

E-RCU News



www.e-rcu.org

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September 2006

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 23. Gar Wood Mem.
Bellevue Pond

October 1 Apple Cup
(exhibition)
Chelan, Wash.

October 8 Brewer's Cup
Shady Lake

October 14. Cascade Cup/
APBA National Championship
Horseshoe Lake, Woodland

YOU GOTTA SEE THIS!



Craig Mullen's new American Spirit competes in the Gold Cup, it's first competition in ERCU.

FEATURED WEBSITES

The Vintage Hydroplanes
www.vintagehydroplanes.com

Campbell's Gold Boats win Gold Cups

There's Gold in Lake Wilderness, and **Jeff Campbell** proved it.

Campbell's gold Pay 'n Pak boats *both* won the 2006 ERCU Gold Cup at Lake Wilderness in Maple Valley.

Everyone should have known that would be the case, as once the full day, and three hours (Sunday morning) of qualifying were finished, Jeff Campbell was the fastest qualifier in both classes.

In fact, if it weren't for a pair of third place finishes (one in modern and one in vintage), Jeff would've likely had a perfect day. Ironically, in both heats that Jeff was third, **Mike Campbell** and **Gary Hansen** were the ones in front of him.

Competition for the Gold Cup was fierce throughout the day, and we finished the race without major incident. Drivers did a great job of controlling their boats, and a great time was had by all.

There was a near disaster, however, when new member **John Burkey** took out the 1967 Atlas Van Lines to run his driver qualification laps. The boat flipped at the end of the backstretch and quickly filled up with water. It did-



Jeff Campbell won the Gold Cup with the 1970 Pay 'N Pak, AND the Lil Buzzard (vintage division).

n't take long for the boat to find the bottom of Lake Wilderness.

Fortunately, a couple hours later, John's brother came to the rescue with diving gear and found the boat, returning it to the surface. John made a valiant effort to dry everything out and give his qualifying another go, but gremlins got the best of him on race day.

(Continued on page 3)

Chairman's Chatter: Gold Cup is now in the books

The 2006 Gold Cup is in now in the books.

Our crown jewel of the Red Dot Championship Series sponsored by Hilltop Battlepacks and RC Hydros attracted a record 45 boats.

The competition all day was tremendous and each heat seemed to feature one or more two and three boat duals to the finish. Photo finishes abounded.

I must tip my hat to all the drivers. All day long we had five and six boat heats with seven boats in the finals. The



Chairman's Chatter
Ron Daum

competition featured great starts and overall the best driving I have seen in three years of racing with E-RCU. Well done guys and gals! Can you tell, I'm still pumped the day after! Thanks again to our wonderful sponsors and all who

helped out to make this such a memorable event for all of us.

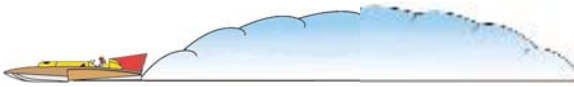
The only downside to the two-day event was that several people left with fewer working motors than the came with and a few more on their last legs and no

more Astro 325's to be had.

All is not lost however; I demonstrated a brushless motor in my Such Crust III on Saturday. My three-lap qualifying time improved 4 seconds from 1:05 with the Astro to 1:01 (and change) with the HIMAX 3630-1500 brushless. No quantum leap here, still solidly in the middle of the pack. This may be our commercially available alternative.

More good stuff: To make up for the missed July Seafair race, we will be holding the new Gar Wood Memorial on Saturday

(Continued on page 4)



NEWSBRIEFS

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** will host the Gar Wood Memorial at Bellevue Pond on Saturday, Sept. 23.

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.

Another site on Pipe Lake is interested in hosting ERCU

Dan Gilmore has generated some interest with the Cherokee Bay Community Club in Maple Valley (located at the east end of Pipe Lake) to talk with us about possibly holding off-season test sessions or races next year. **Roger Newton** has seen the site and says it would be a very good location for us. A group of ERCU members, including **Craig Bradshaw**, visited with the Cherokee Bay Community Club board during one of their recent meetings. Dan is the one who prepared the food for the Diamond Cup this year, which was also held on Pipe Lake, one bay west of the clubhouse location.

