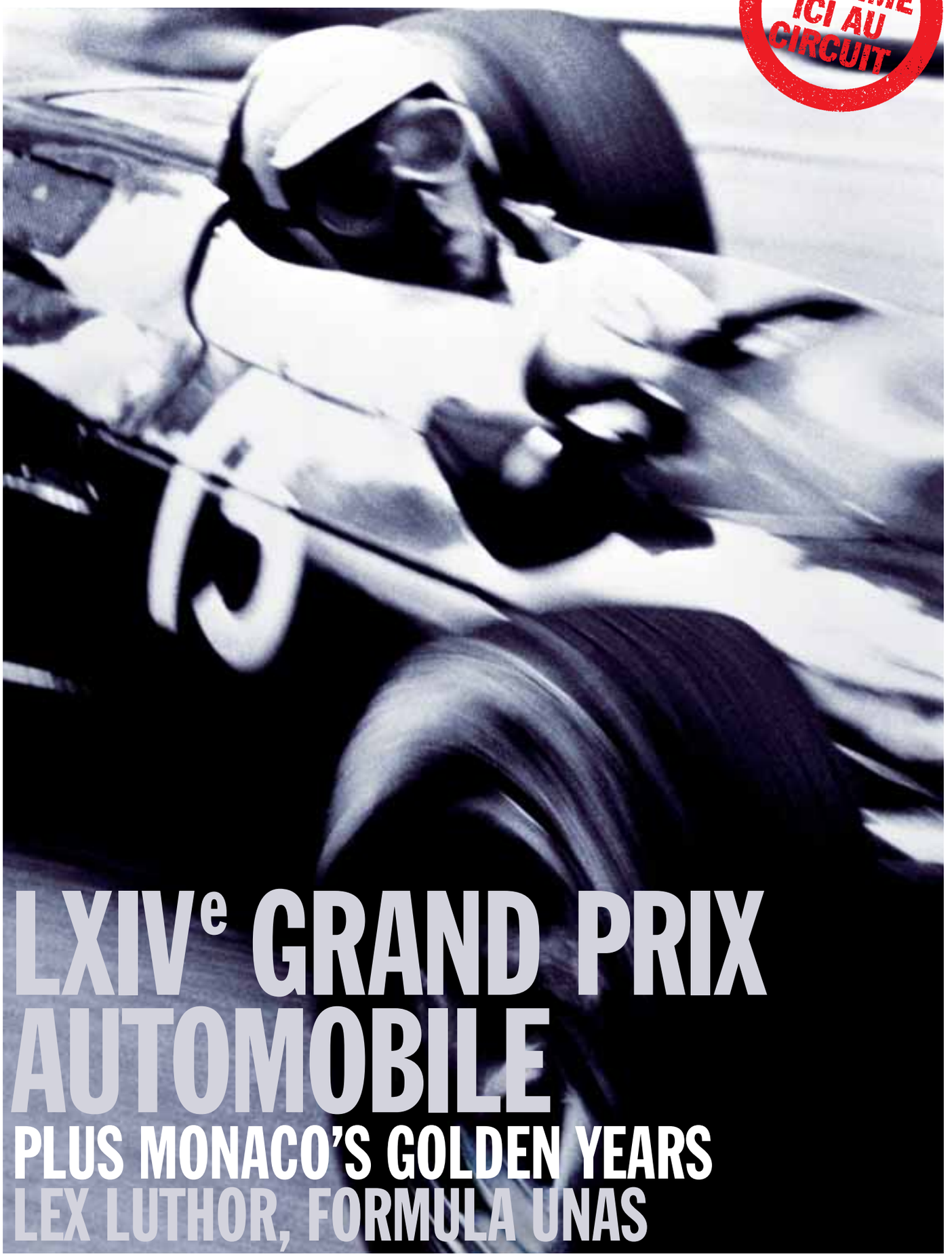
THE RED BULLETIN

ISSUE 79, GP MONACO, THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2006

AN ALMOST INDEPENDENT F1 NEWSPAPER

IMPRIMÉ ICI AU CIRCUIT



LXIV^e GRAND PRIX AUTOMOBILE

PLUS MONACO'S GOLDEN YEARS

LEX LUTHOR, FORMULA UNAS



SUPER AGURI

HE'S A SKILLED DRIVER and he's proving pretty nifty as a team principal to boot, but Aguri Suzuki draws the line at a career as a translator. He's revealed that not only did Yuji Ide struggle with an F1 car, but communication was an even greater challenge, with much of the driver's feedback being entirely lost in translation. "He doesn't speak English. On the pit-to-car radio I had to translate," explained Suzuki. "That was very awkward for him and his race engineer. I had to ask 'Yuji, what do you need now?' And because he's so inexperienced in F1, even I found his answers hard to understand."

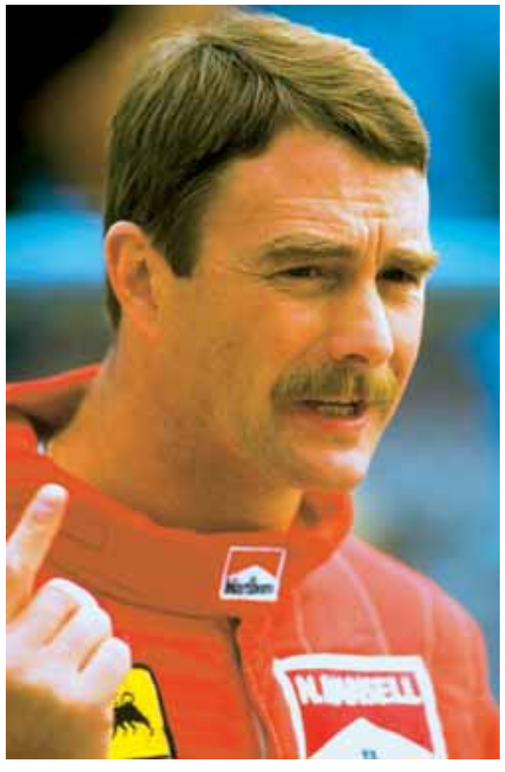
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PACESETTER



REMEMBER HOW FRUSTRATED NIGEL MANSELL used to get when his car let him down or when another driver tipped him into the barriers? His moustache would twitch, froth would spill from his mouth and he would yell incomprehensible insults at the subject of his displeasure, who was often completely innocent. Well, he still hasn't calmed down. He's threatened to resign as an ambassador for the Formula BMW series after his son Greg collided with another young racer last weekend. These things happen in racing, you might say, but Nige was having none of it and hunted down the offending 17-year-old. "You're a fucking nutter!" Mansell Snr is reported to have said. And then he had further words with the boy's father.



MCLAREN

THE SUN THREATENED TO bring on a flood in the paddock yesterday, when Kimi was presented with his own frozen McLaren. The two-tonne ice sculpture began melting within seconds of its unveiling. Both Kimi and JPM will be staring at ice of a different kind this weekend. Sponsor Steinmetz has customised the Mercedes logo on their steering wheels with some very pretty pebbles. It's not the first time the McLaren drivers have hauled diamonds around the streets of Monaco, though last year the rocks were inset in their helmets. Those were auctioned for charity, and new owner Richard Powers, of Costa Rica, yesterday presented the team with cheques for $400,000. The money will be split between children's causes Tommy's, Formula Smiles, SOS and the Ayrton Senna Foundation.

RED BULLETIN

HAVE WE GRAVELY OFFENDED anybody? Yes of course we have. Plenty. Which makes it all the more difficult to go through the suspect files and investigate who it was that slashed our tyres in Barcelona immediately after the race. Rubens, Dr Bull's psychoanalysis shouldn't be taken so seriously. Calm down.



PHOTO: REX FEATURES, SUTTON IMAGES, NURIEL BROUSSEAU, ADAM HAY-NICHOLLS. COVER PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES



RED BULL

DAVID COULTHARD CELEBRATED HIS 200th grand prix in Spain with a post-race party at Club 13. Were you there, and if so did you lose a PDA? It's a bit scratched, but if you can identify it as yours, get in touch with us. The ensuing hangovers managed to stall car development for much of the week, but our staff writer did us proud. He went straight from the party to an aeroplane, and found himself sitting next to Renault press officer Bradley Lord. "Bradley told me, before I passed out, I was the last thing he wanted to see at 7am, and that I reeked of booze. Which, in fairness, I did."

CLUB 500



ROGER BENOIT

"I first came to work at a Monaco Grand Prix in 1969 but strangely one that sticks in my mind is the 1981 race. It was May 31 and a race when Mario Andretti was driving an Alfa Romeo. He was 41 at the time, a seasoned campaigner and a good friend of mine. Anyway, he lined up on the grid in 12th place, beside young Andrea De Cesaris, who was driving for McLaren. Into the first corner, on the run up to Casino Square, the pair tangled and both their races were ended.
The two of them were on their way back to the pits when the announcement came over the loud speakers that De Cesaris was celebrating his 21st birthday that day. Andretti leaned over, put his arm around the young Italian's shoulder and said: 'Son if you keep driving like that, you won't see too many more birthdays.'
De Cesaris did though, in a career that lasted 208 races, though he would still have his fair share of accidents…"

This is Roger Benoit's 526th grand prix. He writes for Switzerland's Blick and Sonntags Blick newspapers.

