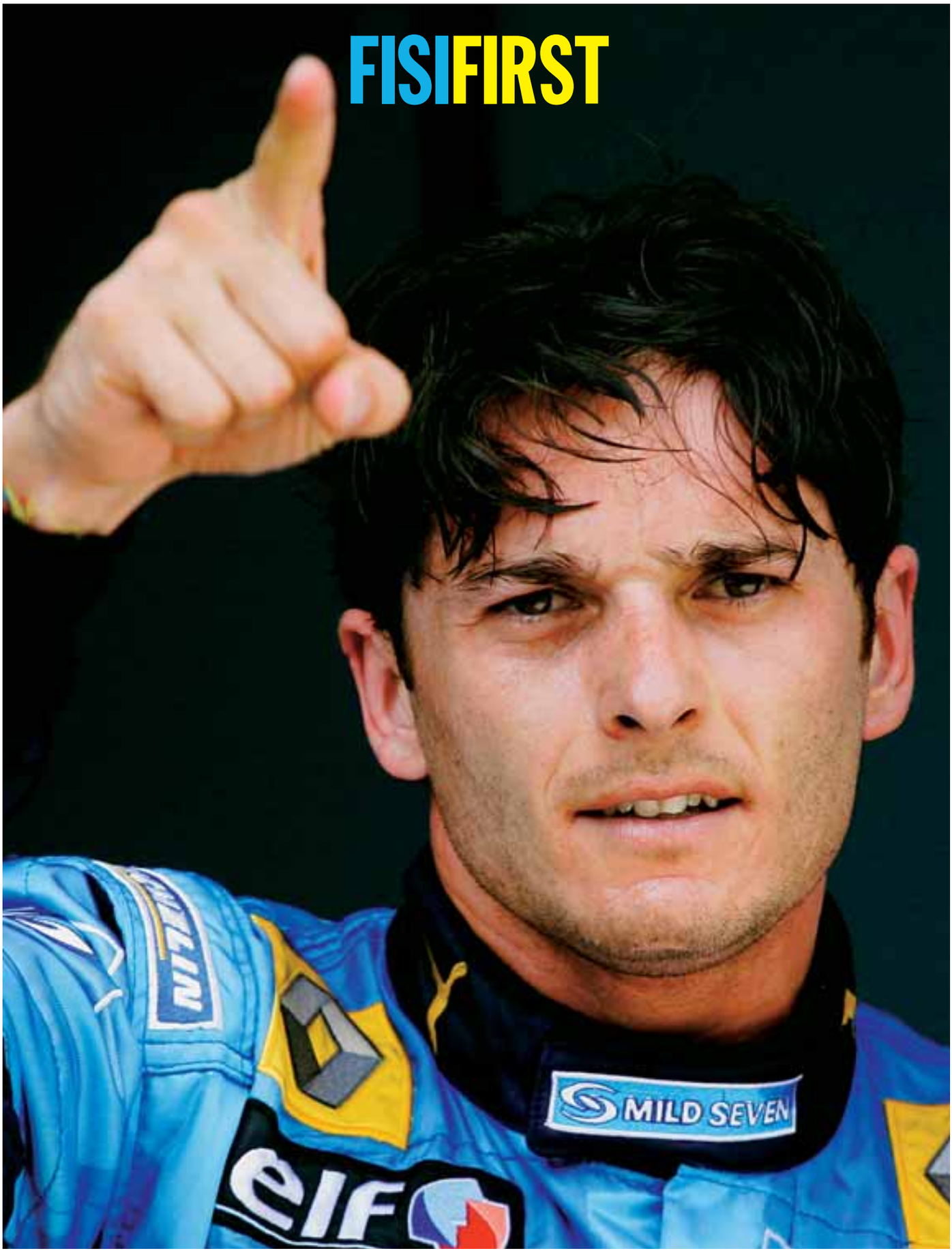
THE RED BULLETIN

ISSUE 61, GP MALAYSIA, SUNDAY, MARCH 19, 2006

AN ALMOST INDEPENDENT F1 NEWSPAPER

FISIFIRST



PACESETTER

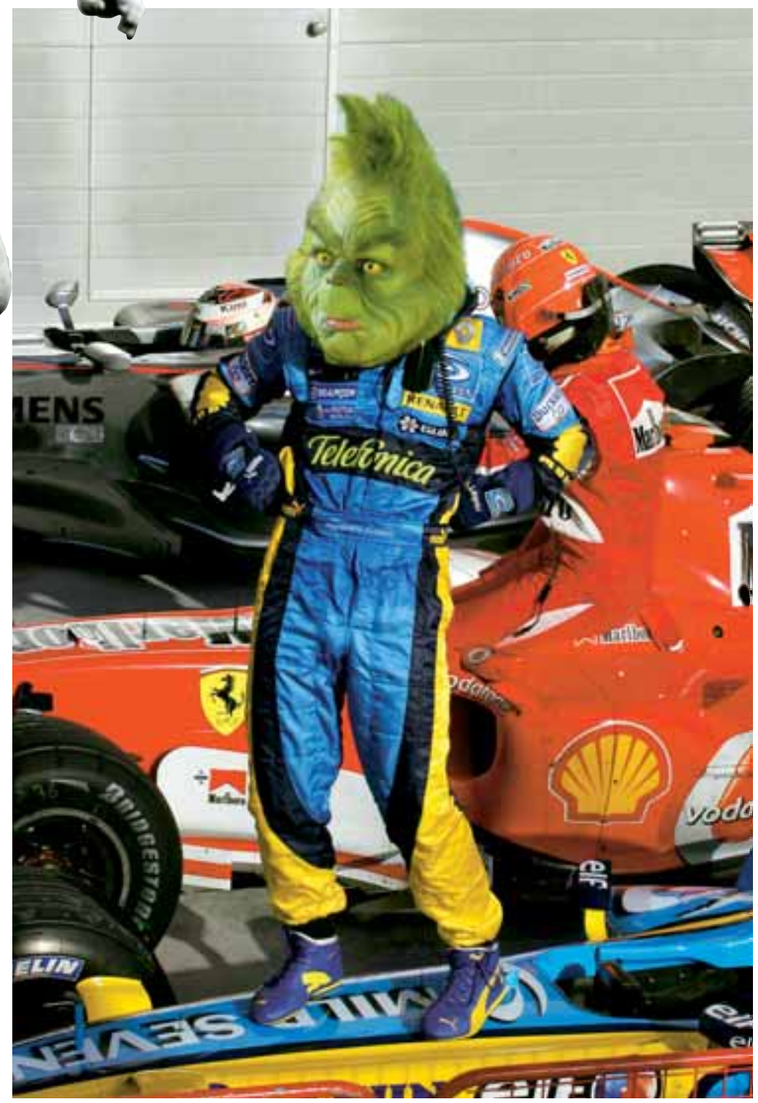


VALENTINO ROSSI MAY HAVE CHALLENGED Fernando Alonso to the ultimate racing triathlon: F1, WRC and MotoGP, but Flavio Briatore thinks he's got a much better idea. "Since Rossi is in the mood for challenges, why not tennis, trout fishing and a sack race?"

RENAULT

FERNANDO ALONSO HAS ENRAGED GANDHI. Not Mahatma, but current Indian prime minister Maneka Gandhi. A campaigner against cruelty to animals, Maneka was appalled by Fernando's 'matador' pose after the champ's Bahrain victory. But the Spanish media claims Alonso's posturing on his car had nothing to do with bullfighting and that he was emulating Jim Carrey's character in the children's film The Grinch.

● Meanwhile it's good news, bad news and no news for Alonso's team-mate. While Giancarlo Fisichella may have nabbed pole for today's race, his fantastic exploits won't get a great deal of coverage in his native land. The Italian press are due to go on strike over contract renewal, so Fisi may not get the coverage he deserves. Bloody journalists.



