



Recognized by the International Olympic Committee

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IN THIS ISSUE:

• ISA News: <i>2007 ISA World Masters Championships</i>	1
• ISA News: <i>Winter ASR Tradeshow in San Diego</i>	2
• ISA Calendar	3
• National Governing Bodies' News	3
• International News	12
• Environmental News	14
• Contact the ISA	16

The World's National Masters Surfing Teams Set to Compete at the 2007 ISA World Masters Surfing Championship

Puerto Rico to Host International Surfing Event in Rincon, January 20-28, 2007

San Diego, Calif., December 6, 2006 – The 2007 ISA World Masters Surfing Championship will feature some of the best master's surfers from around the globe competing for their respective countries January 20-28, 2007 in Rincon, Puerto Rico. The event will be hosted by the Puerto Rico Surfing Federation, the national governing body for the sport of surfing in the Puerto Rico.

The Championship will feature surfers from over 15 countries including Brazil, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, France, Great Britain, Italy, Jamaica, Peru, Portugal, Puerto Rico, South Africa, Sweden, Tahiti and Venezuela.

"This is a great opportunity for Master surfers to represent their countries, wear the national uniforms, while enjoying the camaraderie and Olympic spirit of ISA events. We are happy to have the event in Puerto Rico, a surfing paradise in the Caribbean. The ISA Masters event perfectly complements the ISA World Surfing Games and the ISA Quiksilver Junior Surfing Championships. Now surfers of any age can enjoy the honor of representing their national colors," said ISA President Fernando Aguerre.

Puerto Rico last hosted an ISA event in 1988 where they ran a successful World Surfing Games. With the government fully behind this event it is sure to be a success too. The Masters will bring together surfers who have previously surfed in ISA events and newcomers as teams from around the world compete over the course of 10 days for the honor of representing their respective countries. Each national team consists of 6 competitors among three divisions: two open 35 years +,

(Continued pg. 2)

(ISA World Masters - continued)

two open 40+ and two 45 years +. The top four finalists in each division are awarded gold, silver, bronze and copper medals, as well as the top four national teams.

The 2007 ISA World Masters Surfing Championship will be available to view online with live scoring and streaming video. Details will be available at www.isasurf.org as the event nears.

About International Surfing Association (ISA) The International Surfing Association (ISA) is recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) as the World Governing Authority for surfing, bodyboarding and surfriding. It was originally founded as the International Surfing Federation in 1964 and has been running world championships since 1964 and the Junior World Championships since 1980.

ISA membership includes the surfing National Governing Bodies (NGBs) of over 50 countries on six continents. Its headquarters are located in San Diego, California. It is presided by Fernando Aguerre, first elected in 1994 in Rio, and re-elected five times since. The ISA's four Vice Presidents are from South Africa, Australia, Hawaii and the USA.



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ISA Announces 2007 World Masters Surfing Championship Judging Panel

San Diego, California, December 27, 2006 -- The ISA World Masters Surfing Championship will be taking place January 20-28, 2007 in Rincon, Puerto Rico and the judging panel had been selected. ISA member nations were asked to nominate judges for International and team judging positions. The ISA Technical Committee reviewed all of the applications and selected the panel based on team's placement at the 2006 ISA World Surfing Games, judge's previous ISA contest experience, judging certifications and overall judging experience.

The panel represents 7 different ISA member nations and is lead by Head Judge Cyril Nel (South Africa). International and team judges are Jordao Bailo (Brazil), Nathalie Massin (Tahiti), Miguel Yecerra (Venezuela), Cirilo Yagual Ramirez (Ecuador) Sandile Cyril Mqadi (South Africa), Yannick Lecoz (France) and Jorge Gonzalez (Puerto Rico).

Over 16 teams are confirmed to compete in the 2007 ISA World Masters Surfing Championship. These Master surfers from around the globe will compete as members of their national surfing teams and will surf for medals and national pride as Master (35 and older), Grandmaster (40 and older) and Kahuna (45 and older) titles are awarded.

The 2007 ISA World Masters Surfing Championship will be available to view online with live scoring and streaming video at www.rincon-hangout.com/isa/rinconpr.html

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100 Top International Surfing Competitors Expected for 2007 World Kneeboard Championships in Santa Cruz

Steamer Lane will be featured venue

Santa Cruz, CA (Thursday, Dec. 21, 2006) – Kneeboard Surfing USA announced today that it is hosting the 2007 World Kneeboard Championship in Santa Cruz January 9 through January 13. Top Kneeboard surfers from around the world will begin arriving soon for the first-ever U.S. hosted world titles event and are competing for a first-place cash prize of \$3,000.

Leading the international field of competitors is 2-time world champion Baden Smith of Australia. Smith is the reigning world Kneeboard champion – having won the last world titles held in Tahiti in 2004. Another Australian expected to be among the top finishers is Matt Gallagher, who placed fourth in Tahiti and recently won the South Coast Pro Bendalong Contest against world-class field of Kneeboarders. Adding to the depth of the Australian contingent is Gavin Coleman, a former Australian champion. Australians have won every Kneeboarding world championship held since 1996.

Other international top international competitors include Karl Ward and Richard Smith from Great Britain. Smith is the current British Champion. Ward, who was narrowly edged-out by Smith in the UK titles, finished fourth in the last KSUSA Titles held at Steamer Lane in 2005. In addition, a talented field of competitors is expected from New Zealand, Puerto Rico, Ireland and South Africa.

“The 2007 World Kneeboard Championships is expected to be one of the largest events held outside of Australia,” said Don Harris, president of Kneeboard Surfing USA which is organizing the event.

“This is providing a tremendous boost in visibility for a sport that has been mostly under the radar for many years. While the contest is the primary focus, this will really be a spirited gathering that brings together Kneeboarders to celebrate their unique form of waveriding.”

Among those U.S. Kneeboarders expected to compete for the world title are San Clemente’s Barry Baker, San Diego’s Jack Beresford and Santa Cruz’s Roger Hughes. Baker won the KSUSA Titles held at Pleasure Point in 2004 but was edged out by Beresford and Hughes at last

year’s event. While no U.S. Kneeboarder has ever won a world open men’s title, the Americans have had the opportunity to hone their skills at Santa Cruz’s point breaks the past three years at KSUSA-sponsored events.



Several Santa Cruz Kneeboarders, such as local legends Jon Manss, John Mel and Scott Wessling, may also gain an edge from their many years of experience in the area’s big winter surf.

Considered one of the purest forms of wave riding, Kneeboarding has its roots in groundbreaking performances by internationally known waveriders such as George Greenough, Steve Lis and Peter Crawford. Today, the sport is experiencing a true renaissance in the U.S. and overseas. More than 1,100 people have registered on the Kneeboard Surfing USA Web site at www.ksusa.org.

