Ullman Sails Long Beach Race Week

Long Beach and Alamitos Bay Yacht Clubs
June 25-27, 2010

The West Coast's largest keelboat regatta

June 23, 2010

Weekend weather forecast: Low-mid 70s, wind S-SW 8-10k

A sailing resurgence: Ullman Sails LBRW tops 140 entries

LONG BEACH, Calif.

It's the first weekend of summer, and more than 140 boats in 16 classes can't wait to sail right into it Friday in the 26th Ullman Sails Long Beach Race Week. Racing in the West Coast's largest keelboat regatta will be on three courses--- one inside and two outside the harbor breakwater---starting at 1 p.m. Friday and at noon Saturday and Sunday.

The organizing Long Beach and Alamitos Bay Yacht Clubs plan to squeeze seven races in among nightly outdoor parties at the host clubs, and forecasts of temperatures in the low 70s with moderate breeze indicate that the weather will cooperate on both counts.

Ullman Sails is the title sponsor. The founder and president, Dave Ullman, will offer his usual speed talk for competitors at Long Beach YC Fri\day at 10 a.m., then jump onto Jeff Janov's Farr 40, Dark Star, which is one of the contenders in that 11-boat class of heavyweights.

Other sponsors and supporters are DISC Sports and Spine Center, Ayres Hotel Seal Beach, Gladstone's Restaurant, the Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine Bureau, Long Beach the Aquatic Capital of America, Mount Gay Rum and Macson Printing and Lithography.

The turnout includes boats from about 19 feet (Viper 640 and Open 5.70) to ocean racers like Ed McDowell's Grand Illusion, Dale Williams' Wasabi, Lorenzo Berho's Peligroso, Bob Lane's Medicine Man and Tres Gordos' It's OK. It's the regatta's largest lineup since 2006---a welcome splash of sunshine for the sport that has been hurting in the recession, thanks in part to a resurgence of small keelboats.

Before the racing starts, wise words from Dave Ullman

The new Open 5.70s will be the largest one-design fleet

Barney Flam, 81, and son Steve will race their J/105 again

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