

1/24

VIII

1954

Thursday 14 Feb

Commenced rowing in the Breeze
 The crew was:
 P. H. Gray (cox)
 D. B. Ramage (2) B. Wood (3) D. Robson
 (4) D. John (5) D. M. Gathness (6)
 D. M. Gonnell (7) D. R. Murenger (8)
 A. T. John (cox)
 Rowing was light but there were some bursts of rowing. In all we covered 5 miles. We started exercises that night and most of us found them hard.

Friday 15 Feb.

Crew the same, light rowing again, considerable improvement on last night. 7 miles.

Saturday 16 Feb.

Robert away so David Salmon took us. Rowing light with much boat drill. We had several long bursts of bright rowing, also five hard five light. We seem to be getting a rhythm. David Ramage went to 4 and J. Robson to 2. About 20 miles in all.

Monday 17 Feb.

We went into the "A.B. Bell". Had considerable difficulty in "sitting it up". All day light rowing. Had some trouble with new engine, but was finally fixed. About 6 miles.

Tuesday 18 Feb.

Light rowing much boat dull. Still experiencing considerable boat dull. "A.B. Bell" seemed to think we were doing a good job sitting her up. 10 miles.

Wednesday 19 Feb.

Light rowing to begin then went to break - then up to junction. Went through to break at "firm & bright" developed into a "guts" row by the College Boat Shed. Was quite good. 11 Miles.

At night we had our medical exam. The doctor was an hour late consequently several of the first two eights nearly wrecked the hospital. I have busted a chair. Certain other members of the crew endeavoured to show their strength by trying to tear a telephone directory in half.

Friday 21 Feb.

light rowing much boat did
Went up to junction started rowing
firmly, gradually rating and power
was brought up, and by the
time we reached the boat shed it
had developed into a "guts" row.
Power was there, and a fair
rhythm.

10 miles.

Saturday 22 Feb.

In morning we found that
Albert would be unavailable. His
wife very ill. In morning row was
a poor one, no rhythm. In
afternoon we had "beaved" salmon.
We "swung thru" from Queens
Park Bridge to the "break". Had
plenty of power, but "guts"
row most of us had experienced.
After that we had a few "cuts" of
a bowls. All "done" by the
time the day was over.

24 miles.

Monday 24 Feb.

Mrs Bell much better.
Had a poor row. Timing was
very bad.

10 miles

Tuesday 25 Feb.

Timing improving had

a better row. Had some hard
work with Corio Bay.
11 miles

Wednesday 26 Feb.

Light rowing and exercises
to break and back to start
of mile. We had our first
row over a fast mile. There
was plenty of power all
the way. Though rating was
low. Must have been about
30-2

After course we rowing
up with Corio Bay Junior Eight.
A few bowls. Bar rating was
low. Theirs very high, one
of theirs was 43.

After we finished the
Doctor examined us. All
medically sound.
6 Miles

Thursday 27 Feb.

Went out at five o'clock.
Light rowing - a few starts
and finishes with Corio Bay.
5 miles

Friday 1 Feb.

No rowing

Saturday March 2.
 Parwon Regatta —
 Light row in the morning of
 2 miles.

In the first heat we
 met Ballarat. Had a very
 easy row. Highest rating was
 28 finished about 24.

In semi final we met
 Yarra-Yarra who won the
 maiden eights at Ballarat. They
 lead by about 1 length at
 the $\frac{1}{4}$ mile. The crew was
 rowing steadily and kept their
 leads well. At the $\frac{1}{2}$ mile
 we leveled then had a bad
 stop and lost $\frac{3}{4}$ of a
 length. Everyone kept a clear
 lead and gradually we passed
 them near the mills and
 won by 1 length in 5.21. It
 was a hard race and everyone
 had "clear leads".

In the final we met
 Geelong Grammar or as Albert
 said those "spineless" creatures
 from next door. They
 jumped us at the start and
 by $\frac{1}{4}$ mile had $1\frac{1}{2}$ lengths
 lead. We kept flugging on
 rating a steady 32-4 and
 by half mile they were only
 $\frac{1}{2}$ length ahead. We passed
 them in at the middle of
 mills and went on to

win the Maiden Tights by
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ lengths in 5.21.
 The experience we gained
 in rowing two crews down
 should prove invaluable to
 us. Our ratings are still
 low nothing over 34.
 8 miles.

Monday. Had bad row. - no poise,
 concentration. In consequence
 had balance. Crew may have
 been a little "on". - I saw future
 match it. Did a few miles with
 Corio Bay VIII. 10 miles

Tuesday. Slung boat to ~~check~~ check
 rigging heights. Albert gave us a
 little talk - keep striving to
 improve!! Much better row - bal-
 ance greatly improved. Bows and
 buildups with Corio Bay. 10 miles.

Wednesday. Maintained improvement.
 balance better. Concentrated on
 poise. As Albert said "the wheels
 on the seat are not there to see
 how quickly you can get to the
 front seats but to poise on".
 Change tonight Peter Gray to 5 and
 David John to 3.
 10 miles covered.
 Dry swinging $3\frac{1}{2}$ mins.

Thursday. Rowed at 5 o'clock tonight, mainly bowls and buildups, last bowl Sally shortened the stroke and we succeeded in beating Corio Bay over about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile.
4 miles tonight.

Friday: No rowing tonight. Loaded boats for Kenley.

Saturday: Left Johnson park at 8:00 AM and arrived Kenley at about 10:30. We immediately unloaded the boats, and rigged them. Rowed two miles but found the fast water a little difficult to handle. Had a light lunch and rested in Richmond Sheds.

Albert, before going out said, "Keep a clear head and poise on the slide." We got away to a good start with Melb. Grammar on the north and Corio on the south. Grammar tried to cut across at the first bend but clashed ears with us and the race was stopped. M.G.S. broke split his ear & several others were badly chipped. Ours only had a few cuts. On the re-row the Bay again got away from us but we were pegging level with M.G.S. By Swan St. bridge we had $\frac{1}{2}$ length but they kept coming at us all the way and we really had to row. Corio, rating too high tired and were a length behind at the finish.

In the final, Scotch, rating most

higher, drew quickly away and outladed
the race from then on. Daily on the
both were behind for the start.

In both races the crew kept their
although at times they rushed a bit.
6 miles

Monday: Rigged the "hiverna" then went
for row. After a while were sitting
it up quite well. Concentrating on
being on our feet and sitting
back and drawing. Rowed 7 miles.

Tuesday: Late start because of swimming
spots. Did a "guts row" from the
mill to the break rating 30. NO
POISE and so made it terribly hard
to rowed wood all the way and
hardly clearing at all. — "LET THIS
BE A LESSON TO YOU" Albert said.
When we came in he showed us
the movement of the slide.
Rowed 4 miles.

Wednesday: Rained cats & dogs so did not
row.

Thursday: No rowing - lads.

Friday. Had a fair row tonight. We had
learnt from Tuesday night's effort
to poise on the slide and consequen-
tly the boat ran and sat up.
Did starts and hauls with Corie
Rowed 10 miles.

Saturday: In the morning we swung through from the junction to the break. It was very dead — no lift at the catch — and damping was bad. Bow, 3, and 5 especially.

In the afternoon David John went to the Secando, Brian Wood to 3 and Noel Stubbs to Bow thus making

the crew:	Bow	Noel Stubbs	10.9
	2.	David Kamege	12.11
	3.	Brian Wood	12.12
	4.	Graeme Kelson	13.4
	5.	Peter Gray	12.0
	6.	David Cairness	13.3
	7.	Duncan Mc Donnell	12.12
	Stroke	Daly Messenger	11.9
	cox.	Yony John.	9.12.

Most of the time was spent on turning and towards the end we did some build ups ~~and~~ with the bay. A measure 22 miles.

Sunday: Concentrated today on a catch "as crisp as a lettuce leaf" as Albert put it. On the way from the junction to the sheds we were rowing quite well with a bright catch and it really "sent" the boat at times 10 miles to night started stamina jumps.

