Antonelli leads practice on new Madrid track as F1 returns to Spain

BY TALES AZZONI
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Manu Fernandez/AP Photo

Mercedes driver Andrea Kimi Antonelli of Italy steers his car during the second free practice ahead of the Spanish Formula One Grand Prix, in Madrid on Friday, Sept. 11.

Bernat Armanague/AP Photo

Mercedes driver Andrea Kimi Antonelli of Italy prepares for the first free practice ahead of the Spanish Formula One Grand Prix, in Madrid on Friday, Sept. 11.

MADRID — Kimi Antonelli kept his momentum on the challenging new Madring track on Friday, leading the way in practice in the return of Formula 1's Spanish Grand Prix to Madrid.

Antonelli, the points leader coming off an epic comeback win in Monza, set the fastest time at the hybrid circuit that proved difficult but didn't yield many major incidents on the first day of track action.

Arvid Lindblad's crash prompted the first red flag of the weekend. He lost control of his Racing Bull on a turn and hit the barriers.

“It is a very cool circuit to drive around,” Antonelli said. “It is a real challenge for us as drivers, with lots of high-speed corners and walls close by. You need to be very precise with your lines and good on the brakes.

"It is very easy to lock up as there are a lot of places where you are braking and turning at the same time. It is a fun challenge and one that I am enjoying. We've had a good first day here."

Some drivers went off the track and a few brushed the walls at the unforgiving layout which mixes city roads and purpose-built sections. Many struggled to avoid track limits, and traffic was an issue as the layout produced few overtaking opportunities.

Qualifying on Saturday was likely to be key in determining Sunday's winner of F1's first race in Madrid in 45 years.

“Overtaking is likely going to be a real challenge,” Antonelli said. “That makes our single-lap work tomorrow morning even more important. We will focus on that overnight, but also looking to ensure we have a good race car for Sunday.”

Drivers said tire degradation would likely be an issue. Teams said the tires were tricky to get into the correct operating window as grip was surprisingly good.

“There's a big question mark over the tire degradation," Antonelli's Mercedes teammate George Russell said. "With the tire degradation we all had, we think a six-stop race would probably have been the fastest way. I don't think anybody's going to do a six-stop race on Sunday and I'm sure tire deg will be better, but with that big long corner, it really hurts the tires. That's going to be a real challenge for everyone.”

Russell was fastest in the first practice, followed by Antonelli, who is looking to keep his momentum and add to his points lead after rallying from 19th on the grid to win his home Italian GP in Monza last weekend.

FERRARIS SHOW GOOD PACE AS WELL

Ferrari's Charles Leclerc and Lewis Hamilton were second and third in the second session, respectively, both about a tenth of a second behind Antonelli. Lindblad was fourth despite his crash, ahead of Russell and Red Bull's Max Verstappen.

“I'm really sorry, I lost it super early,” rookie Lindblad told his team over the radio.

McLaren's Lando Norris had his run cut short early in the second session because of a gearbox problem.

Last weekend's victory gave the 20-year-old Antonelli a 66-point lead over Russell with 10 races remaining.

The Spanish GP ends the European part of the season.

EXCITING NEW TRACK

The 5.4-kilometer (3.3-mile) Madring track, the newest addition to the F1 calendar since Las Vegas' debut three years ago, combines high-speed zones, heavy-braking areas, changes of gradient, blind turns and high-load corners that should give drivers little margin for error.

