

Boat group remains strong

Lack of sponsorship torpedoed hopes for major '88 race

Ken Wright flushes at the question.

No. The Dayton Motor Boat Racing Association is not in dry dock.

The association, which was formed in 1963, still is very much afloat.

No, the association didn't sponsor a major race this year, but that doesn't mean it has disbanded.

"After 30 years I am just as enthusiastic as I've ever been about the racing itself and the club itself," said Wright, the association's commodore.

Lack of sponsorship caused the DMBRA to cancel this year's major race.

"Money," Wright said. "We made some proposals that were being considered and when they were turned down for other options, we were left with no financial support. I couldn't say anybody backed out on us.

"Quite honestly, I think there are some local businesses that are missing the boat because of what we've got going here."

What that is, according to Wright, is a strong organization and a superb facility.

"Hydrobowl is without any question in the top five in the world as far as racing is concerned," Wright said. "We have been awarded more nationals (national championship races) than any place else.

"The first time we bid for a national event (in 1971), the decision was made



**JOE
CUNNINGHAM**

ASSOC. EXECUTIVE
SPORTS EDITOR

that quickly to give it to us because everybody, literally everybody, said, 'Wow, let's go to Dayton and run the nationals. It will be fantastic.' And it was."

Since then, the American Power Boat Association has brought the nationals back to Dayton six other times.

"The course is ideal," Wright said. "It's big enough that we can run full fields, which increases the interest and the excitement and pleasure of spectators.

"It's small enough so that drivers don't just put their foot on the floor and get in too deep over their heads before they have to get out for a turn. The course is just absolutely right for what is needed and prescribed by the APBA."

Wright said the DMBRA will be submitting a bid for races again next year, probably the second or third week of August. They will find out in February if they get the dates.

Until then, the association will keep its motors tuned and running, waiting and planning for the return of racing.

~~■ A team representing the Kettering Tennis Center won the national championship in the Volvo-USTA Women's 4.5 Team Tennis Tournament over the weekend.~~

~~Singles players Nancy Busch and Mary Hochwalt Buerschen and doubles teams Nancy Herr-Nancy Pacenta, Sue Nugent-Ilean Areinstein and Jacky Gregorchik-Barbara O'Hara defeated a team from Richmond, Va., 4-1 to take the title.~~

~~The final of the 4.5 tournament was in Tucson, Ariz.~~

~~■ Reds' third baseman Chris Sabo will be part of the University of Michigan Baseball Coaches Clinic, which will be Dec. 2 from 7:30 to 10 p.m. and Dec. 3 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Michigan Fieldhouse in Ann Arbor, Mich.~~

~~Cost of the clinic for both days is \$35. Cost for Saturday is \$30.~~

~~For further information, contact UM Coach Bud Middaugh at 313-747-2583 or 313-663-7021.~~

~~■ The first State Youth Football Buckeye Bowl will be Nov. 11-12 and 18-19 at Field High School near Akron.~~

~~The tournament will be made up of youth football league champions. For further information, call Marcia McGee at 216-628-1444.~~