

E-RCU News

www.e-rcu.org

Volume 2, Issue 7

July 2006

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 20 . . Seafair Trophy
Coulon Park

August 27 Diamond Cup
TBA

September 9-10. . . Gold Cup
Lake Wilderness

YOU GOTTA SEE THIS!



Deck-to-deck racing in the Bernie Little Memorial with the 69 Notre Dame, the 79 Evergreen Roofing and the 68 Miss Bardahl.

FEATURED WEBSITES

U-13 Website
www.detroitunlimited.com

U-5/U-7 Website
www.u5racing.com

Campbell takes modern Bernie; MiniCzar vintage

A total of 21 vintage and 10 modern boats competed at the third annual Bernie Little Memorial at Bellevue Pond – and Bernie would have been proud of the racing.

Even though **Roger Newton** was 2,000 miles away with a big boat that was underweight, **David Newton** turned in a race win in the vintage

final, posting the new Checkerboard Bardahl's first race win. **Mike Campbell** won the modern final with the Country Boy.

Throughout the preliminaries, there was some great racing. The top point boats in the vintage heats were the Timex II with **Jason Hartley** with a perfect 1,200 points and **David Newton** driving Roger's Checkerboard Bardahl with 1,100 points. **Henry Marvin** collected 900 points, while **Bill Smiley** gained 850 with the Miss Wahoo, **Jeff Campbell** earned 800 with the Lil' Buzzard and **Steve**



Mike Campbell, driving the 71 Country Boy, won the modern class at the Bernie Little Memorial in Bellevue.

Twardus scored 794 points with the Miss Pay 'N Save.

The Slo-Mo-Shun IV got its second connie win of the season, this time with **Nigel Steere** driving. **Mike Campbell** won the second connie with his Notre Dame. Both connie winners advanced to the final as trailers so the field was set

with six boats on the front line and three trailers. The run to the start line and first turn made for some interesting racing but out of the first turn was the Newton Bardahl, followed by the Lil' Buzzard and the Timex II. After a couple of laps the Timex made it around the Buzzard and the final order of finish was Newton, Hartley (Timex II) second, **Jeff Campbell** (Lil' Buzzard) third, **Bill Smiley** (Miss Wahoo) fourth, **Henry Marvin**

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2006 brings out first-time race winners

The 2006 season has seen a number of first time winners this season, as competition continues to get better and better.

Henry Marvin staked his first career victory, guiding his 1977 Squire to the modern win at his own race, the Bill Brow Memorial in Marysville.

At the same race, **Jesse Robertson**, despite some 25 career wins in R/CU, finally claimed his first race victory with the electrics.

Robertson drove **Kerry Kjos'** 60 Miss Thriftway to victory at the Brow Memorial.

A week later, Robertson backed it up by winning the Silver Cup at Bradley Lake in Puyallup.

Mark Hansen claimed his first win, too, a couple of weeks later at the Leo Vandenberg Challenge at Lake Pleasant in Bothell.

Hansen drove **Jeff Campbell's** Hallmark Homes to a win as Campbell

had more than one boat in the final, and needed to "hire" drivers.

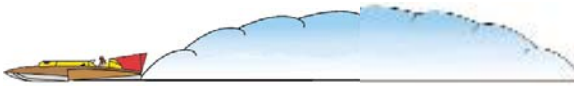
Not long after that, **Bob VandenAkker** won for the



Henry Marvin, with the 77 Squire, got his first career victory this year.

first time in his career, taking the Maple Valley Days President's Cup Regatta.

As more drivers start ramping up their programs, look out for more first wins.



NEWSBRIEFS

Port Ludlow water found too brackish for safe running

The Contest Board has received a formal water quality report provided on the Port Ludlow Marina Lagoon water. After careful review, we have regrettably concluded that we will not be able to race or operate our boats on the Port Ludlow Marina Lagoon. While the water is not salt water in the strictest sense, it is highly brackish and thus too conductive for the safe operation of high powered electric boats. I am sure that I was not alone in looking forward to participating in the Port Ludlow Funfest and the prospect of a new venue, and wished for an outcome other than this. I would remind the membership that the Port Ludlow Funfest is a great Northwest Community event. Port Ludlow itself is a historic maritime community on the Olympic Peninsula and well worth the visit by itself.

— Ron Daum, E-RCU Contest Board chairman

South Lake Union site may not work out

The Lake Union site has been monitored lately on three different days. When the wind is calm, the water still gets churned up by Lake traffic after 2 p.m., as an average. Racing would be possible on mornings from 10 a.m., into the early afternoon, at best. On windy days the lake gets white caps early, and traffic keeps it churned up all day. One of the three days, July 5 was a non-weekend day, the wind was calm, the Lake traffic was minimal, but by 3 p.m., it was not raceable due to seaplane traffic. A large boom or floatable breakwater might work, but clearly, the CD's for the two upcoming events should have a backup site in mind. The chance of getting a complete race in, on a Sunday, would be no more than 60 percent, in my opinion.

