

YAMAHA MOTOR NEWS

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First finisher home after 10,200km race

YAMAHA OSAKA CUP - Melbourne/Osaka Double-handed Yacht Race 1991



The start of the race off Princess Pier in Port Phillip Bay.

On March 23 at 10:30 a.m., the starting gun sounded for the YAMAHA OSAKA CUP - Melbourne/Osaka Double-handed Yacht Race 1991, and the contesting yachts started off from Port Phillip Bay on their 5,500 nautical mile (10,200km) journey toward Osaka harbor in Japan.

Held for the first time in 1987, this year marked the event's second holding, and as in 1987, Yamaha served as title sponsor once again. The race drew a total of 41 participating teams from 10 countries; Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Japan, New Zealand, Britain, the U.S.A. and U.S.S.R.

The first finisher "Nakiri Daio" reached Osaka on April 21 after sailing through three seasons - Autumn, Summer and Spring and crossing the Pacific Ocean from the southern to the northern hemisphere. The second finisher was the Yamaha-built "Lucky & Luppy". The last finisher is expected to enter Osaka Harbor around the end of May. (See details on page 8)



The first boat home "Nakiri Daio" finishes after dark.

Rainey off to good start in competitive season

MOTORCYCLE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP ROAD RACING

The 1991 Motorcycle World Championships opened at Suzuka on March 22, 23 and 24, and once again '90 World 500cc Champion Wayne Rainey is off to a great start.

The first round was a dead heat race from start to finish between top finishers Kevin Schwantz (Suzuki), Michael Doohan (Honda), Wayne Rainey (Yamaha) and John Kocinski (Yamaha) that saw all four leaders finish within half a second.

But in the second round in Australia held on April 7 and third round in the USA on April 21, Rainey scored two pole-to-finish victories to move into the lead in point standings. Rainey's teammate John Kocinski is also running strong in his first season in the 500cc class, holding 6th position in the standings.

This year Yamaha has adopted a policy of leasing out works machines to help stimu-

late 500cc class competition, where machine advancement in recent years has made it increasingly difficult for many teams to participate. Exciting opening rounds seem to forecast a fierce season of competition ahead in 1991. (For details see page 6)



94 people from Malaysia visit YMC MALAYSIAN MOTORCYCLE DEALER TRIP

On April 6, a grand group of 94 people from Malaysia, representing 50 outstanding motorcycle dealerships, 5 parts dealerships and the first dealership to be awarded the "3S Shop" designation for excellence in sales, service and spare parts, along with 22 staff of the Hong Leong Yamaha Distributors, made an official visit to YMC's home offices for the first time in nine years.

Arriving at 1:00 in the afternoon, the group made a tour of the main factory and Fifth Iwata Factory. That evening at

7:00 a reception party was held in Hamamatsu, where the guests were received by YMC's president, Mr. Eguchi, and directors Mr. Watanabe, Mr. Arai and Mr. Nomura. After the welcoming speeches, an awards ceremony was held for the dealers who had achieved outstanding sales records over the previous year. President Eguchi mingled and shook hands with all the dealers, and then the party gave way to toasts and a congenial atmosphere of song and companionship.



4-millionth Yamaha outboard celebrated

On March 29, 1991, the total production figure for Yamaha outboard motors reached the 4 million mark and a ceremony was held at Yamaha's marine engine manufacturer, Sanshin Industries Co., Ltd. to celebrate this momentous occasion. Since the first Yamaha outboard "P7" (7hp) was built by Showa Works Co., Ltd. (present SOQI, Inc.) thirty-one years ago, the milestones of Yamaha outboard motor production have followed one after another: 1 million in 1978, 2 million in 1982 and 3 million in 1987. During this time, Yamaha has grown

with the outboard market, always developing models to meet the needs of the times in the expanding fields of fishery and pleasure uses. Yamaha's dynamic and diverse development efforts have expanded its product line to the point where Yamaha now offers a full line-up of outboards ranging from 2~250hp, to users in over 140 countries all over the world.

In his address at the ceremony, YMC's president, Mr. Eguchi, remarked; "Having reached such a level of international development in these 31 years is an achievement worthy of great pride"



Entering a new market stage with determination

On March 6, Yamaha Motor Taiwan held its Motorcycle Dealers Meeting at a hotel in Kao-hsiung. The 380 dealers gathered from around the country were received by YMT's chairman, Mr. Warren Hsieh, and the company's new president, Mr. Takeda, and as special guests, YMC's president, Mr. Eguchi, and director, Mr. Watanabe. The meeting began with an address by Mr. Hsieh, who took the occasion of the

company's coming 5th anniversary to thank the dealers for their efforts over the past 4 years, and encourage them to redouble their sales promotion activities as the Taiwan motorcycle market begins to enter its mature market stage.

President Eguchi then got up to speak, congratulating the people of YMT for having successfully achieved their initial goals and encouraging the company to set for itself the future goals of corporate management that places top priority on world environmental issues and becoming a true international corporation in terms of both product quality and production cost in line with the Yamaha philosophy. These addresses were followed by awards to the previous year's outstanding dealers, and introductions of the new YA50 and YA50Z models for '91. These two new models join the competition in Taiwan's popular scooter market with the added feature of a built-in 50cc helmet compartment.



Mitsui Germany displays marine products in Berlin Show

Germany's Yamaha importer, Mitsui Maschinen GmbH followed its well-received display at January's Düsseldorf Boat Show recently with another extensive Yamaha Booth at the Berlin Boat Show. Running from Feb. 13 to 17, this year's Berlin Boat Show attracted some 60,000 visitors who viewed displays by some 289 exhibitors. Mitsui Maschinen's Yamaha booth delighted visitors with the complete line of outboard motors, stern drives, Water Vehicles and generators.



From right: Mr. Bassett of "American Snowmobiler", Mr. Kimura and Mr. Gentz of YMUS.

