

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

Date: August 16, 2012
To: Harbor Commissioners
From: Scott Riedman, Waterfront Director
Subject: Harbor Operations Report

King Harbor Race

Marking the seminal event in our yachting season, 93 sailboats departed Santa Barbara Harbor July 27th for the 40th annual King Harbor Race, an 81-mile course that terminates at King Harbor in Redondo. The number of competing boats was up from 78 last year. Winds at the starting line were 10-12 knots, sending the fleet over the horizon in short order. The Santa Barbara Yacht Club and Santa Barbara Sailing Club fielded 15 teams and took home several awards. Two Santa Barbara boats earned "first in class" awards, including *Rock & Roll* (skipper Bernard Girod) and *Escapade* (skipper Mark Noble). The *Flying Dutchman*, a Hobie 33 from King Harbor Yacht Club skippered by Jason Herring, turned in the fastest corrected time of 7:56:46. Most important, winds were near-ideal for the entire race and all racers finished safely. For complete King Harbor race results visit the Santa Barbara Yacht Club website at <http://www.sbyc.org/>

Shark Attack on Sea Lion Prompts Beach Warnings

At about 11:00 a.m. on July 24th, the Marine Mammal Center informed Harbor Patrol of a reported shark-attack wound on a mature sea lion off East Beach. Harbor Patrol responded and photographed the injured animal. The Marine Mammal Center's Peter Howorth confirmed that a great white shark had inflicted the wound.

Based on this information, the Parks and Recreation Department placed warning signs at eight locations along City beaches and on all five of its lifeguard towers, advising of the attack and advising swimmers to enter the water at their own risk. The action resulted from a joint Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for shark sightings and/or attacks developed by the Parks and Recreation and Waterfront Departments in late April. Per the SOP, the signs were removed 72 hours after their placement, due to the fact that there were no more white-shark sightings or confirmed attacks during that period.

The same day the signs came down, The Marine Mammal Center, with assistance from Harbor Patrol, captured the injured sea lion. Its wounds were so severe and infected, it had to be euthanized.

Prepared By: Mick Kronman, Harbor Operations Manager