A Moment With . . .

HENRY MARVIN



Family: Wife Sue, daughter Erin, son Cody
 City he calls home: Tukwila, Wash.
 Job (when not boating): Cabinet Maker, Commercial Finish Carpenter
 College Football Loyalty: None
 Favorite Current Unlimited Hydro: Oh Boy! Oberto
 Favorite Unlimited Hydro of the past: 1965 Miss Exide
 Boats he races in ERCU: .1964 Miss Exide, The famous Twardus Squire and the Campbell hull Hallmark Homes
 What was your first car? 1956 Chevy Panel Truck
 What was your first job? Helping out at my Dad's music store
 When and how did you get involved in scale racing? .Three years ago. Saw my first 1/8-scale race in the 70s and wanted to do it ever since.
 Have you ever had a manicure/pedicure?: Not while I was awake
 Coke or Pepsi?Coke with reducer

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**Thanks
 Red
 Dot!!!!**

Big Boat News

American Boat Racing Association Chairman **Sam Cole** announced that the final race of the EnviroPly Unlimited Hydroplane Series, the ProBoat Models World Championship on San Diego's Mission Bay, September 15-17, will be a sanctioned UIM/APBA World Championship event.



"We wanted to make the announcement when we announced the sponsor for the race but a few things came about a little slower than we had hoped," Cole said. "We kept on working with the APBA office in Eastpointe (Michigan) and everything finally fell into place."

This is the first UIM sanctioned Unlimited Hydroplane World Championship since the 2004 race in Madison, Ind. won by **Dave Vilwoc** (Auburn, Wash) in the Miss Budweiser and only the third UIM sanctioned World Championship since 1984. This will be the 16th UIM sanctioned World Championship since its inception in 1938.

(Continued on page 3)

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

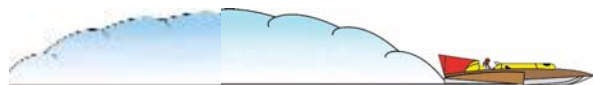
SEPTEMBER

Date	Event	Location
9-10	Gold Cup	Lake Wilderness
23	Gar Wood Memorial	Bellevue Pond
30	Apple Cup exhibition	Chelan

OCTOBER

Date	Event	Location
1	Apple Cup exhibition	Chelan
8	Brewers Cup	Shady Lake
14	Cascade Cup/Natl Champ.	Woodland

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



Big Boat News: Mark Weber named to Detroit River Regatta presidency

Continued from page 2

"I love the tradition of unlimited hydroplane racing," Cole said. "And I want to get back to some of the great names of the some of the great races of the past."

"While we want to showcase the new, we also want to remember some of the great traditions of the sport," Cole said. "This trophy race goes back almost 70 years and I'd like to see it become a more integral part of our racing."

With a maximum 2000 points at stake in San Diego, only 727 points separate to the top four boats in the battle for the EnviroPly Series Championship with defending National High Point Driver **Steve David** (Light-house, Fla.) looking to win his second consecutive driver's title but is seeking the first National High Point Championship Boat title for the Oh Boy! Oberto/Miss Madison team.

The race will have four sets of elimination heats over the two days of racing plus the championship final winner take all race.

Villwock and the Elstrom Racing team are the defending National High Point Team Champions and currently are in third place 501 points behind the Oh Boy! Oberto team while rookie **Mike Allen** (New Orleans, La.) and the Formula-Boats.com II boat team are trailing by just 278 points.

The Oh Boy! Oberto boat is owned by the City of Madison, Ind. The southern Indiana city team has won some major events including the Gold Cup but the team has never captured the national championship.

