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Ben Colburn at Oulton Park

Teenager Colburn's first win is "amazing"

BEN COLBURN described an "amazing" feeling after achieving the first race win of his career.

The 14-year-old from Worthing followed three podiums in his first four races with a victory in round five of the Junior Saloon Car Championship at Oulton Park.

And Colburn followed that up with a fifth successive podium when he came second in race two of the weekend.

He is now just 15 points behind championship leader James Dorlin, with a five-point lead over third placed Ben Mills.

Qualifying went well for Colburn as he claim a brace of second place grid slots.

He dropped back at the start of race one but a well-executed manoeuvre on Charlie Kennedy saw him climb back to second and he then began chasing down Dorlin, taking advantage to go into the lead when his rival made a mistake.

Colburn finished with the fastest lap of the race to complete a memorable win.

He said: "It feel's absolutely amazing. I didn't believe it when I crossed the line. I honestly didn't think it would happen so early in the season."

"I must thank all my team for giving me a mint car to drive and now their hard work has paid off."

Colburn got a good start in race two and it became a two-horse race for the victory with Mills, who managed to stay in front until the end.

Colburn said: "It's a shame I couldn't make a move on Mills but I can't complain with the car and how the weekend went."

"The first six rounds have all been a blur and I have far exceeded my expectations for the year already."

The championship now heads to Donington Park next weekend.

Kingsley Newman

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JOLYON PALMER claimed his second win of the season on the streets of Monaco yesterday – and then set his sights on another today.

The Sussex driver overcame multiple safety cars and a red flag to control the Monaco GP2 Feature Race for his second win at the circuit and his fifth consecutive podium this year.

In the process the 23-year-old from Southwater extended his championship lead to 44 points.

Palmer, who claimed his maiden GP2 win in Monaco in 2012, will contest the Sprint Race in the Formula One feeder series today.

He said: "It was a tough race. After the red flag it was a case of putting in qualifying style laps, pulling out a big gap and then the safety car came out again. So someone wasn't making it easy for me but I'm absolutely delighted."



Will Palmer

"During the red flag period I just had to relax, there was nothing I could do about it and it was a case of focusing on what was going to be a 30-lap race instead of a 42 lap race."

"I still had to do a pit stop but a safety car restart made it easier and we've had the pace all week so far so I knew we would be quick. The safety car came in and I put the hammer down."

"It will be tough to make it six podiums from six races when I start eighth on the grid for the Sprint Race but it has been a perfect start to the season and everything has gone to plan so far."

"The race was difficult, we still managed to win it but anything can happen. We have seen so much chaos in GP2, even in that race so we'll see what Saturday has to bring."

Starting from pole position, Palmer was out dragged off the line by Mitch Evans

on the run down to St Devote and was sitting second when the safety car came out for the first time.

The DAMS driver eventually got past Evans on lap 11 and opened up a four-second lead before his advantage was wiped out by a red flag caused when the two Arden cars collided at the Fairmont Hairpin.

When the race resumed, Palmer set about building a big lead, lapping with a blistering pace and at times was

1.5 seconds quicker than the rest of the field with a string of fastest laps.

Another safety car period was frustrating but Palmer pitted and came out second behind Stoffel Vandoorne. He then took a lead he was not to relinquish when Vandoorne pitted on lap 33.

Meanwhile, younger brother Will Palmer claimed his first podium of the season in round two of the BRDC Formula 4 Champi-

onship at Brands Hatch.

Palmer finished third, then claimed sixth and eighth in the following two races the next day to leave himself fifth in the championship standings.

The 17-year-old Sussex driver said: "It was a great day for me, qualifying third and holding that place to take my first podium of the season in race one."

He was fastest in the opening practice session and looked sharp in qualifying

until the red flag came out to half his progress. When action resumed, Palmer could not improve his time and settled for third spot on the grid.

In race one, the HHC Motorsport driver used his driving skills to fend off rivals for third spot to finish in that position behind teammate Raoul Hyman, who won the race, and Arjun Maini.

Palmer will next be in action at Snetterton on June 21/22.

Victory makes it five podiums in a row for Palmer



Jolyon Palmer on the podium after victory

Attrition at Arlington

A BANGER team event which promises thrills and spills will headline the Spring Bank Holiday Monday meeting at Arlington Stadium.

'Micro Madness' is one of Spedeworth's speciality events where specific limitations are set on the choice of cars available to the drivers.

For this meeting, drivers are only permitted cars with a maximum engine size of 1400cc.

Eighteen four-man teams are booked in, which guaran-

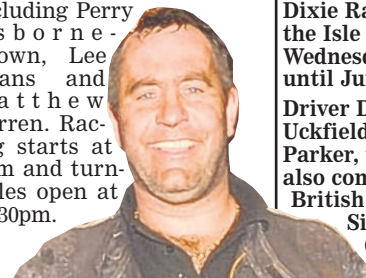
tees an afternoon of attrition.

The Seasideers have put up three strong teams including regular Arlington drivers Rob Haines, right, Harry Balchin, Mark Pope and Darren Terry. Also on the bill are the Stock Rods who return to Arlington for the Adrian Tillman Trophy, which will double up as round seven of this year's Polleysport/Yokohama Tyres Series.

While local favourite Tristan Jackson is in sixth place in the series, he is only a cou-

ple of good wins behind the leader Micky D'Souza.

Completing the meeting is the Rookie Roads with plenty of local interest including Perry Osborne, Lee Evans and Matthew Farren. Racing starts at 2pm and turnstiles open at 12.30pm.



TT tester for pair

SUSSEX duo Matt Dix and Shaun Parker are currently competing in the Isle of Man TT races.

The pair, who form Team Dixie Racing, travelled to the Isle of Man on Wednesday and will be there until June 8.

Driver Dix, 42, from Uckfield, and passenger Parker, from Seaford, are also competing in this year's British Formula Two Sidecar Championship.

The Isle of Man TT races are held on roads which have been shut to the public, with more than 100 miles completed at average speeds of 166mph.

Dix and Parker have been competing together since 2008, claiming top 20 finishes in the British Championship and finishing as high as ninth in the Isle of Man TT. The pair are looking for further support for the season. Go go teamdixie@yahoo.co.uk for more information.