



Episode 45 - 2007 In Words

[Intro: Winzenried a.k.a. Hollywood Drunks, Looking Backwards]

Chris: Welcome to Sidepodcast.

Chris: So first on our list, obviously, is two times world champion Fernando Alonso.

Me: D'you know, I don't think he will. No, I don't think he will, I don't think it's going to be his year.

Chris: I think it's someone else's turn, to be honest.

Me: It's got to be. And it's a big change, isn't it? He's not going to have that protection he's used to from Renault.

Chris: How come Massa is higher up the entry list than Raikkonen?

Me: Because he finished higher up the championship order last year, because he finished third.

Chris: But Raikkonen is better.

Me: That doesn't make the slightest bit of difference.

Me: So, who's next on your list?

Chris: Jenson.

Me: Oh Lord.

Me: Gerhard Berger is not famous for sitting on a balcony at Goodwood.

Chris: I have a question for you.

Me: Okay.

Chris: Nico Rosberg's dad is Finnish...

Me: I thought it was Keke.

Me: It's almost as if they've got Stevie Wonder to design it.

Chris: A climate campaigner for Greenpeace said: "It's not an environmental revolution, it's a paint job."

Chris: So the race tomorrow, starts at 3pm local time, which is 8am here.

Me: Phew.

Chris: And they're predicting some rain, aren't they?

Chris: Kangaroo TV have announced that handheld media devices will be available to the public at every Grand Prix this season.

Chris: The number is 0121 28 87225.

Me: If you happen to attend a race and you take that number, put it in your phone, take it on your contact's list. Call us from the race. Make sure there's some cars going on in the background, give us a call, we'll play it on the show. See what Bernie has to say then.



[Song: Black Lab, Remember.]

Chris: There's more flexible wing filibustering with the FIA informing teams that they're revising testing procedures again.

Chris: He was quoted as saying: "One of the teams uses one time wheel bolts and they cost \$1200 per piece. At a consumption rate of 1,000 pieces per year, that means \$1.2 million, only on wheel bolts. The FIA has to correct that sort of insane interpretation of performance focus."

Chris: On Monday morning, the British press went crazy, accusing Ron Dennis of team orders.

Chris: And then Kubica had a massive smash.

Me: Massive.

Chris: I have never seen an accident that big before.

Chris: Smashed into the wall, he flipped over on the track, went all the way over to the other side of the track, and smashed into that wall as well, and ended up sideways.

Me: There was literally just the monocoque left, wasn't it?

Chris: Yea, there were bits of car all over the place.

Chris: Even though we'd been waiting for about half an hour, we were still in the wrong place when Ralf came out.

Chris: He's going to think I'm some kind of stalker, you know, that I recognised him from his picture on his website. But, you know, I just thought: "Oh that looks a bit like Ollie."

Chris: And whilst we were waiting we heard a woman say she was only going to see Anthony Hamilton.

Me: That's Lewis' dad.

Chris: Yep.

Me: She's only going in to see Lewis' dad.

Chris: Lewis did go up to the entire row of waiting crowd and sign tons of autographs though, so he's definitely gone up in my estimation.

Me: The lollipop was raised, the team were waving him forward, and he just sat.

Chris: Ron looked absolutely furious when Hamilton missed out on that lap.

Brendan: [Skype message] What Alonso did was to deliberately, in front of the world's cameras, deny his team mate the chance to compete.

Chris: Biggest fine ever, isn't it?

Me: \$100 million.

Chris: I mean, I thought he was telling the truth, but he's been busted and he's still saying the same thing.

Me: None of the information had been used on the car, no one has proved that fact.

Chris: Bernie Ecclestone says they could have been kicked out.



Chris: Today we're joined by a very special guest. He runs the always up to the minute website F1 Fanatic, which is packed with plenty of news and views, Keith Collantine, hi Keith.

Keith: Hi there, thanks for having me on the show.

Keith: Perhaps Honda excepted as well, don't seem to have that great problem with their gearboxes these days, and I would expect that they are able to make them last for four races. Others, principally Red Bull have had big problems, and I'd be very concerned.

[Song: Miggs, Perfect]

Me: And that means Ferrari are absolutely, 100 per cent, constructors champions.

Chris: But, you know, behind the safety car for twenty laps, that is a procession and it's really hard to defend.

Chris: He found the video, the YouTube video, that may or may not have shown Lewis Hamilton driving erratically before the crash.

Chris: "We'll talk about it, waste a bit of oxygen, and move on."

Me: He's not messing around, that man, is he?

Chris: "I sat in the drivers briefing, and everyone basically had rifles ready to shoot me. It was a bit disappointing because I knew a few of the drivers there, and I didn't expect them to say certain things."

Chris: And F1 Wolf said: "It ain't over till it's over, China may end up being rainy like last year and anything can happen."

Me: And it did.

Chris: These people are psychic.

Me: Amazing.

Chris: Following the race, a surprisingly happy Alonso congratulated a deserving Raikkonen, and went on to blame his team for his losing the title.

Chris: Joe Bauer, FIA technical delegate, issued a statement confirming that the fuel temperatures of BMW and Williams cars were outside the regulations during the course of the Grand Prix.

Chris: In court, he said: "It cannot make a difference that it was the last race of the season, and that it will decide the championship. Invariably whenever there has been a disqualification, there has been a reclassification.

Chris: After much deliberation, they came to the conclusion, late on Friday night, after all the news bulletins had finished and everyone had gone to the pub. It took them 24 hours to come to the agreement that the case was inadmissible.

Me: Right.

Chris: "The fuel rig sensors aren't dependable, some of them haven't been calibrated for seven years."

Chris: Well, this might cheer you up, we can celebrate for Kimi Raikkonen now.

Chris: And there are rumours that the FIA have taken some materials away for a closer look.



Chris: Well, the information was on floppy disk. Now in this day and age, you would notice some floppy disks.

Me: Floppy disks? That means they've had the data for at least twenty years.

Chris: You're just saying that so that I have to say the name, that's cheeky.

Me: Stefano Domenicali?

Chris: Stefano Domenicali.

Me: That's him, yea.

Chris: We also had a nice story from the Blue Orange Lion who is a frequent commenter on the site.

Chris: "Anyway, he was told by the mechanics to stop doing crazy things and please put the wheel back. But it was nice, he was acting normally, very friendly. I'll be honest, I envy F1 people a little. They complain all the time but I actually think it's a nice way to make a living."

Me: That is a great story.

Chris: Okay, that's enough silliness. We're signing off for this year, it's been an absolute blast and we'll be back in 2008, bigger and better.

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YOUR WEEKLY F1 FIX