Yamaha VENTURE XL named Snowmobile of the Year by U.S. magazine

Yamaha Motor Corporation, U.S.A., scored a real triumph this season when its new Venture XL two-passenger sled was selected winner of the 1991 Snowmobile of the Year Award by *American Snowmobiler* magazine. The magazine's editor and publisher, Mr. Jerry Bassett, visited the YMUS head office in California on February 13, to present the award recognition plaque to YMUS president, T. Kimura and senior vice president, sales and marketing J. Gentz.

In a printed statement, *American Snowmobiler* said the Yamaha Venture XL was selected for the annual honor because it "sets a new tone for touring" and provides "superior comfort for two on any snowmobile trail!" Overall, the publication commented that the Venture XL "carries the concept of luxury touring another step in the evolution of sports/touring snowmobiles."

The Yamaha Venture XL was introduced last autumn and features an all-new two-up design that is luxurious, sporty and powerful. With its Phazer II 485cc powerplant the rider can experience sporty fun and comfort in a wide range of snow conditions and terrain.

Yamaha's Venture XL is also packed with features, such as an innovative, all-new transmission so easy to operate that shifting into reverse gear can be accomplished with only one finger. Yet for all its convenience and features, the Venture XL remains a lightweight, responsive snowmobile that handles the trail like a member of Yamaha's popular and award-winning Phazer family.

Winning races and winning hearts

Mr. Paul Dempsey of Renmark, South Australia, is a Yamaha dealer who brings a true love of motor sports to his work in constructive ways that benefit not only his own business but the brand image of Yamaha products throughout his area.

On Feb. 3 of this year, Mr. Dempsey entered and won the 9.9 to 14.9hp division of his home town's Riverland Dinghy Derby using a standard 9.9 DS Yamaha outboard and carrying



The Riverland Dinghy Derby

his 16-year-old daughter, Sandra, as navigator. Fitted to a 3-meter aluminum flat bottom punt and turning a 9.3 x 10.5 propellor, his Yamaha hits speeds of 57km. This was his 6th victory in this race in 7 years. Mr. Dempsey also competes in the

Black Cross River Murray Marathon with his wife, Janene, as navigator and using a 9.9 DS Yamaha he modified himself to reach a top speed of 38 knots on a home made 3-meter fiberglass monohull.

The owner of Paul Dempsey Motor Cycles doesn't limit his modifications to outboards either. He recently modified a new CW50 Zuma to the needs of one of his customers who is physically handicapped.

This is a case where Mr. Dempsey's extra efforts have helped someone who otherwise would not be able to enjoy the use of a quality Yamaha product.



This Zuma was modified by Mr. Dempsey for a handicapped customer.

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.

AZEVEDO victorious on locally produced XT600

This year's Paris-Dakar Rally ended in a momentous 1-2-3 finish for Yamaha in the Motorcycle Division. This same rally also rendered an equally proud victory for Yamaha Motor Do Brazil. In the Marathon Class, contested by production-base models, Andre Azevedo rode an XT600 supplied by Yamaha Motor Do Brazil to a first place finish in this class and 21st place overall.

For Azevedo, as well as fellow Brazilian Yamaha rider Klever Kolberg, this was their fourth year as participants at Paris-Dakar. Kolberg was unable to finish this year as well as last, whereas Azevedo finished 2nd in the Marathon Class and 23rd overall last year. Both of these riders are very popular in Brazil, where their stories have received plenty of coverage in the motorcycle press. What's more, the XT600s that both men rode were CKD-production machines assembled in Brazil. Their record at Paris-Dakar is proof of the high quality standards that should be a source of pride not only

for the people who work in Brazil's CKD factory but for Yamaha people everywhere, as well.

This year these two riders plan to enter the Pharaoh's Rally and the Paris-Dakar. Let's wish them the best of luck.



BRAZIL

Two big names in American sport grace Suzuka

Many fans and competitors alike were delighted to see two big names of the American sports scene on the sidelines at the opening

Suzuka round of the '91 World Championship cheering for the Yamaha teams. One was Mr. Eric Wright, a cornerback, with the popular San Francisco 49ers

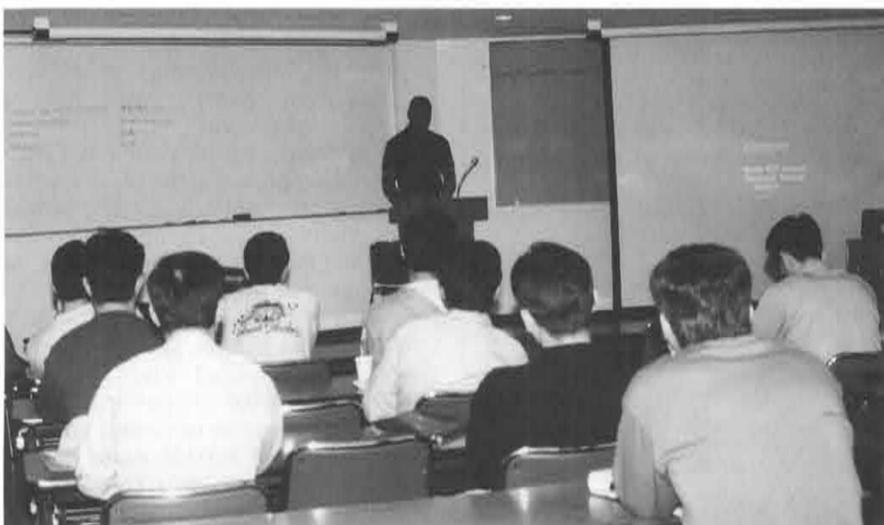
football team, and the other was the team's sports doctor who has also performed surgery on such famous riders as Eddie Lawson and Tadahiko Taira, Dr. Authur Ting. Dr. Ting is a former understudy of the legendary sports doctor, Mr. Frank Jobe.

Just before Suzuka, these two sports professionals had visited Yamaha and given special seminars to its Motocross and soccer teams, all of whom were impressed by the rare opportunity to hear them speak.



