

—Seavy Won Midwinter Championship for 7th Time— Breaks Old Record—Californians Earl Elms and Tom Nute 2nd and 3rd



A memorable picture of two old-time Snipers - and hard-boiled competitors! Francis Seavy (right) receives the Midwinter Championship Trophy and congratulations from Ted A. Wells after winning the 31st annual regatta. It was the seventh victory for Seavy and it broke a tie for the most wins that he shared with Wells, who is regarded as one of the all-time great Snipe sailors. For over 20 years, these two have battled it out under all conditions. They typify the fine rivalry and friendship found in the Snipe Class. — Photo by Clearwater Sun.

27 boats from 11 different states plus Canada entered the 31st annual Midwinter Championship regatta at Clearwater, Florida, March 6-9, and, as usual, this second oldest Snipe regatta turned out to be a great success.

Earl Elms, present National Champ, came back from California to defend his title won last year, bringing a suit of sails with him. Not only was he a house guest at the Seavy home, but Francis lent him his second boat HONEY II for the regatta. Seavy, of course, wanted victory also, which would uphold his fine record and give him all-time most victories, so he was asking for trouble when he treated his friend Earl so nicely. And that is exactly what he got, although he finally squeaked through to a happy ending by the narrowest of margins.

5 afternoon races to be sailed on the Gulf of Mexico over a 4-day period were scheduled with one to be dropped if 6 were sailed. For a change, the weatherman cooperated perfectly and the schedule was carried through without a hitch.

The first race Tuesday PM was under ideal conditions with temperature at 35, wind 5-15, and calm seas, and over a modified Olympic course (triangle followed by windward-leeward-windward legs). At the windward mark, Jerry Jenkins of Michigan led the way followed by Seavy and Elms, but by the time the skippers had completed the triangle, Jenkins had dropped back. When Francis started on the downwind leg, it appeared his wind was cut off by following boats, and Elms maneuvered into 1st place. Heading for the beat on the last windward leg and the finish line, Elms tacked almost due north before bringing his craft about and out-raced Seavy to get the checkered flag.

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Here's a picture in sharp contrast to the one in the adjoining column. These two young-time Snipers are receiving their first major awards. Pat Flaherty (left) and his crew, Bob Wellman, display their trophies won for the highest score of any junior in the regatta - 113 pts. for 18th position. The plaque was given by Charlie Morgan when an active member of Clearwater Fleet 46, and has been won by Pat's older brother Danny, who went on to win the National Junior Championship and was also National Champion Crew for Harry Levinson in 1965. There are 4 Flahertys sailing Snipes in Clearwater, so be on guard! Bob is a newcomer to Snipe sailing, and certainly looks quite competent. Clearwater has always been noted for producing good junior sailors, and here is a couple full of ambition, ready and willing to emulate Wells and Seavy. — Sun Photo

Frank Levinson of Clearwater, Jenkins, and Dr. Don Cochran of Clearwater, finished in that order.

The first of Wednesday's 2 races started out in wet and gusty weather, quite a contrast to the previous day. This was what Seavy liked and wanted, and he was right at home as he took the lead right at the start to win it by one of the most decisive margins ever. He led the 2nd boat (skippered by Bert Poulser, National Secretary for Canada) by over 2 minutes - a lot of water to leave between the fleet. Dr. Bruce Cochran was 3rd and Elms finished 4th.

However, at the time of the 2nd race, the rain increased as the wind died down and changed directions. And it was cold - nothing else bad could happen. So many wavered, "What in the world am I doing out here?" All except Dr. Peter Davison of Chattanooga (who had made the trip to soak up a little sunshine) who won the race and found out at the end of 3 races that his overall standing was second and quite close to Elms in first. This was due to Seavy, sailing in light air, hitting the mark as he was turning for home and the final leg. That put Seavy in 7th overall. Seavy, co-chairman of the regatta, jokingly said, "We'll get in 6 races even if it snows!"

Races 4 and 5 were sailed Thursday PM in bright sunshiny weather with fresh winds up to 15 knots and whitecaps seen

on occasion. Right what the doctor ordered for Seavy. He trailed Dr. Don Cochran early in the race, but rallied to win going away. Cochran was 2nd, Jenkins 3rd, and Elms 4th. This was an important win for Seavy.

