ISSUE 18, GP FRANCE, SUNDAY, JULY 3, 2005

THE RED BULLETIN

AN ALMOST INDEPENDENT F1 NEWSPAPER

PRINTED HERE AT THE RACE TRACK

Formula 1

1 ALONSO

2 RAIKKONEN

3 M SCHUMACHER

FRANCE



Magny-Cours. Back on home turf and everything feels right again. Glance back through the day with our pictorial guide

Pictures: Thomas Butler

PHOTOS: CRISPIN THRUSTON, PAGES 3/15/19

OUR RACE IN PICTURES AND WORDS

JULY, 3
MAGNY-COURS

+++ **09:22** The paddock is beginning to fill up but it still feels relaxed and easy. Like a Sunday morning +++ **09:23** In the Red Bull Racing motorhome ITV's Louise Goodman chats with The Sun's Stan Piecha over coffee +++ **09:25** Paul Edwards, glasses perched on his nose, studies his Red Bulletin behind the BAR motorhome over another cup of Java +++ **09:26** Zsolt Baumgartner walks down the steps into the motorhome paddock and heads for Minardi followed seconds later by a slightly weary-looking Christijan Albers

"If you win then tyres don't interest anybody"

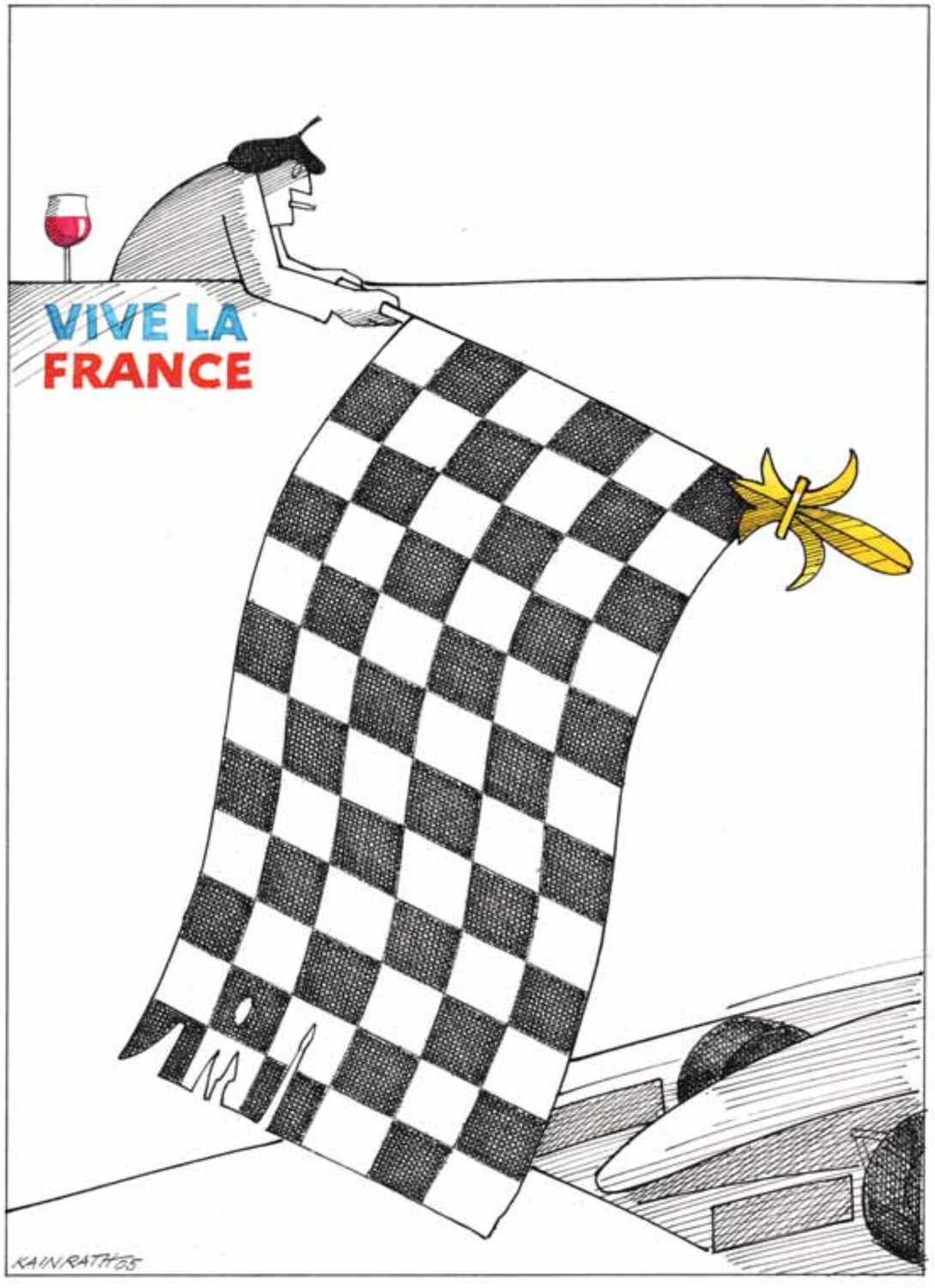
JEAN TODT

+++ **09:09** BAR boss Nick Fry pulls into the car park in his Honda Accord. He is immediately followed by technical director Geoff Willis who is strangely being ferried into the circuit in a Kia minivan – is there a shock engine deal in prospect at BAR? +++ **09:15** Tiago Monteiro swipes in and pauses for a short television interview – he's been doing a lot of that recently +++ **09:16** Ron Dennis, briefcase in hand, breezes in unmolested. He's followed by Giancarlo Fisichella, who like Fernando, is immediately mobbed by fans





