THE RED BULLETIN

ISSUE 57, GP BAHRAIN, SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2006

AN ALMOST INDEPENDENT F1 NEWSPAPER

IL CAPO.





PACESETTER

NEVER HEARD OF 'PARKOUR'? Of course you have – it's that bizarre 007-esque free-running caper where muscular types scale buildings and rooftops using nothing but their limbs and a box of Milk Tray. An expert team were showing off their skill and dexterity in downtown Manama yesterday, by crossing the city's landmarks in spectacular style. They even turned up in the paddock later to scale Ferrari's hospitality suite. The creators of parkour describe their sport as the uninterrupted forward motion over, under, around and through one's environment – something Michael Schumacher frequently performs on his way out of press conferences.

HONDA

RUBENS BARRICHELLO HAS ramped up his fitness schedule in preparation for his Honda debut, losing a full three kilos over the winter. Could it be that the kebab houses of Brackley have failed to entice the Brazilian, whose favourite pasta house Il Montana is no longer on his doorstep? Rosa will surely send him packed lunches come Imola…



PACESETTER

WHILST WE'VE BEEN OUT HERE in Bahrain, the winter Paralympics has fired up in Turin. A special guest at the opening ceremony, attended by 30,000 people, was Alex Zanardi, on hand with the Olympic torch.

The Red Bulletin
The bulls in your china shop
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BRABHAM

BRAND NEW PAGE, brand new cock-up. Yesterday's Bulletin carried Freeze Frame, a where-are-they-now story, featuring a picture of the Brabham team at Kyalami in 1976. Among the pit lane talent on show were Bernie Ecclestone, Gordon Murray, Bob Dance and Clive Howell – only it isn't Howell in the picture, it's former Jordan technical director and Bulletin columnist Gary Anderson. We suggested to a rather injured Gary that his profile might have altered a little over the intervening 30 years. His reply: "We all improve with age." So, who fed our staff writer (who wasn't even born in 1976) the disinformation? We can reveal that a Mr H Blash of London supplied the dud info – later confirmed by Clive Howell, now general manager of Team Penske. "Clive was never that good looking – and he's only about five feet tall, he wouldn't have come up to the rear wing," growls an irate Gary.





CLUB 500

TALES OF YESTERYEAR
THIS WEEKEND: FREDDIE AF PETERSENS

New outfits on the grid is not a new event. Take the Italian squad Andrea Moda owned by Andrea Sassetti, a shoemaker wanting his 15 minutes of fame. He got it – as the laughing-stock of the paddock. His senior driver Perry McCarthy must hold the record for the shortest qualifying lap, managing 30 metres before the engine broke in Barcelona in 1992. The season continued in the same vein: in Montreal the engines were missing; invoices had not been paid. In Belgium the driveshaft broke as Perry left the garage. Mr E was patient but when the team arrived in Monza he had had enough. They were not allowed into the pitlane – it was the last we saw of the unintentionally comic Moda gang.

● **This weekend is Freddie's 509th grand prix**

PHOTOS: REX FEATURES, GETTY IMAGES, SUSIE FORMAN, THOMAS BUTLER COVER ILLUSTRATION: DARIUS MAGHEN

WINGS FOR LIFE

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

WWW.WINGSFORLIFE.COM

FERRARI



CLEARLY HURT AT ANY suggestion that someone might try to prize his Numero Uno from him, Jean Todt has scoffed at persistent rumours that The Schum is on Red Bull's shopping list. "Fantasy," says Todt. "Michael is the kind of driver who wants to win races." Glad you have such faith in the team's customer V8, monsieur! Is that the sound of a cheque tearing in Salzburg? Well, Christian Horner, look no further than a Schumi clone. Alistlookalikes.com have plenty to go around – three in fact.

FOUR COMMENTARIES

RAISING THE GAME

1 SLIPPING DOWN THE GRID
BY NORMAN HOWELL

The news that the Monza circuit has been forced to cancel a race meeting planned for March because of residents' objections to the noise produced by racing cars is a sobering story. The city north of Milan is at the core of motor racing, where even test sessions attract substantial crowds of knowledgeable and committed fans.

There is talk of noise-reduction panels, and surely the situation will be rectified in time for the Italian GP in September. But this is another tassel in the intricate mosaic which depicts F1 leaving its heartland and drifting towards the suburbs of the sport, the countries where up-front money, tobacco laws and new infrastructures take our sport to another level.

The environmental objection, as in Monza now, will not go away. This is not to say that the emerging F1 countries do not have the same concerns, but one thing is a city-based circuit, another is a purpose-built arena, with planned access and exit roads, in-built noise-reduction where needed and so on.

The bottom line is that our race weekend in Bahrain has shown once more how much that is wrong we, and the paying public, have to put up with in many European venues. Here at the Bahrain International Circuit, started from scratch three years ago, whether we are here to work or relax, we are able to do so to the highest standards.

'Facilities in England or Germany are way below the standards put forward by Bahrain'

Access is excellent, the facilities first class and there is a genuine willingness to help solve the problems which large events such as these will inevitably encounter.

The accompanying events make the experience of coming to an F1 race worthwhile, especially for the new fans which circuits such as this one are keen to attract. Moreover, the whole region is buzzing with motor sport excitement and investment. Dubai and Qatar have circuits and are keen to integrate F1, MotoGP, A1 and a host of minor formula to offer a broad-based sporting package to the whole region.

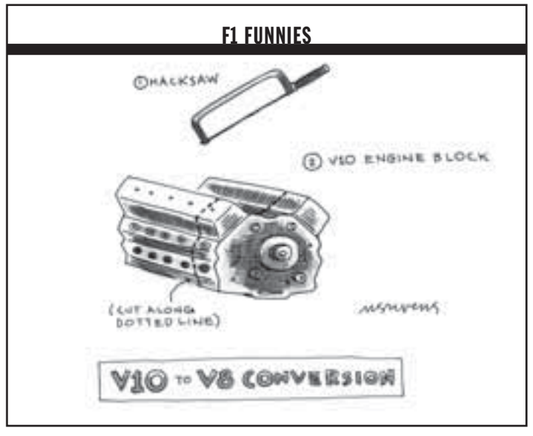
Compare this with the chronic under-investment at some other circuits, mostly in Europe. And, no matter how much extra is thrown into the pot at say, Silverstone or Imola, the truth is that these are just patches on the well worn elbows of the old, faithful jumper.

Yes, some of the new circuits have a soulless, suburban feel to them, but you have to start somewhere. And that is where the great sporting arenas are nowadays. People want easy access, good food, toilets and entertainment.

That is a must and the kind of outside catering facilities available to the public in say, England or Germany, are still way below the standards put forward by China and Bahrain.

F1 prides itself on being the pinnacle of motor sport. What exists outside the tight-knit world of the paddock is often not first class. Bahrain is putting on a good show, and as the first race of the season, it has set the benchmark.

F1 FUNNIES



2 PIT BITCH
BY HELEN PARADYCE

Good to see that even more people will be tuning into to watch F1, thanks to TV company Al Jazeera Sport. The network is actually named after famous English F1 journo, Al Henry, who in conjunction with super model Elle McPherson co-owns the El Al airline. Actually I could be wrong about all that, as I gather the grands prix will be broadcast free-to-view and doing something for nothing is not what one expects from a journalist.

I hear there's a celebrity race taking place this weekend with various stars competing, including Pink Floyd drummer and one-time Le Mans racer, Nick Mason. Also on the card is someone called Sir Steve Redgrave, no doubt a member of the famous British acting family that includes Vanessa Redgrave and the late Sir Michael Redgrave. Apparently, Steve has medals for Olympic rowing, but why they dish out medals for arguing is quite beyond me.

