

# LEWECK AND FISHER SAIL TO ZIMMERMAN VICTORY

## HENRY FILTER TAKES MIDWINTER CHAMPIONSHIP

by Bob Foster

Early arrivals at the 1993 Midwinter Championship in Clearwater, Florida, were greeted with the storm of the century. March 13th found the yacht club and the rest of Clearwater Beach isolated and knee-deep in water. Saturday's registration and practice race were canceled. Registration and cleanup proceeded on Sunday with no races, due to high seas in the gulf and floating debris in the bay.

A new race schedule was posted calling for three races on Monday and three on Tuesday. Thirty-seven boats registered, compared to the pre-storm expectation of 50 to 60 boats. By Monday the winds had moved to the northeast at 15 to 20 knots and the seas were down to less than 3 feet. The first race started with a crowd at the pin end and individual recalls. Craig Leweck, Jack Franco, and Hal Gilreath failed to see the flag and sailed to PMS's. At the windward mark it was Franco and Leweck in the lead, followed by Kevin Funsch and Dave Chapin. After the first triangle Franco was still in the lead, followed by P. J. Shuffler, Leweck, Funsch, and Henry Filter, with Chapin in sixth place. At the second windward mark Funsch had moved into first, followed by Leweck, Franco, and Chapin.

Triangles were the course of the day, and at the second leeward mark it was Leweck, Funsch, Chapin and Filter. At the finish Chapin took the gun with Filter second and Chris Larson moving up to third. Chapin had given notice that he had not forgotten how to sail Snipes in the last two years.

The second race started immediately, with Chapin taking an early lead at the windward mark, followed by Filter, Larson, Gonzo Diaz, and Mike Funsch. During the second heat there were some big oscillating shifts that caused some position changes back in the fleet, but the top seven boats played it up the middle, remaining close, with Filter taking the lead over Larson and Chapin. At the finish it was Filter first, Chapin second, Larson third, and Franco fourth.

The third race starting sequence was begun with more than a few groans from the tired sailors. The wind was still 15 to 20 knots and the reaches were fun, but getting upwind was work. At the first mark

Peter Comette was in the lead, followed by Chapin, Charlie Bustamante, and Tom Hall. Comette and Chapin traded the lead back and forth on the next three legs with Leweck moving up to third at the next windward mark, followed by Hall, Filter, and Kevin Funsch. At the finish it was Chapin taking his second win, followed by Funsch, Comette, Leweck, and Filter, in that order.

On Tuesday the winds were still from the northeast, keeping the seas low, but the wind velocity was now 20 to 25 knots. At this point in time Chapin looked to be in control of the regatta with a 1,2,1. Filter had a 2,1,5 and Larson a 3,3,7. However, on the run down to the starting area, several boats had breakdowns or capsized. Chapin's mast inverted over the bow and he was out for the day. After one general recall the race got underway, with Comette leading at the first mark over Filter. Franco, Stephan Irgens of Norway, Charlie Bustamante, and Birger Jansen of Norway.

The reaches on the all-triangular course were almost continuous planes with a wild jibe at the wing mark. Franco led at the wing mark over Filter and Comette, with

Jansen moving up to fourth. At the leeward mark Comette had taken back the lead over Filter, Franco, Jansen, and Leweck. Franco had the lead at the second windward mark followed by Leweck, Jansen, and Rick Merriman. At the second jibe mark Leweck capsized and lost about six boats. Going into the last beat it was Franco, Jansen, Merriman, and Filter. The other leaders split with Franco and Jansen, but at the finish line it was Jansen just crossing Franco for the win. Merriman was third, Larson fourth, Leweck fifth, and Filter sixth.

The race committee canceled the remaining races, since only 19 of the 30-plus boats that left the dock finished the race. Breakdowns and capsize were becoming commonplace. The wind actually seemed to pick up on the beat back into the club with several more capsize. No one had disagreed with the race committee's decisions during these unusually windy four days. The regatta was complete with four races, and Henry Filter was Champion by several points over Chris Larson.

