



Ullman Sails Long Beach Race Week

Long Beach and Alamitos Bay Yacht Clubs

June 23-25, 2006

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June 25, 2006

The best sailors rose to the challenge at LBRW

LONG BEACH, Calif.---The secret to sailing success on these waters may not be the cliché conventional wisdom to "go right at Long Beach" but instead to be ready for anything, as most of the winners were at Ullman Sails Long Beach Race Week, co-hosted by the Long Beach and Alamitos Bay Yacht Clubs.

From Friday's wind blasts above 20 knots through Saturday's light-air lull and back to big breeze topping out at 22 Sunday, the top prizes in the West Coast's largest keelboat regatta went to those who coped best with the full range of conditions that presented a handful of problems not only for the sailors but the race committees.

Chuck Nichols, a San Diego veteran who won the J/120 class with three wins and two seconds in six races, said, "It was certainly the most interesting Long Beach we've seen in terms of changing conditions. But the formula for being prepared for anything is to have good people, and we tried to set up the boat and have the right sails for the broadest set of conditions and adjust to them."

Seven races were scheduled in 16 of the 17 classes—the Cal 25s raced only two days---but only four classes managed that many, all on principal race officer Bobby Frazier's Beta course for midsize boats outside the Federal breakwater. That's where the event's namesake, Dave Ullman, 60, won the tight eight-boat Melges 24 class by two points over 16-year-old Samuel (Shark) Kahn of Soquel, Calif., with Newport Beach veterans Bruce Ayres and Argyle Campbell a close third and fourth.

Gary Mozer's Current Obsession recovered from a Saturday mini-slump with a second place behind---get this---San Diego's Lowell North to edge Dennis and Sharon Case's Wings by two points in the feisty 20-boat J/105 class.

North, sailing his new Triple Play, won the final race to prove he still has some of what it took to win four Star class championships among several other world titles.



"It was a good regatta," said North, who was 10th overall. "The race committee did a good job, and the hors d'oeuvres afterward were especially good."

Because Sunday's sea breeze showed up late for the noon start and radical shifts forced repeated postponements, the big boat class managed only one round for its five classes Sunday before yielding to a last-day getaway deadline, and the smaller boats inside on Charlie course settled for one go-round for a total of five races, except for the two-man Mercuries, who managed a total of six.

Unfortunately, that left Pax Davis of St. Francis YC and Mark Comings of Cabrillo Beach YC in a tie that was broken by Davis' two first places to Comings' one and a deadlock that will wait until another day.

There were three one-point winners---Paul and Laura Sharp's R/P 68, Taxi Dancer, over the Mike Campbell/Dale Williams Dencho 70, Peligroso, in PHRF 1; Marty Burke's Bella Vita over Steve Ernest's Aimant de Fille in the elegant Beneteau 36.7 class, and Greg Byrne's Wylie Wabbit, 24 Carrot, over Mike George's appropriately named Martin 242, 9 Lives, which recovered from breaking its mast on the first day.

Bella Vita also was honored as Boat of the Week for winning the most competitive class. John Wylie's 1D35, Tabasco, was PHRF Boat of the Week with five first places in six races in PHRF 2.

LBYC's Ray Godwin drove Whiplash to first place in the venerable Schock 35 class and won the class's High Point title for the first time on a tiebreaker over Jeff Janov's Ripple.

Godwin, 60, toweling himself dry after his crew tossed him into the pool at the awards ceremony, said, "We always seemed to be as fast as Ripple, which won last year, but he always won. So we decided we needed to get more serious this year and practice."

Will Durant's chartered Catalina 37, with five first places, was the only entry to go undefeated, although Larry Spencer/Todd Downey Blue Star and Roland Fournier's Blue Moon 2 came close with their worst finishes---second place---in their last races.

Special awards included three of Ullman's recycled world championship trophies presented to winners of the Ullman Sails Inshore Championship Series concluding here: Long Beach winners Taxi Dancer for Fast 50s and John Carroll's PHRF 2 entry, Arana, for Fast 40s, plus Geoff Longenecker's Melges 30, Nemesis. Complete series results are at www.ullmansails.com



Photo galleries for days 1 and 2 are posted at www.UnderTheSunPhotos.com

High-resolution photos available free to print media. [Click here.](#)

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Three-boat teams from the co-host Long Beach YC swept the first two places in the 14-team Yacht Club Challenge competition, led by Mozer's J/105, Current Obsession; Art and Scott Melendres' Cal 25, One Time, and Durant's Catalina 37.

The Family Trophy was awarded to Melendres and his clan sailing the Cal 25.

Class winners

PHRF 1 (10 boats)---Taxi Dancer (R/P 68), Paul and Laura Sharp, Newport Harbor YC, 1-2-1-1-5-2, 12 points.

PHRF 2 (11)---Arana (Dencho 51), John Carroll, California YC, 1-1-1-3-3-1, 10.

PHRF 3 (16)---Tabasco (1D35), John Wylie, San Diego YC, 1-1-1-1-3-1, 8.

J/120 (7)---CC Rider, Chuck Nichols, San Diego YC, 3.5-1-1-1-2-2, 10.5.

REYNOLDS 33 (5)---Double Trouble, Pete Melvin, Alamitos Bay YC, 2-6-1-3-1-1, 14.

J/105 (20)---Current Obsession, Gary Mozer, Long Beach YC, 1-1-5-3-2-2, 14.

MELGES 24 (8)---Pegasus 505, Dave Ullman, Balboa YC, 2-1-2-3-3-1-5, 17.

SCHOCK 35 (10)---Whiplash, Ray Godwin, Long Beach YC, 1-2-1-2-1-1-2, 10.

OLSON 30 (6)—Blue Star, Larry Spencer/Todd Downey, Pacific Corinthian YC, 1-1-1-1-1-2, 7.

J/109 (7)---Commotion, Tony Wetherbee/Chris Raab, Dana Point YC, 1-1-1-1-5-1-1, 11.

BENETEAU 36.7 (8)---Bella Vita, Martin Burke, King Harbor YC, 1-3-4-4-1-1-1, 15.

CATALINA 37 (5)---Cat 37, Will Durant, Long Beach YC, 1-1-1-1-1, 5.

PHRF 4 (19)---24 Carrot (Wylie Wabbit), Greg Byrne, Cal SC, 2-6-1-3-5, 17.

J/80 (8)---Blue Moon 2, Roland Fournier, Long Beach YC, 1-



1-1-1-2, 6.

J/29 (6)---Mac's, Eric and Steve McClure, Alamitos Bay YC,
1-1-2-3-4, 11.

MERCURY (14)---Pacer, Pax Davis, St. Francis YC, 1-8-3-2-
3-1, 18.

CAL 25 (6)---One Time, Art and Scott Melendres, Long Beach
YC, 1-3-2, 6.

[Complete results and more at www.lbrw.org](http://www.lbrw.org)

MEDIA CONTACT

Rich Roberts

Press officer

(310) 835-2526

cell (310) 766-6547

richsail@earthlink.net