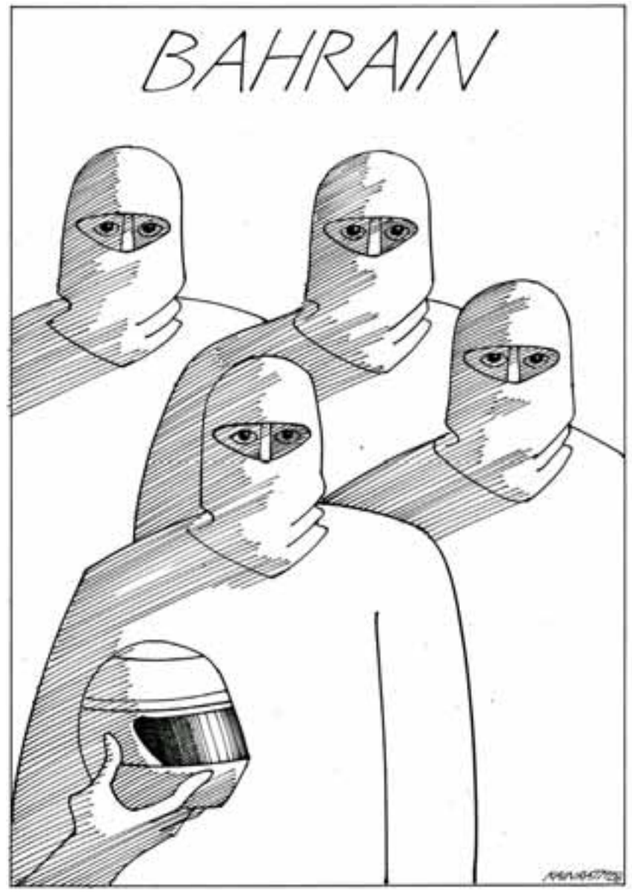
On the subject of fighting, an old boyfriend of mine once thought he'd gone deaf while we were out riding on a tandem – I was younger and fitter then. We were constantly shouting at one another as he felt I wasn't pedalling hard enough. Then suddenly, he couldn't hear me any more. He was quite worried until he spotted that I'd got off the back of the bike a couple of miles down the road.

A propos of nothing at all, that nice Mr Ide in the Aguri didn't seem to be having much luck on track yesterday morning, but hardly surprising given what month this is. After all, as Julius Caesar found out, one should always "beware the Ide of March." But British paper The Guardian thinks that Super Aguri could save the sport. If things go wrong at Indianapolis this year, they say Aguri could boost numbers on the grid with a load of paper cars made using the art of origami.

A pregnant woman was rushed to hospital after suffering complications at the circuit on Friday. According to reports, she experienced pains in the P6 car park, which I assume is a local euphemism for the womb. Other people suffering were spectators who complained the cost of water being sold from the concession stands was too high. What are these people moaning about? Why don't they do what I do and pop down to a team hospitality area? I got served an excellent bottle of Brunello yesterday evening and it never even crossed my mind to ask for a jug of water.

Finally, here's a tip for any of you in need of a new mobile. One journalist had his old phone stolen from the media centre on Friday and the organisers were so mortified that such a thing should happen that they bought him a brand new one.

Honesty is a matter of honour around here. I left my purse on my hotel bed as I rushed out to the track and when I got back, it was still where I left it, except that the chamber maid had put some extra money in it, with a note explaining she felt sorry for anyone who had to make do with so little cash.



3

ILLUSTRATIONS: KANNRATH, MICK STEVENS

4 MAKE A GOOD SHOW OF IT
BY PAOLO FLAMMINI

What attracts any spectator to motor sport is the promise of an attractive show.

When we wanted to overhaul the World Superbikes competition we felt that our success would be judged on the level of the spectacle that is presented to the fans. So, in our sport, our priority has always been to create a level playing field on which we could have the maximum possible number of competitive bikes and riders vying for victory.

The current technical regulations established in 2004 have been successful in putting all the different bikes on a very similar level of competitiveness and one of the vital elements in creating that was the introduction of the single tyre supplier rule.

Given the current financial climate in the world, we also believe that controlling costs is the key to developing a stable and qualified field of competitors.

We continue to be extremely careful about this aspect. Together with the FIM (Federation Internationale de Motociclisme) we monitor technological innovations affecting our sport and (when necessary) we have adapted the rules to avoid any inflicting unnecessary increases in costs on all our teams.

But Formula One presents a very different set of circumstances. Formula One is not only at the pinnacle of motor sport but also the most successful example of bringing centralised management to a sporting discipline. We truly believe that F1 has nothing to learn from us or indeed any other motor sport discipline.

The new qualifying rules F1 has introduced for this season could be interesting – they should certainly add to the spectacle. And it was clear that the Superpole format – which is very successful in Superbikes – did not work for F1.

'I certainly don't believe last season was a disaster for F1 in PR terms'

The new technical regulations introduced for 2006 will also bring a better show to the track. But I think it would be interesting to add some more contact between the stars and the fans at the events. In our experience, this has been a real element of success.

I certainly don't believe last season was a disaster for F1 in PR terms. Drivers breaking contracts does not represent a problem as far as the paying public are concerned.

While the United States race was unquestionably a negative episode for F1, by introducing the single tyre rule in the championship next year, many problems will be solved. It will benefit the sport in terms of fairness and the spectacle.

If the idea is to put on an attractive spectacle, then this should be achieved in F1 by making the races tighter and the results less predictable, while retaining the glamorous technology and exclusive image.

F1 has not had very close racing in the last few years, but it has had the other elements and still has a leading position in the sport. Things will get even better for F1 if it is able to display more close racing in the near future.

● Paolo Flammini is one of the men who has, in recent seasons, revolutionised the World Superbike racing series by introducing a single tyre rule and improving the sport's image and audience figures across the globe.

BERGERMEISTER

As co-owner of Scuderia Toro Rosso, Gerhard Berger is displaying a more serious side to his nature, but he's still a joker in the paddock's pack according to his friend, journalist, **Herbert Volker**

My greatest worry when you read something about my friend Gerhard Berger is that you will think: hey, he's a) a super guy, b) rather cool and c) otherwise more or less normal. Forget c).

I know what I'm talking about. We've peed side-by-side into the Novosibirsk snow, we travelled round Greenland in a rubber dinghy, we looked into the flickering eyes of many a blushing lady and above all we sat in George Harrison's kitchen on Hamilton Island in Australia. George was strumming his guitar and I said: "Can you play Norwegian Wood?"

"Yeah, John wrote it, but it's still a good song." Then he played and sang for the two of us:

"I once had a girl, or should I say, she once had me. She showed me her room, isn't it good, Norwegian wood?"

To the late-born or misguided I would say, there has never been a better Beatles song than Norwegian Wood and that the unplugged kitchen version on Hamilton Island on November 5, 1995 outclasses all other attempts at this song. OUTCLASSES them. Got that? I'm saying that quite calmly. Anyway, I only wanted to tell you that I know about Berger and a little about his late friend Harrison.

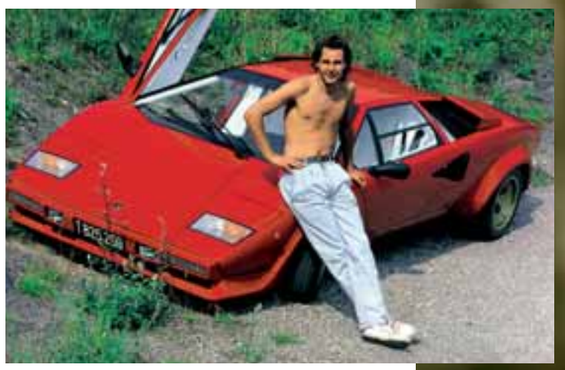
If you feed the word that best describes Berger's personality into the electronic ether, the internet throws its hands up in the air, shrugs and is rendered helpless.