This regatta has become quite an international event, with three boats from Norway and one each from Denmark, Italy,

54th Midwinter Regatta  
Clearwater, Florida  
Top 20 of 37 Boats

Finish	Sail	Skipper/Crew	Places	Points
1	28094	Filter/Newman	1-75-5-6	13.75
2	28050	Larson/Jeffers	3-3-7-4	17.00
3	27077	Merriman/Lindley	5-5-6-2	21.00
4	28399	Funsch/Duffy	4-14-2-2	28.00
5	27410	Jensen/Delucen	8-10-15-75	33.75
6	25163	Shuffler/Talabado	6-9-13-10	38.00
7	28490	Chapin/Kies	75-2-75-37DNC	40.50
8	25951	Funsch/Rios	7-8-14-12	41.00
9	24776	Diaz Jr/Zimmer	16-6-11-11	44.00
10	28157	Irgens/Irgens	10-18-12-7	47.00
11	77	Hall/Gilreath	15-12-5-16	49.00
12	28472	Leweck/Fisher	37PMS-7-4-5	53.00
13	27534	Mayell/Tompson	11-45-9-19	54.00
14	28216	Comante/Rudolph	9-17-3-26DNC	55.00
15	28202	Backes/Grobbis	14-11-15-15	56.00
16	24702	Tompson/Daniel	12-15-19-13	57.00
17	26752	Franco/Sonnen	37PMS-4-18-2	61.00
18	27872	Bustamante/Bustamante	13-16-10-26DNC	65.00
19	26925	Fliss/Ligertrix	21-20-24-14	79.00
20	28481	Gilreath/Tagliamonte	37PMS-19-17-9	82.00

Argentina, and the Bahamas. We hope the trend continues.

The Clearwater Yacht Club race committee did an excellent job conducting a good regatta in spite of the storm, which

flooded the first floor of the club house and some of their homes. Our thanks again to Em and Chuck Harris on the water and Sandy Ramsden on the land (some of it also under water). Dick and Glenda Ed-

wards did their usual fine job organizing the Monday night rum and grapefruit party. The club served a well-received prime rib dinner for the awards banquet.

## NEWMAN REPORTS ON CLEARWATER AND DON-Q

by Carol Newman

Immoderate weather dominated the Winter Circuit this year. Led off by the Storm of 93, those that had already made it to Florida suffered through Arctic cold and strong winds. Those that were still on the road turned back (if they had any sense!) or (if they didn't) figured that Tennessee would make a good detour.

On Saturday the parking lot of the Clearwater Yacht Club was under water and Chris Larson's boat (tied to its trailer) capsized on land. All in all, it was a good regatta for Clay Hudgins of Sidewinder Masts, since lots of people injured their rigs on and off the water. Bill and Sherry Welch, Jerry Thompson, and local Clearwater types all pitched in to try to minimize the carnage. Bill Welch was awarded the Sportsmanship Trophy as a result of his efforts. When it was all over the downstairs carpet in the Yacht Club was dam-

aged beyond repair, but little other permanent damage was done to the fleet or the club.

Racing finally got underway a day late, on Monday, and even then there was a one-hour postponement so the sailors could go to buy warmer clothing. Full New England frostbitten gear was the correct dress for the day, making many wonder if they had taken a wrong turn and ended up in Ontario instead of Florida. In spite of the temperatures, good breezes provided good racing for both days of the series. The fifth and sixth races were blown out, but that was no real surprise since Henry Filter had been manipulating the weather to his advantage all week.

But enough about the racing. What about the parties? Bill and Sherry Welch once again outdid themselves on Monday night, providing delicious pizza in a terrific lo-

cade (on their boat on the YC dock). It's amazing how many people can be fit onto Sails. Videos and Jonathan Chapin provided entertainment for all.

Tuesday's awards dinner was the usual delicious prime rib with all the fixings. Trophies were awarded for the top seven finishers (a nice round number), as well as a trophy to the top woman, the top senior, and top local fleet member. Many stumbled off to bed late, figuring the drive to Miami was just as easy with a hangover.

