HOBIE
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SPECIAL ISSUE ON
SAILBOAT
MAINTENANCE

PHIL BERMAN VICTORIOUS IN

SPONSORED BY HANG 10

Phil Berman of Team U.S.A. sailed through to a fantastic victory in the Hobie Cat 14' Worlds held Nov. 25 - Dec. 1 at Plettenberg Bay, South Africa.

Berman fought off determined challenges from Kitty Salmon of Tahiti and the hard sailing Australian, Ian Bashford. The result was always in the balance with only 14½ points separating the top four by Friday - evening of the week-long race series.

Let's take a look at the whole story . . .By Sunday, November 25, skippers from 12 countries had arrived at Plettenberg Bay — perhaps one of the most beautiful sailing venues in the world. Hot, sunny, summery weather greeted our visitors with not a trace of wind. The magnificent bay sparkled in the sunlight — the surrounding mountains, a hazy blue.
Inside the magnificent Beacon Island Hotel, orderly chaos reigned. . .and the beer flowed.

"Don't worry" said John Whitmore, the wisecracking genial head of Coast Catamaran South Africa. "We've had two days of screaming south easter for our South African Trails. There's no sailing today, so we asked for a calm day. But I've laid on wind for the rest of the week."

And how right he was. Monday dawned fair with an offshore south westerly wind blowing. This produced a beautiful flat sea and augured well for the championships.

The plan was to have four races for the qualifying series and at 9:30 a.m. the Hobies hit the water. Racing started at 10 a.m. precisely. By now, the wind had piped up and was coming through at 15 to 20 knots.

The South Africans revelled in the conditions and dominated the four qualifying races. Led by the current Hobie 16' Worlds champion, Mick Whitehead, six South Africans topped the list at the end of the day with 18 of

1979 HOBIE CAT 14′ WORLDS

IN SOUTH AFRICA

them making it into the Worlds series. The surprise of the day was Australian Anthony Duchatel who came in seventh. From the United States, Tom Materna and Bruce Fields made it.

On Tuesday, the start of series, the wind really pumped through at 20 knots plus. Again at 10 a.m. precisely, racing got underway. The starboard boats battled to lay the start mark and a bunch of port starters came screaming through.

There were spills aplenty and a few skippers found the conditions a little too severe for them.

Berman was pipped on the finish line by Australian Rob Waterhouse with Hobie Alter Jr. third, Dodds of South Africa, fourth, and Tom Whitehurst of the United States, fifth. By the second race the wind was really blustery, gusting up to 30 knots. South African Mike Collier led all the way followed by a trio of Australians, Ian Bashford, Rob Binnedel and Phil Smythe. Randy Hatfield of Team U.S.A. filled the fifth spot.

The third race gave Berman his first win. He sailed brilliantly to beat Binnedel and Bashford, who really put the pressure on him. Fourth was Collier and fifth, Waterhouse, who seemed to enjoy the heavy conditions.

For the fourth race, the wind dropped slightly and boats moved very fast to weather. This race turned out to be a triumph for the South Africans. Four of them, Leonard Mann, Colin Hancox, William Edwards and Craig Ryall, took the line honors. Paul Cuanillon of Switzerland came in fifth.

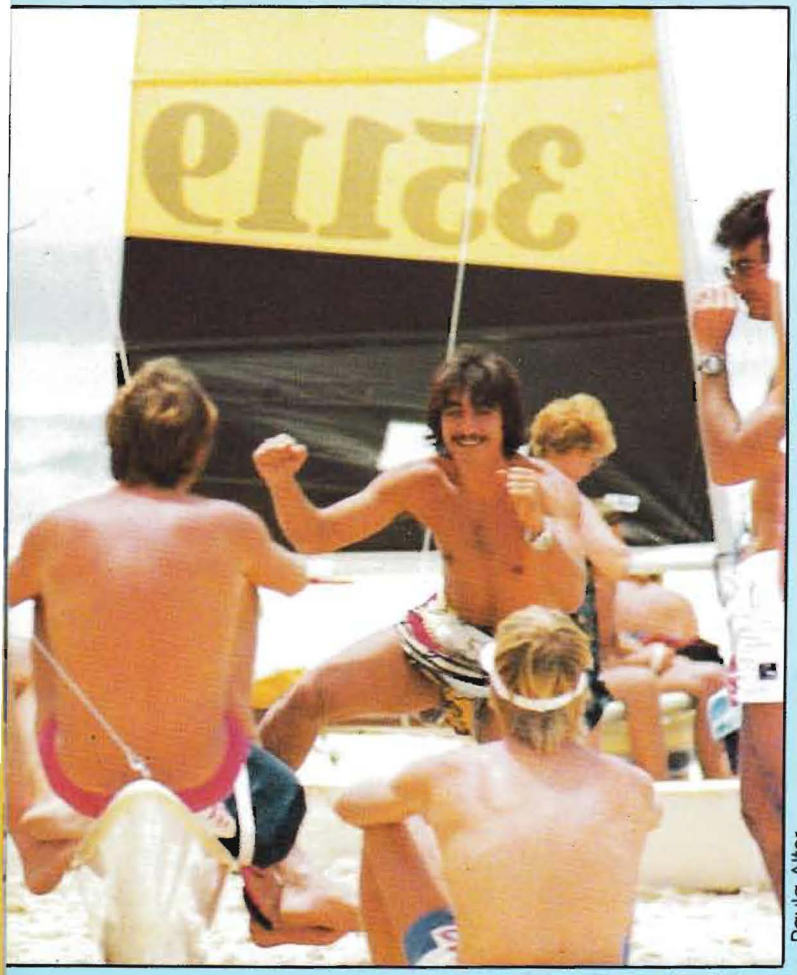
The positions at the end of the first day were:

