

Regatta Review

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THE CHRYSLER JEEP SUPERSTORES APBA GOLD CUP - JULY 11-13, 2008

*** CONTROVERSY IN SEATTLE

At the Seattle race the U-37 Beacon Plumbing driven by Jean Theoret appeared to be the winner but was assessed a one-minute penalty for being off plane after having been given a warning over the radio.

Watch the ABRA web site for info as the review process is still under way:

<http://www.abrahydroplanes.com>

Here is the ABRA story from Sunday, after the Elam was declared the winner...

*** VILLWOCK VICTORIOUS IN SEATTLE, EARNS \$50,000 FOR CHARITY

SEATTLE -- The U-1 Ellstrom Elam Plus presents Amos W. Hoss with driver Dave Villwock finally won one at home for the Ballard-based crew with his victory at the 2008 Chevrolet Cup at Seafair in Seattle.

The third-winningest driver in ABRA history had never won on the Lake Washington course with the Elam crew and in doing so brought a \$50,000 gift for the Ronald McDonald House. Early in the week, sponsor Hoss Mortgage Investors based in Seattle pledged the donation if one of the three boats it sponsored won at Seafair.

"I crossed the line knowing we'd won for the Ellstroms, the Hoss family and for the Ronald McDonald House. As a boat racer, it's a tremendous feeling to be able to give something back to the community. There's no bigger event in Seattle than Seafair. "

Jean Theoret in the U-37 Miss Beacon Plumbing used the pre-race milling period to gain control of lane one, and used that position to lead the field from wire to wire, seemingly winning the race. ABRA officials determined, however, that Theoret was off plane for more than five seconds before the beginning of the race, resulting in a one-minute penalty, and despite crossing the finish line first, the team was forced to settle for a fifth-place finish.

Theoret and Villwock were both notified of the infraction before the start of the race and it played directly into the U-1 team's hands.

"My strategy was to cut across near the DMZ in turn one to get the U-37 and U-6 (Oh Boy! Oberto) to leapfrog past me on the backstretch," said Villwock. "I knew that at that point, from that position on the course, they would either be really early to the start, or have to be off plane to get a good start. Jean got a good start, but he had to go off plane to do that. I knew before the

start of the race that Jean had been penalized one minute, but I still had to complete the race and charge hard to hold off (U-6 driver) Steve David."

Despite finishing second, David and the U-6 team increased their National High Points championship lead over the U-37 Miss Beacon Plumbing to 1,083 points with one race remaining. The U-5 Formulaboats.com with driver Jeff Bernard fell to third in the high points chase with his third-place finish in the Chevrolet Cup final. Rookie Kip Brown in the U-17 Our Gang Racing finished fourth. Greg Hopp in the U-100 Mirageboats.com finished sixth. The U-13 Graham Trucking with driver J. Michael Kelly was unable to finish the race due to a malfunctioning hatch.

Earlier in the day, David Bryant in the U-10 Hoss Mortgage Investors blew over at the apex of turn one in the second lap of heat 2A. Bryant was challenging the Oberto for second place when the boat hit a roller, rotated 180 degrees and landed upside down. Bryant used the driver's escape hatch and was out of the boat and waving to the crowd before the rescue crews arrived.

"I kind of figured I needed to get out and give the girls in the pits something to cheer about," said Bryant. "I didn't even get wet. The cockpit did its job. The HANS device did its job. I'm fine."

The U-10 team hopes to repair the damage and join the rest of the ABRA fleet at the season finale at the San Diego Bayfair on Mission Bay scheduled for Sept. 19-21.

2008 CHEVROLET CUP AT SEAFAIR FINAL

Finish - Boat - Driver - Avg. Speed - Points

1 U-1 Elam Plus presents Amos W. Hoss Dave Villwock 134.612 400

2 U-6 Oh Boy! Oberto Steve David 133.359 300

3 U-5 FormulaBoats.com Jeff Bernard 127.241 225

4 U-17 Our Gang Racing Kip Brown 114.171 169

5 U-37 Beacon Plumbing Jean Theoret 111.49 127

6 U-100 Mirageboats.com Greg Hopp 112.772 95

DNF U-13 Graham Trucking J. Michael Kelly 0 0

*** LOTS OF THINGS TO DO THIS WEEKEND!!

There are many events occurring in the Southeast Michigan area this weekend that would interest hydroplane racing fans! Here are some:

* SMOKE ON THE WATER 2

This is a powerboat race in Algonac featuring outboard tunnel racers in the F1, F2 and F3 ChampBoat classes, as well as the Super Light Tunnel boats and some Vintage powerboats. Visit <http://drtruax.com/chriscraft1.htm> for more information and a complete schedule. The viewing area is along the boardwalk and green space in downtown Algonac, and there may be a moderate admission charge.

* REMOTE CONTROL POWERBOAT RACING

Two days of R/C racing will take place at the GM Tech Center in Warren, starting at about 8:30 am and running until about 4pm. On Saturday August 9th they will be running the 'gas' classes and on Sunday the 'nitro' classes will run including the beautiful 1/8 Scale Unlimiteds class featuring models of hydros past and present. Enter the GM Tech Center from 12 Mile Road at the Western-most entrance near Mound. Free admission.

* YANKEE AIR MUSEUM - THUNDER OVER MICHIGAN

Besides sponsoring our Gold Cup event, the Chrysler Jeep Superstores sponsor "Thunder Over Michigan" at the Yankee Air Museum this weekend. Featuring a salute to the "rough and tough" P-47 Thunderbolt and special segment dedicated to the beloved WWII Heavy Bombers, a wide variety of vintage & modern military Fighters, Bombers & Transports will help celebrate the event's 10th Anniversary! Admission is \$25 and Parking is \$10, at the gate.

For more info: <http://www.yankeeairmuseum.org/airshow/>

*** MALIBU OPEN AT QUAKE ON THE LAKE - TV BROADCAST

The Malibu Open water skiing contest held in conjunction with the inboard hydroplane races at Quake On The Lake will be televised on Fox Sports Network (FSN) Saturday August 23rd (2pm) and Monday August 27th (3:30pm). As Malibu's own broadcast it will focus on the skiing but we hope to see some hydroplane action in there too. Note that those are airdates for the Detroit area, for the full schedule see:

<http://www.gold-cup.com/newsletters/2008/MalibuOpenAugust08.pdf>

*** VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR STREAK ON THE CREEK

Streak On The Creek is looking for a few good volunteers to help at their event September 20th and 21st. They could especially use a couple young & strong types to help put up the clock in the morning and take it down at the end of the day, as well as a few for the easier jobs of keeping an eye on the fence line around the pit area and etc.

Contacts are Andy: blwtrdvr (at) msn.com and Ken via: carolyn.brode (at) yahoo.com

- Brian Reed - DRRA Volunteer

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