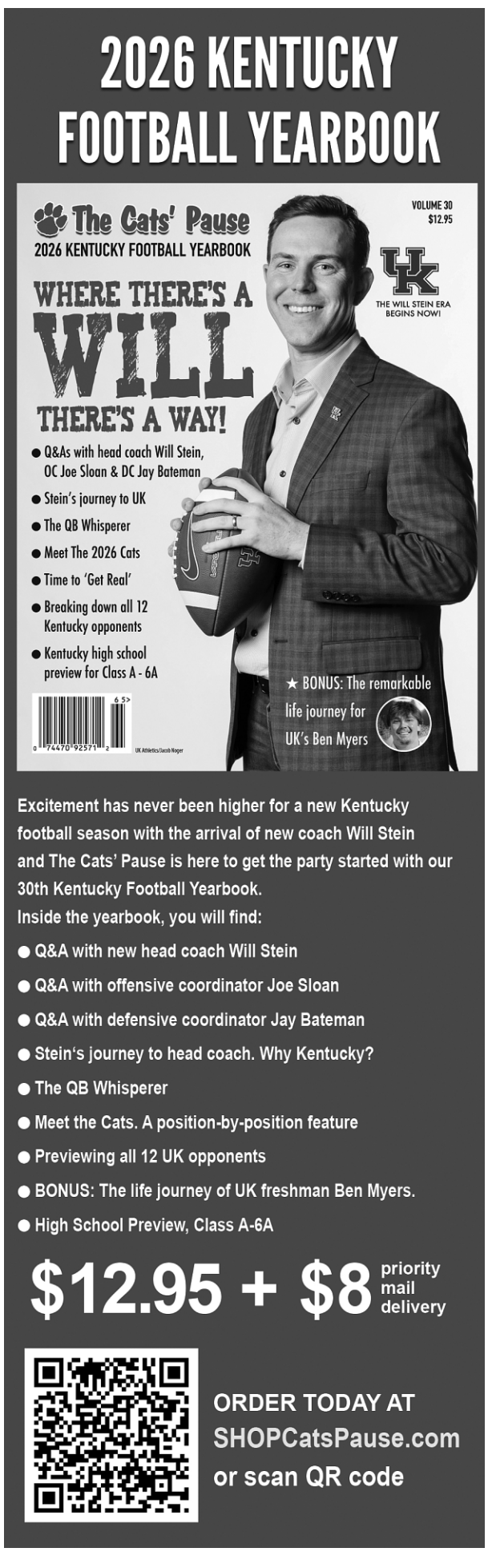
Cars from F2 and F3 were the first to take to the track on Friday, with a fiery crash involving F2 driver Tasanapol Inthraphuvasak after he hit the barriers and his car caught fire.

SPANISH DRIVERS STRUGGLE

Organizers said tickets for the Spanish GP were sold out, with 350,000 people in total expected to attend over the three days of racing.

But it was unlikely they will be celebrating a victory for one of the two Spanish drivers as Fernando Alonso 's Aston Martin and Carlos Sainz's Williams remained off the pace.

Alonso missed parts of the second practice because of a clutch problem. He ended 15th in the first session and 17th in the second. Sainz was 17th fastest in the first session and 16th in the second.



LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

In accordance with KRS 424 and KRS 100.211, notice is hereby given that Community and Development Services will hold a public hearing on September 28, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. Central Time / 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time at the Hopkinsville Community College Auditorium Building in the Lecture Hall, 720 North Drive, Hopkinsville, KY. The purpose of the public hearing is as follows:

ZTA26-6-1
The Hopkinsville-Christian County Planning Commission (Community and Development Services), by Resolution 2026-03, has initiated an amendment to the Hopkinsville Zoning Ordinance (zoning code). The amendment, upon adoption, will 1) define data centers and related terms; 2) establish standards for the siting, construction, installation, and operation of data centers; and 3) amend Appendix A “Schedule of Uses” to specify the district(s) in which data centers, by type, are permitted.

A copy of the proposed text amendment, including any accompanying Plan Review Committee text recommendations, may be reviewed between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday at Community and Development Services, 311 W. 9th Street, Hopkinsville, Kentucky on or after September 21, 2026.

COMMUNITY AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
311 WEST 9TH STREET
HOPKINSVILLE, KY 42240

LEGAL NOTICE

Child Find for Children with Disabilities in Need of Special Education or 504 Services

Educational Records
The Christian County School *District* keeps educational records in a secure location in each school and Board office.

The *Christian County School District* obtains written consent from a parent or eligible student (age 18 or who is attending a postsecondary institution), before disclosing personally identifiable information to an entity or individual not authorized to receive it under FERPA.

