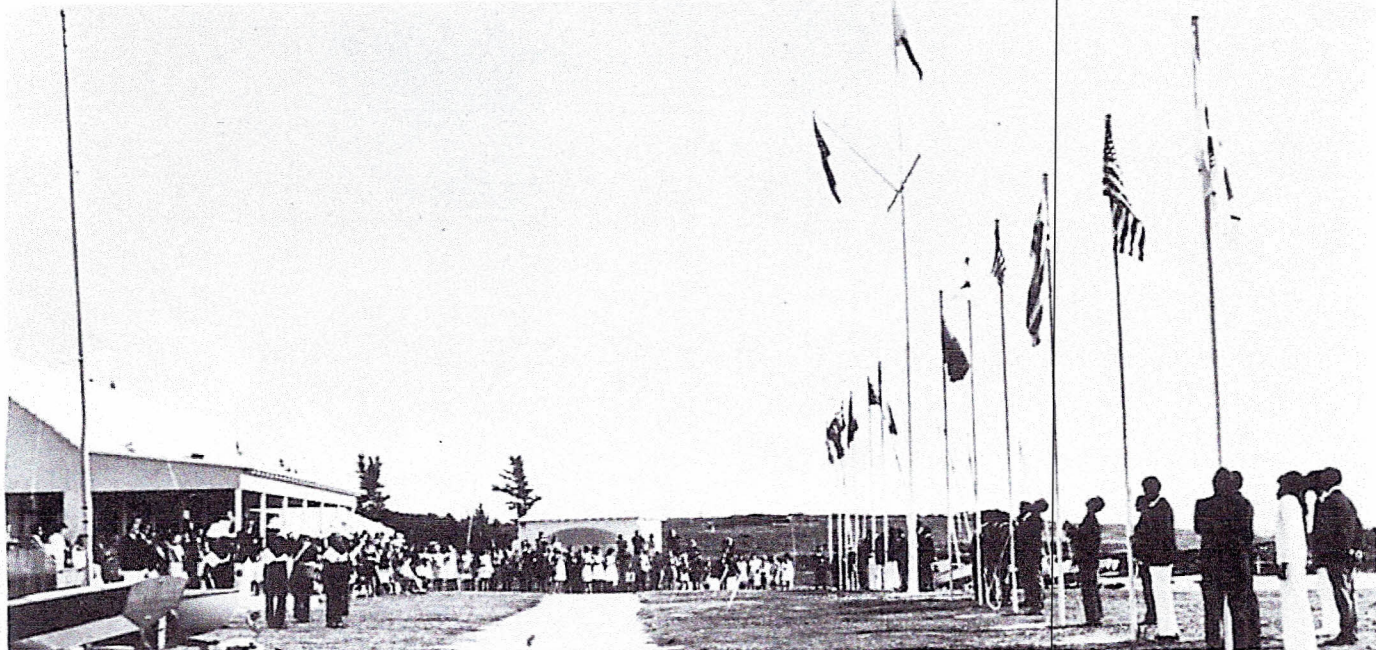


Boswells Are Tops In Bermuda

HUSBAND AND WIFE TEAM WIN HAYWARD WESTERN
HEMISPHERE TROPHY IN LIGHT AIR CONTEST



THE SPANISH POINT BOAT CLUB was admirably suited to the event. The progress of each race could be followed from the premises. The line of flagstuffs bearing the flags of the 12 countries taking part was an imposing sight. Trumpeters from the Bermuda Regiment sounded a fanfare as the flags were hoisted simultaneously by their country's representatives at the opening ceremonies. Government leader, Sir Henry Tucker was there to welcome the visitors.

Spanish Point Boat Club commodore Jim Amon jokingly remarked at the opening of the Western Hemisphere championship in Bermuda that he had ordered three hurricanes and one flat calm for the series. Jim's forecast of the weather was the only thing that went wrong in a delightful, long-to-be-remembered regatta.

Very light breezes were the prevailing conditions throughout. On two occasions the 2 1/2 hour time limit was only just beaten and one race was set back through lack of wind. The last day held more promise for the heavy-weather boys when a spanking north-easter sprang up. But by race time that too had dropped to a fickle breath.

Right up to the last race it was anybody's series, though after the sixth, Brazil's Axel Schmidt had established himself as favourite to win. Then the husband-and-wife team of Gary and Margaret Boswell swept into the lead for the third time to take the title in their first ever international regatta.

As the Boswells went into their last race they had to win and manoeuvre one boat between themselves and Orella while keeping Axel Schmidt to no better than fourth place - and there they held him. Gregardo Pontes, the other Brazilian skipper, finished second in the last race, dropping Orella to third. Had Orella finished second, he would have clinched the championship. The difference in the

point standings between the first three places was slight. Boswell ended with 34.7, Schmidt with 35.7 and Orella 36.7.

In the first race Luis Orella guessed correctly more times than not just where the wind would puff up from next and sailed home the first victor. Japan's Yutaka Tarutani finished second after leading at the first 3 marks while Bermuda's Conrad Soares was third. He had been 2nd at one point but could not hold off Orella's downwind challenge. Fourth place in the first race was filled by current world champion Earl Elms of the United States and fifth went to Canada's Steve Keary.

