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Affiliate

DATE July 21, 1988
TIME 9:00-10:00 AM
STATION WABC-TV(ABC) Channel Seven
LOCATION New York City
PROGRAM The Morning Show

TRANSCRIPT

Frank Gifford, guest host:

Danny Sullivan he's having--That is you.

Kathy Lee Gifford, host:

Well, you told me I wasn't supposed to wear something sexy so I just put on something that would make Danny Sullivan very comfortable. As a matter of fact, this is Danny Sullivan's own racing--feels good.

Frank: Yeah, how good?

Kathy Lee: It feels pretty good. I like it with high heels. I think that's what it needs.

Frank: Danny's having a great year in the Indy circuit.

Kathy Lee: He sure is.

Frank: Unbelievable. His last four races: he has had a first place finish, two second place finishes, and one third place finish. And of course, the 1985 winner of the Indy 500 he is known as one of the most watchable men. He's a bachelor. And one of the ten most sexy men in the world, as you've told me before.

Kathy Lee: Well, you were on that list and then you married me. Why is it that a man doesn't become watchable or sexy anymore once he gets married?

Frank: This is how it happens, though. Let's meet him, Danny Sullivan.

Kathy Lee: Can I kiss him on the cheek?

Frank: Yeah, go for it.

Kathy Lee: Nice to see you.

Frank: Good to see you.

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Kathy Lee: What do you think?

Danny Sullivan (Race Car Driver): I don't know. You're doing an awful lot for our driving suits.

Kathy Lee: I don't know. It's a nice color.

Sullivan: It's a great color. It suits you.

Frank: Yeah.

Kathy Lee: Well, thank you.

Frank: Fire retardant too, isn't it?

Sullivan: Yes, very much so. The hard part for anybody to understand, especially if you go out on a day like today--well, not today but a real hot day is that you have that, plus two layers of underwear. Well, that's six layers of clothing. And people are going, "Aren't you dying in these things?"

Frank: What was the temperature in Indianapolis what about a month ago--a little over a month ago?

Sullivan: A hundred and three, a hundred and four in the sun.

Frank: I looked at you had the--

Sullivan: Turtleneck.

Frank: --just before you took off, you had the turtleneck, helmet on.

Kathy Lee: Why is that?

Sullivan: Well, it's all fire retardant.

Kathy Lee: Yeah, just to protect you then.

Sullivan: These things burn alcohol and if there's ever a fire--And I've had two fires, minor ones. But if I hadn't had on all of the gear I would have been burnt.

Kathy Lee: Ah, Danny.

Frank: And there's no smoking. You don't even see the flame, do you, Dan?

Sullivan: No.

Kathy Lee: Why not?

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Sullivan: Because it's alcohol. It burns clear.

Kathy Lee: Oh, yeah.

Sullivan: And it's a very frightening thing because sometimes the people aren't any further away than you are right here. And if this thing bursts into flames which I think happened in '82 in Rick Mears's pit, my teammate, and all of a sudden a hose will spray and nobody could see it. And they were all running around on fire.

Frank: And it burns very hot too, doesn't it, Dan?

Sullivan: Yes. Very much so. But they've changed all that and that's why everybody's required to wear this equipment. And in the pits they stopped it so it's pretty safe.

Frank: Well, we're talking about it. Why don't we take a look at it?

Kathy Lee: Look at this beauty.

Frank: Unbelievable machine. And this is what--this is the Marlboro car that you'll be racing this weekend?

Sullivan: No, I'll be racing the Mueller race car.

Kathy Lee: But it's this weekend at the Meadowlands.

Sullivan: This will be Emerson--This week at the Meadowlands. Emerson Fitapaldi(?) will actually be in this car. This car is actually a show car. It's a year old race car. I want Emerson to drive this one this weekend--

Frank: An oldie like that.

Sullivan: [unintelligible] out of date. But this is--

Frank: But everything else is just ah--

Sullivan: And it's pretty much for what you'd see out there this is about as--almost exactly the same.

Kathy Lee: How much does something like this cost, Danny?

Sullivan: If you took it just as it sits here, two hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars. Something like that. But the problem is you can't--

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Kathy Lee: You can't even park it.

Sullivan: Well, you can. But you can't run it without all the other equipment. And the spare tires for example, our team at Indianapolis probably had mounted sixty sets of tires.

Frank: They were just stacked in the garage when we were there.

