

Sports

Chris McCosky, Brad Emons editor/591-2312

Monday, July 23, 1984 O&E

Boating talent 'sails' in area

By Rich Swenson
staff writer

Sassy may have received all the headlines in last weekend's Port Huron-to-Mackinac yacht race, but it's the 285-boat fleet and the more than 2,500 sailors that man them that make Mackinac what it is today.

Considered the Great Lakes most prestigious race by many, this year's Mackinac featured boats ranging in size from the 27-foot Athena to Dutch Schmidt's sleek 78-foot Sassy, which shattered its own record while hauling around 25 crew members.

The boats may not have the size or speed of Sassy, but the average sailor gets as big a kick out of sailing, and is every bit as competitive as the big boys.

A whole host of local boats had excellent showings in this year's race, proving that the area is a hotbed for sailing talent.

COURAGE, A 14-year-old Morgan 35 owned by Bloomfield Hills' Frank Cliff and Grosse Pointe's Fred Schroeder, sailed the 259-nautical-mile course in an incredible 52:39:13 (52 hours, 39 minutes and 13 seconds) to capture class honors for the second straight year.

After coming from the bottom of her class last year to win Division II Class N honors, Courage was moved to Class I this year. She responded by walking away from the fleet, beating her closest rival by more than two hours. She also finished sixth in the Division II overall standings with a corrected time of 44:00:14.

"It was a terrific race," Schroeder said. "The boat went well and the crew was great. It was doubly satisfying this year. We were pleased to learn that last year was no fluke."

Courage got off to a great start, charging up the American shore on a spinnaker run in clean air. She was the first boat in her class to round Cove Island Light — the halfway point —

but only after successfully maneuvering through thick fog that made sighting the mark next to impossible.

"It was a difficult mark to find because of the fog, but we were fortunate enough to hit the buoy right on," Schroeder said. "We were in very good shape at that point."

THE AIR LIGHTENED shortly thereafter and Courage headed north to Dock Islands. The wind shifted and she picked up some fresh air from the northwest that carried her to victory.

Cygnus, skippered by Birmingham's Dr. Roy Hawkins, rounded Cove Island 45 minutes ahead of its nearest competitor in the Class E C&C 35 one design class, but Walloon slid by her early Monday, then held on to win by 14 minutes.

"We wanted to win, but we were pleased to finish second," Hawkins said. "We had a tacking duel on the last day with Walloon, but she covered us well."

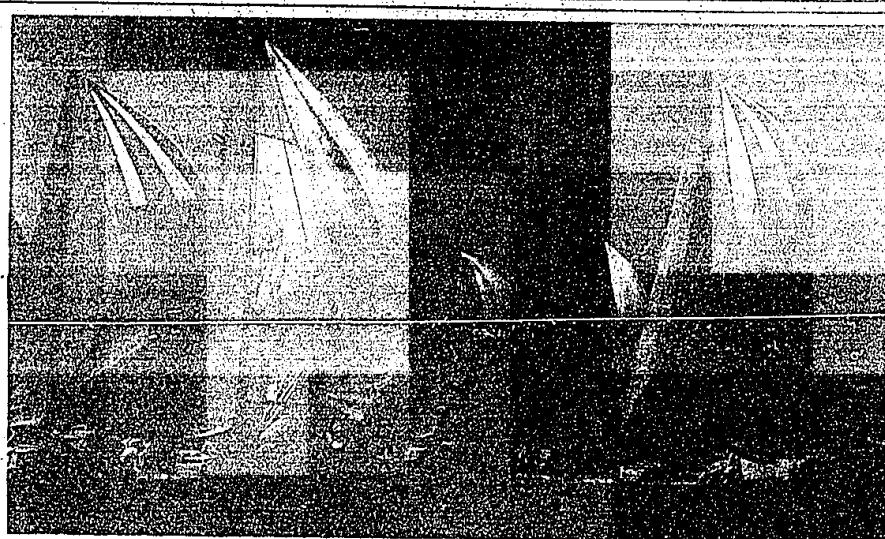
Birmingham's Richard Kinder grabbed the third-place flag with Pradai after crossing the finish line in 52:23:49, almost two hours behind Walloon.