Steady, un-Florida-like rain fell all the way south, but we all know that it never rains for very long in Miami, so once we got there it would be dry. Little did we know...! Showers greeted arriving sailors on Wednesday, and on and off again on Thursday, threatening and interrupting rigging and repair projects as the teams prepared for the Don-Q. A few people went



Don-Q silver winners, standing L-R: Craig Lewick, Dave Chapin, Ed Adams, Roger Jansen, Andrew Pimental, Kurt Mayol, and Robert Dankley. Kneeling L-R: Jonathan Chapin, Tom Fisher, Eric Krebs, Nancy Huberland, Carine Jabussen, Carol Newman, Laurel Timpon, and Nadine Franzek.

out tuning on Thursday afternoon, which turned out to be a wise move as Friday's racing was blown out altogether, and it wasn't until Saturday that most of the forty-five frustrated Snipers could get out to compete with each other. (Make that 90 Snipers! The crews were frustrated, too!)

But the frustration wasn't over. Five recalls were sounded before a start was let go, and by that time the breeze had started to die, by the end of the third race it was a light-air crapshoot. So much for moderation (onshore and on the course)!

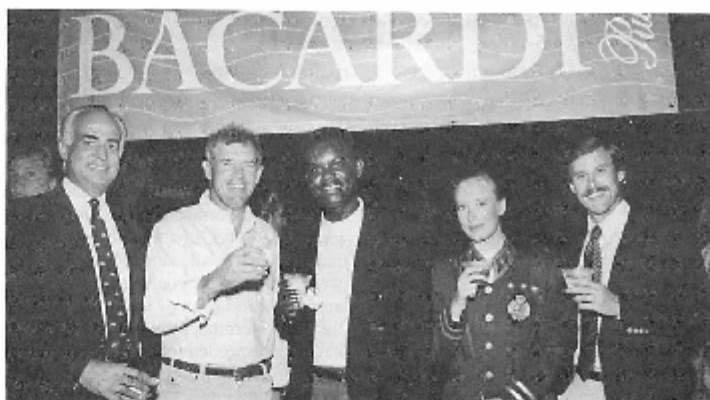
Three races were sailed in a dying northeaster that rewarded the corner bangers and penalized the conservatives who played the middle. Olympic courses were set for the first two, but the dying breezes called for the Windward/Leeward course for the day's finale. Craig Leweck and Tom Fisher jumped into a secure lead for the day posting 1,5,2 results. Dave Chapin and Eric Krebs were second with twelve points and Birger Jansen and Carine Juliusen were third. Five teams were close behind.

Races four and five were sailed in light and fluky southeasterlies. Tempers frayed when seven general recalls were needed before a start was clean, especially when it was later discovered that none of the boats called over under the omnipresent black flag had been given the 20% cumulative penalty as called for in the SCIRA rules and sailing instructions.

At the end of the first heat it was Ed Adams and Nancy Haberland leading the way. A thirty-degree shift to the right with no course change precluded any further windward legs, as the race turned into a parade, giving Adams and Haberland an easy bullet. Their third place finish and Jansen/Juliusen's thirteenth in the final race secured third overall for Adams/Haberland.

Leweck and Fisher and Chapin and Krebs sailed conservatively in the challenging conditions and posted the finishes they needed to maintain first and second overall. Andrew Pimental and Carol Newman had a disappointing fourth race but took a bullet in the finale to secure fifth overall.

What about the famous Don-Q parties? As we came in from a long day of racing, smiling hostesses greeted us on the docks with trays of daiquiris. No wonder this regatta has such a good reputation. The party quickly degenerated as the East Coast/West Coast rivalry struggled to win the party ashore as well as the racing aloft. I think it was a tie!



