



NEWSLETTER

Friends of UW Men's Crew, Inc.

June 2008 -1

National Champs in 2008 !

Bursting out of a Wisco-Washington-Cal pack at the 1,000-meter mark, the undefeated varsity eight (5:31.173) powered its newly christened shell, the Paul O. Eckhardt, Jr. '33, to a 5-seat victory at the June 5-7 national championship IRA's on the Cooper River in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. The Washington Huskies (5:32.89), ranked No. 1, in the country and the early leader, finished in second! Cal (5:39.021) finished almost eight seconds back, followed by Northeastern, Stanford and Columbia.

Never before has a Badger varsity eight achieved an undefeated record when the opponents included every major college crew in the country. Beginning with a finish as the top collegiate varsity eight at the October 2007 Head of the Charles, Wisco's V8+ won every race thereafter in its regular and post season. The varsity shirt budget ended up a big 'zero' for the year. (See the V8+ boating in the photo caption.). Five rowers in Wisco's V8 never rowed before coming to Madison, while Washington had four international rowers and Cal five.



2008 Sprints and IRA varsity eight gold medal winners. Back Row: Eric Mueller, Freshman Coach, Matt Boyle, Assistant Coach, Joe McMullin (bow); George Walters (2 seat); Ross James (7); Grant James (stroke); Adam Barhamand (coxswain) and Chris Clark, Head Coach. Front Row: Max Goff (3); Ed Newman (4); Zack Krupp (5) and Derek Rasmussen (6)

"It was real exciting," said head coach Chris Clark. "Very, very exciting. I've coached for a long time and we've had a lot of wins both here at Wisconsin and internationally and a lot of success, but we hadn't cracked this nut at the IRA championships. Somewhere around 1,000-meters, we laid down our major move. You do that all the time in races and half the time they are ineffective, but not this time. It took us from being down, to a seat or two up, [to up] by a half length and then that was it. The game was over." (See Sprints videos at <http://packnetwork.com/ES-V-GF/index.html> and IRA videos on www.capturedspeedproductions.blogspot.com)

The three other Badger medalist boats – all 3rd place bronze medal winners in the traditional eight-event IRA format - included the **V2-**, (the boating: Darren Gary (bow) and Ryan Fox (stroke)); the **F4+** (the boating: David Lucas (bow), Cory Hatton, Michael Kaufman, Brendan Hedberg (stroke) and Joshua Markham (coxswain)); and the **2V8+** (the boating: Kenny McMahan (bow), Nick Janous, Ken Rueden, Paul Williams, Cody Carlin, Dan Stevens, Anthony Hoell, Peter Helfer (stroke) and Dan Connolly (coxswain)).

The **frosh eight** finished 8th; the **Open 4+** was 7th; the **V4+** was 12th; and the **V4-** ended just out of the medals in fourth (the V4- boating: Matt Lojkovic (bow), Hans Hebl, Kevin Knier, Matt Sundby (stroke)). The Ten Eyck trophy – a team trophy now based on each college's best four finishes in the eight events - went to Washington; Cal was second and Wisco third.

Thanks to Nancy and Steve Hoell for organizing the annual IRA parent cocktail following the successful IRA weekend. All reports suggest a great, well-attended event!

Following the cocktail, the crew adjourned to its annual rowers-and-coaches-only cloister to exchange rowing career philosophies and to pass the torch from the seniors to the rest of the team. At that get-together, the combined team (less the seniors) elected Junior Ed Newman as Captain for the 2008-09 season. Senior Derek Rasmussen was awarded the Norm Sonju plaque given to “the oarsman who has made an outstanding contribution to the success of the UW crew program in the categories of leadership, dedication and sportsmanlike attitude.” Freshman Will Porter was awarded the Randy Jablonic plaque for “most valuable freshman” and Josh Iverson was elected the Pickle Boat Captain plaque as the rower outside the V8 and 2V8 boatings who generated the most competition to those above him to keep their seats. Coach Clark observed at this cloister, “You guys all see artifacts each day at the boathouse of the legends who came before. You are now them.” Congratulations to those receiving special recognition and to all this crew’s fine athletes!