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Published by Red Bulletin Verlags GmbH
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WILLIAMS

AFTER A STUNNING STORM THROUGH THE FIELD LAST WEEKEND, there is no doubt Nico Rosberg's star is on the rise. And the betting fraternity appear to agree, to the extent that the UK bookmaking firm Ladbrokes suspended betting on Nico for pole – hours before qualifying. It seems so many bets were taken, the bookies – who, let's face it, are always obsessed with horses any way– were convinced someone had been tipped off about some extra Cosworth horse power.

F1 DRIVERS LOVE FAST CARS – that's a given. But if you were to panel beat Christijan Albers, bolt on a steering wheel and fill the Dutchman with unleaded, what kind of car would he be? "Let me see… I would be a customised vehicle. I would have: **The bodywork of a Fiat 500, the reliability of a Porsche 911, the economy of a Toyota Prius, the stability of Fred Flintstone's car and the smile of a Ford GT40"**

CLUB 500

THIS WEEKEND: HEINZ PRÜLLER

It's an interesting time for Christian Klien. He's a major force at Red Bull Racing (he'll start eighth today), he's taking responsibility on his shoulders and, oh yes, he's moved house. Last year, Klien shared a place with Tonio Liuzzi, but they've now gone their separate ways. Liuzzi chose London. Klien, though, has always been a home boy, well almost. He did move close to his home of Hohenems in Austria, but chose the residence of choice for drivers on the Swiss side of the border, sharing the country with Michael Schumacher, Heidfeld and Raikkonen. Now he's out on his own, maybe Christian could take some advice from Robert Doornbos, who once told me the best way to get girls was to invite them home and cook for them.

● Heinz has been to "well over 600" grands prix.



HAVE YOU NOTICED PEDRO DE LA ROSA walking funny this weekend? He has some swelling issues, all thanks to his doctor. Aki Hinsta began his first full season as the team's director of well-being in a less than helpful manner, when during a squash game, he smashed the ball into Pedro's groin. Pedro said: "He got me right on one of my testicles. It hurt like hell for four days."

MCLAREN

MF1



WINGS FOR LIFE

Wings for Life, the charity of choice of The Red Bulletin, was set up by Heinz Kinigadner in summer of 2003 after an accident in a charity race left his son Hannes wheelchair-bound. The aim is to raise funds to support research into spinal injuries, an area in which medical resources are still lacking. Heinz said: "I have spent eight months with my son Hannes in the rehabilitation centre and I've seen so many young guys under 20 years of age who are using a wheelchair. This cannot be allowed to go on. Nobody should have to spend the rest of their lives wheelchair-bound." With the support of Red Bull and other institutions as well as the organisation of charity events it is possible to raise the necessary funds and push toward cutting-edge discoveries and treatments to cure paralysis and associated conditions caused by spinal cord injury. If you'd like to get involved and help Wings for Life, further information can be obtained from: www.wingsforlife.com

FOUR COMMENTARIES

SEASONS CHANGE

TRUTH, RUMOURS AND LIES
BY JUSTIN HYNES

1 Time was when Formula One had its seasons, and not just of the racing kind. We knew where we stood. We'd start the season in Australia, there'd be a kind of phoney war in which cars would break, unlikely contenders would rise briefly to the top of the pile and the biggest worry for most of the paddock would be where you were going to spend the time between the opening couple of flyaways – beach hut in Thailand, shopping spree in Singapore. Oh, the dilemma!

After that it would back to Europe, back to testing and back to the status quo. And you knew you'd not have to bother with driver market speculation until at least Silverstone, when journalists would prepare questions like: "Is it true you hate your team boss and want to retire to a monastery?", "Can you put the rumours to rest and tell us that you are definitely, possibly, maybe not moving from team A to team B via the moon?" or even "Michael, are you going to retire?" the subtext of which was, in the early 2000's at least, "Michael, please retire, so we can hold on to our lavish expense accounts".

Now it's all different. Now you have start penning speculative pieces about the destinations of drivers in three seasons' time, only your doing it before the smoke from a blown Mercedes has even cleared from the last corner of the last race of the last season. Caught out beautifully, unless you're Flavio, by Fernando Alonso, the press pack has been forced into a premature feeding frenzy by the possibilities the Spaniard's switch to McLaren will cause in the driver market.

Is Raikkonen staying or going? And is it Ferrari, Renault, a mystery 12th team led by a consortium of uber-wealthy yak ranchers from Ulan Bator? What will happen to Juan Pablo Montoya? Is he a Telefonica dream in Renault blue and yellow, is he the ideal of an Austrian with enough race seats going to form a barbershop singing group? Maybe he'll go to Toyota. Wait a minute, that's a good story. They've got pots of cash and Ralf Schumacher. It all makes perfect sense. Let's say for 100 million dollars over three years. It even sounds good. So... let's go with 'MONTOYOTA in Deal of Century'.

It is a bad thing? Far from it. Gossip, rumour and innuendo are the lifeblood of F1. In our tiny village, if no-one muttered about their neighbours life could get pretty dull. Indeed, with the lack of support races at most GP weekends these days, there is little to do but gossip between the bits of F1 action. As Charlie Watts said about life in the Rolling Stones: "It's been about five years playing and 20 years hanging around." There's a lot of that in F1 and such inactivity is the prefect breeding ground for rumour. It's all good clean fun but too much of as good thing can be bad for you. Maybe even if the Fernando move had been flagged we would still have been caught out by its announcement as chances are the speculation would have been dismissed as just more cyberspace hysteria. The boys who cried wolf?

'If no-one muttered about their Formula One neighbours, life would get pretty dull'

F1 FUNNIES



PIT BITCH
BY HELEN PARADYCE

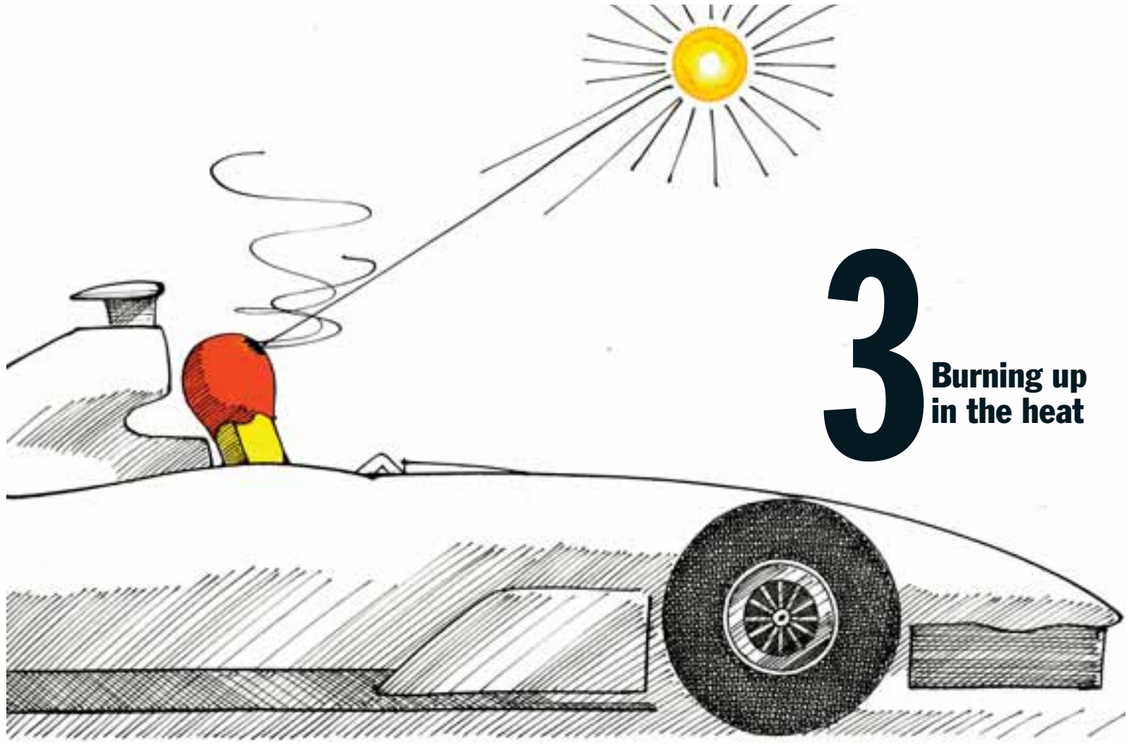
2 I was attacked by a flock of mosquitoes last night. Why is it that for every Yin there's a more unpleasant Yang waiting in the wings to bite you, literally in my case. I am staying in my own bungalow in a marvellously Colonial-style hotel, but unfortunately, my verandah windows overlook a large pond, which is evidently a mosquito farm for most of Asia. I could hear them taking off, sounding like a squadron of sea planes, the moment I switched the light on in my room. Any thoughts of lounging idly on the veranda in best Katherine Hepburn mode went out the window, or actually behind the window, as I hid under the sheets to avoid the blood sucking beasts. So, apart from the sheets, it was much like being in the paddock.