A search for hetzig returns no hits. It doesn't accept the German word and instead offers "orthographically similar" words: fetzig… jetzig… hitzig… herzig. But that's not the point. The search is on to define the typically Tyrolean adjective hetzig. We find: "Gregarious, joker, always 'up-for-it'."

In short, hetzig, particularly in its Tyrolean mountain version, has approximately 100 different meanings for the opposite of 'boring', and that, in a nutshell, was the basis for the young Berger's life. It was all about the transformation of the



IN THE BEGINNING. Berger (left) Dietrich Mateschitz (right) and coach Steven Polgar at an ice hockey game in 1987



THE FAST LANE. Berger was keen on decent cars... even when he was relaxing away from the track

usual, necessary, serious and the boring into the profitable, easily understood, refreshing, funny and AS FAST AS POSSIBLE. And without loss.

Berger was born a full-throttle animal and everything else, normality for example, he has had to learn. Picture life in the Tyrolean valleys 40 years ago, when Berger was six, as a wonderland for village gangs who liked nothing more than racing around on their ungodly, re-bored bikes.

The family's haulage company yard was always full of machines and cars and trucks. The boy simply took what he needed to further his education. The 11-year-old's motorised bicycle had a top speed of 80 km/h.

Later, his mopeds reached 110 and 140, with boat engine pistons. Not to mention the motorbikes. They did 270. And he was only 18.

When one spends enough time going at 270 on the motorway, your bike tyres expand so far that they touch the rocker at the front, something that gave this carefree young man particular pleasure.

Until his first Grand Prix victory in Mexico 1986 with Benetton, he had succeeded at everything in a playful, instinctive and hetzig way, so he was totally unprepared when he came across a small group of people who were just as talented as he was.

Only (Shock! Horror!) they worked at it.

In his 20s, Berger was an exceptionally gifted sloth. He still won in Suzuka, Adelaide, Monza and Estoril. Noticed something? They're all drivers' circuits.

But in 1990, in the same way that prehistoric man might share his cave with his greatest threat, the sabre-toothed tiger, Berger found himself at McLaren-Honda with Ayrton Senna,

The perfectionist from Brazil and the laid-back daredevil talent from the mountains attracted each other. A vague liking grew into a close friendship that stayed true even under fire.

This friendship changed Berger's life. It showed him that he wasn't working hard enough, that he didn't ponder the details enough and that he had relied too much for his lightning speed on pure full-throttle acrobatics.

And while Berger was learning from Senna how to be a painstaking thinker, the Brazilian discovered the everyday joys of life from Berger, who says: "I think I was the first person in motorsport to make him laugh."

But there was no need for Berger to play the fool; his customary Tyrolean attitude revealed a world of previously unimagined adventures to the Brazilian: the carefree attitude, the love of nonsense and the practical jokes. And the worst aspect of these jokes is Tyrolean revenge.

Now is not the time to go into detail about Berger's passion for practical jokes. So I won't mention the midnight prank with the fire extinguishers, nor the spicing-up of the hotel room's air conditioning with cheese (carefully matured in a car boot under Mexican sun), or even how Senna's favourite attache case, full of newly-signed contracts, took flight from a helicopter: "See how it flies."

Berger retired in 1997, after 10 grand prix victories and a command performance in sport, showmanship and charm. He didn't have to wait long to become involved again. BMW asked him to build their sporting arm.

He was a father, in his late 30s, and here was real life knocking on the door.

The wild man immersed himself in the world of industry, dealt with people who had no time for laid-back guys and realised how much he enjoyed holding his own in such foreign territory.

His performance was cool-headed, disciplined and restrained, miles from the frivolous charm and banter of his younger days, but all with the appropriate image: clean-cut and disciplined, restrained in tone, strategic rather than tactical.

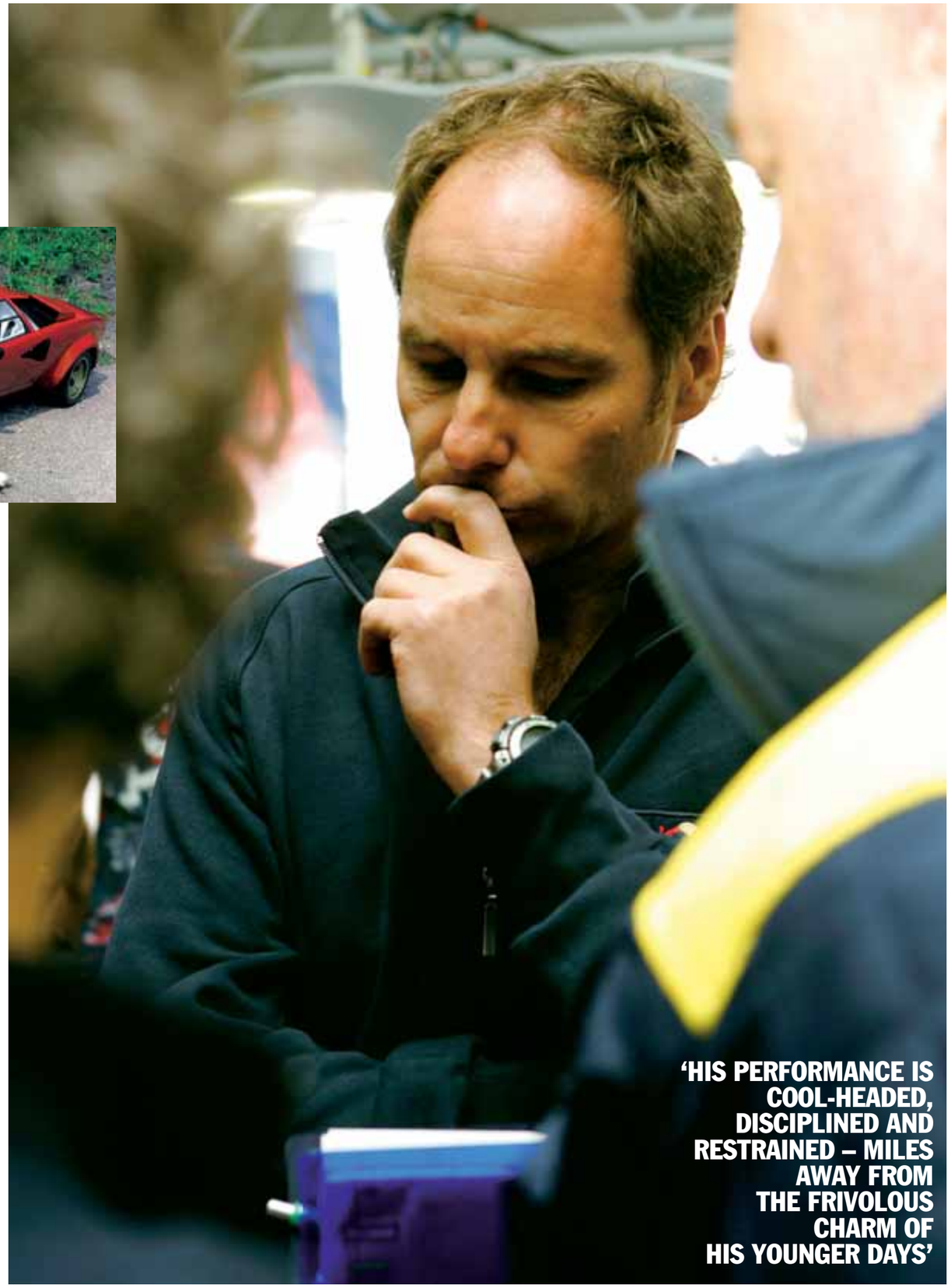
After he had built as much as could be built, he grew tired of what he might call CS (Corporate Seriousness) and returned to being the principal man in the life of his four leading ladies: Ana, Christina, Sara and Heidi.

Since then, the full-throttle world has been surprised by how long he has managed to live without motor sport, an enthusiastic family man and, very quietly, as a successful entrepreneur.

