



LOGBOOK

Friday 21st January 2011

HERE WE GO AGAIN!

MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS ON THE TO-DO LIST

BRING BACK THE SUSPENSE!

RANKING: 6th

WEATHER: Sunny spells with isolated showers. High temperatures

WIND: Easterly, 15 - 18 knots

BOAT SPEED: 16 knots, heading due south

MENU:

Breakfast: Cereals

Meal n°1: Chicken with herbs + vanilla/raspberry custard

Meal n°2: Veal

HERE WE GO AGAIN!



Only a mere 200 miles separate the nine leading boats in the Barcelona World Race after 21 days of racing, demonstrating the high level of the teams across the fleet.

Currently lying in fifth place, Mirabaud has been in a constant battle with the top teams around her, moving between third and sixth place depending on the weather systems they encounter and the tactical decisions taken. At this point in the competition, it's safe to say the team have been doing an incredible job.

Dominique and Michèle have been putting 120% effort into the race and are working in harmony with the elements and their boat – not to mention each other! However, Dominique

is not entirely happy with the situation at the moment. "The guys in front of us, Foncia and Virbac Paprec, have got away from the rest of the fleet, and the boats behind us have caught up considerably. We didn't really have any other strategic choices," he explains regretfully. "At least now we're moving again and I don't think we'll be held up again even if there is still a small area of high pressure in front of us; We should get through it pretty quickly."

Michel Desjoyeaux and François Gabart onboard Foncia are back in the lead despite a forced stopover in Recife. The normally calm zone along the Brazilian coast actually provided the pair with a beautiful following northerly wind, turning their misfortune into a resounding success.

BRING BACK THE SUSPENSE!



Dominique Wavre took part in his first round-the-world race 30 years ago, in 1981, on board Disque d'Or III. In those days, the skipper Pierre Fehlmann, recorded a message for Radio Bern twice a week.

The public were able to phone an answering machine and listen to a mysterious crackly voice tell seaman's tales of adventures on the high-seas. These days, the power of technology has brought us closer to the racing than ever but now leaves little to the imagination. Life on board is brought directly to our screen in real time through video, photo and on-line trackers and we can even ask questions directly to the skippers all those miles away. Aside from all the obvious advantages, maybe all this technology

takes away just a little of the mystery of ocean racing for the public? Ever conscious of this, the organisers have been trying to re-inject a dose of the unknown through the introduction of 'stealth mode'. This allows boats to disappear from our screens, and those of their adversaries, for up to 36 hours. Each team may play this card up to four times over the course of the race and not once as previously reported. All this should guarantee some nail-biting moments over the coming weeks.

MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS ON THE TO-DO LIST



"Mirabaud is in good shape but we are regularly checking the trouble spots and trying to tackle problems before they arise," explains Dominique. "We haven't yet managed a full check of the boat as the conditions over the past few days have meant we've been trimming constantly; it's been a very intense period. But, hopefully over the next few days we'll be able to climb the mast and check the steering system before we hit the Southern Ocean."

The team should reach the colder waters of the South in around four days. Temperatures will start plummeting soon, while the seas will steadily build, signalling the start of a gruelling period of the race in the toughest conditions on earth. The only light at end of the tunnel is Cape Horn in around 40 days time.

CHECK OUT THE LATEST VIDEO DIARY

<http://www.youtube.com/user/dominiquewavre>

RANKING THE 21ST JANUARY 11 PM

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1) FONCIA (0.0) | 8) NEUTROGENA (+205.8) |
| 2) ESTRELLA DAMM (+ 49.5) | 9) GAES (+222.2) |
| 3) VIBRAC PAPREC 3 (+ 53.3) | 10) HUGO BOSS (+340.3) |
| 4) GROUPE BEL (+ 80.2) | 11) CENTRAL LECHERA ASTURIANA (+356.5) |
| 5) MAPFRE (+ 151.4) | 12) WE ARE WATER (+396.5) |
| 6) MIRABAUD (+154.2) | 13) FORUM MARITIM CATALA (+548.7) |
| 7) RENAULT Z.E. SAILING TEAM (+186.9) | |



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