



Bill Ellens (at the helm), and Peter Clarke strain every muscle to keep the 505 Vashti upright in a screaming south-westerly bluster. With the jib reefed and half of the mainsail aback, they are almost blown over by a vicious gust.

NEW RACING SEASON

TOMORROW the yacht basin will ring to the cheers of hundreds of yachtsmen as they shout "Three cheers for the Commodore," and thus welcome in the new racing season.

This year it will be under the burgee of the Royal Natal Yacht Club, and Mr. Walter Marriott the club's commodore will take the salute. The opening cruise should prove to be a colourful spectacle from the shore.

The yacht with Mr. Marriott aboard will lead the rest of the fleet around the bay. Then it will anchor at the entrance to the mole and the yachts will file past and salute the commodore.

The first race of the season is scheduled for Sunday using an all-in start and a large entry is expected.

The class which has grown most during the off season are

the 505's. Their numbers have increased to seven and all of them are expected to race. Sailing 505's this season will be David Hudson, Bruce Mc Currach, Arthur Stiles, Ron Blaker, Don Campbell, Maurice Do-beyn and Peter Cardwell.

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A few Durban yachtsmen will be away at the third Glinane Sprog Week at Allemanskraal, in the Orange Free State. As yet none of them are taking their Sprogs. The disappointing entry of 48 has been received for the event. It was hoped that it would top the record set up in Durban last July, when 64 was the total.