

## QUALIFYING SERIES 1994 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

91 boats, 3 races, no throwout

| 1. | Manuel Gonzalez, Rodrigo Zuazola, Juan Francisco Novion . . . . . . . . | 1 | 1 | 3 | 5 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2. | Stu Nickerson, Lisa Brauer, Brian Hughes . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 2 | 2 | 3 | 7 |
| 3. | Tom Allen, Jr., Bill Pictor, Curt Felix. | 6 | 6 | 2 | 14 |
| 4. | Matt Fisher, Ned Roseberry, Joe Donovan | 3 | 10 | 1 | 14 |
| 5. | Jack Elfman, Cindy Lister, Newt Wattis | 6 | 2 | 8 | 16 |
| 6. | Tito Gonzalez, Maria White, Hernan Holch . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 5 | 5 | 6 | 16 |
| 7. | Dick Hallagan, Lori Foster, Dave Raham . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 4 | 3 | 10 | 17 |
| 8. | Alejandro Colla, Alejandro Noe, Diego Rudoy. | 15 | 1 | 2 | 18 |
| 9 | Paul Wurtzebach, Sue Dorscheid, Michael Elmergreen. . | 11 | 3 | 4 | 18 |
| 10. | Andrew Horton, Joseph Dayton, Tobi Heisler. . . . . . . . . . . . . | 2 | 15 | 2 | 19 |
| 11. | Lenny Krawcheck, Kevin Rast, Jamie Ewing. | 10 | 4 | 8 | 22 |
| 12. | Mike Thomas, Steve Thomas, Sue Ann Thomas. | 5 | 1 | 16 | 22 |
| 13. | William Faude, Jared Drake, Brian Taboada. | 11 | 8 | 4 | 23 |
| 14. | Tom Niles, Glenn Hallett, Triah Szydzik. | 10 | 2 | 12 | 24 |
| 15. | Don Barrett, Donna Barrett, George Wiedermann. . . . . . | 6 | 12 | 7 | 25 |
| 16. | Steve Harris, Patty Harris, Bruce Bierlink | 12 | 5 | 8 | 25 |
| 17. | Colin Park, Karen Park, Greg T. Bull | 5 | 13 | 7 | 25 |
| 18. | David Peck, Nina Cuccio Peck, Michael Loeb | 3 | 3 | 19 | 25 |
| 19. | David Starck, Kevin Robinson, Tom Starck | 1 | 6 | 18 | 25 |
| 20. | Jim Allen, Brian Milne, Jane Allen | 16 | 9 | 1 | 26 |
| 21. | Dan Norton, Linda Norton, Bill Thomas | 3 | 9 | 15 | 27 |
| 22. | Ched Proctor, Kathryn Josenhans, Jeff Eiber . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 9 | 9 | 9 | 27 |
| 23. | Bill Fastiggi, Jo Ann Jones, Holly Schwartz , . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 13 | 6 | 9 | 28 |
| 24. | Martin Costa, Sergio Ripoli, Sebastian Amorrortu | 8 | 11 | 10 | 29 |
| 25. | Bram Palm, Terry Neilson, Jean Palm . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 15 | 7 | 7 | 29 |
| 26. | Brian Starck, Ellen Starck, Bob Starck . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 8 | 18 | 3 | 29 |
| 27. | David Decker, Rick Kohl, Jerry Decker . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 2 | 24 | 5 | 31 |
| 28. | Bob Wardwell, Rob Wardwell, Eric Schnettler . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 4 | 21 | 6 | 31 |
| 29. | Steve Hayden, Barr Batzer, April Richards . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 13 | 15 | 5 | 33 |
| 30. | Fernando Hackerott, Ricardo Costa, Edgar Rombauer . . . . . . . . . . . | 1 | 14 | 20 | 35 |
| 31. | Larry MacDonald, Jr., Ian Jones, Trevor Born . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 12 | 17 | 6 | 35 |
| 32. | Jon Schwartz, Dan Vought, John Fiest . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 9 | 16 | 10 | 35 |
| 33. | Tom Allen, Sr., Tammi Jamison, Barbara Vann | 12 | 11 | 13 | 36 |
| 34. | Jennifer Eldredge, Chris Shipman, Paul Harvener . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 7 | 7 | 22 | 36 |
| 35. | Jay Dunwell, Amy Dunwell, Lisa Cayen. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 18 | 5 | 15 | 38 |
| 36. | Allen Leibel, Paul Olivier, Jenn Graham. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 9 | 4 | 25 | 38 |
| 37. | George Fisher, Joyce Spring, Tom Emch. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 7 | 23 | 9 | 39 |
| 38. | Jim Carson, Bill Bogardus, Ryan Dunn. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 16 | 13 | 11 | 40 |
| 39. | Jack Huntsman, Ted Duffy, Henry O'Hern, . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 17 | 11 | 13 | 41 |
| 40. | Gary Hurban, Frank Devlin, Sue Devlin. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 8 | 23 | 11 | 42 |
| 41. | Dan Reichelsdorfer, Michou Braun, Peter Orlebeke. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 13 | 15 | 14 | 42 |
| 42. | Jody Lutz, Graham Jones, Tof Nicoll-Griffith. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . | 20 | 10 | 14 | 44 |
| 43. | Bill Mauk, Cameron Carlin, Kevin Burnham. | 31 | 12 | 1 | 44 |