Tuesday: David John came back to night in the 5 seat, Peter Gray went back to 3, Brian Wood to Bow and Noel Stubbs back to the Secando.

Still concentrating on timing and hard catch. Quite good in places but Row broke a thumb screw and consequently had to put all his weight onto ~~the~~ his right foot — throwing the balance over to leeward. Albert gave the crew a pep talk to try to make them try harder.

10 miles tonight.

Wednesday: Still concentrating of a crisp catch but a lot of supposition was placed on Poise and timing. Tonight there was real "life" at the catch for most of the time especially on the fin & light row from the mile to the beat.

Exercises getting very hard 5 mins hell work 15 mins exercise for the past 2 weeks dry surging 3 mins & half as a min haul.

Rowed 13 miles.

Thursday: no rowing — cadets

Friday: Graeme Robson went back to the 2 seat & David Ramage went to 4.

Tonights row was quite good — timing improving and catches hard. Did several build ups & hauls — looking for poise. The hard work was pretty rough but Albert was quite pleased. Rowed 10 miles.

Saturday. Rowed 3 miles then came in and made a change: Fraeme Robson went to the seconds. Harley Dickinson was to 4 & David Ramage to (2). Ryles going and Albert explained to us the rhythm of the slide - The hydrostatic action of the legs & the cautious, cat-like movement forward. Rowed 9 miles in the with the seconds - mainly light rowing with quite good poise.

In the afternoon did the usual guts-row: Plenty of power all the way. For the last 3 miles of the day David Salmon coxed us and the improvement over those last 3 miles was colossal. Albert was so pleased he made us go up to the mile again. David concentrated on "ripping" at the finish and making the finishes definite. The boat sat there in both the many hauls & build up we did. We reeled about 32 and cleared 7' - 8' 2/3 miles for the day.

Sunday. Had another good row tonight. Balance and timing good: Albert very pleased. Concentrated mainly on POISE and FINISHES. We did several hauls & build ups ^{with the 3rd} which had good poise - but could be better. Highest reeling 33 chains 7 ft. Rowed 9 miles.

Tuesday: Late out tonight - Mr. Sykes was down to fix up the riggers. He put a new type of experimental seat in the boat to see what we think of it.

The rowing was quite good - maintaining improvement. 35 in a start and a haul with plenty of poise & steadiness.

8 miles tonight.

Wednesday: Late out again tonight fixing riggers. Did a course 36, 30, 33. Lacked rhythm and poise for the first 1/2 mile. Got plenty of clearance - 4 ft in middle distance. Did a minute and several starts & hauls & built up. 3 of the starts & 2 of the hauls reached 37.

6 miles tonight.

Thursday. Cadets.

Friday Had another quite good row tonight although the slide control could be better. "The slide must not control you VIII." Albert did us for not jumping into the start in the course last night. The pressure must not come off. Some starts & hauls reached 37. One build up was especially good. The crew sat back and finished off each stroke - as a result plenty of row and clean work.

11 miles tonight.

Seato College arriving tonight.

Saturday: Seats arrived last night & we had supper in the library.

Very late out this morning as there was a lot of messing about with the Peg T for Scots to row in. David coached us most of the morning. He emphasized the finishes and coming round onto our feet at the finish and making each stroke definite. He also emphasized settling down to the "true rhythm" early. We did several starts which David modified to $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{3}{4}$, $\frac{3}{4}$ full. We found that we settled down much quicker.

In the afternoon, ~~we~~ did not get out till 3 o'clock, rowed to the mile with Scots and did a course. Started at 35 but weight came off after 20 strokes - had $\frac{1}{2}$ length on Scots Seats. No wave, very dead - no brightness at the catch - in the middle distance & Scots overtook us ~~when~~ ^{at} a $\frac{3}{4}$ length lead. We came up on them from the mill on to beat them by a course. Time 4.48 - Pure power did this so how ~~could~~ ^{we} could have gone if we had ^{had} more skill?

We then did starts & hauls with Scots which ~~was~~ is a high water row. This helped us improve our catches a great deal. ~~Two~~ Two starts each 38.

A great day of improvement although still fairly dirty. Good thing Scots came down.

17 miles.

Monday.

Had quite a good row tonight although we had a lapse in the middle of it Dally got stuck into steam and they picked up. Main emphasis on starts. Rowed down to the break then came in to fix riggers; then rowed to Junction and practiced starts - first 4 strokes also did a 40 but it lacked poise. Also did a minute, starts & hauls - one start rated 38. 12 miles altogether.

Tuesday.

Still maintaining improvement & Albert pleased with tonight's row. Albert checked riggers again before going out. Rowed up to the mill where we picked up Lou Barber's boys, & rowed about 2 miles with them doing hauls & starts. Trimmer are shacking! Poise better tonight. All hauls & starts a very easy 36-37. 7 miles tonight.

3:40 m. 143.

Wednesday.

Albert put new leather masters on the riggers tonight. & Jim Blake "mentor" was down watching the crews and he came out in the motor boat. Maintaining improvement. - work a lot cleaner tonight. Paddled along side the seconds in a $\frac{3}{4}$ mile course (they were rowing shockingly) Our work quite good, although it became a little shaky at the finish. Did some starts & hauls with Corie. One start rated an easy 38. 6 miles tonight.

Friday: Dally away in hospital with the
 throats. David Lamage thoked me and
 Keith Hawker went into the two seas.
 We had quite a good row after getting
 used to the stroke although the ballance
 was not very good. Albert quite pleased
 5 miles tonight.

Saturday: Only 5 miles in the morning but
 good ones. Dally back again & full of
 beans. Rowed several miles with James
 who have improved considerably. Our
 row was good — life in the boat.
 One start used 40. Lou Barber
 informed us that if we don't beat M.G.S.
 he would lose a bottle of Champagne.

The first few miles in the afternoon
 were dead but improved. mainly
 starts bowls & build ups. We got
 the boat moving quite well at times.
 Fining greatly improved although
 low side sometimes gets a bit scanty.
 14 miles.

Sunday: Had our last row on the Benbow
 tonight — tomorrow we load the
 boats for Melbourne. Rowed 6 good
 miles sprints and starts — one start
 38, bowls 37.

Tuesday: Loaded boats for Melbourne
 - Little trouble experienced in this.

Wednesday: left Guelong at 8.30 -
 arrived Melbourne 10.5. - Ripped boats and
 went out for row. Water
 considerably "faster" than Guelong
 Only 2 miles, was quite "rough"
 and "duty" in patches. I was
 quite "dorned".

After lunch at "Victoria"
 we went down river again.
 The row was an improvement
 on the morning but still could
 be better. Ratings coming
 more easily now 39-40 without
 much trouble. Rowed about 4½
 miles.

Thursday: The long awaited day
 dawned bright and clear, though
 we were not up to see it
 dawn! Most of us only
 slept lightly as rooms were
 strange and were suffering from
 a slight attack of the jitters
 Went for ~~rough~~ row in
 morning, had start at the mile
 that was really inspiring. Now
 all set for big race.
 We did only 2 miles, a
 couple of "bouts" on way down.
 Had a light lunch, and
 then went to tie down. At
 2 o'clock Albert and David
 arrived and we all met for
 a talk.

Albert told us that "again the 1957 Galong College crew had been carefully selected and is the best eight that was possible from available material". Then he went on and told us "the college has produced fighting men ever since it was established, all you have to do is go out and fight as your predecessors have done. It is guts that win boat races."

Conditions were near perfect. Melbourne Grammar were on the Centre station and G. 6 on the South.

