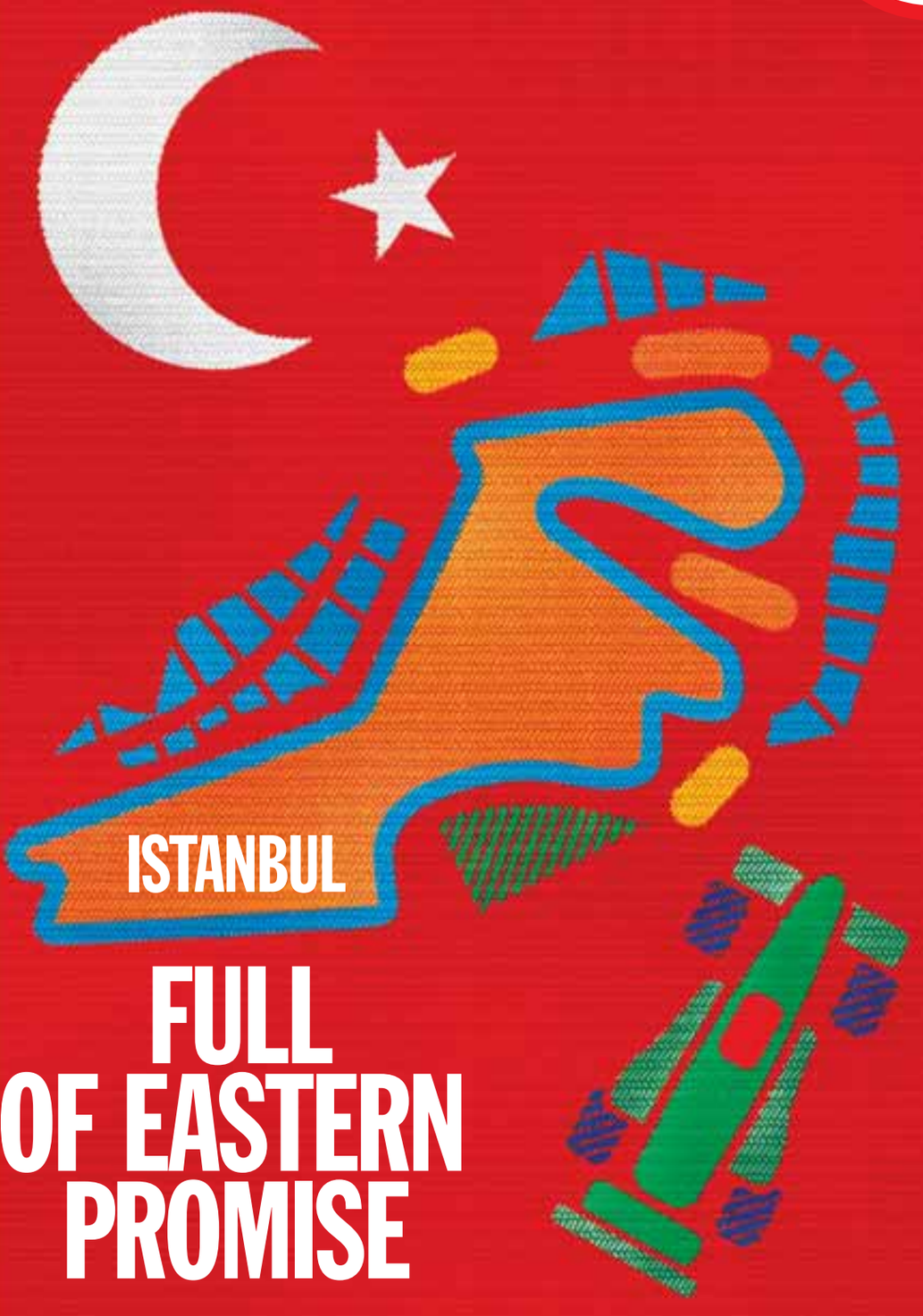
THE RED BULLETIN

ISSUE 31, GP TURKEY, FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 2005

AN ALMOST INDEPENDENT F1 NEWSPAPER

PRINTED HERE AT THE RACE TRACK

Formula 1



ISTANBUL

FULL OF EASTERN PROMISE



WILLIAMS

MARK WEBBER TOOK time out of official duties at Williams to visit the grave of one of his forefathers, who fell at Gallipoli during the Allies' disastrous first world war campaign in the Dardanelles region. Webber, who pitched up early in Turkey to fulfil sponsor obligations with HP, made the journey to Canakkale to pay his respects and remember the sacrifices of his countrymen in the ANZAC armies. Fighting spirit seems to run in the Webber family then.

BAR

FOR THE HIRSUTE AMONG us, BAR was the motor-home to be in yesterday. Sponsor Lucky Strike organised a Turkish-style shave for the boys (and possibly some of the ladies, who knows). There was also a facial on offer, too. BBC Radio Five Live producer Jason Swales was one of the first on to the chair. "It was awesome," he observed. What, the shave? "No," he replied. "The facial." Swales later confessed it was not the first one he had enjoyed. Which is worrying for a shaven-headed Glaswegian, a race not normally known for being deeply in touch with their feminine side.





RED BULL

DEDICATION to the cause is one thing, but Red Bull truckie Kurt Kent pushed the limits of endurance when he decided to hitch a ride with his truck by sea from Trieste to get to this race. "Sixty-four hours in prison," he lamented after his marathon sea trek. Any idea that this novel way of transporting the F1 paddock to a race would turn into some sort of cruise ship holiday soon went out the window, as the freighter was not equipped to deal with passengers, having a mere six cabins on board. Kent found himself sharing living space with a couple of Ferrari guys and some Iranian truck drivers. So what did you do for three days Kurt? "I read a book, I played chess and cards. There was a TV, but the lead had gone missing. The whole ship vibrated like mad, so it was hard to get to sleep and there was only one small part of the deck where we were allowed to go to get some fresh air." What were your meals like? "There were strict half-hour slots for breakfast, lunch and dinner and you got whatever the crew got, with no choices. Oh, and it took me two days to find the milk for my coffee!" So, you're unlikely to be going on a cruise any time soon? "x!£$%**^*!"

PACESETTER

WHATEVER YOUR OPINION of F1 supremo Bernie Ecclestone, he is a man of his word. When confronted by Bob McKenzie of the Daily Express, collecting sponsorship money after his naked romp around Silverstone, Bernie emerged from his truck with a handful of readies. McKenzie retreated to count the pennies. The bounty amounted to a whopping E7,300, almost half the total raised so far. McKenzie will be knocking on more high profile doors this weekend to collect on pledges made. If you have still to cough up, you better make it big to be in Bernie's league.



PHOTOS: REX FEATURES, SUTTON IMAGES, GETTY IMAGES

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The bulls in the china shop

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MAN OF LEISURE Eddie Jordan was spotted in Nice during the August break by The Bulletin, hanging out backstage and knocking back the black stuff with Irish pals U2. The band's sell-out Riviera gig attracted a host of famous faces including Sir Elton John. But we are a little surprised the former team principal (Jordan, not John) isn't involved with the recently announced Irish A1 Grand Prix team, but agree that it's much more fun pub crawling with Bono in the baking heat than rained on at Mondello Park. It could be worse, his former team, Jordan Grand Prix no longer exists, according to the Turkish Grand Prix's media guide. No, they haven't listed it under Midland F1. They just haven't listed it at all.