FOUR COMMENTARIES

SHOOTING STARS

WELCOME TO THE BIG TIME
BY JUSTIN HYNES

1 I saw Lewis Hamilton arrive here yesterday afternoon. What a difference a few weeks make. Last month the young Englishman could have bounced into the Imola paddock on a space hopper wearing flowers in his hair and no-one would have noticed. Just another F1 wannabe, another junior series battler, dreaming his way to a three-day winter F1 test.

Yesterday? He was mobbed. Surrounded by autograph hunters, buoyed, not by his double win at the Nürburgring but by the explosion of hype surrounding his future. From obscurity he's leaped into Flavio's five, the chosen ones who might, like racing Charlie Buckets, get one of the golden tickets to work in Renault Wonka's grand prix factory. McLaren's Martin Whitmarsh rates the 'Ring double as the greatest thing since, well the last time a great thing happened, and Hamilton becomes the great white hope of British F1. Or not, for the lazy analogy positions Hamilton as the Tiger Woods of motor racing. It's lazy but it succeeds in further cranking up the hype.

Not that the 21-year-old hasn't got the talent. At least, he could well have the talent. At this stage it's hard to know. He beat Nico Rosberg in karting and at the Bahrain Superprix in '04, but F1 is littered with tales of supremely quick, supremely victorious juniors who sank in grand prix race trim.

'In most cases, teams' junior programmes have promised much and delivered little'

What the rise of Hamilton does remind us, however, is how precarious the careers of young drivers are, upon what nebulous a course most drivers' paths to F1 are plotted.

In short, most of it seems to rest on, money, a PR wind at your tail and being in the right place at the right time. Which is where Hamilton differs. He is the product of what is tantamount to a footballer's apprentice scheme. Optioned by McLaren as a young teen, given all the preparation necessary in junior endeavours and groomed for a place in the first team. It's a device most Formula One teams will tell you they employ but few deliver on. McLaren are more successful than most. Nick Heidfeld travelled the same path. Ricardo Zonta did. But in most cases the teams' junior programmes have promised much and delivered little.

It's hard to understand. Are the drivers chosen so ill-equipped that they can never rise to the first team, must they always play for the reserves? Given the amount who've progressed through the 'academies' then it's a remarkably poor return on the teams' investment.

Is the driver market so inflexible that the game of musical chairs is a private entertainment reserved for those who bring their own chairs? It can't be so narrow-minded a game as to exclude new players, can it?

Can the old saws of hype, cash and persuasive manager still have the upper hand over years of investment and preparation by a team?

It is true that youth structures at football clubs rarely reveal diamonds in the vast rough but the imperative is there. You occasionally do find a Raul or a Beckham. So far we have found Hamilton, the youth structures must be able to find more like him.

PIT BITCH
BY HELEN PARADYCE

2 Go on, admit it girls. We love Monaco. Maybe we are all supposed to be cynical about the old madam, but she still throws a good party or two, or three or four...

With that in mind, I splashed out on a whole new wardrobe just for this race. It's made by Ikea and finished in natural pine. Seriously though, no matter how often one's done it in the past there's always a frisson of excitement as one steps on to a yacht in Valentino and high hopes. High hopes that the good-looking man paying you compliments is not married, gay or even worse, poor. A warning for any of you who might be Monaco virgins (as opposed to a Monte Carlo habituée like me): appearances can be deceptive and even our own male media colleagues can scrub up well thanks to advances in synthetic materials and off-the-peg suits. Do not be fooled. These are not the guys who will provide you with a life of leisure and a Polish maid. Chances are you will still be living in a complete mess in a year's time when we return to Monaco. Remember, if a friend comes round to your house and, like me, you haven't tidied for months, just throw your hands up in horror and say: "Who could have done this? I have no enemies!"

With so many millionaires floating around, a girl could be spoilt for choice, but I have to say Ron Dennis looks like a particularly good catch this weekend. He's been presented with a magnum of very special hand-blended Johnnie Walker Blue Label which is always a good start, but adding to the attraction is the fact the bottle is encrusted with Steinmetz diamonds. Given Ron's well-known obsession with cleanliness and neatness, chances are he'll be putting the empties out for recycling as soon as the last dram has been drained from the bottle. I've never been much of a fan of recycling, but I think I'd make an exception in this case.

Johnnie Walker has been treading on eggshells when it comes to promoting its McLaren sponsorship, trying hard to disguise the fact that the only reason a person pours Scotch down their neck is to get a legally acquired drug buzz. Hence lots of talk of "responsible drinking". Maybe it's because of Raikkonen's reported fondness for a drop of the hard stuff that the promo work seems to have fallen on Montoya's shoulders. Last year in Brazil, he was the team's 'designated driver' and yesterday he fronted up in Monaco, arriving by chemin de fer from Nice with the message that one should let the train take the strain if one's been at the fermented grain.

Doubtless, JPM would not have been too ecstatic about having to mix with the hoi polloi on the platform, but maybe he should start to worry about whether or not McLaren has bought him a return ticket, as the rumour mill says he will not be a McLaren designated driver after the end of the season, when he will be replaced by rising star Lewis Hamilton.

F1 drivers are always up against stiff competition in the workplace, which reminds me of my less than successful blind date last night. If you're reading this dear, then don't worry. It can happen to the most virile of men. I just want to say – no hard feelings. But then, that was your problem wasn't it?

F1 FUNNIES



"These new bargeboards and rear wings are way too aerodynamic!"

A LIVING LEGEND
BY JO RAMIREZ

3 The race here has always had special significance for me and I genuinely enjoy coming back to the paddock. This was my one of my first grands prix, way back in 1962. I'd come over from Mexico with Ricardo Rodriguez and was working at Ferrari. But it was a whole different ball game in those days.

Back then, there was none of the craziness that now surrounds the race – and none of the facilities, either. I remember you had to find a garage wherever you could and set up shop for the weekend. Even late on when I was here with Dan Gurney, we had to share a garage with Brabham. That sounds OK, but the major difficulty was that the garage was in Cap D'Ail, which is five kilometres from the circuit.

I remember having to drive the car down from the garage. Can't imagine doing that with a modern F1 car. But it was the same for everyone and we'd all have to pack everything into a toolbox and trek down to the pit lane to prepare the car.

It was chaos. There was this tree-lined strip where you'd be hanging out boards for the drivers so they could see what was going on. It was a good place to do it as the drivers were under heavy braking there so you could show them what was what and then they'd accelerate away.

It is, of course, massively different now but perhaps it's lost a little in the bettering of everything. Sure, the facilities have improved greatly and everything runs a lot more smoothly but a little of the magic might have got lost somewhere along the way.

It is still a fantastic race but there is no opportunity for the fans to get close to the drivers, to the action, to reach out and touch the sport they love.

Then again, fans can still get closer here than at most modern circuits. I remember a couple of years ago at Silverstone they had cut a hole in the fencing where the drivers would stand and sign autographs. It was like watching monkeys being fed at the zoo.

'Sure, the facilities have improved but a little of the magic might have got lost along the way'

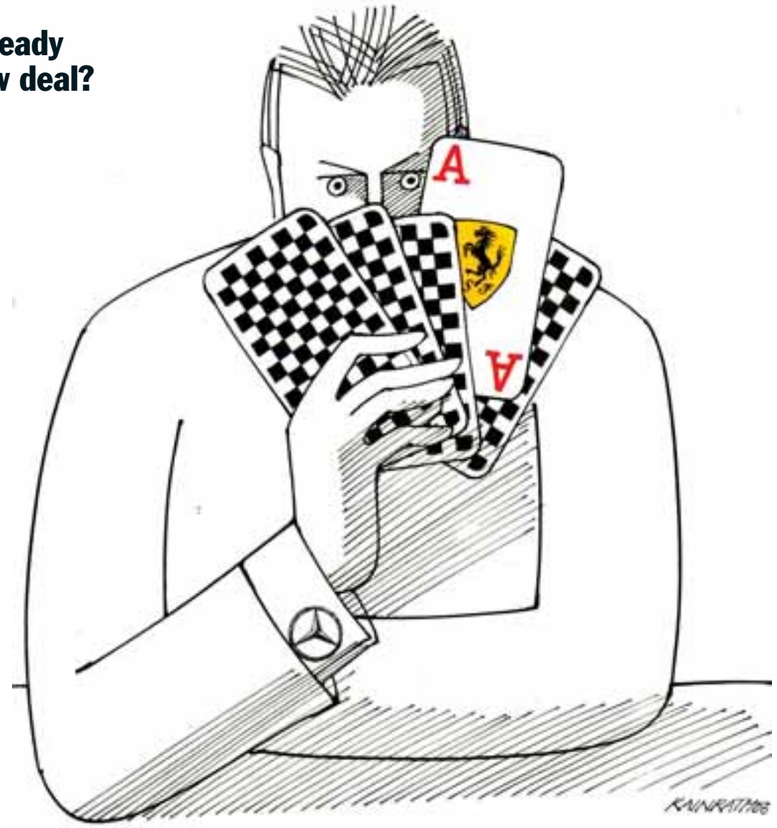
But the spectacle has gone completely over the top. I met David Coulthard at the Red Bull Energy Station and he showed me the pool. I've spent ages trying to get my pool finished at my house in Spain, yet these guys managed to build on in a weekend. I wonder if they fancy a weekend in Spain?

