
by Marcello Attina

WHEN WE DECIDED TO SAIL THE EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP things were not so easy. My brother Sandro (who is the Italian Champion) was getting married, and I decided to tiller the boat with Antonio (who has always been in my crew) and the young Fabio. Training was difficult. I was serving in the Army, Antonio, was studying for his examination at the University and Fabio was at school. When we arrived in Greece in the wonderful NOA club we discovered we were the youngest crew among a lot of sailors from all of Europe. This year in Greece we found lots of new crews, especially Greek: the President of the club Koutsikos and the young and elever crew of SND "the National Soling Champion,"

1st race: The wind was 8 to 11 meters $/ \mathrm{sec}$. We were not sure how we could go because we weighed only 200 kilos. We started in the middle of the line, Andreadis (Crinis V) and Vitaggio (Lily Bay Tan) the favorites, were near us, so that we soon could notice we had very good speed and after the first leg we were first, second was Lily Bay Tan, third (Goumas) Koutsikos. While they were fighting we could improve our advantage. At the gybing mark the yellow boat of the President of NOA club became second and Lily Bay Tan
third, followed by Crinis $V$. While we were arriving near the finishing line and Lily was covering Crinis, the Italian Areknames succeeded in arriving third with a bit of luck.

2nd Race. The wind wasn't strong, and we had a good start, but the wind was not regular and the clever Deliyiannis (SND) turned the mark first followed by Lily Bay Tan while we were seventh. Lily was very speedy with the spinnaker so he became first while SND became second and then third, surpassed by Wyler, while we arrived fourth.

3rd Race - The wind was blowing really irregular and slow and from time to time there was a total lack of wind. Wyler was very clever and finished the first leg first, followed by three Greek boats (Crinis III, SND, Crinis V). We were late. After the gybing the wind started blowing behind us a little bit stronger, therefore we reached the first group as they were without wind. The wind was still irregular in the second leg upwind Goumas was first, the Swiss boat Black Hausi second (very clever in the conditions of light wind) third Lily, and we were 10th. After three races the overall was: first, Lily with 8 points, second, Goumas-13, Meltemi and us were third with 15 points.

4th Race - The wind was 4 to 6 meters $/ \mathrm{sec}$ at the first
mark. The first boat was SND, second Black Hausi, third Vahine, fourth White Cloud then our boat. After a very tough race we were first, second was Meltemi, while Goumas and Lily were eighth and ninth.

Race 5 - Now it was important for us to control Meltemi and Goumas and the Italian Lily. In this race Crinis V was sailing well and he was first followed by the Italian boat Tika. But in the last leg Tika became first and we became second while White Cloud was third. Areknames was fourth. Crinis V, fifth Meltemi sixth while Goumas and Lily were behind.

6th and last race - Now we were almost champions. We had to control only the clever Meltemi. In fact if Meltemi had arrived first and we had arrived 10th, we would have lost the Championship. The wind was 8 to 11 meters$/ \mathrm{sec}$. After a bad start we were about 10 th , but Meltemi was really in the back. After the first leg we were eighth and Meltemi 16th, first was Goumas. Thanks to the wonderful Antonio (the spinnaker man) at the gybing we became second but when we were struggling with Goumas we broke the tiller. We tried to repair it but had to put down the spinnaker and at the fourth leg while we were second we had to retire. Goumas remained first, Meltemi was sixth therefore, we were Champions, Goumas, was Runner-Up, and Meltemi was third, Lily was fourth.

The organization of the club was perfect, the opening ceremony, the prize giving ceremony, the social events, as well as the regatta were fantastically organized. We really believe that Greek sailors love the Lightning Class. Special thanks to the President of our Canottieri Club, Perrone, who gave us the possibility of participating. Thanks to the
builder of our boat, who helped us in solving our problems at any moment during the regatta. Thanks also to the sailmaker who gave us such "fast sails".


Opening Ceremony discussion Yacht Racing Club of Athens personnel: $L$ to $R$ - The Commodore - Stelios Coutsicos (Runner-Up). The Vice Commodore, Anne Andreadis, and the Treasurer. Costas Tsantilis


## MORE ON THE '86 EUROPEANS FROM GREECE

Hot and sunny Faliron Bay welcomed 33 competing Lightning crews to the 34 th European Championship. The Yacht Racing Club of Athens (NOA) organized a marvelous event which, apart from some excellent racing, included computer print-outs of mark rounding positions (courtesy of Bull Computers), an impressive set of instructions, commemorative posters, a day trip to the islands of the Saronic Gulf, wine and inner at a Greek tavern and other social events which convert competitors at sea into friends ashore.

