

## Regatta Review

Issue #68 - May 2, 2008

### REVIEW OF THE FIRST ANNUAL DRRA BOWLING NIGHT

The bowling event was a HUGE success! Thank you to all the fans and the supporters of the race to make our 1st Annual Bowling Fundraiser a great success. Without the fans, sponsors and volunteers we would not be able to have this event!

Congratulations to all the winners of the door prizes and Kim Ryba of Clinton Twp for the winner of the Grand Prize 3 night / 4 day resort get-a-way. Also a great thank you to Screamin Scott from the WRIF and the DRRA office staff in coordinating this event! What a blast!

Mark your calendars for April 17th, 2009 for the 2nd Annual Bowling Fundraiser (date is tentative).

### DRRA GOLF OUTING - CANCELLED

Sorry! The DRRA has made the decision to cancel the golf outing due to sluggish response to the initial announcement. We have decided to direct all of our energy to the production of the 100th running of the Chrysler Jeep Superstores Detroit APBA Gold Cup. See you there!

### LIMITED EDITION "100TH RUNNING" WATCHES ANNOUNCED

To commemorate the 100th Running of the Gold Cup, the DRRA will be offering special watches limited to an edition of 100 in each style.

Images of the watches can be seen on our merchandise page:

<http://www.gold-cup.com/merchandise/>

The Nautica men's watch is \$150.00 and the other's are priced at \$75.00. Call the office to reserve yours now!

### ELEVEN UNLIMITED HYDROPLANES EXPECTED IN DETROIT!

Sam Cole, Chairman of the American Boat Racing Association, has announced that 11 boats will make the eastern swing for the 2008 ABRA season.

"It is really exciting to see that we will have 11 national boats running in 2008," said Cole. "We have seen increased participation in each of the ABRA's previous seasons and it is because of the strong support we get from this group of owners that Unlimited Hydroplane racing's resurgence continues.

"Their dedication to this sport is unparalleled and the caliber of professionalism and

competition has not been seen for many years in boat racing."

Among the boats racing the national circuit will be Greg O' Farrell's Go Fast Turn Left Racing Team that will campaign the U-50. Brian Perkins will drive the boat for O' Farrell and Jim Labrie will be the crew chief. The U.S. Navy is their sponsor.

Last year, he campaigned the Lakeridge Paving with David Williams driving. That boat will again compete on the west coast.

"We are really proud of Greg's increased commitment to the sport and are excited that he will campaign a national boat this year with the U-50," added Cole

This year for only the second time in its team history, the Ellstrom Team will have the U-1 painted on the side of the boat for the 2007 Team High Point National title. Owner Sven Ellstrom also won the National Team High Point Championship in 2005.

Driver Dave Villwock, the winningest active driver in the sport with 55 career wins, will once again pilot the Elam. He is also the defending National High Point Driver Champion, an honor he has taken nine times.

The six race series begins in Evansville, Ind. starting June 26 with the final heat races on Sunday, June 29. The next two East Swing races are in Madison, Ind. July 4 thru 6 and then in Detroit for 100th running of the APBA Gold Cup, July 11-13.

All 11 boats are expected to race the entire ABRA national schedule.

#### NATIONAL FLEET FOR 2008 ABRA RACING SEASON

U-1 Ellstrom's Elam Plus  
Driver Dave Villwock, Owner Sven Ellstrom  
U-3 Cooper Motorsports  
Driver Jimmy King, Owner Ed Cooper  
U-5 Formulaboats.com  
Driver Jeff Bernard, Owner The Porter Family  
U-6 Oh Boy! Oberto  
Driver Steve David, Owner The City of Madison  
U-7 Formulaboats.com  
Driver Mike Allen, Owner The Porter Family  
U-10 Miss Ahern Rentals  
Driver David Bryant, Owner Kim and Debbie Gregory  
U-13 Graham Trucking/Spirit of Detroit  
Driver J. Michael Kelly, Owner Dave Bartush  
U-25 Miss Jarvis Construction  
Driver and Owner Dr. Ken Muscatel  
U-37 Miss Beacon Plumbing  
Driver Jean Theoret, Owner Billy and Jane Schumacher

U-50 U.S. Navy  
Driver Brian Perkins, Owner Greg O'Farrell  
U-100 Mirageboats.com  
Driver Greg Hopp, Owner Fred Leland

STEVE DAVID: A MAN WITH A MISSION  
BY FRED FARLEY

OH BOY! OBERTO driver Steve David is really on a roll. Having won the last two races of 2007, Steve has every intention of picking up right where he left off when the starting gun fires in 2008.

In David's words, "What a season! It's amazing what a half million will do!

"I say that tongue-in-cheek because we raced against teams that spent a lot more than we did, and we kicked their butts."