JORDAN



RENAULT



WITH THE DRIVERS championship far from over, Renault engineers arrived in Istanbul to discover that their championship leader Fernando Alonso was a shocking two seconds off the pace. The Enstone boffins believed a lap of 1:26 was possible. But Alonso could manage no better than 1:28. Fortunately for all concerned the inaugural Turkish Grand Prix will not be contested on a Playstation. Alonso said: "The computer simulation was almost perfect. The only thing it could not replicate was the gradients. Hopefully I will be quicker on Sunday than I was on the machine."



JENSON BUTTON warmed up for the Istanbul Grand Prix by spending a week in an Ibizan villa with his old mates from Frome. "You have to let your hair down some time. That's the whole point about being a F1 driver." He will have to temper his behaviour this weekend. His motorhome outside the circuit is parked next to a police station.

BAR

FOUR COMMENTARIES

THE DEVIL IS IN THE DETAIL

BY MAURICE HAMILTON

1 WE WEREN'T ALWAYS ON TIME

When practice kicks off as planned at 11am today, don't take it for granted. Ha! What am I saying? An Irish logic dictates I'm doing exactly that by writing this in advance. But you know what I mean. The F1 weekend timetable is as sure as night following day. If an engine starts up at 10.57, it must be Saturday. If Bernie's limo swishes towards the helipad at 10 past whatever time a major noise started out on the track, it must be Sunday. That sort of thing.

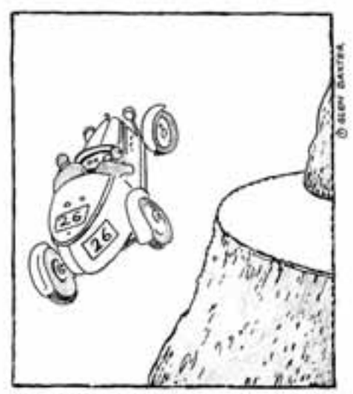
Yet the risk connected with following this line of logic is that I might appear more stupid than usual later today as the pit lane remains silent and everyone examines their watches and looks to Charlie. But I'm prepared to bet that won't happen even though this is a brand new venue in a country not accustomed to the complex demands associated with staging an F1 Grand Prix. But it wasn't always this way.

It used to be customary for each team to pack a football when going to a new track because the chances were they would have plenty of time to use it. If it wasn't a problem with the circuit itself, then there would be some form of administrative difficulty. In Dallas in 1984, it was a combination of both. Temporary circuits would obviously create more potential for concern than facilities such as the one you're standing in now, a model based on years of well-honed experience. Dallas could not have been more different. Here was a classic example of concrete walls defining the track by being dropped on to streets which scarcely seemed capable of dealing with blundering Buicks, heavy Chevys and the assorted paraphernalia of the Texan highways, never mind stiffly sprung F1 cars.

Then – and you won't believe this, given the quality and capability of the 2005 pass around your neck – the race organisers in Dallas had the temerity to suggest that the F1 credential system was not good enough and they wanted to implement their own. To say that did not go down well with Mr E was like telling President Bush the White House ought to be sprayed pink. That stand-off lasted for much of the first morning. You can guess who won, of course.

The track itself turned out to be a more difficult nut to crack. In its defence, the layout was imaginative and fast but the safety aspects were... tricky. However, the circuit really ran into problems late on Saturday afternoon when a race for powerful CanAm cars tore what passed for a surface to shreds as temperatures reached 35 degrees centigrade. The overnight answer was the use of quick-drying cement in time for the warm-up at 7am – an hour so ludicrous that Jacques Laffite marked it by turning up in the pit lane carrying his crash helmet and wearing pyjamas. He need not have bothered. The warm-up was cancelled and replaced by three reconnaissance laps as the cars went to the grid for the 11am start. So, don't complain if they run a minute or two late this weekend...

F1 FUNNIES



BY DAN KNUTSON

2 PASSING IS JUST THE PITS

Pop quiz: When was the last time we saw a pass for the lead on the track in a Grand Prix? How about the time before that? Tough to recall, isn't it? First corner shoving aside, it becomes difficult to remember a real honest pass for the lead. What F1 needs is more actual racing. And in my book, racing involves overtaking.

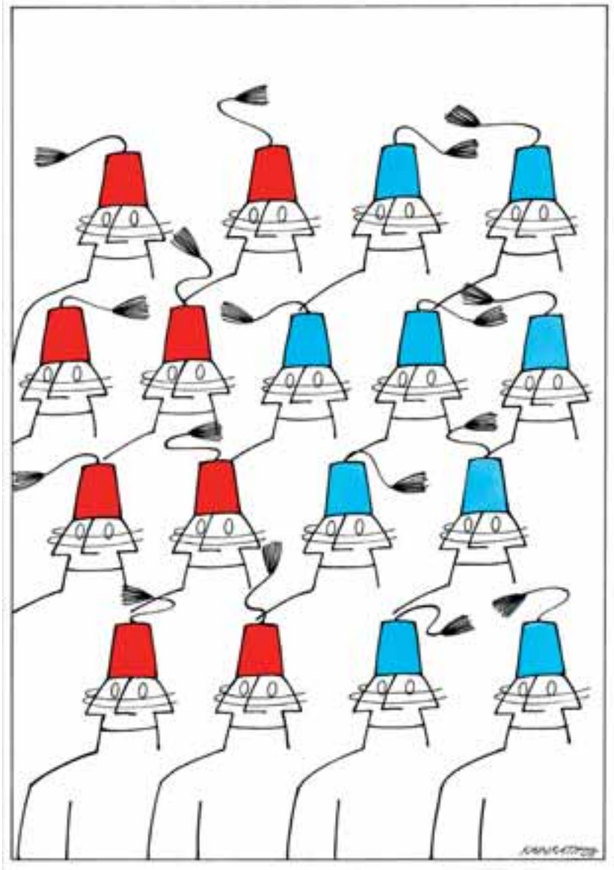
This year what we have seen is not racing but cars going fast. I'm tired of hearing a driver saying: "Well, I couldn't get by, so I just waited until he pitted and then put in some fast laps and came out ahead after my pit stop." In Germany, Montoya drove a stonking first lap to make up eight places. After that, once he was behind cars which were more equal in pace, the rest of his race relied on pit strategy. Excellent as his ultimate second place was, I'd bet JPM would have loved to carve his way by Schumi (as he did in Brazil in 2001) and the other drivers.

It's not the drivers' fault that pit stops are practically the only way they can pass. So it's time to change the cars and the rules and the tracks so that we can enjoy more good old-fashioned passing and racing. Track design is crucial, and we see far more action at the new Hockenheim and Bahrain tracks (although less so this season) than at places like Barcelona. But somehow Nigel Mansell managed to climb from 12th to first in Hungary in 1989. And Mansell and Ayrton Senna went side-by-side into turn one in Barcelona in 1991. Just how well will the new track here in Turkey encourage overtaking? So far it looks good: the circuit has that crucial element – hills.

F1 has the best technical brains in the business. And those brilliant minds need to be given free reign to come up with solutions so that the drivers can battle on the track.

"Oh, no," the purist will whine. "We don't want F1 to be like NASCAR with 70 lead changes in a race." I agree completely. But what I would like to see is a race with perhaps at least one on-track pass for the lead, or for that matter any other position, over 70 laps.