It should be noted that at the Spring Banquet, freshman Ryan Thompson was given the Alan Award by the coaching staff as the rower “who has distinguishes himself by effort and improvement in rowing, demonstrates a commitment to the success of the Men’s Rowing Team, and shows a strong promise of future contributions and leadership in the Men’s Rowing Program.”

Soon after the season’s end, on June 11, the Athletic Department announced senior V8 coxswain Adam Barhamand had been awarded the 2008 Big Ten Medal of Honor! A male and female athlete from each Big Ten university are selected annually to win this award, which recognizes outstanding athletic and academic performance. Adam joins an illustrious group of past UW rowers winning this most coveted of awards, including rower Martin Kennedy, who won the first such award in 1915. The last rower to win was Jim Dyreby in 1975. Adam expects to attend Oxford College in England this fall and hopes to continue his rowing career while there.



2008-09
Captain Ed Newman



Senior Adam Barhamand,
Big Ten Conference Medal
of Honor winner.

June 13, the Journal-Sentinel (Milwaukee) announced men’s crew topped the list of spring semester GPA’s for the eleven men’s varsity sports at UW with a 3.179; basketball was next at 2.916.

May 30 – Against the Naval Academy on their Severn River course, winning both the Walsh Cup (for the V8+ race) and the Fisher Cup (for the team victory), Wisco won six of seven races of the IRA format (the V2- was held as an exhibition event). Conditions included a light headwind and a slack tide.

May 17 on Lake Quinsigamond, MA - For the first time since winning the inaugural 1946 Eastern Sprints – a regatta with five eight-oared events - UW won the Rowe Cup, signifying a conference team championship, by taking gold medals in both the **Varsity** and **2V8** races and 7th in the **F8** event. The freshman boating: Will Porter (bow), Ryan Thompson, Andrew Gallagher, Eric Duhon, Zach Rodenbough, Steve Dudek, Jason Koch, Jack Yeksigian (stroke) and Anthony Altimari (coxswain).

The **3V8+** finished 4th (the boating: Alex Bisset (bow), Hans Hebl, Brian Whyms, Josh Iverson, Matt Lojkovic, Kevin Knier, Darren Gary, Ryan Fox (stroke) and Louis Bien (coxswain)) and the **2F8+** was 2nd (the boating: Corry Hatton (bow), Ken Huxtable, Brendan Hedberg, Jim Prey, Dan Moore, Mike Kaufman, Jay Heald, David Lucas (stroke) and Josh Markham (coxswain)).

In the Rowe Cup’s three-event scoring formula, team UW garnered 35 points, followed by Brown (34, with a 2nd in the V8 and two 3rds in the 2V8 and the F8) and Princeton (30). Thanks to Skip and Nancy Burnett, many parents and the UW Alumni Association of the Boston area for their wonderful picnic support.

On **May 4**, Wisco – on a partly cloudy day, temperatures in the 50’s and 6–12 mpg tail winds over the Charles River in Boston - took the Jablonic Cup from Boston University when the V8 (5:43.0) defeated MIT (5:54.5) and BU (5:55.5). Wisco’s 2V8 (5:54.1) also out-stroked two BU 2V8 entries (6:05.2 and 6:20.0) and the freshmen eight (5:57.0) completed the sweep by beating BU (6:13.0) and MIT (6:19.9).

The day before, **May 3**, Wisconsin raced Dartmouth on the Connecticut River in a light rain, slight headwind, a tail current decreasing over flat morning water, and temps in the high 40's; the prize was the Cochrane Cup. Wisco's varsity eight (5:22.19) led the sweep over their Big Green (5:29.7) equivalent. The Badger 2V8 (5:30.55) out-raced Dartmouth (5:43.77), as did the Badger frosh (5:28.91 vs. 5:37.68). MIT normally races in the Cochrane Cup, but elected to pass and row in the Jablonic Cup the next day. The Cochrane Cup – named after former MIT President Admiral E. I. Cochrane, who had also been Director of the Bureau of Ships - has been rowed 47 times, with Wisco winning 29 of these.

