

"Little Joe", driven by Joe Kreitzer

# Kreitzer family fixture in 145 class

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Mrs. Marie Kreitzer has an unusual problem. She is the mother of two inboard boat drivers who compete in the same class. So who does she root for?

Her oldest son, Ken, 27, pilots "Little Mogul" for Bob Blazer of Cincinnati. Her youngest son, Joe, 19, handles the controls of "Little Joe", owned and wrenched by her husband.

It could have been worse. Just suppose her middle son, Keith, 23, had chosen to drive rather than become an official?

**THE WELL-KNOWN** Kreitzer family will be in action Saturday and Sunday as Hydroglobe '76 kicks off with two days of inboard championship racing at Eastwood Lake.

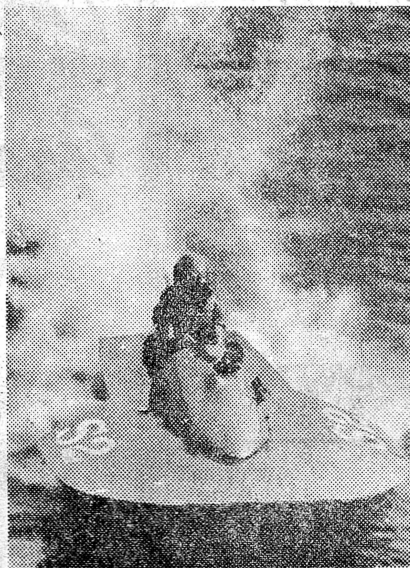
"I'm just proud of all my sons," she says diplomatically.

In recent weeks, Ken has held the upper hand in the battle of brothers. He beat Joe and the rest of the highly-competitive 145 cubic inch class last Saturday at Madison, Ind.

"I blew a cam," says Joe. "Before and after the race, we're brothers. Once the race starts, Ken is just another guy to beat.

"Ours could be the most competitive class. Maybe we don't run as fast, but when 12 boats start in the final, 12 usually finish."

The 14-foot long craft, powered by a 120 horsepower engine, can hit speeds of 100 mph down the straight.



Brother Ken in "Little Mogul"

C.A. Kreitzer's interest in racing dates back to a fling at auto racing in the late 1930s when he drove modifieds and midgets. After a hitch in the service during World War II, he lost interest.

All that changed, however, in 1955. "I had a Crosley and didn't know how to get the engine apart," he recalls. "I went to see a guy who was racing Crosley engines in boats. He asked me to go to a race, I did, and I was hooked."

**KREITZER WAS** involved with others at first, but later began operating as owner-chief mechanic for his own 145 entry. His first "Little Joe" debuted in 1965. Since then, three others have taken its place.