THE RED BULLETIN

GP BELGIUM
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2008. ISSUE 239
WWW.REDBULLETINF1.COM

AN ALMOST INDEPENDENT F1 NEWSPAPER

HEAVEN SENT

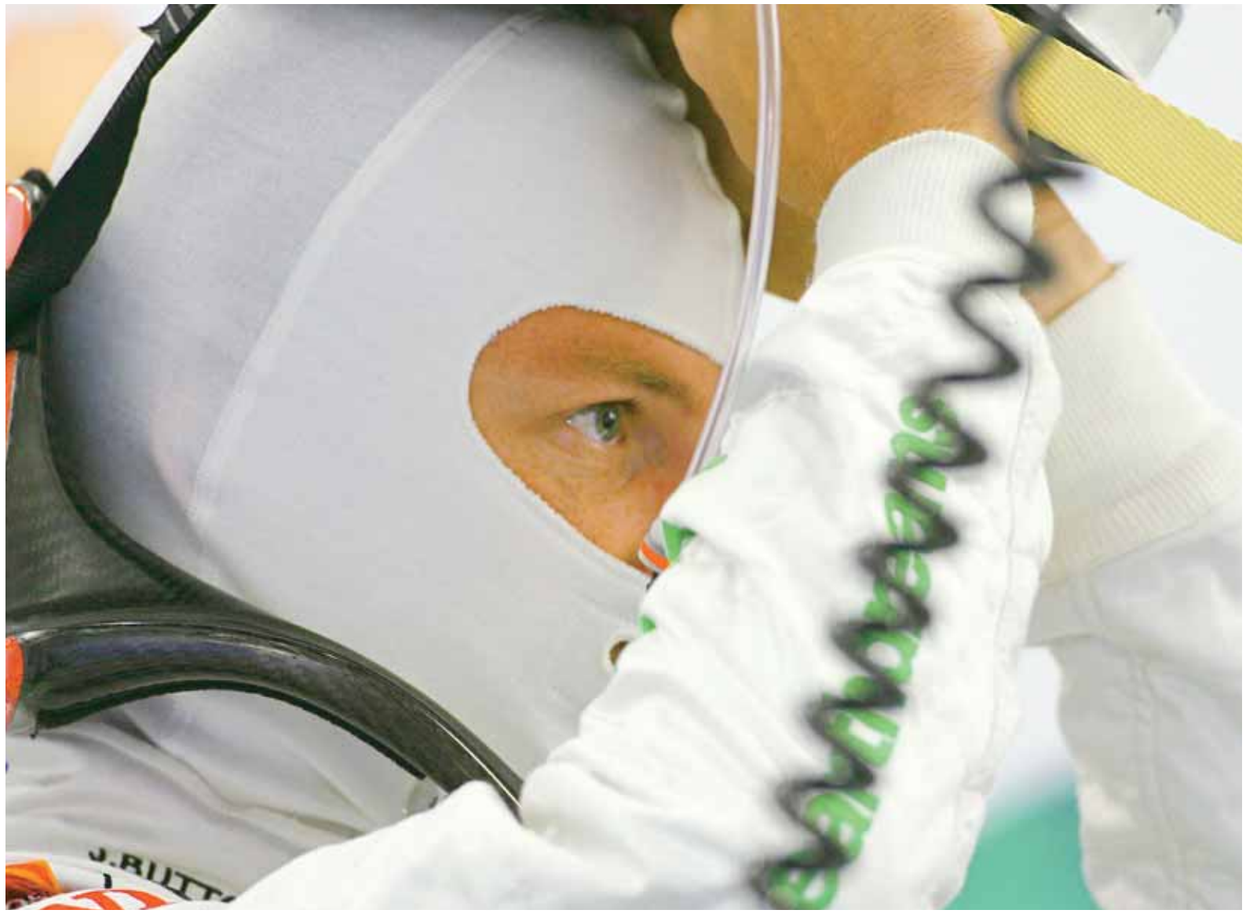
LEWIS STORMS TO VICTORY

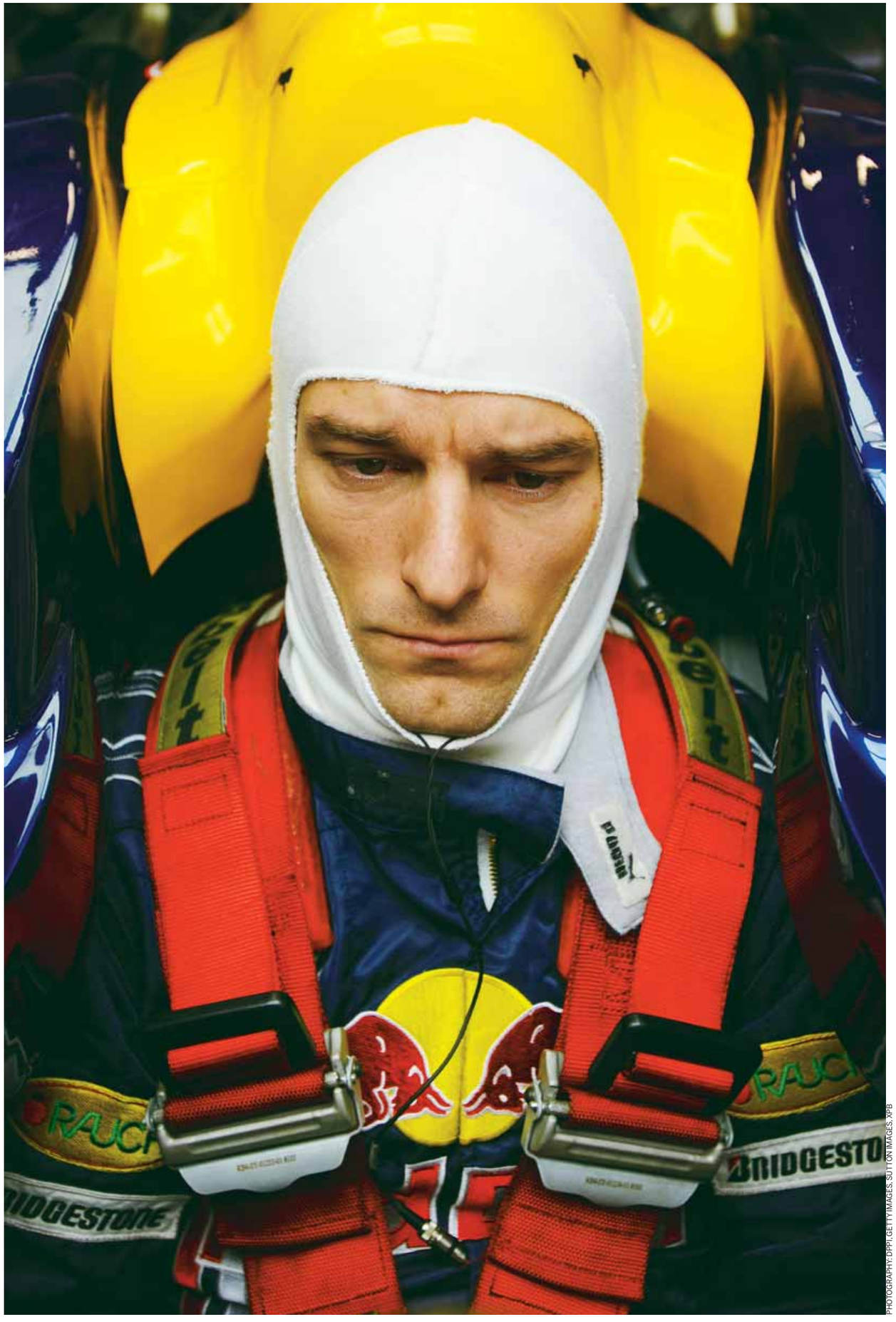


BELGIUM SUNDAY 07·09·08

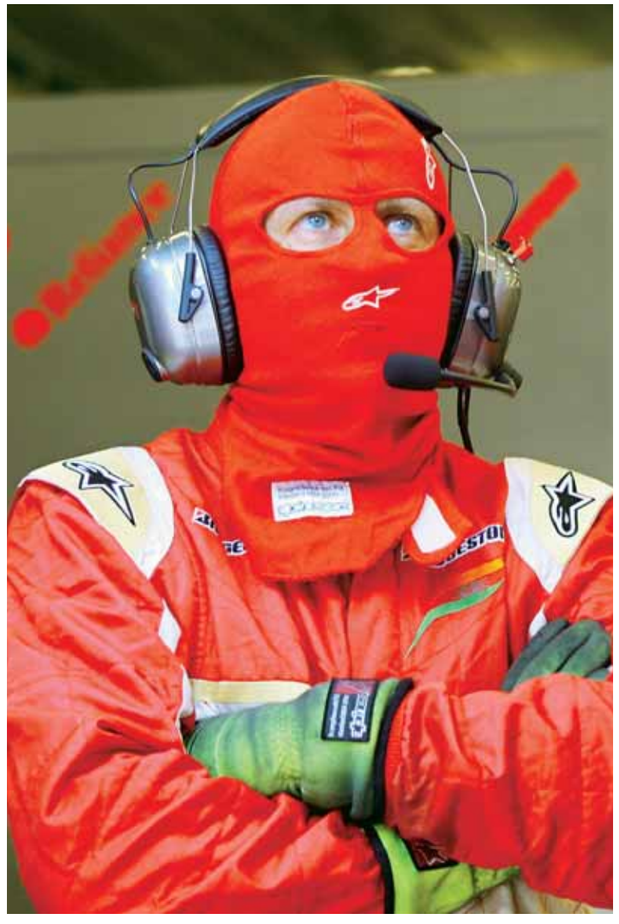
Despite numerous modifications, Spa-Francorchamps is still reckoned to be the ultimate driver's circuit. And not just because of the combined challenge of Eau Rouge, Pouhon and Blanchimont. The weather too is notoriously unpredictable and always influences team tactics. McLaren and Ferrari once again occupied the two front rows, but the question everyone was asking was whether Kimi Räikkönen would be able to build on his impressive record here.

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS
Following qualifying, the McLaren and Ferrari cars were safely stowed away in Parc Fermé last night. But could Lewis Hamilton capitalise on his pole position at a track Kimi Räikkönen has made his own?
Photography: Thomas Butler









COVERING UP

The drivers and their teams betray little emotion when they're concentrating on the job, and must remain composed to focus on pre-race preparations.

PHOTOGRAPHY: DPPI, GETTY IMAGES, SUTTON IMAGES, XPB

TEAM TACTICS
With Robert Kubica starting from a disappointing eighth on the grid today, Mario Theissen took time out to talk tactics in the build-up to the race.

PHOTOGRAPHY: THOMAS BUTLER

VOLUME CONTROL
With 20 Formula One cars accelerating, changing gears and braking rapidly through the bends and hills of Spa, the deafening noise at the circuit can sometimes be overwhelming, particularly for the younger specators.