The usual barrier between organizers and athletes was absent since essential organizing personnel such as the Commodore Stelios Coutsicos, George Andreadis, and Costas Tsantilis were also busy helming. This lent an air of friendly informality to the racing and problems were solved swiftly with a minimum of "stuffiness" and "officialdom".

It was a very fine regatta with tough competition in frequently shifting conditions - a far cry from the family sailing so often attributed to Lightning Class activities.

Among the top boats competing were Wyler and Schar from Switzerland, the Finns Aromaa and Hamaar, Attina and Vitaggio from Italy and from Greece, George Andreadis, already seven times winner of the European Lightning Championship.

In the first race, the Sicilians with Marcllo Attina at the helm sailed Wanted to a first place finish. Behind them, Goumas helmed by Stelios Coutsicos chased the Sicilians all the way around the course but finished in second place.

Sterring through the short Faliron Bay Chop, Vitaggio led to the weather mark, Wyler is second and they hold their positions to the finish in the second race.

In the third race, Goumas finishes first while Schar and Vitaggio finish in second and third place. Overall, Vitaggio is leading with 8 points, Coutsicos is second with 13 points and Wyler is third with 15 points.

The fourth and fifth races are sailed in light air and shifty sea-breeze conditions. Goumas can't seem to get it together in either the boat speed or tactics departments and fall to fourth position overall. Attina and his crew are sailing very well in these conditions and with a first and second place they carve a clear lead overall with 18 points. In second and third place are Wyler and Vitaggio.

Saturday morning - final race. In the distance under Mount Hymmetus, a dark band is just visible on the sea. The band grows indicating the Greek Gods have done their work. Here comes a good strong northerly. The Goumas crew respond and lead all the way around the course. Mar-


After the start: In the foreground, the Champions, Attina, Rello, \& Spano I 13481
cello Attina, Antonio Rallo and Fabio Spano retire with a broken rudder but still have the European Championship while Stelios Coutsicos, Memos Psarakis and Dimitris Zouganelis take the gun and second place overall. The Swiss boat Meltemi with Urs Wyler at the helm and Martin Stauffer and Beat Gasser crewing is third overall repeating last year's performance. Their's has been the most consist-
ent performance of the series.
The prize-giving ceremony hit on just the right blend of formality and informality. Everybody had a lot to say and a lot to eat as the team from Sicily carried away their own Pellegrino boat and their very well earned cup back to Marsala.