ILLUSTRATIONS: BAXTER, KAINRATH



3 FORMULA ONE TAKES TURKEY BY STORM

ably, the pickpockets are there because of the tourist trade and the trannies have worked out their money is safer tucked under a dress.

First official pickpocket victim of the weekend was veteran British hack, Ray Matts, who had his mobile phone lifted in the Grand Bazaar. "This guy stopped in front of me in a narrow alley, making out he was an imbecile," recounted a rueful Ray. "As I stepped to one side, so did he and then he took off with my mobile. I guess you could call it a new version of the Ali shuffle!" It really does makes you wonder which of them was the imbecile. Matts is always losing things and as the man from The Times commented: "At least it stopped him losing his phone later."

This really was the absolute final straw for Ray, as earlier in the day, he spent several frantic hours trying to find his wallet, only to discover he had dropped it in Minardi press man Graham Jones' car. Ray only realised it was missing when he fumbled around to pay a taxi driver who dropped him off at his hotel and discovered it had gone. Luckily he bumped into some fellow journos who paid for his cab, but the saga was not yet over. At the reception desk, he was told he needed his passport and a credit card to complete check-in formalities. He was halfway through explaining to the receptionist he had mislaid his wallet when the woman interrupted him by pointing out she no longer needed his card as he had no room booked. Yes, Mattsy had turned up at the wrong hotel! In the words of the popular song by D: Ream: "Things can only get better." But in Ray's case, possibly not.

PIT BITCH BY HELEN PARADYCE

4 LOST IN TRANSIT

Very confusing, very confusing indeed. The last time I looked at an atlas, this city was called Constantinople, located in the Ottoman Empire, which is not an upmarket warehouse selling settees and sofas.

The roads are confusing too. It took three hours to find our hotel. As the only woman in our car, I was told to drive, because my colleagues reckoned I was not genetically programmed for map reading. Tempers were getting frayed in our vehicle as, for the first time in living memory, we touched down stone-cold sober after an alcoholically challenged British Airways flight, courtesy of the company's caterers, who were still on strike. So, instead of doing the usual trick of letting the hire car find its own way into town, my intrepid navigators insisted on going all Marco Polo on me and at one point even took to giving me directions based on the position of the sun, which as far as I could tell, was up in the sky where it always was.

We had all been warned that driving in Turkey might be a challenging experience, but I think I coped quite well. Basically, it reminded me of dealing with the mean streets of Sao Paulo, but without the lane discipline and the rules. Although gasping for alcoholic refreshment, I'm glad I was not under the influence, otherwise I would never have believed my eyes when I spotted a man driving a horse and cart up the inside lane of the motorway into the city.

Driving in Turkey is challenging – like Sao Paulo without lane discipline or the rules

Eventually we arrived at our lodgings in Taksim Square. Here, we had been told to be on our guard against pickpockets and also (for the boys) not to get tangled up with the transvestites, for whom this part of town is a favourite hangout. Presum-

LIFE IN THE FAST LANE

THE WINNER WHO STILL WANTS IT ALL

The paddock's favourite distraction – football – is back with us. To celebrate we sat down with the legendary Manchester United manager Sir Alex Ferguson to talk about his hopes for the coming season. For him it remains victory which counts above all else – and his desire for success shows no signs of diminishing.

The dying days of autumn. In Istanbul, the F1 season is spiralling towards its conclusion, the annual frenzy which sees drivers swapping seats for next season, the time of year when the shape of the championship is finally revealed, when, perhaps, the first letters of the new champion's name can be carved.

But across Europe another sporting frenzy is building. The back pages of newspapers are full of nothing else. Speculation and hype run riot, promos run long and loud across the TV stations of the continent and then, well then the first whistle sounds. Football is back.

The start of the major leagues across Europe sees some of the game's biggest stars shake off summer lethargy, fire up recharged batteries and tear into the new season with hunger and passion revived.

And none is more hungry, more passionate than one of Europe's longest serving and most decorated managers, Sir Alex Ferguson.

The Manchester United boss last weekend began his 19th season in charge of perhaps the world's biggest club. He greeted the occasion not with weary ennui but with enthusiasm, with an appetite for success which is unmatched in any major league, from the Premiership to the Bundesliga, from Serie A to La Liga.

And his desire for victory was displayed in a cold willingness to release another player who had helped the club tower over the rest of Europe when they won the Champions League at Barcelona's Nou Camp in May 1999.

That man – Phil Neville – did figure in United's opening fixture but he was wearing the unfamiliar blue shirt of their opponents – Everton. Of the former youth team stars (Phil's brother Gary, Ryan Giggs, Paul Scholes, Nicky Butt and David Beckham, who gave United a trophy-laden '90s) he was the third to leave.

In a frank chat with his manager, when Neville expressed concern at a possible lack of first-team opportunities this season, both agreed a fresh start might be the answer. So Fergie made a phone call to Everton boss David Moyes.

And there is the mark of the man – sentiment counts for little. The greater good of the club is all that counts. Winning is everything. The United manager's regard for his playing staff is very much in accord with his own insatiable thirst for honours, reflected in his answer to the question: Who will win the Premiership title this season? "The team that finishes above Manchester United," he barks unequivocally.

And what about the Champions League? "We have a squad capable of going all the way; of matching the best in the Europe," he states.

It is not as straightforward as that, however. It is now two years since United won the title they farmed since the Premiership was formed in 1991, the once mighty Red Devils being eclipsed by Londoners Arsenal and last year by the financial heavyweight that is Roman Abramovich's plaything: Chelsea.

'WE HAVE A SQUAD CAPABLE OF GOING ALL THE WAY – WE CAN MATCH THE BEST IN EUROPE'

As Chelsea blasted their way to a first title in 50 years, Ferguson's United languished in third in the Premiership, suffering from a lack of goals and defensive frailty from a team made up of ageing warriors and unproven youngsters.

Chelsea's cash-rich manager Jose Mourinho is, though, in Ferguson's sights, despite the London club's summer spending reaching 81 million euros when the signing of Michael Essien from Lyon is complete.

"I'm not concerned about the money Chelsea spend, because the great thing with Manchester United is we can still attract the best players," warned Ferguson.

That, though, is not immediately apparent from Ferguson's modest summer outlay with just Fulham goalkeeper Edwin van der Saar and PSV midfielder Park Ji-Sung heading to Old Trafford. Yet Ferguson has no concern over the coming battles and the manager is dismissive of his major rivals, in particular the Arsenal of his great rival Arsene Wenger, a team his side beat twice in the league last year.

"We have nothing to fear from them," he insisted. "We have a young side which is getting better all the time. We'll be even better this season."

And though his rivalry with Arsenal manager is as intense as ever, even though it is borne out of a healthy mutual respect, it is across London, back at Chelsea that Fergie has been focusing in the early weeks of the season.

His regard for the team's boss Jose Mourinho stretches as far as sharing a bottle of after-match wine. But contrast that with



ALEX THE GREAT, 2005. Arguably the best manager to have ever served in the English Premiership, Ferguson still takes no prisoners – even in his 19th season in the league.

PHOTO: CORBIS



HIS HEADGEAR AND UNITED'S FORTUNES HAVE IMPROVED

his dismissal of ex-United, now Chelsea chief executive Peter Kenyon's assertion the title race is a one-horse affair – Chelsea.

