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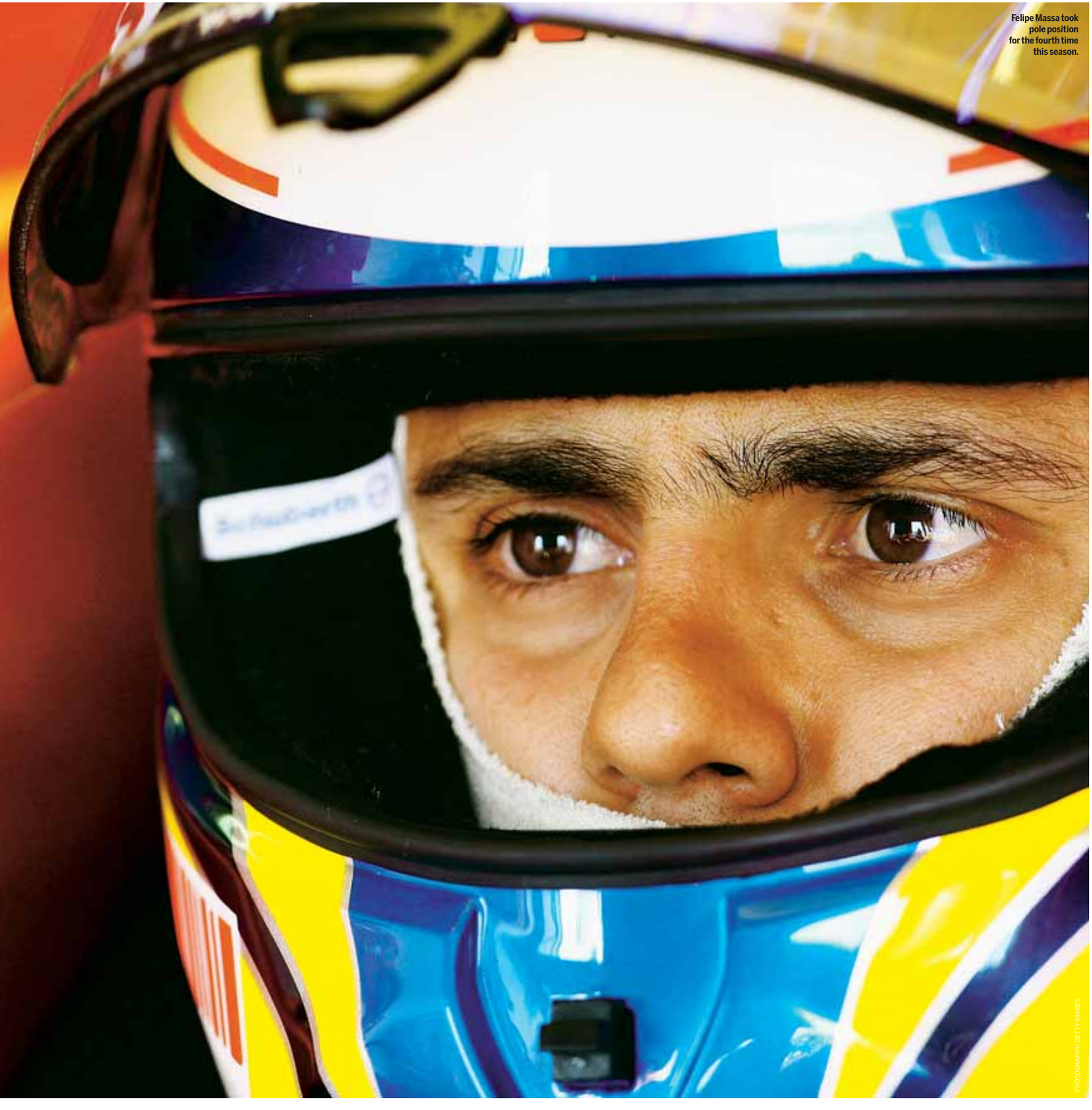
AN ALMOST INDEPENDENT F1 NEWSPAPER



RAIKKONEN RETURNS

FRANCE 2007

The last French Grand Prix at Magny-Cours signalled a new dawn for Ferrari, when Felipe Massa put the Scuderia on pole. As the lights came on for the start of the race, the big question was whether the Italian team had done enough to close the gap on the charging McLarens.



