

many more opportunities of impressing the selectors.

Davies is first home winner

Lampeter's Tim Davies was confirmed as the first British winner of the British Formula Ford 2000 championship after clinching the 20th round at the John Player Grand Prix of Europe meeting at Brands Hatch.

At Lyden Hill, near Canterbury, Keith Ripp (Hoddesdon) won the Lloyds Bowmaker British rallycross championship despite finishing last in the final round.

Ripp, driving a Ford Fiesta, was trailing the title leader by 49 points before the Welsh round at Pembrey in July, but after finishing second at the Llanelli track he went on to record a hat-trick of championships.

He won the title in 1981 and 1982. John Greasley, who narrowly beat Ripp at Pembrey, went on to finish fourth in the championship.

Bonus for Welsh motor racing fans

APART from the regular performers, there will be a bonus for Welsh motor racing fans at Castle Combe on Saturday with Tim Davies of Lampeter continuing his bid for the British Formula Ford 2000 championship.

If he wins on Saturday he will be close to taking the most important title to fall to a Welshman since Phil Kempe of Rhiwderin won the Dunlop/Autosport Star of Tomorrow title in 1981.

Davies tried to win that championship in 1978 but withdrew halfway through the season. However, he leads the 1983 British 2000 championship by 66 points and a win on Saturday would put him in a strong position with only four races left.

In addition to Davies there are two other Welshmen capable of taking victory on Saturday.

In the Special GT races this year Barry Reece of Caerphilly has been at his best and last time out he was close to taking his Isis Talbot into the 100mph bracket with an average lap speed of 98mph.

Bargoed's Dave Llewellyn proved beyond doubt that he is currently the fastest man at Castle Combe by taking a deserved victory in the last round of the Formula Ford 1600 championship. Hopefully, last month's win will have given him an appetite for more.

Depending on the outcome of Saturday's races Barry Reece will make a late decision concerning the Wendy Wools championship race at Snetterton on Sunday.

Reece won at Silverstone after the best race of the season but only has the slimmest of chances of winning at Snetterton, which is not his favourite circuit.

Davies set to tighten his grip

LAMPETER racing driver Tim Davies will be at Oulton Park on Saturday for the ninth round of the British Formula Ford 2000 Championship defending a one-point lead.

Davies has had a seesaw season. Three wins and a second place were followed by two crashes, one of which broke his wrist. He took one point in the next three races to slip 20 points behind the leader.

Then he trounced the field at Silverstone on June 5. Using special bodywork on his Penistone Reynard, Davies was able to drive without the normal rear wing, was fastest in practice, and led the race all the way.

He set a lap record on the way, and with his rivals in confusion following an illegal engine scandal, there came another boost.

South American Marico Gugelmin, the series leader, pulled off with a blown engine, letting Davies back into the championship lead which he should strengthen on Saturday.

Davies makes sure of title

LAMPETER'S TIM Davies clinched the British Formula Ford 2000 championship, with three races still to go, by winning the 20th round at Brands Hatch yesterday, a supporting race to the John Player Grand Prix of Europe.

Davies was fastest in practice and for once made a good start. He led every lap and although Maurico Guglemin, the only man who might have taken the title from him, kept up the pressure, Davies had just under a second to spare at the end.

Karl Jones, also of Lampeter, set the fastest practice lap for the John Player Champion of Brands series, but his car was found to be 20lb under weight. He was disqualified, but still leads the series.

LAMPETER'S Tim Davies moved closer to the British Formula Ford 2000 championship when he won with an inspired display at Castle Combe at the weekend. He has now scored 300 points and needs just another 11 to win the title.

Supra re-appearance

MARTIN WILLIAMS re-appeared last week with his new 2.8i Toyota Celica Supra, giving the car its second outing of the year finishing fourth in the Uniroyal Prod saloon round at Silverstone on Bank Holiday Monday. The Llantwit Major Toyota dealer had many successes with his old style 2.0 litre Celica but sold the car last year to make way for the potentially faster Supra. But as he explained, "I was

very upset when the old car t us on our first outing with Supra. It was obviously point continuing in that form so I had the car in the corner wait for the right bits to appear. Supra now handles quite well we'll probably do one or two meetings this year before trying find some more power. A haven't touched the engine so hopefully there is plenty more come."

Tim out of luck again

Lampeter's Tim Davies found luck continuing to run against him when he crashed during a Formula Ford 2000 championship race at Brands Hatch yesterday.

Davies, who won the first three races of the year, was not to blame for the accident but he has now lost his championship lead and is 20 points adrift having crashed twice and scored only one point in the last three races.

The next round of the British Formula Ford 2000 Championship is at Silverstone on June 5th.