

**Round 3 & 4 – Pontiac, Michigan Race Recap**  
**2003 U.S. Grand National Watercross Championships**  
**Pontiac, Michigan**  
**Pontiac Lake State Park**  
**July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2003**

Rounds 3 & 4 of the 2003 U.S. Grand National Watercross Championships at Pontiac, Michigan this past weekend had some exciting Racing Action. There were 150 Riders in attendance from West Virginia, Missouri, New York, Pennsylvania, Canada, and from all over the Midwest. This made for many full classes as 100 moto's were ran both Saturday & Sunday completing a full weekend of Personal Watercraft Racing. Many Canadian's made the trip to compete in Rounds 3 & 4 of the 2003 U.S. Grand National Watercross Championships making the Racing Action even hotter.



**PONTIAC, MICHIGAN**

On Friday Night, **Tom & Al Miller's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Crawfish Blowout** was a huge success. There were 200 people in attendance to enjoy the great food of this pitch-in Dinner. Several Riders brought food, and appetizers, which provided some good eating. With over 120 lbs. of Crawfish, there was plenty of food for all. Four picnic tables full of Spicy Cajun Crawfish were piled high for hours that evening giving those in attendance plenty of food. The 2003 U.S. Grand National Watercross Championships, and HammerTime Promotions would like to give a sincere thanks to Tom & Al Miller for supplying the delicious Crawfish, along with **Ken Haverkate, Papa DeGrazia, Andy Tinsley**, and many others for making this all possible. This was a great time for all, as many socialized throughout the evening while enjoying some delicious food & beverages prior to a Great Weekend of Racing.



**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Crawfish Blowout was a Bit Hit.**



Both Saturday & Sunday the Pontiac State Park Lake was busy with many people visiting the **The Kawasaki JET SKI® Watercraft Demo Summer Splash 2003 Tour** and taking a cruise on the various Kawasaki Personal Watercraft. This was a popular attraction all weekend long as consumers got a chance to learn about Personal Watercraft Safety Facts, and take a ride on a **Kawasaki JET SKI®**. There were numerous Kawasaki Representatives on hand to assist all the participants with Personal Watercraft Instruction, and Information. If you didn't get a chance to take a ride on one of the many **Kawasaki JET SKI®** in Pontiac, Michigan, you will have another opportunity on July 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> at Harbor Beach, Michigan as **The**



**Kawasaki JET SKI® Watercraft Demo Summer Splash 2003 Tour** will also be participating in the Maritime Festival & Can-Am Cup that weekend.

There was no flat water racing this weekend, as 15-20 mile an hour winds both Saturday & Sunday made water conditions rough, and choppy with large swells mixed in. These water conditions are present year after year at Pontiac, making this event tough for Riders both in conditioning, and in watercraft setup. This weekend was no exception as Riders battled some very tough water conditions that Pontiac is famous for. These water



**Expert 1200 Winner Jay Edworthy on his Cal-Jet / Rotax Seadoo**

faster each race), taking 2<sup>nd</sup> place. With various Riders swapping positions both Days, the Season Points battle is even tighter going into Round 5 at Harbor Beach, Michigan.

**Expert Runabout 1200cc SS Class**

- |                     |          |                          |
|---------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| 1. Jay Edworthy     | Sea-Doo  | Cal Jet / Rotax Mtrsprts |
| 2. Ryan Pearson     | Kawasaki | Full Spectrum/Sippery    |
| 3. Evan Connell     | Sea-Doo  | Rec Mtrsprts/Dean's Team |
| 4. Ryan Leadbetter  | Yamaha   | Riva/Leadbetter Racing   |
| 5. Justin Haverkate | Sea-Doo  | Sea-Doo/Novi             |
| 6. Derick Parker    | Kawasaki | Fepco/Dean's Team        |
| 7. Raymond Degrazia | Sea-Doo  | Novi/Z-Force             |
| 8. Bill Stoehr      | Sea-Doo  | Dean's Team              |

conditions shall prove helpful, when Riders will be faced with similar water

conditions at the upcoming **Can-Am Cup, at Harbor Beach, Michigan of the Round 5 - 2003 U.S. Grand National Watercross Championships.**

There was some great Racing Action all weekend long. In the Novice Women Ski Class, where there is a tight Season Points battle evolving, **Nanette Grissom**, from Algonquin, Illinois continued to dominate after 3 Rounds. However, **Susan Ramroth**, from Haslett, Michigan on her Jazz Motorsports Yamaha, took 1<sup>st</sup> place on Sunday, with **Melissa Maloney**, from Holland, Michigan (who continues to get

In Pro-Am Women Ski Class, **Melanie Taylor Wallis**, from Ontario, Canada piloted her Pro Fuels Yamaha to 1<sup>st</sup> place on both days, as she showed some serious speed in tough water conditions. **Ashlee Hyde, and Debbie Hyde**, from Hide-Away-Hills, Ohio took 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> respectively while closely chasing **Melanie Taylor Wallis** both Rounds.

In the Expert Ski Class, **Derek Powell** on his Speed Racing Kawasaki from Syracuse, Indiana continued to battle with **Jerry Schmidt**, from Monroe, Michigan in the popular Expert Ski Class. **Jerry Schmidt** was hitting the Ramp Jump at full speed, and providing some great entertainment as he sailed high and far in the air. Spectators were in awe, and anticipation as Jerry Schmidt approached the Ramp Jump each lap. **Dusty Thomas** on his XS Energy Drink Yamaha, from Adrian, Michigan also lit up the course in his debut appearance at Rounds 3 & 4 of the 2003 U.S. Grand National Watercross Championships, taking 2<sup>nd</sup> place on Saturday.

