

Hydrobowl accident

Old 'High Voltage' home first

By DAVE LONG
Staff Sports Writer

Sometimes the older equipment boat's use can be good to them and other it will show no mercy.

Such were the cases of Stover Hire of Ellettsville, Ind., and Alan Schide of Centerville, who raced in the first day of Common Saturday in the 18th annual Day-Hydroglobe inboard boat races at the Hydrobowl.

Such were racing boats built in 1972. Hire, an electrician, had no trouble piloting his "High Voltage" craft to first place in the 280 cubic inch class. The engine he has is a 1969 Plymouth he hasn't really replaced with in over 50 races. If he can win his class again today, it will mark the 50th straight year and "eighth or ninth" that Hire has been a winner in Day-Hydroglobe "the same old reliable stuff."

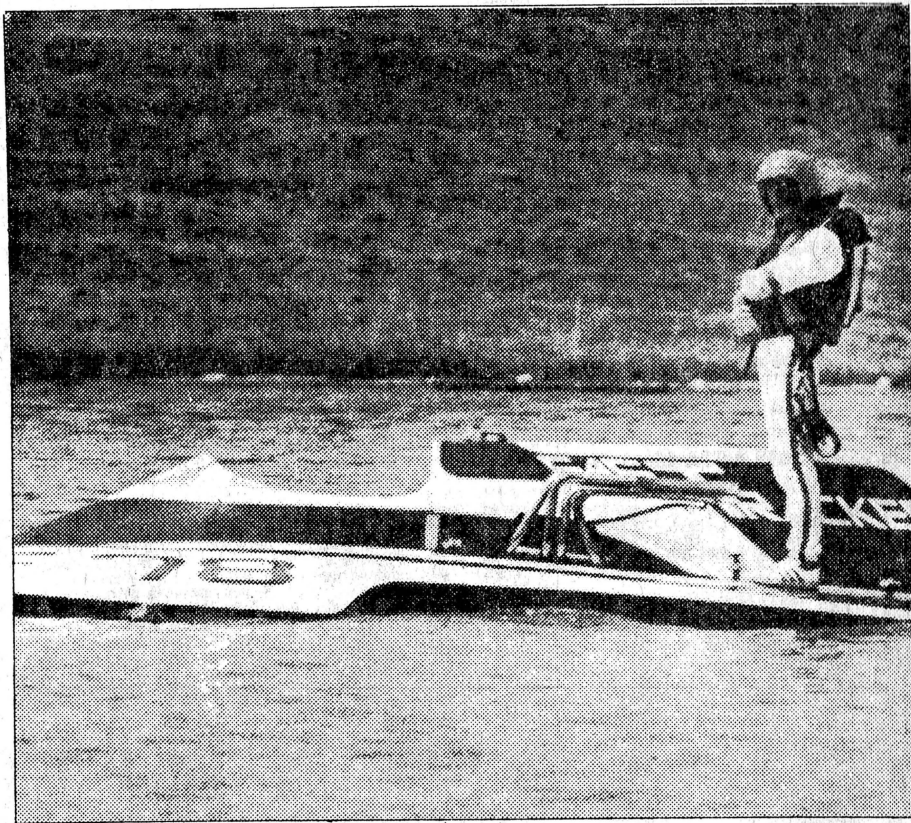
Such WASN'T so lucky with an 850cc, 5 liter model — The Star. At the beginning of the 5 liter final, the boat seemed to dig into the water a bit, and midway at approximately 130 miles per hour, hit the water and totally disintegrated. It was as though a real starship had hit Schide's boat with a laser bomb.

The boat was somehow thrown clear as pieces in every direction. The 30-year-old Hydro Products employee was fished from the water by the Box 21 rescue unit and taken to Miami Valley Hospital. He was in fair condition late Saturday awaiting surgery for a broken arm and to remain hospitalized.

The boat, owned by Dan Rogge of Beavercreek, was destroyed. It took cleanup crews 30 minutes to pick all the wreckage out of the water from the spectacular

Such was the second straight race where bad luck had met. In a race a few weeks ago at New Martinsville, Ind., on the Ohio River, Schide was driving his own 280 cubic inch boat "Partial Success." He hit a log in the river and sank.

