# YAMAHA MOTOR NEWS

1989 No. 4

**MAYAMAHA** 

Yamaha Motor Co., Ltd. PUBLIC RELATIONS DIVISION., 2500 Shingai, Iwata-shi, Shizuoka-ken, Japan Tel: 0538 (32) 1145 Telex: Iwata 4263-751 Yamaha J Fax.0538 (37) 4250



# Japanese actress stands up North Pole

Yamaha Snowmobiles help get them there

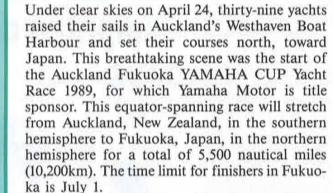
The Japanese actress, Miss Masako Izumi, and a 4-member expedition who set out to reach the North Pole with Yamaha snowmobiles, finally reached her goal at 12:20 a.m. local time on May 10.

It was 62 adventure-packed days since the expedition, which included two experienced Eskimo guides, left their base camp in Resolute, Canada, This success makes Masako's the 16th

expedition since 1909 to reach the Pole by crossing the ice of the Arctic Sea. Masako made her first attempt to reach the North Pole 4 years ago in 1985. That time ice conditions were poor and she was forced to give up the attempt just 148km from her goal.

This time she left Canada's northernmost point, Ward Hunt Island, on March 10 aboard a sled pulled by two Yamaha snowmobiles. Despite trials with rough ice fields, deep snow and leads, the expedition finally achieved its difficult and elusive goal.

Congraturations on a successful expedition! (Details will follow in our next issue)



Among the 39 entries from New Zealand, Japan, Australia, the U.S., France, Holland, Britain, Sweden and Poland, 12 will complete in the racer group and the remaining 27 in the cruiser group as the race progress through three legs from Auckland to Suva (Fiji), Suva to Guam and Guam to Fukuoka. Other Yamaha-sponsored offshore yachting events include a Single-handed Trans-

Pacific Yacht Race from San Francisco, California to Koajiro, Japan in 1975 and the Melbourne/Osaka Double-handed Yacht Race 1987 from Australia to Osaka, Japan in 1987.

Many visitors came out to see the assenbled yachts.

These events are a manifestation of Yamaha's corporate philosophy of "offering joy and fulfillment to people all over the world"; in this case through the spread of marine sports. In the future, these efforts will continue through the sponsoring of such events as the coming Melbourne/Osaka Double-handed Yacht Race 1991 and support of the first Asian entry in the America's Cup, the Nippon Challenge America's Cup 1991.

# NEWS ROUND-ONE

Thanks for all your letters. We're receiving wonderful letters with interesting topics for Yamaha Motor News from all over the world and every letter we get helps us bring you a more informative and more useful Yamaha Motor News.

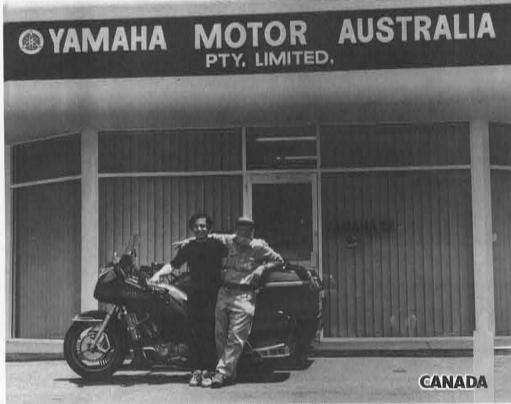
So, please keep the letters coming.

#### 76 year-young man tours Oceania on Venture Royale

hirley Alex of Alberta, Canada sent us a letter telling about her 37,000km tour of Australia with 76 year-young Walt Healy. Walt's love affair with the motorcycle covers nearly 6 decades in the business and he is now the owner of his own dealership, Walt Healy Yamaha in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Last October he shipped his favorite '86 model Venture Royale and a Hannigan Sidecar to Australia to begin one of the greatest adventures of his long cycling life, a three month tour of the Australian continent and the islands of Tasmania, Phillip and Kangaroo.

Needless to say the Venture Royale/Hannigan rig drew second looks wherever they went. And the touring pair drew the attention of the Australian media, as well. Before they left Australia, it started a snowball of media attention that included 5 newspaper and 2 magazine stories and coverage on National Television on three occasions plus a human interest story on Channel 9 TV in Perth. Despite the distances and grueling heat of the continent-wide tour, Walt reports that he had no mechanical trouble with his Venture Royale.