The reason I'm here is because I was working on the historic grand prix last weekend where I helped prepare a 1976 Surtees TS19 for a friend of mine. It was a fantastic occasion and one we've been trying to get to for a few years, so it was a pleasure. The good thing was the car was sponsored by the Moulin Rouge in Paris, so we were surrounded by pretty girls. It's a dirty job but someone had to do it.

It is great to come back to the paddock but it's a strange feeling too. I spent so long working in the paddock that now when I come back and look at it from the outside it feels odd. I keeping wanting to ask for something to do.

The bottom line is Monaco will always be a special race. And not just for me. A few weeks ago Bernie hinted no race, not even Monaco, is safe. But that's Bernie having some fun. There is no way F1 could live without Monaco – it's the definition of all the sport's glamour. It's where all the money pours in as the sponsor big-wigs are wowed. It's the one race non-F1 watches all over the world. It's part of the legend.

Is Kimi ready for a new deal?



ILLUSTRATIONS: KAINRATH, FEGGO

4

DIGITAL SPIES

Just when you think it's safe to let down your guard, the Bull's Eye photographers sneak up on you and catch you with your trousers down – metaphorically speaking, of course.



Ralf was puzzled as the man said: "Hello, I'm phoning from Toyota Car Insurance Call Centre, Mumbai, India. I hope I haven't called at a bad time."



Michael could not believe Fernando was actually wiping his nose on the King's shoulder.



"So let me get this straight, Jenson. I retired from commentating in 2001 and you still haven't won a grand prix?"



Back by popular demand: the other snappers looked on as Fernando enjoyed his traditional pre-race chat with the smallest photographer in F1. Hurrah!

How on earth can you manage to look so camp in a fire suit and full-face helmet?

PHOTOS: CRASHPA.NET, CRISPIN THRUSTON, SUTTON IMAGES



"Psst. Meester, you like? Camera is very cheap. I sell it to you, yes?"



Money was so tight in the Super Aguri team they had to get a man to make the right "broom, broom, broom" engine noises before the car came into the pits.

Hours after the podium ceremony, Fernando was drunk, had collapsed in the flower bed and was throwing bottles at the security men down below.



Degree of difficulty 8. Artistic impression 9... After 16 years of F1, Michael kept pushing himself to find new ways to spice up race day. Here we see him about to attempt the amazing Double Back Flip Off Pit Wall Into Cockpit trick taught him by the German Olympic athlete Jasputin Manikersdown.

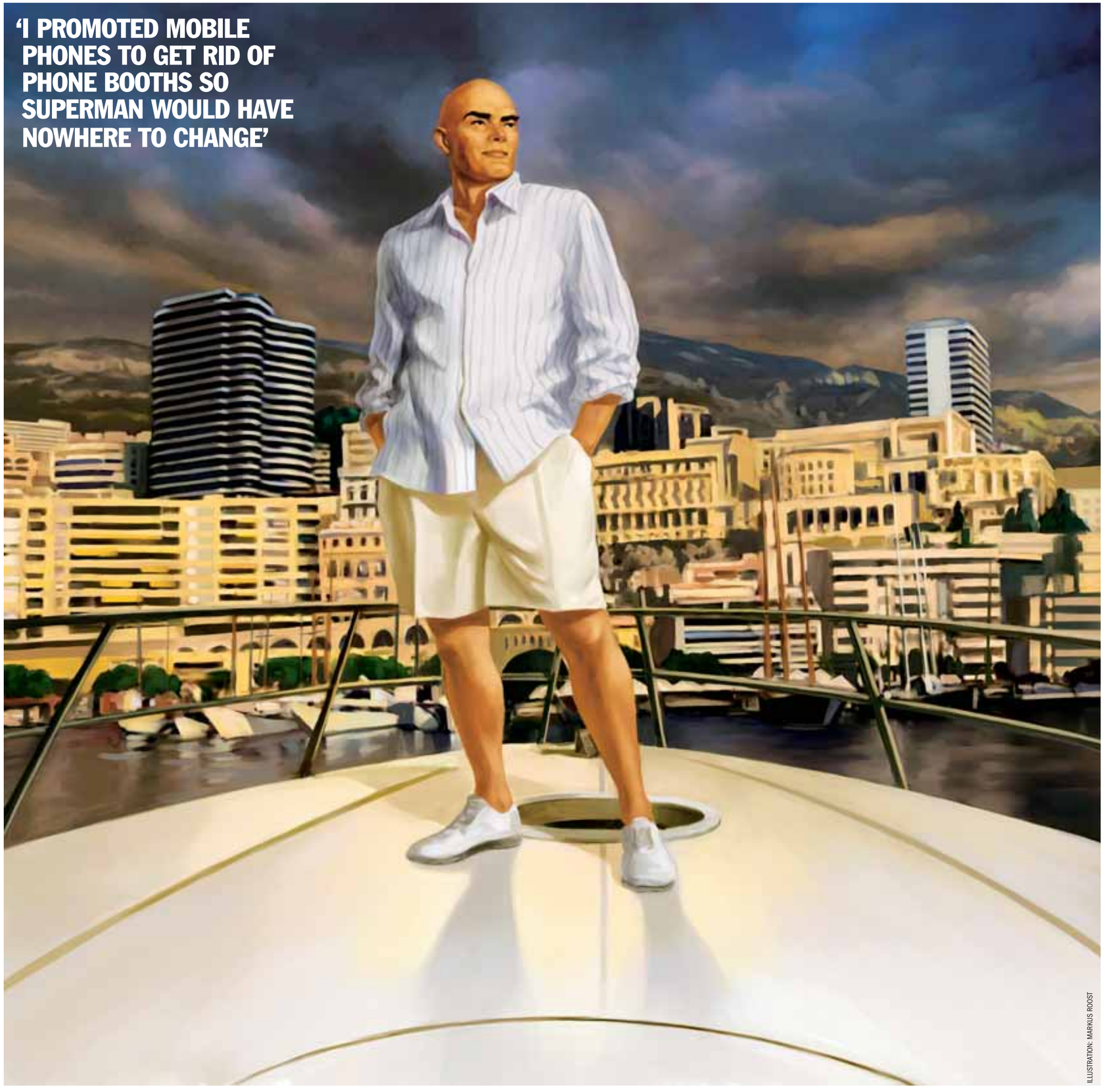


ILLUSTRATION: MARKUS ROOST

SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOUR WELL-EARNED REST MR LUTHOR, BUT...

We tracked down Superman’s arch-enemy as he visited several teams in the Monaco pitlane looking for a new supply of kryptonite in his continued quest for world domination

Hey Lex, or Alexander Joseph ‘Lex’ Luthor, to use your full name.
You’re not mocking me are you? I don’t know why, but even though I have cultivated this attitude of deep brooding menace, people still seem to regard me as a two-dimensional comic character.

Certainly not. You are a mad scientist, a Machiavellian industrialist, a white-collar criminal and at the turn of the century, you were briefly the 43rd President of the USA and who in their right mind could ever think of the President of the United States as a figure of fun? Which is more important to you – world domination or killing Superman?
Neither, what I really want is to get into Lois Lane’s pants. She’s difficult to impress. Do you know feminists have no sense of humour?

No, but you hum it and I’ll play it. It would be easier to get into Superman’s pants as he handily wears them outside his tights.
I don’t want to go down that whole homoerotic route. Nor do I want the job of laundering Supe’s tights.

Your entry in the Forbes 400 reads as follows: Age: 40, **Source:** Technology, **Net Worth:** $4.7 billion, **Hometown:** Metropolis, **Marital Status:** Single. **But in fact you have been married eight times. Why’s that?**
I never found anyone as good as Lois, but I’ll let you into a secret, my last wife, the Contessa, is not actually dead. She requested to be unconscious while giving birth to our son and I just didn’t bother reviving her. But don’t repeat that or everyone will be trying it.

We understand you were behind the boom in mobile phone sales. Was it a get-rich-quick scheme?
No, I did it so that street phone booths would become a thing of the past and Superman would have nowhere to change into his costume.

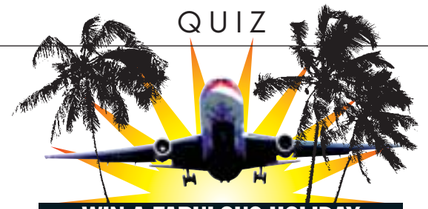
But it hasn’t really worked, has it? The Man of Steel is still going strong.
Strong maybe, but his career as a stand-up comedian is going nowhere. Have you heard the opening lines of his routine? “Hi ladies and gentlemen – I just flew in from Metropolis and boy, my arms are tired… I wouldn’t say I’m strong, but I can get a cab to stop with just one hand… boom! boom!”

You have often managed to make Superman squirm by setting one of your evil lady friends to trap him. Why is he scared of women?
He’s worried he’ll bump into the one he stole the blue tights from.

Even though you yourself are not a superhero, you’ve lasted well as Superman’s main opponent. Why do you think that is?
Look, I’ll give you the inside track on these superhero guys. They’re not actually that super or clever. Clark Kent should be called Slightly Superman. It also helps he wears a dog-tag round his neck that says “allergic to Band Aid and kryptonite”. Then he works too hard as a journalist on the Daily Planet, so he’s already knackered before saving the world. That Bruce Wayne – the Batman guy – now he’s got the right idea, just sitting on a fortune and sleeping with the occasional supermodel.

