

Danica redux

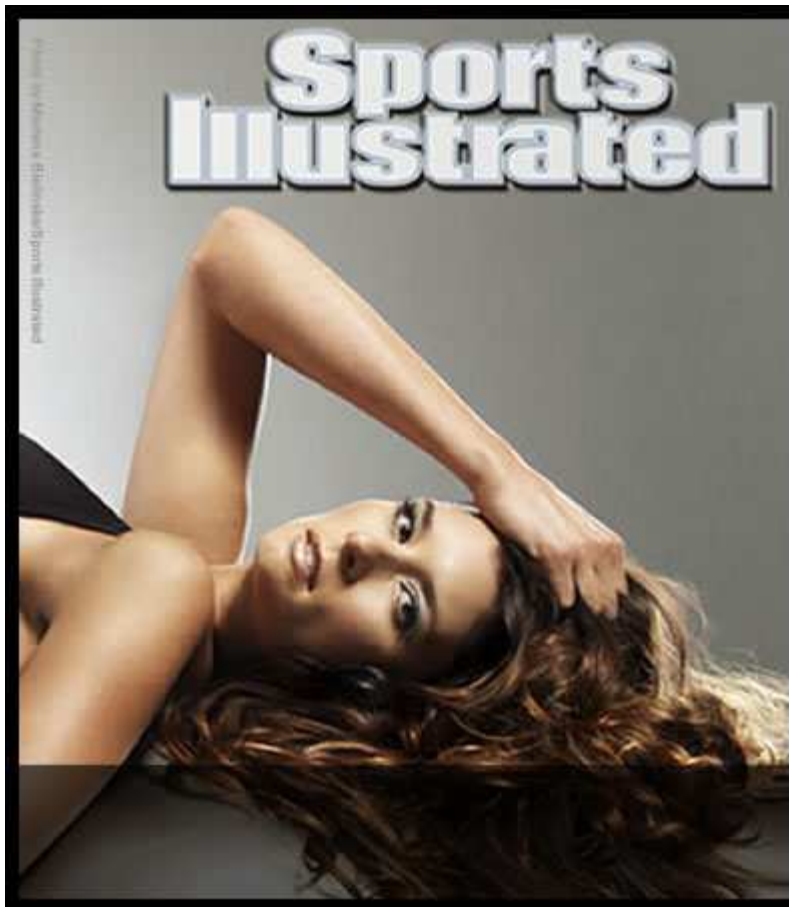
By Dave Lewandowski

indycar.com

So it wasn't an exotic location this time around. Nonetheless, Danica Patrick is honored to again be featured in the eagerly-anticipated Sports Illustrated swimsuit issue available to the public today.

For the 2008 issue, the IndyCar Series star participated in a photo shoot in the sand and surf of Singer Island, Fla. A New York studio with a silver Shelby Cobra 427 as a prop filled the bill for this issue.

"This year's swimsuit photo shoot for Sports Illustrated was a lot of fun," said Patrick, who will be featured on the cover of the May issue of Shape magazine. "Most of the photo shoots I have done in the past have been in studios so I felt comfortable. The photos turned out great."



More than 70 million people are expected to pick up the special issue while more than 250 million people are expected to view photo galleries on the magazine's Web site. Until supplies last, 7-Eleven stores in North America will hand out commemorative Patrick/IndyCar Series posters with the first 25 purchases of the swimsuit issue.

"I think SI portrays women in a classy and beautiful way," said Patrick, who last April became the first female to win an IndyCar Series race. "I'm honored they asked me to be part of the swimsuit shoot again."

Patrick recently was featured in two popular GoDaddy.com commercials during the Super Bowl XLIII telecast. Earlier in the week, Patrick was selected as a Favorite Female Athlete nominee for Nickelodeon's 22nd Annual

Kids' Choice Awards. Patrick, who won the honor last year in online voting, is joins WNBA player Candace Parker and pro tennis players Serena and Venus Williams this year.

Before then, Patrick will participate in two Open Tests in the No. 7 Motorola car for Andretti Green Racing: Feb. 24-25 on the Homestead-Miami Speedway oval and March 22-23 on the Barber Motorsports Park road circuit. Both tests are open to the public. The season kicks off April 5 with the Honda Grand Prix of St. Petersburg.