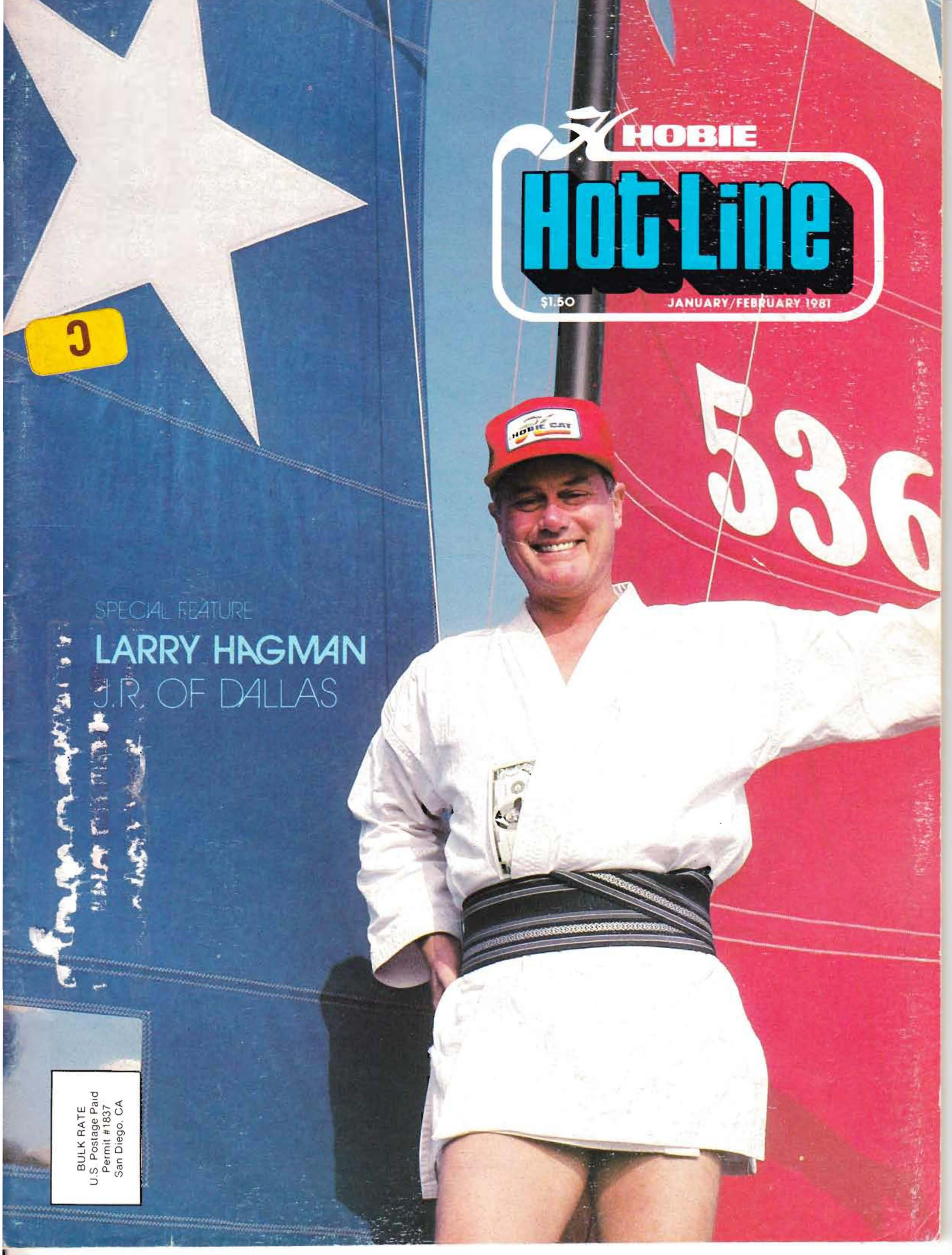
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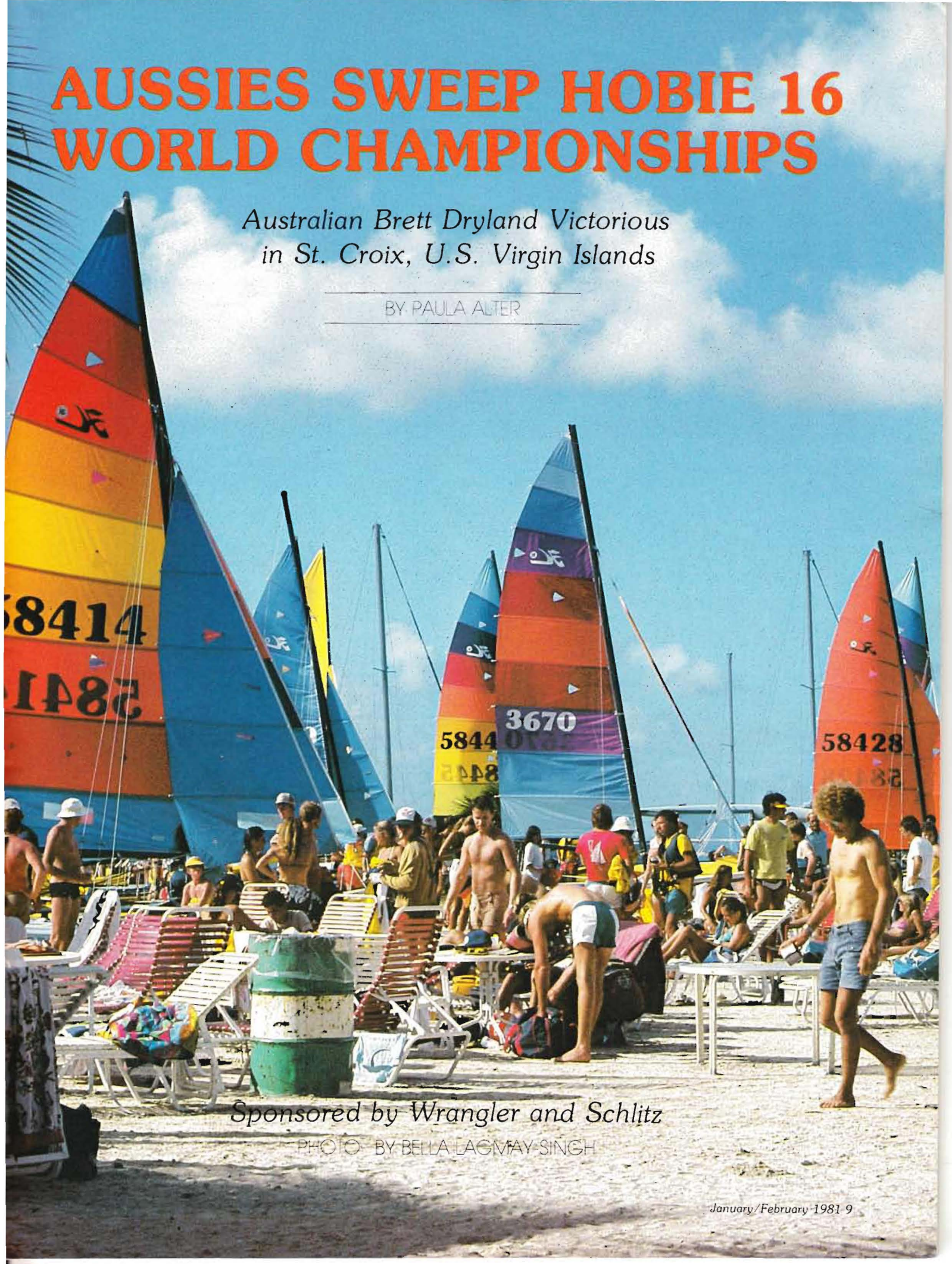
AUSSIES SWEEP HOBIE 16 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Australian Brett Dryland Victorious in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands

