

O'Malley, Kerr reign in 5th Island Row

By MARK STONE
Sports Editor

NORTH WILLOWOOD — Twenty-four crew boats and 48 lifeguards from the South Jersey shore region pitted their nautical skill and physical endurance against 21 miles of sea and exposed for over three hours in its elements in Wednesday's 5th annual "Around-the-Island Row."

"It's the most grueling thing I've ever done," gasps an exhausted Jimmy Fenningham of the North Willowood Beach after guiding his craft around Five-Mile Beach with his partner Larry Wargo in 3:06, good enough for a third place finish in the competition.

The best time of the day belonged to Dan O'Malley and Dave Kerr of the Avalon Beach Patrol. Already one of the top crews in the shore area with victories in the South Jersey and "Dutch" Hoffman Lifeguard Championships, the Avalon duo added the 21-mile island row to their list of achievements with a 3:01 time, just three minutes shy of the competition record set in 1975 by Jim Troy and Harry Zander.

The Avalon crew went ahead of the pack at the halfway point and stretched its lead to several hundred yards over its nearest rival, Todd Miller and Hill Howarth of the Ventnor Beach Patrol, to cruise across the finish line.

The victory wasn't as easy as it sounds. The heat of the day beat down upon the boat crews, draining their strength and having an effect on the outcomes of several of the crews. Even the champs didn't

escape the heat. "We started to die on the way to the inlet," states O'Malley. "We crawled across the line, a lot of O'Malley." "We were going for the record, bearing on the outcome of the

but we were just happy with our finish," concludes O'Malley on his course run.

The day's devastating heat had a bearing on the outcome of the



IT'S THE MOST GRUELING THING I'VE EVER DONE," states Jimmy Fenningham as he rows bow for the North Willowood Beach Patrol, along with his partner Larry

Wargo, in the 5th annual Around-the-Island Row. This crew from NWBP finished third overall in the race as they strained through the 21-mile course.

solo the remainder of course to finish eighth overall. Joseph has since been released from the hospital.

The remainder of the field just crossed the finish line and dragged themselves to the North Willowood Beach Patrol Headquarters, where they recuperated from their day's ordeal.

Many guards confessed that they don't know why they enter the race, knowing the aches and pains involved. Yet, not one stated that he would not return to do it all over again next year.

Those who took part in this year's island row had a bit of incentive behind them. This is the first year that prize money has been offered in the top five finishers: \$1,000 for first, \$600 for second, \$400 for third, \$200 for fourth, and \$100 for fifth. Each amount to be split between the boat's crew.

The money was offered by the North Willowood Beach Patrol in hopes of getting a larger field than last year. A goal it accomplished, with 24 crews accepting this year compared to 18 last year. The row was also co-sponsored by the Miller Brewing Company, who provided some of the prize money, along with presenting trophies to the victors.

According to a spokesperson for the beach patrol guards from up and down the East Coast are to be invited to the island row. The eventual goal is to have the row an event of similar status to the Hoffman Lifeguard Championshipslips

us down the coast but they took a couple breaks and we didn't. That's when we pulled away and kept a couple of blocks distance between us the rest of the way," recalls Fenningham.

Those breaks the Crest crew look were needed, as the heat finally took its toll on the team.

"The heat got to us and slowed us down," relates Bilkens. "That caused North Willowood to eventually overtake us after we passed them in the Crest."

"After we passed Ocean City and Brigantine, we thought we had a chance to overtake North Willowood and Ventnor," continues Bilkens. "but the heat just got to us. We tried to make a last minute run at North Willowood for third, but again the heat was just too much. We had to settle and hold onto fourth place."

Although the heat was a definite factor in the island row, only one contestant was effected seriously enough to taken to Burdette-Tornlin Hospital. Charles Joseph of the Atlantic City Beach Patrol was stricken with heat exhaustion and had to be taken from the race at Lincoln Ave.

Undaunted, Joseph's crew partner, Bob Gerbutt of the Margate City Beach Patrol went

BREAKING AWAY FROM THE PACK are these three boats as they emerge from under the Rio Grande Bridge in the Around-the-Island Row and continue their venture along the island shore.

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Nastase Opens in Top Form

NEW YORK (AP) — It was anything but routine as the Nastase and Martina Navratilova won first-round matches at the U.S. Open tennis championships Wednesday.

Nastase, whose last appearance at the National Tennis Center almost ended in a riot, eloquently complained his way through a 6-4, 6-1, 4-6, 6-2 victory over Patrice Dominguez of France — only to learn hours later that his misbehavior during the match had cost him \$750 in fines.

Navratilova, seeded second behind defending women's champion Tracy Austin, also got a surprise. She expected an easy first-round match against little-known Lena Sandin of Sweden, but instead had to struggle to pull out a 6-4, 4-6, 6-2 triumph.

