

Andrew Tate drives oldest hydro to victory in Southern Cup

Story: Jenelle Hanyon / Photos: MSA Staff

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The five-lap race on the 2½-mile racecourse turned into a two-boat duel between Tate and Jimmy Shane in the U-1 Miss HomeStreet.

Tate averaged 152.000 mph and his fastest lap in the final race was 156.092 mph. He won

by a boat length.

With the win, the U-9 Delta/Realtrac becomes the oldest race hull ever to win an H1 Unlimited hydroplane race. The hull is 26 years old. It first ran as the 1992 Coors Dry and is two years younger than its driver.

Estimated crowd of 10,000 plus gathered on the banks of Guntersville Lake to watch the thunderboat action. If you blinked, you might have missed it – sustaining speeds of up to 200mph, the turbine-powered hydroplanes tackled the first course of the year with incredible skill and precision.

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