



First place winners, Classboat Regatta (front row, l/r): Anita Minter; Mike Ratiani; Don Mastropolito (Back row, l/r): Leith Anderson; John Higham; Paul Jensen; Charles Mays. Photo Scoop

## Fifth Prindle 16 National Catamaran Championships

by Paul Bates, III

The Outrigger Canoe Club sponsored Paul Bates and crew in the Fifth Prindle 16 National Catamaran Championships held at Treasure Island, near Tampa, Florida, August 22nd through 26th.

Qualification races divided the fifty four boats into gold and silver fleets for the four day event. Regional qualifying series had filled fourteen of the 31 spots in the gold fleet, leaving 17 places to be determined by 3 races at the nationals site.

The USYRU Mobile Race Management Team under the direction of Jim Taylor did an

outstanding job of conducting the races and received much praise from all the competitors. The combination of these factors along with representation from all across the nations and Hawaii made this regatta a true contest for the National Championship title.

The top place in the event was captured by Richard and Gretchen Loufek with an impressive score of 9½ points. Second place with 29 points went to Geoff Prindle, who designed the boat, and his wife, Dee. The team of Mike Hinman and Rita Trail of North Hollywood took third (30½ points).

The Hawaiian sailing team of Ted and Sue Wilson placed seventh in the gold fleet, while Jim Pate and crew took tenth. Paul Bates and Pam Woodard placed 29th.