

GRAND PRIX OF ITALY

BULLETIN No 2

SATURDY 14/09/02 - FREE PRACTICE AND QUALIFYING

WEATHER CONDITIONS: SUNNY AND WARM

TEMPERATURE: TRACK: 29-32°C/AIR: 21°C

2001 POLE POSITION: Juan Pablo MONTOYA (WILLIAMS), 1m22.216s.

2001 RACE FASTEST LAP: Ralf SCHUMACHER (WILLIAMS), 1m25.073s.

Juan Pablo Montoya's pole position here at Monza is the fastest lap speed ever recorded by an F1 car, his 161.170mph average speed topping Keke Rosberg's 1985 pole position, also in a Williams, for the British GP at Silverstone which was 160.937mph.

BMW WILLIAMS F1 TEAM (1st Montoya/3rd R. Schumacher)

Technical: Qualifying engines installed running at over 19,000rpm for the first time.

Sporting: Montoya was delighted with his seventh pole position of the season, reporting that the FW24 was at its absolute best in low downforce configuration. Ralf Schumacher reported that he made a mistake on his third run at Lesmo.

Quotes: Schumacher: "I am feeling pretty optimistic for the race as we've had no tyre blistering problems this year."

SCUDERIA FERRARI MARLBORO (2nd M. Schumacher/4th Barrichello)

Technical: No technical changes but Barrichello had engine from T-car fitted to his race machine following a failure during the morning session.

Sporting: Schumacher very happy with his time under the circumstances as it was taking several laps to warm up his tyres. Barrichello happy considering just how much time he lost over the two days.

Quotes: Barrichello: "We have to analyse the data carefully where we have a possibility of overtaking."

WEST McLAREN MERCEDES (5th Raikkonen/7th Coulthard)

Technical: No major technical changes for today.

Sporting: Raikkonen no major problems until he inadvertently edged Sato's Jordan off the track under braking for the Variante della Roggia. Coulthard frustrated by tyres taking a long time to warm up and lost a lot of time with a slide over the kerb at the second chicane on his first run.

Quotes: Coulthard: "We never had the handling balance we'd achieved in testing and the car was very nervous over the kerbs."

JAGUAR RACING (6th Irvine/8th de la Rosa)

Technical: No major technical changes for today.

Sporting: Irvine had first two runs spoiled by gearchange glitch, then made mistake on third run and had traffic on his fourth. De la Rosa ran the spare car all day and suffered with differential problems and a misfire on a couple of runs.

Quotes: Irvine: "Spa was an early present and Monza seems to look a little bit better than we had hoped. There were probably another couple of tenths of a second in the car."

LUCKY STRIKE BAR HONDA (9th Villeneuve/16th Panis)

Technical: Villeneuve allocated the latest spec updated Honda V10 engine for qualifying.

Sporting: Villeneuve had no major problems, but Panis was not 100 per cent happy with his car's handling balance.

Quotes: Villeneuve: "I suppose it is satisfying to be the next fastest Bridgestone runners after the Ferraris."

PANASONIC TOYOTA RACING (10th Salo/13th McNish)

Technical: No major technical changes for today.

Sporting: McNish was moderately satisfied although he had traffic on his second flying lap. Salo happy with the car in race trim, but admitted that he had been hoping for a little better than tenth on the grid.

Quotes: Salo: "I would like to think that we will be strong tomorrow in race trim."

MILD SEVEN RENAULT F1 TEAM (11th Trulli/17th Button)

Technical: No major technical changes for today.

Sporting: Trulli very happy that he improved on every run and produced a performance which was better than he expected here. Button still unhappy with the balance. Had spun into the gravel trap at Parabolica during the morning free practice session.

Quotes: Trulli: "I got a tow from Jenson coming down to Parabolica on what might have been a quicker lap, but he wasn't quite quick enough through the corner and I lost any advantage."

DHL JORDAN HONDA (12th Fisichella/18th Sato)

Technical: No major technical changes for today.

Sporting: Fisichella admitted he expected to be tenth on his final run only for him to catch the red flag for the Sato/Raikkonen accident. Sato extremely upset about what he saw as Raikkonen's lack of attention which caused the collision.

Quotes: Sato: "I saw Raikkonen come out of the pits and he went wide through the long right hander, so I thought he was keeping out of my way and then he moved over on me."

SAUBER PETRONAS (14th Massa/15th Heidfeld)

Technical: Only major set-up changes for today.

Sporting: Heidfeld made a mistake and ran wide out of the second Lesmo on his final lap. Massa used scrubbed tyres on his first run which gave him good front-end grip, but on new rubber on his second he had huge understeer. More downforce was added and the car was excellent on his last run.

Quotes: Peter Sauber: "Generally the cars were better today but our biggest problem was getting the best out of the tyres."

KL MINARDI ASIATECH (19th Webber/22nd Yoong)

Technical: No major technical changes for today.

Sporting: Webber had a problem with the aerodynamic set-up this morning, but this was improved for the afternoon. Yoong's final run was spoiled by the red flag.

Quotes: Yoong : "It's good to be back on an F1 grid again."