The 2007 World Kneeboard Championships will kick off on Sunday, Jan. 7 with opening ceremonies at Coastline Brewery (120 Union Street, in Santa Cruz) starting at 5 p.m. The competition begins Tuesday, Jan. 9 and runs through the rest of the week (conditions permitting) with the finals tentatively scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 13. Throughout the week, evening gatherings are planned and will include raffles, a silent auction, special video presentations, and other entertainment.

The event is sanctioned by the International Surfing Association and Kneeboard Surfing International. In addition to the Open division, the contest will include a variety of age divisions and a women’s division. For more information, visit www.ksusa.org.

Sponsors of the 2007 Kneeboard World Championships include Freeline Design Surf Shop, NewSwell Studios, Surfing Magazine, Coastline Brewery, Hurley, Viper Swim Fins, Blast Kneeboards, Stay Covered, Maxim Capital Advisors, Inc., Tide Has Turned, Independent, Parkes Australia, Flashpoint, Luxurysurf.com, Neil Luke Surfboards, Shoelkopf Designs, and Surf City Coffee.

Established in 2003, Kneeboard Surfing USA is dedicated to promoting the sport of Kneeboard Surfing through competitions, kneelo gatherings and other activities. KSUSA has hosted three U.S. Championships and is proud to host the 2007 World Kneeboard Championships in January 2007.

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ISA CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
2007 January 7 - 14	ISA World Kneeboard Championships*	Santa Cruz, California, USA
2007 January 20 - 28	ISA World Masters Surfing Championships*	Rincon, Puerto Rico
2007 January 25 - 27	ASR Trade Expo	San Diego, California, USA
2007 May 4 - 13	Quiksilver ISA World Junior Surfing Championships*	Costa da Caparica, Portugal
2008 TBD	ISA World Surfing Games*	<i>Open for Bidding</i>
2008 TBD	Quiksilver ISA World Junior Surfing Championships*	<i>Open for Bidding</i>

* An ISA Sanction Event TBD - To Be Determined

ISA at January ASR Tradeshow



ASR Trade Expo is the leading B2B action sports trade expo servicing the world's largest and most widely recognized surf, skate, snow, swim, youth and fashion manufacturers and retailers from around the world. Visit over 500 brands and 1500 booths for the hottest and newest emerging trends.

DATE

January 25-27, 2007

LOCATION

San Diego Convention Center
111 Harbor Drive
San Diego, CA 92101

ASR JANUARY 2007 SCHEDULE

Thursday, January 25th, 9am - 6pm
Friday, January 26th, 9am - 6pm
Saturday, January 27th, 9am - 4pm

For more information, please contact the ISA at surf@isasurf.org

ARGENTINA

Martin Passeri Remains El Lobo de Mar

12 December 2006 -- The big year of Martín Passeri seems to have no end. Last Monday night, the remarkable Latin-American champion of surfing was rewarded with El Lobo de Mar award, a statuette that rewards, according to the critics from the Circle of Sports Journalists, the best examples of excellent sport achievement. Playa Grande also welcomed Maxi Siri and Francisco Usuna. The ceremony took place in the Hotel Hermitage in the city of Mar del Plata.

Happy with the new award, Passeri proved to be most satisfied by the recognition of the sports journalists of his city, and noticed that it is always very healthy to know that the effort of one is observed and kept in mind.

In declarations to Surfpress, the surfer showed that shortly begins the training facing the commitments of 2007 to take place in Mar del Plata.



Martín Passeri makes history for Argentina surfing. Foto: Demarsan.

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Maxi Siri Closes the Year with a Victory

27 December 2006 -- With a national victory, the Argentine bichampion of surfing Maxi Siri finished the year in the competitive plane. The victory was in the first date of the circuit 06-07 organized by the FAS (Federation Argentina of Surfing) a few days ago in Necochea. In spite of having been removed from the competition in the international plane during 2006 in Mar del Plata, Siri demonstrated a big level in the water throughout the whole contest.

During 2006, the Argentinian devoted himself to perfect his surfing in waves of thick caliber, for which reason he travelled to Hawaii, Chile and Mexico in different moments of the year. For Siri, the balance was more than positive. On this matter, in chatting with Surfpress he shared the following: " I am very grateful to the people of Quiksilver that managed and made possible my training in Hawaii, without doubts it has been one of the most intense moments of the year and of my career as a surfer".

The member of the team Quiksilver Argentina, during the first days in December, was dictating an exclusive clinic of surfing for journalists. The same one was organized by the Australian label that has a recognized place in Argentina. During the clinic, Siri took charge introducing to the world of the surfing to a big number of journalists of the most varied and prestigious national means.

For 2007 the Argentinian reckons to compete for the Reef Latin Pro Argentina, beginning the first date of the tour ALAS 07, during the second weekend in Mar del Plata, in addition to realizing all the national competences that develop during the first four-month period of the year.

Maxi Siri is sponsored by Quiksilver, Reef, Methane Optics, Fierce Gatorade, Free Life Board Traction, Uluwatu Surfing Shop.

Sebastián Chacón

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AUSTRALIA

Quiksilver Australian Grommet Titles presented by Samsung - Australia's Next Generation of Surfing Stars Crowned at Quiksilver Australian Grommet Titles

2 December 2006 -- Australia's surfing future looks assured with talented trio Teale Vanner (Kangaroo Island, SA), teen star Sally Fitzgibbons (Gerroa, NSW) and Todd Rosewall (Jan Juc, Victoria) all securing berths into the 2007 Quiksilver ISA World Junior Championships by winning national surfing titles at Sharpes Beach near Ballina, Northern New South Wales today.

Vanner will be Australia's top seeded surfer in the world championships scheduled for Portugal next May after breaking through for his first major victory in the blue ribbon U/18 Boys division which was completed in peaky 1-1.5 metre waves. The natural footer carried his week-long stand-out form into the final to defeat the nation's best junior surfers from all six states and make history by becoming the first South Australian to climb the winner's podium in the division.

Always regarded as one of the best free surfers at his home breaks in South Australia, Vanner had yet to carry that winning form into the competitive arena, but with newly found confidence he added his name to a list of past champions that reads like the who's who of Australian surfing.

"Coming into the comp I was a bit of an underdog, no one really knew of any surfers from South Australia. To win it is just phenomenal for me," said Vanner.

"I put in a full week with Sasha Stocker the head coach from Surfing Australia before I came here. He was telling me all this stuff I needed to do and I put it all into practise. At home we've got big powerful waves so I've been trying to surf this kind of mush a lot I was talking to myself in the final, paddling back out going, 'Come on, you can do it.' I'm ecstatic ... Portugal's the next goal for me now.

Vanner finished on 14.10 points out of a possible 20 to defeat runner-up Josh Johnson-Baxter (Ocean Grove, Vic) on 12.16, Jackson Collins (Phillip Island, Vic) in third with 11.27 and Chris Salisbury (Newport Beach, NSW) fourth on 9.10.

There were no surprises with Sally Fitzgibbons living up to all expectations in the U/18 girls Quiksilver Australian Grommet Titles, she was the only surfer to win back-to-back individual Australian junior surfing titles this year.

