

## ● YACHTING

# A big chance for Greg Davis

By DALE GRANGER

YACHTSMEN of the Year Greg Davis — yet to win a regatta this year — is out to reverse his fortunes in Rothmans Week next month when he will skipper a brand new Australian yacht from the stable of the world's top designer.

Last year Rothmans Week king Geoff Meek avenged his 1990 defeat to Davis with a brilliant campaign which left the fleet stranded in his wake, but this year even eight times winner Meek will be hard pressed to match Morning Glory, the 50 footer Davis will be helming which is currently being shipped to South Africa after being launched in Australia.

Morning Glory boasts an immaculate CV, first as a creation of Racel Pugh, who is better known for his design of America<sup>3</sup>, the winning America's Cup yacht which carried Bill Koch to victory this year during the most expensive racing campaign in yachting history.

The yacht was also built by McConaghy of Australia, which is rated as one of the top three hi-tech boatyards in the world, and was described by the international seahorse Magazine as "an absolute ripper".

Straight after Rothmans Week the reigns of Morning Glory will be taken over by her new owner, German campaigner Hasso Plattner, who will be sailing her in the Rothmans Cape to Rio race.

Morning Glory starts as favourite to win the 3 500 race and Davis said that Rothmans Week would be a perfect opportunity for giving the boat a good shake down.

Davis said he had rang up a mammoth phone bill contacting Mr Plattner who readily accepted him as skipper of his boat for Rothmans Week after seeing his credentials.