

# Royal Cape strong for regatta



**TOUGH SAILORS . . .** Royal Cape's entry, Sturrock Shipping, who are going all out to win this year's Lipton Challenge Cup regatta. From left, Gary Lyttle (manager), Etienne van Cuyck, Peter King, David Kruyt and Gary Farrow.

ROYAL Cape Yacht Club has entered a strong team in this year's Lipton Challenge Cup regatta in Table Bay from August 19-25.

Manager, Gary Lyttle, says the crew of Sturrock Shipping (Royal Cape's entry) — which includes two Springboks — David Kruyt and Etienne van Cuyck — rate their chances highly and are confident they will win the silver-gilt cup donated by Sir Thomas Lipton in 1909 and valued at over R100 000.

"The crew sailed to-

gether for the first time in Crystic Week in Durban recently, and improved with each race, finishing the final day in second place."

They will face stiff competition from Zee-koevlei Yacht Club, present holders of the trophy, who will be going all out to win again in SX Stainless Steel which will be co-skipped by Chris King and Rick Nankin.

This hotly contested inter-club test of yachting is regarded by yachtsmen as one of the

most important and competitive events in South Africa and represents the cream of the country's yachtsmen and women.

As all the yachts are in the popular L26 Class it makes for close competition and the test ultimately is one of skill and seamanship rather than of high-cost boats and expensive upkeep.

## No mistakes

"Crews must be in the peak of physical fitness and boats in perfect condition," says Lyttle.

"Crews cannot afford to make mistakes — one mistake, or break down of equipment and you are out of the entire regatta."

## Western Province

Sturrock Shipping skipper, David Kruyt, has had two eye operations recently but is confident he will be fine by the start of the regatta.

Apart from the two Springboks, Sturrock Shipping's crew includes two Western Province sailors, Gary Farrow and Peter Stringer, and one Natal sailor who has never sailed in the regatta before — Peter King.