The 2005 U/16's national champion was never in doubt, blasting out of the blocks with two high-scoring rides which would
(Continued pg. 6)

(Australian Grommet Titles - continued)

ultimately prove enough to hold off a late charge from Ashleigh Smith (Cabarita, NSW). The 15 year-old finished with a heat score of 13.83 to defeat Smith on 12.10, Amy Hart (Currumbin, Qld) finished third with 10.54 and Tiana McNeven (Tugun, Qld) fourth on 6.00 points.

"I was happy to get those two quick waves under my belt and then use my time to sit on the other girls and make sure they didn't get ahead of me," said Fitzgibbons, whose dizzying resume' has her clearly marked as a future world beater.

"It definitely wasn't easy, I was a little bit nervous, I go into every competition like it's my first. Going to Portugal will be awesome, hopefully Team Australia will do us proud. I'm sure we'll have a really good time over there!"

Victorian Todd Rosewall (Jan Juc) virtually had the U/16 Boys title in his grasp from his opening ride, when the Jan Juc natural footer picked off a wedging right hander in the first two minutes of the decider and pulled off three critical forehand turns to be awarded an excellent 8.83 out of a possible 10.

On the back foot, Queensland brothers James and Thomas Woods (Coolangatta), and local hope Garrett Parkes (Byron Bay) were forced to play catch-up for the entire final, but couldn't find the waves when they needed them most.

Rosewall's second average score of 5.07 booked his berth to the World Junior Championships, sealing the win to defeat James Woods on 11.84, Thomas Woods third on 11.77 and Parkes fourth on 7.77 points.

As an added bonus Rosewall also receives airfares and accommodation to France courtesy of Quiksilver where he will fly the flag for the green 'n gold in Quiksilver's international U/16 "King of the Groms" grand final, making today a momentous one for the 15 year-old.



Quiksilver Australian Grommet Titles: South Australia's Teale Vanner won the under 18 Quiksilver Australian Grommet Title at Ballina

Laura Enever (Narrabeen, NSW) showed why she is touted as one of the country's brightest prospects, nearly doubling the score of her closest rival, Dimity Stoyle (Maroochydore) to completely run away with the U/16 Girls title.

Enever appeared to be on every decent wave in the final, wrapping up the 20 minute heat in style, with 15.06 points to Stoyle in second on 8.66, with Tyler Wright (Culburra, NSW) third on 7.00 points and Darci Egan (Jan Juc, Victoria) fourth on 6.07.

NSW's Jesse Adam (Merewether) and Stuart Kennedy (Lennox Head) claimed a convincing national title victory over Victoria's Jackson Collins (Phillip Island) and Josh Johnson-Baxter (Ocean Grove) in the U/19 All-Stars division.

NSW's Fitzgibbons and Enever completely dominated Queensland's Dimity Stoyle (Maroochydore) and Naomi Stevic (Sunrise Beach) to win the U/19 Girls All-Stars.

Queensland brothers Thomas and James Woods won the U/16 All-stars National title defeating Victoria's Rosewall (Jan Juc) and Mitchell Baker (Phillip Island, Vic) 24.24 to 21.77.

The only surfer to post a perfect 10 point ride in the week long tournament, Fitzgibbons was honoured with the prestigious Ma Bendall/Isabell Letham Award. Fitzgibbons' stunning campaign also included her three national titles.

Vanner was presented with the prestigious Duke Kahanamoku Award. Both surfers showed exceptional sportsmanship and potential as two of the sport's future stars.

Vanner also received a bonus prize courtesy of presenting sponsor Samsung, for the Wave of the Day, a newly released Samsung K5 MP3 player. Onya, Teale.

Official Champions– Quiksilver Australian Grommet Titles presented by Samsung

U/18 Boys: Teale Vanner (Kangaroo Island, SA)

U/18 Girls: Sally Fitzgibbons (Gerroa, NSW)

U/16 Boys: Todd Rosewall (Jan Juc, Victoria)

U/16 Girls: Laura Enever (Narrabeen, NSW)

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COSTA RICA

Nino Myrie, Lisbeth Vindas Win Top Spots at Trofeo High Tide Date of Costa Rica's Circuito de Surf in Playa Tamarindo



Nino Myrie : photo Shifi Surf Shots

18 December 2006 -- In a weekend where the best of Costa Rica's surfers came together in Playa Tamarindo to participate in the third date of the 2006-07 Circuito Nacional de Surf (CNS), two former National Surf Champions with global competitive experience walked away with the top Trofeo High Tide trophies.

Nino Myrie of Puerto Viejo won the Open, and Lisbeth Vindas of Jaco won the Women's division. At the same time, these leaders, as well as the other Tico Top 10 veterans who surfed in the 7- to 8-foot, at times barreling waves that CNS Head Judge Jeffrey Rojas said "left people speechless to see in Tamarindo," required the younger athletes to raise their levels.

José Ureña, Vice President Federacion de Surf de Costa Rica (FSC) said: "All levels of surfing went up this weekend because the Top 10 guys were here. Their presence in the water required the rest of the competitors to surf harder."

2002-03 Costa Rican National Surf Champion Nino Myrie of Puerto Viejo, who in November won the Reef Classic Latin Pro Costa Rica, surfed his Open finals heat in what has become familiar tactics—taking a quick first wave hard, then waiting until nearly the end of the clock to complete a series of maneuvers, this time a risky 360.

All this while Jaco's Luis Vindas surged wave after wave, demonstrating his fiercest backside attacks. Still, Myrie took 1st place, Vindas 2nd, Gilbert Brown (Puerto Viejo) 3rd, and Matias Brown (Montezuma) 4th.

"I always hope to offer my best, and it's with great happiness that these last few months have been excellent for me. First with the Costa Rica Surf Team at the World Surfing Games, we earned 8th place, and then my Reef Latin Pro win in Jaco," Nino explained. "However, I always want to return to the Circuito and compete because each time I do I see the level of surfing rising in an incredible way. I'm so happy to have won with these great competitors."

Lisbeth Vindas has a slew of titles behind her name including five-time Costa Rican National Women's Champion, Central American Women's Surf Champion and #39 ranked World Qualifying Series (WQS) competitor. With this homecoming to her country's annual tournament, she returned to a 1st place Women's berth.

Vindas acknowledged her closest competitor, young Nataly Bernold (Tamarindo), who came in just behind the pro this weekend, just as she had in the Central American Surf Championships this July. Playa Hermosa's Malia Gallucio was 3rd place.

"Nataly has potential," Vindas said. "She must learn, however, that there are a lot of really heavy competitors out there, not just me. I'm talking about new guns between the ages of 13 and 15 from all over Latin America, Hawaii and Australia. Right now, is a good time for Nataly to train really hard to get to the next level. I see it though; she's coming up behind me. She is humble and is open to coaching."