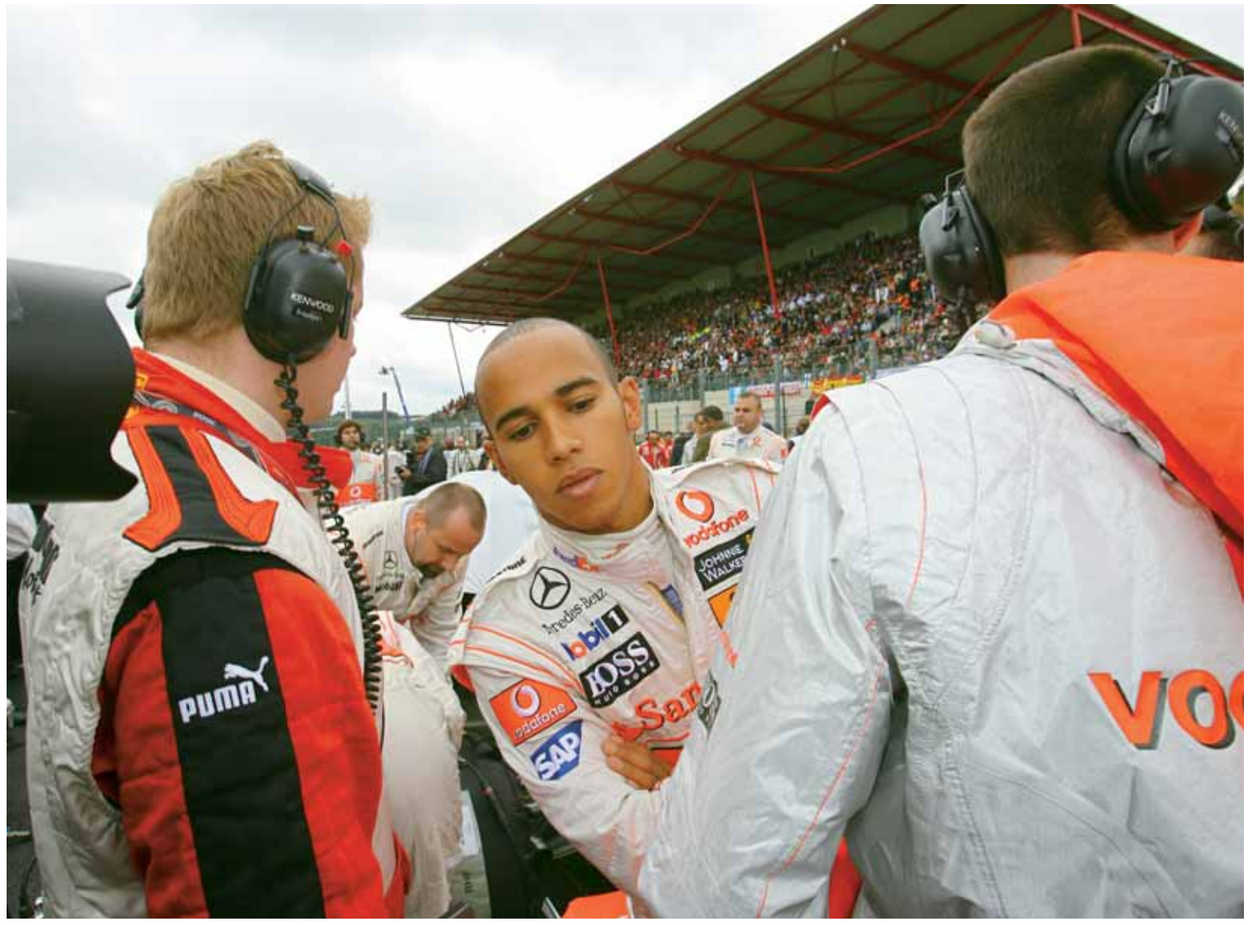






PHOTOGRAPHY: THOMAS BUTLER, LAT, JIRI KRENEK, GETTY IMAGES















STARTING POSITIONS
As the cars are wheeled onto the grid and the drivers have last-minute discussions with tacticians, anticipation builds among the fans as they take their places trackside.

PHOTOGRAPHY: SUTTON IMAGES; GETTY IMAGES; XPB

AT THE SOURCE

A damp track made the run-up to La Source a tricky proposition at the start, and a wide line looked the best option to avoid trouble. It almost didn't pay off for Kimi Räikkönen as he was forced off track, but the Finn recovered and after Lewis Hamilton spun on lap two, the world champion took advantage, and the lead.

PHOTOGRAPHY: CRISPIN THRUSTON

VETTEL COMES GOOD
The Toro Rosso team await Sebastian Vettel as he comes in for his last pitstop. The team's two drivers powered their way through the field with the German finishing in fifth and Sébastien Bourdais behind him in seventh.

PHOTOGRAPHY: CRISPIN THRUSTON

RED BULL LA FORMULA UNA BELGIUM

Severine Nijs is the lucky lady from Belgium who will be joining us in São Paulo for the 2008 season finale.

FOR MORE, VISIT: WWW.REDBULLETINF1.COM

PHOTOGRAPHY: THOMAS BUTLER


1


2


3

A FIRST-RATE SECOND PLACE

Belgian GP, Spa-Francorchamps, June 7, 1970

Chris Amon will forever be known as the 'nearly man' of Formula One. Quelling his initial nerves at Spa, after a difficult race at Indy where he never felt comfortable, he must have thought it was his time at last. But things were never that straightforward for the New Zealander…

Although he started from the front row of the grid 19 times, Chris Amon never won an F1 race, and only came second three times. One of those second places was at Spa in 1970, where he set the fastest lap (241.308kph) on the last lap of the remodelled 14.1km circuit. Many safety improvements had been made: a new chicane replaced the 250kph sweep at Malmedy, and more barriers had been installed around the track. When Amon arrived to drive his works March, however, he was filled with trepidation.

"I'd just come back from Indy, where I was supposed to drive for Bruce [McLaren], but I just never felt at ease in the place," he explains. "I hated the feeling of being hemmed in by the walls. In the end, I gave up and they put an Indy regular in the car. I came back to Europe feeling worried because, no doubt at all, I was frightened of Indy. It had never happened to me before, and I couldn't understand it. Then, on the Tuesday before Spa, Bruce was killed at Goodwood, and that really shook everyone. Everyone loved him."