Phil Berman	[illegible]	2 3/4 points
Rob Binnedel	Australia	4 points
Mike Collier	South Africa	4 3/4 points
Rob Waterhouse	Australia	5 3/4 points
Ian Bashford	Australia	6 points

By Mick Killeen

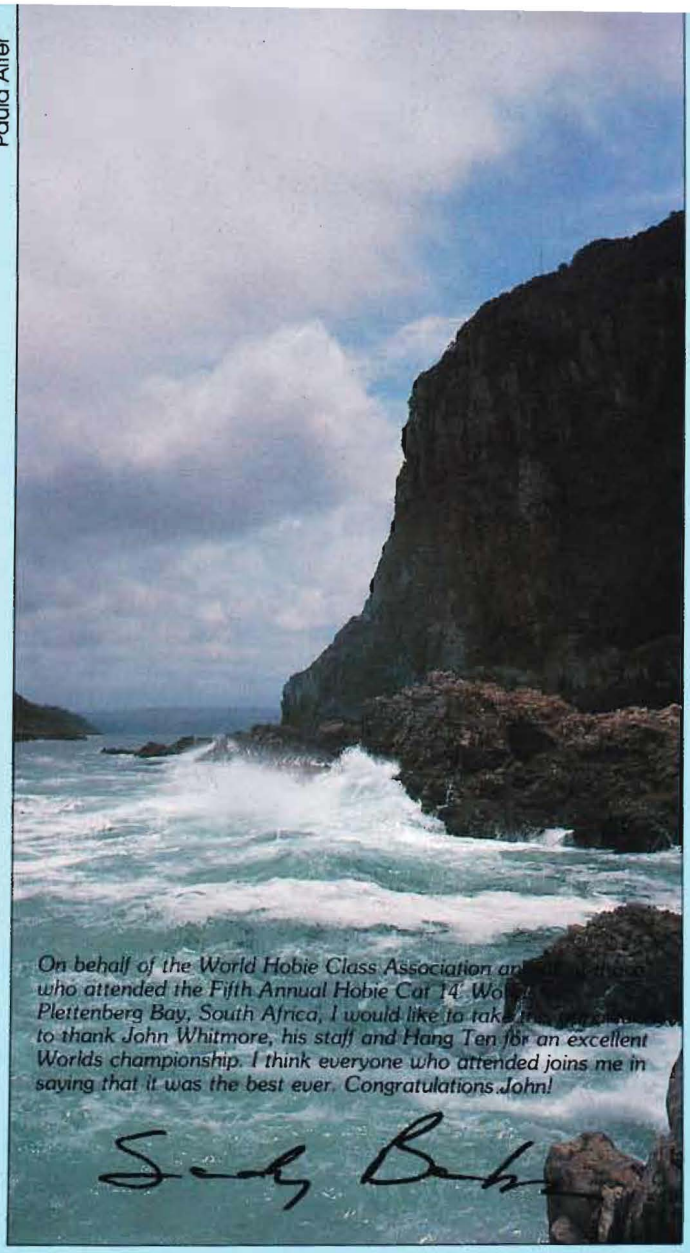
Photo by Sandy Banks

(L-R) Eric Paofai of Tahiti excitedly tells friends of his great day on the water; Rob Binnedel of Australia hangs in there; Kitty Salmon of Tahiti, 2nd place, relaxes on the beach; Ian Bashford of Australia, 3rd place, checks out his competition; and skippers line up for the start.



