

THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP DECIDED BY A CLOSE FINISH AND TACTICS

by Glenn Darden
(who won)

The 1979 Lightning Worlds will probably best be remembered as the year of the blow.

Some 53 competitors from 12 countries came to Lake Ray Hubbard and Rush Creek Yacht Club expecting moderate to light breezes and hot temperatures. Well we got the temperatures, but there was just a little more velocity to the wind than anticipated.

A large low-pressure system stalled in the Texas panhandle and didn't move for the entire week. This produced 20-30 knot southerly winds which never quit.

The organization of the regatta by host fleet #435 and Rush Creek Yacht Club was excellent and the hospitality tremendous. The races were expertly run by Jim Anderson

and his assistants. The fleet averaged two general recalls per race and on the whole was aggressive.

The first race was held in 20-25 knot wind. Don Brush, Jim Neville and Jack Elfman led the fleet around with Bill Shore and Tom Allen close behind. We rounded back and slowly picked off boats. Brush, showing us all great speed and pointing ability, won the race with Neville and Elfman in second and third. We took Allen and Shore on the final beat to finish fourth. Stephen Craig sailed a fine last leg also catching Shore to finish fifth.

The second day was cranking harder than the first. Two races were scheduled for the day. The puffs were over 30 at times for the morning race. We had an excellent middle of



The excitement of the wild and wooley Worlds with winner Glenn Darden (upper right) showing us how a winner looks, looking back of course. Crew are Kelly Gough and Doug Shelton.

Photos by Mary Huntsman

X WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Final Pos.	Country & Boat #	Skipper & Crew	City	Race Finishes						
				1	2	3	4	5	6	Pts.
1	US 13226	Glenn Darden Kelly Gough, Doug Shelton	Ft. Worth, Texas	4	(9)	3	2	4	2	15
2	US 13333	Bill Shore Bonnie Shore, Mark Bryant	Newport, Rhode Island	6	(53)	1	1	1	7	16
3	US 13391	Jim Crane Bill Crane, Gene Peters	Darien, Connecticut	7	1	6	3	8	(11)	25
4	US 13250	Jim Dressel Nancy Dressel, Greg Fisher	Columbus, Ohio	8	4	(12)	10	2	4	28
5	US 13172	Don Brush Ann Brush, Hale Walcoff	Charlotte, Vermont	1	19	2	4	3	(33)	29
6	BL 13406	Mario Backup Joaquim Feneberg, Ralph Christian	Sao Paulo, Brazil	(13)	3	4	12	9	5	33
7	US 13222	Jim Neville Candy Neville, Dave Barger	Cleveland, Ohio	2	8	7	11	(15)	12	40
8	US 10956	Matt Fisher George Fisher, Patti Fisher	Newport, Rhode Island	(18)	14	5	13	10	1	43
9	US 13306	Jay Lutz, Jody Lutz, Don Schon	Bricktown, New Jersey	15	7	10	7	(19)	8	47
10	KC 13305	Larry MacDonald Ian Jones, Steve McMenemy	Hamilton, Ontario, Canada	12	(53)	9	5	17	6	49
11	US 13311	Tom Allen Jane Allen, Brenda Allen	Amherst, New York	11	5	13	6	(25)	14	49
12	US 13347	Stephen Craig Cindy Craig, Jeff Grinnan	Heath, Texas	5	(22)	14	19	13	9	60
13	US 13248	Bob Chilton Jim Craig, Chris Brandon	Heath, Texas	9	15	11	(23)	7	19	61
14	EC 12693	Francisco Sola Felipe Estrada, Carlos Lecaro	Guayaquil, Ecuador	14	10	17	8	(53)	13	62
15	US 12755	Garry Demarest Gary Cameron, Sally Werenski	Adrian, Michigan	17	11	15	21	(29)	3	67
16	US 10212	Georges Peter Carolyn M. Peter, C. H. Ritt	Barrington, Rhode Island	23	12	8	(53)	21	16	80
17	BL 13405	Claudio Abramowitz Martin Susemihl, Renato Kaufman	Sao Paulo, Brazil	10	(53)	16	14	20	20	80
18	US 12739	Denis Farley Tony Doyle, Henry O'Hern	Middletown, New Jersey	19	18	22	(53)	23	10	92
19	US 12800	Jon Schwartz Arnold Schwartz, Mike Schon	Fairhaven, New Jersey	20	17	23	15	18	(23)	93
20	X 13396	Manuel Gonzalez Mas Miguel Angel Gonazlez, Juan Pablo Barahona	Santiago, Chile	30	16	20	(53)	14	15	95
21	US 11933	Dave Ruiter Deborah Freeth, Gary Swangler	Freehold, New Jersey	22	21	(54)	18	6	32	99
22	US 11908	Bob Adams Jenny Adams, Paul Gelenitis	Gwynedd Valley, Pennsylvania	26	6	(54)	24	26	18	100
23	A 11042	Horacio Luis Tettamanti M. Hugo C. Arazi, Juan Jose Grande	Buenos Aires, Argentina	25	13	30	22	22	(36)	112
24	Z 13070	Hans K. Rahn Thomas Huber, Thomas Bosshard	Zurich, Switzerland	24	20	35	16	35	(39)	130
25	A 12824	Angel Vila Ira Johnson, Lance K. Drewes	Buenos Aires, Argentina	28	24	21	(36)	27	30	130
26	US 13063	Jack Elfman Holly Elfman, Mike Lucas	Doylestown, Pennsylvania	3	53	(54)	17	5	53	131
27	CB 8972	Reginald Schlubach Eduardo & Maria Colmenares	Bogota, Colombia	21	(53)	24	28	24	37	134
28	BL 11708	Robert Backup Peter Zacher, Martin Backup	Sao Paulo, Brazil	(53)	53	26	20	16	21	136
29	US 12709	Henry (Pete) Russell Pam Russell, Susie Goodwin	Charleston, South Carolina	27	30	29	31	(34)	22	139
30	PU 12515	Cesar E. Zanatti Luis A. Bryce, Enrique Conterno	Callao, Peru	32	(53)	19	25	40	26	142
31	I 13414	Roberto Crucitti Antonio Marino, Brad Currie	Marsala, Italy	29	23	(53)	30	33	27	142
32	KC 12946	William J. Hunter John Gorrie, Garth Dixon	Hamilton, Ontario, Canada	35	26	(37)	26	31	25	143
33	Z 12952	Urs Wyler Katherine Kipfer, Peter Bernasconi	Ostermundigen, Switzerland	16	25	34	(53)	45	24	144
34	A 8411	Javier Pascuchi Maria Pascuchi, David Peters	Buenos Aires, Argentina	33	29	(54)	27	28	28	145
35	PU 13367	Carlos Navarro Elvira Navarro, Anne Allen	Lima, Peru	31	40	28	(53)	30	17	146

