

Kobie **HOTLINE**

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1986

\$2.50 U.S./\$3.50 CANADA



METCALF FINDS VICTORY IN

H

ere I am face down in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. I've got a pair of swim fins on, a snorkel and a face mask. In one direction I've got a razor-sharp white coral reef; in the other I can see 20 different species of tropical fish. The fish are so magnificent in color it's as if Leroy Neiman painted each one.

There's a place on this earth that has 300 islands covering 230,000 square kilometers and only one third of them have people. A few of the things I found there were tall, swaying palm trees laden with coconuts, ocean water temperature of about 75 degrees and colors that vary from royal blue to turquoise to crystal clear, white sand beaches that go for miles and miles and, best of all, no fast food.

This place is called Fiji, in Hobie terms, the "host country" for the Sixth Hobie 16 World Championship. My journey here started on Air New Zealand's flight 5, destination, the city of Nadi (pronounced Nandi) on the nation's main island of Viti Levu. Flight time is two meals, two movies, several cassettes and, of course, liquid refreshments. Nadi is the second largest city on Viti Levu. There are plenty of hotels, beaches, restaurants, shops and stores for anyone's taste. The townspeople are more than hospitable. With duty-free shops galore, the bargains are so good it is actually hard to say no. (After a day and a half I was fortunate to get out of town with only four shirts, a hat, two dresses, three wood carvings of wild life, three cloth

fabrics plus plant seeds.) The inhabitants are quite entertaining and friendly. They come from Melanesian, Indian, Chinese, and European stock.

The next stop was the gang plank of SAYONDRA, a 95-foot cruise ship. It is one of several vessels in the Blue Lagoon Cruise Line. For the next several days, I was to be exploring the Yasawa Islands on some of the same waters as Captain Bligh of the H.M.S. Bounty.

This part of the trip was the hardest to adjust to. Not only was I treated like a king on this boat, but all 35 passengers were treated like royalty. I had to learn to eat multicourse meals sitting down no less and have servants cater to my every whim. There is a crew of eight on this ship and they each have a specific function on board which includes memorizing all our names, going out of their way to be courteous, have answers to all our questions, wear sincere smiles and just show us the best time I've ever had.

Day after day, we were treated to coral reefs, caves, wild life, fantastic seascapes and feasts from dawn to dusk. There is a legend I'm told of a young chief who fell in love with a lady of rank who was already betrothed to another. The lovers fled to a cave on Sowa-i-lau where the woman hid in a submerged grotto until they could escape. The entrance to the cave is famous for the inscriptions on its walls which have long puzzled archeologists. They concluded that the stylized symbols

Julia Brooke-White



Julia Brooke-White



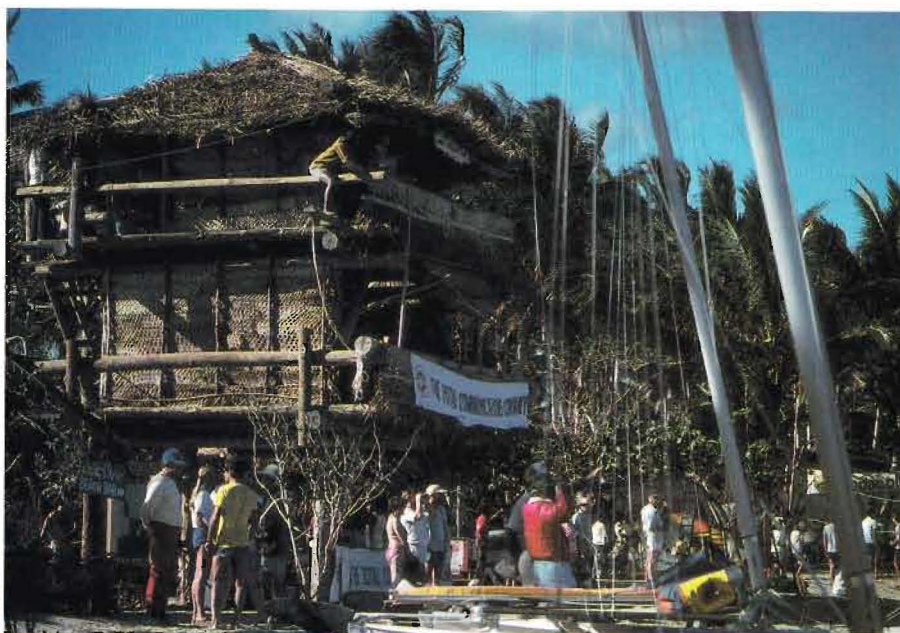
PARADISE

Julia Brooke-White



BY DICK BLOUNT





do not represent a formal script. They may have had symbolic or magical meanings, or were, perhaps, a clan or ownership mark.

