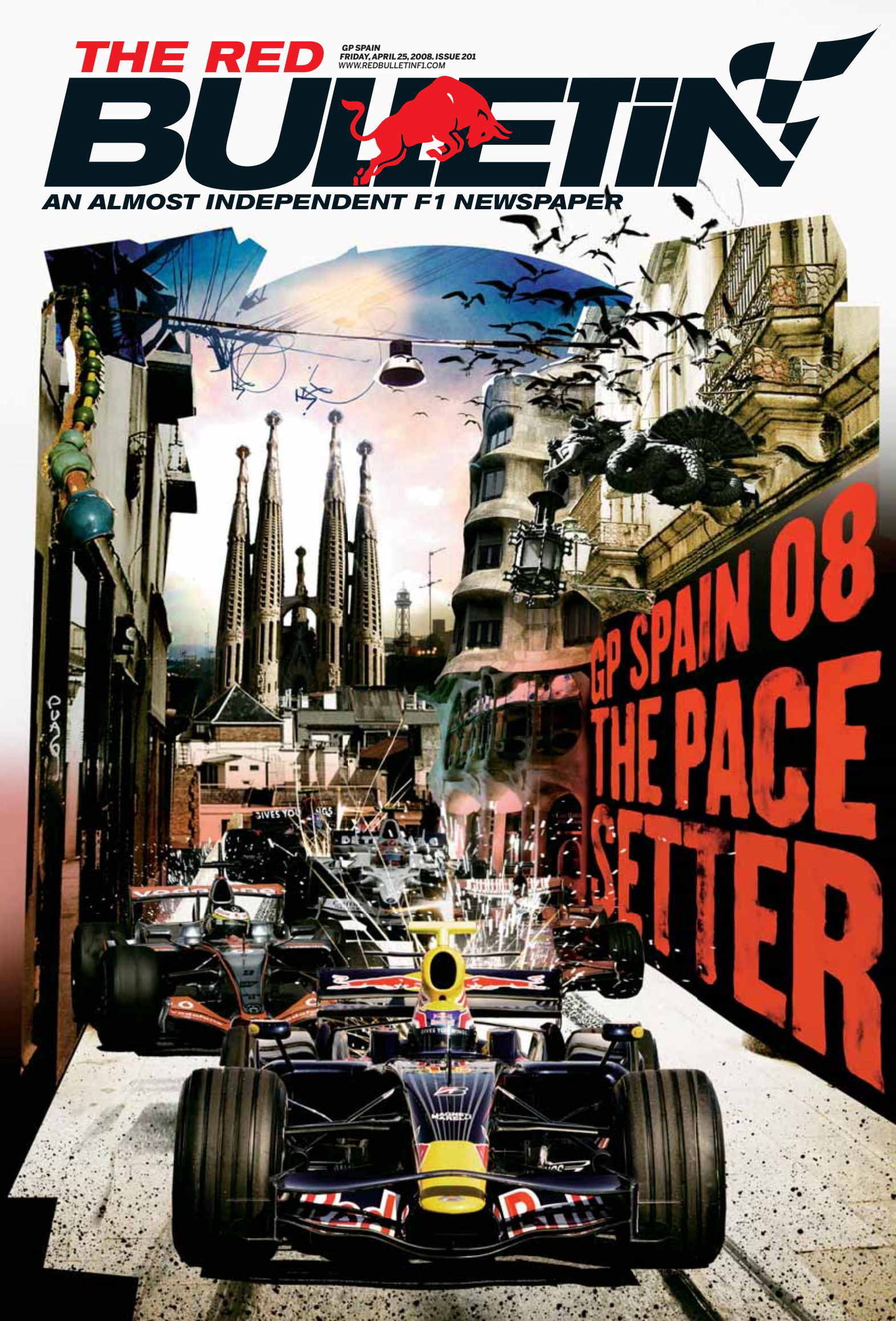
GP SPAIN
FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2008. ISSUE 201
WWW.REDBULLETINF1.COM

THE RED BULLETIN

AN ALMOST INDEPENDENT F1 NEWSPAPER



GP SPAIN 08 THE PACE SETTER

Grin and bear it
Even as financial negotiations to save the beleaguered Super Aguri team continue, team principal Aguri Suzuki still manages to keep a smile on his face for the media.
Photography: Thomas Butler

SPAIN 25·04·08 FRIDAY

After the madness of the flyaways, Formula 1 is back to Europe and the comfort of the team motorhomes. But there's no rest for Aguri Suzuki as he battles to save his beloved team. Elsewhere, the FIA launched its anti-racism campaign, Nelson Piquet senior received a well-deserved reward from the locals, Alonso-mania got vocal and somebody forgot to pack their trousers...

Anti-racism campaign

The FIA has launched its 'EveryRace' campaign, which sends a message that discrimination and prejudice have no place in our sport. The campaign is in response to the incidents at this circuit during pre-season testing, which the governing body agrees were "not at all representative of the thousands of people who enjoy a convivial atmosphere and the spectacle of motor sport". The FIA encourages motor-racing fans throughout the world to visit www.everyrace.net and pledge their support for the campaign's message that motor sport welcomes everyone, irrespective of gender, race or background.

Heidfeld the gatecrasher

Nick Heidfeld put on a show for staff at BMW's Munich plant on Wednesday, by doing a few donuts in an F1 car. Trouble was, he got a bit overexcited and left half the car in a wall. "You can look it up on YouTube," says Nick. "I whacked the car against the barrier, taking off the front wing and damaging the suspension. But it was only the 2006 car so it didn't really matter. And anyway, there were about 5,000 people there who could fix it."

Praise be to Piquet

Nelson Piquet Sr was inducted into the Circuit de Catalunya's hall of fame yesterday. The three-time champion is the 12th man to be etched on the plaque of greatness, located at the circuit's Avenue of Champions behind the main grandstand. A fan of Barcelona, 55-year-old Piquet brought his beloved 64m sailing yacht with him this year, on which we interviewed his son – read all about it in tomorrow's Bulletin.



MAD ABOUT MCLAREN
Loyal Spanish fans showed up in force yesterday to give Fernando Alonso's former employers some rather loud 'constructive criticism'.

spin: (noun/colloquial): public relations practice of putting positive light on a negative story via manipulation of facts

SPIN TO WIN...

#3: THE GREAT ESCAPE

Your polite guide to sneaking out of a struggling team.

THE FACTS

The season may be only three races old, but your car is off the pace, your team doesn't have a clue and your career is going nowhere fast. Clearly it's time to prepare the lifeboat. The only problem is that your best chance of negotiating a fat contract somewhere else next year is to perform well this year – and shouting 'come and get me' tends to demotivate your current crew. Best to tread carefully...

THE SPIN

I'm totally committed to [insert name of current employers]. The guys at the factory are great and the car is improving all the time. It's flattering that I've been linked with fantastic teams who I'd be honoured to drive for, but I won't start any speculation because I am currently completely committed to getting [insert team name again, include title sponsor if they might be tempted to jump ship with you] back to their winning ways.

Last-minute changes

Two last-minute substitutions have shaken up the GP2 Series grid ahead of this weekend's season opener at Spain. Andy Soucek has been dropped from Giancarlo Fisichella's FMS International team, which has been rebranded in the colours of the Force India Formula One squad. Roldan Rodriguez, who tested for Force India over the winter, has been drafted in for his second season of GP2. Soucek, however, has threatened legal action over the loss of his seat just days before the first race. DPR has also made a switch, albeit an enforced one. Regular driver Michael Herck, who's father is the major stakeholder in the team, suffered a broken hand in the Bahrain GP2 Asia race. He is likely to be out for three races, and will be replaced in Spain by Formula Atlantic graduate Giacomo Ricci. For a full GP2 preview, turn to pages 16-19.

Ferrari feed the neighbours

The odds were hugely stacked in Ferrari's favour, but Toro Rosso have got one over their engine partners. The two teams made a pre-season bet that whoever scored more points at the first race of the season would win a free meal. As we all know, the unlikely occurred and Sébastien Bourdais scored two points in Melbourne to Kimi's one. So, on Saturday night in Bahrain, Stefano Domenicali dutifully put his hand in his pocket and took the Faenza lads out on the town.

Jenson's sweet 16th

Jenson Button got out of the midfield and into the sharp end last Sunday when he and physio Mike Collier competed in their first UK triathlon. The Sevenoaks Triathlon in Kent comprised a 400m swim, 27km bike ride and an 8km run. In a field of 253 competitors, Button finished 16th with a time of 1:31.21, while Collier came 47th. "It was the most satisfying 16th place of my career. I was aiming for the top 25 so was really happy," says Jenson. "We're going to be doing another one in East Grinstead (in West Sussex, UK) next month and on June 15th we're doing the Royal Windsor triathlon, which will have about 1600 competitors."

