

MAY / JUNE 2022



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WATERCRAFT MAGAZINE



MARK HAHN MEMORIAL 300

ACTION HORIZONS BUSINESS PROFILE

ERIC MALONE SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

MARYLAND WATERWAY PWC RIDERS

JET RIDER NATION PUERTO RICO

JET AROUND CAYMAN

JACKSONVILLE PWC REC RIDERS

FULL THROTTLE WATERX

JET SKI PIONEER VINTAGE CORNER

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PR RIDER FEATURES

Maryland Waterway PWC Riders explore the American Mariner.



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YAMAHA IJSBA MARK HANN MEMORIAL HAVASU 388 22
Seasoned endurance racers know racing on a 10-mile course in the middle of winter can be a humbling experience.

COUPLE GETS ENGAGED ON HYDRODRAG LAUNCH PAD 26
Little did spectators know what was about to unfold at the event.

SPEEDS GET FASTER HYDRO-TURF HYDRODRAG NATIONALS 28
Mother Nature was kind and racers brought plenty of horsepower to keep the crowds of 2,000 excited with great racing.

COMMUNITY GRASSROOTS EVENT 38
Get-together demonstrates it's the community that makes Junior Stars of Florida what it is.

MEET THE MARYLAND WATERWAY PWC RIDERS 32
Recreational riders explore 'target ship' the American Mariner in Chesapeake Bay.

FUN SURF CONDITIONS VIRGINIA BEACH SPRING WAVEDAZE 34
Weather and surf cooperated for the 4-day event.

THE RETURN OF LIVE ACTION STUNT SHOWS: ENTER ACTION HORIZONS! 38
The owners of Action Horizons come from a background of water sports and live performance. With 100 years of experience combined, Action Horizons was born over a scotch and promise.

FULL THROTTLE WATER X SERIES EXPLODES ONTO THE RACE SCENE! 48
Innovations including large cylinder-shaped buoys, \$3,000 in prizes, and an end to the antiquated band start system.

ERIC 'CYCLONE' MALONE - WORLD AND NATIONAL CHAMPION PERSONAL WATERCRAFT ATHLETE AND INNOVATOR 44
Malone, winningest professional in IJSBA competition with 43 titles, inducted into Blair County Sports Hall of Fame.

COMMON CAUSES OF PREMATURE CARBON SEAL WEAR 58
Frequent wave jumping may cause engine alignment to shift from hard impacts or even break an engine mount.

FULL LINES HIGH ENERGY JET JAM BEST OF THE WEST SEASON OPENER 52
Energy was high which showed in the form of competitiveness as racers battled fiercely.

WINDY CONDITIONS FIERCE BATTLES GOOD MOOD JETCROSS CHAMPIONSHIP FRANCE 58
The event brought together no less than 70 drivers in 5 different series.

JET AROUND CAYMAN IS BACK! 66
One of the largest PWC endurance races is back after a 9-year hiatus.

BORN TO CAUSE A LITTLE CHAOS



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Rickter Edge



Jet Pilot Vintage
jacket Pink



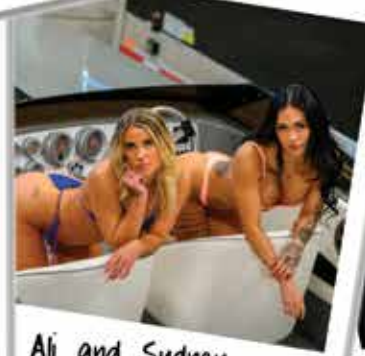
Jet Pilot Vests



Ali and Brand



Vintage Vest Pink



Ali and Sydney
Matts Boat



@syddie_14



Ali and Sydney
Blowsion Swimsuit Shoot 2022



Ali JP Vintage Jacket



Sydney Weber
Vintage Jacket Navy



JP Phantom Glove Black



@ali_anderson



Blowsion Rickter Edge
w/ Sydney Weber



JETPILOT



Ali Anderson
Vintage Vest Pink

Photos: Timothy Reed
@reedfilms

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 - 06-06-039 - Kawasaki SXR 1500 (2017+)
 - 06-06-040 - Yamaha WaveBlaster 1 (1993-1996)
 - 06-06-041 - Yamaha Superjet (1990-1995)
 - 06-06-042 - Yamaha Superjet (1996-2020)





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SEADOO

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OEM ENGINE Used [S811-000]



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Hour:203
Price:US \$2,952.38

YAMAHA FX Cruiser SVHO '15
OEM ENGINE Used [Y027-100]



Condition:Used
Hour:253
Price:US \$4,857.14

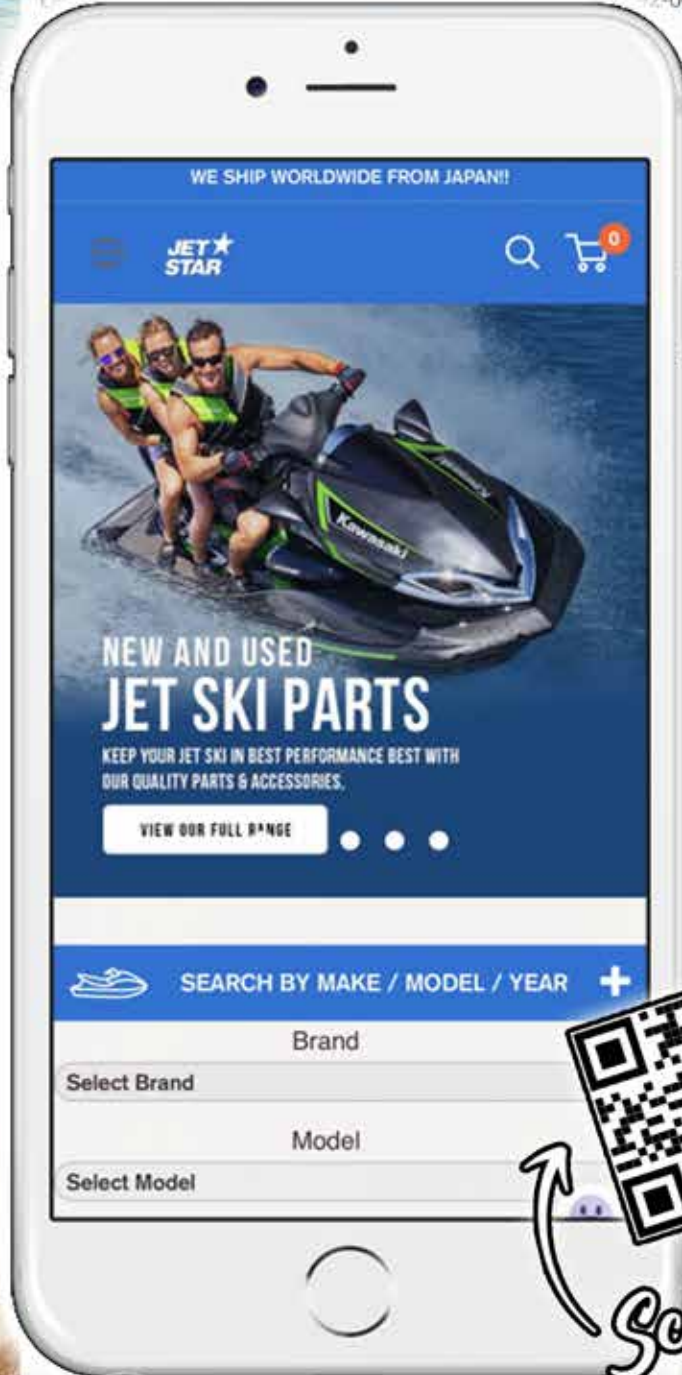
SEADOO GTX 4-TEC SC '03
OEM ENGINE Used [S851-000]



Condition:Used
Hour:115.2
Price:US \$2,476.19

Kawasaki STX-15F '06

Kawasaki STX-12F '06



Condition:Used
Hour:59.2
Price:US \$2,000.00



Condition:Used
Hour:98
Price:US \$2,285.71

YAMAHA TR-1
OEM ENGINE Used [X106-235]



Condition:Used
Hour:Unknown
Price:US \$3,428.57

YAMAHA FX Cruiser SHO '08
OEM ENGINE Used [Y929-000]



Condition:Used
Hour:Unknown
Price:US \$4,438.10

SEADOO GTX4-TEC WAKE '05
OEM ENGINE Used [S770-000]



Condition:Used
Hour:97.9
Price:US \$2,285.71

Kawasaki ULTRA260LX '09
OEM ENGINE Used [K684-000]



Condition:Used
Hour:236
Price:US \$2,857.14



Scan me

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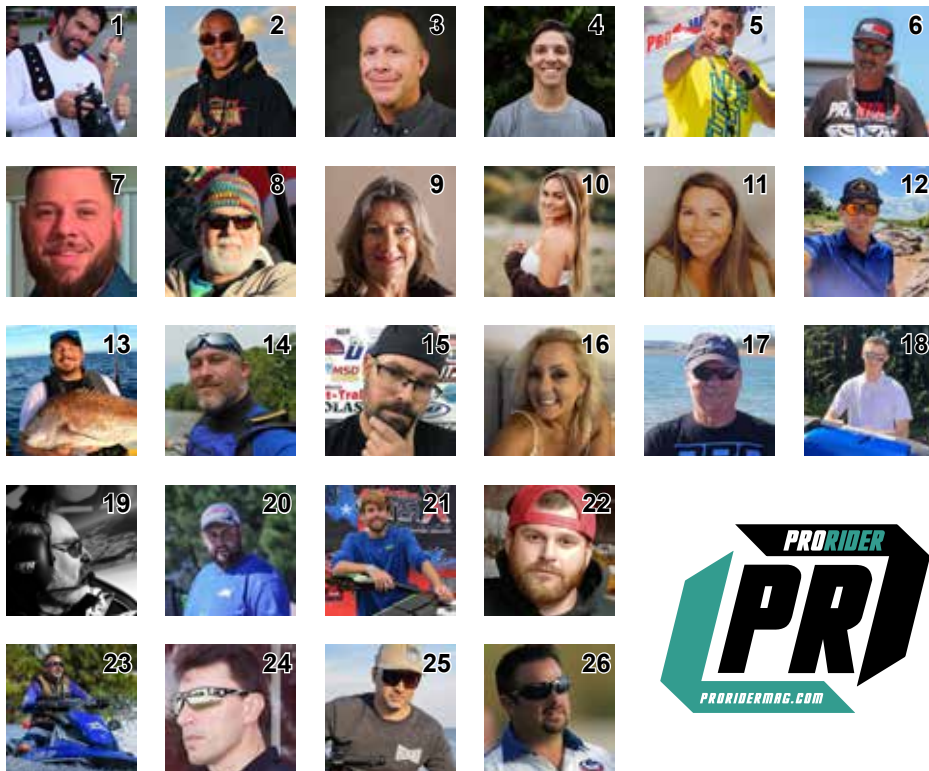
Much of the action depicted in this publication is potentially dangerous. Virtually all the riders seen in our photos are experienced experts or professionals. Do not attempt to duplicate any stunts that are beyond your own capabilities. Always wear appropriate safety gear.

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The 2022 May/June cover shot goes to high-speed warrior Michel 'El Micha' Lopez, Cape Coral, FL who recently won the superfast Hydro-Turf HydroDrag Nationals Unlimited Class on his 2015 Yamaha FZR Supercharger built by CRT. Manuel Valdes MVP Production captured pictures of Lopez at the event in Tavares, Florida where horsepower and speed were abundant!



