



CLEARED IN A TAX EVASION CASE, **HELIO CASTRONEVES** HAS PUT THE ACCELERATOR DOWN ON BUSINESS DEALS AND HIS RETURN AS AN INDYCAR FAN FAVORITE.

**By Sarah Talalay**  
STAFF WRITER

Helio Castroneves had a pretty full dance card this year.

Just in the past six months, he won his third Indy 500, met the president of his native Brazil, drove an Aston Martin and a Ferrari for a feature in *Maxim* magazine and served as grand marshal of the Coconut Grove bed race.

He walked the orange carpet at the Dolphins' home opener last month, filmed ads for healthcare company HCA and became a spokesman for luxury car club GentlemenDrive Miami.

And oh yeah, in April he was acquitted of federal tax evasion charges after a seven-week trial in Miami. A conviction could have sent him to prison for more than six years.

While the 34-year-old IndyCar Series driver won't be able to capture the IndyCar Series championship at the season finale at Homestead-Miami Speedway on Saturday, the Season 5 winner of *Dancing with the Stars* is all the way back—even though it's as if he never really went away.

## INDY 300 WEEKEND

**What:** Season-ending race to determine the IndyCar champion.

**When/where:** Friday-Saturday at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

**Tickets:** Call 866-INDYCAR

**Schedule:** **Grand Am:** Friday qualifying, 2:30 p.m.; Saturday race, 1:08 p.m. **Indy Lights:** Friday qualifying, 12:15 p.m.; Friday race, 6 p.m. **IndyCar:** Friday qualifying, 4:15 p.m.; Saturday race, 5 p.m.

Joe Cavaretta, Sun Sentinel (top)  
and Getty Images photos