BY PAULA ALTER



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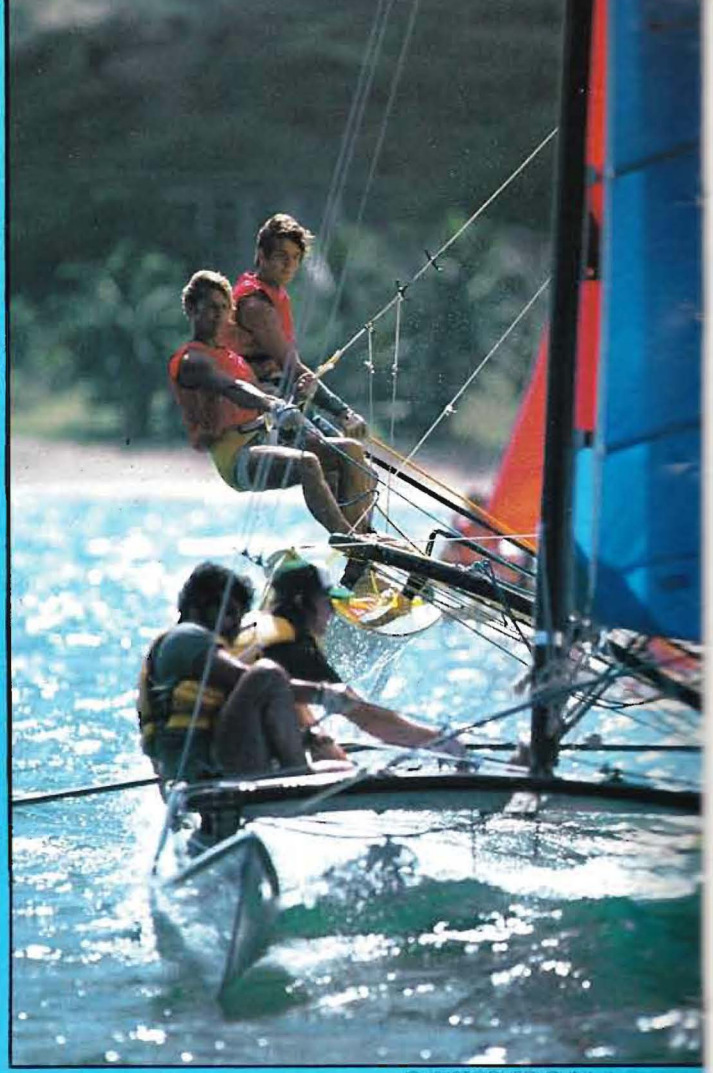
Watch out Below!
Klaus Peters and Thomas Pousains of Brazil fly high as they advance on Mike Lemon and his crew of the U.S. Virgin Islands.

CHRISTOPHER CUNNINGHAM



CHRISTOPHER CUNNINGHAM

CHRISTOPHER CUNNINGHAM

White Water
Wayne Rogerson and Geoff Partridge of Australia get splashed as they head for the mark.

Australia's Brett Dryland sailed to an outrageous victory in the Third Hobie 16 World Championship held November 16-22 in St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands, winning by an outstanding 27 3/4 point lead over the second-place finisher. And he was not the only Australian in the Top 10 — in fact, this could be said to be the year of the Aussie for *six* of the Top 10 finishers were from Team Australia, along with two South Africans, one Puerto Rican and one lone American.

Representatives of 23 countries raced five races each in a round-robin series before the top 48 teams raced another five races in the finals. Among the countries represented were Germany, United States, Australia, New Caledonia, South Africa, Holland, New Guinea, Brazil, France, Puerto Rico, Canada, Hong Kong, U.S. Virgin Islands, UAE, Belgium, Philippines, Guam, Curacao, Spain, Tahiti, Japan, Dominican Republic and Switzerland.

A welcome party was held at race headquarters at the Hotel on the Cay complete with Calypso music and an island-style barbecue. To introduce the Hobie Catters to the Virgin Islands lifestyle, a Java Wraps fashion show was held, followed by a limbo demonstration. "King Henry" demonstrated the art of *low* limboing, fire eating and dancing on pieces of broken glass with his bare feet. This colorful character dragged several people from the audience like DeeDee Beauchamp and Samantha Fuchs to try a shot at the limbo bar. He also invited Hobie Sr. who walked up on stage, cooly lowered the bar one notch and slunk right underneath it like a pro. And the crowd went wild! King Henry was stoked that somebody else could do it too!

In total, 338 people raced with 96 teams vying in the qualifying races for 23 available spaces. Maritz Travel, which was responsible for hotel arangements in Christiansted said that they had placed over 700 people in rooms — that's not counting the people who had their own arrangements. Plus, there were numerous locals on hand to enjoy the races, making for one heck of a party all week long!

The general wind pattern for the first few days of racing was light wind in the morning, about 10 knots, increasing as the day progressed. By the afternoon, it was generally blowing so that the lighter teams were double trapped and the heavier teams were in and out of the trapeze. It was easy sailing on smooth waters.

