

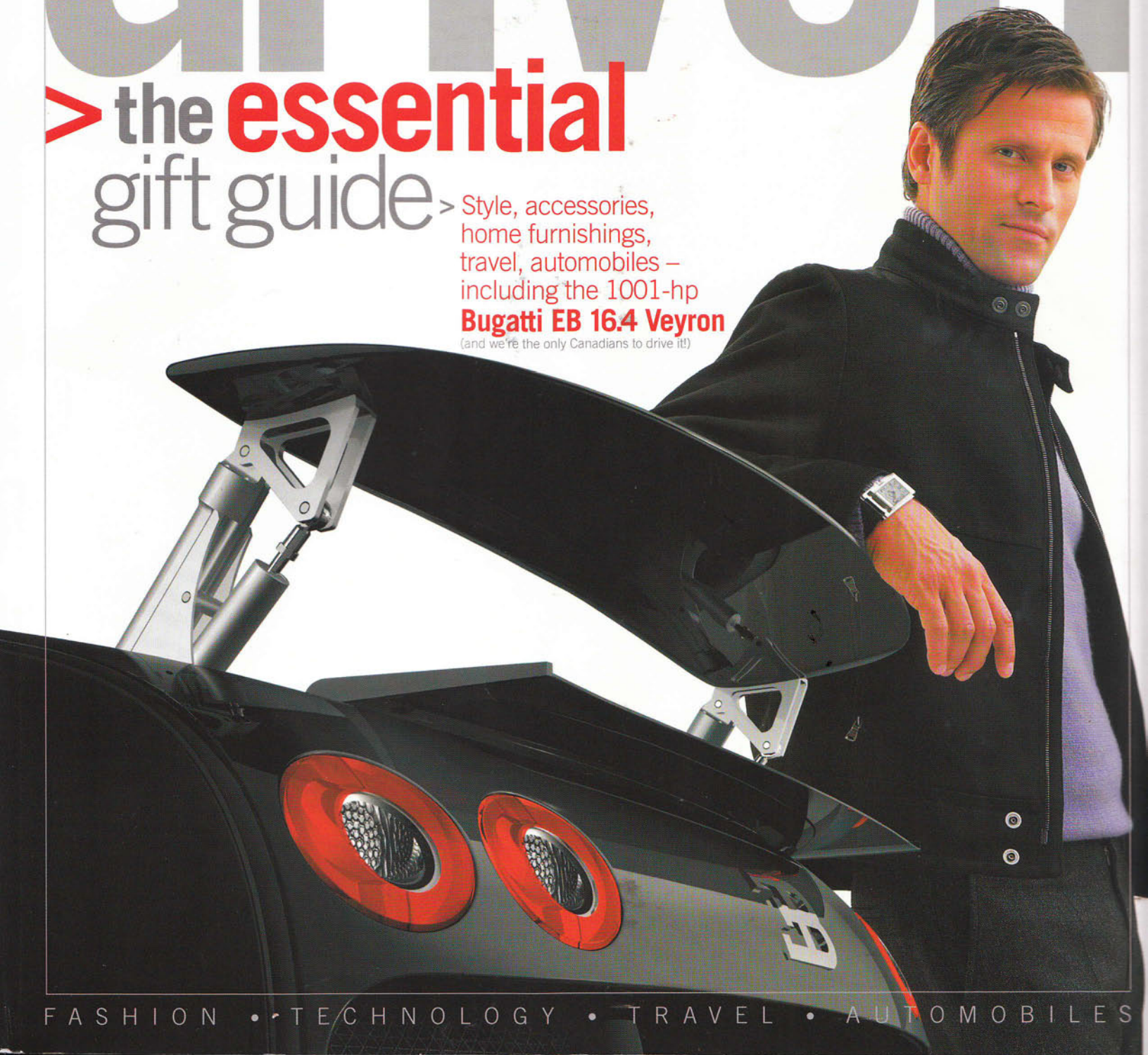
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LIFE IN
MOTION

