

# Hospice Regatta set for Saturday

The Hospice of Cape Cod Regatta, a new entry on the local sailing schedule, gets under way Saturday morning out of the Hyannis Yacht Club. The one-day event will include both one-design racing and competition in the ocean class.

Sailing is scheduled to begin at 11 a.m. on Nantucket Sound and Lewis Bay.

The honorary chairman of the Hospice Regatta is the internationally known yachtsman Buddy Melges, a helmsman on *America*<sup>3</sup>, which won the America's Cup in 1992.

Melges, who will be in town tomorrow and Saturday to lend his support to the regatta, is chairman of Melges Boat Works and Melges Sails in Zenda, Wisc. His sailing successes have included more than 60 major national and international championships and two Olympic medals: bronze in 1964 in the Flying Dutchman and gold in 1972 in the Soling class.

Melges shared the helmsman duties in the America's Cup races in '92 with starting helmsman Dave Dellenbaugh and No. 1 skipper and syndicate head Bill Koch, who summers in Osterville.

The regatta, which benefits the Hospice of Cape Cod and its affiliate, Lighthouse Hospice of Wareham, is part of a Hospice weekend that includes the 7th annual Hospice Auction Friday night at the Ocean Edge Conference and Resort Center in Brewster. Artwork, antiques and collectibles will be auctioned by Jerome Manning, with a little help on some special items from skipper Melges.

Before racing begins Saturday, there will be a "Breakfast With

---

## Dock Lines

By Joe Hoffman

---

Buddy" at 8 a.m. Saturday at the Captain's Table at the Hyannis Yacht Club. There are a limited number of tickets available for a \$35 donation, and Melges is expected to have the America's Cup with him for the breakfast.

Following the day of sailing, the post-race festivities and awards will be back at the club.

There will be three divisions of ocean racers as it looks now: spinnaker division, non-spinnaker division, and a group of boats that "have never raced before." The one-design sailors will race in three classes: Melges 24s, JY-15s, and the Club 420s.

Entries are being accepted right up until race time on Saturday. Inquiries should be directed to Wendy Perry at Hospice (362-1103) or to Tom McKenzie at HYC (778-6100).

■ ■ ■

In Newport last week, Bill Koch's all-female America's Cup crew members showed off their talents sailing the Maxi racer *Matador*<sup>2</sup> in the New York Yacht Club's Sesquicentennial Regatta.

It was the women's first competition as a crew, other than racing among themselves. Until now, they have been training in San Diego on the two America's Cup class boats Koch owns, *America*<sup>3</sup> and *Kanza*.

The women placed seventh overall at Newport among the other 10 smaller boats in their class on corrected time. Their best performance

of the week was a third, followed by finishes of 5-7-9-12.

Although Leslie Egnot steered *Matador* upwind at Newport, no positions on the Cup boat have been assigned. But it's a pretty good bet that those without much sailing experience will be concentrating on the strength positions, such as the grinders.

Stephanie Armitage-Johnson is a strength and conditioning coach at the University of Wisconsin. Shelley Beattie, better known as "Siren" to fans of the television series *American Gladiators*, is a professional body builder.

Amy Baltzell, Sarah Bergeron, Marci Porter and Stephanie Maxwell-Pierson all came from rowing backgrounds. Baltzell, who lives in Wellesley and spends summers in Chatham, was a member of the 1992 U.S. Olympic rowing team and was a gold medalist in the 1991 Women's Eight races in Lucerne, Switzerland. Bergeron is ranked fourth in the U.S. and first among collegiate rowers and Porter was a member of the national rowing team from 1991 to 1993. Maxwell-Pierson was the bronze medalist at the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona and named Female Athlete of the Year by the U.S. Rowing Association in 1990 and '91.

The other women on the team have a substantial amount of sailing experience.

Katie Petibone has been racing different types of boats all her life and is now studying for a degree in marine biology at the University of Miami. Merritt Palm grew up in a family of sailors and is ranked among the top 10 in the U.S. in the Europe Dinghy. Sarah Cavanaugh

was a deckhand on three-masted ships, ran a boatyard in Massachusetts and a manufacturing business in Maine. She now lives in Denver, Colo.

J.J. Isler is a 1992 Olympic bronze medalist and two-time Rolex Yachtswoman of the Year. Annie Nelson won a silver medal in the 1994 Olympics in boardsailing.

Two former college sailing standouts are Hannah Swett, an All-American at Brown in 1989 and '91, and Melissa Purdy, another Brown graduate and All-American in '90 and '91.

Joan Lee Touchette was captain of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy's women's sailing team; Lisa Charles has sailed extensively in the U.S., England and the Caribbean; and Linda Lindquist was a member of the first all-women's crew in the Newport to Bermuda race.

Another former Rolex Yachtswoman of the Year on the team is Courtenay Becker-Day; Merritt Carey spent the past year with another all-women's team, sailing in the Whitbread Round the World Race; Dawn Riley, a member of the '92 *America*<sup>3</sup> team, was skipper of that Whitbread team; and Christie Evans of Marblehead has a wealth of experience in sailing.

Egnot, born in South Carolina but now living in New Zealand, was the 470 class Olympic silver medalist in 1992, and has been New Zealand's women's 470 champ every year since 1985.

The crew and *Matador* are scheduled to be in New York City this week to promote the America's Cup team.

*Joe Hoffman is a Times special writer.*