

M24 USA

The Official Magazine of the US Melges 24 Class Association

Volume 4 ★ Issue 4 ★ Fall 2007

www.usmelges24.com

2008

ACURA KEY WEST ROCKS!

January 21-25 ★ Key West, Florida ★ USA

Gary Jobson's 'stuck on gorgeous' statement became the theme last year at Key West where the Melges 24 class maintained its consecutive status as the largest fleet in attendance. 2008 will be no different as this event is a sacred pilgrimage for Melges 24 downwind thrill seekers. It's as if it's built into Premiere Racing's contract — 'must have downwind planning conditions!' Year-after-year this event lives up to its reputation as the ultimate kick-off for high performance racing, fun and festivities!

Visit Premiere Racing online at www.premiere-racing.com and register online!



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FOR THE RECORD

- 1st** Worlds (partial)
- 1st** Worlds Corinthian
- 1st** Key West Race Week
- 1st** Pacific Coast Champs
- 1st** Pre-Worlds Regatta
- 1st** Charleston Race Week
- 1st** NOOD Annapolis
- 1st** VOLVO Cup One
- 1st** Primo Cup
- 1st** Snim Easter Regatta
- 1st** St. Fran Keelboat Spring



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21-25 January ★ Key West, Florida ★ premiere-racing.com

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Eighteen Melges 24s traveled to beautiful Charleston, South Carolina last August to compete. Two days of racing later, the USMCA crowned Jeff Duval 2007 Melges 24 Gold Cup Champion.

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lgyc.com

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CREDITS AND CONTRIBUTORS: Concept/Design/Editorial: JOY **On The Cover:** Alan Field from Los Angeles, California planes downwind under control in Santa Cruz at Worlds; Photo by Paul Todd | www.outsideimages.co.nz **Photography:** Fiona Brown, Joy Dunigan, Rick Greyson, Charlie Harrett, Paul Todd, Tim Wilkes **Contributing Writers:** Joy Dunigan **Advertising and Sponsorship Inquiries:** Contact JOY for a Media Kit at (912) 398-5776 or via email at joy.dunigan@joysavannah.com

outside images

Paul Todd
outsideimages.co.nz



hotter than hot

Congratulations to Jeff Duval, 2007 Melges 24 Gold Cup Champion



TOP TEN RESULTS

01. Jeff Duval
02. John Lucas, Spray (C)
03. Othemar von Blumenron, Gannett
04. Reggie Fairchild, Wireless (C)
05. Steve Kopf, Blur
06. Alex Shaffer, Lamorak (C)
07. Simon Strauss, Team Gill
08. George Haynie, Firewater (C)
09. Andy Robinson, Divdat Racing
10. Reid Collins/Gary Umberger, Desperate Measures (C)

(C) Corinthian



The 2007 Gold Cup was a lot of fun, but boy was it hot! On August 18-19 Charleston, South Carolina played host to this amazing event and the summer temperatures weren't the only thing that was blazing, the Melges 24 racing in Charleston Harbor was equally electric. After two days of excitement, Jeff Duval on *Doc Holiday* overtook Charleston local John Lucas on *Spray* for the win. Check out these very cool photos courtesy of Rick Greyson Photography.

If you like what you see above, please contact Rick Greyson via email at info@rickphotos.com for more information about where you can obtain prints and view the entire collection online.



VOLVO MELGES 24 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

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21-23 September
Bay View Yacht Club
Detroit, Michigan ★ USA
melges24racing.com/nationals

Another chapter...

has been written in the grand success of the Melges 24 in the USA. The U.S. Melges 24 Class Association's (USMCA) National Championship has officially set an all-time, record-breaking participation level with 54 entries (as of September 10). Considered the darling of the high-performance yachting world, the Melges 24 continues to set the standard by which all strive to achieve. It transcends the many levels of sailing as it is fun, easy to sail and fast. The fact that the who's who of sailing can often be found at the helm of this formula vehicle is just a mere bonus.