JAPAN

Mr. Wright (right) and Dr. Ting with a member of the Yamaha PR staff at Suzuka.



Mr. Wright conducting a seminar

Madagascar's Ambassador to Japan visits YMC

JAPAN

On April 29, Monsieur and Madame S.E.M. Hubert Maxime Rajaobelina, Ambassador of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, made a private visit to YMC and Sanshin Industries Co., Ltd., Yamaha's marine engine manufacturer. Madagascar is presently pursuing a policy of strengthening its coastal fisheries as a means to secure dietary protein resources for its people. And YMC is cooperating in this program through the supply of fishing boats, outboard motors

and a wide range of know-how aimed at fishery development.

Monsieur and Madame Rajaobelina showed great interest in the assembly

process for outboard motors during their tour of Sanshin Industries. The next day's schedule included a tour of the Yamaha Gamagori Works Co., Ltd. to observe FRP boat construction, followed by a visit to YMC's Home Office where Monsieur and Madame Rajaobelina were welcomed to a reception by President Eguchi.



Madame Rajaobelina were welcomed to a reception by President Eguchi.

Yamaha Australia sponsors 12-meter Yacht Race

Yamaha Motor Australia was a major sponsor of the 1991 12-METER YACHT CHALLENGE contested annually on Sydney Harbour. Using the same 12-meter class boats and match-race format, this event is an excellent testing ground for the boats and crews that will compete in the America's Cup Race. The event resulted in extensive media ex-

posure for Yamaha Marine as television audiences across Australia and in many other parts of the world watched yachts from Australia, Italy, Japan, New Zealand and the U.S. battle to win the right to compete in the finals.

The final turned out to be a replay of the 1983 America's Cup, pitting strong teams from Australia and the U.S. against each other in an exciting 7-race series. As in 1983 the Australian team "Spirit of Australia" emerged victorious by 4 wins to 3. The new Japanese team with "Nippon" built by YMC, which will be launching that country's first America's Cup challenge next year, gained valuable experience although they were unable to reach the finals.



AUSTRALIA

Photo courtesy of Wright Graphic Design

Y.E.S.S. "Give a Guide Dog" Campaign enters 3rd year

Y.E.S.S., the organization that brings together YMC, its dealers and users, has carried its successful Y.E.S.S. NICE RIDE CHARITY campaign, "Give a Guide Dog", into its third year, and on March 29, 1991, Y.E.S.S. presented a total of roughly ¥6.1 million in donations to the Japan Guide Dog Association. This money was collected during the second running of the campaign from February 10 to November 30 of last year, and will be used by the Association to help supply guide dogs and train those dogs to serve visually handicapped people across the country.

Once again this year at Y.E.S.S. shops and event sites around Japan, Y.E.S.S. NICE RIDE charity campaign corners are being set up from Feb. 2 until Nov. 30, to collect donations from Y.E.S.S. members and the general public.

The aim of this charity program is to increase consciousness of the role of motorcycles in today's society. The people of Y.E.S.S.

want to say, "the motorcycle is our fond partner in daily transportation much like a guide dog can be an invaluable partner in the life of the visually handicapped?"

Proceeds from the '89 campaign are now being used to train a guide dog that Y.E.S.S. members affectionately named "Navi", and the recently donated money from last year's campaign will go to train a "Navi II" and "Navi III". Again this year Y.E.S.S. members all across the country will be working to increase the number of Navis and expand this fine Y.E.S.S. tradition.



JAPAN

Setting up shops for high-level service



YBS ACTIVITIES IN ASIAN COUNTRIES

Yamaha Motor has been pursuing its YBS (Yamaha Before-Service) policy aimed at raising the level of service capabilities at Yamaha dealerships mainly in Asian countries, and recently the number of shops having received the "YBS Shop" designation topped 350.

With the goal of having Yamaha shops make "Customer Satisfaction No. 1", Yamaha Motor's Overseas Service Division has pursued the YBS program to help ensure that the customers get faster, more reliable service through implementation of a system of "Yamaha Before-Service" that is geared to prevent problems before they start. This system which is promoted in CKD (Complete Knock Down) countries, recognizes shops which perform thorough pre-delivery product checks and provide customers with complete explanations of bike operation and maintenance fundamentals by giving them "YBS Shop" authorization.

Contributing to a higher brand image

The YBS Shop policy enables Yamaha to offer its customers services not provided by other motorcycle manufacturers. It also offers a solution to many of the problems associated with the early stages of local production in overseas markets. This is particularly important in Asian countries where CKD production is being carried out with an increasingly high percentage of domestically produced components. The contribution of YBS Shops in preventing such problems thus plays an important part in maintaining a high brand image for Yamaha.

In short, YBS is a program that can provide;

1. service activities that prevent problems before they start, and
2. a program that improves the reputation of Yamaha motorcycles and thereby the brand image of Yamaha as a whole.

Setting up a YBS shop requires specific standards

Under the YBS shop policy, YMC and its local partner authorize shops which meet



One look tells you this is a shop that gives quality service.



Thailand

certain pre-established standards regarding facilities and equipment, including the interior and exterior layout and decoration of the shop, as well as the quality of its service technology and staff. Although the standard items for setting up a YBS shop vary slightly by country, they basically include the following:

- Shop Owner: One who has completed a YBS training seminar.



YBS promotional tools.



- Service Staff: Two or more mechanics, at least one of whom has completed a YBS training seminar.
- Shop space and equipment: More than 10m² (2.5m x 4m). One or more bike lifts.
- Tools: Complete line of general tools. Complete line of special tools. Equipped with pocket testers. A layout of tools and facilities that suggests high quality service.