Felipe Massa took pole position for the fourth time this season.

PHOTOGRAPHY: GETTY IMAGES

FRANCE'S ONLY representative driver, Franck Montagny, was in demand all over the race weekend.



RENAULT'S QUALIFYING performance was a big step in the right direction after a difficult start to the year.







DESPITE THE Red Bull team's best efforts (from far left), David Coulthard's qualifying bid came to an early end.



PHOTOGRAPHY GETTY IMAGES, THOMAS BUTLER, AT



CHANGE OF GEAR: Fernando Alonso's hopes of being on top here were dealt a blow when he was forced back to the garage with a faulty gearbox in qualifying. He was forced to start 10th with a long, hard road ahead...

PHOTOGRAPHY: GETTY IMAGES

JEAN TODT sings the praises of the Ferrari team, who seem to be working in perfect harmony.











AUSTRIAN TV journalist Heinz Prüller gets the whole story.



PHOTOGRAPHY: THOMAS BUTLER



WORLD CHAMPION Fernando Alonso faces the international press.





TRACK MARSHALS clear the debris left by the clash which ended the race for Davidson, Liuzzi and Trulli. Kovalainen (above) rejoined the race two laps down.

PHOTOGRAPHY: CRISPIN THRUSTON, THOMAS BUTLER



TONIO LIUZZI loses a wheel in the gravel trap after getting caught in a four-car accident at the Adelaide Hairpin.

RAIKKONEN HEADS Massa in the closing stages of the race after passing him during the second round of pit stops. He went on to win – his first victory since the opening grand prix of the season in Australia.

PHOTOGRAPHY: GEPA

CUT HERE...

Hairdressers are the best interviewers in the world. So we asked top celebrity coiffeur and F1 fan Trevor Sorbie to give Nick Heidfeld a new look, while we recorded the conversation.

Trevor Sorbie: When did you last have your hair cut, Nick?

Nick Heidfeld: About seven weeks ago. I've been unable to find a good hairdresser in Switzerland, so last time my girlfriend cut it. I like it quite long, but not too long as I don't want it in my eyes when I'm racing. Also, if I let it grow out too much it starts to look a bit like a helmet. But you do it how you like, I'm totally open.

TS: Well, I think we can take a bit off the fringe – I don't want to be responsible for any on-track carnage – but I'd like to keep the length as it is at the sides, so it will maintain a slightly heavy shape… Hey, you're looking pretty quick this year… ➜

➜ NH: Yeah, the McLarens are ahead but we're catching up with Ferrari.

TS: Do you actually watch the race on TV afterwards like everyone else?

NH: Yes, it's important psychologically because after you see it your mind automatically moves on to the next race. It's closure, if you like. Plus it's important to see what happened overall and how the others got on… So F1 must be in all the papers over here now, because of Hamilton…

TS: Oh God, and it's not simply because of what he's doing, it's because he's British. We've lacked a sporting hero in Britain for quite a long time now. Yes, there are successful sports people like Kelly Holmes, but no-one really massive. But I get the feeling that Ron's protecting him from the outside world, to help him keep his feet on the ground.

NH: That's what I've heard.

TS: You know the way a lot of pop bands are manufactured – picked from obscurity and then styled, coached and produced. Do you think the same can be done with a racing driver?

NH: No, it's not possible. You have to have talent, that's the most important thing. And you can develop those skills for sure, you can learn and improve with experience, but the natural ability has to be there. McLaren have developed Hamilton in the best way possible, though I believe there are key skills that can also be learned from driving a car that isn't the best. By always being in the best car throughout his career, Hamilton has had to cope with enormous pressure because he's been expected to win. If he had failed in any of the series as he climbed the ladder, he could have been dismissed. But he didn't, so he wasn't. He's always got the job done.

