The Officers, Directors and Members of

US SAILING

are pleased to present the

ARTHUR B. HANSON RESCUE MEDAL

to

JEFF CONDON AND TED CONRADS

FOR THE RESCUE AS FOLLOWS:

REPORT 1

Jeff Condon and Ted Conrads were racing 420’s at Coast Guard last Spring, in the New England Championship which is a qualifier for the High School Nationals, the Mallory trophy. These are top sailors, who could reasonably expect to qualify and possibly win this event.

They voluntarily dropped out of a race to save the life of the crew of a nearby capsized boat, trapped under the boat and tangled in the lines. Though there were rescue boats nearby, none was close at hand. Under the conditions, the crew certainly was in danger and loss of life was possible. Ted and Jeff both helped, abandoning their boat to extricate the crew and help the skipper right the capsized boat. Afterwards, Ted and Jeff checked on the conditions of the rescued crew, verifying for themselves that she had been properly cared for.

There is amplifying detail in enclosures, which include the initial reports and news clipping from the Greenwich Times, as well as a draft article which is scheduled to appear in SAILING WORLD in the Spring.

The act of these young sailors is in the best traditions of all of us. They have also been nominated for the Van Alan Clark Sportsmanship trophy.

Should you require additional information, please contact me. For those of us who have been in the rescue business as a way of life, it is heartening to see these traditions continue, these basic values persist.

REPORT 2

During the NESSA Fleet Racing Championships (O'Day Trophy) on May 5, 1996 the Brunswick School’s B Skipper Ted Conrad sacrificed his position in a race to go to the aid of the Barnstable High School boat that had flipped with its crew caught underneath. The Brunswick crew, Jeff Condon, jumped in the water to assist the Barnstable skipper and crew. Ted Conrad and Jeff Condon stayed until support craft arrived and both Barnstable Sailors were safe and their boat upright. After the race they came by the docks to inquire about the condition of both Barnstable Sailors.

VICTIMS REPORT:
According to the crewmember rescued of Barnstable High School, the scenario, best she remembers, is as follows:

She stated the 420 death-rolled. She became entangled with several lines and felt trapped under the turned-over 420. The next thing she remembers was being pulled by another school’s sailor to get from underneath the craft and onto a Coast Guard Academy craft. Then the same school assisted her skipper upright the BHS boat. Later she re-calls the rescuers checking in to insure she was fine.

She stated the whole event remains a blur. She is not sure if the rescuer went under the boat to assist or just reached under and pulled her out. She especially remembers a feeling of relief.

RESCUERS REPORT:

When Jeff and Ted were participating in the New England Championship we assisted Pete Conway and his crew while they were capsized. We were sailing down the first reach when Pete Conway death-rolled causing his crew to become trapped under the boat. Pete did not have any foul-weather gear on, and his crew’s dry suit was unzipped. When Pete hailed for help we turned around to assist them. Apparently Pete’s crew had hit her head and her dry suit was filling with water while under the air pocket in the cockpit of the boat. While Ted climbed onto the top of the boat to help right the boat, causing the crew to get out, Jeff swam under the boat and pulled the crew out. After safely righting both boats we sailed in, so that we could prepare for the next start. We were forced to sail in, because Jeff’s dry suit had been unzipped when he jumped in the cold water.

John B. Bonds
Chairman, Safety-at-Sea Committee
By Direction

The Arthur B. Hanson Rescue Award was awarded to Jeff Condon and Ted Conrads