*Bacardi Party Time! Commodore Colin Callender joins Birger Jansen, Bacardi sales rep Wellington Seymour, Carine Juliusen, and Tom Fisher at the Royal Nassau Sailing Club.*

**1993 XXVIII DON Q RUM KEG REGATTA**  
Cocoanut Grove S.C.  
March 19-21, 1993  
Top 20 of 41 Entries

Finish	Sail	Shipper/Crew	Yacht	Placed	Points
1	28072	Craig Leweck/Tom Fisher	Misint Bay/San Diego	1-5-2-3-5	16.75
2	28020	David Chapin/Eric Krebs	Olinia, FL	5-4-3-2-4	21.00
3	28099	Ed Adams/Nancy Haberland	New York	2-23-5-1-3	25.75
4	27410	Birger Jansen/Carine Juliusen	Vestfolden, Norway	15-2-4-6-15	40.00
5	28444	Andrew Pimental/Carol Newman	Newport, R.I.	6-3-16-19-1	44.75
6	27551	Kurt May/Lauri Tompkins	King Harbor, CA	10-8-7-7-20	52.00
7	27600	Robert Dundley/Nalina Francesyk	Royal Nassau	7-9-9-22-10	54.00
8	27077	Rick Merriman/Robert Lindley	San Diego, CA	11-11-12-10-15	60.00
9	28714	Peter Conrath/Conie Sudduth	Lauderdale, FL	41st 1-11-4-7	63.75
10	28401	Hal Giraldo/John Tighianone	Annapolis, MD	12-17-19-21-5	64.00
11	24302	Jens Thompson/Mike Bartell	Alamos Bay, CA	13-6-22-2-21	64.00
12	24778	Gwen Diaz/Carla Zimmer	Cocoanut Grove, FL	9-7-20-12-18	66.00
13	28331	Avul Rojas/Douglas Quintana	Argentina	3-16-1-9-42nd	67.75
14	28721	Michael Summerville/Hatch	California	20-18-9-14-11	72.00
15	28206	Bill Burke/Nancy Gunkle	Cleveland, OH	16-10-10-15-23	75.00
16	27322	Fred Rowle/Mike McLaughlin	Crescent, Detroit, MI	28-14-15-12-14	85.00
17	28359	Kevin Forster/Wen Duffy	Mission Bay, CA	17-23-4-27-8	88.00
18	27706	Larry Stutz/P. J. Butler	Coral Reef, Miami, FL	27-15-12-25-9	88.00
19	27333	Thomas Hall/Philip Klotz	Noragussat	19-15-23-24-2	89.00
20	28395	Gerrald Dine/St/Anne Hailer	Cocoanut Grove, FL	8-15-23-18-28	90.00



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## STRANGE WEATHER CONTINUES IN NASSAU

by Peter Christie, National Secretary, SCIRA Bahamas

A new record was set as teams from seven Snipe nations made the 1993 Bacardi and Dudley Gamblin series the most international ever, and with Canada's National Secretary, Id Crook, serving on Race Committee, the final total was eight.

Unfortunately, our "Regatta Weather" was the worst ever, with no wind and unseasonable rain for the final two days of the Gamblin series. This can't happen next year without blowing our reputation for heavy air.

Without winning either series, Craig Leweck and crew Tom Fisher were the heroes of the regatta with second place finishes in both series, which gave them the Charles Kelly Memorial Trophy for the combined series and clinched the Carl Zimmerman Trophy for the entire Circuit, which they had put a lock on by winning the Don Q regatta in Miami's Biscayne Bay.

Our reigning World Champions, Axel Rodger and Jorge Quiroga of Argentina, showed their winning form by taking the Bacardi trophy from Leweck by .25 of a point. Leweck put Bahama's National Champion Jimmy Lowe in third place by .75 of a point. Jimmy got two bullets and an eighth for third overall. The top guns of the fleet were very tight.

The Bacardi series was sailed in pleasant 12-knot winds but the windward mark off the eastern shore was a "little fluky."

The Gamblin series was all light air. Race three on Friday was cancelled when the committee gave up after not being able to find a windward course for more than a few minutes (unheard of in Nassau sailing). Saturday was spent on the Bay attempting to get in the three remaining races. Conch salad, sandwiches, and beer were served on the course and were much appreciated. Those of us in the back of the fleet were happy when the last race had to be cancelled following a misplaced mark in the rain, but this might have robbed Craig Leweck of the Gamblin Trophy, as he was leading at the time.