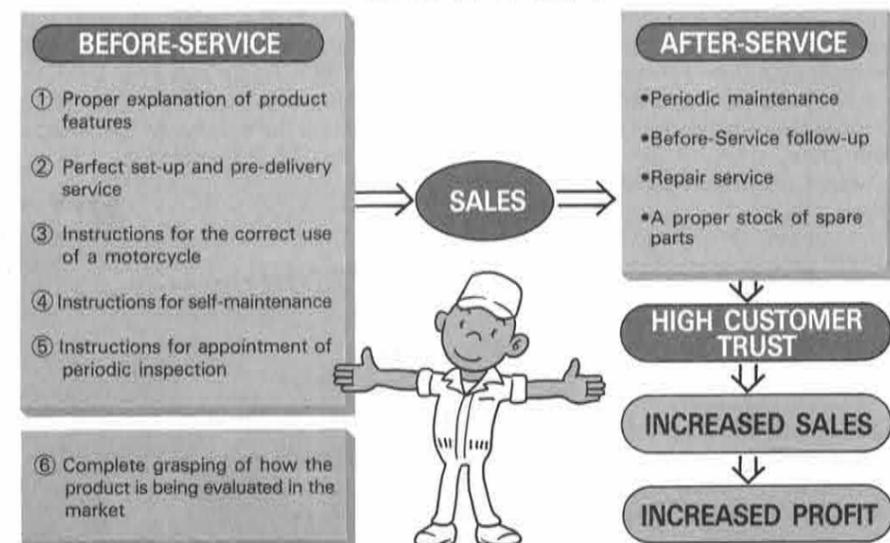


India

What is a "YBS Shop"

A YBS Shop is a model shop that systematically provides its customers with complete Before-Service and After-Service in compliance with the YBS policy and has received the authorization of YMC and the local partner.

YBS CONCEPT



The YBS Shop designation means this is a shop that can supply the customers with complete service that includes not only thorough Before-Service but quality After-Service as well.

A program realized over a 5-year period

Planning for the YBS program got its start in 1986. By 1987 the shops to be the object of the YBS Program were chosen, and actual shop set-up work began on a 3-year plan in 1988. Then, by the end of 1990, five years from the initiation of the program,



Indonesia

350 YBS Shops had been authorized throughout the participating Asian countries. Realization of the YBS policy could not have been achieved without the dedicated work of YMC's local partners and all the dealers involved, but in addition to their cooperation two important factors were at work.

For one, there were the Service Managers Meetings held by YMC every year in February or March. These meetings enabled service staff from countries with differing domestic market conditions, models and differing degrees of domestic CKD parts production to pursue active service activities with unified objectives, while providing them with a venue for mutual problem solving and discussion of policies, training curriculum and the like.

The other factor was the twice-annual YSTS (Yamaha Service Training School). This program consisted first of YSTS I, in which YMC trained the partners' service staff so they could in turn train by themselves their local service staff, dealers' mechanics and others; using YMC's materials at locally held seminars.

Service capabilities



Tools are displayed in an orderly array.

Then there was YSTS II in which trainees from each country gathered in Japan for 10-day courses during which they visited representative Japanese service shops. This not only gave participants an opportunity to pick up hints for use in their own shops, but also created a group of managers who would return to their own countries to become opinion leaders capable of impressing on fellow dealers the value of becoming a YBS Shop. (See Table 2)

Table 2 Education via YSTS

YMC-organized: YSTS I (for local partner)
 Education of instructors among local partners service staff
 YSTS II (for the dealers)
 Education of YBS candidate dealers
 (Creating local opinion leaders)

Organized locally: YSTS LOCAL (for dealers)
 (with YMC support) Actual technical seminars

It so happens that during the period when the work of actually setting up YBS shops was in progress, some countries experienced a sudden growth in motorcycle demand that led to a revision in the original objectives for the number of YBS Shops in early 1990. And, by the end of the 3-year set-up period (1988-'90) a total of 350 shops had received authorization in India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand.

By June of 1991 this number is expected to reach 360 shops. In way of recognition of the outstanding results achieved by the YBS project, the YMC President's Award has been presented to many of the people who made outstanding contributions to its success.



Each country prepared its own promotional tools.



A new exterior.



A new interior.



YSTS for partners.



