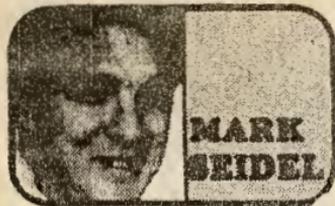




Transvaal's Galactica sailing into stormy Durban waters



Storm in a tea cup!

WHEN that great trader of the high seas, Sir Thomas Lipton, donated a prestige Cup to the Table Bay yacht Club in 1908 for competition between boats of six to eight-metre class, he insisted, did Lipton, that "gentlemanly sailing" prevail.

While the race organisers strive to ensure that the ideals of the inter-club deep sea event, spelt out in the Deed of Gift are upheld, a sobering thought is that sailing has taken on cut-throat proportions where winning has become everything.

Tea millionaire Lipton would have choked over his cuppa had he been around to witness the tacky way the race was decided last year.

Although the Royal Cape Yacht Club entry, Omega Heat Wave, was the overall winner, the five-race Lipton Week ended in controversy and drama when the Transvaal Yacht Club entry Galactica protested under rule 37.2 "overtaking

boat keep clear."

The sailing committee upheld the protest, and duly awarded the Cup to skipper Peter Hishin and his crew.

It was the first time in 30 years of Lipton Cup sailing that a Transvaal entry had wrested the Cup away from the coast.

And that makes for a grudge return this week off Durban from tomorrow to Saturday for the L26 Class yachts, especially those from the coast, who were upstaged last year.



Supporters and crew of the Royal Cape entry heatedly dismissed the Transvaal win as a "fluke" and Etienne van Cuyck and his crew are back to tackle the wind, the seas, and the tactics of the other 22 entrants in what promises to be a no-holds-barred five-day yachting extravaganza.

Entrants

Galactic — Transvaal YC (Ewald Sternagel), Omega Heat-Wave — RCYC (Etienne van Cuyck), Co-ordination — Aeloians C (Sandy Ord), Irish Mist —

Pretoria Sailing C (Jurgen Coblentz), Cape Columbine — Defence Sailing Club, Simonstown (Roy Heiner), Red Robin — Henley Midmar YC (Terry Clarence), B2G2 — PYC (Graham Dibb), Avalanche — Knysna YC (Darryl Gethling), Origen — Defence YC, Voortrekkerhoogte (TBA), L-Cid — Algoa Bay YC (Jimmy Pretorius), Carousel — Pennant Nine YC (Fanie Geldenhuis).

Streetcar — Zululand YC (Denny Moffatt), Philanderer — Deneysville Aquatic Club (Niel Guthrie), Element — Univ of Natal YC (Bruce Savage), Warrior — Island SC (Ernie Shaw), Bloody Ell — Royal Natal YC (Michael Wright), Kalimera — False Bay YC (Dania Balkoff), Aries — UCT YC (Billy Leisegang), Rainbow Sleeve — Lake Deneys YC (Alex Stone), Garfunkels — Bluff YC (Andrew Dorney), Ta-toosh — Victoria Lake C (Rob Willcox), Halcyon — Zeekoevlei YC (David Hudson), El Toro — Hout Bay YC (Steve Meek).