36	US	13360	Clarence L. Holman, III Laura Militzer, Kyle Militzer	Fenton, Michigan	(42)	28	18	34	36	31	147
37	US	12499	Bob Hutchinson Bob Heick, Marguerite Siegel	Red Bank, New Jersey	34	27	31	29	(37)	29	150
38	CB	12510	Jorge Uscategui Manuel Isaza, Marian Isaza	Bogota, Colombia	38	34	25	32	(39)	35	164
39	Z	13099	Christoph Luthy Stanley Starkey, Rolf Moser	Schwerzenbach, Switzerland	37	33	33	33	(48)	34	170
40	BL	11721	Walmor Gomes Soares Cesar Murila Barbi, Oduvaldo Gomes Soares	Florianopolis, Brazil	53	2	27	53	38	(53)	173
41	X	13395	Alberto Gonzalez Mas Fernando Gallyas, Tristan Aircardi	Santiago, Chile	53	53	54	9	11	(54)	180
42	L	13413	Pertti Pyy Ritva Pyy, Petri Wikman	Hyryla, Finland	40	31	(53)	37	42	41	192
43	US	13309	Bruce Goldsmith Paul Adam, Sherry Schiche	Lake Geneva, Wisconsin	41	38	53	53	12	(53)	194
44	Z	13074	Jurg Weilenmann Rene Meyer, Hansruedi Kunz	Kusnacht, Switzerland	41	38	36	(53)	44	38	197
45	BL	11710	Dietmar Heydenreich Henricus Bocage, Christiano V. Schaaffhausen	Sao Paulo, Brazil	43	31	53	35	43	(53)	205
46	CB	12829	Jaime Casabianca Ary Fernandez, Garry Jackson	Bogota, Colombia	(53)	39	39	39	49	40	206
47	L	12909	Hartti Nisonen Ilpo Nisonen, Terttu Vattula	Espoo, Finland	47	(53)	38	38	46	42	211
48	A	9643	Mario E. Abinzano Stewart Thomas, Fidel Abinzano	Buenos Aires, Argentina	36	53	32	53	41	(53)	215
49	KC	12443	Michael L. Vollmer Shenna Bristol, Tom Gamelin	Burlington, Ontario, Canada	53	36	53	53	32	(53)	227
50	A	13122	Anibal Gatti Antonio Gneri, Walter Gentilini	Boulogne, Buenos Aires, Argentina	45	35	53	53	53	(53)	239
51	Z	12860	Claude Lambelet Annika Lambelet, Laurent Lambelet	Neuchatel, Switzerland	44	53	53	53	47	(53)	250
52	I	13264	Nando DeAmicis Alberto DeAmicis, Curt Schuler	Verona, Italy	46	53	53	53	53	(53)	258

the line start and played shifts up the middle to round first. We set our chute, hit a huge puff, and blew out a clew. Jim Crane passed us as did a few other boats. Shore rounded in a pack and capsized. We set out runner on the next reach and gained back to fifth. The leaders went right while we played the left. We caught an excellent port lift to round 200 yards in front. We set, jibed, and capsized. Jim Dressel held off raising the spinnaker, then set it on a long starboard reach. He doused, jibed and came to the leeward mark under jib. Crane was more aggressive and took the lead. Brush was in good shape, but flipped later on the run. We recovered to round the leeward mark 9th. Brush fell to 19th. Crane covered and won by a good margin with Dressel second. Shore couldn't sail out and took a DNF.

The race committee cancelled the afternoon race due to high winds and breakdowns.

Matt Fisher had an excellent start in the third race and rounded the weather mark first. We started down low and picked shifts up the middle to round second. Crane got inside us at the jibe mark and Brush gained on us. The leaders went left the second time up. Shore, rounding in 5th or 6th, got a big shift on the right and took the lead by a good margin, increasing his lead on the reaches to win. We rounded the leeward mark in third outside of Fisher, but with good speed we soon forced him to tack. Brush went farther right and took us coming to the finish line for second place.

I feel in Kelly Gough and Doug Shelton that I had the best crew there. They never doubted winning even in the darkest moments. We stuck to our game plan of consistent top "five" each race and we never gave up. We also had a large portion of luck, a necessary ingredient for any win.

The fourth race was all Bill Shore's. He got out to an early lead and was never threatened. Larry MacDonald, Brush,

and Crane were following. We had a terrible start but were able to cross the grain immediately without ducking too many sterns. On the second triangle we got an overlap on Crane and Brush at the jibe mark and were able to round the leeward mark third behind Shore and MacDonald. It was now a battle for second as Shore had a good lead. Near the finish we tacked below Brush, who came from the right, and above Crane and MacDonald. We crossed second just ahead of Brush, with Crane fourth and MacDonald fifth.

