

SPORT FOLIO



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23 YEARS – AND
GOING STRONG!

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MAKING sure they are escaping the pressure ahead of the upcoming Durban Beach Pro-Am – the highest-rated contest of the year – are: (from left) SA's top seeded bodyboarder Wesley Fischer (Berea), provincial team rider Sihle Xaba (Lamontville), two time world bodyboarding champion Karla Costa Taylor (formerly of Brazil, but now living in Durban) and top drop-knee competitor Sean Tickner (Berea). The 5A-rated contest takes place at Bay Beach from June 29-July 1 and promises to be one of the highlights of the 10-day Durban Beach festival, which includes the Mr Price Pro surfing event, volleyball, skateboarding, music concerts and fashion events. The contestants will be fighting it out for a share of the R22 000 prize-money and a healthy total of rankings points, with the experienced Taylor the hot favourite among the women's contenders, while some of the international stars among the men are

expected to turn it on at the great spectator-friendly venue. Leading the "foreign" challenge will be expatriate Brandon Foster in the drop-knee division, while Australia's Brendon Newton, renowned for his reckless abandon in big surf, will be one to keep an eye on as he's certain to go for broke in the pro division. The contest also features juniors, men's, masters and boys divisions. There will also be a free development clinic on the final day of the contest. Entry forms are available at www.sabaonline.co.za and www.sixty40.co.za and the closing date for entries is June 24. The final day of the contest will also feature live video streaming to www.sixty40.co.za to cater for those who can't make it to the beach, or who are watching from overseas. For other events which are on at the Durban Beach Festival from June 29-July 8, go to the www.durbanbeachfestival.co.za website for more details

Picture: GEOFF BRINK