



What We'll Miss



By Rich Wilson
aboard *Great American II*



A long ocean passage under sail is an extraordinary and unique experience, and Rich du Moulin and I count ourselves fortunate to have had this chance. I was aloft 75 feet earlier today to inspect the mast, and a bird flew along beneath me (!) and then dove on a fish for lunch. I find that remarkable.

We have seen full rainbows, end to end, we have smelled the enticing fragrances of Sumatra, we have seen the mighty albatross of the Indian Ocean, and we have felt the swift and awesome power of the Agulhas Current. Every breath is a breath of very fresh air, every view of the Southern Cross and Alpha Centauri is a spe-

cial view for a person from the Northern Hemisphere.

The spectacular performance of our boat, *Great American II*, is always on our minds. We guide her, and she defends us. She is our third shipmate without whom none of this could be done.

We will miss answering questions from curious students, and we will miss our satellite phone calls to classrooms filled with expectant minds. The questions of the young are most fresh and interesting. Their curiosity and imagination inspire us, and their rooting for our success invigorates our efforts.

All these things and more we will miss. Unique opportunities must not be given up

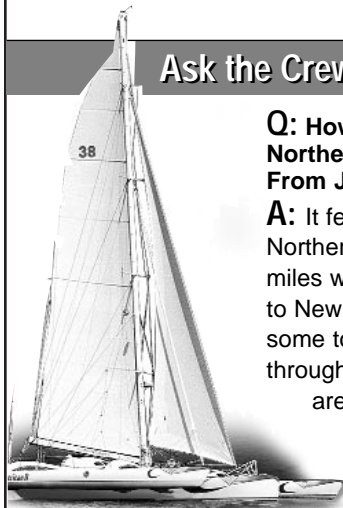
lightly. When you come across one, grab it with gusto, and ride it to the finish. That is what we are doing here in the adventure of a lifetime. And that feeling of total involvement—physical, mental, and emotional—in a single mission we will most definitely miss.



ANSWERS AT
sitesalive.com/bh

1. Why will Rich Wilson miss talking with students by satellite phone?
2. How far has *Great American II* sailed so far?
3. What does Rich mean by "total involvement"?

Ask the Crew of *Great American II*



Q: How does it feel to be in the Northern Hemisphere?
From Janet, Georgia, USA

A: It feels great to be back in the Northern Hemisphere! After over 13,000 miles we feel as though we are very close to New York and home. We still have some tough weather systems to pass through over the next few days, but we are, indeed, VERY happy to be in our home hemisphere!

—answered by Rich du Moulin



Have students find narratives in the newspaper, and ask them what they notice about the kinds of information the reporter includes. Now have students write a narrative of an exciting event that has occurred during *Great American II*'s journey.

Visit the Website at www.sitesalive.com/bh

CQS MANAGEMENT

sitesALIVE
Foundation