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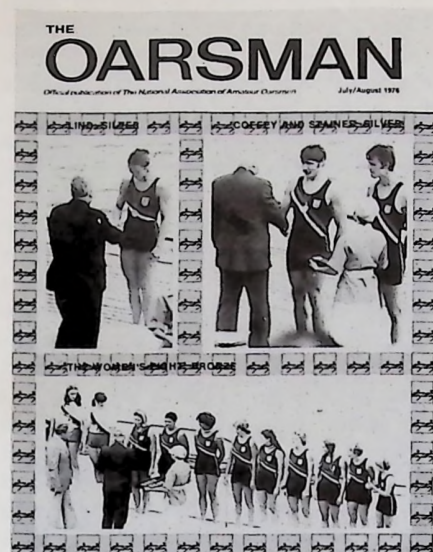
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Coverage of rowing at the Twenty-first Olympiad begins on page 18; related comments are to be found in *The Oarsmen's Corner* and in the editorial on page 48; *The Oarsman* interviewed Olympic oarswoman Judy Geer—you'll find that on page 14. History—vivid, sweet, bitter—is written.

THE OARSMAN®

Volume 8, Number 3

July/August, 1976

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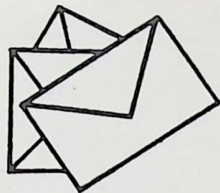
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Letters To The Editor

Your comments on any issue related to rowing are welcome. Address all correspondence to Pete Raymond, Editor, *The Oarsman*, Department of Athletics, Harvard University, 60 Boylston St., Cambridge, Ma. 02138.

July 25, 1976

Editor, *The Oarsman*
Cambridge, Mass. 02138

Dear Sir:

I was encouraged to see some reaction in your letters column to Scott Baker's article on EARC weigh-in rules for Lightweights. I was, however, discouraged that another of Mr. Baker's points was ignored: the lack of representation of Lightweight-experienced personnel in the national rowing organization.

As to the weigh-in rule letters by Greg Stone and Ward Romer, I find myself in disagreement with the former. I am not certain on what basis Mr. Stone is able to state that there are "compelling medical reasons that favor a short interval between weigh-in and race..." In about ten years of Lightweight rowing as an oarsman and coach, I am unaware of *any* oarsman either who physically damaged himself by losing weight or who resorted to drugs and the like to make weight. I would be interested to know precisely what are the compelling medical reasons.

Indeed, because "weight" is an additional and unique factor in Lightweight rowing, a careful coach, taking advantage of the situation, will instruct his oarsmen on proper eating habits and weight control methods and ensure that his oarsmen "make weight" in the most advantageous (and least detrimental) manner possible.

I find Mr. Baker's insinuations of self-abuse foreign in spite of the fact
(Cont'd on p. 44)

July 5, 1976

Dear Sir:

In the May/June 1976 issue of *The Oarsman* I discovered a printing error in your article covering the women's Eastern Sprints. It concerns the line-up of the winning Wisconsin Varsity heavy eight team.

What you printed was the original line-up intended to race that day, and not the actual line-up that *did* race (as shown in the photo, p. 32).

The Wisconsin Varsity eight winning line-up was as follows:

cox—Beth Bosio
stroke—Jackie Zoch
7—Deb Oetzel

*6—Carolyn Hegge
5—Peggy McCarthy

*4—Suzan Bott

3—Mary Connell

2—Mary Grace Knight

bow—Karen Ala

Carie Graves sustained an injury two days before the Sprints took place and could not compete.

Sincerely,
Sue Bott

July 21, 1976

Dear Editor:

I hope you will provide some of your limited space to permit me to publicly express a personal sentiment.

I have just completed a pleasurable chore — that of planning and conducting the separate Olympic Trials for the single sculler, double scullers, and pairs with cox'n, pairs without and finally the fours. Prior to the first of these trials, I suffered some trepidations, but sincerely believed that twelve years as an oarsman, twenty years as a coach and twenty-five years as an on-the-water official provided me with the background necessary to make those decisions most favorable to the oarsmen and to the achievement of the ultimate goal — selection of the oarsmen and crews to represent the U.S. in the Olympics.

My qualms were not lessened to any degree to find that the first trial comprised 64 single scullers! I realized that

with these numbers I could not curl up with the security blanket of the FISA progression system. However, with the invaluable help of Ernie Arlett and Jack Frailey, a system was devised and a miracle was born! From the moment the results of the draw for the singles was posted until the finals of the Fours trial, I did not hear one complaint or gripe from an oarsman or coach. A most remarkable spirit of cooperation, even rapport, evolved and, aside from the nerve-racking decisions regarding postponements, race scheduling, etc., the entire experience was totally enjoyable—even exhilarating.

I appreciate this opportunity to express to all of the oarsmen and coaches of the Olympic Trials my heartfelt thanks for your cooperation, courtesy, and your expressions of appreciation. I am only saddened by the knowledge that more people could not have been involved in this reassuring experience. America need have no fear for its future if these young men are representative of the pool from which our future leaders will be drawn.

Sincerely,
Jack Franklin, Chairman
Judge-Referee Committee

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The President's Message

With our 100th National Championship Regatta closing out the summer season we wind down from a year that has presented us with about every emotion and happening I can imagine. It has left us with some feeling of satisfaction and accomplishment, some deep wounds, unity on some fronts, divisiveness on some quarters, some hard answers, and, perhaps most significant, some soul-searching questions.

Our Olympic women were superb. Joan Lind has to be one of the world's finest athletes in every respect. The tenacity of the Eight in the final 300 meters was inspiring. Well done!

The overall "down" of the men's Olympic team should not overshadow the pair's magnificent trail to the Silver medal. The effect of the quad camp on U.S. sculling was positive and significant. Ernie Arlett's illness was a shame and we all hope for a speedy and complete recovery. John Nunn's willingness to step in gave a lift when we need it most.

Since FISA Junior Championships became official in 1970 the U.S. has not won a medal. This year the Villach squad won three! The confidence this has brought our young oarsmen is fantastic—some have another year of eligibility and those who move out of the junior ranks will hopefully continue in competition. The area of Senior development is one that will receive priority attention from the NAAO.

It is now time to assess our approach to the sport, to ask searching, in some cases painful, questions, to review priorities on spending available funds, and to chart a course of action giving weight to the many and fast growing areas of our sport. Refreshingly we have solid people in each who are well versed and heavily committed to the advancement of their segment of rowing.

The importance of *age group rowing* for the young gains credibility as we look at the fantastic depths of the D.D.R. We continue to be stymied on the equipment front but are encouraged by the attention being given the production of low-priced sculling boats. At this writing at least three new prototypes are on the water. FISA is studying the programs for age-group rowing throughout the world and the NAAO will promote a plan that will provide outlines for teaching technique and setting competition that will vary from standard racing and is geared to show skill not just speed.

Coaches in *school rowing* are much more receptive to unifying technique and training. We work toward greater involvement beyond the academic year to strengthen the club base as well as to increase our manpower pool for Junior International Regattas. This year's performance at Villach was a tremendous achievement in every sense, but it did not come from a nationally-molded program. How much more solid we would be if we took the successes of our medalists and finalists and gave full study to the technical, physiologi-

cal, and psychological make up of the crews, their training schedules, and their pre-race preparations. It will be a real waste to let this opportunity slip by.

The numbers involved in our *Lightweight* section shows solid depth here, but we must broaden the coaching base for continued growth. We should also realize that winning abroad is now anything but automatic, and this year's performance was highly creditable.

There is growing concern that we are not doing enough for post-youth, pre-elite oarsmen. What funded programs should be directed to the *Intermediates* and *Seniors*? Isn't this a good area for systematic development of young coaches? Isn't a solid program at this level life blood for the Clubs?

The Men's Elite Heavyweight program is obviously in need of a detailed profound evaluation. It is here that the tremendous need for an expanded coaching corps is spelled out loud and clear. The burden on a very few has been heavy and has seeded problems, suspicion, unhealthy rivalries, questions of motives, and results that in many cases that are below potential. Our first step is the appointment of a sub-committee headed by Boyce Budd and Julian Wolf. This group will dig into *all* the details surrounding all aspects of the programs of the last quadrennial. Recommendations will be made to be included on an agenda that will deal with U.S. rowing as a whole and our priorities. Hopefully communication will be direct and constructive. If criticism is given in this spirit, it will be meaningful. If it is not, it will hinder our efforts.

There are many things the D.D.R. does that we should strive to emulate. There are other aspects of their program that just do not fit ours. Perhaps the most staggering statistic is that in a nation of 17 million people there are over 180,000 registered sports instructors in East Germany! It is easy to see *their* priorities and discussions lead us to our coaching and the need to enlarge and encourage its ranks. Minimizing the questions in our selection process is a must. Possible reduction in the scope of funded racing abroad will be considered. Seeding all kinds of programs at all levels nationally will be thoroughly investigated.

Above all we should use the talents of our National Technical Advisor and many others who are qualified in the U.S. It is so easy to criticize yet I wonder where these people are when we set the Time Standards, put in the race courses, split the trials to accommodate oarsmen. We welcome questions, constructive criticism, and in particular, participation. Facing issues squarely is something we have tried to do but remind people it's a two way street. Isolation and lack of communication has, in my opinion, been the root of our problems.

W.H. Peory

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NWRA MIDWEST REGIONAL REGATTA

by Tom Perry

Kansas State University lead all the way as they held off the University of Wisconsin and the University of Minnesota to win the Open Eight at the N.W.R.A. Midwest Regional Regatta on Lake Nokomis in Minneapolis, Minnesota on May 22, 1976.

Kansas State used a smooth and powerful start to pull to a 1½ length lead in the first 250 meters of the 1000 meter event. In the middle 500 meters K-State held off both Minnesota and Wisconsin as they closed the gap by about ½ length. Kansas State finished with a time of 3:40.9 with Wisconsin ½ length back and Minnesota another ¼ length behind.

The University of Minnesota took first place in six of the twelve events and second in three others for a point total of 170. Kansas State was second with 67.5 points.

In the Open Four race the University of Minnesota won going away as they beat the rest of the field by 8-10 lengths. Kansas State was second.

There were 12 entries in the Novice Four race so heats were held in the morning. Minnesota qualified 1 of its crews and the University of Chicago, despite problems with a broken seat, managed to qualify both of its crews for the afternoon finals. Duluth, Minnesota Boat Club and Kansas State rounded out the field.

After one start in which two boats collided in the first 10

strokes, the race got underway. Head Referee Christopher Dillon could not lay fault on either of the crews so he called the race back for a restart. Again the K-State crew had a good start and took a comfortable lead to remain ahead the whole race. There was a fight for second place as the University of Minnesota nosed out the University of Chicago and the Minnesota Boat Club.

It was a good day for a regatta and the spectators and participants enjoyed themselves. The weather conditions were ideal with a slight breeze and the temperature in the 70's.

RESULTS

Light Double Minnesota Boat Club (Cheesebro, Eickhof); University of Minnesota; Minneapolis RC **Open Four** University of Minnesota (L. Magney, Baer, Seashore, Madson); Kansas State U.; Duluth RC; University of Minnesota B; 3:54.2 **Open Single** Minneapolis RC (Ohme); Minneapolis RC; 5:02 **Light Four** University of Minnesota; University of Chicago; University of Minnesota B; Minnesota Boat Club; 3:57.7 **Open Double** University of Minnesota (Baer, O'Brien); Minneapolis RC; Minneapolis RC; 4:37.3 **Light Eight** University of Minnesota B.; University of Minnesota A **Open Pair** University of Minnesota (Cannon, Baer); Minneapolis RC; 4:58.7 **Novice Four** Kansas State (Russell, White, Rumold, Ladd, Hemberger); University of Minnesota; University of Chicago; Minnesota Boat Club; University of Chicago; Duluth RC; 4:10.5 **Light Pair** University of Minnesota (Madson, Schneiderhan); **Open Quad** Minneapolis RC. **Light Single** University of Chicago. **Open Eight** Kansas State University (Russell, McCrae, Walker, Moore, Rumold, Ladd, Coats, Umbehr, Hemberger); University of Wisconsin; University of Minnesota; Minnesota Boat Club; 3:40.9 **Point Totals** University of Minnesota 170; Kansas State University 67.5; Minneapolis RC 51.25; University of Chicago 27.5; Wisconsin 15; Minnesota BC 18.75; Duluth 5.

Kansas State University after winning Open Eight event.



University of Minnesota Lightweight Eight Winner.



University of Wisconsin (stroking at 40) leading Minnesota Boat Club after 100 meters.



Minneapolis Rowing Club (background) leads the University of Minnesota in the Lightweight Double.



NATIONAL ROWING FOUNDATION

Decennial Jubilee or Wake?

by Jack Franklin

While the Nation celebrates its Bicentennial, looking back with pride at its accomplishments and confidently looking forward to its tercentenary, the National Rowing Foundation quietly observes its decennial, wondering about its future.

It has been just over a decade since Dick Schwartz and Don Spero, both experienced in international rowing, having seen first hand the degree to which U.S. rowing had fallen behind other competing nations, decided something constructive must be done. They saw the need for a rowing foundation to provide, for the first time, continuous and sound support for the development of American rowing.

They then borrowed time from the demands of training while simultaneously achieving their doctorates, Schwartz in medicine, Spero in physics, to talk to men with rowing backgrounds who had gained prominence in the business world. These men, among them Clifford "Tip" Goes, John Lyon Collier, Dean Witter, John Hay Whitney, Juan Trippe, Senator Leverett Saltonstall and Horace "Davy" Davenport, knew from personal experience what rowing can do for young men and for the country. They quickly agreed to organize a National Rowing Foundation. Their concept, still valid, was that their foundation would:

1. Promote and finance the participation of American oarsmen in international competition
2. Contribute toward better facilities and equipment for the development of rowing in America
3. Promote rowing competition within the United States, both national and international
4. Encourage research and development in connection with rowing techniques, training methods and design of equipment
5. Increase public interest in rowing as a competitive sport and healthful exercise.

Lofty Goals? Yes. They are also the nitty-gritty and the standard against which performance can be matched.

Against the first goal, the Foundation has batted almost 100%. In 1966 the NRF announced that it had received, from its own membership, the sum of \$35,000 necessary to finance the expense of sending a complete U.S. team to the World Championships in Bled, Yugoslavia. This would be the first time the U.S. had been entered in all seven events. In addition, seven new shells were purchased and delivered to Bled. Since that time, the NRF has faithfully and completely fulfilled the promise of the first goal. It should be noted that at no time has the Foundation attempted to set policy, influence the selection of crews or interfere in their coaching, training or team logistics after their selection. The National Association of Amateur Oarsmen conducts the selection trials and presents a budget. The NRF pays the bills. Each competitor must pay at least \$100.

Goal 2. No progress.

Goal 3. No progress with the possible exception of serendipitous gains in competition at the elite level resulting from the many try-outs for the U.S. teams.

Goal 4. The NRF is currently financing the position of the National Technical Advisor. The incumbent, Allen Rosenberg, is performing admirably in the assignment (see letters to the Editor in recent issues of *The Oarsman*).

Goal 5. Any accomplishments toward attainment of this goal would again have to be credited to outfall from the publicity generated by participation in international competitions.

So what is the status quo and where do we go? To say that we face our future commitments from a position of strength would be somewhat less than accurate. As of 30 June 1976, the Foundation had less than \$20,000 cash on hand. Its "endowment fund" consists of one non-negotiable bond with a face value of \$5,000. It is also \$40,000 in debt. That's the status quo. Where do we go? There's only one way to go —

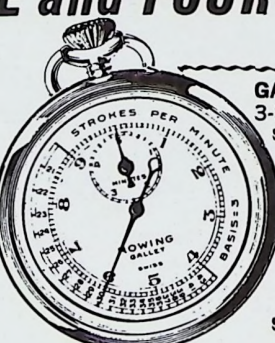
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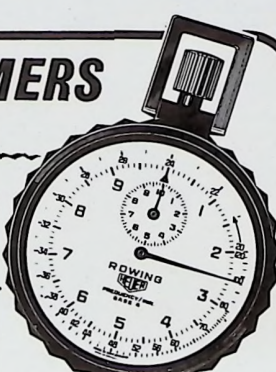
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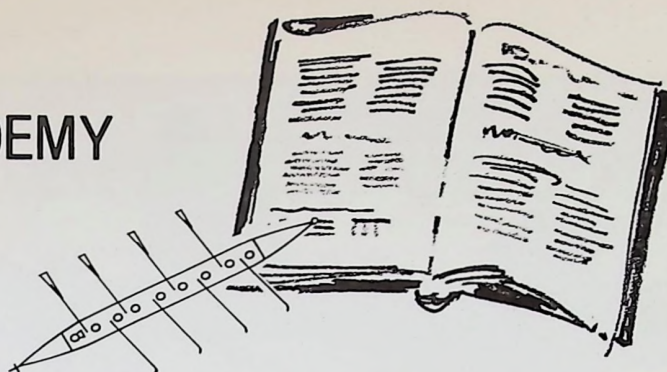
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CHESTNUT HILL ACADEMY rows 104 miles into the Guinness Book

by Kenneth B. Dreyfuss



Having withstood a number of Joe Burk's twenty-four mile Saturday morning practices and the interminable delays of six consecutive seat races and the accompanying command of, "bring your boats together, change three men," I thought that I had endured (as far as a coxswain can) the weariness of a long practice. One June 6, however, I manned a combination launch-lunchwagon which followed nine Chestnut Hill Academy crew members for seventeen hours and ten minutes as they set a World's record for consecutive miles rowed in an eight-oared shell.

Obviously, much thought had gone into the venture before the boys pushed off into the lingering darkness and the Schuylkill River at 5:20 A.M. Safely stowed away were two radios (stereo?), plastic jugs of Gatorade, golf gloves, nine wide-brimmed hats, assorted seat cushions and some sun-screen lotion. The boys seemed ready for any eventuality and actually were swinging along quite well by the time Vesper rowed by for their first practice of the day at 7:30 A.M. A jovial confidence was the early tone, but it didn't last.

At about the forty-five mile mark, the day's first raindrops fell. Almost on cue, other complications arose. Boredom hit, backs started aching, the Evereadys in the stern radio faded and all the fruit and candy bars had been devoured. Even the jokes from the launch were beginning to wear thin.

At sixty miles we reached the crisis point — a dock full of parents making sandwiches, calls and a photographer from the *Philadelphia Inquirer* wanting to know at what time to expect the final landing, and a look on the faces of the cox and stroke which could mean only trouble. Indeed, the majority "had had it" and wanted out. A mini-rebellion was brewing between the exhausted many and the solid few who would "row a pair if necessary" to go on.

At sixty-six miles, with girlfriends and parents beaming encouragement from launch and shore, there again seemed hope. At seventy-two miles, we were somehow "there." With the second darkness came a numbness and a graceful swing in the shell. One hundred-two miles, the same eight men rowing with only five minutes rest per hour, assumedly set a World record.

The last mile and a half will be long cherished. Thirty cars from school were stationed at the Columbia Avenue Bridge to light, honk and cheer a caravan homeward along the East River Drive. The crew responded with three inspired "power twenties" and even found the strength to carry the borrowed "Penn Class of 31" into the boathouse before pausing to enjoy hot chocolate, friends and a very special sense of weariness.

Monday was a day off. 



photo: Bushell



The Henley 1976

By Ted Washburn

Finals day at the 1976 Henley Royal Regatta fell on the Fourth of July. And so, by a quirk of the calendar, a near record eighteen U.S.A. crews found themselves celebrating the American Bicentennial week in England, of all places, racing furiously against predominantly British adversaries, instead of watching fireworks and lazily sipping ice tea on their home-town front porches.