Bernold's no-hold-barred attacks did earn her a Junior Women's 1st place trophy on Sunday, in front of Dominical's Debbie Zec at 2nd place, Playa Hermosa's Lupe Gallucio at 3rd and Tamarindo's Julie Javelle at 4th.

Commented Bernold: "Lisbeth teaches me a lot because she is very strong and a great surfer. When I know that I have a contest against her, I practice more. And, when I get in the water with her I have to paddle hard and have more confidence in myself. In my last heat today with her, my waves were not good, but I got three and I attached them with force. I do that whether Lisbeth is there or not."

That singleness of purpose has been the game plan of Jaco's Jairo Perez for years. This CNS season, however, his goal to take the Junior National Championship is one step closer as the youngster nabbed his second 1st place event win. Perez opted to forgo entering the Open contest this weekend, preferring to put his energy and "focus" on the Junior heats, where he beat Killian Raust (Tamarindo), Jefferson Tascon and Leonardo Downer .

(Continued pg. 8)

(Trofeo High Tide - continued)

The two-time Costa Rican National Boys Champion also overcame the resistance of Colombian Anderson Tascon—who now resides in Jaco and is one of the new revelations of the current Circuito year—to score another top win in the Boys category. Tasco came in 2nd, followed by Anthony Flores (Jaco) and Anthony Filligham (USA).

"The truth is that I was fighting because Anderson made several very showy maneuvers for half of the heat," Perez recalled. "For that reason, I had to pay attention and be able to attack at the right moment." Perez's triumph in Tamarindo now places him 1st in the Boys as well as 1st in the Junior overall rankings.

Judge Rojas summed up Trofeo High Tide by commenting: "The areas where I saw the best surfing was with the MiniGrommets, Grommets, Boys and Juniors. These kids were doing way more maneuvers, hitting the pocket with speed and they were fluid and strong." The fourth date of Costa Rica's 2006-07 Circuito Nacional de Surf (CNS) will be the 3 Copa Mango Playa Jaco on January 6 and 7.

International sponsors for the the 2006-07 Circuito Nacional de Surf include Freestyle, Red Bull, Quiksilver, Roxy, Billabong and Op. Costa Rica's sponsors for the CNS are 911 Groovy Radio, Cala Luna Hotel, Hacienda Pinilla Beach Resort and Residential Community, The Backyard Hotel, Mango Surf & Skate, High Tide Adventures*Surf Shop, Jass Surf Shop, Centro Comercial Playa del Carmen, Chuck's W.O.W. Surf Shop, Wahoos Restaurant, Cesar Vargas Productions, Shifi Surf Shots, The Bevy, Banzai Surfboards, Carton Surfboards, Teletica 7, and Surfos Magazine.

Results

Open Category:

1. Nino Myrie, Puerto Viejo
2. Luis Vindas, Jaco
3. Gilbert Brown, Puerto Viejo
4. Matías Brown, Montezuma

Master Category:

1. Cassio Carvalho, Tamarindo
2. Alejandro Banfi, Tamarindo
3. Carlos Murillo, Tamarindo
4. David Madrigal, Tamarindo

Junior Category:

1. Jairo Pérez, Jaco
2. Kilian Raust, Tamarindo
3. Jefferson Tascon, Jaco
4. Leonardo Downer, Limon

Longboard Category:

1. Carlos Arias, Tamarindo
2. Cedric Auffret, Tamarindo
3. Rónald Reyes, Jaco
4. Diego Naranjo, Jaco

Women's Category:

1. Lisbeth Vindas, Jaco
2. Nataly Bernold, Tamarindo
3. Malia Galluccio, Playa Hermosa

Grommets Category:

1. Roberto Jiménez, Limon
2. Michael Torres, Esterillos
3. Manuel Mesén, Jaco
4. Alberto Muñoz, Esterillos

Junior Women's Category:

1. Nataly Bernold, Tamarindo
2. Debbie Zec, Dominical
3. Lupe Galluccio, Playa Hermosa
4. Julie Javelle, Tamarindo

MiniGrommets Boys Category:

1. Thomas King, Tamarindo
2. Joshué Rodríguez, Jaco
3. Manuel Mesén, Jaco
4. Leonardo Calvo, Boca Barranca

Boys Category:

1. Jairo Pérez, Jaco
2. Anderson Tascon, Jaco
3. Anthony Flores, Jaco
4. Anthony Filligham, USA

MiniGrommets Girls Category:

1. Naomi Bernold, Tamarindo
2. Maripaz Solano, Santa Teresa

Bodyboard Category:

1. William Fallas, Jaco
2. Silvio Mangel, Jaco
3. Carlos Jiménez, Limon
4. Joan Mojica, Jaco

Novice Category:

1. Rándall Ruiz
2. José Robles
3. Ryan Guevara

For more information about the Circuito Nacional de Surf (CNS) or the Federacion de Surf de Costa Rica (FSC), please call in Costa Rica from the United States (011 506) 244-2400.

www.surfingcr.net

Ellen Zoe Golden, EllenZoe@aol.com

FRANCE

France in the ISA World Masters Surfing Championships: Composition of Team France

11 December 2006 -- Six surfers of over 35 years of age will represent France in January in Puerto-Rico for the ISA WORLD MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS which will take place from 20 to 28 January 2007 on the beach of Rincon.

In effect, the best worldwide surfers of 35 years will be present from 20 till 28 January, among 15 different nations such as Brazil, Colombia, the Republic of Dominica, Ecuador, France, Great Britain, Italy, Jamaica, Peru, Portugal, Puerto Rico, South Africa, Sweden, Tahiti and Vénézuéla.

Always under the sign of "comradeship" and Olympic spirit, this event is the suite of the World Junior Surfing Games and the World Surfing Games and allows to the surfers of any ages to represent the colours of its country.

A title by team, as well as 3 individual titles will be awarded.

Composition of the team of France:

- masters (35-39 years): OLIVIER SALVAIRE, STEPHANE JAMBOU

- Super-masters (40-44 years): JEAN-LOUIS POUPINEL, PIERRE LAGARDE

- Kahunas (45 years and more): JEAN LABRUCHERIE, GILES ASSENJO

Competition will take place in the waves of Rincon, in a small corner of paradise of Carib-bean.

Alexander Griveau

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Caroline Sarran Qualifies for the WCT 07

11 December 2006 -- It is official! Caroline Sarran has just come back into the worldwide elite of surfing, by earning her skills in Hawaii for female circuit WCT 2007.

Next year, Caroline will be the youngest and the only European representative in the WCT circuit. In only 21 years her skills are remarkable.

Having earned this opportunity, she is now capable of showing her real and huge potential in the world of surfing, pushed by the best surfers of the planet.

Caroline went up on her first podium 17 years ago, eight years afterwards she dominates French and European surfing hope. In 2004, she marks elite WCT with a first footprint, by taking down two 5th places with two wild cards in contests. In the next year, Caroline adds a title of Champion EPSA to her honours list, while clocking in on the 10th place of the classification WQS.