But at least Superman has a real job. As a journalist, he could even work in Formula One.
Yeah, I guess so. And he’d save so much time with all that travelling as he can fly around the world in 10 minutes, or slightly longer if he’s on standby.

We know you have to go and hatch another world domination plot, but can we have your best Superman joke before you go.
You mean apart from the one where Superman thinks he’s having sex with Wonder Woman without realising the Invisible Man is lying on top of her? OK here goes. On his night off, Clark Kent goes to the revolving bar at the top of the Oxo building in Metropolis (interesting note, they spell Oxo backwards in Metropolis). Kent downs a beer in one, walks through the skylight, drops to the ground then reappears in the bar, orders another beer and jumps out again. He does this several times until an office worker on the next stool says: “Excuse me, how do you do that?”
“Simple,” says Kent. “You drink the beer quickly and it warms you up inside, so when you step out the window, the heat comes out and as heat always rises, it cushions you allowing you to float gently to the ground.”
“Wow, I must try that,” says the man, downing the beer, walking out the window and crashing to the ground in a pool of blood. The barman puts down the glass he’s polishing, shakes his head, looks at Kent and says: “Jeez Superman, you’re a complete shit when you‘re drunk!”



WIN A FABULOUS HOLIDAY

THE GREAT RACE

The Red Bulletin quiz is played for high stakes. This season we're offering a 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: ALOLLI



When were Jarno and Fernando last on the same team here in Monaco?

- ☐ **1** 2006
- ☐ **2** 2005
- ☐ **3** 2004
- ☐ **4** 2003

QUESTION 2: THE KENNEDY MYSTERY

A part of the Monaco circuit. Where else does the F1 circuit run over a street named after JFK?



- ☐ **1** Imola
- ☐ **2** Spa
- ☐ **3** Montreal
- ☐ **4** Melbourne

QUESTION 3: RECORD SLOW



Rallye Monte Carlo: In one year the challenge of the final test was to drive as slowly as possible: 1min 54.91sec for 100 yards is reported as a podium time. In which year?

- ☐ **1** 1912
- ☐ **2** 1932
- ☐ **3** 1952
- ☐ **4** 1962

QUESTION 4: STANDSTILL

Which current F1 car gives us this honorable advice?



- ☐ **1** Renault
- ☐ **2** Honda
- ☐ **3** Williams
- ☐ **4** Red Bull

QUESTION 5: RED & WHITE



Soft drinks right here on the track in the non-racing season. Where?

- ☐ **1** Casino
- ☐ **2** Chicane
- ☐ **3** Piscine
- ☐ **4** Rascasse

QUESTION 6: MICAR

The home town of the 1998 winner named a square after him. Which is the name of the square? (Maybe you should ask Kimi – or Keke?)



- ☐ **1** Mika Häkkimen
- ☐ **2** Michael Häkkipen
- ☐ **3** Mika Häkkiren
- ☐ **4** Mika Häkkisen

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 emailed 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	**56 points**
2	**Mathias Brunner:** Motorsport Aktuell	**49 points**
4	**Rainer Krüger:** Premiere TV	**45 points**
4	**Gianfranco Fantuzzi:** Scuderia Toro Rosso	**35 points**

ANSWERS FROM SPAIN

Q1. Answer: 2 – The former Pope, known as John Paul in English, was called Juan Pablo in Spanish

Q2. Answer: 3 – The sign for Alonso's home province, Asturia (Oviedo) is on his shoe

Q3. Answer: 3 – Only Jody Scheckter won his home Grand Prix, in 1975

Q4. Answer: 1 – Fernando Alonso's official logo – seen on his helmet and on his website

Q5. Answer: 4 – Peter Ustinov's famous Grand Prix of Gibraltar

Q6. Answer: 3 – The charity tennis tournament in Barcelona is played for the Northampton Intensive Care Unit near Silverstone

PHOTOS: REX FEATURES, GETTY IMAGES, SUTTON IMAGES





ERKKI MUSTAKARI: 60 F1 TV COMMENTATOR OLYMPIC POLE VAULTER

"BACK IN THE late 1950s and up until 1962 American pole vaulters were totally dominant, then a Finn named Pentti Nikula came along and thrashed them all. I was 15 at the time, and he was my idol. I wasn't alone – suddenly every kid in Finland wanted to take up pole vaulting.

"I STARTED VAULTING three times a week. An early effort was 355cm, and after a year of practice I could get up to 460cm, which was a record for an Under-18. Two years later I was up to 495cm, and with it I took the European record for an Under-20. It was in the summer of 1967 that I reached the magic 5m height for the first time in my life. And can you guess where I did it? In Kerpen, the town in which the Schumacher brothers were born!

"I WAS AWARDED a full athletic scholarship to Fresno State University in California in 1968. In the autumn of that year, I represented Finland at the Olympic Games in Mexico City. I'll never forget attending the opening ceremony, waving to the crowds. I met the legendary Jesse Owens, who had won four gold medals in Berlin in 1936. Meeting him was one of the greatest things that ever happened to me.

"AS IT HAPPENED, the Olympics were a bit of a disappointment for me as my pole was too flexible and I was placed 13th. But when I returned to Fresno I vaulted 528cm, which was the world record for three weeks. I received my bachelor's degree in physical education and returned to Finland to compete in one final season. I retired from the sport at 24, got married, had kids and that was it. But the sport had been good to me: it earned me my first TV set, my first car and best of all I can say I competed in almost 50 countries.

"I GOT INVOLVED in sports management, and became the head of information for the Finnish Sports Association. I was writing a lot and making friends in the media. I then took a fantastic job with an advertising agency. One of its clients was Philip Morris. I started to get involved in motor racing and was able to get the tobacco giant to sponsor Mika Hakkinen and send him to England to race in Formula Vauxhall Lotus in 1987. I remember the flight to London – it was the first time Mika had ever been on an aeroplane. A few years later he had his own jet!

"IN 1989 JJ LEHTO started his F1 career. I was allowed to take some time off by the advertising agency, just to see how he got on and do some reporting for the Finnish media, thanks to all the contacts I'd made. Since JJ's debut at Estoril, I haven't missed a single race. This weekend represents my 276th grand prix.

"TODAY I'M WORKING for Finnish TV broadcaster MTV3 in the commentary box. We Finns have been very lucky with the quality and quantity of drivers we've had in F1 in recent times. And now we've got Heikki Kovalainen knocking on the door." ◪

PHOTOS: CRISPIN THRUSTON, THOMAS BUTLER

LIFE & TIMES...



PAUL HARRIS
Garage technician and tyre technician to Rubens Barrichello, Paul was previously a truck driver for the Hyundai team in the World Rally Championship and is in his second season with BAR/Honda. An avid Arsenal supporter, he's very keen for everyone to know that he believes Evesham, in the English county of Worcestershire, is the nation's second capital!



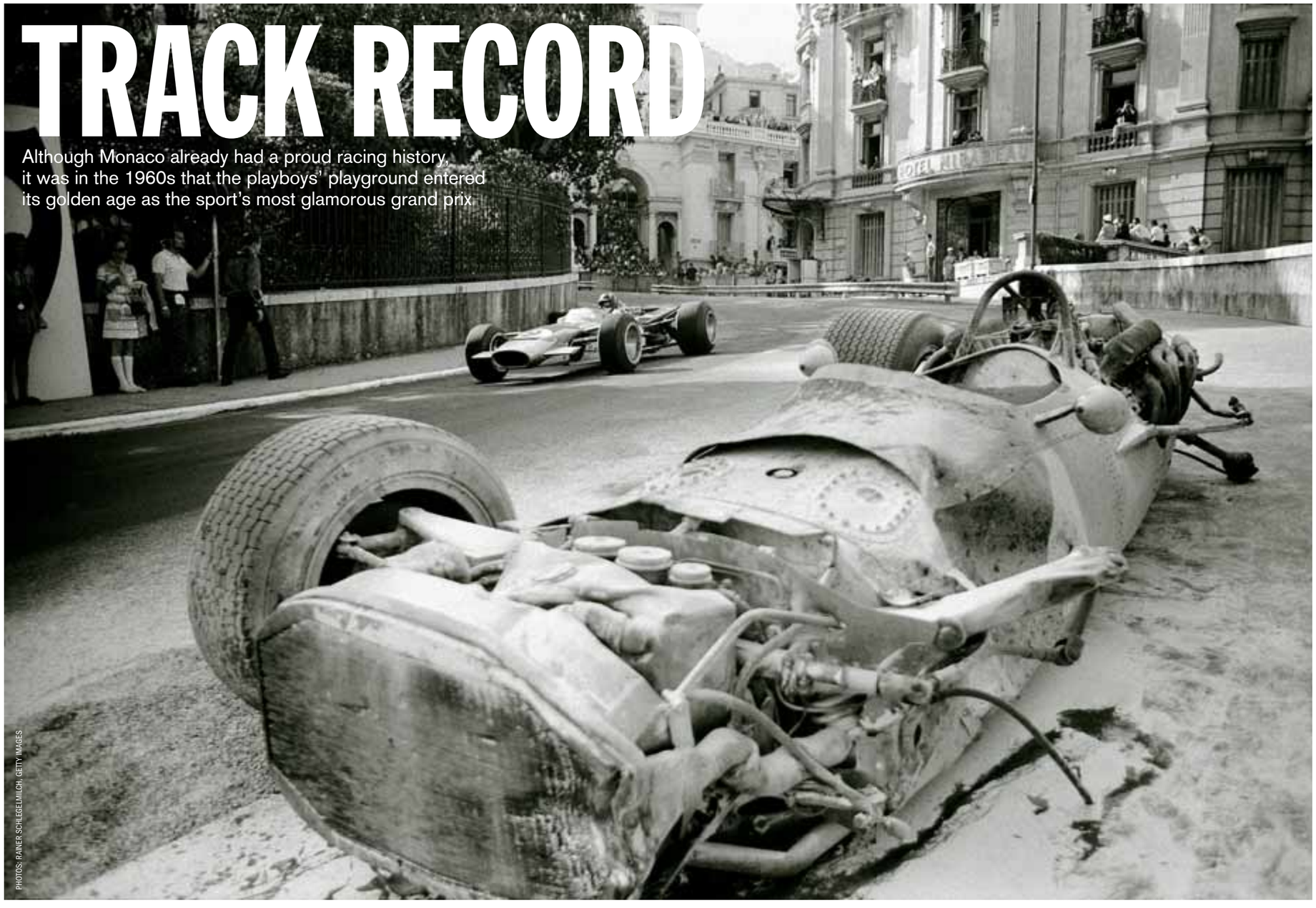
CATHRIN SCHOENBECK
New to the Red Bull ranks this year, Cathrin is the team's event co-ordinator. She comes from the world of advertising and, before that, she worked in real estate. Her upper-class English accent is misleading as she's actually German, but was educated in England at Malvern College.