Shore won his third straight race by starting well, being close on the first beat, and passing boats on the reaches. Elfman rounded the weather mark first. We were around second but were caught low and were passed by Dressel, Shore, and Brush. The leaders played the right side on the second beat and gained. We were left and fell further behind. Shore pulled out to win and Dressel just took Brush at the line for second. We passed Elfman who was on the left side to finish fourth. Crane had his worst race to tighten the scores even more.

We had plenty of time to figure the scores as the final race was scheduled for the next day. Going to the last race four boats had a shot at the title. With a throwout Shore was leading with 9 points. Brush was one point back at 10. We had 13 and Crane had 18. Jim Dressel in 5th had a mathematical chance to beat everyone but us. Shore and Brush each had a bad race while our worst was a 9th and Crane's an 8th.

The final race, an Olympic course, was sailed in the lightest air of the regatta, 15-20 knots. After the usual general recall we got off to a good start near the committee boat. Dressel was right above us and Shore with a better start was a few boat lengths to leeward. Brush started behind and tacked right. We battled with Shore in the middle of the course. They were slightly ahead and crossed us on port.

Instead of planting it on top, Shore continued to the right to make sure he had Brush. We got out from under him and had the lead at the weather mark. Brush rounded about 7th but capsized with his chute up. Crane was back also so the two-boat battle was on. We increased our lead but Shore was still in second. We closely covered Shore on the second beat but the fleet gained very little distance. Shore gained on the run but we kept our inside at the mark. Garry Demarest, Fisher, Dressel and Mario Buckup were gaining but were still behind. We stayed directly in Shore's wind going back up, driving off when he did. After about four tacks, Dressel had taken Shore. Fisher and 3 other boats were heading right. Halfway up the leg we had lost the lead and were in about third or fourth with Shore in fifth. It was here that we

decided to let him go and to try for the lead. Shore tacked back right to try to consolidate but took a bad heading across. We were near the port tack layline when we tacked. Demarest crossed and tacked above us but left our air clear. Fisher crossed the line to win the race. We were able to drive out from under Demarest to just take second. As we crossed we turned to see a line of boats on the starboard layline coming in to the finish — Dressel, Buckup, MacDonald, and Shore.

We had done it with not one boat to spare!

It was a hard fought series all the way. Don Brush sailed very well throughout the regatta but had two unfortunate capsize. Bill Shore had a super series with three firsts but was unlucky at the end.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP IN HELSINKI — JULY 79

by Jean-Claude Dupasquier
(who won)

"I was really amazed by my boatspeed..."

For the second time in my Lightning life, I have the pleasure of winning a European Championship....and accordingly, of writing the difficult report for the Yearbook. But I take it as a privilege, because it's important to transmit the good spirit of the Lightning Class!

I must confess that I was very surprised to be again at the top — and already for the tuning-up race — for several reasons:

- My training had been very poor before the championship.
- I hadn't used my new sails, just coming from the USA.
- My crew had been partly changed.

Anyway, I was really amazed by my boatspeed and my pointing up wind; with such rapidity, it was almost easy to get the first place. And my new crew was absolutely perfect!

Unfortunately, the weather conditions were not very good, and the winds were mostly weak from 0 to 3 Beaufort. This was a big change for our Finnish friends who had just raced their district championship in very heavy winds. It didn't suit well either the other Swiss except Reudi who had also a very good speed and could obtain the 6th position, in spite of one disqualification and a 27th place. Italy placed one boat in the first ten, i.e. Luigi Merola, who was sailing with his usual talent.

Among the Finns, I was very happy to meet for the first time the Aromaa family, a skilled Lightning sailing team.

The races depend also on the general atmosphere, mostly created by the host country. I thank all the Finns who set up this nice championship and welcomed us with care and enthusiasm. We kept this in mind just before crossing on the ferry to get to the club situated on an island. Our team was very late, the ceremony couldn't start without us, but the ferry was not coming and some of the committee members were calling us on the other side. Having no solution we took a small rowing boat!

The different parties organized during the championship gave us the chance to strengthen our old friendship ties and to visit a bit the countryside, mostly covered with big green forests and lakes. That's why we felt almost at home; I say "almost" because Finland is quite flat. We also enjoyed "saunatime" which is really an important relaxing time in Finnish life. After sailing, it isn't unpleasant! We appre-

ciated the different, very healthy, typical dishes.

Next year, you are invited in Switzerland. The European Championship of 1980 will be held in Neuchâtel from the 29th of June to the 6th of July. What a challenge for you...and for me, because we say in French: "Nul n'est prophète dans son pays" (no one is a prophet in his country).

We hope to welcome you as well as in Finland!

A tres bientot



European Champions after race. Jean Claude DuPasquier "towing" Lasse Hammar.
Photo Credit Laura Heikkilä