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1. "These RIVA Racing Limited Edition watercraft are equipped with a full selection of RIVA upgrades including steering system, seat cover, sponsons and our Stage 2 Performance Kit. Each is designed in 1:64 scale with realistic details. With so many options, RIVA Racing vehicles make a great gift for kids and collectors of all ages. April fools!" – Photo: @rivaracing
2. "The ultimate intake!" – Photo: @waxracingproducts
3. "Grab a pair while supplies last!" – Photo: @saintsofspeed
4. "Another custom turbo build coming together!" – Photo: @fizzleracing
5. "Who will be representing at this year's NYC invasion?!" – Photo: @h2oaddicts
6. "Catch waves not feelings!" – Video: @shanelotz , @chrismo54 - Scan QR code to watch!
7. "When it floods in Australia!" – Video: via @thadelaideset - Scan QR code to watch!
8. "Who would like to see some more Tailwhips this year!?" – Video: @nielswillems - Scan QR code to watch!



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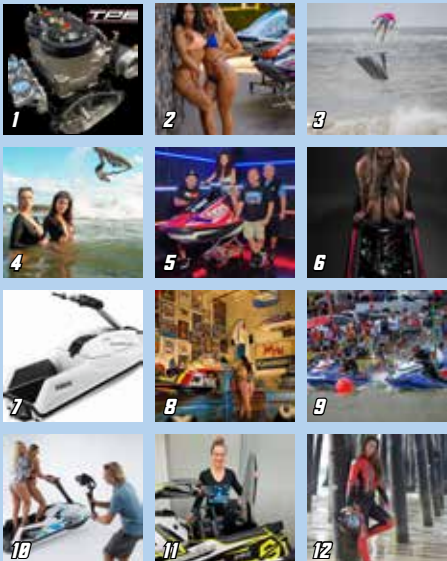
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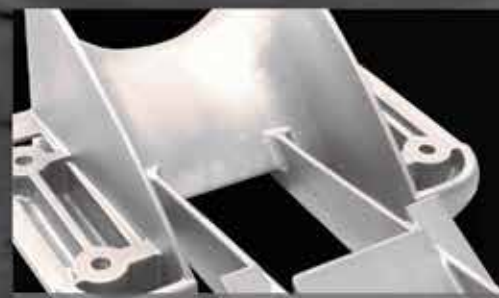
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INTERCOOLERS



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JET PUMP



PRO RIDER MAY/JUNE SPRING ISSUE

Photos: Liam Quinlivan; Australia Zoo; Michael Petro; Jazna Creative



2



3



4



5

1: Pro Rider Toy HQ USA | 2 - 5: Backflip, scarecrow, railgrabflip with the gang of Thunder Lake Stunt Show | 6-7: Tying the Knot Brisbane Botanical Gardens | 8-9: Pro Rider Toddler Editor Aaliyah Rain Ratti celebrates "3" Australia Zoo Home of Steve Irwin



6



7



8



9

Welcome to the 2022 May/June Spring 66th print and digital issue of Pro Rider Watercraft Magazine! Riding and racing are in full swing around the world. We are honored to work and collaborate with industry leaders, racing and rec ride event promoters, brilliant photographers, and talented authors from all over. The 2022 May/June cover shot was taken by Manuel Valdes MVP Production of the very fast Michel Lopez aka 'El Micha' the current HydroDrag Unlimited Class Champion! Check out the full HydroDrag feature inside.

This issue features coverage from the 2022 Yamaha Mark Hahn Memorial 300, 2022 Pro Rider Bikini Cup Winners, Jet Jam Racing, Action Horizons Business Profile, Maryland Waterway PWC Riders, Eric Malone Sports Hall of Fame induction, Full Throttle WaterX, Jacksonville PWC Riders, Vintage builds, Peanut Island Rec Ride, PWC fishing, romance, and more. Don't miss this issue's Tech Tips, Future Threats and Gear Giveaway Photo Contest sponsored by Jettribe.

Visit Pro Rider Watercraft Magazine on Facebook, Instagram at @proridermag, and online at www.proridermag.com for news, announcements digital issue access and extras. **PR**

Sincerely,

Michael Ratti and the Pro Rider Team

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DEAR PRO RIDER WATERCRAFT MAGAZINE,

Shoutout to you and all the wonderful staff at Pro Rider Watercraft Magazine! We were in the middle of closing on our new house the week before loading up for the cross country (New York to Arizona) trip to Lake Havasu City for World Finals. In the hustle and bustle we forgot to change our mailing address with you and upon our return we got the issue after the World Finals edition of your magazine. Without hesitation after we reached out, we got the issue we were missing within the week. We are very grateful for this as many of our East Coast Watercross - IJSBA Region 8 family members made it into that edition and it's wonderful to be able to keep this for the future to share with our friends! A heartfelt thank you to you and your staff for all your hard work and dedication to this magazine for a sport that has many niche groups but keeps them together as one extended PWC network of lifelong friends.

Sincerely,

Kayla & Justin Clark
Rochester, New York



WE'RE BACK FOR 2022



KY PWC RIDERS

LAKE DANIEL BUTTERNUT TO DOVER, APRIL

WALN LAKE, MAY

DALE HOLLOW, CENTER HILL, LAKE CUMBERLAND, JUNE

KY LAKE LITTLE LOOP TO PADUCAH, JULY

CUMBERLAND RIVER TO CORDELL HILL, 2 DAY RUN, AUG

GOLF COAST BESTIN A PANAMA SEPT

PICKWICK TR, TO FLORENCE, AL, OCT

Dates will be posted soon and all ride dates are weather dependent

MAY 15TH COOPER RIVER/US5 YORK TOWN
JUNE 21ST-26TH FIRM IN THE CAROLINAS
JULY 17TH MYRTLE BEACH/SANDY ISLAND
AUG 6TH POLLY BEACH/MOLLY BEACH
OCT 1ST CHARLESTON TO GEORGETOWN

2022 SOUTH CAROLINA TEAM SCHEDULE

MISSISSIPPI SKI RIDERS

Summer 2022 SCHEDULE

JOIN THE MISSISSIPPI SKI RIDERS FACEBOOK GROUP FOR MORE INFO

Season Opening Ride MAY 21st
Kicking off the summer with a 40 mile endurance ride from Fort Payne (Glean Springs), through Buck Run State, to a Tri-State shoreville location.

MissisBama Group Ride JUNE 25th
A 41 mile endurance group ride on Route 66 from the historic 500 miles from Presley's Gracery (Missis Point) to South on Hwy 5 Cape (Shelby).

Reservoir Ride JULY 16th
Our first group ride in central Mississippi! Launching at Tommy's Boat Ramp (Woodson) and heading on a 42 mile endurance through the Pearl River.

Beer Island Takeover SEPT. 3rd
Our 2nd annual beer island event at Deer Island (Jacks), Woodson Lake. Meet your friends and meet up for beer, music, games, and a great time!

T-shirt orders will be accepted online from May 20-27, and will be shipped or picked up after Iron 10!

WATERCROSS 2022

MAY 20-22
JULY 29-31
AUGUST 26-28
SEPT 23-25

ECW 2022

WATERCROSS 2022

MAY 20-22
JULY 29-31
AUGUST 26-28
SEPT 23-25

WATERCROSS RACING

JET RIDER RACE TEAM

NEBRASKA & MISSOURI

2022 RIDE CALENDAR

MAY 21ST SEASON KICKOFF-VICTORY LAKE, NE
MAY 29TH MEMORIAL DAY AT BRANCHED DALE, NE
JUNE 11TH LAKE OF THE GODDARD, WOODS LAKE-IRISH PAWNEE
JUN 20TH 90TH LAKE OF THE GODDARD MISSOURI ADVENTURE
AUG 6TH PWC'S LAKE OF THE GODDARD RIDE AND 700K M.I.N.
AUG 27TH HANCOCKVILLE LAKE- COE WOMEN, IA

AND MANY MORE!!!

RIDE SCHEDULE 2022

GREAT LAKES SKI RIDERS

APRIL 16 FROSTBITE KICKOFF RIDE
MAY 29 MEMORIAL RIVER RUN
JUNE 21-26 CAROLINAS W/JET RIDER NATION
JULY 9 TORCH LAKE/TRAVERSE CITY RIDE
AUG 6 MUSCAMOOT BAY RUN
SEPT 10-11 LAKE CUMBERLAND, KY
DEC 26-JAN 6 FLORIDA INVASION

Subject to change see our Great Lakes Ski Riders Facebook Group & check events for details and updates

WATERCRAFT RALLY

WATERCRAFT CHAMPIONSHIP

01-02 Greenville, TN April 30 & May 1
03-04 Panama, WA June 4 & 5
05-06 Glen, TN July 2 & 3
07-08 Lawrence, KS Aug 16 & 17
09-10 Chattanooga, TN July 30 & 31
11-12 Lake Lanier Championship / Watercraft Rally, GA Aug 6 & 7
13-14 Central National / National Sprint, TN Aug 6 & 7

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LLANO ROCK'N RIVERFEST BIGGER AND BETTER THAN EVER!

From humble beginnings as a handful of jet skiers drag racing with an old radar gun, Llano Rock'n Riverfest has become a premiere Fourth of July destination event of the Texas Hill Country. On a reservoir of the Llano River, beneath the historic 1935 Roy B. Inks bridge in the heart of Llano the jet ski races evolved into an IJSBA sanctioned World Qualifying event, Jettribe Racing's Mid-America Water-X Championship Series, organized by NautiWater Racing. Beyond the thrills of racing, Rock'n Riverfest features music spun by resident DJ/emcee, three evenings of live music, dozens of vendors, from crafts to souvenirs to a plethora of food options and, at night, the Llano VFD will shoot off fireworks displays. The crown jewel this year will be a twelve-car, 45-foot-tall Ferris wheel overlooking the race area. Rock'n Riverfest, organized by the Llano Christmas Lighting Committee, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that organizes the town's lighted Christmas park, much of the event is free including the Ferris wheel. For more information on the event, how to be a vendor, or sponsor, check out www.llanoriverfest.com.

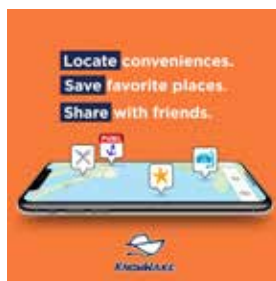


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KnowWake is a totally FREE app for good times and finding your way on the water available for Apple and Android devices.



Find friends, share your location, and route your trip with point-to-point navigation. To track a trip, select 'start new' next to 'my trips' to leave breadcrumbs as you float. When you stop leaving tracks, save the trip with a name. See, save, and share your trips! To share your location, simply press on or off and decide if you want to share with everyone, select friends, or certain groups.



WOMAN TO WATCH ALEXANDRIA MATOS 3-2-1 GO!

By: Lorie A. Tuma, Assoc. Professor Grand Valley State University

Alexandria 'Alex' Matos, born and raised in Tampa, Florida, rides a 2018 Sea-Doo RXT-X 300 and enjoys saltwater riding. She lives for beach weekends with family and friends and loves making connections on the water. Alex was introduced to jet skis by husband Abel Matos. Three skis later it remains one of their favorite activities. Alex looks forward to riding with Ocean Queen Ryders, Which Way to the Beach, and Jet Rider Nation South Carolina. Bucket list rides are Bimini, Islamorada, and Lake Powell. Favorite equipment is Pit Viper "Grand Prix" sunglasses; favorite quote 3-2-1 GO!



