

# E-RCU News

www.e-rcu.org

Volume 2, Issue 8

August 2006

## UPCOMING EVENTS

September 9-10... Gold Cup  
Lake Wilderness

September 16/17 (tba) . Gar  
Wood Memorial  
Bellevue Pond

September 24..... TBA  
TBA (Portland/Vancouver)

## YOU GOTTA SEE THIS!



How cool is this photo? The Such Crust III and the Miss Exide duke it out in the Seafair Trophy vintage consolation (photo by Jim Lilly).

## FEATURED WEBSITES

Hilltop Battlepack  
Batteries  
[www.battlepack.com](http://www.battlepack.com)

U-5/U-7 Website  
[www.u5racing.com](http://www.u5racing.com)

## Robertson, MiniCzar take Seafair Trophy crowns

Coulon Park in Renton on the shores of Lake Washington was site for the 2006 running of the E-RCU Seafair Trophy Race.

A beautiful hot sunny day greeted 21 vintage and 11 modern boats.

The wind conditions were ideal but the water was rough all day which resulted in a number of DNF's.

Racing began at 11 a.m., and proceeded quickly through the day. Race fans watching from Ivar's were treated several two and three boat duals during the preliminaries.

Running for pride and points in the Vintage second consolation heat was **Henry Marvin** and Miss Exide, **Dawna Gross** with Such Crust IV, **Ron Daum** and Such Crust III and **Ron Hornung** with Hurricane IV.



Jesse Robertson made it two straight years that the Miss Thriftway won the Seafair Trophy for owner Kerry Kjos.

driven by **Jason Hartley**, Miss Wahoo with **Bill Smiley**, **Jeff Campbell** driving the Evergreen Roofing, Miss Pay 'n' Save with **Steve Twardus**, 1958 Bardahl with **Rick Lentz**, Miss Madison with **John Williams** and Hallmark Homes driven by **Mike Campbell**. This heat featured one of the best starts of the day and each driver was eager to

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## Robertson, Campbell win Diamonds

It will come as very little surprise to those who weren't able to be at the Diamond Cup that **Jesse Robertson** and **Jeff Campbell** were the ones taking home all the marbles — er diamonds.

OK, so there weren't actual diamonds handed out to the victors of the 2006 ERCU Diamond Cup, but there were some neat goodies, including programs and buttons from the real boats' Diamond Cups four decades ago.

Even the guys who had the day's 'hard luck' were presented with Diamond Cup memorabilia, as **Bob VandenAkker** — who lost a



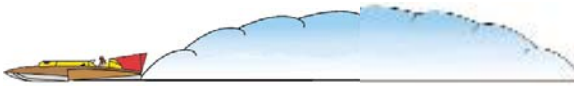
David Newton gets ready to launch a boat during the Seafair Trophy race.

set of LiPos when they burned up after a heat race, AND fought the 63 Notre Dame all day — and **Robbie Roberts** both had the lowest points total for the day in their respective classes.

VandenAkker's daylong "argument" with the 63 Notre Dame ended with him having the fewest vintage points of the day.

The "closest to the (entrance) pin" award could have gone to a couple of different drivers: **Gary Hansen**, for his pinpoint accurate turns in the first heat of the day with the Muvalong, or **Mike Gossler** for a gorgeous entrance to turn one, where there couldn't have been more than a half-inch between the entrance pin and his boat. But no one got closer than **Rick Lentz**, who

(Continued on page 4)



## NEWSBRIEFS

### Long Lake race may move south

Due to difficulties beyond the control of the ERCU board, the Dean Chenoweth Memorial will not be run at Long Lake this season, as originally planned. Thanks to **Nelson Holmberg**, we're looking at the possibility of replacing the Dean Chenoweth Memorial with a new race in the Portland/Vancouver area, still to be run on September 24. Stay tuned to the newsletter, your email, and the website for more information as we try to put this together on short notice.

### Daum to present the Gar Wood Memorial at Bellevue

To make up for the cancelled race that was to be the Seafair Trophy at South Lake Union — which replaced the TBA race at Coulon Park — **Ron Daum** is working to host the Gar Wood Memorial at Bellevue Pond. He's working toward either September 16 or 17. Keep an eye on the club website for news of this race.

### Time to nominate potential Contest Board officers

Contest Board Secretary **Rick Lentz** is currently accepting nominations for this year's Contest Board elections. This season, positions currently held by **Ron Daum**, **Rick Lentz**, **Mike Campbell** and **David Gardner** are up for election. If you are interested in running for a position on the Contest Board, or nominating another member, please contact **Rick Lentz** (rickl@mlarch.com) and let him know about it. Keep in mind that if you're nominating another member, that person must agree to serve on the board if he or she gets elected.