The McLarens were immediately withdrawn from the race. After such a tragic prelude, practice seemed relatively uneventful, although Jochen Rindt, Jackie Oliver, Pedro Rodriguez and Henri Pescarolo all suffered engine failures, as did Amon. Surprisingly, however, Amon felt at ease immediately. "The March 701 was a pretty horrible car, but Jackie [Stewart] put his Tyrrell-entered March on pole, and I was also on the front row, along with Jochen in the Lotus. I'd been on pole by four seconds in the Ferrari when we'd last been at Spa, and felt I'd have had a good shot at it, so I felt pretty optimistic."

Ronnie Peterson just made the warm-up lap after being arrested for a motoring offence on the way to the circuit, and it didn't look as if a planned rain-delayed start would be necessary. Rindt jumped into the lead, but Amon and Stewart both passed the Lotus on lap two. Stewart led Amon for a lap, but his engine went off fractionally, so Amon got back into the lead on laps three and four. Then came a new threat.

"On lap four I was still in front, but suddenly it was a white car, not a blue one, behind me. It was Pedro in the bloody BRM. 'Where the hell did he come from?' I thought. I mean, he'd only qualified on the third row! We went into lap five, through Eau Rouge, and up the hill to Les Combes, and he simply drove past me; he didn't even bother to slipstream me! I don't know where the hell they found that kind of power that day. It still mystifies me even now.

"I found I could stay with Pedro, but I was right on the edge doing it. We were never much more than a second apart, and we ran that whole grand prix at qualifying speed. My last 15 laps were all under my qualifying time. The problem was the BRM had so much horsepower, and I knew that even if I found a way by him, it would be almost impossible to stay ahead. All weekend I'd been taking the Masta Kink – a downhill left-right on the Masta Straight – almost flat out. That March wasn't the most co-operative thing to drive, but I decided if I was going to have any chance of winning, I had to get Pedro on the last lap so he wouldn't be able to get me again after Eau Rouge. I made up my mind that, this time, I was going through the Kink without lifting, to give myself a chance of towing past after it. It was bloody hard to keep my foot on it as we got to the Kink, but I didn't lift. I was much closer to him as we came out of it, but that bloody white thing just inched away, and that was that.

'I made up my mind that, this time, I was going through the Kink without lifting'
Chris Amon

"Although I didn't win, I felt pleased, after the Indy thing, with the way I'd gone, because I reckoned if you're going to get scared anywhere, it would be at Spa. We averaged about 241kph, with all the barbed wire, and trees and stuff – and I hadn't gone much quicker than that turning left all the time at Indy!"

At half-distance, they had been 15s ahead of the rest of the field. At the chequered flag, they were over 1m 40s ahead of third-placed Jean-Pierre Beltoise in the Matra. It was a dominant display by both drivers. It was also Rodriguez's second and final victory in F1, and BRM's first since 1966.

FOR MORE, VISIT: WWW.REDBULLETINF1.COM


4


5


6

1) The field gets away cleanly. 2) Chris Amon (10) lines up on the front row next to Jochen Rindt (20) and Jackie Stewart (11). 3) The drivers' briefing before the race. 4) Jack Brabham, who retired from the race, chats with Ron Tauranac and a youthful-looking Ron Dennis. 5) Derek Bell gives Stewart a lift back to the pits after his engine blew. 6) Pedro Rodriguez takes the flag. 7) Marshals assess improved safety measures. 8) Amon (left) with Rodriguez and Jean-Pierre Beltoise on the podium.


7


8

PHOTOGRAPHY: DPPI, LAT, RAINER SCHLEGELMILCH, SUTTON IMAGES

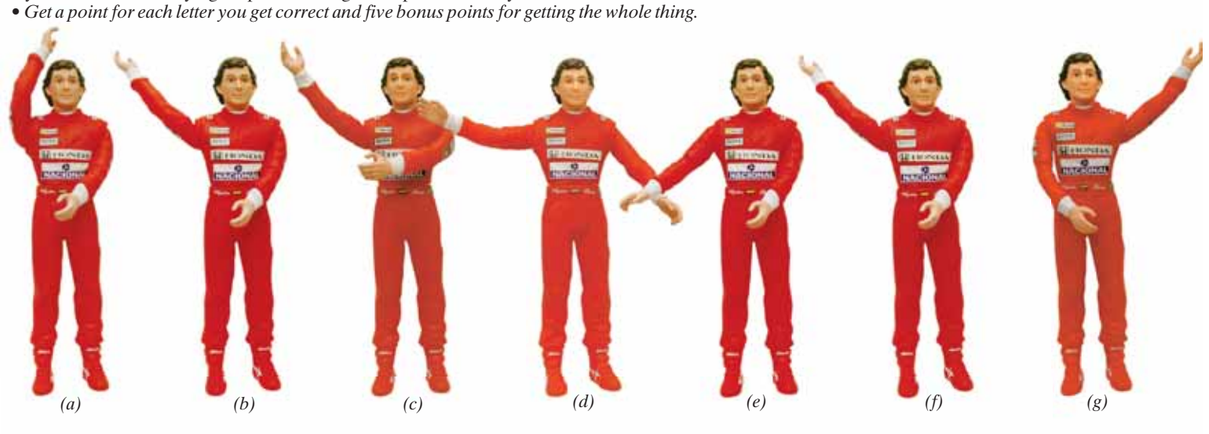
THE QUIZ: BELGIUM

The engines have barely cooled down, but in just four days they'll be firing up again. How are your cylinders? Still firing? If you've got any energy to spare, why not squander it on our stimulating and informative quiz?