PHOTO CONTEST WINNER

Congratulations to Morgan West, Merritt Island, Florida on winning the March-April 2022 photo contest! Morgan snapped this picture of her handsome son 16-year-old Reef West chilling between rides at the Torrent 2022 Daytona Freeride. Morgan will receive a MotoOption Neon Broken bikini.



JUNIOR RIDER 10-YEAR-OLD JAIDEN RIUS FOLLOWING IN DAD'S FOOTSTEPS

Photos: Rain Porter; Rick Powell

Jaiden Rius of Lake Havasu didn't get interested in racing until last year. Dad Multi World Champion Nicolas Rius begged him for months and finally he gave in. According to dad, "He loves it, so I bought him a new Superjet we built up to junior prep race ready as I want him to be the best! We practice during winter; I teach him to improve and get ready to race to win." In addition to jet skiing, Jaiden rides motocross, snowmobile and enjoys MMA soccer. Nicolas continued, "Jaiden is the love of my life, and I couldn't be prouder to watch him ride. He is my best friend and to watch him apply what I tell him on technical session it's amazing. I'm 100% sure he will be world champion at some point as he has the desire and does not like losing! Jaiden is proud of me when he sees daddy ride 'god mode' as he says and wants to be like me. Jaiden wants me to race so I'm getting ready to race Pro Ski." Sponsors: Daddy, Rius Racing, Beach Shack Rentals, Frenchie Snack Shack, Beach Shack Island, 100 Products, TC Freeride for building amazing ski for Jaiden, Jettrim, Works, Le Big USA, CLR Racing Christophe La Rosa, Liqui Moly.



BIKINI CUP 2022 WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The votes have been tallied and the readers have spoken. This year's bikini themed advertisements were eye catching and amazing! Congratulations to Brian Vergin Thrust Innovations, model Bri Tate, and photographer Kenny Wong KDW Sports Photos for earning the win and bragging rights. Bri is pictured at Camp Far West in California on Cliff and Annie Cassel's Kawasaki 550 SX.

In second place for the second year in a row Joey Morneault & Demi Morgan High Speed Industries, model Rain Porter with HSI's latest build Rickter Ninja Pro V2 1200 by photographer Nathan Adler Breakwater Photography. Tommy Bonacci Bomber Eyewear snagged third with this striking picture of model @__chala by photographer Alika Lopes in Hawaii. All the bikini themed ad submissions were stunning; a lot of planning, coordinating and hard work goes into making these splendid displays! Congratulations and THANK YOU to all who participated!



WINNER





JACKSONVILLE PWC RIDERS

Enjoy Beautiful Scenery and Camaraderie

Photos: Jacksonville PWC Riders

Around 1995 in Puerto Rico, Luper Perez, Founder of the Jacksonville PWC Riders, started feeling the love for watersports. He carried that love with him to his current location in Florida where he recently led a group of 45 riders on a scenic 51-mile ride from Palatka, Florida to areas of the Ocala National Forest and Silver Glen Springs. The group of like-minded PWC recreational riding enthusiasts enjoyed beautiful scenery, camaraderie, twisty curves on the St. Johns River and several alligator and turtle sightings. During stops along the way, Perez provided refreshments and giveaways to welcome everyone to the newly formed group.

When asked what advice he has for those considering group riding, Perez, who enjoys exploring the waterways around Jacksonville and other

areas shared, "Get involved! Joining a group is like being a part of the family-we treat everyone like family-we welcome everyone to ride with us. The goal is have fun, be safe, meet new people, relax, and ride together."

The group has several more rides scheduled for 2022. **PR**

SCHEDULE RIDES 2022
Jacksonville PWC Riders
 March Sat-26 Mantanzas Inlet kick off
 April Sat-16 Silver Glen Ocala
 May Sat-21 Jacksonville Take Over
 Jun Sat-18 Sebastian Inlet
 July 15 to 17 Destin FL
 August Sat-13 Anastasia Island
 Sept Sat-17 Peanut Island

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WORLD'S LONGEST PWC RACE



The Good with the Bad

THE 18TH ANNUAL YAMAHA IJSBA MARK HAHN MEMORIAL HAVASU 300

By: Ross Wallach, *President RPM Racing Enterprises*
Photos: Rick Powell; Ken Gallagher; Geneva Gallagher; Rachel Hankins

After 17 years, seasoned endurance racers know racing on a 10-mile course on Lake Havasu in the middle of winter can be a humbling experience. One never knows what Mother Nature has in store. This year's 18th Annual Yamaha IJSBA Mark Hahn Memorial Havasu 300 Presented by Hot Products, Riva, Jettrim & Impros was no different. Forecasts predicted varying degrees of wind, these predictions came true as the wind gods let loose their fury and it only got worse. Safety boats couldn't launch due to high winds therefore the race was postponed and moved to Sunday as conditions were unsafe. Due to logistical considerations the 300-mile race was shortened to 3 hours plus 1 lap.

All entered race teams stayed and at 9:30 am the shotgun finally fired sending the wave of runabouts to take on the 10-mile course! One minute later, a second shotgun blast and the standup contingent was underway. The wind whipped up, but racers knew what they were in for and deftly pushed their machines to the limits. Attrition, always a factor in endurance racing is the nemesis of even the most experienced of teams.

With a shotgun blast signifying completion of the race, the Can-Am team #212 of previous Mark Hahn winner multi IJSBA World Champion Mike Klippenstein and co-rider, Ryder Wildeboer took the top spot completing 24 laps; 2nd place and 2022 "Ironman" went to Anthony Radetic #153, Abbeville, AL; 3rd the team of #88 Arnold Martinez, Beverly Hills, CA and Nicolas Rius, Lake Havasu City 22 laps. In standup, the rookie team of Justin Richey, Diego Urrea and Blake Wicklund #209 completed 15 laps and took home gold. Ryder Bliss, Logan Blanchard, and Tyler Kennedy #492 finished 2nd; #418 team of Reese Maricich, Tyler Shinko and Shane Fonseca finished 3rd. Havasu's own, Aryana Thayer #831 won the "Ironwoman" trophy for standup completing 13 laps.

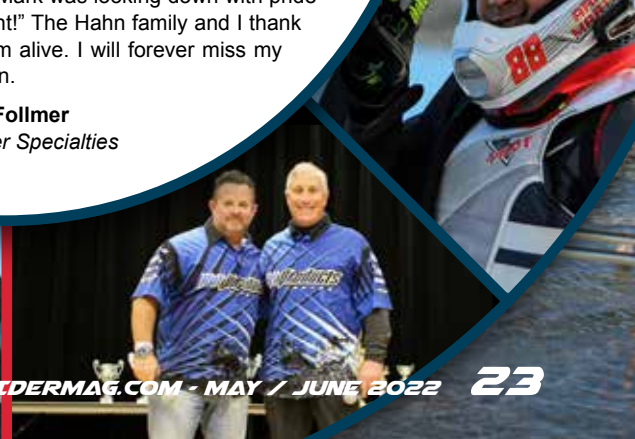
Racers took the good with the bad to make a memorable Mark Hahn Memorial. Thanks to Jim Russell and Mike Follmer for producing the legacy race in Mark's honor, Shawna and Gary Menser, Dawn Carey, Todd Young, and Brian Marble and entire DSM staff! Looking forward to the 19th next February 2023! **PR**



FULL RESULTS AT WWW.MARKHAHN.COM

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THANK YOU LETTER

Eighteen years ago, at the funeral of my good friend Mark Hahn I promised to ensure his dreams of PWC endurance racing dominance were realized. Thus began my odyssey into the world of race co-promoting to produce a 300-mile endurance race. It requires professional, experienced promoter for a quality event. Jim Russell, DSM Events again stepped in as I focused on sponsorships and PR. With Jim's unwavering devotion this event is world class. Thank you, Ross Wallach, for working tirelessly to guarantee the event's success.

Thank you to title sponsor Yamaha Motor Corp. USA and Andrew Cullen and presenting sponsors Scott Saito and Tom Perry from Hot Products. To Glen Perry, Impros, Frank Walsh, Jettrim and Dave Bamdas, Riva thank you for believing in the world's longest PWC race.

With the support of IJSBA's Scott Frazier, 27 teams participated in the incident free 2022 Yamaha Mark Hahn Memorial Havasu 300. Thank you to all teams that stayed and raced!

Thank you to all who helped and supported. The 2023 Mark Hahn will be bigger and better. Surely Mark was looking down with pride proclaiming, "what a great event!" The Hahn family and I thank you for keeping Mark's dream alive. I will forever miss my friend, a true giant of a man.

Mike Follmer
Mike Follmer Specialties



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THE BLACK PEARL

'Certified Ripper'

Story and photos: Cadan Kirkpatrick

Nicknamed The Black Pearl this project started in April of 2020 after shipping the ski from Florida to Washington. Although a great base to build upon, this 2010 Wamilton's Platinum Edition Superjet was rough. The paint and graphics were faded from years of baking in the Florida sun; saltwater left its mark on all the hardware, and it had seen some fiberglass and gel coat damage.

As with all our projects Robert Jordan of Dugan Race Prep and I, put our own spin on a previously top-of-the-line ski and decided it was time for some much-needed updates.

We resurrected what was there and rescued the custom Wamilton's pieces. Quickly afterwards we upgraded to a fresh 760-cylinder 62T motor, coupled with a ported factory B pipe and a pair of Mikuni 44s. We ditched the previous stock 144mm pump and plastic pump shoe and crammed a massive 155mm pump and aluminum pump shoe into this hull. Hull and composite repairs from Ali G Design and paint from Screwy Designs and this boat looks almost as good as it performs. We stamped it "certified ripper" and it's been terrorizing the high seas ever since.

FAVORITE MODS:

- Wamilton's lowered hood, nose pieces and pole bracket
- 155mm pump swap
- 760-cylinder 62T motor
- Factory Pipe B pipe with mod chamber

BEFORE



144MM PUMP + PLASTIC PUMP SHOE



155MM PUMP + ALUM PUMP SHOE



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A Match Made in Heaven —PWC Heaven!

A UNIQUE PROPOSAL: Couple gets engaged on HydroDrag Launch Pad

Photos: Manuel Valdes MVP Production; Heather Gonzalez; Kerri Caputo

Angelica Gonzalez aka 'Golden Girl Princess of the HydroDrags' and Christopher Caputo, Jr. are well known in the jet ski racing community. Little did spectators (and Angelica) know what would unfold at the recent HydroDrag Championships. Angelica's mother Heather and Christopher's mother Kerri shared some precious background details of this special love story.

Heather shared, "Chris and Angelica first met at the HydroDrags in 2014 when they raced against each other in the first ever Junior Class event, she was 14 living in Florida, he was 15 living in New Jersey, both just babies. They were buddies who talked occasionally and saw each other at races. At the races they had this cute connection and would hang out and talk the entire time. His mother and I used to joke they would date one day and get married but for years their relationship remained as friends. Fast forward to 2020 the relationship grew into much more than friendship. Unbeknownst to Angelica, the grudge match Chris arranged recently was merely subterfuge for a proposal and the HydroDrags Launch Pad was the perfect place!"

Kerri Caputo, Chris's mom shared, "Christopher, Jr. has always been into jet skis with his dad, that's why he started racing in the HydroDrags with him and how he met Angelica. Heather and I would always joke around about them getting together. It turned out in our favor! They were the first junior HydroDrag racers. So, it was exciting to see them get engaged on the launch pad. We love Angelica and her family, and we are so happy to see them have a future together. They are both super intelligent kids and very driven." **PR**



FUTURE THREATS

PRESENTED BY **HYDRODRAGS**

Angelica Gonzalez #912

Chris Caputo Jr #777

Renee Marisch #18

2015



Logos for MVP PRODUCTION, Angelica Racing, and another racing brand.