Then, as if 37,000km of touring wasn't enough, Walt and Shirley hopped over to New Zealand to tour both the North and South Islands on a 500 Virago provided by Graeme Crosby of Crosby Motorcycles in Auckland. As you probably know, Graeme is a longtime GP rider and a local motorcycling celebrity in his own right.



Mr. Healy (right) in front of YMA.

Campaign donates seeing-eye JAPAN

dogs

VESS, Yamaha's user/dealer organization, has initiated a new campaign based on the con-



ESS, Yamaha's user/dealer organization, has initiated a new campaign based on the concept that if the motorcycle is our beloved partner in the world of transportation, then the guide dog is surely the best possible companion a blind person can have for getting around in his world. The resulting "Give a guide dog" campaign began on April 20 and will run for 8 months, ending on November 30.

The campaign involves displaying a campaign poster and contribution box in the shop window and setting up a contribution corner in each YESS Shop. Fund raising activities will also be carried out actively at the YESS booths at national motor sports events. From July 1 to August 31, a "give a guide dog a nickname" campaign will also be conducted so that the dogs funded by the campaign will take a new name with them when they are presented to their new owners.

The money raised by the campaign will be presented to the Japan Guide Dog Association in the middle of December to be used for the buying and training of new seeing-eye dogs.

← The campaign poster

### Yamaha engines popular with spectators and competitors alike

hai Yamaha importer, Siam Yamaha,

delighted visitors at the Prengrajbam-

rung Temple Fair, on February 18, by

organizing some popular boat race ac-

tivities. More than 150 of the spectator's

boats were equipped with model MT110,

Yamaha multi-purpose engines as their pow-

er units. The participants were able to choose between three race categories;
• duckling class using standard engines.

· speedboat class using standard engines.

speedboat class for free style engines.



# Promoting marine sports for youth

-MiniHopper Class Junior Champions Regatta

ver a three day period from March 31 to April 2, the 7th edition of the MiniHopper Class Junior Champions Regatta was held at Seaside Momochi in Fukuoka, Kyushu. The event drew 77 elementary, junior high and high school age members from the 14 regional Junior Yacht Clubs around Japan, the largest attendance in the history of this Regatta.

Having the co-sponsorship of the grand-scale Expo, "Asian-Pacific Exposition - Fukuoka '89", a large number of Expo visitors had a chance to see these young sailors in action. The result was a very successful appeal for marine sports for the young.

Overall, strong winds made the course conditions rather difficult, but that only served to make it a better chance for the youthful participants to show off their hard-earned sailing skills.

# Yamaha surface mounters position themselves in the market



Yamaha display in Taiwan.

amaha Motor's Industrial Machinery Division took the opportunity of the '89 Electronic Electro Show, held in Taiwan from February 22 - 26, to display its surface mounter models YM3000V and YM6020S. In the midst of Taiwan's phenomenal economic growth in recent years, the demand for Yamaha surface mounters has been on the rise. This marks the third time that Taiwan's Yamaha agent, Ekpac Electronics Ltd. has displayed Yamaha surface mounters in Taiwan, and already they have established a name and a reputation for themselves. In fact, all the machines displayed at this show were sold on the first day, and many inquiries followed.

Following Taiwan, the YM6020S was displayed in Korea at the '89 Nepcon Korea show from March 30 to April 1. This was the first time Yamaha surface mounters were displayed in Korea, but from the beginning interest was high. Business will certainly get off to a good start here, as well.





# Istanbul hosts TURKEY international boat show

urla Makina Ticareti Ve Yatirim A.S., distributor of Yamaha marine products in Turkey, took advantage of one of the largest marine exhibitions ever to be held in Turkey, the Istanbul Boat Show, to display a proud line of Yamaha outboard motors and Water Vehicles.

Turkey's growing popularity among Mediterranean marine sports enthusiasts was reflected in the scale of this truely international trade show held at the Istanbul Hilton Convention and Exhibition center from March 17 - 26.

All manner of marine sporting goods from deluxe sailing cruisers and power-boats to inflatables, water skiing, board-sailing and skin diving equipment by the world's most respected makers were on display. And in this midst, visitor attention was drawn to Burla Makina's display of reliable Yamaha outboards and those exciting new trailblazers of marine sport, the Yamaha Water Vehicles.

# Mini-bike races expand to nationwide scale —"Tech 21 No.1 Cup" Series ast season YESS, began holding minibike races on a nationwide scale under the title "YESS No. 1 Cup" Series. This year, the popular series has acquired a new title sponsor, Shiseido Co., Ltd. and the schedule has been expanded to include 232 events across the

nation under the title of Shiseido's male cosmetics line, Tech 21. The "Tech 21 No. 1

Cup" Series this season will give riders a chance to compete through regional meets to win a spot on the starting line of the Grand Championship Meet and go for the title of "No. 1" in Japan.