Mark Weber named Detroit Regatta Director of Operations

The Detroit River Regatta Association (DRRA), promoter of the annual Chrysler-Jeep Superstores APBA Gold Cup race on the Detroit River, is pleased to announce the appointment of **Mark Weber** as director of operations for DRRA.

"Our vice president and race director, Tom Bertolini, and I are very excited to bring Mark Weber onboard," said DRRA President, **Bill Rands**. "Mark has truly unique experience as a racer, business manager and is a passionate supporter of the Gold Cup powerboat racing tradition in Detroit."

Weber succeeds **Charlie Robertson** who recently resigned from the DRRA for health related reasons. "We want to express our thanks and appreciation to Charlie Robertson, for her efforts in helping to successfully launch a number of new elements for our 2006 race, and extend our best wishes for her good health," said Bertolini.

"Bringing Mark on board is another step in the continuing development of the DRRA infrastructure to support our commitment to the fans, the Southeast Michigan community and to our sponsors," said Rands.

"The model the DRRA started last year will be carried forward," said Weber. "The event started to make a very positive turn and definitely had more of an event and entertainment feel to it. That is what we want and what the fans want. Our job is to help deliver a safe, exciting and fiscally responsible event to the community."

uonim



The U-3 wears a cowling over the turbo Allison during its second qualifying run in San Diego, results were worse with the cowling on than off.

We want to deliver a product to the river that the people want to see and will continue to support," Weber said.

E-RCU News

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Editor/Designer/ContributorNelson Holmberg
ContributorKirk Pagel
PhotographyJim Clark, unless otherwise noted

Gold Cup: Campbell wins; Lake Wilderness gives up a sunken boat

Continued from page 1

Burkey promised to re-install the floatation after working on the boat in the future.

In the modern division, Jeff Campbell was his usual consistent and solid self, driving the 1970 Pride of Pay 'n Pak. He cruised to wins in three of his four preliminary heats and ran away from the field in the final. **Nigel Steere** debuted the very fast T-Plus, ERCU's first two-wing turbine hull (and the only non-1970s vintage boat in the final), and finished second in the final. Third place went to **Mark Hansen** in the 1972 Notre Dame, while fourth went to **Gary Hansen** in the Miss Cott's Beverage. **Jerry Johnston** piloted the 1977 Natural Light to a fifth place finish, while **Henry Marvin** drove the 1977 white Squire to a sixth place finish. **Mike Campbell's** 1973 Country Boy was seventh, after starting from the trailer position.

It's worth reporting that Steere claimed three first-place finishes with the T-Plus in the preliminary rounds.

Nelson Holmberg capped a strong day for the 1973 Red Man with a second-place finish in the connie, followed by **Roger Newton** in the 1976 Olympia Beer and rookie **Craig Mullen** in the American Spirit.

By winning heat 4B, Holmberg claimed his first-ever heat victory (including six years in RCU).

Followed by a very fast Muvalong, driven by Gary Hansen, Jeff Campbell won the vintage final, and totaled an event-best 1,825 points for the day. Third place went to Newton, driving

Kerry Kjos' 1960 Miss Thriftway. The black Hallmark Homes was fourth, driven by Mike Campbell. **Jim Clark** and **Bill**

Smiley had a Bardahl duel for fifth and six places as Clark in the 67 edged Smiley (driving Newton's 68 checkerboard). **Jason Hartley**, who seems to be just on the verge of his first career race win, did not finish the final.

In the first connie, Newton guided the checkerboard Bardahl around in first place, earning an entry to the final. Mike Campbell was second with the 1969 Notre Dame, followed by **Bill Smiley** in the Miss Wahoo. Fourth place went to **Steve Twardus** in the Miss Pay 'n Save, with **Grady Steere** close behind in the Slo-Mo-Shun IV. **Ron Daum** in the Such Crust III was sixth, and **Bob VandenAkker** in the 1963 Notre Dame was seventh.