# 34th EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP 1986 

Yacht Club of Athens, Phaleron Bay, Athens, Greece

| Fin. Pos. | Boat \# | Country | Skipper \& Crew | 1 | 2 | $3^{\text {R }}$ |  | 5 | 6 | Pts. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 13481 | Italy | A. Attina <br> A. Rallo, F. Spano | 1 | 4 | 10 | t | 2 | DNF | 18 |
| 2 | 13981 | Greece | S. Koutsikos <br> S. Psarakis, D. Zouganellis | 2 | 10 | 1 | 8 | 14 | 1 | 22 |
| 3 | 13790 | Switrerland | Urs Wyler <br> M. Stauffer, B. Gasser | 6 | 2 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 6 | 22 |
| 4 | 13706 | Italy | P. Vitaggio <br> A. Messina, G. Cudia | 4 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 16 | 11 | 28 |
| 5 | 13474 | Greece | D. Deliyiannis D. Benakis, G. Spyridis | 10 | 3 | 9 | 5 | 10 | 2 | 29 |
| 6 | 13462 | traly | S. Rustichelli F. Nicchiarelli, P. Barracci | 3 | 5 | 11 | 12 | 4 | 7 | 30 |
| 7 | 13161 | Switzerland | U. Schar <br> E. Schar, S. Schar | 9 | 11 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 10 |
| 8 | 13414 | Italy | F. Ferrarie R. Lodici, F. Giuliari | 7 | 12 | DSQ | 6 | 3 | 4 | 32 |
| 9 | 11459 | Greece | G. Andreadis <br> C. Lymberakis, S. Zouganellis | 5 | 9 | 6 | 11 | 5 | 9 | 34 |
| 10 | 13401 | traly | G. Pelizzaro <br> F. Falcini, J. Cappuci | DNF | 8 | 18 | 14 | 1 | 3 | 44 |
| 11 | 12952 | Switrerland | St. Scharer <br> A. Luginhuhl, D. Bachärn | 8 | PMS | 13 | 7 | 8 | 10 | 46 |
| 12 | 12914 | Finland | K. Maenpaa <br> E. Maenpaa, O. Wilman | DNF | 6 | 16 | 3 | 11 | 12 | 48 |
| 13 | 9447 | Greece | N. Dimou D. Dimou, P. Daniel | 16 | 7 | 5 | 15 | 9 | DNF | 52 |
| 14 | 13692 | Switzerland | H. P. Schmid <br> A. Hofer, R. Knoepfli | 11 | 14 | 4 | 25 | 13 | 20 | 62 |
| 15 | 12387 | Greece | G. Mantzagriotis <br> N. Paizios, B. Lebessis | 12 | 13 | 21 | 22 | 21 | 5 | 72 |
| 16 | 12951 | Switrerland | J. Perret <br> P. Taschler. T. Huber | 14 | PMS | 17 | 18 | 12 | 13 | 74 |
| 17 | 14093 | Finland | H. Nisonen <br> A. Vitto. T. Patosuo | 19 | PMS | 8 | 10 | 18 | 19 | 74 |
| 18 | 12258 | Finland | J. Karkkainen <br> M. Jaatinen, H. Nurmi | 15 | 18 | 15 | 29 | 19 | 17 | 84 |
| 19 | 13402 | Itaty | G. Pellegrino G. Guadagnano, G. Pulizzi | 22 | 17 | 28 | 17 | 15 | 14 | 85 |
| 20 | 13802 | Greece | C. Tsantilis <br> P. Skilizzi, Chr, Damigos | 18 | 15 | 12 | 23 | 27 | 22 | 90 |
| 21 | 10037 | Greece | T. Bonas <br> C. Criticos, P. Chatrikyriakakis | 13 | PMS | 14 | 26 | 24 | 16 | 93 |
| 22 | 14091 | Finland | T. Aromaa <br> K. Aromaa, J. Aromaa | 17 | 24 | 19 | 21 | 28 | 23 | 104 |
| 23 | 13074 | Switrerland | G. Weilenmann <br> M. Knoepfel, P. Stalder | 25 | 16 | 22 | 20 | 22 | DNF | 105 |
| 24 | 13840 | Switzerland | G. Despland P. Graf, M. Brugger | 28 | 20 | 27 | 13 | 20 | PMS | 108 |
| 25 | 13559 | Finland | H. Hurskainen P. Hurskainen. A. Kuski | 20 | 26 | 26 | 28 | 23 | 15 | 110 |
| 26 | 12996 | Finland | S. Salminen <br> K. Tulomaki, T. Kotimaki | 26 | 28 | DNS | 16 | 17 | 24 | 111 |
| 27 | 13557 | Italy | P. Zerilli <br> G. Clemente, M. Giacalone | 27 | 25 | 24 | 19 | 25 | 21 | 114 |
| 28 | 11633 | Greece | Th. Lempesopoulos <br> P. Philippakos, A. Tsakalidis | 23 | 23 | 23 | 30 | 29 | 18 | 116 |
| 29 | 11634 | Greece | St. Romeos <br> D. Bournatzis. F Fassifi | 21 | 21 | 25 | 24 | 30 | DNF | 121 |
| 30 | 13455 | Italy | S. Scarpocchi <br> L. Vicarelli, S. Piccirilli | 29 | 19 | 20 | 31 | 31 | DNS | 130 |
| 31 | 13349 | Italy | V. T. Pernice <br> F. Sorrentino, B. Puletto | 24 | 22 | 29 | 27 | 32 | PMS | 134 |
| 32 | 13505 | Finland | L. Hammar <br> H. Hammar, P. Suorsa | DNF | 27 | 30 | 33 | 26 | DNS | 150 |
| 33 | 13801 | Greece | D. Philippidis | DNS | 29 | DNF | 32 | 33 | DNF | 162 |

# SOUTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP OR 

'"WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?'

by Andres Lisocki

To win a South American Championship all you need is:

1. Good Speed
2. Excellent Crew Work
3. Correct Tactical Decisions

I will discuss the first point (boat speed). Shore and all those other fellows do a much better job. At least the top twelve in this South Americans did their homework; they all showed the same speed potential. (Some showed it more often than others, but all of those twelve had it). Speed differences are of greater importance on a steady wind course (like Salinas) than they are on a fluky lake like ours.

To accomplish good crew work all you have to do is want it bad enough. Then you go out and find a couple of guys (or gals) that also want it bad enough. Then you go out and practice. Then you go out and practice. Then you .......