A photo of a young man, woman, and another young man standing together.

2014

JETPILOT



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SPEEDS GET FASTER...AT THE HYDRO-TURF US HYDRODRAG NATIONALS!

By: Mike Young | Photos: Manuel Valdes MVP Production

The 2022 US HydroDrag Nationals, presented by the City of Tavares, Yamaha, Lake County, Mohawk Pier & Lift, and RIVA Racing, were held in America's Sea Plane City, Tavares, Florida. Mother Nature was kind and racers brought plenty of horsepower to keep the crowds of over 2,000 excited with great racing, camaraderie, and new friendships made in the pits! Although a little windy everything smoothed out for perfect conditions. The crew did an amazing job with set-up.

Stock Class favorite, Angelica Gonzalez, was knocked out in the semi-finals by Luis Marine, who faced off against Harold Ramos in the Consolation Finals, the winner faced off with Julio Rivera, from Puerto Rico, unbeaten in the bracket. Ramos edged out Marine but had a huge task in front of him with Rivera! Rivera remained unbeaten taking the Pro Stock Championship.

A special planned grudge match between Chris Caputo, Jr. and Angelica Gonzalez played out a huge surprise on the launch pad as Chris, Jr. proposed to Angelica. She said YES and then proceeded to open a can of whoop ass during the match!

Pro Spec Class had 25 heats, going into semifinals, only 4 remained: Craig Bryant and Alfredo Goicolea raced in the consolation bracket, Goicolea took the win. In the winner's bracket, 2 HydroDrag superstars went head-to-head, Isel Pupo and Ernesto Calas, talented and seasoned racers. Calas, one of the only Sea-Doo pilots was victorious but faced him again in the final as Pupo beat Goicolea in the final consolation bracket. Calas took a hard-fought win with Pupo settling for 2nd.

Speed Alley includes GPS runs with 3 GPS units on the PWC for accuracy. The second fastest recorded run in Unlimited and the fastest of the weekend was posted by Carlito Del Valle, Team CRT, who posted a whopping 129mph. Devis Romero, DVT Performance tied the Superstock record at 117mph, and Julio Rivera, the first racer to go over 100mph in competition, took the new World Record back to Puerto Rico at 99mph.

Superstock Class was exciting as always. Chris Caputo, Jr. ran against Geury Fernandez in the Consolation Final, with winner to run against undefeated Isel Pupo. Caputo got the jump and held on, however, Pupo took the win. Caputo will have to wait until the Hydro-Turf HydroDrag World Championships in October for a rematch.

The fastest class in HydroDrag racing is the Unlimited Class with no shortage of horsepower firing off the launch pad! Semi Finals featured 3 usual suspects, Michel "El Michá" Lopez, Raul Cue, and Omar Rodriguez. Rodriguez sent Michel to the consolation bracket to race against Cue. Lopez earned the right to go head-to-head against Omar and beat him twice to win the title!

Thanks to all co-sponsors Broward Motorsports, Kraken Automotive, Blowson, Key West Resort, Jettribe Racing, and the OT Lounge for the champagne showers! Special thanks to media partners RacerH2O.com, MVP Production, Pro Rider Watercraft Magazine, Cardone's Race Corner, FL Ski Riders and Jim Jordan, Fish Camp Lake Eustis for supplying lunches for staff and VIPs. **PR**





NEXT RACE IS OCTOBER 29-30. MORE INFO AT SURFANDTURFPROMOTIONS.COM. WATCH THE EVENT ON RACERH2O.COM YOUTUBE CHANNEL ON DEMAND. UNTIL NEXT TIME, HAVE A GREAT AND SAFE RIDING AND RACING SEASON!





Community Grassroots Event

By: Bret Underhill
Photos: Charles Guinchard

With this get-together we accidentally demonstrated that it's the community that makes Junior Stars of Florida what it is. We had a lot of forces working against us and had to make the very hard decision to cancel the official training event. Even so, we couldn't ask everyone to cancel their spring break plans. What evolved was a grassroots event where racers of all skill levels thawed out their technique and a few young riders got their first ever tray time. We exercised safety in every aspect of the ride, and everyone walked away having learned something. A strong community like ours just can't be stopped. *PR*



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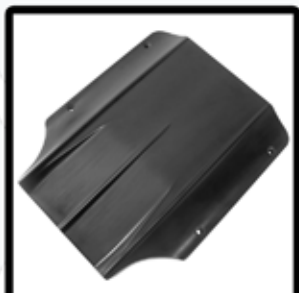
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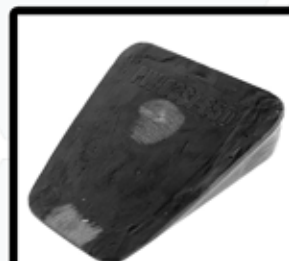


Offers maximum stability when you lean into the turn, making the turning feel very easy to find and engage. Reduce subbing when landing tricks and gives you a better turning feel through the waves.

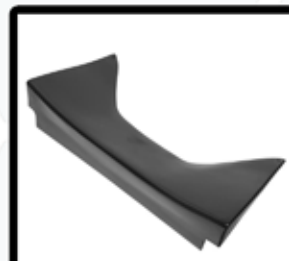
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MEET THE *Maryland Waterway PWC Riders*



Robert Bierly got into jet skiing 6 years ago and convinced a friend to get a jet ski. Robert shared, "My first ski was a 2001 Yamaha XLT 1200 and his was a 2015 Yamaha FX Curser. I had that ski 3 years then ended up getting a 2018 Yamaha VXR. Once I got a ski I trusted, we started going on longer trips and ended up creating Maryland Waterway PWC as a local group for people to meet up and ride." The group currently has 74 members and 4 Admins that have been with Maryland Waterway PWC from the beginning: Erik Alexzander, Jesse Williams, Vince Savel and Bierly.

Favorite riding locations include Solomon's Island a main hub for ride events, where riders can experience a "target ship" the American Mariner, currently the U.S. Navy's only active live-fire target ship in the Chesapeake Bay. When asked what has been most rewarding about organizing the group Robert said, "Seeing everyone come together and have a great time on the water. Lots of friendships are made, lots of smiles and stories told."

His most memorable ride thus far was when Jersey Shore PWC came to southern Maryland to join Maryland Waterway PWC. Jersey Shore launched from Solomon's Island and Maryland Waterway launched from Point Lookout. "We met up at Point No Point Lighthouse in the bay, rode to target ship then skipped to the eastern shore to Smith Island in the Chesapeake Bay, 12 miles off the shore of Crisfield, Maryland. There's only one way to get to Smith Island – by boat. There are no bridges to the island and no air strip. The island is the last inhabited island off the shore of Maryland.

Bierly encourages everyone to get involved in this sport. "It's relaxing and fun. Just make sure you know your limits and stay within them and keep safety first."

The group has several ride events planned for 2022:

- Target to Smith Island
- Island tours (Holland, Adam, Phon, and Northeast Island)
- Lake Anna (3 days camping and jet skiing)
- Taylor's Island Phase 3



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FIG. 5



TORRENT PUMPS
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FIG. 1






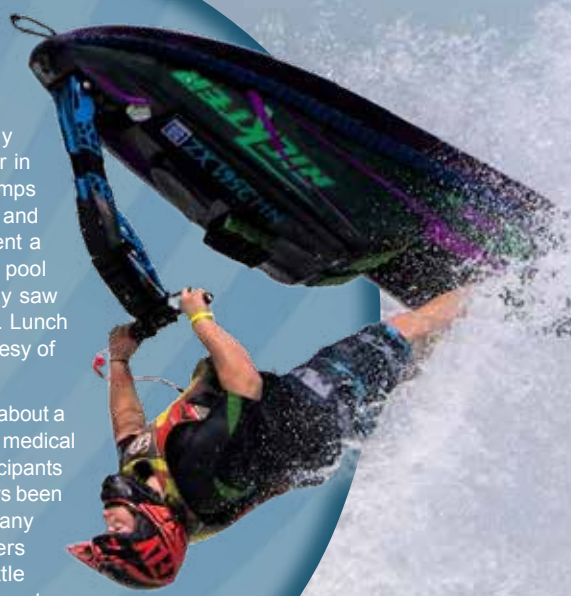
FUN SURF CONDITIONS AT VIRGINIA BEACH SPRING WAVEDAZE!

By: Dan Swartz, WaveDaze Event Promoter

Photos: Joe Worst; George Hernandez; Jennifer Swartz; Joe Johnston

Spring WaveDaze was an excellent event with 61 riders. Weather and surf cooperated for the 4-day event. A complimentary arrival dinner at Mahi's was provided for those who came to town early with Dan Swartz footing the bill a third year in a row. A slight chill in the air on day two, temps quickly warmed to upper 70's with light wind and fun surf. Late evening showers didn't prevent a great time at the Aqua Social Club on the pool deck of the host hotel. Friday and Saturday saw fantastic days of riding with stellar weather. Lunch on Saturday was generously provided courtesy of Torrent's Brian Sizemore.

At the conclusion of the ride the group spoke about a local rider who's been going through serious medical issues and needed some support which participants were happy to provide. WaveDaze has always been about giving back and helping our riders in any way possible. Riders and family members traveled to Peabody's via the free shuttle provided by WaveDaze, a favorite gathering spot for a good time. This year was no different with one heck of a great band, a free keg and food provided by Paul Zaharis of PZ's Jet Skis, Golf Carts and Trailers, Joe Johnston, and Clayton Legge of Norfolk Fence Supply Company. WaveDaze thanks everyone who attended whether it was your first or 15th time, welcome to the WaveDaze family! Can't wait to see you all in the fall. 







"THIS WAS MY THIRD TIME WAVEDAZE IN VIRGINIA BEACH, BUT ONLY THE FIRST TIME I EXPERIENCED IT IN THE SPRING. THERE WERE TWO OTHER EVENTS TAKING PLACE WHILE WE WERE RIDING SKIS IN THE SURF: COLLEGE BEACH WEEKEND & THE DREDGING OF RUDEE INLET. COLLEGE BEACH WEEKEND MEANT WE HAD MORE INQUIRING EYES WATCHING THE HIJINKS IN THE WATER AND ASKING ABOUT THE PHYSICS OF IT ALL – QUESTIONS WE WERE MORE THAN HAPPY TO FIELD!"



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THE RED ROCKET



OWNER:

Chris Sunbury,
CT Ski Bandits Southington, Connecticut

Chris Sunbury's motivation to convert a mini-bus to a jet ski rig was cost efficiency and simplicity. It started last season when he attended Brave the Wave in Michigan. He rented a Jeep, shoved his 550 and anything he could fit and headed out for 11 hours. With the bus he and a couple passengers can travel long distances, be comfortable, sleep, and fit his skis and everything needed in one shot and still be somewhat compact.



When asked to describe the process, Chris shared, "It was a lot of work, more than I expected! We replaced the floor to the bus body since it was entirely rotted. Once sealed, the plywood went on top and off we went on the bunk beds and bunks for my skis. It still has a long way to go but for being so cold in Connecticut, a lot has been done over the winter."