In one impressive aspect, however, Henley 1976 did resemble a typical American Fourth of July: the weather was clear and very hot. Ten days of record-breaking, ninety-degree temperatures eventually melted even the most rigid of Henley's traditions, and the whole scene inevitably became one that simply had to be witnessed firsthand to be believed.

Inside the Stewards' Enclosure, men wandered about in their shirtsleeves, the traditional jacket-and-tie rule having been suspended by mid-morning of the first day. And when supplies of chilled lager ran out early on Saturday, pints unabashedly gave way to popsicles, strawberry splits, orange splashes, and the infamous, frozen-licorice "Dracula Bar." Starched debutantes tried in vain to maintain their aristocratic cool as they peered longingly beyond the prim enclosure fences to a river-edge Coney Island, where flowing summer gowns had long since given way to tank tops, string bikinis, and, occasionally, less.

In fact, the crowds in the general admissions areas were more than double the expected size, as Londoners and suburbanites alike fled to Henley to beat the heat. Even during the customarily uneventful first round of races, the mile and a half of Thames shore from the launching area to the starting line looked much like the waterfront at Nice during a Riviera heat wave. On the docks, the noon sun was virtually unbearable; inside the boat tents, a stifling calm drove coaches and boat men repeatedly into the freezing showers, as grease slowly melted off oar collars, and fiberglass shells sagged heavily in the racks.

Swimmers threw themselves repeatedly off Henley Bridge or paddled out on inflatable toys to the booms, where they bobbed along the course by the hundreds all day, grinning at the umpires' stern warnings. The tow path, usually the sacrosanct domain of coaches on their rickety bicycles, had fallen prey to roving bands of naked infants, armed with minnow nets and buckets, picking their way between picnic blankets

in search of, or in flight from, their parents. Even the ubiquitous Henley cows had given up the tow path and taken to the water, where they posed a new and sometimes amusing threat to the already harrassed fours without cox.

The unusual nature of the 1976 Henley spectator scene was to a degree paralleled by the regatta itself, which provided not only two unprecedented collisions and re-rows, but also no less than a score of "upsets" or unexpectedly close races scattered throughout the rounds. The proximity of the Montreal Olympics ensured that there would be no "world class" racing in the Grand Challenge, so the Thames Challenge Cup became the premier event in 1976, with most fans viewing it as a preview of the British rowing club national championships scheduled for later in the summer. The special level of public interest in the Thames Cup races was also, of course, heightened by the fact that the local-entry Henley Rowing Club eight was one of the favorites to win.

Henley buffs considered the 1976 Thames Cup entry to be exceptionally strong and deep, comprising no less than eight crews with pretensions to near six-minute two thousand meter speed. Kingston, the University of Pennsylvania Varsity Lightweights (EARC Champions), and Christiania Roklub (Norway) were leaders in the sheer-speed department. Hansa Dortmund (West Germany), Henley, and Vesta Rowing Club had a significant edge in strength and experience. The British press awarded Rollins College (Florida) and the Harvard Freshman Heavyweights (EARC Champions) outside chances for victory on the basis of "inscrutability" — Rollins, because they went extravagantly faster than necessary; Harvard, because they appeared to go consistently slower than seemed prudent. Other U.S.A. entries were the Trinity College (Hartford) Varsity Lightweights and the Wesleyan University crew. In a gesture of pro-American diplomacy, the Stewards "selected" Pennsylvania and Harvard. Penn's half of the draw included the cream of the British rowing clubs (Henley and Vesta), while Harvard ended up with the continentals (Norway and West Germany).

American crews did well in the first round of the Thames Cup. Penn had drawn the only bye in the event, while Trinity and Wesleyan dispatched Ibis Rowing Club and Crowland R.C. with ease. Rollins inexplicably charged to the second fastest time of the day, five lengths ahead of a bewildered Thames Rowing Club entry. The Harvard Freshman Heavyweights patched up an eight-inch hole in their fiberglass shell (inflicted by Pan American cargo handlers) in time to edge Molesey Boat Club by a length, crossing the finish line at 30. Meanwhile, the Henley Rowing Club eight served notice that they were as much improved over their 1975 semifinalist crew as their coach had said they were. All by themselves, four lengths ahead of luckless Saxon R.C., Henley lowered the Thames Cup record by a second, to the delight of the highly partisan crowd.

The second round of the Thames Cup provided two of the best races in the entire regatta. In a light morning tailwind, Christiania (Norway) had to lower the Thames Cup record by eight seconds in order to edge Kingston. Later in the day, the most anticipated race of the 1976 regatta took place: the show-down between Henley and powerful Vesta, the odds-on favorite to win the cup. As thousands of sweating partisans cheered, Henley came from behind in blistering ninety-degree heat to win by a length, lowering by two seconds the event record they had set the day before. In other races, Bedford R.C. nipped Wesleyan, while Penn eliminated Trinity in an American lightweight mismatch. Rollins once again unexplainably surged down the entire course full blast to one of the day's fastest times, almost four lengths ahead of amazed Hereford R.C. In striking contrast, earlier in the morning, the Harvard Freshmen had nipped a weak Imperial College second boat by about a half length, crossing the finish line at 28, seventeen seconds slower than the day's best time in the event.

The quarter finals pitted Harvard against a powerful and very experienced eight from the Hansa Dortmund R.C. of

West Germany, so it was time for the freshmen to row their first flat-out race of the regatta. On paper, it looked like a mismatch of epic proportions. Harvard weighed in for the race at an average of 173 lbs., and four of the crew had less than one year's rowing experience. The Hansa Dortmund boat averaged 12 lbs. heavier per man and was composed primarily of veterans in their mid-twenties who had been unsuccessful aspirants to the 1976 West German Olympic rowing squad. But races are not won on paper. At the start, Harvard, rowing at 45, jumped to an early deck-length lead; but the Germans countered almost immediately, and the two crews battled each other down the entire course with less than a third of a length between them. Harvard won by just under a half length, posting the day's fastest time in any event outside the Grand. The clocking of 6:28, rowed in multiple launch wakes, searing heat, and an imperceptible cross wind, was only three seconds off the event record set the day before by Norway. In retrospect, this was almost certainly the fastest race of the Thames Cup in 1976, and Hansa Dortmund may well have been the second best boat in the field. In other quarter finals races, the predictably "flat" Henley crew had to equal the previous Thames Cup record and come from behind very late in the race to eliminate stubborn Rollins. Penn had little difficulty dismissing Quintin, and Christiania paddled to an easy three-length win over Bedford.

The EARC Champion Pennsylvania Varsity Lightweights met their first real test of the Thames Cup in the semifinals, where, unfortunately, it turned out they were well in over their heads. During the start, Henley's five-oar popped out of its lock, and two men had to stop rowing to make repairs. Nevertheless, the crew regrouped by the end of the island and took over the lead at the Barrier. At Fawley, totally in command of the pace, Henley wisely lowered their cadence and settled for an easy open-water win, resting up for the afternoon finals. The other semifinal provided a striking contrast. Christiania (Norway) catapulted out to its customary half-length lead

(Cont'd on next page)

TO HENLEY IN STYLE

June 26 this year saw the 10th anniversary of the annual row of the 60 miles from Hammersmith London to Henley by a veteran VIII organized by Auriol Rowing Club of Hammersmith (founded 1898). This event started ten years ago in the form of a coxless pair by the late Bill Gray and this year's Auriol President Wilf Stark. With the inclusion last and this year of two American masters Bill Sanford and Bob Thomson of N.Y.A.C., the event has taken on an international aspect which Auriol wishes to expand by inviting a complete IV or VIII from U.S.A. to join then next year. Auriol will provide all equipment and boat transport and make any necessary accommodation arrangements if required.

The objective of the event is to complete the trip in four days and arrive appropriately by water in a shell to then watch the Royal Regatta and meet many old friends and ex-rivals. En route the rowing rate is generally at a comfortable half pressure for the daily average of four and a half hours with some

faster pieces on certain favoured stretches of perfect water and a finale of a timed and, if possible, paced row over the regatta course on arrival at Henley. This Year's course row was kindly conducted by Santa Clara Coach John Hawkins from California who's VIII happened to be out on a practice run. The youngsters showed great control and sportingly allowed the masters to retain the lead. The masters' time for the course row is considered classified information but it can safely be claimed that none of the competing crews turn in anything similar during the Regatta.

The Auriol crew for the past two years has an average age of 65 ranging from 58 to 71: they are mostly weekend oarsmen and the crew is only formed for this occasion.

The journey is taken in four sections and only the kind hospitality for boat storage, changing facilities, and refreshments by Molesey, Staines and Maidenhead makes this trip possible: this is sincerely appreciated by all.

There are over a dozen locks to pass which accounts for the time necessary to cover the average of 15 miles per day.

Crew members usually stay at one focal point of their choice near Henley and there is a member operated shuttle service by Auriol R.C. from point to point. Accommodations are usually available at modest cost and for American participants the only major consideration is the air fare. This year there was a suitable charter for \$330 for 14 days.

Tentative dates for next year are 6/25 to 6/29 for the row, and Henley itself 6/30 to 7/3. Bob Thomson would like to hear from anyone of any age category who would be interested in making up our own crew to join Auriol next year. Write to 93 Madison Ave., Haworth, N.J. 07641.

Robert W. Thomson

Robert W. Thomson. Member NY A C, St John's University Crew Coach, Hon Sec N.Y. Rowing Ass'n. Member Auriol R.C. and Quintin B.C.

and seemed to be still moving away from Harvard at the Barrier. But, during the next two minutes, the freshmen slowly crept back on the Norwegians, caught them at Fawley, and rowed through to a tight three-quarter length victory.

The final of the Thames Cup lived up to anything that could have been expected by the home-town fans. Neither Henley nor Harvard had gone to Nottingham, choosing instead to train for ten days on the Henley course in preparation for one focussed effort in the Thames Cup. No two crews in the entire regatta had seen as much of each other or knew each other's abilities more intimately. Scorning traditional bans against training with crews in the same event, both Harvard and Henley had "brushed" frequently against other crews in the Thames Cup, and the two coaches had shared information fully and frankly. Harvard and Henley had brushed each other four times, each at a distance of one thousand meters, with Henley winning all four pieces by a bit of open water. Ironically, this apparently clear difference in quality between the two boats had opened the door to a relaxed friendship between the oarsmen, which grew as the days passed. Lining up at the stake boats for the final race, it was impossible for either crew to stifle a few embarrassed grins at one another.

The race itself was a classic in every respect. The weather had finally cooled as a result of a thunderstorm, which still rumbled in the distance. The water was flat, though there was a light head wind in the air. Both shells were on the stake boats and properly headed minutes before the Umpire even arrived. Each crew had its oars squared and buried before the formalized instructions for starting had begun: Henley with the dark blue blades of the local rowing club; the Harvard Freshmen with traditional crimson, but with the 1976 Bicentennial Seal and the banner of the original thirteen U.S. colonies painted on the back of each blade. Both crews exploded off the line at the first twitch of the Umpire's red flag, well before anyone heard the command "go."

Henley powered out to an immediate deck-length lead, which improved to nearly two thirds of a length by the Barrier. But this was a familiar situation for the Harvard oarsmen. Somewhere between the Barrier and Fawley, the freshmen froze Henley's momentum and began to whittle away at the almost three quarter length lead. At Fawley, Harvard took a decisive "power twenty" that drove them back to within a deck length, and the crowd suddenly realized that this would be a race after all. About a minute after Fawley, Harvard took a "power ten" that brought them dead even with Henley's bow, and both crews braced themselves for the sprint. The crowd, estimated at over one hundred thousand for this race, was absolutely deafening as the two boats neared Remenham Club. The Harvard coxswain, fearing that his crew would not hear his commands in the last five hundred meters, wisely called for the sprint to begin well before the mile mark. The cadence jumped immediately to just under 40, and the freshmen gained a sudden deck-length lead heading into the final five hundred meters. The Henley crew responded almost immediately, and the Harvard cox countered by urging his oarsmen to drive the cadence "off the clock." This did not happen, but observers did clock both crews at over 40 during the entire last quarter mile. At the finish line, in absolute pandemonium, the Harvard Freshmen still clung to their fragile deck-length lead, winning the Thames Challenge Cup and completing an improbable undefeated season during which they had won every race, except one (West Germany), coming from behind.

Unlike the Thames Cup, which is a wide open event, The Ladies' Challenge Plate is restricted to eights from academic institutions. In 1976, the 32-boat Ladies' Plate field was clearly headed by the Trinity College (Hartford, Connecticut) Varsity, a polished and well conditioned heavyweight crew that was determined to win. Three other American entries (Tabor second boat, Mather R.C., and Santa Clara University) were eliminated in the first round.

Perhaps the best race of the event took place as early as the second day, when Trinity faced a strong University College and Hospital entry, virtually the same line-up that had fought its way to the semifinals in 1975. Trinity rowed magnificently in a very close race, lowering the Ladies' Plate record by six seconds, and winning by a bit of open water. After the race, coach Norm Graf was especially encouraged by his crew's impressive capacity to maintain its speed over the second half of the course.

The semifinal was a tight battle of namesakes, with Trinity College (Hartford) eventually eliminating Trinity College (Dublin, Ireland) by a length. Last-minute equipment problems in the Irish boat had caused an unexpected and nerve-racking one-hour delay of the race, during which the American crew had been forced to wade ashore near the starting line. Here, they shared the shade of an enormous tree with a crowd of curious youngsters, a CBS television crew, and a somewhat restless white cow.

In the final, Trinity left no doubt in anyone's mind that they were the best crew in the Ladies' Plate, as they defeated Queen's University, Belfast, by two seconds of open water. Needless to say, this was an enormously rewarding win for coach Norm Graf and an impressive high point in the history of Trinity College rowing.

The difference in quality between the Grand Challenge entries and the top few crews in either the Thames Cup or the Ladies' Plate was minimal. In fact, three of the five Grand crews were double entered in the Thames Cup until the afternoon of the draw, a somewhat lackluster precaution against any unforeseen arrival of a strong entry. In the opening round, Leander Club, an eventual finalist, came from behind late in the course to defeat the University of British Columbia by three quarters of a length in a time of 6:22. This was the same morning that Trinity posted its 6:24 record in the Ladies' Plate and Christiania lowered the Thames Cup mark to 6:25. In the semifinals, Leander edged the University of London, and Thames Tradesmen's Rowing Club nipped the British lightweight national eight by two seconds. The final of the Grand Challenge was cut short at the end of the island when Leander collided with a sunken log and damaged its rudder. A re-row was awarded, which Thames Tradesmen's R.C. eventually won by three seconds.

In the Princess Elizabeth Challenge Cup, Henley's premier schoolboy event, the quality and the quantity of the field were down, partially because of the proximity of the British public school "A" level examinations. America's undefeated Holy Spirit High School eight was entered, as was England's top schoolboy crew, Emanuel; but neither came anywhere near the record time for the Princess Elizabeth, even though records were falling in other events daily. No race in any of the preliminary rounds was even close. Holy Spirit dispatched its early opponents with impressive ease, including Tabor Academy, who had won its first two races "easily." The final, however, provided everyone with a surprise. Emanuel, who outweighed Holy Spirit by a withering twenty-five pounds per man average, hung tight all the way down the

course. Holy Spirit, nevertheless, handled themselves very well under the unexpected pressure, winning by two thirds of a length: their second Princess Elizabeth Cup championship in three years.

In the Wyfold Challenge Cup, a "second level" race for fours without coxswain, America had two successful entries: Potomac Boat Club and Cambridge Boat Club. Potomac won its opening two races "easily," but Cambridge narrowly avoided first-round elimination in a history-making episode. Trinity College (Dublin) wandered off course and eventually collided with the Cambridge boat about a minute into the race. Cambridge escaped intact and started to row off down the remainder of the course, which seemed reasonable. But the umpire halted them and proceeded to re-start the race just downstream of the quarter-mile mark. By the time the umpire said "go," both crews had drifted well off their proper heading, and Cambridge promptly smashed full-blast into the quarter-mile signal box, totally destroying both starboard riggers. This time it was Trinity who had escaped intact, and they paddled jauntily down the remainder of the course to an easy "win." Cambridge, of course, protested the race and was eventually awarded a re-row, thanks to an "Unprecedented Ruling!" by the chairman of the regatta himself. Cambridge won the re-row and its next two races before being eliminated by Potomac. Potomac made the finals on the strength of a gruelling come-from-behind victory over University College and Hospital, which involved lowering the Wyfold record by three seconds. In the final, Potomac came out on the short end of an equally close race, losing by a half length to the London Rowing Club.

Another American four, Salisbury School, did outstandingly in the Visitors' Challenge Cup, an event for fours without cox from academic institutions. Although another U.S.

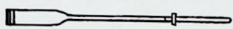
entry from Trinity College (Hartford) had been eliminated in the first round, the schoolboys from Salisbury won all three of their preliminary races "easily," setting new Barrier and Fawley records along the way. In the final, however, they collided with one of the booms, damaged an oar, and were tragically unable to complete their race against the University of London, who were declared winners.

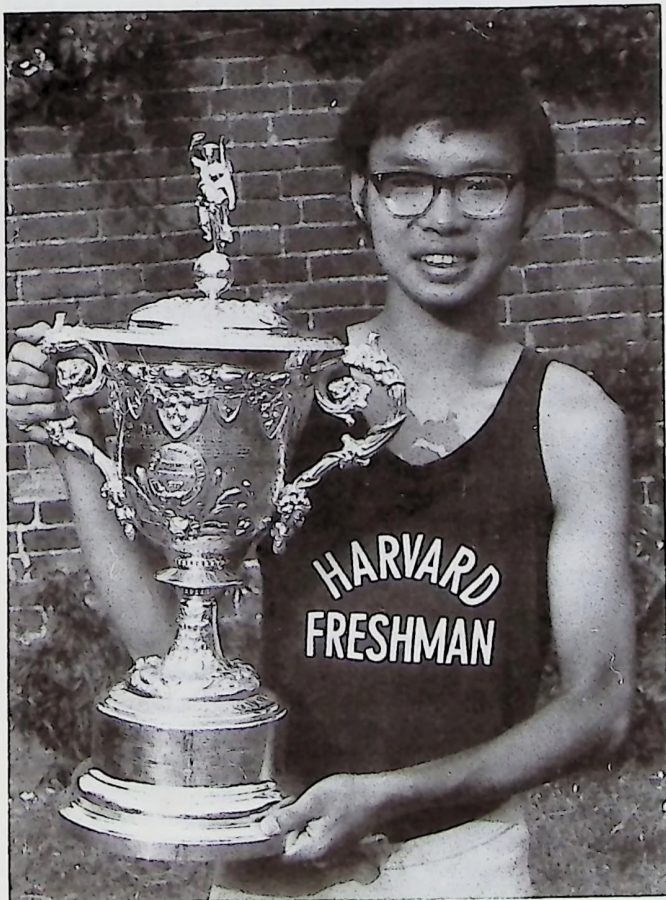
The remainder of the races at Henley in 1976 were less eventful though, of course, no less important. The Stewards' Challenge Cup, the premier event for fours without cox, was won by a double-entered four from the University of British Columbia eight, the losers being a double-entered four from the Thames Tradesmen's eight that won the Grand Challenge. A strong double-entered West German four from Hansa Dortmund R.C. had withdrawn suddenly from the event in order to concentrate fully on their quarter final eight race against the Harvard Freshmen in the Thames Cup.

In the Prince Philip Challenge Cup, the top event for fours with cox, two American entries (University of British Columbia and Choate School) were eliminated "easily" in the first round. In the final, Leander Club was beaten by the double-entered stern four of the Thames Tradesmen's eight that won the Grand Challenge.

In the Double Sculls Challenge Cup, American youngsters Gus Stewart and Howie Hodgson of Cambridge Boat Club unluckily drew, and lost to, the eventual winners, Prentice and Spencer of the London Rowing Club. Losers in the final were van Drooge and Nolet of Nereus, Holland.

