

# SAILS CIRCE TO 3RD WIN, RETAINS CUP

By CLIFF CARPENTER

A choice morsel of yachting hardware — the Silas George Cup emblematic of 6-Meter sailing supremacy of Lake Ontario — yesterday was given the right to stay comfortably housed for another year in the Rochester Yacht Club trophy case.

Which is to say that normally serious Johnny Odenbach Jr., grinning all the way up to his sun-scorched and receding hairline, won his third successive victory over a pair of Canadian challengers for a grand slam defense of the ancient and honorable trophy.

And last night RYC celebrated with a neat nautical mixture of solemnity and mirth, dusting off the cup, presenting it to the skipper of the speedy, needle-nosed Circe, and settling back with a chuckle to listen to an "Ode to Odenbach."

The poetry was from the talented pen of longtime RYC Race Judge George Culp, who seldom scribbles more than once a year, and then frequently hits national yachting magazines. A Community Players veteran as well as yachtsman, Culp read the ode with excellent staging, intoning as follows:

*As firm as concrete, hard as rock  
Is Johnny Circe Odenbach.  
By tucks and nips  
The Six he skips  
Stays out in front by half a block*

*His Circe circles every buoy  
With latitude that must annoy  
And get the goats  
Of trailing boats  
That sense no victory or joy.*

*To Johnny and his loyal crew  
All praise and glory that is due;  
And when they've taken  
Home the bacon  
They will have some fat to chew*

*When Circe's lines are through  
the chock  
And cleated to the damp old dock,  
If lose or win  
He'll merely grin  
We owed this Ode to Odenbach.*

Odenbach's third straight victory on the lake off the Port of Rochester was worked out over an abbreviated triangular course prescribed by Race Chief Jeff Dale in a 15-20 mile breeze, and cresting waves measuring 3 to 5 feet.

Circe took the start close to Bay Barr's Aphrodite from the Royal Canadian Yacht Club in Toronto, and Art Simmons' Question from National Yacht Club in the same Canadian city. It was the third chapter of the same story—Circe wriggled away with a series of quick tacks, and was just too much boat for the Canadians to hold. Question bumped into spinnaker woes on the last leg to wind up in third place, thus finishing the series third behind Aphrodite.

Elapsed time for the triangle: Circe, 45:50; Aphrodite, 55:40; Question, 58:40.

Bigger show than the George Cup finale was a "free-for-all" for all RYC and visiting Sixes in the afternoon—George Cup contestants included—and it turned out to be a lusty, tight, lee-rail-under show in the heavy going.

And Circe did it again—probably just by way of justifying RYC's faith in picking her as George Cup defender, Trailing Rooney Castle's Stork, her closest home rival, for more than a single round of the race, Circe found a fairing here and a fairing there, and slipped home first by a bare 14 seconds. With Owner Howard Rekers away, his 6-meter Jill was skippered by visitor Jim Hyland, RYC yachtsman and Canadian magazine editor.

Elapsed times on the free-for-all: Circe, 2:08:21; Stork, 2:06:34; Meteor (Howard Klitgord, RYC) 2:12:01; Aphrodite, d.n.f.; Jill, 2:17:07; Totem (Queen City Yacht Club) 2:20:44.

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**ALL YOURS, SKIPPER!** Johnny Odenbach (second from left), who handled Rochester Yacht Club's Circe to grand slam victory in George Cup series for Lake Ontario 6-meter supremacy, receives trophy from RYC Commodore Bill Cal-

kins as crew—from left, Bus Warden, Al Kickok, Bob Odenbach and Gil Barber—looks on. Circe took third straight race yesterday, turning back Toronto's Question and Aphrodite in successful defense of long-held mug.