One match in which there were no surprises was third-seeded Jimmy Connors' night encounter with Marcel Freeman, a 20-year-old UCLA junior who is listed down at No. 102 on the latest computer rankings.

Freeman didn't last long, bowing to the hard-hitting Connors, 6-2, 6-2, 6-2. Connors, who won this event in 1974, 1976 and 1978 and would like nothing better than to keep up his streak of successes in even years, was too strong and too steady for Freeman, who could not cope with his serve and volley game and precise passing shots.

Navratilova, who withdrew from the Canadian Open two weeks ago because of a bad back and was beaten by Hana Mandlikova in the semifinals at Madison, Wis., last week, said her back was no problem against Sandin, a youngster with strong strokes who took advantage of Navratilova's frequent errors.

Two seeded men were eliminated Wednesday.

No. 6 Gene Mayer suffered a recurrence of a pulled hamstring muscle during the fourth set of his match against Italy's Gianni Occhipello and had to withdraw. Mayer was leading 6-2, 6-1, 6-7, 2-4 when he quit.

No. 12 Jose-Luis Clerc of Argentina lost a three-hour, 20-minute marathon to veteran Burnie Bosner of South Africa 6-3, 6-2, 4-6, 2-6, 7-5.

In other men's first-round matches, seventh-seeded Harold Solomon beat Joe Norback of Sweden 6-4, 6-4, 6-3. No. 10 Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia defeated Tim Mayotte 6-4, 6-3, 7-6.

No. 13 Brian Gottfried topped David Carter of Australia 6-7, 6-2, 6-1, 6-3, and No. 16 Vic Amaya beat Larry Davidson 6-4, 6-2, 7-5.

Among the women, sixth-seeded Diane Fromholtz of Australia and 10th-rated Virginia Ruzici of Romania both advanced to the third round. Fromholtz ousted Zina Garrison 6-3, 2-6, 6-4, while Ruzici, coached by Nina Bohm of Sweden 6-0, 6-3.



PHILLY — Phillies Pitcher Steve Carlton bends over as Los Angeles First Baseman Steve Garvey tags him on a fifth inning pickoff attempt Wednesday night. The Phillies won 4-3 against Carlton's 20th win.

McGraw And Phils Save Lefty's 20th

Philadelphia 4, Los Angeles 3
By HARRY HOFFMAN
Press Sports Writer

PHILADELPHIA — Given a big assist by his offense in the bottom of the eighth inning and relief pitcher Tug McGraw in the top of the ninth, brilliant southpaw Steve Carlton reached the 20-victory plateau for the fifth time in his career Wednesday night at Veterans Stadium.

The Philadelphia Phillies pitching leader wound up with a 4-3 victory over Los Angeles that brought his record to 20-7. It is the fourth time he has won 20 or more games with the Phils. He accomplished that feat once with St. Louis. This is Lefty's 14th big league season.

Steve would have wound up with a no-decision had not his club broke the 2-0 tie in the bottom of the eighth after he had been lifted for pinch hitter Keith Moreland.

Larry Bowa started the inning off lower Steve Howe 6-6, by beating out a ground ball to shortstop Bob Boone sacrificed him to second. Moreland slouched a single to left but Bowa was forced to stop at third base. Lonnie Smith went in to run for Moreland and the tangled single second and scored on a single by Boone.

With Pete Rose batting, Green was able to put the hit and run on. When Rose hit a sharp grounder to shortstop Bill Russell, he had no chance to hit a game-winning double play since Smith was already at second before the ball reached the shortstop's glove. The out at first base allowed Bowa to score the decisive run.

McGraw made the one run stand up while recording his team-high 14th save by retiring the Los Angeles batters in the ninth inning.

"I really think I was a little lucky out there, even though I did get all three hitters," Tug said. "I was extra nervous when I went to the mound. I was totally wrong about what happened the other night (the hit Bill Russell in the back after throwing close to him three other times) and I guess that was proving on my mind."

"I got behind the hitters and was forced to go after them with fast balls. Fortunately, I still have a fastball," Tug said.

He fanned pinch hitter Jay Johnson with heat. He did the same with Dave Lopes. Tug came a dramatic confrontation with Russell, whose ground out to second baseman Manny Trillo ended the game.

It was the Phils salvaged one game after dropping the first two in the LA series. They wound up a sub-par 4-5 for the home stand. However, they still gained on the Pirates, who lost to Atlanta for the third straight time. The Phils are now 8 1/2 games behind the National League East leaders and only one game back in the all-important last column.

The Dodgers broke on top against Carlton as Lopes and Russell began the game with back-to-back doubles. The Phils tied it on starter Bob Welch in the second. Garry Maddox singled, stole second and scored on a single by Boone.

Rightfielder Mickey Hatcher doubted home a run for the Dodgers in the fourth.