'FOR SURE, FERNANDO DIDN'T EXPECT THIS. EVEN THOUGH HAMILTON WAS FAST IN TESTING. BUT PEOPLE WHO KNOW HIM WELL ARE LESS SURPRISED'

TS: It's been interesting to watch Alonso's body language in recent press conferences. He doesn't look a very happy man.

NH: Definitely not, you're right.

TS: He and Raikkonen are under enormous pressure from their team-mates.

NH: These team-mates have the same equipment and the fastest driver wins, it's as simple as that. For sure, Fernando didn't expect this. He's a two-time world champion. Even though Hamilton was fast in testing, there's no way anyone could have predicted he would be leading the championship by 10 points after seven rounds. But people who know him well are less surprised.

TS: I think Fernando's just been trying too hard.

NH: Yep. It's surprised me because he's usually quite good under pressure. In Canada he made several mistakes. In Indy he had quite a good race. He was quick, but he just couldn't get past.

TS: How does it feel when your car breaks down? It must be frustrating as hell.

NH: It is frustrating, particularly if drivers that you've overtaken end up in the points or even on the podium. What makes it easier is that our team is quite young and will achieve a lot more. We can be patient.

TS: Whatsisname Vettel did quite well. What is he, 19?

NH: Yep, the youngest driver ever to score a point.

TS: Doesn't that worry you, a fast rookie in the team?

NH: No, not at all. If I had had a perfect race I would have finished third and he would have been out of the points. But he did a good job for his first race.

TS: How old are you Nick?

NH: 30

TS: Really?

NH: If I take my beard off I look 24.

TS: Speaking of which, do you want your beard to stay this heavy? I think it should be shallower. I'll tell you why, it's because your beard is slightly darker than the hair on your head. If we make it thinner, that will help… Robert Kubica's crash in Montreal was horrific.

NH: Yes, I didn't see it happen, but obviously I drove past the wreckage and it looked bad.

TS: Does that affect you a little bit?

NH: Yes it does, but you have to focus totally on what you are doing, otherwise there's a greater chance you'll have an accident yourself. I got as much information from the team as I could while the safety car was out, but then tried to put it to the back of my mind.

TS: Where do you live?

NH: Close to Zurich. I've been there five years.

TS: Is that by choice or is it a tax thing?

NH: No, I was in Monaco before, and if it was just about tax I would have stayed in Monaco.

TS: I don't know how anyone can live in Monaco. It's such a small town.

NH: I was there for two years and I didn't enjoy it that much.

TS: What's your favourite track?

NH: Suzuka, but this year we're going to Fuji. Maybe Suzuka will be back on the calendar again next year.

TS: And I've heard something about India in 2009. I tell you what, the drivers had better be careful what they eat the night before! Who's your all-time driving hero?

NH: Well I don't really have an idol but maybe it would be Senna.

TS: Imola '94 was one of the few races I missed, and I'm quite glad I did. Do you ever worry about the danger?

NH: Of racing? No, not at all. A haircut scares me more!

TS: What do you do in your spare time – to relax?

NH: I have a baby girl. When I'm home I spend lots of time with her. And my girlfriend is expecting the next one at the end of July, so not far to go. I also play golf… Do you think I should comb my hair across here?

TS: I don't think so. This is a modern, young, trendy haircut. It should look like it hasn't been combed in three or four days. The minute you start manicuring it, it'll look like you're trying too hard. You want to look a bit rough. Also you don't need any product in your hair, you should keep it natural or maybe just use a small amount of dry sculpting wax. I'll slap a little bit on for you… There you go Nick, you're all done.

NH: Thank you very much, Trevor. It was a real pleasure and an honour.

TS: Mine too. Best of luck with everything and I'll be keeping my fingers crossed for you at the next race.

WHO?

Nick Heidfeld: German Formula One driver for the BMW-Sauber team. Known as Quick Nick.

Trevor Sorbie: Famous British hairdresser. Been in the business for 42 years. Won British Hairdresser Of The Year award three times.