| 44. | David Wood, Graham Jones, Kirstie Agrell. | 22 | 8 | 14 | 44 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 45. | Gerry Paoli, Rick Bernstein, Christy Aljets. | 16 | 17 | 12 | 45 |
| 46. | Donald Brush, Ann Brush, Sean Carroll. | 18 | 8 | 20 | 46 |
| 47. | Jim Harris, Tom Vickers, Becky Nelson. | 14 | 14 | 19 | 47 |
| 48. | Ed Roseberry, Jr., Jack O'Donnell, Jim Starck. | 20 | 4 | 23 | 47 |
| 49. | Joe Waters, Carr Boyd, Beau Samuelson. | 19 | 9 | 19 | 47 |
| 50. | Dave Nickels, Kristy Nickels, John Kopko. | 15 | 18 | 15 | 48 |
| 51. | Franz Edson, James Perkins, Gary Meyer. | 11 | 20 | 18 | 49 |
| 52. | Roberto Ricoveri, Hector Longarela, Hugo Longarela. | 7 | 24 | 18 | 49 |
| 53. | Paul Gelenitis, Chris Arner, Andrea Smidh. | 21 | 18 | 11 | 50 |
| 54. | John Pelosi, Walton Usher, Jeffrey Brault. | 10 | 20 | 20 | 50 |
| 55. | Susan Rogers, John Rogers, Cheryl Day. | 14 | 19 | 17 | 50 |
| 56. | Bob Harkrider, Tom Schroder, Judah Rubin. | 25 | 7 | 21 | 53 |
| 57. | Brian Hayes, Chris Vann, Laura Milne. | 19 | 10 | 24 | 53 |
| 58. | Robert Zerban, Mark Sanford, Bart Snyder. | 4 | 22 | dsq | 57 |
| 59. | George Deyett, Sharon Deyett, Ken Deyett. | 21 | 22 | 15 | 58 |
| 60. | David Ruiter, Stephanie Ruiter, Garold Thompson. | 14 | 20 | 24 | 58 |
| 61. | Jeff Maludy, Roy Poor, David Ortiz. | 29 | 26 | 4 | 59 |
| 62. | Georges Peter, Charles Ritt, Allison Peter. | 22 | 12 | 26 | 60 |
| 63. | Rob Ruhlman, Abby Ruhlman, Jim Sminchak. | 18 | 22 | 21 | 61 |
| 64. | Phil Grotheer, Alex Klein, Charlie Wardwell. | 20 | 27 | 16 | 63 |
| 65. | Scott Finkboner, Ron Siemer, Sunny Duncan. | 27 | 25 | 13 | 65 |
| 66. | Lawrence Frost, III, Trey Jones, Brett Wynne. | 22 | 21 | 22 | 65 |
| 67. | Robert Bush, Sterling Bush, Gary Swangler. | 26 | 14 | 26 | 66 |
| 68. | Don Sherburne, Jerry Fertig, Bob Hochstetler. | 24 | 19 | 23 | 66 |
| 69. | Warren Emblidge, III, Amy Tillou, Jake Frank. | 19 | 23 | 25 | 67 |
| 70. | Cal Schmiege, Larissa Higgins, Jeff Schall. | 17 | 26 | 24 | 67 |
| 71. | George Francis, Scott Whitman, Ginger Cataou. | 24 | 16 | 28 | 68 |
| 72. | Ray Harrington, Toni Harrington, Julie Deyett. | 25 | 31 | 12 | 68 |
| 73. | Cully Ward, Barbara Ward, Jan Thompson. | 27 | 25 | 16 | 68 |
| 74. | Bob Cotton, Anne Cotton, Clark Higgs. | 24 | 16 | 32 | 72 |
| 75. | Jeanne Ehrenberg, Ian Nickerson, Dan Pope. | 28 | 27 | 17 | 72 |
| 76. | William Hofmeister, Mandy Hofmeister, Linda Morris. | 17 | 29 | 27 | 73 |
| 77. | Jim Davis, Christine Davis, Jeff Hagman. | 23 | 28 | 23 | 74 |
| 78. | John G'Sell, Sam Craven, Kevin Webster, | 21 | 24 | 29 | 74 |
| 79. | James Henry Taylor, Phil Taylor, Jay Taylor. | 28 | 29 | 17 | 74 |
| 80. | Jamie Guggisberg, Pam Demontmorency, Jamie Shiels. | 32 | 13 | 31 | 76 |
| 81. | Kurt Kling, Jamie Carroll, Katie Dutton. | 25 | 30 | 21 | 76 |
| 82. | Bryan Short, Chris Bone, Matt Ward. | 23 | 21 | dsq | 76 |
| 83. | Crit Currie, Audrey Matteson, Richard Buckley. | 30 | 17 | 30 | 77 |
| 84. | David Gall, Julie Moore, Mark Eashoo | 23 | 29 | 25 | 77 |
| 85. | Frank Kelly, Joe Cunningham, David Morris. | 26 | 25 | 28 | 79 |
| 86. | George Peet, Barbara Gillespie, Tom Hudson | 29 | 28 | 22 | 79 |
| 87. | Carter Utzig, Dave Smith, Ann Jeffries | 28 | 26 | 27 | 81 |
| 88. | Tim Maenpaa, Viella Maenpaa, Sean McMonagle. | 26 | 30 | 27 | 83 |
| 89. | Joan Hurban, Maud Lindsay, Mike Cullan. | 27 | 32 | 26 | 85 |
| 90. | Chandler Owen, Kat Ward, Jim Ward. | 29 | 28 | 28 | 85 |
| 91. | Mike Vollmer, Paul Eichenberg, Sandy Smith. . . . . . . | 30 | 27 | 29 | 86 |





