



Picture by: DOUG PITHEY, The Argus

DEFENDER: Defender of the Lipton Cup, Royal Cape Yacht Club's Joko II (Omega Heatwave) skippered by Etienne van Cuyck pulls away from the Karl Lambrecht at the helm of Kaap St Lucia, the SADF's entry from the Western Cape, during yesterday's race.

Joe tacks well towards big prize

YACHTING REPORTER

THE youngest team in this year's Lipton Cup Challenge sailed away with the first leg of the week long regatta in Table Bay yesterday.

Leading from start to finish Hout Bay Yacht Club's, Judron, skippered by 18-year-old Joe de Kock built up a lead of more than a minute over its nearest rival, Point Yacht Club's Nebsport, skippered by Harry Ellens.

Cup holders, Royal Cape Yacht Club's Joko II (Omega Heatwave) skippered by Etienne van Cuyck ended third.

A strong 25 knot southeaster kept crews busy and much musclepower was needed by all crew members during the 15 nautical miles race around a rectangular course.

The Hout Bay crew, who were hardly considered as major contenders before the start of the race, had every-

body sitting up and looking at them anew when they arrived back at RCYC, which is hosting this year's race.

The crew is made up of Joe de Kock, Peter Hall, 21, Michael Cheeseman, 20, Greg Davis, 30 and Andrew Low, 22.

"I think we had a bit more boat speed than the rest of the boats and did not make any major mistakes," said de Kock, safely back in the clubhouse.

"After rounding the first marker, we had a clear lead and no-one to worry us.

"At the second bouy we had a minor hassle when our spinnaker stuck," he said.

But after they had sorted out the spinnaker they took off and increased their lead through each turn in the two lap race.

Etienne van Cuyck aboard Joko said after the day's heat

that he and his crew had sailed a conservative race.

"There is still a lot of racing this week and the regatta is still very open," he said.

In last year's event off Durban the RCYC boat was lying 11th after the first day and went on to win the event.

False Bay Yacht Club entry The Brass Bell retired with grace after two incidents during the race.

LOG

- 1 Judron Hout Bay Yacht Club — 24
- 2 Nebsport Point Yacht Club 22 $\frac{1}{4}$
- 3 Joko II Royal Cape Yacht Club 21
- 4 Diners Club Wits University Yacht Club 20
- 5 French Connection Natal Univ YC 19
- 6 Cape Columbine SADF (WP) 18
- 7 Rote Hexe Victoria Lake Yacht Club 17
- 8 SX Stainless Steel Zeekoevlei YC 16
- 9 Ronnie Bass Motors Deneysville AC 15
- 10 Bolt Fast False Bay Sailing Club 14
- 11 Co-ordination Aeolians Club 13
- 12 Homba chamoiswear Vogelvllei YC 12
- 13 Ormond Aerial Island Sailing Club 11
- 14 P and S Power Royal Natal Yacht Club 10
- 15 Spirit of IGI Seal Point Yacht Club 9
- 16 B and G Transvaal Yacht Club 8
- 17 Prinz Eugen Pretoria Sailing Club 7
- 18 Romens Equation UCT Yacht Club 6
- 19 Dashing SADF (Pretoria) 5
- 20 Kaap St Lucia SADF (Durban) 4
- 21 Three Trees Hermanus Yacht Club 3
- 22 Una Lewis Endeavour Gordon's Bay YC 2
- 23 Brass Bell (retired) False Bay YC 1