As soon as we had arrived at the start we were put in the starters hands. We very quickly latched onto the "fidget" boats and were ready to go. We got away to a good start and soon had a slight lead on M.G.S. At the quarter mile we lead by $\frac{3}{4}$ of a length. Between the $\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2}$ mile mark M.G.S. made a desperate attempt to catch us. At $\frac{1}{2}$ mile I decided to "bowl" we went away to $\frac{1}{2}$ a length lead. As we raced to the home staging M.G.S. made another valiant attempt to catch us but we were able to hold them off and win by $\frac{1}{2}$ of a length.

in 4:34. Everyone very pleased
with our row. Scotch College won the second
heat from Wexley by $\frac{1}{2}$ a length.
And Xavier the third heat from G.C.S

Friday: In morning we all
went for a walk to Treasury
Gardens. In afternoon we
went to river and had a 2
mile paddle. Not a very good
row. Every one seemed "phay co".
Albert said "lets not become
complacent about the row on
Saturday. It will be no
armchair row"

Saturday:
Again dawned but this
time wet and cold.
Had a light row in
morning. Quite a good row. 2
miles

We went down to Richmond
sheds straight after dinner to
wait.

Albert did not say very
much "You ~~know~~ know what is expected
of you all".
At start we were on centre
station, Scotch on South and
Xavier on North.
We very soon tired of

and were very nearly away
 when our "picket" boat broke
 loose from its moorings. This
 took about 12 minutes to fix.
 We came onto the boats again
 and lined up. We got off to
 a good start after all - of a
 sudden Xavier came right off
 their station and collided with us.
 Umpire stopped race and we went
 back to start. 5 man's oar
 shipped badly, we showed it to
 Albert and he decided it would be
 better not to change it. He
 described the crash as "Lalch"
 tactics.

The crash seemed to settle
 us down more than upset us.
 Scotch and Xavier looked very worried
 so back again to start!! -
 Proud parents by this time becoming
 very anxious.

We line up and off we
 go. Got a very good start
 rushed and rough. Scotch start
 a $\frac{1}{4}$ of a length lead by 25 strokes
 Xavier $\frac{1}{2}$ length behind us. Between
 $\frac{1}{4}$ & a half miles we forged ahead,
 rowing tended to be "dead" by
 half mile we had length lead.
 Scotch made a determined bid
 between $\frac{1}{2}$ & $\frac{3}{4}$ mile mark but
 seemed to make no impression
 As we went under Swan Street

Budge we began to "crawl" and
 came out 12 lengths in lead. We
 held on down the line staying
 and we went on to win by $1\frac{1}{2}$
 lengths.

It rained a very easy row
 really. Not nearly as good as
 Thursday. To my one very excited
 Guelong College the smallest Public
 School wins three Head of Rivers
 in succession. Mr. Albert Bell
 must receive all the credit for
 this. A great coach and a
great man. On this day "you
 wrote history for the college".

* An interesting point is
 raised here — a river claim
 Guelong College went off
 course a not a river. It
 The But one thing is clear
 it was a hell of a good race
 college crew very calm
 Scotch looked as though they were
 about to face death.

Henley Race Will be Head-of-River Test

Melbourne Grammar School and Geelong College, standing out as the best of the 1957 Head-of-the-River crews at present and rivals in the first boat race heat on Thursday, April 11, will meet in a pre-race test at Henley-on-Yarra on Saturday.

The two crews are drawn with the very strong Corio Bay crew in the third heat of the Founders' Challenge Cup, for junior eights, and their winning chances are about even.

The heat could provide the race of the day.

Entry of other Head-of-the-River crews in the Founders' Challenge—Scotch is drawn against Banks in the first heat and Wesley against Footscray City in the second—may make the final of the event just as interesting a trial from a Head-of-the-River point of view. The appearance of three public school crews in the final is by no means impossible.

Geelong College already has shown its capabilities. It did a particularly good job in winning the maiden eights final at Barwon regatta last Saturday after only three weeks' training.

In great measure that form is due to the fact that Geelong College's 1957 first crew contains four members of the school's 1956 winning Head-of-the-River

eight—D. R. Messenger, stroke; D. McDonnell, 7; D. M. Caithness, 6, and D. B. Ramage, 4.

Messenger rowed No 2 last year. The others occupy the same seats as in the 1956 boat.

"Engineroom"

That is an excellent "engineroom," and there is further strength and experience in the shape of P. H. Troy, bow; G. S. Robson, 2 and D. M. John, 5, all of whom rowed with Geelong College's winning seconds' crew last year.

Geelong Grammar also deserves praise for its effort against Geelong College in the final of the maiden eights at Barwon. Grammar's work was very rushed and short in its heat, but there was a big improvement in the final.

Geelong Grammar has only one boy from last year's crew—M. Scott, now rowing No. 5—back again. Xavier and M.G.S. are in the same position, but M.G.S. also has six boys who rowed in last year's second crew.

Scotch College has three

boys back—N. C. W. Courtney, stroke; A. S. Olsson, 5 and A. S. Peacock, 3, and Wesley also has three in D. G. Selleck, stroke; P. M. Guest, 7 and J. W. Cook, 3.

In all crews, however, the standard of rowing is very good for so short a period of training

Scotch 12.1 clash in second heat with Geelong Grammar 12.3 and Xavier 12.2 in the third.
Not for years have the crews been so even especially Geelong College, Melbourne Grammar, Scotch and Wesley. Stamina and sustained form will be the deciding factors in the heats for this quartette.
All the crews have

Geelong College another title on

By JIM BLAKE

Scotch, Geelong College and Xavier should the River heats on the Yarra tomorrow.

And I think Geelong College will get their third successive title win in the final on Saturday.

The heaviest field yet will contest this year's race. Wesley are lightest at 12 stone.

The Melburnians, with the tremendous average of 12.12 for schoolboys are heaviest in the race. Geelong College are next at 12.8½.

Evenly weighted crews Wesley 12 stone and

metres Junior Eights championship.

College and Melbourne should have a great tussle over the first half of their heat.

Both are rowing smoothly but I think College will be steadier in the burst to the line.

Scotch will need all their steadiness to hold off Wesley but they should get clear over the last 200 yards.

Xavier and Geelong

RACE, SH
trained by
highly en
Hemisph

"JOYFOC"
ing grad
chase, with
some team
Australia
Cup and 3
a national
of leading
EAST, EAST
124 "JOYFOC"

"JOYFOC"

4

To Agents

Remember
Frank Bar
and M

Head-of-River Heats Return to Yarra Today



TODAY'S HEAD-OF-THE-RIVER HEATS will be the first to be decided on the Yarra since 1947. A switch to Geelong became necessary when work began on the new Swan Street bridge. Against a background of familiar city landmarks, the Geelong College crews obtained some last-minute training yesterday.

Big Test Near at Hand

80



MEMBERS OF GEELONG COLLEGE crew looked confident as they headed for a training session on the Barwon for Head of the River. From left. Cox, A. T. John; stroke, D. R. Messenger; D. McDowell, D. M. Caithness, D. M. John, H. R. Dickinson, P. H. Troy, D. B. Ramage, and B. W. Wood.

Head-of-River Crews Show Better Training Form

Improvement in all school crews was noticeable yesterday as the final stage of training began for the 1957 Head-of-the-River boat races this week.

Outstanding crews in Melbourne are Melbourne Grammar and Scotch College. At Geelong, the better of the local crews looks to be Geelong College.

The draw for heats to be rowed on Thursday afternoon on the Henley-on-Yarra course is:—

FIRST HEAT.—3 p.m. Melbourne Grammar School v. Geelong College.

SECOND HEAT.—3.30 p.m.: Wesley College v. Scotch College.

THIRD HEAT.—Geelong Grammar School v. Xavier College.

Long work has ended, but in short bursts yes-

terday Melbourne Grammar and Scotch were very impressive.

Melbourne Grammar gave a masterly exhibition of powerful rowing in a burst from Swan Street bridge to the Henley finish.

Striking 37 to the minute and giving the impression that it was not fully extended, Melbourne Grammar was clearing more than five feet of water and had its boat running without a check.

This is a crew that is making the best use of its high-average weight, 12 st. 12 lb.

Though rowing a stroke lower in a sprint over the Swan Street bridge-judge's box 250 yard stretch and clearing about a foot less water, Scotch's pace was little behind that of Grammar.