But a day finally came when Berger was in the Austrian mountains with his friend of 19 years Didi Mateschitz. It was widely reported that they were enjoying a leisurely game of curling, but it was actually eisstockschiessen, which is to curling what ice hockey is to ice dancing.

To be 50 per cent owner of Toro Rosso, and in partnership with Mateschitz, matches Berger's pride, business aims and joie de vivre.

Which brings us back to George Harrison: a firm believer in being born again. When he talked about "retrieving the wisdom and strength stored within us", he meant the profit and loss from our previous lives. I asked Gerhard what he might have been in his previous life. "I must have been the most miserable and ill-treated creature in the world, that's why I get to have such a great life this time round."



'HIS PERFORMANCE IS COOL-HEADED, DISCIPLINED AND RESTRAINED – MILES AWAY FROM THE FRIVOLOUS CHARM OF HIS YOUNGER DAYS'

PHOTO: THOMAS BUTLER



IT WAS BEGINNING to dawn on **Michael** that running a learner-driver school in **Bahrain** was going to prove costly in terms of body panels.

LIGHT CAMERA ACTION

To take the picture or not take the picture, that is the question. Not that paddock photographers go in for introspection. They generally shoot first and ask questions later. Or not at all.



THE FIA'S PRE-SEASON sobriety test was a nerve-wracking experience as **Christijan** attempted to walk in a straight line watched by the entire photographic corps.



POSING FOR THE tallest photographer in the paddock was always a pain in the neck.

PHOTO: CRISPIN THRUSTON, SUTTON IMAGES, THOMAS MEIZER, JIRI KRENEK



CUTBACKS AT THE FIA meant **Charlie's** journey to the track was taking twice as long as usual.



A CAREER IN male modelling beckons.... Or maybe not.



HE'D HEARD YOU could make a fortune drilling for oil in **the Gulf**.



THE OLD 'does this superglue smell funny to you?' gag had caught out a few suckers as usual.



"I SAID, RUBENS would always walk 10 paces behind me."

‘PROBABLY THE BEST MOVE OF ALL TIME’

SPA, AUGUST 27TH 2000. LAP 41

The Red Bulletin remembers the most breathtaking moments in the history of F1 and talks to the people involved. We start with the Flying Finn, Mika Hakkinen, using Ricardo Zonta as a springboard to leap over Michael Schumacher.



HAKKINEN WAS FASTER THAN SCHUMACHER DOWN THE LONG KEMMEL STRAIGHT BUT THE FERRARI DRIVER WAS AGGRESSIVELY BLOCKING AS HE MOVED TO LAP RICARDO ZONTA…

Marc Surer (Ex-driver/ Premiere TV commentator): “The McLaren is definitely quicker on the straight than the Ferrari, but Schumacher seems to be aware of this and is keeping his eyes on his mirrors. Lapping Zonta poses no problem for Michael. He has got a tow and is overtaking on the straight.”

Mika Hakkinen (McLaren driver and defending champion): “I knew there was no point in following Michael and then trying to overtake him at the end of the straight because he wouldn’t have given me room.”

Ricardo Zonta (BAR driver): “Near the end of the race, I saw Schumacher and Hakkinen in my mirrors as I was going through Eau Rouge, so I slowed on the following straight and just stayed to the middle of the track to give them room.”





1



2

IN A FLASH OF COURAGEOUS BRILLIANCE, MIKA DRAFTED BEHIND MICHAEL, THEN SLUNG HIS MCLAREN ACROSS THE TRACK TO GO ALONGSIDE ZONTA

Surer: “What is Hakkinen doing? He tries the other side, I hope Ricardo can see him, very brave, very risky.”

Hakkinen: “I switched to Plan B and went completely to the inside and overtook the backmarker at the same time as I overtook Michael.”

Michael Schumacher (Ferrari, won the championship that year): “He overtook me in a way that was astounding and brilliant, it was a super manoeuvre. Usually there is only room for two cars on the track, but Mika made an outstanding move. [But] if he had not passed me there, he would have done it later.”

Zonta: “It was an amazing view as they went past either side of my car. It was unbelievable. It scared the life out of me.”

Pino Allievi (correspondent Gazzetta dello Sport): “Considering the speed at which it was taken, this is probably the best overtaking move of all time.”







3

HAKKINEN EMERGES ON THE INSIDE WITH THE ADVANTAGE OVER SCHUMACHER

Surer: “It worked! He caught Michael by surprise! Mika took a huge risk at over 320kph but he did it! What a move... poor Zonta must have shut his eyes in fear... ”

Hakkinen: “It was a great overtaking manoeuvre and I loved it. I am not sure if Michael did…”

Martin Brundle (Ex-driver/ITV commentator) “Michael defending the track, making his Ferrari as wide as he can, then went round the outside of Zonta and Hakkinen said: ‘Thank you very much, I’ll have that side of the racetrack then,’ and really took Michael by surprise – and can you imagine how much of a surprise Zonta had?”

Ron Dennis (McLaren team boss): “Mika’s race was somewhat hampered by his spin and an out-of-balance car during the middle section of the race. At his final pit stop we made the appropriate adjustment, which allowed him to catch Schumacher. His overtaking manoeuvre, I’m sure, will go down as one of the greatest in Formula One history.”



ILLUSTRATION: HERI IRAWAN









GIRLS ON FILM

Not only are this weekend's Formula Unas easy on the eye, they also have an eye – an eye for a jolly good photo. They've been having a whale of a time ducking and diving around the paddock, getting under the feet of the garage grease monkeys and partying like rock stars until the small hours. All the time they've been snapping away, documenting their escapades for The Bulletin's demanding readership. And here are the results. The Bahraini Una result will be announced post-race.



PHOTO: THOMAS BUTLER







ISLAND LIFE

Red Bull opened the weekend in typically glitzy fashion on Thursday with their Arabian Nights party as 700 guests, including some famous tabloid-fodder, trekked to the sumptuous beach venue on the Ritz Carlton's island. Of course, the focus of this decadence was the launch of the 2006 challengers from Red Bull Racing and Scuderia Toro Rosso.



Jamiroquai's Jay Kay took preparation for the celeb race very seriously





Doornbos, DC and Christian were determined to make their vocal harmony group a success



Why does everyone call you The Rat, Niki?



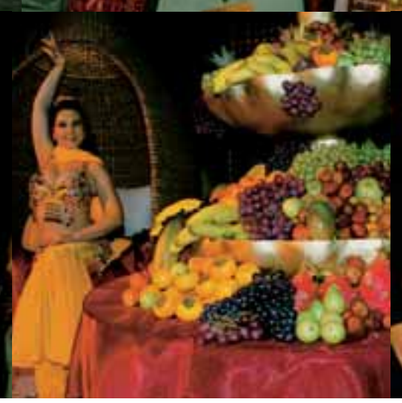
Michael Johnson and friends







It's not all work, work, work you know



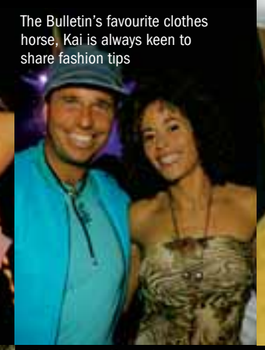


Robert managed to make a friend on the first day at his new school



PHOTO: THOMAS BUTLER





The Bulletin's favourite clothes horse, Kai is always keen to share fashion tips







After five months rest and relaxation, Tonio finally went back to work



Status Quo's Rick Parfett. Enough said



Mr Trulli to you



Tiff Needell and Jill Bradley



While we were away during the winter, Mr Coulthard became acquainted with the fragrant Karen Minier



Simon from Blue and Callum Best enjoying the view

NICO ROSBERG

BLOND AMBITION

We wouldn't say Nico was young but he built his first racing car out of Lego and grew up idolising Lance Armstrong and Mika Hakkinen.

