

Regatta Review

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THE 2005 GOLD CUP: JULY 15TH TO 17TH

Hello everyone, welcome to the first Regatta Review of 2005. News was slow through the holidays but has been piling up lately, and we've become very busy putting together the 2005 Gold Cup event!

RESERVED SEATING TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE

With an early start, ticket sales are already ahead of last year. Ticket plans and prices are unchanged from last year, for order info visit the Fan Guide on our web site. Our online order system will be available within a week or two. For more info visit the newly updated Fan Guide pages on our web site.

Those of you that get the same seat every year, we are reserving them for you until March 31st. If you need to make special arrangements contact Dick Delsener through the DRRA office.

DRRA ANNOUNCES THE RESIGNATION OF PRESIDENT TOM D'EATH

(Detroit, MI) - The Detroit River Regatta Association (DRRA) has announced the resignation of founding President Tom D'Eath of Leesburg, Florida.

A native Detroit, D'Eath, a three-time American Power Boat Association Gold Cup champion driver, founded the DRRA in June 2003 when the long tradition of Gold Cup racing in Detroit was in immediate peril.

"Tom and Judy D'Eath deserve tremendous thanks and recognition from the community, race fans and the sport itself for their heroic efforts to save the race and create the DRRA," said DRRA Vice President Bill Rands.

"They put their lives on hold for two years to save the race and put it back on a proper footing. Now, we must respect their request and reluctantly let them resume their lives in Florida while we all take on the responsibilities of continuing and building on what they have started with the DRRA," said Rands.

MEET THE DRRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

One of the things that Tom D'Eath did when forming the DRRA was to put together an initial Board of Directors. New members have been added to create a solid BoD of experienced personnel.

The DRRA Board of Director members are:
Bill Rands - DRRA President

Tom Bertolini - DRRA VP, Competition director, Race Director
John Gysin II - Race Operations
John Love - Public Relations
Mike Whaling - Attorney
Barbara Carper - Secretary and Treasurer
Jim Schebil - Contributing member
Joe Tate - Contributing member

In the DRRA offices:

Dick Delsener - Ticket sales and promotions
Michelle DeLand - General operations
Sharon Upton - Receptionist

THE DRRA, ABRA AND APBA MET TO WORK ON THE 2005 EVENT

This week a meeting was held with DRRA, ABRA and APBA reps in attendance, to discuss issues of concern. For the DRRA, Bill Rands, John Gysin II, and Tom Bertolini ... the representative for the ABRA was Sam Cole ... for the APBA the reps were Steve Hearn (President) and Don Allen. Gloria Urban took the minutes and Freddie Alter attended as a guest for his input.

DRRA PROPERTY AQUIRED IN THE UHT (HYDRO-PROP) PURCHASE

Some of you have asked what exactly the DRRA has aquired in it's buy-out of the Unlimited Hydroplane Tour (formerly Hydro-Prop).

- All rights and licensing agreements formerly held by UHT/HP
- Engine monitoring equipment and tools
- Timing and scoring equipment, and computer systems
- 1 and a half trucks (the later was a box owned by UHT on a leased truck, the truck has been returned)
- 2 Rescue boats
- Bouys, flags, etc
- Archives dating back to the URC and UHRA
- A Tide display boat that has been repainted as Miss Chrysler Jeep Superstores for PR use.

SEE US AT THE DETROIT BOAT SHOW AND AUTORAMA!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We will be at the Detroit Boat Show February 12th - 20th, as well as the Detroit Autorama March 4th-6th. Both shows are at Cobo Hall.

Featured will be the Unlimited Hydroplane display hull we aquired in the UHT purchase, newly painted in Black and Yellow as the Miss Chrysler Jeep Superstores.

Volunteers are needed for both events, especially for the Boat Show! Please contact Katherine Shuler: 313.802.0419

For more info on the Boat Show:
<http://www.mbia.org/index.asp>

For more info on Autorama:
<http://www.autorama.com/casi/detroit.htm>

ATTENTION SILVER CUP AND VINTAGE ENTRANTS

This information is for those that want to enter the 2005 Silver Cup Sweepstakes or Vintage exhibition portions of our program.

Silver Cup Sweepstakes Invitational entrants:

The 3rd Annual Silver Cup Sweepstakes Invitational race will be run in conjunction with the Gold Cup race, July 15-17 2005, and is open to hydroplanes registered in the Grand Prix, Grand National Hydroplane and National Modified classes.

