THE RED BULLETIN

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AN ALMOST INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

STAMPATO PER VOI QUI ALL' AUTODROMO



GP SAN MARINO

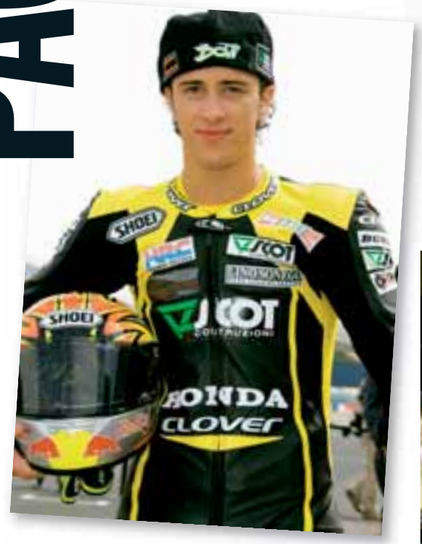
L'IMPERO DI ENZO

PACESETTER

KEEN TO GET THE low-down on places to see and be seen around Imola, we picked up the phone to local 250cc MotoGP star Andrea Dovizioso. He said: “Le Scimmie in Faenza is a restaurant and disco. It’s not big, but there’s a warm and welcoming atmosphere and you’re often surrounded by beautiful girls. I normally go with my MotoGP friend Marco Melandri. And also Tonio Liuzzi knows the location... ask him!

“And there’s Il Paradiso, one of the best known discos in Rimini. It has a nice view over the seaside, being set on the top of a hill. But maybe, once again, the main reasons I like it is for the music and the clientele – many beautiful Italian girls!

“And when I have to impress one of those beautiful ladies I met in the disco, I take her to dinner at Al Caminetto, in Milano Marittima. It’s very traditional, the food is delicious, and once you get out you can have a nice cocktail in one of the many bars that are located on the main street.”





FOM

WORD IS THAT electronic stores will be selling loads of snazzy TV sets to F1 fans this summer as rumour has it that Formula One Management is preparing to introduce a high-definition output in Montreal or Indianapolis. Bernie’s new gear will produce a sharper image – the wear and tear from years of travel means he needs new kit. But the juicy story is FOM has been trying to do a technology partnership deal with Toyota title sponsor Panasonic. Could the Japanese GP’s move to Toyota-owned Fuji be part of the deal? Couldn’t say…

CLUB 500 HELMUT ZWICKL



Berger and the Tamburello

Gerhard Berger began the 1989 season with a new girlfriend Ana (later his wife), a new team rival Nigel Mansell, new car, new race director, a new helmet (with a new cooling device) and a renewed Ferrari contract. He arrived in Imola unshaven, with a cold and looked terrible. He made third on the grid though and what happened to him in the fourth lap was no driver mistake, but a technical failure. His Ferrari was not listening to the steering wheel any more and took a 280km/h left turn into the crash barrier. The carbon trunk saved his life, anything unattached to the cockpit was ripped off and the car caught fire. Ayrton Senna said, when he saw the video footage: “The fire was extinguished within 20 seconds. It can’t be any better!” Gerhard survived to reconsider his attitude on fire protection. There was only one weak point with the fireproofed race overall: the palms of the gloves were leather, in order to feel the steering wheel, and his hands were badly burned.

This is Helmut Zwickl’s 544th Grand Prix. His first was the 1963 race in Monaco. He writes for Motorsport Aktuell.



RATHER LIKE A fresh baguette, Flavio Briatore doesn’t stay on the shelf for very long. He’s now stepping out with 26-year-old glamourpuss Elisabetta Gregoraci, an Italian Wonderbra model – this strikes us as strange as we’ve struggled to find a photo of her on the internet wearing any underwear at all. Lucky Flav says he’s given up on ‘older’ women. You know, women only 25 years his junior and clearly past their sell-by date. “Now I prefer younger girls. At least they say thank you after dinner,” says Flavio. “Women over 32 are far too aggressive.”

RENAULT

WILLIAMS

TEST DRIVER NARAIN KARTHIKEYAN is absent from the paddock this weekend as he’s back in Bangalore taking part in a drag race. But despite his popularity at home, India says they don’t miss him now that he’s no longer on the telly on Sundays. India’s Economic Times claims that although Narain has lost his race seat, the country’s F1 viewing figures have nearly doubled over those of last year. Apparently the sport’s popularity is “comparable to test cricket”. Nonetheless, their animal-loving Prime Minister is still fuming over Alonso’s Parc Ferme ‘Grinch’ posing.



PHOTOS: MATRIX, GETTY IMAGES. COVER ILLUSTRATION: DENIS MIJAKOVIC

RED BULL



YESTERDAY WAS A big social occasion for much of the media centre as thirsty hacks and snappers sought free drinks from all the glitzy and obscenely massive new motorhomes that have suddenly shot up in the paddock. But while the correspondents may care little about liver damage, their sore feet was the cause of much moaning. The media shuttle has effectively been made useless because it can only travel a stone’s throw from the car park, leaving the press to walk the further quarter of a mile to the paddock. But why, you cry. It’s because the volume of team trucks, before which the shuttles stop, has swollen dramatically. And Red Bull, they say, is to blame. Take Toyota – currently F1’s biggest spenders. They bring 13 trucks to each European round. Red Bull Racing and Scuderia Toro Rosso: 42. Seriously.

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FOUR COMMENTARIES

RULES OF THE ROAD

NO ROOM TO SPARE
BY JUSTIN HYNES

1 While most of the F1 fraternity disported themselves with abandon in Australia, I made the decision to fly to Egypt for a week of high culture, something that only occurs in F1 when the motorhome fridges break down. It was all very pleasant, with one exception: the traffic and the driving are the worst I've ever encountered, and that includes the Death Race 2000 we go through in Shanghai. In Cairo there are no traffic lights, the cars move at a regulation 300km/h, brakes are an optional extra and pedestrians walk across six-lane motorways as if strolling around their back gardens. It's not unlike driving here in Italy, if you were to include random livestock, doorless VW Combi taxis disgorging passengers in the middle of the road and artfully placed ditches in the middle of the Autostrada.

Still, after all those flyaways it is a pleasure to be back in Europe where we are treated to the civilizing influence of short flights, motorhomes and... ummm decent hotels. OK scratch that last one, it is Italy after all. It never ceases to amaze me how a country so steeped in all the good things in life – the best food, the best fashion, the best sports cars – can get it so fundamentally wrong when it comes to the best way to get a decent night's sleep.

Last year, my four-star establishment furnished me with a two-metre by two-metre concrete bunker with no windows and a bare lightbulb. The last time anyone slept in something this uncomfortable was when the Strother Martin invited Paul Newman to spend a few nights in the box in Cool Hand Luke. My suggestions of a move to a more user-friendly room were greeted with a Latin shrug, a grunted: "Esaurito" and the implied threat of grievous bodily harm.

However, a restorative trip to the new and exciting Red Bull Energy Station for breakfast usually solved those woes. Of course, in the lightning-paced, attention-span-of-a-guppy world that is F1, that little playpen is no longer new or exciting. Bigger, better, faster is the only way forward and this year we're being treated to Energy Station Mark II – The Power Complex. Though unconfirmed at the time of writing, as I haven't been able to leave the Bulletin Bunker for a stroll to the paddock yet, this Death Star-sized behemoth comes with nine chefs, a Jacuzzi and a map of the world upon which to plot global domination.

Still, the bright lights and loud music of the Energy Station(s) make up for what is shaping up to be a one-note season. At the start we were promised a battle of the giants as Fernando faced a resurgent Ferrari, an on-the-pace McLaren etc.

And what have you got so far? A test to see who can nurse his ailing engine through two races to stay in touch with a comfy-looking Alonso.

It was about this time last year that Kimi Raikkonen began to show what McLaren were really capable of and how we need that again. Then again, maybe what we really need is a grid full of Cairo taxi drivers. Now *that* would be exciting.

'What have we had so far? A test to see who can nurse his engine through two races'

PIT BITCH
BY HELEN PARADYCE

2 This is the first grand prix of the year that I've travelled to without George Clooney. On every single long-haul flight to and from the first three races, there was Gorgeous George doing his stuff, either in Syriana or Good Night, and Good Luck and I guess I miss him just a little bit. The question is, though, will I also miss Mike Gascoyne? I suppose The Rottweiler, as the former Toyota man is known, possibly has a certain rugged charm topped off with an interesting scar where he decided to headbutt an antique water trough in his back garden a few years back.

But his back garden will be his only field of operation for a while as he and Toyota have had a difference of opinion. Only a couple of weeks ago in these pages, I pondered the wisdom of engineers moving from team to team without ever finishing what they started and still somehow squeezing ever larger salaries out of their employers. Of course, some technical types simply stay with the same team but then I've never hear Messrs P Head or R Byrne talk about "man management", "systemising" or "resource diversification".