Before Saturday morning practice, there was a rumour about that Giorgio Mondini was due to replace Tiago Monteiro for the rest of the weekend. The Swiss chap's name sounds like a cheap clothes outlet store in Milan, the sort that sells hoodies to English football hooligans, when they can't find their Sergio Tacchini shell suits. No-one has been terribly impressed with his performance to date. In fact, the joke goes that his laps had to be timed with a Cuckoo Clock and other drivers asked that he be fitted with a cowbell around his neck so that they would know when they were closing on him. How cruel of them.

At the other end of the rookie scale, Nico Rosberg is very much the media darling and flavour of the day. His current showing means that it won't be long now until father Keke is simply known as 'Nico's Dad,' rather than '1982 World Champion.' Not that Keke is likely to remember what year he was crowned, given that he and his son could not agree on Nico's birthday and in the end, the Williams man was sent to find his passport. Surprise! Keke got it wrong. Years ago, I remember watching Nico drive an intelligent race in some junior formula. "He's got your brains then," I said to Keke. "No Helen, you're wrong there," replied the Finn. "I've still got my own brains, so I can only conclude he must have got his mother's!" Even though this remark degrades women, as a confident female, I have to say it's amusing.

Talking of degrading women, I overheard one of my male colleagues commenting about an F1 lady's bottom. "It's definitely more pert these days," he was enthusing. I ticked him off for treating a woman like a sex object, but he tried to claim it was just an observation of fact. "Not that I'm obsessed with her bottom or anything like that," he mumbled, "but if you look at this photo of her standing next to this 1997 F1 car tyre then this 2005 one, you can see that, factoring in the percentage reduction in tyre width brought about by the introduction of grooved tyres, the aspect ratio of her bottom, allowing for one photo being taken in hot dry conditions in Budapest and the other at a cold and wet Silverstone, I estimate the actual reduction in bottom width to be of the order of 12.5 per cent." So, not obsessed at all then?

ILLUSTRATIONS: KAINRATH, FEGGO



3 Burning up in the heat

SEEING IT THROUGH TO THE FINNISH
BY MIKA SALO

4 Watching the race in Bahrain last week, two things stood out. First was the superb performance of Kimi Raikkonen, starting from the back of the grid and working his way up to third place. It confirmed he's still the quickest guy out there, but also that he's still being let down by McLaren. If they can sort it out then he has a real chance of claiming this year's title.

The second exciting element was the performance of Nico Rosberg. Sure, he made a mess of the first corner and that's something he needs to work on, with, no doubt, the advice of his no-nonsense father, but it was a really impressive performance and he looks like he's certainly in the fifth-best car out there, behind Renault, Ferrari, McLaren and Honda.

Take those two performances together and what does it tell you? Well, it lets you know that Finnish motor sport is in good health when it comes to feeding drivers into F1. We had Keke, then myself, JJ Lehto and Mika Hakkinen and it seems the tradition is carrying on. All right, I'm taking a bit of a liberty here with Nico, but he's kind of half-Finnish and if you put him in the same bracket as Kimi and Heikki Kovalainen then you've got yourself a pretty handy trio.

The question is: why? Why has Finland in recent decades managed, all modesty aside, to produce consistently good talent? There are a few reasons. First of all, certainly when I was coming through, there were a few rally people in Formula One, like Jean Todt, who knew how good Finnish drivers could be. There's such a rich history of great rally drivers in Finland that to stop and have a look at the circuit racers coming through must have, thankfully, seemed sensible. Of course, it was even then a bit tricky for me as JJ and Mika had Keke as their manager and the '82 champ had sucked up all the sponsorship money in Finland. I had to go the Japanese route to Formula One.

These days it's perhaps a little easier, although for the young guys getting the budget to race in Europe is still tricky, and that's where the second reason for Finland's F1 success comes into play. It's very simple: give a Finn a job to do and he won't f**k it up. I really do think it's a temperament thing. There's definitely something in the national psyche of my country which lends itself to taking pressure. Finns are just calm and if something goes wrong they don't seem to be upset by it. They are just mentally very, very strong.

'Finns are calm; if something goes wrong they don't get upset. They are mentally strong'

It's a bit of cliché but I think they are stronger than Latin drivers. Just look at Kimi and Juan Pablo Montoya. I think Montoya has lost some of the aggression he had when he was at Williams. He's not as strong as he used to be. And Giancarlo is the same. I don't know what's wrong with him but I do think there's a 'head' thing going on. He is not performing to the level of his ability. Obviously that's good for Heikki. Maybe he'll even get his chance before the end of the season.

I know him quite well now and he's a great guy. He's very down to earth, is very calm and mature and has the right mentality for the job.

And then there's Kimi. I remember seeing him first in Formula Renault and telling Peter Sauber that he should test him and although Kimi was too weak then, he could barely do five laps in the car before he had to get out, you could see he has something special.

Kimi's problem at the moment is the McLaren. Knowing him, he only wants to win and if McLaren can't give him the car to do that then he will think about moving. I think he should move to Ferrari. I've been there and know what it's like and I think it's an environment that would really suit him. More so than McLaren.

In fact, what I'd like to see next year, is Heikki in a Renault, Nico in a McLaren and Kimi in a Ferrari. One of them would then be capable of winning a world title for Finland.

● Former Toyota, Sauber and Ferrari star Mika Salo is in Malaysia this weekend commentating for Finland's MTV3 television.

BREAKFAST WITH... SIR FRANK WILLIAMS

After more than 35 years in motor sport, Sir Frank Williams is one of the most respected and authoritative men in the paddock. **Norman Howell** spoke to him over breakfast.





'I'VE HAD DRIVERS IN THE PAST WHO REALLY DIDN'T LIKE EACH OTHER, BUT I NEVER LET IT GO BEYOND BODY LANGUAGE'

PHOTOS: SUTTON IMAGES, CRISPIN THRUSTON

Sir Frank Williams, Formula One team owner. One of the few men in the sport who doesn't need much of an introduction, inside or outside the paddock, in his native UK, or anywhere in the world where motor racing is popular. More than 50 drivers have worked for him, five of whom have won the driver's title, and many more have contributed to nine constructor's titles.

I hear you have always been very keen on sport and that you played rugby for Scotland Under-15s?
Well, not exactly: it was for the south of Scotland selection, but that was a long way from playing for the full team, even at that age group. It was all very competitive.

Scotland appear to have re-invented themselves this year.
Yes, that was a remarkable turnaround in a very short space of time.

It's interesting how the coach, a leader, has achieved so much but has kept the same people. Do you think that a leader is so crucial in a team game of so many people?
Sometimes, a new leader can make a very, very big difference. In rugby, Sir Clive Woodward did a fantastic job with England when he took over. Changed the culture, he was very radical. A change is often very good, and always enjoyable. It doesn't happen so often in football; I have my theories about that, but that's not for this chat.

