

Cow Town Classic

October 9-10, 1999

Fleet 54 Hoover YC, Ohio

Report from Ron Stryker

Five races were sailed on Saturday in 74-degree temperatures, 8-12 mph winds and steady rain.

Fleet 54's famous prime rib dinner completed the first day for the soggy sailors.

Sunday's clearing skies and 6-10 mph breeze allowed a sixth race and one throw-out.

Pete Comfort won overall honors with three bullets. Carl Pratt was first Grand Master Judy Hearn, first Woman and Blue Chip

award winner, stunned the male dominated fleet with comfortable 1st place windward mark roundings during races 5 and 6.

Bob Bellafronto was second overall, 1st Master and winner of the coveted Ohio

Championship trophy. The Ohio Championship trophy is awarded to the combined winner of both the Cowan Scow'n and Cow Town Classic regattas.

One throwout was allowed.

Pl	Skipper	Div	Club	Boat	Races						Pts
					1	2	3	4	5	6	
1	Pete Comfort		TLYC/MI	1918	1	2	1	4	1	3	8
2	Bob Bellafronto	M	CLYSA/OH	1797	2	1	4	1	5	2	10
3	Mark White		HYC/OH	1530	7	6	2	2	15	4	21
4	Phil Weiler		CLSA/OH	1755	4	9	6	5	6	1	22
5	Kevin Watrous		TLYC/MI	1758	3	4	3	7	8	11	25
6	Carl Pratt	M	CLSA/OH	1887	5	8	10	8	12	6	29
7	Curt Miller	M	GRYC/MI	1701	8	3	7	3	10	12	31
8	Devin Koski		TLYC/MI	1793	6	7	9	6	7	7	33
9	Ron Stryker	M	HYC/OH	1800	10	5	5	9	11	9	38
10	Judy Hearn	W	CLSA/OH	1347	11	12	14	10	3	5	41
11	Dan Gleckner	M	HYC/OPH	1101	9	10	8	14	9	8	44
12	Jack Sanderson			1625	12	11	13	11	4	10	49
13	Doug Kiser	M	HYC/OH	1400	12	14	10	13	13	12	60
14	Sandy Schirmer		HYC/OH	955	14	13	11	12	12	14	62

'99 Polar Bear

October 2-3, 1999

Fleet 20 Lake Davenport SC, Iowa



Report from Tony Bruskas

As the leaves begin to turn and the temperature begins to drop, our thoughts go to the way of the life blood of our country ... Old Man River, deep- deep river ... the barge highway, the giant money sucking gambling pit. Call it what you may, but at least one weekend, it is a little like heaven -- Polar Bear 1999.

Mother Nature decided that she had been too good to us over the past few years and decided it was time to remind us that the name of this regatta really means something. Temps were a brisk mid 40s with wind conditions ranging from 0 to 18 mph from the north. As the locals know, a north wind is the best possible direction for sailing in Davenport. There is nothing like

Pl	Skipper	Div	Club	Boat	Races/Points			Pts
					1	2	3	
1	Gary Reab		IA	1889	1	5	1	7
2	Hardy Will	GM	LBYC/MI	1818	2	1	5	8
3	Stu Oltrogge		CLYC/IA	1591	3	2	3	8
4	Dan Fink		LMYC/MI	1877	4	3	2	9
5	Tony Bruskas	GM	LDSC/IA	1484	7	4	4	15
6	Tom Getz	GM	LDSC/IA	1311	5	6	7	18
7	Tim Buddig			1826	6	9	6	21
8	Mark Tesar		CLYC/IA	1591	8	7	9	24
9	Brett Fetter			601	9	8	8	25

wind gusting and rolling over the high bluffs onto a cross section of the river (read 1/3 mile upwind) to make for great sailing.

Playing with the hand dealt them, the Judges setup a T 3-1/3 with reaches approximately 4-5 times as long as the upwind. Starts were definitely premium (as well as patience on the long reaches).

Gary Reab took the first race with a huge lead at the start. Lunch was next on tap (literally for some) since some big tugs pushing barges decided it was their turn to play on the river. After they cleared, so did the clouds. Sun and Iowa sun at that - pure magic. Unfortunately (or fortunately depending on your finish) the wind remained the same. Hardy Will now sailing as a Grand Master beat out Stu Oltrogge from Clear Lake.

The third, and what turned out to be the last, race of the regatta was won by Gary Reab. Second place was exciting in that four

boats were closing in together in fluky air - with Dan Fink ultimately winning second place by a nose over Oltrogge, Bruskas and Will.

Sunday morning in Iowa - 40 degrees, misting rain and 0 -3 mph from the east. The race was called and elated participants began to dismantle their boats in even colder weather, and even wetter rain. Good decision, Judges.

Although MC participation in the regatta was low and enthusiastically high for the C Scows (32 boats), the regatta was an overall great success. Sailors departed for home with thoughts of Saturdays 'Cheeseburgers in Paradise' (Iowa attraction), great band, great free beer, great raffle and great half-naked Commodore Don Wagner who raffled-off the shirt off his back.

Editor's Note: This article was taken from an article written by Team Woody a C Scow sailor from Lac LaBelle, WI.