



NEWSLETTER

Friends of UW Men's Crew, Inc.

December 2008



Badgers compete in 2008 World Championships

The gold-medal winning U. S. eight in the Under-23 World Rowing Championships in Brandenburg, Germany (picture at left) had the following Wisconsin rowers: Dan Connolly (coxswain), Grant James (stroke), Ross James (7-seat) and Derek Rasmussen (6-seat).

IRA Champs hosted by Wisconsin Governor

The triumphant men's heavyweight and women's lightweight crews who won the 2008 IRA were hosted on October 9th at the Governor's mansion by Gov. James Doyle and his wife, Jessica.

The teams presented the Governor with a commemorative oar.

Men's Rowers Strong at Head of the Charles

Led by the championship four's top college finish, the Wisconsin men's rowing team opened its 2008-09 racing season in fine form Sunday, October 19, at the Head of the Charles in Boston.

The UW men's four (see boatings below) finished second in the Head of the Charles regatta to the U.S. National team. The Badger's boat clocked a 16:06.219 to take second overall and first among college crews in the championship four. USRowing's four entry won the three-mile race in 15:57.344. Stanford, in 16:13.553 and Harvard in 16:14.792, completed the top four boats of the twenty one fours that entered in the race.

"The four did well," said head coach Chris Clark. "The only four to beat them was the national team. They had an overhead crab in the first 15 strokes and stopped the boat dead and they almost ran into the BU bridge. They managed to get it going and getting second, which is quite a remarkable comeback, to be honest with you."

In the men's eight, the Badgers initially had placed fifth overall, and fourth among college crews when the race was completed, but later learned that was not the case. Washington won the race in 14:28.087, with an entry from France second in 14:30.479. California in 14:33.516 and Northeastern in 14:42.169 rounded out the top four. The Badgers finish time of 14:41.315, put them in fifth place before penalties to the racers were assessed. Thirty-seven boats entered the eights event.

"The eight, I thought did real well," said Clark. "They were fifth, fourth college, but then we read later they were assessed a one minute penalty for not yielding. I don't quite understand that because Brown, who started behind us, eventually got by us with about a half mile to go so obviously we yielded. I don't exactly know what that is. Sometimes that is the way it goes at these races. It kicked us to 30th by adding a minute to our time. In my mind, I know we got fifth. Anyway, they did well."

"All in all a pretty good day. This is always really more of a regatta that is an award for the athletes because they have a good time here. You never know what is going to happen. There's thousands of people and thousands of rowers."

(Wisconsin Athletic Communications- Paul Capobianco)

The UW boatings were: **8+** cox: Dan Connolly, stroke - Zach Krupp, 7- Paul Williams, 6 - Ed Newman, 5 - Ken Rueden, 4 - Cody Carlin, 3 - Brian Whyms, 2 - Kevin Knier, bow - John Ludders; **4+** cox - Anthony Altimari, stroke - Max Goff, 3 - George Walters, 2 - Grant James, bow - Ross James

Frosh and JV Crews Sweep the North Star Challenge

The Wisconsin men's crews swept the North Star Challenge on Oct. 25, 2008 in Minneapolis, placing in the top three positions for the Collegiate Varsity Eight, the Collegiate Varsity Four, the Collegiate Novice Eight and the Collegiate Novice Four races. With 14 different Badger crews racing, the Badgers swept every race they competed in.

With the sun shining and temperatures in the low fifties, conditions on the Mississippi River were great for racing. Competing against five other entries from the University of Minnesota, the Michigan Tech Rowing Club, Iowa State

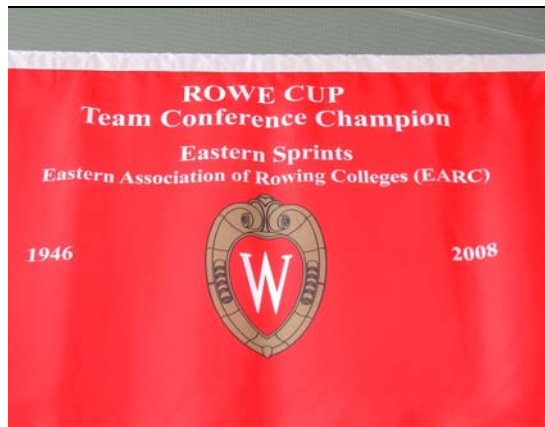
University and the Lawrence University Rowing Club, the Badgers placed first, second and third in the Collegiate Varsity eight race with times of 12:42, 13:26 and 13:43.

