

Press Information

Sebring, 14 March 2001

Audi quartet in front at Sebring

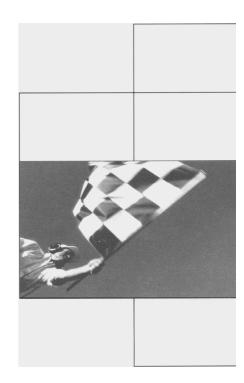
The first qualifying session for the famous 12 Hours of Sebring could have hardly been better for Audi: Under the sun of Florida and temperatures of 31 degrees celsius, Emanuele Pirro and Rinaldo Capello set the fastest times with the Team Audi Sport North America's two Infineon Audi R8s. Recording the 3rd and 4th fastest times, the two Audi customer teams Champion and Johansson proved, that last year's R8 is still fully competitive in the American Le Mans Series (ALMS).

The final qualifying session at Sebring is scheduled for Thursday 3.05 p.m. local time, the race starts on Saturday at 10.40 a.m.

Quotes after first qualifying

Emanuele Pirro (#2): "I am really happy. So far it has been a very good weekend for us. All three of us have done very good lap times. We were fastest in almost every session. We just have to keep on going this way."

Rinaldo Capello (#1): "I did not know how much I could push on new tires because I could not try this before. When I felt I could push more, it was already too late, because with temperatures like this you have to give 100 percent at the first lap. There is no way to improve your time in the second lap."



Results

1. Biela/Kristensen/Pirro (Infineon Audi R8)	1m 49.110s
2. Aiello/Alboreto/Capello (Infineon Audi R8)	1m 49.477s
3. Kelleners/Schroeder/Wallace (Audi R8)	1m 49.973s
4. Johansson/Smith (Audi R8)	1m 50.949s
5. Magnussen/Brabham (Panoz)	1m 53.461s
6. Weaver/Leitzinger/Forbes-R. (Riley&Scott)	1m 53.852s
7. Field/Dayton/Sutherland (Lola-Judd)	1m 54.872s
8. Bourdais/Boullion/Redon (Courage-Peugeot) 1m 55.849s	
9. Fellows/Kneifel/O'Connell (Chevrolet)	2m 00.444s
10. Konrad/Borcheller/Slater (Saleen)	2m 00.552s

Find updated photos on the internet: www.audi-sportpress.com (password required)

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