

# Dave's Beat

DAVE BEATTIE



Every sports-minded person must be heartily sick of the confusion, the chaos, the frustration of the turbulent course on which South African sport is now embarked.

I don't think it would be simply one small voice if I said I'd like to wish away the next six months, blot

**Getting  
away from  
it all . . .  
but it will  
all be here  
when I  
get back**

them out and return when maybe, just maybe, politics have been banished from the field of play and we can all get on with the game itself.

Of course, bypassing six months is out of the question; but thankfully, starting today, I can at least get away from it all for a week.

Instead of floundering day after day in a sea of acronyms, from ANC to PAC, from NOSC to SACOS, to NOCSA, COSAS, SANOC, and a hundred others, I'll be soaking up sun and sea in Mauritius, ready for the start of the **Crystic**

**Beachcomber yacht race to Durban.**

The race represents the first opportunity for me to write any sport for nine months; and the bonus is that it is a sport where things such as wind and water take precedence over political considerations.

How nice it would be to come back and find that Sam Ramsamy and Muleki George are as sick and tired as we all are of politics dictating the sports path, and that they have decided to do the job they set out to do — achieve unity, institute development programmes, and guide us back into international sport.

They could start by reassessing the role of the SA Council of Sport (SACOS) in the country's sporting future. SACOS have continually opposed South Africa's re-entry into world sport, continually put a variety of spokes into the unity wheel. There seems to be no chance of compromise.

SACOS have been told time and again, by local and international administrators, that no unity hold-ups will be tolerated; that procrastinators will miss the train.

Well, perhaps it is time to blow the "all-aboard" whistle. Time for deeds instead of words.

Imagine if, during the next week, the athletes got on track again, the tennis groups announced their long-awaited unity and a resumption of international tournaments in South Africa, the Pakistani cricketers did an about turn and went to bat for South Africa on the World Cup issue, rugby got its act together and the moratorium became just another page in history.

Admittedly, it is a heluva lot to ask for in a week.

STAR M F  
13/9/91