

The Prestigious Future Ferrari Driving Seats

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([PRWEB](#)) August 19, 2004 -- While the team keeps winning, talks behind the scenes of victory are about the 2006 drive and for many years beyond that for the Ferrari Team. New names keep coming up with lots of curiosity in place. We first have Schumacher and Barrichello tied in with the team till 2006. Schumacher will likely retire once his contract is up and remain with the Ferrari fold which you can bet on. As for Barrichello, he might retire as well, or, attempt to sign for one more year to win a title with the team as their number one driver.

The 2003-2004 idea was to have Fisichella and Massa develop with the Petronas Sauber team and challenge each other and impress enough to get a shot with the Scuderia team in 2006. For Fisichella, this will likely be impossible, since, he has signed with Renault and finally in a top team to challenge for wins and maybe even a championship. His dreams of driving for Ferrari went to waste when the team signed Barrichello for two more seasons during the end of the summer partially because the Williams Team was going to sign him which would have meant crucial team secrets would be lost with an experienced driver who has been in the team since they started their latest dynasty.

Felipe Massa, highly praised for speed, but, criticized heavily from Bridgestone for not bringing back strong tire data which played a role in Ferrari's and Bridgestone's struggles midway last year. This tyre struggle problem led the team bring back Luciano Burti to relieve them towards the end of last year. Massa is also under consideration but has lost his luster as of late. Massa does have the experience in testing for the team in 2003 which looks great on the resume, but, will it be enough to convince the team further down the road for a drive? Being Brazilian, Felipe does have an advantage, in marketing Fiat whom is coincidentally strong in Brazil. If a young driver is already in place for 2006, Felipe will have to wait a little longer to drive the prancing horse.

Now, for the latest sensation in the Ferrari frame, we can mention Mr. Vitantonio Liuzzi who is doing the Schumacher thing (running away with the title) this year in the F3000 series. He has already won 6 out of the 7 races thus far. In addition, he even beat Michael Schumacher in a karting event in Kerpen three years ago leaving the world champion very impressed. At 23, he is already being looked at driving for Sauber or Jaguar since he is sponsored by Red Bull. Ferrari seem to be in the picture at the moment, likely giving us the idea of him being in Sauber next year under Ferrari's wing or at the very least, in a testing role with the Scuderia in 2005 and a drive for 2006 should he impress. A secret testing session is being rumored around the F1 circle. This would not be the first time Liuzzi would test an F1 car as he has tested the Williams in 2002 but do not expect him to go there when Webber and Button are confirmed for next year. He has also tested for Minardi. There is no doubt he will be under extra enormous pressure coming from Italian origin and representing Ferrari. This is a double load of responsibility but not something impossible. At the moment he has everything going for him to making any Italian's dream which is to drive for Scuderia for all the tifosi worldwide.

Last but not least, the name Valentino Rossi does not go away. This remarkable motorbike 3 time world champion is not only towards his 4th title this season, but, a possible move into Formula One in only two years and that could mean 2006. He has been quoted as stating "One day, maybe, I will do Formula One as I have met John Surtees and he says I must race cars. But I'm going to stay in motorbike racing for another two years." Valentino Rossi is a dominant driver in Motorbikes a real treat to watch. He is simply too good.

Montezemolo had set up a secret test for him in Fiorano during the April period to where he wore Michael Schumacher's helmet to ward off the Italian media who have been all over him. After completing 20 laps in Fiorano, he was only less than 3 seconds a lap from the lap record with a F2003-GA with the time of 59.9 seconds. This is sensational for someone that has never driven a Formula One car before. Valentino stated the following after the test run "It was a very exciting day for me," declared Rossi. "Driving an F1 car was an amazing experience and it was great for me to follow in Schumacher's footsteps for a day. I would like to thank Ferrari for having given me this opportunity." Can Rossi be the next John Surtees who won in both F1's World Championship as well as that for motorcycles. Surtees, too, was driving for Ferrari when he won his F1 world title in 1964. You can bet, if, Valentino Rossi enters Formula One, mainly with Ferrari, he will bring an extremely large interest into the sport while even Mr. Bernie Ecclestone expressed a large interest in seeing Valentino in Formula One knowing the attractions he will surely bring to this sport.

As time folds, more news will pop up soon on this interesting matter.

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