



For Immediate Release:

Reigning Rookie Champion Rejoins PRI Motorsports for Full Pacific F2000 Campaign

Buttonwillow, Calif. (January 27, 2010) – Reigning Pacific F2000 Rookie of the Year David Cheng has confirmed he will return to the series in 2010, and has his sights set firmly on winning the championship.

“My long-term goal is pretty simple,” said the Chinese-American driver. “I want to make a career as a race car driver and I think Pacific F2000 is the perfect launching pad for me. I don’t want to just win, but to fight for the championship and learn from that experience.”

Cheng, 20, who was born in Beijing and now lives in Sammamish, Wash., will remain with Bobby Oergel’s Fresno, Calif.-based PRI Motorsports team, with which he contested six races in 2009. His best finishes were a pair of fifth-place runs at Infineon Raceway and Las Vegas Motor Speedway.

“David has progressed very well over the last few months,” said Oergel, who has guided Brad Jaeger, Mike Forest, Patrick Barrett and Jeff Westphal to Pacific F2000 Championship titles over the past six seasons. “He is very devoted to his future in racing and will be fighting for wins here soon.

“PRI has been racing the F2000 category for 10 years now,” Oergel continued, “and we have campaigned a program in the Pacific F2000 series since its inception in 2004. I feel the Pacific series offers the best value for money out there in terms of how much drivers can learn and the cost it takes in order to be competitive.”

Cheng began his racing career three years ago in karting and also competed in some autocross events before enrolling at the Skip Barber Racing School. He finished seventh in the 2008 Skip Barber Western Regional Championship, and last year earned three second-place finishes and one fastest lap from four Skip Barber Western Regional Championship races. He also placed fifth overall in the Skip Barber Eastern Regional Championship with three podiums, one pole and four fastest race laps, in addition to his initial foray into Pacific F2000.

“After racing the latter half of the 2009 season in Pacific F2000, I knew this was where I wanted to be,” Cheng said. “It was the right move to make after racing and learning in two seasons of the Skip Barber Regional Series.

“I feel like the Pacific F2000 series has the best ‘bang for the buck.’ The car is thrilling to drive but demands absolute perfection to go fast, so it will make me a much better driver. I also enjoy the atmosphere of our race weekends. Everyone is very competitive, but at the same time there is a friendly and fun environment.”

F2000 originated in England in 1974 and has helped spawn the careers of many of the sport’s top names, including Formula 1 World Champions Ayrton Senna and Damon Hill. It has been equally productive in North America, producing such alumni as Sam Hornish Jr., Buddy Rice, Paul Tracy, Jimmy Vasser and Dan Wheldon. Graduates of Pacific F2000 since its inception in 2004 include 2009 Camping World NASCAR West Series Jason Bowles; 2009 Firestone Indy Lights Champion J.R. Hildebrand, fellow Team USA Scholarship winners Joel Miller, Dane Cameron and Patrick Barrett; and emerging sports car talents Brad Jaeger, Mike Forest, Thomas Merrill and Jeff Westphal.

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