The wrong trousers

It was a simple question of priorities. Bridgestone PR manager Andy Stobart arrived in Barcelona with his karting gloves, boots and helmet. It's the tyre company's annual media kart race this evening, and Andy has been looking forward to it all year. So much so that he forgot to pack his Bridgestone uniform and was forced to wander the paddock yesterday begging for a spare pair of trousers. If you're a journalist/frustrated racing driver, there are still a few places left in tonight's tournament. It's at the nearby Kartodrom Catalunya from 6pm.

FOR MORE VISIT: WWW.REDBULLETINF1.COM

PHOTOGRAPHY: LAT, GETTY, SHUTTERSTOCK, SUTTON. COVER: RED DESIGN

SINGAPORE HOTEL PRICES

As is the way with all new F1 races, the first thing to go up, even before the grandstands, is the price of hotels. Singapore is no exception and F1 folk have been stunned by the prices being set by the city state's hotels. That might be about to change, however, as executives at chains operating seven major hotels have admitted that prices will be 'relooked at' if bookings do not increase soon.

BYE BYE CHAMP CAR

After 29 years it's farewell to Champ Car. The final round of the final series was won on the streets of Long Beach last weekend by Will Power. The series that brought Jacques Villeneuve, Juan Pablo Montoya and Sébastien Bourdais to F1 (as well as giving Nigel Mansell something to do in the early '90s) will merge with IRL this weekend in Kansas.

CHINESE GRANDSTANDS

Shanghai's state-of-the-art circuit has been beaten up by a tropical storm. The storm, which brought gale-force winds and heavy rain, ripped apart awnings and seating in some grandstands just the day before A1GP practised at the track recently. The Shanghai Meteorological Bureau had issued a 'blue gale alert' storm warning on the Thursday evening.

DOWN



DEPRESSING STORY
In arguably more evidence of a global credit crunch, reports in the British media claim that Lewis Hamilton's official biography, Lewis Hamilton: My Story, has been consigned to the bargain bin of one UK retailer, selling for about £1 – a fraction of the original £20 price tag.

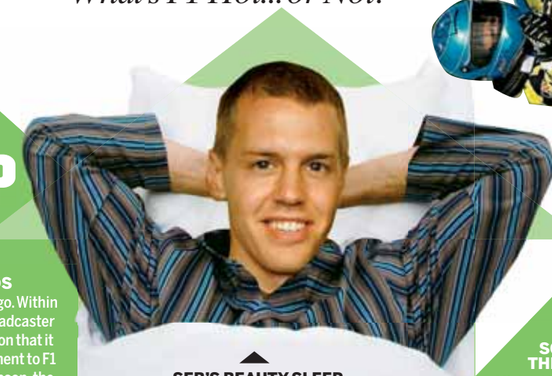




THE HITLIST

What's F1 Hot... or Not?

UP



SEB'S BEAUTY SLEEP
Sebastian Vettel has joined the growing number of drivers bidding for a bit of peace and quiet at races by splashing out a reported €250,000 on a plush new motorhome for the European races. Apparently, Vettel's new Concorde Liner 990 is 10 metres long, weighs 7.5 tons and features leather interiors, a huge TV and king-size bed. With Magny-Cours looming large on the horizon, any chance we could crash at your place in France Seb?

TV AWARDS

Strange how things go. Within weeks of British broadcaster ITV's shock revelation that it will end its commitment to F1 at the end of this season, the station's F1 team has been lauded by the top broadcasting awards body in the UK. The BAFTAs (Britain's TV equivalent of the Oscars) singled out ITV's coverage of Lewis Hamilton's maiden win in Canada last year as 'sports broadcast of the year'.



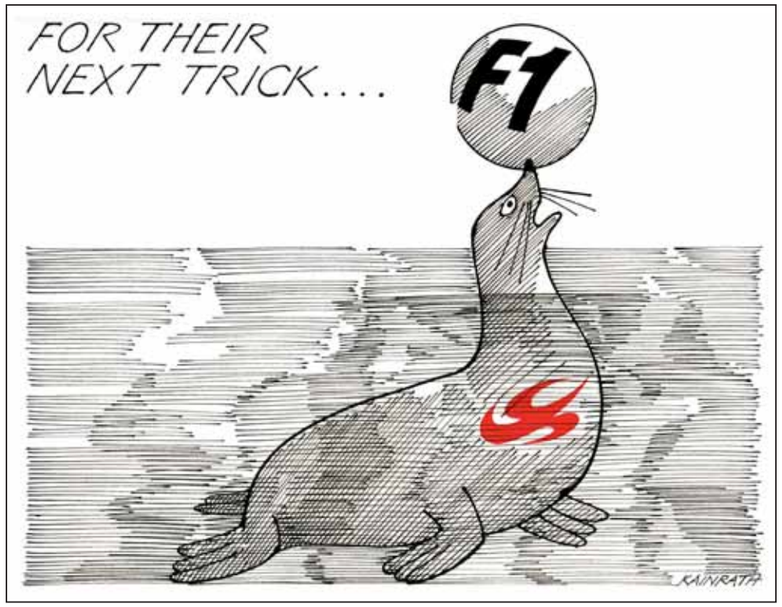
WOMEN DRIVERS

Danica Patrick became the first woman to win an IRL race last week, with a sparkling first at the Indy Japan 300 race at the Motegi circuit. Patrick, driving for Andretti Green Racing, comprehensively beat the field, finishing six seconds ahead of Penske's Hélio Castroneves.



SCHUMI III: THE REVENGE

Michael Schumacher's nine-year-old son Mick made his racing debut last week at a low-key kart event in Spain, using mother Corinna's maiden name Betsch in a bid to avoid the media spotlight. Mick was accompanied by grandfather Rolf, who watched Schu III, as he's been dubbed by the German media, finish tenth and eighth in his two races.



PIT BITCH: A NOSE FOR GOSSIP

Tales of men, menus and Manchester

BY HELEN PARADYCE

'It seems that holes are the latest secret weapon in F1'

Personally, I've never been into all this black hole thing to do with space and the only time I ever stop to ask myself "How did we get here, what are we doing and why?" is when I can't find a cab to leave Jimmy'z on Sunday night in Monaco. But now it seems that holes are the latest secret weapon in F1, following Ferrari's test of its nose-with-a-hole. The fuss surrounding it is less to do with the Ferrari part itself than the fact the media are getting excited about details of the new nose being leaked – an unpleasant image involving mucus springs to mind – but given that details of the design first emerged in December, I'm not sure what the fuss is about. In the words of the old joke, "an unexplained hole has been discovered and police are looking into it."

Back in the real world, I've been auditioning for a new boyfriend, which has meant interminable meals in restaurants. What all these boys failed to grasp was that, after many a job waitressing, I was always going to be the one feeling more comfortable running around a menu and wine list. Waitressing also gives you great experience of dealing with the weaker sex. I remember a guy complaining my hand was touching his steak as I brought his plate to the table. "What?" I barked. "You want your steak to fall on the floor again!"

One potential suitor at least saved me some money by flying me out here early on Wednesday to watch something called the Champions League semi-final. It turned out to be a football game between the local lads from Barcelona and a team from Manchester. I remember hearing a tale about a player from the war-torn Balkans, called something like Fido 'Animal' Petrescue, who got a job playing for Manchester. Having scored a hat-trick in his first game he rang home to speak to his Mama. When he'd finished telling his tale of joy, Mama yelled: "And while you are playing football, your sister has been kidnapped for the sex trade, your brother is a drug addict and Papa is mugged in the streets." The player could only say sorry. "You sorry?" shouted Mama. "You sorry? It's your fault we all move to Manchester!"

Ross Brawn supports Manchester United and I tell you this not because I like quiz games, but I offer it as proof he's probably much tougher than his cuddly teddy bear image would have you believe. Therefore, I doubt he and his cohorts will be lifting a finger to help Super Aguri. Amazing how F1 opinion can turn itself inside out. When Honda decided to create its satellite team to give Takuma Sato a drive, other teams instantly complained about unfair advantages, extra testing data, etc, but now, everyone has worked out that dragging your kid brother everywhere only serves to cramp your style and costs you a fortune.

If Aguri have to shut their doors, it would not be the first time that a Japanese institution has gone bankrupt. As we well remember, the recent banking crisis led to the shock news that the Origami Bank has folded, the Sumo Bank has gone belly up, the Bonsai Bank plans to cut back some of its branches and the famous Karaoke Bank is up for sale and is going for a song.