HIROSHI KANEKO
This veteran snapper is known in the photographer's centre simply as The Emperor. His first race was Fuji '76, where James Hunt took the crown. Now Hiroshi-san is close to his 500th. Back home in Tokyo he races endurance karts, and has shot with nothing but a Nikon since he was 15.

TRACK RECORD

Although Monaco already had a proud racing history, it was in the 1960s that the playboys' playground entered its golden age as the sport's most glamorous grand prix



PHOTOS: RAINER SCHLEGELMILCH, GETTY IMAGES



PRINCIPAL PLAYERS

Racing around the streets of Monte Carlo has brought the best out of some of the drivers, for example Ayrton Senna reigned supreme here from '89-'93 and left others with their dreams in tatters: the great Alberto Ascari had to be pulled from the harbour in 1955.

It was a case of Monte Carlo and bust for Pedro Rodriguez's BRM at Mirabeau (main image) in 1968. After 16 laps, a mechanical failure spelled the end of the Mexican's race.

In 1962, Maurice Trintignant (above), who won here in a Ferrari in 1955 and a Cooper in '58, took over in a Rob Walker Cooper-Climax after Stirling Moss's accident ended the Briton's career. The Frenchman's race ended after he had an accident at the start.

(Bottom, from left) Jackie Stewart takes the chequered flag to claim his first grand prix victory in Monaco in 1966. It was the Scot's second win in only 11 races.

Ferrari ace Lorenzo Bandini, who was to die here after a shocking accident in '67, focuses on his selection of goggles in 1965.

In 1961, Stirling Moss came up with a low-tech approach to keeping cool in the Lotus-Climax 18 when he took off the side panels and exposed his legs to the Riviera. It paid off and the Englishman scored a famous win.

Great Britons Jackie Stewart, Jim Clark and Graham Hill compare notes on the circuit. But while Hill claimed five wins in his career and Stewart three, victory in Monaco eluded the brilliant Clark.









FORMULA UNA MONACO

Meet the delightful ladies who are staking their hopes on being chosen to represent the principality at the Formula Una grand final in Brazil in October. Here are the Unas in their own words

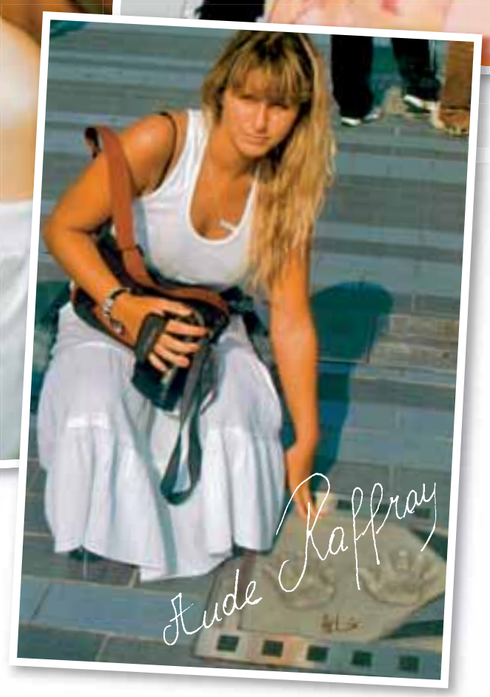


Name: Agathe Elharrar
Age: 21
Star sign: Aries
Occupation: Model
Who is your favourite driver? Alonso – he's young, cute and the champion
What is the best place you've visited? Miami is really cool
Who is the most famous person you've ever met? Daniel Powter
What's the most extravagant thing that you have ever done? I danced on stage with Shakira in front of 300 people at the Européen Theatre in Paris
What is your worst habit? I make funny faces when I talk

Name: Ariane Benoit
Age: 22
Star sign: Gemini
Occupation: Fashion seller
Who is the most famous person you've met? Paolo Coelho
If you could have any job in the world, what would it be? I would be someone who works for children's rights
What's the most embarrassing thing that has ever happened to you? Once in the Dominican Republic my girlfriend and I had booked into a small hotel but the room was full of cockroaches. We went to another hotel which was clean but the room had only one (very big) bed and there were mirrors on the walls and ceiling – and you rented rooms by the hour
What will you be doing in 10 years' time? I will be a published poet and married to the man I love

Name: Aude Raffray
Age: 21
Star sign: Libra
Occupation: I am a marketing and fashion student
Who is your favourite driver? Christian Klien – he has a bright future
What is the best place you have ever visited? Alice Springs in Australia. Those big red mountains make the world seem so superficial
How many pairs of shoes do you own? I've lost count
What is your most treasured possession? The ring my parents gave me on my 18th birthday
Who's the most famous person you've ever met? Brad Pitt
What is the funniest joke you know? "Waitress! Do you have frogs' legs?" "No, my jeans are too tight!"





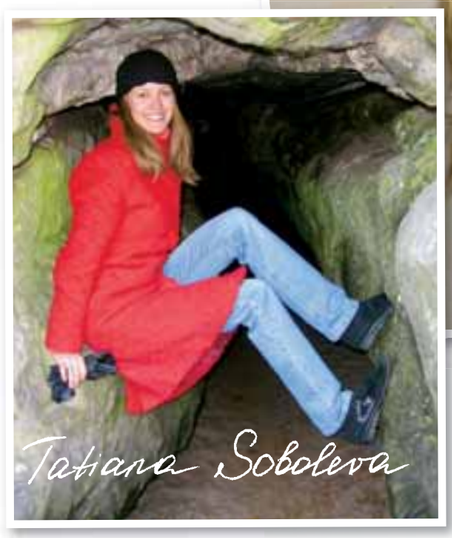
'MY WORST HABIT IS I PULL FUNNY FACES WHEN I TALK'
AGATHE, 21



Name: Nittaya Ramage
Age: 24
Star sign: Pisces
Occupation: I'm in sales and marketing
Have you been to a big sporting event like this before? I went to a Thai boxing tournament. It was terrible
What is your favourite food? Thai and traditional French food
What is your most treasured possession? I have a Protestant cross that used to be my grandmother's
What is your mobile phone ringtone? It's called Moustique – I also have another secret one
What is your favourite song? Seven Days by Craig David
Who's the most famous person you've ever met? Johnny Hallyday
Who are your favourite film stars? I like Anthony Hopkins and Vincent Cassel
Who is your hero? My father
What is the most expensive item you've ever bought for yourself? I spent 500 euros on a pair of sunglasses
What's the best way to get a date with you? Have a good sense of humour and an even better sense of style



Name: Emilie Place
Age: 23
Star sign: Leo
Occupation: Student
Who is your favourite driver? Michael Schumacher – he's one of the best of all time and he has a nice personality
Have you been to a big sporting event like this before? A few football matches. I like the atmosphere
What car do you drive? An Opel Corsa
What is the best place you have ever visited? Playa del Carmen in Mexico. The landscapes, fauna and flora are splendid and Mexicans are very nice
Do you have any pets? A cat called Xela. I found her in the forest when she was only 10 days old
What is your most treasured possession? My grandmother's ring
What is your favourite film? American History X
Who's the most famous person you've ever met? Samuel Le Bihan (he was very nice)
What's the most embarrassing thing that has ever happened to you? When I was working in a shop and a customer asked to hold some of the merchandise. I told him he could only look – and then I realised he was blind!
What is your worst habit? I'm addicted to fast food, crisps and pizzas



