

STARTED 'SORT OF AS A JOKE'

# One Woman Tests Powerboat Field

By **TOM CARROLL**,  
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**A**NNE Deuschle says the fastest she has gone in a motorboat was a year ago at Elizabeth City, N.C., when her craft suddenly became airborne and "they told me when I woke up that I was doing about 75 miles an hour."

That's pretty fast when you consider that the course record for a 48-inch inboard, which is what Anne Deuschle will be driving in the American Powerboat association championships on the lake at Eastwood park here Saturday and Sunday, is 78 mph.

**MRS. DEUSCHLE** is a 27-year-old mother of four little girls, including seven-year-old twins, and a resident of Fort Thomas, Ky. As the only woman in next week end's Eastern championship field, she has no qualms about matching wits and stamina with a lot of guys. She can more than hold her own, and does, usually.

An exception was at the aforementioned Elizabeth City.

"I was leading the race, had it locked up," she

says, "by 100 yards. I said to myself, 'Better slow down, Anne, you're way out in front.' And then I did it, went into the turn wide open and lost it."

Luckily, a fellow in one of the boats running behind her "grabbed the collar of my life packet and fished me out." Her feelings suffered the most.

She says she has been racing inboards two years, after a similar stretch with outboards and got into motorboat racing "sort of as a joke. They had some kind of a Powder Puff Derby, I entered, liked it, and here I am."

**HUSBAND FRED** Deuschle works as crew for Paul Bauer of Cincinnati, owner of two 48-inch inboards. One of them, a spanking new one, was christened Kat-N-Nan, after his married daughters, Kathy and Nancy. Mrs. Deuschle pilots Kat-N-Nan II, which goes into next week end's extravaganza as defending Eastern division champion in its class.

Paul Bauer was at the helm of the Kat-N-Nan II when it won the Eastern division title two straight years. Anne Deuschle says "I feel honored to be driving the boat, I hope I can do it justice."

She has beaten the 49-year-old Bauer in a race, twice as a matter-of-fact, once in Cincinnati, then

in Newport, Ky. "If you're gonna beat me, why not do it 300 miles away instead of so close to home?" Bauer asked, and didn't have to be reminded that he's more than held his own against Mrs. Deuschle.

"**PAUL WAS FIRST** and I was second in the first heat and I was running second behind him in the second heat at Loon Lake, Mich., when I blew the engine completely," she says.

One reason her husband—"everybody calls him Dutch"—doesn't drive a boat is because he's too heavy.

"I'm down to 118 pounds after dieting and Paul weighs only 168 pounds. If you want to see something, you should see him pour his 6-4 frame into a 15-foot boat. His knees touch his chin."

**MRS. DEUSCHLE** and Bauer entered their Crosley-powered boats over the week end at Ypsilanti, Mich., and hoped to be on hand in Detroit for the Gold Cup race.

Then it's to Dayton and the American Powerboat association's Eastern divisional championships, which the Dayton Motorboat Racing association is putting on for the benefit of Barney Children's Medical center here.