Words I presume are also a mystery to Scott Speed. Apparently, the enthusiastic Californian told David Coulthard to "fuck off" in the stewards' meeting after the race in Melbourne. I'm no big fan of swearing but in this day and age, when you can hardly go to the cinema or switch on the television without hearing this sort of language, I think the stewards were pompous to say the least in fining the American $5,000 for using a word that one now has to accept is in common, admittedly very common, use. As a lady, I hardly ever swear, but I derive great amusement from the reaction of my male media colleagues when I do. I mean, I don't have a go at them when most of their swearing involves mentioning parts of my anatomy.

Actually, it's the stewards themselves who needed to mind their language as it was one of these three fine gentlemen who took it upon himself to ring a friend in the press room and divulge every last detail of what was supposed to have been a confidential meeting.

But that's enough about the stewards. After all, they're usually only three old gentlemen and, despite what their notional young trophy wives might think, we wouldn't want them overexerting themselves and getting chest pains. The same could apply to the old duffers who run Silverstone's British Racing Drivers' Club. They must be in a right old state after the resignation of president Sir Jackie Stewart. Given that one can probably be blackballed for wearing suede shoes at a BRDC meeting, how must the old gits be reacting to the fact that Damon Hill, last spotted at a grand prix sans shoes and looking like a cross between George Harrison and Jesus Christ, is standing as the new pres. Worse still, arch nemesis Bernie Ecclestone is said to be sniffing around the possibility of promoting the British GP and putting a theme park on the hallowed Northamptonshire turf. Maybe it will be called Bernieworld... just like the rest of the world.

F1 FUNNIES



THE RIGHT TIME TO OWN A TEAM
BY GERHARD BERGER

3 Quite a few things in my life were set in motion right here in Imola. This is where I saw my first Formula One race, first stood on a Formula One rostrum – but I also crashed into the wall at 280km/h. I already had a very special relationship with Imola through Ferrari – and now the first home race for Toro Rosso will be here. So I really care about this place, quite apart from the memories of Ayrton Senna and Roland Ratzenberger.

Perhaps I should explain my feelings about Toro Rosso, and how they developed. I really needed my 18-month break from F1, I did not have a single boring day, and I could have continued like that for a long time, with enough to do but no deadline pressures. I experienced my family in a completely different way from the days of just dropping in to say hello and pick up clean clothes. With Ana and three daughters I can truly count my blessings. Heidi is eight and very much like me: a live wire bursting with imaginative mischief. Sara, 10, has her mother's conscientiousness and her love of nature and animals. Both girls adore grown-up Christina, who is part of everything.

From this point of view, the Toro Rosso deal came at the earliest acceptable moment and under ideal conditions. This unique configuration could only have happened with Didi Mateschitz. I am delighted that Didi made me this offer after the 19 years we have known each other – I was going to follow the road to team ownership on my own, but without Didi everything would have been much more difficult and much less fun.

Most of the offers I had received from F1 were for positions as team principal, which is not what I want to be: I no longer want to be someone's employee or have to deal with day-to-day business. I am an entrepreneur, I want to create business value and that can only be achieved with a strong team – over two or three years.

The early days are critical in placing the right people in the right positions. To achieve this I need to understand every problem and have my nose in everything. If it means sitting against the pit wall, I do not have a problem doing that, but it will never become a regular occurrence. What is important is for me to get close to F1 again, whether in the factory, next to the race track or anywhere on the periphery – and to draw the correct conclusions and get things moving quickly. The challenge is clear: getting away from the last row of the starting grid, which we have already achieved and to play a part in the middle of the field. Unfortunately, the mid-field looks very different today from just a short while ago: it is an incredibly tight pack, and even Williams and Toyota must be considered part of it. On paper it is practically impossible for a small team to assert itself there, so why are we giving it a go anyway?

'Without a new approach to Formula One, it would make no sense for a small player to enter the fray'

It could be naivety, but in fact we are hoping to be able to go beyond the conventional standards with a particular racing flair and a feeling for the right people.

The regulations from 2008 onwards will also play an essential role – this was a crucial factor in my decision to risk the step up to team owner together with Didi Mateschitz. Without the chance of a new approach to Formula One, with respect to clever cost savings, synergies and fresh ideas, it would make absolutely no sense at all for a small player to enter the fray against the big players and their enormous resources.

My feeling is that these fresh ideas are really doing well and will give us a Formula One where one's rivals will not be beaten by purely monetary means. So now, everything is coming together nicely: the return to 'Formula Intensive', the partnership with Didi, the new start with Toro Rosso and the pleasant anticipation of a lively future racing landscape.

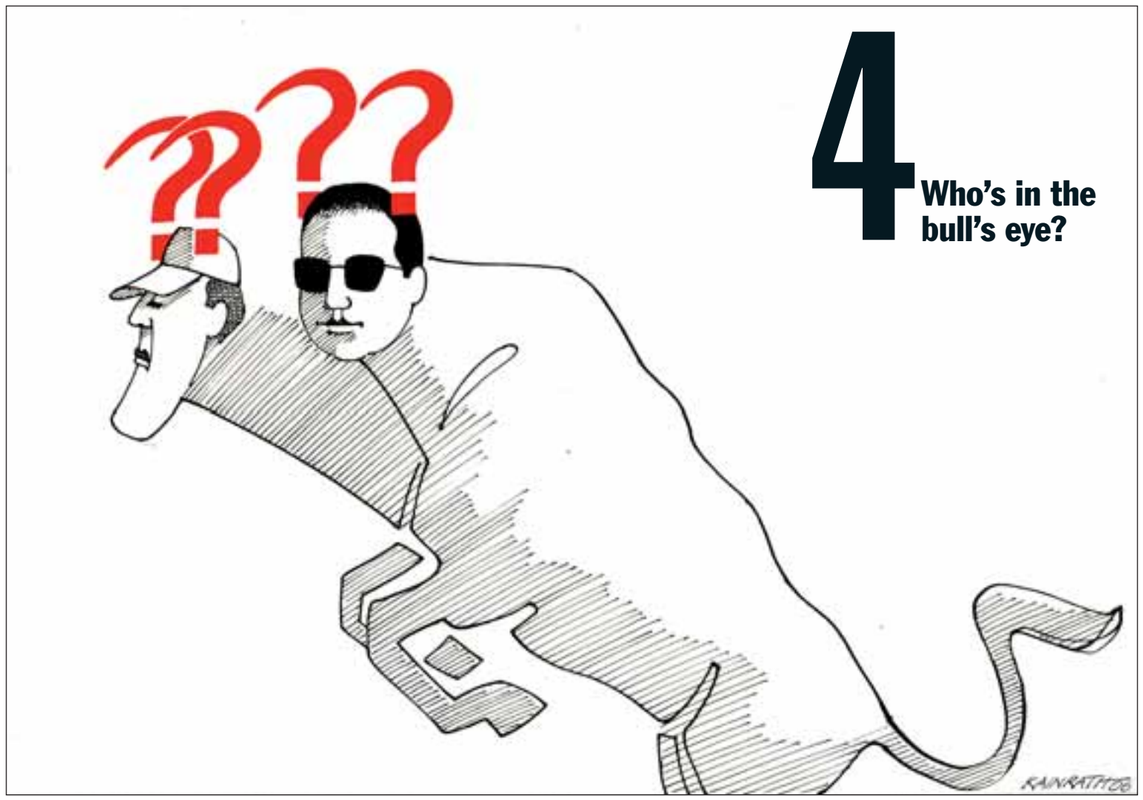


ILLUSTRATION: KAINRATH, FEGGO

STAR WARS

Valentino Rossi and Fernando Alonso's mutual taunting may not be an all-out feud, but we are intrigued who would win Rossi's proposed MotoGP, WRC and F1 triathlon. We've asked a few experts where they'd put their money.



ROSSI



ALONSO



PAUL DENNING, MotoGP team manager is an expert in motorcycle racing. His pedigree stretches back to his own days as a British Superbike racer. He is now the team manager of Suzuki Rizla, Suzuki's factory MotoGP squad, and under his instruction this season are riders Chris Vermeulen and John Hopkins. So does he think Alonso could match Rossi on two wheels?

"No, not under any circumstances, Rossi was already a world champion at 17 or whatever. That experience and his talent mix can't be replicated, even by his MotoGP opposition, let alone someone who has never raced a bike.

"Alonso v Rossi on a bike would be like a Sunday league over-40s player taking on Thierry Henry. What separates Rossi from Alonso is 15 years of experience.

Too much has been made of this nonsense – there is no question that going from two wheels to four is so much easier than the other way around, and that's it, full stop.