ON THIS DAY... 25/4/08



1990: HUBBLE
Space Shuttle Discovery launches the Hubble Space Telescope into orbit.
See some of the spectacular images captured by Hubble.
YouTube.com search: Hubble + images + haunting

1953: GENETIC BREAKTHROUGH
Crick and Watson's Nobel prize-winning article on the double-helix structure of DNA is published.
See art based on Rosalind Franklin's X-ray images of DNA.
YouTube.com search: DNA + science + art

1859: SUEZ
Work begins on the Suez Canal connecting the Red Sea with the Mediterranean.
Watch a ship on the canal apparently 'crossing the desert'.
YouTube.com search: Suez + sand

DEATHS

2001: MICHELE ALBORETO (BORN 1956)
Italian driver tragically killed testing an Audi R8.
YouTube.com search: Alboreto + tribute

ON THIS DAY, VISIT...

THE CAMP NOU
Take a behind-the-scenes tour of FC Barcelona's famous stadium and see the many trophies and photographs on show in the museum.
Tour/museum are open 10am-8pm Mon–Sat, 10am-2.30pm Sun. Entry is 13 euros for adults.

ON THIS DAY IN F1...



1982: SAN MARINO
Despite Ferrari team orders to slow down, Didier Pironi controversially takes the win from Gilles Villeneuve in the Canadian's last race.
Watch highlights from the race.
YouTube.com search: San Marino + 1982

PHOTOGRAPHY: REX. SUTTON IMAGES. ILLUSTRATIONS: DIETMAR KAINRATH. MASA



Kimi did his best not to laugh when he remembered that the champagne in Bahrain was replaced by a fizzy fruit drink, while Felipe drank a quarter of his bottle before he realised.



...but then they both had a laugh at their boss's expense: "No, go on Stefano – drink it all, mate, it's lovely!"

SOME YOU WIN, SOME YOU LOSE

In F1, good and bad things often come in equal measures...



Someone at Renault was going to be in deep trouble when Nelson found out who put his shorts on a boil wash.



Bernie ran and hid when he realised he'd got it wrong, as guitar god Eric Clapton and Pink Floyd drummer Nick Mason looked angry about the mix-up: "This isn't the Prince on keyboards and vocals that Bernie promised us!"



Police found this image of wheel thieves on a CCTV camera opposite the Force India pits. "As soon as they come back for the rest of the car, we'll be ready to get them," said a spokesman.

PHOTOGRAPHY: MURIEL BROUSSEAU, PETER J FOX/CRASH MEDIA GROUP. SUTTON IMAGES

WHERE'S YOUR MOTORHOME FROM HOME?

The complimentary mineral water and biscuits from your hotel are long gone, your throat is drier than a sandpit and your stomach is grumbling more than Ron Dennis after a Ferrari one-two. So, what to do? Let The Red Bulletin direct you to the best place to get some paddock refreshment…

IS SIR OR MADAM HUNGRY TODAY?

YES, I'M CHEWING OFF MY ARM!

NO, LUNCH IS FOR WIMPS

SO, HAVING A DRINK OR JUST HANGING OUT?

NO WAY, I'M HERE TO WORK!

YES, I DON'T WANT TO MAKE A MESS

WOULD THE SIGHT OF 80 MECHANICS DRESSED AS KERMIT THE FROG PUT YOU OFF YOUR FOOD?

YES, SOUNDS GOOD...

HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT SUSHI OR ANGLO-JAPANESE FUSION COOKING?

I'D LIKE A DRINK

DO PRISTINE, GLEAMING SURFACES MAKE YOU UNCOMFORTABLE?

YES, I DON'T LIKE GREEN

I LOVE THE MUPPETS!

NO, BURNED TO A CRISP, PLEASE!

WHAT DO YOU THINK THIS IS, THE BOY SCOUTS? GO AWAY AND TOAST YOUR OWN MARSHMALLOWS!

CHOCOLATE, PLEASE!

AH YES, SWEET

A MUG OF SOMETHING HOT, PERHAPS?

NO, NOT AT ALL

DO YOU FEEL AT HOME IN THE DEPARTURE LOUNGE OF A MODERN, INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT?

THERE'S NOTHING WORSE...

TEA, COFFEE OR HOT CHOCOLATE?

I'LL HAVE A COFFEE

I'D PREFER SOMETHING COLD!

DO YOU WANT TO GO TO A MOTORHOME THAT LOOKS LIKE A HELTER-SKELTER?

MAIS, OUI!

TEA FOR ME!

NO, THE FAIRGROUND ISN'T FOR ME

YES, I'M AN INTERNATIONAL SOPHISTICATE!

ARE YOU A FRENCH TV COMMENTATOR, SIX-TIME GRAND PRIX-WINNING BON VIVANT, RACONTEUR AND DEDICATED GOURMAND?

ARE YOU IRRITATED BY RESTAURANTS THAT CH ANGE THEIR NAMES AND MENUS IN AN EFFORT TO BE POPULAR AND TRENDY?

YES, I LIKE FAMILIARITY

ARE YOU A JOURNO WANTING FREE FOOD, A MECHANIC IN NEED OF A BEER, OR A DRIVER LOOKING FOR NEUTRAL TERRITORY TO START A FEW RUMOURS?

ARE YOU ANY GOOD AT TABLE FOOTBALL?

NO, I'M NOT

NO

DOES THE THOUGHT OF RUBBER EXCITE YOU?

DO YOU OWN A TIME MACHINE?

YES, DO I EVER?!

YES, THE ONLY THING BETTER THAN FOOSBALL IS A THURSDAY NIGHT HOUSE PARTY!

IT'S F1 – POPULAR AND TRENDY IS WHY I'M HERE!

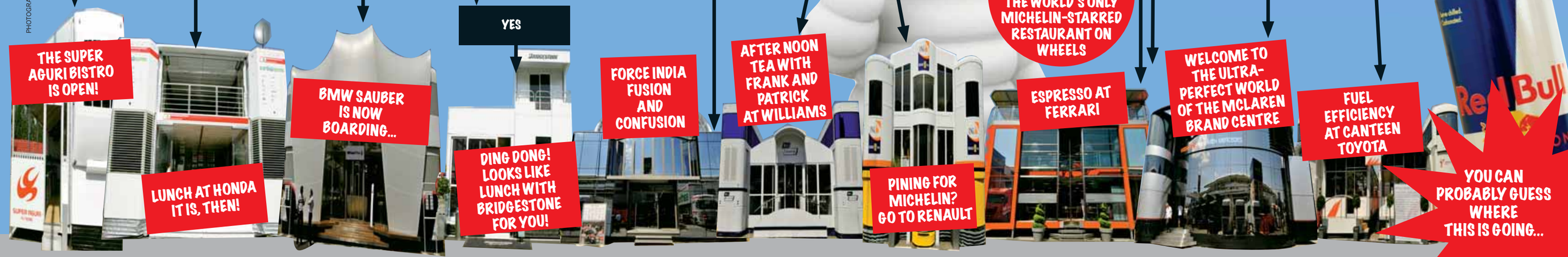
ER... ARE YOU MENTAL?

YES, LET'S ASSUME I DO

NO, I'M MORE A 'PEACE AND QUIET' KIND OF GUY

YES

SET THE CONTROLS FOR 2003 AND ENJOY CHEZ VINCENT, THE WORLD'S ONLY MICHELIN-STARRED RESTAURANT ON WHEELS



PHOTOGRAPHY: SHUTTERSTOCK, THOMAS BUTLER, REX



First Day/Last Day

MARC GENÉ

Three weeks ago, Sadabell native Marc won the 1,000km endurance race for Peugeot at the Circuit de Catalunya. The Ferrari test driver made it look easy – but, in F1, nothing is so straightforward...

My first grand prix was at Albert Park in 1999 for Minardi. Melbourne is one of those races that you travel out early for. It was my first time in Australia so, like most drivers on their first visit, I played the tourist. I went to Phillip Island to see the penguins and took a drive down the Great Ocean Road. When I finally walked the circuit at Albert Park it shocked me, because from the ground it's obviously a street circuit; on television it looks like a permanent track.

It was a race I will never forget. The first time I saw my name up against people like Mika Hakkinen, Michael Schumacher and Jacques Villeneuve. Prior to the weekend these were drivers I had only seen in magazines. You have to remember that, back in the 1990s, Spain wasn't really into Formula One. Now we are used to it, but just to have made it back then was like a dream come true.

