



PICCOLA WINS NIKON INDY300 GOLD COAST *Challenge*

[yellow tail]



[5 fastest laps, pole position, 2 wins and an overall win at the Nikon Indy300 Challenge]

The seductive shades of Surfers Paradise provided a brilliant backdrop to one of Australia's great races and what is now arguably one of John Martin's finest achievements. During the course of three eventful days of racing and in front of 202,823 thrilled spectators, Piccola Scuderia Corse and John Martin emerged as overall champions of the Nikon Indy300 Formula 3 Challenge.



Serious Barbecues



Finishing fastest in every single practice, qualifying and race-session, current lead A1GP driver John Martin powerfully capped the rest of the Formula 3 field, winning by a margin as large as 7 seconds from the other teams who failed to find the necessary pace to keep up with Piccola. Martin competed this year in the prestigious British F3 series where the top 10 drivers are separated by fractions of a second, so qualifying on pole position by 1.58s was quite a novelty.



Adam Gotch (Team Manager - A1 Team Australia):

"P1 in practice, Pole position, two wins out of three, can't get much better than that. Fantastic result this weekend on the Gold Coast from A1 Team Australia driver John Martin and Piccola Scuderia Formula 3 Team".



John Martin:

"In the last race, James forced a little too much and I had to lift off going into T1 – we still had the fastest car, and it was just a matter for me to bide my time before I got past, but it was a shame that the safety car period was so long because I had the measure of Winslow. We had the fastest lap in every session – practice, qualifying, and all three races. The car and Piccola Scuderia team were just awesome and I'd also like to thank HDT and AMSF for their support. I could have gone into the low 1 min47s during qualifying, such was our pace but I didn't need to."



Each session the Piccola boys stuck to a game plan, opting to execute suspension and aerodynamic adjustments at the very last minute during qualifying and before each race start, out-smarting rivals who tried to follow Piccola with the limited time available. Apart from the odd-second finish in race 3, the team are pleased with the level of exposure achieved for their partners and sponsors at the Gold Coast, and will carry this momentum as they now begin developments for 2009.



With an eclectic driver line-up this year, Piccola Scuderia Corse have had consistent results this year with its new drivers, PSC's 17 year old Justin Tate particularly proving his talent in spectacular fashion earlier this year at Phillip Island in atrocious conditions. National-class driver Ash Bettridge also recently finished second with fastest lap in the West Australian Formula Ford race at Barbagallo, in what will be his last race before committing to the National-Class in F3 for 2009.



Indy marks the second street circuit event that the Piccola team have dominated this year, adding to the Adelaide Clipsal500 wins with their front mono-shock setup in front of over 300,000 people. The team could be forgiven for putting their feet up, but it's business as usual for Piccola Scuderia with the team adding major further value to their existing sponsorship benefits with the recent purchase of a brand new Ferrari F430 and Ferrari F355 - complementing their F360 and 328 GTS Ferraris to provide exclusive Ferrari Drive-Days for their sponsors and the latest new tourism adventure to NSW with prices starting from \$770pp.



[see attached brochure - or visit prancinghorse.com.au].



For more information about Piccola Scuderia Corse please visit piccola.com.au



Piccola Scuderia Corse would like to express their appreciation to partners and sponsors: QANTAS, HDT, [yellow tail] WINES XENITH CAPITAL, BILSTEIN, HEASMAN'S STEERING, KOKEN TOOLS BEEF-EATER BARBEQUES, BERLINA BODYWORKS, iRACE, NEXUS-MG, POGGIOLINI TITANIUM, UBER CONSULTING, FERROCON, TOP-HAT ROOFING, FIBRE-GLASS INTERNATIONAL