However, the Phils went in front 2-1 with a pair of runs in the fifth. Carlton helped himself by starting the inning with a single to center. Rose doubled him home but was thrown out trying to make third base.

"I saw Lefty hesitate and then continue home so I thought they would go over him. No way I wanted to still be on second base if they threw him out at the plate," Rose explained. Pete wound up with three of the Phils' hits.

He pitched over in his back. He was unconscious while being taken to the hospital.

The two were South Jersey LifeGuard Rowing Champions in 1973, 1976, and 1978, according to Bob Garbutt.

Wildwood Crest's Tom Ferrace and Bob Mixkins were fourth in 3:06 to win \$200 and Birmingham's Mark Spencer and Rick Bruce grabbed \$100 for fifth place.

Bilkins and another partner, Dave Koper, won the Island Row last year.

The Row is the last major event of the life-guarding racing season. It was sponsored by Miller Beer.

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Avalon Beach Patrol's Dave Kerr and Dan O'Malley, winners of the South Jersey LifeGuard Championships and the Dutch Hoffman East Coast Championships, grabbed the lead half way through the race and they finished about 100 yards ahead. They just hung on to the lead we had.

The duo finished in 3:03 and North Wildwood's Larry Wargo and Jim Penningham were third in 3:05. The winners got \$1,000, second place \$600, and third \$400, according to Jim Troy.

"We were both hurting," said O'Malley, a junior at the University of California Santa Barbara. "We took the lead about half way into the race and we finished about 100 yards ahead. They just hung on to the lead we had."

"By far, this is the most pain I've ever experienced," he said. "I was sweating the whole way. I stopped twice to drink. I drank about a quart each time. This is a lot harder than a 26-mile training marathon."

Among the women, sixth-seeded Diane Fromholtz of Australia and 10th-rated Virginia Ruzici of Romania both advanced to the third round. Fromholtz ousted Zina Garrison 6-3, 2-6, 6-4, while Ruzici, coached by Nina Bohm of Sweden 6-0, 6-3.

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Curcio Finds Himself Back in Mays Landing After Eagles Make Cut

"It's such a crying shame when you have to let go of a kid like this. He's shown us plenty. His play on special teams was very good. And he's a super pass defender with good ball sense. He was trying to buck our strongest department and we decided to keep only seven linemen this year, instead of eight."

—Eagle Linebacker Coach George Hill

Mike Curcio woke up Wednesday morning happy about one thing. He had expressed the urge to buy \$100 in odds against the sun's rising.

A new day was there, and so was the 23-year-old Curcio. There was still one question nagging him. Where was he, anyway?

He knew he wasn't with the Philadelphia Eagles anymore. The trap door had opened early Tuesday and Curcio, along with eight other Eagle hopefuls, found himself in the West Chester State parking lot sitting on his bags, and his dreams.

It happened faster than it took the third assistant "Mucky-Muck," known as "The Turk," to knock on his door and say, "Coach Vermel wants to see you now."

"When I got in for only one series against New England on Sunday (during the Eagles' 3-17 run over the Patriots) I guess I should have figured something was up," said Curcio. "All the time I was there, though, I got nothing but positive feedback. I was improving, I thought, and getting more comfortable all the time. The coaches had been telling me I was coming along."

In what little time he spent with Vermel and linebackers coach George Hill, Tuesday, Curcio found out that he was the victim of numbers priorities.

Football League. But added that he had fallen too far behind the club's veteran inside linebackers — Bill Bergey, Frank LoMaster and Al Chesley — especially against the run. Hill added that there was more to it than that, and that none of it was the 6-foot, 2, 237-pounder's fault.

"He had some problems with the run, sure. But every rookie linebacker encounters those things. And I'll tell you he was faster along than all the other rookie linebackers in the camp."

"It's such a crying shame when you have to let go of a kid like this. But it was a situation where our defense was pretty well set and the offense still needs to evaluate people at guard and at running back."

Curcio admitted that he made some mistakes in the trenches.

"I'd get caught in the wrong position, and sometimes I would have to spend too much time shuffling blockers," the former Oakcrest High player said. "The first game against Buffalo, I was perturbed and I showed it. But against the New York Jets, I felt a little more comfortable. They put a long drive on when I was in. But I was doing the things I had to do. Against New England was my best show yet. But I never got more than one series to show what I could do. There were just too many linebackers to look at."

Curcio had his moments — an interception against the Bills and a quarterback sack of New England's Matt Cavanaugh on a second and goal situation last Sunday.

"He'd shown us plenty. His play on special teams was very good. And he's a super pass defender with good ball sense," Hill said. "He was trying to buck our strongest department and we decided to keep only seven

Crossfire



By Pete Wickham

linebackers this year."

Many had feared that Curcio would have trouble making the Eagles after they drafted the former Oakcrest and Temple star in the eighth round last May.

