

SC SURF

SCOOP ON THE LOCAL SURF COMMUNITY



GROM OF THE WEEK Spencer Fanticola

Age: 7, San Clemente/Glendoria

Spencer learned to surf at the age of 6 in San Clemente at the pier, his home break and favorite place to surf—"...on that really good right off the pier," he said. Spencer is in his first season of competition in the Gatorade WSA Championship Tour, surfing double divisions in both the Micro Grom U9 Push-In Shortboard and Micro Grom U9 Push-In Longboard divisions and is currently ranked No. 17 and No. 4 respectively. Spencer credits much of his surf talent to his coach Chris Iltis of the San Clemente Surf School and the fact that he belongs to a family of surfers. His favorite surfers are Pat O'Connell and Chris Iltis and his favorite maneuver is getting barreled. Highlights of his competition career so far include a second place finish in the San Clemente Open at the pier and in WSA competition—fourth in Dec. at Oceanside, third in early Jan. at San Clemente Pier and fourth last weekend at the Huntington Beach Pier. Spencer lists his hobbies, outside of surfing, as riding little cars, watching his fave surf movie *Endless Summer 2*, catching air with his bike and anything else "rad." —AS

PRESENTED BY



Photo by Sheri Crummer/seasister.com

High Tide: What A Ride

High tide and swell make for challenging conditions at last weekend's WSA contest in Huntington Beach

By Andrea Swayne
San Clemente Times

A predicted mega-high tide over the weekend of Jan. 30 and 31—7.0 to 7.3—gave hope that along with the forecasted strong west/northwest swell, the waves would be cooperative for the Gatorade Western Surfing Association (WSA) Championship Tour event at the pier in Huntington Beach. The ocean did indeed oblige with clean overhead peaks but also added extra challenges with an out-of-control high tide line and strong current.

"We knew the morning peak of the tide was going to be high, but not this high," commented contest announcer, Dave Schulte on Saturday morning as water began to rush in underneath the event scaffolding.

The water sent spectators scrambling for higher ground and ignited the staff into a frenzy, securing floating bins of equipment and protecting threatened Kicker audio equipment. The water came so high—knee high to be exact—rendering it necessary to shut down the electrical power for about two hours until some strategically placed digging by young competitors helped drain away the water and the high tide began to subside.

As Beach Marshal, I stayed with the check-in table and using a bullhorn, air horn and



San Clemente's Luis Soto carves a big turn on a beautiful open-face wave produced by the combination of high tide and west/northwest swell on Saturday, Jan. 30 at the WSA contest at Huntington Beach pier. Photos by Sheri Crummer/seasister.com

stopwatch kept time the old fashioned way until such time that the power could be restored. We couldn't have had beach starts if we wanted to. Competitors were wading over to the check-in area to pick up their jersey assignments.

The tabulating crew—Mia Gilkerson and Kelly Marshall—scrambled to join the judges up top while the ground crew—Randy

Gilkerson, Scott Graham and others worked to save the speakers and set up a back-up table above the tide line for Contest Director Mary Lou Drummy and Event Formatter/Beach Entry Manager Tom Bujno.

The show must go on, as they say, and the event schedule remained on time—judges perched safely above the chaos in the second story of the scaffolding logging in scores for some great surfing.

The strong current challenged competitors, making it difficult to hold a position in the lineup, but those who negotiated it well caught some of the biggest, longest open-faced waves seen so far this season.

The water began to subside, power was safely restored, and with the adult divisions successfully completed, event staff turned their attention to the prevention of a repeat on Sunday during the under-18 divisions. It was decided that a much more cost effective alternative to disassembling and reassembling the whole event infrastructure would be to hire the Huntington Beach bull dozer to construct a berm around the scaffolding structure to hold back the tide waters on Sunday.

The berm held well on Sunday, breached only in a few areas by the morning high tide, and kept the scaffolding and check in area dry. The contest came to a successful conclusion seeing many local surfers in the finals. **SC**

NEW! SC Times online video show

On this week's BoardShorts we catch up with local surfer Marissa Shaw and look on as friend, fellow lifeguard and aspiring surf photographer Taylor Tribble captures images of her surfing.



SURF FORECAST

Water temp: 56-60°F

Water visibility and conditions: San Clemente: 10-15' Poor-Fair; Catalina: 15-25' Poor-Fair

Remarks: Moderate surge and cloudy skies on Thursday make for low visibility. WNW swell drops out by Friday as a new WNW swell fills in Saturday.

Short range: Fun surf prevails on Thursday as WNW swell-mix eases. Better breaks have knee-chest high surf, with plus sets for stand-outs. Conditions are fair with light Southerly winds early.

Long range: A new, larger WNW swell fills in for the weekend to bring the region back in to decent sized surf. Conditions could be an issue as some unstable weather enters the region, stay tuned.

