



LOGBOOK

Tuesday 1st March 2011

DOMINIQUE AND MICHÈLE ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS

THE SPANIARDS ARE COMING!

BRAKE LIGHTS AHEAD

RANKING: 5th

WEATHER: Low pressure system,
violent squalls, rain, 4 - 7 metre waves

WIND: North-westerly, 30-40 knots

BOAT SPEED: 18 knots

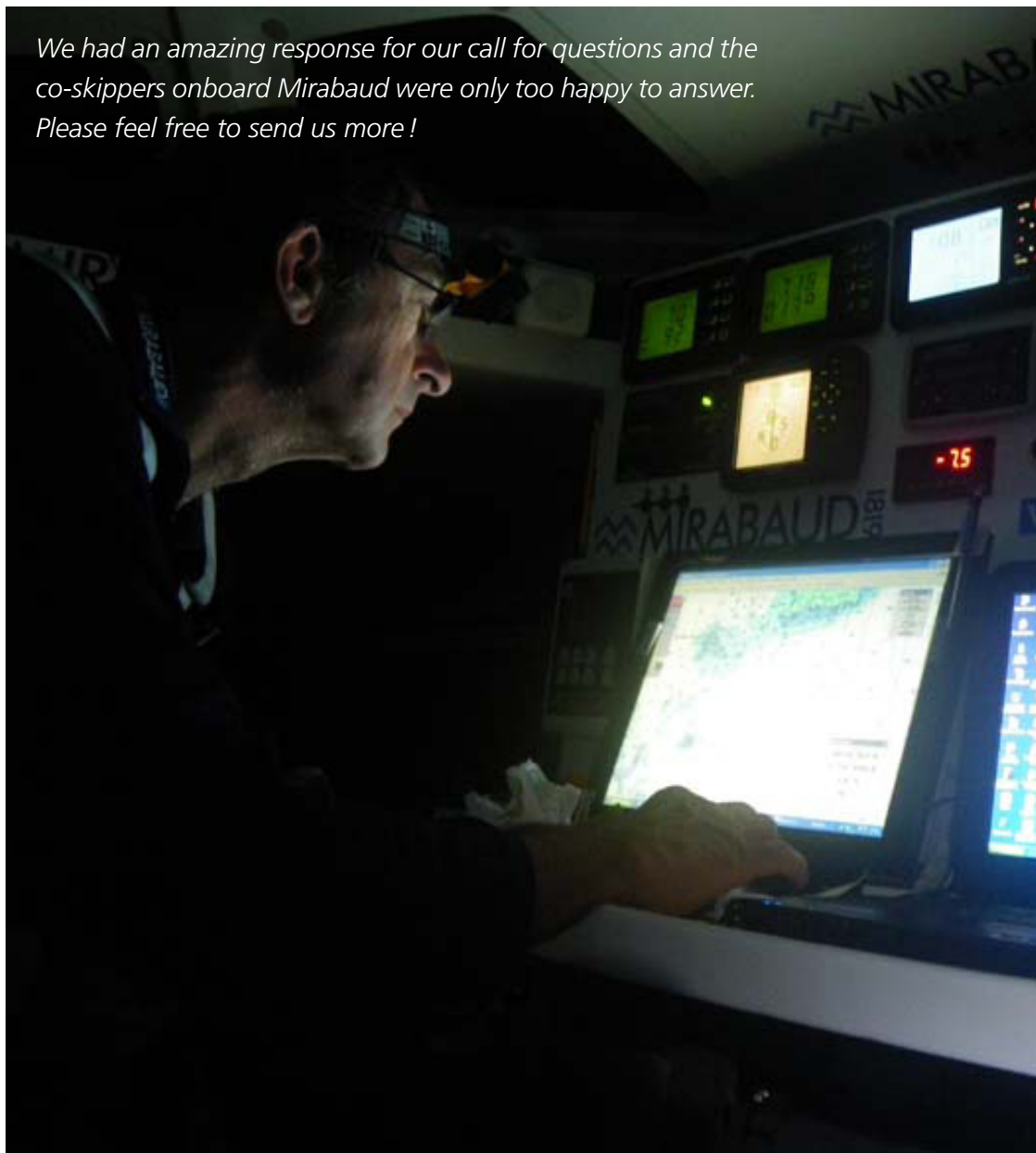
BREAKFAST: Raspberry Porridge

MEAL N°1: Mild beef curry + Strawberry fromage blanc

MEAL N°2: Veal + vanilla rice pudding

DOMINIQUE AND MICHÈLE ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS

We had an amazing response for our call for questions and the co-skippers onboard Mirabaud were only too happy to answer. Please feel free to send us more!



