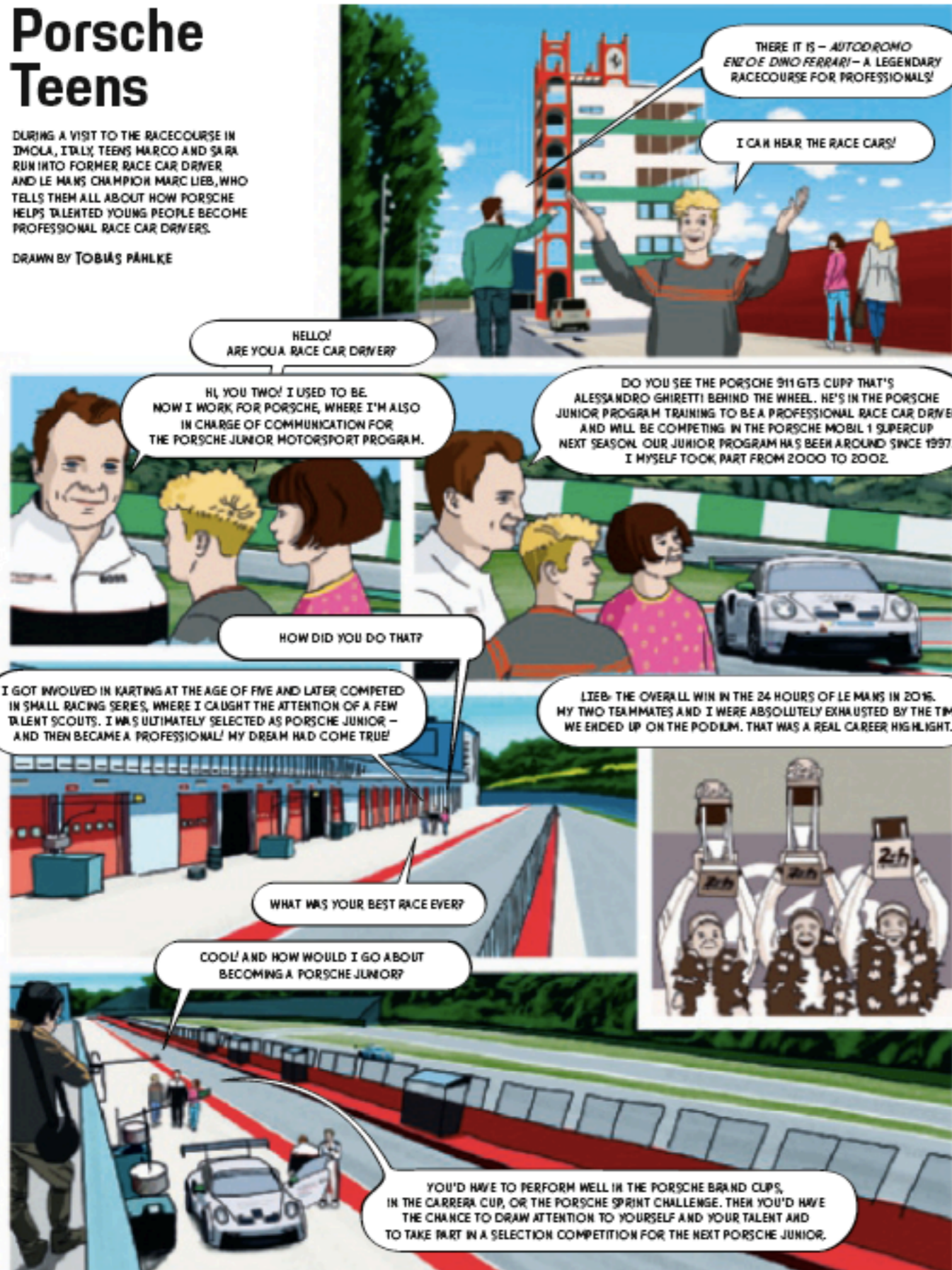


Porsche Teens

DURING A VISIT TO THE RACECOURSE IN IMOLA, ITALY, TEENS MARCO AND SARA RUN INTO FORMER RACE CAR DRIVER AND LE MANS CHAMPION MARC LIEB, WHO TELLS THEM ALL ABOUT HOW PORSCHE HELPS TALENTED YOUNG PEOPLE BECOME PROFESSIONAL RACE CAR DRIVERS.