Norwegians Birger Jensen and the lovely Carina Juhlussen, now regulars on the Circuit, won the Gamblin series with great consistency in the trying conditions, and newcomers Michael Sturman and John Hjorth from Mission Bay, California, were a close third.

The 26-boat fleet this year had great depth of sailing talent as shown by the closeness of the scores. Jimmy Lowe was the only skipper to win more than one race. In the one race finished down-wind the committee did a miracle job in defusing the order of finish as the whole fleet appeared to cross the line in about one minute. Past Commodore Jerry Thompson and Mike Bartell took a bullet in the first race of the Gamblin.

Tarana Davis of Atlanta, with Charlie

Bustamante of Miami crewing, took eighth place after placing second in the fourth race. Our other female team of Suzanne Spangler and Anne Schock, of the California boat-building family, showed good seamanship, particularly in the better air of the Bacardi Cup.

The two Cuban teams of Nelido Manso and Otavio Loranzo and Rogelio Padron and Jose Terna enjoyed our hospitality in the Western Hemisphere Championship last October, and like the Argentine team of Rodger and Quiroga, decided to return for this regatta.

The Royal Nassau Sailing Club, led by Commodore Colin Callender and his lovely wife, Sherrell, was again a splendid host as was the world famous Bacardi Rum Company. Our Saturday night presentation dance with a steel band and Chippy's Rake and Scrape Band made for a great party, featuring "Uncle Peter" matching Chippy on the Hongo drums.

Eddie Roberts and his race committee did a great job with a hot fleet and difficult weather.

### NASSAU SERIES—BACARDI CUP Royal Nassau Sailing Club Three races, no drop

Finish	Skipper/Crew	Points	Points
1	Axel Rodger/Jorge Quiroga—Buenos Aires, Arg.	2-2-4	8.00
2	Craig Leweck/Tom Fisher—San Diego	5-3-3	8.75
3	James Lowe/Ida Krohn—Nassau	1-8-1	9.25
4	Rick Mortensen/Rob Lindsey—San Diego	4-6-5	15.00
5	Jerry Thompson/Mike Bartell—Long Beach	7-3-6	16.00
6	Michael Sturman/John Hjorth—Mission Bay, CA	6-11-2	19.00
7	Nelido Manso/Otavio Loranzo—Havana, Cuba	9-3-8	22.00
8	Birger Jensen/Carina Juhlussen—Oslo, Norway	13-4-10	26.00
9	Robert Buckley/Patrick Farmer—Nassau, Bahamas	3-9-13	27.00
10	Kevin Furech/Walt Duffy—Nassau Bay, TX	10-10-9	29.00

### DUDLEY GAMBLIN MEMORIAL TROPHY Royal Nassau Sailing Club Four races, no drop

Finish	Skipper/Crew	Points	Points
1	Birger Jensen/Carina Juhlussen—Oslo, Norway	6-4-3-6	19.00
2	Craig Leweck/Tom Fisher—San Diego, CA	8-0-1-4	21.75
3	Michael Sturman/John Hjorth—Mission Bay, CA	3-5-3-7	23.00
4	Axel Rodger/Jorge Quiroga—Argentina	4-3-7-5	24.00
5	Rick Mortensen/Robert Lindsey—San Diego	11-12-3-1	25.75
6	James Lowe/Ida Krohn—Nassau, Bahamas	5-1-9-12	26.75
7	Jerry Thompson/Mike Bartell—Long Beach, CA	1-10-10-8	28.75
8	Tarana Davis/Charlie Bustamante—Atlanta, GA	12-11-6-2	32.00
9	Kevin Furech/Walt Duffy—Nassau Bay, TX	2-7-4-20	33.00
10	Robert Buckley/Patrick Farmer—Nassau	10-2-12-11	35.00

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