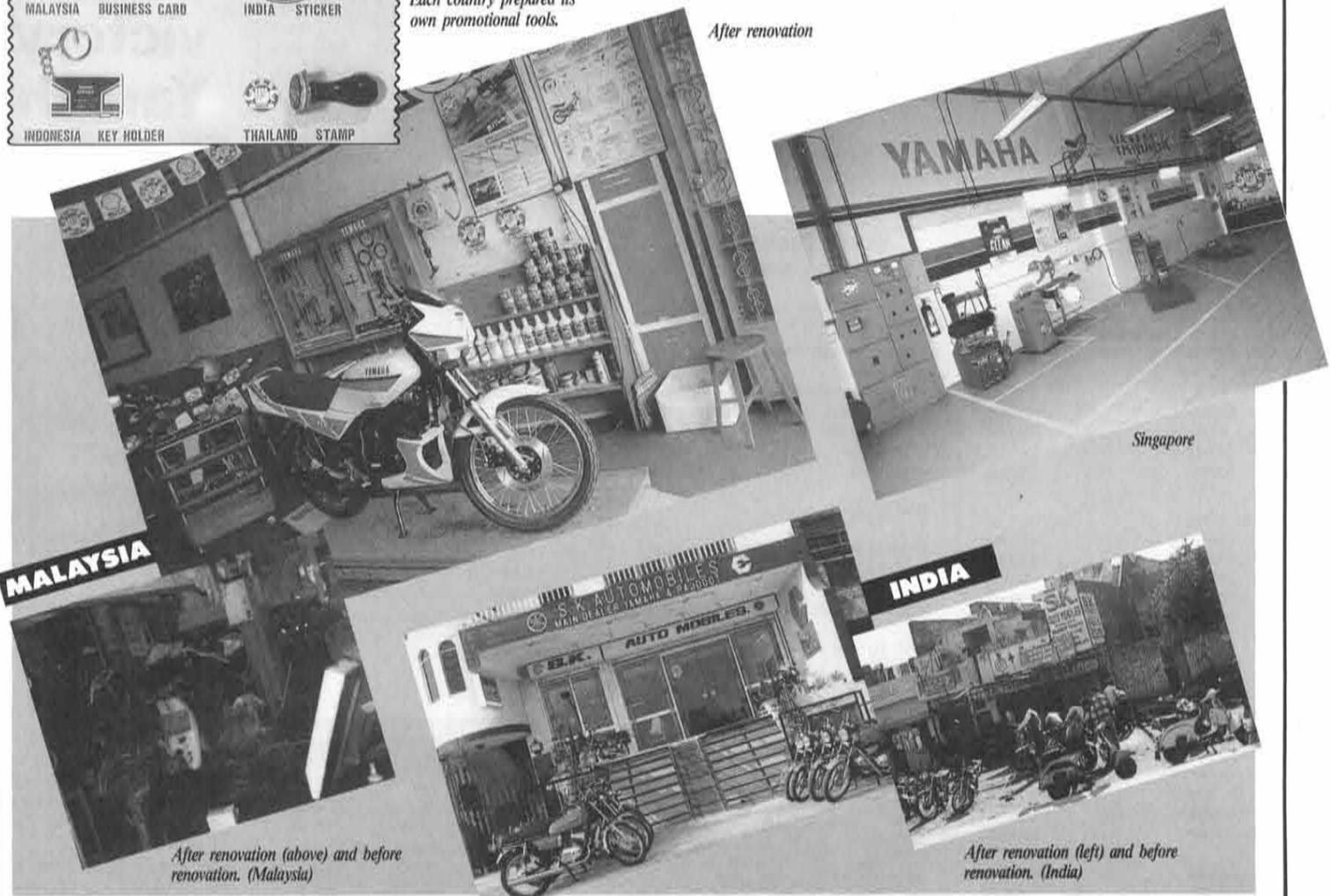
Yamaha partners gathered for a YSTS program.



YSTS for dealers.



Service Managers Meeting.



After renovation

Singapore

After renovation (above) and before renovation. (Malaysia)

After renovation (left) and before renovation. (India)

Rainey and Kocinski starting strong in '91

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP ROAD RACING

The 500cc class of the '91 season-opening Suzuka round of the World Championship Road Race series on March 24, began with K. Schwantz at the pole position, and with M. Doohan and J. Kocinsky next in line, while W. Rainey stood 5th on the grid. At the start it was Schwantz who jumped into the lead, followed through the first turn by Doohan and Rainey. Soon Rainey took over the lead with Schwantz, Doohan and Kocinsky grouped behind him. On lap 6, Doohan picked up the pace and moved into the lead with Rainey in tow. Kocinsky and Schwantz would not be left behind, however, regaining contact with the two leaders by lap 15. From there on it was a 4-man race right down to the finish line, with Schwantz taking the checkered first and Doohan, Rainey and Kocinsky all finishing within half a second.

In the 250cc final Cadalora won and the top Yamaha finisher was T. Harada in 6th place.

Round 2, the Australian GP, saw an impressive start-to-finish victory by Rainey in the 500cc class. This moved him ahead of Doohan to lead the point standings.

In the preliminaries Rainey set a GP record, being the first ever to lap the course in 1 min. 30 sec. Second and third on the grid were Aussies Gardner and Doohan. In



Wayne Rainey (1) and John Kocinski (19)

fourth position was Kocinsky, showing he has made the step up to 500cc in a big way.

In the final, Rainey made his patented rocket start and sailed all alone to the finish unchallenged, scoring his first victory of the season. Kocinsky, who held 2nd position through most of the race before giving it up to late-starter Doohan on the straight of lap 25, was able to join his teammate Rainey on the victory stand as 3rd finisher.

Sonauto Yamaha's J. P. Ruggia won a race for 7th place and Ducados Yamaha's J. Garriga retired from the race after a fall on lap 13.

In the 3rd round, the U.S. GP held

on April 21, Rainey and Kocinsky started from the first and second positions on the grid. Rainey jumped out to an early lead which he held all the way to the finish, scoring his second series win.

Teammate Kocinsky passed Schwantz on lap 4 to claim second position, only to lose it in a crash on lap 6 that took him out of the race.

That left Schwantz and Doohan to battle for second, with the later prevailing in the end to score his 3rd straight 2nd place finish. Sonauto Yamaha's Jean Philippe Ruggia triumphed in the battle for 4th place against E. Lawson, A. Barros and W. Gardner.

RESULTS

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP ROAD RACING

1st round - Japan - March 24

- 500cc class**
 1. K. Schwantz Suzuki
 2. M. Doohan Honda
 3. W. Rainey Yamaha
 4. J. Kocinski Yamaha
 5. W. Gardner Honda
 6. E. Lawson Cagiva

250cc class

1. L. Cadalora Honda
 2. C. Cardus Honda
 3. W. Zeelenberg Honda
 4. M. Taguchi Honda
 5. N. Aoki Honda
 6. T. Harada Yamaha

2nd round - Australia - Apr. 7

- 500cc class**
 1. W. Rainey Yamaha
 2. M. Doohan Honda
 3. J. Kocinski Yamaha
 4. W. Gardner Honda
 5. K. Schwantz Suzuki
 6. E. Lawson Cagiva

250cc class

1. L. Cadalora Honda
 2. H. Bradl Honda
 3. C. Cardus Honda
 4. W. Zeelenberg Honda
 5. L. Reggiani Aprilia
 6. P. F. Chili Aprilia

3rd round - U.S.A. - Apr. 21

- 500cc class**
 1. W. Rainey Yamaha
 2. M. Doohan Honda
 3. K. Schwantz Suzuki
 4. J. P. Ruggia Yamaha
 5. E. Lawson Cagiva
 6. A. Barros Cagiva

250cc class

1. L. Cadalora Yamaha
 2. W. Zeelenberg Honda

3. C. Cardus Honda
 4. L. Reggiani Aprilia
 5. M. Shimizu Honda
 6. A. Preining Aprilia

CHAMPIONSHIP POSITIONS AFTER 3 ROUNDS

- 500cc class**
 1. W. Rainey Yamaha . 55 pts.
 2. M. Doohan Honda . 51 pts.
 3. K. Schwantz Suzuki . 46 pts.
 4. W. Gardner Honda . 33 pts.
 5. E. Lawson Cagiva . 31 pts.