DRAWN BY TOBIAS PAHLKE



THERE IT IS - AUTODROMO ENZO E DINO FERRARI - A LEGENDARY RACECOURSE FOR PROFESSIONALS!

I CAN HEAR THE RACE CARS!

HELLO! ARE YOU A RACE CAR DRIVER?

HI, YOU TWO! I USED TO BE. NOW I WORK FOR PORSCHE, WHERE I'M ALSO IN CHARGE OF COMMUNICATION FOR THE PORSCHE JUNIOR MOTORSPORT PROGRAM.

DO YOU SEE THE PORSCHE 911 GT3 CUP? THAT'S ALESSANDRO GHIRETTI BEHIND THE WHEEL. HE'S IN THE PORSCHE JUNIOR PROGRAM TRAINING TO BE A PROFESSIONAL RACE CAR DRIVER AND WILL BE COMPETING IN THE PORSCHE MOBIL 1 SUPERCUP NEXT SEASON. OUR JUNIOR PROGRAM HAS BEEN AROUND SINCE 1997. I MYSELF TOOK PART FROM 2000 TO 2002.

HOW DID YOU DO THAT?

I GOT INVOLVED IN KARTING AT THE AGE OF FIVE AND LATER, COMPETED IN SMALL RACING SERIES, WHERE I CAUGHT THE ATTENTION OF A FEW TALENT SCOUTS. I WAS ULTIMATELY SELECTED AS PORSCHE JUNIOR - AND THEN BECAME A PROFESSIONAL! MY DREAM HAD COME TRUE!

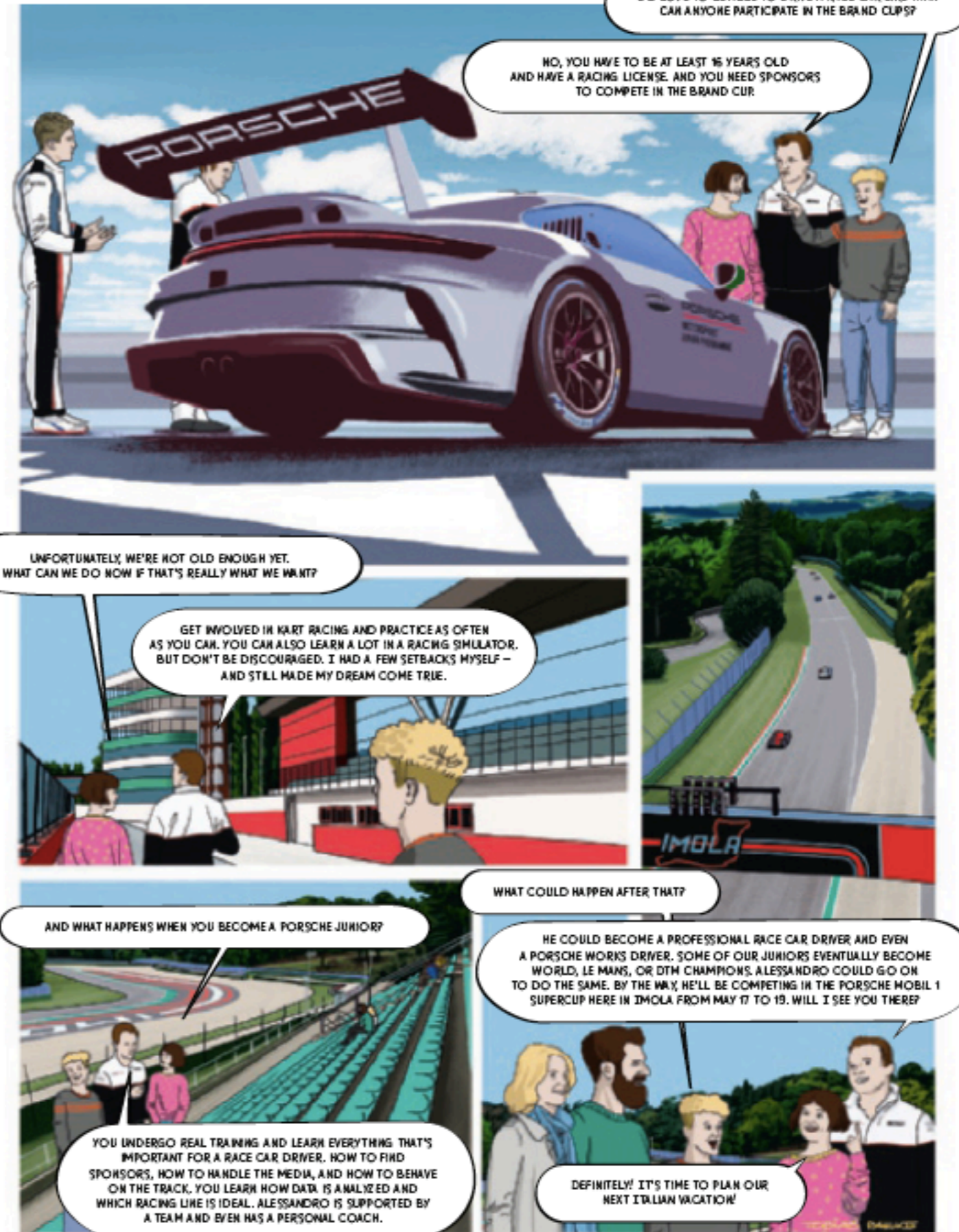
LIEB: THE OVERALL WIN IN THE 24 HOURS OF LE MANS IN 2016. MY TWO TEAMMATES AND I WERE ABSOLUTELY EXHAUSTED BY THE TIME WE ENDED UP ON THE PODIUM. THAT WAS A REAL CAREER HIGHLIGHT.

