



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**IHBA NAPA AUTO PARTS WORLD FINALS
November 21-23, Firebird Raceway, Phoenix**

CHANDLER, AZ -- Nov. 22, 2008 – Top Fuel Pilot James Ray crashed early this afternoon during qualifying for the 2008 International Hot Boat Association NAPA World Finals at Firebird International Raceway.

Ray, of Midland, Texas, was taken to Maricopa County Hospital where he is conscious. No other details on Ray’s condition are available at this time.

Ray, the owner and pilot for the Tequila Sunrise boat, swayed from side to side when the sponson of his boat caught, ultimately causing him to roll.

Saturday – November 22, 2008 RESULTS:

Top Fuel Hydro:*

Boat #	Name	Home	E.T.	Speed
7	J. Haas			
807	S. Lumbert			
131	R. McLellan			
460	G. Wilson			
828	B Parrish			
702	G. Tedesco			
572	D. Verstuyft			
725	J Silvey			

Top Alcohol Hydro:

Boat #	Name	Home	E.T.	Speed
521	Joe Blattler	Oakdale, CA	5.364	217.74
437	Mike Fry	Rancho Cucuma, CA	5.437	207.62
904	Kent Price	Gardner, KS	5.444	213.18
414	Andy Reynolds	Lake Wylie, SC	5.535	219.94
923	Bob Pizza	Danville, GA	5.554	221.64

Top Alcohol Flat:

Boat #	Name	Home	E.T.	Speed
076	Don Bausher	Las Vegas, NV	6.739	161.18
1	Don Ermshar	Riverside, CA	6.852	162.64
440	Steve Westerfield	Lake Forest, CA	6.955	151.32
641	Johnny Heidemann	Tacoma, WA	7.023	163.00
2882	Bill Diez	Riverside, CA	7.074	155.66

Pro Mod:

Boat #	Name	Home	E.T.	Speed
252	Darrell Kindley	Aledo, TX	7.002	147.94
420	Terry Kain	Los Alamos, NM	7.006	165.70
880	Steve Rajcic	La Habra Heights, CA	7.007	171.48
308	Brien Dunn	Madera, CA	7.009	169.86
281	Brutus Utter	Overland Park, KS	7.027	169.16

* Due to computer issues, Firebird Raceway was only able to get places and names for the Top Fuel Hydro.

FIREBIRD RACEWAY is home to more than 25 events each year including; NHRA Arizona Nationals Drag Races, IHBA NAPA Auto Parts World Finals Speed Boat Races, and Monster Trucks. Located in Chandler off of I-10 and Wild Horse Pass, Firebird Raceway first opened in 1983 and is a proud member of the Gila River Indian Community. For more information call 602.268.0200 or online at www.firebirdraceway.com.