- 250cc class**
 1. L. Cadalora Honda . 60 pts.
 2. W. Zeelenberg Honda . 45 pts.
 2. C. Cardus Honda . 45 pts.
 4. H. Bradl Honda . 34 pts.
 5. R. Leggiani Aprilia . 33 pts.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP MOTOCROSS

500cc class 1st round - Switzerland - Apr. 14

- 1st race**
 1. R. Weustenraed Kawasaki
 2. K. Nicoll KTM
 3. J. Boonen KTM
 4. G. Jobe Honda
 5. B. Liles Kawasaki

- 2nd race**
 1. K. Nicoll KTM
 2. M. Anstie Honda
 3. B. Liles Kawasaki
 4. G. Jobe Honda
 5. K. Ljungqvist Honda

2nd round - Austria - Apr. 21
 Cancelled because of snow

CHAMPIONSHIP POSITIONS AFTER 2 ROUNDS

1. K. Nicoll KTM . 37 pts.
 2. M. Anstie Honda . 27 pts.
 3. B. Liles Kawasaki . 26 pts.
 3. G. Jobe Honda . 26 pts.
 5. R. Weustenraed Kawasaki . 20 pts.

250cc class 1st race - Holland - Apr. 7

- 1st race**
 1. M. Bervoets Kawasaki
 2. J. Van Den Berk Suzuki
 3. M. Dewit Kawasaki
 4. T. Visser Kawasaki
 5. P. Johansson Yamaha

- 2nd race**
 1. D. Stribbos Suzuki
 2. E. Evertsen Kawasaki
 3. A. Puzar Suzuki
 4. P. Diekx Honda
 5. M. Bervoets Kawasaki

CHAMPIONSHIP POSITIONS AFTER 1 ROUND

1. M. Bervoets Kawasaki . 31 pts.
 2. E. Evertsen Kawasaki . 27 pts.
 3. D. Stribbos Suzuki . 26 pts.
 4. M. Dewit Kawasaki . 24 pts.
 5. J. Van Den Berk Suzuki . 23 pts.

125cc class 1st round - Italy - Apr. 21

- 1st race**
 1. S. Everts Suzuki
 2. D. Schmit Suzuki
 3. R. Moore KTM
 4. W. Surrat Honda
 5. Y. Demaria Suzuki

- 2nd race**
 1. D. Schmit Suzuki
 2. R. Moore KTM
 3. P. Beirer Suzuki
 4. W. Surrat Honda
 5. Y. Demaria Suzuki

CHAMPIONSHIP POSITIONS AFTER 1 ROUND

1. D. Schmit Suzuki . 37 pts.
 2. R. Moore KTM . 32 pts.
 3. S. Everts Suzuki . 30 pts.
 4. W. Surrat Honda . 26 pts.
 5. P. Beirer Suzuki . 20 pts.



'91 YAMAHA CUP LADIES OPEN TOURNAMENT

Fans delight to exciting play-off

The seventh Yamaha Cup Ladies Open Golf Tournament was staged at the Katsuragi Golf Club in Shizuoka Prefecture, Japan, from April 11 to 14 with the Yamaha Group, including Yamaha Corp, Yamaha Motor and Yamaha Recreation as title sponsors. On the final day, Japan's Ayako Okamoto shot a brilliant 69 to bring

her 4-day total to an even-par 288 and tie her for the lead with Taiwan's Tu Ai-yu after trailing in 11th place on day three. Former top money winner on the U.S. Tour, Okamoto won an exciting play-off to take home ¥9 million in her first victory in half a year and the 49th of her career.

Second consecutive victory for Yamaha snowmobiles

1991 HARRICANA INTERNATIONAL SNOWMOBILE RALLY



Now in its second year, the HARRICANA RAID INTERNATIONAL MOTONEIGE (International Snowmobile Rally) with its 2,500km course across the snowfields, forests and frozen lakes of Canada, is already being called the Paris-Dakar of snowmobiling.

The winner of this year's race, run from February 24 to March 7, was the ST. FELICIEN team riding

Yamaha VK540 snowmobiles with support from Yamaha Motor Canada. This was the second win in a row for Yamaha in this tough test of man and machine.

Finishing 3rd in this rally was another YMCA-supported team, "TEAM YAMAHA VENTURE" entered on Yamaha VTs, while the "REGIONAL LAC SAINT-JEAN" team on Yamaha EX/PZs and "FU-

1991 FIM ENDURANCE CUP RACE

Dealer team wins Le Mans 24-hour for Yamaha



The 14th running of the 24-hour Le Mans Endurance Race took place on April 13 and 14, and the winners were the team of MONNERET/NICOTTE/BONHUIL riding a Yamaha 750 OW01 and sponsored by the French dealer "Free Bike" of Mulhouse. Going into the race, the first round of the 1991 FIM Endurance Cup series, the favorites were the four official Suzuki and Kawasaki teams, but that prediction failed to take into account the potential of the Yamaha OW01 and a valiant team of private riders. The three Frenchmen on their OW01 kept pace behind the Suzuki and Kawasaki teams during the early hours, fluctuating from 4th to 6th place. All through the night their Yamaha performed with no problems. Then in the early morning hours the pace started to pick up and the competition dropped one by one. At 8:00 a.m. the lead Kawasaki crashed, losing 40 minutes, while the second bike ran out of gas. Suzuki was also plagued with problems, as its second machine



dropped out at 11:00 a.m. with machine trouble. This suddenly left the dauntless team of Monneret, Nicotte and Bonhuil in the lead to race on to victory 4 hours later before a cheering gallery of 70,000, giving Yamaha its first win ever at the Le Mans 24-hour.