1. *Take a look at this Swiss Army Rescue Tool. What are each of these attachments called?*



2. For centuries, sailors have used the ancient and mysterious art of Semaphore to communicate with each other. But can you tell what our Ayrton Senna doll is trying to spell out using Sennaphore? See if you know who his favourite driver is this weekend.
• *Get a point for each letter you get correct and five bonus points for getting the whole thing.*



3. In Belgium, when someone wants to say 'Good day', they say 'Goede dag'. Here are some other ways people might say good day to you, but in what language are they speaking?
(a) Kalimera (b) Szia
(c) Guten Tag (d) Madainn Mhath (e) Sawubona.
• *Get one point for each and a bonus point for using the sayings on the way home.*

4. There are quite literally tens of hundreds of mammal species in the world, and every day 30 new ones are discovered. But don't be alarmed – 35-100 become extinct every day, so it evens out. Do you know the 10 countries with the most mammal species in the world?
• *Get one point for each and two points for extincting a mammal on your way home.*

5. People all over the world love a bit of pig, either to eat its tasty bits or simply to look at. Pigs really are great. Can you name the five countries with the most pigs?
• *One point for each correct answer and a bonus point for knowing which country has the most pigs.*

6. According to the website www.Ralf-Schumacher.de, what is Ralf's favourite food?

7. According to www.Ralf-Schumacher.de, what is Ralf's favourite kind of music?

8. According to www.Ralf-Schumacher.de, what are Ralf's hobbies?

9. There are lots of countries in the world beginning with the letter W. Wales is one example. Do you know all the countries beginning with the letter T?
• *One point for each.*



10. That marshal's trying not to look freaked out, but who are these ghost-like drivers in front of him?
• *One point for each correctly guessed identity.*

11. One lady has won the Wimbledon Ladies' Singles title more times than anyone else. Who is she?

12. The lady in the previous question won nine times in total. In which years?

13. Two men have each won the Wimbledon Gentlemen's Singles title seven times. That's more than anyone else. Who are they?

14. When did the guys in the last question win their titles?

15. Ayrton Senna won the Belgian GP five times. That's more than anyone else – apart from the German bloke in the next question. Anyway, for one point each, name the years Senna won at Spa.

16. Michael Schumacher has won the Belgian GP six times, which is one more than the Brazilian bloke in the last question. When did he win?

17. It's Spa 2000 and you are Pedro Diniz. You finish 11th, which is pretty good. Who finished in front of you?
• *One point for each and a bonus for knowing who won.*

18. It's Spa 2007 and you are Jarno Trulli, so make the most of it. You finish 11th, but who finished in front of you?
• *One point for each and a bonus for knowing who won.*

19. In 2006 what were the top 10 most popular names for boys born in Belgium?

20. In 2006 what were the top 10 most popular names for girls born in Belgium?
• *One point for each. Bonus for guessing the top one.*

21. In America, cricket is called baseball and is played on television with millions of viewers who eat rather than sleep during the entire game. Like England, the baseball teams in America have exotic names. Take a look at these places in America and see if you can name the teams that play there.
(a) Tampa Bay (b) Seattle
(c) Arizona (d) Baltimore
(e) Colorado (f) Minnesota.
• *One point for each.*

22. In America, football is called soccer, rugby is called American football and trousers are called pants. No one knows what pants are called. Anyway, in an effort to make American football as interesting as trousers (pants), they give exotic names to the teams. Name the teams from these places in the US.
(a) Tampa Bay (b) Seattle
(c) Arizona (d) Baltimore
(e) Carolina (f) Minnesota.

23. In America, the NBA (Net Ball Association) is split into Eastern and Western conferences. Within each conference are three divisions. These divisions each have five teams in them. Name the five teams in the Central division in the Eastern conference.
• *One point for each.*

29. *Who are the youngest and oldest ever F1 drivers' champions?*

24. Here are 10 movies that you might find in the DVD collection of any hospitality girl. Look at the titles and see if you can name the adult movie version of each film, such as you might find in any truckie's DVD collection.
(a) Saturday Night Fever (b) Beverly Hills Cop (c) Rambo (d) Honey I Blew Up The Kid (e) The Hills Have Eyes (f) The Lion King (g) The Bridge On The River Kwai (h) Saving Private Ryan (i) Jurassic Park (j) Hannah And Her Sisters
• *Get one point for each title you get correct, and get all 10 titles for 400 bart.*

25. Usain Bolt set a new 100m record in China of 9.69s, which is 0.40 seconds slower than the average time it takes a javelin to travel from the thrower to the ground*. Usain is number one, but who are the other 12 men who have set the top 10 fastest times in the 100m?

26. Michael Phelps took home eight gold medals this year from the Olympics in China. Which events did he win?

27. Where were the last 10 Summer Olympics held?
• *One point for each place, and a bonus for knowing the years.*

28. What is Jacques Villeneuve's full name?

ANSWERS

1. (a) Strong screwdriver/crate opener with bottle opener and wire stripper (b) Disc saw for shatterproof glass (c) Large locking blade (d) Seatbelt cutter (e) Window breaker (f) Reamer/punch (g) Phillips screwdriver. Check out www.victorinox.com for more info.

2. (a) D (b) C (c) I (d) S (e) A (f) C (g) E. Hmm, looks like David Coulthard is his favourite driver this weekend.

3. (a) Greek (b) Hungarian (c) German (d) Scottish Gaelic (e) Zulu.

4. (1) In 2004 Indonesia had the most, with 667 species (2) Brazil (3) Mexico (4) China (and they should know, they eat most of them) (5) USA (6) Colombia (7) Peru (8) DR Congo (9) India (10) Kenya.

5. (1) In 2005 China had 488,809,978 pigs (2) USA (3) Brazil (4) Vietnam (5) Germany. Tasty.