27TH LIGHTNING EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP 1979

Final Yacht Pos.	Skipper & Crew	Club or Fleet	Race Finishes						Pts.
			1	2	3	4	5	6	
1	Z 13067 Jean Claude DuPasquier, Yann DuPasquier	Fleet 169	1	1	4	1	1	(4)	8
2	L 13130 Terho Aromaa, Jari Aromaa, Markku Aromaa	M	2	10	(17)	3	2	2	19
3	L 9436 Lasse Hammar, Harry Hammar, Simo Koski	OPS	4	(47)	3	4	4	5	20
4	L 13135 Pentti Puupera, Reijo Puupera, Kari Puupera	SPS	8	(9)	1	6	3	7	25
5	I 13264 Luigi Merola, Mario Lo Sardo, Franco Lo Sardo	Fleet 235	6	5	7	2	5	(19)	25
6	L 12435 Heikki Kirjavainen, Antero Nummela, Saku Vento	TP	9	3	8	(11)	7	1	28
7	Z 12571 Rudolf Herzog, Christoph Herzog, Kathy Herzog	Fleet 250	3	2	6	(48)	6	27	44
8	L 12914 Kari Maenpaa, Erkki Maenpaa, Oki Wikman	HSK	10	4	(14)	9	13	8	44
9	L 12805 Antti Ruuskanen, Olli Ruuskanen, Lauri Heikkila	SPS	15	(21)	2	15	8	12	52
10	L 12909 Hartti Nisonen, Ilpo Nisonen, Antero Uitto	TP	14	6	9	(27)	17	6	52
11	I 13068 Nando De Amicis, Gilbert Despland, Alberto DeAmicis	Fleet 249	11	13	(19)	7	14	9	54
12	L 12919 Leif Haglund, Veikko Valkama, Kari Salovaara	SPS	19	(48)	5	5	10	26	65
13	Z 10898 Hans-Peter Schmid, Urs Wyler, Willi Stadelmann	Fleet 358	20	11	12	12	11	(30)	66
14	L 12995 Aulis Naykki, Kalervo Naykki, Sven Nyberg	KePS	(21)	14	13	13	16	15	71
15	L 12918 Markku Paloma, Heikki Pajala, Raimo Larkoniemi	OPS	16	18	15	10	(19)	13	72
16	Z 10715 Ernst Schar, Urs Schar, Christine Schar	Fleet 358	17	8	(47)	8	20	21	74
17	L 13357 Seppo Lahdemaki, Hannu Lope, Timo Tarkkonen	BSF	(31)	16	20	22	9	10	77
18	Z 12951 Rudolf Fluhmann, Monika Fluhmann, Jurg Rolli	Fleet 358	5	27	10	18	21	(47)	81
19	L 12761 Vesa Tapola, Ilkka Tapola, Pekka Hamalainen	TP	7	22	23	16	(48)	20	88
20	L 12906 Ahti Immonen, Ilpo Hanninen, Kari Kahkonen	SPS	13	7	47	(48)	12	14	93
21	L 13096 Jukka Lainkari, Martti Lahti, Pekka Lehtinen	JaPs	18	26	(47)	17	15	18	94
22	L 13136 Martti Nurminen, Kari Elivuo, Veikko Miettinen	JVS	25	17	25	(29)	22	11	100
23	L 12581 Osmo Tanskanen, Timo Tanskanen, Heimo Koskela	HoPs	22	(28)	11	19	26	23	101
24	L 12994 Jukka Lainkari, Markku Mustonen, Timo Huhtikangas	KePs	26	12	21	25	18	(29)	102
25	I 12427 Alberto Vivani, Guido Armeni, Alpino Moroni	Fleet 466	23	23	(27)	20	25	16	107
26	L 10059 Martti Raisanen, Timo Perttula, Jari Makineste	KePs	27	32	24	(34)	23	3	109
27	L 12258 Pertti Pyy, Ritva Pyy, Petri Wikman	TP	32	24	(47)	14	24	22	116
28	L 12762 Antti Tapola, Antti Hakkinen, Kari Parkkonen	TP	29	15	16	31	32	(47)	123
29	L 12748 Juhani Haila, Hannu Harju, Bengt Tuores	TP	30	(48)	26	21	29	17	123
30	L 13483 Timo Patosuo, Mervi Patosuo, Petri Immonen	ImVK	12	38	18	32	(47)	25	125
31	L 13098 Lauri Hamalainen, Anne Hamalainen, Antero Kortema	TP	24	25	22	24	(33)	33	128
32	L 13134 Heikki Ulen, Erkki Puupera, Petteri Haggstrom	KePS	33	20	(47)	38	35	24	150
33	L 11544 Raimo Aromaa, Mika Aromaa, Tero Paukku	M	36	19	(47)	28	30	39	152
34	L 12757 Pentti Laitinen, Sirkka Laitinen, Leena Laitinen	TP	27	29	(47)	23	27	36	152
35	L 12352 Osmo Savola, Pekka Simola, Rabbe Saxen	KPS	41	35	(47)	26	28	28	158
36	L 12992 Aimo Jokiniemi, Tuula Jokiniemi, Hannele Tayranen	VP	28	33	(47)	33	36	35	165
37	L 12479 Marjatta Ollila, Henri Ollila, Heikki Oittinen	HSK	34	30	(47)	39	38	31	172
38	L 10668 Tuomo Kauhanen, Pekka Hongisto, Kari Moisio	TP	35	31	47	36	31	(48)	180
39	L 12257 Harri Ritala, Antti Ilves, Timo Lainkari	JaPS	43	(47)	47	30	34	32	186
40	L 13129 Hannu Pekkala, Mikko Pekkala, Pauli Isomaa	KePs	38	37	(47)	37	41	34	187
41	L 13137 Ilmo Hassinen, Ilkka Hassinen, Kimmo Aromaa	OPS	40	36	(47)	35	42	37	190
42	L 12429 Heikki Helin, Eero Helin, Kyosti Helin	SPS	39	40	(47)	41	37	40	197
43	L 9438 Kalevi Siiskonen, Petri Siiskonen, Jouko Kaskela	TP	44	34	(47)	40	39	41	198
44	L 12907 Leo Korhonen, Anne Korhonen, Rainer Korhonen	TP	42	41	(47)	43	40	38	204
45	L Seppo Myllyla, Jukka Salmi, Pekka Sayra	MV	45	42	(47)	42	43	42	214
46	L 12434 Leo Manninen, Kari Keilan, Jorma Tervashonka	TP	46	39	(47)	44	44	43	216

46 Boats, 47 Points DNF/DNS, 48 Points DSQ, () Throw-out

I.L.C.A. ADDRESSING SERVICE

Most of the Fleet and District Officers listed in this Year Book held office during the calendar year 1979. Names and addresses of current officers may be obtained from I.L.C.A. Headquarters.

Some of the Members listed in the Registry of Lightning Owners have moved since the Registry was prepared (months ago). Current addresses may be obtained from I.L.C.A. Headquarters.