Now comes getting a good score in your percentage of correct tactical decisions. You don't have to be a meterological wizard like Mr. Alan Watts or a tactical genius like Dr. Stuart Walker. The fundamentals will do if your state of mind lets you make "rational decisions" instead of "emotional reactions". To illustrate this point, I will have to ask you to travel to the "scene of the events".

The South Americans was preceded by the traditional San Pablo - Muna race which in this opportunity, was attended by all the would be South American participants (except two Peruvian crews). One Argentinian crew got to our lake more than a couple of weeks in advance to get familiarized with its tempers. During the first races of the preliminary San Pablo - Muna competition, in which the wind was, as it's supposed to be in a 8.500 ft . high lake in the middle of the tropical Andes mountains, light and fluky, our performance was excellent. However, for the last three races the wind picked up considerably. We capsized and did a couple of other stupid things while our Argentinian friends sailed nicely to beat us in those races (nearly enough to win the series). Everybody was whispering in the aisles: "If there is a good breeze, the Argentinians are going to win the South Americans."

I am tempted to believe that our good Argentinian friends were thinking: "If it keeps blowing, we can win this coming regatta, because if it's fluky, Andres knows his way."

As destiny would have it, it was really blowing for that first race. From the start it was a two boat race; except at the windward mark, we were second. Nothing much happened

## 32nd SOUTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP

| Fin. <br> Pos. <br> 1 | Boat $\#$ <br> 3041 | Country <br> Colombia |
| :---: | :---: | :--- |
| 2 | 14021 | Argentina |
| 3 | 13444 | Ecuador |
| 4 | 13432 | Colombia |
| 5 | 11928 | Ecuador |
| 6 | 13446 | Colombia |
| 7 | 13203 | Colombia |
| 8 | 12557 | Ecuador |
| 9 | 13447 | Colombia |
| 10 | 12829 | Colombia |
| 11 | 13441 | Colombia |
| 12 | 11041 | Argentina |
| 13 | 9411 | Ecuador |
| 14 | 13607 | Colombia |
| 15 | 12519 | Peru |
| 16 | 13443 | Ecuador |
| 17 | 12825 | Peru |
| 17 |  |  |

## Club Nautico Del Muna/Embalse De Tomine, Colombia



| 1 | 2 | 3 | Races | 5 | 6 | Pts. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3.75 |
| 2 | 4 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 19 |
| 14 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 7 | 20 |
| 9 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 29.75 |
| 7 | 6 | 3 | 10 | DNF | 10 | 36 |
| 10 | 9 | 5 | 12 | 3 | 9 | 36 |
| DSQ | 3 | 6 | DNF | 4 | 5 | 36 |
| 4 | DNF | 9 | 8 | 2 | 13 | 36 |
| 5 | 2 | 11 | 3 | 10 | DNF | 36 |
| 3 | DNS | 2 | 9 | DNF | 6 | 38 |
| 6 | 11 | 13 | 6 | 13 | 4 | 40 |
| 15 | 8 | 14 | 5 | 7 | 11 | 45 |
| 11 | 12 | 12 | 11 | 8 | 8 | 50 |
| 8 | 10 | 10 | 13 | 11 | 12 | 51 |
| 12 | DNS | 16 | 15 | 12 | 16 | 71 |
| 16 | 13 | 17 | 14 | 15 | 14 | 72 |
| 14 | DNF | 15 | 16 | 14 | 15 | 74 |
| 15 |  |  |  |  |  |  |

in the reaches, and in the beat under a very close cover, we closed the gap to a couple of boat lengths, but couldn't get by. At this point everything was set up, especially considering those three previous races, for us to fall in the "it's blowing hard and when it does, the Argentinians beat us" syndrome. And if they were to beat us, their irrevocable mental theme would sound like: "Yousee, when it blows, we beat him."

Fortunately, that same old evil Indian spirit that opened the heavy air faucet shed me with some light to recognize the situation and at that point I said to my crew (knowing it was true) "Whoever wins this race, will win the South Americans. We better do something." In that run we were very
aggressive taking our friends to port of the rhumb line. My crew executed a couple of perfect jibes (did 1 mention crew work before?) giving us, after some blanketing, an inside overlap. Close cover in the last beat was "de rigueur," Surely, you've figured the outcome of our little psychological warfare, despite the fact that it blew like stink in the whole series. Congratulations to our good Argentinian friends and rivals. Oh, and for those of you that were there, you must recall how "Then I Go and Spoil It All By Saying Something Stupid Like" this is the way you're supposed to solve that five boat tie between 5th and 10th place (please see Standings).

