

## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### MEDIA NOTES: Muscatel, Williams ready for Gold Cup

**DETROIT, Mich.** — It's as big as auto racing's Indianapolis 500, football's Super Bowl and golf's Master's Tournament. The Chrysler/Jeep Superstores American Power Boat Association Gold Cup will be run this weekend in Detroit.

For Superior Racing Team's drivers, **Dr. Ken Muscatel** and **David Williams**, running in the Gold Cup is like living a dream. It's still that way for Muscatel, even though this year's will be his 15th Gold Cup. It will be Williams' first Gold Cup in a competitive situation.

"There's no bigger prize in our sport than the Gold Cup," Muscatel said. "When I was a kid, I went to the Gold Cup in Seattle, and hydroplane racing became a big part of my life. It's unbelievable to race for this historic and incredible trophy."

Michigan Mortgage Consultants returns as the title U-2.25's title sponsor this week, as the Gold Cup competition will be run for the 102nd time.

The race format will include enough duels between two hydroplanes on the racecourse at the same time, one starting in the backstretch and the other in the front stretch. Both boats in the duel will be timed. Points will be amassed during each duel, and the boats with the most points at the end of all the duels will run for the championship.

Despite driving literally hundreds of laps in some of the sport's most famous hydroplanes of the past, Williams was never qualified as an unlimited driver to race in competition until this year's Evansville event, where he completed 15 legal laps including 10 at 130 mph or better. He also drove the U-2.25 Michigan Mortgage Consultants hydro in heat 1B, finishing fifth, at Evansville.

"I'm not looking to become a competitive driver, but over the last 12 years, I've driven literally thousands of exhibition laps in Gold Cup winning boats — everything from the Slo-mo to the Griffon Bud," Williams said. "After all that time on the water, I just want to make one legal start (in the Gold Cup)."

#### GOLD CUP ANECDOTES

The Gold Cup is a special race, and since **Dr. Ken Muscatel** has been racing for the Gold Cup since 1993 he's got his fair share of fun stories. In 2001, with a new boat and a new silver, purple and gold paint job — one that included the colors of his alma mater, the University of Washington. Muscatel and his volunteer crew, which has several Husky supporters on it, placed a decal of the same famous "W" that is on the sides of Husky football helmets on the nose of the boat. One night during the Gold Cup, some University of Michigan fans (who were allegedly a pack of unlimited drivers and crew members from Michigan) snuck into the Superior Racing Team pit and applied a bunch of Michigan stuff to the boat ... Muscatel also shared his first Gold Cup memory, being along Lake Washington in 1954. "I saw the Slo-mo V flip live," he said.

#### MUSCATEL OWNS STREAK OF CONSECUTIVE RACING SEASONS

**Dr. Ken Muscatel**, driver and team manager of the U-2.25, has raced unlimiteds for more consecutive seasons than any other active driver on the ABRA circuit. His 15 consecutive seasons driving unlimited hydroplanes is longer than any other driver. **Steve David**, driver of the Oh Boy! Oberto/Miss Madison is the dean of all active drivers with more total years in unlimiteds than anyone else in ABRA.

#### BOAT IS RACE-READY FOR DETROIT

Despite the need to replace a gearbox after one seized up on the team two weeks ago in Madison, the team is ready for Detroit. This season, the team is working on a few things to improve the boat's ride and performance, including work to the canard and the computer systems, not to mention general maintenance that needs to happen between every race. In comparison to last year, that's a relief for crew chief **Jay Leckrone** and the rest of the team.

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**MUSEUM DIRECTOR WILLIAMS TO DRIVE U-2.25 IN GOLD CUP**

Veteran vintage unlimited driver **David Williams**, executive director of the Hydroplane and Raceboat Museum (located in Kent, Wash.) will be qualified as an unlimited driver in the U-2.25 last weekend in Evansville. He also ran the boat in heat 1A, and got in some more laps on Sunday morning before turning the seat back to **Dr. Ken Muscatel**. Williams has been driving vintage unlimiteds since 1992 and was the primary stunt driver for the hydro movie "Madison." Muscatel will drive in Madison, Valleyfield and most of the Gold Cup, as well as the races out West. Williams is a published author whose fourth book "Hydroplane Racing in Seattle" (Arcadia Press) hits books stores this month. No doubt his experiences behind the wheel of U-2.25 will play a big part in and his fifth book, "Turbine Racing" which is due out from Arcadia next spring.