+++ **08:00** Traffic building up around the circuit already, everyone's wearing blue and yellow, and we can't get in. Is this really Magny-Cours? +++ **08:42** The paddock is quiet, too quiet. Yes, this really is Magny-Cours +++ **08:45** Action at last! The BAR crew arrives +++ **08:47** Down at the Red Bull Racing motorhome journalist Eric Silbermann discusses another mammoth hangover with RBR's Gunther Steiner +++ **08:54** Gunther then heads off to Karl-Heinz Zimmerman's motorhome for breakfast with Norbert Haug



Did Renault fly the flag for France today?

+++ **08:55** Hordes of blue and yellow clad fans have already gathered at the end of the top paddock and at the swipe gates, eagerly awaiting the arrival of Fernando and Giancarlo +++ **08:58** Sylvia Hoffer makes her way into the paddock, the traffic is delaying everyone this morning +++ **09:00** A throng of Minardi, Honda, and Williams team members arrive for work just as the Legend cars form up on the grid for their race +++ **09:02** Ann Neill and Mark Webber arrive, accompanied by ITV's Martin Brundle wearing his biker gear

4 QUESTIONS: JORDAN'S ADRIAN BURGESS

RB: What was your first job? AB: Mechanic for Richard Dutton Racing, 1985. **RB: Is F1 more fun than F3?** AB: 19 races with six double headers is not fun. But it is an interesting job. **RB: Who is the most talented driver you have worked with?** AB: Ayrton Senna. **RB: Can Midland beat Red Bull Racing next year?** AB: Of course we can!



PHOTO: THOMAS BUTTLER

+++ **09:08** Ferrari's Nigel Wollheim, Stefania Bocchi and Paolo Martinelli make their way through the turnstile +++ **09:09** The traffic has apparently worsened. Down at the car park shared by drivers and team principals the only cars parked are those of Mark Webber, Fernando Alonso, Flavio Briatore, Jenson Button, Christian Horner, Jarno Trulli and Paul Stoddart – though there is some speculation that the Minardi boss might have sensibly abandoned his car at the track after last night's British and Irish media dinner, held at the circuit