Sullivan: And each one of those wheels without the tire, without the rubber part, just the wheel is probably about a thousand dollars. So you start stacking those up.

Kathy Lee: Nice wheels.

Frank: Two hundred and twenty thousand dollars for the car. That's about a thousand dollars per mile because it will go about two hundred and thirty miles an hour.

Sullivan: At Indianapolis which is in Michigan which is one of the fastest tracks--though we'll be just over two hundred and thirty miles an hour.

Kathy Lee: You're real cramped in that cockpit. I mean, that's small. I don't even think Frank could get in that.

Frank: You want to try it?

Kathy Lee: Yeah, let me try.

Frank: I tried. It's very difficult.

Kathy Lee: I'll take my heels off.

Frank: Where does she have to step here?

Kathy Lee: It's like getting into an airplane.

Sullivan: Right on the crack.

Kathy Lee: Oh, right on the crack.

Sullivan: Stand straight up in the seat with both--then put both hands right here on the side.

Kathy Lee: Uh-huh.

Sullivan: Slide your legs straight up before you go down.

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Kathy Lee: Thank god I lost five pounds. Forget it.

Sullivan: No, before you go down.

Kathy Lee: Slide--oh, your legs all the way back. Oh, my gosh.

Sullivan: They go way down in front.

Frank: They go all the way down. Go on. Keep going.

Kathy Lee: I like this. But I have a feeling that getting out is a heck of a lot harder than getting in.

Sullivan: Um, not too bad.

Frank: Don't forget to pick up the bread and the eggs.

Sullivan: And I guarantee you'll probably get home to Connecticut quicker in this.

Kathy Lee: Danny, we have to ask you the tough questions, though. This week in People magazine--you remember, in the "Chatter" section in the back--apparently, young ladies have been coming on to you, grabbing your rear end and things--please, ladies--when you were having your picture taken with them.

Sullivan: Well, it's happened on occasion.

Kathy Lee: And they asked your girlfriend to hold the camera while they do it.

Sullivan: Well, somebody had to take the picture.

Kathy Lee: You have a lovely girlfriend you've had for six years.

Sullivan: Yeah, Julie's great and she's got to be very understanding to put up with all that. But--

Frank: Either that or she doesn't care.

Kathy Lee: I think she cares.

Sullivan: After six years I think she probably cares.

Frank: I think she cares a lot. I don't doubt it. She's a wonderful lady.

Kathy Lee: Is she getting tired of you after six years waiting around?

Frank: You know what she's leading up to? She calls it [unintelligible].

Sullivan: You know, I've got a puppy too. Yeah, you all were talkin' about your dogs and stuff. I've got a puppy as well.

Kathy Lee: I have to ask the questions. You don't have to answer them. That's all. You want to ask him something, honey, about race car driving?

Sullivan: We wanted to know what happened yesterday to Frank with our golf game. Cause I know you had Bruce Jenner on yesterday right before you killed that fly.

Frank: I was trying to get out there. [Unintelligible] couldn't believe that. I was on my way out there on the Tri-Borough Bridge and I got in a rainstorm. The lightening was crackling. I said no way am I going to do this. I hate golf and lightening. They don't go together.

Kathy Lee: No, they don't.

Sullivan: Well, that's true. But Bruce told me to tell you that he shot a seventy-nine.

Frank: And I said, "Which hole?"

Kathy Lee: You only played two holes. That's right.

Sullivan: That's right. Then we got rained out and had a great lunch. It was tremendous.

Frank: Lunch is the most important part of golf.

Kathy Lee: It is. Danny's going to be with Bruce out at the Meadowlands this weekend.

Sullivan: That's right.

Kathy Lee: In the [unintelligible] Marlboro race. And there's tickets still available, right?

Sullivan: There are tickets still available. You know, there's actually I think five races this weekend: ours, Bruce's race which is a Corvette Challenge, an ARS, a Super-V, and a Trans-Am race which actually Paul Newman's going to be driving in.

Frank: You used to drive in his team, didn't you?

Sullivan: That's right. I drove for Paul. And he's a tremendous competitor. And we're going to have a great weekend.

Frank: What a great background. He used to be a waiter at Maxwell's Plum.

Kathy Lee: He's done it all, that's right.

Frank: Things have really worked for you, Danny.

Sullivan: Thank you very much.

Kathy Lee: Well, thanks for being with us, Danny. Good luck this weekend. I don't think I can get out of here.

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