

# THE XI WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IN PUCON, CHILE

by Walmor Soares Filho

For me, Valerio Soares and Cezar Barbi the World's started the day after Xmas 1981 when we started our long journey to Chile. We went by car trailing our Lightning "Goiabada" for 3.722 kilometers through treacherous roads but beautiful country side. We arrived 4 days later in the middle of the night and ended up sleeping in the car in front of the "aduana".

When we woke we were astonished; we sensed immediately why people had talked of Pucion's natural beauty. We drove to the Grande Hotel Pucion, the hosts of the S. American and World Championships. They weren't ready yet for sailors, so we found the "Hosteria El Precipito" right down the street. It was so enjoyable that we stayed there for the rest of the championship.

In that beautiful scenery, cold waters and "conguacitos" (a fly the size of a beetle) we unpacked "Goiabada" and started to think seriously of boat, tactics and the coming regattas.

We raced badly in the South Americans. We were nervous, couldn't get the boat to move well, and almost everything went wrong. We finished the S.A. in sixth place, a championship we were expecting to finish in the top 3. Our best race was a 2nd which was achieved with very light winds in the fourth race. In the other races we finished 6th 3 times, a 5th and a 7th. Not very promising considering that there were 13 S.A. boats, plus reigning World Champ Glen Darden and N.A. Champ Mark Bryant, who won 5 out of the 6 races. We were really disappointed with our racing and at one point thought of packing up and going home.

Between the S.A. and the Worlds we had two days free. We took advantage of the time and went to Santiago, 800 kilometers to the North. We went by over-night train and spent a full day sightseeing and shopping. This was a good break for us — not a word was mentioned about boats, sails, racing, etc.

Returning to Pucion we got back to sailing. We talked with Bill Shore about our tuning and sails. We decided to get a new jib and main. My Dad, Walmor Sr., Valerio, Cesar I had many talks together on tactics and psychology that really animated us. Thanks to these talks, the support from friends, the responsibility ahead of us being the only Brazilian entry, are the reasons we pulled together and went on to win the coveted World Championship like this:

**1st Race** - Wind 5 to 8 knots from the South. Alberto Gonzales from Chile was outstanding in this race and fought with Jay Lutz the whole race. Jay's experience predominated and went on to win. Gonzales was 2nd, Sergio Messina from Italy 3rd. We came in a mediocre 11th.

**2nd Race** - Wind 5 to 10 knots from the Southwest. We got a good start and led for the first triangle. At the third mark we were about 50 meters ahead of Jay Lutz. A big shift favored Jay and he went on to win. We came in 2nd and Glen Darden was third.

**3rd Race** - Wind 5 to 8 knots from the Southwest. We again started well and had good boat speed. We led at the mark and pulled away on the spinnaker leg. On the last leg we had a good lead and we weren't too worried about the rest of the

fleet. We tacked toward the peninsula and almost lost our lead to Don Delorme sailing "Marmelade". Don sailed superbly, coming from 7th to a final second, and Bill Buckles was 3rd.

**4th Race** - Wind very light and varied. This was the torture. The race started at mid-day and was almost not completed. Glen Darden pulled away in the light winds. Glenn completed the first mark with about a 5 minute leeway and won with only 3 minutes to go on the 3½ hour time limit. A real drifter, positions changing constantly and what heat! Mark Bryant went from 10th to finish 2nd, Larry MacDonald 3rd, Tom Allen Jr. 4th and we drifted in 5th.

**5th Race** - Winds 8 to 12 knots from the South. Before the start the R.C. shortened the course since it was close to 6 p.m. We were to sail a triangle and one windward leg. Jim Carso led most of the way but Richard Hallagan passed him on the last leg and won. Terho Aromaa from Finland raced beautifully and came in second. Jim Carson settled for a third and we took a hard fought 8th but well ahead of Darden's 11th and Jay's 36th. At the end of five races and considering one drop-out, the standings were the following: We were tied with Lutz with 16 points, Darden had 25 points and Carson 30 points.

**6th Race** - Friday January 15, 1982 the day of the "Chubasco". It was already difficult to get boats into the water due to one meter high waves breaking on the beach. Many boats needed tows from the Chilean Navy boats just to get over the breakers. At the start the wind was blowing about 25 knots and increasing. We got a reasonable start and hiked, and hiked! At the windward buoy Darden was a bit ahead, we were about 8th, but had a small lead on Jay Lutz.