**FLUID SYSTEMS ENGINEERING RENEWS SUPPORT OF SRT**

For the eighth consecutive year, Fluid Systems Engineering (Clinton Township, Mich.) is back as one of Superior Racing Team's associate sponsors. Since 1999, **Joe Baker** and the crew at Fluid Systems Engineering have been sponsors and big fans of **Dr. Ken Muscatel** and his team. Fluid Systems Engineering is very proud of its relationship with Superior Racing Team, which includes sponsorship of the team during the world record run during 2000. "Knowing that Fluid Systems Engineering is continuing its long relationship with us is really big news," Muscatel said. "I honestly can't think of many other associate sponsors that have supported the same team for as long as Fluid Systems Engineering has with us. It is special to me that we have such a great friendship that they want to keep being a part of our team." Fluid Systems Engineering (online at [www.fluidsystemseng.com](http://www.fluidsystemseng.com)) is a world-class supplier of hydraulic components, pneumatic products, filtration products, protective covers, and other related products. They manufacture power units and also fabricate tube assemblies. Fluid Systems provides a full line of Parker fluid connectors, pneumatic products, and hydraulic filters. It's also a single-stop outlet for Earl's fittings. With the Fluid Systems online store, performance parts are just a few clicks away. Fluid Systems also supplies Northman Hydraulics, A&A covers, Hydrocraft clamps, Miller and Yates cylinders, Thermal Flex Hose, ND Sealants, and Purolator filters.

**MICHIGAN MORTGAGE CONSULTANTS SPONSOR U-2.25**

Michigan Mortgage Consultants' **Tom Farrell** is really excited about leaping into big time boat racing with both feet, and is a part of **Dr. Ken Muscatel's** Superior Racing Team for two races in 2006. Farrell's company, Michigan Mortgage Consultants will sponsor the orange, blue and white boat at the season opener in Evansville, Ind., June 24-25 as well as the Detroit Gold Cup July 14-16. Michigan Mortgage Consultants, Inc. is a residential mortgage broker located in Mt. Clemens, Mich. The company provides residential mortgage to realtors, builders, home buyers, and investors, as well as home equity loans and lines of credit. The company specializes in mortgages to self-employed borrowers and was founded in 1992. Farrell has 30 years of experience in the mortgage industry and has been a hydroplane fan since childhood. He has worked as a volunteer at the Detroit Hydroplane Museum and his company has been an active supporter and sponsor of the vintage hydroplanes of the Hydroplane & Raceboat Museum in Seattle. He is currently a member at-large in Unlimiteds Detroit and co-chairman of the fan services division of the Detroit River Regatta Association. Last June, he promoted the movie "Madison" in Mt. Clemens and the film was attended by 650 guests. "Sponsoring and working with an unlimited team is a great way to promote your business and a dream come true." Farrell said. "I have been truly blessed."

**WILLIAMS, HANAUER TO RECREATE 1982 GOLD CUP CLASSIC**

Superior Racing Team driver **David Williams**, along with 11-time Gold Cup winner **Chip Hanauer**, will already be in Detroit Gold Cup week to re-enact Chip's legendary 1982 Gold Cup victory. Williams will drive the restored 1980 Miss Budweiser and Hanauer will drive the restored 1982 Atlas, both now beautiful museum pieces in the Hydroplane and Raceboat Museum.

**GRAHAM TRUCKING, OTHER SPONSORS RENEW AGREEMENTS**

Superior Racing Team has been joined by one of the U-2's past sponsors, the team recently announced. Graham Trucking, Inc., which was the title sponsor of Jim Harvey Motorsports' boat last season, has joined Superior Racing Team this year as the team's title sponsor at the Atomic Cup in Kennewick, Wash. (July 28-30), and at the Chevrolet Cup at Seafair in Seattle (August 4-6). "Our sincere thanks go out to Graham Trucking for their continuing involvement with this particular equipment and boat, even though we're a different team running it all," said Superior Racing Team driver and team manager **Dr. Ken Muscatel**. "We're excited about putting on a good show for Graham Trucking this season."