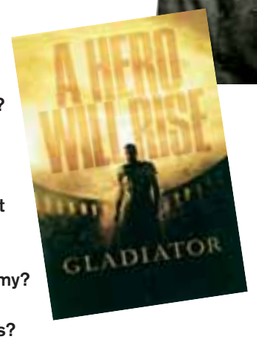












What did you have for dinner last night?
Pasta with vegetables

The last film you saw?
Gladiator

The first car you ever owned?
Audi RS6

What car(s) do you own now?
Audi RS6

Childhood hero?
Mika Hakkinen

Who is your present sporting hero?
Lance Armstrong

Favourite band?
3 Doors Down

Favourite film of all time?
Payback

Favourite actor?
Mel Gibson

Last tune you downloaded?
Tubular Bells (crazy stuff)

First album you ever bought?
The Lion King, when I was six years old

What things do you enjoy most, away from the track?
Sports

What was your first ever job?
Racing driver

If you could do any job in the world, apart from being a racing driver, what would it be?
Soccer player

If you had a time-travelling DeLorean, when and where would you want to go back to?
My school in Finland

Which was your favourite ever race? Why?
GP2 final 2005 – and partying with my team after winning the championship

The most frustrating moment of your career?
Pau 2003: my engine broke while I was in the lead

Where do you keep all your trophies?
All over the place

Do you have any pets?
A labrador called Teddy

Your favourite article of clothing?
Leather jacket

The most extravagant thing you've ever done?
Jumped off a 20-metre cliff into a reservoir

Favourite toy when you were a child?
My racing car which I made out of Lego

Favourite Beatle: John, Paul, George or Ringo?
Ringo

Have you ever bought or sold anything on eBay?
I sold my mobile phone

The coolest hotel you've ever stayed in?
Soneva Fushi in the Maldives

Your dream holiday destination?
Ibiza

Is there anywhere you haven't been that you'd really like to visit?
South Africa

When was the last time you flew economy?
Yesterday

Your dream dinner party guests?
The models that were running down the catwalk for the Victoria Secrets show last night on TV

Winter or summer?
Summer

Pubs or bars?
Pubs

Blondes or brunettes?
Brunettes

Jennifer Aniston or Angelina Jolie?
Aniston (even though she's a blonde)

Coolest celebrity you've ever met?
Jay Kay from Jamiroquai

What's your worst habit?
Losing things when I really need them

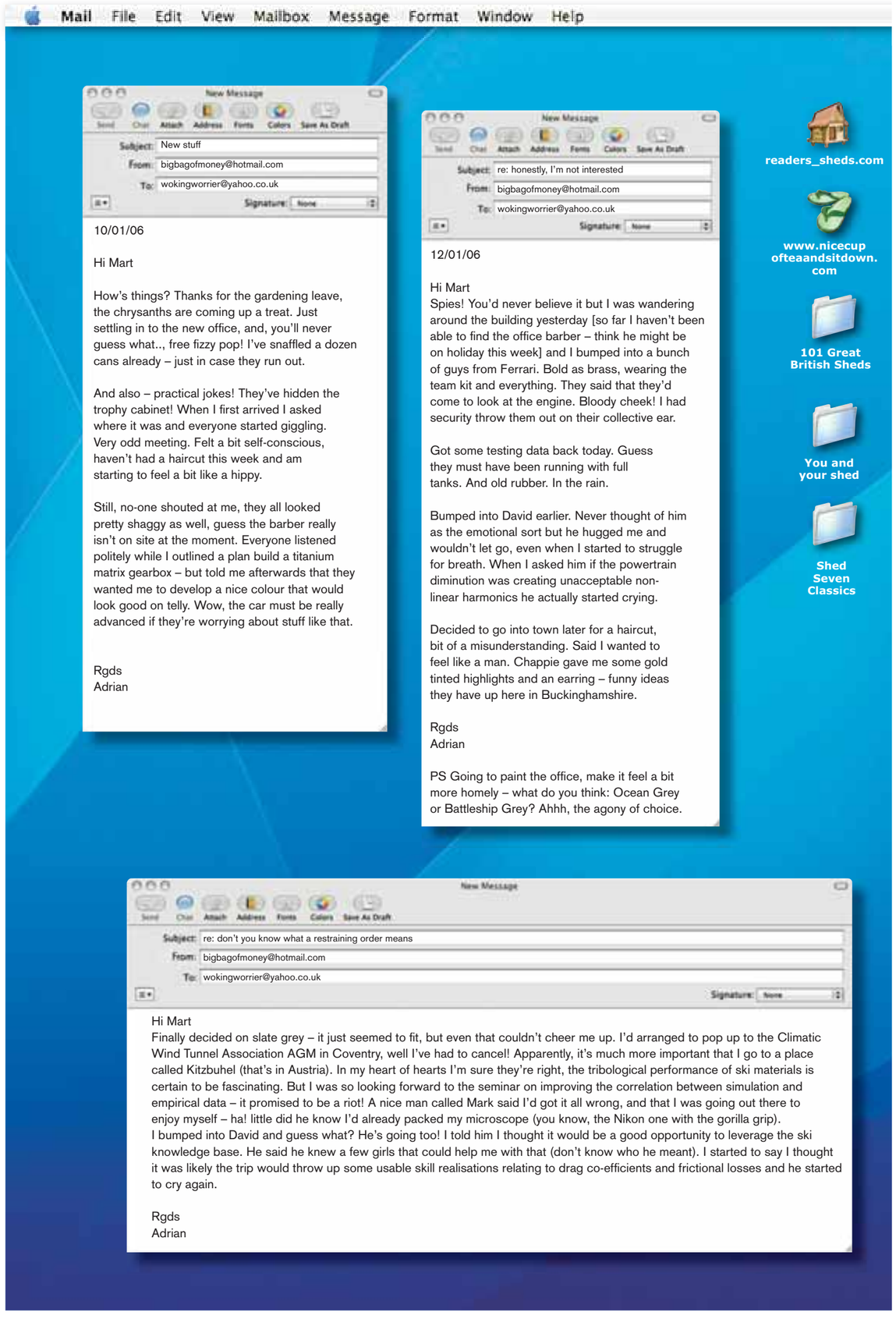
What are you scared of?
Heights

The best piece of advice anyone has ever given you?
"Separate in peace because you always meet twice in life"

What's the best freebie you've ever been given?
A cross-country skiing kit

Did you win any prizes at school? If so, what?
Running

PHOTO: SUTTON IMAGES, GETTY IMAGES, REX FEATURES





BET AND WIN

BENOIT BET Welcome back to the longest-running bet in F1: how many laps will Michael Schumacher complete in the race? In 2005 it was difficult, he was only favourite in Indianapolis. But after decent winter testing there's optimism around Ferrari, Schumi even told Bild newspaper: "I bet that I will be world champion." If he's to live up to his claim he'll need a win at this, his 233rd grand prix. To do that he needs to complete 57 laps. Put your money on a lesser number before the start of the race on Sunday if you don't think he'll be victorious – unless there's a restart scenario. It's just 15 Bahrain Dinar to take part. One Finnish guy already put his money on 0 laps, he doesn't even think Schumi and the new car will make it to the track or, if they do, it'll be a retirement before the end of lap one. To take part, contact Roger Benoit (he's the the bloke with the cigar) in the pressroom.