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The National Championship, title sponsored by car manufacturer Audi (audiusa.com), is the pinnacle of the International Melges 24's North American Ranking schedule. Competitors travel from near and far, as well as cross country boundaries to get their Melges 24 fix. Just as in proceeding years, 2007 will be a true international event with three competitors from Canada including Peter Hansen, Uri Saks and Marc Steyn; and one from the UK — none other than 2007 St. Petersburg NOOD Champion John Pollard. This will be a whirlwind tour of events for Pollard and his *Xcellent* crew. On Sunday, the last day of this event, they immediately head back to do the UK Nationals in an effort to defend his reigning title.

The remaining entries are from the United States representing all six USMCA districts, from sixteen states — California, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Michigan, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia and Washington. The field of talent is deep including 2006 Melges 24 National Champion Owner Scott Holmgren, 2003 National Champion Argyle Campbell, 2006 North American Champion Brian Porter, 2007 Newport Regatta Champion David Ford, Chuck Holzman, Jack Jennings, Mike Dow, John Podmajersky, Bill Carleton, Timothy O'Neill, Mike Krantz and Steven Kopf just to name a few.

The 2007 Audi Melges 24 U.S. National Championship kicks-off with a pre-nationals racing clinic featuring 2007 Melges 24 World Champion Dave Ullman with Ullman Sails (ullmansails.com) generously sponsored by Latis Yachting Solutions (latisyachting.com). Afterwards, a post-sailing debrief will follow. Racing will commence on Friday and conclude on Sunday with an awards ceremony and prize giving.

Regatta Chair, Paul Hulsey and his team of event organizers have been hard at work on this event for many months and promise an event to remember. A very special thanks to Paul, the Bayview Yacht Club and title sponsor Audi. Additional thanks goes to all other event sponsors including Barefoot Wine (barefootwine.com), Betersailing.com (www.betersailing.com), Rock City Marine (rockcitymarine.com), Tim Wilkes Photography (timwilkes.com), Head Injury Media (headinjurymedia.com) and Yacht Scoring (yachtscoring.com).

The official website for the 2007 Audi Melges 24 U.S. National Championship is melges24racing.com/nationals. Daily reports and results will be available at this site as well as the USMCA site, usmelges24.com.

Do these photos look familiar? **Tim Wilkes** produced these amazing images at the 2005 Corum Melges 24 World Championship in Ocean Reef. Be on the look out for more high-powered photos as we'll take a ride on the wild side with Tim at Nationals when he captures the victory, drama and the achievement of the championship. His photos have been published around the world from youth to world championships; from famous ACURA Key West to the newly established Miami Grand Prix. Tim's unique eye and ability to deliver some of the most amazing yachting photographs will be hard at work — so whether you are upwind or downwind, don't forget to smile! He will be onsite each day of the event and will be posting photos to his web site for purchase at timwilkes.com.

