

Wilkins wins BBYRA A Cat race

By TOBY PRICE
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OCEAN GATE — Roy Wilkins won his second major A Cat trophy of the season yesterday as the Barnegat Bay Yacht Racing Association held its sixth regatta at the mouth of the Toms River.

The Ocean Gate and Pine Beach yacht clubs were co-hosts.

Wilkins, Island Heights, sailed his Spy to the victory in the Beck Crabbe Memorial Trophy race.

He won the historic Toms River Challenge Cup on July 15.

He has now won three races in a row and is in a virtual tie with Mike Frankovich's Bat for season honors.

The Beck Crabbe is a special test for the A Cats which traditionally start from anchoroff Ocean Gate.

Yesterday was a rare west wind race for the five A Cats and despite a slight bumping on the starting line the race went well.

The wind, which had been moderate all day, died somewhat by mid-afternoon and the A Cat race was shortened to 8.9 miles.

The committee tries to give the A Cats a

longer race for this trophy.

The BBYRA fleet totalled 177 boats yesterday, down about 40 because the E Scows didn't race. The E Scows had their Eastern championship off Cedar Creek last week.

The Easterns were dominated by Harry Melges III, Lake Geneva, Wis., who had five firsts in a 39-boat fleet.

Peter Fortenbaugh, Bay Head, was second and Erik Johnson, Toms River, was third.

Gerald Kinzel, Metedeconk River, won the 24-boat Blue Jay race for the Helen Drexel Yohn Trophy.

This award, originally for modified Lasers, was shifted to the Blue Jay class this year when the Laser M fleet folded.

Bob Sayia, Seaside Park, won the 27-boat Sanderling race for the Marshall trophy, a Pine Beach perpetual award. Del Kusma, Lavallette, was second and remains very much in the title chase.

The third Ocean Gate trophy, the William Snyder Memorial for 15-foot Sneakboxes, went to Steve Tyler, Island Heights.

Island Heights and Pine Beach each won four classes and Metedeconk River won three.

The other Island Heights winners were the Len

Egee-Bob Morrison team in Ensigns and Phil Reynolds in the 20-boat full-rig Lasers.

Pine Beach was led by John O'Leary who for the second straight week swept the Laser Radial open and junior classes.

Dr. Paul Plump won Prindle 18's and Jon Kozzi took Laser 150's.

The Laser Radials sail together but are score separately. O'Leary wasn't the only junior to excel. Seaside Park's Michael Poskay finished second overall with Matt Reiser, the first senior, in third place.

Metedeconk River's other two victories came from Jim Carson's team in Lightnings and Jim Gelenitis in M Scows.

Metedeconk's Dale Dunston was second to continue his season lead in M Scows.

Tori Rittenhouse, Lavallette, won the Laser II race. Read Hayward, Shore Acres, took the Hobie 18 race and Geoff Kendrick, Beachwood, won Flying Scots.

The BBYRA season continues next Saturday with racing at Normandy Beach Yacht Club. Only trophy race is the Phillips for the Lightning class.

The 76th annual season winds up with Saturday regattas at Beachwood, Lavallette and Seaside Park.