For students who have been determined eligible for Special Education, educational records will be destroyed at the request of the parents when they are no longer needed to provide educational programs or services. The *Christian County School District* may destroy the educational records of a child without parent request 3 years after they are no longer needed to provide educational programs or services. Parents are advised that data contained in the records may later be needed for Social Security benefits or other purposes. The *Christian County School District* may retain, for an indefinite period of time, a record of the student's name, address, telephone number, grades, attendance records, classes attended, grade level completed, and year completed.

Eligibility
Children eligible for Special Education include those children with disabilities who have autism, deaf-blindness, developmental delay, emotional-behavior disability, hearing impairment, mental disability, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairment, specific learning disability, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, or visual impairment and who because of such an impairment need Special Education services.

Children eligible for 504 services include those children in a public elementary and secondary education program who have a current physical or mental impairment that currently substantially limits some major life activity which causes the student's ability to access the school environment or school activities to be substantially limited.

Children eligible for the State-Funded Preschool program include three- and four-year-old children identified with disabilities. Preschool children eligible for special education must have an Individual Education Plan (IEP) instead of a 504 plan to receive State-Funded Preschool program services.

The *Christian County School District* has an ongoing “Child Find”system, which is designed to locate, identify and evaluate any child residing in a home, facility, or
residence within its geographical boundaries, age three (3) to twenty-one (21) years, who may have a disability and be in need of Special Education or 504 services. This includes children who are not in school; those who are in public, private, or home school; those who are highly mobile such as children who are migrant or homeless; and those who are advancing from grade to grade, who may need but are not receiving Special Education or 504 services.

The district's *“Child Find*” system includes children with disabilities attending private or home schools within the school district boundaries who may need special education services.

The *Christian County School District* will make sure any child enrolled in its district who qualifies for Special Education or 504 services, regardless of how severe the disability, is provided appropriate Special Education or 504 services at no cost to the parents of the child.

Parents, relatives, public and private agency employees, and concerned citizens are urged to help the *Christian County School District* find any child who may have a disability and need Special Education or 504 services. The District needs to know the name and age, or date of birth of the child; the name, address, and phone number(s) of the parents or guardian; the possible disability; and other information to determine if Special Education or 504 services are needed.

Letters and phone calls are some of the ways the *Christian County School District* collects the information needed. The information the school District collects will be used to contact the parents of the child and find out if the child needs to be evaluated or referred for Special Education or 504 services.

If you know of a child who lives within the boundaries of the *Christian County School District*, who may have a disability, and may need but is not receiving Special Education or 504 services, please call 270-887-7000 or send the information to:

Director of Special Education
Christian County School District
200 Glass Ave.
Hopkinsville, Ky 42240
Ph. 270-887-7000

Section 504 Coordinator
Christian County School District
200 Glass Ave.
Hopkinsville, Ky 42240
Ph. 270-887-7000

If you know of a child who attends a private or home school within the boundaries of the Christian County School District, who may have a disability, and may need but is not receiving Special Education services, please call **270-887-7000** or send the information to:

Director of Special Education
Christian County School District
200 Glass Ave.
Hopkinsville, Ky 42240
Ph. 270-887-7000

“Child Find” activities will continue throughout the school year. As part of these efforts the *Christian County School District* will use screening information, student records, and basic assessment information it collects on all children in the District to help locate those children who have a disability and need Special Education or 504 services. Any information the District collects through “*Child Find*” is maintained confidentially.

Written *Policies and Procedures* have been developed which describe the District's requirements regarding the confidentiality of personally identifiable information and *“Child Find”* activities. There are copies in the Principal's office of each school, and in the Board of Education office. Copies of these *Policies and Procedures* may be obtained by contacting:

Director of Pupil Personnel
Christian County School District
200 Glass Ave.
Hopkinsville, Ky 42240
Ph. 270-887-7000

The District office is open Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The *Christian County School District* provides a public notice in the native language or other mode of communication of the various populations in the geographical boundaries of the District to the extent feasible.

If you know of someone who may need this notice translated to another language, given orally, or delivered in some other manner or mode of communication, please contact the *Director of Pupil Personnel*, the *Director of Special Education* or the *Section 504 Coordinator* at the address or phone number listed above for the Christian County Schools.

For 2026-2027 School Year
4907-7859-5757, v. 1