"They are both supremely talented, and Alonso has maybe set himself up for a fall if he did actually say he could run the pace on a bike after a bit of testing. Rossi simply has a much easier – although still massively difficult – task going the other way."



GABRIELE TREDOZI, technical director at Scuderia Toro Rosso, is in his 19th season with Faenza's finest. Over the years he's ushered many hopefuls into F1, including one F Alonso.

"Alonso was impressive, right from the beginning. He came to us for a test and he was instantly fast, so fast that after a few laps we called him back to the pits. We thought he had been pushing the car too hard. He came in and said he hadn't been pushing at all. He was unbelievably good.

"There is more to driving a F1 car than being impressive on a timesheet. You must understand the car and be able to use it. Obviously you need to be fast, but also you need to manage your speed. You need to be reliable, you need to be calm and you need to be able to see how a race is unfolding. This is very important. The great drivers all have these qualities. It comes from the quality of the man himself.

"Rossi v Alonso is a good challenge. I'd like to see it. Honestly, I think it is easier for the guy from MotoGP. And with his experience in rally cars and at the F1 test, I would back Rossi. I don't think Fernando can win this one. I think it would be too difficult for Fernando to instantly be fast on a motorbike."



DAVID LAPWORTH, motorsport director at Prodrive and former Subaru rally team boss, knows what separates a rally driver from an F1 driver."The biggest difference that strikes me about the rally driver's role as opposed to MotoGP or Formula One is the need to ad lib. In the World Rally Championship the drivers only get to recce the roads twice, and then only at slow speed. The state of road and the weather conditions may change completely by the time they compete. Rally drivers deal with the unexpected and that requires a different kind of confidence.

"The speed of decision-making is impressive, and it's where F1 drivers usually struggle in a rally car. Experience informs whether this is a minor hiccup, a potential accident that can be minimised, or if it's time to prepare for a big one. Age is also a factor. Rally drivers tend to peak later. I don't think anybody has won a world championship without five years of at least national-level competition.

"It's hard to image someone like Alonso – at 24 – being a world champion in rallying. You're just a bit too mad at that age. Also the confidence that being extremely skilful gives you is probably going to be your undoing. People who I've seen grow up as drivers, Colin McCrae and Petter Solberg, both struggled with having so much talent and so much enthusiasm, thinking they could win at everything and trying be fastest on every stage – and then crashing. It takes a few years to develop the judgement; it's not just about the speed.

"So I guess my money would be on Valentino. He owns rally cars; he's done a few rallies with us. Also, he enjoys the fact that he can play with a rally car, much like he plays with a bike: constantly interacting with the road and the machine. He described driving an F1 car to me as being a bit like a PlayStation."

OR HOW ABOUT...

Here's the ones we'd like to see:

CELEBRITY READY, STEADY, COOK!

OK, they're fast on the track, but what are they like in the kitchen? Both drivers live in southern England, where the food is rubbish, so they've probably had to survive on leftovers from the back of the fridge before now. Alonso should win this. As an Italian man under the age of 30, Rossi is probably more accustomed to having someone cook for him.



TENNIS

This one we're basing on the very scientific law of averages. Spaniards are good at tennis, Italians aren't. End of story.



TROUT FISHING

The sly trout is a favourite of fly fishermen all around the world. It requires an educated flick of the wrist – which makes us suspect Rossi might be good at it – but also lots and lots of patience, which is one of Alonso's more noticeable traits. Score this one for 'Nando.



SACK RACE

For anyone not familiar, this is exactly what it sounds like: contestants run a 100m race with their legs encased in a sack – usually made of hessian. The preferred method of motion is a sort of hopping action, not unlike that of the kangaroo. Result: too close to call.



POKER

Who are we trying to kid? Poker is a game for those with an iron control of their emotions and a sly and calculating disposition. The paddock card sharks are going to take these children to the cleaners. Dead heat.



SPACE HOPPERS

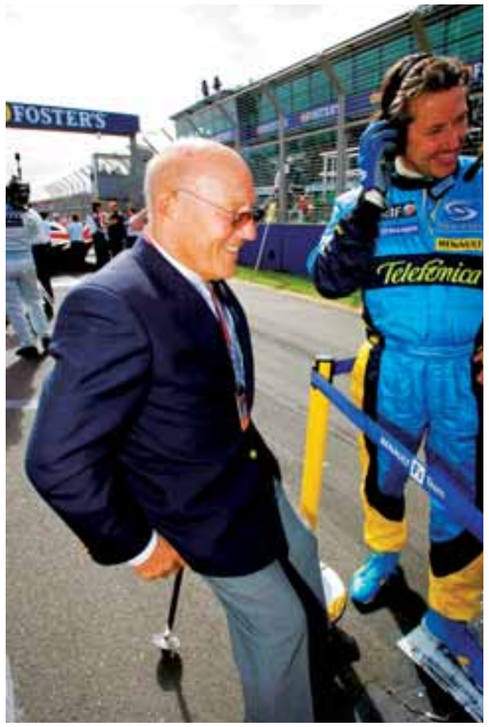
Neither of our contestants was born when these babies were all the rage, so neither has an innate advantage. However, Rossi's superior sense of balance and ability to go around corners on his knees might prove decisive.



PHOTOS: SUTTON IMAGES, GETTY IMAGES, REUTERS, REX FEATURES, VICTORIA NIGHTINGALE

LIFE THRU A LENS

The wildlife in Australia is often unusual, occasionally surprising and sometimes downright dangerous. The Bull's Eye photographers took their lives in their hands and set out to capture it...



Sir Stirling Moss was initially surprised when Renault offered him a seat in Australia – but he soon got the point!



The local grid girls had just been told that the Formula Una ladies were chosen for their charm and intellect rather than their looks.



"Come on Christijan, don't just shut your eyes and ignore me: you must have seen him – Tiago he's called, he's your team-mate, about this high."



The old wearing team kit trick had worked again. This young couple had been served two camomile teas, one Diet Coke, a bottle of water and a glass of orange juice and they hadn't been asked to pay a cent.



"Love your technique, but I think you're supposed to have a car on the end of that to set a qualifying time."



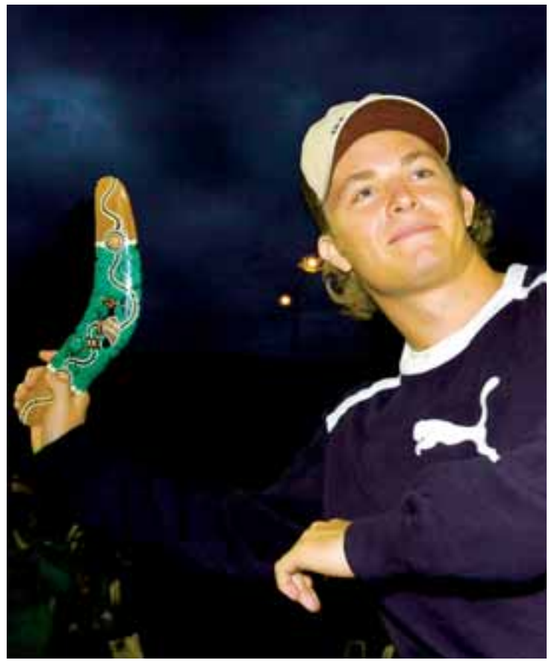
Try as he might, Wolfgang was finding it very hard not to laugh as Nick told him about the failed Botox in the cheek treatment...



...but as a true PR man he even tried to make out that he had the same problem.



Luckily, Wolfgang had warned Ron, who managed to look away to save himself from laughing.



PHOTOS: CRISPIN THRUSTON

Nico was having a great night out – until a few things started coming back to him...



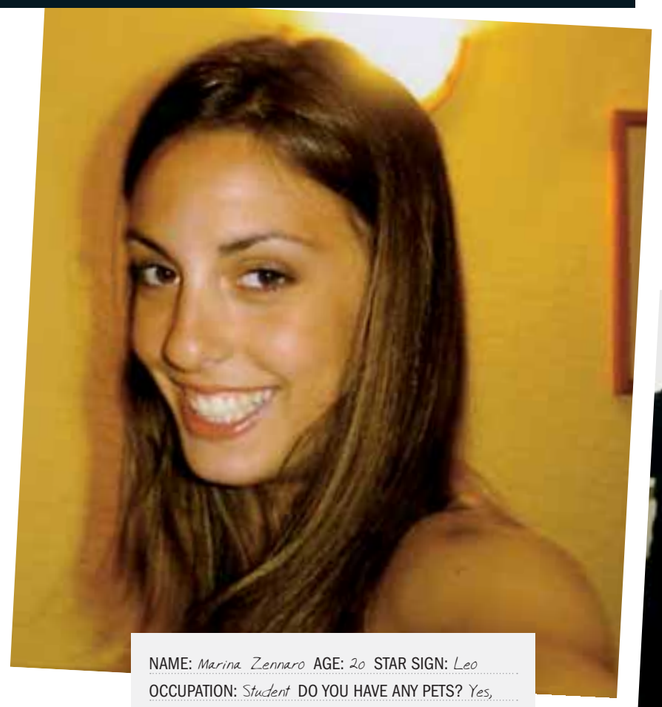
The Toyota boys could not hide their feelings as news of Mike Gascoyne's departure reached the grid.