Photo O'Neill

As they could expect it, it did not stop there. This year she attains top 5 in the course of three tests WQS and checks off test WQS 4 on a very nice 3rd

place, during the Gallaz Surf Jam, in Florida. She ends her season on the 7th place of circuit WQS, after the final test of the Pro Haleiwa in Oahu, Hawaii. With three surfers of top 10 WCT in front of her in the WQS classification, Caroline must have waited for the contest last WCT of season to blow up champagne.

"For me, it is a dream which becomes reality. To qualify me for WCT was my purpose since the beginning of the year and to arrive here at Hawaii finally, it is the best! Thanks to everybody to have supported me during this adventure: my family, my mate, all my friends and especially my co-team member of the Team O' Neill, Amandine Sanchez. I am going to Saint Barth to celebrate this in the correct way then I shall begin my training for next season. I cannot wait!"

All of the Confederation Frenchwoman of Surfing congratulates Caroline on her splendid job and this searing ascent, and wishes her very good things for this first year among elite.

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www.surfingfrance.com

NEW ZEALAND

Rip Curl team up with 'Clean and Clear' to Host 2007 Women's Pro

20 December 2006 -- Rip Curl New Zealand are proud to announce 'Clean & Clear' as the presenting sponsor of the 2007 Rip Curl 'Clean & Clear' Women's Pro. The Rip Curl Clean & Clear Women's Pro is set to go off on the 24th - 25th of February 2007 at the events traditional home of Mount Maunganui. This prestigious event formerly known as the Women's Nationals is the only women's pro event on the national surfing calendar for 2007 and this year organisers will donate a portion of proceeds from the event to the New Zealand Breast Cancer Foundation.

The event is already receiving truckloads of attention from the countries top female competitive surfers. The list of past winners basically forms the who's who of New Zealand's top female surfers. After postponement of the event in 2006, Jessica Santorik (Rag) will continue her push to win back to back titles at the event and make it a hat trick of wins this year. The junior ranks may be where the competition will come from. The likes of Alexis Poulter (Piha) and Grace Spiers (WGM) are coming through the junior ranks and could cause upsets if conditions suit their surfing. Airini Mason (now residing in Aus), Mischa Davis (Piha) and Kelly Clarkson (now residing in Aus) all forged their careers at this event and New Zealand's latest hotbed of talent will be no different.

The 2007 Rip Curl Clean & Clear Women's Pro event boasts six divisions catering for women of all ages and level's of ability. Additionally Clean & Clear will be giving away \$500 cash to the winner of the Expression Session, a specialty event giving competitors a chance to lay down their best moves in a free surfing extravaganza.

The partnership is certainly shaping up to a bigger and better event than ever seen before in New Zealand. Clean and Clear Brand Manager Rachel Medricky is thrilled about the new partnership with Rip Curl and the Women's Pro. "Clean & Clear and Rip Curl have hooked up to bring you the Women's Pro for 2007. We want to see all the girls 'take control' and show the world what they're made of" commented Medricky. "We want to see the girls step up to the challenge and say 'watch out' to the boys as well! Good luck to all those in the main event and to those in the Girls Go Surfing Day. We look forward to seeing you all at the Mount in February for a kick-butt girls weekend!"

The all-female event has a division for everyone and this ensures that it is a brilliant day out at the beach. Divisions include: Rip Curl Open, Rip Curl Under 18s, Clean and Clear Under 16s, Under 14s, Under 12s, Seniors Over 28. For the beginners there will be, for the first time in New Zealand, a Rip Curl Girls Go Surfing Day where everyone can come along and learn to surf with professional instructors. This will be held on the Saturday alongside the
(Continued pg. 10)

(Clean and Clear Women's Pro - continued)

Women's Pro giving first timers a chance to get in the water and have a surf lesson while also taking home a goodie bag full of Clean & Clear and Rip Curl product and the latest issue of NZ's very own girl's lifestyle magazine - Curl.

For further information regarding the Rip Curl 'Clean and Clear' Women's Pro, please contact Leon Parkin on 021 386 473, lparkin@ripcurl.co.nz or Ben Kennings at Surfing New Zealand 021 2278732, benkennings@surfingnz.co.nz.

The Women's Pro has been held for the past nineteen years and is the only national female event held in New Zealand. Rip Curl has long been associated with the event as an associate sponsor but have increased their support to sponsor the entire event. The open women's division is part of the Corona Crown Series where valuable ratings points go on the line to find the top female for the season.

Past Champions

Open Women

2004 – Jessica Santorik (Rag)

2005 – Jessica Santorik (Rag)

2006 – Postponed

Under 14 Women

2004 – Airini Mason (Gis)

2005 – Renee Pearson (Gis)

2006 - Postponed

Under 18 Women

2004 – Airini Mason (Gis)

2005 – Paige Hareb (Tara)

2006 - Postponed

Under 12 Women

2004 – Grace Spiers (WGM)

2005 – Grace Spiers (WGM)

2006 - Postponed

Under 16 Women

2004 – Airini Mason (Gis)

2005 – Paige Hareb (Tara)

2006 - Postponed

Over 28 Women

2004 – Gina Sampson (Waihi Beach)

2005 – Anna Jolly (Piha)

2006 - Postponed

Event Sponsors: Clean & Clear, Curl Magazine, Rip Curl and Surfing New Zealand
Surfing New Zealand are proudly partnered by Corona, Vodafone, Hyundai, SPARC, Smokefree
Event Info: www.ripcurl.com and www.surfingnz.co.nz

SNZ Grom Series Done and Dusted

15 December 2006 -- The long competition road came to the end last weekend for New Zealand's top ranked junior surfers under the age of sixteen. After eight events stretching back to the beginning of January they have slogged it out to better one another and come out on top of the country's emerging talent pool. With wins in the last event of the year – the Rip Curl GromSearch both Paco Divers (Whangarei) and Paige Hareb (Tara) took top honours in the premier under 16 divisions.

Ryan Hawker (Piha) has been away on international duties so Divers got his ratings win a little easier than first thought. The two surfers battled out every event this year missing only one final each and had Hawker been in the final two events we would have likely seen a title battle unfold in the final of the last event but it was not to be. Likewise in the under 16 girls Hareb had to contend with Grace Spiers (WGM) throughout the year with Spiers finishing runner up at the first four events before back trouble kept her high and dry through the winter months. By this time Hareb's lead was unassailable and she went on to win every event she entered in 2006!

The under 14 boys was thought to be a two horse race for much of the year. However, as is always the case with the groms at this age, new talent began to emerge. Stalwarts Karne Pitcher (WGM) and Johnny Hicks (Gis) began to be challenged by the likes of Alex Dive (Mnt), the ever consistent Blake Myers (WGM) and winner of the last event Mark Pathmore (Tara). Pitcher ended up running away with the ratings win despite the emergence of some great talent and it will be the likes of these surfers who come through the ranks in 2007. In the girls the two horse race was won by Grace Spiers at the last event and in the absence of her closest rival Alexis Poulter (Piha). Spiers while playing bridesmaid to Hareb in the under 16s managed to win four of the five events she entered in the under 14 girls division to show a piece of her own domination.