Novice Women's Ski Class		
1. Susan Ramroth	Yamaha	Jazz Motorsports
2. Melissa Maloney	Yamaha	Goggle Grip
3. Nanette Grissom	Kawasaki	Hydro Turf / No Fear
4. Ashley Haas	Kawasaki	Slippery / Amsoil
5. Carol Huhn	Kawasaki	UMI / Jet Pilot / Hydro Turf
6. Kirsten Hasty	Yamaha	Lakeview Marina

In Pro-Am 800 Runabout Class it was the Swann Show both days. **Geoff**, and **Eric Swann**, from Arnold, Missouri just dominated both

days. Geoff proved to be the man to beat on Saturday, while Eric picked up the pace on Sunday taking the win from his brother as they both literally went at it on the racecourse. Both Rode hard, and were trading fiberglass as they again provided some of the best Racing Action of the weekend. **Cole Wagner**, from Waterford, Michigan on his **Jami Wisinski** tuned Sea-Doo took 3<sup>rd</sup> place, and he continued to search for added horsepower. Engine problems eventually caught up with Cole, as he watched from the sidelines on Sunday. On Sunday, **Ray Proulx**, from Ontario, Canada on his LakeShore Performance Sea-Doo took 3<sup>rd</sup> place as he battled all day long with **Thomas Hunt**, from Lansing, Michigan who took 4<sup>th</sup>.



[watercross.com](http://watercross.com)

On Saturday, several Runabout Riders decided to

take to the water and entered the Beginner Ski Class. Like fish out of water, it was a full class as **Mike Leonard**, from Chicago, Illinois on his Fly Racing Kawasaki took the win from start to finish. **Steve "The Ringer" Crane**, from McCordsville, Indiana rode a consistent race and finished 2<sup>nd</sup> place on his Outlaw Performance Kawasaki. **Jay Edworthy**, from Ontario, Canada also rode a great race as he chased Crane to a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish. **Ken Haverkate**, from Grandville, Michigan, on his Novi Kawasaki struggled early but eventually made a run at the leaders, and took 4<sup>th</sup> place.

Other Riders, who largely entertained the crowd were, DJ Thompson, Colin Last, Chad Mooney, Ray Degrazia, Alan Miller, Justin Bojan, Jeff Lingenfelter Jr, Brian Kent, and Jeff Goins.

**John Bryant made a Special Appearance in the Pro-Am Stock Ski Class**

Pro-Am Stock Ski Class		
1. Tim Carlson	Kawasaki	Fly Racing / Watcon
2. John Shuper	Polaris	Polaris / Factory Pipe
3. Brad Maloney	Kawasaki	Goggle Grip
4. Mike Remar	Polaris	Polaris / Amsoil / Wiseco
5. Tom McMannis	Kawasaki	Indy Cycle & Ski / Outlaw Perf
6. James Cebulski	Yamaha	Speed Unit
7. Doug Lavin	Kawasaki	Hydro Turf / Amsoil
8. Dusty Thomas	Kawasaki	XS Energy Drink / Riva
9. John Eidt	Kawasaki	Jetski Unlimited / R & D
10. Marvin Bulas	Yamaha	PWC Partshop / Goggle Grip
11. Jesse Henthorn	Polaris	
12. Jerry Schmidt	Kawasaki	Factory Pipe / Slippery
13. Robert Hyde	Kawasaki	Rhino Linings / Hanson's
14. Jeff Clark	Kawasaki	K & J Fab / PWC Partshop

On Sunday, undoubtedly one of the most exciting Races of the weekend was in the Expert 1200 Runabout class as they battled brutal water conditions. All Riders rode hard, in each of the 12 lap Moto's. You could hear Ole Canada playing in the background as **Jay Edworthy**, from Ontario, Canada on his Cal Jet / Rotax Racing Sea-Doo, and **Ryan Pearson**, from Ontario, Canada on his Dean's Team Kawasaki swept the competition. Both Riders were in a class by themselves, as they both had their watercraft dialed in and performing flawlessly. **Jay Edworthy** took the win from **Ryan Pearson**, as **Evan Connell, Justin Haverkate, and Ryan Leadbetter** rode hard to finish respectively. This Class was exciting to watch in Pontiac's rough waters, coupled with the fact each Rider was riding hard for the whole distance. If the racing this past weekend is any indication of what we'll see at the Can-Am Cup at Harbor Beach, Michigan, then get ready to see some Hot Racing Action.

The next stop on the **2003 U.S. Grand National Watercross Championships** will be Round 5 at Harbor Beach, Michigan. This event will be in conjunction with the **2003 Maritime Festival & Budweiser Can-Am Cup**. This much anticipated Event will be the race you won't want to miss, as this is **the 2<sup>nd</sup> Largest Spectator Event** in the country behind the World Championships in October. There are many Festivities planned including the Popular **Budweiser Can-Am Cup** where the Canadian's will try and take back the Cup from Team U.S.A. Other Activities planned for that weekend will be the **Bud Light / Kawasaki Invitational, Live Bands Friday & Saturday night, Fireworks Show, Freestyle Show, along with many other Festival Activities**. Come to Harbor Beach and enjoy the fun. Cheer Team U.S.A. as it tries to defend the Budweiser Can-Am Cup from Team Canada.

For more information on the **2003 U.S. Grand National Watercross Championships**, contact **Jacque Bryant**, Phone: (317) 846-0789, Fax: (317) 846-0789 or email: [mwctour@iquest.net](mailto:mwctour@iquest.net)