Can you compare those sports to F1?
Well, in rugby and football people change all the time, less so in F1, but in the end it's often a matter of chemistry.

You are also a great fan of athletics, where instead it's a lot about the individual, so much about mental strength.
At the end of the day, that's what it can come down to.

I was reading about Linford Christie, who said he wasn't the greatest 100m runner in the world, but spent lots of time staring down his adversaries in the blocks, to intimidate and unsettle them. Do you think F1 drivers do that to each other?
Well, they are not often shoulder to shoulder for any amount of time, but I think they do occasionally stare at each other. There is always a bit of distance between them all, from what I can see. They are sort of buddies, but as the race time approaches, the buddy bit stops and they become competitors.

Do you try to keep them as separate units within the team, so they can focus better, or do you encourage them to be friends?
I've had drivers in the past who really didn't like each other, who had an intense dislike for each other, but I never let it go beyond body language, or a lack of co-operation.

Bode Miller, the American skier, said that to compete at the highest levels of sport it is justifiable to take drugs to create a level playing field…
(Sir Frank goes off the record to question whether this gentleman's brain has been damaged by watching pulp television. My words, not his). Sportsmen should be in competition with other human beings, not aided by any source other than the internal combustion engine, whether it's blood doping, or drugs or whatever.

Despite F1's international nature, a number of the leading figures don't speak any language other than English. But you do. Why is that?
My mother, who was a school teacher, made great sacrifices to send me to a religious school; they were very rough people, but I learned my stuff.

But is it true that you learned Italian because in your early days in motor racing many of the sponsors were Italian?
Not true. I had a wonderful little teacher, a Marist Brother, called Father Casimir, a very unusual name… he was a tiny chap and a brilliant linguist: Italian, French, Latin, he spoke them all. A really brilliant teacher.

So would you say that you enjoy the Latin side of Europe maybe more than the northern parts?
I identify more with the Italians. The Spanish I scarcely know, I would guess they are a harder race, that's not to say the Italians are soft, but the Spanish seem harsher.

Changing subject completely Sir Frank, I'd like to talk to you about families. You had Damon Hill and Jacques Villeneuve racing for you and now both Rosbergs have sat in your cars. It's a strong family feeling, maybe a connective tissue that runs through the sport, like no other sport…
Bonding, among the people and the teams is possibly too strong a word, but there is a certain amount of respect among the better people for their achievements under all sorts of pressures – financial pressures and even death. It affects everybody and it certainly provides a certain affection for each other, even if that is never expressed. And we have known each other for quite a few years, too.

Your daughter is involved in the family business…
I was quite against my daughter getting a job in the press department, but she applied all the same when we had a vacancy, and despite my telling her to keep me out of it, she was, I was told, the outstanding candidate and has been there four years now, so I suppose she can't be doing a bad job.

Is there a new generation coming along? We all seem to be a little long in the tooth.
People change, they have to. I will be changed sooner rather than later, Bernie will stop eventually, Max will stop quite soon.

I'm reading a book by a British historian about the British Empire and his thesis is that it was a really good thing, for all involved.
It's curious how in just four of five decades, many people in Britain have been surprised by the diminishing of our standing, but the world moves on. I learned at school that no empire lasts forever, there is a natural rotation, that is why I fear for the USA. In F1, there has been a British domination for years and that is diminishing fast. Then there are the drivers, who are generally from Europe, the heartland of motor racing, but that will change over the next 20 years.

So you don't think F1 will stay in Europe?
Not particularly. It is the way of the world and a cycle we are going through. It always has done and we seem to be going where the money is. Television has made F1 a really global sport with enormous energy and emotional appeal. We follow the money, or the possibility of raising money. This is how it happens in the real world.

FRAME GAME

The Bull's Eye paparazzi has been up to its usual tricks, getting behind the scenes at Sepang to find the answers to all those questions that you hadn't even thought about asking…



So, Rubens, what exactly did you have to do to get the Honda drive?



When Aguri explained he'd had to grease some palms to get into F1, Bernie hadn't expected the team owner to show him the actual palms.



Matteo's cheap Bahraini tooth-whitening job was just a bit too bright for most people.



A budget cut too far? The helicopter at the Sepang Circuit was not up to the usual standard...



Another archaeological find in the paddock: 'Two-tent-car-men'.



...and the ambulances weren't much better.

PHOTOS: MSP6/ MELZER, CRASHPA.NET, CRISPIN THURSTON, MURIEL BROUSSEAU



Rubens' drink problem was getting worse. No matter how wide he opened his mouth, he still missed.



Fisi took Renault's Synchronised Marching Troop through its paces...



...while back in the paddock, the new recruits still needed to read the instructions.

CRÈCHE COURSE

Spend any time in the pits and you're bound to hear the patter of tiny feet – and we don't mean Felipe Massa. There's nothing new about children in the paddock, but just recently it seems like there's so many more of them – and unless it's brought under control immediately, we fear the worst. Illustration by Ichiban.

Imagine children raised entirely in the presence of team bosses, driver managers and doting mechanics. At the moment they're still being bottle-fed, but in a few years time there'll be a pack of half-feral tweenagers running riot in the garages. How long before they assume complete control and start doing deals to stage races in dodgy dictatorships over their Coco Pops? They'd be amoral and uncontrollable, schooled from birth in the arts of skulduggery, back-stabbing and advanced thermodynamics. As it seems the tiny terrors are here to stay and there's nothing to do about it, how about some proper facilities? A decent crèche, a playgroup leader skilled in the art of child-deception and some fluffy toys. And then, just maybe, they'll grow up with La-la, Dipsy and Po as role-models instead of Max, Flav and Bernie.

Middle floor bar in the Energy Station removed and replaced with educational toys, swings, slides, a petting zoo and a ball pit (no mechanics allowed).

Carbon-fibre monocoque buggies: built to regulations developed by the technical committee (chair: C Whiting), to be kept in parc fermé during official naps and after story time

Friday testing: Those drivers without a 2006 fatherhood seat will be allowed to test drive buggies on Fridays. This rule was brought in partly to enhance the spectator experience and partly to give parents a night off.

SNAP HAPPY AT SEPANG

The Malaysian Unas are used to being in the photographer's viewfinder but what are they like at taking pictures themselves? We set them loose around the circuit with a dozen cameras and here's what the girls got up to.

























1969



MOTOR SPORT HAS A REPUTATION for frantic activity behind the scenes – but spend long enough in the pitlane and you'll realise that this is neatly balanced by long periods of waiting around for something to happen. As our boys in blue from the 1969 Targa Florio and their Sauber alteregos at the Hungaroring in 2003 demonstrate, sometimes you just have to sit on the wall and watch the world go by.

2003



PHOTOS: RAINER SCHLEGELMILCH

TIAGO MONTEIRO

GRANNY'S CLOSE SHAVE

As a boy, he wanted to be Flash Gordon, but these days Tiago dreams of being an astronaut or a time-traveller











What did you have for dinner last night?
Sushi

The last film you saw?
Woody Allen's Match Point

The first car you ever owned?
Volkswagen Golf Mk III

What car do you own now?
Chevrolet Tahoe 4x4

Favourite Beatle?
Ringo

Childhood hero?
Flash Gordon

Who is your present sporting hero?
Lance Armstrong

Did you win any prizes at school?
Not that I remember

Favourite bands?
Zero 7, The Postal Service, Dave Matthews Band, Jamiroquai

Favourite films of all time?
Snatch, Blow, Point Break, Closer, Scarface

Favourite actors?
Al Pacino, Brad Pitt, Angelina Jolie, Penélope Cruz, Harrison Ford

Last tune you downloaded?
An old Simple Minds album

First album you ever bought?
Whoaaaoo!!! I have no clue!