The under 12s were completely dominated by Piha's Tane Wallis who stormed away with the ratings lead. The only surfer to stop him this year was runner up Ben Poulter (Piha) who managed a crowd pleasing win at Whangamata early in the year and a further win in Wallis' absence in the middle of the year. With both surfers now out of the under 12s, we will see a new breed of keen young groms enter the fray and they appeared to be lining up in the dozens if the last event of the year was anything to go by. In the under 12 girls it was Gabe Marriot (Gis) who completed a comeback of sorts to win the ratings.

(Continued pg.11)

(Grom Series - continued)

In the latter half of the year Marriot was bed ridden after a serious infection in her foot but that was not enough to stop her from placing second in the last event of the season and retaining her slender lead over Ella Williams (WGM).

Please see below for the top five rated surfers in each division. Go to www.surfingnz.co.nz to see full results of all divisions. These ratings combine the Hyundai Nationals, the three Billabong Grom Series events and the four Rip Curl GromSearch events.

Under 16 Boys Top Five

- 1 Paco Divers (Sandy Bay)
- 2 Ryan Hawker (Piha)
- 3 Keone Campbell (Tara)
- 4 Matt Hewitt (Mnt)
- 5 Braedon Williams (Whmata)

Under 14 Boys Top Five

- 1 Karne Pitcher (WGM)
- 2 Johnny Hicks (Gis)
- 3 Alex Dive (Mnt)
- 4 Landem Collier (Gis)
- 5 Blake Myers (WGM)

Under 12 Boys Top Five

- 1 Tane Wallis (Piha)
- 2 Ben Poulter (Piha)
- 3 Damien Tafu (Piha)
- 4 Kahu Craig Te Ranga (Waihi Beach)
- 5 Peri Matenga (Mnt)

Under 16 Girls Top Five

- 1 Paige Hareb (Tara)
- 2 Grace Spiers (WGM)
- 3 Alexis Poulter (Piha)
- 4 Anna Hadfield (Mnt)
- 5 India Wray Murane (Muriwai)

Under 14 Girls Top Five

- 1 Grace Spiers (WGM)
- 2 Alexis Poulter (Piha)
- 3 Georgia Cooper (Auck)
- 4 Rosa Thompson (Auck)
- 5 Ella Williams (WGM)

Under 12 Girls Top Five

- 1 Gabe Marriott (Wainui Bch)
- 2 Ella Williams (Whmata)
- 3 Ella Spiers (WGM)
- 4 Jayda Fitzharris (Gis)
- 5 Crystal Hale (Northland)

For further information, please contact Ben Kennings at Surfing New Zealand, benkennings@surfingnz.co.nz. Surfing New Zealand are proudly partnered by Corona, Vodafone, Hyundai, SPARC, Smokefree

PANAMA

Another Big Year for Mr. Gary Saavedra

30 December 2006 -- Again the excellent Panamanian surfer was emphasized of 2006 in his country, Gary Saavedra gave again samples of his enormous talent on having obtained his crown number twelve in the national plane. Also, Mr Saavedra expired with his promise to finish the year between the best 10 Latin surfistas, his eighth position in the final ranking of the tour ALAS has been the golden brooch for a hard year of work.

2007 will not be too calm for the member of the team Billabong, during the second weekend of January in Reef Latin Pro Argentina will do his first international presentation. In the waves, Saavedra it will have the possibility of beginning to add points in the career to the title of Latin champion 07.

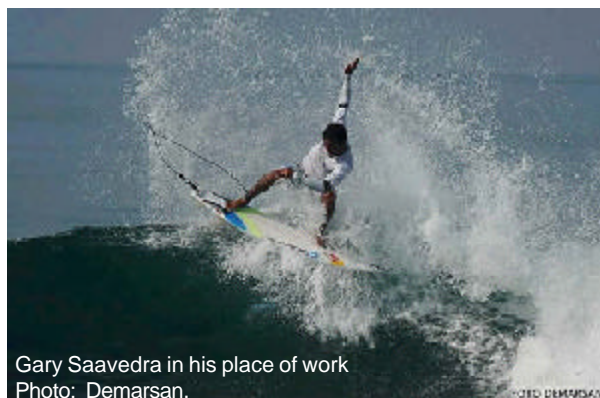
In declarations to Surfpress, Gary affirmed that for the new year he has thought out to center all his energies on the international ambience and also he has planned to help the new generations of his country for the evolution of surfing. Although he will not leave of definitive form the national circuit since it will only take part of a few dates, his plans are to surf for the competences of the ALAS tour and not to mention any leg of the WQS along with another group of Latin athletes.

In his native Panama, the big champion will spend the holidays along with his family then to begin to prepare the baggage for what it will be his first battle of the year, as in this year it will begin in the grounds Argentina.

Gary Saavedra is sponsored by: Billabong, Network Bull, Nissan X-trail, Reef, Atlas, Vonzipper, Byrne Surfboards, Free Style, Prolite, Futures Fins, Glass Airlines, Super Sports.

Sebastián Chacón

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Gary Saavedra in his place of work
Photo: Demarsan.

SOUTH AFRICA

"I Just Went For It"

2 January 2007 -- Jordy Smith fully justified his lofty second seeding in the R430 000 Billabong ASP World Junior Championships when he unleashed a barrage of high performance aerial manoeuvres in his opening heat, posting two of top three scores and the highest heat total of the day as he 'flew' directly into round three.

Competing in messy one metre wind-affected waves at North Narrabeen beach in Sydney, Australia, the 18 year-old Durbanite somehow found sufficient power to boost himself into a '360 air reverse' for 8.50 points (out of 10) to take the lead at the 15 minute mark.

Even though Smith indicated that he doesn't feel confident in the famed Narrabeen lineup, he then shut the door on his opponents with seven minutes left, effortlessly completing an aerial manoeuvre that the judges rewarded with 9.17 points, the highest score of the day, leaving both highly rated European Marc Lacomare (France) and Von Zipper Trials winner James Wood (AUS) combo'd and needing a massive 17.67 (out of 20) to overtake him.

"I don't think the waves here suit me that well," said Smith after his heat. "But I managed to pick off some rights and I just tried to make the best of them. I knew that the two guys I had in the heat are great surfers so I had to pull out something big." Smith, who won the Open men's title at the ISA World Surfing Games in the USA in October and reached the semi-finals in his first elite level tour event against the world's top 45 rated surfers at Jeffreys Bay in July, is still very wary of his rivals here in the battle to add the title every junior surfer wants on his CV.

Smith was joined in round three by compatriot Damien Fahrenfort when the Capetonian waited patiently for a decent wave. A 6.83 point ride with five minutes remaining was enough to dispatch Vincent Duvignac (FRA) and fellow Billabong team rider Spencer Sterling (USA) to cutthroat, man-on-man second round elimination heats.