The following race saw a new winner, Tom Nite, possessor of one of the widest flaring walrus mustaches seen locally, come through in style after 6 previous below-par races. He beat fellow clubmember Elms and Seary across the line while Dr. Bruce Cochran, one of 4 from the Cochran family competing, was 4th. Jenkins got a 5th - a spot he held as his primest against Duvoisin was uphelt. But it pushed Duvoisin back to 10th overall. Like Seary, he looked forward to the final 8th race on Friday, which promised to be exciting and decisive.

At this point, Elms had 1-4-7-4-2 and 32 pts. against Seavy with 2-1-DNF-1-3 and 41.7 pts. While Seavy sure to drop his DNP, Elms had to win while Seavy was worse than 5th; or if he could keep him bottled up way back in the pack and allowed him to finish no better than 18th, then Seavy would be forced to accept the 24 points for 10th position and wind up with 33.7 pts, while Elms, assuming he was also way back, would just throw away that race and so win the title with the 32 points he already had. A smart diagnosis!

The weather was perfect as Elms left the dock Friday to try out his well-planned strategy. He partially succeeded, falling only because he made an error in spacing (he thought a 10th or worse would sink Francis), and because Francis managed to outwit him during the race.

This Elms-Seavy duel was a classic example of cut-throat racing. Elms covered Seavy like a big umbrella all during the race, matching him move for move, even to the extreme of hollering back when Seavy hollered to give him some air.

At one point, the pair was as far back as 18th and 17th. But with less than 2 legs left, Seavy took advantage of a sudden puff of air to sneak by Elms and then moved through the fleet, with the defending champ desperately trying to catch him. Seavy was 11th across the line and Elms was 13th, finishing at that point he had succeeded in doing what he had set out to do. The

the official scoring goes set him right. Tom Mute won this race and he was a most happy man, for by garnering two firsts in the last 2 races of this series, he not only won a fine 3rd overall, but also put himself right back into contention for the Southern Circuit Zimmerman Trophy. Dr. Peter Duvoisin finished in 4th position, while Dr. Don Cochran, Jr., barely beat out his son, Dr. Bruce, for the 5th spot, 45.7 to 47.7 pts. Jerry Jenkins, with a DNF in the last race, dropped to 7th spot.

At the banquet Friday night, Seary was awarded the SCIRA Midwinter Trophy. He also got the Taver Bayly plaque for being the fleet champion of the local fleet for the 14th consecutive time. How easy some men make sailing - and winning - seem!

All in all, it was a great week of sailing - cold the first day, and the second, but the last two days were perfect. And there was always enough wind to get in all races as scheduled. It was agreed that this was one of the most exciting regattas ever. Chances are, though, if someone asks a local resident for a loan of a boat again, the reply might be a long time in coming.

— Ed. Hazard of the Clearwater Sun.

