

Defazio/Medici Finally Clinch the Big One

2006 Western Hemisphere & Orient Championship

October 22-27
Miami, Florida, USA

It was the US turn to host a major regatta, and after a year of preparation, 43 competitors from 7 countries descended upon Coconut Grove Sailing Club in Miami, Florida to contest the 2006 Western Hemisphere & Orient Championship.

Former and current World Champions, continental and national champions were vying to win the title and an automatic berth to the Worlds next year in Portugal. There was no lack of top talent in this group!

After a 2 hour postponement on shore and 2 general recalls, the Championship got underway in a solid 6-8 knot breeze on Biscayne Bay. The group was off burning up the first beat.

Japanese sailors Takuma Takesue and Kazuhiro Ito led the race and extended their lead throughout the windward-lee-ward course. Fellow countrymen Kenji Abe and Hiroshi Yamachika retained 2nd place until mid-way through the race when Pan Am champion Bruno Bethlem with Dante Bianchi

(fresh off the World Masters) crewing, passed them and started honing in on the leaders. Hitting a left shift on the final beat, Bethlem/Bianchi crossed Takesue/Ito and covered to the finish taking the bullet for race 1. At the end of the first day, the Brazilian navy posted a strong showing with 4 teams in the top 10.

The next day proved to be a good day for Uruguay and USA. Uruguayans Pablo Defazio and Eduardo Medici, coming off a Pre-Pan Am win the week prior in Rio, dominated the day in moderate breezes of 8-15 knots. Posting finishes of 1-2-3, the duo moved into striking distance of regatta leaders Bruno Bethlem and Dante Bianchi (BRA) who sailed a 6-4 and their drop of a 21st for the day. Americans Augie Diaz and Mark Ivey moved into gear on home waters with a 2-3-4,

moving them into 4th overall. Third place overall, Alexandre Paradedada and Pedro Tinoco (BRA) sailed a 9-5-9 for the day

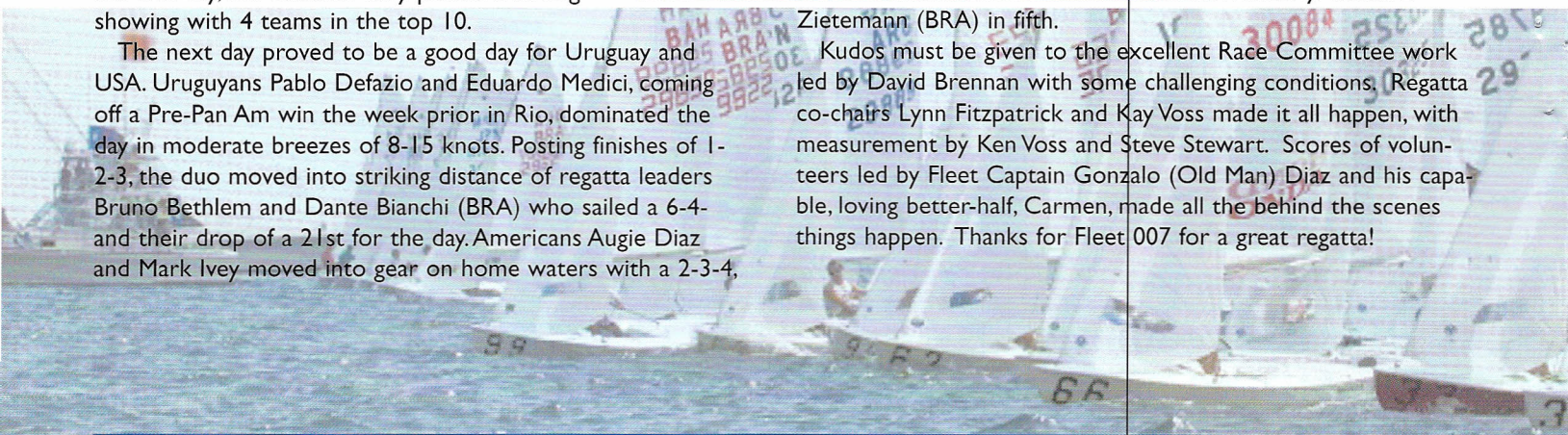
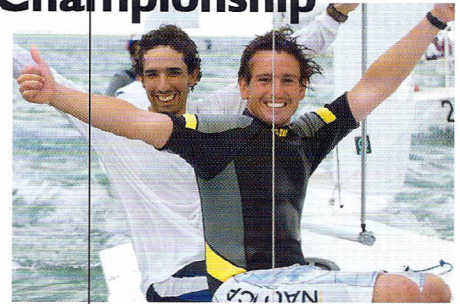
including some penalty circles. Fresh breeze on the morning race slowly died throughout the day with the last race held in 8 knots. Japanese speedsters Akira Setoguchi and Teruhito Fujita were looking good until an OCS in the last race. They were not alone with 7 others being caught over early.

