

my trip to America caused me. I returned far.

## Tim's struggle

THE 1985 Marlboro British Formula 3 series starts on March 3 but Lampeter's Tim Davies faces an uphill struggle after destroying the original Swallow Reynard in a testing accident at Goodwood last week.

Davies lost control after putting a wheel on the grass and the massive impact flattened the crash barrier and demo-

lished a brick wall.

Davies commented, "I feel sore and I've got a big headache, but it is getting better."

The force of the accident dispelled any doubts about the safety of the carbon fibre chassis.

The Swallow team will now attempt to build Davies a new car from scratch starting on Monday.

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## Disappointment for

### Davies

THE first round of the Marlborough British Formula 3 series at Silverstone yesterday was dominated by the Swallow Reynard team, but unfortunately for Lampeter's Tim Davies, it was not his car which set the pace.

After his team had worked almost non-stop to build him a new car, Davies was frank enough to admit he was struggling to find the pace as rain swept the track.

It was his team-mate

Andy Wallace, who set the fastest lap, with Davies down on the fourth row.

Rhiwderin's Phil Kempe was also not at home in the conditions after being third fastest in mid-week practice. He could get the Autoclenz car only on to the seventh row.

In the race, Wallace steamed into the distance leaving the rest will

down. Davies recovered from a slow start to take sixth position early on, but as the track dried out his car began to look very twitchy.

He hung on though, to take sixth place and his first championship points, although that brought the normally cheerful lad little real satisfaction.

Kempe meanwhile, was stuck in 11th place and like many was obviously wishing for a nice dry day for the next race, at Thruxton on March 10.

## Tough for Davies

TIM Davies survived a multitude of problems in his quest for Marlborough British Formula Three championship points, but ended up with a hard fought second place at Thruxton at the weekend.

Davies was third fastest in practice despite a broken rear suspension and made a fantastic start to the 15-lap race to take the lead at the first corner.

He then held the lead for the next six laps pursued by Russell Spence and Mauricio Gugelmin, but on lap seven Spence drew alongside and passed Davies at the Complex to take the lead.

Gugelmin then continued to press Davies for second place, but the Lampeter man held on.

Summing up he said, "When I took the lead I thought I was going all the way, but by the sixth lap my front tyre had lost grip and Spence was so much faster."

## Russell's Costa crash

NEWPORT based rally driver Russell Gooding crashed out of the Spanish Costa Blanca rally on Saturday night while fighting for the lead of the Group A category.

Gooding, 24, who was contesting the event in a road car specification Rover Vitesse, had climbed as high as 12th overall and first in Group A during the first half of the rally.

Then a spin and a puncture dropped him back some 30 seconds behind the leaders and, while trying to make up the lost ground, the car skidded on a patch of gravel.

Neither Gooding nor his co-driver Rob Arthur was hurt, but the car suffered

damaged suspension and the crew were unable to continue.

The Costa Blanca rally which is Spain's most important motor sporting event is a major round of the European rally championship, and was contested by leading drivers from all over Europe.

British rally champion Jimmy McRae, driving an Opel Manta 400, finished ninth in the event.

Gooding is contesting the whole of the European Group A challenge, and his next event is in four weeks time in Sardinia.

Lampeter's Tim Davies and Rhiwderin's Phil Kempe were both on the score sheet in the third round of the Marlborough British Formula Three championship at Silver-

stone yesterday as Russell Spence stormed to his second win of the season.

But while fifth place was a triumphant return to form for Kempe, Davies's fourth place was another disappointment because his car suffered from a multitude of problems all weekend. He was once again eclipsed by Andy Wallace, his younger team mate, who came second.

Finally qualifying fifth after missing the first practice session with electrical failure, Davies had a nerve-racking race.

His Swallow Reynard seemed safe in fourth place but he confessed, "It was handling so badly that I went off the track at Club Corner on lap two, and I was lucky to get it back.

"After the eighth lap I was fighting a miss-fire in the engine and then I picked up a terrible vibration two laps from home."

Meanwhile Kempe, fourth fastest, had stormed off from the start and was looking for a good position at the first corner. But he said, "It was really busy down there, and I found myself being forced out. I had to back off and that's when they got me."

Marlborough British Formula Three Championship: Third Round, 20 laps, Silverstone, 1, Russell Spence (GB) winning time 29 min, 44.42 sec; 2, Andy Wallace (GB); 3, Mauricio Gugelmin (Brazil); 4, Tim Davies (Wales); 5, Phil Kempe (Wales); 6, Cathy Muller (France). Fastest lap - Russell Spence 1 min 27.31 sec (120mph).

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