

Adelaide, 29 December 2000

Audi drivers about Adelaide Street Circuit

Frank Biela (#78): "It's typical for a street circuit that it is slippery at the beginning and then gets more and more grip from session to session. It's a very interesting and exciting track but at the same time it's very tricky: If you don't fully concentrate the race could be over immediately. Along with my three team mates I did the practice for the Beetle Cup. This helps a little. On the one hand you know more whether the track is going left or right but on the other hand you have a completely different view and speed in a sportscar like the Audi R8."

Rinaldo Capello (#77): "I think about 80 percent of the corners are not very difficult. But the only thing you have to avoid is to be too confident. Because if you make the smallest mistake the wall is right there. The circuit is much more dangerous than it looks on first sight. In some corners the speed is very high and in others you have to be extremely careful. The crowd is absolutely fascinating. I think this will be one of the greatest races this year."

Allan McNish (#77): "It's great to race in Australia. Together with Crocodile Dingo I'm looking forward very much to this highlight of the year. Unfortunately I could only do four laps today because I got some problems with my back. It suddenly started to hurt when I pulled off my kilt I wore for a photo shoot. Until then, everything was fine despite a little understeer. But I think that was only due to dust on the circuit."

Emanuele Pirro (#78): "Sometimes when you come back to a circuit after a long time, you are not very sure about the corners or the speed you can go. But once you did your first lap it's all coming back to you as if you load a file and put it on the screen. That's what happened to me today. Here in Adelaide you have to keep your concentration all of the time. During today's practice sessions the grip was very low so I'm looking on how the track will be looking when there is more rubber on it."

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www.audi-sportpress.com (password required)