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Kyle Daniels Wins Second

Consecutive Catalina Classic: Defends Title to Beat Record Field

08/26/07. Manhattan Beach, CA

Los Angeles County Lifeguard Kyle Daniels won the 32nd Annual Catalina Classic Paddleboard Race this morning, taking the lead

from the beginning of the race, and never losing his first place position. He finished in a time of 5 hours, 47 minutes and five seconds.

"I'm really happy to have won the race again," said Daniels at the finish, "any time you do the channel, even finishing is an accomplishment. The entire race this year is dedicated to the memory of Gibby Gibson, but I personally dedicated my race to Gibby as well, because none of us would be here without him."

Conditions for the race were rough from the beginning, and Daniels said that leading was a difficult task. "Attacking really took something out of me. I was pretty paranoid for most of the race, out there alone trying to hold everybody off."

Daniels charted a unique course by paddling on a lower line than the rest of the competitors, a choice he said was part of a pre-planned strategy. "I sent out a sail boat ahead of me and followed it on a low line."

Reigning QuiksilverEdition Molokai to Oahu Champion Jamie Mitchell did not compete in the event due to a shoulder injury.

"I would have loved to have Jamie in the race, but a shoulder injury is something you don't want to take a chance on," said Daniels.



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Fellow Los Angeles County Lifeguard Ryan Addison followed Daniels by six minutes and thirty-nine seconds, finishing in a time of 5:53:44. Addison, competing in his sixth Catalina Classic Race, said that the conditions were the worst that he could remember.

"That was a tough race," said Addison. "There were times that I was looking at my escort boat and questioning myself," he added, saying that he was happy with his race. "Of course you want to win, but first you want to get across."

Addison finished strongly, and held off a charge from first-time Catalina paddler Chad Carvin, an Olympic Silver Medalist in the 2000 4x200 meter relay.

"I knew he was going to be solid," said Addison.

For his part, Carvin said that his first Catalina Classic race was a grueling experience.

"I wouldn't wish that race on my worst enemy," he said. "I hit the wall after three hours, and then when we hit the R-10, I felt good and tried to make a charge.

Keoni Watson won the stock paddleboard division in a time of 6:30:49. Watson also won the stock paddleboard division at the QuiksilverEdition Molokai to Oahu race.

A record field of 90 paddlers started out from Catalina morning this morning. Stay tuned to paddleboard.com for complete results.

RESULTS (complete results soon available)

Unlimited

1. Kyle Daniels
2. Ryan Addison
3. Chad Carvin
4. John Engel
5. Justin Mitchell

Women

1. Rebecca Gilman
2. Shannon Delaney

Stock

1. Keoni Watson



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