The series will be organized with a TDR Superbiker's class, TDR Ladies' class, YSR minibike race class and YSR Ladies' class. The Grand Championship Meet is scheduled to be held in November and will

JAPAN

feature awards for not only the fastest finisher but for other categories such as "best riding", "best performance" and "safest rider", as well. As special guests, Yamaha factory riders are also scheduled to participate in the final races.

## Yamaha outboards behind a variety of fisheries Letter from a reader

ustralian boat builder, Kevlacat Pty. Ltd. (P.O. Box 234, Buddina, Queensland 4575) sent a letter recently thanking YMC for the latest issue of Yamaha Public Relations Division's "Fishery Journal", a quarterly publication aimed at fisheries promotion all over the world.

The letter included a brochure of their fishing boats which are popular locally for a variety fishing operations including crabbing, prawning, abalone diving and sport fishing.

As you can see from the photo, when Kevlacat advertizes its boats, it uses reliable, high-performance Yamaha outboards.

#### Yamaha, anyway you read it

ou may remember a picture recently carried in Yamaha Motor News of a U.S. sales representative's licence plate that had been specially chosen to read "PTO ATV". Well, it seems he is not the only one to use this simple and effective advertizing method. Here is a photo of the license plate of the delivery truck of Yalley Sales & Service Ltd. in New Brunswick, reading "YAMAHA".



And elsewhere, a Yamaha bus was seen in Summit Adventure Park, Colorado, U.S.A., with "YAMAHA" spelled out backwards on its front so that it could be read in the rearview mirror of the car in front of it. Now there is an idea





#### **New sports moped debuts at Dealers Meeting**

he picture here shows Siam Yamaha's Chairman, Dr. Thaworn Phornprapha (4th from the right), President Kasem Narongdej (3rd right) and Vice President Khunying Phornthip

Narongdej (7th right) surrounded by honorable guests including Mr. S. Arai, YMC's Director (5th right), on the occasion of Siam Yamaha's 10th Dealers Meeting on April 7 at the Ambassador City Jomtien in Pattaya. The meeting was highlighted by the debut of the company's new sports moped "Belle R". The new "Belle R" is an even sportier version of Siam Yamaha's existing sports moped, "Belle 100". This model

immediately became the center of attention of all in attendance. Many are already predicting that it will be the outstanding model of the coming season.



#### First help them discover the fun

# Feel the Spirit of Adv

A month before the release of the new XTZ750 Super Ténéré in Europe, Yamaha Motor Europe NV took journalists to Egypt from March 16 to 19 for a new kind of testride experience.

When the Super Ténéré was unveiled at the Paris Show last November, people's imagination was captured by its new concept of an "Adventure Sports Tourer". The appearance, the name and the new concept all served to inspire images of the Paris-Dakar Rally and entice motorcycle lovers with the romance of the open road and the spirit of adventure.

The testride event in Egypt was a brilliant and logical extension of this wave of interest and anticipation the new model has caused.

Following the outstanding success of this press testride, Yamaha Motor Europe has since announced plans for another Pan European promotion in Egypt. This time, in October '89, Yamaha Motor will take 65 Super Ténéré owners to Egypt with their own personal machines. The lucky riders will tour Egypt for two weeks alongside the Rally of the Pharaohs. These European customers will surely experience the true Spirit of Adventure.

#### Answering new needs from the market

The development of a new bike like the Super Ténéré does not, of course, come out of the blue. There were a number of specific market needs behind it.

Yamaha's market research revealed some interesting facts about recent trends in the way Europeans are spending their increased leisure time and income. For one thing, when it comes to travel, people are looking for adventure. They are no longer content with a package tour to some beach resort. Adventures that were once dreams, like a Safari in Africa or exploring Egyptian ruins, are now becoming reality for more and more people. Also, to escape the pressures of today's hectic business world, people are returning to nature. They want to experience the great outdoors.

These are the kind of market needs that led to the birth of the XTZ750 Super Ténéré. What people were asking for was a machine that combined the distance touring capabilities and comfort of the FJ1200 with the versatility of the highly-acclaimed and infinitely popular XT600Z Ténéré. The resulting "Super Ténéré" is a bike that closes the gap between the existing sport touring models and the off-road machine. The concept is captured in the words "Adventure \* Sport Touring". A set of wheels to take on . those windy mountain roads, to explore the . back country and to get you there and back . with style and sophistication.