Veterans J.M.S. Lecky and Walt Crooker of Canada rowed strongly through the preliminary rounds of the Silver Goblets and Nickalls' Challenge Cup for pairs without cox. In the finals, however, they were beaten by a powerful entry from Sydney University, Australia, Luxford and Shinnars. Another Australian, E.O. Hale, of the Sydney Rowing Club, won the Diamond Challenge Sculls over P. Zeun of Great Britain. Meanwhile, the final of the Britannia Challenge Cup, for "second level" fours with coxswain, was won by Tideway Scullers over some strong schoolboys from Wallingford, England, who will represent Great Britain at the World Youth Championships.

Though in some amusing aspects unusual, 1976 was nevertheless another fine year for Henley, with generally plentiful entries, races starting right on the dot, furious competition, records being lowered, fours smashing into each other, "unprecedented rulings" having to be made, cold showers, good beer, enormous crowds, and lots of good times. In the spirit of the Bicentennial, American oarsmen were appropriately rebellious, capturing three of the four major trophies for eights, and diving en masse off Henley Bridge at the stroke of midnight on finals day. For cynics who speculate annually that Henley may be "in trouble" because of the proximity of the Nottingham Regattas, be informed that Henley is still *THE* event in British rowing. As for those traditionalists among you who may fear that the extraordinary, meteorologically-inspired liberties taken by the sun-stricken spectators of Henley 1976 may have somehow permanently jolted this venerable regatta from its appointed social destiny — rest assured that by the occasion of the Awards Ceremony, jackets were firmly buttoned, a discrete silence was proudly maintained by all, and not a single naked infant remained in sight to offend Princess Alexandra. In fact, by the time Her Majesty's Royal Marine Band struck up "God Save The Queen," the sky was suitably leaden, a cold drizzle threatened, and Henley 1976, for all but sentimental reasons, had become a thing of the past. 



Making the Trials Less Trying

On the 11th, 12th, and 13th of June, the Olympic trials for the pair with cox and double sculls were held on Lake Carnegie in Princeton, N.J. There were 14 pairs with and 9 doubles, so heats and repechages were scheduled for Friday and finals for Saturday.

In the three heats of the pair with, winners were Espeseth, Schlachter and Hartigan (7.37.0), Vreugdenhill, Mathews and Dreyfus (7.26.9) and Wood, Hough and Hoffman (7.26.0). Winners in the reps were Plumb, Jurgens and Fisher; Davison, Schafer and Stillings; and in what was perhaps one of the more emotionally charged races of the weekend, John Cambell, Jim Willis, and Michael Mulholland, as they drove through the field at the thousand to prove that you're never too old to go for the gold.

The first heat of the doubles turned out to contain the first three finishers in the final as Klecatsky and Belden gave warning of things to come by winning in 6.38.3, while Plackter and Sutter won the second in 6.45.9. In the afternoon qualifiers were Cromwell and Stone, Allsopp and Halleen, Duling and Stehlik, and Haidorfer and Baker.

The finals were scheduled for 2:00 o'clock Saturday afternoon to afford repechage participants enough rest, but at

that time the wind was such that the races were put off until the evening. Even then the wind was a gusting headwind giving some advantages to the lower numbered lanes, so the races were postponed until 8:00 o'clock Sunday morning.

By race-time on Sunday a breeze had once again sprung up, but this time it was a tailwind blowing evenly down all lanes, so there was no further delay. In the final of the pair with, Vreugdenhill and Mathews started well and by the 600 meter mark had moved out to about one length over second place which was closely contested between Wood and Hough, Espeseth and Schlachter, and Jurgens and Plumb. Approaching the 1500, Wood and Hough were able to move to within 2/3 of a length of the leaders, but at the 500 to go Vreugdenhill and Mathews dug in and by the finish had stretched their lead back out to a full length, as Wood and Hough finished a length ahead of Jurgens and Plumb.

In the final of the double, Cromwell and Stone gained a slight lead over the pack at the start, but by the 600 Klecatsky and Belden had started to move up. Klecatsky and Belden moved very well between the 800 and 1200 meter marks, earning themselves a two-and-a-half length lead over Allsopp and Halleen, who in turn led Cromwell and Stone by a half length. At one point, Klecatsky and Belden were a full ten seconds ahead of second place, but in the last 600 meters Allsopp and Halleen were able to close the gap somewhat for a final margin of 3/4 of a length.

In closing, our warmest thanks are due to Jack Franklin and the other NAAO officials who throughout the weekend displayed an unflagging concern for the fairness of the trials while also putting on a well organized and punctual (given the weather) regatta. It was this careful balancing of the occasionally conflicting demands of FISA regulation and equitable selection which produced a truly well run trials weekend.

PAIR WITH AND DOUBLE TRIALS

Pair with Heat 1 Schlachter & Espeseth (Penn-Vesper-FIT) 7:37.0 B.U./Syracuse 7:44.7 Brown 7:45.1 Navy 8:05.5 Northeastern 8:15 **Heat 2** Vreugdenhill & Mathews (Vesper) 7:26.9 FIT/Vesper/Yale 7:33.9 Cornell/Ithaca 7:56.9 Navy 7:57.3 Old Dominion/Potomac 8:06.3 **Heat 3** Hough & Wood (Vesper-Potomac) 7:26.0 Dartmouth/Marist/Washington 7:50.5 Vesper/Long Beach 8:00.8 NYAC 8:03.5 **Rep 1** FIT/Vesper/Yale 7:30.5 Brown 7:35.5 NYAC 7:41.5 Old Dominion/Potomac 7:49.3 **Rep 2** Vesper/Long Beach 7:33.5 B.U./Syracuse 7:38.9 Northeastern 7:39.3 Navy 7:55.5 **Rep 3** Dartmouth/Marist/UW 7:35.0 Navy 7:42.5 Cornell/Ithaca 7:53.4 **FINAL** Vesper (Mathews & Vreugdenhill) 7:12.3 Potomac/Vesper (Hough and Wood) 7:15.0 Vesper/FIT/Yale (Jurgens & Plumb) 7:18.3 Penn/Vesper/FIT (Schlachter & Espeseth) 7:20.1 Dartmouth/Marist/UW (Davison & Schafer) 7:30.4 Vesper/Long Beach (Cambell & Willis) 7:40.9.

Double Heat 1 Klecatsky & Belden 6:38.3 Allsopp & Halleen 6:55.1 Cromwell & Stone 7:12.3 Haidorfer & Baker 7:13.6 Richard & Brennan 7:16.8 Ventura & Rooney 7:20.8 **Heat 2** Plackter & Sutter 6:45.9 Duling & Stehlik 6:46.2 McKenna & Good 7:01.0 **Rep 1** Allsopp & Halleen 6:51.5 Haidorfer & Baker 6:54.2 McKenna & Good 7:11.5 Ventura & Rooney 7:43.3 **Rep 2** Cromwell & Stone 6:50.1 Duling & Stehlik 6:53.0 Richard & Brennan 7:12.0 **Double Final** Klecatsky & Belden (NYAC/Undine) 6:21.6 Allsopp & Halleen (Olyster Bay/Wisconsin) 6:23.3 Cromwell & Stone (Riverside/Harvard) 6:27.7 Duling & Stehlik (Malta) 6:32.0 Haidorfer & Baker (Vesper/FIT) 6:41.6 Plackter & Sutter (Malta) 6:46.4.

The PAIRS AND DOUBLES Trials

By Tiff (Christopher R.) Wood

The Oarsman would like to congratulate and express its appreciation of Jack Franklin and the work he has done to lift the quality of United States rowing trials — Olympic and otherwise — from its questionable status of the not-too-distant past. He and others have removed one of the most disagreeable elements in our sport: partiality and hair-brained decisions involving the actual staging and running of trials races. For this, for the hours and personal expense he has given, we thank him.

THE BRIDE'S REVENGE—PART II

or...The Other Harry in her Life

by Emory Clark

"Mother, you told me to let her get it out of her system, but now she's gone too far!"

"Why Harry, what a way for a son-in-law to talk, you know we decided she could row as long as she wanted and I said I'd help with the babysitting."

"Yes Mother, but now she says she's going to row in the Olympics. My God, they didn't let women oarsmen in the Olympics in my day."

"Oh Harry, wouldn't it be wonderful! Our little Harriet with a gold medal!"

"Not so wonderful and not so little either, Mother, 155 pounds and more muscles than Tarzan. I don't mind getting pinned every now and then — that's all right, can be fun. But you don't just row in the Olympics. You have to go to a training camp with all the other Tarzans. And guess where that is: Boston — and for two whole months."

"Now Harry, you went to Boston to row in that Charles' Head race. Why shouldn't Harriet?"

"That was only a weekend, Mother, and besides Harriet came with me. That's where I blew it. That's where she talked to those other rowing girls. I wish I'd left her in Des Moines — or else given her some money and sent her off shopping."

"But Harry, be fair. You know Harriet loves rowing and says she finds it an incredibly exhilarating experience after years of sitting around looking pretty."

"Mother, marriage has nothing to do with fairness. I can't eat cold cuts for two months and the kids need a mother."

"Harry, you know you're a wonderful father and the children are perfectly happy with me helping."

"All right, so the kids are fine, but what about me? I don't like to come home to unmade beds. I don't like never having a clean shirt. I don't like having to buy the groceries. Mother, have you been to a supermarket recently? You fight with all those crazy housewives, wait hours in line and then pay an arm and a leg just to get out of there."

"But Harry, you have to let Harriet have her chance. It's only two months in a lifetime. She says if she misses this opportunity she'll never know if she has what it takes — whatever that means."

"Look, I don't want to be married to John Wayne, I need a woman, a soft, sultry, feminine, mysterious woman."

"But Harry, can't a woman be more than just a Vogue cover or a housemaid? Can't she have an identity independent of her sex?"

"Mother, Harriet is 26 years old, has two children, has done nothing but dabble in Junior League and the Des Moines Historical Preservation Society for years and is definitely over

the hill physically."

"Why Harry, what a thing for a husband to say about his lovely wife!"

"Mother, I'm serious, I know she's lovely but athletically she is nowhere — and I like her that way. She has about as much chance of making the team as I would of becoming Miss America."

"But isn't the Olympic ideal to *try*? I mean everyone can't make the team. Anyway, Harry, you could be Miss America, you're good looking you know. You always used to show us your muscles and do all those push-ups and things."

"Mother, be serious, do you realize I haven't played one round of golf or gone to my Wednesday night poker game in the last three weeks? Life has got to be more than housework and children, not that I don't love them, mind you."

"But Harry, I hear she'll get a free Olympic Team suitcase and sunglasses and even lingerie."

"Mother, Harriet has plenty of underpants. Why do you insist on being irrelevant? Do you realize what it is like to wash, dress and feed two children three times a day?"

"Well actually, Harry, I suspect I do. Harriet had three brothers you know and your father-in-law never took it upon himself to do more than show them how to hold a fly rod or swing a bat — not that he really knew very much about either."

"Mother let's stick to the point. Harriet's never really been away from home. That worries me too, particularly when she could be here tending her vegetable garden — which, by the way, looks a bit brown. Do you think it takes water?"

"Harry, now you're being irrelevant and ridiculous. Harriet is grown up after all. Besides I hear there is a very nice man training the girls. His name is Harry too, I believe."

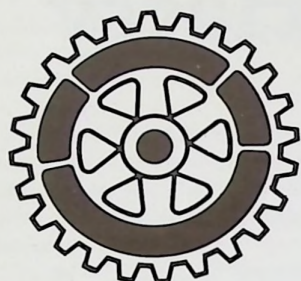
"That's it! Mother, that ties it! What do we know about this Harry? Nothing! Those girls will do anything to make the boat. It's indecent, it's obscene, they should have women coaches. Why should a happily married, perfectly contented mother of two put herself in the hands of some other Harry? I forbid it."

"Harry, may I remind you this is 1976. Husbands don't forbid anymore. Anyway Harriet has already left."

"I know it. That's what hurts. She said she had to catch a ride and would I be a dear and pick up my shirts at the laundry and to look in Wednesday's paper for the specials at the A&P and she left me a phone number..."

"That was thoughtful Harry. By the way, you can handle the kids for a few days by yourself can't you? If Harriet goes to Montreal, I'm going too." 

THE OARSMAN INTERVIEW:



JUDY GEER

Judy Geer is a quiet, unpretentious athlete with a perpetual cheery glow to her cheeks, who in her first international experience, rowed bow in the Italian-rigged U.S. Olympic four that finished sixth in Montreal ("I like it in the bow; I can see what's going on in the rest of the boat."). Solidly built at about 5'7", she unselfconsciously pursued her goal this spring and always seemed uncomfortable with attention. The brevity of her answers below is characteristic. She responded to the questions in the middle of the games before the results of her racing.

OARSMAN: How long have you been rowing?

GEER: Five years, but only three competitively. The first two were at Smith College where I learned to row in Physical Education class. Crew was a new and different sport to me, so I decided to try it.

OARSMAN: Your 3:37 Boston Marathon this year suggests that you've been active athletically for quite a while; what is your athletic experience?

GEER: I guess I've been a jock of one kind or another for many years; in particular I started swimming competitively when I was about eight years old, and began training year-round when I was eleven. I was OK in my state, but nothing special. However, it gave me a lot of competitive experience and long-term conditioning which I think have helped me in rowing. Also in high school I played on assorted teams — tennis, basketball, lacrosse. In college I rowed and swam. I didn't start running seriously until I was encouraged to go out for crew at Dartmouth (when younger, I was always the slowest runner around).

OARSMAN: What is your academic background?

GEER: I graduated from Dartmouth in June 1975, majoring in biology, specializing in ecology and botany. I worked with my professors in ecology until I left Hanover in March 1976 to train in Cambridge.

OARSMAN: Will you row again next year, and do you have any thoughts about 1980?

GEER: Next year I'll be teaching at St. Paul's School in Concord, N.H. and doing some coaching there; hopefully I'll be able to train, though probably in a single. Sure, I'd love to still be rowing strongly in 1980 — we'll see how things go.

OARSMAN: What was your attitude as you approached the camp?

GEER: I did *not* feel confident, and was pleasantly surprised by the outcome. However, as I trained, there were times when I felt really strong, and knew I was working harder than some of the other people around; but other times I thought Montreal was pretty far away. I still can't believe I'm here.

OARSMAN: What is your feeling about the commitment necessary for elite rowing? Did you work, or go on unemployment as some of the men did, and do you think the athletes should be subsidized?

GEER: I think that elite rowing does demand a *lot* of commitment — though it doesn't have to be at the level of professional sports. However, it would be really nice to be able to do it and not have to work to support yourself. That's what I did this spring, but I couldn't afford to do it much longer. I didn't work after March, nor did I collect from the state; I'd saved enough before then to keep me through the spring, and anyway, I didn't think I was eligible for state money. I was getting bored with the work I was doing so I didn't mind leaving, but I don't think it's absolutely necessary to devote complete time to the sport as I did. On the other hand, I really enjoyed having all the time I wanted to work out. It enabled me to train harder than I ever had before, though I know people who worked all spring *and* trained.

I do think amateur athletics deserves some money from someone — state, federal, Olympic Committee, or whatever. It's interesting to consider that most of the countries we're competing against have been rowing together for many months, subsidized by their countries or whatever — I don't know the details. On the other hand, our four and eight have been together only about three weeks, since the camp began in late May.

OARSMAN: What do you feel is your greatest asset as an athlete?

GEER: Perseverance and my competitive spirit, both of which probably spring from my swimming career.

OARSMAN: What training tip could you recommend to other women training on their own?

GEER: I think it helps to do some of your training with other people if it is at all possible. Whether you like it or not, it helps push you and ensures that you don't cheat yourself out of the work. However, I also did a lot of training on my own, and often prefer it that way, especially the running.

OARSMAN: Could you describe your training program?

GEER: Here's a rough idea:

December-March, in Hanover, N.H.

Cross-country skiing, 7 days a week, from 1/2 to 3 hours, depending on the conditions, with 5-15 kilometer races each Saturday with the Dartmouth Rowing Club

Ergometer — 3 times a week as follows:

1) long steady row at 3-3½ pounds for 20-30 minutes, if

possible (many people used the machines).

2) hard 20-minute row, sometimes split into three-minute pieces at 2-4 pounds.

3) One-minute pieces with 4-6 reps with about two minutes rest, in relays with two other people.

Weights—at least twice a week, done in a circuit of 18 stations with the Dartmouth Crew. Each station involved 45 seconds of exercise with 15 seconds between. Exercises were push-ups, pull-ups, leg press, bench row, "jumps," clean, snatch, dead lift, toe riser, back lift, quad machine, arm rowing, sit-ups, etc. We had a score sheet to record how many reps we did in the 45 seconds (we used light weights, slowly increasing them — I don't recall just what they were). We could see real progress, which is exciting. I also swam for variety, and split wood (somewhat out of necessity).

March-May in Cambridge, Mass.

Rowed twice a day, 1-1½ hours an outing, and before the river opened, rowed an hour in the tank.

Weights twice a week, using 34-lb. barbell: overhead press, curls, reverse curls, bent-over row, dead lift, etc.

Stadiums, three times a week, usually a tour each workout (37 trips up 38 risers).

Running — almost every day, 3-4 miles for an average, but more before the marathon.

OARSMAN: What in your opinion are the strengths and weaknesses of the NAAO and the NWRA?

GEER: I really don't know very much about what the NAAO and the NWRA do — except for the publications they put out, which I appreciate. What else *do* they do? Excuse my ignorance, please.

OARSMAN: If you had a million to spend on U.S. rowing, what would you do?

GEER: Start more rowing programs, especially at the high school level and even younger. Also, I'd promote more regattas when and where needed to give everyone many more opportunities to compete.

OARSMAN: From a purely athletic point of view, what most important thing have you learned from participation in the Olympics?

GEER: That the competition here is the same as anywhere else — except the stakes are a little higher: you pull as hard as you can. Also, that the Olympics really *are* in reach.

OARSMAN: How about from a non-athletic point of view?

GEER: A hard question, since I'm still right in the middle of the games. I'm enjoying this chance to see people from all over the world. I just wish I could communicate with more of them. I'm learning things about some of the other sports, about getting or not getting free promotional equipment, and about how women are treated in some other countries.

OARSMAN: How would you characterize the Montreal Olympics?

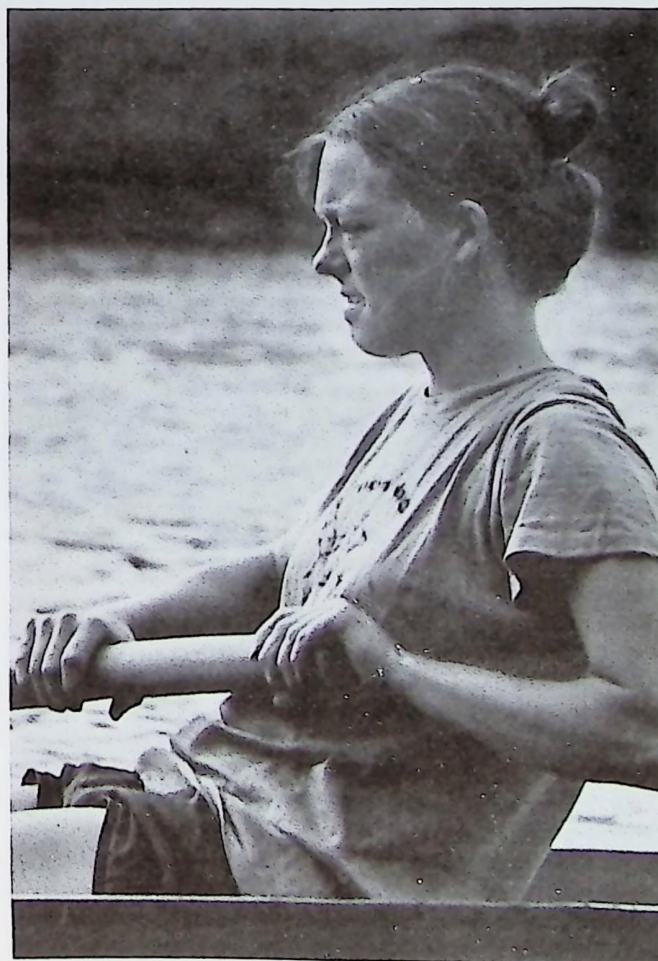
GEER: They seem quite nice for the competitors. The living arrangements are a little crowded, but not too bad, except for the line for the toilet in the morning. The food is really good, and plentiful: steak at almost every meal, lots of fresh fruit, ice cream, yogurt, etc. There's transportation to all the events and we get passes for the public transportation here, too. Also a lot of equipment, sweats, and clothes, though we were the last team through Plattsburg [Air Force base, staging area for the athletes]. Crew doesn't seem to be one of the most high-priority sports around here . . . you might detect a little bitterness in that statement. Just wait until we get our medals (I hope). The political intrusions are a real shame, though I haven't felt any effects as an American. As an ath-

lete, however, I feel really badly for those athletes who were forced to leave. After they'd trained for years to come here, it must have been an awful disappointment to have to leave. (I just heard on the radio that one athlete wants to stay and compete under the auspices of the IOC . . . I hope it works out for him.)

