

Reed makes it in 42 sailing days

By **ROGER WILLIAMS**

SPRINGBOK Bertie Reed sailed his new maxi ocean racer, Grinaker, into a marina at Les Sables d'Olonne in France early yesterday, 42 sailing days after leaving Cape Town, to take part in the Globe Challenge non-stop single-handed race around the world.

Obviously delighted at the performance of his hi-tech boat, designed specifically to his requirements as a single-hander, Reed said in a radio call to the Cape Times: "She's just one big sixty-foot dinghy, so easy to handle solo that it's unreal."

Reed, who called at St Helena, Ascension, the Cape Verdes and the Azores on the way, said he had been warmly received at Sables, on the Bay of Biscay, and that the marina was in "a very pretty spot, up a river".

Philippe Jeantot, winner of the last two BOC Challenge single-handed races around the world and organiser of the Globe Challenge, was among those waiting to welcome him.

Also there to meet Reed were Grinaker's designer, Rodger Martin of Newport, USA, and the boat's Cape Town builder, J J Provoyeur.