+++ **09:04** Fernando Alonso struggles to make his way through the adoring crowd. Entering the paddock Fernando is mobbed for autographs. One small Ferrari-shirted boy squirms through and is lent a protective arm by the Renault star as he poses for pictures +++ **09:06** Williams technical director Sam Michael arrives, hair still wet from the shower. He's immediately collared for a TV interview. He doesn't look best pleased +++ **09:07** Jarno Trulli arrives accompanied by Guido, his manager



+++ **09:27** Fernanda Villas-Boas chats with journalist Tom Clarkson on the steps of the Toyota motorhome +++ **09:30** Members of the Sauber team pass through the gates, followed by Ferrari's press boss Luca Colajanni +++ **09:31** Narain Karthikeyan heads into the paddock +++**09:34** Juan Pablo Montoya and Connie look disappointed as they look at the empty Red Bulletin racks "sorry, none left" +++**09:36** Monsieur Dupasquier saunters in clutching a motorbike helmet and a backpack: he didn't get caught in the horrendous traffic mismanagement organised by the local boys in blue +++

+++ **09:42** Veteran technical artist Giorgio Piola has sprouted headphones as he doubles up as RAI's analyst for a morning report +++ **09:50** Tall, elegant, athletic. Five members of France's Armee de l'Air glide past in their baby powder blue flying overalls...only in France +++ **09:53** Still a rather empty paddock. Traffic taking its toll. The main activity appears to be finding shade – and finding breakfast



> I don't quite understand why an engine failure is penalised

NORBERT HAUG

> I think we can be fighting for the win this weekend

MICHAEL SCHUMACHER

> I need to take advantage of this opportunity and enjoy it as much as I can.

TIAGO MONTEIRO (ON FAME)

> I'm positive that I've got the best car beneath me, in terms of race pace, that I've had this year

JENSON BUTTON

> It's quite frequent, they nick dogs and try to sell them back to you. It was a lovely dog and let's hope we get it back

RALF SCHUMACHER EXPLAINS THE DISAPPEARANCE OF HIS PET CHIHUAHUA

> It was not the best way to start the weekend, to blow the engine. But what can you do? It's going to cost us a lot

KIMI RAIKKONEN

> I find it logical that BMW wants to take care of driver contracts

PETER SAUBER

> If we look at the points, he's not so far away from me

JARNO TRULLI CONTESTS HIS DOMINANCE OVER HIS TEAM-MATE

> I'm disappointed. I was hoping to produce a quicker time

DAVID COULTHARD

+++ **10:00** The Daily Mail's veteran guitarist Ray Matts is deep in conversation with Mr E at Karl-Heinz's shack +++ **10:01** Karl-Heinz tells of the time he inadvertently smuggled his famous cannon through British customs +++ **10:05** At the back of McLaren's mega motorhome, six orange and black-shirted employees enjoy a cooked breakfast, balanced on their laps. Lots of yawns in between mouthfulls of beans. Are they bored or have they had a very good Saturday night? +++



+++ **10:10** Ferrari staff are propping up the lower bar at the Energy Station: could it be the espresso is better here than at their place? We can't imagine that's true... +++ **10:12** No, it's Paolo Martinelli and Gunther Steiner starting on next year's little 8-cylinder project in plenty of time +++ **10:18** Ralf and DC talking in the glamorous piazza between the back of McLaren and the front of Red Bull: rubbish bins and generators. Are they talking about little dogs or are they planning yet another party?



+++ **10:25** Mr E is approached at every step as he makes his way back to his power wagon. Michael Schmidt seems to engage his attention for the longest time: Mr E is actually listening to what he's saying +++ **10:25** Unnoticed by Mr E, Tom Butler, Red Bulletin's frantic photographer is lurking half-hidden behind a wheel, waiting for the perfect shot +++ **10:28** McLaren's Tyler Alexander asks for a few more copies of Red Bulletin for Honda Gold Wing-riding Neil Oatley, who's back at base



+++ **10:29** Barrichello jumps off his scooter and sprints past the flash bulbs (yes, it's daylight but the fans are excited) +++ **10:34** Ferrari engine guru Paolo Martinelli emerges from the Red Bull Racing motorhome, Gunther still in tow +++ **10:39** Michael Schumacher isn't just speedy on the track, he scoots to the Ferrari pit with elan +++**10:40** Conscious of the sun's rays, McLaren mechanics place team umbrellas on the grid trolleys +++**10:43** The drivers begin to move from the lower paddock, presumably on their way to this morning's briefing

4 QUESTIONS: TF1'S KATHERINE CHAREONYING

RB: You're from Britain. Are you supporting London or Paris in the Olympic bid? KC: Paris.

