

Daytonian Whipp seeks repe

By Paul Meyer
Journal Herald Sports Writer

Three weeks after Gene Whipp won the national and world 7-litre inboard hydroplane championships in Dayton last year, he "really tore

the boat up" during a race in Wisconsin.

He'd like to do it again. Not tear up the boat, of course. He'd like to win those two titles again.

THE DAYTON racer will

have the opportunity to retain the latter crown this weekend when world championships are decided in 10 inboard hydroplane classes at Eastwood Lake.

The nationals will be held next month in Florida, and Whipp plans to be there — unless he also repeats his mishap.

"If it happens now, I'm really in trouble," said Whipp.

That's because Whipp feels he has taken the necessary steps to insure that kind of accident won't happen again.

"I went into the corner too fast and the left sponson and skid fin, which are supposed to help you remain stable, pulled out," Whipp related. "Shoot, it pulled the whole side of the boat out. The boat stayed upright, but I sank."

NOW WHIPP has repaired "Miss Heavy Hauler" (owned by Lennie Ryden of Elk Grove, Ill.), redesigning the left sponson and tying it right into the engine.

Gene didn't get all the repairs made until Memorial

Day weekend this year. And he finished "a very respectable" second to "Long Gone", driven by Bill Hodge, in a race that weekend.

Whipp expects "Long Gone" to provide his stiffest competition Sunday when the 7-litre championship is contested.

"Sagres," driven by Tony Rodriguez of New York City, should also be among the contenders.

And so should the famed "Miss Budweiser", although Whipp says there is some uncertainty about that boat.

"IT WAS sold to a group from Grand Island, N.Y.," Gene said. "It's a heckuva boat, but whenever there are new owners, you have to wait and see what they'll do with it."

Whipp, who at age 30 is in his 12th year of racing, knows what he's done with his own boat, though.

"It's running much better than last year," he said.

So well, in fact, that Whipp feels he can get by without running on "nitro", as some of the other racers will do to get

more speed.

"WE'LL PLAY it a little conservatively and use some finesse," Whipp outlined. "A good start is my strength, I think, so I can afford to give up 10 or 15 miles per hour and let those hot dogs mix it up." Still, Whipp, who sports a

four-week-old beard, repeating even on championships will be a cult task.

"You never know," he "when someone could out of the woodwork and

Gene Whipp, however, is keeping a close watch "the woodwork" this we



Staff Photo by Walt Kleine

Dayton's Gene Whipp
Rids for 7-litre repeat

Doubles play net feature

Doubles action in three divisions highlighted action in the YMCA tennis tournament yesterday at the Jim Nichols tennis Center. Action resumes today.

The results:

MEN'S DOUBLES

Fred Pierce-Buzzy Pierce def. Ben Bishop-John Schauer 6-1, 6-2; Jim Miller-Dave Wohlfarth def. Mike Dahm-Bob Zimpfer 4-6, 7-6, 6-3; Dave Beach-Ben Varn def. Jim DeJonghe-Lee Smith 6-0, 6-0; Seth Taylor-Russ Ulrich def. Melvin Johnson-Mike Prugh 6-3, 6-3; Gary Cordell-Curtis Hutson def. Dave Meckstroth-Noel Patton 6-1, 6-3.

Ross Helf-Tom Rudwall def. Chris Carr-Charles Faulkner 6-0, 6-0; Mark Goldner-Gary Trembley def. Mike Blum-Rex Hunt 6-1, 6-2; Mark Dloff-Marc Malovany def. Reid Haddock-Bill Hochwalt by default; Bill Krebs-Mike Wilton def. Winston Chama-koon-Garry Day 6-4, 6-3; Ted Jones-Dan Oberer def. Jerry Jacobson-Andy Stewart 6-3, 6-1; Bob Anspach-Ed Wagner def.

Dave Wright 6-1, 6-1; Bob Ryan-Jim Ryan def. Greg Chappars-Jim Green 10-8, 4-6, 6-4; Tom Davis-Pat Geron def. Bob Deger-Doug Deger 6-0, 6-2; Jim Miller-Dave Wohlfarth def. Ken Johnson-Dewey Lopes 6-3, 6-3.

SENIOR DOUBLES

Dick Anspach-Gene Metcalf def. Bob Beery-Bob Deger 6-3, 2-6, 6-4; Bob Anspach-Ed Wagner def. Gay Gourley-Sam Roberts 6-3, 6-4; Marty Kuntz-Jerry Podoyak def. Tom Auguillera-John Zebellins 6-4, 6-1; Gerry Muehling-Jim Wilson def. Bruce Butcher-Charles Thorn 6-1, 3-6, 6-3; Ray Murphy-Steve Palmer def. Carl Bertrams-Bob Stewart 7-6, 6-4.

WOMEN'S DOUBLES

Shirley Griffith-Mary Kurz def. Rosalie Miller-Patsy Ziskin 6-1, 6-0; Fran Harding-Margaret Richards def. Corinne Huber-Nancy DuRose 6-2, 6-3; Susie Boone-Wendy Zimpfer def. Karen Barry-Wanda Gmabert 6-0, 6-1; Mary Graw-Bev Hassel def. Sue Gruenberg-Helen Jacobson 6-0, 6-1; Betty Lutz-Barbara Nichols def. Jane Graul-Kelley Horan by default; Suzy Kurz-