OARSMAN: Have you had any personal experiences that stand out as typifying the value of the Olympics?

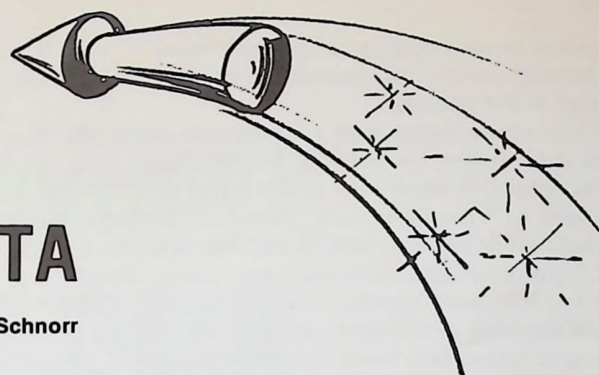
GEER: Let's see . . . I've had my autograph and picture sought. It's pretty weird to be such a celebrity all of a sudden. Sometimes it's neat, other times it's a bother, such as when you're tired or in a hurry. Kids especially are so enthusiastic that you don't mind signing their hats or programs or whatever. It's also neat to talk to athletes from other countries. I think this is the great value of the Games, the chance to meet these athletes, compete with them, receive medals with them, or watch them receive theirs — with the flags of the winning countries hanging side by side despite differing governmental philosophies and ways of life.

For these reasons I think the Olympics should continue. In order for them to do so, however, it may be necessary to do away with some of the national emphasis. Thus athletes might compete on a more individual basis, despite the political hassles that their country's governments might be having. Political officials shouldn't have the last word on whether athletes compete or not, though unfortunately it may not be possible to change this, since a lot of money and support is from the governments. Something is going to have to happen, perhaps in 1980. Withdrawals like those that have occurred this year shouldn't have to happen, especially if they're against the wills of the athletes in question. 



106TH INDEPENDENCE DAY REGATTA

By Don Schnorr



Beautiful rowing weather and a Bicentennial spirit welcomed contestants and spectators alike for this year's Philadelphia Independence Day Regatta. New improvements made to the historic Schuylkill Navy rowing course were also evident in the form of a magnificent Judges Tower and Spectators Stand, built by the City of Philadelphia for the Schuylkill Navy and other water sports activities, all in time for the 1976 season.

The two-day regatta served as a tune-up for the 1976 Olympics, and many of the crews selected in the previous week's trials as well as Junior and Lightweight contenders were on hand to try last minute competition prior to leaving for Olympic staging, or for the Junior or Lightweight trials. Mexico, Canada, and New Zealand sent crews who added to the more than usual international contingent competing on the Schuylkill during Olympic years. New Zealand crews rowed in the Elite Pairs and the Elite Four Without; Mexican crews were found mostly interested in the Elite Pairs and the Intermediate events. Because of the Olympics and the necessity of rescheduling the National Championships in August, many crews saw this as their last chance for serious local competition before the Nationals.

photos: Murray



Calvin Coffey and Mike Staines, winners of the Elite Pair Without Cox, accept the Club Trophy from Linda Chew, PGRC.

Efficient regatta management kept races on schedule; no formal protests were made during either day of racing. For Commodore Bill Donovan and Vice Commodore Al Wachlin, it was the first opportunity to try out the new course; in this effort they were ably assisted by Chief Referee Cliff Ballheim, Chief Judge Ted Hoag, Starters Charlie Colgan and Chuck Crow, and a host of other officials. The new Schuylkill Navy "John Dory" referee launches ensured the minimum of four boats required for referees, with radio coverage of the races provided by an announcer in the spare boat.

Heats on Saturday, July 3rd, were held in the 1/4 Mile dash, Singles, Elite Pair Without, and the Intermediate Four

With. The opening race on the program, however, featured the Masters Single race, rowed for the first time at the new distance of 2000 meters. After a good start off the stake boats, the "old boys" experienced some trouble rowing a straight course, and keeping lane 1, the leader, in their field of view without turning over. Won with a strong finish by Tom Dowd of Fairmount at 9:30.5, stragglers who finished in order were Jack Scholl, Fairmount, Don Schnorr, Vesper, Charlie Colgan, Vesper, Bill Middendorf, Potomac, and Ace Borie, University. The fact that not one of these "senior-seniors" required oxygen at the finish attests to many hours of secret training, or clean living, or both. Heats on Saturday were temporarily delayed at 2:00 for a formal dedication of the new finish line Judges facility and grand stand . . . details of which are covered elsewhere in this issue.

The finals were held on Sunday, July 4, under overcast skies which alternated between hazy sun and a mild, sporadic sprinkle. The performances of Olympic-bound crews, from United States, Mexico and New Zealand continued to highlight the day's events, as they did on Saturday. Scoring a victory for the U.S. Olympic squad was the Vesper Elite Pair Without combination of Mike Staines and Calvin Coffey. Rowing in a new plastic boat built by Cal, the pair registered an easy win over the Vesper/Potomac Pair of T. Wood and M. Borchelt, finishing in 6:43.4, with 2.6 seconds separating the two boats. In a race contested to the last stroke, the New Zealand Four Without edged out the American Olympic entry (Moroney, Piantadosi, Stevenson and Brooks) in an amazing one tenth of a second. The time, at 6:26.5, was the fastest of the day for the 2000 meter course. New Zealand also beat the U.S. Olympic Elite Four With Cox, touching them out at 6:15.0 by 1.1 seconds. The Kiwis continued their sweep by polishing off a put-together Vesper Eight composed of the Olympic Straight Four and both Pairs, with Ken Dreyfuss as Cox. Starting out in Olympic form, the race was really between the two New Zealand crews, with a scant 2 seconds separating the two at the finish line.

The usual Undine dominance of the sculling events was broken this year by some solid victories by Malta's Fred Duling in the Elite Light Single, his teammates Sutter and Plachter in the Intermediate Double, and by the Fairmount Intermediate Quad. Undine still managed to gain 2 firsts and 6 seconds in sculling events. Malta was the other Philadelphia club with major wins, gaining 4 firsts and 1 second in the final day's racing. Many of the Intermediate events served as try-outs for the coming Youth Trials, with Vesper's Intermediate Eight scoring a close win over Fairmount, and Viking and Fairmount's Intermediate Four With losing out by a hefty 6 and 11 second margin to the Mexican combination. The Cambridge/BU Lightweight combination of Evensen and Martin won handily over a full field, including Victoria (2nd) and two Malta boats close behind.

Women's races featured a close contest in the single between Barbara O'Reilly, Long Beach, and Barbara Zuzelo of Vesper, with the former beating the Vesper boat by a scant .7 seconds, with a time of 3:54.1. Cambridge/LBRA won the women's double over 2 PGRC boats, and the Quad race went to PGRC in an easy contest over girls from Philadelphia's Bachelors Barge.

Spectator interest was sparked by the animated and accurate water-line coverage of the rowing action by Bob Jaugstetter, alternating with driver Al Wachlin. The crews had little trouble accommodating to the new course, and were aided

in their steering by buoys placed at the Strawberry Mansion Bridge turning points. Announcers Joe Hasiak and Jim Glavin helped to provide interesting finish line action from the Judges tower, and kept fans up to date on the official results. The finish line float was again the site for the post-race awards ceremony, where Commodore Bill Donovan presented club trophies of cast Bicentennial plates, as well as individual awards of commemorative pocket watches. He was assisted in this task by two charming oarswomen in Bicentennial costume, Linda Chew and Cathy Morris, both from PGRC. 

Bill Belden, Undine, and Larry Klecatsky, NYAC, "packing them in" nearing 1000 meters.



INDEPENDENCE DAY REGATTA — 1976

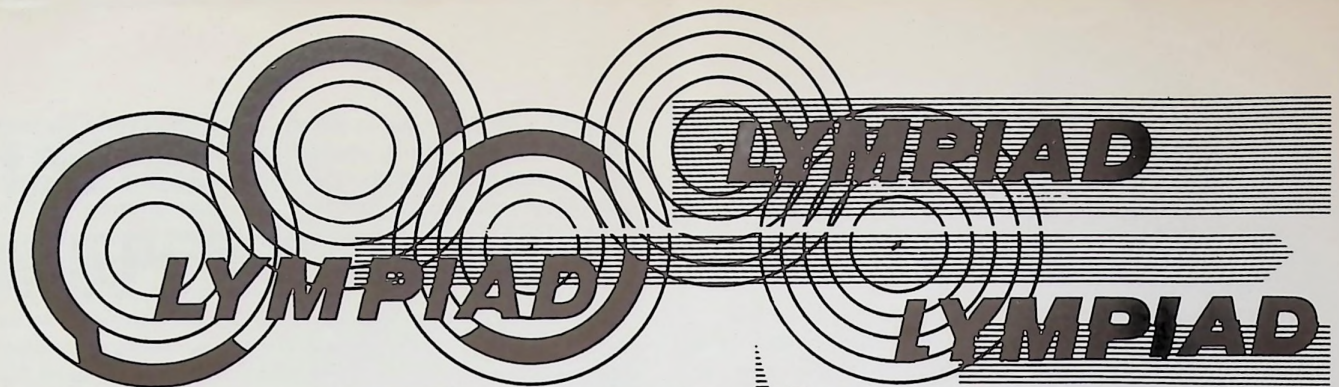
Finals held Saturday, July 3, 1976

Master's Single Class "C" Tom Dowd, Fairmount 9:30.5 Jack Scholl, Fairmount 9:40 Don Schnorr, Vesper 9:45 Charles Colgan, Vesper 9:49.5 J. Wm. Middendorf, Potomac 9:55.7 A.C. Borie, Univ. Barge 9:58.1 **Class "E"** Mer Sonzogni, Fairmount 9:53.3 **Elite Four Without** New Zealand David Lindstrom, Des Lock, Grant McAuley, Bob Murphy, 6:26.5 USA Team (Jim Maroney, Gary Plantdosi, Hugh Stevenson, Tony Brooks) 6:26.6

Finals held Sunday, July 4, 1976

Quarter Mile Single (Lightweight) Victoria, John Alexander 1:18.3 Malta, Fred Duling 1:18.4 Ecorse, Robert Kunitz 1:18.4 Dead Heat Ecorse, Robert Cady 1:20.3 Undine, Tony Matson 1:20.8 Potomac, Tom Adams 1:21.9 **Quarter Mile Single** Undine, Jeff Foltz 1:14.2 Undine, Bob Raslavsky 1:15.1 Fairmount, Jack Sholl 1:15.5 Mexico, Guillermo Spamer 1:16.4 Penn AC, T. Keller 1:25.6 **Elite Four with cox** New Zealand (Ian Voserio, Tim Logan, Dan Keane, Viv Haar, David Simmons) 6:15.0 USA Team (Fred Borchelt, Mike Plumb, Pat Hayes, Bob Zagunis, John Hartigan) 6:16.1 **Elite Four Without (Lightweight)** Brockville (Gary Garland, Bill Earle, Bill Cody, Jim Earle) 6:28.4 US Lt. Camp (George Naden, Eric Aserlind, Tom Cook, Ralph Nauman) 6:35.1 **Intermediate GIG** Malta, Greg Sciola 8:20.1 Undine, Ford Smith 8:28.7 Fairmount, Joseph Quid 8:28.8 Viking, Robert Garbut 8:53.4 Vesper, John Joline 9:39.1 **Women's Intermediate Quad** PGRC (Pattie Pomerantz, Andi Myers, Joan Guerin, Kathy Morris) 3:55.2 Bachelors 4:09.4 **Intermediate Single** FIT, Casey Baker 7:17 Narragansett, Greg Montesi 7:17.5 LBRA, Jim Willis 7:36 LBRA, Steve Nowinski 7:39 Narragansett, Peter Gross 7:42.8 Mexico, Rafael Jimenez 7:44.9 **Intermediate Four with Cox** Mexico (Victor Chauvet, Armando Chavez, Armando Oviedo, Jose Lavin, Ramon Sanudo) 6:56.5 Viking 7:02.9 Fairmount — McGulinnis boat 7:07.4 Syracuse 7:11.0 Fairmount — Landry boat 7:11.4 Crescent 7:31.2 **Intermediate Double (Lightweight)** Cambridge/BU (Bryn Evenson, Thomas Martin) 7:04.7 Victoria 7:16.2 Malta — Brown & Brown 7:19.2 Malta — Brown & Engel 7:23.1 Fairmount 7:37.7 Sagamore 7:43.4 **Elite Pair Without** USA Team (Mike Staines, Calvin Coffey) 6:34.4 Vesper/Potomac 6:46.0 Hanlan 6:58.2 **Women's Single** Long Beach RA, Barbara O'Reilly 3:54.1 Vesper, Barbara Zuzelo 3:54.8 **Intermediate Double** Malta (Fritz Sutter, Jack Plachter) 6:49.0 Undine 6:56.9 Fairmount 7:00.8 Vesper 7:02.7 Potomac 7:07.8 Mexico

7:36.6 **Senior Single** Undine, Jim Raslavsky 7:15.5 Union, Stephen Dull 7:18.8 FIT, Casey Baker 7:27.2 LBRA, Jim Willis 7:29.1 LBRA, Rod Freed 7:58.6 **Senior Four with cox** Syracuse Chargers (William Purdy, Dave Townsley, Bob Devlin, Tom Evancie, Matt Tarantelli) 6:36.3 Syracuse Chargers 6:43.2 Mexico 6:56.9 **Intermediate Single (Lightweight)** Potomac, Tom Adams 7:16.8 Undine, Tony Matson 7:22.9 Malta, Fritz Sutter 7:25.0 LBRA John Fletcher 7:25.8 Ecorse, Robert Cady 7:31.8 Victoria, John Alexander 7:58.8 **Women's Single (Lightweight)** PGRC, Rosemarie Flynn 4:02.7 Narragansett, Kathleen McNally 4:20.1 **Elite Four with Cox (Lightweight)** US Lt. Camp (Pete Washburn, Gil Gamble, Kevin Colgan, Larry Wittig, Andy Fisher) 6:44.2 Mexico 6:51.0 WPI 7:01.2 **Senior Double** Malta (Stan Depman, Jack Plachter) 6:40.0 Undine 6:45.4 Malta/University Barge 6:55.2 Potomac 6:58.6 **Elite Single (Lightweight)** Malta Fred Duling 7:45.3 LBRA Rod Freed 8:06.1 **Intermediate Eight** Vesper (Paul Horvat, John Snedden, Bob Mudge, Charles Lowry, Brian Colgan, Phil Meade, Bob Wenger, Steve Barainyak, Mike Mulholland) 6:08.2 Fairmount 6:09.1 Penn AC 6:24.3 Viking 6:25.8 Fairmount 6:27.2 Viking 6:34.4 **Elite Double** USA Team (Larry Klecatsky, Bill Belden) 6:30.0 **Elite Pair with Cox** Vesper/Potomac (Tiff Wood, Norton Schlacter, Bob Jaugstetter) 7:22.0 Hanlan BC 7:34.3 Syracuse Chargers 7:37.2 **Womens Double** Cambridge/LBRA (Ann Robbart, Barbara O'Reilly) 3:47.8 PGRC (Pomerantz & Flynn) 3:54.4 PGRC (Crawford & Pruitt) 4:02.3 **Intermediate Quad** Fairmount (John Whalen, Jack Sholl, Charles Bracken, Gerry Putman) 6:47.2 Undine 7:01.0 Malta 7:09.0 Undine 7:11.7 Viking 7:12.2 Fairmount 7:26.6 Sagamore 7:42.8 **Elite Double (Lightweight)** NYAC/Undine (Larry Klecatsky, Bill Belden) 6:32.4 **Elite Single** Mexico, Guillermo Spamer 7:42.2 Fairmount, Dave Robinson 7:59.1 Undine, Jeff Foltz 8:16.6 **Senior Single (Lightweight)** Potomac, Tom Adams 7:51.8 Malta, Stan Depman 7:53.1 Mexico, Eduardo Nino de Rivera 8:17.4 Ecorse, Robert Kunitz 8:22.8 **Elite Eight (Lightweight)** US Lt. Camp (Scott Roop, Andy Washburn, Craig Drake, Tom Bowman, Bruce Stone, Frank Necypor, John Dunn, Sean Colgan, Joe O'Connor) 6:36.3 St. Catherine 6:42.9 Fairmount 7:14.6 Brockville 7:21.0 **Elite Eight** New Zealand "A" (Ivin Sutherland, Trevor Coker, Peter Dignon, Lindsay Wilson, Athol Earl, David Rodger, Alec McClean, Tony Hurt, Simon Dickie) 6:04.2 New Zealand "B" 6:06.3 Vesper 6:16.2.



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MONTREAL '76

WOMEN'S ROWING

Joan Lind's Silver, Eight's Bronze Top Strong Women's Olympic Showing

by Peter Lippett

photos by Peter Lippett

A superb Silver Medal performance by Joan Lind and an extremely strong Bronze Medal row by the eight fulfilled the expectations of many that the women were the United States' best hopes in the 1976 Olympic Games. The team repeated it's Nottingham performance of four out of six crews in the finals, with the other two crews winning their Petite Finales to demonstrate the overall strength of U.S. women's rowing. That this came from a country which did virtually nothing internationally until 1973 is an incredible achievement which the entire rowing world has noted and applauded.

The team was largely formed through the camp process, and all elements of the team, save the late chosen pair, trained together at Dartmouth prior to Olympic processing. The scullers, led by head coach Tom McKibbin and assistant Bob Ernst, arrived in Montreal one week prior to racing, but the sweep crews, led by Harry Parker and assistant John Hooten, fearing crowded practice conditions on the Olympic course, had requested and received permission for the latest possible arrival, three days before racing. Arrival showed the rowing facilities to be magnificent, but the whole Montreal area to be moderately windy. Often wave patterns from wind puffs came from entirely different directions within a few hundred meters of each other. Because head, tail and cross wind conditions were all experienced, it was apparent that the crews had to ready for anything.

Joan Lind became the single sculler by winning a trials regatta to open the sculling camp on May 9, and arrived well equipped with both an Empacher and VanDusen single to be used at her election (she raced in the latter). After intensive competition within the camp, the quad emerged with Karen McCloskey at stroke, followed by Lisa Hansen, Liz Hills, Claudia Schneider (a member of the 1975 silver medal eight who had turned to sculling at her Long Beach home base), and two year veteran Irene Moreno at cox. The double, containing Jan Palchikoff and Diane Braceland, successfully survived the challenge race. In what McKibbin described as

his most difficult decision among four superbly qualified remaining camp members, Nancy Hilliard ('75 double) and Sharon Vaissiere ('74 coxed four) were selected as sculling spares.

