

Davies faces tough battle

MOTOR racing action this weekend will be centred on Mallory Park, the popular Leicester circuit due to close at the end of the year, where Lampeter's Tim Davies will continue the struggle in the Pace British Formula Ford 2000 championship.

Davies started to dominate the series this time last year, but at the moment no one seems to be able to turn the tide against the all-conquering Van Dieman cars.

Davies's only pole position this year came after he put in a brave performance in practice the last time out at Mallory, when torrential rain swamped the track.

Davies ran in second place for most of the race until he was knocked off the track by a pursuing car.

Davies back on victory road

TIM Davies, of Lampeter, bounced back into the winners circle after an absence of nine months, using all his skill and bravery to win the latest round of the Pace British Formula Ford 2000 championship.

It was held in appalling conditions at Mallory Park on Sunday.

Failed

Davies, who has found the Royale RP32M a bit of a struggle, saw his hard work pay off with a dominant performance in practice to set the fastest lap.

He then proceeded to lead on every lap from pole

position to win by more than 10 seconds.

With the next round due to be held at Thruxton next Monday it will be seen whether Davies can maintain his form.

Mike North and Robert Moore, of Newport, failed to qualify for the Dunlop Autosport Star of Tomorrow race, but North was 11th and Moore 13th in the consolation event.

In the production saloon car race Swansea's Dave Scriven retired after six laps, although he was sixth fastest in practice.

In the car and car conversions modified saloon event Caerphilly's Clive Powell, the 850cc class leader, disappeared from the lap charts after two laps, but that is unlikely to affect his championship standing.

Meanwhile Tim Davies's work with the hitherto uncompetitive Royale RP32M continues and if the car is ready he will be racing in the Formula Ford 2000 race at Donington.

Davies and the Roger Cowman team will make a late decision depending on the state of the car which has been back to Royales for a second round of major modifications.

It will be Davies's first drive since his encouraging showing in the Formula 3 race at the British Grand Prix.

MOTOR SPORT

Oulton Park next for Tim Davies

TIM DAVIES who last Sunday became the first Welshman to score a major single-seater victory in nine months after a super race at Mallory Park, has ruled himself out of this weekend's round of the British Formula Ford 2000 championship at Thruxton.

From his home at Felinfach, Lampeter, he said: "At the moment our only chance comes if it rains.

"Then the differences in the cars are levelled, but our car is so poor in the dry that after a long discussion with the Roger Cowman team we decided to miss this one and concentrate on Oulton Park on September 4."

Davies, who set the Thruxton track record for a Formula Ford 2000 car while he was on his way to an impressive victory in a Royale RP30 at the televised meeting last November, has been working closely with freelance Canadian designer Brian Sutherland in an effort to make the RP32M work.

The Royale factory have been unable to make any worthwhile improvements, but Davies feels that Sutherland's work may pay off.

"It is just unfortunate that we picked the wrong car," continued Davies. "Our sponsors, Profile Products and Clover, would have liked to have bought a Van Dieman once we found the Royale so bad, but they didn't have the money.

"I remember I was in a similar situation in 1978 when I bought a Reynard SF78.

"I gave that car its only win and unless it rains again during a race this year, Mallory Park is likely to be the only win for a Royale RP32M."

Davies intends to step up his campaign to take a full season in Formula 3 next year.

He will be following up the avenues opened by his noteworthy performance in the British Grand Prix round.

After last Sunday's performance, there can be little doubt that he would make a considerable impact on the Formula 3 scene if he can find the support.