Take the Super Ténéré off-road and it rides • with the feel of a bike with half the dis-

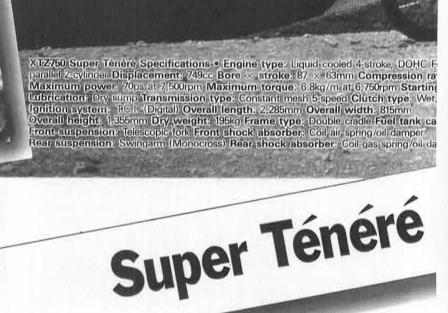
placement. On the road, it has the high . speed stability and cornering finesse of a state-of-the-art sports model. Its rider ergonomics are aimed to accomodate a wide range of body sizes and riding conditions. And the more up-right riding position makes for greater comfort and handling ease over a wide range of speeds and terrain. Then, take one look at its sporty styling and striking two-color finish and you know this machine is in a class by itself. .

#### An experience in true "Adventure Touring"

The aims of the unique testride event held for the Super Ténéré were:

- 1. To introduce this premier model for the '89 season through motorcycle magazine journalists as a way to ensure a smooth entrance into the market.
- 2. To instill a real understanding and vivid

As the Yamaha staff give the machines a last-minute check on the day of the testride, eager pressmen gather for a look



images of its development concept, "Adventure Sport Touring".

To give actual form to the impact created since the Paris Show unveiling by holding an impressive testride event just before the bikes were scheduled to appear in the retail shops.

Close to 50 journalists representing 41 publications from 11 countries took part in the event which was held in two sessions, the first on March 16/17 and the second on 18/19. The first group included journalists from France, Italy and Spain. The second drew journalists from Germany, Britain, Belgium, Switzerland, Holland, Austria, Sweden and Greece.

Leading the groups out on the road were Paris-Dakar stars Franco Picco of Belgarda Yamaha, Stephane Peterhansel of Sonauto Yamaha and Mr. Jean Claude Oliver, respected rider as well as Managing Director of Sonauto Yamaha.

#### One journalist, one bike: 700km in

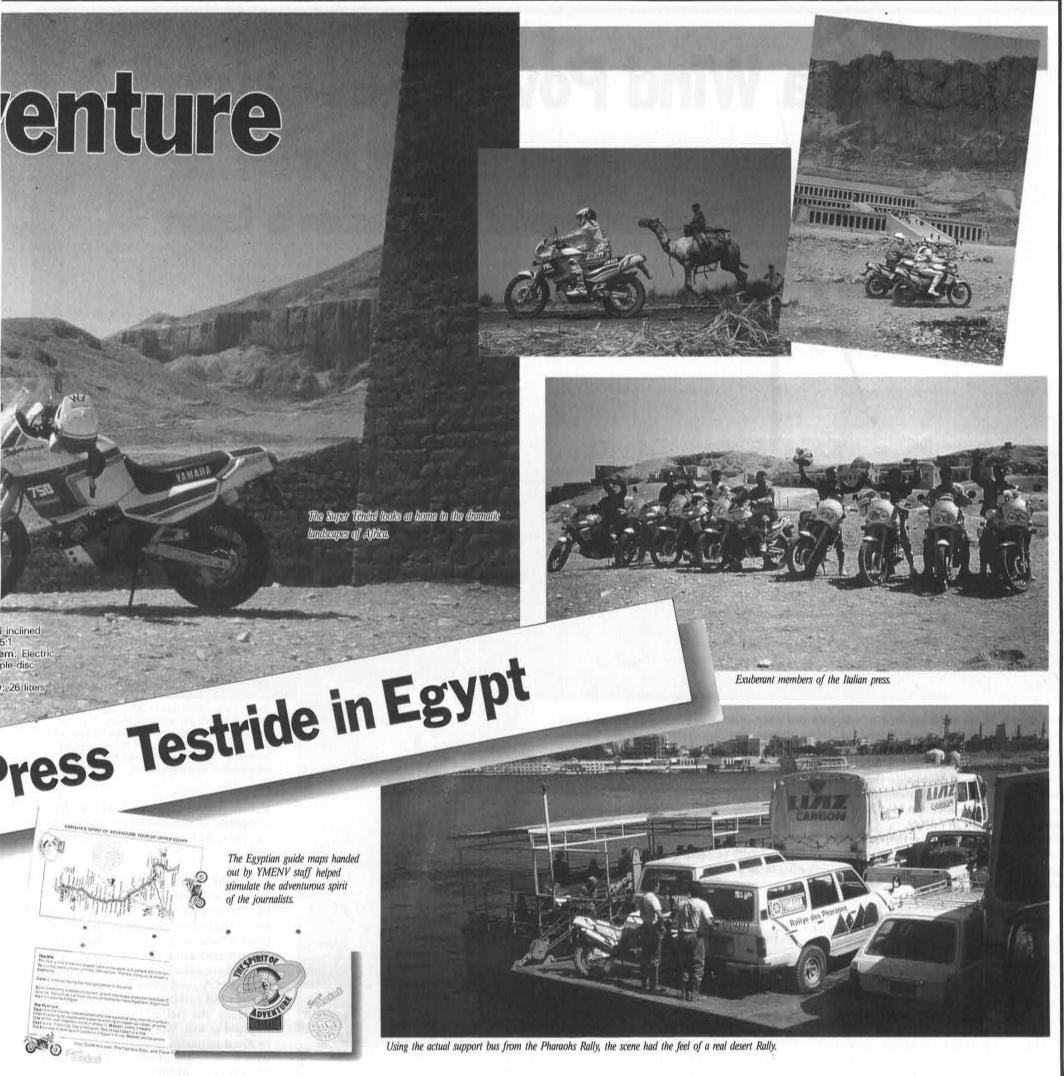
The itinerary for the first day included a testride and a photograph session. The testride course was a 500km round trip through the Egyptian desert from Luxor to the Red Sea.

