

# Opposition getting stronger but Mississauga retains lead

By RALPH ADAMS

Balmy Beach club's regatta was twenty-four hours late, but it made no difference to Mississauga's paddlers. The

Port Credit crowd finished the Southern Ontario division's club events with another victory—this time on 200 points.

This was the slimmest win

total of the campaign for Mississauga as other clubs continued to gain strength. Mohawk was second with 115 and West Rouge third with 107. Much improved Balmy Beach scored an impressive 97.

The regatta was postponed 24 hours when strong east winds prevented racing. The next day calm flattened the water, but by mid-afternoon the waves started to thump. Crews began to be swamped until the final day's event and the men's war canoe had only two finishers from among six starters. Four crews were swamped.

Mississauga won the bantam and junior war canoe events. Balmy Beach took the juvenile and senior races and West Rouge won its second in a row in the girls' event.

In the junior war canoe, Dean Oldershaw's boys beat Balmy Beach. The West Rouge paddlers were going down rapidly as they crossed the finish line. Then they swamped.

Lest the backs of the slender kayaks be broken in the rough water, the double-blade events were raced in the sturdier Canadian-type boats.

Bill Pitt of Mississauga was a first-time senior C1 winner, ahead of clubmate Jim Reardon and West Rouge's Fred Heese.

The West Rouge bantams continued to carry their weight in a successful building program, contributing 30 points to the club total. They won the C4 and the C2 and were second in the war canoe and C1.

The racing scene moves to the Centre Island course Saturday. The first three in each race of the division's CCA trials will qualify for the national finals next month in Ottawa.

Dean Oldershaw's junior war canoe is a strong favorite. The crew equalled the Port Credit River racing course record last week and showed excellent style at Balmy Beach.