Everything was new, even just being in the paddock, though Minardi were very good at making you feel relaxed because they were used to having young drivers coming into the team. Luca Badoer was my team-mate and he was much more experienced than me, so he helped me out by telling me what I should expect. I went OK – qualifying was pretty average, but the race was OK until we had a problem [Marc retired on lap 25 as the result of a collision]. I was very impressed with it all in Australia – but, like everything, after that first race I got used to it.

My last race is a source of many memories: some good, others a little bitter. The good is that it was at Silverstone. It was 2004 and I was replacing Ralf Schumacher in the Williams. I'd raced in Britain a lot, so I knew the circuit and I knew I could do a good job. On the Friday I was very quick, and on Saturday morning I was in the top five on the same pace as my team-mate, Juan Pablo Montoya, which made me very happy. Qualifying was looking good.

However, being Britain, rain was naturally a factor. The prediction was very precise: it was going to rain towards the end of qualifying. This was the year of the split qualifying session, with the first session giving the order for the second – ie, if you were quick in Q1, you did your laps later in Q2. Everybody had ideas: Michael Schumacher spun, was it on purpose? I was told by the team to go slowly in Q1, to make sure I got my Q2 lap in before the rain fell, so in Q1 I backed off… and then it didn't rain!

Anyway we had some problems with tyre pressure, the car was really unbalanced and I had a very poor qualifying when I had been expecting to qualify in the top four or five. It made the race difficult. My race was pretty average and I finished 12th.

FOR MORE VISIT: WWW.REDBULLETINF1.COM

PHOTOGRAPHY: LAT PHOTOGRAPHIC, GETTY IMAGES

TEAM-MATE CHALLENGE

BMW SAUBER

Like all team-mates, they claim to get on well – but just how much do the BMW boys really know about each other? The Red Bulletin put them to the test...

NICK HEIDFELD: SCORECARD

Q1: You offer Robert a drink. What does he ask for?
A: "A glass of water."
Correct answer: Orange juice — ✗

Q2: What is his date of birth?
A: "He's 23... 1984?"
Correct answer: December 7, 1984 — ½

Q3: In which year, and for which team, did he make his F1 debut?
A: "He tested with Renault in 2005 and his race debut was Hungary '06 with BMW."
Correct answer: 2006, BMW Sauber — ✓

Q4: How many race wins did Robert take on the way to winning his 2005 World Series by Renault title?
A: "Four."
Correct answer: Four — ✓

Q5: Which celebrity would he most like to date?
A: "The Pope."
Correct answer: No one — ✗

Q6: If you went to his house for dinner, what would Robert cook for you?
A: "Spaghetti, plain. He hates butter."
Correct answer: Barbecue ("I'm a specialist!") — ✗

Q7: Finish this sentence: "After a race, Robert always..."
A: "...does something unusual, probably."
Correct answer: "...goes home" — ✗

ROBERT KUBICA: SCORECARD

Q1: You offer Nick a drink. What does he ask for?
A: "Orange juice."
Correct answer: Vodka Red Bull — ✗

Q2: What is his date of birth?
A: "He had his birthday in Barcelona last year, I think... May 12, 1978?"
Correct answer: May 10, 1977 — ✗

Q3: In which year, and for which team, did he make his F1 debut?
A: "2000, Sauber."
Correct answer: 2000, Prost — ½

Q4: Nick won the 1999 F3000 series with which team?
A: "West Competition – the McLaren junior team."
Correct answer: West Competition — ✓

Q5: What are the names of Nick's children?
A: "Juni and Joda."
Correct answer: Juni and Joda — ✓

Q6: Where did Nick go on his last holiday?
A: "He goes on holiday every two weeks! It was Valencia."
Correct answer: Valencia — ✓

Q7: Finish this sentence: "Before a race, Nick always..."
A: "...takes off his sunglasses."
Correct answer: "...lies down in a darkened room and thinks" — ✗





ILLUSTRATION: JAMES TAYLOR

Red Bull La Formula Una

CRAZY FOR CATALUNYA

The 10 fun-loving La Formula Una ladies representing Spain can't wait to join in the F1 fun. Follow their weekend's adventures in The Red Bulletin...

MARIAN MURILLO
How old are you? 26
What's your occupation? Historian and model
Where do you live? Seville
Fernando or Kimi? Kimi
Pet dog or pet cat? Pet dog
Gym or couch? Gym
Describe your character in three words... Demanding, temperamental, impatient.

ANA BERMÚDEZ
How old are you? 23
What's your occupation? Student and hostess
Where do you live? Madrid
Fernando or Kimi? Fernando
Summer or winter? Summer
Movie star or boy next door? Boy next door
Tell us a secret about yourself... I love to go shopping alone to relax.

CAROLINA SAMPER PEREZ
How old are you? 30
What's your occupation? I'm a make-up artist
Where do you live? Madrid
Fernando or Kimi? Fernando
High fashion or street fashion? Street fashion
Movie star or boy next door? Boy next door
Describe your character in three words... A great personality.

LUCÍA MARTÍN RUIZ
How old are you? 19
What's your occupation? I'm a student
Where do you live? Reinosa
Beach holiday or adventure holiday? Beach holiday
High fashion or street fashion? High fashion
Clubs or bars? Clubs
What would you choose as the theme tune for your life? Every Breath You Take, by The Police, because it makes me feel near my loved ones when I'm sad or far from home. When I was a child I used to sing it with my mother and father.

SONIA LÓPEZ ÁLVAREZ
How old are you? 27
What's your occupation? I'm a teacher
Where do you live? Asturias
Wine or water? Good wine
High fashion or street fashion? Street fashion
Pet cat or pet dog? Pet cat
Tell us a secret about yourself... I'm so excited about the chance to go to Montmelo. It will make my dreams come true.



ISABEL Mª MENA LÓPEZ
How old are you? 27
What's your occupation? I work in film production
Where do you live? Madrid
Shoes of handbags? Handbags
Clubs or bars? Clubs
Night out or night in? Night out
Tell us a secret about yourself... I'm very persistent and I like to do things well.

LIDIANA AZOR
How old are you? 21
What's your occupation? Student and hostess
Where do you live? Alicante
Summer or winter? Summer
Beach holiday or adventure holiday? Adventure holiday
Reading or shopping? Reading
Describe your character in three words... Spontaneous, unpredictable, affectionate.

TATIANA KUZNETSOVA
How old are you? 29
What's your occupation? I'm a beautician
Where do you live? Oviedo
Shoes or handbags? Shoes
Beach holiday or adventure holiday? Adventure holiday
Clubs or bars? Both, but more often bars
Describe your character in three words... Adventurer, compromising, friendly.

SANDRA MARTÍNEZ RAMOS
How old are you? 25
What's your occupation? I'm an economist
Where do you live? Bilbao
Wine or water? Water
Pet cat or pet dog? I've always had a pet cat, but I would love to have a dog
Gym or couch? Gym
What would you choose as the theme tune for your life? Wonderful Life, because I try to live with optimism and enjoy every day.

RAQUEL ESCOBAR RÍOS
How old are you? 21
What's your occupation? Student, photographer and model
Where do you live? Granada
Summer or winter? Summer, of course
Movie star or boy next door? Movie star
Reading or shopping? It depends. There's time for everything!
What would you choose as the theme tune for your life? World Hold On – if there's a chance to travel, I always try to take advantage of it.

PHOTOGRAPHY: CORBIS, GETTY IMAGES, DPPI, PEDRO VIKINGO, ELENA DE LA PUENTE, EDUARDO DE MIGUEL

DRIVEN TO DESTRUCTION

Spanish GP, April 27, 1975

More than 30 years ago, the guardrails at the Montjuïc circuit were in such a bad state that the drivers initially refused to race. Eventually they did, with tragic results.

Spain 1975 at Montjuïc is one of only three races to have been stopped early, with half points awarded. Italy's Lella Lombardi made history as the first woman to win a world championship point (or in this case, half a point), and it was Jochen Mass's only win. It was also one of the most controversial races ever run, where drivers, promoters and the Commission Sportive Internationale (CSI) clashed over a chaotic spectacle that claimed four lives before it was finally stopped.

Prior to the race, Montjuïc – along with the Nürburgring and Spa – was being reconsidered by the Grand Prix Drivers' Association (GPDA) in their quest for safer circuits. A week before the race, drivers' representative Jean-Pierre Beltoise turned up four hours late to inspect the circuit, and left after half an hour, requesting a third layer of Armco over certain parts of the track, particularly the quick section past the pits, plus wire netting to protect spectators. The organisers had a week to comply, but never checked the work of the sub-contractor, who found secondhand Armco to top the existing two layers.

