

Brosted Is New European Champion

Danish sailor survives rugged weather, bests 51-boat fleet

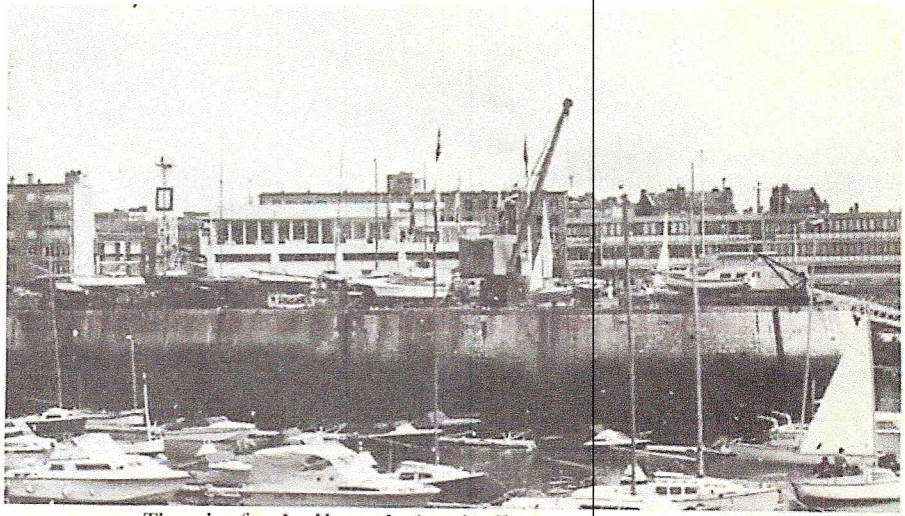
Secretary General for Europe and Africa Arturo Delgado prepared an account of the European and African Championship in Spanish and sent it to Gonzalo Diaz for translation for use in the Snipe BULLETIN. Thanks to both Arturo and Gonzalo for their help to us.

The best European Snipe skippers competed for the Championship held August 30 through September 5 at the mouth of the Sena River at Le Havre, France. The top three places were a replay of the 1973 World Championship — only Denmark's Per Brosted was winner over Felix Gancedo of Spain, who was this year's runner-up, Eric Thorsell, Sweden, was third. The top five skippers represented five different nations with Matti Nieminen, Finland, 4th, and Neil Martin, Great Britain, 5th. Other countries represented in the 51 boat fleet were Belgium, France, Italy, Norway, Portugal, and Jugoslavia.

River current added to a tide which rises and falls 12 meters, made sailing conditions difficult. In spite of the many efforts of the regatta committee, races were not perfect, with some poor starting lines, and some courses over rocks, etc. The weather conditions did not make the committee's job any easier.

Race one had winds of force 4 with no big waves. Felix won followed by Brosted, Thorsell, and Strombeck and Pettersson, both from Sweden. In the second race, back-to-back with the first, winds were force 2 - 3, but with more waves. The finishers were Nieminen, Brosted, Thorsell and Gancedo. After the first day it was established that there would be a tight race between these top four boats.

High waves, and winds force 6 and stronger, cancelled the races for the second day. The following day conditions were still rough. The race committee decided to try a course inside the bay for protection. This brought the need to tack toward the coast, against the current, and through the rocks. Snipes looked like racing cars. It was not possible to go 50



The wharf at Le Havre during the European Championship.

meters from shore without suffering in the strong current. In this narrow navigable strip, there was not enough room for 51 participating boats. It was a record breaking day for protests and boats dropping out of the race.

The winner of the third race was Brosted, second Jacobsen also from Denmark, third Thorsell, and fourth Meyvis from Belgium. Gancedo finished sixth.

The fourth race was also held on the "rocky course", even though the sea was calm and the protection of the bay was not needed. Martin from England won, followed by Thorsell, Gancedo, Lorentzen of Denmark, and Strombeck.

On the next to last day the winds were force 3 and the sea was wavy. Lindholm of Finland captured the fifth race, followed by Brosted, Graux of Belgium, Zendrera of Spain and Carpelan of Finland. Gancedo took sixth.

On the last day Brosted had the championship in his pocket, but nerves played a role in the seventh race. He had a bad start, completing the first triangle in 33rd place, while Gancedo was first. Emotions were red hot during the whole race as the Dane, demonstrating his sailing abilities, gained place after place, finishing in eleventh, and winning the

title of European Champion. The race was won by Gancedo, followed by Nieminen, Sinding-Larsen of Norway, Thorsell and Peterson.

