



Staff photo by Skip Peterson

Debbie Squires of Lakewood, Colo., leads the 1200 hydros into the turn

Kreitzer hopes to get area Hydroglobe win

By P.M. Walsh

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Since 1979, Dayton has hosted the annual National Inboard and Stock Outboard championships. And since that time, no local boat drivers have finished in the top two spots in the finals of either competition.

Today, Beavercreek's Joe Kreitzer hopes to break that spell.

Kreitzer steered his 145 Hydro S, Little Joe Special, to a third-place finish in the Inboard eliminations yesterday at the cloud-covered Hydroglobe '81, averaging 71.118 miles per hour. Almost an hour later, he qualified for the 280-cubic inch Inboard finals, finishing sixth at 74.349 mph.

It won't, however, be Kreitzer's first time in the finals.

After finishing first in the 145 elimination heat in 1979, Kreitzer had to settle for a fourth-place final finish

Again in 1980, he had a crack at a top finish, but that came to a quick end when his motor blew in the elimination heat.

"I'VE HAD handling problems for the last two years," Kreitzer said. "Basically, it was a design problem in the boat. The boat ran well on the shoots, but it started hooking the corners."

In December, when Kreitzer and his father, Clarence, figured out they had a design problem, they sent the boat back to Seattle to be re-designed.

They picked up the boat in April, and are confident that the Little Joe Special is ready for a victory.

"It's fast enough to win," Joe Kreitzer said. "There's no doubt in my mind that this boat's *not* fast enough to win. It's been fixed, and as long as we're not plagued with any little problems, we should win."

Kreitzer knows he can't predict the

knows his competition is going to be tough. That's why he made sure he was close to the bank's edge to watch Missouri's Tom Jeanette and New York's Torby Barker finish first and second, respectively, in the 145 elimination heat.

He'll also be competing against 1980 champion Stuart Shane, who holds the record for the five-mile race, averaging 73.710 mph.

HYDROGLOBE '81 NOTES — Finals for the 1200 hydro, 145 hydro, 280 cubic inch and 7 Liter II will be held today. Inboard elimination heats for the 850, 2.5 liter and 5 liter will precede those finals. Jerry Scheidt, Dayton's top finisher last year with a third place in the 2.5 liter class, will compete today.

Finals for today's Inboard eliminations will be held tomorrow.

The Stock Outboards will take a