"When that wave came through I went for it and pulled off two big turns that scored me a 6.83 and enough to go into first and hold down the heat," said Fahrenfort, 20, who was SA's top finisher in this event in 2004 and last year and is competing in his last contest at Pro Junior (U20) level.

Nikita Robb (East London) continued her excellent form in international events when she racked up a pair of six point rides to convincingly win her opening heat. The talented 17 year-old finished equal third in the inaugural junior women's event here last year and would like nothing better than reaching the final this year after matriculating in 2006 and now pursuing a career as a full time professional surfer.

Compatriot Tammy-Lee Smith (Salt Rock, KZN), seeded fifth in Sydney after winning the qualifying five-event Billabong Junior Series in SA last year, struggled with the tricky conditions, posting a highest score of 4.10 to place third behind heat winner Leila Hurst (HAW) and runner-up Pauline Ado (FRA).

Smith now faces a second round encounter against Lee Anne Curren and fellow Frenchwomen Alize Arnaud with the top two advancing to round three.

www.news24.com

www.surfingsouthafrica.co.za

VENEZUELA

23 December 2006 -- The First of December marked the beginning of the Christmas festivities and marked the beginning of excellent waves for the big family of the Venezuelan Surfing Federation.

This year 2006 was a challenge for the Associations, Clubs, Athletes, and for the FVS in planning the targets and goals that it held, recently decreed by our President of the Republic Bolivariana of Venezuela, Department of Sport.

For the year 2007, more consolidated than ever, the FVS, Associations, Clubs, Athletes, Fans, Environmentalists, Ecologists, Businessmen who have invested in the way,

Mass media and the public in general joined in only one direction with the captured ideas of all, with a grain of sand and a big heart we will hope to achieve that surfing is more successful.

The Venezuelan Federation of Surfing and the Director wishes everyone a Happy Christmas and Prosperous Year 2007 with the best waves for each of you.

Take care of your beaches and do not contaminate.

It is in your hands

FVS, fedvensurf@yahoo.es

Magnum Martinez was One of the Best 2006 Latins

26 December 2006 -- The Venezuelan surfer Magnum Martinez showed his class and professionalism again as he placed himself between the best five Latin American surfers. Besides, the member of the Quiksilver International team, finished this great year of competitions on the fourth place of the ranking in the ALAS (Latinamerican Surf Assosiation) 2006 tour.

Not only was his performance notorious in Latin America, but Mr. Martinez also participated in different stages of the WQS tour, making an outstanding performance on Newport Beach Pro 2006 where he reached the fifth position. Magneto made one of the 10 highest scores of the event, on that same competition, with a 8.50-points-wave on the 11th heat of round 2.

One of the most remarkable moments on 2006 took place in the US Open on Huntington Beach, California during July. Magnum Martinez was MTV Latin American host there. The Venezuelan brought the words of Latin surfers who compitted on the mythical californian wave to millions of screens.

Hunting waves was also one of the goals of the Venezuelan surfer and he worked with some of the best photographers on the surf industry for that. Magnum reached places like Tahiti, Costa Rica, Indonesia, Colombia and Panama among other heavenly locations. Two of these trips appeared in the pages of two of the most representative world surf magazines: Surfing and Transworld.

Good Bye 2006

Last December 8th, Magnum Martinez was signing autographs in the opening of the store Adrenalina in Orlando, Florida. Hundreds of kids went to the event and took a signed poster of the charismatic Magneto with them among others souvenirs of this splendid store of extreme sports.



These last days of the year Magneto will enjoy with his family and then he will prepare his luggage and start 2007 in search of surf and new adventures all over the world.

Magnum Martinez is sponsored by: Quiksilver - Reef – Sharp Eye - Spy – Xtrak – Lokbox- Sambazon - Samoa.

Sebastián Chacón

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ARISF

On behalf of the ARISF Council I take great pleasure in inviting you to attend the statutory ARISF General Assembly to be held in Beijing, China, on April 24 th , 2007 at 1 p.m. The venue is the Shangri-La Hotel.

In addition to the statutory items defined in clause 10.5 of the ARISF Constitution, each member may submit additional items to the agenda (clause 10.3). Any such items shall reach the ARISF Secretary General at least 75 days prior to the AGM, i.e. by February 6 th , 2007.

Further, assuming that the rules for designating GAISF Council members will be accepted, I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that any nominations for this position shall reach the ARISF Secretariat at least 75 days prior to the AGM, i.e. by February 6 th , 2007.

The agenda and all meeting documents will be sent to you by e-mail on or before March 8 th , 2007 and they will also be published in the 'ARISF members only' section of the ARISF website at www.arisf.org.

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SPONSORHOUSE

December 20th Updates:

These changes will be live on Wednesday, December 20th at 5pm PST:

· [Add your own Classes](#): Tomorrow you will be able to add any class to your Account, Profile and Results section without having to choose from a drop-down list.

· Add Results Easier!: Add results quicker and easier with the new Add Results interface.

(Please note: any classes that you add will be displayed in your profile, but may affect other users' ability to search for you on SponsorHouse).

If you have not selected the sports and classes you compete in, please do so. To complete your profile, please add at least one result. For information on how to add classes, [click here](#).

Future Updates:

A New "Broadcast" Feature: Currently we are working on a feature that will allow you to send a mass message to all of your sponsors or friends. Use this tool to keep everyone informed of your racing career, results, training programs, upcoming event you will be attending, etc.

For more information on these new features and more, click on the corresponding link in the list above or visit our [Resource Center](#).

Thanks for your continued support!

SponsorHouse

WADA

WADA Applauds Swift Ratification by Governments of International Convention against Doping in Sport Agency Welcomes Entry into Force as a Key Step in the Global Fight against Doping in Sport

Montreal, 11 December 2006 – The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) welcomed today the deposit at UNESCO of the 30th instrument of ratification of the International Convention against Doping in Sport (Convention) by the government of Luxembourg. Reaching the threshold of 30 ratifications, required by UNESCO procedures for this convention, means that the first global treaty against doping in sport will enter into force on February 1, 2007.

"The Convention's entry into force signals the strong commitment of the governments of the world to the fight against doping in sport," said WADA President Richard W. Pound. "The drafting and unanimous adoption of this Convention in just two years is a world record for international treaties, and now its entry into force within under a year of its adoption is another record in the history of UNESCO. We warmly commend and thank UNESCO for facilitating the process, and we look forward to the ratification of the Convention by all governments of the world."

The International Convention against Doping in Sport is the treaty formalizing the commitment of governments to the fight against doping in sport. Until now, many governments could not be legally bound by a non-governmental document such as the World Anti-Doping Code (Code), the document harmonizing regulations regarding anti-doping in all sports and all countries of the world, which entered into force on January 1, 2004. Governments accordingly drafted the International Convention under the auspices of UNESCO - the United Nations body responsible for education, science and culture - enabling them to align their domestic policies with the Code and thereby harmonizing sport rules and public legislation in the fight against doping in sport. This Convention was unanimously adopted by the 191 States present at the General Conference of UNESCO in Paris, France, on October 19, 2005.

