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Patrick to Start 23rd at Surfers Paradise in Motorola Car

SURFERS PARADISE, Australia (Oct. 25, 2008) – Danica Patrick will start the Motorola car from the 23rd position for Sunday’s Nikon Indy 300. Patrick’s car spun out during the first lap of qualifying which forced her into a back-row starting position.

Live coverage of the non-points paying race will be provided by ESPN Classic. Coverage begins on Saturday, Oct. 25, at 10:30 p.m. (EDT).

Danica Patrick, #7 Motorola Dallara/Honda/Firestone:

“I was really hoping to get a strong qualifying run for the Motorola car today, but as soon as we went out the rain came and I spun out on the first lap. I was hoping that I would be able to come in and get rain tires and get back out, but my car stalled so we lost quite a bit of time. Long story short, I was unable to get a full lap completed so I’m starting 23rd. I’m disappointed that this happened, but tomorrow is a long race and hopefully luck will be on our side.”

Nikon Indy 300 Qualifying Results						
Pos	Name	MPH		Pos	Name	MPH
1	Will Power	105.977		2	Scott Dixon	105.067
3	Ryan Briscoe	105.031		4	Dario Franchitti	104.885
5	Ryan Hunter-Reay	104.374		6	Helio Castroneves	104.008
6	Alex Tagliani	99.317		8	Tony Kanaan	99.229
9	Justin Wilson	98.606		10	EJ Viso	97.767
11	Vitor Meira	96.440		12	Mario Moraes	90.238
13	Graham Rahal	87.030		14	Marco Andretti	89.672
15	Oriol Servia	86.994		16	Hideki Mutoh	88.781
17	Bruno Junqueira	85.258		18	Dan Wheldon	88.328
19	Ed Carpenter	84.721		20	Jamie Camara	88.223
21	Townsend Bell	84.607		22	Buddy Rice	87.994
23	Danica Patrick	No Speed		24	AJ Foyt IV	No Speed

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Kanaan Qualifies Eighth at Surfers Paradise in Team 7-Eleven Car

SURFERS PARADISE, Australia (Oct. 25, 2008) – Tony Kanaan qualified the Team 7-Eleven car eighth for Sunday’s running of the Nikon Indy 300. Kanaan posted a best-lap speed of 99.229 miles per hour in the second session of the Firestone Fast Six Shootout.

ESPN Classic will provide live coverage of the event on Saturday, Oct. 25. Coverage begins at 10:30 p.m. (EDT).

Tony Kanaan, #11 Team 7-Eleven Dallara/Honda/Firestone:

“The Team 7-Eleven car should have been in the Firestone Fast Six but the league said I crossed the finish line and took the checkered flag, so my last lap didn’t count. It is completely unfair because I was right behind Dario (Franchitti) and they gave him the lap so I don’t know what to say. We’ll take eighth but we’re not happy about it.”

Nikon Indy 300 Qualifying Results

Pos	Name	MPH	Pos	Name	MPH
1	Will Power	105.977	2	Scott Dixon	105.067
3	Ryan Briscoe	105.031	4	Dario Franchitti	104.885
5	Ryan Hunter-Reay	104.374	6	Helio Castroneves	104.008
6	Alex Tagliani	99.317	8	<i>Tony Kanaan</i>	<i>99.229</i>
9	Justin Wilson	98.606	10	EJ Viso	97.767
11	Vitor Meira	96.440	12	Mario Moraes	90.238
13	Graham Rahal	87.030	14	<i>Marco Andretti</i>	<i>89.672</i>
15	Oriol Servia	86.994	16	<i>Hideki Mutoh</i>	<i>88.781</i>
17	Bruno Junqueira	85.258	18	Dan Wheldon	88.328
19	Ed Carpenter	84.721	20	Jamie Camara	88.223
21	Townsend Bell	84.607	22	Buddy Rice	87.994
23	<i>Danica Patrick</i>	<i>No Speed</i>	24	AJ Foyt IV	No Speed



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Andretti Qualifies 14th at Australia

SURFERS PARADISE, Australia (Oct. 25, 2008) – Marco Andretti, driver of the Blockbuster car, qualified 14th for the Nikon Indy 300 at Surfers Paradise. Andretti qualified with a best-lap speed 89.672 miles per hour. Andretti's father Michael and second-cousin John both have open-wheel racing victories at the Australia track.

Live coverage of the non-points paying race will be provided by ESPN Classic. Coverage begins on Saturday, Oct. 25, at 10:30 p.m. (EDT).

Marco Andretti, #26 Blockbuster Dallara/Honda/Firestone:

"I'm sure I'm speaking for a lot of drivers but I wish we would have gone to a new set of wets before our last lap because maybe then we could have advanced to the second round. I can't really complain, though, because I'm not sure we would have been a whole lot better in the dry. We have been working on the Blockbuster car and this is a tough course, especially for the newcomers."

Nikon Indy 300 Qualifying Results

Pos	Name	MPH	Pos	Name	MPH
1	Will Power	105.977	2	Scott Dixon	105.067
3	Ryan Briscoe	105.031	4	Dario Franchitti	104.885
5	Ryan Hunter-Reay	104.374	6	Helio Castroneves	104.008
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Mutoh to Start 16th in Formula Dream Car at Surfers Paradise

SURFERS PARADISE, Australia (Oct. 25, 2008) – Hideki Mutoh, driver of the #27 Formula Dream car, will start from the 16th position for Sunday's Nikon Indy 300. Mutoh had a best-lap of 88.781 miles per hour during his qualifying attempt.

Live coverage of the non-points paying race will be provided by ESPN Classic. Coverage begins on Saturday, Oct. 25, at 10:30 p.m. (EDT).

Hideki Mutoh, #27 Formula Dream Dallara/Honda/Firestone:

"Given the fact that this is my first time here and the wet conditions, I think we did an okay job. The Formula Dream team did a good job on the qualifying setup, but I couldn't find the right line to get in, but tomorrow is a new day and hopefully we will do better and the weather cooperates."

Nikon Indy 300 Qualifying Results

Pos	Name	MPH	Pos	Name	MPH
1	Will Power	105.977	2	Scott Dixon	105.067
3	Ryan Briscoe	105.031	4	Dario Franchitti	104.885
5	Ryan Hunter-Reay	104.374	6	Helio Castroneves	104.008
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21	Townsend Bell	84.607	22	Buddy Rice	87.994
23	<i>Danica Patrick</i>	<i>No Speed</i>	24	AJ Foyt IV	No Speed