

Ron Musson Named to Stanley S. Sayres Hydro Hall of Fame

RON MUSSON, who piloted Miss Bardahl to the Gold Cup and national championships the past two years, has been named to the Stanley S. Sayres "National Hydroplane Hall of Fame."

The special award was instituted by Greater Seattle, Inc., and the Puget Sound Sportswriters and Sportscasters Association as a memorial to the late Stanley S. Sayres, who introduced hydro racing to the Northwest. The award is made annually to those who have

made hydro racing one of the world's most exciting sports.

The election was conducted by Unlimiteds, Inc., of Detroit, by polling sportswriters and sportscasters around the nation who are connected directly with the hydroplane sport. Closest to Musson in the voting were Chuck Thompson and Guy Lombardo.

Although he has been driving unlimited hydros for only six years, Musson has had a meteoric career and has been virtually unbeatable the past two seasons.

In 1963, Ron won the first two races of the season—the Alabama Governor's Cup at Lake Guntersville and the coveted Gold Cup at Detroit, setting new

lap, heat and race speed records in both. He set a new course record of 118.421 at Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, in a time-trial run before the Diamond Cup race and turned 120 mph in a qualifying run on Lake Washington before the Seattle Seafair race for the two fastest laps of the entire season.

During the year Ron won the most heats (8) and Musson, the crew and boat were named 1963 APBA All-American race team.

Musson brought Bardahl its second straight high-point title in 1964 by winning the Gold Cup for the second successive year, the first annual Dakota Cup, Seattle Seafair Trophy and Harrah's Cup and emerged as top driver of the year, receiving a new perpetual trophy presented by the San Diego Union newspaper.

Prior to entering the unlimited picture, he has won nine other high-point titles in limited class hydro races and won seven limited class national championship races.



PHOTO BY BOB CARVER

• Ron Musson

Musson is 35 years of age and resides in Seattle with his wife Betty, son Bobby 17 and daughters Josette 13 and Michelle 1.

Last year, three new members were inducted into the Hall of Fame— Ole Bardahl, owner of the swift Green Dragon; William (Bill) Harrah, owner of Tahoe Miss and the late Harry LeDuc, former assistant sports editor of the Detroit News and former dean of powerboat racing writers.

Other previous winners were Jerry Bryant, Seattle; Bill Cantrell, Detroit; Joe Taggart, Canton, Ohio; Lou Fageol, Kent, Ohio; Les Staudacher, Kawkawlin, Michigan; Ted Jones, Seattle; Bill Muncy, Seattle; Mike Welsch, Seattle; Stan Donogh, Seattle; Bill Stead, Reno; Willard Rhodes, Seattle; Jack Regas, Livermore, Calif.; Gar Wood, Detroit and Jim Spinner, Seattle.