



Stellar read: Richard Garriott holds his well-thumbed Metro Picture: Gretel Ensignia

Racist fans attack Lewis on 'voodoo' F1 website

BY JO STEELE

RACIST F1 fans have left a string of abusive messages on a 'voodoo-style' website designed to scupper Lewis Hamilton's chance of winning this year's title.

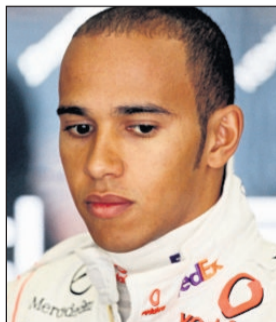
Spanish supporters of Hamilton's old rival, Fernando Alonso, posted black magic messages calling the Briton a 'monkey' and 'n****r'.

Others left jinxed notes saying they hoped the mixed-race driver would crash and one fan, calling himself Carillo, even wrote: 'Half-breed, kill yourself.' Another went a step further, leaving the sinister message: 'You are going to die.'

The abuse was left on a Spanish website called Burst Hamilton's Tyre.

Alonso cannot win the title, but Ferrari driver Felipe Massa can and the Spaniards have never forgiven Hamilton for falling out last year with Alonso, his former team-mate.

The site encourages fans to place nails, drawing pins and even porcupines on a



Victim of abuse:
Lewis Hamilton

map of the Brazilian GP circuit hoping they will cause the McLaren driver to crash out of Sunday's race. The website says it is not responsible for the content of the messages.

The 23-year-old need finish only fifth to be champion. He was jeered and called a 'black s***' by Spanish fans when he was testing in Barcelona earlier this year.

■ A mystery gambler who bet a decade ago that Hamilton would win the F1 championship stands to pocket £125,000 if he is successful at the weekend.

You helped in the appliance of science, says Metronaut

ASTRONAUT Richard Garriott said yesterday that Metro was remarkably useful in space – as a substitute for his computer. The 47-year-old, who landed safely on Saturday after ten days on the International Space Station, said the newspaper – the first in space – contained a perfect write-up of tests he had to carry out.

'It was better than the data I had on my laptop, so I actually used it as my notes throughout my execution of those experiments and questions,' he added. Mr Garriott, who was born in Cambridge but raised in Texas, was blasted into orbit

alongside Russian cosmonauts after paying £20million for his dream ticket. Up there, he carried out experiments suggested by primary school children via a Metro competition. 'I was really impressed with how insightful a lot of these kids' questions were,' he said. Tests included gargling after brushing his teeth and taking a zero-gravity 'magic carpet' ride on a towel. On a personal note, he added the experience of seeing the Earth from Space had changed him. 'The view is fantastic,' he said.

Log on to www.metro.co.uk to watch Richard's full interview



Rocket ride: The Soyuz

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