After our first coral reef dive, we were taken one by one into this secret grotto. The only entrance to this cave is down sandstone steps to a long cavern. Several feet under water is a tunnel that leads to the secret grotto. Once inside it is pitch black and eerie. The cave is quite large and has several off-shoot tunnels. The ceiling is filled with stalactites and the water is ink black in color. The air is sweet. If you are prone to feel claustrophobic, this cave is definitely not for you. After we witnessed this phenomenon, we were served hot tea and corn bread on this deserted island by a deck hand. But, like all good things, this one had to end and, as my safari continues, it's back to Nadi to meet some fellow Hobie catters and get on to more important matters, like sailing Hobies.

It's a mere three hours from Nadi to Pacific Harbour. The road isn't too bad. Along the way one could see bison, cattle, goats and lots of sugar cane. The terrain we were travelling through goes from dry and desert-like to tropical jungle. It reminds me a lot of Gilligan's Island. The standard of living in Fiji is low compared to U.S. standards and most houses are a collection of building materials and palm fronds. Most houses are raised off the ground several feet. The monsoon season must really be something. It's difficult to believe that these houses and people hold up through all that.

Pacific Harbour was the host hotel for the event. For the record, Pacific Harbour has a few amenities that got my attention. A giant complex of villas, a hotel, lakes, an 18-hole golf course, a cultural center with shops and the Fijian National Dance Theater, half a dozen restaurants, a swimming



pool and, oh, did I tell you about the ocean?

For those of us not fortunate (or good enough) to be prequalified, we were given an opportunity to qualify with the hopes of beating all the "heroes." No one ever says how many spots will be accepted and with 76 teams trying to win it makes for some exciting moments. With 35 boats at a time we each had six races. Wind conditions varied from light (under 10 knots) to medium (double trap) during the course of these trials. I expected 10-15 spots to be available for the main event, however the gossip on the beach was five to 30 teams will get in. With such a wide difference, the strategy for us was tack and cover. Hold our position. Assuming it was a decent one. We had wind from every direction sometimes the shore would pay and sometimes it made you look like the captain of Team Alpo.

The sponsors, hotel, beach crew, boat captain and race committee and all the other people involved were simply marvelous. There were fair boats, great courses, wind shifts, food on the beach, sunny skies, the "Hobie Trap" for beer. Hey, what else could you possibly want?

Every night there was a special event or party. A few examples were the western BBQ night with upside down margaritas, grease pole climbing and log rolling. Another standout was at the Hobie Trap



Bar and Grill. It was like a serve yourself BBQ steak and chicken place with a bar, band and dancing. A lot of the locals hang out there as did the Hobie racers. Prices were great and the company and conversation top notch. With three days of racing under our belts, it was time to cut the fleet. The big question was how many would make it and would we be one of them? When it was all said and done, the race committee took an amazing 35 teams, which was a whole lot more than anybody expected. On the one hand, it was great to be in the main event, on the other hand the last three days were like heaven compared to what was in store for the next three days.

Some of those who didn't make the cut were not left empty handed. They could now explore some of the nearby towns, paddle canoes up mountain streams, visit neighboring islands or relax on the beach, enjoy the racing and work on that ever elusive tan line.

The first day of the championship races featured light and shifty winds. It was less than everyone was expecting. Those that sailed in the light stuff in the qualifying round had the edge in reading shifts and using them to the fullest.

By the second day, the wind god came. It was double trap plus all day. It was an ideal day for racing. The heavy air sailors made mince meat out of those fair weather types (myself included). I can't remember the last time I was rolled so much. Our boat got so much bad air, we should have carried tanks of oxygen.