There was something special about double trapezing over a sand and coral bottom that often could be seen through the clear water. The colors changed from different shades of green to a deep blue as the bottom and depths varied. Then, with a warm wind on your back and an occasional cloud blocking the sun just in time for a little shade, it seemed to be the perfect place for sailing. There was always wind, some squalls and lots of Caribbean sunshine .

As the week went on, the wind began to pick up, with the last two days of the finals having some good 20 knot winds. The heavy air talents of the Australians and South Africans became very obvious early in the series. In fact they didn't even consider it heavy air. Although Dryland's lead was quite large, by the end of the week, the racing was very tight up to the last day. Many past Hobie 16 champions finished far back in the fleet. According to Hobie Alter Sr., "There were *many* boats that were going fast out there! There were no slugs; everyone was going good!"

This could be said to be the year of the Aussie for six of the Top 10 finishers were from Team Australia

Enrique Figueroa of Puerto Rico won the qualifying races with two firsts and a second and was looking tough after the first two days of racing although close on his heels was Blaine Dodds of South Africa and the Australian contingency of Phil Knight, Ian Bashford and Dryland. The racing was always tight as in the third race of the series when Rod Waterhouse of Australia had what looked like a comfortable lead the first time around the C-mark, but with everyone splitting tacks both upwind and downwind, it disappeared fast. Bashford went inside downwind, and Figueroa came in from the outside sandwiching Waterhouse in between. From Spectator Hill, it looked like a real battle, and a very close one at that as they neared and rounded the leeward mark. Waterhouse was around first by an inside overlap with Bashford and Figueroa fighting it out for second place. Figueroa eventually tacked earlier to the finish line, coming in second behind Waterhouse.

After the first day of racing the Aussies already had a jump on the pack with Dryland, Knight and Waterhouse all scoring first-places. The Americans were still holding their own at this point with Alter Sr., Mike Shearer (Utah) and Carlton Tucker (Florida) receiving some fairly good races. The wind blew around the course in such a way that there was often a lot to be gained and lost on each leg of the course. In the second race Ricky Eddington of the USA went from 15th to third on one downwind leg while Howard Young of Australia lost a nice long lead to teammate Knight the second time to the leeward mark.

On Wednesday, three races were held — all course 7 (A-C-A-B-C-A-C). The wind blew 15 knots for the first two races. In the first race Mike Shearer led most of the way around the course, finishing with less than a boat length between he and Tom Materna of the USA. In the next race, Dodds took over the lead then proceeded to win with Figueroa and Tucker close behind. Only on one mark rounding did Dodds lose the lead to Tucker, but regained it and sailed to a very close finish with Figueroa finishing right behind him. In the last race of the day, the youngest of the Alter family, Jeff, finished first with a very long lead. Second and third went to Americans Wally Myers and Chuck Miller. At the end of Wednesday with every racer having three races, the standings were:

1. Enrique Figueroa	Puerto Rico	8 pts.
2. Phil Knight	Australia	12 3/4
3. Blaine Dodds	South Africa	13 3/4
4. Mike Shearer	USA	15 3/4
5. Hobie Alter Sr.	USA	16

Thursday was the last day of racing before the fleet was cut in half for the finals. The race committee's goal was to hold four races so that everyone would have five races going into the cut.

It was a very clear day and the wind had clocked enough that the race committee moved the weather mark closer to the shore. The spectator boat, the Carribe Time, was packed with racers on the open top deck along with friends, camera crews and several photographers. This huge, white ferry would sit at the port end of the line so that the spectators had a perfect view of the start, then cruise up to A-mark to catch the first roundings. It was a windy morning and the waves were already white capping. On shore, the teams with two heavy guys were in ecstasy. An A-C-A-B-C course was called and the Aussies were showing their style once again. Young led for the first half

By Land and Sea

Members of the media followed the race course on a special press yacht (right) while observers were able to view the races via a spectator boat (below). Those relaxing on the beach were entertained by steel drum music (below) while some found other ways to amuse themselves as Kitty Salmon of Tahiti did.

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of the race but was passed by Knight who collected another win. Young finished fourth with David Freed of the USA and Colin Hancox of South Africa in second and third.

