Titles are claimed

AFTER all the excitement earlier in the month about the TV cameras, Scottish MRC's late-September Ingliston meeting was an ordinary, no-frills affair. Three of the Scottish race championship were decided, titles going to Stewart Roden (FF2000), Eric Munnoch (GT) and Angus McPherson (FF1600 Junior).

McPherson was the first to seal his championship with a win over Alex Knox in the first FF race of the day. Knox made determined efforts to get past and lost his nosecone when he tried to dive inside at Arena on lap nine, but McPherson held on in spite of it all.

Robert Thomson ran away with the small road saloons race in his superb Fiesta. Brian Beverley was a lonely second in his Avenger, though by the end he was being caught slightly by the Fiesta of Olly Ross, who had shaken off Alan Keith's Escort earlier on.

The Visions of John Fyda and Paul Gibson shot off the line in the sports car event and looked as if they were going to battle it out indefinitely. Unfortunately, Fyda's car went spectacularly sick on lap three and he came into the pits, letting Gibson win by a long way from the Vision of Eric Paterson. Nick Bridge became too enthusiastic and damaged the front bodywork of his Mallock, leaving the Class B award to home driver Andy Smith.

Because of distributor and brake trouble respectively, Hugh Chalmers and Ian Bruce did not manage proper practice runs for the over 1600cc road saloons race, and they had to start from the back of the grid. Tom Bell led away from pole position ahead of Ray MacDowall, with Chalmers and Bruce already in third and fourth by the end of lap one. Chalmers managed to break away from the group and set off after Bell at the rate of nearly a second a lap. He caught up at Southstand on lap 10, got through at the hairpin and went on to win by several lengths.

Harvey Gillanders led throughout the FF1600 Senior event, though he was challenged hard by Andy Sim in the early stages. Sim had taken advantage of a sliding Cameron Binnie to slip into second at the end of lap one. Just after half distance, Sim came charging into the hairpin far too quickly and had to scrabble round the outside, letting Binnie through again while Gillanders disappeared.

For most of the GT race it looked as if Ron Cumming's Esprit was going to win by a long way, but towards the end of the car gradually petered out and tiptoed over the line in eighth, with Bill Paul a fortunate winner in his AC. Second overall, and first of the one-litre brigade, was Kenny Coleman who has at last persuaded his Esprit to handle properly. Eric Munnoch had a typically vigorous run to third place from the battling Stilettos of Tony Bridge and Ian Forrest.

The first poleman Stuart Gray knew that the road sports car race had begun was when Hamish Ogilvie came alongside him — sunlight had made the starting lights invisible from the pole position. Gray got going in third place behind Ogilvie and Keith Scott, passed Scott first time round Lefthander and took the lead as Ogilvie's car faded. Gray and McGregor made it a Caterham one two at the finish, McGregor having noticeably the better handling since Gray's catch tank pipe had come adrift and oil was finding its way on to the tyres.

All Stewart Roden had to do to sew up the FF2000 series was finish third or higher, assuming Tom Brown won the race. Brown won, Roden came second after a controlled drive and the title was settled. Robin Brown did a sterling job holding on to third before Stephen Robertson got past, while Brown spent the rest of the race keeping slightly ahead of Campbell Chisholm.

Duncan Hall's beautiful Europa led Peter Chamberlain's Davrian at the start of the modified event. On lap six they had a coming-together at Caravan; Hall came into the pits to check what damage there was, but Chamberlain carried on and won by a substantial margin from the battling saloons of Tom Bell and Ray MacDowall.

D.F.

FF1600 Junior — 12 laps: 1. A. McPherson (Crosslet 10m 50.3s (68.42mph); 2. A. Knox (Van Diemen RF79 80); 3. F. Greenwood (Van Diemen RF82); 4. B. Gowans (PRS RH01); 5. D. Hughes (Royale RP21); 6. D. Taylor (Sparton FF80). Fastest lap: Gowans, 53.1s (69.83mph).

Road Saloons up to 1600cc — 12 laps: 1. R. Thomson (1.6 Ford Fiesta), 12m 04.6s (61.41mph); 2. B. Beverley (1.6 Hillman Avenger); 3. O. Ross (1.6 Ford Fiesta); 4. A. Keith (1.6 Ford Escort); 5. A. Hart (1.6 Ford Fiesta); 6. G. White (1.6 Ford Escort). Fastest lap: Thomson, 59.6s (62.21mph).