Chutes were up and what a ride to the jibe mark. Before the mark the "chubasco" hit us with heavy rains and winds close to 90 kilometer per hour. Our rudder broke in half and we went over. Boats now were turning over right and left. We ended up at the end of the beach of the hotel and since the weather hadn't improved we left the boat there for the night.

## **6th Race - (Another try)**

The weather Saturday morning didn't look too good. It was dark and grey and the wind was picking up into the twenties by the time of the start. Some boats went in, but most of the fleet waited until the last minute. Finally the race committee annulled the race and at exactly mid-day bad weather came again with terrific winds.

We won the championship 27 pts., followed by Glenn Darden 40 pts., Jim Carson 49 pts., Jay Lutz 52 pts., and Rodrigo Zuazola with 52 pts.

Never before had we been so honoured by the Lightning Class, the Organization Committee which gave their all to the Championship, and by the Chilean people who were so warm and friendly to all participants. We three sail other classes also, but the unity between Lightning Sailors is something that is not easy to find.

Congratulations to the many leaders of the Lightning Class.

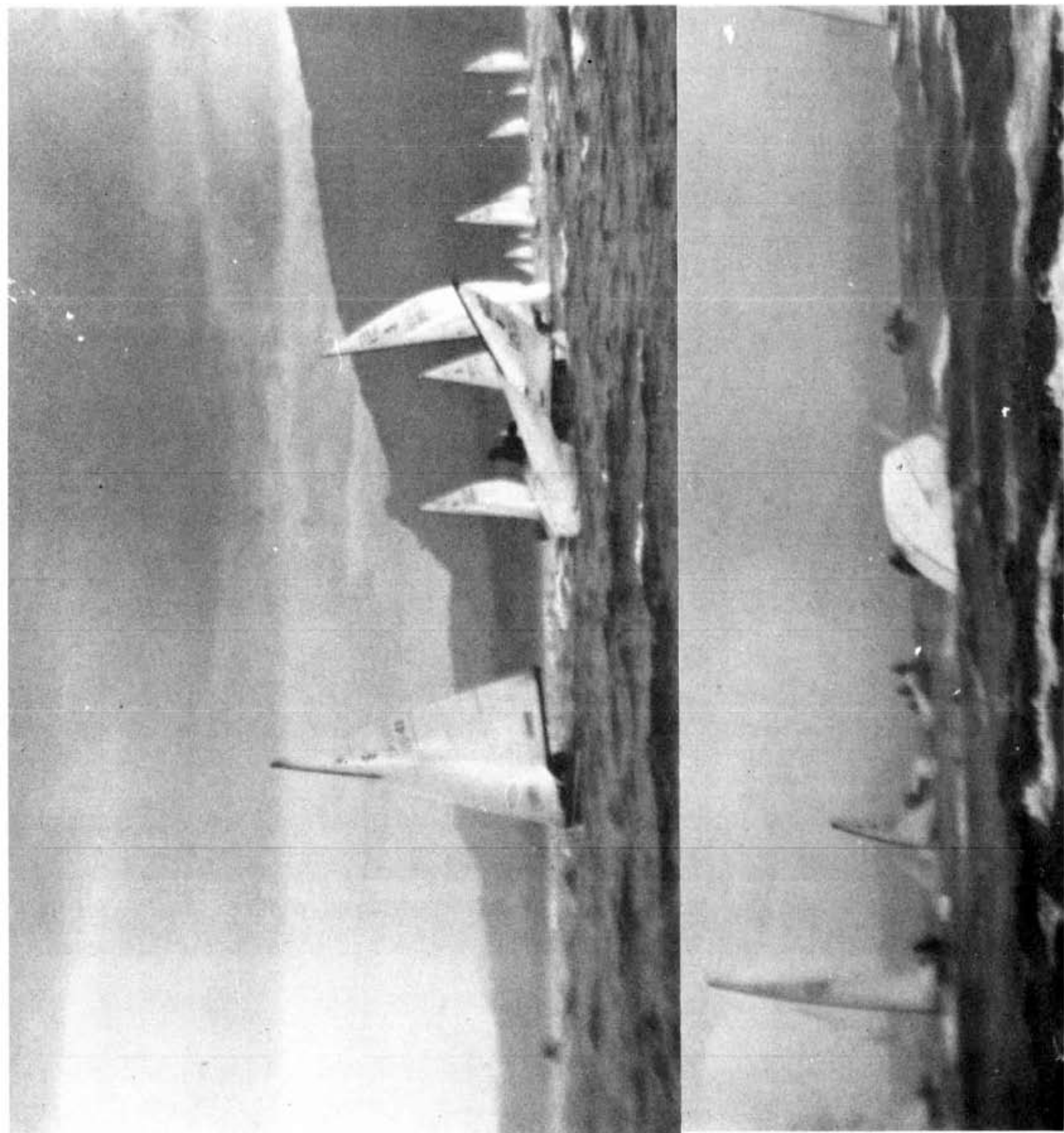
Hope to see you all in Naples, Italy in 1983.