Xavier has improved to such an extent that it looks as though it will be a big threat to Geelong Grammar. A determined catch, prefacing a strong, well-maintained leg drive, was a feature of its fast work yesterday.

In fast starting practice, Wesley was the smartest of all crews off the mark and also the neatest. In suitable conditions it could pick up an early lead that would be difficult to reduce.

M.G.S., Scotch, G.G.S. Favored to Win Heats

Melbourne Grammar School, Scotch College and Geelong Grammar School should win their heats of the 1957 Head of the River boat race on the Yarra this afternoon.

But the form of all schools is so good this year that keen racing and close finishes seem certain in all heats.

The two Geelong schools sent their crews to Melbourne yesterday. They had outings on the Head of the River course, and each showed form that must give them every chance of reaching the final.

The first heat today between Melbourne Grammar School, on the centre station, and Geelong College, on the south, should be the most closely fought of the day.

It is probable, too, that the winner of this heat could become this year's Head of the River.

On performances, Melbourne Grammar School is favored to win.

The odds are on Scotch College to defeat Wesley in the second heat.

Wesley is a workmanlike eight, and will certainly make a great race of it, but the fact that Scotch already has proved the better crew in the Henley junior eights final, and has an advantage of almost 9 lb. a man, must entitle it to be considered a winner.

May be Close

There will not be much between Geelong Grammar and Xavier in the third heat, but what advantage there is appears to be on the side of

nothing" of Xavier. His boys were comparative novices when they began boat-race training, but now they are rowing in a way that will make them particularly hard to beat.

Heats for public schools seconds and thirds crews will also provide interesting racing during the afternoon.

Draw for the heats is:

First, 3 p.m.—Melbourne Grammar (centre) v Geelong College (south).

Second, 3.10 p.m.—Wesley College (centre) v Scotch College (south).

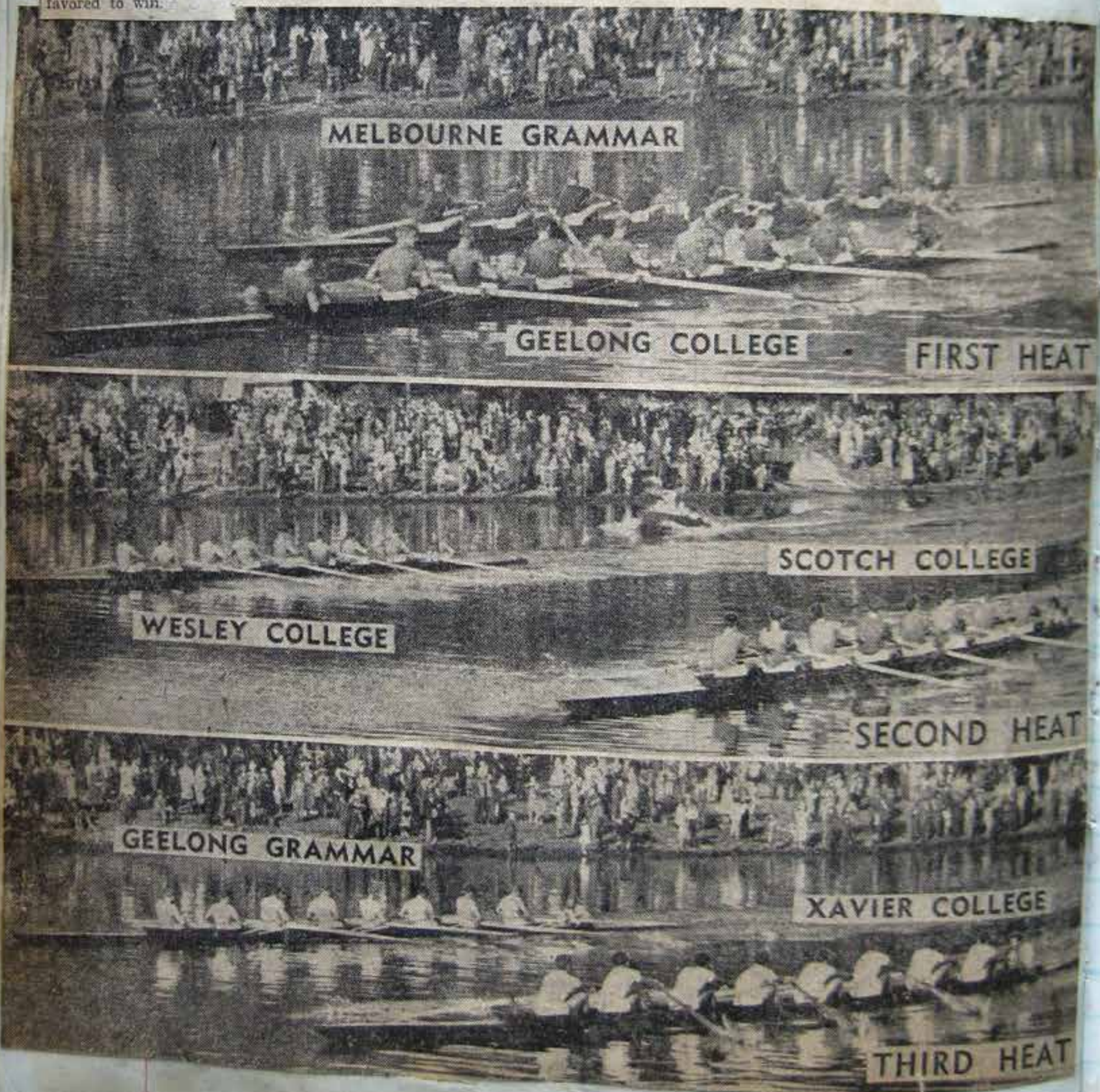
Third, 3.20 p.m.—Geelong Grammar School (centre) v Xavier College (south).

Good Records

Geelong College won the maiden eights at Barwon regatta, defeating Geelong Grammar School in the final by a length and a quarter, and also finished second to Scotch College in the final of the Founders' Challenge Cup for junior eights at Henley on Yarra. Since then, however, Melbourne Grammar has won the 1000 metres junior eight-oar championship of Victoria, defeating Scotch College.

Melbourne Grammar's average weight, 12.12, exceeds that of Geelong College by half a stone. That, and the fact that Melbourne Grammar is the more seasoned crew as far as race rowing is concerned, entitles it to favoritism for this heat.

Head-of-the-River Heats



MELBOURNE GRAMMAR

GEELONG COLLEGE

FIRST HEAT

SCOTCH COLLEGE

WESLEY COLLEGE

SECOND HEAT

GEELONG GRAMMAR

XAVIER COLLEGE

THIRD HEAT

College Favored to Win Boat Race Final

Geelong College should win its third successive Head-of-the-River final on the Henley-on-Yarra course tomorrow if it reproduces the splendid form it showed in beating Melbourne Grammar in the first heat.

Scotch College should beat Xavier for second place. Each has the potential to make a good race against Geelong College's fast, powerful smooth-rowing combination. Conditions for rowing yesterday were perfect and an ebb tide helped fast times.

The failure of a judge's gun in the first heat and an error by officials in the second caused wrong times to be announced.

In the first, Geelong College and Melbourne Grammar kept rowing after they had passed the finishing line—and the timekeeper kept his watch going.

An estimated time of 4 min. 30 sec. was announced, but this later was amended to approximately 4.36.

Then the time for the second heat was given as 4.33, but this was changed to 4.37 when the timekeeper told officials they had misheard him.

Crowds that lined the course yesterday saw exciting racing.

Close Finishes

The biggest margin in any of the nine heats for the first, second and third crews was one length and a half. Other winning margins varied from three feet to three-quarters of a length.

Melbourne Grammar, which averaged 12 st. 12 lb., and Geelong College (average 12 st. 8½ lb.) were the heaviest of the Head of the River crews.

Geelong College won its heat from start to finish.

Three-quarters of a length in front at Anderson Street Bridge and half a length at the half-mile. College's advantage was reduced to one-third of a length after

shooting Swan Street Bridge.