WHERE & WHEN

Where: Covent Garden, London
When: Monday, June 18









PHOTOGRAPHY: CHRIS FLOYD



The makeover's complete and here's the new Nick. "OK, I'm ready for my 'after' picture now," he says.



MANIA 2: THE SEQUEL?

I had the pleasure of standing at the top of the podium in my home country on four occasions. There is absolutely no doubt in my mind that the supporters played their part in driving me to those achievements on British circuits. You cannot fail to be inspired when you have the backing of crowds like that."

So said Nigel Mansell of the crazed receptions that greeted him whenever he appeared at Silverstone. Hundreds of thousands of Union flags, the deafening roar of hordes of sudden converts to the cause, hysteria on a national level.

With the exception of a burst of Damon Hill-inspired fanaticism in the mid-'90s, Silverstone has been quiet since the giddy days of Mansell-mania, but that's about to change.

According to British GP officials, interest in next week's race has gone off the chart as increasingly manic headlines proclaim Lewis Hamilton to be a cross between Michael Schumacher, Tiger Woods, David Beckham and Princess Diana.

Make no mistake, Lewisteria is upon us and next week is going to be insane. Don't say we didn't warn you.



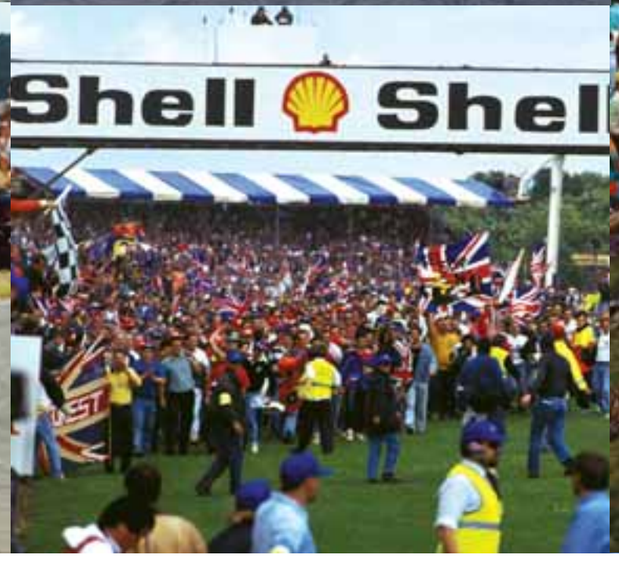












PHOTOGRAPHY: SUTTON IMAGES



I AM SWALLOW by Dani Reinhard. The winner of our little competition this race is this touching tableau of a mother feeding her baby bird, tenderly and instinctively answering the clarion call of her young. The eternal irony here, of course, is the contrasting manner in which the parent nourishes her offspring while in the next region, farmers are busy shoving tubes down the throats of geese to make delicious foie gras. This is nature at its most heart-warming. Sigh.



NOAH'S ART by Bernard Asset. Asset (a simply divine name for an artist) has here given us his take on the biblical story in which the animals went into the Ark two by two. He has given that tale (or tail, if you will...) a subtle twist by putting different species – bovine and avian – within the same frame, to underline the lesson of the parable of Father Noah; that our salvation lies in our co-operation. Timeless.

WILDLIFE COMPETITION: FRANCE WINNERS

We asked for your pictures of the wild side of Nevers and you responded heroically. The winner of a litre of fresh milk is Dani Reinhard. In Britain, we want a set of badger photos.



WAIT OF EXPECTATION by Peter Nygaard. The veteran nature exponent has taken a metaphorical path to revealing Magny-Cours' underbelly. The sight of a hippo on high, poised to operate a see-saw reflects the weight of expectation before each grand prix. Heavy.



A FRENCH BOVINE YARD by Martyn Elford. This sensitive unitych from Elford is a subtle exposé of his myriad talents. It gives deep insight into the daily grind which is grass grazing, while simultaneously portraying the innate complexity of life. The bars are clearly a metaphor for us all.