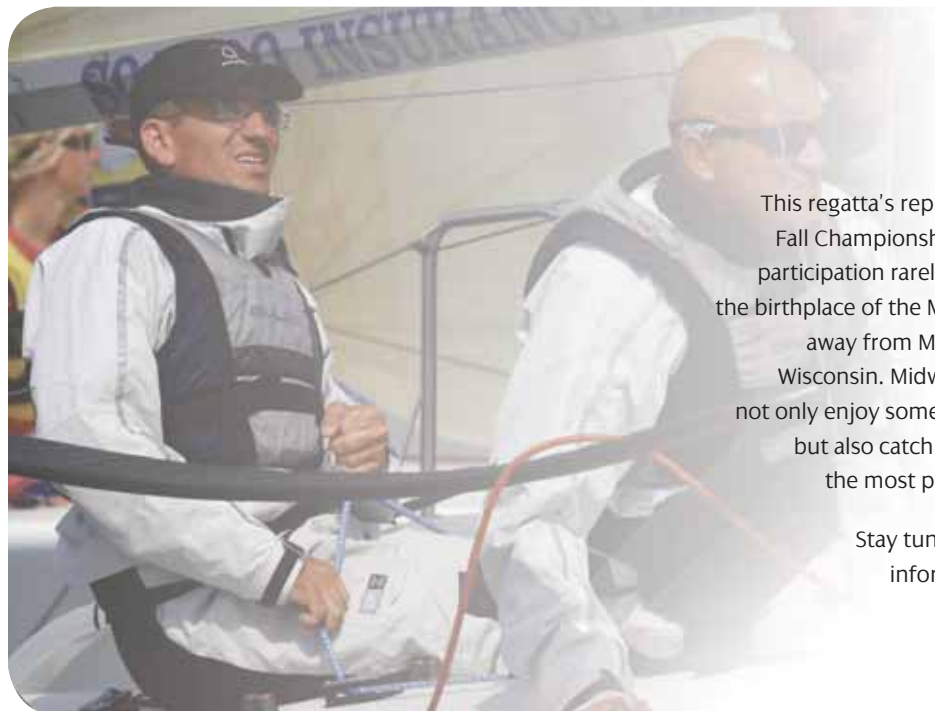
MIDWEST SPOTLIGHT. The Melges 24 in the Midwest is the largest of all six districts in the U.S. — the 2007 Audi Melges 24 U.S. National Championship is full-blown proof. Each year, this region boasts a host of very cool events including the Muskegon Regatta held in May. It is not unusual to see more than 25-30 participating and at a minimum for other events the level of participation ranges from 10-15. This boat is hot in the Midwest!

CELEBRATED GUIDANCE. Leadership is key for fleet growth and the Midwest, for as long as some