VEHICLE SPECIFICATIONS:

2000 Chevy Express 3500 Bus

MODIFICATIONS / SPECIAL FEATURES / EXTRAS:

The Red Rocket isn't a pretty lady, but she functions well. Aside from the bunk beds, and ski bunks I'm not doing too much for lighting. I want to keep it simple but comfortable.

RACE TOURS/ RIDES /EVENTS:

Last year was my first year attending any events, Brave the Wave Freeride. For 2022 I intend on racing Region 8.

FAVORITE DESTINATIONS FOR RACING AND RECREATION:

For rec riding my favorite spot is Lake Beseck, Middlefield, CT. My favorite spot is Haddam Meadows River.

SPONSOR:



SUPPORT CREW:

My crew shows more support than anyone can ask for and a team is the best way to describe them. My two sisters Beth and Vicky, and my good friend Andrew are always quick to help with new projects. Without them I'm not sure how I would finish any project. I've become good friends with Luke Stocks, Showtime Freestyle, this past year. Luke and his wife Brandy are a big influence and encourage and push me.

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THE RETURN OF LIVE ACTION STUNT SHOWS: Enter Action Horizons!



All four owners of Action Horizons (Ken Clark, Pat Millicano, Peter Nelson, and Mark Vanselow) come from a background of water sports and live performance. In 2007, they were looking at the landscape of live action shows globally. Over the decades they witnessed countless live action shows close and feared they were witnessing the death of the industry. With more than 100 years of experience combined, they saw an opportunity to do what they love and save the dying Live Action Stunt Show. With that, Action Horizons was born over a scotch and promise in Mark's living room.

PRO RIDER: What is Action Horizon's focus and specialties?

ACTION HORIZONS: While we work on film and TV projects, our focus is creating and operating live action stunt shows. We currently operate at least one show in each Universal Studios theme park around the world (Hollywood, Orlando, Singapore, Japan, and Beijing). We cast internationally as well, with one of our biggest needs being jet skiers and water skiers willing to ride and perform for a living around the world.

PR: What are you most proud of regarding Action Horizons?

AH: We are proud to have been a stepping stone for dozens of athletes and performers into the world of TV and film. We are proud to have revitalized the Live Stunt Show genre and currently have the top guest rated stunt shows in the world.

PR: Please share with our readers what you ride and favorite riding locations.

AH KEN: When we started to prepare for the Waterworld show in 1994, had 2 Kawasaki 550s. I don't currently own a jetski, but it's not unlikely to be called upon in the stunt industry to ride a wide variety of jet skis for film and TV, sometimes as a principal performer, but more often as H2O safety or production support.

AH PETER: Our family has been involved with boating, water skiing and jet skiing since the early 70's and saw the evolution of the very first Kawasaki

to what jet skiing is today. We have had several different jet skis throughout the years and still have a Yamaha Superjet. Our sons grew up on the water and both ended up performing in the Waterworld show in Singapore and Hollywood. Our youngest Kurt still has his Superjet and spends a lot of his free time in the surf. We ride socially these days and do runs over to Moreton Island from the Gold Coast, Australia.

PR: Any special plans for 2022?

AH: We plan to get more involved in the water sport communities. We are sponsoring a couple athletes and plan to attend more events. We really want to make young talent aware there is a career path riding skis. For those who are interested, we have an amazing opportunity to travel the world while doing what you love.



World renowned Multi World Champion, innovator, movie producer/director and highly accomplished Hollywood stunt double/performer **LARRY RIPPENKROEGER** shared his thoughts on Action Horizons.

Photos: Courtesy of Larry Rippenkroeger

PR: What motivated you to become involved in stunt performing?

that, you're getting physically fit and learning new skills every day on the job.

LR: Growing up watching action movies and TV shows I always thought working as a stuntman would be the coolest job ever. Years later I got my lucky break and found out I was right; it is the coolest job I've ever had.

PR: What advice do you have for those interested in getting involved in jet ski stunt performing?

PR: What was it like working with Action Horizons?

LR: If you've ever desired to work as a jet ski stunt performer there is no better opportunity than to work for Action Horizons. You can potentially see the world while getting paid to do what you love. You'll meet talented new friends and open doors to work in the film and TV industry.

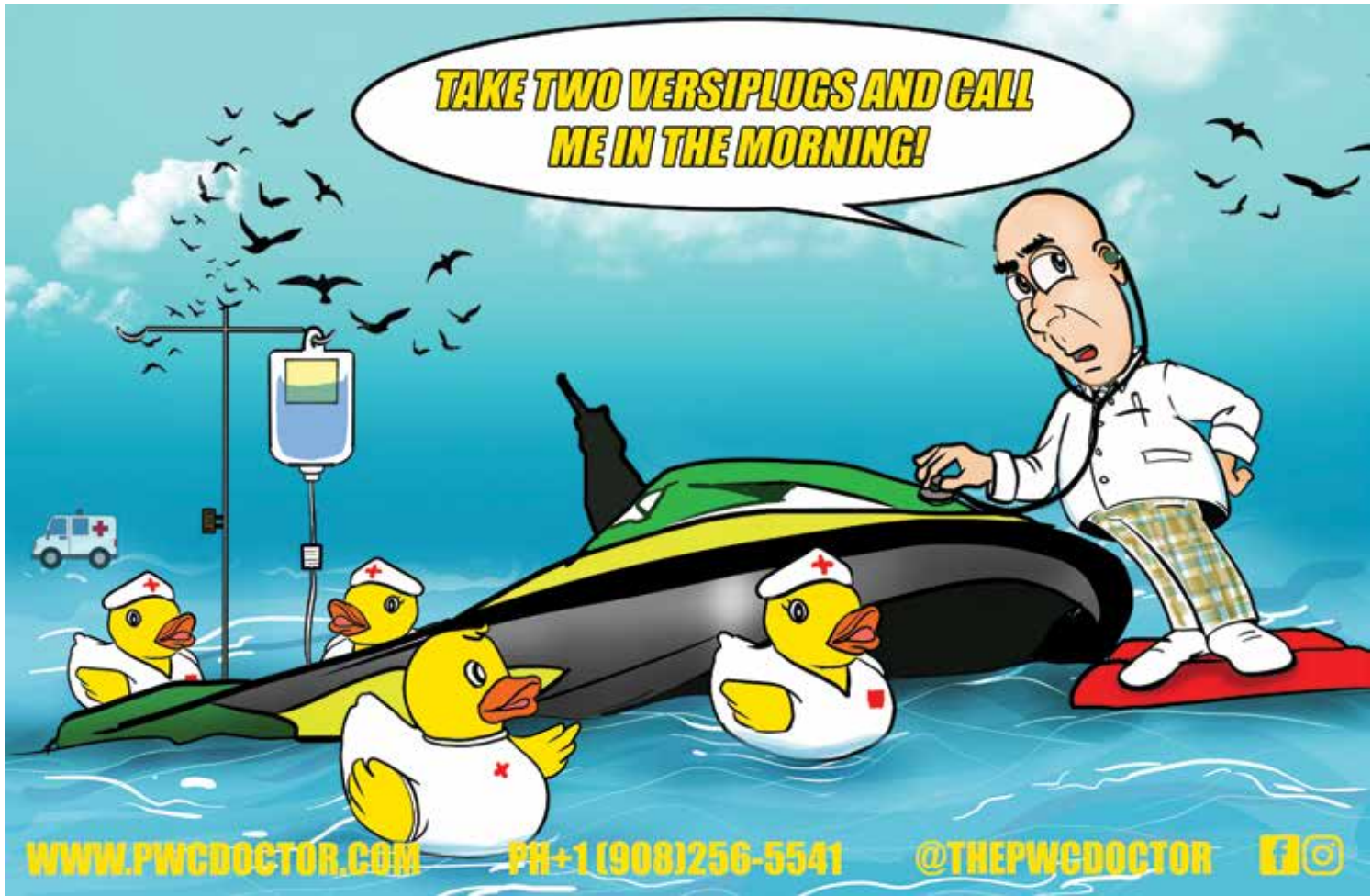
LR: Working with Action Horizons was the best. There's nothing like the energy of performing for a live audience. On top of

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FULL THROTTLE WATER X SERIES EXPLODES ONTO THE RACE SCENE WITH RIDER FOCUSED INNOVATIONS INCLUDING LIGHT DISPLAY START SYSTEM!

By: Nasty Nic Verdone | Photos: Kenny Wong KDW Photos

March 25th marked the explosive introduction of the new Liqui Moly Pro Watercross Full Throttle Water X Series in Lake Havasu, on the California side at Havasu Landing Casino. While initially suffering some setbacks, most notably the casino transportation ferry from the Arizona side catching fire, the series came out on top with a spectacular inaugural event! This highly anticipated race brought several innovations, prizes, and rider focused changes to the sport on the west coast including larger cylinder-shaped buoys, \$3,000 in prizes, late night celebrations with live music, and at long last an end to the antiquated "band start" system.

Races were instead started by a light display which flashed yellow to green-similar to drag racing-with a varying amount of time between lights, making restarts much faster and "band jumping" a thing of the past. The track had several changes and a layout described as "an MX course on water" with wide sweeping turns and long straights in an attempt for maximum speed and optimum flow from one turn to the next.

Stand up skis dominated the entries with Vintage Open, Ski Lites and 2-stroke limited having the largest lines and most intense battles. While this race did not feature a log jump, wind and location provided many obstacles and challenges. It was not uncommon to see lost hoods, mistimed jumps, and unintentional subs on the back straight. Future races are said to not only feature a log jump but make it mandatory (another deviation from the typical "option" style format) to the delight of most racers.

When asked for comment Race Director Deegan Newton credited Colin Richards for the light system, Kary Austin, and the entire race team for their hard work putting this new series together. When asked what the future holds, Mr. Newton commented, "We have a few other innovative things we'd like to try to progress the sport, but our focus for 2022 is keep hosting fun, safe events with different track layouts, racer parties and giving away trophies and cash to racers as much as we can. We also want to keep focusing on photography and video coverage for the racers that's been lacking on the west coast for years." Deegan looks forward to planning more events including slalom style races, a surf race, and 5 more closed course points events. **PR**





Photo: Rachel Hankins



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- 10-12 SKI LITES
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JUST PURE RIDING:

JET SKI PIONEER WAKE OF FAME
INDUCTEE **BOB PHARES**
DEMOS THE JET SKI IN the 70's!



In 1970 Bob Phares went to work for Kawasaki Motors Corp. in the parts department. Fast forward to 1975 he became District Sales Manager in Northern California. The Jet Ski released for sale nationally in 1976. His district sold more than any other in California and Bob was brought on as Jet Ski Specialist which kept him quite busy in marine industry shows. He spent 4 months promoting product from California to Boston to Miami. The following year he finished 2nd in Stock closed course, and 4th in freestyle World Finals.



BEFORE

AFTER



He did TV promos and events across the US and helped get racing started in Minnesota and Pennsylvania. He organized demos with dealers in Oklahoma, Texas and Georgia and did TV shows including Hart to Hart, CHiPs, and Wonder Woman. There were radio promotions for ski jump contests and Playboy clubs. The list of promos goes on and on!

PR: How did the 1979 photo shoot with Kawasaki come about?

BOB PHARES: The photo shoot at Whiskeytown Lake in Northern California was specifically put together by Bill Grey, Manager of Jet Ski Division, to create advertising video footage for dealerships to use and for media market releases on product in 1978. The skis were for 1979 model year and the still shots were for magazine ads and posters. Bill had riders audition for the task. He told me he wanted to use me for the advertising brochures and posters with one stipulation. "Shave off that beard" he said, "I'll make you famous." Shave I did and got the nickname, 'Phamous'."