With 6-12 knots for the final day of the Snipe Western Hemisphere & Orient Championship, the Uruguayan team of Pablo Defazio/ Eduardo Medici were

able to overcome early event leaders Bruno Bethlem/ Dante Bianchi (BRA) for the overall win. The Brasil team did fare well for themselves, with Bethlem/ Bianchi in second, Alexandre Paradedada/ Pedro Tinoco (BRA) in third, Augie Diaz/ Mark Ivey (USA) in fourth, and Carlos Wanderly/ Richard

Zietemann (BRA) in fifth.

Kudos must be given to the excellent Race Committee work led by David Brennan with some challenging conditions. Regatta co-chairs Lynn Fitzpatrick and Kay Voss made it all happen, with measurement by Ken Voss and Steve Stewart. Scores of volunteers led by Fleet Captain Gonzalo (Old Man) Diaz and his capable, loving better-half, Carmen, made all the behind the scenes things happen. Thanks for Fleet 007 for a great regatta!



Results: 2006 Western Hemisphere & Orient Championship

	<i>Skipper/Crew</i>	<i>Country/Sail</i>	<i>Finishes</i>	<i>Total</i>
1.	Pablo Defazio/Eduardo Medici	URU 28991	3-7-4-(8)-1-2-3-2-(9)	21.75
2.	Bruno Bethlem/Dante Bianchi	BRA 30546	1-4-1-2-6-4-(21)-6-(dnf)	23.5
3.	Alexandre Paradede/Pedro Tinoco	BRA 29821	7-2-(ocs)-1-(9)-5-9-5-4	32.75
4.	Augie Diaz/Mark Ivey	USA 30288	(12)-9-(18)-6-2-3-4-9-3	36.
5.	Carlos Wanderley/Richard Zietemann	BRA 29899	4-6-2-3-14-14-(dnf)-1-(22)	43.75
6.	Luis Canepa/Bruno Bianchi	BRA 30266	6-17-(20)-10-12-12-2-(23)-1	59.75
7.	Alexandre/Mario Tinoco	BRA 30322	(14)-8-7-9-(16)-6-5-14-11	60.
8.	Philip Umpierre/Martin Puricelli	URU 29828	9-11-11-rdg-8-1-15-(17)-(33)	65.75
9.	Akira Setoguchi/Teruhiro Fujita	JPN 30084	28-1-10-4-7-10-(ocs)-8-(38)	67.75
10.	Ernesto Rodriguez/Leandro Spina	USA 30364	8-14-3-20-4-9-12-(ocs)-(21)	70.
11.	Peter/Sheehan Commette	USA 30571	(38)-3-6-15-5-15-(23)-13-19	76.
12.	Marcelo Bellotti/Eduardo Molina	BRA 29823	18-5-8-5-11-7-(dnf)-(31)-26	80.
13.	Henry Filter/Kathleen Tocke	USA 30325	(27)-12-13-7-21-18-(ocs)-4-15	90.
14.	George Szabo/Alan Cappelin	USA 30337	10-10-5-(dnf)-19-20-19-12-(30)	95.
15.	Takuma Takesue/Kazuhiro Ito	JPN 30214	2-24-15-18-(ocs)-8-25-(ocs)-7	99.
16.	Kenji Abe/Hiroshi Yamachika	JPN 30328	5-18-(ocs)-12-13-27-7-7-(ocs)	99.