Name: Tatiana Soboleva
Age: 23
Star sign: Taurus
Occupation: Student
What is the best place you have ever visited? Monaco – the little principality has everything: mountains, sea, a casino, Formula One and royalty
What is your favourite drink? Cherry juice
What is your most treasured possession? Me
What is your favourite item of clothing? My vintage jeans
Who is the most famous person you've met? Ronaldinho
Who is your style icon? I don't need one. I create my own style
If you could have any job in the world, what would it be? I would be Bill Gates
Do you play a musical instrument? Piano
What is your worst habit? I could sleep for at least 12 hours a day

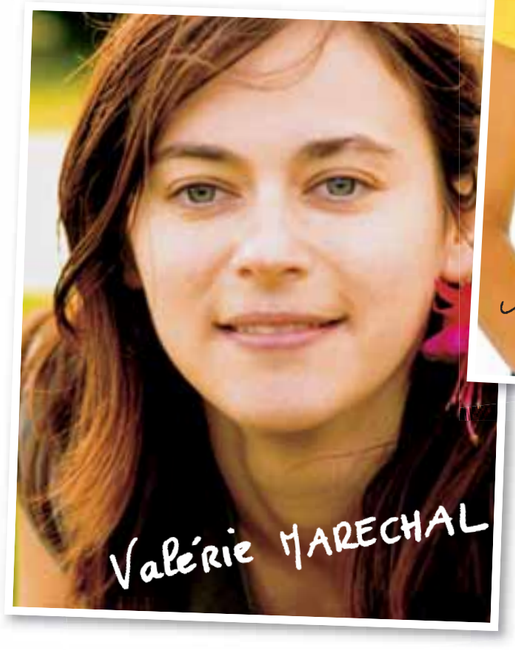
FORMULA UNA



Name: Florinda Boussard
Age: 22
Star sign: Cancer
Occupation: Student
What are your interests? Shopping, clubbing, dancing and modelling
What is the best place you have ever visited? Egypt. It was amazing to see the remnants of an ancient civilisation
What is your favourite drink? I love having Screaming Orgasms – it's a cocktail made with Baileys, vodka, Kahlua, Amaretto and cream
What is your favourite food? Tartiflette
How many pairs of shoes do you have? Maybe 30
Who is the most famous person you've ever met?
The entire French football team
Who is your hero? Zinedine Zidane
If you could have any job in the world, what would it be? I would be the boss of the biggest nightclub in the world
What are you most afraid of?
Not being able to have children
What will you be doing in 10 years' time? I hope I'll be married, having children and working in a good job



Name: Audrey Goth
Age: 21
Star sign: I'm a virgin!
Occupation: Law student
Have you been to a big sporting event like this before? My father took me to the Monaco GP and the 24-Hour du Mans
Do you have any pets? I used to have a Labrador called Kaci but she lives with my ex-boyfriend (he's a very nice guy)
What sports do you do?
I enjoy all sports, whether it's running for the bus or bungee-jumping
What is your favourite item of clothing? Underwear (true beauty lies beneath the surface)
What is your most treasured possession? Nounours my teddy bear. I've had him since I was one
If you could have any job in the world, what would it be? Fighter pilot
What is your worst habit? I'm nosey
What will you be doing in 10 years' time? If being a fighter pilot doesn't work out, I hope to be an international lawyer or maybe a diplomat



Name: Valérie Marechal
Age: 30
Star sign: Virgo
Occupation: Editorial assistant
What are your interests? Reading, old movies, shoe shopping and lots of other interests that I forgot to list
Who is your favourite driver?
David Coulthard – he likes brunettes so I'm in with a chance
What is the best place you have ever visited? I adored San Francisco because it felt like home
Do you have any pets? I only have a plastic chicken in my kitchen
What sports do you do? I'm a member of a gym. I really like a good workout
What is your favourite food?
Chinese noodles... and human flesh
What is the last album you bought?
Meds by Placebo
Who is your style icon?
A mix of Dita von Teese and Jackie Kennedy
Who is your heroine? Betty Boop
If you could have any job in the world, what would it be?
Being a backing singer with Roxy Music
What's the most embarrassing thing that has ever happened to you? I broke a heel on one of my stilettoes on a first date
Do you play a musical instrument?
I play drums with Jack White – in my dreams

'I LOVE HAVING SCREAMING ORGASMS'
FLORINDA, 22

FORMULA UNO WINNERS



Here are the paddock's prince charmings who shall be going to the F1 ladies' ball on Saturday night. Before then, you can find them in the nearest spray-on suntan parlour









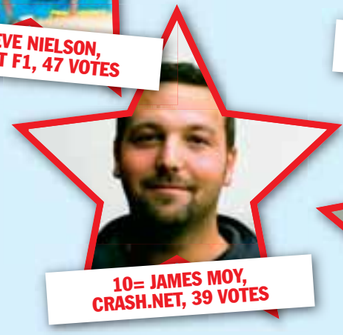


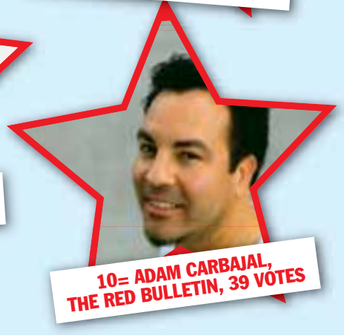












After 10 days of (frankly suspicious) voting, the ladies of F1 have chosen their top 10 from the 60 hunks listed on our website. The guys are invited to come along with a friend and join the ladies at Sonia Irvine's Amber Lounge on Saturday. An undercover messenger will contact the winners and provide more details soon.

FANTASTIC VOYAGE

On a bizarre seafaring adventure and a tale of complimentary food and beverages, our man **Adam Hay-Nicholls** takes the tiller of one strange vessel to find out just how far Red Bull is prepared to go to get the party started



40 TRUCKIES FOR SET-UP AND AN ADDITIONAL 10 TO CONSTRUCT THE PONTOON

25 TRUCKS FOR THE ENERGY STATION

45 TRUCKS FOR THE PONTOON



200KG OF MEAT FOR TRUCKIES



500 TONNES, INCLUDING SUB-CONSTRUCTION

7,000 MAN HOURS



28,000 BOLTS...

AND ONE OFFICE BOY

The amber lights of Monte Carlo's high-rises were twinkling some half a mile away through the darkness. It was 4.30 in the morning and I'd just woken up on the Energy Station as it charted its way through the Mediterranean. As I gazed at them, it seemed a lifetime ago that I had arrived at the build site – in fact it was 12 hours previously – with instructions from my editor to use some elbow grease and help construct Red Bull's hospitality unit. This would involve flagrant disregard for my own mortality and, frankly, that of the 38 Austrians and two Germans who comprised the legitimate crew for the mammoth operation, which was to build the Energy Station in Beaulieu-sur-Mer on a floating pontoon and sail it along a 12km stretch of the Riviera into Monaco harbour.

As I was driving to the build site the day before, I rang Leigh, the Red Bulletin's chief truckie, for some last-minute advice on how to integrate myself with these men – employees of Kitz Exklusiv, the Station's manufacturers. "I'm wearing shorts, Leigh!" I told him. And not just any shorts. A striking pair in camouflage fabric, which would surely help me to blend in. Truckies always wear shorts, even in winter. And they often conduct themselves like they're fighting an under-the-radar war, so I figured the mercenary look would go down well.

"What else do I need to know, Leigh?" I asked. He suggested turning up with dirty hands, rigging gloves and pumped muscles. The first could be easily achieved by dunking my fingers in a flower bed. But I had no gloves, rigging or otherwise, and as for muscles, I'd hoped Brando-levels of method acting might just pass me off as truckie material, but now I was going to have to rely on special effects. "Should I bring them a gift, Leigh? A bottle of wine, perhaps?" He must have lost the signal.

Beaulieu-sur-Mer is a 20-minute drive west of Monaco, along the Corniche. It's a sleepier town than many others in the area, and the Energy Station's construction caused a bit of a stir among local residents, who were confused as to why their municipal car park had been taken over by 70 lorries, and why it was being built there as opposed to the grand prix's venue. Cost might be seen as a legitimate reason. The weekly rent, in Monaco harbour, for the mooring space of 12 berths must be enormous. I posed the question to Markus Valier, the man responsible for building the Energy Station. "Money? No. It's not that," he explained. The real reason was Monaco's Historic Grand Prix, held just last weekend. Its paddock, which occupies the same space as the modern F1 paddock, would have made access to the Energy Station pontoon impossible.

I thought I'd lucked in on arrival, for although we would apply the signage the next morning, the Energy Station was basically complete and it looked as if I wouldn't have to do much work. But as I strolled through its interior, absent of furniture and Formula Unas, I realised there was still plenty to prepare before guests could be welcomed aboard.

The truckies were, just as I'd hoped, fantastic and friendly gang. The fact that ➜

➜they spoke German, and I didn't, meant that I wasn't able to join in the conversations as much as I'd have liked, but on a positive note it meant I didn't get teased as much… as far as I knew. An early bonding moment came over dinner, when I was dared to try some curious green ketchup known to the Austrians as 'Senf'. It tasted like mustard, and went very well with steak. Because I liked it, they decided they liked me. But I was aware that I

'SCOTT SPEED CHRISTENED THE ENERGY STATION WITH THE CUSTOMARY CHAMPAGNE A ROPE AND A SPEEDBOAT'

was still the outsider. Had my shorts failed to convince? I went to see set-up manager Klaus for advice about how best to prepare for our overnight voyage. His advice was to wrap up warm – the shorts would have to go.