Fergie said: "It is not someone speaking with any knowledge of the game so take it with a pinch of salt. Fortunately, it's not the Chelsea manager saying these things. If it was, I'd also say he had no knowledge of the game, because you just don't talk like that."

He believes Chelsea's defence could be undermined by unhappiness within his squad of millionaire internationals.

"Chelsea cannot buy everybody," he said. "The squad they have now is big enough and maybe too big. They will have to try to keep their players satisfied and that's not always easy.

"World Cup year is coming and their players will want to play. The squad they have is probably too much – even more so if they sign Michael Essien."

"I have a group of players I can keep together for the next four years and that's fantastic. We're in a great position. The quality is good and we will improve this season, there is no doubts about that. Chelsea have raised the bar but they will find it harder this year."

The stark fact is, however, that United have to improve. Last season was disastrous by the standards Ferguson has set, with the lowly League Cup their only trophy. And now Sir Alex has new masters to please, in the shape of the Glazer family who bought the club for 1.16 billion euros. Fail them and Ferguson's future will look less than rosy.

But the United boss is sure this season will be different, with chief striker Ruud van Nistelrooy's injury-fuelled goal drought over and wonderkid Wayne Rooney settling into the team.

"Our goal scoring let us down," he said of last season. "We only have ourselves to blame in a way, although the timing of some of the injuries was unfortunate.

"But Ruud is fit and looking terrific. I expect, and know, he'll deliver and it's going to be a great boost to us all.

"Ruud can play with anyone, good players do. He's a natural-born centre forward. There are some good combinations for us up front I feel but, at the end of the day, when Ruud hits his goal-scoring form it will make a massive difference for us. He is the best finisher I've seen as a manager. An absolutely incredible finisher."

And he's confident the rest of his stellar squad can feed Ruud and Rooney the ammunition they need. "We are heading towards a new team with some of the young players we have here," he said.

"Apart from Roy Keane we have no problems age-wise as the lads who are hitting 30 now are fit lads who could play for another two or three years quite easily.

"All the defenders are good ages and lads like John O'Shea, Darren Fletcher, Cristiano (Ronaldo) and Wayne (Rooney) will be here for a long time. There is a great future ahead of all of them."

And the players too know they must step up to that plate.

"From the very first minute of the very first game, we have to think of them all as championship moments," Gary Neville revealed. "There have been seasons where we have lost four or five games before Christmas – that's no longer good enough.

"Arsenal and Chelsea have changed the culture. We seem to have taken a couple of months to warm up which is not possible any more. We cannot afford to start putting a winning run together in September or October, we have to win matches right at the start."

In the age of Abramovich's billions, at a time when the Champions League playing field has been levelled to such a degree that progress to the latter stages is no longer guaranteed for United, it is a tall order. But Ferguson remains true to his nature. Everything is there for the taking – it must simply be battled for.

"The test of any manager or player is how they handle adversity," he said. "We have always been galvanised by disappointment because there is a good character in the team.

"These are a good bunch," he concluded with steely determination. "We will get ourselves off the ground."

DREAM TEAMS

It's going to be a tense season whether you're in Italy, Turkey or England, and at the end we've got the World Cup. So what do our pundits of the paddock predict. Who are the teams they think (and in their hearts want) to win this season?



Name: Neil Dickie
Job: Red Bull Racing garage technician.
Who's going to win the English Premiership? Chelsea. Much to my dismay. I'm a West Ham fan. I'd prefer it to be Liverpool or Man United though. Anyone but Chelsea.
Who'll win the Champions League? I don't honestly know, but I know Liverpool won't be able to hold on to it.
And the World Cup? That's a tough one. Someone like Germany or one of the south American teams. Brazil.

Name: Alessandro Volpe (But everyone calls him The Fox)
Job: Minardi's head of electronics.
Who'll win the Italian Serie A? Juventus – if Milan stop injuring our players (Juve's goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon is out for three months after a pre-season game against Milan).
Who'll win the Champions League? Juventus, definitely.
And the World Cup? One of Italy, Germany or Brazil. Obviously I want it to be Italy.

Name: Darren 'Cracker' Leadbeater
Job: Williams truckie ("But I also organise the Williams football team and the tournament we're having in Brazil.")
Who'll win the Premiership? Chelsea – despite Saturday's result (a lucky late win against promoted Wigan). But we'll hold on to it.
Who's going to win the Champions League? Chelsea!
And the World Cup? England. Absolutely. No question.

Name: Sven Rausiek
Job: Ralf Schumacher's physiotherapist.
Who would you like to win the Bundesliga? Arminia Bielefeld (Sven may be being optimistic, the team currently lie 17th – second bottom in the table and Ladbrokes put their odds on winning at 500-1).
Who'll win the Champions League? Werder Bremen.
And the World Cup? Germany.

Name: Jose Nunez
Job: Michelin tyres co-ordinator.
Who would you like to win Ligue 1 in France? My team Saint Etienne – although they only managed to finish sixth and they're currently ninth – Les Verts.
Who'll win the Champions League? A French team I hope, someone like Lyons.
And the World Cup? Now Zizou is back – France! (The legendary French captain Zinedine Zidane has come out of retirement) If not then Germany or Brazil.

Name: Motoomi Higashizono (His colleagues call him Zono, because they say his name is too long).
Job: Fuji TV director
Who's going to pick up the honours in Japan's J-League? Urawa Reds – they've signed some good players (Zono may have an advantage here. It's halfway through the Japanese season and the Reds lie third). My team? Tokyo Verdy.
Who will win the Champions League title? Barcelona. Because of Ronaldinho.
And the World Cup? Brazil. But I think Japan will get to the last 16.



PHOTO: REX FEATURES, PA/EMPICS
PHOTO: THOMAS BUTLER, GETTY IMAGES

FORMULA FOOTBALL

Remember Barcelona? How long did it take for BAR's vacated paddock space to be turned into an impromptu football pitch? Official race timing can't shed any light on that one, but simply because it only records to three decimal places. How many laptops will be accidently receiving half-time scores instead of telemetry this weekend? Or rather, how many won't? If you'd rather be at the match than at the track, never mind, at least you can pretend. We've put together our not-so-comprehensive guide to which football clubs the F1 teams could be…



PHOTO: THOMAS MELZER

MINARDI (ROSENBORG)
Somebody has to come last, and it's usually these guys, though occasionally they punch above their weight and come away with the points. And plenty of talent passes by this way before going onto bigger, if not necessarily better, things. Faenza might not be as far from the mainstream as Trondheim – but Ledbury definitely feels as though it is.



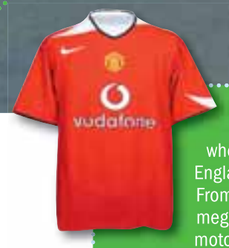
RENAULT (LIVERPOOL)
Despite the pedigree, they're always the perennial underdogs, despite winning round after round. Proof, if any were needed, that it's application and teamwork, not tonnes and tonnes of money that bring home silverware. A guy called Alonso seems to have some talent...



WILLIAMS (AJAX)
Aristocrats of the game and always there or thereabouts. Both teams have suffered in recent times with the financial ante being upped by competitors with bigger pockets. In danger of being consigned to the also-rans but with enough talent coming through the ranks to turn it all around.



