



For Immediate Release
www.andrettigreen.com

9-9-2006

Klein Finishes Second at Chicagoland Finale Comes Up Just Short in Championship Chase

It was a case of “almost, but not quite enough” for Jonathan Klein, as the standout Indy Pro Series rookie finished second to Wade Cunningham by just six-tenths of a second Saturday in the season finale at Chicagoland Speedway.

As a result, the 19-year-old finished second in the season championship to teammate Jay Howard. Finishing third, Howard clinched the title by the narrow margin of just four points. A win for Klein in today’s race would have swung the title to him.

It was a thrilling 67-lap contest, with the three leaders and title contenders swapping the lead repeatedly as part of an 11-car front-running pack. A late yellow on Lap 62 set up a last-lap shootout, with Cunningham edging out to take the checkered and all three finishing sixth-four hundredths of a second of one another.

Jonathan Klein, #27 Klein Tools/Turn-Key Forging & Design Dallara/Firestone Started 4th, Finished 3rd, 2nd in championship, 4 points behind Jay Howard

"It's sad, you know? I wanted that championship more than anyone. We did what we could, I don't know what else to say. Jay [Howard] had a heck of a season, he and I were both very consistent all year long. But he had the benefit of two victories to none for me, and there you go. I know we had a good year, it's just upsetting right now. But I'm a rookie and we finished second in the championship. That's got to mean something. Hopefully, we'll get a chance to come back next year and finish it off."

###