PR: Please describe the ski you restored.

BP: 1980 JS440, a year newer than the ski used in the poster of me but the exact same model and graphics. I made my living riding 440 skis teaching, demonstrating for 7 years with the Jet Ski Division.

The ski is restored to stock specs with few modifications. It has an intake grate on pump and an oil bath bearing housing.

PR: What are your favorite riding locations?

BP: There are 8 lakes and 3 rivers within 45 minutes of my house. My favorite place to ride is the Sacramento River. I have longtime friends who have also restored '77-'81 440 skis.

We get together and ride these original stock skis. We still ride hard and put ourselves and these originals through aggressive rides. It's a blast pushing ourselves and making the skis work without bolt-ons or extensions. Just pure riding!



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Photos: Blair County Sports Hall of Fame; Meredith Malone; Eric Malone; Pro Rider Watercraft Magazine

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First Ever Powersports Blair County Sports Hall of Fame Inductee



WATCH DR. THIERFELDER'S
INTRODUCTION



Pro Rider Watercraft Magazine congratulates Eric Malone on his recent induction into the prestigious Blair County (PA) Sports Hall of Fame! Malone, who is also an inductee of the Jet Ski Industry's Hall of Fame, has been making his mark within the PWC/jet ski industry for many years and is well known for pioneering trademark tricks such as the no handed barrel roll, double barrel roll (flat water), 720 barrel roll (surf), the flat water back flip, no hander lander, and the initiation of the combo trick generation as well as numerous other amazing aerial moves that have become staples of freestyle routines throughout the world. He created the industry's first 'vert ramp' for WFWA stunt shows across the US and earned a movie SAG card when he stunt doubled for main actors in the movies "I Am Number 4" and "Into the Blue."

Reflected Pro Rider Magazine Publisher Michael Ratti, "When I was starting in the sport, Eric Malone was prime time, on TV, in movies, winning championships in surf and flat water, pushing the sport, especially freestyle, constantly creating new tricks, releasing videos, and performing shows with the World Freestyle Watercraft Alliance (WFWA). Freestylers idolize him, study his equipment and maneuvers. His friendship and mentorship helped me develop skills that enabled me to travel the world much like he did through the sport of jet skiing."

Excerpts of Article Courtesy of Altoona Mirror

Hall of Fame achievement: Winningest professional in International Jet Sports Boating Association competition with 43 titles, including eight world IJSBA championships (seven pro, one amateur) and 11 pro U.S. national championships.

Malone's pursuit of his passion on jet skis was not limited to the physical benefits he derived from other sports, though. One of the best decisions he ever made, he said, was working with sports trainer and psychologist Dr. Bill Thierfelder, who instructed Malone on the mental aspect of competing on an international stage. "Eric was one of the most gifted athletes I ever worked with," said Thierfelder, who worked with professional athletes in every sport before becoming president of Belmont Abbey College in North Carolina. "He was a motor control genius. He was remarkable. When he came to me originally, my first impression was he was a young guy that wanted to do everything he possibly could to tap out every bit of ability he was blessed with. He didn't want to leave one stone unturned."

Malone credits his hometown for helping him tap out every ounce of ability, noting that training in the relative anonymity of Pennsylvania helped him develop his equipment and new tricks because he could practice incognito as opposed to training in a hotbed like California, Florida, or Arizona where watchful eyes could have derailed the tricks he debuted at international competitions for the first time.

*Today, Malone continues to support the personal watercraft industry through coaching, selling his EME product, engines and hulls, sponsoring riders, and attending events. Over the years Malone's coaching has helped numerous jet ski athletes attain national and world titles. **PR***



the Blair County
SPORTS
Hall of Fame



'HOOKED' ON PWC FISHING IN New Zealand

Story and photos: Ruan Hayward

Originally from the Eastern Cape, South Africa, recently I emigrated to New Zealand. Fishing has been part of my life from a young age, but I never imagined fishing from a jet ski!

I purchased my first PWC 3 years ago. It completely changed my fishing game. It changed my methods of targeting fish to focusing more on lures rather than bait. It allows me to head offshore and target game fish I've been dreaming of, I'm hooked! I upgraded to a Yamaha FXHO which gives me confidence for bigger trips offshore and camping trips on local islands.

My favourite location to fish hands down is the Hauraki Gulf in New Zealand. It offers a huge variety of species. Winter months the crisp clear mornings provide great opportunity to target big snapper and kingfish around deeper reefs; in spring the gulf comes alive with birds, dolphins, whales, and BIG fish!

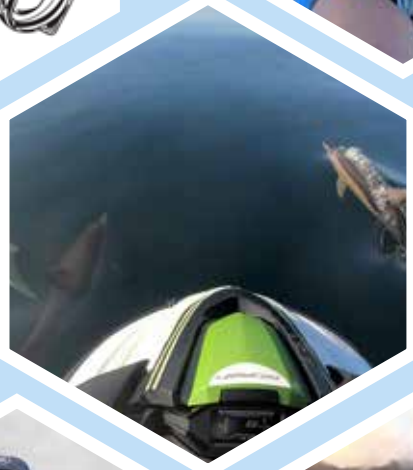
This is the perfect time of year for action-packed fishing! My favourite time of year begins as summer kicks off, not only because of the beautiful Christmas decorations in December, this is when my favourite species of fish roll into local reefs, the yellow tail kingfish, one of the hardest fighting fish I've ever had on the end of my line. Unfortunately, with the kingfish and the warm water we have another resident that comes in with vengeance, Mr. Johnny shark with big teeth! Lots of bronze whaler sharks (aka the tax man) hang around waiting for a free feed off someone's line, usually mine.

I've caught many good fish from my PWC from 20-pound snappers to 30-pound kingfish. I'm still on the hunt for that 50-pound kingfish!

My favourite method to target these bigger fish is with mechanical jigging, a very fast retrieving action which works a lot...on your shoulders. It works great on the fish too!

The beauty is I can do all this from my PWC! If you are thinking about fishing from a ski, WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? It's a complete game changer to target bigger species and gives you the ability to quickly change spots or restart short drifts over your spot. You can launch and retrieve the ski with absolutely no help required if you are keen to go for a quick solo fish.

If you haven't noticed yet, I absolutely love fishing from my ski! If you are keen to have a look at some great adventures, please watch my videos <https://youtube.com/c/RSLivingFree> and follow on IG @rs_living free.



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COMMON CAUSES OF PREMATURE CARBON SEAL WEAR

By: Greg Gaddis Aka "Hulk Junior"



Photo: Jeff Lakeford
Nautical Image Gold Coast Australia



Believe it or not, not every watercraft is ready to go straight off the showroom floor. Human involvement takes place in every step of the manufacturing process; unfortunately, we are all human and make mistakes. I have personally encountered brand new PWCs with unsecured cooling lines, engine alignment far from correct, improperly sealed transom plates, the list goes on. Most recently, I had a Sea-Doo with the engine alignment so far off the carbon seal ate itself away.

All Sea-Doos are equipped with a carbon seal designed to prevent water from entering the hull around the driveshaft. Through the years, Sea-Doo has made many improvements to their carbon seal design. Unfortunately, the seal is still susceptible to premature wear. Running the engine out of water, revving the engine while on the trailer, frequent trips to rough water, wave jumping, and engine alignment issues are the most common factors leading to premature carbon seal wear. The seal was designed to be cooled by outside water to prevent it from overheating and literally turning to dust; all these cases prevent the seal from properly being cooled. Most of these scenarios, other than engine alignment, are operator error that cause the seal to fail. Thankfully, there are ways to spot premature carbon seal wear before it is too late.

The easiest way to notice premature wear is black soot coating the bottom of the hull around the pump tunnel. The black soot is carbon dust from the seal wearing away. If it happens to be engine alignment causing the issue, the top hat on the carbon ring will be off center and needs to be addressed immediately. If your watercraft is still under warranty, your local dealer should fix this free of charge as the alignment was likely off straight from the factory. Even though it is highly likely that off centered engine alignment was a manufacturing error, operator error can still cause it to be off centered.

Wave jumping puts a large amount of stress on engine mounts. Frequent wave jumping causes the engine alignment to shift from hard impacts or even break an engine mount. I highly recommend anyone who enjoys wave jumping to keep an eye on their carbon seal wear, engine alignment, and engine mounts. Keeping a close eye on these critical components could easily prevent your watercraft from taking on large amounts of water and sinking.

For buyers of a brand new PWC, it is important to ensure your dealer thoroughly inspects your Sea-Doo, or any watercraft, for possible manufacturing problems. If the engine alignment is off, it will be spotted when properly inspected and save you trouble down the line from a sinking watercraft. If you do need a replacement carbon seal, engine alignment shims, or any other OEM replacement part, the GreenHulk store has you covered. Greenhulk.net has all your needs from OEM replacement parts to the best aftermarket performance parts in the industry. Use coupon code "greenhulk" at checkout to receive 10% off on most RIVA RACING products, all FIZZLE INTERCOOLERS, and all WORX RACING products. **PR**

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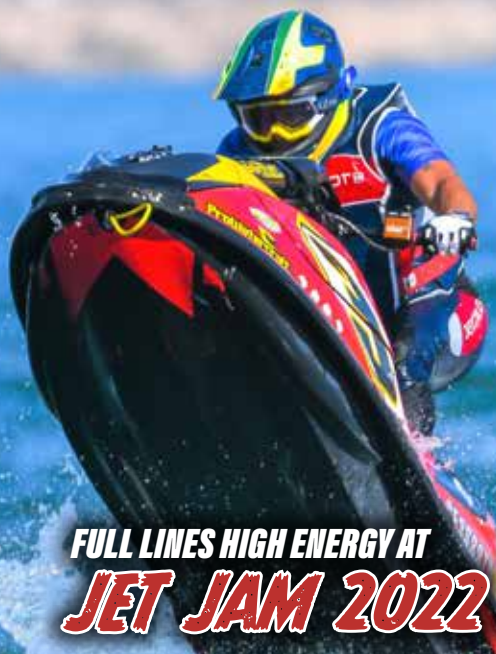
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Jet Jam Presents Hot Products & Anderson Powersports Best of the West Series Kickoff

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By: Rain Porter | Photos: Rain Porter 121 Photo; Rick Powell Ric Pow Photography

Jet Jam Racing successfully kicked off the 2022 race season in Lake Havasu City, Arizona at Crazy Horse campgrounds. The national anthem played on electric guitar by the talented Bryce Chambers started the day off right. Energy was high as this was the first race in quite a while which showed in the form of competitiveness as racers battled fiercely. A great turn out with full lines, included many first-time racers.