## 1994 GOVERNOR'S CUP

25 boats, 6 races, I throwout

1. Ray Harrington, Toni Harrington, Julie Deyett
2. Warren Emblidge,III, Amy Tillou, Jake Frank
3. Jim Davis, Christine Davis, Jeff Hagman
4. James Henry Taylor, Phil Taylor, Jay Taylor
5. Kurt Kling, Jamie Carroll, Katie Dutton
6. William Hofmeister, Mandy Hofmeister, Linda Morris
7. Cal Schmiege, Larissa Higgins, Jeff Schall
8. Mike Vollmer, Paul Eichenberg, Sandy Smith
9. Cully Ward, Barbara Ward, Jan Thompson
10. David Gall, Julie Moore, Mark Eashoo
11. Tim Maenpaa, Viella Maenpaa, Sean McMonagle
12. George Francis, Scott Whitman, Ginger Cataou
13. Frank Kelly, Joe Cunningham, David Morris
14. Jeanne Ehrenberg, lan Nickerson, Dan Pope
15. Robert Bush, Sterling Bush, Gary Swangler
16. Joan Hurban, Maud Lindsay, Mike Cullan
17. Chandler Owen, Kat Ward, Jim Ward
18. Don Sherburne, Jerry Fertig, Bob Hochstetler
19. Bob Cotton, Anne Cotton, Clark Higgs
20. John G'Sell, Sam Craven, Kevin Webster
21. Carter Utzig, Dave Smith, Ann Jeffries
22. George Peet, Barbara Gillespie, Tom Hudson
23. Crit Currie, Audrey Matteson, Richard Buckley
24. Jamie Guggisberg, Pam Demontmorency, Jamie Shiels
25. Bryan Short, Chris Bone, Matt Ward

