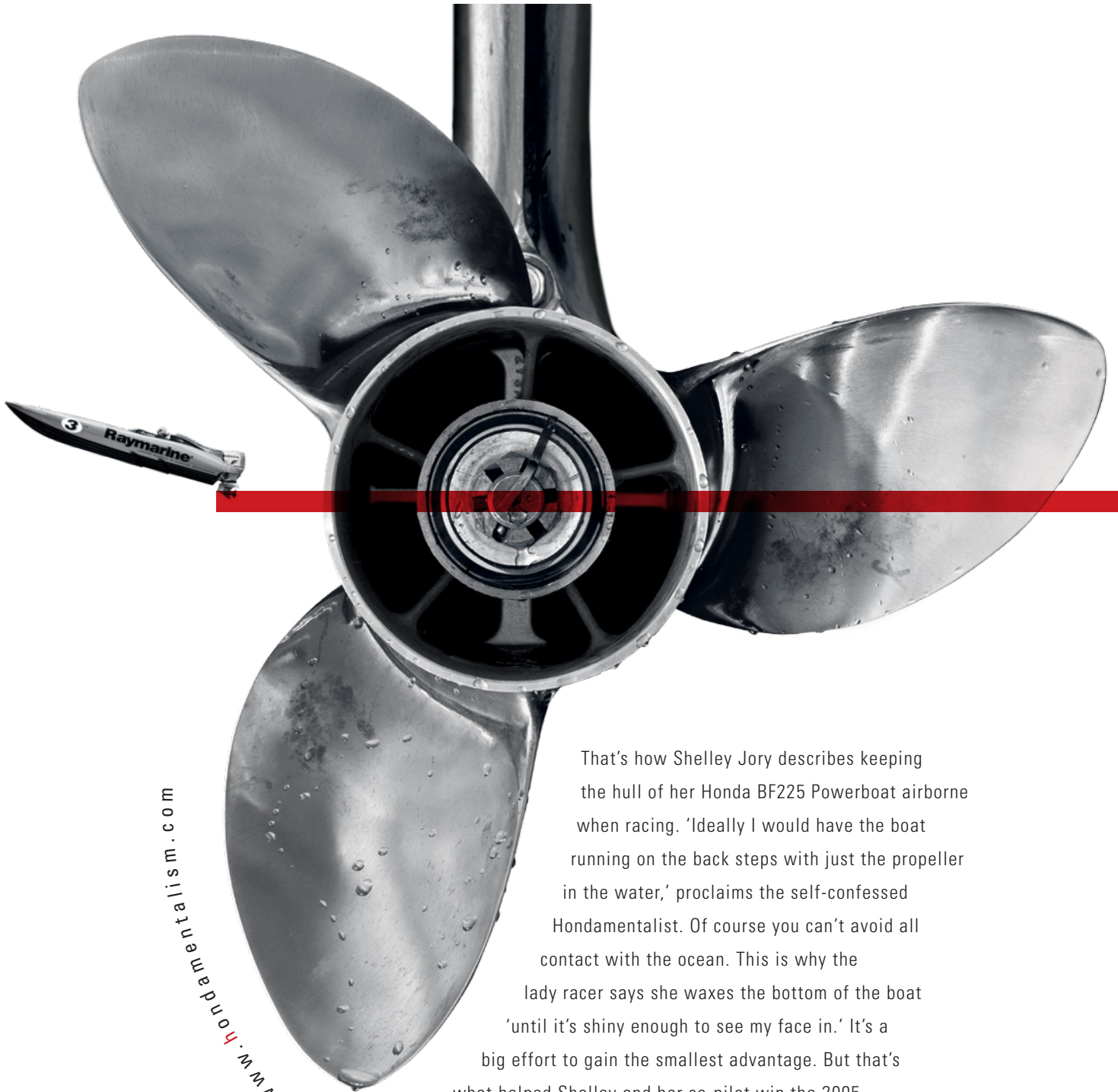


"It's a bit like  
balancing the tip of a 26ft  
plank on top of a ball."



**HONDA**



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That's how Shelley Jory describes keeping the hull of her Honda BF225 Powerboat airborne when racing. 'Ideally I would have the boat running on the back steps with just the propeller in the water,' proclaims the self-confessed Hondamentalist. Of course you can't avoid all contact with the ocean. This is why the lady racer says she waxes the bottom of the boat 'until it's shiny enough to see my face in.' It's a big effort to gain the smallest advantage. But that's what helped Shelley and her co-pilot win the 2005 British Championship; beating 28 men.