Today is the final cut. It's do or die time for about 96 teams. If you thought the starts were a bit competitive, let me try to fill you in. It's double trap and you're trying for the leeward pin and 20 other boats are thinking the same thing. You take a stern, dip and say "coming up." That goes on for a few minutes then there's a bit of the bump and run. In the final minute your stomach is in knots. Your heart sounds like a percussion instrument. You try to luff without moving over the line. The mast has counterrotated and you're screaming at the crew to fix it while looking at your



Julia Brooke-White

the wee hours of the night. Too bad we had to be interrupted by the final cut announcement.

The top 48 skippers and crews were each given real war clubs (just what you need at mark roundings). The bottom 48 received what they deserved, a mild round of applause and the weekend off. For some, it meant the fat lady was singing "The Party's Over" while for others the tune was "Party Time." To make the top 48 is a great achievement and puts you in that elite group of the world's best.

With head to head sailing, the scores, intensity and pressures all go up. Now it doesn't take a bad tack to put you in the toilet. A slow one will accomplish the same thing. After all was said and done, Enrique Figueroa was the leader over Gary Metcalf with one day to go. These two guys sailed like streaks, winning a majority of the races. Regardless of the wind conditions, their boat speed was always better than anybody else's. They rode factory boats and had them 30 minutes prior to each race. So, how can they do it? Practice, practice, practice.

Gary Metcalf proved why he dominated the 18 and 16 world championships at the tender age of 21. He scored two firsts in

the last two races and managed to defend his title with a phenomenal 18.5 points in 9 races. He threw out an eighth place. Figueroa finished second with 20.5 points. Jeff Alter rounded out the top three with 41.50 points. (For complete results see "Hobie Racing.")

The awards party was held in the Pacific Harbour Banquet Room. It was like a royal feast, rum, large tables of food and, best of all, great war stories. The trophies were made with traditional Fijian tools and ornaments. In addition, T.L., who served as boat captain, had a few awards for the individuals that demonstrated unique and truly remarkable feats. One fellow, while leading a race by a minute and 40 seconds at A mark, only had to go to C and finish. Somehow, he placed second and was presented a rear view mirror so he could watch the other boats and learn to cover. Decorum does not permit me to discuss all the awards, but if you ever see Hobie Cat president Doug Campbell, ask him what he got.

As for me, my journey continues. Suva is the capital of Fiji and my next stop. I hear shopping is great there and I only need a couple of small items: new shirts, watch, a suit, handicrafts . . .



watch, watching the leeward boat, sheeting in and hoping that the boat to windward doesn't roll you. When the red flag goes up, your first thought is "That guy over there had to be over early." "How could the race committee say all clear?" That's racing.

The cut party was at the Pacific Harbour Cultural Center. It's a fantastic group of shops, stores and theaters. The setting is a warm trade wind, a black night full of stars and traditional thatched buildings. We were treated to authentic costumes, the traditional frog dance, songs, tribal mekes and the incredible fire walking. Those fire walkers are for real and they must be crazy. We feasted on roast pig, fish and fresh fruit. And, of course, cocktails until

Julia Brooke-White

REGATTA RESULTS

10. Krause/Krause	29
11. Morris/Ridick	32
12. Huff/Huff	37
13. Brown/Brown	37
14. Breuer/Castle	37
15. Defuria/Defuria	37
16. Paulsen/Paulsen	40
17. Thorne/Thorne	43
18. McLaughlin/Carvella	44
19. Kulski/Custara	44
20. Sullivan/Dewan	46
21. Wilson/Kriebel	47
22. Morey/Edger	49
23. Strauss/Strauss	49
24. White/White	49
25. Hiller/Glassey	60
26. Yates, Jr./Yates	62
27. Gibbons/Stanczyk	81

HOBIE 16B		POINTS
1. Ruck, Jr./Ruck	8 3/4	
2. Villa/Villa	15 3/4	
3. Fecowicz/Villa	17	
4. Wiegner/Nelson	18	
5. Morey/Morey	19	
6. Quigley/Quigley	20	
7. Harcho/Ries	21	
8. Wiggins/Wiggins	21	
9. Jepson/Jepson	23	
10. Flanagan/Cole	24 3/4	
11. Cowan/Cowan	25	
12. Andrews/Schaeffer	26 3/4	
13. Harris/Harris	31	
14. Fatic/Lubfer	32	
15. Raphael/Baughman	32	
16. Nystrom/Nystrom	39	
17. Brearley/Brearley	39	
18. Kvech, Jr./Crandell	40	
19. Nolte/Mercaldi	40	
20. Edwards/Edwards	44	
21. Buttner/Shimp	50	
22. Kohls/Dilemma	51	
23. Wagner/Nixon	52	
24. Richardson/	56	
Richardson		
25. Witt	59	
26. Button/Trickle	68	
27. Buck/Wigs	77	
28. Firth/Anderson	90	
29. Downes/Geof	93	