| 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 5 | dns | 13 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 3 | pms | 2 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 17 |
| 5 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 2 | 18 |
| 2 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 9 | 11 | 23 |
| 9 | 11 | 3 | 2 | 13 | 1 | 26 |
| 4 | 16 | 6 | 12 | 2 | 14 | 38 |
| 6 | 3 | 20 | 7 | 20 | 8 | 44 |
| 8 | 12 | 14 | 16 | 12 | 7 | 53 |
| 13 | pms | 10 | 19 | 6 | 6 | 54 |
| 18 | 8 | 11 | 8 | 18 | 9 | 54 |
| 19 | 15 | 17 | 11 | 1 | 12 | 56 |
| 7 | pms | 16 | 10 | 19 | 4 | 56 |
| 22 | 2 | 9 | 15 | 15 | 15 | 56 |
| 23 | 21 | 7 | 8 | 4 | 17 | 57 |
| 14 | 7 | 2 | 22 | 16 | 20 | 59 |
| 10 | 14 | 13 | 6 | 21 | 18 | 61 |
| 20 | 17 | 8 | 13 | 22 | 3 | 61 |
| 12 | 10 | 23 | 18 | 11 | 10 | 61 |
| 17 | 9 | 15 | 14 | 23 | 13 | 68 |
| 15 | 13 | 19 | 23 | 17 | 16 | 80 |
| 16 | 22 | 21 | 21 | 10 | 21 | 89 |
| 21 | 19 | 22 | 20 | 8 | 22 | 90 |
| 11 | 4 | dnf | dns | dns | dns | 93 |
| 24 | 20 | 18 | 24 | 14 | 19 | 95 |
| dsq | 18 | 12 | 17 | 24 | dnf | 97 |



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Worthington, Ohio 43085


## 1994 PRESIDENT'S CUP

## 27 boats, 6 races, I throwout

1. Donald Brush, Ann Brush, Sean Carroll
2. Jody Lutz, Graham Jones, Tof Nicoll-Griffith
3. Rob Ruhlman, Abby Ruhiman, Jim Sminchak
4. Roberto Ricoveri, Hector Longarela, Hugo Longarela
5. David Ruiter, Stephanie Ruiter, Garold Thompson
6. Bob Harkrider, Tom Schroder, Judah Rubin
7. Brian Hayes, Chris Vann, Laura Milne
8. Jim Harris, Tom Vickers, Becky Nelson
9. Joe Waters, Carr Boyd, Beau Samuelson
10. Paul Gelenitis, Chris Arner, Andrea Smith
11. Bill Mauk, Cameron Carlin, Kevin Burnham
12. Franz Edson, James Perkins, Gary Meyer
13. Ed Roseberry, Jr., Jack O'Donnell, Jim Starck
14. Dan Reichelsdorfer, Michou Braun, Peter Orlebeke
15. Georges Peter, Charles Ritt, Allison Peter
16. Dave Nickels, Kristy Nickels, John Kopko
17. Susan Rogers, John Rogers, Cheryl Day
18. George Deyett, Sharon Deyett, Ken Deyett
19. Lawrence Frost, III, Trey Jones, Brett Wynne
20. Gerry Paoli, Rick Bernstein, Christy Aljets
21. John Pelosi, Walton Usher, Jeffrey Brault
22. Scott Finkboner, Ron Siemer, Sunny Duncan
23. Gary Hurban, Frank Devlin, Sue Devlin
24. Robert Zerban, Mark Sanford, Bart Snyder
25. Jeff Maludy, Roy Poor, David Ortiz
26. David Wood, Graham Jones, Kirstie Agrell
27. Phil Grotheer, Alex Klein, CharlieWardwell