This was my first race as a spectator/ photographer; I had an amazing time capturing memories for everyone! I most enjoyed watching new racers pull off the track with huge smiles on their faces as they completed the race. Jet Jam staff made sure riders felt welcomed and showed them an amazing time! Plenty of big-name pros we know and love raced in the GP class. Dustin Motzouris, Revin Harris, and Kole Cramer took the top 3 podium places for round one Ski Pro Am GP. Not far behind was Tyron Motzouris who took 2nd along with Dustin and Revin in round two. The event was nothing shy of awesome! **PR**





“THIS EVENT WAS ONE OF THE LARGEST TURNOUTS I’VE SEEN WITH 120 RACERS, 170 ENTRIES, THINGS WENT VERY WELL! THIS WAS THE BEST CREW EVER; THEY ALL DID AN AMAZING JOB. RACING WAS VERY EXCITING TO WATCH. WE RECEIVED MANY COMPLIMENTS ON THE RIGHT-HANDED COURSE DESIGNED AND SET UP BY TODD (SARGE) YOUNG. ROUND ONE SAW 22 CLASSES WITH 40 MOTOS RUN. OUR BIGGEST CLASS WAS NOVICE LITES WITH 15 RACERS ON THE LINE. JETTRIM SPONSORED THIS CLASS WITH A \$500 PAYOUT. HIGH WINDS KEPT THINGS INTERESTING. THE PRO-AM SKI GP CLASS WAS STACKED WITH BIG NAMES. DUSTIN MOTZOURIS LED WITH KOLE CRAMER RIGHT BEHIND HIM. THE BATTLE WAS LOOKING GOOD UNTIL KOLE STABBED THE LOG JUMP SO HARD IT PUT HIM AND THE LOG OUT OF COMMISSION. THE WEEKEND WAS A SUCCESS! POSITIVE FEEDBACK WAS RECEIVED ON THE ENTIRE EVENT AND WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO A GREAT SERIES OF RACING IN 2022! THANKS TO ALL THE RACERS WHO PARTICIPATED AND THANKS TO ALL OUR SPONSORS THAT MAKE THESE EVENTS POSSIBLE.”

MONTE HUGHES
JET JAM TOUR PROMOTER

Photo: Rachel Hankins

2022 BEST OF THE WEST SERIES CLASS LIST MORE INFORMATION AND RESULTS WWW.JETJAM.RACING

- Ski Pro-Am GP
- Ski Am GP
- Ski Am Vet GP
- Ski Am Lites
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- Ski Yamaha 4 Stroke Lites
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- Runabout N/A Stock (2 Stroke limited, 4 stroke N/A)
- Runabout Pro-Am Open
- Freestyle Pro
- Freestyle Amateur

FITNESS TIP

LET'S TIGHTEN THOSE ABS!

By: Joseph Berning
PhD, CSCS, FACSM Strength Physiologist & Exercise Physiologist

"I CAN'T GUARANTEE YOU'LL WIN EVERY TIME YOU TRY BUT I CAN GUARANTEE YOU'LL LOSE EVERY TIME YOU DON'T TRY."
— UNKNOWN

There has been a shift in attitudes whereby promoting competition is looked down upon. Some believe 'everyone' should get a trophy for simply participating. Everything in life is a competition and we don't always win. We compete for jobs (interviews), acceptance to colleges, on grades/exams (grade school, college, heck even to get your driver's license), politics, raises, promotions, sports, and personally to better ourselves. Most successful are those who never stop fighting to improve and never allow second place to be acceptable. Every time you get on a PWC, enjoy yourself but also work on increasing your skill set. If you race, ride to win every time you grab the throttle!

Continuing focusing on body weight exercises, we'll explore the Abdominal Crunch which concentrates on the muscle group the rectus abdominus. Fitness and health connoisseurs refer to these muscles as our '6-pack'. There is nothing sexier than a nice set of abs. Let's tighten up those abs in preparation for PWC season.

CRUNCHES - TRAINING THE ABDOMINAL MUSCLES

BASICS: The Crunch is a time-tested exercise and testing platform within schools and the military. Crunches don't require special equipment or a gym: all you need is 'you.'

Lay on your back, arms crossed on the chest, knees bent 90 degrees, feet on the floor (Photo 1). It can be helpful to have someone hold your feet or place your feet under a weighted object. With arms crossed, raise upper torso moving towards knees (Photo 2). Touch elbows to knees or keep elbows against your torso (which allows you to rise higher-Photo 4). Once your elbows or arms contact your knees/legs, (Photo 3), lower yourself down until your back and shoulder blades contact the ground (original starting position-Photo 1).

PRECAUTIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS: Crunches are often done in preference to a complete sit-up as sit-ups place greater stress on the lower back. By performing a Crunch, the exerciser doesn't lift themselves completely off the ground and thus the lower back maintains contact with the ground, decreasing lower back stress. To perform a complete sit-up (Photo 4), always be cautious to protect your lower back.

ALL OF US AT PRO RIDER EXTEND A HEARTFELT 'THANK YOU' TO DR. JOSEPH BERNING FOR AUTHORIZING THE PRO RIDER FITNESS FEATURE THESE PAST SEVERAL YEARS!



EXERCISE RELEVANCE TO PWC: The abdominal muscles are key to all twisting and flexing between the upper body and lower body throughout any riding position. The stronger the abs, the stronger the connection between legs and upper torso. Tight strong abs look great on the water.

PRESCRIPTION: Crunches can be performed daily or every other day.

DAYS OF THE WEEK: 3-5 days of the week

BEGINNERS: 2-3 sets of 10-20 repetitions per set

INTERMEDIATE: 4-6 sets of 10-20 repetitions per set

ADVANCED: 6 or more sets of 20 or greater repetitions per set

Holding weight plates (5, 10, or 25 lbs.) on the chest forces greater contraction of the abdominals (Always use caution as this increases stress on the lower back)



Exercise demonstrator:
Isaac Barajas, Greeley, Colorado



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Sponsored by Jun's World and Florida Ski Riders and organized by Junior Rivera Jun's World, the 43-mile roundtrip Peanut Island ride was the third of seven scheduled recreational rides of the year for Jun's World. Peanut Island in West Palm Beach, Florida offered spectacular views and ample opportunities for relaxing and fellowshiping. 70 skis launched from Burt Reynolds Park and went out of Jupiter Inlet down to Palm Beach Inlet where Peanut Island is located. The group worked our way back north through the intercoastal and to the ramp. Regionally this ride was set for April 3 but due to the weather the riders decided to reschedule for April 16, and it's turned out to be a great decision because the weather was beautiful! There was a 15 mile an hour wind which made the ocean choppy but rideable. At Peanut Island we beached the skis and enjoyed a cookout. Riders got explored the island and its history and swam and relaxed in beautiful clear blue waters. It was a day full of meeting new riders and creating new memories. **PR**

CLEAR BLUE WATERS GREET RIDERS AT PEANUT ISLAND

By: Junior Rivera aka Jun's World | Photos: Zee Khan



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Windy Conditions Fierce Battles Good Mood at

JETCROSS CHAMPIONSHIP FRANCE

By: Bastien Valadier *Communication Jetcross*

Photos: MK Production

The first race of the Jetcross Championship took place in Corsica in Ghisonaccia, France. The event brought together no less than 70 drivers in 5 different series. On the Ski Pro GP series (the biggest category) no less than 15 drivers were lined up at the start. Among these drivers were Valentin Dardillat, and Raphaël Maurin. The Poret brothers were also lined up alongside the Belgian Anthony Beernaut and Swiss driver Alec Enderli and the arrival of 6 Hungarian drivers led by Szabo Gabor. Drivers were welcomed all week before the race as we made available to them a circuit of training at sea. This circuit provided the opportunity for the drivers to have real race type conditions.

On Saturday morning, tests and times were held. At the end, it was Valentin Dardillat that came out first. The day continued with the first round which was won by Raphaël Maurin after good fights on the water between these top drivers. On Sunday, the second and third races were held, and in the morning, the wind rose sharply, making the race conditions hard and very spectacular for the public, who had come in large numbers. In the morning the second round was won again by Raphaël Maurin. For the last race of the weekend after a fierce fight it is Mickael Poret who wins. Overall, at the end of the weekend it was Raphaël who won the first race of the Jetcross Championship. It was a very nice edition that marked the return of Jetcross after two years of absence, an edition that took place in a beautiful setting with good mood and a very beautiful plateau. This event will certainly remain in the memory of jet ski races!

Jetcross Championship Categories: we distinguish three broad guidelines: Pro, Amateur and Novice.

Thank you again for this feedback and this great visibility that you can bring us in your very recognized magazine in the world of jetski. **PR**





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Story and photos: Omar Conde

MEET OMAR CONDE & Jet Rider Nation Puerto Rico!



A native of Puerto Rico, I started riding skis in 2017. My first PWC was a 1999 Sea-Doo GSX Limited, I am a Sea-Doo enthusiast at heart. Our Jet Rider Puerto Rico Group has over 2,000 Members and is one of the largest PWC ride groups on the island. We closely follow the model of the Jet Rider Nation Florida Group, which focuses on safety and constant interaction with riders. Our most memorable group ride was our adventure to St. Thomas and St. Johns in the Virgin Islands. We launched in Fajardo, Puerto Rico, and rode 40 miles to St. Thomas, stopping on the Island of Culebra, PR along the way. From there we continued east to St. John's, VI, and then returned.

Overall, it was about 100 miles round-trip in the Caribbean. My favorite riding locations are the eastern Puerto Rican Islands of Vieques and Culebra, as well as Cabo Rojo and La Parguera in Lajas. All the riding locations in Puerto Rico are so beautiful it's hard to love just one or two. The crystal blue waters and white sand all over our beautiful island are second to none. My advice for anyone getting into this sport is to take the time to find the right ski for you that you feel comfortable with. Go out with a few friends that have different models and see which one you like best. I am a big believer in safety, obeying all maritime laws, and keeping all your essential equipment, including your ski, always maintained. In 2022 we have an entire Jet Rider Nation Puerto Rico Ride schedule, and we also conduct smaller, more personalized rides that we announce on our page as well. On our page you can link up with other local riders and have a great time. **PR**



 **GROUP PAGE [FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/JETRIDERNATIONPUERTORICO](https://www.facebook.com/groups/jetridernationpuertorico)**



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CAPTURING THE ACTION ONE CLICK AT A TIME

FIXXIE BUILD

Story and photos: Shawn Henderson

Originally from the automotive side of the industry, I wrote the book on how to do LS engine conversions, and sell the GM based motors. After several car projects trapped in paint purgatory, I needed a break. I saw a Kawasaki X2 hanging on a wall in a friend's shop and remembered the cool kids riding them when I was younger then went all in from there.

I took my X2 to its limits and wanted more. A fellow enthusiast showed up with a green 'fixxie' on the roof of his truck. After he described the way it rode, I knew my goal. The fixxie was built to go beyond what my X2 build could do. The fixxie started life as a 2000 Superjet. The build took two years. It's my primary ski. I'm fully invested and sold my X2 before the fixxie ever hit the water!

I couldn't have built the ski without the people I ride and wrench with—thank you Will and Blake McDaniel. Doing ski builds with friends is half the fun of the hobby and I've made friends that will last a lifetime. **PR**

SKI:

2000 Superjet

MOTOR:

Paul Lehr's old engine from his personal ski, a 6mm stroker with ADA cast cylinder fully ported and filled with secret sauce. Before the engine was installed it was dropped off at Paul's for a fresh rebuild. The engine was running older MSD which Paul quickly changed over to a zeal package based off the 760 electronics. Two tunes with a flip of the switch. Power goes through an Xscream 148 pump, with a 9/15 prop and the thrust trim system.