### Second annual Apple Cup exhibition set for Chelan

September 30-October 1 is the RCU Gold Cup to be held in Chelan. As last year, ERCU is invited to run between heats on that Sunday. This year we have room for 18 boats from either division, with reservations being taken on a first come/first served basis, as of the Diamond Cup on August 26, only seven positions were filled. As this is a non-points exhibition race, all boats will run together, regardless of division. The only limit so far is one boat per driver, unless the complement of 18 is not filled prior to the race date. If you would be interested in attending, please let **Rick Lentz** know with your name, the boat you wish to run, and a second boat if desired, just in case.

## A Moment With . . .

### KIRK PAGEL



Family: . . . . Bachelor now, previously married with two step children, Mike 34 , Diana 36.  
 City he calls home: . . . . . Kirkland (where else would a guy named Kirk live?)  
 Job (when not boating): . . . . . Insurance Agent with PEMCO  
 College Football Loyalty: . . . . . Milton College, B.A. (until it closed) University of Washington, Masters (now).

Favorite Current Unlimited Hydro: . . . . . U-3 Cooper's  
 Favorite Unlimited Hydro of the past: . . . . . U-29 Shanty I

Boats he races in ERCU: . . . . . U-30 Hurricane VI

What was your first car? . . . . . 1956 Chevrolet 210 , 2 door coupe

What was your first job? . . . . . Photographer, sports, general features & police blotter, *Mercer Island Reporter*

When and how did you get involved in scale racing? . . . Supplied photos to many of the owner/drivers and got to know them over the years, then in 2005 I purchased Roger Newton's old Hawaii Kai III, and had it converted to the Hurricane VI by Jeff Campbell.

Have you ever had a manicure/pedicure?: . . . . . Manicure, by my sister, who was studying to pass her cosmetology certification. Wouldn't do it again.

Coke or Pepsi? . . . . . Diet Coke

## Big Boat News

Did anyone notice that the U-5 and U-7 boats had additional sponsorship in Tri-Cities and Seattle, and that it was ERCU's favorite manufacturer of HVAC systems and replacement parts for commercial trucks, buses, and vehicles used in construction, mining, agriculture, fire and rescue and military service — Red Dot Corporation. The two unlimited hydroplanes also called Red Dot their home during the week between Tri-Cities and Seattle.

Red Dot also sponsors an unlimited light hydroplane and, of course, is the title sponsor of ERCU for the 2006 season, and hopefully beyond.

### Fire Damage, Driver Injuries end U-21 Season Early

The only Unlimited hydroplane team based in San Diego will not compete at September's Thunderboat Regatta.

Freedom Racing Team owner **Jeffrey Michael Johnson** recently announced the U-21 boat that burned in a devastating fire at a race in Seattle

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## 2006 ERCU SCHEDULE

### MARCH

Date	Event	Location
19	Test Day	Lake Union

### APRIL

Date	Event	Location
15	Champion Spark Plug Regatta	Centralia
23	Stan Sayres Memorial	Lake Union

### MAY

Date	Event	Location
13	Bill Brow Memorial	Twin Lakes
21	Silver Cup	Puyallup

### JUNE

Date	Event	Location
4	Leo Vandenberg Challenge	Lake Pleasant
10-11	President's Cup	Lake Wilderness

### JULY

Date	Event	Location
16	Bernie Little Memorial	Bellevue Pond
23	Seafair Trophy — cancelled	Lake Union

### AUGUST

Date	Event	Location
20	Seafair Trophy	Coulon Park
26	Diamond Cup	Pipe Lake

### SEPTEMBER

Date	Event	Location
9-10	Gold Cup	Lake Wilderness
16/17	Gar Wood Memorial (TBA)	Bellevue Pond
24	TBA	TBA
30	Apple Cup exhibition	Chelan

### OCTOBER

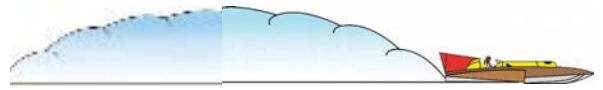
Date	Event	Location
1	Apple Cup exhibition	Chelan
8	Brewers Cup	Shady Lake

*Season high points for boats and drivers will be based on the 10 best finishes for the year.*

**RED DOT CORPORATION**

**HEAVY DUTY CLIMATE CONTROL SOLUTIONS**

**Thanks  
Red  
Dot!!!!**



## Big Boat News: Headline

Continued from page 2

August 6 cannot be repaired in time for the September 15-17 Bill Muncey Memorial Cup on Mission Bay. Co-owner and driver **Kevin Aylesworth**, who scrambled for his life from the burning boat, will not be healthy enough to drive.

