

## Paul Goodison adds World Championship title to long list of accolades.

The might of Hurricane Bill could not stop Paul Goodison from completing a clean sweep of the top Laser titles after he added his first World Championship to an ever growing haul.

The Rotherham sailor won an Olympic gold at Beijing and has been unbeaten ever since, claiming the European and British crowns plus gold medals at three events of the ISAF Sailing World Cup in 2009.

Only the World Championship had eluded him but at Halifax in an event which was cut short by two days due to the category one force hurricane that swept the east coast of Canada, he scored an emphatic victory.

"It's fantastic, and such a relief," said Goodison, who took over the British Laser spot from Ben Ainslie after serving as his training partner at the Olympic Games in Sydney in 2000.

"Having won all my other events this year, and with the Worlds having been the big focus for me this year there was quite a bit of pressure to do the business and I'm just so happy that it's all done and dusted."

Demonstrating the strength in depth of British sailing in the Laser class, Nick Thompson claimed the bronze medal, his first ever senior World Championship medal. Silver went to New Zealander Michael Bullot, who finished 6.5 points behind Goodison in the final standings, with Lymington's Thompson just four points adrift in third.

Both Goodison and Thompson will compete at the Skandia Sail for Gold Regatta - the seventh and final leg of the ISAF Sailing World Cup - at the Weymouth and Portland National Sailing Academy (14-19 September) where just a top 15 finish for Thompson should see him take the overall series victory.