In the second race of the day Tucker demonstrated the heavy air abilities he had flaunted before at the U.S. Hobie 14 Nationals in Florida by winning three heavy air races in a row, and went on to win this one at the Worlds — although Australians Bashford and Dryland did not let up any and finished second and third. In the third race Jeff Alter added another first to his score with Hiro DeMaeyer of Tahiti in second and Gerard Loos of Holland in third. In the fourth and last race of the day, Waterhouse sailed another brilliant race, leading from the start and finishing in first. Behind him was Dodds and Miles Wood (USA).

The first half of the championship was complete and it was time to party again. Up one of the narrow streets of St. Croix, behind some faded historical looking cement walls was a feast for everybody. A Crucian picnic put together by the local people for at least 700 to 800 people was magnificent! Grilled fish, meats and tables covered with salads, fruits and other Crucian specialities made up this picnic. It was no small job feeding this crowd of people.

Later, everyone wandered down to the town park to await the announcements of the top half of the fleet to race in the finals. On the gazebo stage was a band accompanying a demonstration of Quadrille dancing, a form of folk dancing from the earlier days of St. Croix that looked somewhat like American square dancing. Due to many protest hearings the announcements were late. But when they finally came, the excitement was no less. The top 10 at this point were:

1. Phil Knight	Australia	13 3/4 pts.
2. Ian Bashford	Australia	14
3. Blaine Dodds	South Africa	14 3/4
4. Enrique Figuroa	Puerto Rico	15
5. Brett Dryland	Australia	17 3/4
6. Jeff Alter	USA	19 1/2
7. Mike Shearer	USA	25 3/4
8. Hobie Alter Sr.	USA	26
9. Howard Young	Australia	26
10. Rod Waterhouse	Australia	26 1/2

At the announcement party, probably the most excited and relieved person was young David Kruyt from South Africa. He was not only the last guy to

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Hobie Olympics
When not racing, Hobie Catters participated in such special events as a town marathon, tug-of-war and a limbo contest where Hobie Alter showed the crowd "how *low* he could go."

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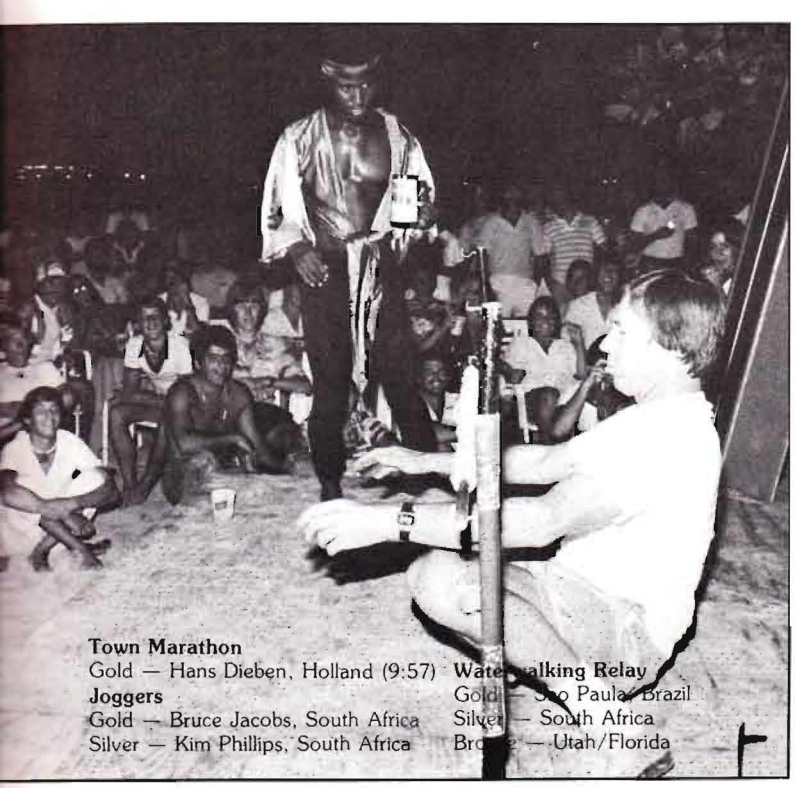

Town Marathon
Gold — Hans Dieben, Holland (9:57)
Joggers
Gold — Bruce Jacobs, South Africa
Silver — Kim Phillips, South Africa
Water Walking Relay
Gold — Sao Paulo, Brazil
Silver — South Africa
Bronze — Utah/Florida

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Tug-of-War
Gold — Azarita
Silver — St. Croix
Bronze — Holland
Six-Pack Relay Chug
Gold — Christiansted
Silver — South Africa
Bronze — Azarita

make the cut, but was the youngest skipper in the regatta and has only been sailing a few years. In celebration, he whooped, hollered and rolled on the ground after receiving his boat assignments for the next day.

