

RACING ROUND-UP

MERCURY FESTIVAL AT THE DAUPHIN D'OR

In excellent conditions nine entrants lined up at the start of this 370 kilometre race, including Tommy Sopwith, last year's winner, in *Enfield Avenger* with twin 475 hp MerCruiser engines. Vincenzo Balestrieri in *Black Tornado* and Bill Wishnick in *Boss O'Nova*, all fitted with MerCruisers, the latter two with twin 500 hp MerCruisers. Also on the starting line from the Ivory Coast, Dr. Orio and Brouns driving the new *Safari Express*, propelled by four 135 hp Mercury outboards.

From the start *Enfield Avenger* took the lead closely followed by *Safari Express*, but by the first control point at Bagaud the three super boats of *Enfield Avenger*, *Boss O'Nova* and *Black Tornado* turned at the same time averaging a speed of 105 km an hour. At this point *Safari Express* came to a halt for a short time, but started up almost immediately. At Monaco, Balestrieri took over the lead from Sopwith making use of his knowledge of this coast line, and went on to win at an average speed of 109.36 km per hour. *Boss O'Nova* then came up to pip Sopwith on the line, at an average speed of 106.84 km per hour. Sopwith came in third a few seconds later, at an average speed of 106.25 km per hour. Fourth place went to *Lady Nara* driven by the Italian Bonelli and Petroni, on a Don Aronow hull fitted with twin MerCruisers, at an average speed of 88.807 km per hour. *Safari Express*, the first boat powered by Mercury outboards, ran a close finish fifth at an average speed of 69.718 km per hour.

INFLATABLE RACING AT COWES

The *Daily Express*, after the start of the Offshore Powerboat Race at Cowes, staged a new race for 500 cc and 750 cc inflatable dinghies. The race proved hard going for all concerned due to the Force 6-7 weather conditions.

The overall winner, and 1st in Class I was Tim Curtis (Zodiac/Evinrude 50), who received the Silver Medal and the Embassy Trophy plus £50.



Balestrieri (sitting with cigarette) after his victory in the Dauphin D'or.



Carol Sawyer (Sales Manager for C-Craft) with the Langa Whisky Cup, celebrating his win in the 500 cc class of the Daily Express Inflatable Race at Cowes.

Carol Sawyer (C-Craft/Penta 45) battled against strong competition to win Class II and receive the Langa Whisky Trophy and a case of Langa Whisky. Second in Class I was A. Marshall who won the *Daily Express* Award of £10, and 2nd in Class II was E. Sowden, receiving the *Daily Express* Award of £10.

ANOTHER MERCUISER WIN IN GETINGLOPPET

Bill Wishnick of New York City was the formidable winner of Getingloppet, Sweden's race counting for the offshore world championship. His boat was a 36 ft. Cigarette with two MerCruisers, and the co-driver was Harald Woxen, a well-known Swedish boat racing personality. Wishnick/Woxen covered the 180 NM in 3.56.50 hours and averaged 45.6 knots. Wishnick's victory was an easy one since Vincenzo Balestrieri lost one of the drives on the way back to Oeregrund; second man home was Norwegian driver L. E. Daehlie in a Magnum 28 ft. with four Mercury 1250's.

The Getingloppet was facing very tough weather conditions and this resulted in a very few finishers. During the offshore race a one hour race was staged

outside the harbour in Oeregrund. This race was yet another Mercury victory as Rolf Jansson in a Schulze Mercury was the first man home.

NATIONAL WATER SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS

On Sunday, July 18, the British National Water Ski Championships were held at Princes Water Ski Club, Bedford, Middlesex. The winners who will go on to the World Championships to be held at Bañolas, Northern Spain, on September 16, are as follows: Karen Morse (Princes W.S.C.); Diane Kirby (Ruislip W.S.C.); Paul Seaton, Charles Brown and Jack Fulton (all from Princes W.S.C.); Ian Walker and James Carne (Ruislip W.S.C.).