



## RIPS TIDINGS

*RIPS Yachting would like to remind readers that the reports expressed by the following writers are not necessarily the viewpoints as RIPS saw them. As well, we were informed that the names of the innocent may have been changed.*

### **DIVISION 1 -- Swish**

Mamma always told me there'd be days like these! A ride on a J80 with Mike Brewis (former Cal 20 and Thunderbird foe and T-Bird world champ in 2005). Lee Taylor and my wife, Kathy, first time racing as a foursome. The fact three of us were "pickups" from Mikey's regular crew didn't matter as it all seemed to mesh fluently. The pre-race dry heaves (not to be associated with the rum and beer or hanging late at night with Sandy MacMillan and company on Latouche) time went too fast in the morning and as we were ready to finally go, the motor on the J wouldn't go. *Crazy Ivan*, the American from East Sound Orcas Island) towed us to the breeze. First race arrives and we are low boat, pin end with some speed and really feeling like we were looking good. Well, not looking ahead and not altering course soon enough, got us wrapped around a crab line with five of the brightest green floats in the Gulf Islands. After tossing back two female and one undersize Dungeness, we continued on. Through precise decision making and supreme sailing, we didn't gain one inch. It seemed that there wasn't much helium in the balloon before it got popped. Race two! This was the left-right thing. We went left and it was right! Got a second after a jibbing duel to the finish with *Pepe*. *Pepe* won. Race 3 1/2. Wind puffs at the start saw *Shiva* and *Crazy Ivan* at the committee boat with a big circle of wind. Three boats floated left and we all made out. *Pepe* covered *Joy Ride* and sailed past the edge of the current. We tacked early and gained big. Second around the mark and the committee BLOWS OFF THE RACE. Race 3!! (I liked the other third race better) was a what's coming from the clouds race. We started last of all starts and everyone worked hard with all boats rounding close. Several jibs and it was still tight at the last leeward mark. We had trouble getting a good lane and finished fourth. We are tired, satisfied with how we sailed as a team and pumped for tomorrow. That is right after my Advil omellette for breakfast.

### **Division 2 - Bumpercar**

This report comes from the vantage point of the signal boat as the capable sailors aboard her further contemplate how to sail a boat completely new to them (and most).

Div 2 has a lot of boats that would be somewhat intimidating for an established crew on a well tested boat (Olson 30- Hotfoot 27 and 30-J30—YIKES!!) But this boat

was only ripped from the rental program a few days ago and we firmed up the crew to sail her about an hour before the first start.

Thanks to her pedigree, we told Alex to "Drive her like a rental" In fact, the entire Martin 244 project circles around a key mission- GET NEW PEOPLE SAILING. To that end, we'll be rotating some of the dedicated mark brat drivers through crew spots on the 244. So our crew gets the added joy of "musical chairs" on the crew.

But- Bumpercar is up for the challenge of varied crews. She's been sailing for some 7 months now and she's logged 100 days with around 80 different skippers- most of whom started sailing within the last year or so.

Bumpercar was purpose built not as a dedicated race boat- she is a club boat/trainer and the main ingredient with all her crew is a burning desire to have a blast on the water.

So, as the crew continues to meet each other and their new toy-I'll sign off and look forward to watching Div 2 and all the other Divs sailing throughout RIPS.



### **Division 3 – URBAN DAISY**

The biggest on the race course was that Chris and Shannon of Urban Daisy Fame broke up after Race 1 but by the start of Race 2, they had reconciled. A close

friend of the couple said, "They are definitely happy again."



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The biggest haute couture blunder on opening day was by the crew of Blackadder-the \$50 million mega yacht affectionately known as Slackbladder. An onlooker said, "The mish mash of Dolce Gabbana, Ralph Lauren, and Winners made them look like a bag of the proverbial tied in the middle".

In another fashion faux pas, Dirty Dog had left their creases in their new sails. A witness said, "Tut, tut, tut, that's not going to win them any awards on the catwalk."

White Noise certainly clicked their heels in the final race and finished a lofty second. Kirk said of their win, "We have the 2007 Mr. RIPS on board and his muscles aren't going to be wasted. We are going to blow the lid off this regatta."

In a passionate triangle between the MRS, Treachery, and Watergirl, jealousy was in abundance after the girls from Min of Mine upstaged the sexy trio at the after party flaunting a combination of tight pink shirts and short skirts. A very close friend of the sexy trio said, "Yes, it was so in your face-whatever."

A 23 year old aspiring model, waitress, and single mom, Mike Clements on Wicked, said, "Our success came at a price today-my hair's a mess and I broke a couple of nails" An onlooker said, "He really did look a mess, but his crew were quite stunning."



### DIVISION 4 - Dreams

Slept like a dead man, confident in our ability to kick ass on the race course. Dreamt of mermaids. 0950 hours slipped gracefully from the dock. Dreams of sunny warm winds and fair seas. Hang over be damned, full steam ahead!

Prerace, first order of business, dropped the crab trap, dreaming of dinner. Second up, practice with jury rigged spinnaker setup. Yeah baby, we are good to go!

Next order of business, listen to the committee show on channel 72 – entertainment at its best "Mark 3, back three inches, no other back!" "Okay, now forward four inches".

Race 1, not our best start, but with ththe whole fleet ahead we watched their mistakes and dreamed our way through an awesome race and managed a personal best and actually finished ahead of some other boats.

Race 2 was even better, never hit a mark and lunched on dreamy muffins and chicken legs. We finished in our own personal style with grace and dignity in tact.

Race 3 – Abandoned!  
Had dreams of winning this one.

Race 4 – Our best of the day. Had a dynamite finish with a turkey on our tail. Mmmmmmm.....so good barbecued.

Will dream of the fun we had and the more fun to come. Here's to RIPS – Ripped, Incredible, Passionate sailors.,



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