



News Release

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RON MITCHELL'S TEAM BANDIT "SMOKES" THE COMPETITION WITH CONTENDER 33 AND TRIO OF POWERFUL SUZUKI DF300 V6 4-STROKES

Port St. Lucie-Based Team Captures 2007 East Florida Division "Team of the Year" Title, Sets Sights on Upcoming National FLW Kingfish Series Challenges

Team Bandit would rather lead than follow the crowd, and this trail-blazing attitude goes right down to its choice of ride. When Captain Ron Mitchell and teammates Richard Ebersold, Richard Stockwell, Sean Cassidy and Dan Baummier set out to battle smoker kings and the country's best saltwater anglers, they did so aboard a new 33 Contender center console powered by triple Suzuki DF300 4-stroke marine outboards. This powerful combination has literally taken them very far, very fast — all the way to the FLW Kingfish Series' 2007 East Florida Division "Team of the Year" title.

To reach this achievement, Team Bandit put up 426 out of a possible 500 points in the East Florida Division. Soon they will get to mix it up with the nation's best kingfish pros at two high-profile events — the \$275,000 FLW Kingfish Series Championship and the \$500,000 Wal-Mart FLW Kingfish Tour Championship.

FLW Kingfish tournaments are some of the world's toughest fishing competitions, often involving long runs at top speeds across open water. It's a sport where going faster and farther than the competition often separates winners from also-rans. It's an endurance test of both man and equipment, which is why Mitchell counts so much on Suzuki power. With 900 ponies and a state-of-the-art high-performance hull, this rig glides across the waves while also having the ability to provide a safe, comfortable and quiet ride. At the same time, Suzuki's fuel-efficient 4.0-liter V6 outboards help the team go the extra mile for victory.

"You don't see as many Suzukis as other outboard brands on the FLW Kingfish circuit — and that's okay with me," joked Mitchell. "With everybody taking notice of our boat and our upcoming appearance in the national championships, however, I don't know how long our little secret's going to last."

Team Bandit will face the top three teams from each of the 15 FLW Kingfish Series tournaments held in 2007, plus the top 16 teams from each division in the points standings from each of the five FLW Kingfish Series divisions during the three-day FLW Kingfish Series Championship in Orange Beach, Alabama on October 4-6. From there, Mitchell's team will advance to the three-day FLW Kingfish Tour Championship November 2-4 in Biloxi, Mississippi, where they will compete against the points champions from each of the five FLW Kingfish Series divisions and the Top 50 teams in the FLW Kingfish Tour points standings. Both championships will be featured in one-hour episodes of *FLW Outdoors*, broadcast to 80 million US households on FSN and more than 429 million households worldwide.

“It was really awesome to win this,” Mitchell added on behalf of his team. However, he’s already looking forward to proving himself against the best of the best. “We’re going to show up with rods n’ reels blazing at both of these upcoming championship events.”

For more information about Suzuki Marine’s complete line of high-performance 4-stroke outboards from 2.5 to 300 horsepower, contact American Suzuki Motor Corporation, 3251 E. Imperial Highway, Brea, CA 92821 • Telephone: (714) 996-7040. Or visit www.suzuki.com.

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