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Klein Qualifies Ninth for Indy Road Course Liberty Challenge

Jonathan Klein ended up ninth Friday in qualifying action at Indianapolis Motor Speedway for Saturday's Liberty Challenge. Early in qualifying Klein appeared headed for a start in the first three rows, running as high as fifth in the overall order before slipping down to ninth in the closing minutes.

Running on the Indianapolis road course as a support event to the Formula One U.S. Grand Prix, Indy Pro Series drivers and teams had only two on-track sessions today, a 35-minute practice, followed by a single, 45-minute qualifying session to set the grid for Saturday's 25-lap race.

Klein ran ninth in the morning practice, and the 19-year-old series rookie improved as qualifying got underway, running in the top five early in the session, and holding sixth overall through its middle stages. But several drivers made big improvements in the closing minutes of qualifying, dropping Klein to ninth in the final order.

Jonathan Klein, #27 Klein Tools/Turn-Key Forging & Design Dallara/Firestone

"Obviously this is not the result we wanted for our only qualifying session this weekend. We ran as high as fifth and sixth during the session, which is the best we've done all season in dry conditions. We kept making improvements to the car and it was getting better, but unfortunately so did every other car down in pit lane. I know that we have a good car for the race. It's very consistent, which is going to be important for the race and it's consistently quick, too. That's going to be key; having a consistently quick car since we don't have the opportunity to make changes to the car during the race. If we don't make any mistakes, and have some attrition go our way, then we will have a very good result."

