Mini-hurricane makes life tougher than usual for Novell SA skipper JJ

First a "Pamperos" (hurricane to the locals in Punta del Este, Uruguay), then huge swells in the sea followed by no wind and a bout of flu.

That's how JJ Provoyeur, aboard Novell South Africa, described the start of the final leg of the BOC Around the World Alone yacht race.

The start was delayed by the mini-hurricane and once the yachts finally did set off, they were greeted outside the harbour by huge swells, the last remains of the hurricane.

The swells negated J J's tactic of keeping close to the shore and he lost some time on other competitors with yachts better suited to those conditions.

"These big black clouds come looming and they suck in all the wind and when they're right above you, they let

"As they pass, there's no wind again until the next cloud is above you 20 minutes later. We're all quite sick of these conditions," JJ reported.

He hopes to be in a better position to catch the prevailing winds soon.

Why are we reporting on a yachtsman in The Star's COMPUTING supplement? We're following Novell around the world and giving you a change to meet up with J J aboard Novell at the finish of this race in Charleston, USA in May.

Add this question to your list of questions we've posed so far. Which famous "prevailing winds" does JJ hope to catch?

Rules

The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Each participant is allowed one entry only.



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On the final leg . . . Novell SA, skippered by J J Provoyeur and seen here leaving Cape Town, is now about to complete the BOC Around the World Alone

yacht race.

Anyone sending in more than one entry will be disqualified.

The winner will be judged according to a series of answers to questions posed in COMPUTING between November 29 and the expected finish at the beginning of May.

The final entry form will be published only

at the end of the race and participants have to hold back all their answers until then.

Neither The Star nor COMPUTING's staff will handle questions regarding the competition from readers.

If you've missed an issue, either buy a back copy from The Star at 47 Sauer Street Johannesburg or ignore that week's questions. Judging is based on the highest average of questions answered correctly.

COMPUTING appears on Tuesdays in The Star. Editions 1 and 2 do not normally contain COMPUTING. The winner, who will be announced on the Novell stand at Computer Faire in May, will receive a single air ticket to Charleston via either Miami or New York as well as accommodation in Charleston for the duration of race festivities, probably at the end of May, depending on race progress.