

# Rowing

**W**ALFORD and Prince Alfred College took out the Head of the River titles when the annual schools regatta was staged in ideal conditions at West Lakes yesterday

Walford was pre-race favourite and raced well to snare its ninth win in the 17 years the event has been run for girls.

The crew were under pressure early from last year's winner Wilderness and Scotch, who also began fast in the 2000m race.

But Walford was racing with composure and control and took the lead as Scotch and Pembroke passed Wilderness.

Pembroke was clearly second by the half-way mark of the race and chased Walford hard all the way to the line with Walford holding on to win by over two boat lengths.

Walford made it a double with the second eight event.

The boys' first eight was a closer race for most of the 2000m, with St Peters and Scotch in hot pursuit of the PAC crew which had obtained a good break with a fast, clean start.

PAC's narrow lead gradually increased, with a pacy 35 strokes/minute rate.

This was the fourth win for PAC in six years but the first victory for debut coach, Moscow Olympic rower John Bolt, whose son, Matt, was in the winning crew.



**WINNERS:** The successful Walford crew

St.Peters College had some revenge, taking the Wallman trophy for the second eights ahead of PAC with Pembroke third.

Scotch College won the Cudmore Cup for boys open four and the Denise Collins Cup for year 10 girls while Pembroke took the Diana Medlin cup in the girls open four.

- Phil Mangelsdorf

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