In the Men's Collegiate Varsity Four race, the Badgers overtook the University of St. Thomas, Macalester College, Michigan Tech, St. Cloud State University, and Lawrence University to finish in the top three spots with times of 14:07, 14:26, and 14:41. A Badger crew also placed fifth, completing the course in 15:25.

"We had a great race in Minneapolis," assistant coach Matt Boyle said, "The crews performed well, especially our Frosh, many of whom were racing for the first time. It was a well run regatta and great racing conditions."

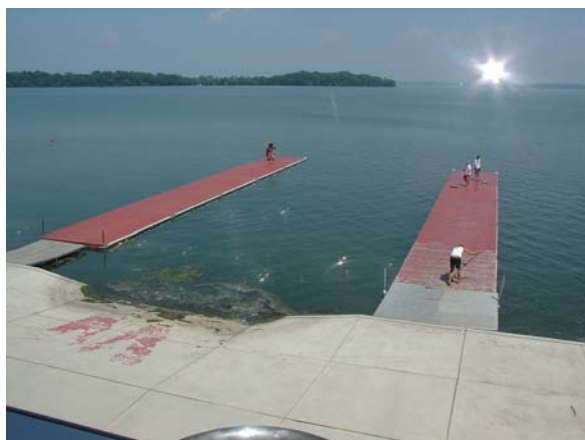
The Badger novice crews also dominated the competition finishing in the top three spots in the Collegiate Novice Eight race and the top four spots in the Collegiate Novice Four race. (Wisconsin Athletic Communications- Susie Marceau)

New and Updated Banners



The Rowe Cup team championship banner (above, left) is now hanging in the upper level of the Porter Boathouse to show the 1946 and 2008 EARC Championships. The Eastern Sprints Conference Title banner (above, right) was updated to reflect the Varsity and 2V8 wins in 2008. Money for the banners was provided by the Friends of UW Men's Rowing.

100 foot Docks Installed



A new 100 foot dock and a 20 foot extension to the other original 80 foot long dock were assembled and put into use this fall.

Thanks to the many hours of hard work devoted to this project by the rowers and boathouse staff and the generosity of Dave Nelson of Nelson Young Lumber in Edgerton, WI, who supplied all the lumber and fasteners. Now two eights can be launched on both sides of BOTH docks.

Coach Clark estimates he can get an additional 50 more miles of practice each year by getting boats into the water faster.

EARC honors UW men's rowing program

Wisconsin's men's rowing program was honored twice by the Eastern Association of Rowing Colleges at the league coaches meetings in 2008. Head Coach Chris Clark was named the EARC Heavyweight Coach of the Year, while the UW's varsity eight earned the distinction as EARC Crew of the Year.

Wisconsin's varsity eight captured the 2008 EARC Championship last spring, as did the 2V8, on Lake Quinsigamond in Worcester, Mass. It marked the school's first conference title since 2002 and third all-time (the boat won the inaugural event in 1946). The 2008 varsity eight victory also propelled the team to the 2008 Rowe Cup title as all-points champion. The squad won the team title for the first time since the 1946 event.

In addition to the conference title, the UW's varsity eight rowed an undefeated season, which culminated in the 2008 IRA National Championship the boat won in early June on the Cooper River in Cherry Hill, N.J.

"It is always great for the student-athletes to be recognized by a wider audience for a job well done," said Clark. "It was a pretty special year and the guys definitely deserve any kudos that come their way." Leading the Badgers to the perfect season was Clark, who was previously named the 2002 EARC Heavyweight Coach of the Year.

