

Thunderboaters to cruise into airport on Saturday

BY PHILLIP HAMERSKI
phillip.hamerski@register-news.com

MT. VERNON — The St. Louis Thunderboaters will be hosting remote-control model boat races beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday at the Mt. Vernon Outland Airport.

"We're just a group of people who run model boat races," said Ken Hildreth, contest director.

The races are free to the public and include races from boats that range in size.

"We'll start racing with the smaller boats, those ones run about 40 mph, those are called De-Hydros," Hildreth said. "Then we'll move into the bigger boats called Open-Hydros;

SEE RACE PAGE 3A

RACE

*St. Louis
team to arrive
at airport
Saturday*

FROM PAGE 1A

and those can run up to 80 mph and will produce a rooster tail bigger than me and I'm six foot."

These boats are not like typical boats. These are boats specifically designed for racing.

"These boats were built for nothing but speed," Hildreth said.

The airport lake made the perfect place to hold the race, according to Hildreth.

"We're excited about holding the race there,"

Hildreth said. "This is the first time in spring we've held this so most people haven't gotten to run their boats yet this year. The Thunderboaters liked the lake so we decided to hold it there."

Test runs will also be held on Friday beginning at 9 a.m. so the contestants can get a feel for the course and to work out any kinks with their equipment.

"There will be people setting up out there all day on Friday," Hildreth said. "We'll start test runs about 9 o'clock but these are people that would get their boat in the water and start running at 7:30 if we let them."

Races will be held both Saturday and Sunday. For more information contact Ken Hildreth at 314-604-1737.

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