

The Word from the Wire



Following your goals can take you far away from your roots for a long time. As one grows toward the sky, the connection between his greatest reaches and his roots remains. It is the roots that allow him to continue to grow and reach further into the sky. The same is true of a sailor and the people who have instilled the love of sailing in him enabling him to gain the experience and skills in his pursuit of “Sailing Excellence.”

**Look for our team website and Facebook page coming soon!
To contact us email: danmorris49er@gmail.com**

Growth, Improvement, and Development are the best words to describe my experiences during the past 300 days away from the AIYC. During these days I have competed in over 25 regattas and filled numerous notebooks with the knowledge picked up along the way.



Danny and I are developing into a competitive skiff team. In August we competed in the 18' Skiff International Championship in San Francisco where we finished 7th overall and 2nd out of every American team. Four weeks later we finished 10th at the 29er National Championship. Five weeks after that we finished 4th at the St. Francis Yacht Club Olympic Classes Regatta (RMOCR). Our most recent regatta, the Rolex Miami Olympic Classes Regatta, provided Danny and I the opportunity to sail against 18 of the top 25 49er sailors in the world. RMOCR is the first event

of the ISAF World Cup of Sailing. Our participation in these events could not have happened without your support. A very special thank you goes out to George Johns and St. Paul Construction Company for funding the entire inaugural year of our campaign, and for the continuing support through every major step.

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In addition to skiff sailing, I have been involved as tactician or trimmer in numerous bigger boat regattas, finishing in the top five at both Moore 24 Nationals and Express 27 Nationals. In September, the team and I brought the University of Michigan their first Intercollegiate Offshore Championship in the J-109 class. The spring has been filled with college match and team racing events, and a victory in the Melges 20 class at Charleston Race Week.

Completing my degree in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering in April has allowed me to spend some time sailing

on Lake Superior and Lake Minnetonka where it all began, before I move to San Francisco for a long term. In San Francisco I will be spending time training in the 49er and working with Scott Easom on the most “Gucci” race boats in The Bay.

Training in The Bay will be the best way to perfect boathandling as we raise money to shift our campaign into high gear. While racing in Charleston, 49er Olympian Chris Rast told me “If you can handle a 49er in San Fran, you’ll be confident at any venue in the world.” As soon as funding and Danny’s school schedule allow we will begin competing in the ultra-competitive regattas in Europe. Attending these ISAF World Cup events, competing with the best in the world for one week out of every month, is the only way to the top. With your support and the next 12 months of training we will be ready to make the shift into the ISAF World Cup of Sailing.

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