



# PARTY ZONE

**THEY SAY** The fun starts at the oversize swim platform aboard this top-notch bowrider. **WE SAY** Eliminating bolts and brackets is just the beginning when it comes to the swim platform aboard the Chaparral 236 SSI. It also makes for a seam-free look and minimizes stress on the transom. Since no big holes are bored through the transom for fasteners, leaks are eliminated. Boats with bolt-on platforms often spout leaks through the platform-mounting holes. Unfortunately, the transom rings on my test boat weren't sealed and water seeped through them. At wide open throttle, the 300-hp MerCruiser 350 MAG MPI Bravo Three stern drive propels the 236 SSI to more than 51 mph. Recessed gutters are placed around the bases of the seats to direct water overboard. Breakers are conveniently located below the wheel,

## BOATING

### Certified Test Results

#### Chaparral 236 SSI

**TEST BOAT POWER** Single 300-hp MerCruiser 350 MAG MPI Bravo Three V-8 gasoline stern drive with 350 cid, 4.00" bore x 3.48" stroke, swinging a 24"-pitch ss propset through a 2.20:1 reduction.

rpm	SPEED			EFFICIENCY				OPERATION		
	knots	mph	gph	naut. mpg	stat. mpg	n. mi. range	s. mi. range	run angle	sound level	
1000	4.7	5.4	1.3	3.6	4.2	175	202	0	72	
1500	6.6	7.6	2.3	2.9	3.3	140	161	2	72	
2000	7.8	9.0	4.3	1.8	2.1	88	102	5	75	
2500	16.1	18.5	5.7	2.8	3.2	137	158	4	79	
3000	21.4	24.6	7.0	3.1	3.5	148	171	3	81	
3500	26.8	30.8	8.7	3.1	3.5	150	172	2	82	
4000	32.1	36.9	11.6	2.8	3.2	134	155	2	84	
4500	37.6	43.3	14.2	2.6	3.0	129	148	2	87	
5000	41.5	47.8	18.5	2.2	2.6	109	126	1	90	
5300	44.4	51.1	21.9	2.0	2.3	99	113	1	93	

Advertised fuel capacity 54 gallons. Range based on 90 percent of that figure. Performance measured with two persons aboard, one-quarter fuel. Sound levels taken at helm, in dB-A.

and there's a ski locker that's big enough—and with a hatch to match—to stow larger wakeboards. The battery switch comes standard, as do stainless-steel through-hull fittings. The magnetic catch that secures open the windshield is vastly superior to a snap and strap. **WHO'D WANT ONE** Bowriding boaters who seek top fit and a fine ride but don't need a head. **OTHER CHOICES** The Larson LXi 248 (\$52,885), which includes a head, and the Crownline 236 LS (\$55,225). **THE NUMBERS** \$48,986. Contact Chaparral at 229/686-7481, [www.chaparralboats.com](http://www.chaparralboats.com).

—JEFF HEMMEL