Rymer (7) leading the pack

Yamaha power riding high

SUPERBIKE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IN 4th YEAR

The Superbike World Championship series that began in 1988 is now entering its 4th season. This year's opening round was held on April 1, at Britain's Donnington Park circuit, and the 13-round series will climax with the Australian GP on October 19.

Competition is expected to be exciting this year, as top international riders battle it out for the championship. Among the Yamaha riders, Terry Rymer of Britain and Fabrizio Pirovano of Italy riding Yamaha OW01s are two of the men to watch. Rymer, the winner of the last round of the '90 season, is a fast-rising young talent, while Pirovano is a proven veteran who finished second in last year's ranking.

Rymer placed 2nd in the first heat and 4th in the second heat of the opening round at Donnington to put himself at the top of the standings with 30 points, while Pirovano scored 23 points. Then, in the second round held on April 28 in Spain, Pirovano scored 22 points and Rymer 9 points to place 2nd and 4th in the point standings.

Let's keep a close watch on the performances of these and the other top riders as this year's Superbike

season unfolds.



Pirovano

CHAMPIONSHIP POSITIONS AFTER 2 ROUNDS

1. D. PolenDucati60 pts.
2. F. PirovanoYamaha45 pts.
2. R. PhillisKawasaki45 pts.
4. T. RymerYamaha39 pts.
5. J. LópezHonda38 pts.

SION" team on Yamaha PZ-STs placed 7th and 13th, respectively. The winning ST. FELICIE Team of Perron, Dufour and Allaire on three Yamaha snowmobiles and pulling one sled, completed the 12-day course across snowy Quebec, where temperatures dropped to -40°C, in a total time of 37h 27min. 50", about eight hours ahead of the second place team, JYG DU FJORD (Polaris). Contestants battle extreme cold as they navigate through forests, across snow-covered plains and over frozen lakes. This year's event was made especially tough by a bitter snow storm and wet snow near the end of the rally.

RESULTS

1. SAINT FELICIE37h 27' 50"
YAMAHA VK
2. JYG DU FJORD8h 02' 45 plus
POLARIS
3. YAMAHA VENTURE13h 03' 37"
YAMAHA VT
4. BRIZZ OR13h 54' 03"
SKI-DOO
5. ELLA BACHE15h 36' 08"
SKI-DOO
6. CHISASHIBI16h 00' 02"
SKI-DOO
7. REGIONAL LAC SAINT-JEAN17h 05' 30"
YAMAHA EX/PZ
8. KUJJUAQ19h 13' 28"
SKI-DOO
9. PORTES-FENBTERS VERDUN20h 18' 55"
SKI-DOO
11. MONTAGNAISE23h 07' 08"
YAMAHA VK
13. FUSION27h 45' 26"
YAMAHA PZ-ST
16. EQUIP PERMONT34h 42' 28"
YAMAHA PZ

Jeanneau-Yamaha Family Cup 1991

On April 13 and 14, the "Jeanneau-Yamaha Family Cup 1991" yacht races were held under the sponsorship of the French yacht maker Jeanneau, YMC and the Yamaha Marina Hamana-ko. YMC imports and markets boats from the world's famous builders and Jeanneau is one of them.

For these races Yamaha prepared ten Jeanneau 31 SF yachts to give people a chance to experience the joys of yacht racing. And in order to fulfill its promotional aim, the race regulations required that each of the 4-6 member teams contain at least one woman or child. This rule encouraged participants to experience the fun of sailing and the unique challenge of racing as a family.

The participants consisted of 10 teams including four teams from the



The winning team



Chubu region in which Hamana-ko is located, two from France and one from YMC. The meet was contested on the basis of overall points from one race on the first day and another on the second day. While the first race was held under rainy and practically windless conditions, the second race the next day was blessed with clear skies and a brisk

10m/s wind, which all the participants greatly enjoyed.

The overall winner was the C team of the local Chubu region. While the Yamaha team actually finished second, the prizes were shifted to the next team in line as a special service to the customers and out of consideration for the fact that it could rightly be called a professional "fac-

tory team" rather than amateur like the others. Meanwhile, others could be heard to joke that the Jeanneau team's 8th place finish must also have been a gesture of deference to the customers. In any case, this gives you an idea of the kind of enjoyable event it was for everyone involved.



North-south Pacific crossing from fairweather Melbourne to Osaka

— YAMAHA OSAKA CUP



The Yamaha built "Lucky & Luppy" placed 2nd.



The "Lucky & Luppy" crew, Mr. Hakomori (left) and Mr. Haslar.

The first YAMAHA OSAKA CUP - Melbourne/Osaka Double-handed Yacht Race was held in 1987 as the world's first north-south trans-Pacific race. Competitors charted their own courses from Melbourne, Australia to Osaka, Japan, covering distances that varied by boat from 5049 to 6533 nautical miles.

With 27 of the 82 participants in this year's race having participated in '87 as well, it was interesting to see how the teams handled this unique course and the challenges of sailing with only 2-man crews.