With its history, its broad horizons and dramatic scenery, few places in the world can match Egypt for a sense of freedom and adventure. Its variety of roads also lent themselves perfectly to testing the performance capabilities of the Super Ténéré.

Indeed, Egypt was the perfect choice of places to launch one of the most exciting motorcycles ever built and to dramatize its design concept, "Adventure Sport Touring." Long, smooth miles of pavement cutting through the desert to the Red Sea gave the Super Ténéré a chance to stretch its legs. Then, on the winding back roads connecting some of the world's oldest and most spectacular historic sites, the rider could experience its outstanding maneuverability and feel the flexibility of the broad power-



Mr. Olivier seems to be very impressed with the Super Ténéré,



gine. This kind of cruising comfort and off-road versatility were two of the main \* criteria of the long and exacting development process. And the two long days in the saddle, exploring the wonders of Upper Egypt, gave the journalists a true taste of

band offered by the 750cc parallel twin en- \* what adventure touring and the Super Té- \* On the second day an explanation of the \* Throughout the time between the Paris nere are all about. With one bike per person the writers could enjoy high-speed . cruising on the pavement to their hearts' . content, and later spread out a picnic lunch . atop a rock outcropping in the middle of . the desert, free as a child at play.



Star rider of the desert rallies, Mr. Picco.



Young star rider from France, Peterhansel placed 4th in this year's Paris-Dakar Rally.

product concept was followed by 200km of testriding in the area of Luxor with its many archaeological wonders. Then the . schedule was capped off with a photograph session in the dramatic surroundings.

#### Won over by the "Adventure Tourer" concept

The press's response to this unique testride event was very positive.

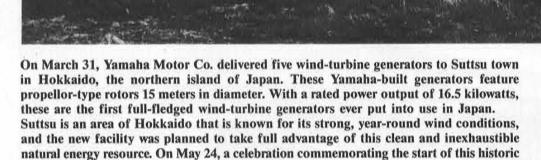
For, in it, they felt the confidence and enthusiasm within Yamaha for this new machine. There was a great sense of satisfaction in being able to ride for a full two days on a machine provided strictly for one's own use, and to do so in such a perfectly chosen place. As a result, the journalists gained a true understanding of what Yamaha means by "Adventure Sport Touring" and a full appreciation of how the Super Ténéré embodies that concept.

Show and the release on the market in mid-April, YMENV did its best to make sure that the impact of the Super Ténéré did not end as a pipe-dream. Their efforts were aimed at convincing the public that the Super Ténéré was more than just a flashy display at the Paris Show. It was the machine that you could actually get on and make your fondest motorcycling dreams come true. From the end of last year into early this year, a number of shorter testride events were held around Europe and many articles followed in the motorcycle press.

Then, as a climax to these PR efforts, came the Egypt testride event just before the mid-April release date. But it was not the timing alone, it was providing the right amount of riding time and number of testride machines, and choosing the right course, that made this event such a tremendous success.

# Yamaha Wind Power Research on a fair breeze

First successful application in Japan



The five wind-turbine generators in use at Suttsu are of the downwind type, with 2-blade rotor on a horizontal axis. Together they have the capacity to produce a rated power output of 82.5 kilowatts with the 5 turbines operating in an 8-meter/second wind. The maximum combined output is 102.5 kilowatts.

