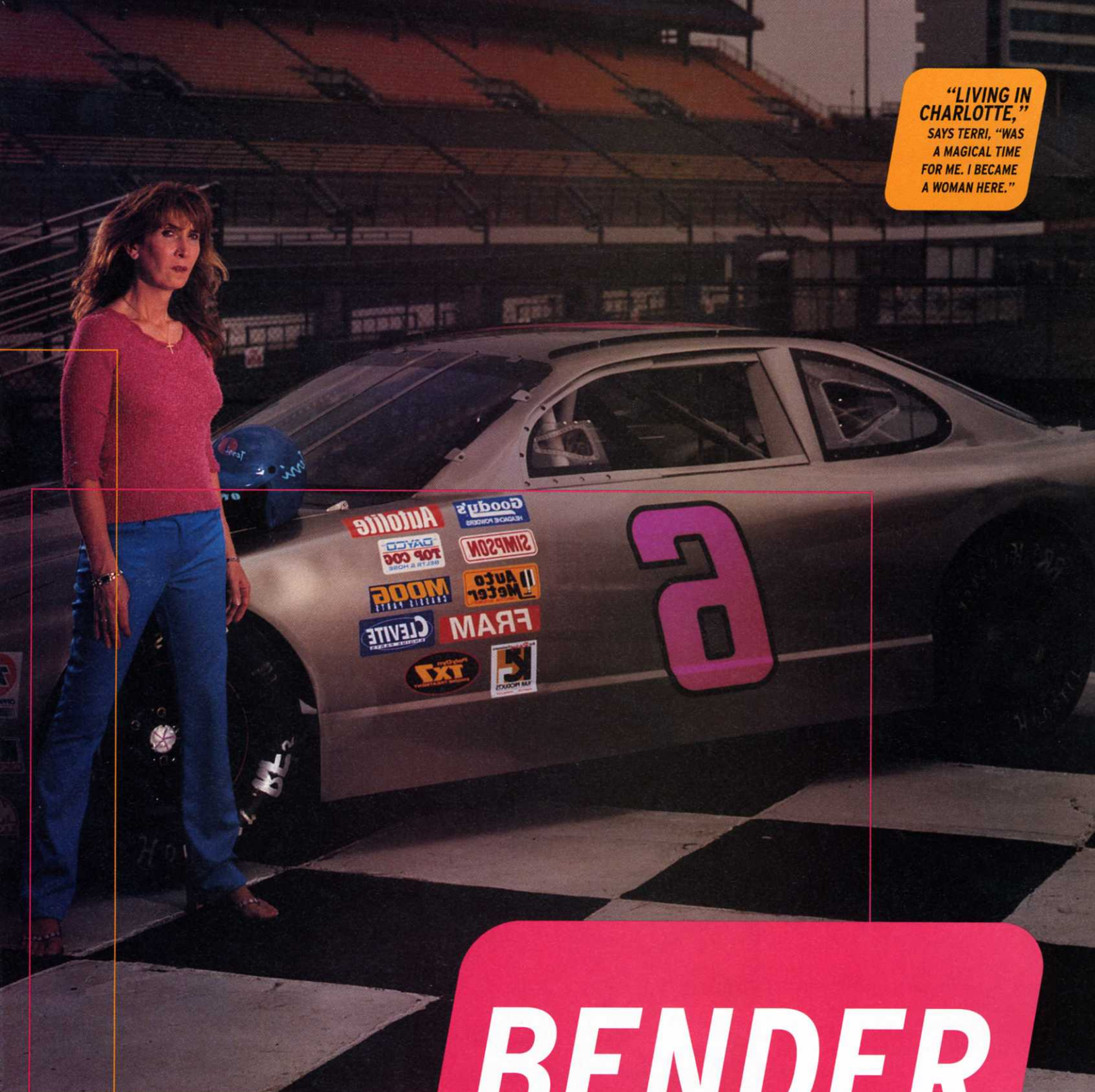


GENDER

"LIVING IN CHARLOTTE,"
SAYS TERRI, "WAS A MAGICAL TIME FOR ME. I BECAME A WOMAN HERE."



BENDER

TERRI O'CONNELL HAS EVERYTHING TO MAKE IT BIG IN THE HIGHLY COMMERCIAL WORLD OF NASCAR: A PRETTY FACE, AN AGGRESSIVE FOOT, AND A COMPELLING STORY. SO WHY DOESN'T NASCAR WANT HER NEAR A TRACK NEXT MONTH?

BY KEVIN GRAY PHOTOGRAPH BY TARYN SIMON