FORMULA UNA SAN MARINO

These 10 ladies sent us their pictures so they could live it up Formula One-style this weekend – and they're all hoping for the chance to represent San Marino in Brazil this October.

NAME: Julie Almont AGE: 22 STAR SIGN: Capricorn OCCUPATION: Student WHAT ARE YOU INTO? Belly dancing, cooking, writing interesting stories, hand-made objects and running WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE FOOD? I like all things that are a bit spicy, with a lot of flavour, like Mexican tacos and pasta alla matriciana WHAT CAR DO YOU DRIVE? Audi TT WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE ITEM OF CLOTHING? Sexy tops IF YOU COULD HAVE ANY JOB IN THE WORLD, WHAT WOULD IT BE? An important chemical engineer WHAT'S THE BEST WAY TO GET A DATE WITH YOU? Do you have a cool motorcycle?





NAME: Marina Zennaro AGE: 20 STAR SIGN: Leo OCCUPATION: Student DO YOU HAVE ANY PETS? Yes, I have one dog who's called Pluto WHAT SPORTS DO YOU LIKE DOING? Artistic gym, swimming, dancing, ice skating and beach volleyball WHAT 'S YOUR MOST TREASURED POSSESSION? Pictures of my friends WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE SONG OF ALL TIME? Always by Jon Bon Jovi WHO'S YOUR STYLE ICON? Kate Moss WHAT'S THE WORST JOB YOU'VE EVER HAD? Giving away flyers during a storm WHAT'S THE CRAZIEST THING YOU HAVE EVER DONE? Kissing in a lift with a stranger WHAT'S THE BEST CHAT UP LINE YOU'VE EVER HEARD? "Let's have breakfast in Rome together" and it was 3am in Milan! DESCRIBE YOUR CHARACTER IN THREE WORDS: I think I'm ambitious, open-minded, ironic



NAME: Simona Giuseppina AGE: 21 STAR SIGN: Pisces OCCUPATION: Student WHAT'S THE BEST PLACE YOU'VE EVER VISITED? I love Monte Carlo so much, because the atmosphere is magic... I also like going to the casino (especially if I win) WHAT SPORTS DO YOU DO? I swim and I like walking with my dog, Gimmy WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE ARTICLE OF CLOTHING? Jeans (I don't remember how many pairs I have in my wardrobe!) WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE FILM OF ALL TIME? The Godfather, directed by Francis Ford Coppola. WHAT'S YOUR WORST HABIT? I like my clothes too much! WHAT ARE YOU MOST SCARED OF? I'm scared of snakes and spiders WHAT'S THE BEST PIECE OF ADVICE ANYONE HAS GIVEN YOU? "Before talking, think carefully!"



NAME: Francesca Omodei AGE: 21 STAR SIGN: Aries OCCUPATION: Student HAVE YOU BEEN TO A BIG SPORTING EVENT LIKE THIS BEFORE? I went to the Italian GP at Monza two years ago! It was so exciting to see so many people united by a strong passion!! WHAT CAR DO YOU DRIVE? Volkswagen Golf. WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE FOOD? Pizza and pasta! C'mon I'm an Italian girl! WHO'S THE MOST FAMOUS PERSON YOU'VE EVER MET? The Pope WHAT'S THE FUNNIEST JOKE YOU KNOW? When I'm driving my car, I sound the horn while I'm passing by a guy, then, when he turns round, I wave to the opposite side... sorry! It's really silly!!

NAME: Nicoletta Binci AGE: 20 STAR SIGN: Aries OCCUPATION: Traveller WHAT'S THE BEST PLACE YOU'VE EVER VISITED AND WHY? Greece (in summer), because it's such a fun place where there are so many things to enjoy DO YOU HAVE ANY PETS? I have a cat, it's called Ulisse WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE FOOD? Nutella!!! WHO'S YOUR FAVOURITE ACTOR? Johnny Depp WHO'S YOUR HERO OR HEROINE? Ally McBeal and Wonder Woman! And Homer Simpson WHAT'S THE WORST JOB YOU'VE EVER HAD? Baby-sitter WHAT'S YOUR WORST HABIT? I'm always late and often distracted. WHAT ARE YOU MOST SCARED OF? Worms and politics WHAT'S THE BEST WAY TO GET A DATE WITH YOU? Be funny and sexy!



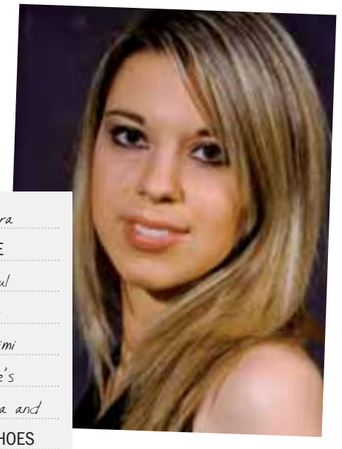
NAME: Laura Tavella AGE: 22 STAR SIGN: Virgo OCCUPATION: Student WHO'S YOUR FAVOURITE DRIVER AND WHY? Fisichella, because he is Italian and I'm patriotic! WHAT'S THE BEST PLACE YOU'VE EVER VISITED? Paris, because it's the city of love WHAT SPORTS DO YOU DO? Kickboxing. WHAT'S YOUR MOBILE PHONE RINGTONE? Hung up by Madonna HOW MANY PAIRS OF SHOES DO YOU OWN? About 25 WHO'S YOUR STYLE ICON? Sarah Jessica Parker WHAT WILL YOU BE DOING IN 10 YEARS' TIME? I want to marry and become a mother



‘CRAZIEST THING I’VE EVER DONE? KISSING A STRANGER IN A LIFT!’ Marina



NAME: Stefania Argenti AGE: 27 STAR SIGN: Sagittarius OCCUPATION: Student WHAT ARE YOU INTO? My favourite hobby is horse riding and I’m studying film directing – I love cinema WHO’S YOUR FAVOURITE DRIVER AND WHY? Giancarlo Fisichella. He’s good looking and he seems very pleasant and humble HAVE YOU BEEN TO A BIG SPORTING EVENT LIKE THIS BEFORE? Yes, I’ve been to the World Equestrian Games. I love the atmosphere of big competitions DO YOU HAVE ANY PETS? I have a horse called Batman, a cat called Furby and a dog, Nene. WHAT WOULD BE YOUR KARAOKE SONG? I can’t sing, I’m terrible! WHAT’S YOUR WORST HABIT? Treating guys badly when I’m not interested in them



NAME: Francesca Ruffo AGE: 17 STAR SIGN: Libra OCCUPATION: Student WHAT’S THE BEST PLACE YOU’VE EVER VISITED? Greece, it is a wonderful country and you can feel the history in the air WHO’S YOUR FAVOURITE DRIVER AND WHY? Kimi Raikkonen. He’s a brilliant driver, even if he’s unlucky WHAT’S YOUR FAVOURITE FOOD? Pizza and Sushi. But not together! HOW MANY PAIRS OF SHOES DO YOU OWN? 42 – I buy a new pair whenever I can. WHO’S THE MOST FAMOUS PERSON YOU’VE EVER MET? Alessandro Del Piero WHAT ARE YOU MOST SCARED OF? Getting stuck in an elevator WHAT’S THE BEST PIECE OF ADVICE ANYONE HAS EVER GIVEN YOU? Face your problems one by one



NAME: Priscilla Guzzoni AGE: 21 STAR SIGN: Capricorn OCCUPATION: Student WHAT’S THE BEST PLACE YOU’VE EVER VISITED? Ameland – it’s a little island to the north of Holland. It’s like a little fairy island! WHAT SPORTS DO YOU DO? Tennis and skating WHAT’S YOUR FAVOURITE FILM? Grease HOW MANY PAIRS OF SHOES DO YOU OWN? 31... I love shoes WHAT WAS THE WORST JOB YOU EVER HAD? Working in a field picking tomatoes under the sun WHAT’S THE MOST EXTRAVAGANT THING SOMEONE HAS DONE FOR YOU? Last year my friend and my boyfriend organised a big surprise birthday party for me WHAT ARE YOU MOST SCARED OF? Snakes and lizards WHAT’S THE FUNNIEST JOKE YOU KNOW? Throwing a big balloon filled with water



