

M24★USA

2006 MELGES 24

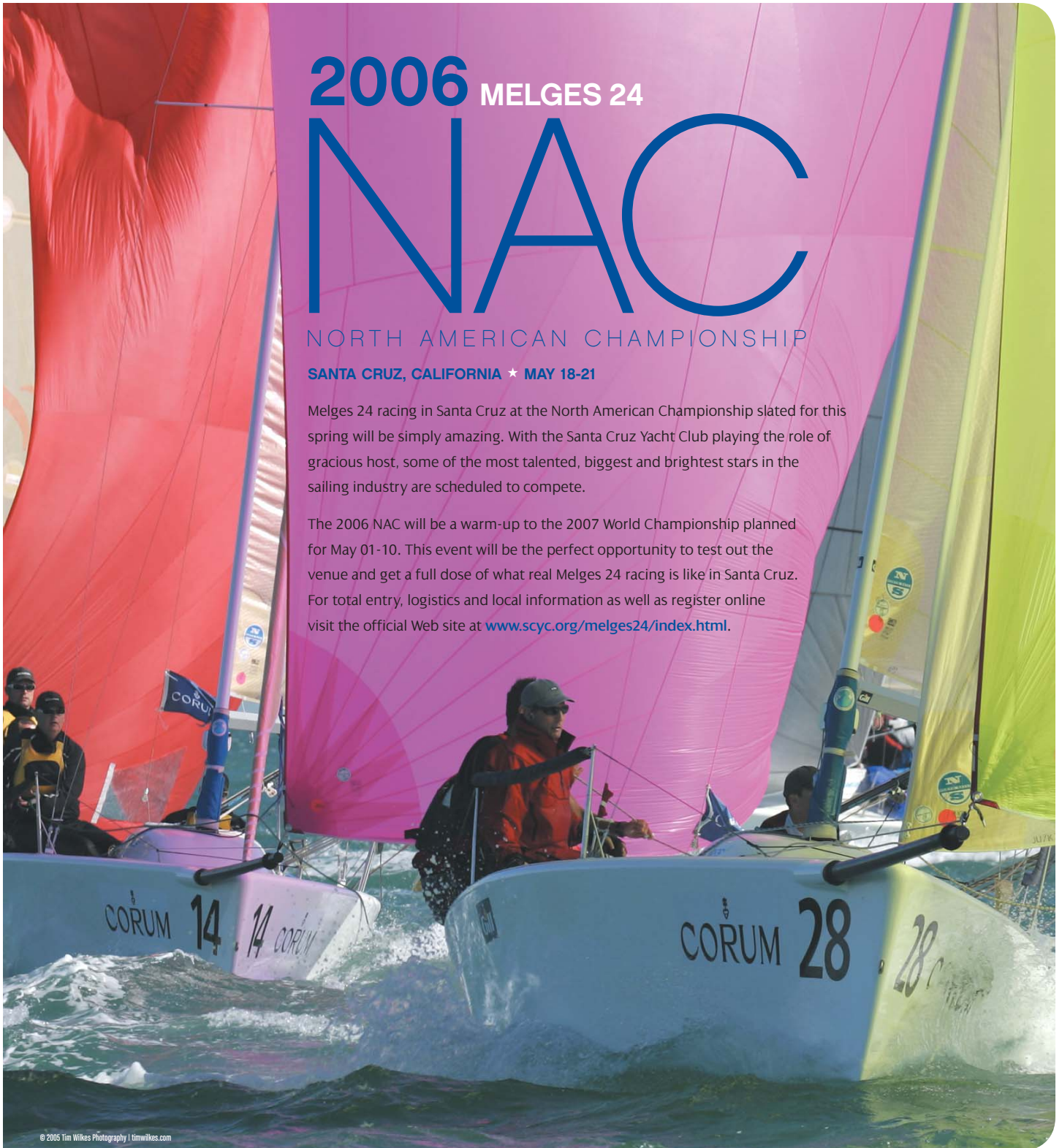
NAC

NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP

SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA ★ MAY 18-21

Melges 24 racing in Santa Cruz at the North American Championship slated for this spring will be simply amazing. With the Santa Cruz Yacht Club playing the role of gracious host, some of the most talented, biggest and brightest stars in the sailing industry are scheduled to compete.

The 2006 NAC will be a warm-up to the 2007 World Championship planned for May 01-10. This event will be the perfect opportunity to test out the venue and get a full dose of what real Melges 24 racing is like in Santa Cruz. For total entry, logistics and local information as well as register online visit the official Web site at www.scyc.org/melges24/index.html.