In the second vintage connie, Mark Hansen's Van's PX out-classed the competition, holding off a challenge from **Ron Hornung's** Skip-A-Long. Third place went to Jeff Campbell in the Evergreen Roofing and Holmberg substitute-driving **Rick Lentz's** 1958 Miss Bardahl was fourth. **Craig Bradshaw** in the \$ Bill was fifth, while **Craig Mullen** in the Nitrogen Too and **Henry Marvin** in the Miss Exide rounded out the finishers.

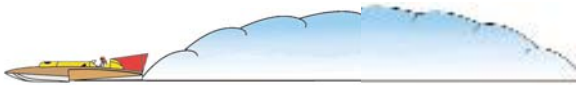
Numerous people deserve thanks for their fantastic help, but rather than try to remember and name everyone, we'll congratulate the entire club for another ERCU event to be proud of.

As expected, the Gold Cup was another huge success, and Lake Wilderness couldn't have been more hospitable.

Heck, its depths even gave back a sunken boat!



Nelson Holmberg claimed his first heat victory ever by winning heat 4B with the 73 Red Man.



Statistics — 2006 Season (through Gold Cup)

Vintage Driver Points

Place	Boat	Driver	Total
1.	Lil Buzzard	Jeff Campbell	11,100
2.	Notre Dame (63)	Bob VandenAkker	10,004
3.	Notre Dame (69)	Mike Campbell	8,992
4.	Timex II (72)	Jason Hartley	8,874
5.	Miss Thriftway	Jesse Robertson	8,615
6.	Miss Bardahl (67)	Jim Clark	6,318
7.	Thriftway (55)/Miss Wahoo	Bill Smiley	6,074
8.	Miss Exide	Henry Marvin	5,263
9.	Muvalong	Gary Hansen	5,038
10.	Miss Bardahl (68)	Roger Newton	4,363

Vintage Boat Points

Place	Year	Boat	Owner	Total
1.	1960	Miss Thriftway	Kerry Kjos	11,336
2.	1963	Lil Buzzard	Jeff Campbell	11,100
3.	1963	Notre Dame	Bob VandenAkker	10,004
4.	1980	Evergreen Roofing	Jeff Campbell	9,358
5.	1972	Timex II	Jason Hartley	8,874
6.	1972	Hallmark (Black)	Jeff Campbell	8,458
7.	1969	Notre Dame	Mike Campbell	8,192
8.	1966	Notre Dame	Bob VandenAkker	6,941
9.	1967	Miss Bardahl	Jim Clark	6,318
10.	1968	Miss Bardahl	Roger Newton	6,077

Modern Driver Points

Place	Boat	Driver	Total
1.	Pay n' Pak (70)	Jeff Campbell	12,983
2.	Country Boy (73)	Mike Campbell	10,819
3.	Circus Circus (78)	Mike Gossler	9,921
4.	Squire (77)	Henry Marvin®	7,567
5.	Miss Colt's Beverage (74)	Gary Hansen	5,440
6.	Red Man (73)	Nelson Holmberg	4,987
7.	Natural Light (77)	Jerry Johnston	4,229
8.	Country Boy (71)/Vernors	Steve Twardus	3,990
9.	Notre Dame (72)	Mark Hansen	3,811
10.	Squire Shop (78)	Doug Brow®	3,589

Modern Boat Points

Place	Year	Boat	Owner	Total
1.	1970	Pay n' Pak	Jeff Campbell	12,983
2.	1973	Country Boy	Mike Campbell	10,819
3.	1978	Circus Circus	Mike Gossler	9,921
4.	1977	Squire	Henry Marvin®	7,567
5.	1978	Squire Shop	Mike Gossler/Doug Brow	6,344
6.	1974	Miss Colt's Beverage	Gary Hansen	5,440
7.	1973	Red Man	Nelson Holmberg	4,987
8.	1976	Olympia Beer	D. Newton/R. Newton/J. Robertson	4,943
9.	1977	Natural Light	Jerry Johnston	4,229
10.	1972	Notre Dame	Mike Campbell	3,811

Chairman's Chatter

Continued from page 1

September 23 at Bellevue Pond. To make up for the cancelled Dean Chenoweth race at Long Lake on September 24, the Columbia Division, led by **Nelson Holmberg**, will be putting on the Cascade Cup/APBA National Championship presented by the Hydroplane and Raceboat Museum, at Woodland Wash., on October 14 and it will be sponsored by the Rose City Model Yacht Club of Portland, among others.