"This is a disappointing end to our rookie season on the national circuit," Johnson said. "For 30 years Kevin and this crew have dreamed of campaigning one of the world's fastest race boats. San Diego is finally home to an Unlimited hydroplane, and we'll be watching from the shoreline."

### Phil Cole Remembered

In the half-century that I've been following the sport of Unlimited hydroplane racing, I've been privileged to know and work with some truly fascinating individuals.

Patrick Gleason



One of these is **Philip Samuel Cole, Jr.**, the man instrumental in my being appointed Unlimited Historian in 1973.

Cole passed away on August 1, 2006, in Georgetown, Texas. He was 77.

Phil served as Executive Secretary of the Unlimited Racing Commission from 1967 to 1974 for Commissioners J. Lee Schoenith and George "Buddy" Byers. But his

involvement with the sport began long before that.

Cole worked for many years on his hometown Madison (Indiana) Regatta committee. He played a major part in the establishment of the MISS MADISON, the world's only community-owned Unlimited hydroplane team.

During his years with the URC, Phil defined the role of PR person for the Unlimiteds. Cole was in effect a Co-Commissioner and in fact ran the sport on a day-to-day basis for seven years.

Phil was an absolute genius in his ability to round up enough boats to meet the demands of race sponsors. But Cole insisted that this was a fairly easy task. "All I did was send out tow money in advance. I caught hell for that, but none of the teams to whom I sent money ever failed to show up."

— Fred Farley

### National High Point race heats up for San Diego

Going into the final race of the 2006 ABRA season, the U-6 Oh Boy! Oberto holds a slim 278 point lead over the U-7 Formulaboats.com II and rookie **Mike Allen**. Oberto driver **Steve David** is also leading the driver's standings by 621 total points over Allen and the top four drivers are only separated by 727 points.

### Madison Regatta officers elected

The Madison Regatta General Board has voted on the Executive Board recommendations as follows: The President of Madison Regatta Incorporated for 2007 will be **Nate Davis**. In addition to the office of president, **Tony Steinhardt** was elected to the position of race chairman, and **Pat Brooks** will hold the position of assistant race chairman for 2007.

## Thriftway is a repeat winner of the Seafair Trophy

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move up to the final by winning. Evergreen Roofing, Miss Bardahl and Miss Pay 'n' Save fell victim to the rough water and failed to finish. **Jason Hartley** and the Timex II took first with Miss Madison second, Hallmark Homes third and Miss Wahoo fourth.

The modern first consolation saw **Doug Brow's** Red 1978 Squire Shop, **Rick Lentz's** U-95, **Henry Marvin's** 1977 White Squire and **Nelson Holmberg's** Red Man face off for opportunity to get in the final. **Henry Marvin** and his Squire took the win with **Doug Brow** and the Squire Shop taking second. Red Man and U-95 did not finish.

The modern final featured **Mike Campbell's** 1973 Country Boy, **Mike Gossler's** Circus Circus, **David Newton** driving the Olympia Beer, **Jeff Campbell's** Pride of Pay n' Pak, **Steve Twardus'** 1971 Country Boy and John Williams 1973 Pay n' Pak with **Henry Marvin's** 1977 Squire starting in the trailer position. The start was a near perfect with the **Mike Campbell's** Country Boy and brother **Jeff's** Pay n' Pak exiting the first turn in a two boat dual that ended in a collision at the apex of the left turn which left Olympia Beer, **John Williams** Pay n' Pak and Circus Circus to battle the rest of the way. **David Newton** held to the inside and the Oly prevailed with the Circus Circus finally getting past Pay n' Pak to challenge but settle for second. Fourth went to **Steve Twardus** and the 1971 Country Boy.

Advancing to the vintage final was **Mike Campbell's** 1969 Notre Dame with a perfect 1200 points. At 1000 points were **Jesse Robertson** and **Kerry Kjos's** 1960 Miss Thriftway, **Bob**

Jim Lilly



Henry Marvin, Ron Daum, Dawna Gross and Ron Hornung driving their boats.

