

Walford primed



By LEE JELOSCEK

WALFORD will head into today's prestigious Head of the River rowing regatta full of confidence after a comfortable win against arch rival Scotch three weeks ago.

Walford is in impressive form, having captured the SA Rowing Association's Schoolgirl premiership for the 10th time in a row.

After winning the premiership by more than 150 points, the girls also went on to win the SA open women's premiership for the first time.

Director of coaching Geoff Perry believes the team is primed to win the race.

"I think we can win and I think the girls share that belief. But anything can happen on the day," Perry said.

"This race holds a lot of importance and we are very keen to do well. We may have beaten Scotch three weeks ago but that will count for little when we hit the water."

Walford has won the Florence Eaton Cup seven times since joining the regatta a decade ago and will leave next week to compete in the national titles, where they are the only school to have won two national titles.

In the boys' first eight event, Prince Alfred College, keen to avenge last year's loss to St Peters, will start favourite after an impressive year on the water.

About 10,000 people are expected to converge on West Lakes for the annual regatta, with rowing beginning at 9am.

CONFIDENT COMBINATION: Walford's girls' eight gets in some practice yesterday. Picture: SARAH REED.

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