— Kirk Pagel

Seafair race moved to Coulon Park on August 20

Due to problems of trying to provide adequate shoring to protect the course, **Ron Daum** has decided that the Seafair race originally scheduled for this Sunday has been cancelled, and will be rescheduled for Coulon Park on August 20.

Diamond Cup race moved to August 26, location TBA

The continuing problems at South Lake Union have given Diamond Cup Contest Director **Rick Lentz** cause to move the race. The new location is still being confirmed, but will be announced as soon as possible. The date also needed to be moved forward by one day, in order to accommodate the new race site. Keep your eyes on the website and the newsletter for that change.

A Moment With . . .

MIKE GOSSLER



Name: Mike Gosler
 Family: Wife (Patty), daughter (Kelly, 13), son (Kyle, 6)
 City he calls home: Auburn
 Job (when not boating): Pacific Graphics
 College Football Loyalty: None
 Favorite Current Unlimited Hydro: Oberto
 Favorite Unlimited Hydro of the past: '58 Pay 'n Save
 Boats he races in ERCU: '78 Circus Circus
 What was your first car? '70 Ford Maverick
 What was your first job? Detailer at a body shop
 When and how did you get involved in scale racing? 1992 — when I met Roger Newton
 Have you ever had a manicure/pedicure? Yes — both!
 Coke or Pepsi? Coke

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Big Boat News

As if anyone would be surprised by this, the first person **Ted Porter** recruited when his U-7 FormulaBoats II hull was damaged in the Tri-Cities was **Jeff Campbell**, who just happened to be in the pits when the boat was towed back in. Shortly after the boat was put back on the trailer, Jeff was seen on the phone. The next morning, we were told that one of the calls Jeff had made was to **Mike Campbell**, who came over from Seattle (rumor has it with a replacement shaft log), and the two Campbells pulled an all nighter helping the FormulaBoats II crew get their boat put back together again. Porter did it right, paying both of the former Budweiser crew members for their time and efforts. When asked if he'd gotten pulled back in, to join the crew full-time, Jeff simply said, "Ted asked me for a number, and I gave him one. I guess I didn't ask for enough." Jeff was then asked if he needed a cup of coffee, to which he dedpanned, "It's too late for that."

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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	TBA

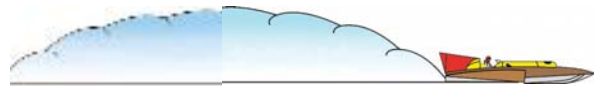
SEPTEMBER

Date	Event	Location
9-10	Gold Cup	Lake Wilderness
24	Dean Chenoweth Memorial	Long Lake
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.



Statistics — 2006 Season (through Bernie Little Memorial)

Vintage Driver Points

Place	Boat	Driver	Total
1.	Notre Dame (63)	Bob VandenAkker	7,274
2.	Lil Buzzard	Jeff Campbell	6,925
3.	Miss Thriftway	Jesse Robertson	5,846
4.	Timex II (72)	Jason Hartley	5,805
5.	Notre Dame (69)	Mike Campbell	5,117
6.	Thriftway (55)/Wahoo	Bill Smiley	4,051
7.	Miss Bardahl (67)	Jim Clark	3,991
8.	Vans PX	Mark Hansen	3,213
9.	Miss Exide	Henry Marvin	3,199
10.	Miss Timex (clock)	Jerry Johnston	2,693

Modern Driver Points

Place	Boat	Driver	Total
1.	Pay n' Pak (70)	Jeff Campbell	9,220
2.	Circus Circus (78)	Mike Gossler	7,204
3.	Country Boy (73)	Mike Campbell	6,296
4.	Squire (77)	Henry Marvin	5,127
5.	Red Man (73)	Nelson Holmberg	3,147
6.	Natural Light (76)	Jerry Johnston	3,108
7.	Winston Eagle (88)	Craig Bradshaw	2,643
8.	Miss Cott Beverage (74)	Gary Hansen	2,471
9.	U-95	Rick Lentz	2,460
10.	Notre Dame (72)	Mark Hansen	2,459

Vintage Boat Points

Place	Year	Boat	Owner	Total
1.	1979	Evergreen Roofing	Jeff Campbell	7,277
2.	1963	Notre Dame	Bob VandenAkker	7,274
3.	1960	Miss Thriftway	Kerry Kjos	7,115
4.	1963	Lil Buzzard	Jeff Campbell	6,925
5.	1972	Timex II	Jason Hartley	5,805
6.	1966	Notre Dame	Bob VandenAkker	5,651
7.	1972	Hallmark (Black)	Jeff Campbell	5,638
8.	1969	Notre Dame	Mike Campbell	4,317
9.	1968	Miss Bardahl	Roger/David Newton	4,113
10.	1967	Miss Bardahl	Jim Clark	3,991