What was your first ever job?
Selling stuff at a kind of car boot sale…

If you could be anything, apart from a racing driver, what would it be?
Astronaut or fighter pilot

If you had a time-travelling DeLorean, when and where would you want to go?
I'd love to see the USA in the 1950s

What do you enjoy most, away from the track?
Having fun!

Which was your favourite ever race?
Spa 2005. I had a great race from 18th to eighth, scoring a point in the wet

The most frustrating moment of your career?
Brazil 2005… rear transmission failure prevented me from finishing all the races in the championship

Where do you keep all your trophies?
At home in Porto

Do you have any pets?
A labrador called Buddy

How many bedrooms does your home have?
Two

Favourite article of clothing?
Jeans

Favourite drink?
Ice-cold Coca-Cola

Most treasured possession?
My Ducati Monster S4R

Favourite toys when you were a child?
Radio-controlled cars

Have you ever bought or sold anything on eBay?
Never bought, but I've sold some laptops and cameras

Coolest hotels you've ever stayed in?
Grand Hyatt Tokyo and Hilton Maldives

Your dream holiday destination?
Fiji or the Maldives

Is there anywhere you haven't been that you'd really like to visit?
North Pole, South Pole, Laos, Cambodia, Borneo, Kazakhstan and Mongolia

When was the last time you flew economy?
Last week

Winter or summer?
Summer

Pubs or bars?
Bars

Blondes or brunettes?
Both…

Jennifer Aniston or Angelina Jolie?
Angelina

Coolest celebrity you've ever met?
Patrick Swayze

Who would play you in the film of your life?
Brad Pitt

Who would you least like to be trapped in a lift with?
Narain Karthikeyan – he hates lifts

Your dream dinner party guests?
Lance Armstrong, Angelina Jolie, Narain…

What's your worst habit?
Biting my nails

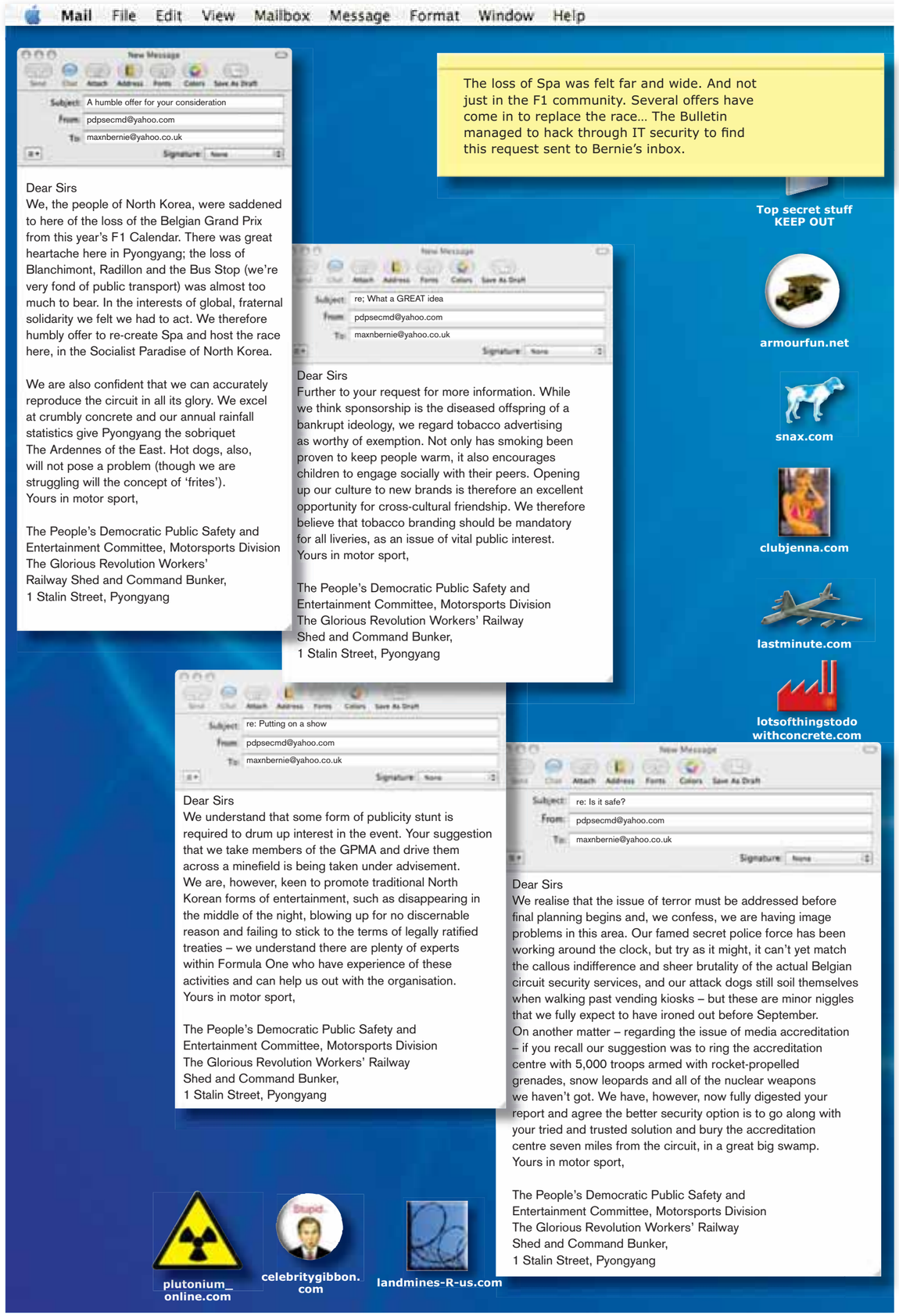
What are you scared of?
Losing people I love

The best piece of advice anyone has ever given you?
Never push your grandma when she's shaving!

What's the best freebie you've ever had?
Two seats on a jet from Miami to the Bahamas to spend the weekend in a house just for us

What's your mobile phone ringtone?
Currently it's the theme from 24, but I change it often. I get bored!

PHOTO: SUTTON IMAGES, GETTY IMAGES, REX FEATURES





BET AND WIN

BENOIT BET The heat is on – especially for anyone who made the Schumi bet. For the teams, the fear of engine failure is rising and nowhere more so than at Ferrari where already Felipe Massa's engine had to be changed after Bahrain, which will cost the Brazilian ten positions on the grid, and Schumacher has had to change his. So how many laps is the seven-times champion going to complete on a circuit where he has always managed to score points since the beginning in 1999? Schumi's second place in Bahrain made three betters – all from Austria, by chance – 300 euros richer: Niki Lauda, the BMW-Sauber caterer Joschi Walch and manager Burghard Hummel were the lucky ones. The most unlucky punter was Englishman HB, who's been putting his money on second place for years. But, for the first time ever, he forgot to place his bet. Don't you forget; you'll find me in the paddock.