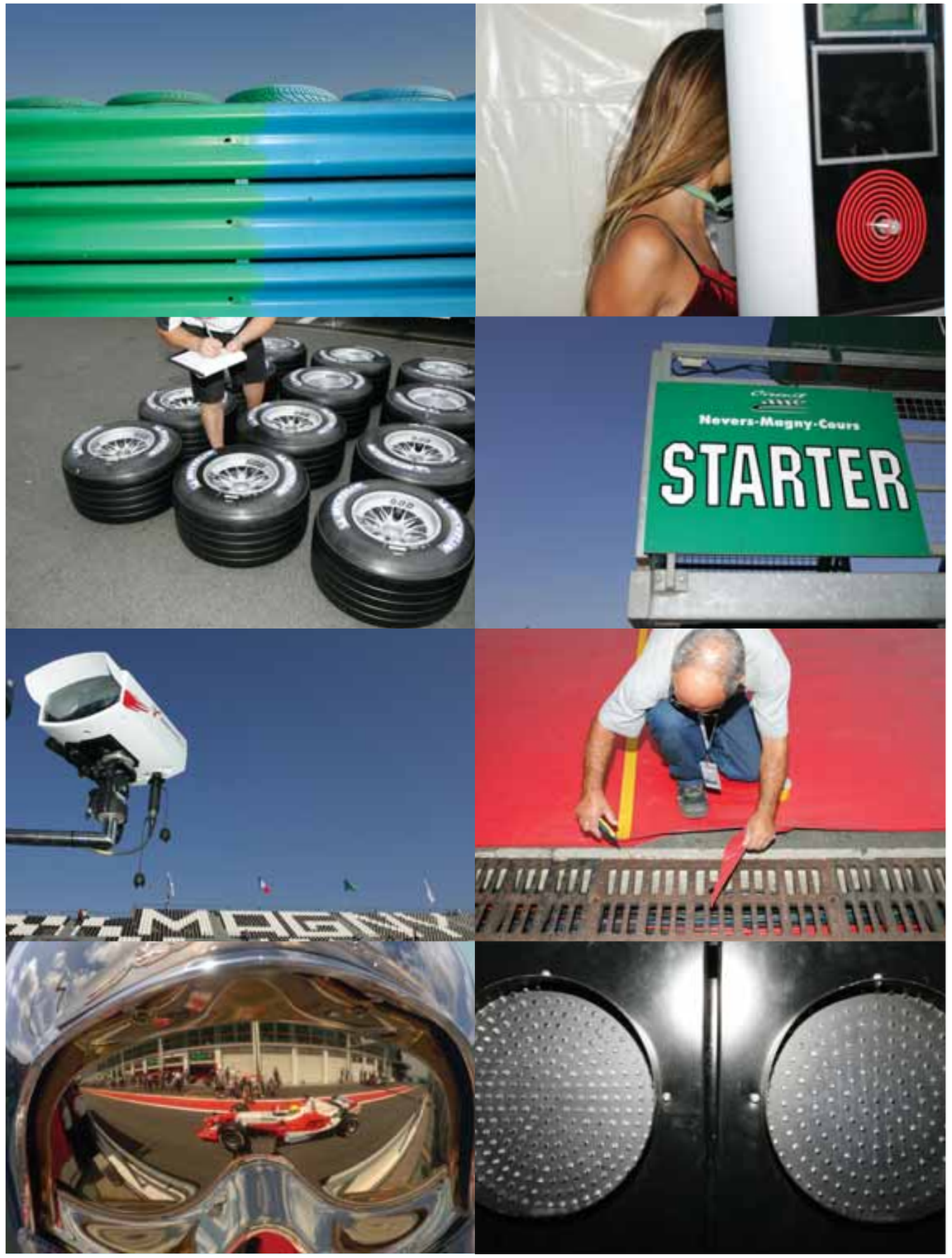


With the congestion charge, London doesn't deserve it. **RB: Worst aspect of being a pitlane reporter?** KC: Not being able to guarantee you're gonna get what you want. **RB: Next French F1 star?** KC: I hope it will be Franck Montagny, he's worked hard. **RB: Greatest passion away from the track?** KC: Anything sporty or activities based. Also food and animals.

+++ **10:44** Bernie waltzes down the paddock uninterupted, chatting casually with a pretty reporter +++ **10:45** Giorgio Piola heads for the pit wall, he's looking resplendent in a blue and white striped shirt +++ **10:47** It's all happening in the pit lane as the GP2 crews fettle and fiddle after a race won by Nico Rosberg. Keke's delighted +++ **10:49** The charming Pedro de la Rosa nips into the McLaren garage +++ **10:50** Flavio Briatore is out and about with a dirty dozen from the press corps in hot pursuit



+++ **10:55** Renault supremo Carlos Ghosn is in the garage getting the grand tour from Flavio +++ **10:55** Franck Montagny strolls through the paddock looking relaxed and carefree – well he would, wouldn't he? +++ **10:56** Fisi is again mobbed for photos and autographs as he heads from the garage back to the Renault motorhome, life is getting difficult for the Renault boys this morning **11:00** Bulletin photographer Tom Butler shoots Adrian Burgess. Ouch!



+++ **11:01** Jordan's Ian Phillips sets about another paddock patrol by sparking up another cigarette +++ **11:06** Red Bull's Sophia Claughton-Wallin and Julia Fitzen attend to some very, very VIPs – we don't know who they were, but they looked extremely wealthy +++ **11:11** Jacques Villeneuve wanders up from the lower paddock, heading straight for the Sauber garage +++ **11:12** Alors! it's four times world champion Alain Prost. He's back in the paddock and the French press are going mad