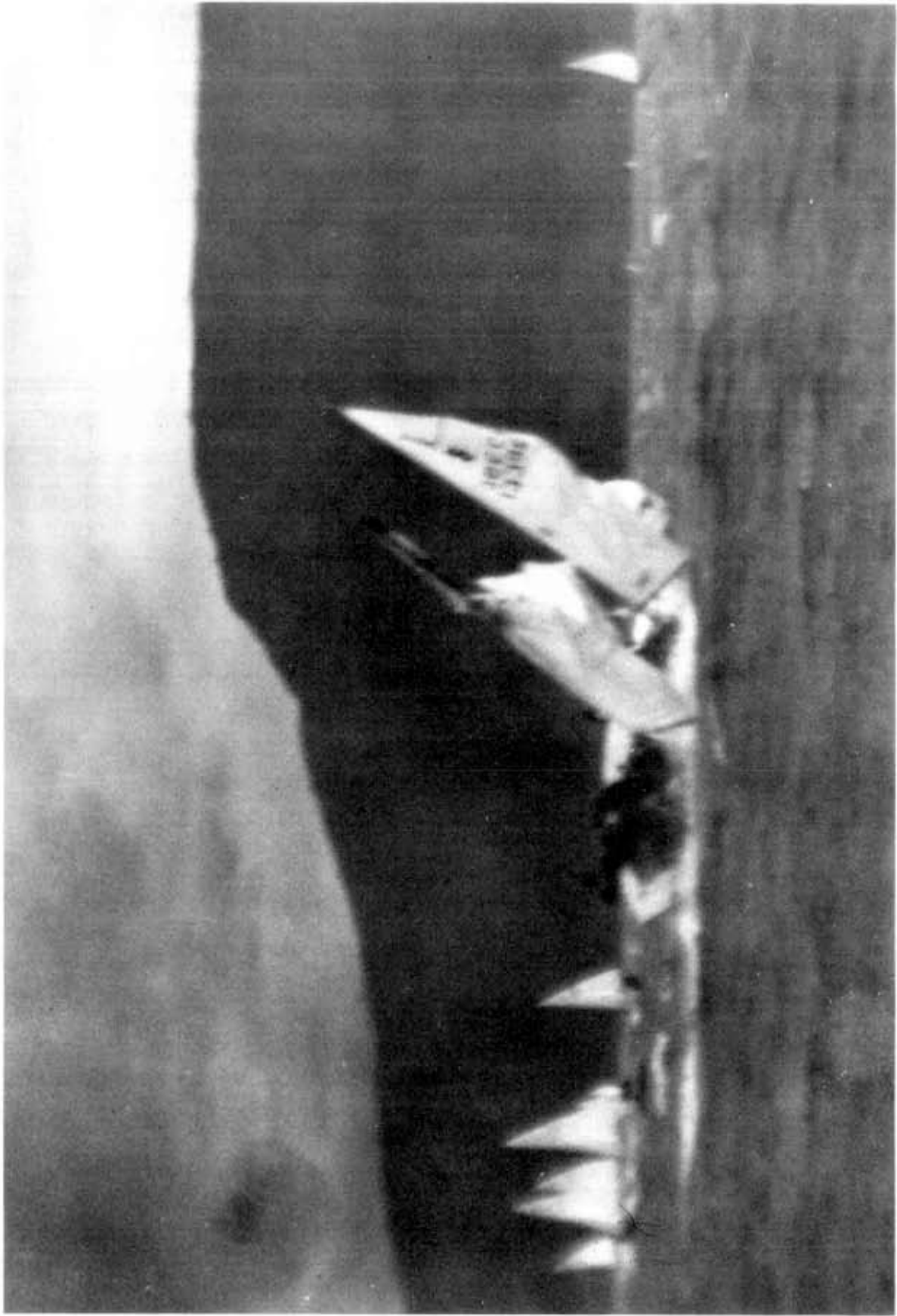
# XI LIGHTNING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Final Pos.	County & Number	Yacht Name	Skipper & Crew	City	Race Finishes					Pts.
					1	2	3	4	5	
1	BL 11721	Goiabada	Walmor Gomes Soares Valerio Gomes Soares, Cesar Murilo Barbi	Florianopolis, Brazil	11	2	1	5	8	27
2	US 13622	Dark Horse	Glenn Darden Michael Haggerty, Kurt Huseman	Fl. Worth, Texas	10	3	15	1	11	40
3	IS 13650	Fuzzy Blues	Jim Carson Jim Gelenitis, Michael Schon	Brick Town, New Jersey	9	19	10	8	3	49
4	US 11099	Ghost	Jay Lutz Jody Lutz, Bonnie Shore	Brick Town, New Jersey	1	1	7	7	36	52
5	X 11040	Zetabe	Rodrigo Zuazola Jorge Zuazola, Carlos Rossi	Vina del Mar, Chile	14	4	13	10	12	53
6	X 11011	Mental	Alberto Gonzalez M. Carolina Gallyas Puffe, Fernando Gallyas P.	Santiago, Chile	2	15	18	14	13	62
7	KC 13671	Endevour	Larry MacDonald Larry MacDonald, Sr., Susan MacDonald	Hamilton, Ont. Canada	15	16	14	3	17	65
8	US 12355	Shadow	Richard W. Hallagan Jean Hallagan, Dave Wait	Newark, New York	22	26	6	11	1	66
9	A 13409	Surumpio	Mario Abinzano F. Marcelo Abinzano, Claudio Fassardi	Buenos Aires, Argentina	6	12	24	19	5	66
10	X 13396	Pixie	Manuel Gonzalez M. Juan Pablo Barahona, Cristian Barahona	Santiago, Chile	26	7	17	6	16	72
11	US 13681	El Brujo	Tom Allen, Jr. Anne Allen, Jane Allen	Buffalo, New York	20	25	19	4	6	74
12	US 10196	Finesse	Mark Bryant William A. Shore, Gisselle Wagner	Middletown, Rhode Island	19	5	21	2	29	76
13	US 13531	Arre Burro	Bill L. Buckles Greg Florian, A. Kay Ward	Lorain, Ohio	27	24	3	21	4	79
14	US 11800	Mon Back	Matthew Burrige David Jones, Lal Burrige	St. Louis, Missouri	23	13	16	31	7	90
15	X 13404	Racha	Rufino Melero Unestarazu Javier Melero, Andres Novion	Santiago, Chile	21	9	11	25	26	92
16	US 11036	Marmalade	Dr. Donald P. Delorme Wanda J. Delorme, Herman Schacht	Alexandria, Virginia	7	41	2	22	25	97