SATURDAY QUALIFYING

1	5	M Schumacher	Ferrari	1:31.431
2	6	Massa	Ferrari	1:31.478
3	12	Button	Honda	1:31.549
4	1	Alonso	Renault	1:31.702
5	4	Montoya	McLaren-Mercedes	1:32.164
6	11	Barrichello	Honda	1:32.579
7	9	Webber	Williams-Cosworth	1:33.006
8	15	Klien	RBR-Ferrari	1:33.112
9	2	Fisichella	Renault	1:33.496
10	16	Heidfeld	BMW-Sauber	1:33.926
11	17	Villeneuve	BMW-Sauber	1:32.456
12	10	Rosberg	Williams-Cosworth	1:32.620
13	14	Coulthard	RBR-Ferrari	1:32.850
14	8	Trulli	Toyota	1:33.066
15	20	Liuzzi	STR-Cosworth	1:33.416
16	21	Speed	STR-Cosworth	1:34.606
17	7	R Schumacher	Toyota	1:34.702
18	19	Albers	MF1-Toyota	1:35.724
19	18	Monteiro	MF1-Toyota	1:35.900
20	22	Sato	Super Aguri-Honda	1:37.411
21	23	Ide	Super Aguri-Honda	1:40.270
22	3	Kimi Raikkonen	McLaren-Mercedes	No Time

TRACK STATS

2,300 LOBSTERS SERVED

150 MILLION PEOPLE COVERAGE WILL BE GIVEN IN 33 LANGUAGES TO

3.5 KILOMETRES OF POWER CABLES FOR COMPUTERS

TOILET PAPER 2500000

ROLLS ENSURE THAT NOBODY GETS CAUGHT SHORT.

RACE ODDS & STATS

RECORD RACE LAP

1:30.252

MICHAEL SCHUMACHER, 2004

DEBUTANTS 2006

MIDLAND, TORO ROSSO AND BMW-SAUBER NICO ROSBERG AND SCOTT SPEED

SPEED OR ROSBERG WINNING **BLACK FLAG**

12-19-1

ODDS COURTESY OF WWW.WILLIAMHILL.CO.UK

#12 JOCK CLEAR

THE SUM OF ALL PARTS

Senior race engineer to team new boy Rubens Barrichello, the Honda man has a championship to his credit, a former life as a fly-half and a meticulously shorn head of hair. This is his world in numbers…

230 RUGBY TRIES
in my lifetime. I was a fly-half. Unfortunately, I was doing it just before the professional era kicked in, which, ultimately is why I stopped – I was already working in F1 and just didn't have the time. Each player had to have a proper job – Jeremy Guscott was a gas man, Rory Underwood was in the RAF, all that shit. I played for many teams but the best season I ever had was at Bedford when they were a first division side.

2 WORLD CHAMPIONS
during my time at Williams – Jacques and Damon. I didn't engineer Damon but we got on very well. He and JV worked very well together. There was a healthy rivalry.

4 WRONG TYRES
in Canada in 2000. No doubt the most frustrating thing that's happened to me in a race. Jacques was on course for a podium and he came in for slicks just as the rain started to fall. Suddenly he was back down in 11th.

1:21.072 QUALIFYING TIME
at Jerez in 1997. That was the strangest thing ever – Jacques, Michael and Heinz-Harald Frentzen all got precisely that same time.

18 HAIRCUTS
every year – or one every three weeks. It grows pretty fast. I do it myself in the shower.

25 YEARS OLD
when I first got into Formula One. I arrived at Lola in 1988 straight from university.

350 ENGINE CHANGES
during grand prix weekends, throughout my 13 season career.

1997 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
It was an incredible year because it was against the old enemy. Going up against Michael focuses you somewhat. It was an intense cauldron at Williams where, at that time, anything but success was failure. They've probably mellowed since, with the reality of the last nine years, but back then there really was immense pressure to succeed in carrying on that Williams tradition. I remember those times fondly though. And Patrick Head is the perfect man to work with under pressure. It was a pleasure.

PHOTO: CRISPIN THRUSTON

THE GRIDDLE

THE ULTIMATE F1 QUIZ

1 PROMISING YOUNGSTERS

Which F1 star is pictured here hitting the bottle as a rather grumpy looking toddler?



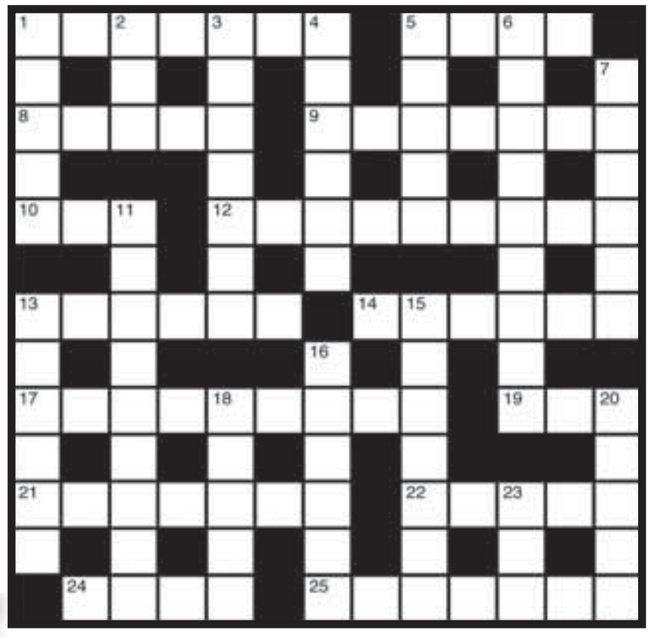
2 CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Italian team formed in 1980 (7)
5 He won the British Grand Prix at 15 down in 1955 (4)
8 Seven times Constructors Champion (5)
9 Team whose first Grand Prix victory was at 15 down in 1957 (7)
10/14 Grand Prix held at Imola (3,6)
12 New York borough (9)
13 Person who creates paintings (6)
14 See 10
17 Winner of the 2003 Malaysian Grand Prix (9)
19 Space (3)
21/20 Down He won at Monte Carlo in 1996 in a Ligier (7,5)
22 Poe's black bird (5)
24 Daughter of Queen Elizabeth II (4)
25 Emblems of victory, laurel ------- (7)

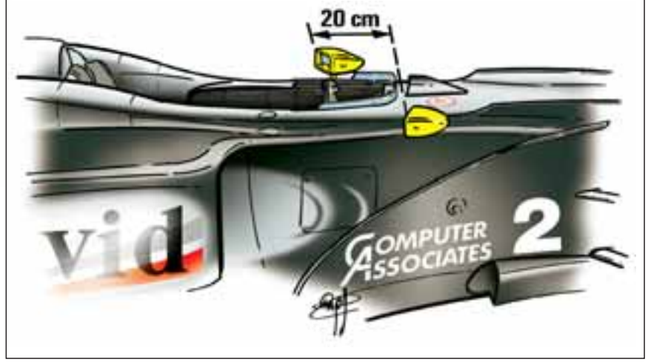
DOWN

1 John, son of actor Bernard, the No 2 driver behind Jochen Rindt in the 1970 F1 season (5)
2 Mesh trap (3)
3 Starts again (7)
4 His first Grand Prix was in Japan in 1993 (6)
5 Home of the Italian Grand Prix (5)
6 Remarkable (9)
7 Drivers Champion last year (6)
11 Nourishment (9)
13 ------ Senna (6)
15 Former Grand Prix circuit in Liverpool, England (7)
16 Second son of Queen Elizabeth II (6)
18 Eating utensil (5)
20 See 21 Across
23 Large tank (3)



3 IN THE DETAIL

Look closely at Piola's sketch of this recent McLaren. When, and in which race, did they run with these asymmetrical mirrors?



4 ONE-HIT WONDER

Formula One is packed with singular events, like… umm… a Damon Hill world championship title. But there are far more obscure one-offs than that. Almost blind from straining his eyes, a ghostly white from lack of daylight and almost dead from lack of nourishment, our intrepid archivist has scoured the depths of Rainer Schlegelmilch's dusty library to find the rare, the peculiar and the downright weird. **So… what's so special about this pic?**



5 WHO SAID THIS?

'I FIGURE I WAS PUT ON THIS EARTH TO DRIVE RACE CARS'

HINT: HIS FIRST COMPETITIVE OUTING WAS IN A 1948 HUDSON HORNET SPORTSMAN STOCK CAR.