WHAT WAS YOUR BEST RACE EVER?



COOL! AND HOW WOULD I GO ABOUT BECOMING A PORSCHE JUNIOR?

YOU'D HAVE TO PERFORM WELL IN THE PORSCHE BRAND CUPS, IN THE CARRERA CUP, OR THE PORSCHE SPRINT CHALLENGE. THEN YOU'D HAVE THE CHANCE TO DRAW ATTENTION TO YOURSELF AND YOUR TALENT AND TO TAKE PART IN A SELECTION COMPETITION FOR THE NEXT PORSCHE JUNIOR.



I'D LOVE TO BE ABLE TO DRIVE A RACE CAR LIKE THAT. CAN ANYONE PARTICIPATE IN THE BRAND CUP?

NO, YOU HAVE TO BE AT LEAST 16 YEARS OLD AND HAVE A RACING LICENSE. AND YOU NEED SPONSORS TO COMPETE IN THE BRAND CUP.

UNFORTUNATELY, WE'RE NOT OLD ENOUGH YET. WHAT CAN WE DO NOW IF THAT'S REALLY WHAT WE WANT?

GET INVOLVED IN KART RACING AND PRACTICE AS OFTEN AS YOU CAN. YOU CAN ALSO LEARN A LOT IN A RACING SIMULATOR. BUT DON'T BE DISCOURAGED. I HAD A FEW SETBACKS MYSELF - AND STILL MADE MY DREAM COME TRUE.

AND WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU BECOME A PORSCHE JUNIOR?

YOU UNDERGO REAL TRAINING AND LEARN EVERYTHING THAT'S IMPORTANT FOR A RACE CAR DRIVER. HOW TO FIND SPONSORS, HOW TO HANDLE THE MEDIA, AND HOW TO BEHAVE ON THE TRACK. YOU LEARN HOW DATA IS ANALYZED AND WHICH RACING LINE IS IDEAL. ALESSANDRO IS SUPPORTED BY A TEAM AND EVEN HAS A PERSONAL COACH.

WHAT COULD HAPPEN AFTER THAT?

HE COULD BECOME A PROFESSIONAL RACE CAR DRIVER AND EVEN A PORSCHE WORKS DRIVER. SOME OF OUR JUNIORS EVENTUALLY BECOME WORLD, LE MANS, OR DTM CHAMPIONS. ALESSANDRO COULD GO ON TO DO THE SAME. BY THE WAY, HE'LL BE COMPETING IN THE PORSCHE MOBIL 1 SUPERCUP HERE IN IMOLA FROM MAY 17 TO 19. WILL I SEE YOU THERE?

DEFINITELY! IT'S TIME TO PLAN OUR NEXT ITALIAN VACATION!