CAPE MAY CLASSIC FLEET # 416 DIVISION 11 CAPE MAY, NJ JUNE 21 - 22, 1986

HOBIE 16C		POINTS
1. Crompton/Brown	7 1/2	
2. Payne/Kelly	13	
3. Conover/Charlie D.	14 3/4	
4. Ruth/Coyle	14 1/2	
5. Wharry/Banks	25	
6. Ciocchia/Mariello	27	
7. Hippensteel/		
Sprengle		
8. Kulski/Curiolo	31	
9. Krniski/		
Battaglini		
10. Giebe/Moore	35	
11. McRinn/Gelfuss	43	
12. Ford/Newhard	48	
13. Ainsworth/Orzolek	48	
14. Cummin/Cook	58	
15. Clarke/Peterson	58	
16. Redfield/Redfield	55	
17. Giannini/Martin	64	
18. Staats/Tullinski	72	
19. Frick/Frick	80	
20. McDevitt/McDevitt	83	
21. Misita/		
Bongiovanni		
22. Jeffrey/Jeffrey	88	
23. Krammes/Rhoades	90	
24. Bello/Harkess	93	
25. Goldmann/Halpen	101	
26. McDonnell/Hawkins	101	
27. Maresca/		
Laemmerhirt		
28. Barnes/Kingston	107	
29. Jones/Silude	110	
30. White/Adams	111	
31. Cool/Malsley	127	
32. Murphy/Van Vlack	130	
33. Peabody/Peabody	132	
34. Kalinowski/		
MacDougal		
35. Sague/Sague	133	
36. Farnalo/Wilson	148	
37. Peterson/Peterson	162	
38. Cohen/Metzman	162	
39. Sowers/Sutton	162	
40. Gokey/Rogers	162	

HOBIE 17		POINTS
1. Holland, Gray	4 1/2	
2. White, Roger	8 1/2	
3. Hanna, Bill	14	
4. Roberts, Mick	17	

HOBIE 14 TURBO		POINTS
1. Miley, Brad	3	
2. Snedeker, Fran	10	

Division 12

HOBIE 18A		POINTS
1. Barber/Belperron	4 1/2	
2. Dallaire/Morin	9 3/4	
3. Collin/Heather	11	
4. Fox/Grande	15	
5. Masse/Hebert	16 3/4	
6. Hanes/Harris	20	
7. Dansereau/		
Bouassa		
8. Lillienthal/Gilmore	28	
9. McCarthy/Lee	29	
10. Gagnon/Handfield	33	
11. Nadeau/Drown	35	

HOBIE 18B		POINTS
1. Gouneau/Gouneau	1	
2. Leduc/Perrier	6 3/4	

3. Seydel, Steve	6
3. Richardson, Bennie	8

Division 15

FLIP FLOP REGATTA
FLEET # 235 DIVISION 15
JACKSON, MS
JUNE 28 - 29, 1986

HOBIE 16A		POINTS
1. Renaud/Liebel	6 1/2	
2. Franco/Gamache	9 3/4	
3. Boulay/Boulay	14	
4. Carand/Hart	18	
5. Menlin/Mason	19 3/4	
6. Piane/Peru	20	
7. Collins/Gauthier	21	
8. Danness/Danness	24	
9. Bromkamp/Fish	24	
10. Andre/Germain	25	

HOBIE 16B		POINTS
1. Patey/Patey	3	
2. Johnson/Johnson	10	
3. Oliver/Guilbert	10 3/4	
4. Amatuzio/Horne	16	
5. Horne/Felentringer	20	
6. Robinson/Samuel	20	
7. Kants/Prairie	22	
8. Pronosov/Pronosov	30	
9. Seguin/Dumont	31	
10. Swot/Swot	33	
11. Mann/Mann	45	
12. Kalinowski/Kalinowski	46	
13. Bartlett/Bartlett	46	
14. D'Amour/D'Amour	50	
15. Joseph/Milne	53	
16. O'Connell/Black	60	

