



LOGBOOK

Friday 18th March 2011

“SOLIDARITY AMONGST SAILORS”

“THEY’VE BEEN AMAZING!”

THE WELCOMING COMMITTEE IS WAITING

SITUATION: Yesterday, Mirabaud passed through a relatively violent, but brief, low pressure system. They are currently heading for Mar del Plata in Argentina, and are motor-sailing under jury-rig.

WIND: North-westerly 18 knots

BOAT SPEED: 5 knots

BREAKFAST: Cereals

MEAL N°1: Beef + apple custard

MEAL N°2: Pasta with bolets

“SOLIDARITY AMONGST SAILORS”

Dominique and Michèle's current misfortunes have brought out a strong show of solidarity amongst many sailors who have been through the same experience. In the same way that a Formula1 that never breaks anything will never be on the podium, sailing at this level means pushing the limits and the risk of dismasting is unfortunately part of the game.

Michel Desjoyeaux, leader of the Barcelona World Race before losing his mast, gave us his point of view: “I really feel for them as I've been there too. When something like this happens, you are totally focused on dealing with the emergency and you don't have time to think. Once the situation is stable and the boat and crew are out of danger, that's when it hits you. Often the hardest problems to overcome occur after the initial incident, and it's not always easy to deal with them. In Dominique and Michèle's case, the most important thing is that they are safe and well and weren't injured. At the end of the day, this kind of thing teaches us that we are stronger than we think in the face of adversity. I've no doubt they will be able to get over this.”

Equally sympathetic of Dominique and Michèle is Etienne David, who will be setting off this autumn on his Transat 6.50. “After such a long race, this is so hard. They had made it round Cape Horn which has always been considered the point of deliverance. They were in a good position, largely down to good boat handling, routing and boat-preparation.”

Etienne David is also a Cape Horn veteran, having raced around the world on Pierre Fehlmann's team. “I'm relatively new to single-handed sailing and I have so much respect for these guys; what they do is so extreme. Dominique will always find the resources to bounce back, and I'd like to sincerely congratulate him and wish him the best of luck for the next Vendée Globe. He really deserves full respect and support.”



Etienne David



Michel Desjoyeaux

“THEY’VE BEEN AMAZING!”

Last Wednesday evening, Dominique and Michèle received a welcome visit from the Argentinian Navy, on board the A.R.A «GRANVILLE».



“They contacted us on Wednesday at the end of the day to confirm that they were heading out to meet us. Shortly afterwards, an Orion P3 plane flew very low overhead and dropped flares to mark the area. The Granville arrived shortly afterwards and dispatched her tender with 5 crew and jerrycans full of fuel onboard. Three of the crew came aboard and very kindly insisted on filling our fuel tanks.

It was a very special moment and I’d like to sincerely thank them for their kindness. They were really proof that solidarity at sea is not just an expression and really does exist. Thanks to them, we now have enough fuel to reach Mar del Plata without problems.”

THE WELCOMING COMMITTEE IS WAITING

Dominique and Michèle won’t be alone for much longer. Several Swiss journalists, including the TSR (Swiss TV) and Le Matin have made the trip to Mar del Plata to welcome the pair.



Amongst Dominique and Michèle’s closest supporters Danièle and Patrice Chenus will be preparing for Mirabaud’s arrival including a possible tow-in, and will of course be there to give a warm welcome to the two skippers! Sylvain Guy will also be joining the team shortly afterwards to organise the shipment of Mirabaud back home on board a cargo ship, probably from Montevideo.

Mirabaud’s local contacts will be on hand to welcome the team and have also been heavily involved in the logistics surrounding the yachts arrival including establishing the contact with the Mar del Plata Yacht Club.

CHECK OUT THE LATEST ONBOARD VIDEO DIARY

www.youtube.com/dominiquewavre

Facebook: www.facebook.com/dominiquewavre



DOMINIQUEWAVRE

www.dominiquewavre.com

Mirabaud & Cie, banquiers privés

Laurent Koutaïsoff
29, boulevard Georges-Favon
1204 Genève
T: +41 58 816 23 90
M: +41 79 786 78 93

MaxComm Communication

Bernard Schopfer
T: +41 22 735 55 30
M: +41 79 332 11 76
bernard.schopfer@maxcomm.ch

crédits photos: © Thierry Martinez / © Benoît Stichelbaut / © Wavre-Paret / © Yvan Zedda - Fonia / ©Loris von Siebentahl