Desperate challenges by Melbourne Grammar in the race to the judge were foiled by Geelong College's steadiness and strength in its answering sprints, and it won by half a length.

Experience played a big part in Geelong College's victory. It had won the maiden eights at Barwon regatta and finished second in the junior eights at Henley.

Scotch College, which beat Wesley by only one-third of a length, will be Geelong College's most dangerous opponent tomorrow. But to have a chance of winning it must give a brighter exhibition of rowing than it did yesterday.

After leading to the half-mile, Scotch gave place to

878 Maudra 5	NICHOLS 7 3
411 Crooked River 10	GILBERT 7 3
931 Princess Gifford 11	KINGSTON 7 3
800 Sans Reproche 13	WALKER 7 3
4.40—2nd Men—	
tone Handicap	
£150. Aft. 6 Furlongs.	
(Apprentices can claim)	
8 Pelter Boy 15	8 10
124 Merry Mix 12	8 9
B. Jenkins 8 9	
755 Ric Fawn 13	8 4
Chancery Lane 5	
Powell 7 13	
31 Leave 8	
039 Special Prince 9	
31 Falcate 1	
G Lane 7 8	
Waker 7 8	
5 True North 7 7	
414 Forest Land 7 6	
110 Gold Line 2	
Saunders 7 5	
002 Buffonery 4	
103 Copwin 6	
141 Elms 10	
B. Hall 7 2	
114 Daphnia 10	
2 Sans Toy 14	
Hartup 1 0	

BOYS SET FOR ROWING "HAT-TRICK"

By "MENTOR"

Geelong College should win their third successive Head-of-the-River final on the Yarra tomorrow afternoon.

Their opponents, Scotch and Xavier, cannot be taken lightly. But in their heats yesterday they did not show the smooth, sustained power that the Geelong crew showed

Geelong's ability can be gauged by their brilliant heat time of 4 min. 30 sec. for the mile less 10 yards.

This was faster than Wesley's 1947 record of 4.37.1-5 for the old course—over a mile less 66 yards.

The final is due to start tomorrow at 3.25 p.m.

The Geelong crew came through their tough test against Melbourne Grammar School with flying colors.

Melbourne, averaging 12 st. 12 lb., were equal heaviest yet to row in the race. In addition, they recently won the Victorian Junior Eights championship over 2000 metres.

Although Geelong are also heavy (average weight 12.8½), they can rate high

Jumped away

They proved this by jumping away from the Melburnians and staying in front.

Scotch trailed Wesley for half the distance, but will not be able to do that against Geelong College tomorrow.

Geelong are covering

their blades and carrying them through more than is usual for school boys. This drive wins races and it is what Scotch and Xavier must counter.

The two Melbourne crews must go off with Geelong and stay with them over the first half if they are to have a chance of winning.

Scotch have power and are smooth, but at times their rating drops too far. This will be fatal tomorrow.

Steadiness

Steadiness and the ability to outlast the opposition in the last dash to the line should win again for Geelong.

Xavier have improved most over the last week, but lack the drive of their two opponents, although they will fight it out.

Much will depend on the three strokes who are rowing tomorrow—David Messenger (Geelong College), Neil Courtney (Scotch) and John Ryan (Xavier).

Geelong have the weight advantage with 11

12.8½ from Xavier, 12.3 and Scotch 12.1.

Geelong will also be in the favored centre station although all the heats were won on the south. Scotch have south station and Xavier north.

Scotch should lack nothing in confidence for they have already beaten Geelong once—in the final of the Junior Eights at Henley.

Scotch are due for a win as they were equal-second in 1955, and second last year. Geelong won both races.

Melbourne Grammar School (north), Wesley (south) and Geelong Grammar School (centre) should provide a close tussle in the heats' final at 3.30.

Winners and losers must be for Second and Third will also be held.

Inter-Banks regatta

Captains from the various Banks of Melbourne are training for the annual Inter-Banks regatta on the Yarra on Saturday May 11.

FASTEST WIN BY G'LONG COLLEGE

GEELONG COLLEGE CHOSEN

Xavier also in final

By "MENTOR"

Geelong College, Scotch and Xavier won their heats at the opening of the 1957 Head-of-the-River carnival on the Yarra this afternoon.

Geelong College's $\frac{1}{2}$ length victory over Melbourne Grammar was the greatest winning margin and the fastest time.

The tightest finishes in years marked the heats.

Geelong College, a crew averaging 12 stone 8½ lb., gave a perfect exhibition of rowing in their victory over the even heavier Melbourne Grammar, who averaged 12½ st.

Geelong College look well entrenched for another Head of the River.

Scotch and Xavier both got home from Wesley and Geelong Grammar respectively by 1-3 len.

In all six crews there was never any sign of "breaking" as they raced down over the last gruelling half mile.

Grammar v. College

Melbourne Grammar and Geelong College finished the $\frac{1}{2}$ mile with Geelong College 3 len. ahead.

Approaching the Swan Street bridge, College, suddenly stroked by David Messenger, and getting terrific drive, were holding off a desperate effort by Melbourne.

Watson, the Melbourne Grammar stroke, made a magnificent effort after the Swan Street bridge, and was well backed by his crew.

Both crews were up to 34 but College were steadier and beat off a last desperate challenge by Melbourne to cross the line 1½ len. ahead in the smart time of 4:20.

Scotch v. Wesley

Scotch and Wesley reached the half-mile together in the second heat. For a fraction after the boats straightened up for home Wesley had a slight advantage but Scotch, nobly stroked by Courtney

and rating about 34 (Wesley were a stroke higher) got the nose of their boat in front as they raced towards the Swan Street bridge.

Scotch shot the bridge half a length ahead, and although Selleck, Wesley's stroke, lifted their rating, Wesley gained, but could not catch Scotch.

Xavier v. G. Grammar

Xavier were first to straighten up for home, about half length ahead of Geelong Grammar. This margin they maintained almost to the Swan Street bridge.

But the light blues, turning on a sustained sprint, came up stroke by stroke, until 70 yards from home, only a couple of feet separated the crews.

Xavier stroke John Ryan, unruffled, lifted his rating and his crew went away to a third of a length win in 4:42.

FOR HEAD OF RIVER TITLE

By T. S. FLINT

I EXPECT Geelong College to win the Head of the River final from Scotch and Xavier, in that order, tomorrow afternoon.

In the final Xavier will race on the north station, Geelong College in the centre, and Scotch on the south. The event is timed to begin at 3.25.

The losers' final will be at 2.30 between Melbourne Grammar, north, Geelong Grammar, centre, and Wesley, south. Melbourne Grammar should win from Wesley and Geelong Grammar.

There was a mix-up over times in the first two heats yesterday.

In the first heat the time announced was 4.30, but the judge's gun misfired.

The crews continued racing and stopped only when they were an appreciable distance across the finishing line.

In the absence of the gun, the timekeepers stopped their watches only when the crews ceased racing.

By that time, 4.38 had been recorded.

A quick estimate of the extra distance covered resulted in a time of 4.30 being announced.

I am convinced that the estimate was inaccurate and that the correct time would have been several seconds longer.

After the second heat won by Scotch the announced time was 4.33, but the official timekeepers are emphatic that the time recorded by them and announced to the authorities was 4.28.

College wins

In the first heat: Geelong College had slightly the better of the start, and opened up a three-quarter length lead before the Morell Bridge was reached.

A hard fighting effort by Melbourne Grammar as they raced to the New Cut Corner reduced the leeway to half a length.

Rounding the corner, Grammar continued improving its position, but at the top of the straight it was still one-third of a length astern.

Half way to Swan-st.

Bridge, College, raising its rating, began moving away again, and shot to the bridge with half a length in hand.

Racing along the Henley staging, Melbourne Grammar challenged again, but Geelong College, steady in the crisis, held Grammar off to win by half a length.

Scotch scores

In the second heat, Scotch and Wesley got away well together and were still on level terms at the Morell Bridge.

