



LIPTON CUP CHALLENGERS . . . Royal Cape Yacht Club has commissioned Springbok Dave Hudson (bottom right) and his experienced crew to bring the Lipton Cup "back to where it belongs". Pictured above with Hudson on the L-26 Port Owen Challenger are (from left) Front: Glen Zanudio, Ali Serritslev and Steve du Toit. Back: Henry Wiggins, Jane Hudson and Simon James.

Picture: STEWART COLMAN

RCYC pins hopes on Dave Hudson

By DALE GRANGER

ROYAL CAPE Yacht Club, determined to win back the Lipton Cup from Zeekoevlei Yacht Club in August, has selected Springbok Dave Hudson and his crew to outsail the defending champions, Rick Nankin and Chris King.

For the past three years, Zeekoevlei entry MSX Stainless Steel has reigned supreme in the premier Class 1 regatta on the national sailing calendar.

But this year co-skippers King and Nankin are guaranteed fierce competition from the RCYC entry on Port Owen Challenger, and also from Hout Bay Yacht Club's Greg Davis on Judron, second in the past three Lipton Cup regattas.

Davis has already won Rothmans Week, the Finn Nationals, the Admirals Cup and Opel Week this

year, and is eager to add the one regatta that has eluded him thus far.

Hudson's task has not been made any easier with the resultant pressure of representing the premier sailing yacht club in South Africa in the regatta.

RCYC last won the Lipton Cup in 1987, courtesy of Etienne van Cuyck on Omega Heatwave, and the feeling is that the R500 000 trophy, donated by Sir Thomas Lipton in 1909, has been away from its "rightful home" for far too long.

Durban's Point Yacht Club is also eager to win the trophy in its bid to host the annual regatta next year, when the club celebrates its centenary.

Davis is quietly confident. Hudson said: "We'll be ready," and Nankin: "The King and I will do it."

With such strong L-26 entries from Cape Town, the cup is most likely to remain in Cape Town.

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