Dominant Species

2006

2*,3,4,5*,7,8,9* Key West

2005

1,2,3 Worlds (Corinthian Div.)

2,5,6,7,8 Worlds (Champ.)

1,2,3 Gold Cup

1,3*,4,5,6 Key West

1 Europeans

1 SORC

1 UK Nationals

1 French Nationals

1 German Nationals

1,2 Pacific Coast Champs

*partial

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Photo Tim Wilkes

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The Official Magazine of the US Melges 24 Class Association Volume 3 ★ Issue 1 ★ Winter/Spring 2006 ★ www.usmelges24.com



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The last few months have been monumental for the Melges 24 Class, internationally as well as in the United States. Four major events back-to-back — the Atlantic Coast Championship/King's Day Regatta in Jacksonville; 2005 Corum Melges 24 World Championship at Ocean Reef Club in Key Largo, Florida; 2006 ACURA Key West Race Week in Key West, Florida; and the St. Petersburg NOOD in St. Petersburg, Florida have produced some of the most memorable images in high performance, one design yachting ever!

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CREDITS & CONTRIBUTORS: Concept/Design/Editorial: JOY Advertising (www.joysavannah.com) **On The Cover:** 2005 Corum Melges 24 World Championship Fleet Action, Tim Wilkes Photography **Photography:** Joy Advertising, Tim Wilkes Photography **Contributing Writers:** Joy Dunigan **Advertising and Sponsorship Inquiries:** Contact JOY Advertising for a Media Kit at (912) 398-5776 or via email at joy.dunigan@joysavannah.com

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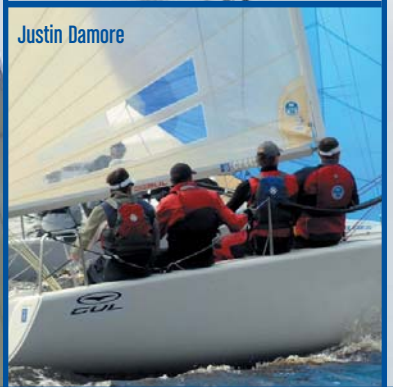
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strength in numbers

jacksonville ★ **florida** Fifty-four Melges 24 teams participated at the 2005 Atlantic Coast Championship/King's Day Regatta at the very hospitable Florida Yacht Club. This event set the pace for a string of Melges 24 Winter events. Many of the most talented racers warmed up for the World Championship that took place just three weeks later in Key Largo. 2005 World Champion James Spithill came out on top at this event, yet he never went unchallenged. Other race winners such as Dave Ullman, Brian Porter and Marty Kullman proved that any team was worthy to compete and win.



CHARGE!!! Gabrio Zandona at the helm for Giovanni Maspero of Joe Fly (center), seizes the moment as Henry Filter at the helm for Justin Damore (left) and Elvind Melleby at the helm for Anders Stenhagen (right).

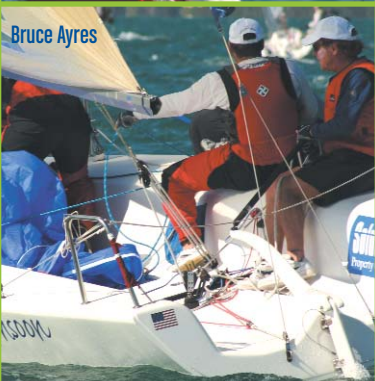




Vince Brun



Bruce Ayres



Kristian Neergard



World-renown Italian, sailing superstar helm Riccardo Simoneschi was a strong contender at the World Championship. He was one of nine Italian teams that traveled to Ocean Reef. Eight of those teams found their way into the top thirty.



Jamie Lea

strength in numbers



James Spithill



Elvind Mellaby



John Bertrand



Travis Weisleder

98

key largo ★ **florida** For the spectator, when watching ninety-eight M24s on one starting line, measuring three quarters of a mile in length only one term best describes the view — ROCK SHOW. After all, this was anything but a talk show. Over 30 international teams from nine nations with the likes of America's Cup, Olympic Class, multiple World and National Champions and sailors littering the course it was intense. The racing was unparalleled and the level of endurance required to win put each team and their boat handling skills to the ultimate test. After six days of racing, James Spithill and his *Luna Rossa* team of Jonathan and Charlie McKee, Manuel Modena and eleven-year old Mac Agnese celebrated victory. "It really says something about this class, that someone can charter a boat and win the worlds," said Spithill only moments after he crossed the finish line.