6. Pasta.

7. Soft rock.

8. Kart, Tennis, Cycling, Backgammon.

9. Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu. Get half a point each for mentioning any of these territories/states that aren't quite countries in their own right: Taiwan (Republic of China), Transnistria (Transnistrian Moldovan Republic), Tokelau (overseas territory of New Zealand), Tristan da Cunha (dependency of the UK overseas territory of Saint Helena), Turks and Caicos Islands (UK overseas territory).

10. Sébastien Bourdais, Timo Glock, Nick Heidfeld, Sebastian Vettel, Fernando Alonso, Jarno Trulli.

11. Martina Navratilova.

12. 1978-79, 1982-87, 1990.

13. William Renshaw and Pete Sampras.

14. William Renshaw: 1881-86, 1889. Pete Sampras: 1993-95, 1997-2000.

15. 1985, 1988-91.

16. 1992, 1995-97, 2001-02.

17. (1) Mika Häkkinen (2) Michael Schumacher (3) Ralf Schumacher (4) David Coulthard (5) Jenson Button (6) Heinz-Harald Frentzen (7) Jacques Villeneuve (8) Johnny Herbert (9) Mika Salo (10) Eddie Irvine.

18. (1) Kimi Räikkönen (2) Felipe Massa (3) Fernando Alonso (4) Lewis Hamilton (5) Nick Heidfeld (6) Nico Rosberg (7) Mark Webber (8) Heikki Kovalainen (9) Robert Kubica (10) Ralf Schumacher.

19. (1) Noah (2) Thomas (3) Nathan (4) Lucas (5) Louis (6) Arthur (7) Milan (8) Hugo (9) Maxime (10) Mohamed.

20. (1) Emma (2) Marie (3) Laura (4) Julie (5) Louise (6) Clara (7) Manon (8) Léa (9) Sarah (10) Luna.

21. (a) Tampa Bay Rays (b) Seattle Mariners (c) Arizona Diamondbacks (d) Baltimore Orioles (e) Colorado Rockies (f) Minnesota Twins.

22. (a) Tampa Bay Buccaneers (b) Seattle Seahawks (c) Arizona Cardinals (d) Baltimore Ravens (e) Carolina Panthers (f) Minnesota Vikings.

23. Chicago Bulls, Cleveland Cavaliers, Detroit Pistons, Indiana Pacers and Milwaukee Bucks.

24. (a) Saturday Night Beaver (b) Beverly Hills Cock (c) Rambone (d) Honey I Blew Everybody (e) The Hills Have Thighs (f) The Loin King (g) Bridge Over The River KY (h) Shaving Ryan's Privates (i) Jurassic Pork (j) Hannah Does Her Sisters.

25. (2) Asafa Powell (3) Tyson Gay (4) Maurice Greene (=5) Donovan Bailey, Bruny Surin (=7) Leroy Burrell, Justin Gatlin, Olusoji Fasuba (=10) Carl Lewis, Frankie Fredericks, Ato Boldon, Francis Obikwelu. (*Javelin fact made up.)

26. 400m individual medley. 4 x 100m freestyle relay, 200m freestyle, 200m butterfly, 4 x 200m freestyle relay, 200m individual medley, 100m butterfly, 4 x 100m medley relay. Yes, they are all for swimming. Get one point if you said swimming.

27. (1) 2008: Beijing, China (you'd better have got this, lose five points if you didn't) (2) 2004: Athens, Greece (3) 2000: Sydney, Australia (4) 1996: Atlanta, USA (5) 1992: Barcelona, Spain (6) 1988: Seoul, South Korea (7) 1984: Los Angeles, USA (8) 1980: Moscow, Soviet Union (9) 1976: Montreal, Canada (10) 1972: Munich, West Germany.

28. Jacques Joseph Charles Villeneuve.

29. Fernando Alonso is the youngest (24 years, 58 days in 2005) and Juan Manuel Fangio is the oldest (46 years, 41 days in 1957).

PHOTOGRAPHY: SUTTON IMAGES, THOMAS BUTLER. CREATIVE RETOUCHING: LEE LAUGHTON

GP BELGIUM QUOTES

Change, all change: Kazuki doesn't want to go, Kimi considers taking a back seat and Mark Webber salutes past heroes.

"IT IS NATURAL THAT GUYS WILL SAY, BACK IN THE DAY IT WAS MORE DANGEROUS, BUT ACTUALLY WHAT SENNA AND CO DROVE, THEY WERE PUSSIES COMPARED TO WHAT JACK BRABHAM DROVE. THE SPORT MOVES ON. THE REAL HEROES WERE BACK IN THE 1960S AND 1970S"

MARK WEBBER DISCUSSES THE NEW, SAFER EAU ROUGE

"WE PLAN TO SEE BOTH CARS FINISH SOLIDLY IN THE POINTS"

MARIO THEISSEN KEPT THE PRESSURE FIRMLY ON STRUGGLING NICK HEIDFELD AS THE TEAM ARRIVED IN SPA

"I SAID AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR THAT IF I HAD TO PUT MONEY DOWN I WOULD PUT IT ON MASSA, AND I WILL STICK TO IT"

ROBERT KUBICA REMAINS FIRM IN TIPPING MASSA TO WIN THE CHAMPIONSHIP

"I DID A GREAT LAP, ALMOST A PERFECT LAP, BUT IT WASN'T ENOUGH. SOMETIMES, YOU DO A GREAT LAP AND YOU'RE STILL MISSING SOMETHING"

FELIPE MASSA BEMOANS MISSING OUT ON POLE POSITION TO LEWIS HAMILTON

"YOU CHANGE YOUR TARGETS. WE ALL WANT TO WIN, WE ALL WANT TO FIGHT FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP, BUT WHEN YOU REALISE IT IS NOT POSSIBLE YOU NEED TO MAKE A NEW TARGET. FOR ME, IT IS TO HELP RENAULT FINISH IN FOURTH IN THE CONSTRUCTORS' CHAMPIONSHIP, SO MY TARGET FROM NOW UNTIL THE END OF THE SEASON IS TO BEAT TOYOTA"

