



CHAMPAGNE MUMM ADMIRAL'S CUP 1997

Press Release No:GMAC 019

Cowes, England, date: 12th August 1997

0700 local time

ITALY LEADS AT THE ROCK

Germany Moves Into Third

Rounding the Fastnet Rock between 6pm and midnight yesterday, the Champagne Mumm Admiral's Cup fleet is now hard on the wind on starboard just failing to lay the rhumb line to the Scillies in a reported 20 knots of breeze. Andrea Filacchioni's (of AFTER srl) computer predictions were confirmed by actual rounding times and positions and Italy shown to have moved into the lead in the overall standings. Had the competition ended at the Rock, Italy would have won by 153.50 points to USA's 162.50. But the competition did not end there - and by 0600 this morning USA had picked up one place, with the Mumm 36 *Jameson* picking off Scandinavia's *Mumm-a-Mia*. The points gap closes by four points, and USA needs to pick up two more places on Italy to retake the lead. With the Italians in 1st, 2nd and 3rd in their three classes and the Americans 2nd, 5th and 6th the Yanks have plenty of room to attack, the Italians can but defend. And now that the boats are hard on the wind in breeze, form so far suggests that *Flash Gordon 3* could well pull back *Madina Milano*.

Britain's *Bradamante* continues to lead the Mumm 36s by just over three miles from Steve Kulmar, the world champion owner-driver, and his crew in *Sea* (AUS). Italy's *Breeze* is a mile back on *Sea*, a mile-and-a-half behind them are *Thomas I-Punkt* and *Jameson*. Perhaps USA's best chance of getting that other place lies in *Jameson* taking *Thomas*, which on form to date in the Cup races is well possible. *MK Cafe* is fifth in the ILC 40s, but three miles behind *G'Net* is less in touch with the next ahead. *MK Cafe*'s biggest worry is more likely to be the world champion *Mean Machine* and Britain's *Easy Oars* boat-for-boating together less than half-a-mile behind her. For Great Britain, *Easy Oars* cannot do any worse than she is doing and *Bradamante* cannot do any better. The worry (other than something terrible happening to the Mumm) must be that *Corum Indulgence*'s current third on corrected time will come under fire from the bigger boats now that the windward work has begun. GBR has three Fastnet places in hand over sixth-placed New Zealand, the team that went into this race lying second overall and with real hopes of pulling off a win.

Germany has moved into a relatively safe third overall. *Pinta* leads her class, *Rubin* is fourth but - smallest boat in her class - is as vulnerable to attack as is *Corum Indulgence*. *Thomas I-Punkt* could lose a place to *Jameson* but form suggests she will not lose a place to *Mumm a Mia*. Germany is three places ahead of Australia. *Ragamuffin* could pick up a place or two in the Big Boats now that her weather and her point of sailing are here, and *G'Net* is just three cables (.3 of a mile) behind *Fram*. Maybe Germany's third is not as safe as it looks.

All this prognostication, of course, assumes nobody's mast falls down. Perish the thought.

First boats are expected at the Scillies early afternoon, with no one expected to arrive in Plymouth before 6 or 7pm, but the first Big Boats could be in by midnight.

Computer predicted team standings at 0600, with Fastnet places in IMS, ILC 40 and Mumm 36 respectively and total overall points. 1 Italy (1-2-3) 153.50, 2 USA (2-5-6) 158.50, 3 GER (4-1-5) 166.00, 4 AUS (5-4-2) 176.13, 5 GBR (3-7-4) 184.00, 6 NZL (7-6-4) 190.13, 7 SCN (6-3-7) 260.50. Results service by AFTER srl.

For more information contact Champagne Mumm Admiral's Cup Media Centre, Plymouth, tel: +44 (0) 1752 262535 or 262539, fax: +44 (0) 1752 262556, email 100527.3303@compuserve; or surf the Champagne Mumm Admiral's Cup website: <http://www.1stresults.co.uk/mummyachts.htm>



CHAMPAGNE MUMM ADMIRAL'S CUP 1997

Press Release No:CMAC 020

Cowes, England, date: 12th August 1997
1030 local time

GERMANY UP A PLACE, USA SLIPS TO THIRD *They Should Be In Tonight*

The 1000 satellite poll of the Champagne Mumm Admiral's Cup fleet on its way towards the Scilly Isles shows Germany moving up to second overall in the team standings, the United States slipping to third. There is just half-a-point in it.

Madina Milano, Italy's Big Boat, continues to hold off the challenge from USA's Flash Gordon 3 both on the water and on corrected time. Meanwhile, the place changing in the ILC 40 fleet continues, with Brava Q8 back in front of Pinta, and Britain's Easy Oars off the back rank and up to sixth in the class. Easy Oars gain is at the expense of USA's MK Cafe and New Zealand's Mean Machine, while Mean Machine has overtaken MK Cafe, the move which has dropped the Americans a place in the rankings. Corum Indulgence, the British Big Boat, has slipped a place on corrected time - not unexpectedly in the conditions - so the Brits net gain is one Fastnet place, closing the gap on but not overhauling the Australians.

The Big Boats are about 30 miles from the Scillies, still expected there in early afternoon. They are still hard on the wind, below the layline, so there is still beating to do before freeing-off on to a starboard jib-reach at the corner. The weather buoy in the Western Channel is currently recording 15 - 20 knots of breeze from the south-south-east, giving a fetch to the Lizard and a shy starboard pole to the finish. Predictions now are looking at Big Boats finishing maybe around 8pm, with the smaller boats coming in through the night. The AFTER srl computer puts Mumm-a-Mia, the last boat of the fleet, 9 hours and 40 minutes astern of Madina Milano, still the lead boat of the fleet.

Computed team standings at 1000 on 12 August with Fastnet places Ims, ILC 40 and Mumm 36 and overall total points. 1 ITA (1-1-3) 149.50, 2 GER (3-2-5) 166.00, 3 USA (2-7-6) 166.50, 4 AUS (5-4-2) 176.13, 5 GBR (4-6-1) 184.00, 6 NZL (7-5-4), SCN (6-3-7) 260.50.

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