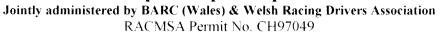


The P + P Supplies

1997 Welsh Championship for Sports & Saloon Cars









to the Sports Desk, South Wales Echo

Pembrey 20th May

Caerphilly sports car driver Graham Cole driving a Welsh made Darrian T90 staked a early season challenge for the 1997 P+P Supplies Welsh Championship, as Carmathen's Terry Brown also driving Darrian sportscar took a one point lead with a two outright race wins in the double race opening rounds at Pembrey circuit on Sunday, but Cole showed signs that Brown may face some tough oppostion in his bid for the 1997 title. Cole made a slow start to the first race but closed dramtically in the closing laps when Brown was held up whilst lapping some backmarkers. In a thrilling finale Cole closed to within 1.45 seconds of Brown at the end. Pontrhydafendigaids' Peter Dark made it a Darrian 1-2-3, ahead of the saloon car of reinging champion Martin Davies. once Davies had the good fortune to see St Clears' Graham Hollis sidelined with a misfire after he had begun to threaten to eclipse the triple champion. Swansea driver Nigel Jones won the prodcution class in his Sierra Coworth as did Granville Williams who picked up the 1600 c.c class in his Toyota MR2. The second race was again dominated by Brown, but this time Cole had to start behind the rest after practice problems but managed to claw his way up to finish in 3rd place behind Peter Dark.

Davies, Jones and Williams again took class wins. Provisional points show Terry Brown leading with 12 points with Nigel Jones on 11 points and Granville Williams on 10 and Cole on 5 points. The next round of the championship will be on May 5th at Mondello Park when Treorchys' Alvin Powell is expected to make his debut with his Ford Mondeo ex-world championship winning car.

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