Yoke's Fresh Market (West Richland, Wash.) and Noslen Communication (Vancouver, Wash.) have also renewed their associate sponsorships of the U-2.25 for the 2006 season. For the third straight season, Yoke's Fresh Market is the official food, beverage and ice supplier of Superior Racing Team during the Tri-Cities race, this year known as the Atomic Cup. Thanks to Yokes, Superior Racing Team will have the freshest lunch, snacks and beverages in the pits each day of the event. Noslen Communication has renewed its own sponsorship of the team, for the fourth consecutive year. Noslen Communication is the exclusive provider of media and public relations services, and is helping Superior Racing Team with sponsorships. This season, working with Bullithead Design, a new sponsor of the team, Noslen Communication also coordinated the team's new website, which can be found at [www.noslencommunication.com/srt](http://www.noslencommunication.com/srt).

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**CLOVER ISLAND INN IS SUPERIOR RACING'S TRI-CITIES HOME**

Clover Island Inn and Superior Racing Team have announced that the hotel has agreed to become the Official Tri-Cities Home of Superior Racing Team during the 2006 Atomic Cup. The hotel, located in Kennewick, is a sponsor and will host the team and provide it with all of the amenities afforded other guests of the hotel. Clover Island Inn is the only hotel in Kennewick located right on the Columbia River, and has its very own island. All of the Inn's 151 rooms overlook the yacht club and marina, or the Columbia River and the award-winning Cable Bridge. For more information about Clover Island Inn, see its website at [www.cloverislandinn.com](http://www.cloverislandinn.com), or call toll free (866) 586-0542.

**VOLUNTEER CREW BURNS THE MIDNIGHT OIL**

For a team that was essentially retired until roughly May 11, 2006, there's been a lot of work done by the all-volunteer crew at the Jim Harvey Motorsports shop in Seattle before leaving for Evansville 10 days ago. Crew chief **Jay Leckrone** and chief engineer **Kevin Stoltz**, along with crew members **Jerry Bowers**, **Chris Brensfield**, **Howard Price**, **Mark Remington**, **Gary Scott**, and **John Williams**, have been working long hours on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at the South Seattle boat shop, as well as Saturdays to prepare the hull for the season. **Chip VanAntwerp** of Detroit joins the team on its eastern swing. Price and a couple of other team members have been on the road since leaving for Evansville back in late June.

**LECKRONE NAMED SUPERIOR RACING CREW CHIEF**

Veteran hydroplane crew member **Jay Leckrone** has been named the crew chief for the U-2.25 Superior Racing Team unlimited hydroplane. Formerly the crew chief of the two-boat Miss Exide team owned by **Mike** and **Lori Jones**, Leckrone is widely regarded as one of the brightest hydroplane racing minds. He's been a valuable member of Muscatel's team for several years and spent most of his time in the winter of 2004-05 working hard to make sure Superior Racing driver and team manager **Dr. Ken Muscatel** had a good race boat to run for the inaugural season of the ABRA. "Jay is one of the brilliant minds in unlimited hydroplane racing crews," Muscatel said. "We've had really good crew chiefs and crew members all along, but we consider ourselves lucky to have Jay on our side."

**SUPERIOR RACING TEAM LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE**

Superior Racing Team is proud to announce the launching of its new website, in time for the 2006 ABRA hydroplane racing season. **Scott Stanton** of Bullithead Design designed and built the site. For the time being, the site can be found at [www.noslencommunication.com/srt](http://www.noslencommunication.com/srt). There are several photos on the site (thanks to **Craig Barney** and **Jim Clark**. High resolution copies of these photos for media use only can be obtained by contacting **Nelson Holmberg** ([nelson@noslencommunication.com](mailto:nelson@noslencommunication.com))), in addition to a lot of information about the team, the boat, etc. Please feel free to visit our new website and comment on our blog, which you can link to from the website. As a resource to media, all team news releases will be posted on the team's website throughout the season in the "Media Room" section. All releases will be left online all season long.

