



**PRINCELY SUCCESS:** The winning PAC crew, from left, Trent Collins, Nicholas Phelps, Greg Taylor, Alex Taylor, Simon Arney, David Pilcher, Alexander Silz, Adam Grogan and Stephen Thomas. Pictures: JO-ANNA ROBINSON.

# Prince Alfred breaks drought

By BRETT CLANCY

PRINCE Alfred College ripped the monkey from its back in stunning fashion yesterday, winning the Head of the River schoolboys' eight in record time after being runner-up the past five years.

The triumphant crew returned to a heroes' welcome at the college after its searing performance, leading home St Peter's College, winner for the past three years, by half a boat length.

PAC's time of 5.54.4 seconds sliced nearly four seconds off the record for the prestigious Gosse Shield, first held in 1922.

"I have never seen a group of school kids come out and do what they did," said Alistair McLachlan, who coaches the crew with brother Hamish.



**WALFORD WINNERS:** Back from left, Annalise Gehling, Emma Beckoff, Lisa Campbell, Catherine Skinner, Alice Jay, Anna Moffat. Front: Victoria Williams, Megan Campbell, Belinda Richards.

Unley High School grabbed third place from Scotch College, Pembroke,

Christian Brothers College, Pulteney Grammar and Adelaide High School.

McLachlan said the win, the first since 1993, capped off a remarkable season for the crew which won the Head of the Yarra regatta in February, smashing the record for the 8.6km course by 90 seconds.

Further success came at the Australian Rowing Championships in Adelaide where the college won the national title for the Schoolboys' coxed four and men's junior coxless four.

Walford Anglican School underscored its rowing strength when it claimed the Florence Eaton Trophy for the Schoolgirls' first eight.

Wilderness School was second across the line from Scotch College.