The Boswells had their first success on the 2nd day. In the 2nd race they came from ninth at the first mark to first at the third. Earl Elms, first at the first mark dropped back to fourth at the finish, while Japanese champion Takao Ninomiya, second at the first mark finished 17th. This was just a sampling of how uncertain the weather was.

In the third race of the series, Basil Kelly of the Bahamas managed to adjust his famous heavy-weather handling to the Bermuda light spots and took the honours. Kelly was able to hold off his pursuers until the 2nd downwind leg when he slipped to 3rd. But he skilfully regained the lead on the last leg to lead Orella, Pontes, Elms and Schmidt across the finish line in that order.

The fourth day brought more frus-

trating wind conditions. No afternoon race was possible - the direction of the wind was so uncertain it was not possible to set a course. The Gary Boswells found enough wind to put a hint of a bag in their sails to win the morning race. The 5 knot south-westerlies showed signs of fading and the 4 leaders had 3 quarters of an hour to finish the last leg - which they just managed to do. Positions kept changing as the 4 closed on the finish line. The Boswells did it followed by Simmons, Ninomiya, then Orella.

The next day saw Schmidt set up a victory chance by finishing second in the fifth race and first in the sixth. Elms won the morning race and Schmidt's win in the afternoon was the most one sided in the series when he finished 4 minutes ahead of Steve Keary.

The Boswells, at that stage the only team with two firsts, were too eager at the start of the Friday morning race and were over the line by half a length. They were recalled but managed to work their way through the fleet to finish third behind Schmidt.

Keary was second in the afternoon race and Kelly third.

The language barrier almost caused a problem in this race. The first 5 boats to finish must show the officials an anchor, a paddle and a bailer. Japan's Ninomiya, held up a sponge when called on to display his bailer. A sponge cannot be considered a bailer, and official



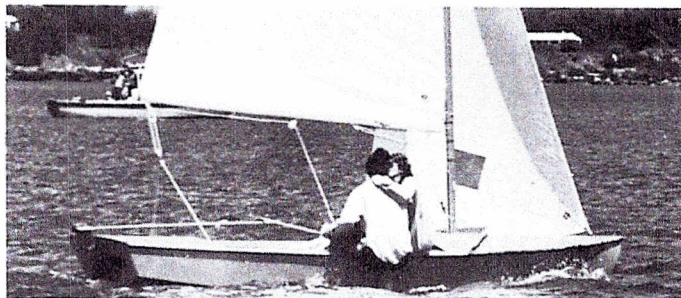
Bermuda's Penny Simmons is all by himself at the starboard end with clear wind at the start of the fourth race. Canadian Steve Steve Keary (16103) is in trouble but got by since there was no protest filed.

eyebrows were drawn together in disapproval. But the anchor had been shown in a bucket - and buckets are very good bailers. Eyebrows were relaxed.

So - to the vital last race on the final day, when the Boswells took the title.

There could have been no more popular win. The couple received a standing ovation at the subsequent presentation banquet held at the Bermudiana Hotel, where the awards were presented by H. Brownlow Eve, recognised dean of Bermuda yachting circles and founder of the Bermuda Yachting Association.

Ron Hunt, Sports Editor
Royal Gazette, Bermuda



The Boswells

FINAL RESULTS - WESTERN HEMISPHERE CHAMPIONSHIP REGATTA

SKIPPER - COUNTRY	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Pts.	Fin.
Gary Boswell, U.S.	8	1	16	1	3	9	1	34.7	1
Axel Schmidt, Brazil	6	2	5	7	2	1	4	35.7	2
Luis Orella, Argentina	1	13	2	4	5	5	3	36.7	3
Earl Elms, U.S.	4	4	4	5	1	15	15	55	4
Steve Keary, Canada	5	11	7	18	8	2	5	67	5
Gregardo Pontes, Brazil	15	15	3	11	4	8	2	68.7	6
Basil Kelly, Bahamas	dsq	18	1	13	7	3	7	74.7	7
Yutaka Tarutani, Japan	2	9	6	6	14	13	10	76.4	8
Takao Ninomiya, Japan	9	17	15	3	11	3	11	83.7	9
Pedro Garra, Uruguay	7	12	12	10	6	6	17	88.4	10
Conrad Soares, Bermuda	3	3	17	8	17	12	19	89.4	11
Gary Hoyt, Puerto Rico	13	8	9	22	9	7	12	94	12
Penny Simmons, Bermuda	11	10	13	2	dnf	14	16	97	13
Pedro Dates, Argentina	dnf	6	18	9	10	11	8	97.7	14
Pierre Siegenthaler, Bahamas	10	14	8	12	13	17	9	102	15
Howie Richards, Canada	14	5	14	19	12	20	6	104.7	16
Manuel Isaza, Colombia	12	19	11	14	20	10	18	120	17
Art Andrews, Virgin Islands	17	16	10	15	15	16	14	122	18
Juan Toruella, Puerto Rico	16	13	19	16	16	18	20	134	19
Daniel Moreno, Colombia	19	22	20	17	21	19	13	145	20
Hector Elgueta, Chile	18	20	22	20	19	22	22	157	21
Andres Minvielle, Chile	20	21	21	21	18	21	21	158	22