

Chieftain in search of another big title

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LAST week the West of Ireland Offshore Racing Association Championships were hosted by Tralee Bay Sailing Club, Fenit with a superb entry of 37. Six yachts from Foynes Yacht Club made the journey down the estuary and then onto Fenit to participate in the championships.

On the first day of the event, which was Wednesday, June 21 the racing was cancelled, due to the very strong gale force winds.

Unfortunately, I have not got the results to hand, because they are not up on the Tralee Bay Sailing Club's website, therefore as soon as I see the results on the web-site I will publish them.

Winner of the Sydney/Hobart race, Ger O'Rourke and the crew of Chieftain are hoping to snatch another title this weekend with the BMW Round Ireland race.

Top racing yachts like Chieftain will be competing for top honours and for the race record, which is held by the Volvo Ocean Race Yacht—Jeep Cherokee in a time of 76 hours 23 minutes and 57 seconds.

Chieftain, which is based in the mid-west has



Looking for another title . . . the crew of Chieftain on board the winning yacht

a crew of 15 and is one of the fastest in its fleet.

During offshore racing such as the BMW Round Ireland Race they will sail with 14 crew divided up into three teams which are called "watches", and each watch will have four crew members.

Also participating in the Round Ireland Race will be the chartered Spirit of Kilrush, which will be sailed by members of the McGibney family from Tabert. The very

best of luck to all participants from the mid-west.

New club ties will available in the next week or so, and they can be purchased from behind the bar, also for sale are club burgees and club polo shirts.

Three yachts are expected to be participating in Ford Cork Week which begins on Thursday, July 13 until Wednesday, July 19, the event is hosted by the Royal Cork Yacht Club, Crosshaven.

Those who will be sailing are Dexterity, Foynes team; Big Deel, Derek Dillon and Golden Leprechaun, David McGibney.

The Foynes to Cappa race for the Galleon Cup is cancelled, which was scheduled to take place this Saturday. This fixture will be raced at a later date.

The Munster Mermaid championships will take on Saturday and Sunday, July 8 and 9. In the region

of about 10 boats will be racing, which is a great fleet for the Aughinish Alumina sponsored event.

Those members who are participating are asked to phone Mermaid Class Captain Vincent McCormack on (086) 2324709 immediately for further details and entry forms. The cost per boat is 30 euro.

Mermaid fixtures: Saturday, July 1 and Sunday, July 2—cruise to Cappagh or Tarbert.

A tongue in cheek look at World Cup 2006

By TOM RYAN

THIRTY Two teams, 48 games, a host of goals and entertainment, but has this World Cup lived up to expectations?

Have the teams delivered, have the top layers performed, have the pundits given a true evaluation?

Are the fans getting a good World Cup, but most importantly are the sponsors happy? After all the 2006 World Cup in Germany has attracted unprecedented sponsorship from the globes largest brands. It is only for the sponsors why we are seeing some of the stars of previous World Cups.

ba boys from Brazil, the magic of Maradona, the pedigree of Pele or the craftiness of Charlton. We are now subjected to sit and watch what 'they' decide. The Pundits

Credit where credit is due. RTE's (who are showing all the games at this year's finals) coverage of the finals has widely been acclaimed and recognised as a great success.

The mix of the pompous Dunphy, the ever-reliable Giles, the boring but accurate Brady, the astute Irwin (after all he is from Cork) and the wily Souness has been a joy to watch. Particularly Souness and his loveable knack of telling it as it is—I'm not sure why I like him!!

The opposite has to be said of the coverage on BBC. Their total tunnel vision into England's