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SOUTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP

by Paco Sola
(who won)

The 1979 South American Championship was sailed in Ancon-Peru early in March. Ancon Bay is a beach resort located 30 miles north of Lima.

As usual we decided to participate at the last minute. We started to prepare my boat to travel to Ancon, Peru but due to business problems I canceled the project. However, at last minute my wife Cecilia insisted and finally I decided to sail in a borrowed boat.

Cecilia, crewmember Johnny Meira and myself arrived to Ancon Saturday morning to watch the final races of the traditional Peru-Chile Lightning trophy which I thought important to watch since I remembered Ancon from previous Lightning and Sunfish regattas as an extremely tricky place.

My other crewmember Juan Santos Jr. was participating at the same time in the annual Ecuador-Peru Sunfish Regatta and was able to comment about Ancon's winds. We matched his comments with my observations and came up with several conclusions.

- Usual winds were south to south west with a tendency to rotate to north west after 4 p.m.
- Ancon bay is surrounded by high mountains and winds from the south coming across a canyon that ends at the beach. For the same reason there is an increase in wind velocity near the beach and a 10 to 15 degree lift on the left corner of the course.
- If these conditions remain, races will be one way to the left until reaching the lay line. Tack too soon to the mark means leaving the windy area sooner.
- It is a place where you can recover pretty easily by observing the general one way rule and by watching boats in dead holes.

We had our borrowed boat and after washing and some "make up" went out sailing and discovered that it was impossible to change tuning since the halyards were welded to turnbuckles. Happily I noticed the boat was very fast upwind and felt it very similar to mine.

Later the same day we won the first tune up race easily and found out that we were very fast upwind and that we were in bad shape with spinnaker handling.

We decided not to sail the second tune-up and returned to the club for more washing and more psychological work. While working several friends told me, Paco you will never win this one since tradition says "the winner of the tune-up races never wins."

I wasn't worried about that because I solved the problem with another old Ecuadorian tradition; that night we went to Hector Sabogal's beautiful yacht and had in advance the weekly quota of Pisco Sour and Scotch and Soda. It was enough to forget our winning the tune-up race. The next morning we were ready for serious racing.

Before going out we made a list of people to watch - that proved to be a mistake. We included the Brazilians, and Navarro and Zanatti the local hot shots high on the list. But, we didn't know about the progress of the young Chilean sailors and anything about the winning of the Gonzales

Brothers in a recent champions regatta where they beat the world's best sailors.

After the last race I learned that the class is growing in South America and that you can not know how good new faces are and the caliber is actually very high. In the future everybody will be on my list.

First Race

Wind six to eight miles from the west.

We chose the left side of the starting line and got beautiful clear air to leeward of the fleet. We resist all tentations to play the shifts and went all the way to the lay line. We tacked on a lift and rounded the first windward mark one hundred yards ahead of Dieter Dyck, Rufino Melero and the Gonzales Brothers all of them on a close fight for second place.

After increasing our lead we jibed and immediately went into a hole and were passed by at least 10 boats.

On the second beat and trying desperately to recover we play with the compass only to lose two more boats.

In the final leg we decide to repeat our first beat and went all the way to the left. We found again the lift on the left corner and finished a beautiful fourth place.

Rufino Melero won the race followed by Manuel Gonzales from Chile and Carlos Navarro from Peru.

After first race it was evident that consistency was the key and that our upwind speed was more than good.

Claudio Abramowitz from Brazil, Alberto Gonzales and Luis Herman from Chile, all of them high on our list of people to watch, were 23rd, 9th and 8th. Dieter Dyck from Ecuador was 7th.

Second Race

Conditions were the same as the first race. We decided to repeat the first race and forget about the compass. Again we got a nice leeward start and rounded first mark in third very close to Alberto Gonzales and Manuel Gonzales from Chile. We were closely followed by Rufino Melero, Carlos Navarro and Doctor Barreda.

Positions remained the same until the last leeward mark when we rounded and immediately tacked to the left trying to find clear air and more wind near the beach. At the first moment it looked like we were leading and moving faster however the wind was dying and shifting to the north. We were caught to leeward of a 30 degree lift that favored those who tacked a few yards to our windward.

Finally Alberto Gonzales won the race followed by Carlos Navarro, Rufino Melero and Jose Barreda. We finished a not so bad fifth.

After second race we were sure that if unpredictable changes were going to repeat on each race a fifth was a respectable finish. We were also sure that a little bit of luck was a must.

Watching the top guys on our list Manuel Gonzales was 9th, the Brazilians were all out and so was Dieter Dyck who finished 14th.

Third Race

A cloudy day with very light air from the west. We noticed two 20 degree changes to the north before the start but finally wind came back to the west. We chose a conservative start in the middle got clear air and decided again to go all the way to the left trying to find the usual lift near the coast. Soon after the start two winds came into the bay. The usual from the west and a north wester favoring those boats that started near the committee boat and even more to those who tacked to the right immediately after the start.

We were mad watching how the leaders were pointing 30 degrees higher with more wind than us. We decided to tack to the new wind instead of waiting until it came to us or instead to try to reach the beach area where the normal west was clearly blowing. It was the right decision since when we tack again all the boats who stayed to the left were one mile away with no wind at all.

We were crossed by 16 boats and 6 boats were leading by half a mile.

It was evident that there was no wind near the windward mark and that due to the large swell it was going to be difficult to round it. We went all the way to the coast and got and extra breeze, tacked after the lay line and rounded 15th. But, at the first reach was a dead run and by watching boats that fell in the many holes we rounded the jibing mark in an incredible second place.

The rest of the race was a continuous switch of positions and finally Alberto Gonzales won his second race followed by Cesar Zanatti, his brother Manuel and us with smiling faces.