NAME: Alessandra Gramola AGE: 20 STAR SIGN: Leo OCCUPATION: Student WHO’S YOUR FAVOURITE DRIVER? Michael Schumacher. HAVE YOU BEEN TO A BIG SPORTING EVENT LIKE THIS BEFORE? I went to the Monza GP when I was very young WHAT IS THE BEST PLACE YOU’VE EVER VISITED? Mexico. The beaches are beautiful and so are the people WHAT’S YOUR FAVOURITE ITEM OF CLOTHING? Miniskirts WHO’S THE MOST FAMOUS PERSON YOU’VE EVER MET? Tullio Solenghi (the Italian actor) when I worked in theatre WHAT’S THE MOST EMBARRASSING THING THAT HAS EVER HAPPENED TO YOU? I cooked for my friends, but instead of salt I put sugar in the pasta! WHAT’S THE BEST WAY TO GET A DATE WITH YOU? Be romantic and shower me with flowers and presents



YOUR PADDOCK PROBLEMS SOLVED

by ROLAND BUTTA

HUNGRY AND MOTORHOME-LESS

Dear Roland,
After a dismal performance in the first few races, I slagged off the McRentoyiamhonri Team. Now we are back in Europe with the motorhomes, I’ve remembered they do the best food in the paddock. How can I go in there to get my free meals without being killed or thrown out? Where will my next glass of red wine come from?
Yours in hunger,
Phat Hak

Dear Mr Hak,
Do what any journalist worth his salt does when confronted with an angry subject. Say the sub-editors rewrote your copy and you have no control over headline writers. Alternatively, stick to your guns, go and buy your own lunch in the public enclosure and don’t drink alcohol until after you’ve finished work. Oh, sorry, I forgot that’s not possible: you’re a journalist.

WANTING TO FEEL YOUNG AGAIN

Dear Roland,
My editor says my copy is shit and my wife doesn’t understand me. One of the motorhome girls in the paddock seems very sympathetic. How do you suggest I pursue this relationship?
Yours lustily,
Randy Oldman

Dear Mr Oldman,
Please return to planet Earth immediately! You are living in a dream world. The girl in question is young enough to be illegal. She only smiles at you as you remind her of her grandfather. In any case, she is only working as a motorhomer in her gap year after university where she secured a first-class honours degree in social anthropology. She regards you as an interesting specimen and discusses you on the phone with mummy and daddy, who own a mansion in England. In any case, she is engaged to the Earl of Donbyshire, but is currently going out with a truckie as her friends tell her she should experience a bit of rough before settling down to a life of breeding cocker spaniels.

LETTERS

It works both ways. You can write to us – and here’s the best sent in to the editor from last week.



DON’T TAKE THE PISS OUT OF OUR BEER

Dear sirs,
Re: The Beer Necessities.
I write to protest your spiteful character assassination of an Australian institution. Beer is at the heart of Aussie life and to have a bunch of effete Europeans come over here and criticise ours just isn’t cricket. Aussie beer, like everything else in Australia, is the best in the world. You don’t like it weak, tasteless and fizzy ’cos you’re a bunch of poofs.
Yours sincerely,
John Howard, Prime Minister



THAT’S ENOUGH EXCITEMENT FOR ONE SEASON

Dear sirs,
I draw your attention to the disaster that was the Australian Grand Prix 2006. The organisers did their best to ensure an exciting race by providing a dusty track, shallow gravel and the constant threat of rain, but at what cost? Photographers were dashing about bringing us the pictures of overtaking, crashes and explosions, only to have to do it all over again 10 minutes later.

Art directors, suffering from acute ‘carbon-fibre fatigue’ curled up in the corner and began to gently hum, printers desperate for a page to print began wielding spanners and using crude and offensive language.

This just isn’t good enough. Can’t we go back to the races where everyone follows Michael around for the afternoon until it’s time to go home?
Yours,
The Lady of The Red Bulletin

WE WANT TO DO IT DOGGY STYLE

Attention All Hospitality Staff – poor dumb animals need your help. Have you ever seen the after-effects of an Animal Liberation Army raid on a testing laboratory? You get 500 beagles roaming the countryside dying for a smoke.

We have a very similar situation we have in the paddock at the moment. Journalists, some of whom have existed on free cigarettes for 30 years, have suddenly had their supplies cut off. Grumpy at the best of times, this sort of treatment isn’t likely to endear your team to the press. While there are theories suggesting that cigarettes may damage the health, remember this: a) smoking is cool and b) regular fumigation keeps your motorhome pest free. Sort of.

NB: Have you also read about the health benefits inherent in a nice glass of Shiraz?
Yours,
Sly Fagg

THE END OF A GLORIOUS REIN

Dear sirs,
Encouraged by your article Things to do in Bologna, myself and colleagues decided to take your advice and try our hands at chariot racing. I feel that your article failed to point out the dangers inherent to novice charioteers trying to control two wild horses while standing on what is to all intents and purposes a plank, and careering around a tight oval circuit with a herd of other panicky amateurs at 50km/h.

The sight of feral-eyed, nostril-flaring beasts pawing at the ground is, of course, unsettling at the best of times but you would expect trained horses to be able to cope with nervous mechanics, most of whom have just realised that they’ve got themselves into something a bit sticky. Instead, smelling the fear they took us for a wild ride that no one will ever forget, though [*name removed*] was probably unwise to recount that in a text message to his wife.

I call on The Red Bulletin to do the decent thing and cover laundry and counselling bills.
Yours,
Ben Hurt



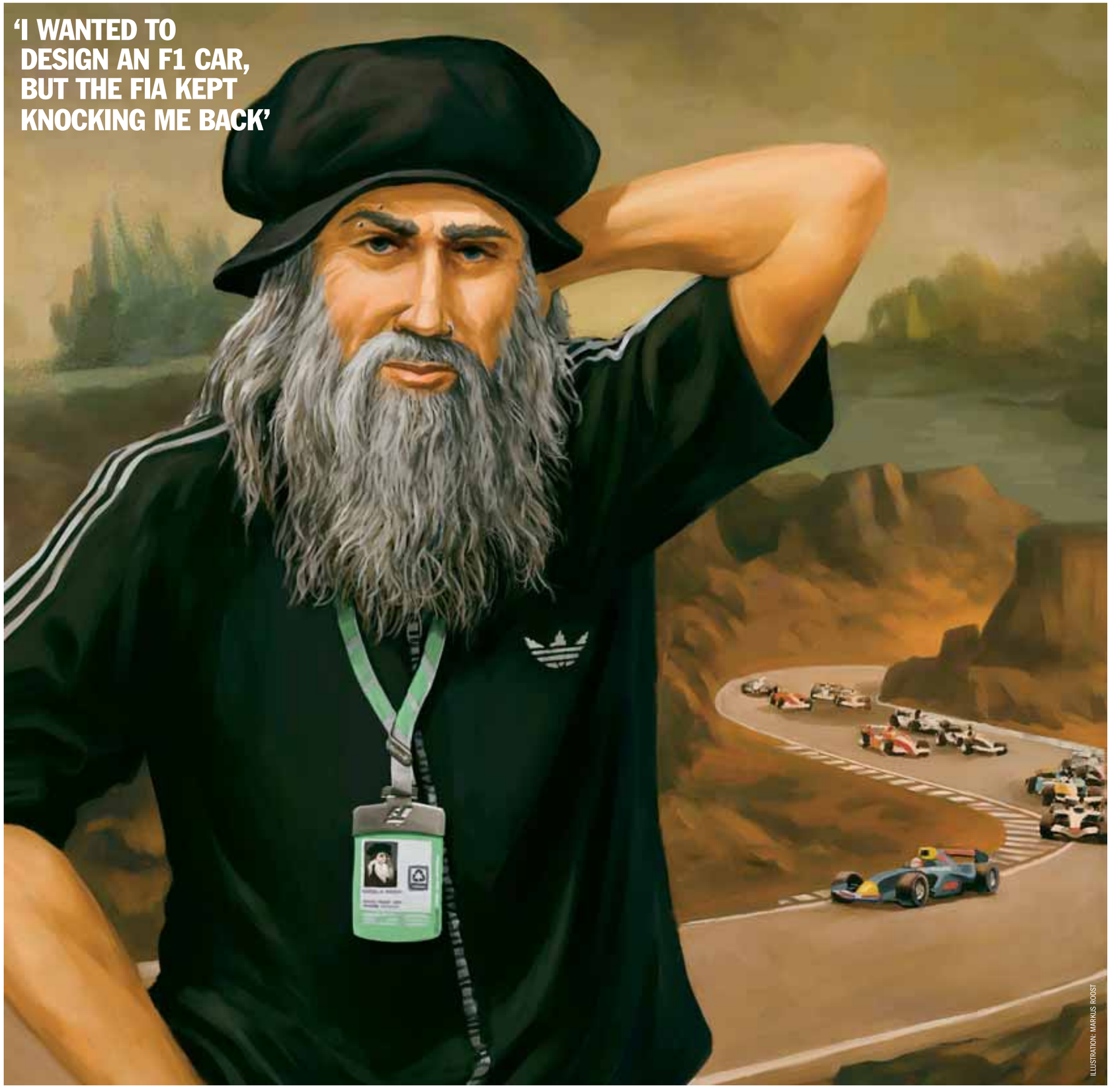


ILLUSTRATION: MARKUS ROOST

SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOUR WELL-EARNED REST LEONARDO, BUT...

