

Davies drives to title

By ROGER GALE

PEMBREY provided a thrilling climax to the year-long duel for victory in the P+P Supplies Welsh Racing Drivers Championship

Two races for the sports and saloon racers within the packed truck racing meeting decided the three way battle for the title, with reigning champion Martin Davies of Haverfordwest in the M&S Engineering Sierra Cosworth defending the crown from Port Talbot's Kartrak Darrian driver Terry Brown and Swansea Supertrax man Mike Schmidt in his TRW-Cabletel Sierra Cosworth 4x4.

Race one saw a startling performance off the line by Schmidt, making the most of his better traction in the slippery conditions. He went on to win and had the distinction of the fastest lap.

The massive trucks liberally coated the circuit with rubber and diesel vapour and added to the already momentous task of the car racers.

Martin Davies did not give up, however, hounding his Ford rival, as did Terry Brown before a disastrous spin at Hatchets Hairpin on

lap two dropped the Kartrak Darrian down to seventh.

Darrian luck was well and truly limited in the race. The development machine of Ken Thompson shattered its engine on the same lap, with a con-rod reportedly ventilating the block.

Fellow Swansea Institute Racing man Roger Dowden proved a longer lasting prospect bringing his T90 version of the Lampeter-constructed sportscar into fifth place and class fastest lap, while Peter Dark got his T90 to third.

Carmarthen's Graham Hollis split the sports cars in fourth with his Sierra Cosworth. Series Sponsor Larry Phillips rounded off his season with a class fastest lap with his Rover 216, though beaten by Skewen's Nigel Jones in the Honda CRX.

With Schmidt's win things were even closer Championship wise, and the contest was down to the last race of the year.

Brown knew that nothing less than a win, with the opposition not well placed, would

bring him the Championship to take back to Port Talbot, and his start showed that he meant business.

Schmidt made yet another flier, his Cosworth getting the power effectively, but Brown led as the field streamed through the opening lap. His advantage steadily increased, as Schmidt exited the race in dramatic fashion on the second lap after snapping a suspension component.

Brown was in a commanding lead, though worried about his car's head gasket and Martin Davies in pursuit, but clinched victory as others retired including Dowden, whose Darrian shredded a rear tyre, and Sue Hollis, her Fiesta smoking into the paddock.

Larry Phillips took a class win despite a spin on the opening lap, reversing earlier race roles with the Jones Honda.

Martin Davies was content in third, knowing he had enough in hand to take the P+P crown back to West Wales.

Brown was first to congratulate the delighted Haverfordwest series winner, saying: "Martin drove well. I gave it all I had."

Davies was delighted. "I'm delighted," he said. "That's a lot of pressure off. The last week has been almost unbearable. Mike Schmidt made a good-start, and I was looking forward to a battle with him after Terry got away, but his accident ended that."

THE P+P Supplies/WRDA Championship Conference will be held at the Gwenllian Court Hotel, Kidwelly, on November 10 at 12.30pm.

The function also hosts the 1996 P+P Championship and 1996 Formula Ford Awards Presentation, in addition to the Welsh Racing Drivers Association annual meeting, and those wishing to attend should contact Robert Allender on Swansea 791686.

SWANSEA Institute student John Morgan took his Nissan rally car to a creditable seventh overall and best Formula 2 on last week-ends Jersey Rally. Reunited with co-driver Venessa Evans, after the conclusion of her world tour, the local crew, backed by travel specialists Allways Travel of Abergavenny, climbed to fifth place.

NEXT WEEK'S DARTS FIXTURES

RED DRAGON WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Div. 1: Pantygywydr A v

narlwydd) bye.

Div. 5: Naval-Military A v

Vivian Arms, Four Seasons

v Travellers Well, The Glamorgan v Pines Club, Union

Inn v Farmers Arms, Wern

Inn v Three Compasses.

AND LEAGUE TABLES

RED DRAGON LEAGUE WOMEN'S DIVISION ONE

	P	Pts
Brynmelyn	9	39
Haverfordwest	9	39

DIVISION THREE

Elysium Club	9	38
Swansea Sports Club	8	35
Clase Club	9	35
Morriston United	9	32

DIVISION FIVE

Maltsters Arms	9	42
Naval & Military Club A	9	36
Naval & Military Club B	9	34
Haverfordwest	9	33