| 3 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 15 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 5 | 2 | 1 | 9 | pms | 7 | 24 |
| 10 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 4 | 29 |
| 1 | 6 | 11 | 6 | 6 | 16 | 30 |
| 6 | 15 | 6 | 19 | 2 | 3 | 32 |
| 2 | 8 | 10 | 3 | 9 | 10 | 32 |
| 7 | 4 | 12 | 15 | 4 | 8 | 35 |
| 8 | 5 | 13 | 12 | 4 | 6 | 35 |
| 11 | 19 | 5 | 10 | 1 | 11 | 38 |
| 9 | 27 | 14 | 2 | 16 | 1 | 42 |
| 4 | 1 | 2 | dnf | 23 | 17 | 47 |
| 14 | 13 | 17 | 7 | 14 | 2 | 50 |
| 16 | 10 | 7 | 13 | 10 | 21 | 56 |
| 17 | 11 | 19 | 8 | 12 | 9 | 57 |
| 12 | 12 | 9 | 22 | pms | 13 | 68 |
| 21 | 23 | 21 | 4 | 7 | 18 | 71 |
| 13 | 17 | 16 | 16 | 22 | 12 | 74 |
| 18 | 18 | 4 | 11 | 24 | dnf | 75 |
| 20 | 9 | 20 | 24 | 15 | 14 | 78 |
| 27 | 24 | 18 | 17 | 8 | 19 | 86 |
| 26 | 14 | 23 | 14 | 21 | 24 | 96 |
| 23 | 22 | 15 | 18 | 20 | 22 | 97 |
| 22 | 16 | 22 | 25 | 19 | 20 | 99 |
| 24 | 20 | 26 | dnf | 17 | 15 | 102 |
| 19 | 21 | 25 | 21 | 18 | 25 | 104 |
| 25 | 26 | 24 | 20 | 13 | 23 | 105 |
| 15 | 25 | dsq | 23 | dns | dns | 119 |




## 1994 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP

## 39 boats, 6 races, I throwout

1. Ched Proctor, Kathryn Josenhans, Jeff Eiber
2. Stu Nickerson, Lisa Brauer, Brian Hughes
3. Tito Gonzalez, Maria White, Hernan Holch
4. Allen Leibel, Paul Olivier, Jenn Graham
5. David Peck, Nina Cuccio Peck, Michael Loeb
6. Larry MacDonald, Jr., Ian Jones, Trevor Born
7. Matt Fisher, Ned Roseberry, Joe Donovan
8. Manuel Gonzalez, Rodrigo Zuazola, Juan Francisco Novion

| 13 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 22 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 22 | 1 | 12 | 4 | 7 | 2 | 26 |
| 2 | 4 | 9 | 9 | 20 | 10 | 34 |
| 14 | 3 | 35 | 7 | 11 | 1 | 36 |
| 6 | 33 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 21 | 37 |
| 3 | 10 | 8 | 13 | 4 | 14 | 38 |
| 18 | 8 | 13 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 39 |
| 19 | 2 | 3 | 18 | 8 | 12 | 43 |
| 9 | 11 | 1 | 14 | 9 | 15 | 44 |
| 5 | 7 | 18 | 16 | 15 | 4 | 47 |
| 1 | 14 | 28 | 8 | 17 | 11 | 51 |
| 11 | 23 | 23 | 11 | 2 | 7 | 54 |
| 20 | 25 | 2 | 10 | 3 | 25 | 60 |
| 7 | 27 | 11 | 3 | 22 | 19 | 62 |
| 17 | 18 | 6 | 28 | 12 | 18 | 71 |
| 23 | 26 | 14 | 1 | 34 | 9 | 73 |
| dns | 6 | 22 | 23 | 13 | 13 | 77 |
| 4 | 19 | 20 | 25 | 21 | 20 | 84 |
| 10 | 32 | 15 | 12 | 23 | 26 | 86 |
| 25 | 20 | 29 | 24 | 14 | 8 | 91 |
| 16 | 15 | 30 | 19 | 26 | 17 | 93 |
| 24 | 22 | 10 | 22 | 31 | 16 | 94 |
| 30 | 24 | 16 | 21 | 35 | 3 | 94 |
| 11 | 12 | 25 | 27 | 30 | 23 | 98 |
| 34 | 36 | 7 | 26 | 10 | 32 | 109 |
| 27 | 16 | 19 | 24 | 25 | 27 | 111 |
| 8 | 34 | 21 | 17 | 36 | 31 | 111 |
| 28 | 21 | 17 | 15 | 32 | $d n f$ | 113 |
| 12 | 30 | 26 | 32 | 18 | 28 | 114 |
| 21 | 29 | 32 | 20 | 16 | 33 | 118 |
| 31 | 13 | 27 | 33 | 19 | 36 | 123 |
| 15 | 28 | 24 | $d s q$ | 29 | 30 | 126 |
| 32 | 9 | 39 | 36 | 28 | 22 | 127 |
| 26 | 17 | 36 | 29 | 33 | 29 | 134 |
| 29 | 31 | 33 | 31 | 27 | 24 | 142 |
| 36 | 39 | 37 | 35 | 24 | 37 | 169 |
| 33 | 35 | 38 | 30 | 38 | 35 | 171 |
| 35 | 37 | 31 | 34 | 39 | 34 | 171 |
| dsq | 38 | 34 | 37 | 37 | 38 | 184 |

