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## **SPORTAGE WINS FOURTH STRAIGHT SCORE CHAMPIONSHIP**

### **Darren Skilton Races His Kia to Victory in Baja 2000**

**CABO SAN LUCAS, Mexico, Nov. 14, 2000** - By driving a Kia Sportage to a Class 3 victory today in the once-in-a-lifetime Baja 2000 desert race, Darren Skilton not only holds a distinction for the ages but also will hold a SCORE Desert Series class championship trophy for the fourth year in a row.

Skilton completed the grueling 1,726-mile course in 49 hours 16 minutes and 39 seconds, besting a field that included his father, Clive, who placed second, nearly two hours behind. The Sportage triumphed over other Class 3 competitors such as Ford Bronco II, Jeep Grand Cherokee, Mitsubishi Montero and Chevy Blazer. This class championship marks the fourth title in as many tries for Skilton and the Kia Sportage.

“We came here focused on winning a championship and we did,” Skilton said. “But I won’t kid you and say that winning the race wasn’t important; it was very important! All the team members can now say they were part of a Baja 2000 victory – the only Baja 2000 that will ever be run.”

Skilton, 33, from Long Beach, Calif., began his racing career navigating for off-road champion Don Adams in the Baja 1000.

“Racing is what I do and wining is an incredible feeling,” Skilton said. “I’ve loved desert racing since my days navigating for Don. This win will stay with me forever.” Kia Motors America is the U.S. sales, marketing and service arm of Kia Motors Corp. in Seoul, South Korea.

### Total U.S. Sales of Kia Vehicles

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
<b>January</b>	605	1,227	1,508	2,624	7,197	9,461
<b>February</b>	626	1,053	1,887	2,529	6,196	6,703
<b>March</b>	638	1,309	2,197	3,093	6,082	11,400
<b>April</b>	714	1,256	2,300	3,541	5,530	10,606
<b>May</b>	1,010	1,907	3,481	4,917	6,301	12,795
<b>June</b>	1,053	1,665	4,401	3,992	9,215	13,593
<b>July</b>	1,106	2,662	3,241	5,024	10,095	13,136
<b>August</b>	1,368	2,881	4,229	6,321	8,016	13,138
<b>September</b>	1,528	2,729	3,780	7,123	7,355	11,846
<b>October</b>	1,207	2,437	3,780	5,913	8,634	10,641
<b>November</b>	1,156	2,640	3,174	5,317	4,730	11,820
<b>December</b>	1,152	2,974	2,279	4,931	3,542	9,455
<b>Total</b>	12,163	24,740	36,274	55,325	82,893	134,594

Kia sells its [Sephia](#) compact sedan, [Sportage](#) sport-utility vehicle and [Sportage 2-Door Convertible](#) at more than 570 dealerships in 49 states.