driven

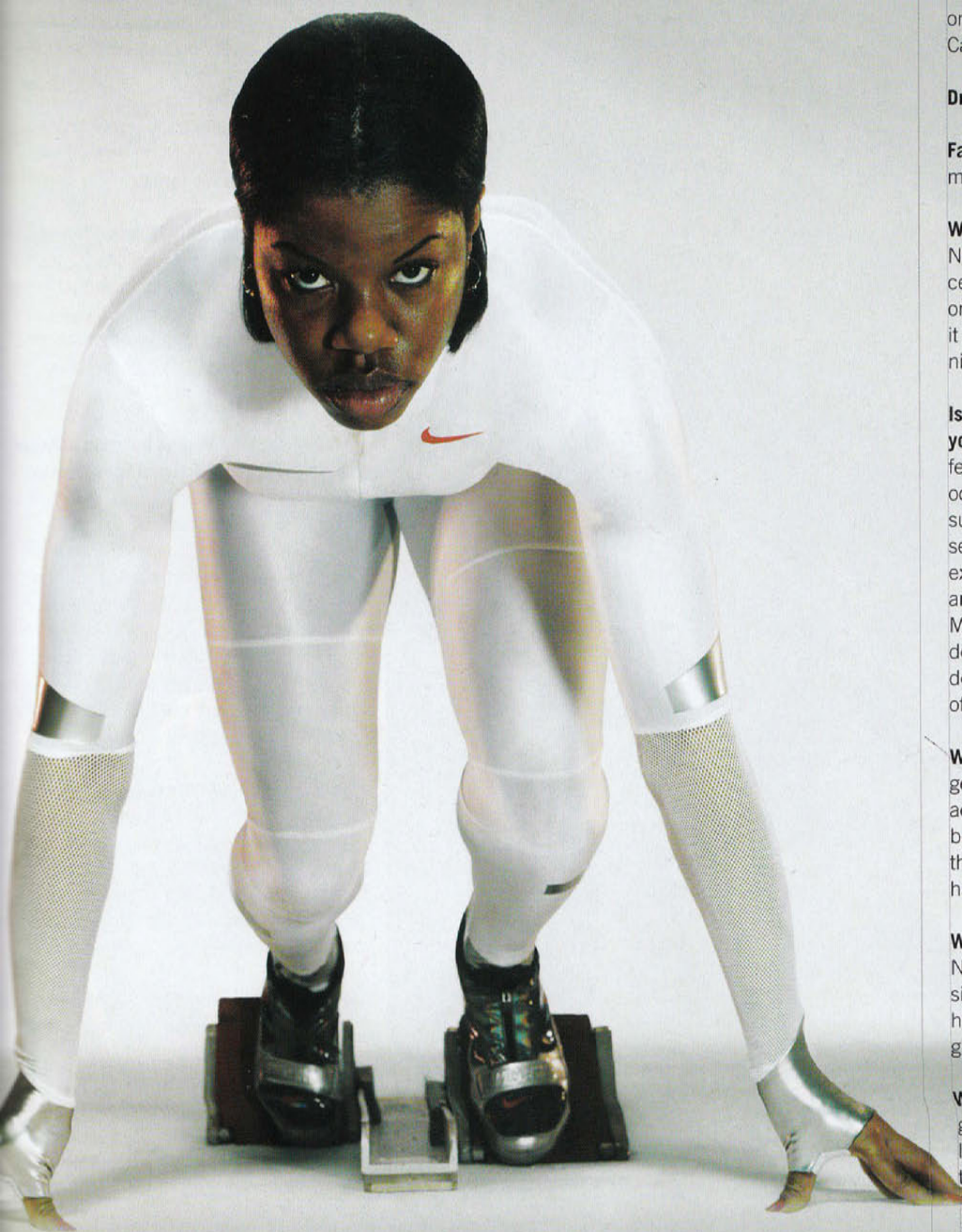
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eight great interviews

How being DRIVEN led to the various successes of the following seven people (and one robot) by James Hunter



Perdita Felicien

World champion hurdler

Fast facts: Perdita was named after a contestant her mother saw on the *Price Is Right*, attended the University of Illinois on athletic scholarship and represented Canada at the 2004 summer Olympics.

Drives: 2005 Subaru Legacy.

Favourite thing: A deep 60-minute post-race massage – or intense workout.

What does being DRIVEN mean to you:

Never accepting the word no. Never accepting a door being shut. Getting so close one day that you can almost taste it, and if it doesn't happen, going to bed that same night and dreaming of it.

Is there such a thing as balance between

your personal and professional life: My professional life and personal life are always at odds, and it is usually my personal life that suffers by getting the least attention. I have set my priorities, and the pursuit of athletic excellence is extremely high and certain areas of my life will have to be put on hold. My friends understand and I love them dearly. They enjoy seeing me succeed and don't mind that they don't hear from me as often as we all would like.

What guides your career decisions: I always get plenty of feedback from my trusted advisors, people whose opinion I trust and believe in. Even if we disagree, I love to hear their logic – perhaps they suggest avenues I had never thought of myself.

Who is your mentor: My agent Renaldo Nehemiah is my mentor, he was a professional track athlete and in the NFL. I value his advice. Renaldo doesn't sugar coat, he gives it to me plain and simple.

What has been your greatest sacrifice: I have given up being close to my family in order to live my dream. I live in southern Illinois and train with my college coach Gary Winckler. I get to see my family for holidays, but ten months of the year, I am either travelling around the world or training in Illinois.

Web site: www.olympic.ca