FERNANDO ALONSO REMAINS FOCUSED

"I REALLY HOPE TO STAY AT WILLIAMS. THAT WOULD BE MY BEST CHOICE. BUT THEN THERE AREN'T MANY OTHER CHOICES, SO TO STAY AT WILLIAMS WOULD BE IDEAL FOR ME"

KAZUKI NAKAJIMA ACCEPTS THE REALITY OF A TOUGH DRIVER MARKET

"IT ALL DEPENDS ON HOW THE NEXT FEW RACES GO AND WHERE WE ARE AT THE END OF THE YEAR, BUT WE RACE AS A TEAM. WE WILL SEE. HOPEFULLY, WE WON'T END UP IN THAT SITUATION, AND HOPEFULLY I WILL BE IN THE CHAMPIONSHIP UP TO THE LAST RACE. BUT YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT CAN HAPPEN."

KIMI RÄIKKÖNEN ADMITS HE WILL CONSIDER BECOMING FERRARI'S NO.2 AS HE IS OUT-QUALIFIED BY HIS TEAMMATE AT SPA

THE RED BULLETIN

Publisher Norman Howell **Editor** Justin Hynes **Executive Editor** Anthony Rowlinson
Chief Sub-editor Nancy James **Production Editor** Rebecca Eling
Senior Sub-editor Kate Johnson **Sub-editor** Alex Hazle
Chief Writer Matt Youson **Senior Writer** Adam Hay-Nicholls **Contributor** Bob Constanduros
Creative Director Miles English **Art Director** James Greenhow **Art Editor** Phil Slade
Photo Editor Susie Forman **Deputy Photo Editor** Catherine Shaw
Production Manager Adam Carbajal **Deputy Production Manager** Lee Laughton
Staff Photographer Thomas Butler
Web Manager Will Radford **Web Editor** Paul Keith **Assistant Web Producer** Tom Howell

Office Manager Kate Robson **Admin Assistant** Sarah Thompson
Project Manager Justine Hoffmann **Operations Manager** Leigh Pothecary
Logistics Martin Woodfine **Technical Assistant** Lenny Willis
IT Werner Stadlober, Christoph Raunig
Printer Oswald Halwax **Print Co-ordinator** Martin Young
Published by Red Bulletin GmbH. F1/Formula 1/Formula One and devices and translations thereof are trademarks of Formula One Licensing BV, a Formula One company. F1/Formula 1 device used with permission. Produced with Adobe products.
Email: secret.service@uk.redbulletin.com

