

Oldershaw to be honored

Bert Oldershaw's canoe club just keeps on paddling as it turns 40 years old this weekend. *Peel Bio. Nov. 27/98 M.N.*
 Oldershaw, 76, will be honored tomorrow night at the Mississauga Canoe Club's 40th anniversary celebrations at Clarkson Community Centre. All remain active in coaching, and together the Oldershaw family can claim representing this country at a total of nine Olympics.

He began his successful paddling career in 1939 competing out of the Toronto Island Canoe Club (TICC).

At 27, he had become a world-class athlete, and competed in his first ever Olympics for Canada in London, England.

Their, Oldershaw was a member of a two-man canoe (C2) where he finished fifth in the men's 10,000 metre race.

Four years later in 1952 Oldershaw placed seventh in the one-man kayak in the 1,000 metres at the Helsinki Olympics.

And at his last Olympic Games as an athlete in Melbourne, Australia, four years later, Oldershaw crossed fifth in the men's C2 10,000 metre race.

Participating in those three Games made Oldershaw the only Canadian to have reached three successive finals in Olympic paddling history.

Oldershaw's contributions to the sport are farther reaching than those Olympic appearances.

Oldershaw founded the Mississauga Canoe Club in 1957, operating the club out of his barn for the first three years, continually striving to make improvements and find a better location for the clubhouse. He later moved the club to an old fishing shack at the mouth of the Credit River.

In 1960, the Credit Valley Lions Club sponsored a new building on the west bank of the Credit River. Since then, the Lions Club sponsored yet another new building, which is the club's present site.

Oldershaw remained involved in the sport throughout, introducing his three sons, Dean, Reed and Scott in ensuing