60

Kristian Neergard,
Eric Nerlinger and Marc Ewing



Looking down a long, impressive starting line packed with Melges 24s can be exciting, but nevertheless a rush for the spectator, almost as much as it is for the competitor.

key west ★ **florida** Five days of fast, fun-in-the-sun sailing is what awaits anyone headed to Key West in January — a true will-not-disappoint venue with just the right ingredients for a terrific time. Following tradition as the largest competing fleet, sixty Melges 24 teams enjoyed parties galore, experienced incredible racing conditions and superior fleet competition. 2006 was no different than any other with the exception of a new Melges 24 Champion — the legendary Dave Ullman on *Pegasus 505*. After a spectacular show of strength in Jacksonville finishing second overall and a third place finish at Worlds, Dave was not about to settle for being a bridesmaid and never a bride. Ullman topped the best-of-the-best such as Jeff Madrigali, Riccardo Simoneschi from Italy and former Key West and M24 World Champion Philippe Ligot from France, delivering the performance of a lifetime!





Clive Daem



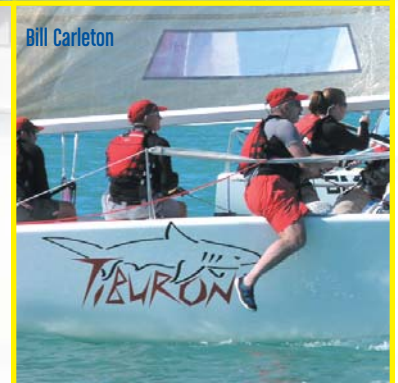
Larry Leonard



Mike Royer



Dave Ullman



Bill Carleton

strength
in numbers



Philippe Kahn

strength in numbers

Steve Jones



32



Eric Nerlinger

st. petersburg ★ **florida** Thirty-two was the magic number at the the most popular NOOD Regatta — St. Pete's! Again the largest class in attendance, the Melges 24s settled for only three races and to no surprise resulted in three different winners, Paul Hulsey (Race 1), Rob Bunn (Race 2) and Doug Fisher (Race 3). But, out on top was Melges 24 Champion Eric Nerlinger with his *Inside Voice* crew of Bill Hardesty, Blair Ross, Laura Muma and Rychee Vetur. Together they dominated the division with a 4, 2 and 3 finish.

This is one of the hottest Corinthian destinations. Of the thirty-two competitors, close to 90 percent of the fleet were true amateurs. The sensation of the regatta was third place overall finisher Steve Jones and co-owner Eric Andrews on *Sick Puppy*. On board with them was Steve's father — Ralph, 71. There is no doubt he was probably the oldest sailor on the course. Their other secret weapons — Nate Maxwell and Greg Elmgren made this winning crew complete.



Othemar MuellerVonBlumencroth at the helm for USMCA Northeast District Governor Bill Blank as teams scramble at the leeward gate preparing to make the spinnaker set.

John Hyatt



Michael Cantalano



2006 Lakefest Regatta

April 21-23 • Texoma, Texas • www.texomasailing.org/lakefest/

NORTH AMERICAN RANKING EVENT

The Gulf Coast Melges 24 fleet is revving up for yet another great sailing season. The heat has hung around almost all year long so, there is no excuse for not being out in full force. In its twentieth year, **Lakefest** is one of the largest charitable events in U.S., and certainly the pinnacle of the spring season. Taking place April 21-23 on beautiful, large and wide open Lake Texoma, it will provide three days of warm fun sailing on the Texas/Oklahoma border.

Both Friday and Saturday nights are packed with awesome parties, live music, dancing and great food for everyone. Calling all out-of-towners! Despite the jaunt, this is an event that is well worth the trip!

For more information about this event, contact USMCA Gulf Coast District Governor, Matt Mayo on email at mamayo@flash.net.



2006 Annapolis NOOD

April 28-30 • Annapolis, Maryland • www.sailingworld.com

NORTH AMERICAN RANKING EVENT



The 2006 Annapolis NOOD will commence the sailing season in the Northeast on April 28-30. Last year this venue played host to one of the largest National Championships ever. More than 40 Melges 24s lined up with the deepest league in talent ever before seen. Immediately, eyes turned to this amazing sportboat for — speed, challenge, competition and most importantly — fun and excitement! *The Baltimore Sun* even stood up and took notice as the M24 graced the front page of the Saturday edition. In the past few months, the revitalization of the Melges 24 in the Northeast is very apparent. Melges 24 Owners, Fleet Captains and sailors are steady campaigning the class and this event as one of the best to do in 2006!

For more information about this event, visit www.sailingworld.com or contact U.S. Melges 24 Class Northeast District Governor, Bill Blank on email at bblank@tsm1.com.