Clearing Morell Bridge and racing to the corner, Scotch drove its boat to a quarter length lead, but rounding the corner Wesley's fast catch and hard driving stroke first enabled it to hang to Scotch then get on terms and ultimately to lead.

Half way to Swan-st., Wesley still led by half a length, but Scotch seemed restrained. Although still a canvas behind at the Bridge, it appeared to be

making with plenty of confidence.

The Scotch stroke had a good look at Wesley as they reached the bridge, then driving his crew hard he was on level terms at the top of the Henley staging.

Scotch was in danger along the staging and beat Wesley by one-third of a length.

Xavier leads

In the third heat, Xavier quickly had three-quarters of a length lead on Geelong Grammar and held it into the straight.

Grammar was on terms at the top of the straight and led momentarily.

Two hundred yards from Swan-st. there was little in it, but at the bridge, Xavier had a late canvas.

Half way along the Henley staging, Grammar challenged, determinedly, but Xavier's response was immediate.

In raced to the line with one-third of a length in hand in 4:42.

Head of River heats

Third Eights (half-mile)		Second Eights (three-quarters of mile)		First heat: Geelong College	
1st	Geelong College	1st	Geelong College	1st	Geelong College
2nd	Melbourne Grammar	2nd	Melbourne Grammar	2nd	Melbourne Grammar
3rd	Wesley	3rd	Wesley	3rd	Wesley
4th	Xavier	4th	Xavier	4th	Xavier
5th	Scotch	5th	Scotch	5th	Scotch
6th	Geelong Grammar	6th	Geelong Grammar	6th	Geelong Grammar
7th	Wesley	7th	Wesley	7th	Wesley
8th	Geelong College	8th	Geelong College	8th	Geelong College

HEAD OF THE RIVER.
 First heat: Geelong College (1), D. Messenger, str.; B. McDevitt, 2; D. M. Callister, 3; D. M. John, 4; H. H. Richardson, 5; P. E. The...

GEELONG COLLEGE IS THE HEAD OF THE RIVER



↑ SOME of Geelong College's crewmen are carried shoulder-high by enthusiastic supporters after Geelong had won the Head of the River title on the Yarra on Saturday. Scotch College was second and Xavier College third.

Geelong Oarsmen Feted After Great Win



ENTHUSIASTIC SCHOOL MATES "chair" the Geelong College crew back to the boatsheds after their Head-of-the-River win on the Yarra on Saturday. It was

Boat Race Crowds Heed Warnings

Standards improved at the final on Saturday. Police who controlled the

been watched the scene a smoke bomb exploded and sent clouds of suffocating smoke among onlookers.

boltsolving con- at the brawl before

arrival of the waggon some time before the final was rowed. The waggon arrived after an isolated brawl broke out among a party of youths. Three were removed in the van. While a large crowd

Coach—Albert Bell... Early in the first half, Scotch rallied with a rising stream, but Geelong were able to hold of the challenge.

Unbeatable

At the Swan Street Bridge, the dense crowds raised their acclamations to the obviously unbeatable Geelong. The bridge was panned with Geelong forging slowly ahead from a row grimly battling Scotch. The Barrow - trained boys

Rowing hat-trick easy for Geelong College

LIKE HULL! By T. S. FLINT

GEELONG COLLEGE was not pressed in winning its third lead of the River title in succession on the Yarra on Saturday.

In difficult, windy conditions at the start Xavier and Geelong College veered towards each other, and almost came into collision.

The umpire stopped the race and sent all crews back to the starting line.

Scotch had the best of the second start and within 100 yards had opened up a half-length lead from Geelong College with Xavier another half length away.

Geelong College was up with the leader at the Moral Bridge, but Xavier was lighting hard half a length back.

Geelong, rating lower than Scotch but rowing better length, took the lead about half way to the corner, with Xavier still only about half a length away in third place.

HEAD OF THE RIVER

One mile.
Geelong College (D. H. Morrison, str.; D. McDonell, T. D. M. Callaghan, G. D. M. John, S. H. R. Dickson, 4, P. H. Troy, 3, D. B. Hanning, 2, B. N. Wood, bow; A. T. John, Cox; A. H. Bell, coach), 1; Scotch College (N. C. W. Courtney, str.; A. V. Cromie, 7, A. A. Staley, 6, A. H. Olsson, 5, B. P. Kent, 4, A. E. Peacock, 3, R. M. Home, 2, A. M. Corbell, bow; E. P. Newman, Cox; L. H. Christie, coach), 2; Xavier College (J. P. Ryan, str.; M. J. Petrucci, 7, B. J. Leahy, 6, M. D. McKenna, 5, M. F. McKenna, 4, J. B. Disbick, 3, W. F. Carey, 2, I. L. Cantwell, bow; A. J. McClelland, Cox; C. O. Hahn, coach), 3. 1 1/2, 1 1/2, 2 1/2. 447 1-5.

FIRST CREWS (one mile)

Leaky Final: Melbourne Grammar School (W. B. Watson, str.; C. E. Brattin, 7, I. A. Taylor, 6, P. W. Dodwell, 5, P. C. van de Walle, 4, P. J. Grant, 3, O. L. Taylor, 2, A. H. Miller, bow; J. O'Neill, Cox; G. J. G. Smith, coach), 1; Wesley, 2; Geelong Grammar, 3. 1 1/2, 1 1/2, 1 1/2. 450 3-5.

WAGGON RACE

Leaky Final: Scotch (R. I. Moran, str.; J. L. Barker, 7, C. A. Buchanan, 6, D. L. Sharp, 5, T. Chisholm, 4, M. W. Fleming, 3, J. G. McKenna, 2, H. G. Orr, bow; C. W. Blackwood, Cox; I. R. Douglas, coach), 1; Geelong Grammar, 2; Wesley, 3. 1-2nd len.: 24. 1st. 2:37 1-5.

WINNERS' FINAL: Melbourne Grammar School

(C. V. M. Wright, str.; J. D. Farrer, 7, J. C. Hooper, 6, J. A. Atkinson, 5, D. J. Wilson, 4, J. D. Wilson, 3, B. E. Reid, 2, D. C. L. Dwyer, bow; A. J. Dunlop, Cox; M. J. Arnold, coach), 1; Xavier, 2; Geelong College, 3; Cahvas, 4. 2:38 4-5.

SECOND CREWS (1/2 mile)

Leaky Final: Xavier (J. P. McEneaney, str.; H. P. Madden, 7, B. J. Beach, 6, P. M. Niall, 5, A. P. Kelly, 4, R. W. Dobson, 3, B. J. O'Loughlin, 2, P. J. Griffin, bow; P. P. Cole, Cox; M. J. O'Mahony, coach), 1; Geelong Grammar School, 2; Wesley, 3. 1-2nd len.: 3:40 1-5.

WINNERS' FINAL: Melbourne Grammar School

(T. M. Vasey, str.; E. W. Campbell, 7, P. C. Leeson, 6, P. A. J. Hunt, 5, A. C. Powell, 4, R. M. Peacock, 3, P. H. Macdonald, 2, B. W. Clouston, bow; C. De la, Cox; G. J. G. Smith, coach), 1; Geelong Grammar, 2; Wesley, 3. 1-2nd len.: 3:40 1-5.

