

# Cruel blow for Coldcor

By DALE GRANGER

REUNION'S 12 DU DTP continued to lead the **Cry-****stic Beachcomber** fleet on handicap yesterday, but her compatriot, UFA, could face a penalty up to 10 hours, and Capetonians Ian Martin on Shandrani and Greg Davis on AMC Classic Challenger are snapping at their heels.

Mother nature has dealt a cruel hand to the leading line-honours yacht, Coldcor, skippered by Geoff Meek, on the final hours of her voyage before she arrives in Durban sometime late today.

Light south westerly winds were blowing yesterday, forcing Coldcor to sail on her worst point of sail — beating towards port. And westerly winds arrived in Durban yesterday which could virtually kill her quest of winning the double — a line-honours and handicap victories.

The pattern following a westerly wind in Durban is for the easterly to blow. This means that, relatively speaking, Coldcor could be slowed up significantly and the rest of the fleet could fly into port downwind once the easterly arrives.

UFA, last reported in second position on handicap, failed to report her position yesterday, and CASA chairman, Richard Crockett, said that the onus was on skipper, Christian Pernes to prove that the radio was not malfunctioning, or face a five percent time penalty. This could amount to up to 10 hours — a terminal prognosis regarding her handicap victory chances.

In a flying 24 hour period covering 205 nautical miles, Martin vaulted into second place on handicap, behind AMC Classic Challenger, yesterday.