### VandenAkker's 1963 Notre Dame and Roger Newton's 1968 Miss Bardahl (checkerboard). Jeff Campbell with Pay

n' Paks' Lil Buzzard came in with 925 points and **Jim Clark** with his 1967 Miss Bardahl made the cut with 825 points, with **Jason Hartley** and Timex II starting from the trailer position.

When the starting gun sounded, it was **Roger Newton** and his Miss Bardahl on the inside and **Jesse Robertson** and Miss Thriftway in lane 2 with **Mike Campbell** and his Notre Dame and **Jim Clark** with his Bardahl on their collective "six" entering turn one.

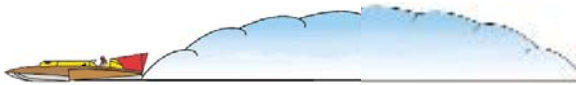
The one-two battle between the checkerboard Bardahl and Thriftway continued for two laps until Roger's Bardahl succumbed to the rough water. Now Thriftway had to hold off

**Mike Campbell** with his Notre Dame and **Jim Clark** in the 1967 Bardahl. **Bob Vandernakker** trailed from the start with his Notre Dame and never caught up.

Final Result: Thriftway first, 1969 Notre Dame second, 1967 Bardahl third and the 1963 Notre Dame fourth. **Jeff Campbell** with Lil Buzzard went upside down in the left turn in an early lap and did not finish. **Jason Hartley** and Timex II later ran over the Buzzard and was disqualified.

Thanks to all who attended and helped out during the day. Special thanks to **Rick Lentz** who hauled the trailer and worked tirelessly on setup and tear down. Special thanks also **Rick Lentz, Roger Newton, Nelson Holmberg** and **David Newton** who also assisted with the referee and announcer duties. Not to forget a big thank you to **Jeff Campbell** who set the course and to **Jesse Robertson** who hauled in the buoys at the end of the day.

— Ron Daum, Contest Director



## Statistics — 2006 Season (through Diamond Cup)

### Vintage Driver Points

Place	Boat	Driver	Total
1.	Lil Buzzard (63)	Jeff Campbell	9,275
2.	Notre Dame (63)	Bob VandenAkker	8,949
3.	Miss Thriftway (60)	Jesse Robertson	8,615
4.	Notre Dame (69)	Mike Campbell	7,842
5.	Timex II (72)	Jason Hartley	7,774
6.	Miss Bardahl (67)	Jim Clark	5,041
7.	Thriftway (55)/Wahoo	Bill Smiley	4,936
8.	Miss Exide	Henry Marvin	4,401
9.	Miss Bardahl (68)	Roger Newton	3,494
10.	Such Crust IV	Dawna Gross®	3,447

### Modern Driver Points

Place	Boat	Driver	Total
1.	Pay n' Pak	Jeff Campbell	11,158
2.	Country Boy (73)	Mike Campbell	9,823
3.	Circus Circus (78)	Mike Gossler	9,200
4.	Squire (77)	Henry Marvin	6,477
5.	Red Man (73)	Nelson Holmberg	4,123
6.	Miss Cott's Beverage	Gary Hansen	3,871
7.	U-95	Rick Lentz	3,375
8.	Country Boy (71)/Vernors	Steve Twardus	3,113
9.	Natural Light	Jerry Johnston	3,108
10.	Squire Shop (78)	Doug Brow®	2,801

### Vintage Boat Points

Place	Year	Boat	Owner	Total
1.	1960	Miss Thriftway	Kerry Kjos	9,884
2.	1963	Lil Buzzard	Jeff Campbell	9,275
3.	1963	Notre Dame	Bob VandenAkker	8,949
4.	1979	Evergreen Roofing	Jeff Campbell	8,602
5.	1972	Timex II	Jason Hartley	7,774
6.	1972	Hallmark (Black)	Jeff Campbell	7,120
7.	1969	Notre Dame	Mike Campbell	7,042
8.	1966	Notre Dame	Bob VandenAkker	6,420
9.	1968	Miss Bardahl	Roger/David Newton	5,113
10.	1967	Miss Bardahl	Jim Clark	5,041

### Modern Boat Points

Place	Year	Boat	Owner	Total
1.	1970	Pay n' Pak	Jeff Campbell	11,158
2.	1973	Country Boy	Mike Campbell	9,823
3.	1978	Circus Circus	Mike Gossler	9,200
4.	1977	Squire	Henry Marvin	6,477
5.	1978	Squire Shop	Mike Gossler/Doug Brow	5,556
6.	1973	Red Man	Nelson Holmberg	4,123
7.	1976	Olympia Beer	D. Newton/R. Newton/J. Robertson	4,023
8.	1974	Miss Cott Beverage	Gary Hansen	3,871
9.	1975	U-95	Rick Lentz	3,375
10.	1976	Natural Light	Jerry Johnston	3,108

## Rick Lentz spears buoy for "Closest to the Pin" award at Diamond Cup

*Continued from page 1*

hit the big, round, orange buoy — which was unmovable and became our entrance buoy — in the first heat of the day. He didn't just hit it, though, he made an impression. The buoy lodged in the pickle fork of the U-95, and the boat was out of commission for the heat as it couldn't break free of the buoy.