#### Japan's first wind-turbine generators for actual use

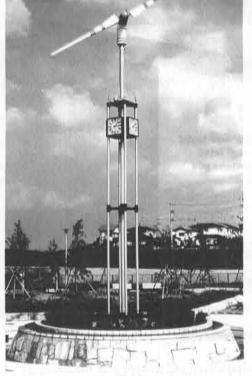
project was held in Suttsu.

The use of natural resources of energy to replace limited fossil fuel has become an issue of international proportions. YMC started to develop wind-turbine generators in 1981, and in 1982 it supplied a generator with a 6-meter diameter rotor to the MITI

The commemorative ceremony at Suttsu.

Mechanical Engineering Laboratory. This project was a part of the Sunshine Project that was created to promote the development of clean alternative energy technologies. In 1983 it supplied another 6-meter type generator to Shizuoka Prefecture as a local energy exhibit, and in the following two years it successfully developed 7- and 8-meter models. However, these were little more than experimental units or ones simply erected as local monuments. As mentioned above, the 15-meter generators which have been constructed in Suttsu are Japan's first wind-turbine generators for actual use, and have been authorized and inspected under MITI's Electricity Enterprises Act.

The immediate purpose of the new wind power plant in Suttsu will be to reduce electricity expenses of electric heaters used in the local junior high school. It is expected that the use of the wind-turbine generators will bring the school's annual electricity use down by about 35%. Qualifying as a model project for the development of regional energy resources under the program of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, half of the construction costs for the installation of these generators was provided by the national government. In the future the town plans to use the surplus power to heat sea water at a seed fish breeding



An existing monument-type Yamaha wind-turbine generator

center

Strong winds blow in Suttsu in all seasons, and the annual average wind speed is 5.9 meter/second. This wind will drive the 15-meter propeller type rotors with vigor to generate power.

#### Development of clean energies

In Japan, various companies have pursued the development of wind-turbine generators in the past, but at present there are only two companies which manufacture and sell such equipment on a commercial basis - Yamaha Motor and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd. This is because of the high level of technology involved in the process and the high manufacturing costs of such difficult projects. Despite these factors, Yamaha Motor is always aware of the needs of the times, and as one part of its business ac-

output of one generator with wind blowing at 8 meter/second is 16.5 kilowatt. The down-wind type turbine generators adopt a free yaw system in which the rotor automatically faces the wind direction, allowing it to work continuously at maximum efficiency.

Yamaha's wind-turbine plant in Suttsu. The rated power

tivities is continuing to work on the development of non-polluting energies, using the forces of nature as alternatives to fossil fuels.

Lately, the earth's environmental conditions have been changing and people worldwide have become more and more interested in protecting their environment. Since they use clean natural power, wind-turbine generators are now attracting much wider attention. There are about 17,000 such devices in the U.S.A., and some 1,500 in Denmark. Many wind-turbine generators are used in Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, and England as well. Yamaha Motor has already received inquiries from overseas concerns who have heard of the establishment of Japan's first full-fledged wind power plant in Hokkaido.



Inspecting the generator for shipment.

#### Rainey keeps series lead in 500cc class

#### '89 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP **ROAD RACING**

As of May 28, the '89 World Championship Road Racing Series has finished its 6th round and Wayne Rainey, riding his YZR500, still held the lead in championship standings. In the 250cc class, two Yamaha YZR250 riders, Jean Philippe Ruggia and Luca Cadalora stood in 2nd and 3rd respectively after 6 rounds.

#### Frd round U.S.A. - April 16

Pole position starter Rainey scored a start-to-finish victory, to the exof the 45,000 citement homeground fans. Keven Magee (Yamaha) and Eddie Lawson (Honda) fought hard for 3rd posi-

tion. In the final lap, Lawson managed to edge out his opponent.

In the 250cc race, pole position starter John Kocinski (Yamaha) took the lead during the 12th lap. From then on, he allowed no serious challenge from the competition until he took the checkered

#### 4 th round Spain - April 30

In the 500cc race, Kevin Schwantz (Suzuki), Lawson, and Rainey staged a hot 3-man battle until the 25th lap when the Suzuki rider crashed and Lawson pulled ahead of Rainey. Lawson eventually won the race. 2nd and 3rd positions were taken by Rainey and another Yamaha YZR500 rider, Niall McKenzie, respectively.

In the 250cc race Luca Cadalora (Yamaha) dashed into the lead during the 5th lap. Showing top form, Cadalora accelerated his Yamaha

home first.

Another Yamaha rider Juan Garriga struggled back in 30th position after a bad start. But he valiantly fought his way up to 4th position eventually, exhilarating the 100,000 spectators.