With both the eight and coxed four not open to challenge, Harry Parker greeted over 40 aspirants when the Cambridge sweep camp opened. The selection, boating and seating process continued perilously close to the Games, a situation forced by a cross between the early date of the Games and Harry's belief that the camp should not open until academic schedules were finished. Both Harry's open-mindedness and the increasing abilities of U.S. oarswomen were demonstrated when only the cox plus three oarswomen from the 1975 silver medal eight wound up with seats in the Olympic eight. The final lineup was Wisconsin's Jackie Zoch at stroke, followed by Vesper's Anita DeFrantz, Wisconsin's Carrie Graves, Cornell's Marion Greig, Yale's Anne Warner, Wisconsin's Peggy McCarthy, Princeton grad Carol Brown, and UNH grad Gail Ricketson, with ZLAC's 17 year old Lynn Silliman coxing. The four contained Vesper's Pam Behrens at stroke ('75 coxed four), Vesper's Cathy Menges ('75 coxed four) at three, '75 eights silver medalist Nancy Storrs at two, newcomer Judy Geer from Dartmouth in the bow, and another newcomer, Princeton grad Mimi Kellogg, coxing.

The pair was chosen at the last possible moment for Olympic entries via a Trials regatta, won by Philadelphians Sue Morgan and Laura Staines (whose husband Mike rowed bow in the men's pair). Sweep spare positions went to the second place finishers, Stanford freshman Cathy Thaxton and Yale's Chris Ernst from the '75 eight; third place finishers Ann and Marie Jonik from Vesper were chosen as camp spares, giving Vesper an impressive six places on the Olympic team (plus coach Hooten).

A major surprise and disappointment developed when it was learned that Olympic entries contained only 57 crews, down from 76 in 1974 and 70 in 1975. Notable absentees were crews from Australia, New Zealand or Belgium, and only three entries each from Hungary, Poland, West Germany and Czechoslovakia. England, Norway and France had only two entries apiece, and even strong Romania only brought four. The only full squads came from East Germany, Russia, Canada and the U.S. The result was that no event had more than 11 entries, and therefore under FISA rules no semifinals were necessary. This meant not only cancellation of a day's

Pete Lippett is the chairman of the U.S. Olympic Women's Rowing Committee, has served for a number of years on various NAO committees, and is a lawyer in San Francisco. For this series of articles, and others, the *Oarsman* thanks him.

racing for disappointed fans, but more importantly, elimination of additional racing experience which might have helped U.S. crews which had not had any pre-Olympic international racing.

Women's racing started on Monday, July 19, two days after the Opening Ceremony. As always at this level, our draws were tough ones; there are no easy ones. The coxed four had the distinction of rowing in the very first race ever held for women in the Olympic Games, and appeared not quite on top of their rowing as they quickly dropped behind Romania and East Germany, engaging in a race with the British for third place. Since only the winner qualified directly into the finals in this no-semifinal situation, it didn't much matter, although the four was able to hang on and defeat the British by a bit over one second. They were distinctly unsatisfied with their first race together. In the other heat, Bulgaria, gave evidence of their eventual strong Olympic performance by advancing over Holland, with a surprising last-place finish by the Russians.

Heat one of double sculls saw another Bulgarian best Holland; most thought this was the easy heat and the win didn't mean much, but that was to be proven wrong later. Prior to heat two, a potentially disastrous situation arose. The course has seven lanes, and depending on where the wind was coming from, racing would be in either lanes 1-6, or 2-7. Both our scullers and the Norwegians asked several people at the boathouse which set of lanes was to be used, but neither received definitive answers. As a result, apparently through the fault of neither of them, they both found themselves warming up in the same lane, coming straight at each other from opposite directions, and each rowing flat out. The resulting collision was terrifying, with Jan Palchikoff suffering a bruised back from a Norwegian oar, and one Norwegian

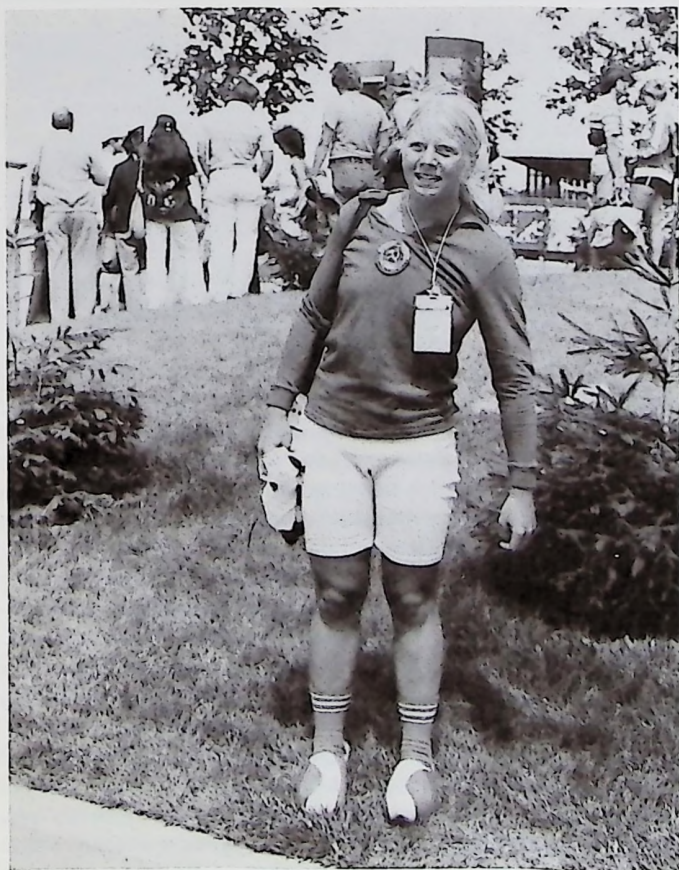
sculler suffering cuts from a U.S. oar. Additionally, the rigger on our brand new Empacher was irrevocably bent, and reports were that the Norwegian shell was so badly damaged it had to be replaced. In any case, the race was postponed to the end of the program, by which time a new rigger had been found for us and an acceptable solution had been found for the Norwegians. A badly shaken U.S. double looked completely listless in the heat, rowing in fourth position from the start, briefly in third after 500 meters, but finally dropping back to fifth behind the winning Russians who edged the East Germans by .6 seconds. Interestingly, the Russians had broken up their very experienced gold medal double, with one sculler in the single, and the other stroking the quad; the former single sculler Ramoshkene moved into the double. Our scullers later confirmed that after the accident they found it impossible to get any adrenalin going for the race, but felt very fortunate to emerge from the accident as well as they did, and knew they'd be OK in the repechage.

The first heat of pairs contained the eventual first four placers in the finals, and we were fortunate to escape it. The West Germans, with former sculler Edith Eckbauer in the crew, led most of the way, with Bulgaria, Russia ('75 silver), and East Germany ('75 gold) following in that order. Heat two split the crowd, always about evenly divided between Canadian and American rooters; the Canadians went bananas as their pair led wire to wire, and the Americans sat on their hands as Morgan and Staines got off to a sluggish start to fall immediately to fourth, where they stayed over the entire course, defeating only the Hungarians who virtually stopped rowing in the last 250 meters. Here, too, our women were not pleased by their race.

In the singles, Joan Lind drew the two-time Gold Medalist, Scheiblich of East Germany, but she also drew a tailwind for one of the only times in her life. The wind had been almost directly straight tail all day, hovering just around 3 meters per second, and the course seemed to be behaving pretty well. The grandstands seemed to shelter the final 200 meters or so, but there was only moderate, if any, benefit from lane one near the stands, which Joan had drawn. In heat one, the Bulgarian Spassova trailed Antonova of the USSR most of the way, but rowed through her in the final 100 meters to win by about half a second, with the '75 silver medalist Mariann Ambrus from Hungary relegated to third. In heat two, Joan got a fine start and was off virtually dead even with Scheiblich, only .43 behind at 250 meters, and only .23 at 500. But Scheiblich extended it to a 1.8 second lead by 750 and a 4.5 second margin at the finish. However, Joan appeared extremely strong and quick, and finished with an eight and one half second lead over the Dutch sculler in third place. Joan, and everyone else, appeared pleased. Times didn't appear to be too meaningful on this course of fickle winds, but Joan's time, if comparable, would have won heat number one by exactly two seconds.

In quads, our hopes were high. We had only been a second out of the medals the past two years, and this quad was clearly stronger and faster. Also, we had avoided the magnificent East Germans in the heat, and were looking for a good showing. We appeared to start well, looking like second on the TV but the splits showed us .35 behind the second place Romanians at 250, with the Russians about the same margin ahead in first. All three crews rowed virtually the same splits for the next 250, but thereafter we began to fall a bit farther back until, in the final 250, we were passed by the Czechs and finished two and one half seconds behind them, beating only the Danes by a bit under two seconds. The crew

(Cont'd on next page)



Sue Morgan with Dutch wooden shoes she has traded for.

appeared to have had a good row, and a bewildered Karen McCloskey later confirmed that they had rowed as hard as they could. A suspicion was beginning to take hold that the always marvelously strong quads might be stronger yet this year. In heat two, the perennial gold medalist East Germans took the measure of the Bulgarians by over 3½ seconds, with Hungary third and Canada fourth.

In the eights, we drew the East Germans in heat two, but

were having none of that, and coming by my seat at 925 meters appeared to have gone back through the U.S.A. Our four was still fighting for the qualifying spot when, just a few strokes from the line the Canadians crabbed and the U.S. took fourth place by 1.4 seconds. It is impossible for me to say, from my position behind the spot of the crab, whether the crab gave it to us or we had rowed back through anyway, but we were in.



nobody seemed distraught about that; these women were here to race. By this time the wind had not increased much in velocity, but its cumulative effect by the 12:30 racing time appeared to have added a bit more chop to the water. Conditions at the start were a bit rocky, but apparently all crews were rowing in equal conditions. In heat one, the Russians, who had added some new, bigger and apparently more fit athletes to their eight, got away badly in fourth, with the quick starting Canadians demonstrating the rumors that they were not to be taken lightly. However, after 250 meters the Russians rowed through the pack, looking extremely strong and impressive, with the Romanians going through the Canadians in the final 250, and the West Germans bringing up the rear. As it turned out, all four of these crews would be in the final, and a bit less than a length separated the first and fourth place eights.

In heat two, our eight in lane 3 started well with East Germany in lane 1, being only .65 behind at 250 meters. And then we began to cook, rowing through to a slim .21 lead at 500 and maintaining a lead of .51 at 750. But then the East Germans began to crank up, and convincingly demonstrated their awesome abilities as they came charging back through us by 850 meters. They were clearly pulling away as they came by my seat at 925 meters, when in the last 6 or 8 strokes Gail Ricketson got caught on a wave and in trying to wrestle the oar free at the release the gate popped open, the oar flew into the water, and a stricken Gail rode over the line 4.32 behind. However, the mishap was clearly not the difference in the race, and afterwards Harry pronounced himself quite satisfied with the race and unperturbed by the mishap. We'd proved equal to the Easties over 750 meters; could we produce more?

Repechage day, July 21, was sunny but the wind had shifted to vary between a quartering head from the lane 6 side to almost a direct head. It's velocity was down a bit from heat day, and conditions appeared to be smoother. In the coxed fours, having only eight entries meant only one repechage, with the first four to qualify for the final. Our start appeared on TV to be less than optimum, and indeed we were in fifth place at 250 meters. A third fastest split over the next 250 meters moved us to the qualifying fourth by 500, but a miserable next 250 dropped us into last place, almost four seconds out of fifth and over 6½ out of the necessary fourth. But then the U.S. four began to get it together, powering their way up into fourth by about 850 meters. However, the tenacious Canadians from a vastly improved national training program

Doubles needed two heats, two in each heat to qualify. Many thought the double was perhaps our worst shot at the finals, largely because this event had always before seemed to be the strongest of all. But Jan and Diane blasted out in first place and rowed the entire race looking impressively strong and smooth. They held first through 750 meters, and in the end were passed by the Norwegians, their partners in collision, but comfortably maintained their second place qualifying slot by 2.61 over Holland, with the Czechs last. In the other heat, East Germany and Canada qualified, defeating France and Austria.

Coxless pairs also needed two heats, with Bulgaria and East Germany coming home in heat one to qualify ahead of Czechoslovakia, England and Hungary. In heat two Morgan and Staines found themselves in fourth position immediately



after the start, and still there at 750 meters, though only 3 seconds out of the qualifying second. They gave all they had to sprint up to qualify, passing Poland in the process but failing to gain any ground at all on second place Romania and first place Russia, so it was no finals for them.

In the Singles, also two heats, Antonova of USSR handily took heat one from wire to wire, with the Dutch sculler Munneke taking the other finals spot. In heat two, Joan was concerned primarily with Ambrus of Hungary who had beaten her last year, and Anthoine of France. Joan got off the line very well, just a shade behind Ambrus but well ahead of Anthoine. Barely second at 250, Joan looked extremely powerful and confident as she rowed right through Ambrus by 500 meters and led the rest of the way home, to win by 6½ seconds over the Hungarian. Things still looked very good for Joan, especially as this was done in a headwind which supposedly does not favor her.



In the quads, it was nervous time, both because the event was tough, and because it looked as though we had drawn the tougher heat. In heat one, Romania led all the way, to qualify along with Denmark (whom the U.S. had defeated in the heats), relegating Hungary and Canada to the petites. In the second heat, there were only three crews, and all we had to do was avoid last place. We had the Bulgarians, second in the other heat on Monday, and the same Czechs who had rowed through us at the end of our own heat on Monday, so it would be tough. However, we got off second, and held a .35 lead on the Czechs at 250 meters and .52 at 500. But the Czechs started to fight back at that point, and by 750 meters had broken through by 1/2 second. We appeared to be rowing very well and very strongly, with no apparent deficiencies in style. We increased the pace over the final 250 meters, but we could not gain on the Czechs who claimed second by 1.07 over us, with Bulgaria winning by over 4 seconds. Later conversations with the scullers and Tom confirmed that if you had to go out, this was the best way; nothing had gone wrong, we had rowed a strong and powerful race, but we were just plain beaten. We were clearly better and faster than we had ever been, but this crew had come to the Olympic Games and simply met better and faster crews.

Only one repurchase was necessary in the eights with the top four crews to advance to the finals. A beautiful start, and we were away in front. We proceeded to maintain our advantage all the way down the course, first at every split mark, and at the finish. There was a lot of jockeying behind us, with Romania second by .99 seconds, followed by Germany (West) and Canada which recovered from a miserable third 250 to pass the Poles and Dutch for the last finals slot.

After three days off due to the cancellation of the semi-finals, finals day occurred on Saturday, July 24. There had been thunderstorms during the night, the sky looked rainy/grey, and the wind was up, blowing straight headwind. The water had looked its worst the day before during the men's semis as the storm was blowing in, and it didn't look much better for the women's finals. But because the lanes did not appear to be significantly unfair, there was no thought of postponement. Coincidentally, we had drawn lane 6 for each of our four finals.

In coxed fours, our hopes could not reasonably be too high, since this crew had not seemed to have really come together during the racing. And so it was to be, as after a start equal to the others we quickly were relegated to the tail end, where we rowed down most of the course, fighting valiantly to overtake Holland for fifth but failing by 2.14 seconds; however, Holland was over 3 seconds behind fourth, so there was a long way to the medals. Up at the front, it was East Germany as expected, maintaining control of the race and

winning the first Olympic Gold Medal for women with a 3.16 margin over the Bulgarians who started off a strong day with 1.14 second margin over the Russians for the silver.

Grand Finale Four with Cox

	250m	500m	750m	1000m
GDR	0:54.25	1:49.66	2:46.75	3:45.08
BUL	0:53.74	1:50.03	2:48.85	3:48.24
URS	0:55.83	1:53.05	2:52.92	3:49.38
ROM	0:53.96	1:50.58	2:52.45	3:51.17
HOL	0:54.51	1:52.20	2:50.44	3:54.36
USA	0:55.57	1:53.34	2:54.80	3:56.50

In double sculls, everyone was delighted at our presence in the finals, and most were willing to settle for just that. However, Jan and Diane were not. They started extremely well, and by 250 meters were rowing very smoothly in fourth, less than a second out of third. However, by 500 meters their friends the Norwegians had come through them and increased the margin between them for the rest of the way; we had little difficulty in maintaining fifth over the



Doubles pass in review after awards ceremony: back to front Canada, USA, Norway, Russia, East Germany, Bulgaria.

Canadians, and checked in with a finish which most would have thought unbelievably high just a few short days before. So every credit possible should go to Jan and Diane, who came together during the regatta, abundantly strong, smooth, and impressive in their final two races. Up at the front of this race, interesting things were occurring. Nobody gave too much credence to the Bulgarians in the face of the East Germans and the Russians, but there they were, out front from the beginning. They had second by 250 meters, over 3 at 500, and a full 5 seconds at 750 meters. They faded just a tad in the final 250, but had plenty left to protect their Gold Medal as the East Germans, after having fallen to third at 750 meters, came back on through the Russians in the home stretch to claim the Silver by a bit over 2 seconds.

Grand Finale Double Sculls

	250m	500m	750m	1000m
BUL	0:52.23	1:47.16	2:44.89	3:44.36
GDR	0:53.25	1:50.39	2:50.25	3:47.86
URS	0:54.42	1:50.82	2:49.88	3:49.93
NOR	0:55.82	1:52.95	2:52.18	3:52.18
USA	0:55.60	1:54.23	2:55.41	3:58.25
CAN	0:57.17	1:57.28	3:00.98	4:06.23

(Cont'd on next page)

In pairs, we were in the Petites, and started out rather badly, fourth out of five at both the 250 and 500 meter marks. But then Laura and Sue started to power the boat with better swing than they'd demonstrated before, and had come through the British by 750. They had it going then, and just kept right on charging in one of the better demonstrations of the regatta, swinging through both the Czechs and the Poles to win the Petite by .35. It's too bad they didn't have more races to prove their obvious mettle.

Petite Finale Pairs Without				
	250m	500m	750m	1000m
USA	0:59.52	2:01.33	3:03.00	4:02.91
POL	0:57.38	1:57.96	3:00.37	4:03.26
TCH	0:57.67	1:59.09	3:01.85	4:04.10
GBR	0:59.11	2:00.53	3:04.83	4:07.99
HUN	1:00.09	2:02.34	3:06.78	4:11.93

The Grand Finale of the pairs was a repeat of the double sculls, with everyone but the Bulgarians counting on the vaunted East Germans. First the Bulgarians had to contend with the surprising pair from West Germany which led through a great part of the race. Both the Bulgarians and the East Germans managed to catch the front runners, and waged a beautiful duel for the Gold, with the Bulgarians eking it out by just .42 seconds. The Russians could not catch the West Germans, and so the latter wound up with the Bronze.

