

Regatta Review

Issue #29 - July 1 2005

EVANSVILLE RACE LAST WEEKEND - MADISON RACE THIS WEEKEND!

The DRRA would like to extend our Congratulations to Steve David and the U-6 Oh Boy! Oberto / Miss Madison team for their win in Evansville last weekend!

"This is where I won my first Unlimited race and we are so grateful to the fans here that allowed us to come back here and race. It was so great to race with Greg. He raced us hard and clean, it was cool." said David.

The victory pushes David to the top of the active drivers victory list with five. He had been tied with Mitch Evans.

The weekend started on a worrying note... during qualifying Dr. Ken Muscatel took the course with the U-25. The boat made less than half a lap when it had a problem. Ken was able to get the fuel supply off and the engine shut down but the boat still crossed a muddy beach and ended up approximately 40 feet deep in the trees and brush, shearing off about a foot of the entire left sponson. The boat was stopped by an underwater mooring line used for river barges. Dr. Ken was OK and they're going to do all they can to have the boat ready for Madison. Courtesy of powerboat list member Jim Simpson, photos of the beached U-25 have been added to the ABRA website:

[Beached U-25](#)

New photos of repairs under way:

[U-25 work continues](#)

See the full race recap on the ABRA web site:

[Evansville updates](#)

Now it's on to Madison Indiana for their annual 4th of July Unlimited Hydroplane event.

MADISON COVERAGE ON THE INTERNET THIS WEEKEND

Be sure to follow WORX 96.7FM (in Madison) or <http://www.worxradio.com> for streaming audio coverage of the Madison Regatta, July 1st through July 3rd. Join Tim Torrance and others for their superb radio coverage from the shores of the Ohio River. "You Gotta Regatta!"

Tune to the ABRA web site for updates after each heat and other coverage:

<http://www.abrahamdroplanes.com>

LELAND TEAM ON WAY TO MADISON AFTER HARD-LUCK WEEKEND

The Leland team (U-100 / Greg Hopp driving) hurt 4 of their engines at the Evansville race

after 'upgrades' over the winter. They were actually on their way back to Seattle to get ready for the Gold Cup race, but other teams offered to help them sort out the problem and they turned the trucks around to get to Madison. This is another great example of the cooperation we've seen between everyone since the end of last season.

For the full story:

[U-100 story](#)

THE U-13 SPIRIT OF DETROIT

This team is still gearing up and plans to be ready for the Gold Cup race. Headed up by Dave Bartush, the boat will be driven by Cal Phipps and have an all-Michigander crew.

This is the former U-10 back-up hull owned by Kim Gregory, recently purchased by David Bartush and Detroit Unlimited Racing LLC of Bloomfield Hill, MI. This boat was built in 1987 and first appeared as MILLER AMERICAN. It won the 1988 Gold Cup as MISS CIRCUS CIRCUS, the 1991 Gold Cup as WINSTON EAGLE, and the 1994 Gold Cup as SMOKIN' JOE'S.

Welcome to the circuit and best of luck from the DRRA!

A CORRECTION TO REGATTA REVIEW #28

In the last issue I mentioned the Marine Prop Riders club:

"Get involved with Inboard racing at the grass-roots level or just come see us race on Pontiac Lake in July, two weeks after the Gold Cup."

Quake On The Lake is just ONE week after the Gold Cup race, it is July 23rd and 24th. The DRRA encourages everyone to follow up Gold Cup weekend with a visit to this very nice event. All proceeds go to The Rainbow Connection "Bringing kids' dreams to life":

<http://www.rainbowwishconnection.org>

For more information visit:

<http://www.marinepropriders.com/quake/>

<http://www.quakeonthelake.org>

SOME GREAT PHOTOS FROM GOLD CUP AND QUAKE ON THE LAKE RACES

I found some great photos on the Internet that I had not seen before. They are by John Gacioch and include the 1992 Gold Cup race as well as the 2004 Quake On The Lake.

<http://www.waterwinterwonderland.com/boats.asp>

I believe that's Cal Phipps about halfway down sitting on top a white #82 boat (look for him wearing an orange drivers vest, a black cap, and a helmet on his knees).

NEW POSTER OF VINTAGE HYDROPLANES FROM 1950 - 1955

Hot off the presses, the poster is called UNLIMITED POWER & SPEED and features pictures of over thirty unlimited hydroplanes which competed between 1950 and 1955. I have tried to include all the successful unlimiteds from this era, and a few of the hard-luck boats as well.

The poster is now viewable online. Unfortunately, it is low resolution and the brilliant colors don't shine through - but you can get some idea of the boats featured:

<http://www.racing-images.com>

There are two poster versions, one featuring Slo-mo-shun IV, one featuring Miss Pepsi.

Dave Johnson
Portland, OR

THE RECENT MADISON SHOWING IN REVIEW IN MEMORY OF "JACK" LOVE

We had a fabulous turnout at the Emerald Theatre showing of MADISON the movie on June 14th! Thanks to everyone for coming out and supporting the organizing clubs, the movie, the sport.

Bill Rands, DRRA President said "It was a wonderful effort by all the organizations and volunteers", and "not in recent memory has everyone in these Detroit organizations worked so well together as in the past few years".

There are many people to thank for this event, starting with Ray Dong and Tom Farrell, Co-chairpersons, as well as the volunteers for the evening especially Nancy Spanich, Harvey Hoffmaster, Steve Garey, Bill Miller, Michelle DeLand, Sharon Upton, Dick Delsener, Hank Kosciuszko, and anyone else I have forgotten here.

Thanks also to the Legends of Powerboat Racing and those that brought boats, R/C's or autos for the static display.

THE MISS BUDWEISER EQUIPMENT

Everyone keeps asking me about the Budweiser teams equipment, the last I heard is that the shop is closed except for some turbine engine work for third parties not involved in Unlimited racing. Everything is for sale and Dave Villwock remains a spectator so far this year.

UNLIMITED HYDROPLANE TV COVERAGE FROM THE MADISON COURIER

Many people have also asked about this year's TV coverage. From the Madison Courier newspaper comes this info:

Four race teams will be giving up a chunk of their winnings this season to bring the sport of unlimited hydroplane racing to the TV screen.

Miss Madison Inc. president Bob Hughes outlined the 2005 TV package, which will include just four of the seven races being televised. Madison will not be one of them, but footage from the Regatta will be shown during one of the other telecasts.

While praising American Boat Racing Association president Sam Cole, Hughes went into the specifics about the \$70,000 half-hour programs that will be aired by the Outdoor Life Network this season.

Four owners - Hughes of local U-6 Oh Boy! Oberto/Miss Madison, Bill Wurster of the U-8 Llumar Window Film, Sven Ellstrom of the U-16 Miss Elam Plus and Ken Muscatel of the U-25 Superior Racing Team - have pledged \$5,000 of their teams' prize money at each of the seven races to go toward the television package.

That \$140,000 will then be placed with \$14,000 out of the sites' budgets to come close to the total amount needed. In addition, 30-second advertising spots will be sold for \$2,500 each.

Camera crews will be at Evansville and Madison to film scenes to be included during the Detroit telecast, while footage from Tri- Cities will be included in an hourlong season-ending show at San Diego. Seattle and Nashville will have their own shows.

The first show will be aired after the July 15-17 Detroit Gold Cup. For the complete schedule see:

<http://www.abrahamhydroplanes.com/index.cfm?page=Television-Schedule>

- Brian Reed - DRRA Volunteer