



KARLA TAYLOR SHOWS
THEM HOW IT'S DONE

HUSBAND AND WIFE MAKE HISTORY

Alistair Taylor and his wife Karla completely dominated the Wimpy/Rossi Bodyboarding Pro-Am held at Margate Beach last month. The couple won the Pro and Ladies divisions in testing surf over the three-day 4A Rated South African Bodyboarding Association (SABA) event. Their victory has cemented the pair in the history books of SA bodyboarding, and possibly even bodyboarding worldwide for being the first time that a husband and wife have won the premier titles at the same contest.

The 2007 Wimpy/Rossi Pro Am, was the second stop on the SA Bodyboarding Association National Circuit. Day two of the three day event saw a cold front with a gale force south westerly wind blowing its way up the Hibiscus Coast, sending in solid 4 to 8ft waves for the final day of competition at Margate Beach. Along with the strong winter swell came a freight train of a current that wreaked havoc.

The Pro division saw some amazing bodyboarding throughout the three days of the event as competitors went all out to secure the lion's share of the R12 000 cash up for grabs. Daniel Worseley from Cape Town ended up winning Wave of the Contest for his amazing air in round two of the event.

In the semi finals, current SA champ Alistair Taylor escaped elimination from the contest when he got his required scoring ride with just 10 seconds remaining in the heat after he had been washed some 150m down the beach by the notorious sidewash. He took 10 minutes to return to the lineup where he caught a set wave, launched into a massive air-roll-spin rotation, and landed it on the hooter to end the heat. Taylor's 9 point score boosted him from fourth to first in an instant.

Other notable performances in the Pro division were Dane Beales, who finished third in the Pro final. Beales is not only a Junior division competitor, but has just come up from the Boys U14 division. Also making a name for themselves were North Beach locals, Michael Ostler and Charles Pass, also both Junior division competitors, that made it all the way into the elite Pro semi finals.

In the Pro final, conditions had deteriorated with the onshore wind, but the swell had picked up a notch. Alistair Taylor lucked into two big set waves that opened up some hollow sections for him, allowing him to launch into some big aerial rolls and carving turns and 360s to nail the win.

The Ladies division was owned by two times women's world champ from Brazil, Karla Costa Taylor. Not only did she throw out scores that made most of the male competitors blush, but she also competed in the male dominated Pro Division and went as far as the quarter finals, finishing 13th in a field of some 40 or so of the best in the country.

The lucrative R2400 Factory7 DK division was taken out by local boy Derek Footit, with some clean carving turns, and hot on his heels were Factory7 team guy Sean Tickner, Capetonian Vaughn Harris in 3rd and Durban's Wayne du Preez in 4th. The Masters division was taken by Kevin Williams and he was followed by Justin Klusener from Durban. Tying up the third slot was the evergreen finalist Michael van Huyssteen. In the juniors, SABA Junior champ Jared Houston, who in the semis boosted an amazing and super progressive aerial manouever, was narrowly pipped by local standout Jaryd Enslin.

ALISTAIR TAYLOR NAILS A
SPECTACULAR WIN

PICS: PAUL COHEN