At this point, all the little things that can go wrong had been corrected—the hotels had water again (water is a problem when it doesn't rain there), more ferries were transferring the people from Christiansted across the short distance to the Hotel on the Cay where all the boats, beer and action was for the week. The beach bar at Hotel on the Cay was constantly packed with people eating, drinking and telling stories about the races or about their favorite racers. Large groups of people from all over the world were there, 64 people came from South Africa for this Worlds with 30 in the Australian contingency.

Everyone seemed pleased with the many open air garden restaurants in town, and there was plenty of shopping up the cobblestone streets of Christiansted between races. The St. Croix Philharmonic Steel Band would sometimes play in the afternoons out on the Cay while spectators and would-be racers kept busy with pina coladas, rum punch and beer. Hobie Olympic events were also a strong attraction each day.

The wind was blowing hard on Friday, roundings at B-mark were of the radical variety in the 25 knot wind. Dryland had a perfect day of racing, finishing *first in all three* races! Dodds had a good day too with a second, third and fifth. The Australians and South Africans certainly had their kind of conditions.

In the second race, B-mark was dragging its anchor down the course. The lead boats were headed out towards the area that the mark had been while back-in-the-pack boats began to discover that it wasn't where it was supposed to be! Some places in the top few positions were exchanged, but the race went on. Dryland came out in the lead again with Bashford, Dodds and Knight finishing behind him.

In the third race, Dryland poured it on once again by being first to the weather mark and finished there also. Knight, again, was right up there, finishing third.

Going into the last day of racing, Dryland was in the lead with 20 points,

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Top Three
Brett Dryland (second in far left photo) and crew Jason Hardman (far right) accept the perpetual trophy from Hobie Alter and Harvey Giurbino. Blaine Dodds and crew Shaun Ferry (above) celebrate their second-place while Enrique Figueroa (left) is pleased about his third.

Whoops!
Tom Materna and Harry Fuchs of the USA just miss hitting the press boat after passing the finish.

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Team USA
Lori Klaidman (left) was the only woman skipper that competed. Carlton Tucker and Rick Bennette (center) double trap. Jeff Alter (right) was the only American scoring in the Top 10.

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On behalf of the World Hobie Class Association, I would like to thank all of you who attended the Third Hobie 16 World Championship. I think that we'll all agree that the event was an outstanding success.

The Worlds takes a lot of planning, work and effort prior, during and after the event. At this time, I would like to thank the following individuals and companies who helped with the event and to all of you for attending. See you next year!

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HCA Director

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WRANGLER THIRD HOBIE 16 WORLDS
St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands
November 16-22, 1980