17	X 11450	The King	Jaime Fernandez S. Tristan Aicardi, Felipe Cubillos	Santiago, Chile	16	22	27	18	15	98
18	A 11041	Flamingo III	Roberto Ricoveri Hugo Arazi, Rolando Torrado	Buenos Aires, Argentina	18	6	38	13	24	99
19	EC 12054	Ratonera	Juan Santos Gareces Carlos Luis Lecaro, Oscar Viteri-Sweet	Guayaquil, Ecuador	28	8	20	23	20	99
20	EC 13444	Elsie	Mauricio Martinez F. Gonzalo Martinez F., Ernesto Martinez F.	Quito, Ecuador	12	14	29	16	28	99
21	KC 13659	In Lieu	David Sprague Stewart Sprague, Peggy Bowman	Toronto, Ont., Canada	29	17	8	26	23	103
22	US 13611	Atom	Tom Allen Brenda Allen, Jim Allen	Buffalo, New York	13	10	47	17	38	105
23	I 13414	Zaza	Sergio Messina Nino Mizza, Pasquale Vitazzio	Marsale, Italy	3	27	35	9	32	106
24	CB 13432	Pelicano	Fernando De La Concha Miguel Cano M., Roberto Matarraz	Bogota, Colombia	24	18	28	12	27	109
25	US 10930	Fassion	Robert K. Smither Antonio Benvenuto, Alejandro Alerreca	Hinsdale, Illinois	8	32	9	27	35	111
26	US 13552	Basura Blanca	Stephen Bachman Carol Bachman, Mike Castine	Pasadena, Maryland	17	23	22	40	9	111
27	KC 13515	Trueno	Rops Bailey Blair Sandberg, Gordon Bailey	Thunder Bay, Ont. Canada	4	29	33	29	19	114
28	X 13536	Adeus	Luis Herman Sanhueza Luis Herman Gonzalez, Cristian Herman S.	Santiago, Chile	35	20	12	20	30	117
29	X 13226	Demon	Pablo Gallyas Proaska Gallyas, Pablo Gallyas	Santiago, Chile	5	[24]	39	32	21	121
30	ZC 12824	Flamingo IV	Oswaldo Bordino Heraldo Tramaglia, Roberto Benvenuto	Maracay, Venezuela	30	28	4	37	34	133
31	A 13682	Bachicha	Angel Vila Valeria Vila, Pablo Soldam	Buenos Aires, Argentina	39	33	25	28	10	135
32	US 13177	Desperado	John Schneider Kevin Corr, Electra Thomas	Dallas, Texas	25	11	31	34	37	138
33	X 12767	Julie	Fernando Magnasco Miguel Gonzalez, Jocelyn Koifman	Santiago, Chile	31	38	23	33	14	139