To Curcio's credit, he put those thoughts aside as he went one-on-one with the weight machine during the winter. He declined to wallow in the inevitable in the two-day drills in the 99 degree heat. And he refused to join the Liberty Belles for a quick cartwheel when Garvey came out of



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Westinghage was timed in 3:31.6 and another West German, Harald Hudak, finished third in 3:32.0, also squeezing in under the old standard of 3:32.1 held jointly by Overtt and arch-rival countryman Westinghage.

The 24-year-old Overtt led Westinghage set the fast pace, then moved ahead with about 500 meters remaining and held off the West Germans in the race to the tape.

Afterward, he called Westinghage, "the best racecaster for me."

Westinghage missed the 1980 Summer Olympics in Moscow because of a bad back.

Overtt, the 600-meter Olympic gold medalist, finished third behind Jürgen Strahl of East Germany, who set the pace in the Moscow 1,500.

But Overtt had to miss the meet in Koblenz, a Rhine River city 60 kilometers south of Bonn, because of back trouble.

Overtt could start here without any stress," said Overtt, who had served notice on Tuesday that he would try for the world mark.

Overtt Shatters Mark In 1,500-Meter Race

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Canada, Washington Win In LL World Series Play

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa. (AP) — Todd Caterly pitched a no-hitter and smacked three hits, including a homer, to lead Kirkland, Wash., to a 15-0 victory over Des Moines, Iowa, Wednesday in opening round action of the Little League Baseball World Series.

Later Wednesday, Canadian champion Trail, B.C., rallied for a 9-8 victory over a team from the U.S. Air Force Base in Madrid, Spain.

Kirkland's Thursday set the winners into the semifinals Thursday against Tampa, Fla.

Trail faces an imposing challenge in the other semifinal Thursday against Taiwan, bidding for its ninth title in 12 seasons.

In Wednesday's second game, the team from Madrid held a 5-2 lead in the eighth inning, but the Canadians broke the game open with a seven-run fourth inning that included

two-run doubles Terry Altregge and Barry Parazotto.

There were almost as many errors as hits in the free-wheeling game. Canada had seven hits and six errors, and the Madrid team had six hits and five errors.

In Wednesday's earlier game, Kirkland snuffed a scoreless tie with a five-run fourth inning off Des Moines pitcher Al Gallardo.

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AP Laserphoto

DUCK! — Phillies Pitcher Steve Carlton bends over as fifth inning pick-off attempt Wednesday night. The Los Angeles First Base Steve Garvey tags him on a Phillips won 4-3 giving Carlton his 20th win.

the game with back-to-back doubles for one run.
 The Phils tied it on starter Bob Welch in the second. Garry Maddox singled, stole second and scored on a single by Boone.
 Rightfielder Mickey Hatcher doubled home a run for the Dodgers in the fourth.
 However, the Phils went in front 3-2 with a pair of runs in the fifth. Carlton helped himself by starting the inning with a single to center. Rose doubled him home but was thrown out trying to make third base.
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sacrificed him to second. Moreland slashed a single to left but Bowa was forced to stop at third base. Lonnie Smith went in to run for Moreland and the move by Manager Dallas Green paid off.
 With Pete Rose batting, Green was able to put the hit and run on. When Rose hit a sharp grounder to shortstop Bill Russell, he had no chance to initiate an inning-ending double play since Smith was already at second before the ball reached the shortstop's glove. The out at first base allowed Bowa to score the decisive run.
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The duo finished in 3 hours, 1 minute, three minutes off the event record set by North Wildwood Beach Patrol Captain Jim Troy and Harry Zander in 1976. This is the event's third round.
 Garrison 6-5
 breezed by
 1, 6-3.

This is the first year the duo have rowed together and its been a highly successful one. O'Malley said the two plan to work together again next year. The crews make a counter-clockwise course around the Wildwoods' Island, starting and ending at 15th Street Beach.

"We made it just barely," said Howarth. Howarth and his younger brother, Gary, won the Brigantine and Longport Invitationals and the Margate Memorial. But, Howarth said, his brother had back problems and couldn't row Wednesday. So Howarth asked Miller to be his partner. Miller rested on a sleeping bag in the beach patrol office after the race.

The race took its toll on everyone.

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But Coe had to miss the meet in Koblenz, a Rhine River city 60 kilometers south of Bonn, because of back trouble.

"I could start here without any stress," said Ovett, who had served notice on Tuesday that he would try for the world mark.

"I had to run this race," Wessinghage said after the competitors had celebrated with a victory lap before about 12,000 exuberant fans.

"And at the risk of hurting his feelings, I could have closed it up at the last minute."
 A troublesome seismic nerve kept Coe, holder of the 800-meter world record, out of Monday's Golden Mile at London's Crystal Palace, a race