"**Jeff Campbell** has been giving me a hard time to replace the towel bar on the front of the boat," Rick said. "If I had listened to him (and had the time to do it), the boat might have bounced off the buoy instead of nesting there."

In the modern connie, Lentz, Roberts and **Nelson Holmberg**, driving the 73 Red Man, were set for a heck of a race coming down the backstretch in the final seconds of the mill. But the Red Man cut the apex buoy on the last turn, and was a lap down. The U-95 and the Miss Budweiser dueled for a lap, before Roberts pulled away in his 73 Miss Bud.

Undaunted, the Red Man refused to settle in for last place, and charged past the U-95 and put the Bud in its sites, catching and passing the heat winner at the beginning of lap 4. But the one-lap penalty proved to be too much, and the Red Man settled for a third place finish.

When it came time to start the modern final, Roberts found issues with his drive line, and decided it would be unsafe for the hardware and the motor to run in the final, so the U-95 moved up to the trailer position in the final.

During the final, the U-95 lost its wings and afterwards had Lentz considering painting shark's teeth on the sponson tips. Lentz finished fifth in the final, despite the trailer positioning at the start. **Jeff Campbell** piloted the 1970 Pay 'N Pak to the heat victory, followed by Hansen in the Miss Cott's Beverage, **Henry Marvin** in the white 1977 Squire, and **Doug Brow** piloting the 78 U-65 Squire Shop. Gossler finished sixth with a Circus Circus hull that had a slower-than-normal day.

In the vintage first connie, a seven-boat affair was won by Marvin in the Miss Exide. **Ron Daum** was second with the Such Crust III, followed by VandenAkker's Nitrogen Too, and Lentz's Green Dragon Miss Bardahl. Muvalong, Miss Spokane, and Hurricane IV did not finish.

**Jeff Campbell** posted a win for the Evergreen Roofing in the second connie, followed by **Craig Bradshaw** in the \$ Bill, VandenAkker in the 63 Notre Dame, and **Dawna Gross** in the Such Crust IV.

The vintage final was a great race, with all six boats running hard for the start as the Exide was able to move up when the Hallmark Homes (black) did not start. In a wicked battle, Robertson took first place and held off a charging 69 Notre Dame, driven by **Mike Campbell**. **Jeff Campbell** was third with the Lil' Buzzard and Marvin was



*Doug Brow and Mike Gossler work on the 78 Squire.*

fifth with the Exide. **Mike Gossler**, driving the red Hallmark Homes did not finish. Hansen, driving the black (1972) Hallmark Homes, did not start.

A huge show of gratitude goes out to our hosts for the weekend. Property owner **Terry Beckler** and his wife really enjoyed the day, and they both even assisted in the end-of-day loading of the trailer. The expressed their interest in having us back at their place in the future.

Big thanks also goes out to **Ron Daum** for his early arrival and his work in helping to set the course, as well as for his time working hard to make sure the event stayed on schedule and was fun for everyone.

— **Nelson Holmberg**

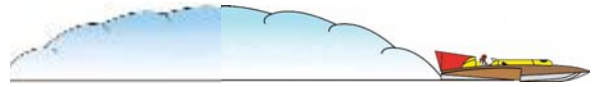


photo by Jim Clark



With the 1978 Squire Shop U-64, Mike Gossler gave the Red Man a strong chase throughout the season in the Modern Class, taking fourth in boat points. This season Gossler sold the U-64 to Doug Brow.

# September 2006

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
					National Shrimp Scampi Day	
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
	Labor Day			National Cheeseball Day		<b>ERCU Gold Cup Lake Wilderness</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>ERCU Gold Cup Lake Wilderness</b>					Lumpy Rug Day	<b>San Diego big boat races</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>San Diego big boat races</b>						
<b>ERCU RACE TBA</b>			National Roast a Leg of Lamb Day			
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>ERCU RACE TBA</b>	Lost Sock Memorial Day					