

21-1-71

RIO-BOUND TOMORROW, SAYS BRUCE

By a Staff Reporter

SKIPPER BRUCE DALLING, smiling confidently, said today he hoped to have the Pretoria yacht *Jakaranda* Rio-bound early tomorrow.

He told his assembled crew aboard the yacht, resting in its metal cradle on the quayside near the Sturrock Dry Dock entrance: 'We are getting ready to go—it's game, set and match.'

While Cape Town engineers were completing repairs to the damaged rudder and skeg today, *Jakaranda's* crew, happy at the prospect of chasing the fleet, were provisioning the blue-hulled yawl for her journey.

Her water supply is being replenished and food stocks taken aboard.

'When we hit the water tomorrow, we will be ready to go,' Dalling said.

OWNER

Aboard the yacht today was owner Mr. Theunis Bester, who flew from Pretoria to see Dalling. He, too, was happy at the thought that *Jakaranda*, which was to be South Africa's best hope in the Rio race, would be setting out again.

'In any event,' Mr. Bester said, 'she has her other races lined up and she must compete in

yacht seaworthy again and for Government officials who had speeded up formalities.

'People have been busting to help us.'

The small leading edge crack in the glass-fibre around the heavy keel lead has been repaired as has the rudder stock which sheared at the point where it emerges from the hull.

A new glass-fibre skin has been put around the skeg. One delaying factor is the need for glass-fibre to 'cure.' The hull has to be clear of water during this process.

To help dry the hull last night, a powerful floodlamp was positioned near the yacht's stern, its warmth directed at the rudder assembly. It was still in place today.

(Picture page 13)

From the archives of
**Richard Crockett &
Sailing Publications.**
www.sailing.co.za -
editor@sailing.co.za