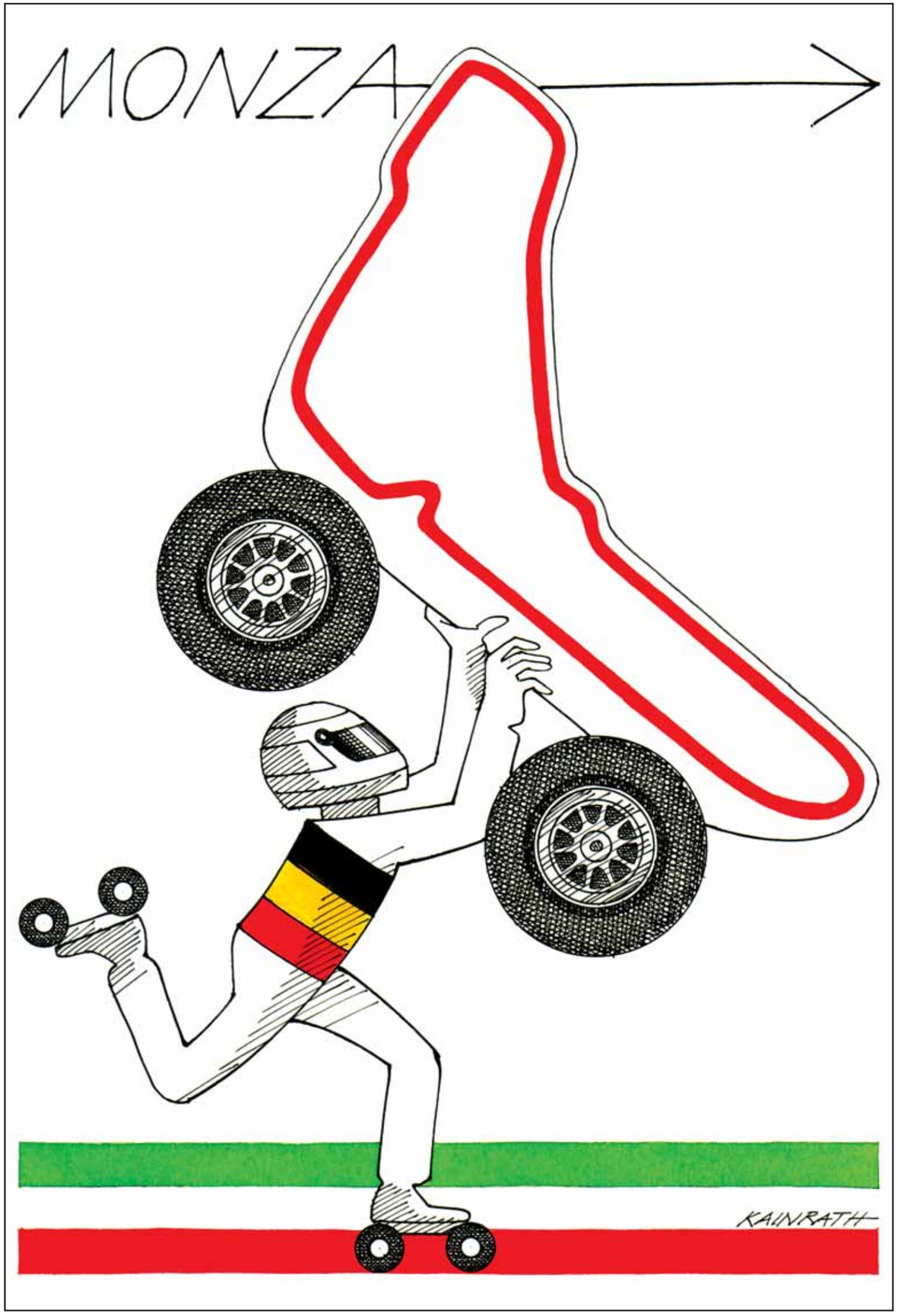


ILLUSTRATION: DIETMAR KAINRATH

SPA'08 RACE RESULTS

2 FELIPE MASSA FERRARI

1 LEWIS HAMILTON MCLAREN-MERCEDES

3 NICK HEIDFELD BMW SAUBER

RESULTS IN FULL

	DRIVER	TEAM	LAPS	TIME	POINTS
1	**Lewis Hamilton**	McLaren-Mercedes	44	1 hr 22:44.933	10
2	**Felipe Massa**	Ferrari	44	+14.4 secs	8
3	**Nick Heidfeld**	BMW Sauber	44	+23.8 secs	6
4	**Fernando Alonso**	Renault	44	+28.9 secs	5
5	**Sebastian Vettel**	STR-Ferrari	44	+29.0 secs	4
6	**Robert Kubica**	BMW Sauber	44	+29.4 secs	3
7	**Sébastien Bourdais**	STR-Ferrari	44	+31.1 secs	2
8	**Timo Glock**	Toyota	44	+56.5 secs	1
9	**Mark Webber**	RBR-Renault	44	+57.2 secs	
10	**Heikki Kovalainen**	McLaren-Mercedes	43	+1 lap	
11	**David Coulthard**	RBR-Renault	43	+1 lap	
12	**Nico Rosberg**	Williams-Toyota	43	+1 lap	
13	**Adrian Sutil**	Force India-Ferrari	43	+1 lap	
14	**Kazuki Nakajima**	Williams-Toyota	43	+1 lap	
15	**Jenson Button**	Honda	43	+1 lap	
16	**Jarno Trulli**	Toyota	43	+1 lap	
17	**Giancarlo Fisichella**	Force India-Ferrari	43	+1 lap	
Ret	**Kimi Räikkönen**	Ferrari	42	+2 laps	
Ret	**Rubens Barrichello**	Honda	19	+25 laps	
Ret	**Nelson Piquet**	Renault	13	+31 laps	

FASTEST LAP: RÄIKKÖNEN 1:47.930

DRIVERS' CHAMPIONSHIP

	DRIVER	PTS
1	**L Hamilton**	**80**
2	**F Massa**	**72**
3	**R Kubica**	**58**
4	**K Räikkönen**	**57**
5	**N Heidfeld**	**47**
6	**H Kovalainen**	**43**
7	**J Trulli**	**26**
8	**F Alonso**	**23**
9	**M Webber**	**18**
10	**T Glock**	**16**

CONSTRUCTORS' CHAMPIONSHIP

	TEAM	PTS
1	**Ferrari**	**129**
2	**McLaren-Mercedes**	**123**
3	**BMW Sauber**	**105**
4	**Toyota**	**42**
5	**Renault**	**36**
6	**Red Bull-Renault**	**24**
7	**Williams-Toyota**	**17**
8	**STR-Ferrari**	**17**
9	**Honda**	**14**
10	**Force India-Ferrari**	**0**

WHAT HAPPENED?

Spa at the start of the Belgian Grand Prix was, if not wet, then at least damp. Hamilton made a good getaway, behind him Massa slithered. Kimi got away the better and was robust with his team-mate. Trulli made a lightning start from 11th, only to get tagged by the also fast-starting Bourdais. Kovalainen had a rotten start. Hamilton had problems at the start of lap two, going wide at La Source and allowing Kimi through. Then 41 further laps passed without too much drama.



Lap 42: Räikkönen leading by 1.5s from Lewis, with him three seconds ahead of Massa. Hamilton looked like a man settling for second, then the rain started. Not torrential, but enough. Räikkönen slipped and slid, Hamilton attempted a pass at the chicane, Kimi pushed him wide. Hamilton cut the corner, but yielded the place back, and then made a clean pass at La Source. He slid off at the top of the hill; Kimi went past; Kimi slid off, Hamilton regained the lead. Kimi came out of Blanchimont, met very slow traffic and spun, hard; car destroyed in the wall. Hamilton only needed to keep on the track to take an unlikely victory. He managed it. Just.



Massa came around to take second, behind him chaos reigned. Proper chaos, for a moment F1 looked like GP2 – or MotoGP. Formula One gone feral. Alonso was running third, but then stopped on the last lap for wet tyres. Heidfeld had stopped a lap earlier, and was rampaging through the field. He went around the outside of team-mate Kubica at Rivage, passed both Toros on the run down to Pouhon. Alonso was likewise charging, passing cars all the way down to the finish line. There were yellow flags waving for Räikkönen's destroyed Ferrari, but no one seemed to be paying them much attention. Heidfeld took third, Alonso fourth, Vettel fifth, Kubica sixth, Bourdais seventh and Glock eighth. On the podium, Lewis looked thrilled, Massa puzzled and Heidfeld bewildered. Thrilled, puzzled, bewildered: that pretty much summed it up.



FOR MORE, VISIT: WWW.REDBULLETINF1.COM

PHOTOGRAPHY: XPB, GETTY IMAGES, SUTTON IMAGES. COVER: THOMAS BUTLER