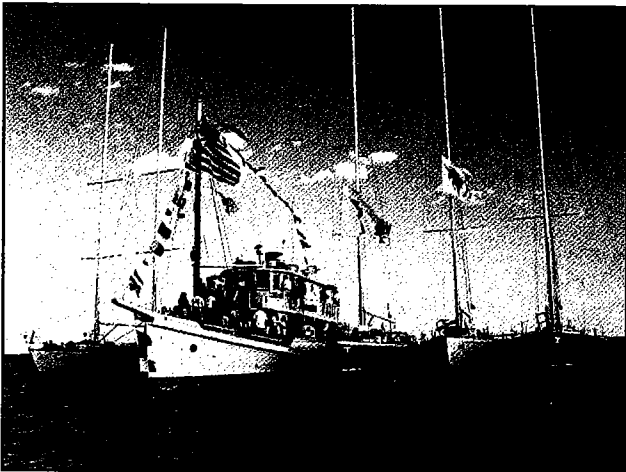


GOLDDIGGER WINS 2000 NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP



July 21-23 2000. The New York Yacht Club's Race Week on the waters off Newport Rhode Island proved a superb venue to hold the 2000 J/44 North American Championship. Three days of the famous Newport sea breeze permitted an outstanding race committee to hold three races a day on Friday and Saturday and a one-race finale on Sunday. Class President and skipper of Golddigger, always the gracious host, provided post race entertainment with a

terrific barbeque on Friday evening for the J/44 fleet. As if that was not enough, Jim also hosted a raft-up with the Coastal Queen after Saturday's racing. Long, grueling three race days left crews with big appetites and a strong thirst for Dark & Stormy's. Yet they provided no match for Jim's inexhaustible supply of food and spirits.

Day one and two provided a perfect 11-17 knot sea breeze allowing close racing, multiple

lead changes and several different teams to post first place finishes. Sailing in their first regatta aboard Brown Eyed Girl, Scott Dinhofer and his crew impressed many with two bullets on the first day as well as an impressive showing for the series. I-flags proved to be the team's demise by the end of the event. Three alternative penalties quickly damaged their chances for a

Golddigger continued on page 3

Martin van Breems' Ingenuity and J/44 have competitive edge in the Europe 1/New Man Star Singlehanded Race

At 11:30 I was awakened by a sickening crash. I bounded out of my main salon berth, and was greeted by the sight of a large red hull out the main salon portlights. My first thought was that I was being run over by a freighter. In a second I was on deck and saw that I had sailed right into a 60-foot fishing trawler, probably Portuguese. I could see that my bow was damaged. The front two feet of the boat had almost entirely broken off. The bow was hanging on by only a few layers

of glass on the port side. The stem of the boat was offset a good six feet to port, and there were gaping holes on the starboard side and on the deck. My position was 49 degrees 47.6' north, 11 degrees 06.8 west.

Martin van Breems set out on the first leg of the Europe 1/New Man Star race on June 4, 2000, from Plymouth, England to Newport, Rhode Island, USA. This race evolved out of the 40-year-old Ostar, a singlehanded race held every four years. The race travels the "wrong way" going

west, into the wind. In addition to wind, there is fog, cold temperatures, large waves, foul currents, icebergs and shipping traffic. Aboard his J/44 Mohegan, which he purchased and refurbished in 1996, van Breems encountered numerous challenges that threatened his safety and his chances of completing the race. This is the story of an ingenious inventor, sailor and adventurer.

Martin van Breems
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2000 J/44 Class Race Results

AMERICAN YACHT CLUB SPRING SERIES

- 1 Challenge IV
- 2 Mabuhay II
- 3 Golddigger

NEWPORT BERMUDA RACE ONE DESIGN

- SCORING
- 1 Stampede
 - 2 Golddigger
 - 3 Resolute

J/44 NORTH AMERICANS

- 1 Golddigger
- 2 Brown Eyed Girl
- 3 Runaway

VINEYARD RACE

- 3rd in class: Vamp

NOOD

- 1 Mabuhay II
- 2 Challenge IV
- 3 Brown Eyed Girl

AMERICAN YACHT CLUB FALL SERIES

- 1 Brown Eyed Girl
- 2 Golddigger
- 3 Runaway

MANHASSET BAY FALL SERIES

- 1 Mabuhay II
- 2 Brown Eyed Girl
- 3 Golddigger