# North Americans 

By Ched Proctor

Fleet 126, Southport, CT


Ched Proctor ( $r$ ), winner of back-to-back North American Championships, with his "best possible team" for 1995, Kathryn Josenhans and Jeff Eiber.
"They said it couldn't be done."
It was the last race of the ' 94 North American Championship and with the right moves we could win it for the second year in a row. How had we arrived here? The biggest motivating factor had been Larry MacDonald's statement to me just after the '93 NAs in Milwaukee. He said, "Don't even bother to go to Toronto. No one can do well as the defender." This was a real worthwhile goal! During the entire year, my mind set was focused on how to be prepared for a good effort in Toronto.

The first decision was to try to get a good team that would enjoy racing together. The most important factor in doing well, I feel, is to remember that the main point is to have fun trying, and to realize that it is not the end of the world if you don't win or do well. In the end if you all enjoy the effort and feel that you have given your best, you are a winner no matter what the score board says. (Sorry, Vince Lombardi!)

Kathryn Josenhans, having recovered from the pregnancy which had prevented her from sailing in Milwaukee, was clearly enthusiastic about the Toronto effort. Her nearly ten years' experience running the front end of my Lightning would be an incredibly valuable asset and with the added incentive of having missed Milwaukee, Kathryn wanted to do well in Toronto. With the front end settled, my next consideration was the middle position. I felt it would be important to have someone who could keep track of the big course strategic situation. Kathryn is the very best at reading the compass, trimming the jib, and making all the mechanics work smoothly, and I can sail the boat.

What we needed was someone to see what is going on around us. With only two weeks before the series, I still hadn't nailed down the "Mr. or Ms. Perfect" for that position; Kathryn was beginning to worry. Somehow I had faith that it would work out and my faith proved effective. Jeff Eiber had been planning to sail with Phil and Wendy Lotz. In midJuly when Phil told me he wasn't going to Toronto, a light went off in my head and I headed for the nearest telephone to call Jeff. He immediately accepted my invitation. At this point I felt that we had the best possible team and if we didn't win, the team was not the reason.

The second decision, which I subconsciously made while standing in the parking lot talking to Larry in Milwaukee, was to sail the qualifiers. This worked well for us, because the qualifiers were a struggle. We came close to not making the cut and, I think, this served well to prevent us from becoming over-confident - a state of mind that often comes from being the defender. We realized that we were just another boat to be knocked around by this very competitive fleet and couldn't expect any special treatment.

Some of the high points of the first five races included, our near capsize (Jeff got one foot on the board) at the jibe mark of the first race, followed by the vang breaking and the lunches getting soggy. Then there was the stupid mistake at the finish of the second race where a certain third place finish and probable second was turned into a fourth as we tacked away from the layline just before the finish. The good part was that our host, Alan Leibel, got the second. Then there was the "definitely last place start" in the fourth race. In the fifth race we fouled Matt Fisher at the leeward mark and lost about a hundred boats and strategic position in doing the 720. But through it all, we found we had what it takes to battle back through the fleet to a top placing.