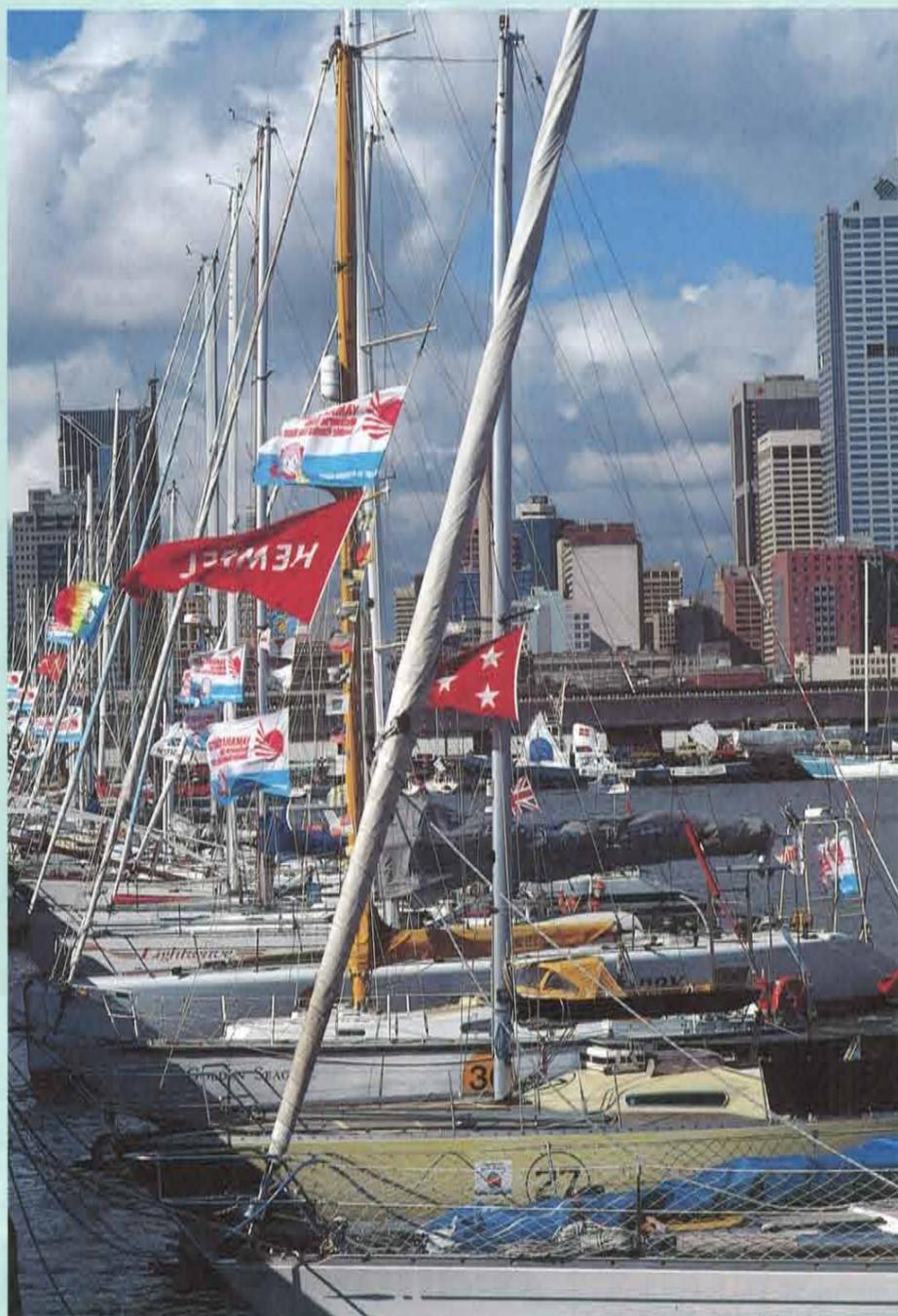
On March 23, the race began from Melbourne. Here is a report on the developments of this great sea adventure. Race festivities actually began several days before the start in Melbourne. Cultural displays from Japan, a reception by Yamaha and other events helped build a festive mood.

Leg one of the race, which started on March 23 off Princess Pier in Port Philip Bay, covered a 40-mile course to Rye near the mouth of the bay. This leg was largely an exhibition for the sake of the spectators and the press before the boats set out on the long open-sea voyage to Osaka.

The first leg got under way as YMC's president, Mr. Eguchi, fired the preliminary gun 10 minutes before the 10:30 a.m. start. Within 5 minutes after the start, two boats of the Racer Class A, the "Chikyurabu Nakiri Daio" and the "Lucky & Luppy" emerged to lead the fleet of participants.

After finishing the first leg, the crews docked their boats at the Rye pier and spent the first night in a nearby clubhouse after a reception and awards ceremony for the first leg winners. There was a sharp autumn chill in the air of Southern Hemisphere Australia that night as the crews retired to their private thoughts of the month or more of sailing that lay ahead. The next morning all would start out into the open sea headed for Osaka.

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The event's mooring place, Victoria Dock.

Beginning the 5,500 mile-journey to Osaka

At 12:30 p.m. the following day, March 24, all the boats gathered at the start area for the second leg off Portsea. The skies were clear and the temperature 21°C with a 3-4m southerly wind, as the 41 boats from 10 countries maneuvered at the start line to begin the 5,500 nautical miles to Osaka.

With the sound of the starting cannon fired by Melbourne's Mayor, Mr. Richard Wynne, at 14:15 hours, the boats were off. A fleet of some 150 spectator boats and 5 media helicopters hovered around the contestants. Before long "Lucky & Luppy" emerged to lead the race with "Nakiri Daio" second. The fleet of yachts with their taut sails and steady courses were the picture of discipline as they headed southeast past the point of the peninsula.

First finisher reaches goal on April 21

Then, 28 days and 6 hours later, at 19:54 p.m. on April 21, the first finisher "Nakiri Daio" sailed into Osaka harbor, following up its victory here in '87 with a second straight win. Race officials were impressed to see the winner knock more than 72 hours off its '87 record for the same course. The second finisher "Lucky & Luppy" lowered its sails in Osaka on April 22 at 15:34, also beating the '87 winning

time.

As of May 14, thirty four boats have already finished the race. So far three boats are reported to have retired, but the remaining boats are all expected to reach Osaka by the end of May.



President Eguchi shakes hands with participants at a reception.



A local exhibition held in conjunction with the YOC introduces Japanese culture.



Before the start, all contestants are busy with last-minute adjustments.