of us can remember has been successfully guided by Mike Dow, Midwest District Governor. He is a perfect example of the enthusiasm and spirit that makes the Melges 24 the absolute best! To learn more and/or get involved with the Melges 24 in the Midwest contact Mike Dow on email at mdow@chartermi.net.



How cool is this? These Melges 24s are lined up and ready to race at the Muskegon Yacht Club in Muskegon, Michigan.

2007 Lake Geneva Fall Championship



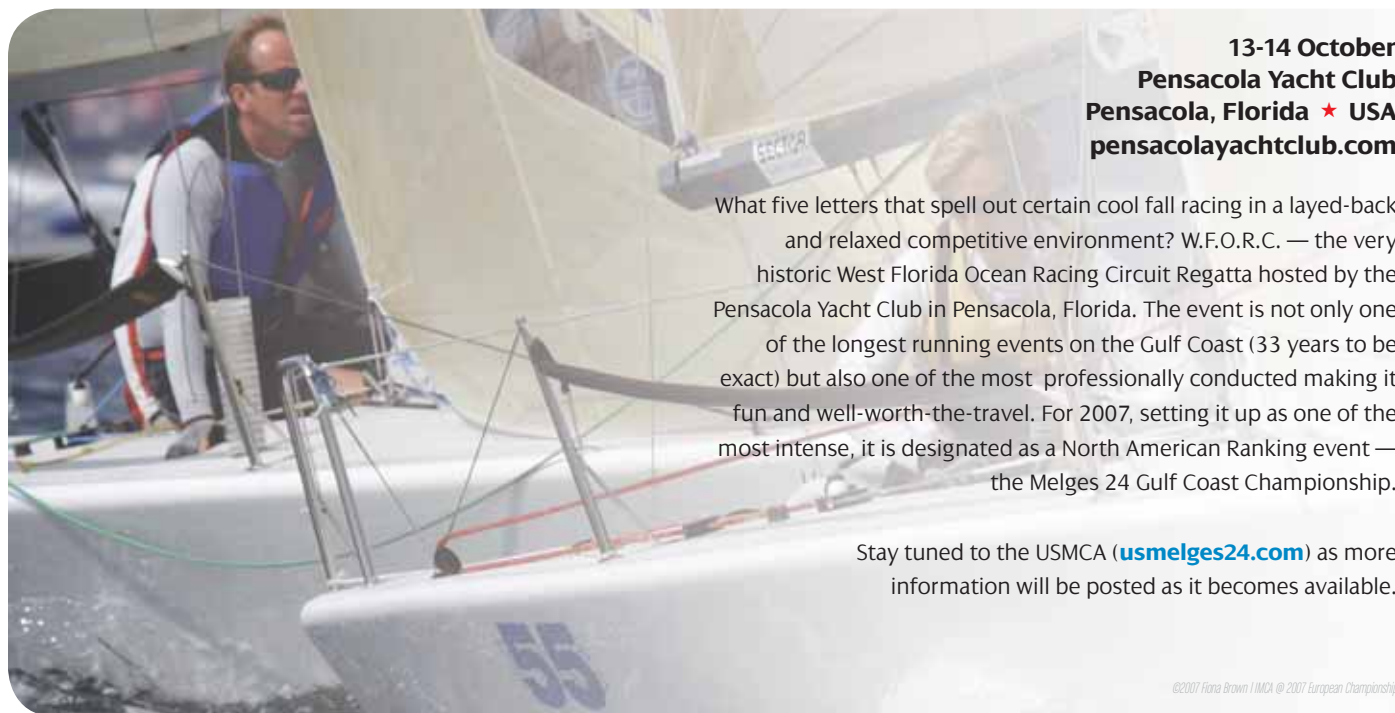
6-7 October
Lake Geneva Yacht Club
Lake Geneva, Wisconsin ★ USA
lgyc.com