Southfield's Case De Lange made his last Mackinac race a success, bringing home a third place flag with Piet Heyn in the IOR Class D race.

DE LANGE, WHO recently moved to Southfield from Farmington Hills, had decided to give up racing, but he had a last minute change of heart, giving it one last shot.

Piet Hen duelled Freedom USA to the end, losing by just two minutes, but he had a bigger handicap and was able to squeeze into third by a mere 18 seconds.

Troy attorney Bud Suidara skippered Wave Train (Pearson 40) to a fourth-place finish in the tough PHRF Class A, but it was also good enough for fourth position overall among the 309 yachts that competed in PHRF. Robert Thorpe, also of Troy, came in one notch behind Wave Train with Valkyrie.



Cygnus (sail No. 5231), skippered by Birmingham's Dr. Roy Hawkins, battles Ruffian (co-owned by Farmington's Jerome LaFontaine) for the lead in a colorful spinnaker start in last weekend's 60th Port Huron-to-Mackinac yacht race. Hawkins steered his boat to a

second-place finish in the tough Class E C&C 35 one-design race. Carotts (sail No. 5228), owned by Birmingham's David Potts, is in the middle of the pack.

GARY CARNEY/staff photographer

In the IOR Class E race, Dan Tosch, a Bloomfield Hills resident, placed first in Gold Dust.

A NUMBER OF other boat owners performed well in the Mackinac race.

Natalie J., owned by Beverly Hills' Phillip O'Neil, had a terrific race in PHRF Class D, capturing first place with a time of 49:30:31, nearly two hours ahead of second place boat Blue Gull. She also finished second in the overall division standings.

Local yachts swept the top three places in IOR Class C North American

40 action. Dr. Douglas Wakes Velero VI (Troy) captured first, Greg McQueen (Birmingham) and Charlie Smith (West Bloomfield) took second aboard Sundance and Franklin's Gene Monday skippered Leading Edge to a third-place finish.

Other local boats in the NA 40 fleet included Stratton (Steve Perry, Birmingham), "TNT" Merle (Dean Berger, Bloomfield Hills, 6th), Assail (Roland Tindie, Rochester 9th), Maxi-trol (Frank Kern, Farmington, 11th),

and Compromise (Curt Lundy, Troy, 14th).

Fujimo, owned by Southfield's Jerome Schootak, placed ninth in the IOR Class B, finishing 19th overall.

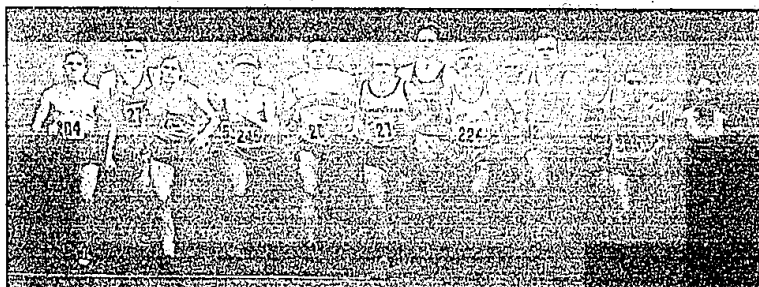
IN IOR CLASS D, Bloomfield Hills' Nita Muesch finished 14th with Monoraker, and Bot Padge, skippered by Birmingham architect G.H. Forbes, took 16th position in Class E.

The top local finisher in the Class D division was second-place Rampage, owned by West Bloomfield's Davis Heplie, while Farmington Hills resident

Thomas Kleinhardt was third in Forta.