Now, it had all come down to one last race in a nice breeze with considerable chop.

Dave Peck had a one point lead. Larry MacDonald, Tito Gonzales and Stu Nickerson were all about six points behind. Things were pretty wide open; basically we needed a good race and to beat David by more than one boat. Our game plan was to try for a start near the upper third of the line, so we could get right if need be and we could also watch for any chance to arrange for Dave to have a
bad start. At 90 seconds to go Dave was headed toward the boat and really far up the line. We decided to let him pursue his own strategy and take advantage of a great hole opening up. As it was, we came off with a great start. No one to leeward was very close to us, so we were able to just sail fast, until things settled down. Alan Leibel was about three boat lengths below us, and moving very well. We also had Stu and Tito in the main window and reasonably well in control. Dave had tacked to port early, right of the weather end; we could not see him. We felt we ought to try to get over with Dave since he was the one boat we really had to beat.

One of the Argentines had started well, near the weather end. Although we were going faster, we waited until we felt confident of crossing him easily, so we held out for the shift. It wasn't very long before we were near the layline. When we did tack, Stu, Alan, Tito and Larry all continued only a little further. On port tack, we were laying the mark, so there was nothing to do, but sail fast. The wind was strong enough for Jeff and Kathryn to fully hike about half the time. The waves were huge and we were going straight into them. This necessitated considerable movement in and out to get through the waves without slowing down. As I concentrated on keeping us going well, one eye was peeled to try and identify the lead boat from the right corner. For a while it appeared that the boat on the right would have us if the wind went back right and there was the possibility that it would be Dave Peck. The boat was so far away that it was impossible to see who it was. When it tacked, I was first relieved to see that it didn't have a great breeze and couldn't get to us, and then I saw that it was not Dave.

We seemed to have things pretty well in control so we could sail a fairly conservative race from here. Alan Leibel gained a comfortable lead which he held until the finish. We opted to overstand the weather mark, to avoid a pile-up. This allowed Stu to get ahead, which came back to haunt us on the last weather leg. Larry and a couple of others got in front of us also. Fortunately, the one boat who had real incentive to really crush us, namely Dave Peck, was well behind. We passed Larry on the second beat so the only one left who could push us back was Stu. I think he needed some boats between us to beat Larry and Tito for second place, so maybe he would not sit on us too hard if it didn't look easy to push us back far enough.

On the run we went a little slow and Tom Jr. was able to get an inside overlap. Stu was getting the
boats he needed in between, so we had to hoof it fast up the last beat. The last beat was heavily port tack favored. Tito and Larry kept pushing each other to the left. To cover them, we took some of the starboard tack early. Stu tacked on Tom Jr. who in turn tacked under our leebow a couple of times, pushing us close to the layline early.

This is a position in which I feel decidedly uncomfortable, because all options have already been played out, and now you have to rely on luck to make things work. Tom was between Stu and ourselves, while Tom Sr. and Matt Fisher were nicely leveraged to the right. If he was able to get all those boats between us things would be close. I remember after Tom Jr. had tacked under us for the second time, we took a short clearing hitch on starboard, and when we came back to port we were virtually on the layline with a mile to go. I had the thought that this would be the longest mile I ever sailed.

If we could just hold on, we would attain that impossible goal of a second consecutive North American championship. I had to concentrate on keeping the boat moving and forget about Matt and Tom Sr. to leeward. There was nothing we could do about them anyway. If Stu kept working on us, the extra tacks might cost him sufficient distance to lose Matt and Tom and we'd be okay. He had a far more difficult decision to make than we. In the end Stu tacked on our line and was far enough ahead to allow us clear air. This placed him far enough to weather of Tom Jr. to leave Tom's air clean, so he in turn left us alone. I'm sure Tom didn't realize until after what his part in the whole grand scheme was. He was trying to beat us in the race. Imagine that! As it turned out, Tom Sr. and Tom Jr. beat us, but Matt stayed behind. This gave us the win.


Ched, right after that last race.


