

LE MANS 1962

Once again, it's the start of the most exciting 24 hours in the sports car world - the great international tussle at Le Mans. British hopes among the 55 starters are the Aston Martin Project 212 and the privately entered Jaguars.

But it's the Ferraris (there's Phil Hill's No.6.) who soon dominate the race, as various kinds of trouble start to weed out the field. Fortunately, nothing serious - and it's amazing how some manage to carry on.

Oil trouble puts the Project 212 out of the race by midnight; and by morning only 21 cars are still running - most of them Italian. Leading the Index of Performance class is a Panhard (No.53) driven by Piere Guilhaudin and Jean Bertant, of France. But that's a handicap award; the leaders are still the flying Ferraris. At four o'clock, with nearly 2,800 miles behind them; it's victory for Ferrari No.6 driven by Phil Hill and Olivier Gendebien.

The Frenchmen have their Performance prize - but for speed, it's Ferraris 12 and 3.