

# F3A WorldNews

Friday 29 July 2011

Text and photos by Jim Quinn.



**THURSDAY, JULY 28**, was the third day of the 2011 RC Aerobatic World Championship at AMA's International Aeromodeling Center. You can ask, "I heard it was hot; how hot was it?" Dana Bouchard thought she might bring some eggs so she could cook lunch right on the runway. Ron Lockhart cautioned a woman wearing flip-flops not to go on the runway lest they melt. And Dave Guerin was worried that the corn in the fields surrounding the site might start popping and flights might have to be postponed.

Jim Eichenberg settled the discussion with a temperature probe which measured the runway temperature at 138° Fahrenheit. So let's just hum along with Marilyn Monroe as she sings, "Having a heat wave, a tropical heat wave ..." from the 1954 movie, *There's no business like show business*.

**Robin Trumpp** is a very talented pilot from Germany. At age 18, he is the fourth "Junior" pilot we are covering in this edition of the *WorldNews*. When you see him, be sure to wish him a belated happy birthday. Robin's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday was celebrated here on Monday, July 25.

This is Robin's fourth year in F3A competition. He began flying at age 4 with his dad as his primary teacher. Why does he like to fly F3A? He says it is the most difficult RC flying and you fly against the very best pilots. When asked what happened to his primary trainer, Robin smiled and said it crashed. Was it pilot error? Absolutely not! Another pilot turned on Robin's frequency and that was the cause of the crash. Otherwise his flying career has been crash-free.

Such greats like Hanno Prettnner and Christophe Paysant-Le Roux are among Robin's favorite pilots. Of course, he was quick to also include his teammates as well. His caller, Heiko Summer, is another of his favorite pilots as well as a superior caller. His favorite airplane designer is Naruke. This delightful young man is

truly international. "How do you like AMA's Aeromodeling Center?" I asked. "Fantastic, I'm speechless," he added. He also wanted us to know he thinks Muncie is "very hot!"



**Yesterday**, we met some of the staff assisting Dave Guerin and Tom Miller, whom we usually do not see. Today, however, here are the people we have been dealing with from day to day. Remember they are all volunteers so a "thank you" from time to time sounds very good.

Site 1 is directed by Tim Jesky (third from right) and he is assisted by (L to R) Bob Ganey, Charlie Barrera, Andre Bouchard, Dana Bouchard, Ron Van Putte, Dave Lockhart, (Tim), Jim Eichenburg (jury member) and Ron Lockhart.



On Site 3 is Jerry Pyler, assisted by (from L to R), Joe Lachowski, Earl Haury, A.C. Glenn, John Fuqua, Bob Skinner (Jury Member) Don Szczur, Jerry Pyler, Margo Pyler, and Garry Harris.



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**YS Engines** has been the standard in glow power for our aerobatic airplanes forever. How fortunate we are to have both Naohisa Yamada and Richard Varano joining us for these aerobatic Championships. Thank you for all the work you do for us to keep smiles on our faces as our engines allow our airplanes to dance effortlessly across the sky.



**Dick Penrod** was gracious enough to join us as a fan and spectator. Dick began his F3A World Championship career as USA Team Manager in 1977 at Springfield, Ohio. In 1979, he assisted Don Lowe. After that, his career spanned 20 years as flightline director for the TOC.



**What shall we** expect for the next few days? Michael Ramel carefully explained that after the four rounds of P-11 are finished, the scores will be normalized. The three best scores will be used to determine the 30 pilots who will move into the Semi-Finals on

Sunday, July 31. Each of the 30 pilots will fly two rounds of F-11. These flights will also be normalized and the better of the two flights will be added to the average score of the three P-11 scores kept from the preliminaries. These two scores will determine the top 10 pilots who will move to the finals held on Monday, August 1.

Before getting to fly on Monday morning, these 10 pilots will gather together Sunday evening and select two unknown sequences to be used during Monday's competition. These pilots will not be permitted to practice either of these unknowns and must fly them for the first time before the judges during the competition on Monday. Monday will find each of the 10 finalists flying two F-11 sequences and both unknowns. These four flights will be normalized and the best F sequence and the best unknown sequence will determine the 2011 World Champion.



Each pilot has his/her own way of preparing for a competition flight. Marcello Velez of Columbia seemed to be in a trance-like state while doing a modified "Aresti dance" in preparation for his third flight.

**A World Championship** is about flying, but it is also about friends. A World Championship is about pilots, but it also about people. Two women from Columbia gave a new friend from the USA a friendship bracelet. The bracelet is made in the colors of the Colombian flag.



Let's meet some more teams.



**We fans** come to the World Championship to watch the very best and most-talented pilots in the world display amazing flying skills. Today was an exceptional day for us to witness those skills. Chip Hyde, a former World Champion, had an in-flight mishap. (That puts it very mildly!) One of his wing panels separated from the fuselage during his third flight.

So what to do? For Chip it was just another day of flying. Just simply finish the flight in knife-edge until you get close enough to the ground to land, roll to level flight and touch down with an undamaged airframe. The separated wing suffered minor damage, and after checking with the jury about the repairs, Chip is confident this same airplane will fly again for round four.

If you need any supplies for your airplane while here at the AMA Aeromodeling Center, just stop by F3A Unlimited at Site 3. F3A unlimited is in the same tent where the scores are posted. Chris Moon will be happy to assist you.

**If you want** any memorabilia from this year's World Championship stop by the same tent and pick up a souvenir. →

—Jim Quinn



**How lucky** are we? There are four World Champions with us! Giichi Naruke of Japan, Chip Hyde of the USA, Wolfgang Matt of Lichtenstein, and our current reigning Champion, Christophe Paysant-Le Roux, of France!