Paula Alter

Paula Alter



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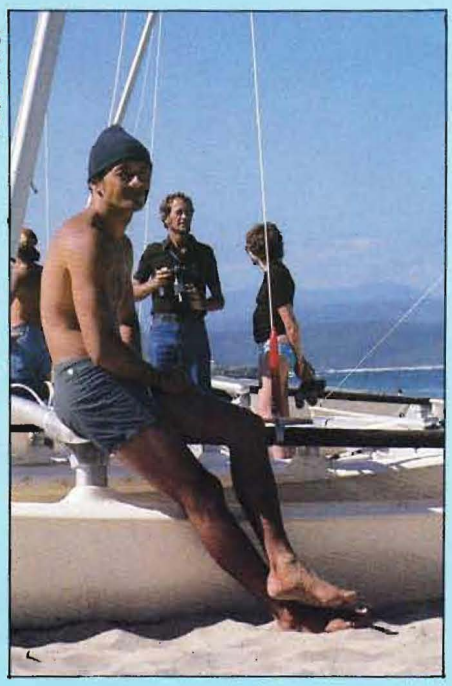
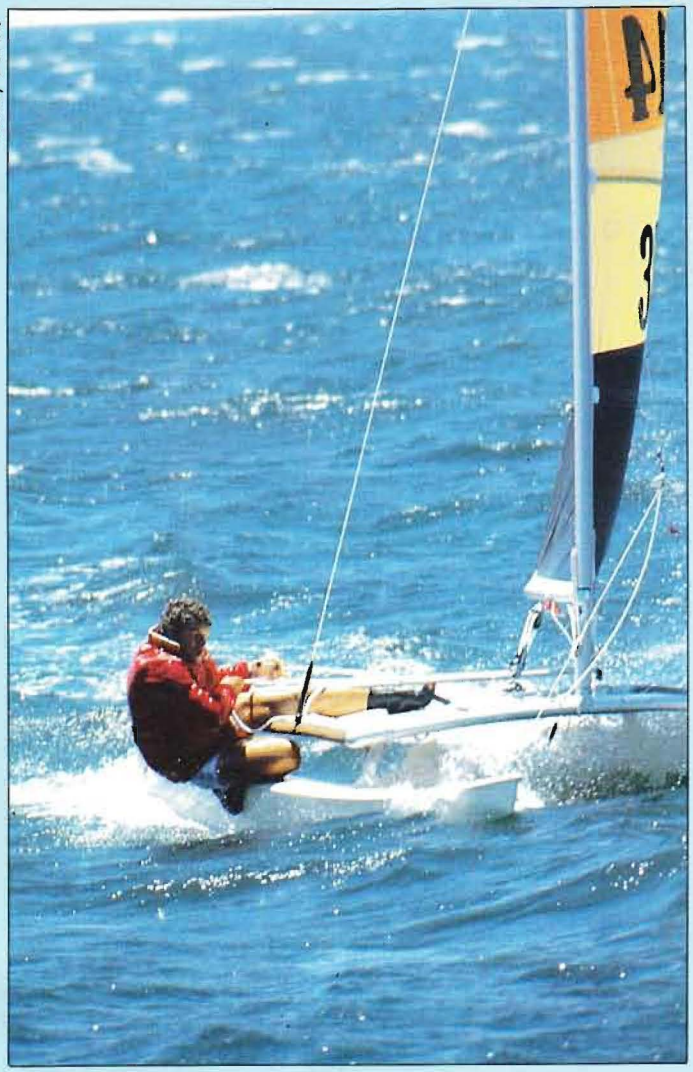


Paula Alter

Sandy Banks

Sandy Banks



On Wednesday, once again the wind did not let us down. By 10 a.m., the westerly was coming through at 10 to 15 knots.

First place went to Waterhouse with Whitehurst of the U.S.A., second; Dodds, third; Enrique Fiqueroa of Puerto Rico, fourth; and Mike Shearer of the U.S.A., fifth.

By the time the second race of the day got underway the wind had freshened considerably to 25 knots. The Australians and South Africans definitely found the weather to their liking. First place went to Duchatel of Australia, followed by Hancox and Collier. Fourth place was taken by Kitty Salmon of Tahiti with Eric Hasselbach of South Africa, fifth.

For the third race of the day (the seventh of the series), the wind dropped slightly but still came barreling through.

It was becoming obvious that the heavy winds were what the Australians and South Africans wanted. With the exception of Salmon of Tahiti, the top placings at this stage were mainly occupied by them.

In this race, however, with the wind dropping off slightly, Evan Borges of the U.S.A. got a very good second and Dean Froome, also of the U.S.A., a fifth. Top spot went to Bashford of Australia with Collier of South Africa, third; and Salmon fourth.

For the final race of the day the wind began to freshen — at times gusting at 28 knots. The lanky, bearded Hancox of South Africa powered into first place, followed by fellow countrymen Mann and the evergreen Gerhard Koper (known as Gary Cooper to one and all!) Berman came in fourth and Allen Paquier of Tahiti was fifth.

The points position by the end of the day was as follows:

Mike Collier	South Africa	10 3/4 points
Rob Waterhouse	Australia	12 1/2 points
Ian Bashford	Australia	16 3/4 points
Phil Berman	U.S.A.	16 3/4 points
Colin Hancox	South Africa	17 3/4 points
Leonard Mann	South Africa	17 3/4 points
Rob Binnedel	Australia	19 points

The Australians and the South Africans were full of confidence going into the third day.

The wind, still coming from the west, kept the sea flat and produced ideal conditions.

In the first race of the day, Mann took first place for the second time of the series. Gerhard Loos of Holland had his best race to date, taking second position, Salmon, third; Bashford, fourth; and Collier, fifth.

In the next race, Berman came to light. His accurate tacking took him

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SO. AFRICAN WORLDS AMERICAN VERSION

After two days of traveling, the majority of Team USA and entourage looked like a ragged bowling team, with all of us wearing our blue Team USA Worlds jackets. Actually one woman at the airport in New York asked if we were a hunting club, probably thinking that a Hobie Cat was some wild and endangered species. Endangered? No. Wild. . .well, what can you expect when you get a bunch of Australian, South African, Tahitian, French, German, Dutch, Swiss, Canadian and American Hobie Cat sailors together!

