

# regatta circuits

## FLEET BLOOMS AT MISSION BAY REGATTA

San Diego, CA — With the ice melted and the docks back in the bay, Snipers were ready to go for the big season kickoff at Mission Bay.

Forty-three boats pursued the cherished Spring Invitational crown on April 24-25. The highlights-to-be were well publicized. Regatta Chairman Steve Stewart corralled Earl Elms and Herb Shear into heading the race management. Fleet Captain Bob Bowden must have made a deal with the devil for the Catamaran Hotel to allow the fleet into their Cannibal Bar on Saturday night to rage to Joe Cool and the Rumlbers. Plus, Wade and Cathy Blomgren were using this weekend as part of their honeymoon).

An interest toward good racing and safe mark roundings led the RC to split the group into four fleets for day one, with each fleet racing the other three once. This plan would qualify the top half of the fleet for the Presidents Division, and the bottom half fighting for the Secretary of State's Division. All points from day one would carry over to Sunday, with the two races on Sunday completing the series.

Jeff Lenhart was the eventual king for the event. He shut out the fleet on Saturday with three bullets and then sailed to a 6-2 on Sunday to easily beat out second place Robin Gales. Craig Leweck's last race bullet pulled him ahead of Keith Dodson by a quarter point for third, with Eric Krebs rounding out the top five.

*Craig Leweck*

## CHRIS AND DEE KLOTZ SWEEP RIFF RAFF

Cowan Lake, Ohio — In spite of a forecast for severe thunderstorms and hail, the Riff Raff Regatta was held in ideal sailing conditions May 20-21 at Cowan Lake.

Three races were held Saturday afternoon under sunny skies and 15 mph westerly winds. Chris Klotz of Pittsburgh won the first two races

easily and was in first place after Saturday's races. In 'B' fleet, Alex Pline of Lakewood, Ohio, also won two races but was tied with Terry McSweeney also from Lakewood for first.

A wine tasting and cheese party primed everyone for the steak dinner, then the storms materialized.

Sunday morning after the fog lifted, a southwest breeze made for an exciting final race. Klotz took another first to win the 'A' fleet and Pline's second clinched the 'B' title.

*Jamie Foreman, Fleet 433*

## MacCALL TAKES SOUTH AMERICANS

Montevideo, Uruguay — The Ninth Annual South American Championships were sailed at Puerto del Buceo, Montevideo, Uruguay, and were organized by the Yacht Club Uruguayo.

Thirty-nine boats took part in the event: 20 Brazilian, 10 Argentinian, and 9 Uruguayan.

Boats were carefully measured and weighed before the racing got underway, and each boat had to present its Certificate of Measurement.

The first race was sailed under sunny skies with a light breeze and strong currents. The current caused some problems as it was running against the starting line, so the first start was perfect.

The fleet sailed toward the coast and sailed in a long line led by Brazilian veteran Ivan "Chupador" Pimental with his son Sergio crewing. Following were the legendary Boris Ostergren with Crew E. Plentz of Brazil, Juan "Johnny" MacCall and crew G. Ramirez of Argentina, and Ricardo Fabini with M. Alzola of Uruguay.

The final leg was a splendid show as Pimental battled to maintain his lead to the finish. MacCall, Fabini, and Ostergren followed Ivan across the line.

The second race presented quite a different picture. The weather turned cold and windy with anemometers in

the 18-22 range, and big, irregular waves. This caused some DNFs, including Pimental. The team of George Nehm and M. Bergallo of Brazil was the first to notice that the current had changed direction and took the victory, followed by MacCall, Fabini, Guillermo Parada with crew P. Weber, W. Relende and M. Dinitz, and the Longarella brothers.

The third race was sailed in conditions similar to the second. Pimental led from start to finish followed by MacCall, Nehm, Fabini, and Andre Wahrlich with crew Ivo Wolf.

By the fourth race the winds had reached 22 knots steady, there were big waves and heavy rain. Hilton Piccolo and crew R. Oliveira of Brazil swapped the lead with Nehm, but Helm held on at the finish, followed by Chris Schewe and crew Luis Ciaparro of Uruguay, Pacheco, and then Piccolo.

Heavy weather delayed the start of the fifth race, and then the Committee decided to postpone.

The sixth race was sailed the following day and by then the weather had taken another radical change, as it often does on the River Plate. The winds had died and there was a strong current. MacCall got another good start and led to the windward mark,

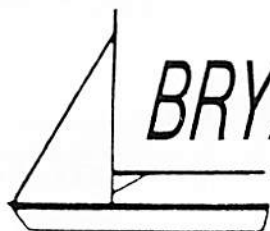
followed closely by the team of Esteban Dufour and H. Comas of Argentina, Wahrlich, Pablo Montes and crew I. Fernandez, and Marco A. Paradedada with crew Caio Vergo of Brazil. MacCall moved out to a quarter-mile lead on the reach, but on the last leg things went bad for him as the positions changed radically. Axel Rodger with crew J. Quiroga of Argentina took the win, followed by MacCall, Fabini, Relende, Dufour and Garra.

Races five and seven were scheduled for the final day. Conditions were sunny skies but the "Pampero," the famous strong wind from the southwest blew between the 30-40 knot range with huge broken waves. But the instruments showed that the wind was within the limits specified by regulations. It was a crazy idea to leave the sunny lawn by the club's gardens to sail in the choppy river and get the bones shaken.

MacCall led the fleet of nautical masochists, followed closely by Fernando Thode and crew G. da Silveira of Uruguay. Meanwhile Wahrlich, Longarella, Nehm and Parada tried to survive in the rear. It was a show of seamanship and boat handling skill to see the boats surfing the waves on the reach. In spite of several capsizes the crews continued to sail. MacCall took



*Lots of action in Mission Bay's Spring Regatta. (Terri Loverro photo)*



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