



# LOGBOOK

*Tuesday 25th January 2011*

SWINGS AND ROUNDABOUTS

A NEW DIMENSION

ICEBERG TO STARBOARD!

RANKING: 7th

WEATHER: Tail-end of Saint Helena's High, grey skies, temperatures falling

WIND: South-westerly, increasing. 15 knots

BOAT SPEED: 11 knots, heading 130°

MENU:

Breakfast: Cereals

Meal n° 1: Chicken Korma + vanilla rice pudding

Meal n° 2: Pasta with cheese



# SWINGS AND ROUNDABOUTS



*So far the Atlantic Ocean has been particularly unforgiving with the crew on board Mirabaud and the supply of humour on board is running a little low. At the end of last week, Dominique and Michèle were looking good in third place, 200 miles from the leaders, but now find themselves brutally pushed down into seventh place and 800 miles from the front runners. At this stage this equates to 3 whole days sailing.*

While Jean-Pierre Dick and Loïck Peyron onboard Virbac Paprec were setting a new record for the maximum distance covered in 24 hours (516 miles at an average of 21 knots), the end of last week saw Mirabaud and those around her firmly stuck in an area of calm.

According to the official race website, "The biggest loser in this latest series of gambles has undoubtedly been Mirabaud. Dominique Wavre and Michèle Paret have had to watch helplessly as their opponents passed within 20 miles of

them at 6 knots whilst the sea around Mirabaud resembled a millpond." Frustrating times!

Needless to say, Dominique and Michèle have had to dig deep into their collective resources to get through this 'bubble of high pressure', as the meteorologists call it. "We've stopped looking at how the boats around us are doing; it's just too depressing," admitted a slightly disheartened Dominique yesterday. "We are focusing on trying to optimize our boat speed as much as possible, making sure we have the right set-

tings and squeezing every last drop of speed out of her. There's nothing more we can do at this stage, and things couldn't be much worse. To be honest, morale is a bit low onboard at the moment! Having said that, at least we are moving again now, which lightens the atmosphere a bit, but we can't help but kick ourselves for the time we've lost."

# ICEBERG TO STARBOARD!

*The route for the Barcelona World Race was recently altered for the safety of the teams, keeping them away from the icebergs all too common during the southern hemisphere summer.*



The drift ice that breaks away from the pack can be colossal: millions of square kilometres and up to several billion tonnes! It then takes at least a full season for them to melt completely. During this time, a storm such as those found regularly below the 50th parallel (in the 'Furious Fifties') can break up the drift ice and spread the smaller

'growlers' over a wide area. The Race Committee for the Barcelona World Race is watching the ice radars like a hawk. The smaller, fast moving growlers can cover as much as 20 nautical miles per day in heavy winds and currents.

# A NEW DIMENSION

*Mirabaud is now moving into the Southern Ocean and with this transition comes a new daily routine. For the moment, the temperature is still pleasant but a radical change is in the air.*



"We're starting to pile on the layers and as we speak Michèle is at the helm with her fleece on. The sun's gone and there's a bit of a nip in the air. On the food front, we've just opened our next bag of provisions which is a lot less varied than the last one, with some much heavier meals. This food is intended to cover our nutritional needs in the Roaring Forties, but at the moment we're still in very flat waters, so you can see how far behind

schedule this Barcelona World Race is running. Both we and the boat have the capabilities to succeed – we just need things to turn in our favour to lift our spirits. The one thing we can learn from these areas of high-pressure is that you have to live day to day. As we've seen, it's all too easy to fall into the trap of these unpredictable and uncontrollable weather systems."

## RANKING THE 25<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 11 PM

1) VIRBAC PAPREC 3 (+0.0)

2) FONCIA (+28.3)

3) MAPFRE (+514.6)

4) ESTRELLA DAMM (+672.5)

5) GROUPE BEL (+687.6)

6) RENAULT Z.E. (+735.0)

7) MIRABAUD (+830.0)

8) NEUTROGENA (+892.4)

9) GAES (+926.9)

10) CENTRAL LECHERA ASTURIANA (+1094.8)

11) HUGO BOSS (+1144.0)

12) WE ARE WATER (+1260.1)

13) FORUM MARITIM CATALA (+1340.3)





# DOMINIQUEWAVRE

[www.dominiquewavre.com](http://www.dominiquewavre.com)

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