

Regatta Review

Issue #57 - July 18, 2007

WHAT A DAY!!!!

After the hydroplanes were relegated to their trailers for most all of Saturday due to high winds, Sunday was just fantastic! From the weather to the attendance to the FA-18 air show to all the racing, everything was perfect with the exception of the U-1 crash in the first running of the final.

FINAL RESULTS FOR THE 99TH RUNNING OF THE GOLD CUP

- 1- Dave Villwock, Miss Elam, 147.687 mph
- 2- Steve David, Oh Boy! Oberto. 146.526 mph
- 3- J Michael Kelly, Spirit of Detroit, 142.56 mph
- 4- Gregg Hopp, Jarvis Construction, 125.841 mph
- 5- Jimmy King, Miss Chrysler Jeep, DNF
- 6- Jeff Bernard, FormulaBoats.com, DNS

The results for all the classes including lap-by-lap speeds are now posted on our news page. It is a PDF file direct from the Timing and Scoring team at Judges Stand.

VILLWOCK WINS SIXTH GOLD CUP - ASSOCIATED PRESS STORY

DETROIT (AP)--Dave Villwock (Auburn, Wash.) might have won his sixth Gold Cup in his illustrious career, but none could have been any sweeter than Sunday's win in the 99th running of the Chrysler Jeep Superstores APBA Gold Cup on the Detroit River.

"I would have to say this was the best," said Villwock. "This one was really special."

For Villwock, he passed the great Gar Wood for the third most GC wins in the history of the oldest active motorsport trophy. But for his owner Erick Ellstrom, it was his first and it was special for a number of reasons.

"Many owners have raced for 25 years and never won the Gold Cup," said Ellstrom, owner of the team since 1995.. "And to win it with these special guys is great."

It also was a bittersweet win for the Miss Elam team. Ellstrom's mother Kerstin passed on July 11. Ellstrom didn't get to Detroit until Saturday morning.

"She was a very special lady for all of us," said Villwock. "She was the type who would bring us cookies and always be around."

"She died on 7/11 and today we ran the 7/11 propeller and won the Gold Cup," added Villwock. "I don't think we'll ever run that prop again."

The Miss Elam team looked like it was going to have just another Sunday cruise, winning all three elimination heats before the final. In the final heat, Villwock passed Steve David (Lighthouse Pt, Fla.) after the end of the first lap to take the lead but Mike Allen (New Orleans, La.) blew the boat end-over-end entering the first turn on lap three.

Allen was rushed ashore and taken to the Medical Room at the Horace E. Dodge Memorial Pits. He was treated and then taken to Detroit Receiving Hospital to clean out a wound from the thumb injury two weeks ago when he blew over the boat in Evansville.

After a one-hour delay, the boats came back on the water for the final. Villwock was in the inside lane, David in lane two, a spot Villwock didn't want.

"That was a smart move on Steve's part," said Villwock. "He was in lane one for the first start of the final and then he moved over and tried to pin me in lane one."

But the Elam and Villwock were way too strong for the competition this day. Villwock grabbed the lead on the start then held off David for the next two laps before pulling away in the five-lap feature.

The Spirit of Detroit driven by J. Michael Kelly (Puyallup, Wash.) finished third while Gregg Hopp (Snohomish, Wash.) took fourth in the Jarvis Construction. Jimmy King (Wales, Mich.), who won an exciting deck-to-deck elimination heat against David earlier in the day, did not finish.

THE U-1 2006 CHAMPION HULL BADLY DAMAGED

I was really hoping to see the FormulaBoats.com teams do well at the Gold Cup after their flips in Evansville and performance problems in Madison... something to get the 2007 season rolling for them. Unfortunately things went the other way with extensive damage to the ex-Budweiser T-5 hull.

PHOTOS OF THE U-1 CRASH BY DRRA VOLUNTEER DAVE MABRY

Dave Mabry is one of the DRRA rescue divers, and always gets some great shots. For a photo series of the U-1 crash see: http://gold-cup.com/gallery/main.php?g2_view=core:ShowItem&g2_itemId=2805

MUCH MORE PHOTOS AND VIDEO

A cell-phone camera video of the U-1 crash can be found at: <http://www.clickondetroit.com/video/index.html>
Look for "Gold Cup Crash Caught On Tape".

Photos from the DRRA Volunteers are still being uploaded:
http://gold-cup.com/gallery/main.php?g2_view=core:ShowItem&g2_itemId=2713

HydroInsider.com has a lot of coverage of the race:

http://www.kndu.com/Global/category.asp?C=78290&nav=menu484_4_4

Photos by Unlimiteds.net:

http://unlimiteds.net/site/race_sites/dtw/07/

Photos by Jack Lowe:

<http://jacklowephoto.com/>

Did the U-16 leave Jean Theoret room in the turn? You decide:

<http://jacklowephoto.com/BoatRacing/Detroit/UpInSmoke.html>

Photos by Lee Lafleur:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/lafleur1/BestOfTheGoldCup2007>

Photos at TellUsDetroit by Ron Harper, Art Landino and HB Meeks

<http://www.tellusdetroit.com/sports/goldcup/day2.html>

THANKS TO MLIVE.COM FOR THE AUDIO STREAMING

MLive.com provides the server power behind the streaming audio broadcast so that fans that can't be here can listen in. We'd like to take this moment to extend our thanks to MLive.com as well as Rachel Brady and Phil Zaroo at MLive.com for their work.

HELP MAKE SURE YOUR FELLOW VOLUNTEERS GET THE NEWSLETTER

I've been told that some volunteers don't receive the newsletter. In most cases this is because they have not requested to receive it. I don't automatically assume that people want to receive it, all they have to do is send me an email at news@gold-cup.com requesting to be added to the list.

QUAKE ON THE LAKE - THIS WEEKEND!

This is the Eighth year for Quake On The Lake, a Limited Inboard Hydroplane race in Waterford MI. Two full days of action are planned, July 21 and 22, from about 11am to 5pm. Admission is just \$5 for adults and \$2 for children 3-12. Numerous records set at this venue over the years attest to the quality of the race site. For more info see: <http://www.quakeonthelake.org>

THE 100TH RUNNING OF THE GOLD CUP

It's not too soon to start planning for the historic 100th running of the Gold Cup, July 11-13 2008!

- Brian Reed - DRRA Volunteer