Geelong Oarsmen Feted After Great Win



ENTHUSIASTIC SCHOOL MATES "chair" the Geelong College crew back to the boatsheds after their Head-of-the-River win on Saturday. It was

Rowing for Geelong

GEELONG COLLEGE was title in succession on the

In difficult, windy conditions at the start Xavier and Geelong College veered towards each other, and almost came into collision. The umpire stopped the race and sent all crews back to the starting line. Scotch had the best of the second start and within 100 yards had opened up a half-length lead from Geelong College with Xavier another half length away. Geelong College was up with the leader at the Moran Bridge, but Xavier was fighting hard half a length back. Geelong rating lower than Scotch but covering better length, took the lead about half way to the corner, with Xavier still only about half a length

behind. The crowd was enthusiastic and the school mates "chairs" the Geelong College crew back to the boatsheds after their Head-of-the-River win on Saturday. It was a third successive year in the Head-of-the-River race. The schoolboys had been warned by their schools to avoid a recurrence of incidents and clashes which occurred on Thursday. But there were some boisterous incidents involving rival "old boys" and considerable excitement at the arrival of the police bawling wagon some time before the final was rowed. The wagon arrived after an isolated brawl broke out among a party of youths. Three were removed in the van. While a large crowd watched the scene a smoke bomb exploded and sent clouds of suffocating smoke among onlookers. The schoolboys had been warned by their schools to avoid a recurrence of incidents and clashes which occurred on Thursday. But there were some boisterous incidents involving rival "old boys" and considerable excitement at the arrival of the police bawling wagon some time before the final was rowed. The wagon arrived after an isolated brawl broke out among a party of youths. Three were removed in the van. While a large crowd watched the scene a smoke bomb exploded and sent clouds of suffocating smoke among onlookers.

Boat Race Crowds Heed Warnings

Behavior standards improved at the Head-of-the-River final on Saturday according to police who controlled the large crowd.

The schoolboys had been warned by their schools to avoid a recurrence of incidents and clashes which occurred on Thursday.

But there were some boisterous incidents involving rival "old boys" and considerable excitement at the arrival of the police bawling wagon some time before the final was rowed.

The wagon arrived after an isolated brawl broke out among a party of youths. Three were removed in the van.

While a large crowd



Coach—Albert Bell

Unbeatable

At the Swan Street Bridge, the dense crowds roared their acclamation to the obviously unbeatable Geelong. The bridge was paced with Geelong forging slowly ahead from a now grumpy battling Scotch. The Barwon-trained boys

- HEAD OF THE RIVER...
Geelong College...
Winnings Final: Melbourne Grammar School...
SECOND CREWS...
FIRST CREWS...
Losers Final: Melbourne Grammar School...

College just romp home

By JIM BLAKE

Geelong College romped home from Scotch and Xavier today to win their third successive Head of the River title.

Once the boats straightened up over the last half-mile the result was never in doubt.

Geelong College crew are one of the best in the schools for years.

The Geelong boat broke away from its moorings at the start and had to be brought back.

When they got away, Xavier took Geelong's water after they had gone 200 yards and the umpire recalled the three crews.

At the second start Geelong were 2ft. up on Scotch in the first 20 yards, with Xavier third.

Approaching the half-mile, Geelong had increased their lead over Scotch to 3/4 length, with Xavier making no impression on their opponents.

The race was virtually over long before the Swan Street bridge, as Geelong's stroke Messenger kept a steady rate and they were going away further from Scotch.

Racing under the bridge, College had cleared out to a length and quarter advantage over Scotch who were also rowing cleanly but they lacked Geelong's magnificent drive.

Geelong won by 1 1/2 len. from Scotch, with Xavier third 2 1/2 len. behind.

HEAD OF THE RIVER: Geelong College (B. N. Wood, D. B. Ramage, P. H. Troy, H. R. Dickinson, D. M. John, D. M. Caithness, D. McDougall, D. R. Messenger, str., A. T. John, cox), 1; Scotch, 2; Xavier, 3. 1st len. 4.47 1/2.

First losers final: Melbourne Grammar 1, Wesley 2, Geelong Grammar 3. One and a half lengths. 4.50 3/5.

Third winners final: Melbourne Grammar 1, Xavier 2, Geelong College 3. Canvas. 2.38 4/5.

Third losers final: Scotch 1, Geelong Grammar 2, Wesley 3. One third length. 2.37 2/5.

Row By College Was Hat-Trick In Head Of River

Melbourne, Sunday. — Geelong College, stroking in brilliant fashion, led nearly all the way to take the 1957 Head-of-the-River on the Yarra yesterday.

The win gave the College a hat-trick. Their time was 4.47 1/2.

The race started sensationally, as College lost their stake boat, and had to back up.

College was fast off the mark but 50 yards from the start Xavier inexplicably veered across into Geelong's water, and the umpire recalled the three crews.

Scotch led out from the second start, and after travelling 100-yards, they led College by half a length, with Xavier the same distance away third.

Edged Into Lead

Geelong, rating two slower than Scotch's 36, were pulling the stronger of the two crews, and soon Geelong edged up and took the lead.

Approaching the half-mile, with David Messenger giving a superb stroking performance, Geelong had a half-length lead on Scotch, with Xavier

stepped up their rating to 36, and showed their superb physical fitness, never faltering under the increased pressure.

With their blades well covered, Geelong raced to the line a length and three-quarters from Scotch, with Xavier trailing in two lengths behind.

The winning crew was: Bow, B. N. Wood, 1; D. B. Ramage (2); P. H. Troy (3); H. R. Dickinson (4); D. M. John (5); D. M. Caithness (6); D. McDougall (7); D. R. Messenger (stroke); A. T. John (Cox).

Results

Head of the river: Geelong College 1, Scotch College 2, Xavier 3. Length and three-quarters, two lengths. 4.47 1/2.

First losers final: Melbourne Grammar 1, Wesley 2, Geelong Grammar 3. One and a half lengths. 4.50 3/5.

Third winners final: Melbourne Grammar 1, Xavier 2, Geelong College 3. Canvas. 2.38 4/5.

Third losers final: Scotch 1, Geelong Grammar 2, Wesley 3. One third length. 2.37 2/5.



College Coach—Albert Bell

...ing badly a length away third. Early in the last half, Scotch rallied with a rating increase, but Geelong were able to hold off the challenge.

Unbeatable

At the Swan Street Bridge, the dense crowds roared their acclamation to the obviously unbeatable Geelong.

The bridge was passed with Geelong forging slowly ahead from a now grimly battling Scotch.

The Barwon - trained boys

Geelong College Win Was Runaway Affair

Geelong College took the 1957 Head-of-the-River boat race on Saturday with as decisive a win as has been seen on the Henley-on-Yarra course.

Scotch College was 1 3/4 length away in second place, and Xavier another 2 1/2 lengths further back.

It was Geelong College's third successive Head-of-the-River victory. In the last 30 years only two other schools, Scotch College and Melbourne Grammar, have accomplished this feat.

In Saturday's final, Geelong College amply fulfilled the promise of its heat-winning effort last Thursday, when it defeated Melbourne Grammar by half a length in very fast time. Its powerful crew, efficiently prepared by coach Albert Bell, and with its 12 st. 8 1/2 lb. average weight, had the race in its grip half a mile from the finish.

Until the crews neared the Morell bridge, somewhat less than a quarter of a mile from the start, there was not more than half a length between them. Geelong Col-

lege was holding a quarter-length lead.

Then College settled down to a long, smooth-swinging 35-to-the-minute rating, with every ounce of its 6 1/2-lb. average weight advantage over Scotch, and 7 1/2 lb. over Xavier, being used most effectively.

At Mew Cut corner, just on the half-mile, College was leading by three-quarters of a length from Scotch, which was rowing very well, with Xavier about a quarter-length further away.

Procession

That was the beginning of the end. The crews shot Swan Street bridge with College leading by a length and rowing splendidly, Scotch, a length back, was heading Xavier by three-quarters of a length.

Thereafter, the race became a procession. With every stroke Geelong College, hitting 35 to 36 and

never clearing less than four feet of water, increased its unchallengeable lead, and went on to win as Scotch and Xavier dropped back.

The time, 4 min. 47 1-5 sec., was 10 1-5 sec. slower than in Geelong College's winning heat against Melbourne Grammar, but the ebb tide on Thursday was stronger than on Saturday, and a greater help to the crews.

Best performances in the minor finals were those of Melbourne Grammar's crews, which won the finals for first crew heat losers, and the second and third crews' heat winners.

