Wake Up Call

Get wet at Wakefest 2003 & Riverside Jam

by Joe Ng



on't think Wakefest 2003 & Riverside Jam is only a wakeboarding tournament—it's more than that. Not only is it the premier wakeboarding competition in Singapore, it also features live band performances, a hole-in-one golf challenge, Mr. and Miss Fitness contest, beauty pageant for dogs, and even a novelty race that has dragon boats instead of motorboats towing wakeboarders. We ask 30-year-old Tan Kay Tuck, who will be competing in the Outlaw category, what makes a wakeboarder tick.

Why do you wakeboard?

It's like love-you can't put that sensation into words.

How dedicated are you?

I would typically start hammering away at my trick runs about two months before the competition. I normally ride two five-hour sessions per weekend with about three others.

What's your worst wakeboarding injury?

Slamming one of my elbows into my ribs on a landing—that put me out for about three months. I've been lucky so far.

Would you wakeboard for a living?

Yeah, definitely. But it isn't possible right now without the sport being more popular and getting more exposure. We would need a yearly pro tour, bigger prize money and a lot more sponsors.

Do babes go ga-ga when they find out you're a wakeboarder?

Nope, they normally squint their eyes, screw up their faces and go "Haaa?"

Wakefest 2003 & Riverside Jam is on Jun 21-22, I Oam-late. Kallang Riverside Park. Free. Log on to www.wakeboardsingapore.com for details.