"We can only try and demonstrate by our actions and our proposals our acceptance that, innocent we may be, we were party to the problem"

RON DENNIS ON THE MICHELIN TEAMS' OFFER TO STAGE A NON-CHAMPIONSHIP RACE AT INDY

"Every race is important, but in France it's even more important"

FERNANDO ALONSO

"We have been trying to make the car go faster every session, but clearly we don't have the pace"

MARK WEBBER

"I feel no one can touch McLaren"

JENSON BUTTON

"It won't be 20, I can assure you. 18, 19, 17 - who knows?"

BERNIE REJECTS NOTIONS OF A 20-RACE CALENDAR

+++ **11:13** Prost heads towards the lower paddock and is greeted along the way by Michelin boss Pierre Dupasquier, predictably a media scrum ensues +++ **11:13 and 17 seconds** Bernie, having spotted the kerfuffle from 50 metres, sprints up the paddock to get some face time with Alain +++ **11:14** The gaggle of TV cameramen are walking backwards very quickly, one of them nearly knocks over Swedish journalist Freddie af Petersen. Freddie swings, cameraman very upset, but not as upset as the formerly phlegmatic Scandinavian, who gives him both barrels



+++ **11:25** Size isn't everything. McLaren hospitality staff tell a host of star-struck guests that the motorhome "may look big but is only the same size as all the others."+++ **11:30** Media frenzy at Renault as the top brass keep talking to the media. Some can't get in, it is France after all +++ **11:34** France's ministers of sport, tourism and finance are all here – that piece in Le Figaro obviously had an effect... **11:36** A rumble issues forth from the Red Bulletin print truck, where Ossie's Heidelberg is up to temperature...