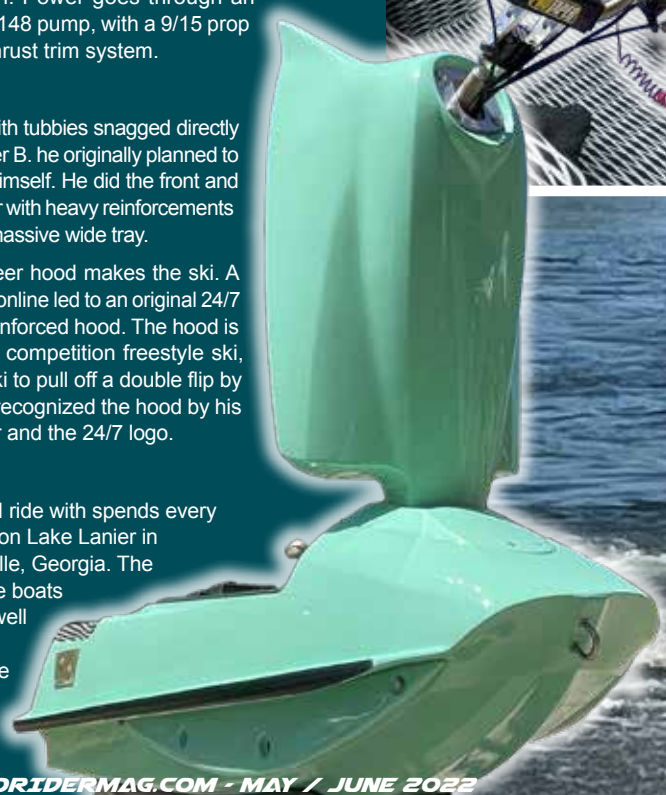
HULL:

The hull with tubbies snagged directly from Carter B. he originally planned to keep for himself. He did the front and rear rocker with heavy reinforcements then the massive wide tray.

The fix steer hood makes the ski. A lucky find online led to an original 24/7 carbon reinforced hood. The hood is off an old competition freestyle ski, the first ski to pull off a double flip by Paul. He recognized the hood by his old sticker and the 24/7 logo.

CREW:

The crew I ride with spends every weekend on Lake Lanier in Dawsonville, Georgia. The local wake boats know us well and throw great wake all day.



RIDER: WORLD CHAMPION PETE ZERNIK | LOCATION: CAMP FAR WEST



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JET AROUND CAYMAN *is back!*

By: Mike Young | Photos: Peripheral Life & Style



Originating in 1996, Jet Around Cayman one of the largest PWC endurance races is back after a 9-year hiatus. New management Jayson Butcher, Mario Rankin, and Douglas Cameron, and Cayman Islands Watercraft Association, revived the popular island event on Seven Mile Beach to the delight of hungry young racers, local Caymanian supporters, and race fans! Presenting sponsors included 345 Racing, Dart, Auto Spa and Peripheral Life & Style. This race featured a 56-59 mile run around 5 districts of Grand Cayman and 3 pit stops where racers idled and checked in at each stop. Coming within 100 yards of the reef, equaled immediate disqualification and if they sped through No Wake zones, a 5-minute penalty was imposed. It was a good clean race for Amateur and Pro with over \$25,000 in cash and prizes.

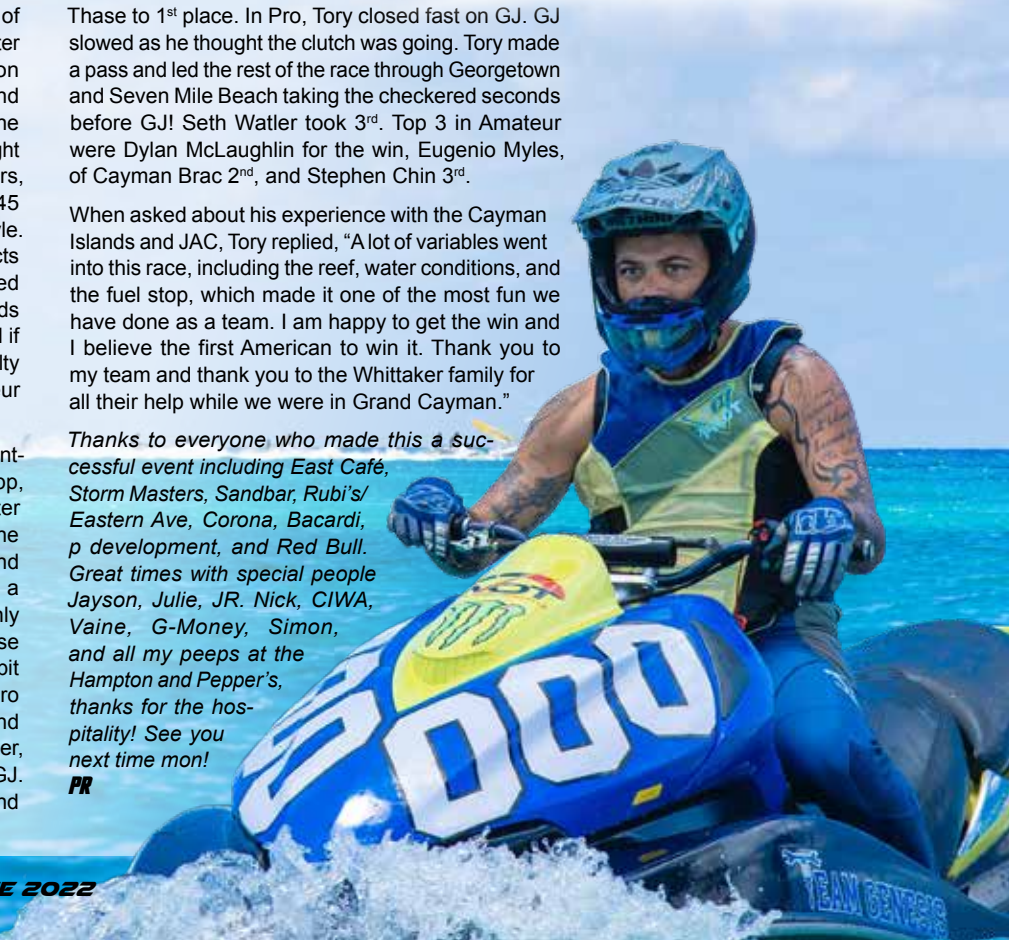
With 21 racers on the pit board, it was a little different this year. Each racer was equipped with a GPS App, RacerMap, allowing all to follow the race, no matter where on the island. Gary "GJ" Whittaker grabbed the holeshot. Pro racers Chris Bodden, JJ McLean, and Daron McLean had mechanical issues giving GJ a huge lead as top notables Seth Watler and the only international racer, Tory Snyder had bad starts. These Watler and Dylan McLaughlin battled to the first pit stop. Coming out GJ had a comfortable lead in the Pro Class over Watler, sponsored by Smoothie King, and Dean's Team/SnyderBuilt pilot Tory Snyder. Snyder, on the move, passed Watler setting his sights on GJ. In the AM Class, McLaughlin diced his way around

These to 1st place. In Pro, Tory closed fast on GJ. GJ slowed as he thought the clutch was going. Tory made a pass and led the rest of the race through Georgetown and Seven Mile Beach taking the checkered seconds before GJ! Seth Watler took 3rd. Top 3 in Amateur were Dylan McLaughlin for the win, Eugenio Myles, of Cayman Brac 2nd, and Stephen Chin 3rd.

When asked about his experience with the Cayman Islands and JAC, Tory replied, "A lot of variables went into this race, including the reef, water conditions, and the fuel stop, which made it one of the most fun we have done as a team. I am happy to get the win and I believe the first American to win it. Thank you to my team and thank you to the Whittaker family for all their help while we were in Grand Cayman."

Thanks to everyone who made this a successful event including East Café, Storm Masters, Sandbar, Rubi's/ Eastern Ave, Corona, Bacardi, p development, and Red Bull. Great times with special people Jayson, Julie, JR. Nick, CIWA, Vaine, G-Money, Simon, and all my peeps at the Hampton and Pepper's, thanks for the hospitality! See you next time mon!

PR






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Photo By: Ken Gallagher

MAY / JUNE 2022



JOSH

JOSH SIMON

Photos: Liz Simon

AGE: 15

HOMETOWN: Corona, California

SKI: 2014 Yamaha Superjet, 2021 Yamaha Superjet

RIDING: Race

RACE #: 125

LATEST ACHIEVEMENTS: 2021 Junior 13–15 Ski Lites World Champion

MOST MEMORABLE: Riding my first Jetski a 550.

FAVORITE RIDING LOCATION: Parker Strip, Parker, Arizona

SPONSORS: Elite Boat Company, Jettrim, T.C. Freeride, Fly Racing, ODI Grips

HEBER BLACKMORE

Photos: Uchty Images

AGE: 15

HOMETOWN: Central City, Iowa

SKI: SXR 1500

RIDING: Race

RACE #: 116

LATEST ACHIEVEMENTS: 2nd Place Expert Ski Stock 2021 Great Lakes Watercross, 7th place 13–15 Junior Ski Stock 2021 IJSBA World Finals, Lake Havasu, 14th Place Novice Ski Stock, 2021 IJSBA World Finals, 2nd Place 2021 NASP Iowa Highschool Boys 3D Archery

MOST MEMORABLE: 3rd round of Great Lakes Watercross at the Lure Bar and Grill in Rome, Wisconsin I was racing with my brother Olin Blackmore (who always beats me). I was ahead of him on my final lap, final buoy. A wave hit me, I hit my handle pole so hard I came off my ski and had to be carried off the water by the 'Syracuse Mafia' boys, Camden Powell, and Brian Finlinson. I got a ride to the hospital for possible broken ribs and was super happy they were just bruised. This season is the year I catch Olin and win the race so my mom will buy me the new wrap she promised when I finish ahead of my brother.

FAVORITE RIDING LOCATION: Body Beach, Lake Havasu, Arizona; The Lure Bar and Grill, Rome, Wisconsin; Coralville Reservoir, Iowa

SPONSORS: Dirty Water Racing, R-Squared Customs, Pro Watercraft, Pro Rider Magazine, RIVA Racing, NAHI Racing.



BRITTON

BRITTON REINHARD

Photos: Rain Porter

AGE: 10

HOMETOWN: Lake Havasu City, Arizona

SKI: 2018 Yamaha Superjet

RIDING: Race

RACE #: 851. It's my birth time!

LATEST ACHIEVEMENTS: I just raced my third ever race and living my best life! I started riding standup skis with my dad when I was 2. I stood in the tray with him! When I was 7, I started riding a 550 by myself. For my 10th birthday I got my Superjet and started practicing for race season. I have a twin sister, Elliot, who is my biggest supporter!

MOST MEMORABLE: Practicing with friends at Body Beach. I have lots of friends who race, and I love how supportive we are of each other

FAVORITE RIDING LOCATION: Body Beach, I am so lucky to live in the jet ski capital of the world!

SPONSORS: Jettrim, T.C. Freeride, Pro Watercraft, Go Fast Girls, Mohave Block



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FROM LEFT: Lover Perez, Millennium Custom Wheels, Founder Jacksonville PWC Riders; members of Jacksonville PWC Riders Matanzas Inlet Ride, St. Augustine, Florida



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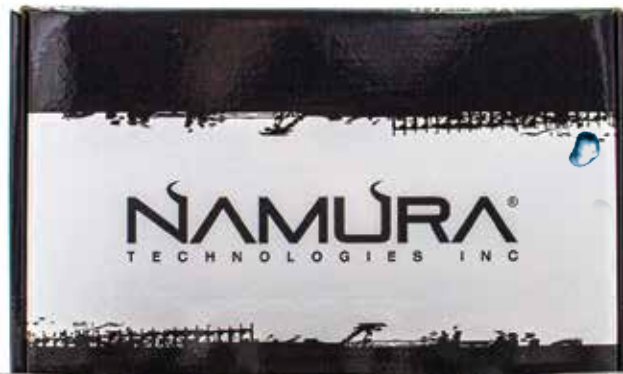


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