

IMPBA NITRO NATIONALS



Sentinel Photo/JOSH JONES

The boats compete in various heats which are broken down into 15 or 16 different classes. The race is called a shoot out where the winner of each heat faces the winners of other heats in a point based system.

Nitro Nationals come to Mt. Vernon

*The event will continue
until Sunday afternoon*

BY JOSH JONES
SENTINEL NEWS STAFF

MT. VERNON — The sounds of model boat motors could be heard at Mt. Vernon Outland Airport on Tuesday as the International Model Power Boat Association (IMPBA) kicked off their Nitro Nationals on Wednesday at the airport lake.

The Nitro Nationals started on

Wednesday but continue all this week from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. except for Sunday where the event will wrap up at around 1 p.m.

"We will crown national champions at this race. We have got 325 boats," said Mike Schindler, IMPBA District 14 Director. "We have competitors from all over the country, Canada and Australia and a couple of German visitors."

The boats race around the lake with first place receiving 400 points, second place 300, third place 225 points and so on. Schindler said that in order to win a national champi-

onship the participant has to have a perfect score throughout the heats.

"We are racing about 15 to 16 different classes the boat speeds range from 40 miles an hour to 80/85 miles an hour. It is a point setup for national championship. Some heats, we have seven boats, typically we like to use six. Everybody races six laps," Schindler said. "This race is called a shoot out, and in a shoot out race all the winners from each heat in that class race each other that next heat."

Please see **Nationals**, Page 6A



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PREPARING THE BOATS — Several competitors get their model boats ready to race during the International Model Power Boat Association (IMPBA) Nitro Nationals at the airport lake at Mt. Vernon Outland Airport. The races will continue this week and finish Sunday afternoon.



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READY TO RACE — Rafael Almirola stands next to his 45 Roadrunner which is a manufacturing of the Roadrunner line. He is from Tampa, Florida and is participating in the 2018 International Model Power Boat Association (IMPBA) Nitro Nationals at the airport lake at Mt. Vernon Outland Airport.

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