#### 5th round Italy - May 14

The 500cc race was stopped due to heavy rain after 5 laps. Although the race was resumed 2 hours later, most of the top riders did not restart because of the slippery surface.

#### RESULTS

#### **'89 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP ROAD RACING**

3rd round - USA - Apr. 16

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#### 5th round - Italy - May 14

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#### 6. M. Lucci ......Aprilia 6th round - W. Germany - May 28

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4. C. Cardus . . . . . . . . . . . . . Honda

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#### CHAMPIONSHIP POSITIONS

	AFTER 6 ROUNDS
Ī	500cc class
l	1. W. Rainey Yamaha 91 pts.
l	2. E. Lawson Honda 78 pts.
l	3. C. Sarron Yamaha 58 pts.
l	4. P-F. Chili Honda 52 pts.
l	5 K Magaa Vamaha 46 nte

#### CHAMPIONSHIP POSITIONS AFTER 6 ROUNDS

#### 1. A. Pons...... Honda ..... 107 pts. J-P. Rugga . . . Yamaha . . . . . 78 pts. 3. L. Cadalora . . Yamaha . . . . . 70 pts. 4. C. Cardus . . . . Honda . . . . . . 62 pts. 5. R. Roth . . . . . Honda . . . . . . 57 pts.

#### **'89 World Championship** Motocross

#### 250cc class 1st round was cancelled

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2nd race											
1. J-M. Bayle	co	611				c.		vie			. Honda
2. B. Glover											
3. M. Fanton		100		60				97	V	; ;	. Suzuk
4. P. Vehkoner											
5. J. Van den	Ber	k							ě		Yamaha
6. P. Johansso	n.	101	1.5	,	0))		J				Yamaha

#### CHAMPIONSHIP POSITIONS

1. M. Fanton Suzuki 60	points
2. J. Whatley Suzuki 56	points
3. P. Vehkonen . Yamaha 37	points
4. J. Van Den Berk . Yamaha 36	points
5. B. Glover KTM 29	points
6. R. Herring Suzuki28	points
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#### **Supporting the Nippon Challenge America's Cup 1991 Committee**

When one speaks of the pinnacle of yacht racing one surely is referring to the America's Cup. For nearly 140 years the world's yachtsmen have gathered to battle for the right to hold this 70cm, 3.8kg silver cup. And in the process a mystique has grown up around the cup along with an international fraternity of marine sportsmen.

The next holding of this grand race in 1991 will see the first entry by an Asian country, Japan, in the Cup's long history. Now, with two years left to go, the Nippon Challenge America's Cup 1991 Committee is immersed in its preparations.

#### PR begins with the tradition of marine sport

In recent years, public and private organizations are working together in Japan for the development of waterfront facilities and the spread of marine sports. Considering Japan's relatively short history of marine sport, however, there is a need to introduce people first to the history and culture associated with marine sports as well of the enjoyment they offer. Japan's entry in the 1991 America's Cup will be an excellent opportunity not only to introduce marine tradition but also to gain valuable experience in the world of international yacht racing where Japan is still

a newcomer.

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Rainey on the winners platform at US GP.

#### Many companies and individuals rally to support the Nippon Challenge

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Being such a historic event in Japanese sports, it is no wonder that close to 50 major companies have stepped forward to support the Nippon Challenge with contributions of funds, technology equipment, etc. And naturally, as a leading maker of marine products, Yamaha Motor is one of the companies on the list of

As one of the official sponsors, along with S & B Shokuhin Co. Ltd., YMC has assumed a role of leadership in the operation of Nippon Challenge.

And, as official builder of the challenge boat, on which work will begin this summer, Yamaha will be supplying much of its accumulated technology, knowhow and design skills as well. YMC's President Mr. Eguchi has also been given the role of Vice-Chairman of the Nippon Challenge America's Cup 1991 Committee.