FERRARI (MANCHESTER UNITED)
Either loved or loathed and nothing in between – but whereas Man U supporters face adoration or hatred in England alone, Ferrari's fans and detractors span the globe. From time to time both have attracted the attentions of a meglomaniac acquisitive American, though fortunately for motorsport Enzo was able to ward off Henry Ford II. This season's stories revolve around an aging maestro still um... 'Keane' to mix it with the bright young things and a willingness to offload Brazilians. Plenty of annoying Vodafone adverts as well.



BAR (INTER)
Every season someone has to be the axle on which the transfer wheel turns – and this year it's definitely been Internazionale – or BAR. Figo, Samuel and Veron (finally) sign on the dotted line for Inter, while Vieri, Emre and Davids go the other way. At least it's more clear cut than Brackley, where the only person confident of his drive next year is Rubens Barichello.



JORDAN (BAYERN MUNICH)
Owned by a mysterious billionaire who made his wedge out of the collapse of communism? It'd be too obvious wouldn't it? But the only similarity between Chelsea and Jordan is that they both used to be an unruly fun-loving rabble and through gentrification both have lost their sense of humour. Jordan are really much more like Bayern Munich – riven with internal dissent and desperate to rekindle past glories but deprived of the financial muscle to do it properly.

SAUBER (SCHALKE 04)
Well disciplined and capable of producing decent talent, most of which gets kidnapped by those with more money. Oh, and no-one knows where they're from. Not even Germans.



TOYOTA (MONACO)
It's difficult to break into the big boys club, but both Monaco and Toyota are determined to spend their way to the top. When they're good, they're very, very good; when they're bad they're rubbish. So far neither team has managed to wholly justify the telephone-number cheques they've been writing.

RED BULL RACING (WIMBLEDON? OR CHIEVO?)
The faces change, and so does the name, but the crazy gang lives on. That one solitary victory, despite being a fading memory still gets people fired up. Although the embarrassment of operating out of Milton Keynes – Britain's answer to Purgatory – weighs heavily on the soul. Actually it's rubbish, Wimbledon (or MK Dons as their seven remaining fans call them) are holed and sinking fast, RBR have a sugar daddy prepared to keep bailing. Instead think Chievo.



MCLAREN (REAL MADRID)
Part sporting legend, part branding exercise. Plenty of trophies and reputations which ensure recruitment of the 'fighting them off with a big stick' type. Easy to respect but difficult to love, problems in recent times have made these two more approachable. When somebody else wins, it often seems to be because McLaren or Real have somehow contrived to lose.



PHOTO: SERKAN SEDELE

FORMULA UNA

ISTANBUL

Ten ladies, one honour: Formula Una. A top secret paddock jury will decide which of these Turkish delights will fly to Shanghai for the Una World Cup.



NAME: **BIKEM AKPUL**
AGE: **20** STAR SIGN: **PISCES**
OCCUPATION: **STUDENT**
I like anything that requires horsepower to run, football (I support Galatasaray), nightlife and fashion. I decide everything with rock, paper, scissors, but don't touch my radio while I'm driving! I enjoy pineapple, listening to Elvis Costello, and wearing football uniforms.



NAME: **GOKCE VAHAPOGLU**
AGE: **24** STAR SIGN: **LEO**
OCCUPATION: **PROJECTS MANAGER FOR IT RELATED NGO**
I have dual nationality – Turkish and Bosnian. I now work for the Turkish Informatics Foundation but I used to be a pro basketball player. I hope visitors to the Grand Prix enjoy the beauty of my country.



NAME: **ASLI CORA**
AGE: **21** STAR SIGN: **ARIES**
OCCUPATION: **STUDENT**
I'm studying international relations to go into a career in advertising. Besides watching TV commercials, my other obsession is football. I dreamed of playing professionally, but women's football isn't taken seriously in Turkey. So I do snowboarding instead. My favourite driver is Kimi Raikkonen because he's the best and the cutest!



NAME: **SEZEN SONMEZ** AGE: **26** STAR SIGN: **TAURUS** OCCUPATION: **STUDENT**
I study TV, radio and cinema, and love extreme sports – F1 definitely falls into this category. Snowboarding and swimming are my main sports and I used to be a professional athlete. I also read science fiction novels.



WHO'S THAT GIRL?

Unas are able to demonstrate a rare combination of qualities: intelligence, ambition and a good heart while still looking mighty fine. To continue this global tradition, please welcome the good ladies of Turkey.



NAME: **ZEYNEP AYDEMIR** AGE: **26**
STAR SIGN: **PISCES** OCCUPATION: **STUDENT**
I'm so excited to be going to the Grand Prix. I can't believe I have the chance to meet the red-suited champion, the blue-eyed Finn and the obstinate Spaniard. Alonso or Raikkonen – who will take the title this year? I hope this weekend I'll have a story to tell my children.



NAME: **PETEK KUCUKTUZEN** AGE: **22**
STAR SIGN: **LEO** OCCUPATION: **STUDENT**
I'm studying French at university and plan to spend a year in Paris after I graduate so that I can practise the language with fluency. I also wish to study for a masters in communication, and go on to work in public relations and marketing.



NAME: **INCI INAN** AGE: **29**
STAR SIGN: **VIRGO** OCCUPATION: **PRODUCTION**
I've been to the British Grand Prix before, while I was studying in London. I like small but fast cars and I'm a nimble driver. My hobbies are martial arts, fishing and Playstation. Eddie Irvine was my favourite driver – he knew how to have fun

NAME: **EYLEM SENKAL**
AGE: **27** STAR SIGN: **GEMINI**
OCCUPATION: **WRITER AND ACTRESS**
My background is in theatrical acting, and I have worked as a TV presenter. Currently I am writing a children's fairy tale book. My aim is to increase their creativity and enable them to look at the world more positively. I would like to be an F1 driver, but I think I would have needed to be born male. Maybe next time – when I'm reincarnated!



NAME: **PELIN HIZAL SMINES** AGE: **27** STAR SIGN: **PISCES** OCCUPATION: **ADVERTISING DIRECTOR**
I've followed F1 for years and support Raikkonen. It was Mika Hakkinen who started my fanaticism and he's still my number one. But Kimi has shown talent and maturity this season. I have lived in Norway and Denmark, I have a thing for Scandinavians.

NAME: **SELMA MERTER**
AGE: **20** STAR SIGN: **LIBRA**
OCCUPATION: **ACTRESS**
I don't like wasting time with stuff that won't improve my skills or knowledge. I'm always keen to learn and discover new things. Cinema has a special place in my life. I love acting and feel very comfortable in front of the camera.



PHOTOS: SERKAN SEDELE

IT'S WRITTEN IN THE STARS

Astrologer Boro Petricelli interprets Heaven's tyre marks and he already knows one thing: the F1 debut in Istanbul is under a good star. Or rather, two good stars. The god of fortune Jupiter, and goddess of love Venus, are shining from on high and promise a fabulous race; as exciting as a belly-dancer and as fast as a flying carpet. Drivers, you cast a spell on us!

ARIES (21 Mar–20 Apr)

ANALYSIS: Training is getting hot. The Sun is shining in David's face, attacking his Venus head-on. That normally makes for a decent tan, but definitely not for proper fine tuning on this new circuit.



CONCLUSION: Mercury step on the gas for David, and pushes him from the sunlight into the limelight. The friendly god of speed gives him better reaction times and enormous pace.

DAVID COULTHARD | 27.3.1971 | RED BULL RACING

PROGNOSIS: The race goes better than qualifying would have us believe. David fights his way up front. Even into the points...