## THE V WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP 1986

The fifth World Youth Championship took place in Argentina, November 8 thru 13, and was organized by the Yacht Club Olivos. There were twelve crews from six countries competing.

With the exception of the first race, each race was quite difficult due to the strong winds that tested the physical conditions of the participants. Winds for the first race were SE, the other races there were firm N/Neasterlies, along with the sun and hot weather.

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The first race showed poor performances by the local contestants. Christian Frers was the only one from Argentina to be in the top three. Edgardo Lozano was fifth and Rodger and Parada had problems with pole and jib sheet respectively. U.S. skipper Steve Hayden was first with the boat Flamingo. Jim Allen, U.S. was second in Que se yo V . Canadian skipper lan Eskritt in Repunte $V$ heeled over in the first reach on a down wind leg and had to abandon.

The second race was delayed due to constant shifts in the wind and once started at five o'clock in the afternoon, due to changing the course several times, the contestants tacked the jibe mark confusing it for the windward mark. This fact and the constant rotation of the wind from $S / S E$ to $E / S E$ and $E$, the race was nullified.

The third race with winds $\mathrm{N} / \mathrm{Ne} 12 \mathrm{~km}$ p.h. ( 7 knots) was won by Frers sailing Mistice with Eskritt second and Parada third.

The fourth race with winds N/NE 16 km p.h., Jim Allen sailing Casique was first, Rodger sailing Pingo second, and

| Fin. |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :--- | :--- |
| Pos. | Sail \# | Skipper | Country |
| 1 | 13682 | Guillermo Parada | Argentina |
| 2 | 12824 | Christian Frers | Argentina |
| 3 | 11039 | Axel Rodger | Argentina |
| 4 | 14111 | Jimm Allen | United States |
| 5 | 11331 | lan Eskrit1 | Canada |
| 6 | 14066 | Steve Hayden | United States |
| 7 | 13659 | Geoffrey Jarvis | Canada |
| 8 | 10196 | Pablo Amunategui | Chile |
| 9 | 8411 | Edgardo Lonzano | Argentina |
| 10 | 12793 | Marcelo Leon N. | Ecuador |
| 11 | 11099 | A. Natho Gamboa | Chile |
| 12 | 12489 | Pedro A. Serpe | Brazil |

Eskritt with Flamingo $V$ third.
On November 12, the day for the fifth and sixth races, the strong winds of 30 knots during the morning forced postponement. In the afternoon the fifth race was run with winds N/NE 25. Jim Allen and Chilean Amunategui heeled over which allowed Guillermo Parada to gain two positions at the jibe mark coming from seventh and due to the bad luck of Axel Rodger and Jarvis, falling into the water on the last leg. Parada gained two more positions on the weather leg which game him a first.

The last race of the Championship, the top six contestants, Rodger, Allen, Frers, Eskritt, Hayden, and Parada were quite anxious. The winds NE were near 20 knots and the contestants had problems with the centerboards in the shallow waters, along with rotating boats was confusion. Allen, Eskritt, and Parada were tied and the others close behind. The three Argentines Rodger, Parada, and Frers showed their best coming in first, second, and third, and giving Parada the Championship.

From beginning to end, the details of the Championship were handled by Osvaldo "Lalo" Bordino. District Commodore Lali Tramaglia helped with repair or tuning the boats which were not in the best of condition.

Thanks goes not only to Lalo and Lali, but also to the Fathers from the U.S., Tom Allen and Fisk Hayden, who helped with the boats, the Ecuatorian Fathers who surveiled their crews from the club boat, and Chilean Prefacto "Angelito" who kept an eye on the Chilean crews.

Also thanks to 1.L.C.A. Secretary Anne Allen and Vice President Fisk Hayden for representing the Class at this Championship, and to all the Crews with their high competitive spirit and their tolerance and acceptance of the equipment differences. We hope all had a good time.


## WORLD YOUTH



Jim Allen's "headache"



Carlos Schenone and 3rd son Eduardo Fleet 446 Secretary.


Boats arriving last race at Olivos Harbour.

## CHAMPIONSHIP



Strong winds also gave difficulties to others. Boat Flamingo - Chilean crew.


Winners: Valeria Vila - Guillermo Parada \& Pablo Weber.


Authorities and prizes. YCO Commodore Domato and Argentine District Secretary Liliana Schenone.


## The best are always getting better

## $1^{\text {st }}$

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