Division 13

7th RAY BAN CUP
FLEET # 133 DIVISION 13
ISLA VERDE, PUERTO RICO
JULY 26 - 27, 1986

HOBIE 18A		POINTS
1. Andres/Vaelo	4 1/2	
2. Martinez/Martinez	5 3/4	
3. Doll/Cabrera	18	
4. Scorza, P./I	29	

HOBIE 16		POINTS
1. Figueroa/Balzac	6 3/4	
2. Maymi/Narvaez	14 1/2	
3. Junco/Vazquez	20	
4. Ortiz/Rivera	23	

HOBIE 16B		POINTS
1. Wilder/Wilder	7 1/2	
2. Altieri/McCormack	12 3/4	
3. Camer/Perrin	12	
4. Jones/Jones	13	
5. Prata/White	23	

HOBIE 16C		POINTS
1. Oquendo/Thomas	3	
2. Canty/Munn	10	
3. Hann/Rhodes	13	
4. Stanfield/Granger	16	
5. Johnson/Brent	18	

HOBIE 17		POINTS
1. Thornton, Charlie	3 1/2	
2. Barker, Joe	8	

HOBIE 14 TURBO		POINTS
1. Kidder, John	8	
2. Dick, Paul	8	

HOBIE 18A		POINTS
1. Rumsey, Chris	2 1/2	
2. Masf, Hugh	5 3/4	
3. Palmer, Norris	8	
4. Wright, Kattie	11	
5. Morris, David	12	

HOBIE 16A		POINTS
1. Ralph, Mark	2 1/2	
2. Hester, Craig	6 3/4	
3. Bradley, Jason	11	
4. Holmes, Sheila	13	
5. Kocsis, William	14	
6. Wade, Maurice	16	
7. Vockrodt, Bob	16	
8. Chambers, Larry	18	
9. Saisby, Art	18	
10. Bateman, Nancy	29	

HOBIE 16B		POINTS
1. Kinser, Aaron	2 1/2	
2. Saggi, Zeev	8	
3. Jordan, Jim	9	
4. Urban, Bruce	10	
5. Matson, Al	14	
6. Mead, Holt	20	

HOBIE 16C		POINTS
1. Simpson, Mark	6 3/4	
2. Lloyd, Robert	7	
3. Cohrt, Greg	7 3/4	
4. Pederson, Mike	8 3/4	
5. Harmon, Jim	9 3/4	
6. Ruestow, Greg	16	
7. Stevenson, Dan	19	
8. Bradshaw, Wayne	19	

HOBIE 17		POINTS
1. Simpson, Tyler	2 1/2	
2. Carr, John	3 3/4	
3. Pattullo, Peter	7	
4. Danylak, Nick	14	
5. Dunn, Bill	14	
6. Griffin, Gary	17	

HOBIE 14		POINTS
1. Hawkins, Gene	2 1/2	

HOBIE 16A		POINTS
1. Smith, Greg	16 1/2	
2. Williams, Bruce	21	
3. Howie, Dave	25	
4. Bonestell, David	48 1/2	
5. Donitz, Peter	53 3/4	
6. Terpstra, Jim	62	
7. Engels, Jim	77 3/4	
8. MacConnell, R.	80	
9. Tremblay, Marc	89 3/4	
10. Field, Steven	93	
11. Madge, Mike	93	
12. Drake, Britt, III	95 3/4	

HOBIE 16B		POINTS
1. Humphries/Little	5 1/2	
2. Wilder/Wilder	12	
3. Grady/Jetty	13 3/4	
4. Starr/Starr	15	
5. Johnson/Hester	17 1/2	
6. Soles/Soles	21	
7. Sutterfield/Pou	22	
8. Leyens/Montesi	24	
9. Manning/Lasserre	29	
10. Jones/Jones	35	
11. Townsend/Sytle	38	
12. Lasserre/Jefcoat	40	
13. Resta/Brooks	47	
14. Essig/Clark	55	
15. Levanway/Levanway	62	
16. Denton/Denton	64	