Clark stated, "Being recognized by one's peers is always a special distinction. However, I would guess that every coach would feel the same way I do, which is this: being "Coach of the Year" only comes when the team excels so therein lies the real satisfaction from such an honor." (Wisconsin Athletic Communications Paul Capobianco)

Men's 2008-09 Rowing Schedule

2008

10/19 Head of the Charles, Boston MA
10/25 North Star Challenge, Minneapolis, MN
11/2 American Heritage Fall River Classic, Wyandotte MI

2009

2/11 Crew

4/11 vs Michigan, Madison WI Porter Boathouse
4/18-4/19 Stanford Invitational, Redwood City CA Redwood Shores
4/18 vs Minnesota, Madison WI Porter Boathouse
4/25 TBD Madison WI Porter Boathouse
*5/2 Cochrane Cup (vs. Dartmouth and M.I.T.), Blue Island IL Cal-Sag Channel
*5/3 Boston University Jablonic Cup Blue Island, IL Cal-Sag Channel
5/10 EARC Championships Worcester, MA Lake Quinsigamond
*6/4-6/6 IRA National Championships Gold River CA Lake Natoma
* Note: These are new venues for these races

Alumni News

Boyd named USRowing's 2008 Male Athletes of the Year

Former Wisconsin men's rowing captain and 2008 U.S. Olympian Micah Boyd (St. Paul, Minn.) has been named USRowing's 2008 Male Athletes of the Year. Boyd, a two-time national team member and graduate of the University of Wisconsin, helped the men's eight win the bronze medal at the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. A member of Penn A.C. Rowing Association, Boyd joined the USRowing Training Center program in the fall of 2007 and made an immediate impact. In April, he won the men's pair at the first NSR (National Selection Regatta) and finished second in the pair at the second NSR. Boyd is a first-time recipient of the award.

"It's a great achievement and honor, especially in the Olympic year where everyone is so focused on doing their best," Boyd said. "With the award being voted on by your peers, it's great to know that the other guys thought you put in your best effort. It's pretty surprising. I haven't been with the group of guys that long, just since September of 2007. It's nice to be recognized by such a great group of veterans. It was a tough year of training and to win the award is quite amazing." He was honored on Friday, December 5, at the USRowing Annual Awards Reception in Atlantic City, N.J.

Kenny McMahon ('08) raced in the men's lightweight single sculls event at USRowing's Fall Speed Orders and finished 11th in a field of 26.

Coach Clark Recaps 2008

Coach Clark presented a lively recap of the 2008 Championship season in which the men's varsity eight was undefeated in conference races. Speaking events were held in Madison and Milwaukee. Besides the coach's recap, an audio/video presentation highlighting the Eastern sprints and IRA wins was enjoyed by the enthusiastic alumni, friends of UW Men's rowing.

Andy Allen donates new racing eight

Andy Allen, who rowed at UW from 1941 to 1946, has made a generous gift of a new racing eight to be christened the “Andy Allen ‘46” in April 2009. Thank you Andy!

Alumni Day Races

Approximately sixty alumni and friends enjoyed a beautiful September 6th day for the men’s Alumni Day Championship.



The winning eight (at left) is (L-R): Bow- John Hallett, 2- John Norsetter, 3- Brian Steinbrecher, 4- Jim Kirsh, 5- Neil Halleen, 6- Lou Schueller, 7- John Jablonic, Stroke- Al Erickson, and Cox- Mike Bailey (kneeling)

Upcoming Alumni Events

Winter Break in Austin, Texas

February 7, 2009 Reunion of the Class of 1959 at the Porter Boathouse

April 11 or 25, 2009 potential christening of the “Andy Allen ‘46” racing eight

Last Pieces

Of special note: Coach Randy Jablonic recently made a 6-figure deferred annuity gift to the UW Foundation which will eventually revert to the Murphy Fund. News of his gift was recently highlighted in *Inside Wisconsin* at: <http://wiscorowing.org/news/jabo08.pdf> Thanks, Jabo, for your life-long support of men's crew at UW!

Voted Row2k.com Crew of the Year: Wisconsin Men's Heavyweight Varsity eight, undefeated through the collegiate racing season, won the IRA Varsity 8 title with six athletes who were college walk-ons, was voted Crew of the Year.

Check out WiscoRowingHistory.org and WiscoRowing.org for merchandise and alumni news. For the latest race results, go to www.uwbadgers.com or www.row2k.com.

Friends’ of UW Men’s Crew gifts in support of the program are made possible only by you - the generous alumni and supporters of UW men’s crew. Many thanks for another successful year. We wish all of you a Merry Christmas, Happy Holiday and a successful and healthy New Year.



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- **Oldest sport at UW**
- **First varsity in 1892**
- **First IRA title in 1900**
- **14 team Ten Eyck trophies**
- **Every Olympics since 1968**