**11-BOAT FIELD EXPECTED TO RUN FOR GOLD CUP**

With the addition of the U-13 Spirit of Detroit to the field, after its recent offseason reconstruction completed, a total of 11 boats are expected to compete for the Gold Cup this weekend in Detroit. The teams are:

Boat No.	Boat Name	Driver	Owner
U-1	Miss Elam Plus . . . . .	Nate Brown (Preston, Wash.) . . . . .	Sven Ellstrom
U-2.25	Michigan Mortgage Consultants . . .	Dr. Ken Muscatel/David Williams (R) (both from Seattle) . . . . .	Jim Harvey
U-3	Miss Chrysler Jeep. . . . .	Jimmy King (Detroit, Mich.) . . . . .	Ed Cooper Jr.
U-5	Formula Boats . . . . .	Mike Weber (Atlanta, Ga.) . . . . .	Ted Porter
U-6	Oh Boy! Oberto/Miss Madison . . . .	Steve David (Lighthouse, Fla.) . . . . .	Residents of Madison, Ind.
U-7	Formula Boats II . . . . .	Mike Allen (R) (New Orleans) . . . . .	Ted Porter
U-10	Miss EMCOR . . . . .	JW Myers (Seattle) . . . . .	Kim & Debbie Gregory
U-13	Spirit of Detroit . . . . .	J. Michael Kelly (Seattle) . . . . .	Dave Bartush
U-21	Miss Simpatico . . . . .	Kevin Aylesworth (San Diego) . . . . .	Jeffrey Johnson
U-37	Miss Beacon Plumbing/Seattle . . . .	Jean Theoret (Montreal) . . . . .	Billy Schumacher
U-100	Lil' Willy (sponsored by Bill Rand) . .	Greg Hopp (Seattle) . . . . .	Fred Leland

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2006 SUPERIOR RACING TEAM STATS

Race	Qualifying		Places								Total Points		
	Speed	Starts	Finishes	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	Finals		DNS	DQ
Evansville	137.865 (9/10)	2	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	—	1	0	382
Madison	no time trials	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	—	0	0	300
Valleyfield	not available	3	3	3*	0	0	0	0	0	—	0	0	705
Detroit (Gold Cup)													
Tri-Cities													
Seattle													
San Diego													
<b>Total/Best</b>	<b>137.865</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,387</b>

Note: Parentheses in qualifying speed column are qualifying position/number of boats  
Time trials in Madison, Ind., were cancelled due to unrunnable water conditions.

\* — Superior Racing ran alone during each duel at the Valleyfield race, finishing all three heats, for a default first place.

2005 SUPERIOR RACING TEAM STATS

Race	Qualifying		Places								Total Points		
	Speed	Starts	Finishes	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	Finals		DNS	DQ
Evansville	0*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Madison	134.114 (6/8)	2	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	609
Detroit (Gold Cup)	144.627 (5/9)	2	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	388
Tri-Cities	151.627 (5/10)	3	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	275
Seattle	144.659 (4/11)	4	4	0	2	0	1	0	0	6th	0	0	924
Nashville	151.044 (7/9)	3	3	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	900
San Diego	143.424 (7/9)	4	4	0	0	2	1	0	0	4th	0	0	818
<b>Total/Best</b>	<b>151.627</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3,914</b>

\* — did not race at Evansville after accident in testing

Note: Parentheses in qualifying speed column are qualifying position/number of boats)

2006 ABRA NATIONAL HIGH POINTS (Boat)

Boat No.	Boat Name	Points
U-7	Formula Boats II	3,309
U-5	Formula Boats	2,974
U-3	Chrysler Jeep (in Detroit)	2,682
U-6	Oh Boy! Oberto/Miss Madison	2,667
U-1	Miss Elam Plus	2,580
U-37	Miss Beacon Plumbing/Seattle	2,273
U-2.25	Michigan Mortgage Consultants	1,387
U-21	Miss Simpatico	810
U-100	Lil Willy (in Detroit)	509
U-10	Miss EMCOR	424

2006 ABRA NATIONAL HIGH POINTS (Drivers)

Boat No.	Driver Name	Points
U-7	Mike Allen	3,084*
U-5	Mike Weber	2,974
U-3	Jimmy King	2,682
U-6	Steve David	2,667
U-1	Dave Villwock	2,580
U-37	Jean Theoret	2,273
U-2.25	Dr. Ken Muscatel	1,260
U-100	Greg Hopp	509
U-10	Nate Brown	424
U-21	Kevin Aylesworth	0#
U-2.25	David Williams	0*

\* — Was not fully qualified as driver under ABRA rules in first heat in Evansville

# — Has not fully qualified as driver under ABRA rules thru the first three races (Boats receive points but drivers do not)