

## **GRAND PRIX OF ITALY**

### **BULLETIN No1**

#### **FRIDAY 14/9/01 - FREE PRACTICE**

**WEATHER CONDITIONS:** Warm, light overcast(track 20 deg/air 19 deg)

**2000 POLE POSITION:** Michael SCHUMACHER (FERRARI), 1m 23.770s

**2000 RACE FASTEST LAP:** Mika Hakkinen (McLAREN), 1m 25.595s

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The first practice sessions took place in warm, but overcast conditions with a light rain shower between the two hour-long stints. Both Williams-BMWs set the pace with Ferrari well in play on its home ground with Michael Schumacher third fastest.

#### **BMW WILLIAMS F1 TEAM (R. Schumacher 1<sup>st</sup>/J-P. Montoya 2<sup>nd</sup>)**

**Technical:** Second new spec car for Montoya to follow the revised FW23 used by Schumacher at Spa.

**Sporting:** Ralf Schumacher says his car was quick as expected, grappling only with a little bit of understeer. Montoya lost his second run to traffic and had oversteer in fast corners, but is optimistic that he can work out a good set-up.

**Quotes:** Schumacher: "I am confident that I have made my tyre choice for the weekend already."

#### **SCUDERIA FERRARI MARLBORO (M. Schumacher 2<sup>nd</sup>/Barrichello 5<sup>th</sup>)**

**Technical:** Revised Monza engine specification and further improved aerodynamics.

**Sporting:** Schumacher worked on tyre comparison, concluding there was little to choose between the two Bridgestone options. Barrichello was not happy with the set-up. The cars ran without sponsorship identification and with black nose cones out of respect for the recent US tragedies.

**Quotes:** Barrichello: "We still have quite a lot of work to do."

#### **JAGUAR RACING (de la Rosa 3<sup>rd</sup>/Irvine 19<sup>th</sup>)**

**Technical:** No major technical changes for this race.

**Sporting:** Irvine spun off into the gravel trap due to a brake balance problem, but de la Rosa produced a promising performance with no problems.

**Quotes:** Niki Lauda: "Eddie was not to blame when he spun off, but he knows Monza well and I am not too worried about the time we have lost."

#### **WEST McLAREN MERCEDES (Hakkinen 6<sup>th</sup>/Coulthard 7<sup>th</sup>)**

**Technical:** No technical changes for this race apart from usual Monza low downforce aerodynamic set-up.

**Sporting:** Hakkinen reported that his MP4/16 seemed to be bouncing around excessively on its second set of tyres while Coulthard confirmed that the difference between the two Bridgestone options was minuscule. David fastest in first sector late in session, but then lost time with traffic.

**Quotes:** Ron Dennis: "It was a relatively routine day with no significant problems."

#### **RED BULL SAUBER PETRONAS(Heidfeld 8<sup>th</sup>/Raikkonen 16<sup>th</sup>)**

**Technical:** No major changes for this race.

**Sporting:** Disastrous session with both drivers crashing due to brake balance problems, having started with excessive bias to the rear. The monocoques of both cars were structurally undamaged after Heidfeld went off at the second Lesmo and Raikkonen crashed at the first chicane.

**Quotes:** Raikkonen: "I guess I was lucky to avoid Alex Yoong's parked Minardi, but I'm very disappointed not to be able to run again today."

#### **B&H JORDAN HONDA (Alesi 9<sup>th</sup>/Trulli 12<sup>th</sup>)**

**Technical:** No major changes for this race apart from Monza aero package.

**Sporting:** Both drivers worked on brake balance and cooling, Trulli spending most of his time experimenting with different brake ducting and never got round to assessing tyres. Alesi reported his chassis set-up was OK, but slightly damaged the underside of his car over a kerb.

**Quotes:** Trevor Foster: "The only one small drama was when Jean went over a kerb which cost him a bit of running time."

#### **PROST ACER (Frentzen 10<sup>th</sup>/Enge 20<sup>th</sup>)**

**Technical:** No major changes to the cars.

**Sporting:** Newcomer Tomas Enge was very happy to be in F1, but was working on eliminating understeer and eventually stopped when the oil pressure warning light came on. Frentzen straight-lined the second chicane three times, but was happy with the balance.

**Quotes:** Frentzen: "Tenth fastest was quite a reasonable performance on the first day."

#### **MILD SEVEN BENETTON RENAULT (Fisichella 11<sup>th</sup>/Button 13<sup>th</sup>)**

**Technical:** New front wing for this race.

**Sporting:** Button reported it as one of the best practice days so far this season. Later limited laps to conserve engine. Fisichella said that his car's handling balance was not bad and he had no problems.

**Quotes:** Fisichella: "We had a bit too much oversteer as a consequence of making some changes to the front wing in the second part of the session."

#### **LUCKY STRIKE BAR HONDA (Panis 14<sup>th</sup>/Villeneuve 15<sup>th</sup>)**

**Technical:** No major changes for this race.

**Sporting:** Both drivers handicapped by general lack of grip and chassis set-up changes made little effect. Both drivers carried out tyre evaluation work but admitted they were not optimistic.

**Quotes:** Panis: "It has all been a bit of a struggle to be honest."

#### **EUROPEAN MINARDI F1 (Alonso 17<sup>th</sup>/Yoong 22<sup>nd</sup>)**

**Technical:** No major changes for this race.

**Sporting:** Yoong stopped out on the circuit with electrical problems, possibly after pressing the wrong button on the steering wheel by accident. Alonso was happy with the set-up but had clutch problems.

**Quotes:** Alonso: "Obviously we are short of power on this fast circuit."

## **ORANGE ARROWS ASIATECH (Bernoldi 18<sup>th</sup>/Verstappen 21<sup>st</sup>)**

**Technical:** No changes for this race.

**Sporting:** Verstappen spun off into the barrier after 18 laps at the first chicane, bouncing over the kerb and skating across the gravel trap. Bernoldi survived a big sideways moment across the grass.

**Quotes:** Verstappen: "Very frustrating as I didn't run again all day."