South Africa is absolutely beautiful. Picture a combination of the best of northern California with the warm weather of southern California and you'll get some sense of what the area was like. Actually, South Africa is incredibly diverse with mountains and plains, forests and bush. Everywhere we went, all the people were always friendly and willing to do anything to help us have a good time. And did we have a good time!

Our first major task before even attempting to sail was to get in the right side of a car and drive on the wrong (it sure looked wrong to us) side of the street. Our ineptness as Americans to gracefully handle this initial problem provided lots of laughs throughout the week. In South Africa you "stop at the robots" (stoplights) and "deviate" (detour). Lobsters are crayfish (although anyone from Maine knows that Californians don't really have lobsters either) and you may be asked if you are actually speaking English.

The qualifying races were held in a playground for small Hammerhead sharks. This was unnerving for those of us who flip easily in heavy air. When the rest of the sailors got on the water the next day, the sharks had gracefully disappeared leaving us pre-qualifiers with only fish stories to tell. The Knsyna elephants are another shark story. Any South African will tell you about the world's largest elephants that live in the forest outside of Plett, yet no one we talked to had ever seen one. There is a road sign, though, for elephant crossings — a sign with a picture of an elephant on it, which made us realize that we really were in Africa.

Besides their elephants, Knsyna is known for it's harbor entrance called Knsyna Heads. Between two huge rock cliffs lies a small opening into the bay. Waves break all the way across the opening, and in a good swell, roll all the way through the entrance. Each year a Hobie Cat race is held from Plett through Knysna Heads. Along one edge of the bay is the Knysna Yacht Club, where the Hobie Catters were treated to the most incredible oyster and fish feed. Hungry racers and friends left nothing on the tables that earlier had been covered with an assortment of seafood delicacies.

The Hobie Olympics kept spectators and tired racers busy before and after the races. Tennis, watermelon gorging, disco dancing and a beach marathon were some of the activities. The Morey Boogie team challenge quickly turned into a tackle football game. Paul Thomas from South Africa won both the individual paddling contest and the beach marathon. The Americans were still surprised that they beat the South Africans in the tug-o-war.

All week long the weather was great, the wind was heavy, the food wonderful and the company fun. On the night of the trophy presentation a team challenge was put up; a drinking contest between the Australians and the South Africans, with one token American, Hobie Alter Jr. representing all you American Hobie drinkers! The competition was tight but the Aussies made it clear that they were the champs, with Anthony Duchatel their chief beer drinker, leading the way to victory. The partying lasted late, the Tahitians and friends danced and sang at the "Why Not" while others discoed at a local bar.

After the Worlds was over, everyone spread out. . .some went surfing at Jeffrey's Bay, others went out to the bush country to see the wild animals that Africa is most famous for and a few traveled down the coast towards Cape Town to see more of the coastline. Wherever we went, the scenery and the people told us that having the Worlds in South Africa was really a great idea!

Paula Alter

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into an excellent first place followed by Dodds, Smythe, Koper and Ryall.

During the third race of the day, Salmon gave an inkling of what was to follow on the next day. He registered his first win in this race with Dodds taking second place for the second time that day. Berman came in third, Borges, fourth; and Paquier, fifth.

During the final race of the day the wind began to drop slightly. Hobie Jr. led the field from start to finish. At one stage, he had built up a lead of 300 yards. Second over the line was Germany's Hans Muller, followed by Mann, Ryall and Hancox — all of South Africa.

By Thursday evening the points position for the leading skippers was:

Phil Berman	U.S.A.	10 1/2 points
Leonard Mann	South Africa	12 1/2 points
Mike Collier	South Africa	15 3/4 points
Colin Hancox	South Africa	15 3/4 points
Ian Bashford	Australia	17 3/4 points
Kitty Salmon	Tahiti	18 3/4 points

In the evening, at a colorful ceremony, the names of the top 36 skippers who went through to the finals were announced and their boat positions for Friday and Saturday's racing were handed out. With so few points separating the leaders, it was obvious that the finals was to be a real cliff hanger. The organizers were hoping to get five races in the next two days.

Friday morning dawned cloudy. Rain had fallen during the night and the wind had dropped to a very light south westerly. The Australians and South Africans, who up to now had an advantage in the heavy weather, were not looking happy at all.

Their worst fears were realized. In the first race of the day, Salmon worked his way from 10th place to a phenomenal six-minute lead when rounding the last mark before the finish.

The slim schoolmaster from Tahiti, easily recognizable because he sails to weather with a rudder up, really showed the rest of the fleet how to handle the light conditions. In second place was an out-of-form Froome, Whitehurst, third; Collier, fourth; and Waterhouse, fifth.

To prove that he wasn't just lucky, Salmon repeated the dose in the next race. Once again he established an early lead and then led the fleet around the buoys. Second came Whitehurst, Loos of Holland, third; and Australians Waterhouse and Bashford in fourth and fifth.

The wind was extremely flukey and produced some dramatic changes among the rest of the fleet. The unfortunate Hancox of South Africa

lost out 24 places between buoys.

