seen chatting with spectators, relaxing inside air-conditioned motorhomes, or working alongside mechanics to put the finishing touches on their cars. At the same time they were preparing mentally for the race, each knowing that only one driver would celebrate a victory.

Once the green flag fell even the best prepared plans went down the drain. Brakes locked up in a corner, which left a car in an uncontrollable slide, finally winding up balanced on the side of a dirt bank. An anxious driver hurried back onto the track after a spin, and crossed in front of a leading car. The resulting accident put both cars out of the race and caused tempers to flare.

But regardless of the outcome, the drivers will all be back for the next race, both . . .