

The Fast 50 fleet of big boats gets off to a turbulent start on Day 1 of the three-day regatta



The West Coast's largest keelboat regatta

June 25, 2010

Friday's weather: Wind 6-11 knots SE-SW; temp. 74F. Saturday's forecast: Wind 9 knots SSW; high temp. 73F.

Lots of sailing left before it's settled at Long Beach

LONG BEACH, Calif.

A recipe of madcap starts, confusing wind shifts and stirredup rivalries was left to simmer overnight Friday as Ullman Sails Long Beach Race Week moved to the next two days of the West Coast's largest keelboat regatta, organized by the Long Beach and Alamitos Bay Yacht Clubs.

Not much was settled as a wide variety of some 140 boats fought it out in 20 classes in the first two of seven races scheduled through Sunday. The biggest leads were four points by Gary Mozer's hometown Current Obsession in J/ 105s and Dick Velthoen's Rival from Ventura in PHRF 3, each with a pair of aces on the day.

The marquee class of 11 Farr 40s set the tone for tight competition with a deadlock at the top between two California YC boats that each scored first and second places: David Ross's defending champion Piranha and Jeff Janov's Dark Star, although Piranha claimed a shaky tiebreaker for winning the latest race.