#### Interest spreads to the general public

Before the decision was made to enter a Japanese boat in the America's Cup, most people in Japan knew little of this famous race. But now, through television and boat shows, the word is get-

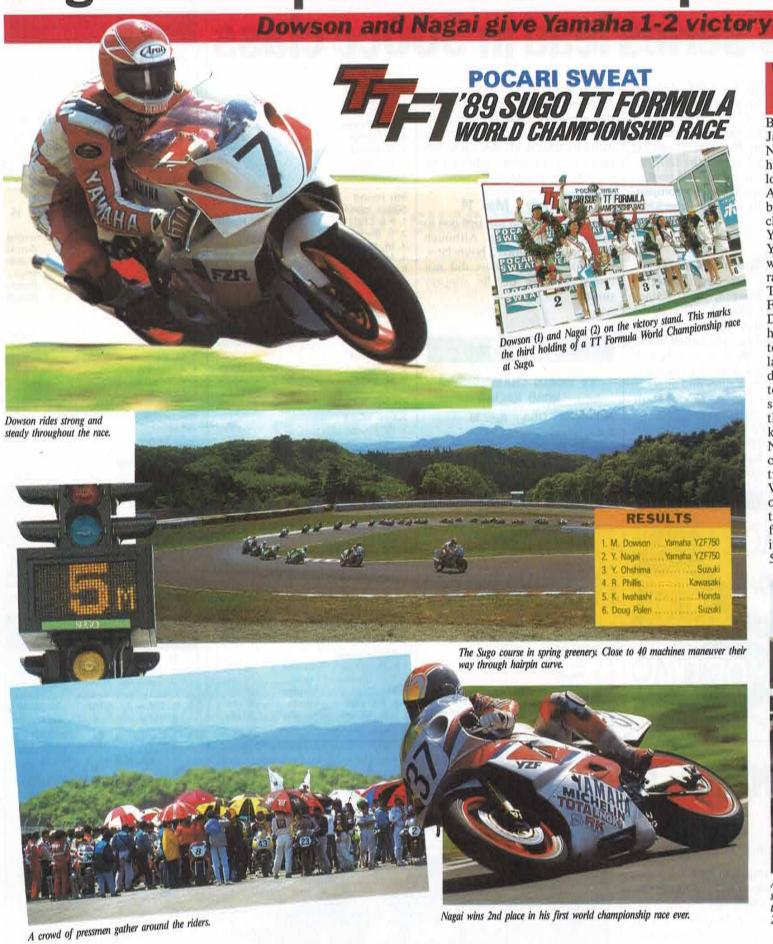


ting around and people's interest is growing. At the beginning of February, a former NHK television newscaster and a yachtsman in his own right, Mr. Taro Kimura, began an appeal for the "Nippon Challenge grassroots support group" to gather contributions for the challenge boat. To become a donor to the boat building fund, children up to junior high school age contribute ¥2,000 and adults ¥10,000. In the first 4 months, 2,200 people had already become donors, and it is expected that contributions will increase as the race draws nearer. At present, 28 prospective crew members for the America's Cup team are going through special training in the base camp conveniently located near the Yamaha Gamagori Factory. At this base camp, a 17-man staff of maintenance and management specialists, cooks, housekeepers and a nutritionist are also at work supporting the men in training. Viewing the Committee operation as a whole and taking into account the design and building of the boat, over onehundred people are working together to send a crew to compete in this long-standing yachting event.

YMC wishes to do what it can to support many aspects of marine leisure sports; the participants, the spectators and the people behind the scenes.

The result will surely be new understanding and appreciation of marine sports and the birth of new marine culture.

#### Sugo Race Opens World Championship Series



he first round of the '89 TT Formula World Championship series got under way with round 1 at Sportsland Sugo on May 12, 13 and 14. Forty riders from Britain, the U.S., New Zealand, Australia and Japan gathered to battle before 25,500 fans. Now in its third year here at Sugo, this event has established itself and aquired a large following among motor sports fans.

Although the two practice days were hampered by rainy conditions, the day of the final race cleared beautifully for spectators to watch Yamaha YZF750 riders Michael Dowson and Yasutomo Nagai finish one-two. This, by the way, was Nagai's first World Championship

The final race saw Grant Hodson (Yamaha FZR750) get the best start, followed by Dowson, Nagai, Rob Phillis (Kawasaki), Takahiro Sowa (Kawasaki) and Trevor Nation (Norton). Dowson took over the lead on the second lap. From there he rode steadily to the finish, despite order changes for refueling, to claim victory in the opening round of the series. Hodson retired after an 8th lap crash. Working up through the field from a 7th position start, Yukiya Ohshima (Suzuki) moved into 3rd behind Nagai by the 6th lap. From there on, a hot oneon-one battle for second place raged on between the two Japanese riders.

When Dowson went into the pit for refueling on lap 29, he dropped to 3rd position, but by the 39th lap he had regained the lead. Nagai finally turned back Ohshima's challenge, keeping a firm hold on second after lap 40 of this

50-lap race.



Again this year, YESS Stations are set up at major motorcycle sports events. The two trophies on display are for the winners of the Grand Meet (left) and the Regional Meets (right) of the "Tech 21 No. 1 Cup Series".



(\*) YAMAHA