The last race of the day started well after 4 p.m. Hobie Jr. broke Salmon's winning streak. He got into the lead and stayed there. He was followed in by Berman, Salmon, Hatfield and Bashford.

All of a sudden, the Worlds championship was wide open — Salmon had a 2-1/4 point lead over Berman and the two Australians, Waterhouse and Bashford, were not all that far behind. Collier had slipped back into fifth place.

The points position on Friday evening was:

Kitty Salmon	Tahiti	23 1/4 points
Phil Berman	U.S.A.	25 1/2 points
Rob Waterhouse	Australia	37 1/2 points
Ian Bashford	Australia	37 3/4 points
Mike Collier	South Africa	46 3/4 points

Saturday morning produced no wind at all. The anticipated south easter only materialized after 12:30 p.m. and turned out to be very light indeed. Berman must have realized that he had to look after Salmon. And look after him he did! With Berman lying way back in the fleet, Salmon needed a 12th place or better to clinch the championship. He was lying seventh at the end of the first triangle, slipped back to 14th at the second last mark, was 13th at the last mark, tacked out to sea and ended up 18th. Berman wrapped up the Worlds title, discarding his 23rd place in this race and ending up with 35-1/2 points.

The last race itself was dominated by the South Africans. They filled the first seven places, finishing in the following order: Dodds, Collier, Hancox, Dodds, Whitehead, de Beyer and Mann.

The final positions were announced that evening at a very impressive ceremony. Starting off with 36th place, John Whitmore, master of ceremonies, worked his way down the list to the top five. It was a very touching and beautiful moment as the two Tahitians, Eric Paofai and Salmon, received their awards and presented strings of shell beads to Whitmore, John Collier - (Mr. Hang Ten, the South African co-sponsor) Jewel Collier and Sandy Banks, director of the Hobie Class Association.

Jewel Collier presented five beautifully decorated ostrich eggs to the top five skippers — what made the gift even more meaningful was the fact that she had done the artwork herself.

The first five places were:

1. Phil Berman	United States	35 1/2 points
2. Kitty Salmon	Tahiti	41 1/4 points
3. Ian Bashford	Australia	47 3/4 points
4. Mike Collier	South Africa	48 3/4 points
5. Rob Waterhouse	Australia	51 1/2 points

So ended a fantastic Worlds championship, the weather was unbelievable — Friday being the only day with a vestige of cloud. The winds were consistent — even though they did drop off towards the end of the week.

Hobie Jr. and Wayne Schafer of the U.S.A. remarked after the last race that they felt that this was the best organized sailing event either of them had ever attended.

John Whitmore of Coast Catamaran South Africa, John Collier of Hang Ten, Sandy Banks and Doug Campbell of Hobie Cat, plus of course, the most efficient racing secretary I've ever met, Michelle Kohlmeier, are to be congratulated on a really fantastic effort.

Bobby Bongers on the bridge was unreal - you could set your watch by his starts!!

For we South Africans, it was an unbelievable experience. To be able to host such an event at what we consider to be the finest sailing spot in the world was an honor and privilege. To meet the greats of Hobie Sailing - Hobie Jr., Wayne Schafer and of course, Sandy Banks was a rare experience.

Fellows, you can come back anytime!

1979 HOBIE 14' WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
Plettenberg Bay, South Africa
November 25 - December 1, 1979