Over **April 19 and 20**, in Redwood CA, Wisco's V8 – in spite of having been on Lake Mendota only since April 10, one of the latest days of the year ever - defeated Cal (6:06.21 vs. 6:10.06) on Saturday and Stanford (5:44.13 vs. 5:51.52) on Sunday, while the 2V8 over successive days defeated Cal (6:16.13 vs. 6:19.73) and Stanford (5:54.13 vs. 6:04.47). Back in Madison **April 19**, the Badger frosh rowed on Lake Mendota against the Milwaukee School of Engineering's (MSOE) newly-formed varsity crew. Wisco's frosh finished 1st, 2nd and 4th (6:07.7, 6:23.5 and 6:34.3 vs. 6:33.8).

On **April 12** - testing a new venue for possible future races (away from Madison's undependable early spring weather) on the Cal Sag Canal in Blue Island, IL, 20 miles south of Chicago - two matched varsity eights, one led by junior Ross James and the other by his twin brother Grant - faced off against Minnesota's varsity. In 38 degree temperatures, the Ross V8 finished in 5:58.0, with the Grant V8 in 6:06.1 vs. the Golden Gophers' 6:24.6. In the 2V8 race, Wisco's two entries (6:15.6 and 6:19.3) won handily over their Minnesota counterpart (6:52.4). The UW freshmen's three entries – in their very first regular season competition – looked promising by sweeping Minnesota (6:24.3, 6:38.0, and 6:48.7 vs. 6:56.9).

Alumni News

Alumni Race Day is now planned for Saturday, September 6, and is likely to begin at 8:00 AM. The football game that day is against Marshall (kick-off times are not yet announced). Those needing football tickets should call Jill Ries (608.262.1008 or jr3@athletics.wisc.edu – saved under “Rowing” - before August 6) and those desiring a Friday night room (note, the Friedrich Center is no longer available, having been converted back to a dorm) should contact the Lowell Center at 610 Langdon (608-256-2621) before August 31 (a block of 5 rooms is being held under “Brad Taylor” with reservation #'s 176883 to 176887 @ \$119).

Upcoming Activities in 2008-09

Summer of 2008 - Four or more UW rowers are trying to make the U.S. Under-23 Worlds squads practicing at either or both east and west coast try-out camps.

SOAR recruiting began **June 9**, soon after the coaches returned from the IRA's. The first of two consecutive weekly high school camps at the Porter Boathouse began Sunday **June 15**, with over 50 rowers attending the two sessions. Camp Randall's summer camp meets for the first time **June 21**. Former UW rower and assistant coach Ed Golding will return to coach at the camps this summer from his coaching duties at Columbia University.

May-June 2009 – Next year's IRA's are likely to be held on Lake Natoma in Rancho Cordova, CA (several miles NE of Sacramento), so make plans accordingly.



Coach Mike Murphy (1928-1934), who sacrificed 75% of his salary during the Depression to keep men's crew going, is the source of the name of the “Murphy Fund.” The Fund is the central long-term endowment fund for men's crew, to which donations might include annual gifts, estate bequests, memorial gifts in lieu of flowers, etc..

Report from Friends of UW Men's Crew

The twelfth and final coaches' portrait was completed this spring (Coach Clark's portrait awaits the further passage of time) with the completion of the Ned Ten Eyck (coached 1906 through 1910) oil painting. The Coaches Gallery represented the largest Friends' expenditures over the 2007-08 season. Highlighted in this issue is the portrait of Coach George W. “Mike” Murphy.

Coach Clark continues to look for support, through Friends, for a 2nd dock (to be built by UW's boatmen) and a new coach's launch. Assistance to date has been slow, though Nelson Lumber in Edgerton - with the generosity of Dave Nelson and assistance from Judy Nelson (widow of the late R. Y. Nelson, Captain of the UW crew in 1951-52) – has offered to donate all of the majority of the lumber and deck screws for the dock. Many thanks Dave and Judy!!

Remember the Mike Murphy Endowment Fund for men's crew at the UW Foundation, where our goal is an endowment of \$20 million by 2024.

Last Pieces

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

Of note: On Thursday June 12, Coach Chris Clark and his wife, Jane, celebrated the birth of their third son, Henry Tipton Clark. Mother and child are doing fine.

In memoriam.....We regret to report the passings of Carl E. Merow (UW 1953, '54 and '55) on October 27, 2007, and of Robert C. Jenkins, Esq. (UW in 1941 and '42) on January 9, 2008.

Friends is a 501(c)(3) public charity developing the men's crew program at UW and creating opportunities for the rowing alumni and supporters of the sport to remain close to the program.



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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