

+ Acton Action

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Slow Start-Fast Finish

Wind Goes Bi-polar; Racers Make Most of It

If you were on the water Sunday, you were rewarded. If you were racing, it was a slow crawl to the start in 2mph wind. By Race 2, the wind had come to life, gusting to 10mph and sending everyone to the rail on a gloriously sunny and, as it turned out, windy day.

Hobie skippers Joe Buchert, Don Fecher, and Dave Munday each had their moments. Buchert, sailing with junior Sunfish ace Kevin DeArmon, put his stallion of a boat through her hull flying paces. Fecher and Munday were locked in a tight match race until race 2 when Dave stopped to help son Victor in his Sunfish.

In Y's, it was a closer than usual battle among three skippers, two of them soloing. The Sunfish fleet results were as different as the wind. See page 2 for more.



Above left, Charlie concentrates; above right Pete poses; below left Julie plots tactics; below right Bill mulls Rose's lead; photo at right shows yours truly steering committee boat with foot and reaching for throttle – steering linkage is temporarily out of service.

Schultz, Fecher, Paul Perform

Racing Tightens Up in All Three Fleets

With the wind challenging both light and heavier air abilities, it was a day in which everyone had a shot.

The Sunfish race one saw light air guru Rose Schultz outsmart everyone by starting alone at the committee end of the line at the same moment a huge shift came in from the right. The result was a startling victory over acknowledged Sunfish master Bill Molleran.

Molleran gained some measure of revenge, winning in the gustier race 2 but the Schultz win puts her closer to taking the Fall Series title with only four races to go.

Julie Molleran showed that her skills had not deserted her and took a 2nd in a race 2 that saw the wind not only pick up considerably but veer and back by as much as 180 degrees as it grew in strength.

In Hobies, Don Fecher fought off a strong challenge from Dave Munday and may have done well enough to catch the mighty Nacra of Joe Buchert (after correcting times).

Dave Munday mounted a threat in both races but ended up in an inadvertent capsize situation in race 2. More on that elsewhere in this issue.

In Y's, Jim Paul, sailing singlehanded, showed his light air chops by not only pushing Roger Henthorn to the finish, but beating fellow singlehander Charlie DeArmon in race 1. When the wind piped up in race 2, it was Charlie's turn to push Roger as Jim struggled to handle the beast in the strong puffs.



Victor solidly singlehanded it Sunday just before the big wind gusts hit. See page 3 for a profile of Victor and dad Dave Munday.

September Family Profile: The Mundays

Flying sets a man free in space
and sailing sets him free in
time." -Richard Bach

Dave Munday, a Learn to Sail grad as well as a UC professor of aerospace engineering, cites Richard Bach as one of his inspirations. Bach, who gained some measure of fame for writing Jonathan Livingston Seagull, was a pilot (like Dave), flying F-84's and biplanes too, but he also penned books on Buddhism, another interest of Dave's. Here, in his own words, Dave talks about sailing and son Victor, who now sails on his own in a Sunfish.

I had a longstanding low-level interest in sailing when I saw a boat for sale by the side of the road one day. I knew my friend Theirry Lorthioir was a sailor so I asked him to come have a look at it and he pronounced it fit so I bought it for \$500.

I read a few books and took a couple of lessons in a Hobie Wave and a Hobie Getaway while on vacation and then tried sailing the 16 with mixed success.

I brought it to several lakes including Acton where Joe Buchert helped us get away from the dock the first day and told me about the learn to sail program. I sailed with Charlie Buchert on learn to sail day and Mike Wier on learn to race day and joined HSA shortly after.

The club has been a boon with lots of support and guidance as I have learned to get around the course. First goal was to not get lapped. Current goal is to not be last.

Victor has been my ski buddy for years. It gives us a winter sport we can enjoy together and he learns so fast I had to take a few lessons to keep up with him. He has recently gone over to the dark side (snowboards) so I'll be ahead of him for a while as he learns the new way to get down the mountain.

I've been trying to get him to come sail with me for years so we can have a summer hobby

we can enjoy together. His first time on the Hobie 16 at East Fork Lake we turned the boat over, got it completely inverted and had to cut the mast away and get a tow to the beach.

It was not a good introduction for him. He came out with me a few more times, but always got scared when the wind picked up. The idea of commanding his own ship appealed to him though so we had to wait several years for him to be old enough to go to sail camp.

We almost missed his first opportunity because when I called many months in advance to sign him up I was told it was full. I had planned to send him with a buddy from school, but there was not enough space to get both of them in, but he seems to have adapted pretty well and made new friends at camp.

There was practically no wind at this year's camp so he's still finding his way through gusts, but he is interested and I hope he will continue. He is a very sporty kid (soccer, basketball, baseball, diving, tennis, skiing) and I know this is a sport he can continue with throughout his lifetime so I hope he continues to enjoy it. I know that HSA is a great environment for him. I appreciate all the support and encouragement he receives from everybody.

This past Sunday he got through the starts and around the course by himself and managed some puffs that would have knocked him down last time he was out, so he's learning. At the end of the day he got his hand wrapped up in a tightening mainsheet and we had to have it looked at, but he's fine and his interest in sailing appears to be undiminished.

I think we'll need to get him a Sunfish before next year's sail camp.

Photos from this past weekend's MU regatta courtesy of Bobbie Bode. Below, early morning fog coming off lake Saturday at the docks; at right some of the collegians in action; bottom right, some of the collegians in inaction.



+ Miami Hosts Regatta Wind Not Invited

Miami University held its "Acton Up Regatta" this past weekend with our own Roger Henthorn and Bobbie Bode as race committee.

A total of six or seven schools participated, most from Ohio or Michigan, but the wind did not cooperate with speeds of zero to some other unknown number mph and shifts of 270 degrees observed.

Despite the conditions, the regatta came off successfully and culminated in the presentation of trophies Sunday morning as HSA arrived. Michigan State won top honors, Ohio State finished second, and our Redhawks came in third. Also at the regatta were Bowling Green, and a few other Midwestern colleges, none of which Roger can remember the names of.

Though the regatta used our committee boat, little else about the starts was familiar. They used a whistle instead of horns and flags, although it was

reported that they looked at all our equipment with some bit of envy. The "A" division sailed first for two races, then "B" sailors tried their hand and then kept alternating. There were awards for both divisions and it only cost the MU sailors \$10 for the weekend.

According to Roger, "the winds were light to non-existent. Saturday included the standard 90 degree shifts, but there were also some 180 and one 270 shift."

Seven boats and two fleets, A and B, rotated on and off the course in a complicated collegiate scoring. In the end, the MU group was grateful for the HSA assistance and Roger and Bobbie were paid in bagels and cream cheese for breakfast and cheeseburgers on grilled buns for lunch.

Bobbie is reportedly holding out for similar fare on OktoberFast committee but negotiations have stalled.



Sunday's Race Results

Hobies (uncorrected)

Joe Buchert	1	1	2
Don Fecher	2	2	4
Dave Munday	3	DNF	6

Y-Flyers

Roger Henthorn	1	1	2
Charlie DeArmon	3	2	5
Jim Paul	2	DNF	5

Sunfish

Bill Molleran	2	1	3
Rose Schultz	1	3	4
Julie Molleran	4	2	6
Pete Peters	5	4	9
Megan DeArmon			
	3	DNF	10
Victor Abitablo			
	6	DNF	12

At right, Gwen Marshall sails in her aptly named "Friend-ship" as she takes three of her friends out for a day sail. Below is Don Fecher in his beautiful Hobie 17. It is for sale as well as for sail. Contact Don at dfexskip@aol.com