	SKIPPER	COUNTRY	RACE SERIES						FINALS				FINAL PTS
1.	Phil Berman	U.S.A.	2	3/4	10	4	3/4	3	6	6	2	23	35 1/2
2.	Kitty Salmon	Tahiti	20	7	4	4	3	3/4	3/4	3/4	3	18	41 1/4
3.	Ian Bashford	Australia	3	3	10	3/4	4	7	10	5	5	15	47 3/4
4.	Mike Collier	South Africa	3/4	4	3	3	5	13	4	32	14	2	48 3/4
5.	Rob Waterhouse	Australia	3/4	5	3/4	6	17	9	5	4	7	14	51 1/2
6.	Colin Hancox	South Africa	13	2	2	3/4	6	5	8	15	27	3	54 3/4
7.	Blaine Dodds	South Africa	4	8	3	11	2	2	16	12	25	3/4	58 3/4
8.	Leonard Mann	South Africa	9	3/4	6	2	3/4	3	18	30	17	7	63 1/2
9.	Phil Smythe	Australia	4	6	13	8	3	7	29	13	16	11	71
10.	Gerhard Koper	South Africa	7	6	8	3	4	6	33	20	10	12	76
11.	Bob Binnedel	Australia	2	2	9	6	8	22	12	6	15	33	82
12.	Tom Whitehurst	U.S.A.	5	13	2	DNS	7	12	3	2	31	9	84
13.	Evan Borges	U.S.A.	6	9	12	2	23	4	28	8	12	10	86
14.	Paul Cuanillon	Switzerland	19	5	29	12	6	6	17	10	11	8	94
15.	William Edwards	South Africa	8	3	14	10	19	17	7	17	9	21	104
16.	Randy Hatfield	U.S.A.	5	11	11	17	11*	13	19	14	4	22	105
17.	Dean Froome	U.S.A.	11	14	20	5	18	25	2	19	8	13	110
18.	Hans Muller	Germany	10	12	7	9	13	2	20	29	24	17	114
19.	Craig Ryall	South Africa	15	4	20	14	5	4	14	23	20	20	116
20.	Eric Paofai	Tahiti	28	10	7	18	14	10	11	9	13	27	119
21.	Gerhard Loos	Holland	18	27	8	8	2	9	24	3	29	30	128
22.	Wayne Schafer	U.S.A.	16	9	15	15	25	8	9	21	18	19	130
23.	Enrique Fiqueroa	Puerto Rico	9	24	4	7	8	20	21	26	16	29	135
24.	Anthony Duchatel	Australia	11	31	3/4	9	7	22	30	11	19	31	140 3/4
25.	Peter Dodds	South Africa	25	7	16	13	25	21	15	33	23	4	149
26.	Mick Whitehead	South Africa	17	30	14	15	13	11	DNF	27	21	5	153
27.	Greg De Beyer	South Africa	DNF	10	26	26	10	11	13	24	30	6	156
28.	Frank Meneses	South Africa	18	16	11	18	15	8	25	35	26	24	161
29.	Tom Materna	U.S.A.	30	18	9	22	18	15	26	16	22	16	162
30.	Hobie Alter Jr.	U.S.A.	3	13	24	DNS	32	3/4	32	31	3/4	DNF	171 1/2
31.	Mike Shearer	U.S.A.	10	22	5	12	10	10	31	DNF	DNS	DNS	172
32.	Mike Jacobs	U.S.A.	21	17	31	11	9	14	22	25	DNS	32	182
33.	Eric Hasselbach	South Africa	7	11	5	19	17	26	DNF	34	DNS	28	182
34.	Miles Wood	U.S.A.	15	16	36	7	12	25	34	22	38	26	185
35.	Allen Paquier	Tahiti	24	DNF	18	5	21	5	27	28	32	25	185
36.	Mike Fairchile	U.S.A.	6	DNF	28	10*	22	14	23	18	DNS	34	191
37.	Dave Pollock	South Africa											85
38.	Warren Collier	South Africa											86
39.	Thierry Lagesse	Mauritius											90
40.	Paul Thomas	South Africa											90
41.	Basil Winterborne	Australia											92
42.	Jean Foucaud	France											95
43.	Paul Broekhuysen	South Africa											95
44.	Duncan Leithbridge	South Africa											96
45.	Revay Vldimir	New Caledonia											97
46.	Christian Dalgas	Switzerland											99
47.	Mox Lippstreu	South Africa											99
48.	Harry Fuchs	South Africa											100
49.	Mike Hornsey	South Africa											101
50.	Jeff Alter	U.S.A.											102
51.	Martin Toms	South Africa											103
52.	Lionel Hartley	South Africa											107
53.	Hanjo Zimmerman	Germany											108
54.	Ren Brand	South Africa											111
55.	Dennis Carpenter	U.S.A.											114
56.	Don Oltmans	U.S.A.											117
57.	Henri Latour	Mauritius											117
58.	Keith Rohland	South Africa											120
59.	Jacques Speville	Mauritius											125
60.	Noel Graham	South Africa											127
61.	Hobie Alter Sr.	U.S.A.											129
62.	Eric Speville	Mauritius											130
63.	Hank Pauloo	France											134
64.	Pierre Ginoux	France											141
65.	Fiete Macheri	Germany											143
66.	Michel Recamier	France											146
67.	Bill Dominy	U.S.A.											148
68.	Mike Whalen	U.S.A.											150
69.	Bruce Fields	U.S.A.											152
70.	Kim Kymlicka	Canada											152
71.	Oerek Innes	Canada											165
72.	Marjorie Innes	Canada											170

Winners Circle

PHIL BERMAN: 1979 14′ WORLDS CHAMPION

By Paula Alter

Always a top competitor, Phil Berman has come close to being a Nationals or Worlds champion several times over, but has actually never clinched a first-place title. That is, until this year's Worlds in South Africa. . .

During the week of racing, he was the lone American representative consistently in the Top 10. He had to sail an excellant regatta to fend off the top Tahitians, Australians and South Africans. And Berman hung in there, winning the 1979 Hobie Cat 14′ Worlds. In accepting his award, Berman, who is usually not one to be at a loss for words, seemed so moved to have reached a goal that he has been working towards since he was 13 years-old, that he had little to say — it was very obvious that he was quite honored with the prestigious title.

Previously, he had placed second twice at the 14′ Nationals and third at the 14′ Worlds in Tahiti (he had to sell his 14′ in order to travel there). In other 14′ Nationals competition, he has placed sixth, seventh and 10th and placed 11th at the 14′ Worlds in Puerto Rico.

Perhaps what prompted Berman to reach his goal this year especially was the factor that he probably won't be sailing for a couple of years while he is completing graduate school. This year's Worlds was the time for him to do it.

Berman has been racing Hobie Cats for 10 years. His first 14′ was No. 830, which traces him back to the earliest days of manufacturing. Growing up in the sailing environment of Newport Beach, California with surfing and sabot sailing as his hobbies made

Hobie Catting a natural move.

