

From The Press Box



Photo by Lisa Frey

Don Allen Ford owner Bill Tomovich with the Autism Speaks NASCAR race car in Hyannis Wednesday afternoon before the car came over on the boat. It will be on display tomorrow during a "Cruise Night for Autism Speaks" at Don Allen.

CRUISE ON IN: Don Allen Ford on Polpis Road will host a "Cruise Night" for Autism Speaks from 5-7:30 p.m. Friday. On display will be the Autism Speaks NASCAR race car, antique cars, motorcycles, hot rods and brand-new Porsches. The event will also feature live music, a barbecue and kids' activities. Bring your own classic car or motorcycle. \$15 suggested donation; food \$10. All proceeds benefit Autism Speaks.

The Porsches will also be available for test drives from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. through Saturday at Great Harbor Yacht Club on Washington Street in conjunction with Nantucket Race Week. To register for a test drive, log on to www.porsche-drivingevent.com

HALF AND HALF: Sign-ups for the Nantucket Half Marathon are currently underway. The event will be held Oct. 9 beginning at 8 a.m. and can be run as an individual for a \$50 entry fee or as a three-person relay for \$120. There will also be a half-mile fun run for children.

The even is sponsored by the Nantucket Triathlon Club and a portion of the proceeds will benefit the Nantucket Lighthouse School. To register online, go to www.active.com/running/nantucket-ma/nantucket-half-marathon-2011.

SKATE TEAMS: The Nantucket Park and Recreation Department, along with island skateboarder William Liriano, will host a skateboarding demonstration Sunday, Aug. 21 from 3-7 p.m. at the Nantucket Skate Park on Backus Lane.

The event will feature two skate teams, Red Alert from New Hampshire and Boarding House from Hyannis. The teams will demonstrate some skating in the flats and the bowl. Following the demonstration, a skating workshop will be held for all ages.

PADDLE POWER: Nantucket native and Hawaiian transplant Deb Driscoll has been nominated for Stand Up Paddler Woman of the Year by paddling website supconnect.com.

Voting for the award is now open; To vote for Deb go to <http://supconnect.myllocallineup.com/Sup-Women/deb-driscoll.html>

SHUTTER BUGS: Mass Audubon has announced its second statewide photo contest. Nature-lovers from across the commonwealth are encouraged to submit photos that demonstrate their connection to the natural world from now until Sept. 5.

Participants may submit up to five digital images taken in Massachusetts or at Mass Audubon's Wildwood Camp in Rindge, N.H. The contest is open to amateur and professional photographers in one of two categories: adults (age 18 or older) and students (under 18). Black and white and color photos taken at any time prior to or during the photo contest are eligible, providing contest rules are met. Contest ends Sept. 5, 2011. For more information or to submit photos go to www.massaudubon.org/picturethis.

Photo finish at Tour of Nantucket

Todd Burns edges out competition in the final few feet

By Peter Martin
I&M Sports Editor

Islander Todd Burns won the reincarnated Tour of Nantucket bike race Sunday morning, completing the 28-mile course in one hour, eight minutes, 56 seconds, just ahead of a pack of eight other racers.

"With just about a mile left, my (Nantucket Cycling Club) teammate made an awesome pull-out and I said, 'that's my ride,' so I got on his wheel and was able to just nip him out in the end," Burns said.

Burns narrowly edged out Mark Haran in a wild sprint to the finish. Jake Allegrini, Chip Drapeaux, David Troast, Angus MacVicar, Garth Smith, Gregory Fowlkes and John Mannix were all part of the sprint as well and rounded out the top group.

The race, which grew out of the former Tour De Loop bike race, traveled over roughly the same ground. The event was put on by the Nantucket Triathlon Club,



Photo by Nicole Harnisheger

Todd Burns, right, edges out Mark Haran, left, and Jake Allegrini at the Tour of Nantucket finish.

which also sponsored a five-kilometer road race Daffodil Weekend.

The Tri-Club also has plans for a

half-marathon on Oct. 9.

These new events on the island are all in keeping with its mission

to bring more athletic events to the

island to alleviate travel issues for many of Nantucket's committed

athletes.

With a 7 a.m. start and using its own staff to direct racers at the corners and finish, the triathlon club was able to run the event with just one police officer, who led the pack on a motorcycle, and no road closings.

The race began at the intersection of New Street and Milestone Road. From there, the racers headed down Milestone to the rotary.