This regatta's reputation proceeds itself. The 2007 Lake Geneva Fall Championship takes place every year in early October, the participation rarely falls below twenty-five boats. Best known as the birthplace of the Melges 24, Lake Geneva is located just minutes away from Melges Performance Sailboats in famous Zenda, Wisconsin. Midwest boats as well as international competitors not only enjoy some great racing at this prime time of the season, but also catch the changing of the leaves. It serves as one of the most picturesque backdrops for this legendary racer.

Stay tuned to the USMCA (usmelges24.com) as more information will be posted as it becomes available.

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2007 WFORC | Melges 24 Gulf Coast Championship



13-14 October
Pensacola Yacht Club
Pensacola, Florida ★ USA
pensacolayachtclub.com

What five letters that spell out certain cool fall racing in a laid-back and relaxed competitive environment? W.F.O.R.C. — the very historic West Florida Ocean Racing Circuit Regatta hosted by the Pensacola Yacht Club in Pensacola, Florida. The event is not only one of the longest running events on the Gulf Coast (33 years to be exact) but also one of the most professionally conducted making it fun and well-worth-the-travel. For 2007, setting it up as one of the most intense, it is designated as a North American Ranking event — the Melges 24 Gulf Coast Championship.

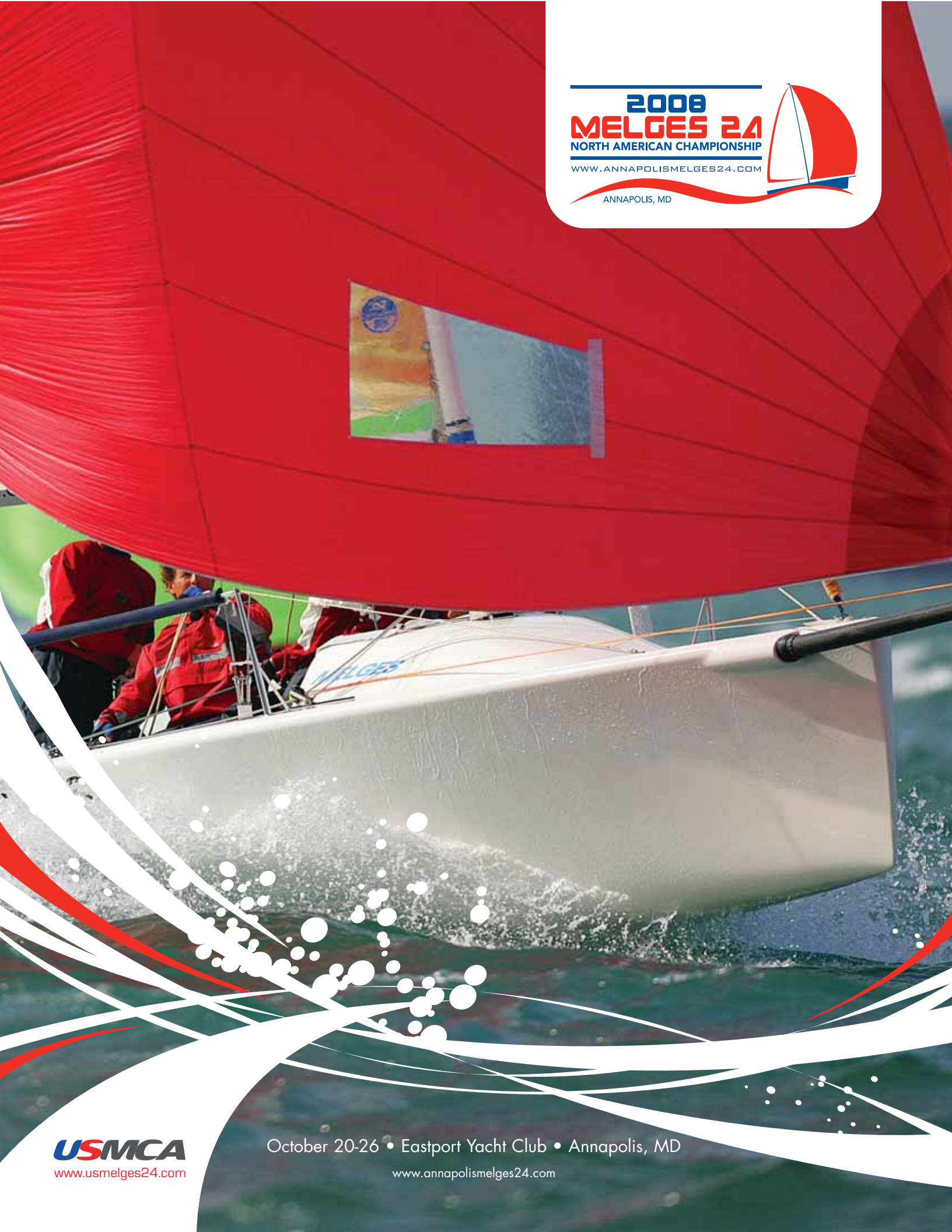
Stay tuned to the USMCA (usmelges24.com) as more information will be posted as it becomes available.

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2008
MELGES 24
NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP

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October 20-26 • Eastport Yacht Club • Annapolis, MD

www.annapolismelges24.com

2007 King's Day Regatta | Melges 24 Atlantic Coast Championship

16-18 November
Florida Yacht Club
Jacksonville, Florida ★ USA
thefloridayachtclub.org

Last year the Melges 24 class took over the Florida Yacht Club (thefloridayachtclub.com) as what would have traditionally been the Kings Day Regatta | Atlantic Coast Championship became the 2006 Nationals. This is not just a venue, it's an experience. Each year more than forty Melges 24s make their way to this event as it is the perfect wind down to an awesome year of racing. FYC, many times over has rolled out the red carpet for the class, delivered superior race management and hospitality. It is also becoming commonplace to see our international counterparts visiting the event as they too are heading to Key West and want to squeeze in just one more regatta before heading further south in January. The level of competition is stiff, therefore it offers a nice warm-up to what lies ahead, not only in Key West, but also St. Petersburg at the Sperry Top-Sider NOOD.

The NOR is now available online at the FYC Web site (thefloridayachtclub.com). Stay tuned to the USMCA (usmelges24.com) as more information will be posted as it becomes available.



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So Fast It Makes You Smile.