Grand Finale Pairs Without				
	250m	500m	750m	1000m
BUL	0:55.97	1:56.54	2:58.12	4:01.22
GDR	0:56.76	1:57.90	2:59.30	4:01.64
GER	0:54.98	1:55.83	2:56.86	4:02.35
URS	0:57.38	1:58.90	3:03.79	4:03.27
CAN	0:57.78	2:02.48	3:04.61	4:08.09
ROM	1:00.53	2:02.75	3:08.14	4:15.44

Grand Finale, Single Sculls. Headwind, 3.1 meters per second. Joan Lind out in lane 6, Scheiblich over in lane 2, and Antonova of the USSR even better off in lane 1. American hearts in American mouths. At the command, Joan blasted right out, and appeared on TV to be second, just a bit behind Scheiblich after the first five strokes. But in the next few

strokes, she fell to fourth, although everything was still very tightly bunched. And then came one of the most beautiful sights of the regatta as Joan began to move back through. The Dutch sculler, Munneke, had blasted out to an early lead, hoping to perhaps steal the race. At 250, Scheiblich was second, Antonova third and Joan fourth, .42 behind the Russian. But then the speed and the power and the form that Joan had worked so long to attain began to tell, as first she caught Antonova and then the already fading Munneke. At 500, Joan was second, only .47 behind Scheiblich. In her third 250, Joan was .92 faster than the Russian, and in the final 250 put even more distance between them by going 1.74 faster; in fact, Joan was .77 faster than Scheiblich over the final 250, and not only had earned herself a Silver medal but was actually challenging for the Gold. At the finish, Scheiblich had .65 on Joan, which the TV showed to be about two-thirds of a length. Several competitors mentioned that no one had ever made Scheiblich work so hard to win.

Grand Finale Single Sculls				
	250m	500m	750m	1000m
GDR	0:58.21	1:59.16	3:02.26	4:05.56
USA	0:58.99	1:59.63	3:03.68	4:06.21
URS	0:58.57	2:01.00	3:05.97	4:10.24
BUL	1:01.17	2:02.83	3:09.05	4:10.86
HOL	0:57.83	2:01.18	3:08.51	4:18.71
HUN	1:00.19	2:04.40	3:14.12	4:22.59

Grinning from ear to ear, a justifiably proud Joan Lind received the second FISA medal ever won by an American woman and the first Olympic medal. Afterwards, mobbed by well-wishers and a goodly number of the press, she said she had no race plan other than to go out and row as fast as she could. She indicated there was some difficulty with the conditions, particularly in clearing her blades, but realized that conditions were essentially the same for all. She had no real awareness of her relative position during the race, although by the time she hit the grandstand and the thunderous cheers for her she knew her position—was buoyed by the cheering. Will she continue? She honestly doesn't yet know. Joan Lind — a happy lady, an incredible athlete.

Immediately following this high, there was another medal to be contested, the Black Plastic, as the quad named the imaginary medal for winning the Petites. True competitors, they were out to win every race they entered, and win it they did, wire to wire over Hungary by 9.27 seconds and Canada by 11.66. Make no mistake about the quality of this, perhaps one of our best crews, this year or any year.

Petite Finale Quads with Cox				
	250m	500m	750m	1000m
USA	0:52.80	1:48.97	2:47.53	3:46.06
HUN	0:57.09	1:55.15	2:55.98	3:55.33
CAN	0:56.87	1:55.36	2:56.60	3:57.72

In the Grand Final for quads, most people figured that the East German quad was far and away the superior crew in the regatta. They swept away from the start and continued to extend their lead down the entire course. It was no walk-over by any means, as the final margin over the Russians was only 2.50 seconds, but the beauty of the East German crew was something to see; they were in full control of the race. The Romanians were only .27 behind the Russians, to claim the bronze over Bulgaria.

Grand Final Quads with Cox				
	250m	500m	750m	1000m
GDR	0:49.21	1:41.40	2:35.35	3:29.99
URS	0:50.83	1:43.33	2:38.89	3:32.49
ROM	0:51.07	1:46.36	2:39.94	3:32.76
BUL	0:50.55	1:43.60	2:38.43	3:34.13
TCH	0:52.55	1:48.15	2:44.07	3:42.53
DEN	0:54.27	1:50.86	2:48.05	3:46.99



For the eights the wind had come up to its strongest of the entire regatta, 4.8 meters per second, very close to a straight head. Whitecaps tumbled as the crews were warming up. Although the U.S. was stuck out in lane 6, the East Germans were right next to them in 5, the Russians in lane 4, so they were all out there in the same conditions. The wind was high enough that there was difficulty in lining up the eights for the Petites (won by Poland over Holland), and it was quite rocky for the first 750 meters until the protection of the seating came into play. At the starting command, the USA got a fine start, and was either first or second in the first three to five strokes. Immediately thereafter, the USA and East Germany began to move out on the field. Conditions were difficult but by no means impossible; there was a good deal of water flying at the releases of all crews. By 250 meters gone, the first four crews were separated by only .83, with East Germany leading the USA by .27, surprising Canada third and Russia fourth. As the crews moved into a moderate "settle," the positions remained relatively the same, although the US picked up a slim .05 on the East Germans by 500 meters. It was clearly a battle with the conditions. In the third 250 meters the race was decided, as the US seemed to have its most difficult time with the conditions and threw up a lot of

It was clear from the beginning of the regatta that both the East German and Russian eights were superb, and although we were right in the thick of it, it would take a superlative effort to defeat either of them. Since all three medal winning crews were in adjacent lanes on the slightly less favorable side of the course, and since the margins were so definitive, it is very difficult to bemoan the conditions or imagine a different result on a different day. The oarswomen appeared delighted with their Olympic medal, and after the race Harry expressed himself completely satisfied with the race. The rowers all said they felt the conditions played a dominant part in how the race was rowed. To win an Olympic medal at this level of competition is a superlative achievement, and one certainly undreamed of in the U.S. only a couple of years ago. These women can be immensely proud.

And so it was over, the first Olympic rowing regatta for women. The incredible East Germans won a medal in every event, 4 Golds and 2 Silvers; the almost equally superlative Russians won five medals, 2 Silvers and 3 Bronzes, missing only in the pair. The Bulgarians improved upon their strong 1975 showing, with 2 Golds and one Silver. We were the only other country to win more than one medal, and a Bronze each for Romania and West Germany completed the tally.



white water. The US rowed this split a full four seconds slower than the preceding one, and dropped 2.4 seconds behind the leaders. Russia had made its move, too, and had passed Canada for third. The Russians, who were now only .5 seconds behind us, began moving and soon caught and passed us; by 800 meters the race appeared to be over. Our eight, still stroking at 38, showed visible effects of the battle, and appeared to lack its spark at this point; in fact, the Canadian eight over in lane 1 was beginning to fly, and as the crews passed 900 meters a collective gasp went up from the crowd as it appeared the Canadians might pass the U.S. for the bronze. However, the U.S. had enough left to continue to hold off the Canadians, and we crossed the line with the Bronze tucked away by .84 seconds. East Germany, winners last year in a time of around 3:06, in these conditions rowed a 3:33.32, holding nearly a three-second advantage over the Russians who took the silver by 2.51 seconds over the U.S.

Not for purposes of nationalism, but for the instructive purpose of measuring the state of U.S. women's rowing in relation to other programs around the world, a statistically imperfect ranking system shows an interesting result. By giving each crew in the Olympic regatta one point for first, two for second, etc., and then dividing by the number of entries a country had in the regatta, the East Germans clearly are the dominant women's rowing power. The Bulgarians come second, the Russians third, and Romania fourth. Under this system, the fifth strongest women's rowing power in the world is the U.S.A., just a shade behind the Romanians. That is an amazing stature for a country that was literally nowhere internationally just three short years ago, and a truly remarkable achievement by some very talented athletes.

In closing, no report of the Olympic experience should conclude without mentioning the two persons who, by selflessly and excellently performing their exhausting tasks, enabled the team to have what it needed and to concentrate on its rowing, managers Joanne Iverson and Debby Ayars. Without good managers a team flirts with chaos, and this team had the benefit of two really excellent performers who must share in a part of the credit for the remarkable and wonderful achievements of United States' women at the first ever Olympic rowing regatta for women.

(Cont'd on next page)

Grand Finale Eights

	250m	500m	750m	1000m
GDR	0:51.96	1:45.19	2:40.21	3:33.32
URS	0:52.79	1:48.12	2:43.12	3:36.17
USA	0:52.23	1:45.41	2:42.61	3:38.68
CAN	0:52.51	1:47.66	2:44.46	3:39.52
GER	0:53.05	1:49.96	2:46.03	3:41.06
ROM	0:53.05	1:50.98	2:48.52	3:44.79

MONTREAL '76

MEN'S ROWING

Coffey Staines Silver Medal Rescues Dismal Olympics for Men

Calvin Coffey and Mike Staines surprised most observers, if not themselves, by rowing to a brilliant Silver Medal in straight pairs at the Montreal Olympics, thereby providing the only real bright spot in an otherwise disappointing Olympics for U.S. men's rowing. The quad was the only other U.S. crew to make the finals, while the eight missed the finals for the first time in history and the U.S. checked in with its least impressive performance in memory. The Montreal papers were full of remarks about "the decline of U.S. men's rowing," and whether or not that is totally justified in light of the competition, it is surely true that most of the U.S. team came away sorely disappointed.

That this was a troubled team there can be little doubt, although jinxed might be an even better word. The cruelest blow from fate was when Olympic sculling coach Ernie Arlett was stricken with pericarditis in the middle of the camp process and, although fortunately will recover, his doctors forbade him to continue to the Olympics. There was understandable turmoil as a frantic search was undertaken to find a replacement for him, in order to finalize the boating of the quad. In such convulsive circumstances it is natural that several people disagreed with subsequent events, but it is surely to '68 Bronze medal winner John Nunn's credit that he dropped everything in California on a moment's notice and flew East to attempt to pick up the pieces. That the quad did as well as it did is a credit to him and to the athletes involved.

The eight suffered its share of trouble, too. Three athletes who may or may not have made the final crew either became dissatisfied with the camp and/or thought they had a better chance in coxed fours, and so they summarily departed on Memorial Day weekend; they failed to make the team in fours. Training sites were planned for, then abandoned as coach Allen Rosenberg sought the best environments for his squad. And perhaps most damaging of all, stroke Alan Shealy came down with a bout of mononucleosis shortly before the regatta. As a key man he would be difficult to replace, and it was a damned-if-you-do and damned-if-you-don't situation because Rosenberg's reserve corps were depleted by the camp defectors.

Then there was considerable turmoil over the selection of the final team coach, an always difficult problem when the International Olympic Committee only allows four coaches for eight crews. With Rosenberg already allocated to the eight, Dietrich Rose to the unchallengeable camp coxless four and John Nunn to the quad, the remaining crews who had won Trials regattas had great and conflicting interests in the final selection. The selection of Woody Fisher pleased some, but others felt the need to have Ted Nash available, and it is to Ted's credit that even though there was no place on the team for him, he came to Montreal and with the help of

the U.S. Olympic Committee wangled sufficient credentials to enable him to coach those who needed his assistance.

The team arrived in Montreal only three days before the racing in order to avoid crowded practice conditions on the course. The straight four and coxed pair had been sent to Europe for some pre-Olympic racing, and the eight had met New Zealand's defending champions several weeks earlier, losing to them by only one second.

The first day of racing was Sunday, July 18, the day after the Opening Ceremonies. The day was relatively windy, mostly cross wind from the lane one side, shifting during the racing more towards a tailwind. In heat one of the coxed fours, Holland blasted out to an early lead, and everyone's predicted Gold Medalists, the Russian four containing the giants Eshinov and Ivanov, seemed content to let them go without showing their true strength, a pattern other Russian crews were later to exhibit. In heat two, the Czechs just beat the New Zealanders, with a four from Ireland looking surprisingly strong in the third place finish which qualified them for the semi-finals. In heat three, the U.S. crew of Bob Zagunis, Pat Hayes, Mike Plumb, Earl Borchelt and cox John Hartigan drew the East Germans and the remnants of the fabled Bulls of Konstantz from West Germany. With third all that was necessary to advance to semi-finals, we were second at 500 meters and looking quite strong; we appeared to ease off about 1100 meters, holding third by a comfortable margin over Poland, and all signs appeared encouraging.

Double sculls had but 13 entries, so the whole exercise would be only to eliminate one crew before the semi-finals. Bill Belden and Larry Klecatsky were essentially lightweight rowing in heavyweight competition, and hopes were not realistically too high for them. In their heat, needing only a third against East Germany, France and West Germany, they were unfortunately never in it, dropping to fourth almost immediately and remaining there the entire race. In other heats, the defending Gold Medalists from Nottingham, Alf and Frank Hansen of Norway, gave evidence of continued strength with a wire-to-wire victory over the Russians in second and '75 Bronze medalists Chris Baillieu and Michael Hart of England in third. The third heat was won by the Czechs.

In straight pairs, we weren't sure what we had in Cal Coffey and Mike Staines, and they drew mixed luck in their heat; fortunate with lane one, unfortunate with the Landvoight twins of East Germany. After a rather poor first few strokes, our pair showed great fortitude, coming right back through the field. By 500 meters we were second, a position we held down the course to finish ahead of the Russians by 3 seconds, though the same margin behind the Easties. From all appearances, the pair looked strong, smooth and savvy. In other heats, crews from Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia won

in virtually identical times with virtually identical margins over crews from Poland and Bulgaria, respectively.

Next came single sculls; the wind had been creating so much havoc at the starting line that the unusual decision was made to dispense with bow markers in order to prevent them acting as sails, a condition which was allowed to continue throughout the entire regatta. Jim Dietz got a lovely draw: '75 Gold medalist Peter Michael Kolbe from West Germany, Sean Drea, the East German Joachim Dreifke who had been a previous medalist in double sculls, and a rather unknown Finn named Pertti Karppinen. Dietz is known for being rather tentative in choppy conditions, and indeed he was out of the race in five strokes. Kolbe led at the first 500, surrendered the lead to Drea for the middle of the race, but reclaimed it at the finish line by 1½ seconds. Dietz did not seem to be able to challenge the Finn, and a lot of Americans were troubled by his inability to pass "even" an unknown Finn; what a surprise was later in store on this score! Other heats saw Russia's Nikolai Dovgan and Argentina's Ricardo Ibarra win as expected against seemingly less formidable opposition.

And now the first of our medal hopes, the coxed pair of Darrell Vreugdenhil, John Mathews and cox Ken Dreyfuss who had been excelling internationally for a couple of years and who many observers picked as our strongest medal possibilities, along with the straight four and eight. However, just like Dietz, they were literally out of the race within five strokes; they immediately dropped to fifth and stayed there all the way down the course, unable to mount any charge at all, and looking quite sluggish. The East Germans were content to place behind a front running Bulgarian pair, with the Russians third; hopefully for the U.S., our crew had just had a bad row; if not, things looked pretty grim. In other heats the French won a less formidable heat, and the Svojanovsky brothers from Czechoslovakia won over an Italian crew containing '68 Gold Medalist Primo Baran.

We had heard many predictions of real speed from our straight four, formed in an unchallengeable camp this year instead of the coxed four, on the theory (which didn't pan out) that college oarsmen would have a better opportunity if the coxed four was left to an open Trials. Coach Dietrich Rose had selected a veteran crew composed of Tony Brooks at stroke, 1974 eights Gold medalist Hugh Stevenson at three, Gary Piantedosi at two, and Munich vet Jim Moroney at bow. In heat one, our four was a close second coming off the line, and appeared to be rowing flat out and strongly. They were third at 500 meters, but had come through Bulgaria by 1000 meters and continued right on through Romania to take the lead by 1500 meters. They maintained the lead on through the finish, to win by a bit over a second and give very strong indications of a good finals performance. In other heats, the West Germans qualified with England and Belgium; the defending Gold medalist East Germany, now containing Munich pairs Gold Medalists Siegfried Brietzke and Wolfgang Mager, took heat three over Russia and New Zealand (Munich Silver medalists).

In quads, with 11 entries, there was no need for semi-finals. The winner of each of two heats would qualify directly into the finals, with all else going to repechages. Our quad was composed of two-time Olympic veteran John Van Bloem at stroke, followed by Ken Foote, Peter Cortes, and Neil Hal-leen. Our quad was second coming off the start to the Czechs, and appeared to be sculling quite well. However, by 500 meters we had been passed by West Germany, and the crews maintained those positions down the course, thus qualifying only the Czechs, whose crew contained the vet-

eran Jaroslav Helebrand. Our quad appeared to be well in touch with the race, showing some promise. In the other heat, everyone conceded it to the defending Gold Medalists for 1975, the East Germans whose crew contained Munich bronze medalist single sculler Wolfgang Guldenpfennig. Everyone but the Russians, that is, who took off like a shot and led all the way, claiming a three second victory over the Easties with Bulgaria third.

In the eights, the great unanswered question was whether the U.S.A. could come back to its 1974 Gold medal form. The wind had increased in velocity to 4.1 meters per second, and blew slightly cross-tail, with the start taking place in rocky conditions. We were experienced, with four oarsmen and the cox from 1974 in the boat. The lineup was: stroke Alan Shealy, John Everett, Dick Cashin, Mark Norelius, Mike Hess, Steve Christensen, Dave Fellows, Walter Lubsen and cox David Weinberg. We had drawn defending Gold Medalist New Zealand, who had stroke Tony Hurt, Trevor Coker, Lindsay Wilson and Athol Earl back from the Munich eight, and had also succeeded in talking two time Gold Medalist cox'n Simon Dickie out of retirement to try to lead them to another victory. Also in the race were Australia, which had given us lots of trouble last year at Nottingham, and Cuba which gave us lots of trouble at the Pan-Ams; Canada and Japan rounded out the field. New Zealand, as usual, blasted away from the start, but the U.S.A. was right with them and even had its bow in front at one point. By 250, the Kiwis had taken a seat lead, and the U.S. was being strongly challenged by Cuba. At 500, it was New Zealand over the U.S. by .44, with Cuba right behind in third and Australia fourth; the others appeared to be already out of it. At 1000, New Zealand still led, but Cuba had nosed in front of the U.S. by .30. In this no semi-final, winner only to final situation, the U.S. was still going after first place, and came back through to take second by 1500 meters, while Australia was also passing Cuba and had taken third, only .36 behind the U.S. And then an amazing sight began to unfold, as the Australians over in lane one began to fire. One could see them literally flying; they rather quickly rowed through the U.S. and took off after New Zealand. They caught the Kiwis only a few strokes short of the finish line, and went over the line winners by .93 over a very surprised New Zealand eight; the U.S. was third, another 2.05 seconds behind the Kiwis. The U.S. performance was ambiguous, not strong enough to really buoy up its partisans, but certainly not weak or foreboding. But suspense over the mettle of its eight was surely continued following this race.

Heat two would also prove interesting, with the East Germans, Russians, and a British eight which Allen Rosenberg said looked formidable; the Czechs and West Germans rounded out the field. It turned out that this heat contained four of the eventual six finalists, although which one would miss out would prove to be an immense surprise. The race turned out to be a classic wire to wire performance by the Easties, as the British finished second by 4.80 seconds after rowing up from 4th place at the 500 meter mark. The Russians rowed up from fifth to capture third, less than a second behind the British, with the Czechs and Germans quite a ways back.

If you would like some post-race comments from the various oarsmen, so would I. However, *The Oarsman* applied too late to receive any sort of credential, and without a credential at these Olympics, the athletes could have been on the other side of the continent as far as noncredentialed people were concerned. I was even stopped a half mile from the course on a practice day, denied access to even the island on which the

(Cont'd on next page)

Eight finishes third in repechage.



course is located; therefore there are no candid photos, nor anything but photos taken from the stands. The few comments I was able to get came only from athletes who entered into the stands, and for that they had to have a ticket in order to leave their segregated area. These Olympics, Canada's largest military operation since World War II, were more akin to an armed camp than an athletic festival; some athletes enjoyed the protection from any distractions, but many felt that all spark and spontaneity had gone from these Games. In fact, on the day this is being written the Montreal papers are carrying a story quoting the Executive Director of the International Olympic Committee that "... these Games have no soul, and the Olympic spirit is completely lacking. There is no spirit or gaiety and ... in the world of sports, you need a bit of anarchy, a bit of freedom."

