



**RICK NANKIN . . . in powerful Cape challenge.**

# Transvaal yachts invade Durban

**By Dave Beattie**

A massive entry from the Transvaal is expected in Durban at the end of the month for the seventh Crystic Ocean Challenge.

All told, 140 yachts from all over the country are scheduled to make the starting line in the off-shore, one-design event, making it one of the biggest deep-sea regattas in the southern hemisphere.

The regatta doubles as

the national and provincial championships for most classes, and Springbok colours provide an added incentive. The excitement is heightened by the fact that it is a "man-on-man" event, in identical boats, so that each class contest is decided on straight seamanship rather than money and equipment.

Most of the country's top skippers will be competing.

Heading the Transvaal challenge are Manuel Mendes, Herb Karolius, Peter French and Pete Hishin. Veteran skippers such as Dave Cox, Iain Park-Ross and Craig Lanham-Love will lead the Durban bid for honours, and the small but powerful Cape contingent will be led by Dave Abromowitz, Rick Nankin and Chris King.

Classes that will be competing are L34s, L26s,

J27s, J22s, Stadt 23s, Royal Cape One designs, and Hunters. There are also classes for non-standard design keelers of over and under eight metres.

The regatta includes a tough 180 nautical mile race from Durban to Richards Bay and back. The rest of the regatta consists of round-the-buoy races over a 16 nautical mile Olympic course. The host club is Point Yacht Club.