Emerson Fittipaldi arrived on Wednesday and found circuit safety was woefully inadequate. By Friday, the drivers were in full revolt, refusing to take to the track. Thousands of nuts, bolts and washers were missing, and Armco could be lifted out of position with one hand. That night, a gang of labourers was due to make the circuit safe, but it was only when the teams' mechanics joined in next morning – rewarded later by the organisers with champagne – that progress was made.

The CSI ordered the drivers to practise. "We had this discussion with the CSI," says Mass, "and we all had this pressure on us from [race director] Huschke von Hanstein: 'You must drive, do what we say.' That was the attitude of the CSI then. Of course, I was not diplomatic and called him all sorts of names." As final practice loomed, the organisers also put pressure on the drivers – if they didn't go out, police would impound their equipment.

Eventually practice and qualifying took place. The Ferraris of Niki Lauda and Clay Regazzoni were on the front row, James Hunt and Mario Andretti on row two, with Vittorio Brambilla and John Watson on row three. Mass was on row six, just behind compatriot Rolf Stommelen. But Mass's McLaren team-mate, Emerson Fittipaldi, was not convinced. He did the obligatory three laps with his arm in the air and pulled in, not to be seen again.

The next day's race lasted just 42 minutes. Andretti was nudged into Lauda at the first left-hand hairpin, the Austrian in turn hit by Regazzoni, taking out both Ferraris. Wilson Fittipaldi withdrew, showing family solidarity, and so did Arturo Merzario, uncomfortable in his Williams. Patrick Depailler seemed to have hit Andretti, because he lost a wheel on the next lap. Two laps later, Jody Scheckter's engine blew, and then

'It was terrible. I said we should all drive slowly. Nobody said, "That's a good idea." We were a totally undisciplined lot'
Jochen Mass

Mark Donohue spun on Scheckter's oil and collided with debutant Alan Jones.

Hunt was leading, but spun on oil on lap seven. Andretti then led until his rear suspension broke and he crashed on lap 17. Stommelen inherited the lead. Just after lap 25, the rear wing came off his Embassy Hill and the car became airborne over the crest after the pits, flattening the top layer of Armco and crashing into the wire netting. A fireman, two journalists and a spectator were killed, while two more journalists, two more spectators (including a nine-year-old boy) and Stommelen were injured. The crash cut communication wires to race control, so the severity of the accident wasn't known for several laps.

"It was terrible," says Mass. "First of all, I said we should all drive slowly. Nobody said, 'That's a good idea.' We were a totally undisciplined lot. I drove conservatively, then I saw the accident and knew it would be the end of the race. I won because I overtook Jacky Ickx, who'd overtaken me under the yellow flag. I quickly passed him somewhere else, to make sure, and that was my only win. But of course I wasn't happy."

FOR MORE VISIT: WWW.REDBULLETINF1.COM









Clockwise from above: Graham Hill, Niki Lauda and Emerson Fittipaldi explain to the press why the drivers refused to take to the track; the mangled remains of Rolf Stommelen's car; non-GPDA member Jacky Ickx was one of just two drivers who agreed to drive on Friday; Stommelen in his Embassy Hill was leading before the crash; team members help the race organisers secure the Armco; Lella Lombardi; a revealing message on the Armco.







PHOTOGRAPHY: DPPI, SUTTON IMAGES

INTRODUCING THE CLASS OF 2008

Sure, the latest GP2 contenders are all skilled drivers, but what hidden talents do they have away from the track? What skeletons lie in their closets? And who has a passion for fish fingers? By Will Buxton

Back for its fourth season, GP2 has a brand new car and a new and exciting line-up, featuring some of the most promising up-and-coming drivers in single-seater motorsport.

The series is now well established as the training ground for the Formula One stars of the future (more than a quarter of the current F1 grid is made up of GP2 graduates), and everyone knows just how much is at stake as the 26 testosterone-fuelled youngsters do battle for the attentions of the F1 paymasters.

This GP2 season could be one of the closest and most competitive yet and our expectations for some spectacular on-track action are high. As we prepare to see which GP2 driver has the skills to tame the new season's car and rise above his rivals as the stand-out talent of his generation, we decided to dig beneath the surface and find out a bit more about the personalities of these youngsters.

To give you an inside line on the 2008 grid, we've come up with a few stories you might not have heard about this latest generation of F1 hopefuls. ➜

THE NEXT GENERATION

1. KARUN CHANDHOK

Age: 24
Team: iSport International
Past record: Formula Asia V6 Champion, GP2 race winner
Interesting fact: KC is not only India's brightest F1 hope, he's also its voice of motorsport, taking to the commentary booth for ESPN Star's F1 coverage.

2. BRUNO SENNA

Age: 25
Team: iSport International
Past record: British F3 and GP2 race winner
Interesting fact: In the late '90s, when house music was arguably at its finest, Bruno was more interested in bpm than rpm in his guise as a Trance DJ. He's been forced to give up the wheels of steel now, though, as it is "bad for his ears".

3. LUCA FILIPPI

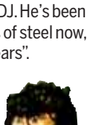
Age: 22
Team: ART Grand Prix
Past record: Italian F3000 Champion, GP2 race winner, Honda F1 third driver
Interesting fact: Luca has a secret passion for rallying and has even taken part in the Monza Rally alongside his good friend MotoGP ace Valentino Rossi. Luca's favourite toy is a Mitsubishi Lancer, which he takes into the mountains near his home on spiked tyres whenever it snows.

4. ROMAIN GROSJEAN

Age: 22
Team: ART Grand Prix
Past record: FRenault, F3 EuroSeries and GP2 Asia Champion, RDD driver and Renault F1 tester
Interesting fact: In his time off from racing, Romain works part-time at Barings Bank in Geneva. It started off as just something to do, but banking has become something of a secret passion for the Franco-Swiss driver.

5. VITALY PETROV

Age: 23
Team: Barwa International Campos Team
Past record: Russian F1600 Champion, GP2 and Asia Series race winner
Interesting fact: Vitaly's motorsport dream was never based around single-seaters. The young Russian wanted to become a rally driver. Vitaly's manager has promised to organise him a WRC test... when he wins his first F1 race!

6. BEN HANLEY

Age: 23
Team: Barwa International Campos Team
Past record: World Series Vice-champion, RDD Driver
Interesting fact: Ben has been known to terrorise kart tracks with his friends by turning up and pretending to be a novice. The staff accordingly show this 'new boy' how to put on a helmet, use the pedals, etc... and are left stunned when he destroys the lap record.

7. CHRISTIAN BAKKERUD

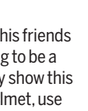
Age: 23
Team: Super Nova International
Past record: Formula BMW, British F3
Interesting fact: Christian may be one of the friendliest drivers in the GP2 paddock, but he admits that as a child he used to push his sister off her bicycle and smash her piggy bank on an almost weekly basis. He's still got an invitation to her wedding later this year, though.

8. ÁLVARO PARENTE

Age: 23
Team: Super Nova International
Past record: British F3 and World Series Champion
Interesting fact: Álvaro's career record speaks for itself, but perhaps his best, and yet most secretive turn of pace was shown when his alarm clock failed to go off for a British F3 test. He managed to break almost every UK speed limit and yet not get caught en route from Brighton to Silverstone, dropped off two friends at their house and was still only an hour late.

9. JÉRÔME D'AMBROSIO

Age: 22
Team: Dams
Past record: Formula Masters Champion
Interesting fact: (See below)

10. KAMUI KOBAYASHI

Age: 21
Team: Dams
Past record: FRenault 2000 Champion, F3 EuroSeries and GP2 Asia Race winner, Toyota F1 third driver
Interesting fact: The Dams duo had a few days off before the Dubai GP2 Asia race, so they decided to visit the beach and try some watersports. Neither had been sailing before, but they were lured by the appeal of a boat. After struggling to get off the sand, they set sail. With a strong wind and over-inflated confidence they sailed 30 minutes offshore then capsized. Unable to right the boat, they had to be picked up by Sea Rescue.

11. JAVIER VILLA

Age: 20
Team: Racing Engineering
Past record: Spanish F3 Champion and the youngest ever GP2 driver on his debut in 2006
Interesting fact: The first time Javi sat in a Formula Junior car, on the Racing for Spain selection programme, he was too small and the organisers had to give him a cushion so he could reach the pedals. He won the selection. Cushion and all.