SATURDAY QUALIFYING

1	2	Fisichella	Renault	1:33.840
2	12	Button	Honda	1:33.986
3	10	Rosberg	Williams-Cosworth	1:34.626
4	5	M Schumacher*	Ferrari	1:34.668
5	9	Webber	Williams-Cosworth	1:34.672
6	4	Montoya	McLaren-Mercedes	1:34.916
7	3	Raikkonen	McLaren-Mercedes	1:34.983
8	1	Alonso	Renault	1:35.747
9	15	Klien	Red Bull Racing	1:38.715
10	7	R Schumacher*	Toyota	DNC s3
11	14	Coulthard*	Red Bull Racing	1:34.614
12	11	Barrichello*	Honda	1:34.683
13	8	Trulli	Toyota	1:34.702
14	17	Villeneuve*	BMW-Sauber	1:34.752
15	16	Heidfeld	BMW-Sauber	1:34.783
16	6	Massa*	Ferrari	DNC s2
17	21	Speed	Scuderia Toro Rosso	1:36.297
18	20	Liuzzi	Scuderia Toro Rosso	1:36.581
19	19	Albers	MF1-Toyota	1:37.426
20	18	Monteiro	MF1-Toyota	1:37.819
21	22	Sato	Super Aguri	1:39.011
22	23	Ide	Super Aguri	1:40.720

* To be penalised 10 places on the grid

TRACK STATS

15 TURNS

5.5 KM

69 PER CENT CHANCE OF RAIN

33 PREDICTED HEAT IN DEGREES C

4.7 KM OF TRACK

RACE ODDS

SEASON BET LEADER BOARD
PAT SYMONDS 7
ROBERT DOORNBOS 6
FRANCK MONTAGNY 5
SILVIA HOFFER 4
SUSIE FORMAN 3
MIKE GASCOYNE 3
HERMANN TILKE 1

DRIVER ODDS

6-4 BUTTON WON'T WIN A RACE IN 2006
2-1 ALONSO FAVOURITE TO WIN
5-2 RAIKKONNEN TO WIN
9-4 MICHAEL SCHUMACHER TO WIN TITLE
20-1 WILLIAMS TO WIN THE CONSTRUCTORS TITLE

ODDS FROM WWW.WILLHILL.COM

#13 COLIN KOLLES

THE SUM OF ALL PARTS

Midland F1's managing director made his money in dentistry, has an addiction to classic Ferraris and is somehow able to stay alert – despite getting almost no sleep. This is his world in numbers...

1 MILLION PHONE CALLS
to Alex Shnaider every week. He's very busy and I'm very busy, but he wants to know what's happening all the time. He's interested. He and I have formed a close friendship, although we've only known each other for a couple of years.

6 RACE SERIES
I've run teams in Group B rallying, karting, Formula Koenig, Formula 3, DTM and Formula One. DTM is my latest enterprise.

46 BEDROOMS
in the Villiers Hotel in Buckingham, where I stay when I'm in Silverstone. I always see every vacant room before deciding which one to take. I try to go home to Munich whenever we're not racing.

365 DAYTONA
Group 4 competition Ferrari – that's my favourite car. I have a collection of 20 and this one is an ex-NART Le Mans racer. My main road car is my black Aston Martin Vanquish S.

1 BILLION TOOTH EXTRACTIONS
during my career in dentistry! This is what paid for my cars and my racing.

21 HOURS
sleep per week. This team, plus my other racing activities, take up every waking hour.

2 MILLION EUROS
on a Ferrari 250 LM. That's the most money I've spent on a car. It's historic as it once had an accident in the Targa Florio, driven by a famous Englishman whose name I've completely forgotten. I think it began with P. He lost a leg in the crash! Damn, I usually remember these things...

0 BURBERRY ITEMS
in my wardrobe. Ah yes, the famous hat! I didn't destroy it, I accidentally left it in the shuttle bus in Malaysia. Some joker, not me, went to the market in Shanghai and bought 60 fake Burberry caps to mark the last race for Jordan. That was quite funny.



PHOTO: CRISPIN THRUSTON

GRIDDLE

THE ULTIMATE F1 QUIZ

1 PROMISING YOUNGSTERS

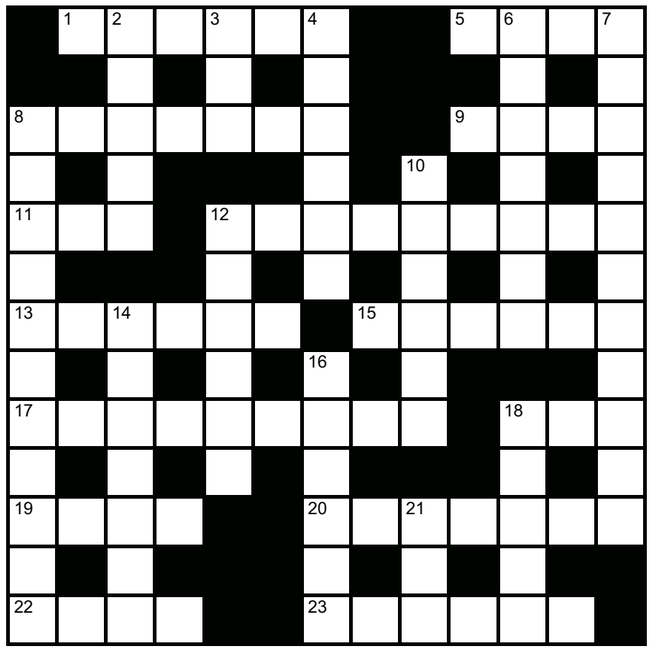
Even as an infant, this famous F1 star was ready to jump in the saddle and charge to victory, but who is he?



2 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?



3 CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1 Mature (4,2)
5 Sections of a play (4)
8 Caretaker (7)
9 Mika, Finnish driver who achieved two podium finishes (4)
11 Young child's small bed (3)
12 Africa, for example (9)
13 See 16 Down
15 Home of Japan GP (6)
17 Mutual understanding (9)
18 Make an offer at auction (3)
19 Back part of the foot below the ankle (4)
20 Race official (7)
22 Dairy product (4)
23/10 World Champion three times in the 1980s (6,6)

DOWN

2 German-born driver who posthumously won the 1970 Drivers' Championship (5)
3 Humour (3)
4 1982 Dutch Grand Prix winner (6)
6 ------- d'Eau, a right-hander at Magny Cours (7)
7 Understaffed (5-6)
8 Knighted Australian driver (4,7)
10 See 23 Across
12 1959 and 1960 Constructors' Champion (6)
14 1971 Constructors' Champion (7)
16/13 He finished ninth in the 2005 Championship with 37 points (6,6)
18 Well done! (5)
21 Snake-like fish (3)

4 WHO SAID THIS?

"YOU CAN NEVER RELAX WITH AYRTON. I SHOWED HIM UP ON FRIDAY AND HE WILL NOT LIKE THAT. AT THIS RATE I'LL AGE 10 YEARS IN ONE SEASON."

5 IN THE DETAIL

This picture is taken from Giorgio Piola's archives... but when was this rear wing introduced and on which team's car?



6 ONE-HIT WONDER

Formula One is full of one-off events... but what is so special about this picture?



PHOTO: RAINER SCHLEGELMICH, SUTTON IMAGES, SEITENBLICKE MAGAZINE; ILLUSTRATION: GIORGIO PIOLA

7 QUESTION TIME

01 Which British Ferrari driver finished second in the first grand prix of his career at Reims in 1966?

02 In which position did Eddie Irvine finish in his first race for Ferrari?



03 Monza has held the Italian GP every year of the modern era except one. In which year was it relocated and to where?

04 In what year did Nelson Piquet win the British Formula 3 title?



05 And with which team did he make his F1 debut in the same year, and at what race?

06 Who claimed his only world championship point with sixth at the 1983 USA West GP and for what was he better known?

07 And what car took him to his most successful F1 finish?

08 Who replaced Johnny Herbert at Benetton in 1989 from the French GP onwards?

09 Who won the 1972 South African GP?

10 And who followed him on to the podium in second?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 22

HORSE RACING

War of Attrition, (right) owned by Ryanair boss Michael O'Leary and ridden by Connor O'Dwyer, triumphed at the Cheltenham Gold Cup, winning by two-and-a-half lengths.

But the festival was marred by the deaths of nine horses. The Jockey Club is to review safety procedures.

TENNIS

World number one Roger Federer eased into the semi-finals of the Pacific Life Open in Indian Wells with a 6-2, 6-3 win over Ivan Ljubicic.

The defending champion needed only 66 minutes to oust the sixth seed. He will now face Thai Paradorn Srichaphan, who beat Finn Jarkko Nieminen 7-6, 7-3, 3-6, 7-5.

American James Blake secured a place in the semi-finals – and in the world's top 10 – with a 6-1, 6-4 victory over Igor Andreev of Russia.

Spain's Rafael Nadal saw off the challenge of Australian Open finalist Marcos Baghdatis 7-5, 6-0.

