



# CAL MARITIME

**Contact:**

Doug Webster  
Director of Public Relations  
California Maritime Academy  
200 Maritime Academy Dr.  
Vallejo, CA 94590-8181  
Special to Latitude 38

W: (707) 654-1720  
C: (707) 328-1887  
E: [dwebster@csum.edu](mailto:dwebster@csum.edu)

<http://followteamusa.csum.edu>



## **CAL MARITIME NAMES TEAM USA FOR STUDENT YACHTING WORLD CUP 2010 First U.S. West Coast Team to Compete in the 30-Year History of the French Regatta**



*Cal Maritime's TeamUSA (L-R First Row): John Gray, Jessica Bernhard, Thor Proulx, Sean Kelly, Team Coach Jesse Cartee, Sailing Director "Charlie" Arms-Cartee, (Second Row) Evan Wanamaker, Sara Himes, Cole Davis, Sebastien Laleau, Matt Van Rensselaer, Kyle Vanderspek*

(Vallejo, CA – September 16, 2010)...The California Maritime Academy today announced the membership of Team USA, the ten Academy sailors who will represent the United States. in the 2010 Student Yachting World Cup (SYWC) in La Rochelle, France, Oct. 23-29. They are:

- Jessica Bernhard, of Alamo, CA, Mechanical Engineering, '14
- Cole Davis of Pacific Grove, CA, Maritime Transportation / Global Studies and Maritime Affairs Dual Major '11.
- John Gray of Santa Rosa, CA, Mechanical Engineering '11
- Sara Himes, Placerville, CA, Global Studies and Maritime Affairs/Business Administration-International Business and Logistics Dual Major, '13
- Sean Kelly, San Francisco, CA, Marine Transportation, '12

- Sebastien Laleau, Guatemala/Sacramento, CA, Facilities Engineering Technology, '11
- Thor Proulx, Homer, AK, Marine Transportation, Graduated 2010
- Kyle Vanderspek, San Diego, CA, Marine Engineering, '13
- Matt Van Rensselaer, Burlingame, CA, Marine Transportation '13
- Evan Wanamaker, Costa Mesa, CA, Marine Transportation, '11

Cal Maritime is the first West Coast team to compete for the U.S. in the 30-year history of the SYWC. The Keelhaulers won that right last fall by capturing the National Intercollegiate Offshore Championship (the Kennedy Cup) at Annapolis, MD. (A special web blog, <http://followteamusa.csum.edu> will follow Team USA from the U.S. to France and through the Regatta in their quest for the World Cup.)

Team coach Jesse Cartee (Cal Maritime MT '04) announced the selections after a final set of trials. "We had already filled most of the slots based on team membership from last year's Kennedy Cup," he explained, "but we had one final position and several very qualified student sailors. It was one of the toughest decisions I've had to make."

The SYWC ([www.sywoc.org](http://www.sywoc.org)) sponsored by the French engineering school Ecole Polytechnique, draws up to 20 top student teams annually from Europe, the U.S., Australia and Asia. Competitors use a fleet of French Grand Surprise 32s (similar to a Mumm 30) with each team getting an assigned boat for the week. Cal Maritime Sailing Director "Charlie" Arms Cartee said only one U.S. entry (Rhode Island in 1990) has ever captured the top prize since the Cup began in 1979. "This is going to be a great opportunity to compete against the best student sailors in the world," she said. "But it is also going to be a huge challenge for us. Not only do we have to recover quickly from a lengthy overnight flight from San Francisco to Paris and then train travel to La Rochelle, but we have to compete in a new venue with unfamiliar local weather conditions on a boat that will be new to us.

"Our students are also going to have to 'hit the books.' Cal Maritime's course load is demanding, and they'll be away from campus for nearly two weeks. But they have already demonstrated they can manage their academics and compete in both intercollegiate and local regattas. Most of all, we want them to have an awesome experience they'll remember for the rest of their lives...a chance to travel, to meet fellow sailors from around the world and to compete at the highest level. We've got a solid team. Many of our cadets have sailed together for two or three years, so they know each other and communicate well."

Cal Maritime is engaged in an intense effort to raise private funding to help cover the expenses of sending the team and two coaches to France. "It will cost us around \$40,000 to get them there and back, feed and house them, and pay all of our entry fees," notes Arms Cartee. We're off to a good start, but we're reaching out to alumni, friends, supporters and the business community to help us with contributions big and small. You can make contributions online via our special TeamUSA website or attend the TEAM USA benefit at the Golden Gate Yacht Club on Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm to 9:30pm. The America's Cup will be there to inspire our sailors. A silent and live auction will be held and team members will be on hand to share their excitement about the campaign."

Contributions can be made c/o The California Maritime Academy Foundation, 200 Maritime Academy Drive, Vallejo, CA 94590, and flagged for the World Cup Team Fund or online via the TeamUSA site.

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