"In high school when everyone else was being wild, I was out sailing and working on my boat," he said. Besides surfing and sailing, he also played competitive tennis on his high school tennis team which won a U.S. High School Tennis Championship.

When talking to Berman it's easy to get a sense of how important sailing has been to him. Besides giving him something to do in high school, he considered it a "release." No one else in his family was into sailing, so someone would come and take him and his boat away each weekend to a Hobie Cat regatta. He commented, "Hobie Cats taught me to grow. . . for 10 years I've sailed these boats and when I'd do things wrong there were always numerous father figures such as Wayne Schafer or Hobie who would let me know about it."

There is another side to Berman which he considers just as important as his sailing, and which few of the people in his sailing world know about. He explained, "When I come to these regattas, people know me as Berman who sails and writes books. When I'm away from this environment, my life revolves in no way around sailing. In fact, I haven't sailed very much at all in the last three years. I had a lot to study and did a lot of reading. And most of my friends. . .and the conversations we have aren't about sailing."

Currently, he is working on his Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy and religious studies from the University of California at Santa Barbara. He has also written two books on catamaran sailing and is currently living on his 35′ sloop and working on a third book about basic catamaran sailing that is due to come out next summer. With the revenue from his books, he hopes to put himself through graduate school at Harvard and eventually be a professor of philosophy and religious studies.

Excited about ideas, Berman says "anything that might be true I want to know about it!" What's true this year is that he out-sailed 72 other good sailors to claim his first Worlds championship title, and although he may be expanding in other directions, he will always be able to come back to sailing.

'Winning on Catamarans' — Berman Style

By Mick Killeen

A week before the 1979 Hobie Cat 14′ Worlds, Phil Berman was sitting in his home bemoaning the fact that he could not attend because of financial considerations.

A stroke of luck gave him a package ticket to South Africa — bought out of the proceeds of an advance from his publisher for his latest book *"Winning on Catamarans."*

From here on the story reads like a fairy tale. He had less than a week to get himself into shape for the big one and he arrived looking pretty fit and extremely confident.

In his first race (after leading most of the way) he left his tack to the finish line too late, letting Rob Waterhouse, of Australia through by the proverbial whisker.

In the second race, however, he made up for it and gained an excellent first place. His tacking and ability to lay the mark paid off handsomely. He must have spent a few minutes with his own book between races!

Wednesday didn't start off too well for him. He got off badly, eventually working his way through the fleet to finish in 10th spot. He must have gone back to his book because in his next race he sailed into fourth position in extremely arduous conditions. Strengthened by his success, he spent a quiet evening contemplating the error of his ways — and analyzing the day's racing. Obviously, this did the trick. In his first race of the day he recorded his second win of the series. He led the fleet during the entire race, hotly pursued by Blaine Dodds of South Africa.

His next race followed immediately after this very strenuous and tense event. By now, the wind had freshened considerably and he got off to a reasonable start. By the first mark he was up in fifth place — gradually chipping away at the leaders to finally finish third.

He went into the finals in first place with 10-1/2 points, two points ahead of his nearest rival, Leonard Mann of South Africa.

The next day, the first of the finals, the wind was extremely flukey and proved to be really tough. He managed a sixth, seventh and finally in a very drawnout last race, second. After nine hours on the water, he found himself with 25-1/2 points — with a discard of 10. Kitty Salmon of Tahiti was in front with 23-1/4 points, but his discard was a 20.

This meant that Salmon could not afford to do badly the next day. To beat Berman he needed a 12th position or better.

Somewhere out there, Salmon blew it. The wind was a fairly steady light south easter (onshore) the first of the week and only came up after noon.

Berman started off fairly well, rounding the first mark in ninth place; Salmon was way back in 21st position.

By the second mark Salmon had crept up to seventh spot with Berman dropping to 13th. The rounding of the third mark showed a further change in their fortunes. Salmon fell back one position and Berman, three.

The wind was definitely swinging and those who tacked out to sea to make the line came short. Berman tacked to sea and Salmon followed him. Berman finished 23rd, but wrapped up the 14′ Worlds title — because Salmon limped in finishing in 18th place!

Talking to Berman on the beach before the start of the race, he mentioned that he had never won a Nationals or Worlds title. Well, he certainly made up for it in the greatest possible way.