VIRGO (24 Aug–23 Sep)

ANALYSIS: Uranus attacks Neptune. The god of nasty surprises duels the god of disappointment – like a fight between Klingons and Orcs: fantasy creatures from fantasy worlds battle, but the outcome's unknown.



CONCLUSION: If one god gets the upper hand and wins it will result in a nasty surprise. However, if both gods lose, it will mean victory for both. All very, very confusing.

J P MONTOYA | 20.9.1975 | MCLAREN-MERCEDES

PROGNOSIS: With these options it's enough to make anybody's head spin. Will Juan Pablo in turn spin out this weekend? Our prediction is no points...

LIBRA (24 Sep–23 Oct)

ANALYSIS: Robert still seems to be on a Star Trek journey – something seems to go wrong with his beaming up. He's almost here, then he's suddenly gone again. It's not clear where he is, or where he's going.



CONCLUSION: Mars, god of war, is against Robert, while Jupiter, god of fortune, is with him. But what Mars destroys, Jupiter can mend on Sunday. Star Trek deflector shields are working.

ROBERT DOORNBOS | 23.9.1981 | MINARDI

PROGNOSIS: This is Robert's acid test. He'll spend half the race on the track, the other half beside it. But at the end, he might well be standing on solid asphalt. Thanks be to Jupiter.

ARIES (21 Mar–20 Apr)

ANALYSIS: It's luck – but in love or on the track? Venus is flirting with Jacques' Jupiter. The goddess of seduction is eyeing the god of fortune. And a turned-on Jupiter goes into battle against Mars, god of war.



CONCLUSION: Venus is spoken for or bound to another. So her affection doesn't mean fulfilment, but trouble for Jacques with previous favourites: Schumi, Alonso, or Raikkonen.

JACQUES VILLENEUVE | 9.4.1971 | SAUBER

PROGNOSIS: It seems Jacques will get into an argument with one of the season's previous race winners. That means malicious gossip for him – and it will cost precious points.

AQUARIUS (21 Jan–19 Feb)

ANALYSIS: Takuma's stars are favourable, but they're a bit far away: the Moon is moving towards Takuma's Venus, and Mars toward his Mercury. Everything is coming together, but there won't be any closer contact.



CONCLUSION: Hours later and Takuma would be in a top position. Then the symbiosis of energy (Mars) and speed (Mercury) would bring fast laps and a place on the podium.

TAKUMA SATO | 28.1.1977 | BAR-HONDA

PROGNOSIS: The oracle says: the distance to the top is halved with every lap. Or, to put it another way, lapping is only possible if the race never ends...

GEMINI (22 May–21 Jun)

ANALYSIS: It seems Rubens' move to BAR has cost him the favour of the love-goddess, at least the Ferrari love-goddess. To make any move in the presence of the other gods spells trouble.



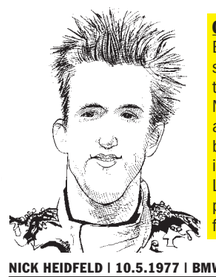
CONCLUSION: Filing for divorce and still having to share a bed with your partner? That's hard. But cool professionalism will prevail over wounded hearts. At least for the time being.

RUBENS BARRICHELLO | 23.5.1972 | FERRARI

PROGNOSIS: Pointless arguing would have been better after all. The necessary fire seems to be missing. Doesn't live up to his potential.

TAURUS (21 Apr–21 May)

ANALYSIS: Poor Nick! The gods of brakes and stop signs are out to get him: Saturn, the cosmic slowness, is creeping up on Mercury; and Mercury, usually quick, has got lead in his boots.



CONCLUSION: Everything goes so slow that it's tortuous to watch. Nick's not doing anything wrong but everything is in slow motion. Like someone's pressed the freeze-frame.

NICK HEIDFELD | 10.5.1977 | BMW-WILLIAMS

PROGNOSIS: Either Nick stops or he drives so slowly it's hard to tell if he's moving or not. He won't make it far. Definitely not in the points.

ILLUSTRATIONS: OLIVER SCHOPF

BET AND WIN WITH BENOIT

Give Michael Schumacher an unfamiliar circuit in exotic new surroundings and chances are he'll be the first to look, learn and reap the rewards. So, is Istanbul a case of...

EAST MEETS BEST?

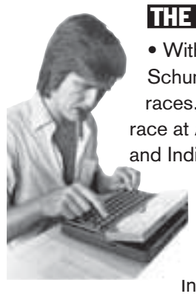


THE THRILL OF THE NEW! The 5.378km Otodrom will be the 69th circuit to host an F1 GP since 1950 and the 26th country to stage a race. The 'victim' of the Bulletin bet – Michael Schumacher – can't wait: "Everybody is starting from zero. We only know the layout of the track and that it's quite an up and downhill circuit – like Spa or Hungary," said the 84-times grand prix winner. Michael's not bad on new turf either. In 1994 and 1995 he won the only two races staged at Aida. In 2000, he was the first winner in Indianapolis, and in 2004 he was the first victor in Bahrain.

So a word to the wise for regular gamblers: no matter how good or bad the current Ferrari is doing, don't underestimate Michael's skill and racecraft on a new track. And like Interlagos and Imola, two circuits where Schumacher has already collected 10 victories in total, Istanbul is counter clockwise – an additional challenge for the drivers.

In Budapest, Schumacher made seven participants of the bet happy with his second place, but already there are eight gamblers putting their money on some winning Turkish ways for the champion...

YOU BET!!!



THE EMPERORS'S NEW GROOVES

• Without previous form here, we've studied Schumi's results at new or reinstated venues races. Michael triumphed in the inaugural F1 race at Aida ('94), the remodelled Nurburgring and Indianapolis ('95 and 2000 respectively), the return to Jerez ('94), and Sakhir ('04). He would probably have done the same at Sepang ('99), had he not fell on his sword for Eddie Irvine, finishing second. In contrast, Shanghai saw the champ spin and shunt his way to 12th. The worst omen is perhaps Michael's performances at places with a 'park' in the title – DNFs at Albert Park ('96) and Donington Park ('94). Other new tracks have given Michael third (Buenos Aires, '95) and sixth (A1 Ring, '97).

RULES OF PLAY

The rules are simple. All you have to do is nominate how many laps Michael Schumacher will complete. Opt for a Michael finish and then you'll have to choose his final position. Choose a Schumi win and then you'll need to predict the time-gap back to the next finisher. If nobody guesses correctly the winnings go to the nearest chosen lap, position or time. If you happen to hit the nail right on the head with your prediction your winnings will be topped up with the Bet and Win Bonus. It starts at 300 euros and as long as no-one gets the prediction exactly right it climbs each race weekend by another 300 euros.

HERE'S HOW YOU DO IT:

Find Benoit in the paddock, hand over your cash (here it's YTL50 or 30 euros), make your prediction and you're in.

betandwin.com

K RAIKKONEN 2.10 | M SCHUMACHER 4.30 | J BUTTON 25.00
F ALONSO 4.00 | J P MONTOYA 6.00 | F MASSA 150.00





PHOTO: SUTTON IMAGES

MOJITOS AND MINARETS

There are a number of things to look forward to when we celebrate a brand new round on the F1 calendar: There's the challenge of a new circuit, the rich cultural experience of a new city and the spreading of Formula One's carbon-fibre net across a globe with great economic opportunities. Which is all very nice... but not half as important as the fact our new hosts want to show they too can put on some top notch celebratory shindigs. This is simply fantastic news for those of us (and we are many) who will drop everything at the sound of the opening of a free bottle. Or two. After the hedonism of Hungary, where tobacco and energy drink-financed raves left us resolutely grateful for the handy bag of aspirins in the seat pockets of the company Lear, we have come prepared this time with a decent supply of analgesics and a note excusing us from work on Monday. But, our appetite for a good time still rages.