To date his best-known work has been the Mona Lisa, but as the most famous Renaissance Man in history reveals in an exclusive interview with The Red Bulletin, Mr da Vinci also has designs on revolutionising motorsport.

He wrote from right to left, his predictions made Jules Verne seem behind the times, he was a designer, an anatomist, a brilliant artist and a great thinker, but he never designed a grand prix car. Maybe he’s planning to make up for that gap in his curriculum vitae, now that we have brought him to Imola for the weekend.

Ciao Leo, come stai?
Good thanks, but drop the Eyetalian, I live in a loft in Manhattan these days.

We thought you were dead.
Listen, with all the stuff I did, don’t you think finding the secret of immortality would be a piece of piss? But don’t write that, because those people who believe in drinking their own urine are actually quite near the mark.

Still in the fish business then?
Whadda’ ya mean, da fish business?

Don’t you read the papers. Everyone’s talking about the Da Vinci Cod.
Hmph! Cod is just what that book is. Its ideas are more refried than a plate of Mexican beans. That Dan Brown gets so much wrong. He claims my Last Supper is a fresco. He’s wrong: actually my last supper was a takeaway Chinese. No, no, that’s a joke. But really, if the Last Supper was a fresco it would still be in top condition today. A fresco is painted on wet plaster and has to be done in a rush, hence the name fresco or fresh. I took four years to do Supper.

Bit of a slow cooker then! Sorry, moving on swiftly, another of your paintings, the Mona Lisa, is probably even more famous. Why did you paint La Gioconda?
My friend Nat King Cole had a new album coming out and asked me to do the cover.

Mona is rather an odd name – but what was she like as a subject to study?
Jeez, what a pain in the arse she was! Her husband, Francesco del Giocondo, insisted I render her in oils, but she wouldn’t sit still, always wanted to go to the toilet and needed serving an endless stream of espressos. It was moan, moan, moan a lot all the time. Now do you see where the name came from?

But the painting set the standard for portraiture to such an extent that it was later satirised by both the Surreal and the Dada movements.
True enough, hence the expression, “Whose your Dada?”

And in the middle of doing all this, you still found time to design something that would come to be known as the helicopter.
That was some design, right? Actually, I was trying to come up with a machine that would mix my paint with giant rotor blades, but I just couldn’t get that baby to stay on the ground.

But you never fancied doing an F1 car?
Of course I did, but those Luddites at the FIA knocked me back on every good idea I ever came up with. The twin-chassis idea? I gave that to Colin Chapman, but it was made illegal. Then, one day Mrs da V asked me to come up with something to get the dust off the Persian rugs. I got it a little bit wrong and the motorised pan and brush would not come unstuck from the floor. Quick as a flash, I ring Gordon Murray at Brabham and tell him I’ve come up with a great way of sticking the car to the track. Then there was John Barnard. I joked on the phone his ideas were too old. I said, “They need carbon-dating mon old cock.” At first he thought I was suggesting he go out with a piece of coal and then he got it wrong again, but came up with the carbon monocoque. OK, I cannot claim the credit for Tyrrell’s great cheat of displacing volume by putting table-tennis balls in the fuel cell. That one was down to my old mate Archimedes. No wonder the old Greek ran screaming out of the bath, given they’d filled it with five-star fuel. That stuff can give you nasty burns on the kleftiko and two dolmades.

Which is why, as a true Renaissance man you turned to the modern medium of film.
Huh?

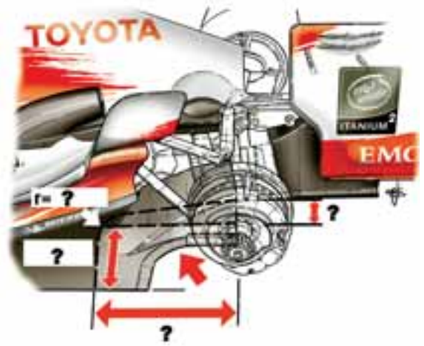
Surely that was you Leo, starring in the epic movie Titanic?
(Sigh) Yeah, OK, that was me. I was even able to indulge my passion for fish, by acting with that girl Skate Winslet. Happy now? Can I go now? I want to show Adrian Newey these designs for next year’s F1 car.

SOMETHING TO TEST YOUR METAL



There was only one correct answer in Australia, but Mr Piola hasn't made things easier. If you want the prize, you'll need to be in the know.

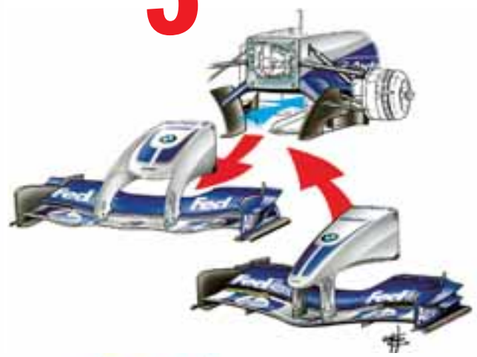
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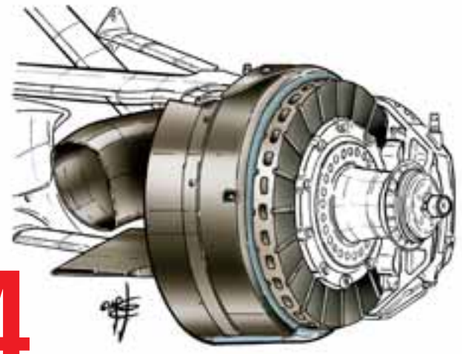
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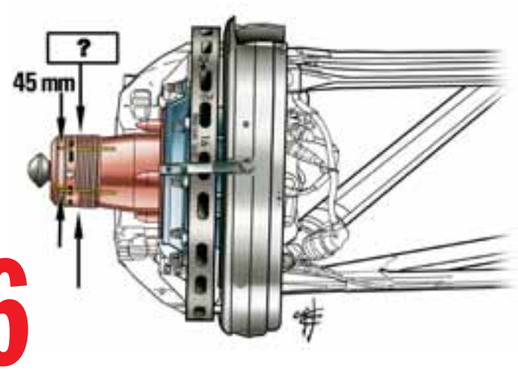
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5



6



1 What are the dimensions of the hole around the rear tyres and what is the reduction in the height of the side diffusers introduced by the FIA in 2005?

2 These are the pedals of the 2005 McLaren. Which one belongs to Montoya and which to Raikkonen?

3 At which 2004 GP did Williams return to a traditional nose?

4 In which year and at which GP did McLaren first introduce these Carbon Industrie discs still used on the MP4-21?

5 At which race last year did Renault use this wing?

6 When did Ferrari introduce the wider hub and what is the missing measurement?

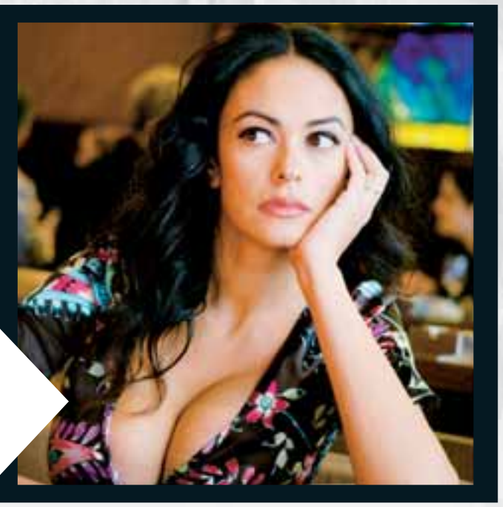
Once you've got the answers, send them with your name and phone number via e-mail to secret.service@theredbulletin.com or fax on +49 202 292 32 98 before midnight on Saturday. We'll print the answers and announce the lucky winner in the after-race edition of The Red Bulletin on Sunday.

ILLUSTRATION: GIORGIO PIOLA

THE RACE

IT'S FRIDAY, SO WE MUST BE IN...

Imola, Friday, April 21, 2006 €1



HOW ABOUT THEM APPLES!

The growers and traders of the Chamber of Commerce of Forli came up with a tasty promotion: on a trip to India they got stunning model/actress Maria Cucinotta to give a presentation on the great attributes of their fruit and veg to a conference in Mumbai. If only all greengrocers looked this good!