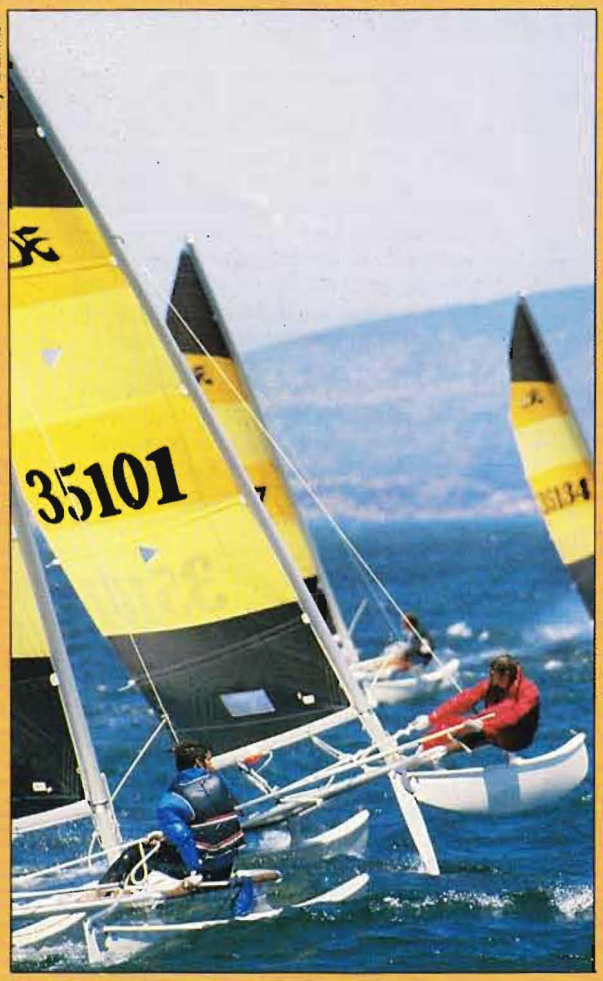
I wouldn't call him unassuming — he certainly oozes confidence. And at age 23 he has already written two books on sailing. His latest *"Winning on Catamarans"* sold reasonably well at Plettenberg Bay during the first five days, but really took off once he clinched the Worlds championship.

The South Africans and Australians were disappointed that the title didn't come their way — but they gave Phil Berman a rousing ovation when he stepped into the winners' circle. To Kitty Salmon, we can only say hard luck. . .so near. . .but oh so far!

Totsiens.

Photo Gallery

Sandy Banks



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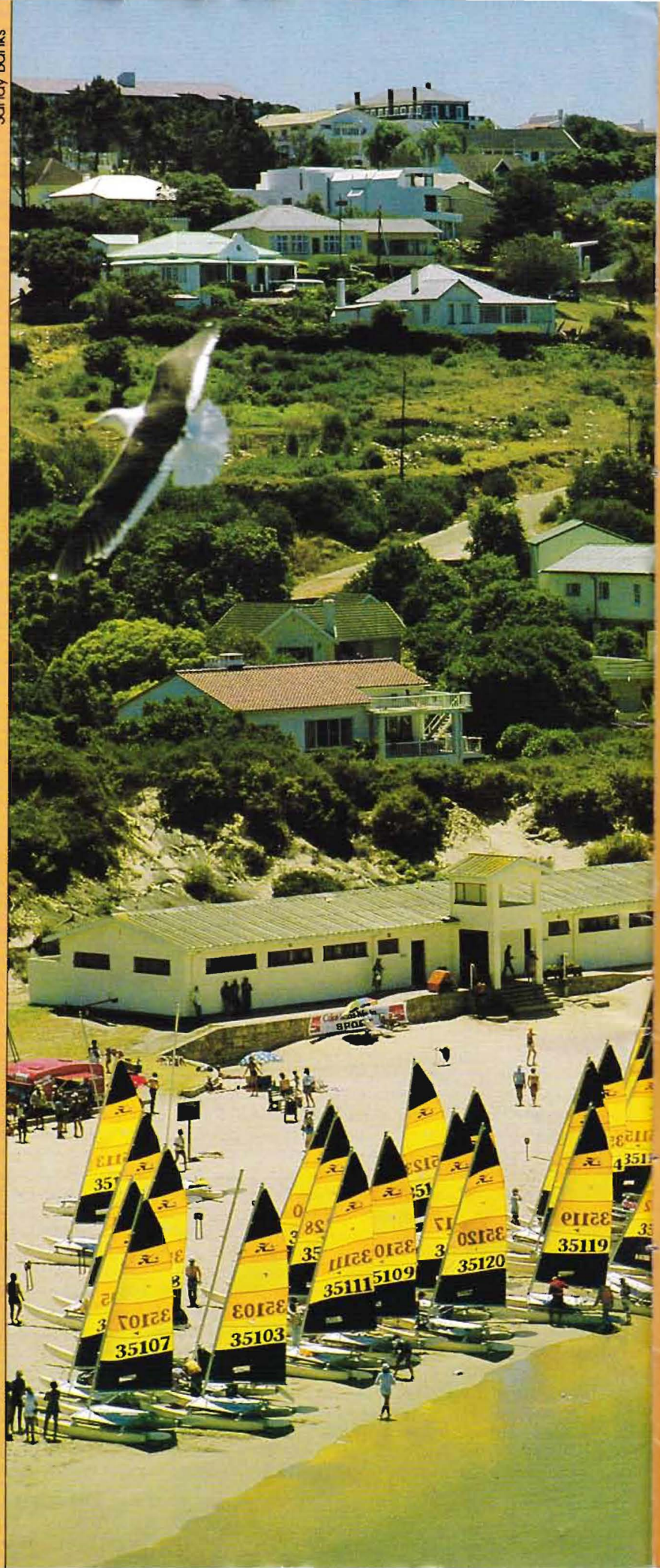

Sandy Banks

Paula Alter

Doug Campbell

Picturesque Plettenberg Bay, South Africa provided beautiful settings for these photographs taken at the Worlds.