

Hernando de Sota Regatta
Delta Sailing Association 2 Fleet 274
Memphis, Tennessee
May 18-19, 2002

Pos	Sail #	Skipper	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	Total
1	14645	Bob Cotton	2	1	1	2	(7)	4	10
2	14680	Bill Killebrew	1	2	2	4	(5)	2	11
3	13966	Frank Bermel	7	3	3	3 ²		(DSQ)	18
4	14706	Mandy Hofmeister	3	(14)	8	1	3	9	24
5	14969	Batton Kennon	5	5	4	(8)	6	7	27
6	13703	Ian Lacour	6	4	7	(10)	9	3	29
7	14357	Bill Baxter	8	6	5	6	(12)	8	35
8	14270	Roy Robbins	11	(13)	9	7	8	6	41
9	11999	Bill Baxter III	4	DNF	DNS	(DNS)	1	1	42
10	14666	Crit Currie Jr.	9	7	(DNF)	11	4	13	46
11	14338	Lynn Jones	13	8	10	13	(14)	5	49
12	14149	Harmon Dunathan	10	12	13	5	10	(DNS)	50
13	14809	Rob Hempel	12	9	6	(15)	11	12	50
14	11311	Ralph Allen	14	10	12	12	15	(DNS)	63
15	11737	Chan Owen	DNF	DNS	(DNS)	9	13	10	68
16	13258	Posey Hedges	15	11	11	DNS	DNS	(DNS)	73
17	15128	Max Shelton	DNF	DNS	(DNS)	14	14	11	75

Report

Dr. BoB Cotton
14645

Seventeen competitors from Memphis, Nashville, and Jackson Mississippi gathered at beautiful Lake Arkabutla for the annual Hernando DeSoto Regatta staged by the Delta Sailing Association. The passage of a strong cold front Friday afternoon set the stage for two days of racing in a cool north breeze. On Saturday, a NNW wind blew 10-20 mph with gusts into the twenties. Success depended on staying in phase with the oscillations and keeping the mast out of the water. In regard to the latter, 4 teams spotted the rest of the fleet an advantage by capsizing: Mandy Hofmeister and Bill Baxter (the younger) in the second race and Max Shelton and Chan Owen in the first race. As a matter of fact, Chan managed two separate capsizes on the first leeward leg as he worked to orient new crew to the subtleties of heavy air seamanship. At the end of Saturday's 3 races, Bill Killebrew and our team led the pack with 5 and 4 points, respectively, followed by Frank Bermel (13 points), Batton Kennon (14 points) and Ian Lacour (17 points) rounding out the top five.

As usual, the Memphis fleet provided unparalleled hospitality. For Saturday night's gala, sailors enjoyed a sumptuous feast of world class barbecue in the main ballroom of the Hernando Hilton, followed by spirited efforts to achieve a variety of body movements enjoyed by all. Several members of the group also danced.

Sunday morning was cold and breezy with the wind building to 10-15 out of the NNE. We blew the first start, fouled another boat, and arrived at the weather mark at the back of the fleet. Luckily for us, Mark Stanley pulled our chestnuts out of the fire by spotting new wind filling in from the east. Bruce Campbell (the "anti-Bruce") facilitated a flawless gybe-set, allowing us to sail over top of the fleet on our way to third place around the leeward mark and eventually a second for the race following a bullet by Mandy. Bill Baxter (the younger) rejoined the event for the final 2 races, finishing first in both. Going into the final (6th) race, we were tenuously in first with 13 points followed by Bill Killebrew with 14 and Frank Bermel with 18. We finished a conservative 4th in the last race, behind the aforementioned Baxter in first, Bill Killebrew in second and Ian Lacour in third. Lynn Jones rounded out the top five. Over the best five-of-six-race series, we managed to eke out a first with a one-point margin over the Killebrew team.