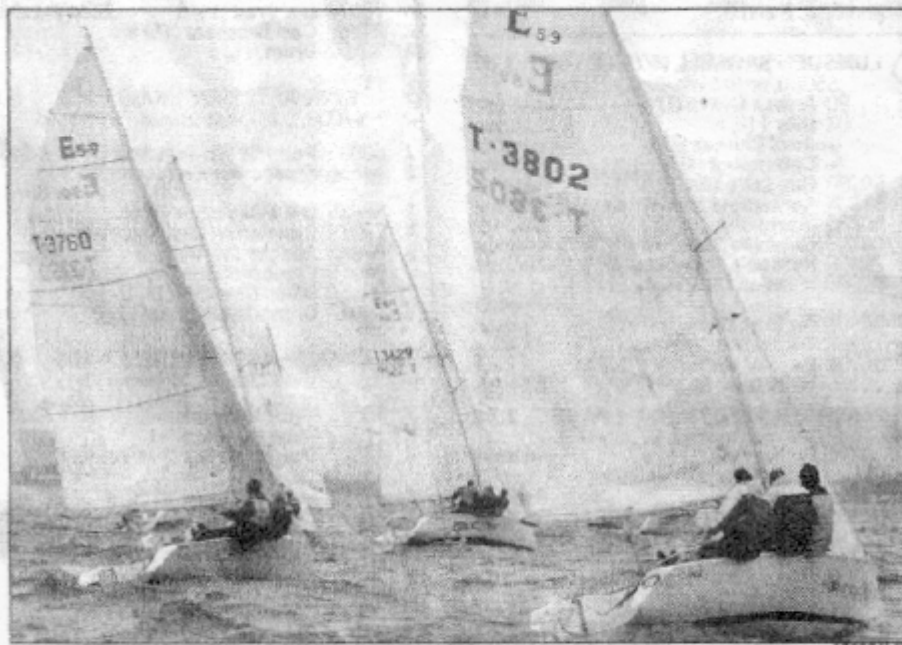


# Wind's fine for us!



**WINDY conditions are expected during the Ice Breaker Regatta on Lake Rotorua.**

PICTURE: BEN FRASER

## SAILING

By KATIE FARMAN

INCLEMENT weather is expected to make for exciting racing during this weekend's annual Rotorua Ice Breaker Regatta.

The two-day event has attracted 40 yachts as far away as Kerikeri and Christchurch, but predicted showers and strong westerlies turning south west tomorrow morning may interfere with the opening five races to be held on Lake Rotorua.

The event, hosted by the Bay of Plenty Trailer Yacht Squadron, incorporates the three classes of Elliot 5.9, OK Dinghy's and Noelex 25's. The Elliot 5.9 race doubles as race four of the five regatta Travellers Series, which is currently led by Cameron Horne on Slam Dunk. However, all sailors will compete for the Pig and Whistle Trophy. Top performances are expected to come from former world A-Class Cata-

maran champion Simon Manning who will take to the water on Voodoo and previous national champions in the form of Picton's Sam Edwards on Proformance, Whangerei's Dave Cochrane on Zoot Allures and Robin Ward on Hobs the Butcher. Two local yachts will take part — Sub 60 skippered by Chris McIndoe and Tight Fit skippered by Tony Poolman.

Ten entries are expected to contest the OK Dinghy class including 2004 national champion Russell Wood and 2005 champion and Inter-Dominion Champion Steve McDowell.

A large contingent of local entries make up the Noelex 25 class including skippers Tony Thompson, John Foote, Garth Wilson and Adrian McHardy.

The Appletons Rum sponsored regatta begins at 10.30am tomorrow morning with five races and concludes on Sunday at 10am with three races.