The prize package is \$30,000 including tow money and prizes. Tow money to be paid for a legal start.

Vintage exhibitors:

Static and on-the-water Vintage exhibitions will be presented in conjunction with the Gold Cup race, July 15-17 2005, and is also by invitation. Tow money to be determined.

For entry information visit:

<http://www.gold-cup.com/news/05/entrant1.html>

DETROITER DANNY FOSTER TO BE INDUCTED INTO MOTORSPORTS HOFOA

- PARSONS, SNEVA, HAYWOOD, IVO, SPRINGSTEEN, FOSTER, RUTTMAN,
- HOLMAN & MOODY TO JOIN MOTORSPORTS HALL OF FAME OF AMERICA

NOVI, MI - NASCAR Champion Benny Parsons, Indianapolis 500 winner Tom Sneva and LeMans 24-Hour king Hurley Haywood will lead a group of nine racing greats into the Motorsports Hall of Fame of America when the organization stages its annual induction ceremony on Thursday, August 18, 2005 at the State Theatre in Detroit.

Parsons, Sneva and Haywood will be enshrined along with drag racer Tommy Ivo, motorcyclist Jay Springsteen, powerboat racer Danny Foster, car owners/builders John Holman and Ralph Moody and 1952 Indy 500 winner Troy Ruttman.

The Class of 2005 will join the 126 racers already enshrined in the Motorsports Hall of Fame of America.

"To many young race fans, Benny Parsons and Tom Sneva are best known for their work as broadcasters, but when they were racing, they were the fastest of the fast," says Ron Watson, Hall of Fame president. "Combined, this year's inductees won or played significant roles in more than 20 season championships and more than 250 individual race wins."

Currently an award-winning NASCAR analyst on NBC, Benny Parsons won the 1975 Daytona 500 and the 1980 Coca-Cola 600, as well as 19 other Winston Cup races. He won the 1973 Winston Cup title and was the ARCA champion in 1968 and 1969. At Talladega in 1982, Parsons was the first NASCAR driver to qualify a car at more than 200 mph.

Tom Sneva won the 1983 Indy 500 and 12 other Indy Car races. He earned 14 pole positions and was the first driver to crack the mystical 200 mph barrier. He was also the first to eclipse 210 mph. Sneva won national championships in 1977 and 1978 driving for Roger Penske. His quick wit landed him on ABC television during the infancy of the Indy Racing League.

Hurley Haywood is one of America's most-accomplished endurance drivers. He won the 24 Hours of LeMans three times (1977, 1983 and 1994), the 24 Hours of Daytona five times and the 12 Hours of Sebring twice. He was the first to win at LeMans and Daytona in the same year and won the Norelco Cup four times. He is IMSA's point leader among active drivers.

Tommy Ivo played a major role in drag racing's formative years. He set the early standard for showmanship in the straight-line sport with his glass-enclosed transporter and multiple-engine dragsters. A fierce and skilled competitor, Ivo focused his career not on sanctioned series, but upon the mainstay of the era - one-on-one challenges with the sport's biggest names. He went on to become one of the most popular and successful match racers in history.

Jay Springsteen began his motorcycle racing career in 1975 and remains competitive today. He was the AMA Grand National rookie of the year in 1975 and the youngest AMA Grand National champion in 1976 at age 19. He won additional AMA titles in 1977 and 1978, and has won a total of 43 AMA Grand National events throughout his career.

Danny Foster was unlimited powerboat racing's first post-war superstar and its most prolific winner of the 1940s and 1950s. He won the first unlimited race he ever entered, the 1946 President's Cup. He won the Gold Cup in 1947 and 1948 and season national titles in 1947 and 1950. Between 1946 and 1955, Foster won 14 races in boats such as the Miss Pepsi V and Guy Lombardo's Tempo VII.

As car owners and builders closely associated with Ford factory efforts, John Holman and Ralph Moody scored an amazing 93 NASCAR wins from just 366 starts between 1957 and 1973. Their NASCAR drivers included Curtis Turner, Joe Weatherly, Fred Lorenzen, Fireball Roberts, Dick Hutcherson, Bobby Allison, A.J. Foyt, Mario Andretti and David Pearson. They also played a key role in an American assault on European road racing with Ford GT40s in the 1960s.