Seldom has a brand new Unlimited hydroplane made such a positive impression in its very first year of competition. In 2007, the community-owned craft from Madison, Indiana, finished an overall first or second at five of the six races on the American Boat Racing Association tour and placed runner-up at season's end in National High Points. At all six races, the OH BOY! OBERTO/MISS MADISON never failed to win at least one competitive heat.

"The difference with our team is our people," Steve insists. "From the team's management, led by Bob Hughes and Charlie Grooms, to the people on the deck, headed by Mike Hanson, we're blessed with talent.

"Without a doubt, Mike Hanson is the best in the business. We have a driver/crew relationship that rivals the Hendricks 48 and 24 cars in NASCAR. Mike has taken raw talent and experienced crew members and together they've created a synergy and methodology that no other team can match.

"Couple that with our new state-of-the-art hull, new propellers, multiple gear ratios, carbon fiber parts and pieces, and we've got the boat to beat."

In 2007, OH BOY! OBERTO (U-6) entered 24 heats, finished them all, placed first nine times, second ten times, third twice, fourth twice, and seventh once.

The first four races of the 2007 season belonged to the Seattle-based MISS E-LAM PLUS (U-16), driven by Dave Villwock. Victory was theirs at Evansville, Madison, Detroit, and the Tri-Cities. The E-LAM team definitely had its act together. It fell to OH BOY! OBERTO to snap the E-LAM's win streak.

After having finished second to the U-16 in three straight races, the U-6 won the Chevrolet Cup at Seattle and the Bill Muncy Cup at San Diego. In both races, driver Steve David

made a perfect start in the winner-take-all Final Heat.

The finale at San Diego was a classic. During the warm-up for the Final Heat, OH BOY! OBERTO grabbed the inside lane away from the FORMULABOATS.COM (U-5) on the backstretch prior to the start by establishing a legal overlap of seven boat lengths and forcing U-5 into lane-two.

OBERTO and FORMULA exited the first turn together and see-sawed for the lead for three and a quarter laps and, at one point, actually bumped into each other. In the first turn of lap-four, FORMULA hit a roller and "hopped", while OBERTO moved to a half-roostertail length lead. And that's how they finished.

Steve David led at the end of laps two, four, and five; Jeff Bernard led at the end of laps one and three. OBERTO posted lap speeds of 152, 149, 150, 152, and 152 for an average of 151.445; FORMULA did laps of 153, 148, 151, 151, and 145 for an average of 149.724.

OBERTO driver David increased his victory total in the Unlimited Class to seven at the Bill Muncey Cup--his fourth with the OBERTO team. This was the first time that a U-6 pilot had scored back-to-back race victories since Jim McCormick in 1971.

"It can only get better," Steve exulted after the San Diego win.

The OH BOY! OBERTO crew has spent the winter fine-tuning their program--instead of building a new boat from scratch as they did last winter. They have no intention of resting on their laurels.

As David points out, "There are other teams stepping up their commitments and the competition will be deeper than ever in the sport's history. We're ready and we look forward to continuing our win streak into 2008."

#### U-6 Team Victories:

- (1) 1965 - Guntersville, AL (Dixie Cup); driver-Buddy Byers
- (2) 1971 - Madison, IN (APBA Gold Cup); driver-Jim McCormick
- (3) 1971 - Tri-Cities, WA (Atomic Cup); driver-Jim McCormick
- (4) 1983 - Lake Ozark, MO (Missouri Governor's Cup); driver-Ron Snyder
- (5) 1993 - San Diego, CA (Star Mart Cup); driver-Mike Hanson
- (6) 2001 - Madison, IN (Indiana Governor's Cup); driver-Steve David
- (7) 2005 - Evansville, IN (Thunder On The Ohio); driver-Steve David
- (8) 2007 - Seattle, WA (Chevrolet Cup); driver-Steve David
- (9) 2007 - San Diego, CA (Bill Muncey Cup); driver-Steve David

#### Steve David Victories:

- (1) 1993 - Lewisville, TX (Texas Hydrofest) with MISS T-PLUS
- (2) 1993 - Honolulu, HI (Outrigger Hydrofest) with MISS T-PLUS
- (3) 1995 - Kansas City, MO (Hydrofair '95) with T-PLUS ENGINE TREATMENT
- (4) 2001 - Madison, IN (Indiana Governor's Cup) with OH BOY! OBERTO

- (5) 2005 - Evansville, IN (Thunder On The Ohio) with OH BOY! OBERTO
- (6) 2007 - Seattle, WA (Chevrolet Cup) with OH BOY! OBERTO
- (7) 2007 - San Diego, CA (Bill Muncey Cup) with OH BOY! OBERTO

THE 100TH RUNNING OF THE GOLD CUP - JULY 11-13, 2008

It's time to make your plans for the historic 100th running of the Gold Cup, July 11-13 2008!

- Brian Reed - DRRA Volunteer