

MENARD TO START THE NO. 27 CHEVROLET IMPALA FROM THE FRONT ROW IN FIRST DUEL 150 AT DAYTONA

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. February 14, 2010 - Richard Childress Racing's Paul Menard and the No. 27 Menards team lined up Sunday afternoon for time trials at Daytona International Speedway. The front row for the Daytona 500 is determined by the fastest two cars from the qualifying session. Menard turned in a 48.538-second lap around the 2.5-mile Daytona Beach-based superspeedway, making him the fourth-quickest car at 185.422 mph. He will start from the second position in the first of two Duel 150 races on Thursday, February 17. The races will determine the starting lineup for the 53rd running of the "Great American Race."

"This team has worked really hard during the off-season and we are so prepared to start the year," said Menard. "The Peak Chevrolet felt great during today's qualifying. I was hoping we'd hold onto a spot on the front row, but starting up front in the Duel on Thursday is a great place to be."

Saturday afternoon NASCAR Sprint Cup Series team practiced for the Daytona 500. Menard turned was third fastest in the first practice session and fifth on the speed charts during the second.

Teams return to the track for additional practice on Wednesday, February 16.