NEXT WEEK: BADGERS

FORMULA UNA FRANCE: SABRINA GUILLOUD

Say Bonjour and À Bientôt to Red Bull's La Una France for 2007: 20-year-old student Sabrina.

Luckily for us, in her year off before she goes to college to read communications at Lugano, Switzerland, Sabrina found time to visit Magny-Cours. She's a newly converted F1 fan and it's partly because of the guy at the top of the leader board. Yes, she's a Lewis fan, too. "He's so cute and very polite," said Sabrina. We'll see her next in Sao Paulo, but she's been there before. "I was at the Rio carnival this year, so I know about the great party atmosphere in Brazil." Look out for her at the Red Bull Party in October then, she'll be first on the dance floor.

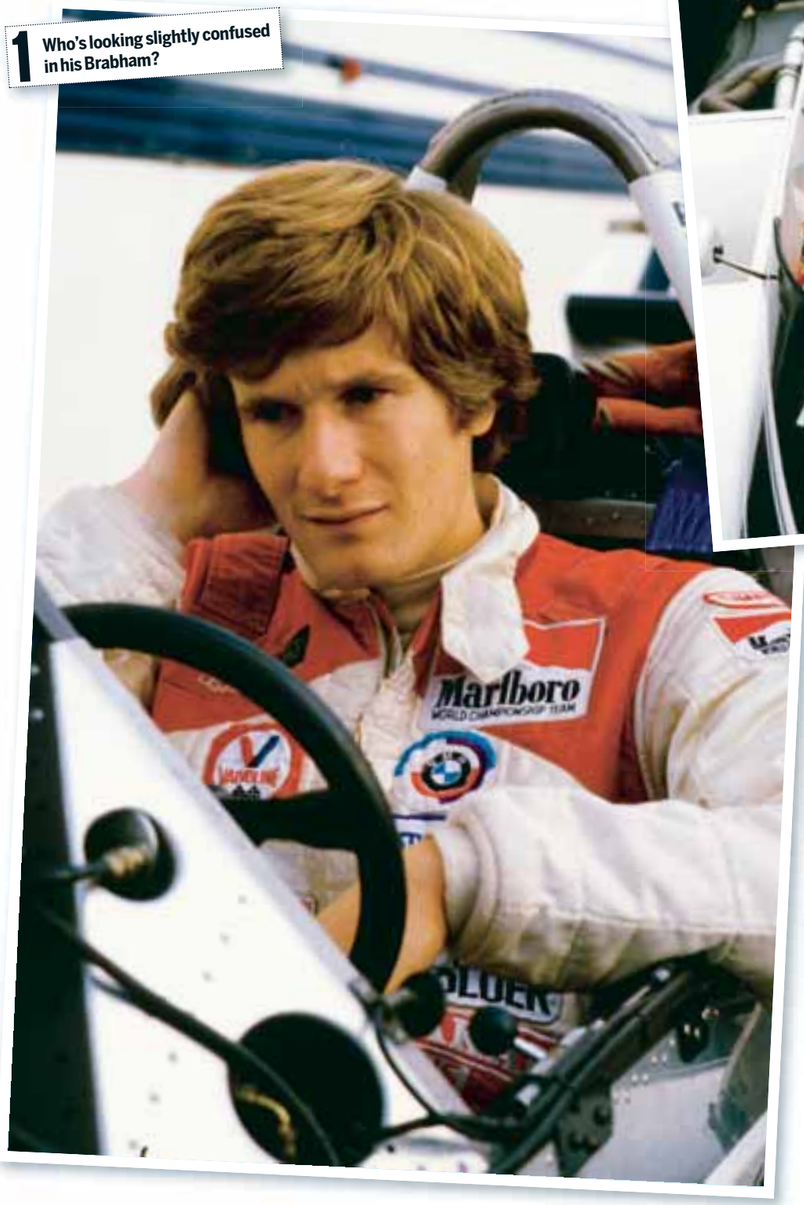


PHOTOGRAPHY: THOMAS BUTLER

GRIDDLE

There's just one more thing to do before you head home – try our quiz. The answers are below.

