



The Farr 40 pack led by Viva la Vida and Far Niente at right converge with collision at leeward gate



Ullman Sails Long Beach Race Week
Long Beach and Alamitos Bay Yacht Clubs
June 28-30, 2013

The West Coast's largest keelboat regatta

June 28, 2013

Friday's weather: Foggy, then sunny; wind 7-15k SW; temp. 78F.
 Saturday's forecast: Sunny; wind 9k SW; high temp. 88F.

Dark Star even tougher to beat this time around

LONG BEACH, Calif.

Unlike other sailing venues, seldom is it said about Long Beach that if you don't like the weather, just wait a little while.

It just doesn't make any difference to Dark Star, Jeff Janov's Farr 40 from the California Yacht Club that has dominated Ullman Sails Long Beach Race Week and the West Coast branch of the high-flying international class overall in recent years.

From out of Friday's early afternoon fog that opened the curtain on the weekend came some impressive performances in the West Coast's largest keelboat regatta for 156 boats on three race courses, but Dark Star's effort was something else.

In a fluky southwest breeze of about 7 knots, Dark Star was one of three among seven starters that jumped the line prematurely---it's called an OCS (on course side) these days---and had to circle back to restart as the others went on their way, into the thin layer of fog that blanketed the water.



**Alamitos Bay Yacht Club
 and
 Long Beach Yacht Club**
 (Click on club names to visit)



Far Niente had to drop out with broken bow pulpit



The first flights of Friday's races were sailed in an offshore fog

Spotting the competition nearly a minute, the Dark Star team with the event sponsor Dave Ullman himself calling tactics---with owner Janov at the helm, as class rules require---proceeded to pick off its rivals, one by one, through the first of two laps around the mile-long windward-leeward course before breaking into the lead.

"It was a gift," Janov said, with typical humility. "We were very lucky. The lead boats got into a complicated situation."

That would be Jeff Shew/Bill Durant's Viva la Vida and Mick Shlens' Far Niente that collided at the leeward gate while running 1-2. Far Niente dropped out with its bowsprit bent out of shape, and by the time Viva la Vida got going again Dark Star was gone---another successful team effort.

"We are a team," Janov said. "We all take the blame for an OCS."

And equal credit for a win.

By then the fog was thinning and the wind was building to 15 knots---conditions that Farr 40s love and usually find in the regatta co-hosted by the adjacent LBYC and Alamitos Bay Yacht Clubs. Dark Star won the second race handily, with five more remaining without throwouts the next two days.

But Dark Star wasn't unique. Leaders in six of the other 14 classes racing on standard courses also won both of their races, while the Newport Harbor YC team led by veteran Bruce Ayres and defending champion ABYC with Chuck Clay driving have separated themselves from the other eight chartered Catalina 37s at 1-2 and 3-1, respectively.

It's also noteworthy that there were three umpire boats on the Catalina 37s' course, just as they are for the Congressional Cup and other match racing events. The idea is to call fouls and perform penalty turns immediately and do away with late-night protest hearings that take the fun out of sailboat racing.

The umps made two calls in the two races ... but there were still protest hearings for other classes early Friday night, while the C/37 sailors enjoyed the party.



Wild Thing escapes close encounter at windward mark in PHRF-1 class



Glyn Locke's overseas entry stands 4th after first 2 races



ABYC's defending champs lead at leeward mark in race 2 win



Dark Star (r.) was one of these 3 Farr 40s restarting after OCS but recovered to win both Friday races

[Above photos in hi-res gallery](#)

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sponsors and supporters

Among the titles at stake: the Open 5.70 North American championship, Catalina 37 national championship, Olson 30 national championship, Farr 40 West Coast championship and Viper 640 Pan-American championship qualifier. Also, the regatta is part of the Southern California High Point Series for the J/80, J/105, J/109 and J/120 classes.

Class leaders

(after 2 of 7 races; no discards)

CATALINA 37 (10 boats)---Team Ayres Satariano, Newport Harbor YC, 1-2, 3 points.

FARR 40 (7)---Dark Star, Jeff Janov, California YC, 1-1, 2.

J/109 (7)---Electra, Thomas Brott, Santa Barbara YC, 1-1, 2.

J/105 (7)---Current Obsession, Gary Mozer, Long Beach YC, 1-1, 2.

J/70 (8)---Perseverance, Bennet Greenwald, San Diego YC, 1-1, 2.

J/80 (6)---Avet, Curt Johnson, California YC, 1-1, 2.

OLSON 30 (8)---Blue Star, Larry Spencer, Pacific Corinthian YC, 1-1, 2.

OPEN 5.70 (12)---Mor Shenanigans, Tracey Kenney, South Coast Corinthian YC, 1-3, 4.

PHRF-1 (4)---Derivative (J/125), Mark Surber, Coronado YC, 2-1, 3.

PHRF-2 (9)---Soozal (King 40), Daniel Woolery, Dana Point YC, 1-1, 2.

PHRF-3 (7)---Flyingfiche (1D35), Chris Wacker/Bob Zellmer, Long Beach YC, 2-3, 5.

PHRF-4 (11)---Rival (J/35), Dick Velthoen/David Boatner, Ventura YC, 1-1, 2.

VIPER 640 (25)---Hot Mess, Kevin Taugher, Alamitos Bay YC, 2-1, 3.

RANDOM LEG 1 (8)---Rock & Roll (Farr 400), Bernard Girod, Santa Barbara YC, 1.

RANDOM LEG 2 (7)---Gator, Thomas Wheatley, ABYC, 1.

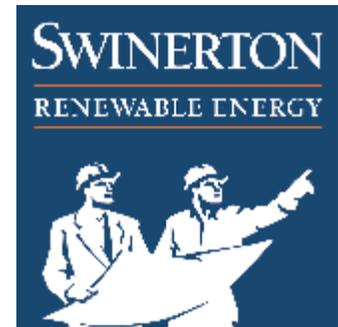
RANDOM LEG 3 (6)---Traveler (Express 37), Jack Mayer, Del Rey YC, 1.

[Complete results](#)

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Ullman Sails LBRW is again associated with the [Sailors for the Sea](#) program for Clean Regattas. Sailors for the Sea, based in Newport, R.I., is the only ocean conservation nonprofit focused on the sailing and boating community. Its program assists and certifies yacht clubs and regatta organizers as providing clean events that minimize impacts upon our oceans.

Ullman Sails mission statement: For over 40 years, Ullman Sails has been devoted to helping our customers reach their sailing goals. Whether you aspire to win an Olympic medal, dominate local fleet racing or spend your summer cruising, we provide the highest quality sails and service to make it happen. The Ullman Sails group is proudly unique, bringing together individual sail lofts from all over the world that specialize in serving their local markets. With a rich combination of skilled designers and master sailmakers, we work together to ensure every Ullman Sails customer benefits from our international collaboration. Ullman Sails was founded in 1968 by David Ullman, one of the world's greatest competitive sailors and still an integral part of the Ullman Sails group. Serving as president of Ullman Sails International, he also directs the Ullman design team---a select group of sailors with equally impressive credentials.

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