Head-of-the-River Finish



1 GEELONG COLLEGE

2 SCOTCH COLLEGE

3 XAVIER COLLEGE

COLLEGE MAINTAINS DOMINANCE



Having beaten off a challenge by Scotch (right) Geelong College races away to a clear-cut victory at the Head of the River final on the Yarra on Saturday. Favorites for the race, College recorded their third successive victory. In third place on Saturday were Xavier (in background).



The Old Firm.
D. Caithness (6), D. McDonnell (7).



Standing.—B. N. Wood, P. H. Troy, H. R. Dickinson, D. B. Ramage.
Sitting.—D. M. Caithness, D. R. Messenger, A. B. Bell Esq., D. McDonell, D. M. John.
In Front.—A. T. John.



SERIOUS MOMENTS.
Saturday lunch at the River prior to racing Scots College, Sydney.
D. Messenger (R. back) talks with four of the Scots crewmen.



1st VIII.

A. T. John (cox), D. R. Messenger (str.), D. McDonell (7), D. M. Caithness (6), D. M. John (5), H. R. Dickinson (4), P. H. Troy (3), D. B. Ramage (2), B. N. Wood (bow).

1st VIII.

This year we had a most successful season. But like all success it had to be paid for. We paid little in comparison with Albert who gave so much of his time and energy for our benefit. Our thanks to him are immeasurable. To Mr. J. H. Campbell and Mr. David Salmon, to the motor boat drivers, Mr. Sykes, the boat builder, Robert Purnell who assisted us in Melbourne and to the Corio Bay Rowing Club go our thanks. Our win was made possible by these and many other people.

Training commenced on the first night of term. Preparation time was shorter than in past years so we were forced to utilize all available time.

As usual several changes were made throughout the season until the final combination was arrived at. The last change was made three weeks before boat race.

This year we entered in both the Maiden Eights at Barwon and Junior Eights at Henley Regattas. The experience we gained in these races proved invaluable to us. At Barwon we had two hard aces, rowing from behind on each occasion, eventually winning the Maiden Eights from Geelong Grammar. At Henley, after one collision with another crew, we

rowly defeated them in our heat of the Founder's Challenge Cup for Junior Eights. In the final we were completely outclassed by Scotch and were defeated by one and a half lengths. Wesley were a few feet behind us third.

The work was intensified very much after Henley particularly out of the boat. The fitness we gained out of the boat benefited us considerably.

A feature of this year's crew was the amount of racing experience we had. Apart from the Barwon and Henley Regattas we rowed against Scots College, Sydney, defeating them by a canvas. Also we did a considerable amount of work with the Corio Bay Junior Eight which was of great benefit to us.

We had a very enjoyable season, the fun we had and the comradeship we gained, will be remembered by all.

The final seating of the crew was:

B. N. J. Wood, 12 st. 11 lbs. (bow); D. B. Ramage, 12 st. 9 lbs. (2); P. H. Troy, 12 st. (3); H. R. Dickinson, 12 st. 10 lbs. (4); D. M. John, 13 st. 2 lbs. (5); D. M. Caithness, 13 st. 3 lbs. (6); D. McDonell, 12 st. 10 lbs. (7); D. R. Messenger, 11 st. 9 lbs. (stroke); A. T. John, 9 st. 8 lbs. (cox).

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(Photograph by courtesy "The Age")
FINISH OF HEAD OF THE RIVER, 1957.

Geelong College, 1

Scotch College, 2

Xavier College, 3.

Rowing Notes

On the opening day of term, A. T. John and L. M. Bell were appointed Captain and Vice-Captain of Boats respectively. This year's Rowing Committee comprises Bell, L. M.; Caithness, D. M.; John, A. T.; McDonnell, D.; Messenger, D. R.; Ramage, D. B. They carried out their arduous tasks, namely drawing boats and stations for house rowing and recommending House Colour Awards, in the typical Boat Club tradition.

This year the Geelong College Boat Club boated nine eights and four fours, thus maintaining the record numbers achieved over the past two years.

Owing to the numerous wins lately, two new sets of oars had to be made by the boatbuilder, Mr. Sykes. We express our thanks to Mr. Sykes, not only for the making of the oars, but also for his personal interest in the welfare of all the crews during the season.

The Boat Club would like to thank the men who coached the College crews this season. They are men who value time and yet they sacrifice it to do the splendid but slow work of coaching boys in crews. The coaches were:

1st VIII, A. B. Bell Esq.; 2nds, J. M. Ferguson; 3rds, R. Morell; 4ths, R. W. Purnell; 5ths, D. R. T. Macmillan; 6ths, M. Watson and S. Thomas; 7ths, A. Whiteside; 8ths, B. Burch; 9ths, N. Thom.

We all thank Mr. J. H. Campbell for his long and untiring devotion to the Boat Club, and for all his work as the club's organiser. Mr. Campbell's work was doubled this year owing to Mr. Sargood's leaving but the necessary work was always completed and there was nothing left undone in the Boat Club.

The Boat Club, particularly the first two eights express their sincere thanks to Mrs. Mathews, the Chef and the dining room staff for the excellent way they kept us fed—it must have involved a lot of extra work. Thanks also go to Sister Mayne and Sister Lang. They did a tremendous job in keeping the Boat Club on its feet.

The success of the Geelong College crews in the past years can be attributed largely to the work of its enthusiastic following of helpers.

Their energetic work was largely responsible for our success.

Hale School, Perth, who were second in the Perth Head of the River visited us for a week at the end of the term with the object of combining work with play by touring Geelong's industries during the week and rowing a mile against the first eight at the end of the week. The first eight trained seriously for this race, and contrary to many peoples expectations found this period of rowing far from an anticlimax after the Head of the River, but one in which they had their best rowing for the year. Hale were handicapped by a bout of the flu amongst the crew, having to row two emergencies. We won the race comfortably from them but that was only secondary as we enjoyed their visit very much.

Another group of visitors, this time earlier in the season, was the Scots College crew from Sydney. They rowed with us and raced against us on the weekend a fortnight before the Head of the River. We enjoyed their visit and look forward to having many more visitors from interstate in the years to come.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TELEGRAMS.

The First Eight and their Coach appreciate very much the interest of Old Collegians and friends of the College. Here below the telegrams and letters are acknowledged:

Sister Ledlie Wilson, Melbourne; Colin and Margaret Troy, Torquay; Tom and John Campbell, Wangaratta; Joek Campbell, Sydney; Wright, Sec. O.G.C.A.; R. Field, Devonport; R. McDonald, Bundalong; Ian and Gordon Campbell, Birregurra; J. F. Brown, Terang; F. S. McArthur, Camperdown; Graham Sargood, Geelong; Partridge, Batchelor NT; Geoff. Wills and family, Sreatham; Mrs. Young; Woodend; Don Kerr, Melbourne; Dr. Baxter, Hawthorn; Douglas's, Werriamull; Arthur Moreton, Geelong; David Dobbie, Geelong; "Donors," Riverina; Colin McArthur, Mallee; Headmaster, Hale School, W.A.; Lord Brothers, Port Campbell; Andy McFarland, Oxley; Norman Spalding, Brisbane; L. Macmillan, Perth; Percy Dowling, Windsor, Vic.; A. McLeod, Kalgoorlie; A. T. Berryman, Mathoura; Graeme Wallace-Smith, Sydney; Rogers Sydney Old Boys; Eric McFarland, Hay; R. Balfour, East Malvern; Ian Sloane, Lavenake; Hugh and Alec Eadie, Perth; M. Zaccute, Old Xaverians Association; Tom Campbell, Wangaratta; L. Gibb, Camberwell; Fr. O'Donoghue, St. Joseph's, Geelong; A. L. Backwell, Mayor, Geelong; Old Collegians' Wool Section, Dalgety & Co., Geelong; Keith Baird; J. A. Madden; Mac. Condie; A. T. Wilson; R. L. Lambourn; P. H. Maitland; D. Pigeon; John Hill; Peter Falconer; G. Stewart; McIlwain Gippsland Old Collegians; Norwood Family; W. A. Bodey; Geelong; Thomas Millar, Deniliquin; Rev. F. W. Roland.