12. GIORGIO PANTANO

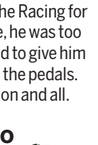
Age: 29
Team: Racing Engineering
Past record: Karting and F3 Champion, former F1 and IRL driver, F3000 and GP2 race winner
Interesting fact: Giorgio once revealed in an interview that he has an interesting philosophy on the age-old question of sex before a race. In his opinion, it's important to get it out of the way so you don't get excited in the middle of a race and lose concentration.

13. SÉBASTIEN BUEMI

Age: 19
Team: Trust Team Arden
Past record: F3 EuroSeries and GP2 Asia Vice-champion, Red Bull F1 third driver
Interesting fact: Sébastien has a superstitious side and wears the same underwear every race weekend. Whether it's just one pair of pants or a multipack worn in rotation over the weekend, he wouldn't say. Also, he always gets into the car from the left...

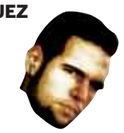
14. YELMER BUURMAN

Age: 21
Team: Trust Team Arden
Past record: Formula Renault, British F3 and World Series
Interesting fact: Yelmer's need for speed and excitement goes far beyond single-seater racing. The Dutchman has taken to organising 'drifting' days at his Dad's airport (Airport Weeze), just over the Dutch border in Germany.

15. DAVIDE VALSECCHI

Age: 21
Team: Durango
Past record: Formula Renault, Le Mans Series and World Series
Interesting fact: When he was just 13, Davide knew what he wanted to do with his life and that was to drive! The only difference was Davide had set his heart on a bulldozer, part of his father's construction company, and asked permission to quit school and take up full-time bulldozer driving. Of course, his father said no, and given the heights to which Davide has risen in motorsport, that's probably no bad thing.

16. ALBERTO VALERIO

Age: 22
Team: Durango
Past record: South American F3 Champion, British F3, World Series
Interesting fact: While still at school, Alberto had a job in the canteen. But after one just one day helping the chefs, he was put on permanent wash-up duty. Apparently, he'd spent more time eating the food than cooking it. He also has the world's most contagious laugh. Fact.

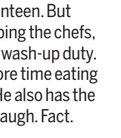
17. ROLDAN RODRIGUEZ

Age: 23
Team: FMS International
Past record: Spanish F3 Champion, GP2 podium in Hungary 2007, once tested a Spyker F1 car
Interesting fact: GP2's resident deep thinker says philosophy was the only subject he excelled at in school. When contemplating GP2 highs and lows, he reverts back to the teachings of Aristotle (his favourite).

18. ADRIAN VALLES

Age: 21
Team: FMS International
Past record: Spanish F3, World Series
Interesting fact: Adrian has designed his own go-kart and has set up a championship to launch aspiring young racers into motorsport. The first event took place last weekend with 80 entrants. For more information, visit www.copaadrianvalles.com.

19. MIKE CONWAY

Age: 24
Team: Trident Racing
Past record: British F3 Champion, Macau GP winner, Honda F1 tester
Interesting fact: While Mike's junior category racing records are impressive, his early days also saw him accomplish another astonishing feat. In just one lunch sitting at school, he managed to eat what we believe may be a record 35 fish fingers. Tasty.

20. HO-PIN TUNG

Age: 25
Team: Trident Racing
Past record: Asian Formula BMW and German F3 Champion
Interesting fact: Until recently, Ho-Pin spent his free weekends helping out at his parents' Chinese restaurant near Arnhem in Holland. However, Ho-Pin admits he wasn't a great cook, and would usually only be allowed to slice the vegetables.

21. ANDI ZUBER

Age: 24
Team: Minardi Piquet Sports
Past record: Austrian F3 Champion, EuroF3, World Series, GP2 race winner
Interesting fact: Andi used to be a professional snowboarder until he broke his arm twice before the start of a kart season and decided to give it up. Still an extreme sports nutcase, Andi is now involved in jet-ski competitions, in both racing and freestyle disciplines.

22. PASTOR MALDONADO

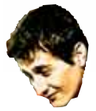
Age: 23
Team: Minardi Piquet Sports
Past record: Italian Formula Renault Champion, World Series and GP2 race winner
Interesting fact: Pastor has been racing since he was five years old... but back then, he was Venezuelan BMX Vice-champion.He soon realised he preferred to have an engine behind him, though, and at the age of seven began karting and his road to single-seater racing.

23. GIACOMO RICCI (REPLACING MICHAEL HERCK DUE TO BROKEN ARM)

Age: 23
Team: DPR
Past record: EuroSeries 3000 Champion, former Champ Car Formula Atlantic driver
Interesting fact: He started fishing when he was six years old. When not racing, he loves nothing more than fishing in the lakes of Sardinia. He especially loves big game fishing and his favourite place other than Sardinia is Cuba.

24. DIEGO NUNES

Age: 21
Team: DPR
Past record: EuroSeries 3000 Vice-champion
Interesting fact: He's a tidy surfer, and has been catching the waves around Brazil for six years. The largest wave he's ever surfed was 2m tall (that's a pretty good wave for Brazil).

25. PAOLO NOCERA

Age: 22
Team: BCN Competicion
Past record: Italian F3 Champion
Interesting fact: Paolo comes from a musical family. Paolo, his siblings and parents are often to be found in a large music room, built under their house, singing and playing instruments. Paolo's father and sister, especially, are said to be fantastic vocalists.

26. MILOS PAVLOVIC

Age: 27
Team: BCN Competicion
Past record: Italian F3 and World Series Light Champion
Interesting fact: Originally from Serbia, Milos now lives in Milan. Rumour has it that whenever Slavica Ecclestone, herself from Serbia, visits Milan, Milos offers his services as her driver and guide to the cosmopolitan Italian city.

PHOTOGRAPHY: SHUTTERSTOCK, LAT

THE GP2 MINEFIELD

Hurray! You've made it to GP2, just a few hurdles to negotiate before making that F1 seat a reality. But be careful! These last obstacles are the trickiest. In fact, you could say it's a minefield out there...

You pile on 20kg of muscle over the winter – and can't fit into the tub.

You inherit Nicolas Lapierre's number.

You hammer your useless team-mate – unfortunately he's bankrolled by the title sponsor, who would like someone a little less competitive in the other seat.

You win, and down half a magnum of champagne on the podium. Combined with dehydration and nervous exhaustion, you spend your first live, televised press conference snoring gently and sucking your thumb.

You are slow to realise that, unlike karts, it is considered bad form to use the car in front as a brake.

It's the weekend of your home grand prix. You take a PR test drive around the circuit before the race. In an unfamiliar car with no preparation, you are horribly slow. Everyone remembers.

After careful research, a newspaper finds out that your father isn't an F1 world champion.

You accidentally go onto the podium in the wrong baseball cap.

Despite being told to hold position in eighth, you can't resist making two passes on the last lap – and so miss out on pole in the sprint race.

In an interview, you admit to liking music that isn't obscure hip hop. Or U2.

You appear at a sponsor's event, and forget what the sponsor makes.

Failure to separate the real world from the Playstation results in attempted passes launched from a different time zone and lots of broken nosecones.

You sleep with the team-owner's daughter.

Hooray! A big F1 team wants to sign you. They don't offer any guarantees, have three other development drivers and two race drivers under long contracts. But that isn't a problem – is it?

You run out of money...

24hr

Paddock People!



REQUIRED LISTENING #1: BACKSTREET BOYS

KISS gave us the '70s in Australia, Howard Jones the '80s in Malaysia, and Akon brought us up to date in Bahrain. "But what about the '90s?" you ask... Well, welcome to Barcelona! No, it's not anyone good like Blur, Oasis or Radiohead, but the mighty Backstreet Boys are in town tomorrow night for a one-off gig. Thank God! If, like them, you "want it that way", they're at the Pavelló Olímpic de Badalona. Tickets are 75 euros from www.sportsemotions.com

REQUIRED LISTENING #2: JOSÉ MERCÉ

Barcelona is currently staging its 19th Guitar Festival (it runs until June), but one gig you might want to catch is that of new Flamenco star José Mercé, who's playing at the beautiful Palau de la Música Catalana tomorrow night at 9pm. Tickets for the concert by the phenomenally popular Jerez guitarist range in price from 22 to 48 euros. For more details, check out www.theproject.es

THE KNOWLEDGE: SPAIN

"Barcelona… Like a jewel in the sun," sang Freddie Mercury. The Red Bulletin couldn't agree more, but there's also plenty to see when the sun sinks below "that beautiful horizon".

SATURDAY'S DINNER CONVERSATION: WHAT A SCAM!