6 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?



PHOTO: RAINER SCHLEGELMICH, SUTTON IMANGES

7 QUESTION TIME

01 James Hunt won the 1976 World Drivers' Championship, but where did he finish the following season?

02 Where was Lorenzo Bandini born?

03 Ricardo Zunino replaced Niki Lauda at Brabham in '79. Who, in turn, replaced him midway through 1980?

04 Which Italian driver claimed his first and only GP victory for Ferrari at Monza in 1966?

05 How many races did Carlos Reutemann win for Ferrari in1977?





06 What was the significance of Alain Prost's victory at the 1990 French Grand Prix?

07 How many Japanese drivers drove in the 1988 Japanese Grand Prix?

08 Why was Stirling Moss disqualified from the 1960 Portuguese Grand Prix?

09 Who was taken to hospital suffering from heat exhaustion after the 1974 Brazilian Grand Prix?

10 What was the control fuel introduced for the1958 season?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 22

GRIDDLE ANSWERS

1 PROMISING YOUNGSTER
David Coulthard

2 CROSSWORD SOLUTION

Across	Down
1 Minardi	1 Miles
5 Moss	2 Net
8 Lotus	3 Resumes
9 Vanwall	4 Irvine
10 San	5 Monza
14 Marino	6 Startling
12 Manhattan	7 Alonso
13 Artist	11 Nutrition
17 Raikkonen	13 Ayrton
19 Gap	15 Aintree
21 Olivier	16 Andrew
22 Raven	18 Knife
24 Anne	20 Panis
25 Wreaths	23 Vat

3 IN THE DETAIL
France 2000

4 ONE-HIT WONDER
Austria's Dieter Quester drove this Surtees TS16 in his one and only F1 race at the 1974 Austrian GP.



5 QUOTE UNQUOTE
Mario Andretti (above)

6 WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?
Mika Hakkinen had the race in the bag but just after crossing the line for the final time his car spluttered and began to give up the ghost. Reeled in by Michael Schumacher, Hakkinen was forced to wait for a lift to the finish line from team-mate David Coulthard.

7 QUESTION TIME
01. 5th
02. Cyrenaica, Libya, in 1935.
03. Hector Rebaque.
04. Ludovico Scarfiotti.
05. One – Brazil.
06. It was Ferrari's 100th win.
07. Two – Aguri Suzuki (Lola-Ford finished 16th) and Satoru Nakajima (Lotus-Honda finished 7th).
08. Ronnie Peterson.
09. Driving in the wrong direction (trying to turn round after a spin)
10. Avgas.

FOOTBALL

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

Today
Man United v Newcastle United (1330, Old Trafford)
Charlton v Middlesbrough (1500 The Valley)
Arsenal v Liverpool (1600 Highbury)

With Chelsea unassailable, the competition is hotter than ever for the remaining Champions League berths.

	p	gd	pts
1 **Chelsea**	28	39	72
2 **Man Utd**	27	26	57
3 **Liverpool**	28	16	55
4 **Tottenham**	28	14	49
5 **Arsenal**	28	21	44

SPANISH PRIMERA LIGA

Today
Athletic v Cadiz
Alaves v Sevilla
Mallorca v Villarreal
Atletico v Racing
Betis v Malaga
Zaragoza v Getafe
Osasuna v Barcelona

Barcelona may be running away with the league but Osasuna are no pushovers.

	p	gd	pts
1 **Barcelona**	26	40	61
2 **Real Madrid**	26	24	51
3 **Valencia**	26	16	51
4 **Osasuna**	26	4	46
5 **Celta**	26	4	45

ITALIAN SERIE A

Today
Ascoli v AS Roma (1400)
Cagliari v Fiorentina (1400)
Empoli v Chievo Verona (1400)
Lazio v Reggina (1400)
Messina v Lecce (1400)
Palermo v Udinese (1400)
Parma v Livorno (1400)
Juventus v AC Milan (1930)

Easy to spot today's key fixture as Juve look to continue their march to the title at the expense of AC Milan.

	p	gd	pts
1 **Juventus**	28	39	73
2 **AC Milan**	28	39	63
3 **Inter Milan**	28	30	59
4 **Fiorentina**	28	18	56
5 **AS Roma**	28	26	55

FRENCH LIGUE 1

Today
Nantes v Lille (1700)
Strasbourg v Le Mans (1700)
Marseille v St Etienne (1900)

The pick of the day is the evening tie between Marseille and 11th-placed Les Verts, who come into the match on the back of two wins.

	p	gd	pts
1 **Lyon**	28	39	62
2 **Bordeaux**	27	14	53
3 **Lille**	29	22	50
4 **Auxerre**	29	8	47
5 **Marseille**	29	-1	44

GERMAN BUNDESLIGA

Today
Hamburg SV v Kaiserslautern (1630)
Schalke 04 v Eintracht Frankfurt (1630)

Hamburg go to Kaiserslautern in the hope of consolidating their Champions League place.

	p	gd	pts
1 **B Munich**	24	29	58
2 **W Bremen**	24	29	50
3 **Hamburg**	24	19	50
4 **Fiorentina**	24	17	48
5 **VfB Stutt**	24	5	34

JAPANESE J LEAGUE

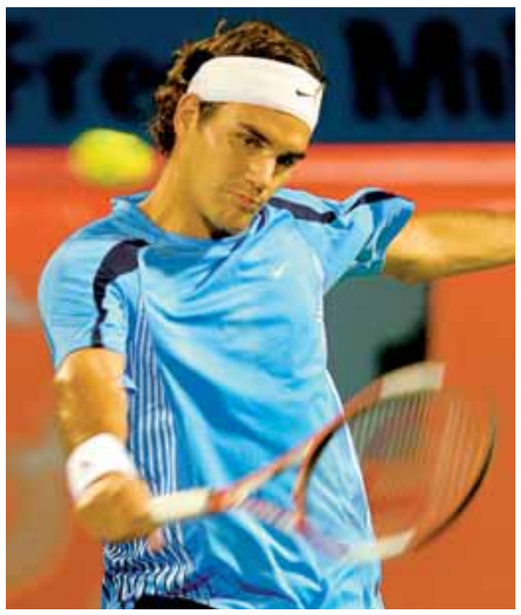
Yesterday
Urawa Reds 3-1 **Jubilo Iwata**
Shimizu S-Pulse 2-0 **Nagoya**
Albirex Niigata 2-0 **Tokyo**
JEF United Chiba 2-2 **Ventforet**
Kashima Antlers 0-3 **Yokohama**
Kyoto 2-7 **Kawasaki Frontale**
Avispa Fukuoka 1-1 **Omiya Ardija**

Today
Oita v **Hiroshima** (0500)
C-Osaka v **G-Osaka Nagai** (0600)

	p	gd	pts
1 **Kawasaki**	2	11	6
2 **Yokohama**	2	6	6
3 **Omiya**	2	4	6
4 **Tokyo**	2	2	4
5 **Shimizu**	2	2	4

TENNIS

FEDERER KEEPS COOL



World number one Roger Federer (left) said it was too early to tell whether he and Rafael Nadal will establish a major rivalry.

Spanish teenager Nadal broke Federer's 56-match hard court winning streak with a 2-6, 6-4, 6-4 victory in Dubai last Sunday and boasts a 3-1 record against the Swiss.

But Federer said the competition was too fierce for the two of them to dominate in the fashion of Andre Agassi and Pete Sampras.

"I've played him only four times and we are number one and number two, but we'll have to see how it progresses," said Federer, the top seed at this weekend's Pacific Life Open. "He's got a good all-round game. We don't have too many of those, but I enjoy playing him. I'm at the top of my game so, when I win or lose, I don't freak out."

