



Street Racing Legalized in St. Petersburg, FL!

Danica Patrick among contenders at this weekend's Honda Grand Prix

(St. Petersburg/Clearwater, FL – April 1, 2008) – Ladies and gentlemen, start your engines! Starting Friday in downtown St. Pete some drivers will ignore the legal limits and instead hit speeds approaching 180 MPH as the Honda Grand Prix roars through town for the fourth year in a row.

Of course, these aren't just any drivers. This year's roster of racing superstars includes St. Pete's own Dan Wheldon and fan favorite Danica Patrick, names that are bound to draw huge crowds to St. Pete's palm-dappled bayfront, where world-class museums, sidewalk cafes and luxury yachts moored at Florida's largest municipal marina provide a Monaco-like setting for one of the racing world's most exciting contests.

"In just four short years, the Honda Grand Prix of St. Petersburg has quickly become one of the most successful and popular races run on a temporary street course in North America," said Kevin Savoree, managing director of the Honda Grand Prix of St. Petersburg. "And that puts us in a very strong position as future IndyCar Series schedules are developed," he added.



The 1.8-mile-long, 14-turn circuit starts on runway 6/24 at St. Petersburg's Albert Whitted Airport, heads up First Street South, turns right toward the bay on Central Avenue, then hugs the waterfront on Bay Shore Drive as it winds back to the airport. ESPN and XM Radio will broadcast live coverage of the action on Sunday starting at 2:30 p.m.

Street racing isn't the only attraction you'll find at this three day event, which runs April 4-6. The Honda Grand Prix of St. Petersburg & Acura Sports Car Challenge of St. Petersburg will also feature the IndyCar Series, Indy Pro Series and American Le Mans Series, as well as a yacht club, air shows, drifting exhibitions, concerts, interactive attractions, parties and family entertainment.

For more information, including course maps and tickets to the event, visit www.gpstpete.com.

Visit St. Petersburg/Clearwater is the official destination marketing organization for Pinellas County.

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