Final Results - 1968 MIDWINTER CHAMPIONSHIP Recall

Rank	NAME	PLANT	Rank	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414	415	416	417	418	419	420	421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429	430	431	432	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440	441	442	443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450	451	452	453	454	455	456	457	458	459	460	461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468	469	470	471	472	473	474	475	476	477	478	479	480	481	482	483	484	485	486	487	488	489	490	491	492	493	494	495	496	497	498	499	500	501	502	503	504	505	506	507	508	509	510	511	512	513	514	515	516	517	518	519	520	521	522	523	524	525	526	527	528	529	530	531	532	533	534	535	536	537	538	539	540	541	542	543	544	545	546	547	548	549	550	551	552	553	554	555	556	557	558	559	560	561	562	563	564	565	566	567	568	569	570	571	572	573	574	575	576	577	578	579	580	581	582	583	584	585	586	587	588	589	590	591	592	593	594	595	596	597	598	599	600	601	602	603	604	605	606	607	608	609	610	611	612	613	614	615	616	617	618	619	620	621	622	623	624	625	626	627	628	629	630	631	632	633	634	635	636	637	638	639	640	641	642	643	644	645	646	647	648	649	650	651	652	653	654	655	656	657	658	659	660	661	662	663	664	665	666	667	668	669	670	671	672	673	674	675	676	677	678	679	680	681	682	683	684	685	686	687	688	689	690	691	692	693	694	695	696	697	698	699	700	701	702	703	704	705	706	707	708	709	710	711	712	713	714	715	716	717	718	719	720	721	722	723	724	725	726	727	728	729	730	731	732	733	734	735	736	737	738	739	740	741	742	743	744	745	746	747	748	749	750	751	752	753	754	755	756	757	758	759	760	761	762	763	764	765	766	767	768	769	770	771	772	773	774	775	776	777	778	779	780	781	782	783	784	785	786	787	788	789	790	791	792	793	794	795	796	797	798	799	800	801	802	803	804	805	806	807	808	809	810	811	812	813	814	815	816	817	818	819	820	821	822	823	824	825	826	827	828	829	830	831	832	833	834	835	836	837	838	839	840	841	842	843	844	845	846	847	848	849	850	851	852	853	854	855	856	857	858	859	860	861	862	863	864	865	866	867	868	869	870	871	872	873	874	875	876	877	878	879	880	881	882	883	884	885	886	887	888	889	890	891	892	893	894	895	896	897	898	899	900	901	902	903	904	905	906	907	908	909	910	911	912	913	914	915	916	917	918	919	920	921	922	923	924	925	926	927	928	929	930	931	932	933	934	935	936	937	938	939	940	941	942	943	944	945	946	947	948	949	950	951	952	953	954	955	956	957	958	959	960	961	962	963	964	965	966	967	968	969	970	971	972	973	974	975	976	977	978	979	980	981	982	983	984	985	986	987	988	989	990	991	992	993	994	995	996	997	998	999	1000
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**Look what Snipe Skippers using
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Tom Nute Big Winner at Snipe Winter Circuit

GETS GAMBLIN TROPHY AT NASSAU PLUS OVERALL ZIMMERMAN BOWL — PETER DUVOISIN WON AT MIAMI



One of the more exciting moments of the DON Q RUM KEG series on Biscayne Bay, Miami. The gun has been fired; the lag raised — the start! — Photo by Miami News Bureau.

The Snipe Winter Circuit scheduled between fleets in the Caribbean area was definitely established last year between the Nassau, Miami, and Clearwater Fleets. The second regatta was sailed during Feb-Mar this year with 10 boats entered at Nassau, 33 at Miami, and 27 at Clearwater. Tom Nute of California and Jerry Jenkins of Michigan were the only sailors who participated in all 3 events, and so were the only two eligible for the Carl Zimmerman Trophy (awarded to the highest score of the circuit).

NASSAU - Feb. 25-28

Nute repeated his victory of last year when he topped the fleet with 4 firsts and 1 fifth to retain possession of the Dudley Gambelin Memorial Trophy with Pierre Siegenthaler winning the odd one for 2nd place. Basil Kelly was 3rd. Other scores were: (4) Godfrey Lightbourne, 5-5-1-5-7

- (5) Godfrey Kelly, 4-6-dnf-6-5
- (6) Jerry Jenkins, 9-dns-2-3-2
- (7) Bob Higham, 8-7-8-9-8
- (8) Peter Sweeting, 7-8-dnf-dns-9
- (9) Kenneth Albury, 10-dns-7-7-dnf

MIAMI - March 2-5

The Don Q Rum Keg Series got underway in winds out of the SE that never got above 12 mph for the entire weekend. (A little lighter than normal for Miami). The sun was out and there was a light chop on Biscayne Bay. 2 races were held Saturday PM and 2 Sunday AM with no throwouts allowed. The series attracted sailors from 10 states and the Bahamas to make up the 33 entries.

Throughout the series, no one boat dominated. Of the top 5 finishes only 2 boats won races, 2 boats took 2nd, and 9 finished 3rd. Of these finishers, only Francis Seavy placed more than once in the top five. This indicated the caliber of the opposition.