Spanish police have arrested 87 suspects on suspicion of defrauding at least 1,500 people in a 20m-euro lottery scam. Victims, including a bishop, were informed they had won and – you wonder if they didn't deserve it – were asked for a 900-euro charge. We at The Red Bulletin are safe from such crime – we can't afford a ticket, having invested 7000 euros in helping a member of the Nigerian royal family move his banking to London. When the cheque for 10m euros arrives, we're buying!

TRUCKIE TIP #1: FOOD

If seafood is your thing, our very own Red Bulletin truckies recommend a trip to the huge line-up of great restaurants down on Barceloneta Beach. But being a deeply mistrustful lot, they also recommend you keep one hand on your wallet at all times. Can Majo is one of the better establishments if you're after tapas, paella, suquet or fideus.
Can Majó, L'Almirall Aixada, 23,
08003 Barcelona.
T: +34 932 215 455



FRIDAY'S DINNER CONVERSATION: TOO MANY WOMEN

Showing his usual tact and diplomacy, new Italian premier Silvio Berlusconi has described Spanish prime minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero's new cabinet as "too pink". No, Silvio isn't having one of his Joe McCarthy moments – his comments are a result of the fact that the new Spanish cabinet features more women than men...

REQUIRED VIEWING #1: SPORTING PASSIONS

If you missed out on the Champions League semi-final the other night, there's a chance to get some football in this weekend, though you'll have to settle for Espanyol, as Barcelona are away to Deportivo La Coruña. Espanyol, currently a respectable eighth in La Liga, are at home to Real Zaragoza. Kick-off is at 2pm on Sunday – so to go and see them play, you'll have to... er... miss the race! Tickets can usually be obtained on match days from the office outside the Olympic Stadium, where Espanyol play. www.sportsemotions.com has tickets at 72 euros.



PHOTOGRAPHY: GETTY IMAGES, REUTERS, REX, SHUTTERSTOCK, CRISPIN THRUSTON

TRUCKIE TIP #2: MORE FOOD

For those interested in a rather more cultured gastronomic experience, sometime Barcelona resident Alex Wurz recommends the Oriental/Mediterranean fusion restaurant El Negro. If you're into décor, it's a minimalist's heaven. And, this being Spain, it opens at the paddock-friendly time of 8.30pm until 2am (midnight on Sunday). Admittedly, this isn't the usual truckie tip, but Alex is driving that enormous Peugeot tin-top at Le Mans shortly, so you can see how the confusion arose.
El Negro, Avenida Diagonal 640,
08017 Barcelona.
T: +34 934 059 444



TRUCKIE TIP #3: NIGHTLIFE

The test teams were here last week, and we were hoping for some decent truckie tips on nightlife – but test teams don't tend to focus too well after a night on the town, so all we got was vague pointing and slurred comments like, "It's a club, it's good, somewhere over there." What we did glean is that the place to go is the Maremagnum mall, near the statue of Columbus. It's packed with all sorts of nightclubs. Entry is usually free, but drinks are pricey. Our truckie advisors, who wish to stay anonymous this week for fear of a vengeful team manager, suggest gentle intoxication on Las Ramblas first.



SUNDAY'S DINNER CONVERSATION: LOOK OUT FOR RADIATION

Spain's Nuclear Safety Council has issued an alert after a case of equipment containing radioactive material was stolen from a car boot in Madrid. Apparently it isn't very dangerous unless the case is opened, dropped, moved or looked at strangely. Police investigating the theft are on the lookout for a man who, when angry, swells to three times his current size, turns green and displays enormous strength.

REQUIRED VIEWING #2: FILM FESTIVITIES

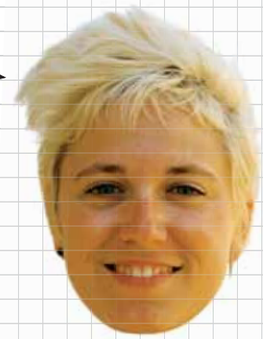
Barcelona's Asian Film Festival has just begun. Films are in English and Spanish, and tomorrow night we recommend Bare-Asse Japan. (No, it's not that kind of film festival.) In this coming-of-age movie, director Ishii Yuya examines the timeworn subject of post-adolescent boredom and sexual confusion from a refreshingly unfamiliar vantage point. Apparently it's reminiscent of early Jim Jarmusch. It's on at 6pm at the CCCB Auditori, Calle Montalegre, 5, 08001 Barcelona, and entry costs 6 euros. For more info and ticket options, visit www.baff-bcn.org/es

TRUCKIE TIP #4: HYGIENE

Bit of a strange truckie tip, this one, courtesy of the Toro Rosso test team. If all that drinking and partying is too much for you, our contacts mention that the best toilets and showers in F1 are to be found behind the Barcelona paddock, in the block next to the medical centre.

PADDOCK PERSON'S TIP
MARIE HIRTH
RENAULT PRESS OFFICER

To enjoy Barcelona at night you don't have to stay around Las Ramblas or la Plaza Real. There is much more to discover in the Catalan city. If you like traditional Spanish food, La Vinateria del Call is the place to go. It's pretty small and really difficult to find but it's worth it. The atmosphere is great and the food is just delightful. Try the hot chorizo.
La Vinateria del Call
9 Sant Domenec Del Call Bario Gottic
+34 933 026 092



RED HOT SPANISH NIGHTS

Check out our top picks from this weekend's Red Bull Nights Out

BUDA

This restaurant offers a unique blend of Asian, Mediterranean, French and Italian cuisine, and the chef's recommendations include Cigla with truffles and quail's eggs, and wild sea bass. With dark oak and velvet furnishings, and the distinct Asian theme its name suggests, Buda has a special, ambient atmosphere. The subtle lighting and chill-out music also make Buda's bar an ideal place for your first drink of the evening.
Pau Claris, 92, 08010 Barcelona
T: +34 933 184 252
www.budarestaurante.com

MONDO

As well as boasting one of the best seafront views in the city, Mondo's restaurant is renowned for its excellent fresh Galician seafood and Mediterranean cuisine, prepared in unique style by chef Ever Cubilla. Mondo's nightclub offers deep house DJs on Fridays and Saturdays, and R&B/funk on Sundays. Pick up your free Red Bull F1 Guide from the Energy Station to secure free entry to Mondo and a complimentary welcome drink.
Moll d'Espanya, s/n, Edificio Imax, 08039 Barcelona
T: +34 932 213 911
www.mondobcn.com



THE BIKINI CLUB

This club has entertained Barcelona's residents, and visitors alike, for more than half a century. With multiple floors for different tastes, Bikini now boasts disco, salsa, hip hop, R&B and funk, with live rock music as well on some nights. They're even screening the Barcelona football match against Deportivo on Saturday. Your Red Bull F1 Guide should get you free access to this popular venue – all you have to do is decide what you want to dance to on the night!
Déu i Mata, 105, 08029 Barcelona
T: +34 933 220 800
www.bikinibcn.com

Who's Who?

Fascinating facts about some paddock regulars.

ANDREAS FUCHS
BMW IT support engineer Andreas has a strong understanding of global money markets because he used to develop trading systems software. From Zug in Switzerland, he plays ice hockey and rollerblades but loves computer games the most. He says Gran Turismo 5 is the best game ever, but his favourites are Dune and Sonic The Hedgehog.

REBECCA BANKS
Press officer Bex owns 140 pairs of shoes but claims not to watch Sex And The City. She's been working with Nelson Piquet for four years and before that was at BAR and Prodrive, where she worked alongside four WRC champions. She also won the GP2 press officer's award in 2006. Her favourite film is Grease, and sometimes she acts out scenes from it.

JOHN RUSSELL
Williams' senior systems engineer is a bit of a celebrity at Grove. He joined the team in 1989 before race engineering Riccardo Patrese. After 1994, he ran the technical side of the Williams-Renault BTCC team, then did sportscars for BMW before becoming chief designer at Jaguar Racing and doing three-and-a-half years in Australia with Aussie V8s.

STEPHANIE FISCHER
Energy Station hostess Stephanie is from Salzburg but lives in Seville, where she's studying international development. When she graduates she'd like to work in diplomacy – the United Nations is her goal. In the winter she's a snowboarding instructor. At 13, attempting a jump, she fell on her bottom and broke her coccyx, and could barely sit down for three years!



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PHOTOGRAPHY: CRISPIN THRUSTON

MOMENTS IN TIME ANSWERS: 1. JEAN-PIERRE JABOUILLE. 2. RENÉ ARNOUX. 3.1958. 4.1983. 5. BOTH STOPPED WITH BROKEN VALVE SPRINGS IN THE SPACE OF TWO LAPS.