34	PU 10997	La Ratita	Luis A. Bryce Rodolfo Stiglich, Enrique Garrido	Lima, Peru	34	34	5	30	40	143
35	X 13165	Mercurio	Jorge Campos Neuling Marcelo Tapia Adler, Manuel Gonzalez Tardel	Valparaiso, Chile	33	35	26	24	31	149
36	I 13130	Masi the 3rd	Terho Aromaa Pertti, Pyy, Sirka-Liisa Laitinen	Vantaa, Finland	38	39	34	41	2	154
37	X 12513	Abuelo	Nicolas Cubillos Patricio Middleton K., Angel Fantuzzi F.	Santiago, Chile	32	31	40	15	41	159
38	I 13481	Wanted IV	Alessandro Attina Marcello Attina, Giuseppe Alagna	Marsala, Italy	46	37	32	43	22	180
39	X 11392	Kif - Kif	Alberto Polette L. Raul Katz, Ricardo Barbera	Santiago, Chile	36	30	37	44	3	180
40	X 13395	Coliguacho	Manuel Gonzalez B. Jose Manuel Alvarez, Cristian Acuna	Santiago, Chile	37	21	43	38	43	182
41	I 12757	Blue Lady	Pentti Laitinen Leena Laitinen, Visa Hietalahti	Vantaa, Finland	41	40	30	36	44	191
42	U 8810	Triton	Ricardo Molinelli Jorge Paster, Ignacio Marones	Paysandu, Uruguay	42	36	41	35	39	193
43	US 13246	Genie 3	William Hole Billy Hole, Linda Karas	Lafayette, California	43	44	36	39	42	204
44	Z 12572	Auca	Gilbert Despland Anne-Lise Paul, Jean-Claude Gaberthuel	Grandson, Switzerland	40	43	42	42	38	205
45	X 13350	Yankee Flyer	Jaime Santa Cruz Lopez Andres Santa Cruz Lopez, Milton Calderon Benoit	Santiago, Chile	44	42	44	45	45	220

46 Points — DNF/DNS 47 Points — DSQ [ ] Average of other races

# 1982 World Championship - Pucon, Chile





The **STORM** which hit during the last race of the World Championship was the wildest that most of us had been in. As "Big D" said in Flashes, "After they were sure everyone was safe the sailors went totally crazy. It was obviously the highlight of the Regatta even though nobody finished, most people turned over, masts were broken and many other things bent. The stories that will be told about this will last forever".

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