Clubmans/Sports Cars — 12 laps: 1. P. Gibson (1.7 Vision), 9m 38.9s (76.30mph); 2. E. Paterson (1.7 Vision V8S); 3. A. Dobbie (1.7 Mallock Mk24B); 4. A. Johns (1.7 Mallock Mk24 27). Clubmans A: 1. Gibson; 2. Paterson; 3. Dobbie. Fastest lap: J. Fyda (1.7 Vision), 46.2s (80.26mph). Clubmans B: 1. A. Smith (1.6 Mallock Mk21), 10m 19.5s (71.83mph); 2. C. Hart (1.6 Mallock); 3. F. Lethbridge (1.6 Mallock Mk25). Fastest lap: Hart, 49.8s (74.46mph). Sports Cars: 1. K. Bowmaker (2.0 Lola 492). Fastest lap: Bowmaker, 51.4s (72.41mph).

Road Saloons over 1600cc — 12 laps: 1. H. Chalmers (2.3 Vauxhall Chevette), 11m 48.7s (62.79mph); 2. T. Bell (2.3 Vauxhall Chevette); 3. I. Bruce (2.2 Sunbeam Lotus); 4. R. Stahl (2.0 Ford Escort); 5. A. Gray (2.0 Ford Escort); 6. G. Beith (2.0 Ford Escort). Fastest lap: Chalmers, 57.5s (64.49mph).

FF1600 Senior — 12 laps: 1. H. Gillanders (Van Diemen), 10m 31.1s (70.51mph); 2. C. Binnie (Van Diemen); 3. A. Sim (JBMSL Reynard); 4. C. Birkbeck (Van Diemen); 5. R. Low (Van Diemen RF85); 6. D. Butcher (Reynard). Fastest lap: Binnie and Sim, 51.9s (71.45mph).

GT Cars — 12 laps: 1. B. Paul (2.0 AC3000ME), 10m 20.7s (71.68mph); 2. K. Coleman (1.0 Lotus Esprit); 3. E. Munnoch (1.0 Davrian); 4. T. Bridge (1.0 Maguire Stiletto). Over 1000cc: 1. Paul; 2. R. Cumming (3.4 Lotus Esprit); 3. E. Beerman (2.0 Skoda Coupe). Fastest lap: Cumming, 49.1s (75.52mph). Up to 1000cc: 1. Coleman, 10m 21.9s (71.55mph); 2. Munnoch; 3. Bridge. Fastest lap: Munnoch, 50.6s (73.28mph).

Road Sports Cars — 12 laps: 1. S. Gray (1.6 Caterham 7), 11m 42.6s (63.32mph); 2. A. McGregor (1.6 Tester Caterham 7); 3. E. Chester (1.6 Dutton Phaeton); 4. K. Scott (1.7 Dutton Phaeton). Over 1600cc: 1. Scott, 12m 06.6s (61.24mph); 2. G. McCallum (2.7 Porsche 911). Fastest lap: McCallum, 59.3s (62.53mph). Up to 1600cc: 1. Gray; 2. McGregor; 3. Chester. Fastest lap: Gray and McGregor, 57.2s (64.83mph).

FF2000 — 12 laps: 1. T. Brown (Reynard), 9m 47.9s (75.69mph); 2. S. Roden (ANC Reynard 84SF); 3. S. Robertson (Reynard); 4. R. Brown (Van Diemen RF84); 5. C. Chisholm (Van Diemen); 6. A. Hamilton (Royale AH80). Fastest lap: Brown, 47.6s (77.90mph).

Modified Saloons/Sports Cars — 12 laps: 1. P. Chamberlain (1.0 Davrian), 11m 09.4s (66.47mph); 2. T. Bell (2.3 Vauxhall Chevette); 3. R. MacDowall (2.2 Sunbeam Lotus); 4. R. Thomson (1.6 Ford Fiesta). Saloons over 1600cc: 1. Bell, 11m 22.4s (65.20mph); 2. MacDowall; 3. G. MacIntyre (2.3 Vauxhall Firenza). Fastest lap: Bell, 55.7s (66.57mph). Saloons up to 1600cc: 1. Thomson, 11m 47.3s (62.92mph); 2. C. McLaren (1.3 MG Metro); 3. D. Reid (1.3 Mini). Fastest lap: Thomson, 57.8s (64.15mph). Sports Cars: 1. Chamberlain; 2. R. MacLeod (1.0 Davrian Mk8); 3. G. Clarke (1.6 Sylva). Fastest lap: Chamberlain, 53.8s (68.92mph).