He really is the daddy: Enzo Ferrari

New keys to Ferrari

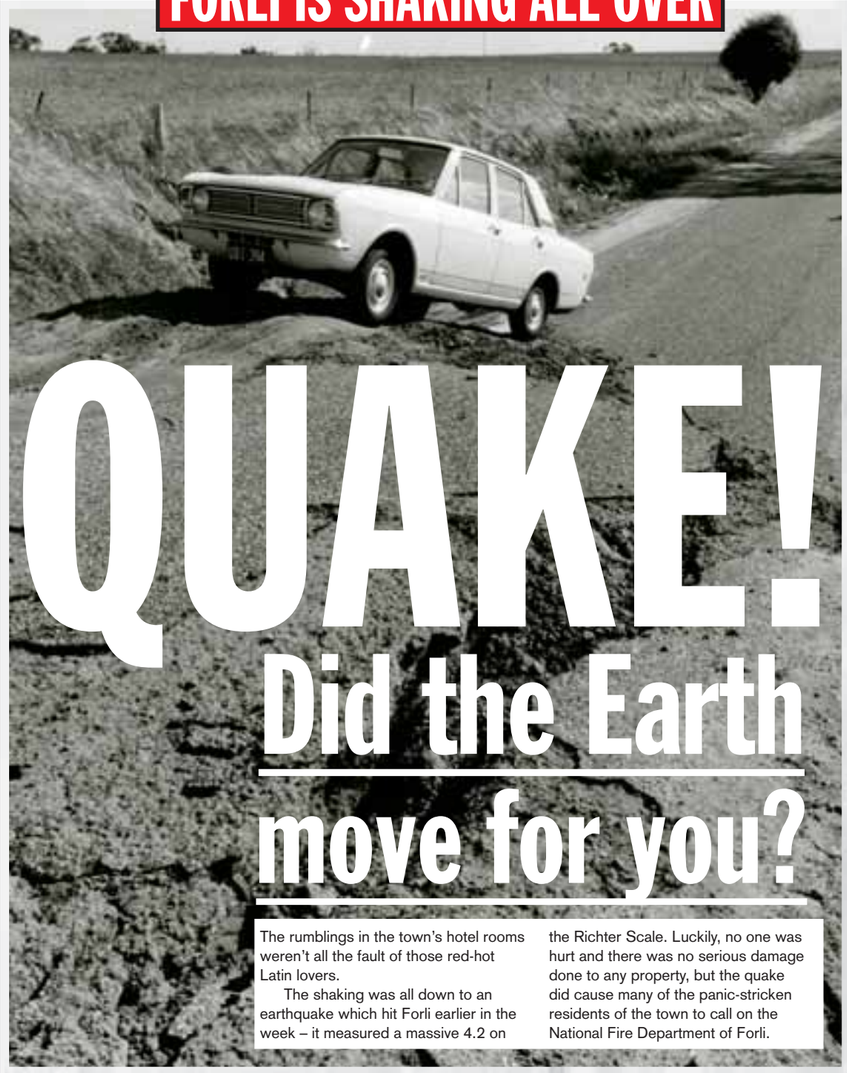
Now that Piero Ferrari has been recognised as Enzo's legitimate son, he seems to be enjoying his share of glory. The Municipality of Imola is to award him a rare honour – the keys to the town.

Wine + Women = song!



Italy's signore belle are bigger boozers than the boys. According to a government survey well over 60% of female Italians drink regularly, and of these 20% are heavy drinkers. Italian men drink a lot less and only 10% are classified as heavy drinkers.

FORLI IS SHAKING ALL OVER



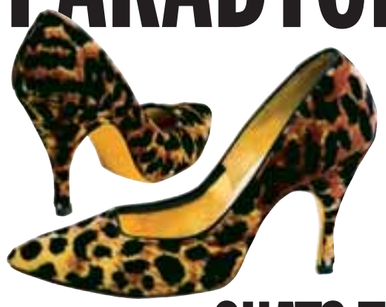
QUAKE! Did the Earth move for you?

The rumblings in the town's hotel rooms weren't all the fault of those red-hot Latin lovers.

The shaking was all down to an earthquake which hit Forli earlier in the week – it measured a massive 4.2 on the Richter Scale. Luckily, no one was hurt and there was no serious damage done to any property, but the quake did cause many of the panic-stricken residents of the town to call on the National Fire Department of Forli.

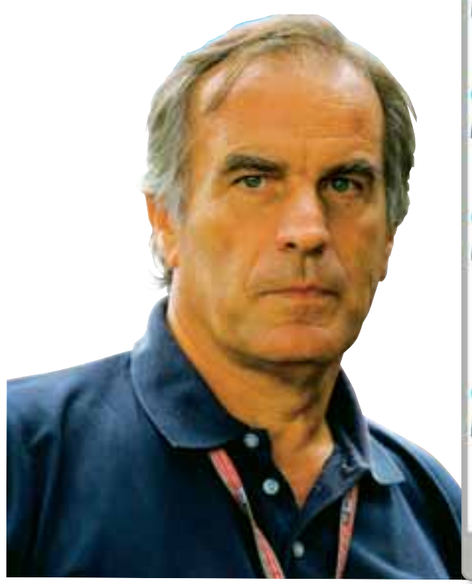
PHOTOS: REX FEATURES, GETTY IMAGES, SUTTON IMAGES

HELEN PARADYCE



CHATS TO GIORGIO PIOLA

Our resident gossip queen chats on-line to technical artist extraordinaire, and horse-fancier, Giorgio Piola.



Chat with Giorgio Piola

1:51 PM

Hi Giorgie Porgie. Why drawing?

Even when I was a child, I always did drawings. I used to draw horses, dogs, people… but from around the age of 12 it was mainly cars. I was fanatical about motor racing.

Did you study the technical side of cars?

I did a few terms of engineering. Then the opportunity came to go to Monaco in '69 and I completely lost my will to study… but I'm happy.

So it turned out quite well in the end?

Yes. A few million drawings later!

What's the most beautiful car you've ever drawn?

Several. I liked the Lotus 79, the Barnard Ferrari (the 640) and the McLaren with the Porsche engine.



But the current cars all look the same.

Yes, they do but it's still very exciting because you have to look at the detail, so I really like my job. As you know, most of the time I don't like to be in F1 with all those people but I really love my job.

Your work is seen in lots of magazines but you've been with Autosprint for the longest time

Yes, but I am changing Italian magazines here in Imola because after 32 years with Autosprint, I am switching to Sport Auto Moto.

Why?

Er… because I don't like the chief editor. The editor of the Sport Auto Moto is a friend of mine and understands a lot about the technical side of the sport.

Why do Italians like drawing so much? Before you, there were some less well-known people, like da Vinci and Michelangelo. Although obviously Piola is the best.

You cannot compare me to these people or I will be killed! I am quite a good technical artist. When I started my hero was a guy called Bruno Nestola. He taught me a lot and I really liked and admired him.

You are always complaining that you can't find anywhere to do your drawings. Why not do what Micky did in the Sistine Chapel and draw on your back?

Chat with Giorgio Piola

1:57 PM



No thanks. Although once I had to lie on my stomach on the floor of a hotel room in Belgium because the table was horrible, so the floor was the only place to draw.

I know what you mean – I also spent a night face down on the floor of a Belgian hotel room but we'll gloss over that.

You English women are so vulgar, but I like you.

To those of us who know you well, your favourite phrase is "I don't like, I don't like". Why do we have to put up with your miserable moods?

It is my temperament. In my part of Italy we are famous for the art of mugugnare, a verb that describes the pleasure we take from complaining about everything. Our standard reply is: "Yes, but…"

What would you have painted if there hadn't been cars?

I think probably horses and battles with horses because I love animals.



Chat with Giorgio Piola

But what kind of man has a photo of his horse as a screensaver on his computer?

2:00 PM

A wise one.

Why do we need your drawings? After all, you can just take a photo.

Because a photo has shadows which blot out the detail. With a drawing you can point out the interesting part and make people understand it.

Why didn't you just become a F1 designer and be a millionaire like the Adrian Neweys of this world?

Even the worst engineer in a team is 10 times better than me: I can only reproduce what very clever people do. They are serious people and I am just a technical paparazzi.

Do you still have bets with engineers?

2:05 PM

Yes, it started with Patrick Head who would challenge me to find five new bits on his car. Most, but not all of the time, I find at least four out of five.



Have you heard the chat-up line "come up and see my etchings"? Has this worked for you?

It might work, but I don't need an excuse. In my youth, if I liked a girl I just went up and asked her.

You never asked me! But you're not that bright: you once asked me how to translate a part of the engine called the block into English. Block *is* English, you dummy.

Must have been dazzled by your beauty.

Wow, Giorgio, did you know your initials are the same as those for Grand Prix? That's spooky.

Spooky? Only to someone as daft as you!