SPENT two weeks getting the 280



Staff photo by Bill Waugh

Phooey! — Jerry Scheidt stands on stalled hydro

Saturday's Hydrobowl results

850cc
1. Rick Albrecht, Loveland, Ohio driving What a Feeling, 72.904 mph; 2. Richard Delserco, Detroit, Mich., driving South Paw, 73.529 mph; 3. Mark Tate, Belleville, Mich., driving Antislack, 72.793 mph.

145 cubic inch
1. Ed Reim, New Baltimore, Mich., driving Stap Sho, 77.586 mph; 2. Bob Newman, Loveland, Ohio driving Super Hook, 73.710 mph; 3. Charlie Long, Danville, Ky., driving Little Miss Lou, 72.318.

280 cubic inch
1. Stover Hire, Syracuse, Ind., driving

High Voltage, 86.705 mph; 2. Mark Burghardt, St. Clair Shores, Mich., driving X-Ray, 82.797 mph; 3. Joe Krietzer, Beavercreek, Ohio driving J.B. & Walter, 81.178 mph.

225 cubic inch
1. James Deel, Worthington, Ohio driving Deel Me In, 92.213 mph; 2. Mario Conflitti, Trenton, Mich., driving Magic, 92.197 mph; 3. Mark Cravens, Seymour, Ind., driving Mom's Toy, 80.465 mph.

25 litre
1. Bob Ritz, Port Huron, Mich., driving Bob Cat, 78.091 mph; 2. Terry Brownings, Vir-

ginia Beach, Va., driving Pachanga, 76.195 mph; 3. Hugh Long, Danville, Ky., driving Big Chief, 73.680 mph.

5 litre
1. Jerry Scheidt, Dayton, Ohio driving Fas Tracker, no speed; 2. Alan Schide, Centerville, Ohio, no speed; 3. Alex Stewart, Toronto, Canada, no speed.

7 litre Stroh's Challenge Cup
1. Wheeler Baker, Chester, Md., driving Baker's Dozen, 100.859 mph; 2. Mike Marmann, Webster, N.Y., driving Blue Water Special, 98.897 mph; 3. Tom Baker, Chester, Md., driving Steeler, 94.538 mph.

boat patched up and was ready to go in that class Saturday. But it went dead in the water during warmups for the first heat with engine trouble and Schide watched standing on the deck as Hire went flying by in his ancient (by boat racing standards) vessel.

"I've thought about getting new equipment, but everytime I do, I win a race or two with this stuff," said Hire. "This boat was designed by Ron Jones who built Miss Budwesier (the unlimited hydroplane). He was way ahead of his time. The reason I do well here is because of the course with it's long with wide turns.

"The boat stays down on the water so well that I can keep the gas down all the way in the turns while other guys have to let up. There are at least five other boats in this class here that can outrun me. But I have them in the turns. So unless I screw up driving or don't get a good start I'm hard to beat here.

"THIS ENGINE is great. Its just matter of getting it set up and keeping it that way. I haven't had the oil pan off in 50 heats. The only thing I did over the winter was adjust the valves a little. The secret is once you get it running right to have proper maintenance and everything else falls into place."

Other class winners along with Hire Saturday were Rick Albrecht of Loveland, Ohio, in the 850cc, Ed Riem of New Baltimore, Mich., in 145 cubic inch, James Deel of Worthington, Ohio, in the 225 cubic inch, Jerry Scheidt of Dayton in the 5 liter and Wheeler Baker of Chester, Md., in the 7 liter Stroh's Challenge Cup race.

There will be racing again today beginning at noon with drivers shooting for prize money and points in the various American Power Boat Association classes.

The big 7 liter boats will be racing for \$6,000 in prize money. Tickets are \$6 at the gate. The Hydrobowl is located at the intersection of Ohio Rt. 4 and Harshman Rd. on the northeastern outskirts of Dayton near Stebbins High School.