Third seed Maria Sharapova stormed into the final with an impressive 6-3, 6-3 win over Switzerland's Martina Hingis on Friday.

In the final she faces compatriot



Elena Dementieva who beat top seed Justine Henin-Hardenne of Belgium 2-6, 7-5, 7-5.

CYCLING

Alessandro Petacchi was vying to become the first Italian to win two successive Milan-San Remo races in more than 50 years but he had to get past the world champion Tom Boonen. Petacchi came into the event on the back of a victory in the final stage of the Tirreno-Adriatico while the Belgian was seeking to become the first world champion to win the 294km race since Giuseppe Saronni in 1983.

Boonen came into the race on the back of three stage wins in Paris-Nice. He also won the Tour of Qatar earlier this year.



Maria Sharapova of Russia strikes a stunning forehand on her way to knocking Martina Hingis out of the Pacific Open

MEDALS AND RESULTS

COMMONWEALTH GAMES

Australia and India have been leading the way during the opening days of the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne.

India's Sumaresh Jung secured a gold medal double with a stunning display of marksmanship at the Melbourne International Shooting Club yesterday.

Bradley Kahlefeldt and Emma Snowsill made it a double gold for Australia in the men's and women's triathlon.

In the swimming pool, 20-year-old Leisel Jones is on course for a golden treble after collecting her second title with an all-the-way win in the women's 200 metres breaststroke final, held yesterday.

The British had more luck on the cycle track as England ended Australia's winning streak at the Melbourne Park velodrome with victory in the team pursuit.

Rob Hayles, Paul Manning, Steve Cummings and Chris Newton won in a time of four minutes, 2.699 seconds.

Scotland's Ross Edgar and England's Matthew Crampton went through to the semi-finals in the cycling sprint.

Meanwhile, English swimmer Rebecca Cooke set the fastest time on her way to the 800m freestyle final.

New Zealand's third consecutive gold in rugby sevens earlier in the week means they have not lost a match at the Games since the sport was introduced to the tournament in 1998.

The Kiwis beat England 29-21 in the final while Australia lost to Fiji 17-24 in the play-off for bronze.

	G	S	B	Total
Australia	12	9	8	**29**
India	4	3	0	**7**
England	3	7	4	**14**
Canada	2	6	4	**12**
New Zealand	2	1	0	**3**
Scotland	2	0	3	**5**
South Africa	2	0	2	**4**
Malaysia	1	0	2	**3**
Sri Lanka	1	0	0	**1**
Bangladesh	0	1	0	**1**
P New Guinea	0	1	0	**1**
Wales	0	0	2	**2**
Singapore	0	0	2	**2**
Isle Of Man	0	0	1	**1**
Fiji	0	0	1	**1**

NB: Countries are ranked according to class of medals won, not total medals won.

SWIMMING

Women's 200m freestyle
GOLD **Caitlin McClatchey** (Scotland)
SILVER **Lisbeth Lenton** (Australia)
BRONZE **Melanie Marshall** (England)

Women's 200m individual medley
GOLD **Stephanie Rice** (Australia)
SILVER **Brooke Hanson** (Australia)
BRONZE **Lara Carroll** (Australia)

Men's 200m butterfly
GOLD **Moss Burmester** (New Zealand)
SILVER **Travis Nederpelt** (Australia)
BRONZE **Joshua Krogh** (Australia)

Men's 400m freestyle
GOLD **David Carry** (Scotland)
SILVER **Andrew Hurd** (Canada)
BRONZE **David Davies** (Wales)

Men's 4 x 100m freestyle relay
GOLD **South Africa**
SILVER **Australia**
BRONZE **Canada**

Women's 50m breaststroke
GOLD **Leisel Jones** (Australia)
SILVER **Jade Edmistone** (Australia)
BRONZE **Tarnee White** (Australia)

Men's 200m freestyle
GOLD **Ross Davenport** (England)
SILVER **Simon Burnett** (England)
BRONZE **Brent Hayden** (Canada)

Men's 50m backstroke
GOLD **Matthew Clay** (England)
SILVER **Liam Tancock** (England)
BRONZE **Johannes Zandberg** (South Africa)

Women's 50m butterfly
GOLD **Danni Miatke** (Australia)
SILVER **Jess Schipper** (Australia)
BRONZE **Alice Mills** (Australia)

CYCLING

Women's 500m time trial
GOLD **Anna Meares** (Australia)
SILVER **Victoria Pendleton** (England)
BRONZE **Kerrie Meares** (Australia)

Men's 1km time trial
GOLD **Ben Kersten** (Australia)
SILVER **Jason Queally** (England)
BRONZE **Chris Hoy** (Scotland)

Men's individual pursuit
GOLD **Paul Manning** (England)
SILVER **Rob Hayles** (England)
BRONZE **Stephens Cummings** (England)

Women's points race
GOLD **Kate Bates** (Australia)
SILVER **Rochelle Gilmore** (Australia)
BRONZE **Kate Cullen** (Scotland)

Men's points race
GOLD **Sean Finning** (Australia)
SILVER **Hayden Roulston** (New Zealand)
BRONZE **Thomas Geraint** (Wales)

Men's keirin
GOLD **Ryan Bayley** (Australia)
SILVER **Travis Smith** (Canada)
BRONZE **Ross Edgar** (Scotland)



Malaysia's Mohd Faizal Baharom celebrates his gold medal for weightlifting at the Commonwealth Games

PHOTO: REUTERS, SUTTON IMAGES

GYMNASTICS

Men's team:
GOLD **Canada**
SILVER **Australia**
BRONZE **England**

Women's team:
GOLD **Australia**
SILVER **England**
BRONZE **Canada**

MEN'S HOCKEY: RESULTS

Saturday 18 March
Preliminary round, group 1:
New Zealand 4-1 Canada

Friday 17 March
Preliminary round, group 1:
England 4-3 New Zealand
Australia 5-1 Scotland

Preliminary round, group 2:
India 1-1 Malaysia
South Africa 6-1 Trinidad & Tobago

WEIGHTLIFTING

Men's 56kg
GOLD **Mohd Faizal Baharom** (Malaysia)
SILVER **Vicky Batta** (India)
BRONZE **Martin Guntali** (Malaysia)

Women's 53kg
GOLD **Maryse Turcotte** (Canada)
SILVER **Dika Toua** (Papua New Guinea)
BRONZE **Nadeene Latif** (Australia)

SHOOTING

Men's 50m prone pairs
GOLD **Chris Hector/Mike Babb** (England)
SILVER **Martin Sinclair/Neil Stirton** (Scotland)
BRONZE **Gruffudd Morgan/David Phelps** (Wales)

Men's trap pairs
GOLD **Michael Diamond /Adam Vella** (Australia)
SILVER **Tye Bietz/Kirk Reynolds** (Canada)
BRONZE **Trevor Boyles/David Walton** (Isle of Man)

Women's trap pairs
GOLD **Suzanne Balogh/Desire Baynes** (Australia)
SILVER **Cynthia Meyer/Susan Nattrass** (Canada)
BRONZE **Teresa Borrell/Nadine Stanton** (New Zealand)

Women's 10m air rifle pairs
GOLD **Tejaswini Sawant/Avneet Sidhu** (India)
SILVER **Monica Fyfe/Cynthia Hamulas** (Canada)
BRONZE **Yong Yu Zhen/Zhang Jingna** (Singapore)

Women's 25m pistol pairs
GOLD **Saroja Jhuthu/Sushma Rana** (India)
SILVER **Pamela McKenzie/Lalita** Yauhleuskaya (Australia)
BRONZE **Avianna Chao/Kim Eagles** (Canada)

Men's 50m pistol pairs
GOLD **David Moore/Daniel Repacholi** (Australia)
SILVER **Samaresh Jung/Vivek Singh** (India)
BRONZE **Michael Gault/Nicholas Baxter** (England)

TRIATHLON

Men's
GOLD **Bradley Kahlefeldt** (Australia)
SILVER **Bevan Docherty** (New Zealand)
BRONZE **Peter Robertson** (New Zealand)

Women's
GOLD **Emma Snowsill** (Australia)
SILVER **Sam Warriner** (New Zealand)
BRONZE **Andrea Hewitt** (New Zealand)

GOLF

David Howell's grip on pole position at the TCL Classic on the Chinese resort island of Hainan slipped as the Englishman (below) was overtaken during the third round.