British sensation Andy Murray, meanwhile, moved ahead with a 6-2 6-1 over Greece's Vasilis Mazarakis.

PHOTO: REUTERS, GETTY IMAGES, SUTTON IMAGES



ATHLETICS

USA ON THE FAST TRACK

World 60 metres bronze medallist Terrence Trammell began his bid for hurdles glory by winning the first round of the event at the world indoor championships in Moscow yesterday, continuing US domination of the track events.

On Friday, Leonard Scott and Me'Lisa Barber earned the US a sprint double, winning the two 60 metres finals on the opening day.

Reese Hoffa also triumphed in the shot put to lift the Americans to the top of the medals table with three golds.

Ukrainian pentathlete Lyudmila Blonska won the only other gold of the first day at the Olympiysky Stadium.

The host nation, though, enjoyed a stronger day yesterday as triple jumper Tatyana Lebedeva leapt to the country's first gold at the championships.

Compatriot Anna Pyatykh snatched a surprise silver in the last round. Their triumph was followed shortly afterwards when Russians Yaroslav Rybakov and Andrey Tereshin took one-two in the men's high jump. Croatian Blanka Vlasic (above), who along with the injured world record holder Kajsa Bergqvist is the only woman to clear two metres this year, topped the qualification in the women's high jump.

SIX NATIONS RUGBY

Yesterday
Wales 18 Italy 18
(Millennium Stadium, Cardiff)
Italy came desperately close to their first away win in the Six Nations yesterday before having to settle for an 18-18 draw with holders Wales in what has been the most open tournament in years.

Italy, who joined the championship six years ago, had previously beaten Scotland and Wales in Rome but this was their first point on their travels.

After a strong Welsh opening, the Azzurri came back strongly in the second-half to lead the title holders 18-15 before a Stephen Jones penalty levelled the tie.

Today, France take on England in Paris in what is usually the Six Nations decider but, whatever the result, either team, or even Ireland and Scotland could still go on to clinch this year's title.

SIX NATIONS STANDINGS

Country	p	w	d	l	pts
England	3	2	0	1	4
France	3	2	0	1	4
Ireland	3	2	0	1	4
Scotland	3	1	0	2	2
Wales	4	1	1	2	3
Italy	4	0	1	3	1

CRICKET

India (149 for 4) v England (300 all out)

Leg spinner Anil Kumble captured his 500th test wicket yesterday as he restricted England to 300 all out on the third day of the second test.

Kumble is only the fifth bowler to claim 500 test wickets. In the field, England put India under pressure by taking three late wickets.

South Africa 246 for 9
Australia 247 for 9

Australia beat South Africa by one wicket in a day-night game in Durban to take the five-game series to a decider.

It needed a last-wicket stand by Stuart Clark and Mick Lewis to edge them home with just five balls left.

New Zealand 275 & 272 v West Indies 257 & 48-0

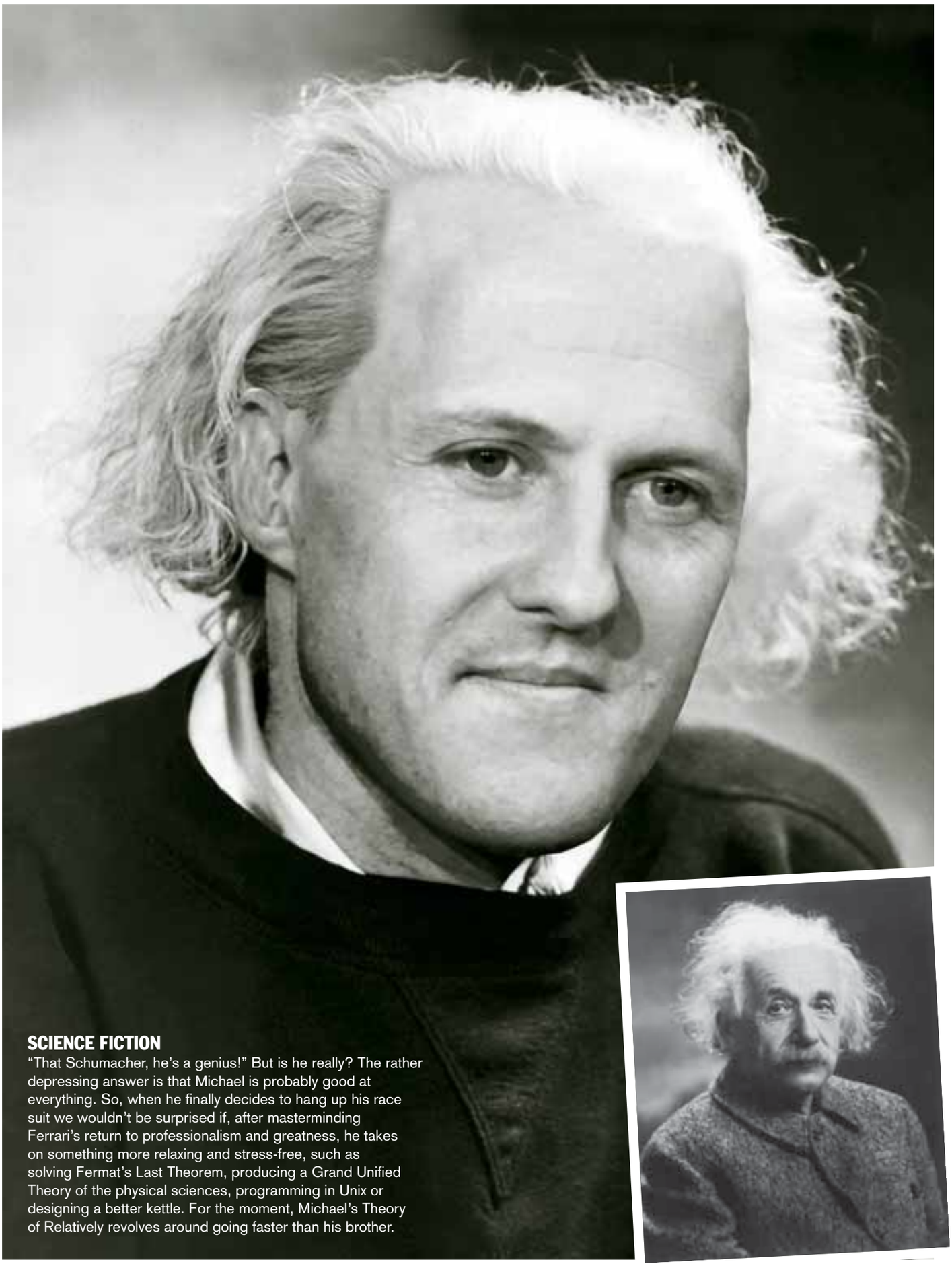
The West Indies need a further 243 runs with all 10 wickets in hand to win the opening test against New Zealand in Auckland.

The tourists ended the third day at Eden Park yesterday on 48 without loss, chasing 291 for their first test win in nine months.

Bangladesh 234 & 201 v Sri Lanka 316 & 77-0

Sri Lanka completed the formalities to beat Bangladesh in the second Test in Bogra to win the series 2-0.

The tourists only needed 43 more to win yesterday morning but rain held them up until Upul Tharanga and Michael Vandort were able to resume their innings late on.



SCIENCE FICTION
"That Schumacher, he's a genius!" But is he really? The rather depressing answer is that Michael is probably good at everything. So, when he finally decides to hang up his race suit we wouldn't be surprised if, after masterminding Ferrari's return to professionalism and greatness, he takes on something more relaxing and stress-free, such as solving Fermat's Last Theorem, producing a Grand Unified Theory of the physical sciences, programming in Unix or designing a better kettle. For the moment, Michael's Theory of Relatively revolves around going faster than his brother.

MICHAEL MEETS HIS RELATIVE