

# Power Boat Championships Here Saturday, Sunday

By Mickey Davis

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Some 10,000 people are expected to line the banks at Eastwood park Saturday and Sunday for the Eastern division power boat championships.

"This race is next to the biggest in the country," said Xenia's Dean Chenoweth.

Chenoweth will pilot one of the top entries in the race—the Sayonora—one of 10 boats entered in the seven-litre class (428 cubic inches).

Boats finishing first in the seven classes automatically qualify for the country's biggest power boat race — the

National Racing championships at Guntersville, Ala., July 27-31.

Elimination heats for the 150 boats, which are expected to participate in the event, will be held Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. The 84 qualifiers — 12 in each class — will advance to the finals Sunday at noon.

The seven classes, in cubic inches, are the 48, 145, 150, 225, 280, 266 and seven-litre (428 cubic inches).

One of the top boats in the regatta, the third annual one sponsored by the Dayton Motor Boat racing association, is the Long Gone.

A seven-litre craft, the Long Gone is piloted by Bill

Heath of Homestead, Ill. Heath captured the Orange Grand Prix with the boat last New Year's Day and, a later, drove it to victory in the St. Petersburg, Fla., land Sweepstakes.

Sayonora, driven by Chenoweth, and the Country owned by Dayton's George Walther and piloted by Thomas, are expected to push Long Gone for honors big boat class.

Boats in this class can reach up to 150 miles per hour on the straightaway. They're expected to do this Saturday and Sunday over the two-thirds mile oval course at Eastwood. A race consists of three laps covering five miles.