then, after Garcia swapped the seat with co-driver Paul Edwards with an hour to go—a mechanical misfire resulted in an unsatisfactory

ninth place finish.

Boris Said was the hero of the day in the Rolex GT class. He took the Marsh Racing Corvette from worst-to-first (last in the starting grid to the lead) in 34 laps. However, the Chevy suffered a drive-train failure in the last hour after a driver exchange with teammate Eric Curran.

The hard luck for the Whelen Corvette put Bill Auberlen and the Turner Motorsport BMW M3 in the lead. He went on from that point to grab the checkered. Paul Dalla Lana was the co-driver for this ride as the pair earned their second straight win of the season.

In the Grand Am Continental Tire Sports Car Challenge Series (CTSCC), drivers Joe Foster and Scott Maxwell piloted a Ford Mustang Boss 302R in the GT win. The Boss 302R reappeared this year at Daytona after more than forty years away from competition.

The winning Multimatic Motorsports Ford displays the same color scheme as the original Boss 302R—which was driven to the 1970 SCCA Trans-Am championship by the famous Parnelli Jones.

In the Continental Tire ST class—it was a historic weekend for Kia Motors as Michael Galati and Nic Jonsson co-drove the Infinity Audio Kia Forte Koup—in front of a home crowd—to the company's first-ever racing victory!

Reports claim that a large group of Kia dealers and "team members" from Kia Motors Manufacturing Georgia (KMMG) were on hand at BMP to witness this significant victory. This was the race team's third event in their second year!



"After starting the year with two top 10 results and our first podium finish, we arrived at Barber Motorsports Park with high expectations and our sights set on earning Kia's first-ever victory," said Michael Sprague, vice president, marketing & communications at Kia Motors America. "With the proximity to KMMG, the Barber race was a bit of a homecoming for us, and the efforts of Michael, Nic and the entire Kinetic Motorsports crew led to this tremendous milestone. Notching our first win with a large number of Kia team members and dealers cheering us on made the result even more memorable."

*-Rocky Sinyard
Photos by MSA Staff*