2006

HYERES

MELGES 24 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

HYERES, FRANCE

26 AUGUST - 1 SEPTEMBER

For more information contact Regatta Chair, Denis Infante at d.infante@melges24.fr

2006 Melges 24 us national CHAMPIONSHIP

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The Florida Yacht Club

USMCA

2006 U.S. Event Schedule

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
NORTH AMERICAN RANKING			
04/21 - 04/23	Lakefest Regatta	Texoma, TX	Matt Mayo • mamayo@flash.net
04/28 - 04/30	Annapolis NOOD	Annapolis, MD	Bill Blank • BBlank@tsm1.com
05/19 - 05/21	2006 North American Championship	Santa Cruz, CA	Bret Gripenstraw • gripbig@aol.com
06/02 - 06/04	Detroit NOOD	Detroit, MI	Kevin Lewand • klewand@klewandcustomhomes.com
06/23 - 06/25	Ullman Sails Long Beach Race Week	Long Beach, CA	Mark Townsend • mark@lbrw.org
07/17 - 07/21	Whidbey Island Race Week	Seattle, WA	Paul Bennett • paul_bennett@k2sports.com
08/18 - 08/20	U.S. Gold Cup	Newport, RI	J.C. Raby • jcr@bostonmeridian.com
08/23 - 09/01	Melges 24 World Championship	Hyerles, France	Denis Infante • d.infante@melges24.fr
10/07 - 10/08	Lake Geneva Fall Championship Regatta	Lake Geneva, WI	Andy Burdick • andy@melges.com
11/17 - 11/19	U.S. National Championship/ACC	Jacksonville, FL	Ryan Hamm • ryanhamm@sadlerandhamm.com

