



Skipper Chuck Clay and ABYC crew in chartered Catalina 37 class drop chute in approach to leeward gate



## Ullman Sails Long Beach Race Week

Long Beach and Alamitos Bay Yacht Clubs  
June 24-26, 2011

*The West Coast's largest keelboat*

June 24, 2011

Friday's weather: Wind 6-7k SSW-S; temp. 75F.  
Saturday's forecast: Wind 9k WSW; high temp. 76F.

### **An unfamiliar Long Beach day opens Ullman LBRW**

LONG BEACH, Calif.

It was Long Beach, home of the notorious summer sea breeze that roars down the San Pedro Channel like an express train. So what was with the wimpy 6-7 knots that greeted 150 boats in 15 classes for the first day of competition in Ullman Sails Long Beach Race Week?

Deneen Demourkas didn't remember it that way, Michael Johnson towed his J/24 down from Seattle expecting something more than the wimpy 6-7 knots he saw Friday, and Jeff Janov didn't want to talk about it.

Nevertheless, all three led their classes after the first two of seven races to be run over the weekend---Demourkas, with third and first places, shared first place in Farr 30s while



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Radical Departure crosses line the wrong way as other Farr 40s start

Johnson of Seattle and Janov of Marina del Rey led the J/24 and Farr 40 fleets, respectively.

Demourkas, from Santa Barbara, developed her big-boat skills in Long Beach competing against her husband John on Farr 40s and 30s named Groovederci, but she hadn't raced here in six years while hitting the European Tour, where she won two Tour de France classics in Farr 30s.

Other than the lack of breeze Friday, she said, "I would have been happier if I didn't let my husband get me in the first race."

John Demourkas (1-3) has a piece of the lead, as does Rhonda Tolar on Wild Thing (2-2). In fact, three of the seven boats are skippered by women, a growing trend in the sport.

"Six years ago I was the only one," Deneen Demourkas said.

Johnson (1-3), despite sharing the J/24 lead with David Klatt's Jaded (2-2) from Ventura, said, "We were hoping to have more wind---and more sun, too, actually. That's why we came down from Seattle."

After winning the J/24 Western Regionals, he had hoped to use the event to prepare for the class worlds at Buenos Aires in November.

Then there was Janov, who on the same waters just last month blitzed the fleet with Dark Star in the Farr 40 North Americans when the wind blew so hard that one day's racing was momentarily moved inside the breakwater. Now, with a 2-1 record in sharply different conditions, he already has a firm three-point lead over Frederic Scheer's Far Niente (3-3).

The regatta's namesake, Dave Ullman, is his tactician for this event, which was no doubt a factor.

"It was a really shifty day," Janov said. "But I don't want to say anything. It's too early. Talk to me after Sunday."

The weather forecast for Saturday and Sunday isn't much better. Racing is scheduled to start at noon. The bigger boats are racing on two courses outside the breakwater, the smallest ones inside near the beach.

The latter include the largest class, the Open 5.70s, with 21 boats and the defending champion, Tracey Kenney on Hat



Open 5.70s are the largest fleet with 21 boats



Sea lions enjoyed front row seats



Viva La Vida set early pace in Farr 40s



Farr 40s cross tacks in typically close competition

Trick (1-3), tied for first place with Rich Festa on II havic (3-1). It could be a big year for the ladies.

Two boats posted perfect 1-1 days: Tim Carters' Viper 640, Viral, and Code Blue, a local Schock 35 co-skipped by Bruce Bennett and Bob Marcus.

Ullman Sails is the title sponsor. Other sponsors and supporters are DISC Sports and Spine Center, Gladstone's Long Beach, West Marine, EFG Bank, Open Sailing USA, Ayres Hotel Seal Beach, Mount Gay Rum, The Pirates Lair, the Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine Bureau, and Long Beach the Aquatic Capital of America.

### **Ullman Sails LBRW joins Clean Regattas**

Event co-hosts Alamitos Bay and Long Beach yacht clubs have taken the Sailors for the Sea Clean Regattas Pledge for Bronze level certification.

"The Ullman Sails Long Beach Race Week is committed to serving as a model for responsible sailing," said Chris Mancini, program director, Sailors for the Sea. "We are thrilled to support the ABYC and LBYC in their efforts to educate participants on environmental protection. Working with the club, Sailors for the Sea will help to formalize their conservation efforts and help promote responsible environmental behaviors among the club's members and the regatta participants."

Regatta co-chair Jim Bateman said, "We hope all of our competitors will embrace the concept and really focus on how we can do a better job of making our regatta cleaner and greener." Details: [Clean Regattas](#)

### **Class leaders**

(after 1 of 3 days)

FARR 40 (11)---Dark Star, Jeff Janov, California YC, 2-1, 3 points.

PHRF-2 (7)—Amante (Choate 48), Richley family, Lido Isle YC, 2-1, 3.

PHRF-3 ( 7)---Tie among Nemesis (Melges 30), Geoff Longenecker, 3-1; Mile High Klub (Flying Tiger 10m.), Phillip Infelise, Alamitos Bay YC, 1-3, and eXigent (Columbia 30), Taylor Grant, Newport Harbor YC, 2-2, 4.

PHRF-4 (16)---Rival (J/35), Dick Velthoen, Ventura YC, 3-1, 4.

FARR 30 (7)---Tie among Groovederci, Deneen Demourkas, Santa Barbara YC, 3-1; Groovederci, John Demourkas, SBYC, 1-3, and Wild Thing, Rhonda Tolar, Bahia Corinthian YC, 2-2, 4.

J/120 (10)---Start racing Saturday.



Catalina 37s prepare to douse spinnakers leeward gate



Vipers battle on inner harbor

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OPEN 5.70 (21)—Tie between Il havic, Rich Festa, California YC, 3-1, and Hat Trick, Tracey Kenney, South Coast Corinthian YC, 1-3, 4.

J/80 (5)---Avet, Curt Johnson, California YC, 1-2, 3.

CATALINA 37 (7)---Team ABYC, Chuck Clay, Alamitos Bay YC, 1-2, 3.

VIPER 640 (15)---Viral, Tim Carter, ABYC, 1-1, 2.

J/105 (9)---Triple Play, Dave Vieregg, San Diego YC, 2-1, 3.

RANDOM LEG PHRF (9)---Rebel Yell, David O. Team, Newport Harbor YC, 1.

BENETEAU 36.7 (7)---Bella Vita, Marty Burke, King Harbor YC, 2-2, 4.

J/24 (12)---Tie between Hot Pursuit, Michael L. Johnson, Seattle YC, 1-3, and Jaded, David Klatt, Ventura YC, 2-2, 4.

SCHOCK 35 (7)---Code Blue, Bruce Bennett, Seal Beach YC/Bob Marcus, ABYC, 1-1, 2.

[Complete results](#)

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#### MEDIA CONTACT

Rich Roberts  
Press officer  
310.835.2526  
cell 310.766.6547  
richsail@earthlink.net