At the Milestone Rotary, the pack turned right and headed up Polpis Road. After looping along the north shore, the pack followed Sankaty Road into Sconset before swinging through town on West Sankaty Road and then back to New Street.

The second lap followed the exact same course, ending just north of Sconset on Polpis Road at the entrance to the Sankaty Head Golf Club.

The top female finisher was Gretchen Cooney who topped the other 10 women with a time of 1:22:44, just ahead of a pack that included Elisa Allen, Jinx Howe, Debranne Cingari, Lisa Botticelli, Gabrielle Friendly and Heather Williams.

In total, 50 cyclists competed in

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Race Week's Celebrity Invitational brings some of the world's top sailors to the island

By Peter Martin
I&M Sports Editor

Of all the events held during Nantucket Race Week, one of the most popular is the International One Design Celebrity Invitational regatta scheduled for today and tomorrow.

The race attracts the cream of the crop of the sailing world, both in terms of the "celebrity" skippers and their amateur crews.

"We have some world-class sailors as the celebrity tacticians, and some really world-class amateurs as well," said Chris Gould, one of the co-chairs of the event.

U.S. senator and summer resident John Kerry, as well as former Olympic sailors John Dane and Carlo Falcone are among this year's amateur sailors scheduled to race in the IOD regatta.

Along with them is a veritable who's who of sailing tapped to be the celebrity tacticians. Racers like

Chuck Allen, who will participate in the J/24 World Championships in November; David Dellenbaugh, who was the tactician on America3 during the 1992 America's Cup, and Mark Reynolds, who has three Olympic sailing medals, will all be at the event.

One of the most impressive celebrity sailors to join the race this year will be Sally Barkow, the top female American skipper in the world.

Born in Wisconsin, Barkow learned the craft of sailing far away from the open ocean.

"I started sailing when I was 5 years old," Barkow said. "We sailed on smaller lakes and occasionally the Great Lakes."

Barkow grew up on Pine Lake near the border of Michigan's Upper Peninsula in a family that was tied to sailing.

"We have always been big sailors," she said. "My parents met

when they were sailing and they always let the five of us sail as much as we could."

She sailed right through high school and into college, where she was a Collegiate National Champion in 2002 at Old Dominion University. After graduation, she went directly into professional sailing.

She won the Rolex Women's Keelboat Championship in 2003, 2005 and 2007; the Match Race World Championship in 2004 and 2005, and was named the Yachtswoman of the Year in 2005 and 2007.

In 2008 she represented the United States at the Olympic Games in Beijing, and placed seventh overall in women's keelboat. The finish still ranks, however, as she and her crew had an opportunity to compete for the bronze medal heading into the last race.

"We had a shot and we messed

RACE WEEK, PAGE 16B



Photo by Jim Powers

The start of the one-design Indian race on the first day of Race Week.

Ozone Classic fun in the sun, but not the surf

By Peter Martin
I&M Sports Editor

Though the weather never really cooperated, and there actually wasn't any surfing, the 10th annual Ozone Surf Classic Sunday was a success, raising \$40,000 to \$50,000 for island charities.

The event was originally scheduled for Aug. 7, but it was postponed a week due to a storm that brought high winds and an inch of rain to the island. While dry, the conditions were no better for surfing Sunday, as the competitors arrived at Cisco Beach to find an ocean that was smooth as glass.

"I'm just very thankful that everyone had the best attitude," said race organizer and founder John Jordin. "Everyone said, 'no waves, no problem,' and we had a great day."

Though a few small swells developed during the afternoon, they were not enough to actually surf on.

With a lack of waves, the format of the competition was changed to a paddling contest. Entrants raced around buoys and back to the beach paddling their boards.

"I'm just thankful that everyone had the best attitude. Everyone said, 'no waves, no problem,' and we had a great day."

— John Jordin

Nowhere was the feeling of fun and camaraderie more evident than in the finals of the women's long board. Rachel and Caroline Powers, island natives and sisters, were well ahead of the pack as they came in to the beach.

"We were pushing ourselves to win, but then we looked at each other and said, 'Do you just want to tie?' so we did," Rachel said.

"That's the point of the day," Caroline echoed. "Just coming together and having fun even with no waves."

The money raised by the event

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Photo by Jim Powers

The start of the Junior Men's Longboard paddle Sunday. Spencer Bridges, in front, won the event.