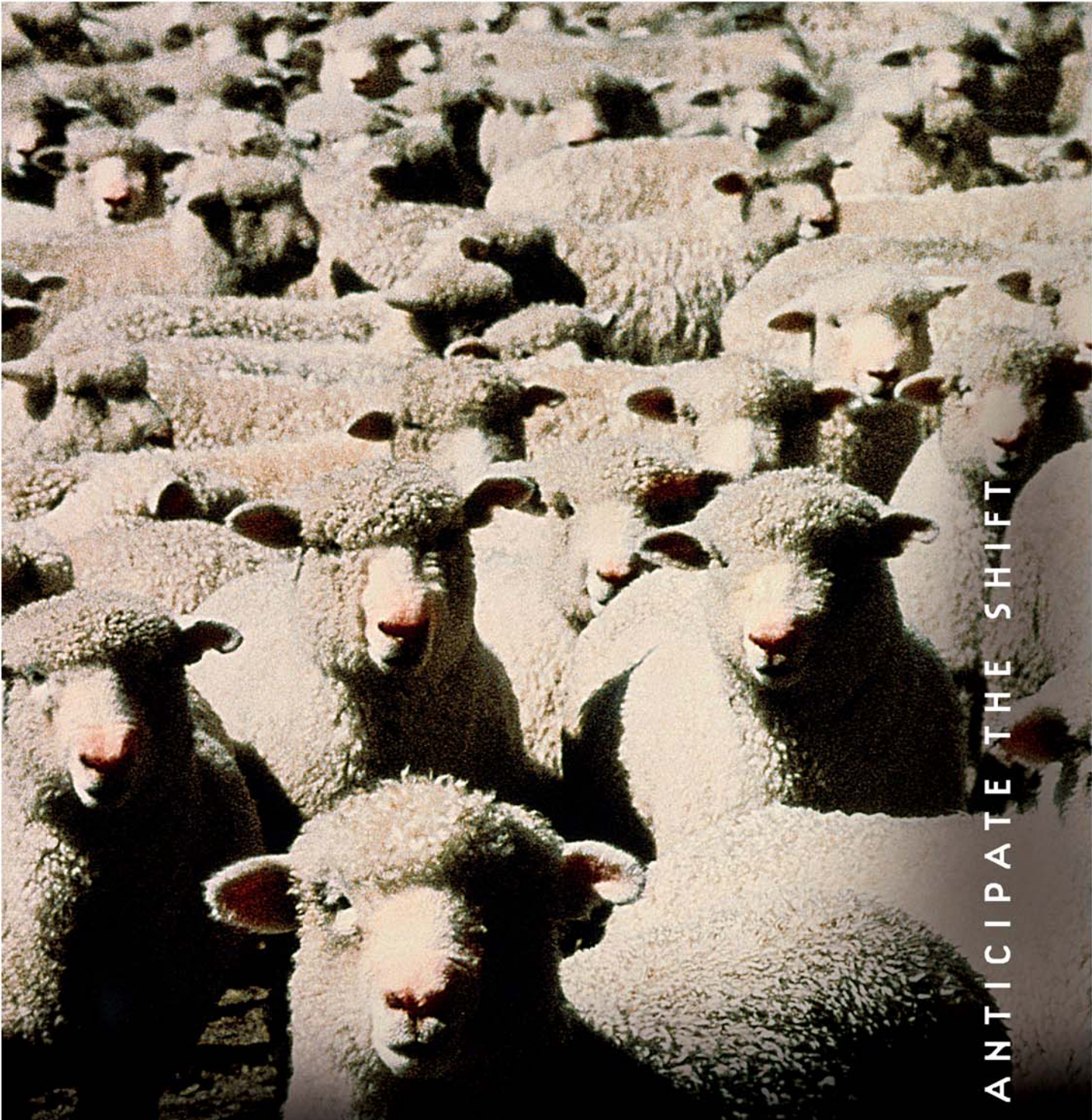
REGATTAS

04/06 - 04/09	Charleston Race Week	Charleston, SC	Ryan Hamm • ryanhamm@sadlerandhamm.com
04/08 - 04/09	Resin Regatta	San Francisco, CA	Don Jesberg • jesberg@msn.com
05/06 - 05/07	Santa Cruzin'	Santa Cruz, CA	Don Jesberg • jesberg@msn.com
05/06 - 05/07	May Day Regatta	Grand Prairie, TX	Matt Mayo • mamayo@flash.net
05/13 - 05/13	Elite Keel Regatta	San Francisco, CA	Don Jesberg • jesberg@msn.com
05/20 - 05/21	St. Brendan Cup	Annapolis, MD	Bill Carleton • m24tiburon@gmail.com
05/20 - 05/21	One Design Regatta	Muskegon, Michigan	John Schumacher • johnusa71@aol.com
05/27 - 05/28	Memorial Day Regatta	San Francisco, CA	Don Jesberg • jesberg@msn.com
06/10 - 06/10	Delta Ditch Run	Richmond, CA	Don Jesberg • jesberg@msn.com
06/16 - 06/18	Chicago NOOD	Chicago, IL	Mike Dow • mdow@chartermi.net
05/27 - 05/28	Memorial Day Regatta	San Francisco, CA	Don Jesberg • jesberg@msn.com
06/23 - 06/25	Melges 24 Makin' Waves Regatta	Vancouver, Canada	Matt MacGregor • matt@lakeview-morgage.com
06/24 - 06/25	Easom Founders Regatta	San Francisco, CA	Don Jesberg • jesberg@msn.com
06/24 - 06/25	Lighthouse Regatta	Oklahoma City, OK	Matt Mayo • mamayo@flash.net
07/08 - 07/09	Sail Newport	Newport, RI	J.C. Raby • jcr@bostonmeridian.com
07/15 - 07/16	Pacific Coast Championship	Tahoe City, CA	Don Jesberg • jesberg@msn.com
07/16 - 07/18	Screwpile Lighthouse Challenge	Solomons, MD	Bill Carleton • m24tiburon@gmail.com
07/22 - 07/23	Albert Simpson Regatta	San Francisco, CA	Don Jesberg • jesberg@msn.com
07/27 - 07/30	Marblehead NOOD	Marblehead, MA	Jonathan Samel • john@samel-ins.com
08/05 - 08/06	Melges 24 Gorge 1 Design Regatta	Tahoe City, CA	Matt MacGregor • matt@lakeview-morgage.com
08/12 - 08/13	Summer Keel	San Francisco, CA	Don Jesberg • jesberg@msn.com
08/19 - 08/20	Corpus Christy	Corpus Christy, TX	Matt Mayo • mamayo@flash.net
08/19 - 08/20	One Design Regatta	Santa Cruz, CA	Don Jesberg • jesberg@msn.com
08/26 - 08/27	Grand Traverse Yacht Club Invitational	Traverse City, MI	Bob Clark • rcbobclark@chartermi.net
09/02 - 09/03	Labor Day Regatta	San Francisco, CA	Don Jesberg • jesberg@msn.com

For a full listing of 2006-2007 U.S. Melges 24 events, visit www.usmelges24.com/events/2006_events.asp. International events can be found at www.melges24.com.

2006 Hall of Fame

*Key West Race Week	Dave Ullman	ACURA Miami Race Week	Riccardo Simoneschi (ITA)
*St. Petersburg NOOD	Eric Nerlinger	*North American/World Ranking Points Events	



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