"The speed at which governments are ratifying the Convention clearly shows that public authorities are well aware of the importance of stemming the scourge of doping in sport and its impact on public health. Governments also recognize the need to partner with the sports movement to coordinate efforts for efficiency and effectiveness in anti-doping," said WADA Vice-President and Minister for Culture and Sport in Denmark Brian Mikkelsen. "The commitment of governments to this fight has been highlighted by their decisive action in a number of recent high-profile cases and investigations, and I am certain that the partnership between governments and the sports movement, facilitated by WADA, will continue to grow."

Governments' authority, when applied to the fight against doping, greatly advances efforts. For example, governments can take action against the illegal manufacture and supply of doping substances, facilitate doping controls, support education, fund research, and take other equally important measures.

(Continued pg.15)

(WADA - continued)

Some 186 countries have signed the Copenhagen Declaration on Anti-Doping in Sport, the political document through which governments show their intention to implement the World Anti-Doping Code through ratification of the UNESCO Convention. It is expected that all of them will ratify the Convention for practical implementation of the universally accepted anti-doping rules and principles.

The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) is the international independent organization created in 1999 to promote, coordinate and monitor the fight against doping in sport in all its forms. The Agency is composed and funded equally by the sports movement and governments of the world. Its key activities include scientific research, education, out-of-competition testing, development of anti-doping capacities and monitoring of the World Anti-Doping Code - the first document harmonizing regulations regarding anti-doping in all sports and all countries.

You can find the list of countries that have ratified the Convention and more information on the Convention by [clicking here](#). The UNESCO Web site also provides valuable information on the Convention: www.unesco.org/en/antidoping

SURFAID INTERNATIONAL

SurfAid announces staff changes and Christmas Holiday Appeal for new program

Humanitarian aid organisation, SurfAid International, announced today a major program initiative and a change of senior staff.

8 December 2006 -- After guiding the organisation since its inception six years ago, CEO (Chief Executive Officer) and co-founder Andrew Griffiths is leaving to pursue other interests.

While officially departing, Griffiths will remain a key advisor and is already volunteering to guide and assist several new programs.

"SurfAid and the Mentawai people are in my heart forever," Griffiths said. "It's been a tremendous challenge and ultimately a very fulfilling experience to have contributed towards creating a platform from which people can express their compassion for humanity in a structured and sustainable manner.

"To be moving on from my role as CEO and be able to look around and see such an amazing team and donors able to take SurfAid to the next level is very inspiring."

SurfAid co-founder and Medical Director, Dr Dave Jenkins, said: "While it is sad to see my friend Andrew move on, it is apparent that he is changing roles to enable his pursuit of other interests and perhaps a more balanced life.

"Over the years I have been closest to Andrew's incredible spirit and determination and, without his resilience and talent, SurfAid would still be a small, largely part-time, volunteer organisation helping only a few villages.

"After Andrew's years of hard work, SurfAid is now servicing a population of more than 100,000 people in impoverished surfing locations in the remote islands off Sumatra, Indonesia, and we are making a real difference to their health."

SurfAid is also pleased to announce the appointment of Carl Steinfort as COO (Chief Operating Officer). Steinfort, an accountant with a track record of project management, is a former professional AFL (Australian Football League) footballer who represented the Geelong and Collingwood clubs.

Also joining the team as Communications Director is Kirk Willcox, a long-time surf industry executive and former editor of Australia's Tracks magazine.

SurfAid USA Marketing and Communications Director Lou Niles has been promoted to Managing Director of the US operations, and Vivienne Hill has been appointed Development Manager for SurfAid New Zealand.

SurfAid also announced today that, in partnership with the Mentawai Health Department and UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund), they will begin a major program to control malaria in all 203 villages in the Mentawai Islands and then strive to eradicate it by 2015.

SurfAid was the first organisation to run formal scientific trials of malaria control in the region in two pilot villages, which extended to 22 villages. The trials showed that a major reduction in malaria transmission is possible utilising new, long lasting insecticide nets and community-wide malaria education.

(Continued pg. 16)

(SurfAid - continued)

SurfAid has also launched a Christmas Holiday appeal to raise money for this new program. Donations can be made via SurfAid's website at www.surfaidinternational.org

For further information, please contact:

Kirk Willcox

SurfAid International Communications Director

Phone: +64 9 812 9005

Email: kirk@surfaidinternational.org

About SurfAid International

The mission of SurfAid International, a non-profit humanitarian aid organization, is to improve the health of people living in isolated regions connected to us through surfing. In response to the December 26, 2004, Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami disaster, SurfAid also conducted emergency medical relief programs in North and West Sumatra, and Aceh, Indonesia.

SurfAid is incorporated in the USA, Australia and New Zealand with the program base in Padang, West Sumatra.

SURFRIDER FOUNDATION

Cleanliness and Day of Awareness

7 December 2006 -- Surfrider Argentina, an environmentalist organization dedicated to the protection of the sea, the waves and the beaches of our country, for the sake of the public in general, by means of the conservation, the activism, the investigation and the education, will hold, along with the magazine Surfista, the sixth phase of the Oceanic Initiative 2006 in Mar del Plata on December 9. It will consist of a rally for the defense of the sea, the beaches and the waves of Mar del Plata, a day of cleanliness and awareness in Playa Grande.

This action has been declared of Tourist Municipal Interest and it is provided with the support of the Naval Prefecture Argentina.

Institutions:

Association Argentina of Surfing, Federation Argentina of Surfing, Association Marplatense of Surfing, Association Argentina of Bodyboard, Association Argentina Canoe Outrigger, Sun Rider Surf Club, Grouping Flat Big Guardavidas, Kikiway Surf Club, Association Marplatense de Kayaks, Syndicate of Swimming Guardavidas Mar of the Silver and Club of Close Eleven.

This action of Surfrider Foundation is provided with the support of QUIKSILVER, AIRPORTS ARGENTINA 2000, TIMEX, Tijuana, XPOX, Efu Express, Shipyards Contessi, Segumat, Study To Max, Distant Worlds, Moscuzza Redes. Companies helping to preserve the natural stages for the practice of those sports that use the waves as recreative resource.

There adhere the manufacturers of surfboards of Argentina:

Reborn, Angel, Conosur, Birdband, Enchanting Shrimp, Bessell, JAM, Horus, Ale Carricart, Stoked, Becker, Doppler, the South Atlantic Ocean, Taliban, Xtorsion, Duke Kahanamoku

If we continue to hold the mission of Surfrider with high standards, surely we are going to be able to keep on preserving the natural stages so that we keep on enjoying the sea, the beaches and the waves. It depends on our commitment.

Gustavo Huici

Director Ejecutivo SFA

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If you are disappointed that there is no news from your country, send your news via email to the ISA Head Office (surf@isasurf.org) and it will be included in the next newsletter.