



Speech by

Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Wednesday, 11 October 2006

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Lexmark Indy

Hon. PD BEATTIE (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier and Minister for Trade) (9.54 am): I want to mention the Lexmark Indy 300. I seek leave to incorporate details in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

Next week the green flag will come down on the Lexmark Indy 300.

This annual carnival is a highlight of the Australian social and sporting calendar and showcases Queensland to the world.

This year—the 16th Indy on the streets of the Gold Coast—is shaping up to be even bigger and better with a packed program of events on and off the track.

The Champ Car and V8 Supercars will be the stars of the show but there will also be a huge program of entertainment including support races, stunt shows, precision driving challenges, driver parade laps, and the Sea FM Air Show.

Highlights will include the green and gold of Team Australia in the Champ cars and the appearance of England's Katherine Legge—the first woman to drive a Champ Car on the streets of the Gold Coast.

A special treat this year will be a tribute lap to Australian motorsport legend Peter Brock to be completed by his son James.

James will actually be competing on the support program at this year's event in the Yokohama V8 Ute Series, but will break from his racing duties on the Saturday to complete the lap in his dad's 1984 Bathurst-winning Holden Commodore.

I think the lap will be a wonderful addition to another great Indy carnival.

Last year a record 316,459 patrons filed through the gates and we are expecting big crowds this year.

Over the past sixteen years Indy has grown into a showcase event for our State.

It is estimated to pump approximately \$60 million into the local economy each year through direct and flow-on income for associated industries such as retail, travel, tourism and hospitality.

Major events such as this bring thousands of visitors into the state who spend money on food, accommodation, transport, entertainment and souvenirs.

The Lexmark Indy 300 on-track action will kick off on Thursday October 19 and continue through until Sunday October 22.

Sales are strong and I encourage everyone to get in fast to get their tickets through Ticketek.