YELLOW PERIL

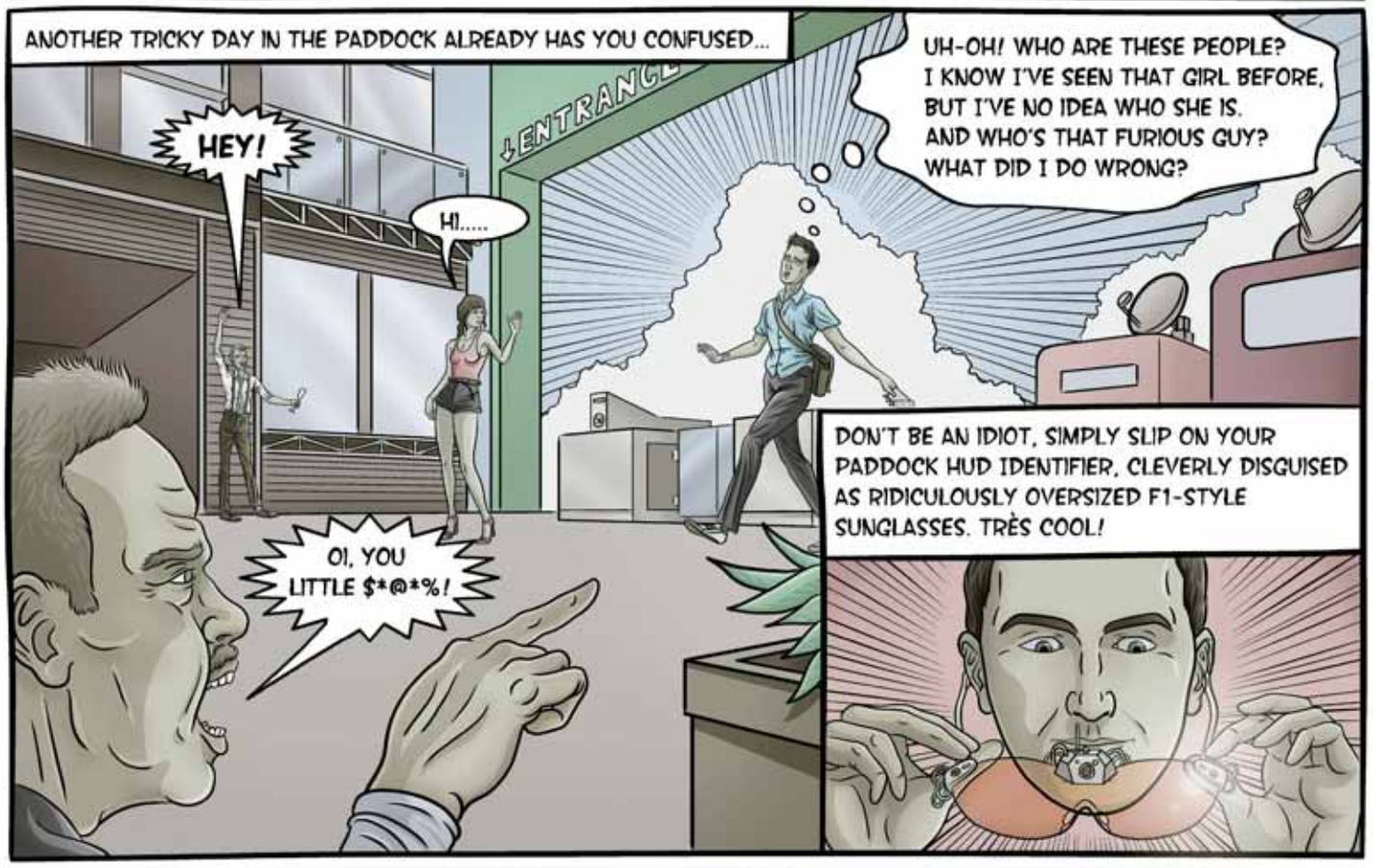
The German GP of 1980 was an unhappy race for Renault…



PHOTOGRAPHY: RAINER SCHLEGELMILCH

#4 THE PADDOCK HUD* IDENTIFIER *HEAD-UP DISPLAY — GADGETS FOR AN EASIER LIFE

THE PADDOCK, HOME TO OVER A THOUSAND BUSY SOULS, EACH ONE A COMPLETE AND UTTER STRANGER. WHO'S THAT INTERCHANGEABLE PAY DRIVER? WHO'S THAT GENERIC SENIOR ENGINEER? IS THAT JOURNALIST FRIEND OR FREELOADING FOE? ONLY THE PATENTED RED BULLETIN PADDOCK HUD IDENTIFIER WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED. BE THE BOSS AND AVOID THE DROSS, LET THE IDENTIFIER SHOW YOU THE WAY TO AN EASIER PADDOCK LIFE!



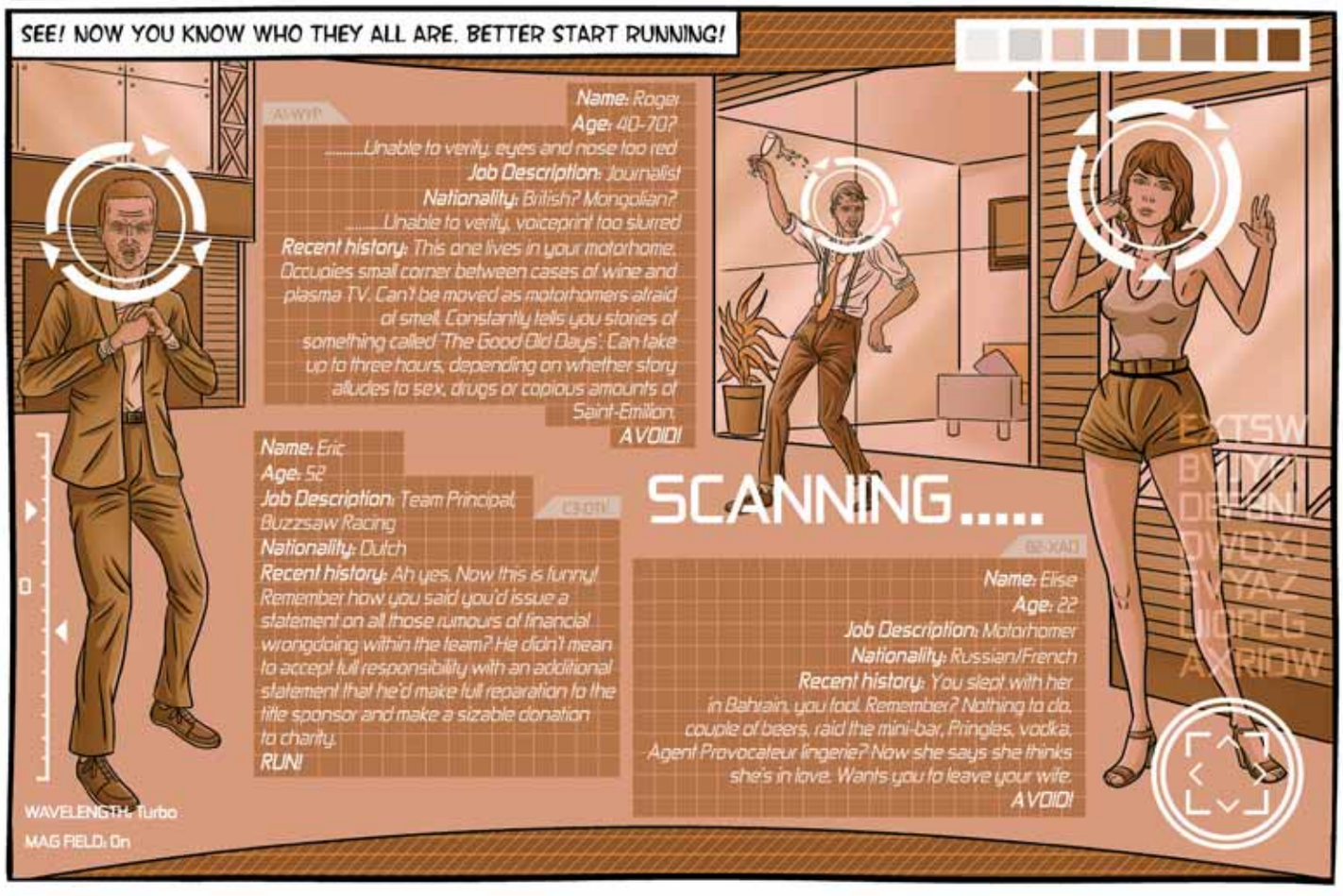


ILLUSTRATION: MIKE DOLAN