17.	Andrea/Mariana Foglia	URU 29829	16-21-(22)-11-15-13-(ocs)-16-8	100.
18.	Doug Hart/Jon Rogers	USA 29314	23-18-(28)-21-10-11-10-22-(ocs)	115.
19.	Tomohiko Koga/Kosuke Iwase	JPN 30283	15-22-21-25-30-(33)-1-(ocs)-2	115.75
20.	Ezequiel Despontin/Carlos Wybert	ARG 30492	22-15-17-(ocs)-24-(29)-24-11-5	118.
21.	Pedro Garra/Juan Real de Azua	URU 29891	33-13-12-13-33-(34)-(ocs)-3-13	120.
22.	J. Ignacio Vina/Mercel Felipe Cortesse	ARG 28696	(31)-20-(ocs)-14-27-25-6-21-16	129.
23.	Henrique Haddad/Guilherme Hamelmann	BRA 28851	25-19-23-23-3-26-(29)-18-(39)	137.
24.	Motoharu Nishi/Tatsushi Hashimoto	JPN 30305	19-(27)-24-17-20-21-16-(ocs)-20	137.
25.	Gustavo Crivello/Grace Fang	ARG 25455	21-(38)-25-(dnf)-17-17-20-10-27	137.
26.	Hector Longarella/Nick Voss	ARG 29797	(35)-25-16-19-(ocs)-32-8-28-10	138.
27.	Gonzalo Crivello/Robert Ramirez	USA 29963	(32)-16-14-27-25-(30)-13-20-25	140.
28.	Jimmie Lowe/Gavin McKinney	BAH 30511	13-(32)-19-26-18-(40)-11-32-28	147.
29.	Nicholas Granucci/John Kehoe	USA 30195	20-23-27-22-26-16-(28)-19-(31)	153.
30.	Enrique Quintero/Morgan Commette	USA 28810	11-(39)-33-30-(34)-22-17-33-14	160.
31.	Yuki Furumaki/Masaomi Adachi	JPN 30308	17-29-26-33-(ocs)-(35)-30-15-17	167.
32.	Martin Dovat/Rodrigo Cestau	URU 29785	34-26-9-29-(38)-37-(ocs)-27-12	174.
33.	Yoshimune Yasumori/Yoshiyuki Marimoto	JPN 30418	29-(30)-(31)-28-28-19-18-29-24	175.
34.	Lelio Jose Di Santo/Fernando Isa Pavia	ARG 29339	24-31-29-35-22-31-14-(ocs)-(36)	186.
35.	Jose Lovigne/Juan Dris	ARG 29889	(42)-33-34-38-32-(42)-26-24-6	193.
36.	Mike Blackwood/Patty Mueller	USA 30390	37-34-32-(ocs)-23-24-27-(ocs)-18	195.
37.	Aimee Graham/Lynn Fitzpatrick	USA 29646	(40)-35-30-31-29-(39)-31-30-29	215.
38.	Daniel/Daniel Jose Irrarazabal	CHI 30298	36-(43)-36-36-(30)-23-34-25-34	224.
39.	John Galloway/Alison Myers	BAH 28678	30-(41)-37-24-31-38-(ocs)-34-32	226.
40.	Robert Dunkley/Michelle Larkin	BAH 29899	26-36-(ocs)-dnf-(dnc)-dnc-dnc-26-23	238.
41.	Hector Davis/Frederico Saul	ARG 30488	(39)-37-38-32-36-28-33-36-(40)	240.
42.	Arisa Sakai/Tomoko Shimoda	JPN 30499	(43)-(40)-35-34-35-36-32-35-35	242.
43.	Maria Emilia Lamaison/Rosain Campiglia	URU 28633	41-(42)-39-37-37-37-41-22-(ocs)-37	254.