PHOTO: SUTTON IMAGES, GETTY IMAGES ILLUSTRATION: GIORGIO PIOLA

WHO IS GIORGIO PIOLA?

This race weekend is Giorgio Piola's 561st grand prix. Somehow, writing it down doesn't do justice to what some would call an achievement and others a folly. In Formula One, the word unique is used without much thought, but the word is completely accurate when it comes to describing the majority of this man's working life. There are plenty of team bosses in F1, a glut of drivers and hundreds of engineers and journalists, but Piola pretty much invented the understandable F1 technical drawing and for most of his career, he has had the field to himself. Even now that there are some pretenders to his crown, he is still the undisputed king of his trade. The first grand prix that the car-mad kid from Genoa attended was Monaco in 1969. He sent his doodles off to a magazine, they were printed and a career was born.





WIN A FABULOUS HOLIDAY

THE GREAT RACE

As anyone who was in Shanghai last October knows, The Red Bulletin quiz is played for high stakes. This season we're offering a fabulous once-in-a-lifetime holiday to be taken whenever you can get the time off work.

We'll set six questions every Friday. Answer all six correctly for 10 points. Get eight points for five correct answers and so on. We'll keep track over the season and at the end of the year the person at the top of the table will be bathed in glory and be in need of an extra-large suitcase.

QUESTION 1: LOG-O



Which letter comes after this one?

- ☐ **1** L
- ☐ **2** M
- ☐ **3** N
- ☐ **4** P

QUESTION 2: GRAND SEATS

These are arguably the best seats at the track in Imola. But at which corner will you find them?



- ☐ **1** Tamburello
- ☐ **2** Tosa
- ☐ **3** Acque Minerali
- ☐ **4** Rivazza

QUESTION 3: MEASURE FOR MEASURE



The lap distance of Imola is given as 4.933km. How are lap distances usually measured? Along the circuit's...

- ☐ **1** Inner line
- ☐ **2** Racing line
- ☐ **3** Centre line
- ☐ **4** Outer line

QUESTION 4: A TEAM GONE BY

You'd find this in the logo of which team?



- ☐ **1** Minardi
- ☐ **2** Maserati
- ☐ **3** Matra
- ☐ **4** Mercedes

QUESTION 5: HOME STRAIGHT



If Mario heads home on Sunday evening from Forli or Bologna airport – what will his final destination be?

- ☐ **1** Monaco
- ☐ **2** Monza
- ☐ **3** Milano
- ☐ **4** Montreal

QUESTION 6: CHAMP STAMP

The Schumi stamp has a value of 45 cents on it. But which of these Ferrari drivers sells for the most? Only the value printed on the stamp actually counts.



☐ **1** ☐ **2** ☐ **3** ☐ **4**

RULES OF PLAY

As well as the holiday, we're also awarding team prizes this year, so tell us who you work for to be in with a chance of winning a mystery prize for your whole crew – it could be a day of jet-ski racing or a night out with our credit card.

The quiz is published on Fridays and answers must be e-mailed by the following Tuesday. Only people holding a 2006 paddock pass may enter. Send your answers, your full name and your affiliation (if applicable) to quiz@theredbulletin.com. Answers will be published at the following race, alongside the current leaderboard.

LEADERBOARD

1	**Peter Nygaard:** Grand Prix Photo	**26 points**
2	**Mathias Brunner:** Motorsport Aktuell	**21 points**
3	**Gianfranco Fantuzzi:** Scuderia Toro Rosso	**19 points**
4	**Rainer Krüger:** Premiere TV	**15 points**

ANSWERS FROM LAST WEEK

Q1. Answer: 1 – What's missing? The F in Fosters
Q2. Answer: 4 – Lola, from the Blue Angel
Q3. Answer: 2 – Gentlemen attending the Melbourne Cup at the Victoria Racing Club are required to wear a tie
Q4. Answer: 3 – The car in question is Chitty Bang Bang, driven by Count Zborowski and immortalised by Ian Fleming
Q5. Answer: 3 – On the Albert Park circuit the Schumacher grandstand is situated near the Prost corner
Q6. Answer: 1968 – Hulme, McLaren and Amon were on the podium for the International Trophy at Silverstone

PHOTO: SUTTON IMAGES

LAUNCH PAD

The European races started in style – Red Bull style – with the bigger, brighter Energy Centre's launch party.



















PHOTOS: THOMAS BUTLER

1974

PHOTOS: RAINER SCHLEGELMILCH

2002

IN THE MODERN ERA THE PRACTICE of refuelling has acquired technology all of its own, with precision rigs like this one used by Michael Schumacher at Sepang in 2002 delivering a load accurate to the centilitre – usually. It wasn't quite the case back in 1974, with Clay Regazzoni, (above) at Monza, relying on the high technology solution commonly refered to as a big funnel.

STALKING ITALIAN

We think he found his way back from Oz, but where exactly is Mr E? He's in the Imola paddock somewhere, along with some other well-known F1 personnel – present and currently resting – but can you find Bernie?

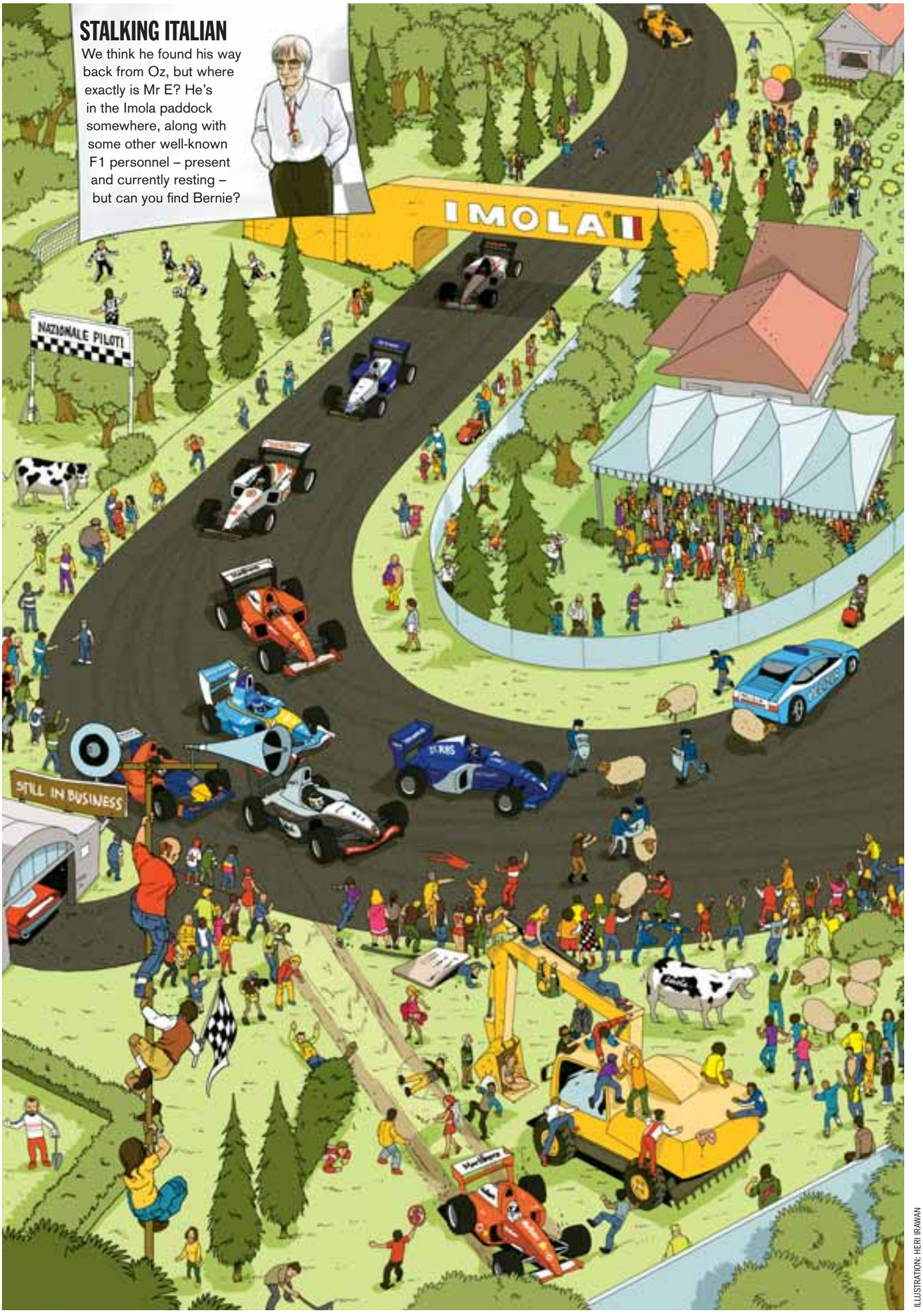


ILLUSTRATION: HERI IRAWAN