Photo by Sharon Green/ www.ultimatesailing.com

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AP Spinnaker & Blast Reacher

2007 World Champions Team Pegasus 505

ULLMAN SAILS VICTORY LIST

2007 World Champs: 1st (won 5 races)
2007 Pacific Coast Champs: 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 6th
2006 Key West Race Week: 1st
2005 World Champs: 1st



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Acura Key West 2008



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January 21 – 25, 2008 Details and Logistics www.Premiere-Racing.com

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2007-2008 U.S. Event Schedule

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	CONTACT
2007 NORTH AMERICAN RANKING EVENTS			
9/21 - 9/23	2007 Melges 24 U.S. National Championship	Detroit, MI	Paul Hulsey • Phulsey@comcast.net
10/06 - 10/07	Lake Geneva Fall Championship	Lake Geneva, WI	Andy Burdick • andy@melges.com
10/13 - 10/14	Melges 24 Gulf Coast Championship/WFORC (West Florida Ocean Racing Circuit)	Pensacola, FL	Reid Collins • rcollins@northhighland.com
10/19 - 10/21	2007 Melges 24 Northeast District Championship/Chesapeake Cup	Annapolis, MD	Bill Carleton • m24tiburong@gmail.com
11/16 - 11/18	Atlantic Coast Championship/King's Day Regatta	Jacksonville, FL	Reid Collins • rcollins@northhighland.com
2007 REGATTAS			
10/13 - 10/14	PSSC/Fleet Championships	TBD	Paul Bennett • paul_bennett@k2sports.com
10/20 - 10/21	Leukemia Cup	Austin, TX	Bryan Bayerdorffer • bryan@meatspace.net
10/27 - 10/28	Melbourne Race Week	Melbourne, FL	Reid Collins • rcollins@northhighland.com
11/02 - 11/04	2007 Melges 24 Pacific Northwest Grand Prix	TBD	Paul Bennett • paul_bennett@k2sports.com
12/08 - 12/09	Key Largo Regatta	Key Largo, FL	Jim Creaseman • jim@keylargorealtyinc.com
2008 NORTH AMERICAN RANKING EVENTS			
10/20 - 10/26	2008 Melges 24 North American Championship	Annapolis, MD	Bill Carleton • m24tiburong@gmail.com
2008 REGATTAS			
1/21 - 1/25	2008 Key West Race Week	Key West, FL	Reid Collins • rcollins@northhighland.com
2/15 - 2/18	2008 Sperry Top-Sider St. Petersburg NOOD	St. Petersburg, FL	Reid Collins • rcollins@northhighland.com
4/17 - 4/20	2008 Charleston Race Week	Charleston, SC	Brad Van Liew • bvanliew@scmaritime.org
4/18 - 4/20	2008 Texoma Lakefest Regatta	Denison, TX	Matt Mayo • mamayo@flash.net
5/28 - 6/9	2008 Volvo Melges 24 World Championship	Yacht Club Costa Smeralda, Porto Cervo, Italy	www.melges24.com

