

High school Gold fleet starts under turbulent skies on last day of Rose Bowl Regatta



Jan. 5-6, 2013

Host club: Alamitos Bay Yacht Club Host school: USC Varsity Sailing Team Organized by U.S. Sailing Center, Long Beach

Jan. 6, 2013

Sunday's weather: Wind 11k SW-W; temp. 60-55 F.

Stanford sailors come up roses, too; Point Loma powers to 7th RB Regatta win

LONG BEACH, Calif.

Contrary to forecasts, there was no precipitation on the windup of the 28th annual Rose Bowl Regatta Sunday ... except for more roses raining down on Stanford University's sailors after they came from behind to steal the championship from College of Charleston.

Even the Cardinal football team didn't make it that dramatic in stuffing Wisconson, 20-14, in the Rose Bowl football game four days earlier. The sailors had to make up 13 points in only four races to overtake the Cougars from South Carolina, which they did with finishes of 11th



Point Loma's varsity team -- 7 consecutive Rose Bowl wins



A come-from-behind victory for the Stanford Cardinal

(oops), second, third and first among 30 teams.

No less impressive, though, was Point Loma's 21-point runaway over perennial rivals Newport Harbor and Cathedral of San Diego, who shared second place in the 28-team high school Gold division---the Pointers' seventh consecutive title in the event.

The worst news for frustrated rivals: the four Varsity sailors---Kevin Laube, Kiernan Chung, Haley Kirk and Michelle Catania---are a junior, two sophomores and a freshman, in that order.

The Port of Los Angeles/Rancho Palos Verdes team won the 32-team high school Silver division.

It was a chilly but picturesque day with a bright sun ducking in and out of large lumbering clouds, pushed along by a shifty 11-knot westerly breeze stirring modest whitecaps, and a silhouette of Santa Catalina Island 22 miles offshore.

In swapping boats after each two races, some teams---notably perennial high school Gold winner Point Loma from San Diego---also went to their heavyweight crews as the breeze built in the early afternoon. That would be Greer Wattson replacing Rebecca McElvain with skipper Scott Sinks and Trevor Hecht replacing Mercedes McPhee with skipper A.J. Reiter.

The added ballast apparently helped.

Like Stanford, even all of Charleston's crew from South Carolina were Southern California products, as were several other of the east coast schools' competitors. Charleston's A team was skipper Jake Reynolds with crew Katie Dowling; its B crew was alternating skippers Jack Jorgensen and Ryan Davidson with crew Kyle Sutter.

"[Charleston] had a good lead but we were pretty confident," Laube said. "We made up about 20 points in the last race."



Charleston holds off Stanford



Charleston (r.) leads Stanford and Fordham at last mark



Spectators sight down the start line from Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier



Roger Williams U. in front



Point Loma HS on way to another Rose Bowl win

Overall, Stanford finished with 67 points to Charleston's 85, followed by defending champion Boston College at 107, No. 1-ranked Georgetown, 111, and Fordham, 115.

Point Loma's unrivaled success in recent years has been under coach Steve Hunt, 37, whose team of 33 sailors runs so deep that he also entered two junior varsity teams, one of which placed eighth, led by Will LaDow, who won his class at the Orange Bowl Regatta in Florida a week earlier.

How long can the Pointers go on like this?

"I think success breeds success," Hunt said. "It's the largest team I've had. We get 15 boats on the water in practice."

The college and high school Gold fleets sailed two-person 13-foot CFJ dinghies off the Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier in the Long Beach outer harbor. The high school Silver fleet raced inside Alamitos Bay. Each team had two crews that alternated after every two races.

The event was based at the Alamitos Bay Yacht Club, hosted by the USC Sailing Team and organized by the US Sailing Center of Long Beach.

Complete results

The US Sailing Center, once envisioned solely as a training site to help sailors fulfill their Olympic dreams, has developed into a center of training for sailors of every ability, from developmental clinics and hosting of world-class regattas to coaching area high schools and the USC collegiate sailing team. Programs also include Youth At-Risk activities, Learn-to-Sail classes for all ages and disabled sailing opportunities through the center's own Disabled Sailing Association. Learn more

Regatta information

2011-2012 Roy E. Disney Trophy high school standings

Inter-Collegiate Sailing Association team



Cal State Long Beach sailed well in home waters

<u>Hi-res downloadable</u> <u>photo gallery</u>

rankings, all-Americans and more

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