Dr. Peter Duvoisin from Chittanooga with his wife, Jane, as crew won the series with 7-1-5-4. Two-time National Champion and last year's winner at Miami, Earl Elms, was 4th overall. It was not until the last race, which he won, did he get "cranked up" in the boat that he had borrowed from Seavy.

Gene Lemke, who was going great guns with 2 firsts, would have finished high had he not run afoul of the weather mark while leading the fleet. Well-known Snipe Champion Carl Zimmerman, in his seventies and actively sailing, finished 2nd in the first race and was in front in the second when a breakdown took him out of contention. (This is serious when there are no throwouts).

Skippers were met at the dock after the Saturday races by ladies serving daiquiris — an excellent way to finish a day of racing! This was followed by a cocktail party and steak dinner which was enjoyed by all. Each skipper and crew carried home a ditty bag, emblazoned with the Don Q Series emblem, full of souvenirs and useful items. An excellent host was the Coconut Grove Sailing Club. The courses were great and the hospitality cordial. There'll be more next year! — Bill Acardi



PLEASED VICTORS DISPLAY THEIR PRIZES - Tom Nute (left) holds his big trophy, the Carl Zimmerman Bowl, which in turn contains the Gambelin Memorial Trophy; Earl Elms takes a firm grasp on his award as 2nd place winner at Clearwater. —Sun

Final Results - DON Q RUM KEG SERIES AT MIAMI

Rank	Skipper	First	2	3	4	5	Pts.	Fin.
1	Peter Duvoisin	1	1	1	1	1	5	1
2	Carl Zimmerman	2	2	2	2	2	10	2
3	Francis Seavy	3	3	3	3	3	15	3
4	Earl Elms	4	4	4	4	4	20	4
5	Gene Lemke	5	5	5	5	5	25	5
6	Godfrey Lightbourne	6	6	6	6	6	30	6
7	Godfrey Kelly	7	7	7	7	7	35	7
8	Jerry Jenkins	8	8	8	8	8	40	8
9	Bob Higham	9	9	9	9	9	45	9
10	Peter Sweeting	10	10	10	10	10	50	10
11	Kenneth Albury	11	11	11	11	11	55	11
12	Charles Foster	12	12	12	12	12	60	12
13	Pierre Siegenthaler	13	13	13	13	13	65	13
14	Art Anderson	14	14	14	14	14	70	14
15	Bob Alford	15	15	15	15	15	75	15
16	Quade Diaz	16	16	16	16	16	80	16
17	James Ely	17	17	17	17	17	85	17
18	Dick Edwards	18	18	18	18	18	90	18
19	J. D. Drake, Jr.	19	19	19	19	19	95	19
20	Carl Votaw	20	20	20	20	20	100	20
21	Chuck Reuter	21	21	21	21	21	105	21
22	Don Hill	22	22	22	22	22	110	22
23	Frank Gentry	23	23	23	23	23	115	23
24	W. V. Stair	24	24	24	24	24	120	24
25	Gill Moulton	25	25	25	25	25	125	25
26	Boyd Nye	26	26	26	26	26	130	26
27	Carol McIlhenny	27	27	27	27	27	135	27
28	Ernie Green	28	28	28	28	28	140	28
29	Lee Gering	29	29	29	29	29	145	29
30	Chip McClure	30	30	30	30	30	150	30
31	Jack Harty	31	31	31	31	31	155	31

CLEARWATER - March 6-9

As reported in a separate write-up last month, the third regatta of the Winter Circuit was won by Francis Seavy when he won the Midwinter Snipe Championship for the 7th time.

By coming from behind to get a badly-needed 3rd place, Tom Nute managed to retain his hold on the overall Zimmerman Trophy when Jenkins, his only competitor, finished 7th.

Tom's record for the 3 regattas was 1-13-3 for 24.7 pts. under the Olympic scoring system to Jenkins' 5-5-7 record — more consistent sailing but valued at 34.7 points, again illustrating the high value placed on a first place. If the SCIRA system had been used, Nute would have had 3623 points and thus lost the trophy to Jenkins with 3677. Tom, as defending Zimmerman Champion, was very glad to take the trophy back home to California.