Modern Boat Points

Place	Year	Boat	Owner	Total
1.	1970	Pay n' Pak	Jeff Campbell	9,220
2.	1973	Country Boy	Mike Campbell	7,796
3.	1978	Circus Circus	Mike Gossler	7,204
4.	1977	Squire	Henry Marvin	5,127
5.	1978	Squire Shop	Doug Brow	4,270
6.	1973	Red Man	Nelson Holmberg	3,147
7.	1976	Natural Light	Jerry Johnston	3,108
8.	1976	Olympia Beer	Kerry Kjos	2,923
9.	1988	Winston Eagle	Craig Bradshaw	2,643
10.	1974	Miss Cott Beverage	Gary Hansen	2,471

Bernie Little Memorial modern title goes to former Miss Bud crew member

Continued from page 1

(Hallmark Homes) fifth, **Mike Campbell** (Notre Dame) sixth, **Nigel Steere** (Slo-Mo-Shun IV) seventh, **Steve Twardus** (Pay 'N Save) eighth, and the Evergreen Roofing did not finish.

Coming home after **Mike Campbell** in the modern final was **Jeff Campbell** (Pay 'N Pak) second, rookie **Doug Brow** (Squire Shop) third, Rick Lentz (U-95) fourth, and **Steve Twardus** (Vernors) fifth. **Jesse Robertson** (Olympia Beer), and **Henry Marvin** (The Squire) did not finish due to a front straight mishap.

At the conclusion of the final heats, two special heats were run, the first being a six-lap vintage dash-for-cash, which was won by **Jerry Johnston** driving the Timex. Second went to **Craig Bradshaw** (\$ Bill), **Donna Gross** (Such Crust), **Rick Lentz** (58 Bardahl). Fifth place went to **Kirk Pagel's** Hurricane, which was the first across the finish line but was penalized for losing its cowling.

The second dash was a three-vintage, three-modern combi-

nation that was a battle for six laps. **Bob VandenAkker** took his Notre Dame out to an early lead and looked to have the moderns handled around the tight Bellevue Pond course, but late in the race caught a roller and ended up upside down in the north turn, which left **Bill Smiley** driving the Wahoo out front with **Mike Gossler** in the Circus Circus chasing hard. On the last lap it was the Circus and the Wahoo trading the lead back and forth. In the end it was the Circus Circus by a few inches at the finish line. Third went to the U-95, fourth was The Squire and fifth was the Pay 'N Save.

A big thanks goes out to all who helped make a great day of racing possible. **Rick Lentz** and **Monte Steere** for bringing the trailer and help setting up, Bob and Judy for help with the scoring and boat retrieval, **Scott Fetterly** and his wife for all the computer help, and everyone who helped with the course judging.

Bernie would have been proud of the contributions this club has made to the sport of scale unlimited hydroplane racing.

Big Boat News: New Kid on the Block may not make it to Chevrolet Cup

Continued from page 2

U-28 unlikely for Seattle

Despite his best efforts, and the best efforts of his team, **Ray Forsman** doesn't look like he'll have the new U-28 Miss Clearwater Casino New Kid on the Block Allison-powered hull ready for Seafair, as was hoped.

Ray said there were some recent troubles with the gearbox and they were scrambling, trying to make adjustments and make it all work.

The new Allison open-stack engine was delivered from California the week before the Atomic Cup.

Weber retires from drivers seat

Mike Weber surprised the drivers, fans and media

after Sunday's Atomic Cup by announcing his retirement from the sport as a driver.

"I am at peace with the decision," said the former Detroit. "I just didn't have the fire you need to compete with at this competitive level.

"I was thinking about retiring on the Saturday of the Gold Cup," Weber said. "I talked to **Ted (Porter)** and he told me to think about it and not to rush into anything.

"I am very excited about my position as team manager. I have some ideas and now I will have the time to try and make this team the best in racing."

Weber now has some quick work to proceed with for the FormulaBoats.com team. He has to decide who will be the driver to take his place this week before the qualifying starts on Lake Washington.

"Ted has been in a plane all day today," Weber said

on July 31. "I have some names in the back of my head but we'll have to talk about it before we make an announcement."

Speculation is that **Mike Allen** will move to the cockpit of the U-5, and they'll fill the open seat in the U-7 with the new driver. The same speculation includes the possibility of Weber's brother **Mark Weber** returning to the unlimited ranks — or perhaps Weber's nephew **Jeff Bernard** taking over.

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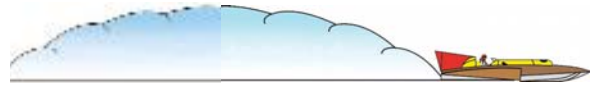


photo by Jim Clark



Bob VandenAkker's beautiful Notre Dame finished the season fourth in boat points in the Vintage Class in 2005.

August 2006

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5 Seafair Unlimited Races (big boats) Lake Washington
6 Seafair Unlimited Races (big boats) Lake Washington	7	8 I am in Control Day	9	10	11 Sorry Charlie Day	12
13	14	15	16 Don't Go To Work Unless it's Fun Day	17	18	19
20 Seafair Trophy Coulon Park	21	22	23	24 Eight Track Tape Day	25	26 Diamond Cup Location TBA
27	28	29	30	31 Rubber Eraser Day		