



8-26-2006

## **Klein Finishes Fourth in First Race at Infineon, Closes Gap in Championship**

Jonathan Klein closed the gap to his teammate and Indy Pro Series points leader Jay Howard with a fourth-place finish in Saturday's opening round of a two-race "doubleheader" on the Infineon Raceway road course. Klein's result, coupled with a 10<sup>th</sup> place finish for Howard, moves the 19-year-old rookie to within 13 points of Howard in the fight for the series title.

Starting third, Klein was caught on the outside in the run to the uphill, right-hand Turn 2, and lost one position to Nick Bussell. The twisting 2.26-mile Infineon layout makes passing difficult in the best of conditions, and today's 30-lap race was broken up by three caution flags. As a result, Klein was unable to regain third, but still made up almost half the points gap to Howard when the championship leader was tapped into a spin by Bobby Wilson on Lap 11, falling a lap off the pace and finishing 10<sup>th</sup> as a result.

Sunday's 30-lap race, the penultimate round in the 12-race IPS championship, starts at 1:20 p.m. (EDT). Television coverage of the two races will be broadcast at 2 p.m. (EDT) Thursday, Aug. 31 on ESPN2.

### **Jonathan Klein, #27 Klein Tools/Turn-Key Forging & Design Dallara/Firestone Qualified 3<sup>rd</sup>, Finished 4<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> in championship, 13 points behind Jay Howard Will Start 3<sup>rd</sup> in Sunday's race**

"It was good that we got another top-five finish in the Klein Tools/Turn-Key Forging and Design car. It would have been nice to keep that top-three streak going, but we just didn't have the speed today, which is unfortunate. We've had the speed all week and have been among the top three, but it just didn't quite work out that way. The good thing is we did close in a bit on the leader and we'll just go out there and try to do the same thing tomorrow."

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