1 Who's looking slightly confused in his Brabham?



2 And who is this in another Brabham?



3 Car and driver please?



4 Again, name the car and driver?



PHOTOGRAPHY: SUTTON IMAGES

THE RED BULLETIN

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1 Thierry Boutsen **2** Corrado Fabi. **3** Derek Warwick, who failed to qualify this Toleman Hart at the 1981 Spanish GP. **4** It's Derek Daly in the March 811. He retired from the 1981 Spanish Grand Prix with a blown engine.

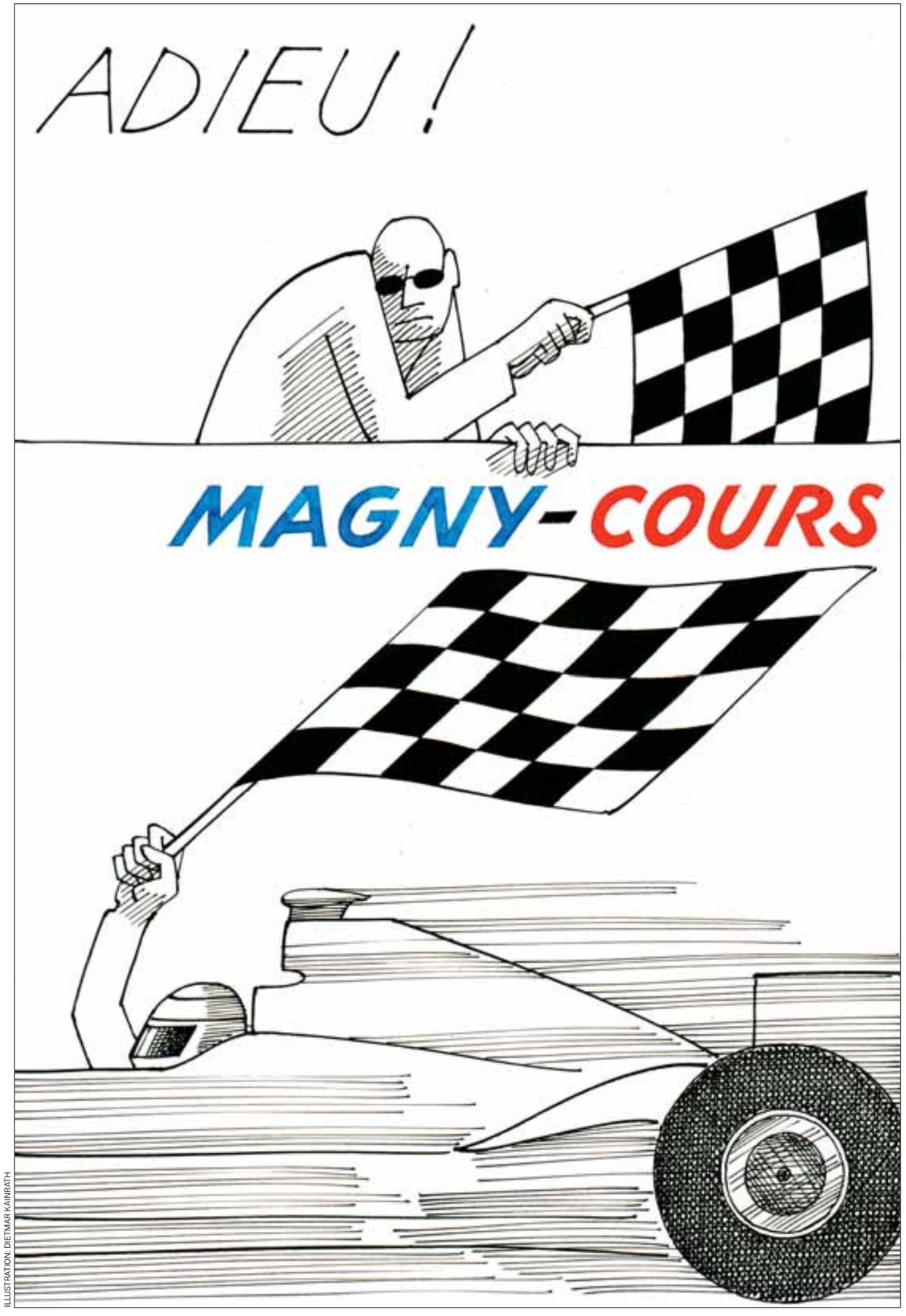


ILLUSTRATION: DIETMAR KAINRATH

FRA'07 RACE RESULTS

2 F MASSA FERRARI

1 K RAIKKONEN FERRARI

3 L HAMILTON McLAREN-MERCEDES

RESULTS IN FULL

	DRIVER	TEAM	LAPS	TIME	POINTS
1	**Kimi Raikkonen**	Ferrari	70	1hr 30:54.200	10
2	**Felipe Massa**	Ferrari	70	+2.4 secs	8
3	**Lewis Hamilton**	McLaren-Mercedes	70	+32.1 secs	6
4	**Robert Kubica**	BMW-Sauber	70	+41.7 secs	5
5	**Nick Heidfeld**	BMW-Sauber	70	+48.8 secs	4
6	**Giancarlo Fisichella**	Renault	70	+52.2 secs	3
7	**Fernando Alonso**	McLaren-Mercedes	70	+56.5 secs	2
8	**Jenson Button**	Honda	70	+58.8 secs	1
9	**Nico Rosberg**	Williams-Toyota	70	+68.5 secs	
10	**Ralf Schumacher**	Toyota	69	+1 lap	
11	**Rubens Barrichello**	Honda	69	+1 lap	
12	**Mark Webber**	RBR-Renault	69	+1 lap	
13	**David Coulthard**	RBR-Renault	68	+1 lap	
14	**Alexander Wurz**	Williams-Toyota	76	+1 lap	
15	**Heikki Kovalainen**	Renault	76	+1 lap	