After the third race Rufino Melero and Carlos Navarro,

the early leaders, finished 21st and 15th and our 4-5-4 was good enough to keep our hopes since Alberto Gonzales had 9-1-1 and his brother Manuel 2-9-3.

Fourth Race

This looked much more like conditions I remembered from other regattas in Ancon. Sunny day and winds from the south at 10 to 12 miles.

Immediately after the start Carlos Lecaro from Ecuador, Manuel Gonzales and Cesar Zanatti took a large lead and rounded the first mark in that order.

We recovered pretty well from a bad start and rounded 8th. We passed 2 other boats on the reaches and 3 more on the second beat and rounded the last leeward mark in a very close third.

However lady luck was not 100% with us since wind rolled to the west and final leg was one way with no chances to play the shifts and use our good upwind speed. Manuel Gonzales won the race followed by Carlos Lecaro and ourselves.

After fourth race Rufino Melero and Carlos Navarro were out of any possibility. Manuel Gonzales had 2-9-3-1, Alberto Gonzales 9-1-1-7 and we had 4-5-4-3.

Our only advantage was our consistency even with our not so brilliant positions.

Fifth Race

Conditions were the same. Winds from the south at 10 miles.

We concentrated our efforts on a clear air start and tried to beat the Gonzales brothers. We chose the starboard end of the line and took the lead soon after. Alberto Gonzales started at the leeward end and looked under control. He was

XXV SOUTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP

RACE FINISHES

Fin. Pos.	Skipper	Country	Boat #	1	2	3	4	5	6	Points
1	Francisco Sola	Ecuador	12693	4	5	4	3	2	(6)	18
2	Alberto Gonzales	Chile	12681	9	1	1	7	1	(12)	19
3	Manuel Gonzales	Chile	11011	2	(9)	3	1	4	9	19
4	Luis Herman	Chile	12682	8	(11)	7	8	5	4	32
5	Cesar Zanatti	Peru	12515	17	(18)	2	4	11	5	39
6	Dieter Dyck	Ecuador	12338	7	(14)	6	12	14	2	41
7	Enrique Conterno	Peru	13316	(13)	6	12	10	6	8	42
8	Carlos Navarro	Peru	11611	3	2	15	14	(17)	10	44
9	Rufino Melero	Chile	12513	1	3	(21)	19	12	12	47
10	Jose Blanco	Argentina	12747	12	8	14	16	(19)	1	51
11	Horacio Tettamanti	Argentina	11042	22	(26)	11	9	7	3	52
12	Alex Zimmermann	Peru	12825	6	17	13	(18)	9	7	52
13	Walmor Soares	Brasil	11721	18	(20)	5	11	3	16	53
14	Rodrigo Zuazola	Chile	11040	5	10	8	15	16	21	54
15	Claudio Abramowitz	Brasil	11706	(23)	12	7	13	8	15	55
16	Jose Barreda Moller	Peru	12519	16	4	9	(21)	10	18	57
17	Carlos Lecaro	Ecuador	12796	20	(DSQ)	10	2	18	14	64
18	Mario Isola	Argentina	11043	10	23	(NT)	5	13	NT	75
19	Hector Sabogal V.	Peru	12517	14	19	17	6	(22)	19	75
20	Isidoro Melero	Chile	12681	11	7	16	(DSQ)	20	DSQ	80
21	Gian Luca-Fiori	Colombia	8972	21	15	(DSQ)	17	15	17	85
22	Horacio Came	Uruguay	8414	19	13	19	(DSQ)	23	13	87
23	Dietmar Heydenreich	Brasil	12657	(24)	16	20	20	21	20	97
24	Jaime Casabianca	Colombia	11926	15	21	18	22	(24)	22	98

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sailing very fast and reached the lift at the lay line first, then crossed the fleet and led all the way to the finish line.

We sailed the rest of the race in second place followed by Walmor Soares from Brazil and Manuel Gonzales.

After fifth race things looked very bad since the Gonzales brothers were tied in first position three points ahead of us. Our only chance was if Alberto finished worse than eighth and Munuel worse than seventh or if we finished better than fifth with three boats in between. Both possibilities looked difficult but not impossible since both had erratic races on top of their brilliant finishes; Alberto had a 9th and a 7th and Munuel a 9th.

Sixth Race

Again wind was blowing from the south but at 10 to 14 miles.

We decided to sail our own race and try to win since we knew that everybody was going to look for the left side and try to get first to the lift near the lay line.

We were fouled at the start by several boats running the line and looked in poor shape. However, when the smoke cleared we had big smiles watching Manuel near last and covered by a bunch of boats that forced him to tack several times to the right trying desperately to find clear air. Alberto was covering us.

It seemed that every body was showing good speed in this race since the leaders were new faces. Jose Blanco and Horacio Tettamanti from Argentina, our country mate Dieter Dyck, Luis Hermann and Manuel Melero from Chile and Enrique Conterno and Cesar Zanatti from Peru.

They were all sailing well and we saw them switch posi-

tions and fight for the first place all over the race.

Alberto Gonzales rounded first mark in tenth we were eleventh and Manuel fifteenth but it was clear that they were only trying to beat us without noticing that they must finish better than ninth and seventh.

Starting the last beat we were in the same positions. We tacked to the left covered by Alberto but we broke the cover with 3 tacks and passed him. Manuel was still fourteenth.

Then we covered Alberto all the way to the lay line when we were sure there was no way to loose our position. Then to our surprise Alberto tacked again and went far over the lay line and we saw ourselves with a 15 degree lift very close to the leading boats. We tried hard to recover and finish better than fifth, but we missed two boats right on the line and finished sixth after Blanco, Dyck, Tettamanti, Hermann and Zanatti.

Manuel Gonzales came in ninth and Alberto in twelfth so we got it. Our winning was confirmed after the committee solved several protests involving the results of the race.

It was my thirteenth participation in a South American Championship in 21 years on which we collected a number of bad luck stories and made several mistakes that cost us at least two previous winnings.