PHOTO: REX FEATURES, GETTY IMAGES

FRIDAY

9PM OFFICIAL FORMULA ONE WELCOME PARTY
REINA, ORTAKOY

F1 will be on the guestlist at the hottest club in town. With its white and violet decor, the largely open-air club, which is a favourite of both Uma Thurman and Microsoft zillionaire Paul Allen, is modelled on a ship's deck and looks perfectly at home alongside the Bosphorus. It features nine (that's nine) differently themed restaurants. That's a lot of cutlery. And there's plenty of room to swing your handbag on the dancefloor.



SATURDAY

10.30PM CARTIER PARTY,
CIS KULESI ISLAND

Order a raki on the rocks at Cartier's gathering and you may find your cubes sparkling. If this occurs; a) don't grind them with your teeth – your dentures will come off worse b) don't do anything silly like tell anyone c) screw the race, Kimi can learn to pump his own bloody fuel. Fly straight to Schipol to make some proper money on the diamond market. The dress code is 'ladies hot, gents cool' – so do as they ask. We've been warned that muggings do occur in Istanbul, which is probably the only way we were going to score an invite. We are quite happy with our Casio watches anyway, thanks.

SUNDAY

9PM RED BULL AFTER-RACE PARTY
KUCUK SU KASRI CHALET

Those generous Austrian guys are doing what they do best yet again this Sunday, by taking over a 500 year-old palace (this one boarders the Asian side of the Bosphorus) and putting together a glittering, exclusive hoe-down. Famous Turkish popstar Kenan Dogulu will do an hour's set, and a Mehter – a traditional Ottoman military band – will perform live with a techno DJ. It's never been done before! Sultanate boats will be taking invited guests across the river to the 'chalet' – can we expect wood panelling and raclette?





WIN A REALLY BIG CAR

TOUAREG TEASER

Join the season's trickiest F1 challenge. Over the weekend we'll be setting you six questions. Collect your overall score, pick up the pieces of the puzzle and in China you'll be in with a chance of winning a VW Touareg SUV.

QUESTION 1

Which pair drove their F1 cars in Istanbul earlier this year?



☐ 1



☐ 2



☐ 3



☐ 4

QUESTION 2

It's not Renault, it's paddock security. This fellow, like most of his colleagues, is from which country?



☐ **1)** Turkey

☐ **2)** Australia

☐ **3)** Austria

☐ **4)** Netherlands

RULES OF PLAY

There are 19 rounds of the 2005 F1 championship. Identify the missing 20th racetrack and you'll have a crack at winning the grand prize.

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:
Correctly answer our six questions over the weekend, and make a note of the number associated with each. Sunday's edition will feature pieces of our mystery track jigsaw puzzle. Match your total score with the corresponding piece of circuit, to be featured in our Sunday edition. Cut it out, tape it to your paddock pass, and by Shanghai you should have a complete track.
If it's the map of a real track, then the Touareg could be yours!
If somebody has stolen your copy of The Red Bulletin, back issues with previous questions are available from our office next to merchandising alley.

YOUR ISTANBUL NUMBERS

sum Friday	points
sum Saturday	points
sum Sunday	points

ROMAN HOLIDAY

A change may be as good as a rest, but you won't want to waste time idling in Istanbul, writes **Lynden Swainston**





Istanbul is a city often described in cliches: 'where east meets west' is a favourite one, 'a cross-roads of cultures' is another.

But of course this stunning city is a lot more than any of that and these pat phrases cannot do it justice. Whether it's clubbing, sightseeing, lazing in luxury, shopping or eating and drinking, it's all at your fingertips and all top quality, with the right mixture of exotic and familiar, modern and traditional, digital age and old-fashioned.

The Bosphorus divides the city in two, Asia and Europe, while the Golden Horn frames some of the more popular tourist locations, like Hagia Sophia and the Blue Mosque.

The Grand Bazaar is a covered labyrinthine market, where you can find pretty much everything, from flip-flops to sapphires. You must bargain, but be realistic in your expectations: they have been selling and negotiating for generations. Carpets, and especially kilims are good here, as are leather goods of all types. Sheepskin coats are excellent value as is jewellery and traditional artifacts such as brass and copper goods. Antiques are available, but you need an informed eye or a friendly local.

The Spice Market on the Eminonu side of the Galata Bridge is a wonderful cool and dark passageway right by the mosque. At one end is one of Istanbul's most typical restaurants. It's called Pandeli, the waiters are cantankerous old Greeks and the stairs up to the eating area are lined with beautiful Isnik tiles. A must.

The Topkapi Palace set in the beautiful Gulhane Park is very much worth a visit. One of the Sultan's residences, this is where the Harem was and where the vast collection of jewellery and clothes from the Ottoman Empire is kept. There is a restaurant, a little touristy, but the food is good Turkish fare and the views over the Golden Horn and the Bosphorus are breathtaking.

Still on this side of the Golden Horn, the streets around Sultan Ahmet mosque are fun to wander and get lost in. It's very lively, noisy and still has some of the old hippy feel of the 1970s. Also in this area is the Hagia Sophia mosque, once a church, the Blue Mosque, the remains of the Byzantine Hippodrome as well as the eerie underground world of the Yerebatam Saray, the cisterns which provided water to Constantinople. This is another must visit.

Recovery and chill-out time can start with a later afternoon cocktail at the Four Seasons Hotel, before heading off across the Galata Bridge to the other side of town, dominated by the old Genoese tower in the Beyoglu district. This is where some of the best restaurants are and, more critically, where Istanbul's pulsating and vibrant club scene is.

Beware! If you go for a massage, the Turkish approach is rather robust and vigorous. Still, Michael Palin survived to tell the tale

Great waterfront locations, many in the open, top music and not much in the way of attention to closing time. If you are staying in one of the many hotels clustered on top of the hill near the Hilton, you will drive through Taksim Square, one of the city's nerve centres, or past Galatasaray's football ground, one of the city's three major teams.

After a few days of enjoying Istanbul, you might want to wind down in one of the many Turkish baths. One of the most famous ones is in the Cagloglu district, the same as the Grand Bazaar. But beware that if you also go in for a massage, the Turkish approach is rather robust and vigorous. Still, Michael Palin survived to tell the tale.