Red Bulletin
The bulls in the china shop

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THE RACE RESULTS

HAPPY CASE OF BLUES

After the furore in Indy it was a case of steady as she goes for F1 in France in a race that didn't set the world on fire in terms of action but provided an interesting tactical dogfight between the grid's two pacesetters, Fernando Alonso and Kimi Raikkonen. But with home advantage, there could only be one winner and, making the most of a three-stop strategy, Alsonso took a decisive victory for Renault and Michelin. The perfect pick-me-up after the US debacle.

Pole-winner Alonso set a blistering pace from the start, opening up a 12.9-second gap over Jarno Trulli, who looked to be doing the Spaniard a favour providing a bulwark against the chasing pack of Michael Schumacher, Rubens Barrichello and Takuma Sato.

It looked like Alonso would trot away with the trophy but Raikkonen had other ideas. Starting from 13th after being docked 10 places for an engine change, the Finn was clearly upset by the midfield position and turned in a towering two-stop show to close in on Alonso.

He was joined in that fight by team-mate Juan Pablo Montoya who looked to also provide a threat before being sidelined by a mechanical problem on lap 48.

Raikkonen had too much time to make up on Alonso and in truth it always seemed a bridge too far. By the time the Finn made his second and final stop on 56, he was looking at a 33-second deficit which was never going to be eradicated, not even by Alonso's third stop, a 5.8-second splash and dash on 58, which the left the Spaniard a comfortable run to the chequered flag. Third was Michael Schumacher, with Jenson Button taking BAR's first points in fourth and Jarno Trulli finishing fifth.

RACE

	DRIVER	TEAM	LAPS	TIME	POINTS
1	**Fernando Alonso**	Renault	70		10
2	**Kimi Raikkonen**	McLaren-Mercedes	70	+11.8 secs	8
3	**Michael Schumacher**	Ferrari	70	+70.1 secs	6
4	**Jenson Button**	BAR-Honda	69	+1 lap	5
5	**Jarno Trulli**	Toyota	69	+1 lap	4
6	**Giancarlo Fisichella**	Renault	69	+1 lap	3
7	**Ralf Schumacher**	Toyota	69	+1 lap	2
8	**Jacques Villeneuve**	Sauber-Petronas	69	+1 lap	1
9	**Rubens Barrichello**	Ferrari	69	+1 lap	
10	**David Coulthard**	Red Bull Racing	69	+1 lap	
11	**Takuma Sato**	BAR-Honda	69	+1 lap	
12	**Mark Webber**	BMW-Williams	68	+2 laps	
13	**Tiago Monteiro**	Jordan-Toyota	67	+3 laps	
14	**Nick Heidfeld**	BMW-Williams	66	+4 laps	
15	**Narain Karthikeyan**	Jordan-Toyota	66	+4 laps	
Ret	**Juan Pablo Montoya**	McLaren-Mercedes	46	+24 laps	
Ret	**Christijan Albers**	Minardi-Cosworth	37	+33 laps	
Ret	**Patrick Friesacher**	Minardi-Cosworth	33	+37 laps	
Ret	**Felipe Massa**	Sauber-Petronas	30	+40 laps	
Ret	**Christian Klien**	Red Bull Racing	1	+69 laps	

Fastest Lap: K Raikkonen 1:16.423

DRIVERS-CHAMPIONSHIP

	DRIVER	PTS
1	**F Alonso**	69
2	**K Raikkonen**	45
3	**M Schumacher**	40
4	**J Trulli**	31
5	**R Barrichello**	29
6	**N Heidfeld**	25
7	**M Webber**	22
	R Schumacher	22
9	**G Fisichella**	20
10	**D Coulthard**	17

CONSTRUCTORS-CHAMPIONSHIP

	DRIVER	PTS
1	**Renault**	89
2	**McLaren-Mercedes**	71
3	**Ferrari**	69
4	**Toyota**	53
5	**BMW-Williams**	47
6	**Red Bull Racing-Cosworth**	22
7	**Sauber-Petronas**	13
8	**Jordan-Toyota**	11
9	**Minardi-Cosworth**	7
10	**BAR-Honda**	5