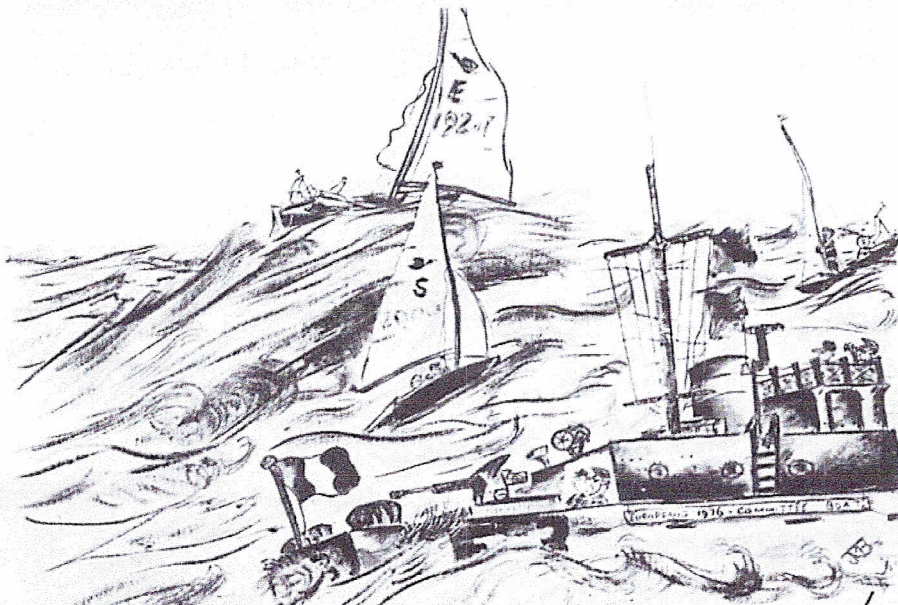
The new champion was very fast, basing his triumph on his speed rather than exceptional techniques. Felix was not in shape for the Snipe after his Olympic effort in the Tempest.

Equipment used by the top finishers: Brosted: "long" Skipper with Cobra mast and Green sails. Gancedo: "short" Skipper, Bruder mast and Ullman sails. Thorsell: "short" Skipper, Skipper mast, and North sails. Nieminen: Finland hull, Proctor mast (section and finishing like the Cobra), and Nimiranta sails. Martin: Skipper (English made), Needlespar mast, and North sails. Other equipment used included some wooden hulls, Scorpion masts, Piccolo and Omega sails, and various other equipment.

SCIRA Secretary General for Europe and Africa, Arturo Delgado, was re-elected at the secretaries' meeting. He expressed appreciation for the great effort, interest and concern given the championship by SCIRA France, and the regatta committee from the Societe des Regates du Havre. This great effort should favor the expansion of the Snipe Class in France.

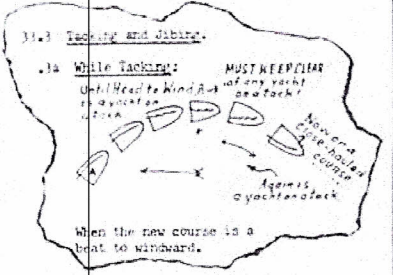
EUROPEAN AND AFRICAN CHAMPIONSHIP

Skipper/Crew	Country	Points	Finish
Brosted/Skotte	Denmark	30	1
Gancedo/Bernal	Spain	37.1	2
Thorsell/Nordwall	Sweden	46.1	3
Nieminen/Ajanko	Finland	53.1	4
Martin/Stanley	England	81	5
Carpelan/Sourtti	Finland	82.7	6
Petterson/Halvor	Sweden	85	7
Holmstrom/Nippala	Finland	95	8
Sinding-Larsen/Hansen	Norway	98.7	9
Strombeck/Edsparr	Sweden	100	10
Lindholm/Lindholm	Finland	109	11
Hogberg/Otterlei	Norway	111	12
Zendreras/Anglada	Spain	119	13
Brezich/Napp	Italy	121.7	14
Gilborne/Larsson	Sweden	127	15
Jokobsen/Laursen	Denmark	129	16
Anderson/Engstro	Sweden	132.7	17
Bjurstrom/Vasstrom	Finland	134	18
Graux/Wagemans	Belgium	138.7	19
Lkonen/Virtanen	Finland	139	20
Lorentzen/Fossum	Denmark	143	21
Eliasson/Berhander	Sweden	146	22
Meyvis/Everaert	Belgium	151	23
Domingos/Mme Domingos	Portugal	159	24
Lewis/McGregor	England	172	25
Bak/Pedersen	Denmark	172	26
Borralho/Goncalves	Portugal	172	27
Masso/Lago	Spain	181	28
Lachapelle/Mlle Lippert	Belgium	187	29
Alapont/Botella	Spain	188	30
Durand/Laster	France	191	31
Villen/Garcia	Spain	200	32
Elleboudt/Degryse	Belgium	210	33
Hanssen/Mlle Eriksud	Norway	213	34
Kunnari/Lindholm	Finland	226	35
Gazet duChatelier/Mme Masini	France	230	36
Cenic/Lippe	Yugoslavia	243	37
Wright/Chapman	England	243	38
Gaja/Mme Gaja	Italy	245	39
Uthuralt/Martien	France	251	40
Basilio/Pacheco	Portugal	252	41
Davies/Garfield	England	258	42
Etcheber/Benessis	France	263	43
Romain/Mme Romain	France	272	44
Lamarque/Mlle Morin	France	277	45
Farrar/Mlle Beckett	England	289	46
Douglas/Thorogood	England	297	47
Monstad/Husebye	Norway	307	48
Decaix/Le Bour	France	320	49
Trois/Staniero	Italy	324	50
Orlando/Orlando	Italy	342	51



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