

Mansell magic

MOTORSPORT: Bishop Vesey pupil Scott Mansell was back at school today after giving the home crowd plenty to cheer about with two podium finishes in the EuroBOSS championships at Donington Park yesterday.

The 17-year-old from Tamworth, driving the 770bhp F1 Benetton used by Jean Alesi in 1997, shocked championship leader Klaas Zwart by taking the lead in the first race, round 5, but a collision between Matthew Mortlock and Frank Lyons brought in the pace car which closed the field up.

Mansell, no relation to Nigel, was then unable to hold off Zwart and Nick Dhalli, second in the championship, in their Ascari Judds coming home third - less than a car's length behind Dhalli.

In round six, though, Mansell - the youngest Briton to drive an F1 car in a competitive race - had his revenge, emphatically beating Dhalli to take second place behind UK-based Dutchman Zwart.

Mansell said: "It was fantastic to drive the Benetton. It is so much easier to drive than an F3000."