

## Yachts battle on

THE Crystic Week went into its second day yesterday, with 90 boats fighting light winds and battling for positions.

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**ABOVE:** Stocks and Stocks Corum won the IMS class, finishing in a corrected time of more than 20 minutes ahead of second placed NBS Swimplion. **RIGHT:** The J-22 Mr Bojangles, a Cape Town boat skippered by Chris King, won her class once again on the second day, but Chris will be looking over his shoulder for the rest of the week aware of Stateline Warlord, skippered by Durban's Craig Millar.

Pictures by  
ALAN COXON

## Close duels as skippers battle for top places

By Greg Knowler

LIGHT winds marred the second day of the Crystic Week yachting regatta yesterday and resulted in the course being shortened for four classes.

Upsets were caused by gusty winds in the closing stages, but sailing skills were tested.

There were again many close duels, and none more so than in the L-26 class where the skippers of Stainless and Royal Cape drew on all their experience in the fight for first place.

Stainless managed to win the race, but only seconds ahead of Royal Cape, which led for most of the way.

Yesterday, the two boats finished in opposite places and are now on equal points.

The skipper of Stainless, Capetonian Rick Nankin, said they slowly caught up with Royal Cape after being passed on the second lap of the course.

"We were going very fast in the light wind," Nankin said.

"We were doing well in the quarter mile and it was very close. At the finish, we almost threw it away and won by about three seconds."

One of the crew aboard Stainless was JJ Provoyeur, the Royal Cape Yacht Club manager of the Lipton Cup (to be held later in Cape Town this year).

"Every time Royal Cape got



close to us, he was shouting, 'Hurry up', and every time we were behind, JJ shouted at us to go faster," Nankin said.

However, Royal Cape skipper Graham Dibb said after today's performance he thought they could "get it together".

"We seem to do better in stronger winds and the 10 knots yesterday made it very tricky."

"Now that we are lying even with Rick, we all feel very comfortable and at home."

Mr Bojangles, skippered by Chris King, won the J-22 class for the second day, putting him six points ahead of Stateline Warlord and skipper Craig Millar.

These two boats have finished both days in the same positions and if Millar can time his start right, today's race might have a different ending.

Interviewed after the race, Millar said after having a bad start he made up for it in the first beat and "hung in there".

"We had quite a good dice with King until the wind

dropped and then he cruised to the finish. If the wind picks up, we stand more chance and obviously what we need is a first place.

"I am just not starting very well, but it will come right and we are getting better and better all the time."

King said he had a good race and when the wind dropped they managed to pull away.

"A big sea was left behind by the wind and it was very tricky and bumpy. Many boats battled to sail through to the finish and the course was shortened."

### Results:

J-22: 1-Mr Bojangles (C King/N Bainkoff, Cape); 2-Stateline Warlord (C Millar, Durban); 3-Great Hawk (M Hawksworth, Natal).  
Stadt 23: 1-Sailsure Ray Ban (C Schweitzer, Tvl); 2-Top Notch (M Linton, Tvl); 3-Signkor (P French, Tvl).  
IMS Class: 1-Stocks and Stocks Corum (C Middleton, Cape); 2-NBS Swimplion (B McCurrach, Natal); 3-Zing (F Viljoen, Natal).  
L-34: 1-Equinox (M Payne, Natal); 2-Close Again (R Close/T Flynn, Natal); 3-AFI Warrior (E Shaw, Natal).  
J-27: 1-Pirelli (G Davies, Tvl); 2-Pure Magic (G Davidge-Pitts, Tvl); 3-Jouster (I Taylor, Tvl).  
L-26: 1-Stainless (R Nankin, Cape); 2-Royal Cape (G Dibb, Cape); 3-Red Robbin (D Shaw/J McLoughlin).  
Hunter Class: 1-Odin's Eye (R Letton, Natal); 2-Orca (D Bezuidenhout, Tvl); 3-Atlanta (H Schroeder).  
RCOD Class: 1-Prion (J Goldsmith, Natal); 2-Reaction (D Runtzler, Natal); 3-Spray (R Bester, Natal).

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