The Peruvian friends did a great job running this regatta and we can say this was one of the best South Americans we ever had. We must thank Dr. Barreda and especially Dr. Hector Sabogal and his nice family. They made things look a lot easier. Of course I thank my fantastic crew Juan Santos Jr. and Johnny Meira Sabotinsky and my wife Cecilia who helped to keep high moral and acted as the lone cheerleader.

BUCKUP WINS VI PAN AM GAMES

by Mario Buckup
(who won)

If you can imagine an island with tropical weather (25 to 30°C), good wind on all days (trade winds 15 to 30 mph), warm water and nice people ... this is Puerto Rico. Add to this the American Organization with a little Latin flavour so it comes out a very good regatta.

Ralph, Jo and I arrived in Puerto Rico after a two week stay in the U.S.A. for the '79 Lightning Worlds in Texas which was brilliantly won by Glenn Darden (we finished 6th).

After a crazy trip from San Juan to Ponce (100 miles) through the island with a heavy police escort we had our first surprise. The Hotel Holiday Inn Ponce on top of a mountain with a spectacular view of the Ponce Bay! After this, dinner with tropical sounds at the swimming pool (Tommy Allen couldn't believe it!!).

The next day we began working on our new super Allen boat to prepare every detail for the really impressive wind and waves of this place. Again my crew were super, not forgetting the valuable help of our team leader Clovis Puperi and carpenter Oscar Wekerle (Lightning 7435). Around us everybody was working hard. Nothing nicer than being together with a nice sailing group. 'Specially the Lightning Class preparing for a big regatta.

In the meantime unfortunately, we heard that Jeff Boyd from Canada couldn't race because of a badly timed mononucleosis. Poor Jeff, but congratulations for your well prepared boat and crew. Gil Mercier, Canadian Laser

Coach, skippered and won the silver medal in Jeff's boat. This proved again that the Laser is a very good preparing class for other bigger classes!

The first practice race came and showed that one of the most competitive classes in Puerto Rico was the Lightning. On the first beat the Puerto Rico boat rounded first easily, Bill Shore was second and we did very badly. The winds were about 25 to 30 mph and the surfing was incredible. We were flying and recovered to second place. At the leeward mark everybody went home to prepare their boats better.

Two more days and the Pan Ams would begin. One day we went out to practice with Tito Gonzalez Mas from Chile. The wind was really heavy, puffs of around 35 mph. We came back soon to avoid tiring out our boat and crew. We saw Tito still sailing and practicing with his spinnaker!! When we dry docked we checked if we could still see Tito, and we couldn't. Panic came up in us! But soon, we found him capsized and a power boat near him. He was jibing and his crew, Tristan, was on the foredeck. Then came a big wave and he capsized to windward and Tristan fixed his foot between and around the two side stays. When the boat capsized he couldn't escape. Then he asked for help and Tito and Fernando, who were on the centerboard, tried to help him. The boat turtled and Tristan disappeared. Some seconds later Tito saw a hand, and it was Tristan, still a prisoner and able to get air only between waves. Thank God a power boat was near and came soon with the pliers to cut the stays. Tristan was born again! Thanks to his boots there wasn't much damage to his foot.

First race: Abandoned because there were too many windshifts from a heavy rain weather cell.

Second race: Winds 10 to 15 mph. Very close racing with everybody near first place. Gil Mercier from Canada won nicely with Tom Allen a close second. Larry MacDonald third, we were fourth and Bill Shore fifth.

Third race: Again 10 to 15 mph winds and a very nice race because of close sailing. After going far to the left Manuel Gonzales Mas from Chile rounded first at the first mark and never lost it. Second was Mario Isola from Argentina, third Shore, fourth Larry, and we were fifth. This day Tom Allen had a very good race, but on the last beat, when he had a chance to catch Manuel Gonzalez he broke his main halyard. He then capsized and finished just one place before last.

Resailed first race: Wind still 10 to 15 mph. Again very, very close racing. You have to imagine that because of the current coming with the wind and the course being very big each of these races took around three hours to be completed. After being in the first group during the entire race, together with Blanco from Argentina and Abramowitz from Brazil, we won with a three minute margin over Abramowitz and then Blanco. Fourth was Mercier from Canada and fifth after a good race was Andres Lisocki from Colombia.

Fourth race: Winds of 15 mph with very close racing between Manuel Gonzalez of Chile, ourselves and Mercier of Canada. On the last beat we tacked to the left and passed Gonzalez to win. Gonzalez was second and Mercier third.



Opening ceremonies at the VI Pan Am Games in Ponce, Puerto Rico. Mario Buckup, representing Brazil won with Gil Mercier of Canada second and Bill Shore of the U.S.A. third.

Photo by Ellen Horan

Fifth race: The wind increased to 18 to 22 mph and the right side became more and more favored. At the first mark, Tom led, Larry was second, Shore third and we were fourth. At the finish it was Allen, Larry, ourselves, Casellas from Puerto Rico (with a very nice race) and Alberto Gonzalez Mas from Chile was fifth.

Sixth race: Winds 25 to 30 mph. For us it was the deciding race because we could finish third and still win even if our foes Mercier and Allen finished ahead of us. After a crazy first reach with Shore first, ourselves second and Allen third we capsized at the jibe mark. We came back thanks to our very useful transom bailers but couldn't do better than 10th. Allen won, Shore second and Mercier third.

This night Allen joked with us about eating fish which we caught during the capsize. He couldn't imagine that something very similar would happen to him the next day.

