

Monday, July 11, 1966

Land Trouble Overcome To Win Boat Title Here

By TOM CARROLL, Daily News Sports Writer

OWNERS and Drivers were unanimous in their praise of the Eastwood park lake's one-mile and two-thirds racing course for the Dayton Motor Boat Racing association's second annual regatta in which were decided the American Power Boat association's Eastern divisional championships the last two days.

Their enthusiasm couldn't hold a candle to that of a little Cincinnati widow, however, who alternately clasped her hands in fervent prayer and squealed with delight as Col. Jack Brown of Wright-Patterson Air Force base wheeled the 150-cubic inch hydroplane, Little Mogul, to victory in two straight heats yesterday.



Carroll

Col. Brown, who has flown planes in three wars in the last quarter of a century, was one of five members of the local motor boat racing association to take down an Eastern divisional championship. Only record was Daytonian Jon Culver's 67.665 in the JJ outboard pleasure craft.

"We were going to retire the boat (which her husband owned) after the Eastern championships," said Mrs. Marie Blazer. "My husband had lived for this race, planned and schemed for it, but it wasn't to be. He died of a heart attack last Apr. 24 but the boys and I, along with the Colonel, decided we'd carry on at least through the Eastern divisional.

"But now that the Colonel has made the 'Little Mogul' the Eastern champion I just don't know. We'll have to have a consultation to see whether or not we'll keep the boat racing."

THE BOYS are Bill, 26, and Bob, 18, who with their mom helped to light a championship trail which engine-builder Bill Blazer had conceived before he died unexpectedly at age 58.

"It took us more than six hours to make the trip up here," Mrs. Blazer said after yesterday's rain-interrupted

when the day was done was happy to settle for the 225-hydro Eastern divisional championship and the huge Barney trophy.

The 28-year-old skipper was running about four miles over the old record of 81 mph and was heading out of the last turn for home on the third lap when Don Waldorf of Hays, Va., right on his rooster tail in second, was flipped out of the boat into the water. A region 6 rule stipulates that in the event such a thing happens, the race must be restarted, so Dave Thomas lost his world record.

145 — "Chuck's Joy," Dean Chenoweth of Xenia, Charles Fyffe of Dayton, 63.829-63.336; "Wild One," Jim Roberts of Dayton, (same), 60.160-61.728; "Neat Pete," Dick Boyer, Jr. of Germantown, (same), 57.142-58.290.

49 — "Wait For Me," Henry Ball of Union Lake, Mich., (same), 51.428-56.496; "Neat Pete," Dick Boyer, Sr. of Germantown, (same), 53.444-51.107; "Honk," Harrison Quirk of Ypsilanti, Mich., (same) 52.083-52.203.

280 — "Shamrock," Richard Cunningham of Celina, (same), 67.720-65.082; "Sassy Jan II," Ken Wright of St. Clair Shores, Jim Cunningham of Celina, 67.517-64.48; "Rowdy," Don Walorf of Hays, Va., (same), 71.203-disq.

225 — "Mai-Tai," Dave Thomas of Dayton, Marv Bernstein of Oak Park, Ill., 76.401-76.401; "Chip Winder," Ed Morgan, Jr. of Trenton, N.J., (same), "Fat Chance," George English of Detroit, Mich., Royce Rieband of Detroit, 66.030-72.522.

266 — "Miss Ottawa," Frank Kosso of Ottawa, Ill., Pete Woock of Ottawa, 77.320-77.121; "Scoundrel," Mike Wiener of Cincinnati, Bob Ballinger of Cincinnati, 69.124-69.981; "Wa-Wa-Too," Skeeter Johnson of Cambridge, Md., William Ritner of Gladwyne, Pa., 80.071-disq.

JJ—Jon Culver of Dayton, (same), 57.915, 57.655; "No Problem," John Keller of Medway, (same), 56.180-56.896; "The Pig," Charles Scruggs of Cincinnati, (same) 53.667-52.879.

Ski Boats—Spider," John Stone of Glenview, Ill., (same) 73.50-74.625;

"Sidewinder," Bud Cobble of Chattanooga, Tenn., (same), 71.428-73.409; "Das Fireschpittin' Again," Joe Maybrown of Long Beach N.Y., (same), 70.755-67.924.

Seven Liter—"Louisville Kid," Bill Cousins of Louisville, Ky., Marion Cooper of Louisville, 69.606-75.063; "Chrysler Queen," Dean Chenoweth of Xenia, George Walthers of Dayton, 73.530-disq.; "Hornet," Jim Davies of Louisville, Ky., William Cousins of Louisville, disq.-69.713.

150—"Little Mogul," Jack Brown of Dayton, Bob Blazer of Cincinnati, 73.350-72.522; "The Grim Reaper," Thomas D'Eath of St. Pete Beach, Fla.,

"A hose broke on our car as we were towing the boat here last Friday," Mrs. Blazer went on. "We stopped to try so often, even climbed out with our jugs to get water from the river. We finally had to call for help because the motor kept overheating. You might say we got here under somebody else's power."

They went back to Cincinnati with another Cincinnati couple, who also had the Little Mogul in tow while the Blazers' own car was held here for repairs.

YESTERDAY might have been a frustrating day for Mike Thomas of Harvey Cedars, N.J., if he weren't just a plain racing nut. The pilot of the 266 hydro, Miss Washington, D. C., national high point champion in his class and holder of the American Power Boat association record of 144.835 mph on a straightaway, missed Saturday's competition when he was unable to make connections because of a plane strike.

So the 30-year-old Thomas chartered a private plane, leaving Atlantic City, N.J., at 5:30 yesterday morning. "We ran into thunderstorms all the way, and had to put down at Wheeling, W.Va., then in Columbus."

What time did he get here? At 12:30 p.m. yesterday, a half-hour after the final day of racing got under way. And the cost to charter a private plane? "Three hundred and fifty dollars, plus \$10 an hour while the pilot's waiting for me. So, I've got to get back to my plane."

All that just to finish third in the only heat in which he could compete and for which he got exactly \$25. And half of that he had to split with the boat's owner.

DAYTONIAN Dave Thomas (no relation) started out in a highly frustrating fashion but

62.543-65.406; "Miss Joanie," George English of Detroit, Mich., (same), 71.203-disq.