Surfline.com

SURF RESULTS AND BOARD SHORTS

Local finishers only. KEY: SC=San Clemente, DP=Dana Point, CB=Capo Beach, SJC=San Juan Capistrano

Gatorade WSA Championship Series Event No. 6
January 30-31, Huntington Beach, Pier

MICRO GROM BOYS/GIRLS U9: 3. Trevor Sutton, SC; 5. Cooper Sutton, SC. **MICRO GROM BOYS/GIRLS LB U9:** 2. Ethan Mudge, CB; 3. Alyssa Martin, SC; 4. Spencer Fanticola, Glendoria/SC. **BOYS/GIRLS U10:** 4. Cole Houshmand, SC. **BOYS U12:** 1. Kei Kobayashi, SC; 4. Kai Diamond, DP. **BOYS U16:** 2. Ian Simmons, SC. **BOYS U18:** 6. Randy Gilkerson, SC. **GIRLS U12:** 6. Malia Osterkamp, SC. **GIRLS U14:** 1. Kulia Doherty, SC; 3. Emmy Lombard, SC; 4. Karina Rozunko, SC. **GIRLS U16:** 2. LuLu Erkeneff, DP; 6. Madi Swayne, SC. **GIRLS U18:** 1. Lani Doherty, SC; 2. LuLu Erkeneff, DP; 3. Madi Swayne, SC. **BOYS LB U14:** 1. Dylan Cox, CB; 3. Jacob Atwood, CB; 5. Mason Shaw, CB; 6. Noah Atwood, CB. **JR. LB U18:** 2. Casey Powell, SC; 4. Matthew Elias-Calles, SC. **GIRLS LB U14:** 1.

Rachael Tilly, CB; 2. Emmy Lombard, SC; 4. Kandi Patterson, CB; 5. Karina Rozunko, SC. **GIRLS LB U18:** 1. LuLu Erkeneff, DP; 4. Tory Gilkerson, SC; 5. Rachael Tilly, CB. **MASTERS 30-39:** 5. Trevor Mezak, SJC. **LEGENDS 50+:** 3. Dale Baker, SC. **SR. WOMEN LB 35+:** 1. Tracy Edwards, SC; 2. Carol Malamud, DP. **OPEN MEN:** 5. Levi Gregory, SC. **OPEN WOMEN:** 5. Madi Swayne, SC. **OPEN MEN LB:** 3. Scott Shannon, SC; 5. Ben Luick, SC.

Bodyboarder International Association
2010 Pro/Am Bodyboarding Tour Event No.1
January 30, Dana Point, Salt Creek

PRO: 1. Drew Erichson, SC; 2. Colin Goddard, SC; 3. Joe Grodzen, DP; 4. Danny Hart, SC. **PRO DROP KNEE:** 3. Jake Minnehan, SC; 4. Joe Grodzen, DP. **AA ELITE:** 1. Ryley Colle, DP; 2. Rocket Klein, SC; 3. Eric Buell, SC. **AAA ADVANCED:** 1. Ryley Colle, DP; 2. Jake Caruso, SC; 3. Ryan Colle, DP. **JUNIORS 13-16:** 1. Ryan Colle, DP; 2. Jake Caruso, SC. **MENS 17-29:** 1. Dusty Brizolara, DP. **MASTERS 30+:** 3. Marcos Hirth, DP; 4. Tom Prince, SC. **YOUTH 12-UNDER:** 1. Luke Overin, SC; 2. Mason Bender, SC. **FEMALE:** 1. Tara Parsons, SC; 2. Natasha Overin, SC; 4. Keila Grodzen, DP.

PacSun USA Surf Team Wins Bronze at ISA World Junior Championships

Jacob Halstead (La Jolla) and Lakey Peterson (Santa Barbara) were the only team members to bring home individual medals from the 2010 Quiksilver ISA World Junior Championships in Piha, New Zealand Jan. 20-28. The team racked up enough points to bring home the bronze medal behind team Australia (gold) and team Hawaii (silver). The 12-surfer travel team included San Clemente surfers Kolohe Andino and Trevor Thornton.

Bitches on Boards Announces Charity Event

Bitches on Boards (BOB) announces their charity event at Coconuts in Dana Point on February 20 to benefit Families First. Beginning at 8 p.m., the event will feature live performances by Behind Bars and Dubluva. A silent auction will be held between performances showcasing donations from action sports companies and local businesses including Terry Senate, The Factory, The Bagel Shack, Surf Skate Supply, L.H.P. USA Inc, The Beachfire, PCH Sheet Metal, Rainbow Sandals, Trunq, Pictures that Rock, Priscilla Witte Photography, and more.

Founded in 1984 Families Forward assists families in financial crisis to achieve and maintain self-sufficiency. Their mission is to providing support while supplying the tools needed for families to move from depending upon public services to return to being independent, productive residents of the community.

BOB is a media production company promoting board sports, green movements, charity work, and community fundraising activities. Owned by four San Clemente-based female action sports athletes, the company is eager to give back to the board sports community with which they identify. For more information or media passes please contact Cybil Oechsle at Cybil.bob@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 6-7: NSSA Southwest Open Event No. 9, Dana Point, Salt Creek **February 13-14:** NSSA Southwest Explorer Event No. 7, San Diego, Ocean Beach Pier **February 13-14:** Gatorade WSA Championship Series Event No. 4 (re-scheduled from Pismo Beach), Huntington Beach, Goldenwest Street