In 1925 at age 22, Troy Ruttman was the youngest Indy 500 champion. He was the 1951 AAA Midwest sprint champion, and 1951-1952 Pacific Coast title winner. His other titles include the

148 URA midget championship, and the 1947-1948 CRA roadster championship.

Tickets for the induction ceremony can be purchased by calling 1-800-250-RACE (7223).

The Motorsports Museum & Hall of Fame is operated by the Motorsports Museum and Hall of Fame of America Foundation Inc. The Motorsports Hall of Fame of America is a museum housing more than 40 racing and high performance vehicles. The constantly changing collection features racers from the world of Indy cars, stock cars, Can Am, TransAm, sprint cars, powerboats, truck racing, drag racing, motorcycles, air racing and even snowmobiles. Among the highlights are Art Arfons' Green Monster jet car and championship NASCAR stock cars driven by Darrell Waltrip and Dale Jarrett.

"MADISON" MOVIE RELEASE

'Madison' has date with silver screen April 22

By: Amy Ehrnreiter
Courier Staff Writer

The "race" to bring the independent film, "Madison," to the silver screen will apparently reach the finish line this spring when the movie shot on location in Madison in 1999 will be released to theaters across the Midwest on April 22.

"Madison," directed by former Hoosier William Bindley and starring James Caviezel, is based on Jim McCormick, who piloted the Miss Madison hydroplane to the 1971 American Power Boat Racing Gold Cup right here in Madison.

The film, which also stars Jake Lloyd, Mary McCormack and Bruce Dern as well as a veteran cast of character actors and local residents who served as extras in several scenes, has now been contracted to MGM and is firmly slated for the April 22 release date.

Although film's April 22 date with destiny is far from its first release date, it does appear to be the most firm commitment to bring the movie to the silver screen over the past five years.

"The date won't change," said Carl Amari, one of the film's executive producers. "It's locked 100 percent."

For the rest of the story see:

<http://www.madisoncourier.com/main.asp?SectionID=4&SubSectionID=253&ArticleID=21577>

SOME SAD NEWS - JANE LITTLE PASSES AWAY

Mrs. Jane Little of Lakeland, wife of Bernie Little, the late hydroplane owner and businessman, died of heart failure Thursday (Dec. 30, 2004) at Lakeland Regional Medical Center. She was 79.

Her son, Joe Little of Lakeland, remembers his mother being busy supporting her husband's

career and raising her children.

"She made sure the family was grounded," he said.

For the rest of the article visit:

<http://www.theledger.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20050103/OBITS/501030373/1028>

Our sincere condolences to Joe and the family.

MORE SAD NEWS - THE PASSING OF GARY GARBRECHT FROM THE MADISON COURIER

Gary Garbrecht, the embattled former owner of Hydro-Prop, Inc., died from an apparent heart attack Sunday (Feb. 6 2005) in Florida.

According to published reports, Garbrecht was playing golf with his doctor when he suddenly collapsed with an apparent heart attack. Attempts to revive him were unsuccessful.

A former Unlimited hydroplane owner and CEO of the Formula One series of outboard boats, Garbrecht purchased the sport of Unlimited Hydroplane racing from the APBA in 2000 along with former Miss Budweiser owner Bernie Little.

While initially hailed as the struggling sport's savior, his personal style and business decisions quickly turned off fans and competitors alike. Before the 2004 season began, one race site (Evansville) pulled away from Hydro-Prop and was quickly followed by two others. After the season finale at St. Clair in August, Garbrecht sold his interests to Florida businessman Trent Ling.

Ling's efforts to reshape the sport under the new name of the Unlimited Hydroplane Tour failed and in December, the race sites and team owners created their own circuit, the American Boat Racing Association.

Garbrecht's funeral will be at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Oak Ridge Funeral Care Center in Winter Haven Fla. The family has asked that in lieu of flowers donations be made to one of two places: The Grace Lutheran School Endowment Fund, 327 Avenue C, SE, Winter Haven Florida, 33880, Attn: Roger Walker or Connecticut Valley Historical Museum, Attn: Michael Speers, P.O. Box 357, Larned, KS 67550.

For more info about Gary:

<http://www.ybw.co.uk/auto/newsdesk/20050108152512mbynews.html>

DRRA VOLUNTEER INFO

If you haven't renewed your membership dues for 2005, do it now while you're thinking about it. Spring is just around the corner!

Volunteers - if you've received this newsletter second hand, we ask that you subscribe to it or check the Home page and Regatta Review archives at our web site regularly. Committee Chairs, please make sure to mention this to your team members.

- Brian Reed - DRRA Volunteer