WM. GRAMIE MEMORIAL FLEET # 120 DIVISION 15 PANAMA CITY, FL AUGUST 2 - 3, 1986

HOBIE 18		POINTS
1. Gaston/Springett	3	
2. Rigdon/Taylor	6 3/4	
3. Miller/Graves	13	
4. Sterrett/Jeff	14	
5. Cockcroft/Cockcroft	18	
6. Smith, Stan	21	
7. Addison, Alan	28	
8. Jacquay, Steve	35	

HOBIE 16A		POINTS
1. Smith/Nienaber	3	
2. Gaston/Kalata	9 3/4	
3. Lattman/Sencil	13	
4. Brock/Adams	14	
5. Self/Haywood	18	
6. Putnam/Ponopatic	18	
7. Stone/Newell	18	
8. Kernion/Nienaber	18	
9. Smith/Smith	29	

HOBIE 16B		POINTS
1. Wilder/Wilder	7 1/2	
2. Altieri/McCormack	12 3/4	
3. Camer/Perrin	12	
4. Jones/Jones	13	
5. Prata/White	23	

HOBIE 16C		POINTS
1. Oquendo/Thomas	3	
2. Canty/Munn	10	
3. Hann/Rhodes	13	
4. Stanfield/Granger	16	
5. Johnson/Brent	18	

HOBIE 17		POINTS
1. Thornton, Charlie	3 1/2	
2. Barker, Joe	8	

HOBIE 14 TURBO		POINTS
1. Kidder, John	8	
2. Dick, Paul	8	

HOBIE 18A		POINTS
1. Morrin, Hugh	17 1/2	
2. Marner, Paul	19 3/4	
3. Barnett, John	42	
4. Schlecker, Mark	43	
5. Starkey, Mike	57	
6. Dallaire, Damien	51	
7. Howes, Bryan	52 3/4	
8. Hopper, David	65	
9. Masse, Rejean	86 3/4	
10. Anderson, Bob	94	
11. Whitten, Steve	102	
12. Smith, Charles	111	
13. Peck, Chris	112	
14. Gregor, Dennis	113	
15. Regan, Charlie	115	
16. Marner, Bill	121	
17. Harvey, Paul	124	
18. Gelowitz, Lyle	124	
19. Eliot, Nick	131	
20. Reid, Steve	134	
21. Tinga, Rick	135	
22. Baas, Gordon	143	
23. Harris, David	150	
24. Allan, Stewart	158	
25. McRae, Floyd	159	
26. Frederick, James	165	
27. Shaw, Ralph	162	
28. Tremblay, Michel	188	
29. Whittemore, Marc	201	

HOBIE 18B		POINTS
1. Yates, Dave	14	
2. Nugent, Tom	15 1/2	
3. Yarwood, Paul	26	
4. Beasley, Graham	28 3/4	
5. Gauthier, R.	36	
6. Lillico, Craig	40 3/4	
7. Legrand, Claud	43	

HOBIE 14		POINTS
1. Cross, Ted	2	
2. Summerfield, Mark	3	
3. Flora, Nickolas	14	
4. Perry, Brian	14	

HOBIE 14 TURBO		POINTS
1. Cross, Ted	2	
2. Summerfield, Mark	3	
3. Flora, Nickolas	14	
4. Perry, Brian	14	

HOBIE 16A		POINTS
1. Taylor, Robert	97	
14. Liebel, Nicholas	97	
15. Steglich, B.	100	
16. Woodruff, Stan	113 3/4	
17. Garlick, Paul	114	
18. Walker, M.	116	
19. Orr, Joan	120	
20. Schubach, Henry	122	
21. Lalancette, B.	143	
22. Bidwell, Mark	146	
23. Brehm, Pat	150	
24. Jamieson, Paul	153	
25. Lewis, Randy	159	
26. Sauve, Jacques	175	
27. Kervin, J.P.	199	
28. Proulx, Jocelyn	204	

HOBIE 16B		POINTS
1. Hart, Leslie	12	
2. Rhine, Bruce	16 1/2	
3. Synnott, John	20 3/4	
4. Mooney, Colleen	22 3/4	

HOBIE 17		POINTS
----------	--	--------