As Bernie Ecclestone Departs

Formula One Enters New Era "When the inaugural race of the 2017 Formula One season starts in Melbourne Australia on Sunday it will mark the first time in 43 years that Bernie Ecclestone will not be running the racing series. He was swept aside in late January when the Liberty Media Corporation the Colorado-based company whose chairman is John C. Malone completed its purchase of a 35.5 percent stake of Formula One. So while Ecclestone 86 was an outsize personality who often dominated the headlines occasionally overshadowing what was happening on the track this season's questions are all about the changes to the cars whether the Mercedes team really can win the drivers' and constructors' championships for a fourth year in a row and what the new owners have in store for Formula One. Formula One Management is now run by Chase Carey the former executive vice chairman of 21st Century Fox who said when he was appointed chief executive that the business and the sport has not reached full potential. He said the races need to be more of a spectacle becoming "21 Super Bowls with weeklong extravaganzas with entmt and music that capture a whole city."