

Kip Stone sails his 50-footer into Boston Harbor, one of three Americans to sail the Transat. Orne van der Wal photo



tenacious assault came from Around Alone winner Bernard Stamm on *Cheminees Poujoulat-Armor lux*. Stamm charged into the lead halfway into the race only to capsize when his keel snapped off. He was rescued by a passing ship, taken to St John's, Newfoundland, and before the rest of the fleet had finished in Boston, he had already mounted a salvage effort, found his boat, cut the mast away, righted it, pumped it dry and had the stricken vessel under tow.

The Monohull 50s also had a close race, one that was of particular interest to an American audience. Kip Stone on his brand new Owen/Clarke 50

*Artforms* enjoyed a head-to-head battle with fellow New Englander Joe Harris on *Wells Fargo-American Pioneer*, the Finot 50 that won Class 2 of the last Around Alone with Brad Van Liew at the helm. This was the first solo transatlantic race for both skippers who were within miles of each other on a distance-to-go basis most of the way. It was only as they approached the Flemish Cap that the boats split, Harris heading south into calms and Stone north into favorable winds, that the outcome was settled. Stone on his T-shirt-powered Open 50 (Stone owns a T-shirt screen printing

business in Freeport, Maine) won his first major offshore race.

"It feels good to win, but I know that Joe is a formidable competitor and I am looking forward to many close races in the future," Stone said upon arriving in Boston.

American Rich Wilson on his 50-foot multihull, *Great American* decided to compete when he learned that the finish had been moved to Boston, a city where he has lived and worked as a school teacher for most of his adult life.

"I simply had to participate," he said. "I could not accept a race finishing in my backyard without being a competitor." Wilson came a credible second behind Eric Bruneel on *Trilogic*.

The Open 60 Multihulls dished up some amazing performances. From the moment they set sail from England with hulls flying and speeds exceeding 25 knots, the elite French sailors pushed and cajoled their high-strung craft the wrong way across the Atlantic

