

# Breakages, winds hit Shosholoza

## CITIZEN REPORTER

TIME lost in repairing one of the four yachts being used by all ten international teams competing in the Louis Vuitton Pacific Series, and building winds, forced a postponement of the match between South Africa's *Team Shosholoza* and Italy's *Luna Rossa* in Auckland, New Zealand, yesterday.

"We realised as soon as we tried to hoist the jib that there was a problem as it just came off the foil. A rigging team tried to fix it out on the race course but when they couldn't do anything we had to bring the boat back to shore to get it sorted out," said Paolo Cian, *Shosholoza* skipper and helmsman who was scheduled to race on yacht NZ 92 yesterday.

Back at base the Emirates Team New Zealand shore crew swung into action and

Snip

A draw decides which yacht will be used by which team. Identical yachts are always raced against each other.

within just 40 minutes had removed the foil which was damaged in two places, replaced it with a spare one, and sent the yacht back out to the race course.

But by that stage the breeze had built to over 20 knots with gusts in the high 20s. Racing was delayed by prin-

cipal race officer Peter Reggio in the hopes that conditions would settle but finally cancelled because of the strong winds.

"These boats are just too fragile to race in such strong winds and there is no point in putting them at risk especially when we still have two more weeks of racing ahead of us," said Cian.

In an effort to save costs all the competing teams are racing on two pairs of 80ft modified Cup class yachts loaned to the event by Emirates Team New Zealand and BMW Oracle.



**POSTPONED.** Yacht NZL with *Team Shosholoza* on board returns to dock to have a damaged foil replaced.