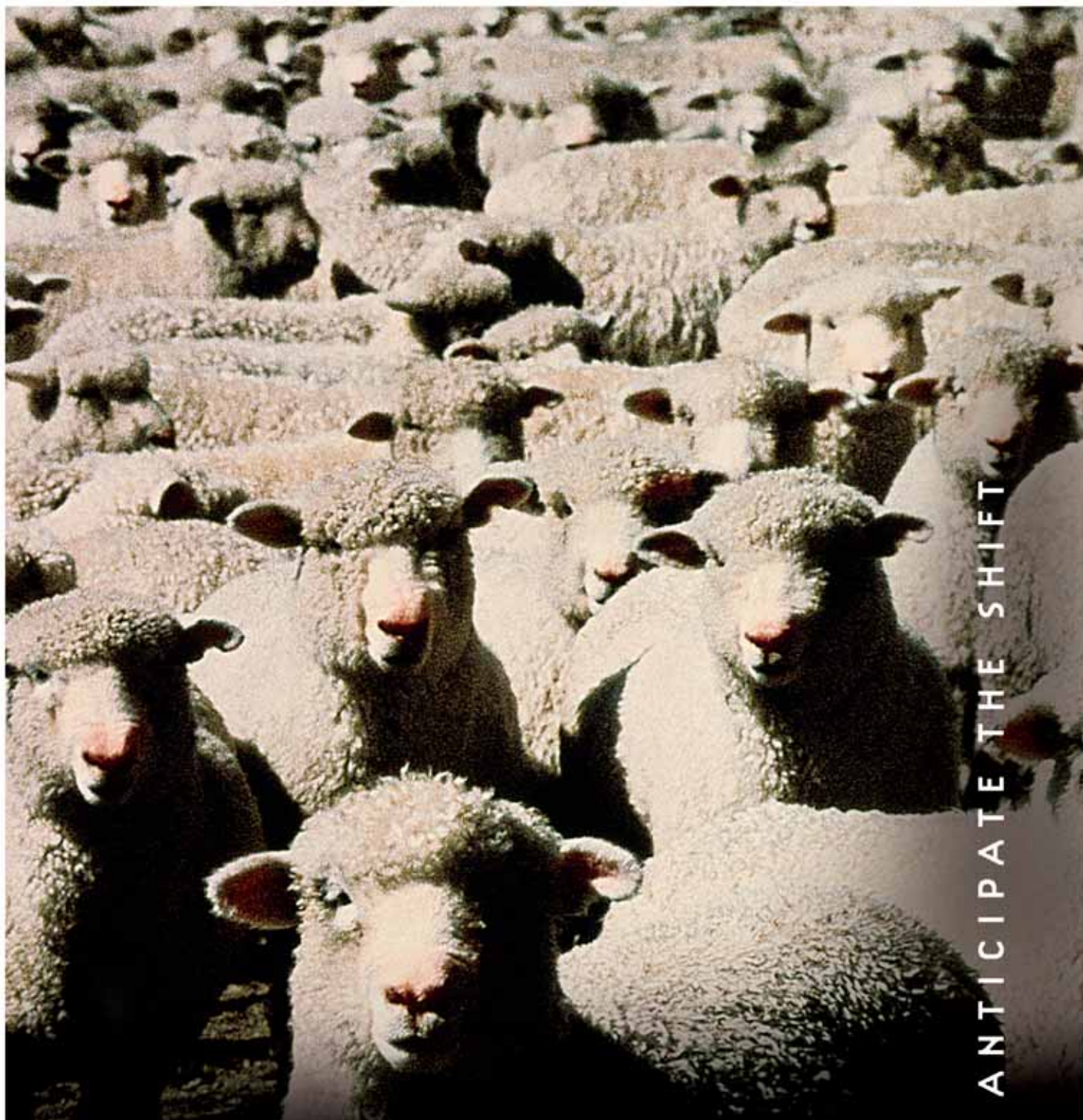
For a full listing of 2007-2008 U.S. Melges 24 events, visit www.usmelges24.com International events can be found at www.melges24.com.

2007 Hall of Fame

ACURA Key West Race Week*	Riccardo Simoneschi (ITA)	Sperry Top-Sider Detroit NOOD*	John Podmajersky (USA)
St. Petersburg NOOD*	John Pollard (GBR)	2007 Ullman Sails Race Week	David Ullman (USA)
Charleston Race Week	Simon Strauss (USA)	2007 Newport Regatta	David Ford (USA)
Pacific Coast Championship*	Brian Porter (USA)	2007 Gold Cup*	Jeff Duval (USA)
2007 Fullpower Melges 24 World Championship*	David Ullman (USA)	*North American/World Ranking Points Events	

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Andy Burdick, Melges Performance Sailboats	USMCA Builder Consultant consultant@usmelges24.com	GULF COAST:	Matt Mayo • mamayo@flash.net
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