PHOTO: THOMAS BUTLER

ISTANBUL: SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING NEW, SOMETHING BORROWED (HERMANN TILKE) AND SOMETHING BLUE





MAP: VON-ROTWEIN FOR WWW.ESJOTTES.COM
PHOTO: THOMAS BUTLER

THINGS TO DO, PEOPLE TO SEE



WHERE TO EAT

TURKISH

Hamdi
The best kebab and Turkish restaurant in town. It's over three floors by the Galata Bridge with stunning views and a great atmosphere.
Tahamis Caddesi
Kalcin Sokak
17 Eminönü
Tel: +90 212 528 0390

Kosebasi Ocakbasi
The kebab dishes here are a speciality from the city of Gaziantep in Southeast Anatolia. Friendy service and good atmosphere.
Camlik Sokak
Levent
Tel: +90 212 270 2433

Tike Nisantasi
Typical Turkish appetisers, kebabs and grills. Located in one of the expensive shopping streets in Istanbul. Very european.
Sair Nigar Sokak
41 A Nisantasi
Tel: +90 212 233 3540

Venge
Here you get a selection of local appetisers, meat and chicken dishes. There is an area where you can sit to watch the day's football game.
Akasyali Sokak
2-4 Levent
Tel: +90 212 264 0720

SEAFOOD

Park Fora
A stunning seafood restaurant is surrounded by the Kuricesme Park by the European shores of the Bosphorus. Fresh fish is their speciality.
Muallim Naci Cad
134 Kurucesme
Tel: +90 212 265 5063



Bebek Balikci
Again this lively restaurant is located on the Bosphorus, and another excellent seafood place. The view is spectacular, the food and service very good with superb fish fayre.
Cevdet Pasa Cad.No: 123
Bebek Istanbul
Tel : +90 212 263 34 47





INTERNATIONAL

Sunset Grill & Bar
Spectacular views of the Bosphorus. The cuisine is Turkish and Californian, with a great sushi bar.
Ahmet Adnan Saygun Cad.
Kirechane Sokak
Ulus Parki
Tel: +90 212 287 0357

Ulus 29
One of the most popular restaurants in Istanbul, the menu has Turkish and international cuisine with emphasis on Italian specialities.
A.Adnan Saygun Cad
Ulus Parki ici
Tel: +90 212 358 2929

Vogue
This is a very trendy restaurant and bar with stunning views of the Bosphorus. There is a sushi bar with 70 varieties of delicacies to choose from. Then you can stay and party the night away at the popular bar area .
Akaretler Spor
Cad. No. 92 BJK Plaza
A Block 13th floor
Besiktas
Tel: +90 212 227 4404

WHERE TO PARTY

Anjelique
This club is situated over two floors and is located on the Bosphorus. The club also boasts the Wan-na restaurant which specialises in Far Eastern food. It's open daily from 6pm-3am.
Tepebasi Mesrutiyet Cad.
No 151/A, Beyoglu
Tel: +90 212 327 28 44-45

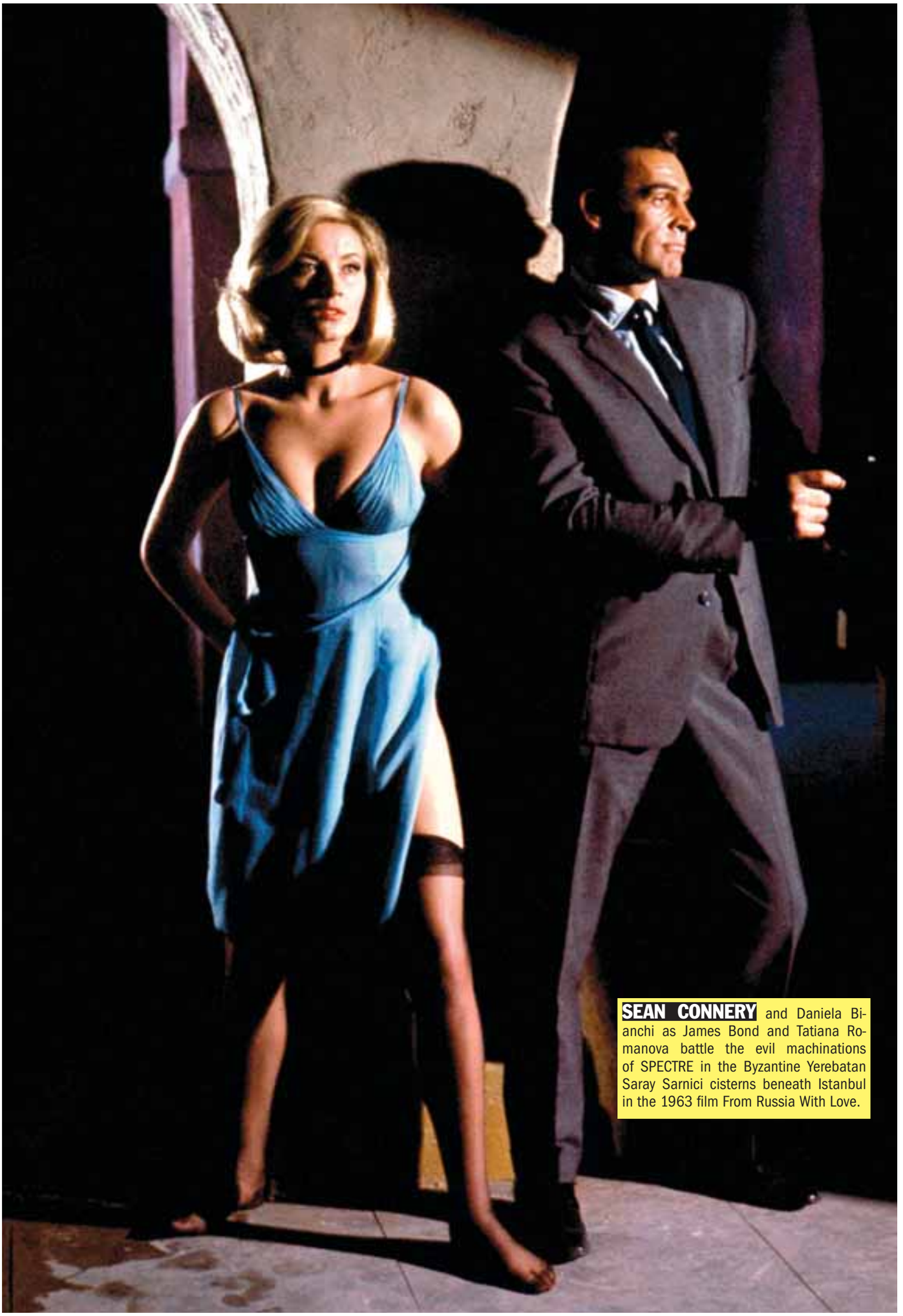


Buzada
If you're looking for exclusive then Buzada is it. The club is located on its own island on the Bosphorus, Buzada has a boat service to go back and forth to the shore. This complex has a club and bar, three restaurants and a cafe. It is open every day from 7pm-3am.
Galatasaray Island
Kurucesme
Tel: +90 212 263 6373

Nu Teras
This is situated on the terrace of a historical Pera building. There is a restaurant serving mediterranean and international cuisine plus a bar with glorious views over the Bosphorus. It's open every day from 6.30pm onwards.
Mesrutiyet Cad
149/1 Tepebasi
Tel: +90 212 245 6070

Reina Night Club
This is on the shores of the Bosphorus surrounded by restaurants. It's recently been restyled and is an area which boasts decent all-night nightlife and attracts quite a young crowd.
Open 3pm-4am.
Muallim Naci Cad.
No. 44, Ortakoy
Tel: +90 212 259 5919





SEAN CONNERY and Daniela Bianchi as James Bond and Tatiana Romanova battle the evil machinations of SPECTRE in the Byzantine Yerebatan Saray Sarnici cisterns beneath Istanbul in the 1963 film From Russia With Love.

PHOTO: RONALD GRANT FILM ARCHIVE