Repechage day was one of the better weather days, in the wind moderate and blowing mostly straight tail, the water relatively calm. In some events, we were already qualified directly into semi-finals. In the double sculls, one repechage of four crews would serve to eliminate only one; in this we started quite well, remained closely in touch with the leading Italians, and rowed through them in the final 500 meters to win going away. In the singles, Jim Dietz looked to have an easy time to get the necessary third, and indeed he started off nicely and was first at 500 meters. But then he seemed to lose his intensity, and by 1000 meters had been passed by the Finn, Karppinen. That seemed to demoralize him completely, and by 1500 meters he had shockingly fallen to fifth. Our hearts were in our toes when he suddenly began to get some movement back, and he literally flew past the scullers from Uruguay and Austria to take the necessary third place and advance to the semi-finals. But it was scary for a while.

Coxed pairs also had a repechage of four crews to put out one, and here our pair started well, seemed content in second place by 500 meters, and held that position all the way down the course, although leading the West Germans by only one second at each of the meter marks; Poland won, and Canada was eliminated.

In quads, with no semi-finals, there would be two repechages, first two in each to qualify directly into the finals. In heat one, both the West Germans and Bulgarians overhauled the frontrunning French in the final 500 meters, to qualify. In heat two, the draw gifted us with the East Germans, and if

they couldn't be taken, we would have to defeat both England and Cuba. The quad got away well, was in second place at 500 meters by less than a second, and maintained their advantage over the British to defeat them by over 3 seconds and become the first U.S.A. crew to make the finals. Surely, we thought at this point, the first of several.

Eights had the same situation, no semis and two repechages with the first two in each going directly to finals. In heat one, it looked like the New Zealanders and the Russians for sure, and indeed the Kiwis got their patented lead in the first 500 meters. But a determined West German crew was only .30 behind them at that point, and proceeded to row through them and take the lead; in fact, the Russians came through too, and the Kiwis found themselves in a very undignified third place at both 1000 and 1500 meters, with the Germans still leading. Less than one second separated these three crews at 1500 meters, and the defending Gold Medalists got on their stick at this point to row through both opponents and cross the line first. But the West Germans would not surrender a qualifying spot, and shockingly the Russians fell farther and farther behind them, to miss the finals for the first time in memory by almost 3 seconds. Cuba and Japan were well behind. But what a shock, not to have a Russian eight in the finals!

The U.S. appeared to have much the better of the heats, with only three opponents, the British, Czechs and Canadians. Even conceding that the British were hot, it still looked favorable. Indeed, the British blasted right off the line, and led wire to wire. At 500 meters, it was still very close, with the U.S. looking quite strong, in third by only .26 of a second behind Czechoslovakia. However, sometime in the next 500 to 750 meters, something occurred, or failed to occur, in the crew. With the wind up to 4.2 meters per second and the chop up a bit, there appeared to be a bobble on the starboard at one point. Still, at 1000 meters we were only 1.72 seconds out of second, but from then on the crew seemed to lose its aggressiveness, and they slipped farther and farther back. Cox'n David Weinberg perhaps said it best, being quoted to the effect that there is a point in every race where you either have it or you don't; when this point arrived for the U.S. eight, they didn't have it. Some called it a rather complete lack of aggressiveness at the crucial point, and this seemed to be visible on the TV monitors. In any case, by 1500 meters

we were over 5 seconds behind the second place Czechs, and a shocked crowd watched as the crew failed to muster any counter-attack, and missed qualifying for the finals for the first time in Olympic rowing history. Needless to say, the shock and gloom could be cut with a knife. The only meaningful comment which Allen Rosenberg could offer was that when the crew is fit and well, it can row well. Without access to the crew I am unable to say what the physical problems might have been, other than Shealy's malady, but clearly something was wrong. The shock still lingers, and only those closer to the crew can offer more accurate facts on the reasons for this incredible disappointment. For an Olympic eights final to take place without the crews of Russia and the United States would not have been believed even an hour before the racing.

The semi-finals were scary, because with the level of competition a crew would have to be at its peak to make it through. Unfortunately, the day was not the best; the evening showed that a storm was blowing in, and the wind increased in velocity from 2.7 to 4.4 meters per second during the racing, blowing cross tail. These were the worst water conditions so far, with the wave patterns high and coming in rollers and troughs rather than simple short chop. All our draws looked difficult, but that was to be expected; in the very first race, the coxed four drew East Germany, New Zealand, Holland, Bulgaria and France. Our crew had seemed quite strong through the regatta, and appeared to be rowing well. Nevertheless, the field got a jump on them at the start, and they were fourth at 500 meters, though still in touch only 1 1/2 seconds behind the leader. But they rowed their worst split next, and fell to sixth by 1000. Rowing relatively well, they came back to be fourth at 1500 meters, ahead of Holland and

France, though 3.5 seconds out of the qualifying third place. They then gave it all they had, attacking for the necessary third place and rowing a final split over 2.5 seconds faster than their third one, but they could not quite catch the determined New Zealanders, who had been passed by Bulgaria for second place and were not about to let qualification get away from them. We finished .77 seconds out of third. A real disappointment for a crew which appeared to be at finalist calibre. In the other semi, the strong Russians rowed back through the Czechs to win, and the West Germans came flying out of fifth at 1500 meters to relegate Ireland, Poland and Italy to the Petites.

In double sculls, the Hansen brothers led to the finish over Hart and Baillieu in semi number one, with the West Germans holding off the Czechs all the way for the last qualification slot. In heat two, the East Germans and Russians looked like sure things (as they proved to be), and Belden and Klecatsky had to defeat France, Sweden and Belgium to make it into the finals. They started fourth, fell to fifth, and caught the Swedes who were leading them at 1500 meters but could do nothing about the French who rowed second most of the way and finished 3 seconds ahead of them for the vital third spot. Bill and Larry appeared to be a bit out-muscled, but otherwise looked strong and determined. Few had very high hopes for them, and it seems fair to say that they exceeded most people's expectations by even being in a challenging position.

In straight pairs, the first semi saw the vaunted Landvoigts have trouble with the Czechs all the way down the course, finally nosing them out by only .12 second, with the Bulgarians flying out from fifth place to overhaul the Finns and Canadians for the last qualifying spot. A major surprise

(Cont'd on next page)

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was the wire-to-wire sixth place row of the Russians. In semi no. 2, we appeared to have the best of the draw, though cumulative defeats were by now having a depressing effect on American fans. However, Cal and Mike showed that their strong row in the heat was no fluke at all as they started well, were second by just a bit to the Yugoslavians through 1000 meters, and then rowed through them to win a tough struggle by .93 of a second. Their solid rowing plus evident racing aggressiveness was a distinct relief for the American contingent to see. The West Germans took the Dutch for third, with

Poland and England well back. So now we had two crews into the final, with good hopes coming up.

Semi number one of single sculls proved tougher than it appeared, as the Romanian Lambertus pressed all the way, finishing less than two seconds behind the East German Dreifke who took the last qualifying spot behind Ibarra of Argentina and Peter Michael Kolbe. In semi #2, Dietz had his nemesis Drea, and also the Russian, who figured to be the top two (and so they were, all the way down the course). So Jim would have to defeat Karppinen of Finland who had beaten him in both the heat and repechage, along with the Swedish and Australian scullers. But it was not to be; although Jim started relatively well and held third at 500 meters, he appeared to be struggling a bit, and by 1000 had been passed by Karppinen (who was to finish third, only .98 behind the Russian) and at 1500 by Svensson as well. This time Jim could mount no last minute charge as he did in the repechage, as he rowed a slower final split out in lane 6 while the Swede and Finn were rowing faster final splits in lanes one and two respectively. Jim did not at this regatta appear to be back to his 1974 silver medal form, and seemed to have a good deal of trouble clearing his blades with his characteristic long lay back. Except for a flash of it in the reps, Jim also did not appear to be overly aggressive or confident at this regatta. Surely, a disappointment.

In coxed pairs, the Bulgarians and Russians led comfortably the entire distance in semi no. 1, while the Italians came from off the pace to row past the French in the final 500 and grab the last qualifying spot; the Yugoslavs and West Germans were also eliminated. In the second race, it was now or never for Vreugdenhill, Mathews and Dreyfuss from whom we had expected so much. But just how badly off form they were was a shock, as they fell out of it quickly and rowed an undistinguished sixth place over the entire route. Interestingly, the positions all six crews determined for themselves right off the start held over the entire distance, and the East Germans, Czechs and Poles qualified, eliminating the English in 4th and Brazilians in 5th, as well as the U.S.A.

With the quads and eights not needing semis, only the straight fours were left, and shockingly we had only two crews in the finals. Surely our fine four could manage to make it three, though they drew the Gold medal East Germans, Silver medal New Zealanders, and clearly Canada's finest crew, along with Bulgaria and England. The U.S. had



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raced strongly in the heats, getting off well and rowing through the leaders to win; here, however, they got off a poor fifth, did not appear to have any jump or spark, and were unable to come back through anyone by either the 1000 or 1500 meter marks. By then it was getting quite late, and although they did mount somewhat of a charge to come through the Bulgarians into fourth, they could make no headway on the leaders and finished almost 3 seconds out of the qualifying third. East Germany, Canada and New Zealand had qualified, one of our best hopes had not, and incredibly the USA had only two crews in the finals. To show the strength of the tailwind, the winner rowed 5:53.65. In race two, the Norwegians took over first after 500 meters, and led the way in ahead of qualifying Russia and West Germany, with Romania, Italy and Belgium eliminated.

Finals day came up more calm than the previous two days, although the wind now was cross head; the course was behaving well, and the water in quite good shape. In the petites for coxed fours, we got off third but seemed uninspired, and over the splits fell into fourth and then fifth, where we finished over 5 seconds behind winning Ireland. In the Grand Final, it was the very impressive Russians as expected, having a tough battle with the East Germans over the entire distance, but keeping them at bay at each meter mark to win by 2.5 seconds; the West Germans stayed closely in touch with third place Czechoslovakia all the way down, and rowed through them in the final 500 meters to take the Bronze. Bulgaria and New Zealand trailed.

Petite Finale Four With

	500m	1000m	1500m	2000m
IRL	1:35.24	3:19.79	5:06.76	6:49.56
POL	1:36.41	3:22.48	5:10.67	6:51.85
FRA	1:35.64	3:23.16	5:09.80	6:52.13
HOL	1:36.78	3:26.22	5:11.92	6:53.55
USA	1:36.02	3:23.82	5:13.12	6:54.92
ITA	1:38.88	3:25.47	5:13.86	6:55.53

Grand Finale Four With

	500m	1000m	1500m	2000m
URS	1:34.56	3:17.77	5:02.91	6:40.22
GDR	1:35.47	3:10.07	5:04.28	6:42.70
GER	1:35.81	3:21.90	5:07.14	6:46.96
TCH	1:35.15	3:21.07	5:06.61	6:50.15
BUL	1:36.19	3:22.63	5:08.75	6:52.88
NZL	1:36.55	3:25.33	5:12.40	7:00.17

In double sculls, Belden and Klecatsky again exceeded expectations and rowed very strongly, leading the Petite through 1500 meters and then being passed by the Italians who relegated the U.S.A. to overall eighth place by a bit over one second. But it was a very competitive performance by the U.S., who defeated Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Sweden and Belgium. In the Grand, it was a real see-saw. The surprising West Germans got off to a blazing start, and led at 500 meters where the Hansens were third and Hart/Baillieu fifth (the standard position for these come-from-behinders). By 1000, the Russians had taken over, looking as if they might be capable of taking their characteristic gold medal in this event, with the Hansens now second, the British still fifth and the West Germans now down to fourth; the East Germans now held third. By 1500, the Hansens had taken over, much to the delight of many flag waving partisans, with the Easties now second, the Russians third, and the British beginning to sneak up by moving into fourth. Then the British came flying as usual, going quickly through the Russians and then the East Germans and holding the Silver medal position comfortably into the line. But there was no catching the Hansens for the Gold, and the Easties hung on for the Bronze over the Russians who were therefore shut out in this event for the first time in many an Olympiad. (Cont'd on next page)

For Release: July 2, 1976

OLYMPIC COACH CALLS FOR REVAMPING GAMES

by Jeffrey Goldberg
Boston University
News Bureau

The Olympic Games are in need of a major reorganization to eliminate political interference, says John Cheffers, former coach of the Australian and Rhodesian Olympic Teams.

Cheffers, who is currently a consultant coach to the United States Women's track team and an assistant professor at Boston University's School of Education, feels that unless the International Olympic Committee (IOC) acts to remove political intervention and influence, there may soon be a widespread reaction among nations calling for an end to the games.

"The political problem is a far cry from the ideals Baron Pierre De Coubertain expounded when he persuaded nations to revive the games in 1896," explained Cheffers. "The world envisioned games in which rivalry in sport would promote international amity, struggle becoming more important than winning, sport developing into an international language, and nations 'waging war' by throwing discuses for distance and not at one another."

Cheffers cited cases of major political interference with the games at a recent day-long symposium, "The Olympics: Planning—Preparation—Participation", sponsored by Boston University's Department of Movement, Health, and Leisure. Among the examples he related were the insistence by Russia that the Finns carry a Russian flag at the opening ceremonies of 1908, the refusal to invite Germany and Austria in 1920, and the expulsion in recent years of Rhodesia and South Africa on grounds of political discrimination. The latter, he says, is in direct violation of Rule 1 of the Olympic Games Charter: "The Olympic Games are held every four years. They assemble amateurs of all nations in fair and equal competition. No discrimination is allowed against any country or person on grounds of race, religion or political affiliation." But as Cheffers pointed out, some rules seem made to be broken.

In addition to political intervention, Cheffers detailed eight other problems facing the Olympics: professionalism, drug abuse, excessive nationalism, fiscal exorbitance, political upstaging, hypocrisy, 'jockism', and the authoritarian nature of the IOC. He feels that in order to survive, the games must: be opened to all athletes, increase the use of drug detection equipment, scale down the rewards from a national viewpoint, be awarded to a country and not one city, be extended over a year or season, break down the IOC and give power over each event to the specific sport, parade all the entrants in each event and not just the medal winners, and build up a cultural exchange in art, music, and poetry. The latter two solutions would help to put the emphasis on competing and not on winning.

"Now," said Cheffers, "it is up to Montreal. Perhaps the Canadians can clean the Olympics of much of the dirt. But we must remember that there are fanatics in and around Canada also, and the Olympic Games offer the grand stage from which causes can be aired to the world."



Petite Finale Doubles

	500m	1000m	1500m	2000m
ITA	1:38.95	3:30.95	5:25.39	7:15.21
USA	1:38.25	3:29.89	5:24.27	7:16.59
YUG	1:39.22	3:32.27	5:30.75	7:21.69
TCH	1:39.50	3:30.56	5:27.73	7:23.49
SWE	1:39.95	3:33.92	5:33.89	7:25.57
BEL	1:41.30	3:35.54	5:35.39	7:25.82

Grande Finale Doubles

	500m	1000m	1500m	2000m
NOR	1:42.67	3:32.17	5:23.24	7:13.20
GBR	1:44.19	3:34.21	5:15.80	7:15.26
GDR	1:43.82	3:33.71	5:24.55	7:17.45
URS	1:41.65	3:30.73	5:25.19	7:18.87
GER	1:41.34	3:33.71	5:27.24	7:22.15
FRA	1:44.62	3:44.63	5:46.99	7:50.18

Straight pairs was one of our two finals. Coffey and Staines had given every indication of fine performances throughout the regatta, and although we had every reason for high hopes, U.S. fans had been conditioned to be a bit negative. However, Cal and Mike got off very well and showed their fine instinct for staying closely in touch with the race; at 500, they were third behind the Landvoights and the West Germans. In the next 500 they rowed the second fastest split of the crews, and rowed through the West Germans to take second by over one second at 1000 meters, although four seconds behind the Landvoights. Over the next 500, Coffey and Staines rowed by far the fastest split of all crews, and picked up 2½ seconds on the Landvoights with a very aggressive show of competitiveness. However, over the last 500 meters the heavily favored Landvoights protected their Gold by finishing 3.42 seconds over the U.S.A., but Cal and Mike had no trouble at all holding on to a very impressive Silver Medal,



by 3.30 seconds over the Bronze medal West Germans. A satisfied Coffey and Staines stood proudly to receive their Silver, but to me their faces reflected just a few misgivings over not being able to take the Gold. And therein may lie the reason for their wonderful success, in that they were consummate competitors, aggressive, and experienced. Ironically, they had defied conventional wisdom by not having been together as a crew for years, a fact noted with some ruefulness by some oarsmen who had been in crews

together for a long time. But they obviously "clicked" together, and perhaps that is even more important. They were simply not going to be denied in this regatta, and their achievement is truly magnificent.

Grand Finale Pair Without

	500m	1000m	1500m	2000m
GDR	1:41.99	3:38.03	5:32.68	7:23.31
USA	1:44.66	3:42.04	5:34.07	7:26.73
GER	1:44.05	3:43.15	5:39.40	7:30.03
YUG	1:46.57	3:45.42	5:40.32	7:34.17
BUL	1:49.10	3:47.20	5:46.17	7:37.42
TCH	1:45.74	3:45.42	5:44.09	7:51.06

In the Petites of single sculls, Jim Dietz exhibited some of the form and aggressiveness which he is known to possess, by blasting off the start in first place and holding that spot through 1000 meters. Thereafter he was passed by Svensson of Sweden, but rather than continue to fall back, Jimmy got it back together and attacked back, coming through in the final 500 meters to win the race by a scant .14 second over Hale of Australia.



Petite Finale Single Sculls

	500m	1000m	1500m	2000m
USA	1:49.82	3:51.93	6:00.20	7:58.70
AUS	1:52.83	3:57.13	6:02.20	7:58.86
SWE	1:53.75	3:54.86	5:59.51	7:59.36
ITA	1:53.37	3:56.90	6:05.09	8:07.17
ROM	1:54.29	3:56.17	6:03.41	8:11.13
BEL	1:59.64	4:03.35	6:11.87	8:15.35

The Grand Final looked to be an extraordinarily interesting race, with Kolbe, Drea, Dovgan, and Dreifke expected to fight it out, although Ibarra should never be overlooked, and Karpinen of Finland was the unknown quantity. Kolbe really blasted out of the start, leading from the very first stroke and maintaining it at 500 meters over Dovgan by 3.59 seconds, with Dreifke third, Drea fourth and Karpinen fifth. By 1000 Kolbe was continuing to set a torrid pace, having 6.38 seconds over Drea, with Dreifke still third, Dovgan now fourth, and Karpinen still fifth. The torrid pace began to have distinct effect in the third 500 meters, as five of the scullers rowed from seven to eight seconds slower over this split than their previous. Amazingly, the Finn didn't adhere to that pattern, rowing only 1.22 seconds slower for his third split, thereby moving through first Drea and then Dovgan to take second, though still 4.73 seconds behind the blazing Kolbe. It looked like a Kolbe Gold Medal for sure, but the Finn kept coming as the grandstand began to roar at this unexpected challenge. It was one of those classic races where the question was whether the finish line would come up faster than Karpinen could catch Kolbe. In the final 50 meters Kolbe seemed to appreciably lose his power, and the Finn swept by with about three strokes to go, crossing the line in an

astounding upset over a Kolbe who knew he was defeated with a stroke or two to go, dropped his oars and actually coasted in, a dejected and exhausted front runner. His coasting in made the margin a misleading 2.60 seconds, and Dreifke held on to his constant third position to deny Sean Drea any Olympic medal by a margin of 4.50 seconds. Dogan was fifth, and Ibarra sixth. But one of the most amazing upsets in Olympic history had been recorded, and the place went wild.