16	**Takuma Sato**	Super Aguri-Honda	76	+2 laps	
17	**Adrian Sutil**	Spyker-Ferrari	76	+2 laps	
Ret	**Scott Speed**	STR-Ferrrari	55	+15 laps	
Ret	**Christijan Albers**	Spyker-Ferrari	28	+42 laps	
Ret	**Anthony Davidson**	Super Aguri-Honda	1	+69 laps	
Ret	**Jarno Trulli**	Toyota	1	+69 laps	
Ret	**Vitantonio Liuzzi**	STR-Ferrari	0	+70 laps	

MASSA 1:16.099

DRIVER'S CHAMPIONSHIP

	DRIVER	PTS
1	**L Hamilton**	**64**
1	**F Alonso**	**50**
3	**F Massa**	**47**
4	**K Raikkonen**	**42**
5	**N Heidfeld**	**30**
6	**R Kubica**	**17**
7	**G Fisichella**	**16**
8	**H Kovalainen**	**12**
9	**A Wurz**	**8**
10	**J Trulli**	**7**

CONSTRUCTORS' CHAMPIONSHIP

	TEAM	PTS
1	**McLaren-Mercedes**	**114**
2	**Ferrari**	**89**
3	**BMW-Sauber**	**48**
4	**Renault**	**28**
5	**Williams-Toyota**	**13**
5	**Toyota**	**9**
7	**RBR-Renault**	**6**
8	**Super Aguri-Honda**	**4**
9	**Honda**	**1**

THREE KILLED IN CRASH

As we went to press the details of a tragic helicopter crash were revealed. The accident occurred in a forest near to the circuit last night and resulted in the deaths of three people. Two other passengers were injured in the crash, including one Bridgestone employee. Our thoughts and sympathies go out to all their friends and families.

LIVE RACE PICTURES









PHOTOGRAPHY: CRISPIN THRUSTON, THOMAS BUTLER. COVER PICTURE: SUTTON IMAGES

To see more + full race report visit:

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