



I am sailing: America3 (left) loses the wind in its spinnaker sail as it jibes away from the Italian yacht Il Moro just before the second mark during race two of the America's Cup finals in San Diego. *11/15/1992* *PRETORIA NEWS*

# Americans pipped on the line

Sapa-AP  
San Diego

ITALY reached a milestone in its short America's Cup history with a dramatic down-to-the-wire, three-second win over America3 that tied the match for the ancient trophy at 1-1.

Il Moro di Venezia's victory was the nation's first in a Cup final since it began battling for the 141-year-old prize in 1983. The boat evened the best-of-seven series with superb sailing by skipper Paul Cayard, a San Francisco native. The third race is scheduled for tomorrow.

America3 — pronounced "America Cubed" — seemed to be slightly faster. But Il Moro's superior crew work produced a 33-second lead after the first

leg and helped it overcome gains the US boat made during the second and seventh legs of the eight-leg, 20-nautical-mile course off Point Loma.

The quick thinking of Il Moro's crew was most valuable as both boats sprinted to the finish in the final seconds. America3 cut away at Il Moro's 31-second lead after the seventh leg and seemed to be gaining as both boats approached the finish line on the downwind leg.

With the boats sailing side-by-side and neck-and-neck, Il Moro's crew eased out on the gennaker, the sail in front of the boat, allowing it to billow across the line before any part of America3 crossed.