

IT WAS A DARK AND STORMY... North Americans

Fishback/Stout Dominate Regatta

The home team of Bryan Fishback and Lorie Stout put it all together to dominate a tough 62 boat international fleet at the 1994 North American Championship held on the Chesapeake Bay out of Severn Sailing Association, Annapolis, Maryland. In a sense, Brian and Lorie were exorcising demons with this victory since even though they have put together a very admirable list of accomplishments, over the past 6 years this team has placed in the top 10 in the US Nationals, 4th in the Nassau Western Hemisphere and a Don Q victory in '92. They left no doubt this time as they were able to throw out a final race DNC, and score no race greater than third! A quick glance at the standings will show that the rest of the top of the fleet had a double digit finish in their scores. Brian and Lorie were not handed this regatta, they won it convincingly.

The regatta began with Race Committee chairman Phil Richmond taking the fleet out to the starting area in a 15-20 knot nor-easterly. As the course was being set, the wind built to 20+ and the gusts started getting strong. The rain began and the RC canceled with the fleet treated to a screaming 1 3/4 mile plane back to the docks. It turned out to be the right call as the wind built into the 30-40 knot range for the next 16 hours. After racing was abandoned for the day, Regatta Chairman Doug Heussler organized a spontaneous go-fast clinic with over half the regatta participants in attendance. A half dozen "hot shots" were put on the spot to describe their theories for getting around the course fast with lots of good questions and answers. The Snipe class continues to excel at the openness and sharing of ideas and go-fast tips at all levels.

With everyone still in 1st place, the social scene was awesome that evening. The Goslings "Dark and Stormy" party couldn't have been timed better as the wind tried to sail the party tent away. After a great dinner the "Mama Jama" reggae band cranked it up and the SSA floor boards were soon rocking. Around 10:30 pm, the electricity went out for all of Eastport, and this only served to inspire the band and the dancers to an even greater primal frenzy. The band pulled off a superb "unplugged" performance in front of the fireplace with Stevie Dickinson making a cameo appearance on the drums.

By Friday morning, the wind had shifted to the northwest and blown itself down to a

Team race participants gather in front of the ever popular Rolling Rock beer truck. Karla Griffith photo.



beautiful 12-18 knots. With power still out, the undaunted Snipers launched boats by hand over the sea wall. Three Olympic courses were banged off with a fair amount of surfing and planing on the reaches. It quickly became clear that consistently low finishes were going to be tough to maintain, except for Fishback/Stout. After the day's racing, Fishback/Stout had a 1-2-3 with Henry Filter and Carol Newman in 2nd place with a 9-9-4.

Saturday found the breeze down even further and the fleet sailed out with fears of a drifter at hand. As the day developed however, a light southeasterly breeze filled in to 5-10 knots and three windward/leeward courses were completed providing a much needed drop race to many competitors' scores. The top ten teams were jumbled in scores with tough sailing in the typical Annapolis "wash cycle" of weekend pleasure traffic.

Argyle Campbell and Rod Graham of Newport Beach, CA completed a consistent series with 4-2-5-2-16 tossing a 30th, and

with a rush to place 3rd and 4th respectively.

The awards banquet was held in a local restaurant with everyone agreeing that it had been a very difficult regatta with tough conditions and a deep and talented fleet.

On Sunday, a team racing event was held with many of the regatta participants. Prior to the racing, Doug Clark and team racing guru Gavin O'Hare held a seminar for those new to and already familiar with team racing strategies and tactics. Four teams of three boats competed in two rounds of racing on the Severn River. The racing was fast and furious with boathandling and team racing tactics the deciding factors. Some of the participants remarked that the team racing was somewhat cleansing after the brain damage that had been endured during the aforementioned regatta. The "white team" consisting of John Mauderson and Maggie, Scott Nixon and Samantha and Kin Yellot and son were the victors with an undefeated record.

—Lisa Griffith

claiming a berth to the World Championships in Rimini, Italy next July 4th. (Fishback/Stout had already qualified from the Nationals). Pimental/Tyson thought they had claimed 2nd with a 19-8-1-15-1, but a PMS in the last race dropped them to 5th overall. The teams of Bob Little and Collette McKeever and Doug Clark and Alex Stout finished



Race Committee Chairman Phil Richmond: The man with all the answers. Lisa Pflue photo.

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1994 North American

Results

top 30 of 62

1. US28575	Dryan Fishback/Lorie Stout	.75-2-3-2-3-(dnc)	10.75
2. US28468	Argyle Campbell/Rod Graham	4-(30)-2-5-2-16	29
3. US27568	Bob Little/Collette McKeever	5-(19)-5-7-16-.75	33.75
4. US28050	Doug Clark/Alex Stout	3-(22)-18-3-9-3	36
5. US28460	Andrew Pimental/Kerry Tyson	19-8-.75-15-.75-(prms)	43.50
6. US25969	Gerard Coleman/Becky Craig	15-(32)-11-.75-17-2	45.75
7. BER14888	Stevie Dickinson/Heath Foggo	6-13-7-10-11-(dnf)	47
8. US25048	Dave Tillson/Watt Duffy	11-15-6-11-(20)-6	49
9. US27092	Steve Callison/Greg Shea	1-(35)-17-4-4-22	49
10. US28702	Jack Franco/Mike Sturman	12-14-(prms)-13-8-4	51
11. US28094	Henry Filter/Carol Newman	9-9-4-17-(22)-13	52
12. US26165	Scott Nixon/Samantha Rosemont	8-.75-(19)-18-7-19	52.75
13. US24702	Jerry Thompson/Deo Schilling	7-16-8-(20)-10-18	59
14. US28989	Fred Rozelle/Inlay Wolford	41-3-(prms)-8-5-9	66
15. US27872	Charlie/Michele Bustamante	16-11-(26)-12-14-14	67
16. US28655	Hal Gilbreath/Alan Carscaddon	13-28-13-6-(33)-7	67
17. US26926	Alex Pline/Karen Lorenz	24-(36)-16-19-13-21	93
18. US28044	Pedro/Mimi Larson	20-10-10-14-40-(prms)	94
19. US24605	Tarasa Davis/Dan Rossi	37-25-(dnf)-23-6-5	95
20. US28142	Mark Beaton/Meredith Schreyer	10-27-15-(prms)-32-12	96
21. US25990	Leigh Savage/Mike Weingard	25-(prms)-12-24-29-8	98
22. US27011	Joel Zackin/Beth VanWageningen	(32)-7-23-30-24-17	101
23. US23591	Gavin O'Hara/Alex Phillips	31-21-20-(prms)-23-15	110
24. US25483	Eric Reinke/Karen Ray	22-(prms)-27-9-28-27	113
25. US25165	PJ Schaffer/Diana Hall	26-5-24-(prms)-27-33	115
26. US26452	Jim Karalekas/Michelle Michaud	(39)-12-31-27-21-26	117
27. US28686	Michael Leinkeit/Courtney Rafferty	17-29-25-21-25-(prms)	117
28. US26754	Peter Schwartz/Steve Clifford	28-(prms)-33-16-26-20	123
29. US26600	Jeff ** & Gary Beck	(dnc)-6-9-(prms)-38-10	125
30. US27054	Lee Griffith/Sherry Eldridge	18-18-21-(prms)-36-32	134

**top junior competitor



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