Swede Johan Edfors and Andrew Buckle of Australia leapfrogged over Howell – the overnight leader at 17 under par for the first two rounds – to set up a thrilling finish to the event.

After tearing up the course on the opening two days with rounds of 64 and 63, Howell looked set to run away with the title but a conservative outward nine in the morning allowed the rest of the field to close the gap.

Edfors, who started the day five shots behind Howell, was in blistering form and with three holes to play the Swede was eight under for the day and 20 under for the tournament.

Buckle joined the Swede on 20 under having picked up five shots over the first 11 holes.

But Howell came back strongly in the afternoon to retake the lead in emphatic style.

TCL Classic, Hainan Island, China Leaderboard:

D Howell GB	-23
A Buckle Aus	-22
J Edfors Swe	-21
N Dougherty GB	-19
J Singh Ind	-18

European Order of Merit (euros)

01 **D Howell** Eng	938,813
02 **H Stenson** Swe	618,558
03 **N O'Hern** Aus	556,037
04 **E Els** SA	548,817
05 **N Dougherty** Eng	454,210
06 **R Goosen** SA	429,408
07 **P Casey** Eng	401,729
08 **T Jaidee** Tha	338,493
09 **V Singh** Fij	323,872
10 **C Montgomerie** Sco	322,321



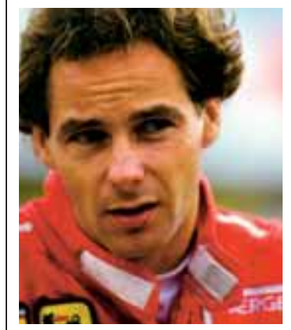
GRIDDLE ANSWERS

1 PROMISING YOUNGSTER
Scott Speed

3 WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?
At the start of the 2001 German GP, Michael Schumacher suddenly slowed with a gear selection problem. Luciano Burti in a Prost was unsighted and smashed into the back of Schumacher at almost full throttle. His car was launched skywards and both cars landed in the gravel traps.

3 CROSSWORD SOLUTION

Across	Down
1 Grow up	2 Rindt
5 Acts	2 Wit
8 Janitor	4 Pironi
9 Salo	6 Chateau
11 Cot	7 Shorthanded
12 Continent	8 Jack Brabham
13 Button	10 Piquet
15 Suzuka	12 Cooper
17 Agreement	14 Tyrrell
18 Bid	15 Jensen
19 Heel	18 Bravo
20 Steward	21 Eel
22 Milk	
23 Nelson	



4 WHO SAID THIS?
Gerhard Berger (above)

5 IN THE DETAIL
Jaguar in Spain 2004

6 ONE-HIT WONDER
South African Desiree Wilson drove this Williams at Brands Hatch in 1980 in her only grand prix.

7 QUESTION TIME
01. Mike Parkes
02. Third, in Melbourne, 1996
03. 1980, Imola
04. 1978
05. Ensign-Ford at the German GP at Hockenheim
06. Motorcycle world champion Johnny Cecotto
07. Theodore Ford
08. Emanuelle Pirro
09. Denny Hulme
10. Emerson Fittipaldi (second) and Peter Revson (third)

#2 TONIO IN TUNE

Tonio has a long way to go before he has to consider hanging up his overalls, but that day will surely come and what will the Locorotondo Locomotive do then? Well, age may mellow him, but we can't imagine Tonio ever wanting to be far from his legion of adoring female fans. He fancies himself as something of a performer, so perhaps he'll take to the stage and give Tom Jones some competition.

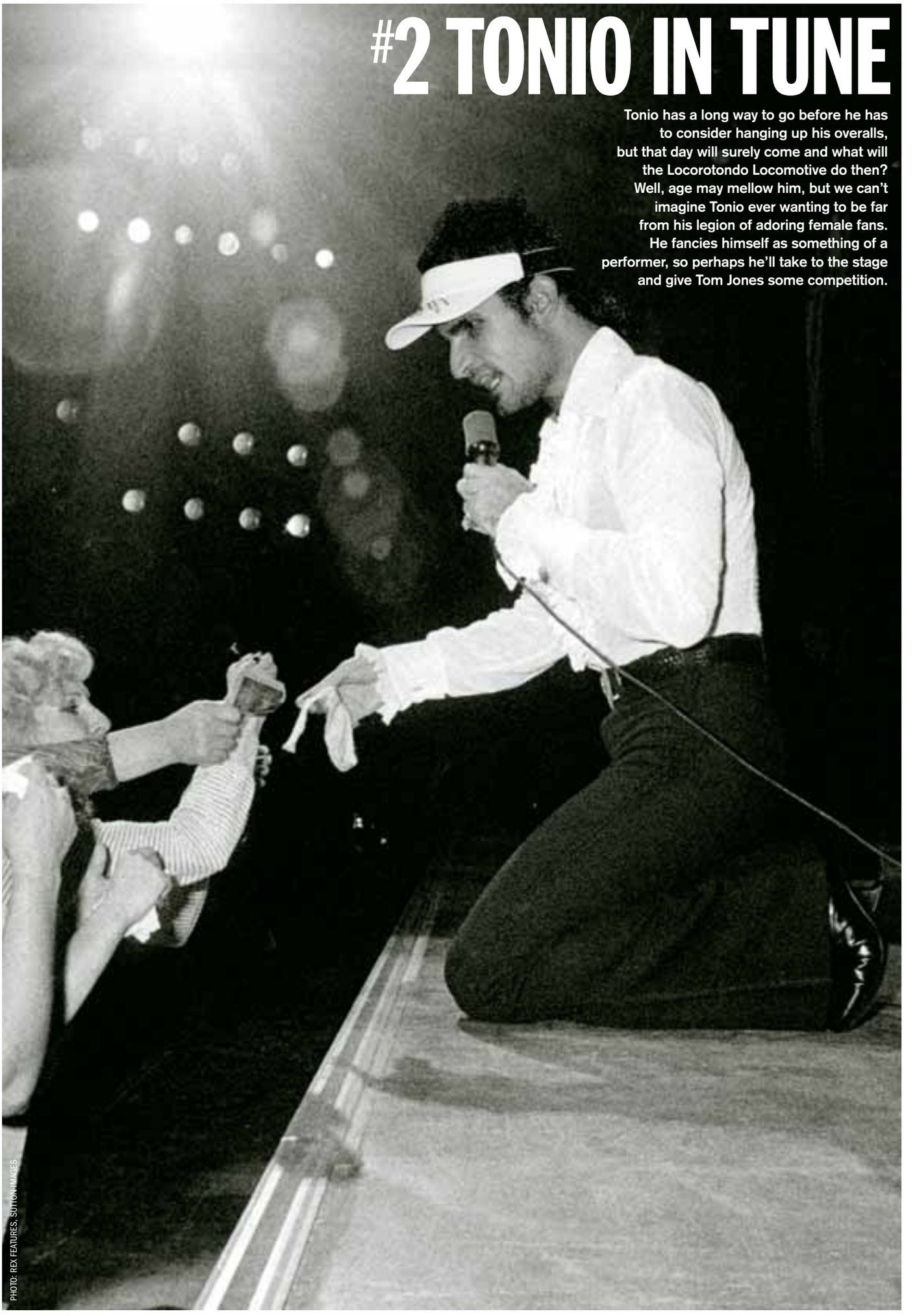


PHOTO: REX FEATURES, SUTTON-IMAGES