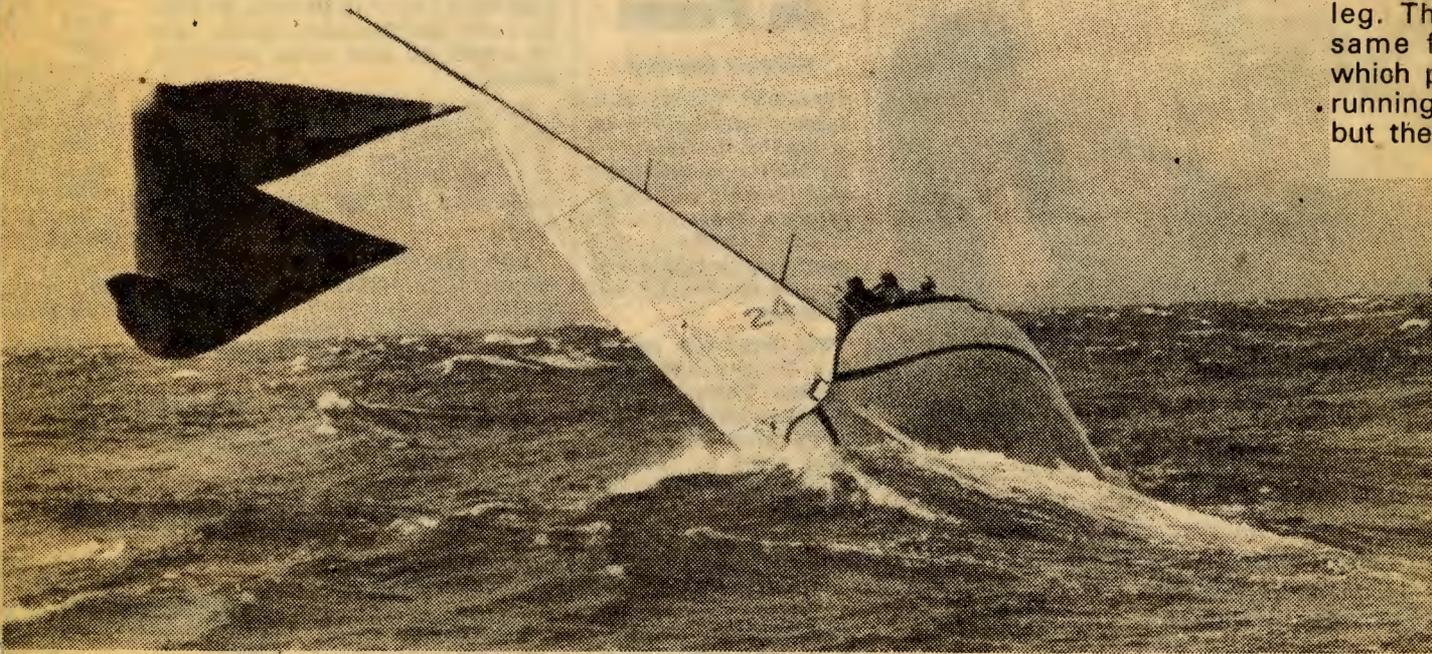XOSHA MOYA, the Royal Natal defender of the Lipton Cup, which the club won when the event was last sailed in 1973, broaches wildly out of control during the second downwind leg. The yacht suffered the same fate on the first leg, which put her well out of the running for yesterday's race, but there are still three more days to sail.

Heavy seas, strong winds take race toll

14/7/82

Mercury Reporter

FUEL FREE, the Point Yacht club challenger, showed her mettle yesterday to win the second race of the Lipton Cup which was sailed in huge seas and gale-force winds.

Sailing brilliantly in conditions worse than those on Monday when the first race of the series was abandoned, the French-designed quarter-tonner showed that when it came to heavy conditions, she had the beating of her arch-rival, the Cape challenger Royal Flush.

After a clean start, the field was evenly bunched when it rounded the mark for the first downwind leg, the 'hairy' spinnaker section of the 12-mile course.

First casualty was the Royal Natal challenger, Xosha Moya, which broached wildly out of control, having to turn and retrieve her spinnaker which she lost in the process.

On the upwind beat of the second square — the course was set yesterday as two six-mile squares — Fuel Free edged into the lead, closely challenged by Red Flyer with Royal Flush about a 100 m behind.

Turning for the last downwind section it looked as though it would be a neck-and-neck finish between Fuel Free and Red Flyer, when the Island Spice challenger suffered the same fate as Xosha Moya, broaching badly as she surfed down a huge wave, leaving Fuel Free to sail the last two legs of the course for a comfortable win.

Results: 1 Fuel Free (H Ellens, Point Yacht Club); 2 Royal Flush (R Nankin, Royal Cape); 3 Red Flyer (R Thorpe, Island Spice); 4 Mini Mouse (J van Ryswyk, University of Cape Town); 5 Sweet Pea (M Guthrie, Aeolians); 6 French Connection (J Schubert, Zeekoeivlei); 7 Gunsmoke (R Bates, Defence); 8 Xosha Moya (C Reynolds, Royal Natal).