

Race-ace Mansell sets another track record

by **Rob Tanner**

Sports Editor

Bishop Vesey pupil Scott Mansell secured another emphatic victory in the second round of the EuroBOSS Championship and set a new track record.

The 18-year-old, driving Jean Alesi's 1997 Benetton Judd Formula One car, set a new Donington national circuit outright lap record of 55.859secs, taking over one second off the previous lap record held by Earl Goddard, set in Michael Schumacher's 1994 championship winning Benetton.

His winning margin over last year's champion, Klaas Zwart was 27.5secs and Mansell's average speed over the entire race was over 120 mph.

Following his spectacular result in the first race of the season at Silverstone, where he also broke the outright circuit record on his way to a debut victory, things could not have gone better for Mansell as he qualified the Zig-Zag Mansell Motorsport Benetton in pole position in a time of 55.945secs, 1.6secs faster than his nearest rival.

From the start, Mansell held off Zwart into the first corner and then started to put in some awesome laps, smashing the lap record four times in the first five laps.

Such was his speed that on lap six he had already caught up with the backmarkers and he proceeded to blast past them on his way to a stunning second victory of the season, making it two out of two.

Mansell now leads the championship by ten points heading into the third round at Brands Hatch, which is part of the spectacular CSMA festival this weekend.

"This was a perfect day for everyone in the team and to have taken pole position, the race win and to have smashed the outright circuit lap record was absolutely brilliant," Mansell said.

"Donington is a great circuit and to be able to take the craner curves flat at over 180 mph is an awesome feeling.

"I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone

at Mansell Motorsport for all their hard work in preparing the car and to thank my sponsors Zig-Zag rolling papers, Drayton Manor theme park, Castrol and Living Well Health Club."



■ Scott Mansell salutes the crowd after his record breaking performance at Donington.