SKIPPER & CREW	COUNTRY	1ST	2ND	3RD	4TH	5TH	6TH	7TH	8TH	9TH	10TH	TOTAL
1. Brett Dryland / Jason Hardman	Australia	¾	11	5	3	9	¾	¾	¾	7	2	29
2. Blaine Dodds / Shaun Ferry	South Africa	38	9	¾	4	2	2	3	5	20	11	56¾
3. Enrique Figueroa / Carlos Junco	Puerto Rico	4	2	2	7	12	11	10	8	4	17	60
4. Phil Knight / Wayne Horne	Australia	¾	4	8	¾	22	12	4	3	17	12	61½
5. Ian Bashford / Brent Wise	Australia	5	3	10	2	4	25	2	20	13	16	75
6. Mark Pryke / Neil Kirk	Australia	7	10	10	18	17	7	9	4	6	8	78
7. Howard Young / Colin Grace	Australia	2	16	15	4	5	14	6	10	11	38	83
8. Rod Waterhouse / Verry Wood	Australia	13	¾	15	12	¾	9	17	13	25	3	83½
9. Jeff Alter / Christian Banks	United States	28	5	¾	13	¾	41	7	32	¾	9	96¼
10. Michael Collier / W.L. Collier	South Africa	8	14	17	23	13	4	34	16	2	7	104
11. Carlton Tucker / Rick Bennette	United States	20	4	3	¾	19	23	47	2	22	13	106¾
12. Colin Hancox / C. Hughes	South Africa	32	20	12	3	9	5	8	15	33	9	113
13. Evan Borges / Curt Burger	Puerto Rico	14	21	18	19	27	10	11	9	10	5	117
14. Mike Shearer / Pat Evans	United States	6	¾	9	10	16	6	42	31	5	47	125¾
15. Henere Salmon / Nino Salmon	Tahiti	4	22	12	5	17	28	12	27	32	¾	127¾
16. Dean Froome / Jim Pate	United States	15	5	28	30	15	19	23	17	14	10	146
17. Gerhard Koper / Robbie Johnston	South Africa	9	7	11	21	6	35	28	14	15	44	146
18. Hobie Alter / Paula Alter	United States	2	8	6	14	10	17	30	39	24	39	150
19. Gerard Locs / Hans Dieben	Holland	21	16	41	5	3	20	5	22	17	41	150
20. Peter Jeffrey / Gideon Scott	South Africa	18	14	20	15	4	45	16	18	23	25	153
21. Klaus Peters / Thomas Pousains	Brazil	21	32	6	8	48	15	31	11	26	4	154
22. Tom Materna / Harry Fuchs	United States	33	2	4	7	24	20	45	24	21	21	156
23. Wayne Rogerson / Geoff Partridge	Australia	33	11	27	10	14	37	15	7	19	24	160
24. David Kruyt / Peter Kruyt	South Africa	49	25	10	26	19	13	24	29	3	22	161
25. Robert Herbron / Marlene deWilde	Holland	23	12	25	16	15	8	39	15	36	15	165
26. Eric Hassebach / Anton Stephens	South Africa	16	13	14	29	7	16	20	33	34	20	168
27. Don Algie / K. Brüsauer	Australia	10	7	21	14	12	40	18	22	37	29	170
28. Rob Perrin / Chris Perrin	United States	29	13	7	32	8	22	48	15	25	18	172
29. Peter Spijker / Peter Manvis	Holland	27	22	19	9	11	32	19	23	12	32	174
30. Mick Whitehead / Colin Whitehead	Australia	33	15	11	15	18	31	46	6	18	30	177
31. David Freed / Steve Broyles	United States	5	24	14	2	29	18	37	42	40	23	192
32. Eric Pacfal / Lot Arte	Tahiti	11	18	4	22	22	33	25	34	31	27	193
33. Bill Worrell / Peter Crisan	Australia	29	12	23	6	28	38	44	37	16	6	195
34. Russell Eddington / Greg Drum	United States	3	28	9	30	5	36	13	26	46	48	196
35. Dave Lung / Brian Schatz	United States	6	40	26	24	21	26	35	36	9	19	202
36. Howard McNeil / Lee Murray	Australia	32	23	13	21	8	29	22	30	27	31	204
37. Wally Myers / Lynn Pearson	United States	17	10	2	34	6	43	32	25	43	35	204
38. Chuck Miller / Bill Dominy	United States	26	29	3	25	11	21	21	41	30	43	207
39. Rick Eddington / Dee Dee Beauchamp	United States	3	20	22	12	10	24	48	45	42	34	212
40. Hero DeMaeyer / Petras Francis	Tahiti	31	9	19	13	2	30	43	40	45	28	215
41. Norbert Potsche / Klaus Kitzmuller	Austria	30	6	37	17	21	13	36	21	39	45	220
42. Frank Meneses / L. Mann	South Africa	20	26	24	11	16	48	29	19	29	37	222
43. Miles Wood / Carla Mozo	United States	13	17	13	28	3	46	26	38	44	40	222
44. Kurt Stadel / Rainer Herrmann	Germany	12	26	5	33	33	34	33	35	38	14	225
45. John McCartney / Joe Wiegand	Australia	25	24	7	7	14	39	41	45	35	33	225
46. Mike Montague / Wratt Mallows	United States	9	8	41	11	38	27	40	43	8	45	225
47. Hobie Alter Jr. / David Frank	United States	24	3	25	6	30	46	27	28	46	42	231
48. Russ Veenema / Robyn Veenema	U.S. Virgin Islands	16	37	16	17	30	42	38	44	41	26	263

Continued on page 38