

# Bruce Dalling Now Ship's 3rd Mate

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**BRUCE DALLING**, Natal's world-famous yachtsman, who skippered Voortrekker to second place in last year's trans-Atlantic yacht race, has decided to try sailing with a difference — aboard the 2,911-ton freighter, Nahoon.

The 31-year-old Natal University lecturer joins the South African-owned ship on December 4 for a 10,000-mile voyage as the craft's third mate.

Bruce will not be alone in his cabin during his two cruises from Cape Town to Pointe Noire, which is expected to take up nine weeks of his annual vacation.

Accompanying him on the

voyage will be "Captain Ahab," his 11-week-old kitten.

Where did she get her strange name? "When she first arrived at my flat," Bruce explained, "she was a very curious little thing. It appeared she was looking for the great white whale.

"Well, she certainly found it in the end . . . except this was a big, bearded one wallowing in the bathtub," Bruce quipped.

"Actually," he added, "Captain Ahab's growing up

with a complex. Everyone refers to her as 'he,' and she doesn't seem to like it."

Bruce said now was good a time as any to let Captain Ahab find her sea legs. "Perhaps I'll take her on a sailing trip with me one day."

Why has Bruce suddenly taken to ships? "It'll mean a big boost to the finance," he said.

Just one problem. Bruce might have to look after his sick father during his holiday.



**BRUCE DALLING**