An extra addition to the Energy Station this weekend is a swimming pool. In bare aluminium form its tub looked like a 40,000-litre pig trough. It was sailed, along with most of the decking, to Monaco ahead of the Energy Station. This is where I made my first mistake: I only realised we were moving when the harbour walls were left in our wake. I was meant to be sailing with the Energy Station later that evening, not with the swimming pool. The captain presented me with two options. I could dive off and swim, or I could be thrown off and swim.

I appealed to his kind nature and, after tense negotiations involving cigarettes and a crate of Kronenbourg, he selected rearward thrust and sent me back to the shore. To be united with, as fortune would have it, Toro Rosso driver Scott Speed.

Scott was busy bounding around the dimly lit Energy Station with a Handycam, doing Blair Witch impersonations. He was then tasked to christen the ship at midnight with a customary bottle of champagne, which he did with the help of a 15m rope and a speedboat.

The champagne came from a case and, deservedly, once the ties of the Energy Station were released and our tug fired its engines, the other bottles appeared and the truckies started celebrating. Many of them had been in Beaulieu for the past 12 days. Most of them hadn't seen their families since before Imola. Now the end of their mission was in sight.

There's nothing unusual about a yacht party, but when you consider the Energy Station is a proper structure, and we were slap-bang in the middle of the Mediterranean without a life jacket in sight, with disco lights ablaze and Linkin Park pumping from the speakers, it was a fairly bizarre experience as nights out go. I went in search of Captain George, our Dutch helmsman, to soak up a bit more of the traditional maritime experience.

"Traditional? There's nothing traditional about what we're doing tonight!" exclaimed George from his bridge. Captain George has been at sea for 16 years and during that time has been back home to Amsterdam infrequently. He is married to his vessel, the 4,000-horsepower Claudia B. "I have done a few strange things in my time, but nothing like this," he says. "This is special. I'll probably never do anything like it again."

By now fatigue was setting in and the hypnotic green blip of the radar screen lulled me to sleep. I awoke with a start to the deafening sound of a circling helicopter. I thought I was being rescued, but it turned out to be a film crew capturing this strange event.

The good ship Energy Station had dropped anchor just outside Monaco's harbour, four hours after departing Beaulieu. Now, I realised there was no escaping the prospect of manual labour, with the order to "pimp my Station", as Markus put it. Seventy-four individually numbered panels were neatly arranged on the canteen floor with their Superman Returns graphics already applied. These are known, in the trade, as 'elements' and having had a full briefing from the Charisma supervisor – the company responsible for these graphics – I knew exactly which number element went into which position.

At least, I had committed the information to memory the previous night but after having passed out – the combination of sea air and lifting things tends to do that to me – I could barely remember where I was, let alone where E15 was meant to go.

Breakfast could be the answer to my woes. It's 5.30am and my stomach is in urgent need of refuelling. But what's this? Melon? Is that the sound of breaking glass? No, it's just the sound of my smashed truckie dreams. Where the hell's my fry-up?

Turning heads isn't easy in Monaco. Someone always has a bigger yacht or a rarer car or a more striking girlfriend. Nonetheless, the Energy Station received many a double-take as it sailed into the busy harbour. They may not have been 'I gotta get me one of those' reactions, but they were certainly 'What in God's name is that?' glances.

Captain George expertly navigated through the traffic, and gently slotted the Energy Station into its waiting bay right next to the historic paddock, bustling with machinery from our sport's adolescence. A case of old meets new. For back in the 1950s, the engineering challenge only extended to the cars and the adventure to the race track. In 2006 it's also about the party afterwards, and the adventure can stretch far beyond the circuit, across the high seas.

12 DAYS TO BUILD
6 MONTHS PLANNING



18 CONTAINER-BARGE PIECES
96 2x2x1.2M POLYSTYRENE CUBES
40,000 LITRE SWIMMING POOL TANK



Pool party: Adam gets ready to "pimp the Station" (above). The swimming pool gets its finishing touches (right)

PHOTO: MURIEL BROUSSEAU

#18 CLARK KENT

THE SUM OF ALL PARTS

We spoke to the mild-mannered reporter for a great metropolitan newspaper, who gave us the Man of Steel's life in figures…



1938 THE YEAR
the first comic book starring myself, Action Comics No 1, was published by DC Comics.

37 YEARS OLD
If I'm trying to impress a girl, I might say I'm 35, but I'm actually 37. My birthday is February 29. I'm 6ft 3in tall and weigh 225lb.

7 ALIASES
employed by my archenemy Lex Luthor: Zytal, Carlyle Allerton, Mr Smith, Professor Clyde, Professor Guthrie, The Defender and Luthor the Noble – the devious villain.

7 SUPER POWERS
They are super-strength, flight, invulnerability, super-speed, super-breath – I can expel air in a gale-force wind and freeze things with my breath; super-hearing; super-vision – I have X-ray vision and I can use my heat vision as a weapon.

8 YEARS OLD
when my adoptive parents, Jonathan and Martha Kent, realised I had special powers. I think what gave it away was when I was trampled by a bull and emerged unscathed. I didn't develop my flying abilities until I was 17.

102 SECONDS
was the length of the Superman speech delivered by David Carradine at the end of Kill Bill Volume 2.

2 ALIASES
On Earth I'm known as Clark Joseph Kent and back on Krypton, I'm Kal-El.

15 ACTORS
have portrayed me on screen, radio and television. For the record they are: George Reeves, Christopher Reeve, Bud Collyer, Dean Cain, Tim Daly, Danny Dark, George Newbern, Kirk Alyn, Tom Welling, Johnny Rockwell, John Haymes Newton, Gerard Christopher, Beau Weaver, David Wilson and Brandon Routh.

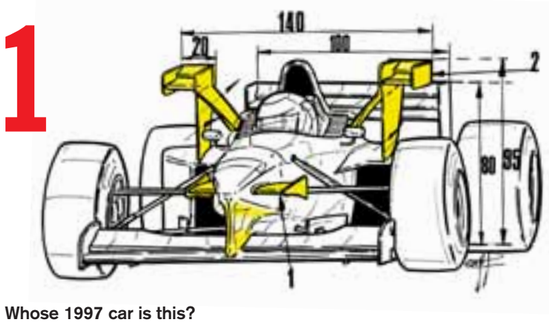
1 STAGE SHOW
about me – a musical called It's a Bird, It's a Plane, It's Superman. There have also been eight novels, six films and numerous comic books and graphic novels.

A WISE CHOICE



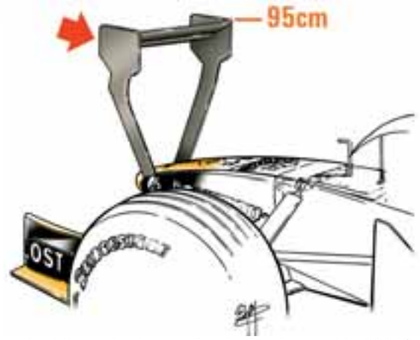
Come up with as many answers as you can and send them to us. To encourage you and make things slightly simpler, it's become a multiple choice quiz. All you need to do is select the six letters which correspond to the correct answer for these questions. The person with the most right gets the prize and the glory.

1



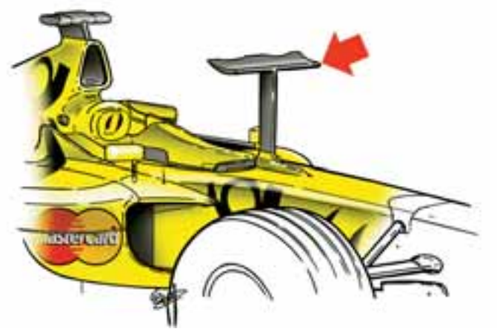
Whose 1997 car is this?
A Ferrari **B** Tyrrell **C** Benetton

2



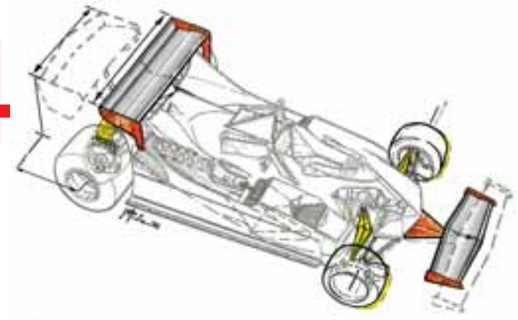
Which team had its car's strange front wing banned in 2001?
A Minardi **B** Ferrari **C** Arrows

3



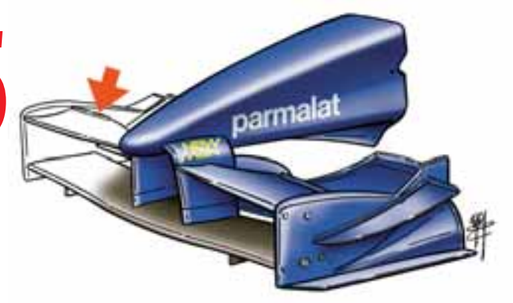
Jordan had this mirror banned by scrutineers in which year?
A 1997 **B** 2001 **C** 2003