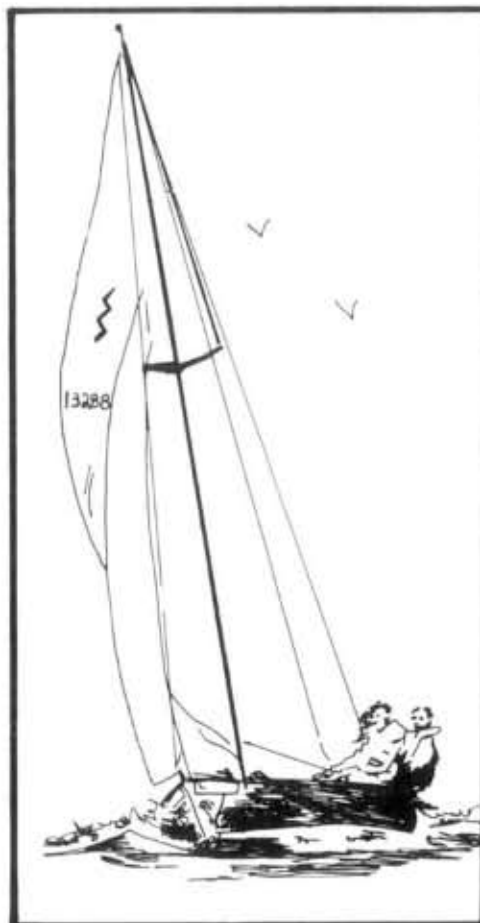
Seventh race: Winds 25 to 30 mph. First mark: Blanco, Argentina; Abramowitz, Brazil; Mercier; ourselves and Tom Allen. Crazy reaching, we passed everybody and opened up a 200 meter advantage. Allen capsized at the jibe mark. At the end, we won, Shore was second (winning the third place bronze medal), Abramowitz was third and Mercier fourth (winning the second place silver medal).

Our final conclusion was that we won this regatta going downwind and reaching and this was only possible because of tremendous teamwork by my crew (Ralph and Jo). To go down on the really big Puerto Rico waves we pumped simultaneously the spinnaker and main. We never reached the first mark in first place and everytime recovered a lot reaching and going downwind.



Winner Mario Buckup of Brazil returns victorious.

Photo credit Ellen Horan



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CANADIAN OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP 1979

Final Pos.	Boat #	Skipper & Crew	RACE FINISHES					Pts.
			1	2	3	4	5	
1	13305	Larry MacDonald, Jr. Larry MacDonald, Ian Jones	1	1	1	1	1	5
2	12355	Dick Hallagan Dave Wait, Jean Hallagan	2	2	2	2	2	10
3	11174	David Sprague Steward Sprague, Cathy Bowman	5	6	4	5	7	27
4	13198	A. Cameron K. Haffey, Paul Boelen	7	3	5	6	8	29
5	13267	Ross Bailey Blair Sandberg, Gordon Bailey	10	4	8	7	3	32
6	13048	Norman Clegg Rick Embleton, Marionette Embleton	4	5	10	8	5	32
7	13180	Ron Cochrane Chris Cochrane, Roy Cochrane	3	7	3	10	12	35
8	11331	John Gorrie Garth Dixon, John Morgan	6	11	12	4	4	37
9	11177	P. E. Sulman Paul Sulman, Wayne Sulman	8	8	9	14	11	50
10	13260	Harvey Harman John Moyle, John Burton	13	9	13	12	6	53
11	9695	Jim Cameron Dave Lushney, Pierre Digward	11	10	6	11	22	60
12	12827	Russel Scrim Harald Mueller, Jennifer Jaques	14	13	11	13	10	61
13	10565	Matt Bryant Bruce Gunn, Geoff Skinner	12	12	18	9	14	65
14	11136	Kenneth Inglis Margaret Inglis, David Holloway	20	DNF	14	3	9	74
15	12100	Bill Hunter Andrew Hunter, Douglas Hunter	15	15	16	15	13	74
16	13149	George Layton Pat Harrold, Paul Arsenault	9	16	19	DNS	15	87
17	11294	Alan Hutchison M. Jaques, J. Jaques	18	14	17	21	19	89
18	11275	Bob Elliott Pat Nolan, Irene Elliott	21	DNF	7	16	18	90
19	11884	David Roost Ron Mason, C. Styan	19	19	15	17	21	91
20	10408	Jeffrey F. Chandor Mary Chandor, David McDonald	16	17	23	25	17	98
21	12769	Michel Brossard Gisele Brossard, Elise Brossard	17	DNS	20	20	16	101
22	12969	Porter Bailey Malcolm Crooks, Greg Baillie	22	20	26	23	20	111
23	9543	Ben Willings Brad Parkes, Dave Foscharini	25	21	21	22	23	112
24	10393	George Styan Sheila Styan, Richard Doornmillen	24	18	25	18	DNS	113
25	12568	Bertrand Simard Nicole Couture-Simard, Francois Camus	23	23	24	19	25	114
26	7850	Alan Van Diest John Turner, Steven Radford	DNS	DNS	22	24	24	126
27	10385	Dr. Brian Petrie J. Legere, C. Porter	26	22	27	26	26	127

The Canadian Opens were held at the Royal St. Lawrence Yacht Club in Montreal, Quebec July 20-21-22. St. Lawrence Valley District Commodore Russ Scrim was General Chairman of this five race series. (I.L.C.A. Headquarters staff would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Russ for his cooperation — past and present — in complying with every detail requested by the Class of District Commodores and Championship Chairman.)

The Story of the Opens which was to come from Larry Jr. never arrived, so all we can report is what appeared in the Toronto Bay Lightning Fleet 146 Newsletter; "Speaking of the Canadians, Larry MacDonald with 5 bullets edged out Dick Hallagan who had 5 seconds. David Sprague came third (no, he didn't get all thirds). Weather conditions at Montreal were excellent with lots of sun and good winds. That combination at Lake St. Louis is almost unheard of. Royal St. Lawrence did their usual super job of hosting the event!

"Judging by the behavior of a certain skipper who is well known to most of us, all the Toronto people had a good time, particularly late at night around the pool."



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