As a former Commodore of Rose City Model Yacht Club, I can attest to what a great organization they are. In an effort to emulate the old Seattle-Detroit rivalry of the 50's and to no less a degree the Seattle-Portland RCU rivalry of the 70's and 80's, Nellie tells me the vintage winner this year gets to pick the venue for the following year. Stay tuned for finalization of the date, personally I can hardly wait.

Don't forget Apple Cup in Chelan and the Brewers Cup on Shady Lake. The Lilly brothers always put on a good one.

I'm ready, let's go racing. See you there!

— **Ron Daum**
ERCU Contest Board Chairman

I must tip my hat ... All day long we had five and six boat heats with seven boats in the finals.

Woodland site will host National Championship

A national championship event is on its way to Woodland, Wash.

Electric Radio Controlled Unlimiteds' (ERCU) Columbia Division is hosting the ABPA National Championship for R/C model hydroplanes in conjunction with its first-ever Cascade Cup trophy race. The race is presented by the **Hydroplane and Raceboat Museum**.

The Cascade Cup/APBA National Championship is scheduled for October 14 at Horseshoe Lake Park, along the north end of Woodland's signature park. Racers will have 90 minutes of open water for practice, followed by a drivers meeting at 10:30 a.m., and racing will commence at 11 a.m.

"This is so exciting," said the race's contest director **Nelson Holmberg**, of Portland, Ore. "The fact that we're bringing the ability for fast electric scale hydroplane racers from all over the nation to come to the beautiful town of Woodland and see ERCU, is absolutely fantastic."

The boats that will be racing are 1/10 scale duplicates of real unlimited hydroplanes that have raced between the 1940s and today, meaning they are scale models, 1/10th of the size of the real boats (real unlimited hydroplanes are, in general, 30 feet long and 15 feet wide), and they look exactly as the real

boats did when they raced.

Boats will be required to adhere to ERCU rules in order to participate in the race, which will consist of four flights of preliminary

heats for both modern and vintage classes, consolation finals for each class, and winner-take-all championship finals for both classes. The boat with the most points in each division at the end of the event will be crowned national champion.

The Cascade Cup race has a unique format of its own. This year's winner of the vintage class will get to select whether the race will be held in Seattle or in Portland the following season. The intent is to build the rivalry between the two cities, similar to the unlimited hydroplane rivalry that Seattle and Detroit have revealed in since the early 1950s.

October 14 will be the first time the Cascade Cup is run, and the first time ERCU will have hosted a national championship event.

Sponsors of the event, to date, include **Rose City Model Yacht Club, Merrick Lentz Architect, Ted's Hobbies Unlimited, Bob VandenAkker, John Earnest, and Jeff Campbell.**



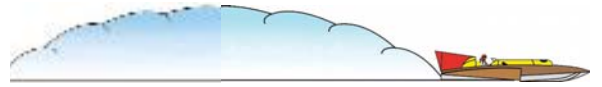


photo by Jim Clark



Jerry Courtway's Olympia Beer moved up a spot in the Brewers Cup, finishing the year fifth in Modern Class boat points. This year, the Olympia Beer was sold, as Jerry and Zane Courtway moved to RCU.

October 2006

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
ERCU Apple Cup Chelan		Frog Jumping Jubilee Day				
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
ERCU Brewers Cup Shady Lake					National Applesauce Cake Day	ERCU Cascade Cup/ APBA National Championship Woodland, WA
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Donald Duck Day						
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Smile Power Day						
29	30	31	Halloween — Dress as your favorite hydro driver			