4



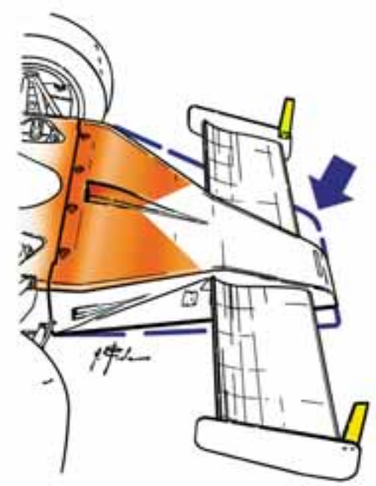
This Ferrari had a shorter front wheel-base built especially for Monaco. But in which year? A 1980 **B** 1981 **C** 1982

5



Which team's car is this and from which year?
A Prost, 2001 **B** Williams, 2000 **C** Sauber, 1999

6



Which year is this McLaren from?
A M23, 1974 **B** M23, 1974 **C** M23, 1975

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

ILLUSTRATIONS: GIORGIO PIOLA



PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

YOUR PADDOCK PROBLEMS SOLVED

by ROLAND BUTTA

BOOBY PRIZE

Dear Mr Butta,
Please help me quickly as I'm scared I am about to be sold into white slavery. I was working as an exotic dancer in New York's East Side, when one day, this guy comes into the 'theatre' where I work, says he's a big shot with a tobacco company and that he's going to somewhere called Monica for a car race. He reckons this is near some place called Urope in France and there's a thing called the Film Can Festival where maybe I could get myself noticed and into movies.

So we get there and he dresses me up in a cute uniform and I have to walk up and down the aisles of the cinema selling his cigarettes. That night we go from Can to Monica and have a big bust up – I'm a nice girl, I don't do kissing.

He kicks me out on the streets. You wouldn't believe how expensive hotels are here and I spent nearly all my money on a room in something called the Colombus. It's owned by the guy who discovered America and guess what, he's one of these Grumpy Drivers.

I met another guy who said he was also a Grumpy Driver and after showing me his pre-race relaxation technique in his room, he took me to a party on a yacht. Things got scary 'cos the boat belonged to the cigarette company man and when he saw me he got mad and chased after me.

I had to leave my shoes behind 'cos I didn't have time to put them on before leaving the boat. I jumped on another yacht full of people with lovely blue, white and red stripey canvas bags. But when I asked the captain why the ship was moving, rather than just staying in the harbour, he laughed and said we were Morocco bound. Everyone knows that's something you do to books. What does this all mean? And is there any way you can help?
Yours,
Mandy Lifeboats

Dear Mandy,
Yes, cigarettes are dangerous, aren't they? But enjoy North Africa anyway.
Yours,
Roland Butta

LETTERS

Investigative journalism? Nah. For us it's more like hijacking the postman each morning.

WILL YOU PLEASE SLOW DOWN?

Why is it that despite my repeated attempts to limit speed in F1 to a reasonable, safe level, those pesky technical directors insist on finding ways of making the cars go faster. And every time I suggest something to make the sport cheaper, they hire 200 extra staff to implement the changes. Are they trying to be funny or something?
Max, Monaco.

ADVICE FOR THE NEW SUPER MAN

Could somebody please explain to Franck Montagny that the saying 'Slow and steady wins the race' shouldn't be taken at face value.
Yuji, Japan
PS Rolling stones, however, will continue to gather no moss.

JUST A LOAD OF HOT AIR

If you believe the FIA and its new technical regulations for 2008, then the costs of F1 in recent years have been ballooning. I dispute this. Ballooning is an economical and fun sport, open to everyone. I suggest the real costs of F1 are hidden in the minutiae of engine and chassis development, computational fluid dynamics and winter testing.
Steve Fossett, Alto Cirrus



CHANGE THE RECORD

From: The Media Centre
To: Jenson Button's media advisors
Dear Sir or Madam
Variety in life is so important and it seems unfair that every race poor Jenson is forced to say: "I'm very positive about this weekend, this is going to be my race." After 30 or so repetitions it becomes difficult to put any sort of positive spin on this and our copy starts to sink into the very depths of despair. Would it not be possible for Jenson to depart from this hackneyed utterance and instead give us something new to write? A recipe perhaps, or his views on the European Union. Anything. Anything at all. Please.

TYRED AND PROMOTIONAL

From: Sid's Tyres, Sidcup
To: The FIA
Dear Sirs,
I formally submit my tyre tender for the 2008-10 F1 world championship. We have a wide range of tyres in stock to suit every budget and vehicle. Our workshop in South London is open seven days a week 8am-8pm Monday-Saturdays and 10am-4pm on Sundays. We offer complimentary tea and coffee and an efficient, value-for-money fit-while-you-wait service, which I understand is the accepted method in F1. For competitors on a budget we offer a range of used and remoulded tyres at a fraction of other manufacturers' prices. All stock is guaranteed for 30 days.
Sid's of Sidcup.

TURN OFF THE TAPAS BEFORE YOU LEAVE

In last week's magazine Stephen Bayley claimed that "the Spanish have better food than the French and better style than the Italians." Sadly, my Big Mac on Las Ramblas was a lacklustre as it is in Brackley – and the young chap serving didn't seem to be 'lovin' it' any more than his counterpart in Northamptonshire.
Milton, Keynes



MOUNT A SEARCH

You wouldn't have thought it was difficult to find Mr E in Monte Carlo, it's not like it's the biggest country we visit. But lost him we have. Can you spot him and several others who visit the principality over race weekend?

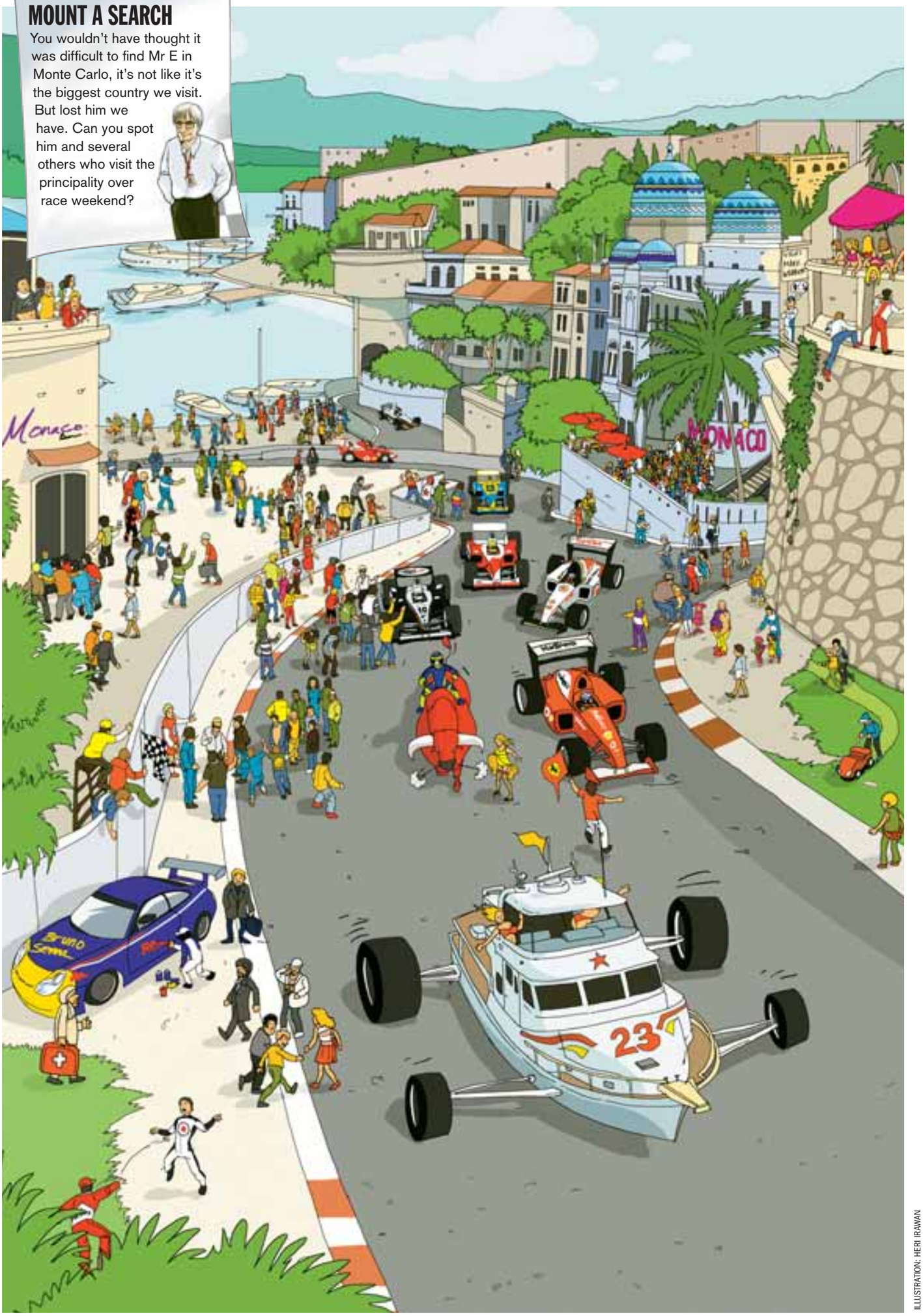


ILLUSTRATION: HERI IRAWAN