

Winds Knock 2 Boats From Rochester Race

By CLIFF CARPENTER

With Lake Ontario living up to its reputation for foisting criminal weather upon the fleet, 10 sleek Great Lakes racing yachts took the 3 p. m. starting gun off the Port of Rochester yesterday for the bruising, lake-girdling, 377-mile Rochester Race.

With winds cracking up to 20 miles in the gusts and waves cresting at 4 feet, the race was only 5 minutes old before it claimed its first victim, C. J. (Chuck) Spaulding's 52-foot cutter, Sweet Chariot, from Youngstown Yacht Club. A knock-down ripped the Chariot's vast mainsail near the peak, and Spaulding dropped out of the race.

Three hours later, far out in the lake and beating westward toward Hamilton dead into the eye of the wind, another yacht bowed to the blow and turned to limp back to Rochester — the 63-foot schooner Skookum 3d, handled by Rochester Y. C. Commodore F. Ritter Shumway.

Mainsail Also Ripped

Skookum's mainsail also ripped as hard-driving Shumway coned his way through winds that he clocked at more than 50 miles an hour in gusts.

When the schooner arrived back at the RYC in mid-evening it was revealed that the damage to the spreader occurred just before 4 p. m. Frank Shumway, dinghy-sailor son of the skipper, went up the mast in a bosun's chair despite the high winds to inspect the damage. It was while Frank was up the mast that the sail started to tear and before he could get back down it had ripped across.