> Do you manage to keep abreast of current world affairs whilst sailing round the world?

Yes, we get a short update on the main news items. For example we know about the situations in Tunisia and Libya, but to be honest we feel a little detached from things.

> Do you check your Facebook account? How do you manage it?

The account itself is updated from Geneva, but the content comes from us and we receive a copy of the messages left on the site. On the other hand, we can't surf on Facebook; it would be too expensive and to be honest we don't really have the time!

> Does spending so much time at sea affect your sense of balance?

Not at all! We're perfectly used to it. Having said that, we have to hang on the whole time as the movement of the boat can be violent and unpredictable and we don't want to risk injury.

> Will balance be a problem once you make it back to dry land again?

Maybe for the first few hours, but the human body is incredibly good at adapting so there shouldn't be any lasting problems.

> Three years ago, we were lucky enough to be invited onboard by Dom and Miche and were able to see their incredible boat up close. It was a real pleasure and we would like to thank you. Miche managed to bring a pack of 4 rugby lads from the South of France to their knees on the coffee grinders. I'd like to know whether, after 2 months at sea, she's now ready to take on the whole French team despite a lack of iron?

(Laughs!) Of course! Bring it on!

> Would you have preferred to have taken a more southerly course, as did the current solo world record holder, Thomas Coville?

There's more wind further south, and we would have had more strategic options if the course had been less restricted. Having said that, there is a real danger from icebergs the further south you go and it would have been stupid to run that kind of risk. So, in hindsight, the race organizers made the right decision and we just have to live with it.

> Are you enjoying this Barcelona World Race as much as the last one?

It's a bit early to say and we'll have to wait until we finish to be able to analyse the race. For the moment, we are enjoying things when our speed is good as it is at the moment. To be honest, we would need to take step back after the race to really answer that question.

> Are you in good health?

All three of us are in perfect shape: Michèle, the boat and myself!

THE SPANIARDS ARE COMING!

Iker Martinez and Xavi Fernandez are hot on the heels of the leaders Jean-Pierre Dick and Loïck Peyron. Only a few miles separate the two boats and the Spanish are forcing the French team to take risks in order to hang onto their lead.



Iker and Xavi are undoubtedly two of the most successful Spanish sailors with medals at two Olympics as well as three World Championship and three European Championship titles in the 49er class (a high-performance Olympic class dinghy). The Barcelona World Race is a new challenge for them, although they've sailed these waters before during the Volvo Ocean Race (a fully crewed round-the-world race) in 2005 and 2008/09. They are currently sailing on the old 'Foncia', the boat aboard which Michel Desjoyeaux won the Vendée Globe in 2008.

COUP DE FREIN DEVANT

The Barcelona World race fleet is now split into groups, with the two lead boats (Virbac Paprec and Mapfre) ahead of a trio of boats fighting for third place.



They are followed by two pairs of boats and lastly a group of three boats bringing up the rear, some distance back. Mirabaud is battling it out in the second group and over the last few days, Dominique and Michèle have pulled back over 100 nautical miles on their immediate rivals; between Sunday and Monday, Neutrogena covered 284 miles, whilst Mirabaud managed 340.

RANKING

THE 1ST MARCH 08:30 AM GMT

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1) VIRBAC PAPREC 2 (+0.0) | 7) ESTRELLA DAMM (+1972.1) |
| 2) MAPFRE (+60.5) | 8) HUGO BOSS (+2322.4) |
| 3) RENAULT Z.E. (+1451.2) | 9) GAES (+2438.3) |
| 4) NEUTROGENA (+1473.9) | 10) FORUM MARITIM CATALA (+3561.8) |
| 5) MIRABAUD (+1616.4) | 11) CENTRAL LECHERA ASTURIANA (+4286.1) |
| 6) GROUPE BEL (+1911.2) | 12) WE ARE WATER (+4823.2) |



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