

# Teenage race ace makes history



■ Scott Mansell converses with his race engineer from the cockpit of the Benetton V10, formerly driven by Jean Alesi.

Motor racing prodigy Scott Mansell created history on Sunday.

The 18-year-old Bishop Vesey Grammar School pupil became the youngest ever driver to compete in a Formula One car when he pulled up on the grid for the latest rounds of the EuroBOSS Championship at Donington.

Mansell drove a Benetton Judd V10, formerly driven by Jean Alesi in 1997.

And he proved he could handle the pressure with two podium finishes.

Only bad luck robbed him of victory in Round Five. He was leading the race until the pace car had to come out after a smash and the field closed up again.

Unfortunately, he couldn't hold off Klaas Zwart and Nick Dhalli and eventually finished a narrow third.

But he made amends in Round Six, emphatically beating Dhalli to take second place. In the process, he posted several sub 60 second laps.

Mansell, who usually races in the F3000 class, has had a quiet year of testing in a Formula Ford car but was delighted with the experience.

"It was fantastic to drive the Benetton," he said.

"It is so much easier to drive than an F3000 car and gave me so much confidence even though I was scared stiff on the start line until the light went green."