Black Diamond, owned by Southfield's Tom Munson was sixth. Raymond Polard's Haika (Troy) managed a ninth-place finish in Class C. David Potts

"Carotts" came in 15th in Class E, and finished 14th aboard Ghost in Class F. In the PHRF Class D fleet was loaded with local entries, including Eric Jackson (Robert Reichenauer, 21st), Scott (Mr. Alan Hennessey, 12th), Olympe (Mike Ross, 14th) and Marc Tramm (Mike Goren, 10th).



The Rodford Roadrunners, pictured above in a Good-year publicity photograph that appeared at the Boston

Marathon exhibition, will sponsor its inaugural road race Saturday evening in Livonia.

Twilight trot

Roadrunners host evening classic

By M.B. Dillon Ward
staff writer

Q: Where can members of one family compete in a road race, acquire a muscle-man T-shirt, shake their bodies to Top 40 tunes, feast on pizza, pop and ice cream, sip a brew or two, and take in an awards ceremony saluting top runners?

A: At the Rodford Roadrunner Classic, a five-mile road race and outdoor party at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, July 28, at the Livonia Family Y on Farmington Road just north of I-96.

Close to 500 runners will be pitted against accomplished competitors in 10 male and female age groups.

Entrants include:

- Canton's Dave Hinz, winner of the 1982 Detroit Free Press International Marathon who placed 12th at the Olympic trials this year. Hinz finished 11th in the 1983 Boston Marathon, logging a personal best of 2:12. Hinz competed in last year's Pan Am Games and took fourth in the 1982 Honolulu Marathon.

- Tom Hollander, former Eastern Michigan University track and cross-country All-American, will give \$50 to \$4,000 odds a run for their money. The 31-year-old Ann Arborite took third at April's Briarwood 20-kilometer race and was runner-up in May's Dexter Ann Arbor Half Mile Marathon.

- Bill Stewart of Ann Arbor set the cur-

rent masters' world record for the mile in 4:11 last year. Masters winner in this year's Old Kent run, Stewart holds the American masters records for the 25- and 35-kilometer, 1,500 meters and two-mile. He was ranked fifth among U.S. masters by Runner Magazine last year.

- Pete Hallop, 37, of Ann Arbor, Hallop holds all state records for runners 35 and over in distances between five and 15.5 miles. An eight-time track and cross-country All-American at Saginaw Valley, Hallop was named a Running Times 1983 All-American.

- Ed Grabowski, 28, won the recent International Freedom Festival 10-kilometer in 38:34. Grabowski of Orchard Lake captured first place in last year's Governor's Cup in Detroit.

- Runners 60 and over may meet their match in Detroit Jim Ramsey. The classic's oldest entrant at 78, Ramsey is a fixture at local races.

A women's field was to have featured Ann Arbor's Lisa Larsen, who competed in this year's Olympic trials.

ENTRANTS in the Rodford Roadrunner Classic will run the classic on July 28, 1983 — who will run the classic on July 28, 1983 — who will run the classic on July 28, 1983. Runners will be given a T-shirt, a medal, and a certificate of participation. The race will be held on a scenic route through the Livonia area.

Hubbard wins include this year's Briarwood, Frankenthum, Holt and Dexter Ann Arbor road races.

Ella Willis, 28, of Detroit, will be after another in a succession of 10-kilometer wins throughout metro Detroit. Willis won the recent Trenton Trackmill 5-mile run and perennially takes the honors at Emily & Pook fun runs.

The Rodford Roadrunner Classic will feature a fast five-mile beginning on South Road at Livonia, continuing east on Livonia, north on Farmington, west on Five Mile, south on Levee, east along I-96, and south on Stark.

Early registrants will be charged \$7, while latecomers — who may register from 6:30 until race time July 28th — will pay \$10. Entry fee for nonrunners is \$4.

T-shirts (not sold on trip) will go to the first 500 entrants. Emergency medical help will be available.

Entry forms are available at most area sporting good stores, YMCAs, YWCAs, grocery stores, and at some local restaurants. For more information, call 528-7233 or 528-8282.

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