Grand Finale Single Sculls

	500m	1000m	1500m	2000m
FIN	1:53.01	3:46.23	5:40.67	7:29.03
GER	1:47.09	3:38.04	5:35.94	7:31.67
GDR	1:50.91	3:44.59	5:43.61	7:38.03
IRL	1:51.68	3:44.42	5:44.48	7:42.53
URS	1:50.68	3:45.46	5:52.61	7:57.39
ARG	1:54.14	3:53.33	6:00.41	8:03.05

Gold medal single — Pertti Karppinen, Finland.



Several days later a story appeared in Montreal papers, quoting Kolbe at a TV interview beamed back to Germany as blaming his defeat on the pre-race injection of a "performance stabilizing" drug, cocaboxylase thioctacid, which the German team physician admitted in a press conference had been administered to all West German oarsmen, as well as some cyclists and swimmers. The doctor denied that the drug, which he called a physiological tonic, could possibly have affected the race, as there had never before been any adverse reaction to it; he also said it was not doping or manipulation of an athlete. The doctor thought the loss was due to Kolbe's setting too fast a pace, an observation which seems to be borne out by an analysis of the splits and Karppinen's ability to hold his time over the third 500 meters when everyone else was losing theirs. Interesting.

The Petites in coxed pairs ought to show whether our pair had just been having an occasional bad row, or were completely off form. It looked very much like the latter, as they were fifth off the line, fell to sixth at 1000 meters, managed to come back through the Yugoslavians to take fifth at 1500, and held on to come 11th overall, over 8½ seconds behind the winning English. Apparently, this was a thoroughly bad regatta for our pair. In the Grand, the East Germans were expected to prevail, and did, although they had to come from

third place at 500 and 1000 meters to overhaul leading Bulgaria and then the Soviet Union, defeating the latter by less than 2 seconds. The Svojanovsky brothers from Czechoslovakia staged their patented spurt from fourth place which they had held all race long to overhaul the Bulgarians and claim the Bronze; Italy was fifth, and Poland sixth.

The Pair With finishes fifth in Petite Finale.



Petite Finale Pair With

	500m	1000m	1500m	2000m
GBR	1:54.26	3:59.87	6:06.68	8:06.93
GER	1:56.09	3:58.33	6:03.56	8:09.02
FRA	1:57.37	4:02.27	6:09.45	8:12.66
BRA	1:54.71	4:02.72	6:10.11	8:14.44
USA	1:56.51	4:03.41	6:11.95	8:15.65
YUG	1:55.57	4:02.99	6:13.05	8:16.22

Grand Finale Pair With

	500m	1000m	1500m	2000m
GDR	1:51.62	3:54.54	6:00.50	7:58.99
URS	1:49.75	3:52.07	6:02.66	8:01.82
TCH	1:52.13	3:55.70	6:06.86	8:03.28
BUL	1:49.52	3:53.20	6:03.22	8:11.27
ITA	1:54.95	4:00.28	6:12.67	8:15.97
POL	1:53.02	4:03.10	6:19.88	8:23.02

In the Petites for straight fours, it would be instructive to see whether our crew went for the win, and if so how fast they really were. They appeared to be rowing competitively, holding second at 500, third at 1000, and then back to second by 1500 meters and at the finish, 1.70 seconds behind the front-running Bulgarians for an overall eighth place finish. In the Grand Final, the East Germans appeared too strong for the rest of the field and, although they had to row through the Russians at 500 meters, they led the race for the balance of the distance, and claimed another Gold Medal in this event. A very fine row was put on by Norway, which took over second place before the 1000 meter mark and held it all the way in to claim the Silver, though they had to repulse a late charge by the Russians which fell just 1.30 seconds short; New Zealand just missed a Bronze by .69 seconds, Canada was a disappointed fifth, and West Germany sixth. This race indicated a

(Cont'd on next page)

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growing strength in Scandinavian rowing, what with the Finn's Gold in singles and the Hansen brothers' Gold for Norway in the doubles, giving Norway two medals.



Petite Final Four Without

	500m	1000m	1500m	2000m
BUL	1:35.31	3:14.12	4:55.77	6:41.36
USA	1:34.90	3:15.72	4:58.12	6:43.06
ROM	1:35.72	3:17.61	5:00.44	6:43.96
BEL	1:39.57	3:20.80	5:03.72	6:47.51
ITA	1:33.89	3:15.46	4:59.84	6:48.11
GBR	1:38.32	3:19.31	5:02.67	6:53.02

Grand Finale Without

	500m	1000m	1500m	2000m
GDR	1:34.29	3:15.46	4:55.75	6:37.42
NOR	1:35.13	3:16.16	4:58.05	6:41.22
URS	1:33.85	3:17.91	5:02.24	6:42.52
NZL	1:38.03	3:19.15	5:01.70	6:43.23
CAN	1:36.18	3:21.03	5:04.27	6:46.11
GER	1:37.62	3:21.40	5:06.29	6:47.44

Our second finalist came up in the quads, but realistically our hopes couldn't be too high, as the East German quad looked like one of the strongest crews in the regatta, and others had obviously put a lot into their quads. However, with veteran John Van Blom stroking, the U.S.A. got away to a pretty fair start, stood fifth at 500 meters, and then showed their mettle by rowing through both West Germany and Czechoslovakia to be third at 1000 meters. However, the effort of doing so plus the great strength of the other quads



proved telling thereafter, and we fell back into sixth place by 1500 meters, where we finished some 16 seconds out of first and 13 seconds out of the medals. East Germany won as expected, although they briefly surrendered the lead at 1000 meters to a very strong Russian quad, and the Easties had to put out everything they had to preserve their Gold by 1.24 seconds; the Czechs came through for the Bronze by a bit over 3 seconds over the West Germans; Bulgaria was fifth. Our quad had proven stronger and better competitors than most had expected, but were in tough competition. But it must remain to their credit that they were our second best crew at this regatta, and achieved the finals to salvage a measure of pride both for themselves and for U.S. fans.

Grand Finale Quads

	500m	1000m	1500m	2000m
GDR	1:27.59	3:03.52	4:42.24	6:18.65
URS	1:27.86	3:03.23	4:43.38	6:19.89
TCH	1:28.23	3:06.33	4:43.90	6:21.77
GER	1:28.48	3:08.56	4:47.74	6:32.04
USA	1:29.53	3:04.11	4:52.81	6:34.33

Our eight was determined to row as well as possible in the Petites in order to show the strength of this crew. For this race, it had been decided to put Mike Hess in the stroke seat to see if that could improve anything, either morale or performance, with Shealy moving back to four. There was a report going around, which I was unable to confirm at the source, that the Russians had wanted to send their eight straight home in disgrace, but that the FISA president had strongly forbade that on pain of serious future sanctions, so they dutifully appeared for the Petites. The U.S.A. eight fired out from the line in first place, and had a narrow .29 second lead on the Canadians at 500 meters, with the Soviets third. By 1000 meters, the Russians had rowed through both crews to take the lead, and the U.S.A. was second by an eyelash. The Russians stretched their lead to 2.13 seconds at 1500 meters, and in the final 500 the determined Canadian eight rowed through the U.S. and relegated us to 9th place overall, 2.04 seconds behind Canada and 5.19 seconds behind the Russians. Doubtless few would dispute that it was a shocking performance. In my uncredentialed and isolated position it is impossible for me to offer any analysis; surely others will as time goes on.

Petite Finale Eights

	500m	1000m	1500m	2000m
URS	1:28.64	3:02.81	4:35.65	6:05.88
CAN	1:28.30	3:04.59	4:39.74	6:09.03
USA	1:28.01	3:03.02	4:37.78	6:11.07
CUB	1:29.46	3:06.91	4:40.88	6:14.88
JPN	1:34.34	3:15.46	4:55.23	6:33.33

U.S. disappointments aside, the Grand Final in eights was going to be a magnificent spectacle. The New Zealanders started out in their pattern, blasting away to an early lead, and holding a .52 second margin over the British at 500 meters, Australia third and East Germany seemingly well within themselves in fourth. At Munich, the Kiwis had clearly won the Gold in the second 500 meters, when they extended their lead to an unbeatable margin over the field. However, that pattern was not to repeat here, as both the British and East Germans rowed a faster second 500, the former in front by .20 second at 1000 meters, the latter still rowing smoothly though now in third by 1.24 seconds out of second. New Zealand rowed four seconds slower over the third 500 than the two leaders, and at 1500 it was still the British by 1.14 seconds over the East Germans, New Zealand still maintaining third over Australia. Then the Easties turned it on, came charging at the British, and with by far the fastest final 500 meters overhauled the leaders by 1900 meters and won the Gold Medal going away, in a time of 5:58.29 into a 2.6 meters per second headwind. The British were not seriously challenged for the Silver, finished not quite 3 seconds up on the New Zealanders, who also had an appreciable margin on the West Germans, who passed the Australians to take fourth; Czechoslovakia was sixth. It was a magnificent race, taking its place alongside all the other classic Olympic eight oared finals, and gave East Germany its first Gold Medal in eights.

Grand Finale Eights

	500m	1000m	1500m	2000m
GDR	1:25.57	2:54.84	4:28.92	5:58.29
GBR	1:24.22	2:53.40	4:27.78	6:00.82
NZL	1:23.70	2:53.60	4:31.67	6:03.51
GER	1:26.03	2:57.18	4:33.41	6:06.15

Like the women's events, East Germany dominated with a medal in every event, 5 Golds, 1 Silver and 2 Bronzes.

So ends the report. Inside analysis will have to come from others. Surely all U.S. oarsmen did their ultimate best. Why that yielded the results it did will certainly be open to much future scrutiny.

"TRY IT YOUR WAY"

by Bob Jaugstetter

Once a sport for the elite, rowing takes another step toward a broader base.

With the byword, "Try it your way," and a lot of helping hands, Philadelphia inner city youths, who otherwise may never have had a chance to touch an oar, are being introduced to the sport of rowing.

For the past seven years, the Mayor's Better Break Program has sponsored "Camp Dimension," a swimming and water safety program centered on Gustine Lake, an old reservoir near Philadelphia's Schuylkill River. About five years ago Charles Colgan, former Penn and Vesper oarsman and now supervisor of the Board of Education's Department of Inter-system Cooperation, was looking for a new swimming instructor for the Dimension program. Among the people he contacted for suggestions was Dr. Oliver Lancaster, principal of Simon Gratz High School, who countered Colgan's question with one of his own: Why not expand Camp Dimension into a rowing program as well?

WHY NOT?

It turned out to be one of those "why didn't we think of this earlier?" ideas. In no time, Colgan and several other volunteers had a basic program started with the enthusiastic approval of the Schuylkill Navy, the Department of Recreation, and the Fairmount Park Commission.

Operations were on a shoestring basis, with the Dimension people borrowing when they could and making do when they couldn't. Luckily, many organizations like the Vesper Boat Club, Penn ACRA, University of Pennsylvania, and Drexel, were willing to provide equipment, storage space, and even instructors.

Safety still came first. All of Camp Dimension's rowing participants first had to master swimming requirements and learn procedures for handling boating emergencies. Then they progressed to actual rowing and canoeing instruction on Gustine Lake — the reservoir's four-and-a-half foot depth proving ideal, as coaches could stand in the water right next to their novices. After learning the basic skills, the kids were ready for the big step: onto the Schuylkill and its long, beautiful stretches through the park, and finally into actual races.

MOVERS AND SHAKERS

Things may have remained at this simple level except for Colgan's vision of a bigger and better, self-sufficient program, and the tireless efforts of one of his co-workers on the project, Helen Toolsearan. Mrs. Toolsearan (then Helen Wilcher), Director of Camp Dimension, has been admirably described as "a leech." She grabs on and won't let go until she gets what she wants.

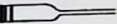
What Colgan and Toolsearan wanted was simple. It's what every new program wants: equipment and a boathouse. What happened was a triumph of planning and persistence—they got it. Bell Telephone of Pennsylvania provided water safety

equipment and funds for the rental and purchase of shells. Harry Olsen of Philadelphia's 21st Ward Community Council provided a half-dozen canoes. Again with the help of Fairmount Park Director Robert McConnell and the Dept. of Recreation Commissioner Robert Crawford, an old bathhouse close by Gustine and the river, scheduled for demolishing, was acquired for "recycling" into the Dimension program. How would the bathhouse be adapted to Dimension's needs? Well, the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects was persuaded to draw up plans.

But the big event came in December of 1974. Colgan and Toolsearan got a special Christmas bonus when the William Penn Foundation awarded \$25,000 for the purpose of turning the rundown, vandalized bathhouse into the Mayor's Better Break Boathouse. Months of searching and about a three inch thick file of correspondence had paid off with a permanent facility.

ONLY THE BEGINNING

The next priority is a shell storage house on the river itself and the construction of a dock. The renovated bathhouse will then serve as a shower and locker facility for all of Dimension's water safety, swimming, rowing, and canoeing activities, and as headquarters for the Camp cross-country team. The racing program itself has begun to expand, including not only Schuylkill Navy events but trips to Kent, Syracuse, and St. Catharines as well.

It's rowing from the bottom up. It's starting from scratch to build something worthwhile. It's a teaching and learning experience all in one. For many people it's been a lot of work; and for many more it's been a great deal of fun. 

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Schuylkill Course Finish Line

Gets a Facelift

By Don Schnorr

Built during the Bicentennial year, the Schuylkill Navy Judges Tower and Spectators Stand completed this summer will prove to be a valuable addition to the already renowned Philadelphia rowing course. Built with Philadelphia Recreation Commission funding, dedication of the complex took place on July 3rd, during a pause between heats of the Independence Day Regatta. Presiding at the dedication was Philadelphia's Recreation Commissioner Robert Crawford, who is also President of the Fairmount Park Commission. Included among the dignitaries introduced by Mr. Crawford was Robert McConnell, Director, Fairmount Park; Councilman John B. Kelly Jr., Chairman of Philadelphia's Recreation Committee; Richard Nicolai, Public Relations Director, Fairmount Park; and the Honorable William Middendorf, Secretary of the Navy.

In his remarks, Mr. Crawford praised the contribution of the Schuylkill Navy to the Philadelphia Sports Community, and offered the city's gratitude to the member clubs in supporting this project. He especially singled out the Schuylkill Navy's own Ted Hoag, Chairman of the River Committee, for his work in the planning and coordination of the structures. The Plaque which was donated by Ed Singer and cast in Philadelphia, is shown below.

photo: Murray



(L-R) Robert McConnell, Hon. John J. William Middendorf, John B. Kelly and Robert Crawford.

Following plans of typical European facilities (especially the Nottingham, England structure), the architects, Wilkinson, Kaurman and Pepper designed this beautiful facility uniquely suitable to Schuylkill Navy boating needs. The Officials Tower, over 10 feet wide and extending from the River to the East River Drive, rises some 38 feet above the river wall, ensuring excellent visibility for regatta judges. Planned to be functional for many years to come, the tower is built on 28 piles extending underground 30 feet to a hardpan formation. With sides of tempered plexiglas and a specially designed rolling steel door front closure, the tower is as utilitarian as it

is aesthetically pleasing. Wired with ample power to accommodate expected future needs, the complex also features a customized phone, intercom and Public Address system designed and installed by Al Wachlin, the Schuylkill Navy's hard working Vice Commodore. Implementation of the new facility required a resurvey of the Schuylkill Navy course, this done with the latest laser techniques to ensure the utmost accuracy of the course. Subsequent course details and extensive calculations were performed by Tom Dowd of Fairmount Boat Club, who, using his rowing and engineering background, did a great job in establishing the actual finish line and setting of course markers. Future improvements planned for the tower include a video camera installation for judging as well as instructional purposes. The accompanying structure, the covered spectators stands, double the former 1000 fan capacity seating, and the well-worn "splinter special" wooden benches have been replaced by new red-wood seating.

Mr. Middendorf, in his remarks, called it the "finest water sports facility in this country today," and also expressed his pleasure in being able to attend the dedication as well as to row in the Master's race held just before the ceremony. Mr. Middendorf was also instrumental in the engagement of the Philadelphia Navy Yard Band, which performed especially for the occasion, and between races for the remainder of the afternoon. The Secretary delighted Philadelphia rowing fans by directing the band in their rendition of the "Schuylkill Navy March," composed and dedicated by Mr. Middendorf in honor of the occasion.

The Schuylkill Navy is indeed proud of the new facility, and hopes that it will add significantly to rowing programs in this area, both of increased spectator convenience and comfort, as well as to ensure efficient regatta operation, ensuring fair and equitable rowing conditions for all competitors. ■

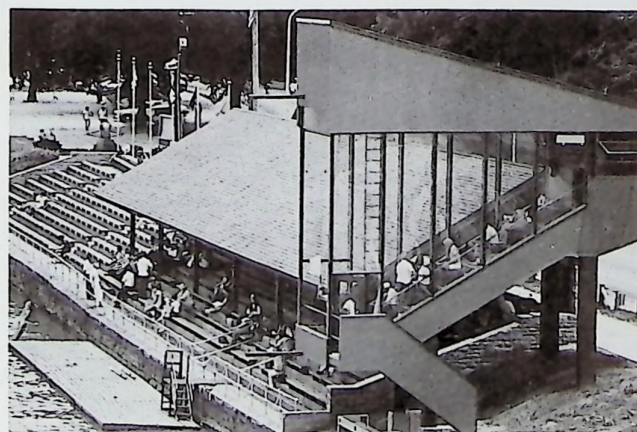


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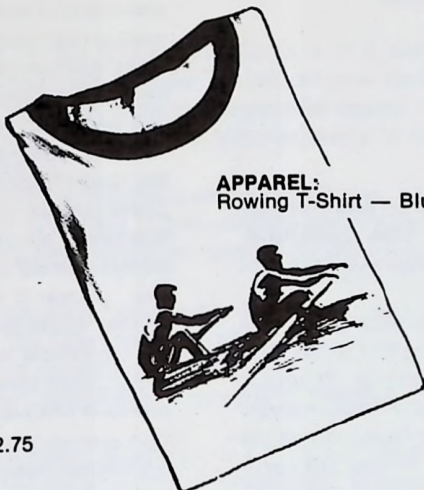


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Women's Sprints— Reflections

by Emory Clark

It was not so much a matter of *who* was or was not present. It was the atmosphere pervading this delightful, well-run, hard-fought regatta on Lake Quinsigamund which I found intriguing.

It took me awhile to figure out what I was sensing as I exercised my new loyalties (and continued research) at the first women's regatta I have been privileged to attend. Finally it was our learned editor and Radcliffe coach who made it clear:

"There aren't any bigwigs here," said Pete Raymond as we stood in the crowd of sweating oarswomen at the Women's Eastern Sprints watching the Wisconsin Eight, winner by 7/10 of a second over Yale even without its regular six oar, Carrie Graves, being awarded its trophy. Pete was the only person at the regatta sporting a tie, but even that appeared more an act of forgetfulness than an affirmation of propriety.

In fact there are those who might have qualified for the bigwig tag had they sought it: Dave Wight, Olympic gold medalist from Yale's magnificent 1956 Eight, wearing a blue blazer of sorts and recruited to referee by Yale coach Nat Case (he had to call Yale for jumping the start in the final); and of course, Seymour Cromwell, early friend of women's rowing, and perennial Olympic and international sculler.

But Seymour will never wear a blue blazer and thus will never qualify as a bigwig, and I suspect nobody knew Wight had ever been in a boat — most of the competitors were little more than a gleam in their parents' eyes or at best in their cribs when he had his moment in the sun Down Under.

To your watchful researcher, it was apparent the regatta was run by the various coaches, all young in years and experience, no doubt underpaid if paid at all, dedicated; and if kisses and hugs mean anything, beloved by their oarswomen.

The kisses and hugs and their counterpart, tears, were in much more evidence than at any men's regatta I have attended — and I suppose properly so. Here, then, is a difference — societal values from our very early years dictating that men hide their emotions while those restraints are less stringent on women. Thus the freely flowing tears in defeat, the less than elegant bear hugs in victory. Even, after one race, roses — I had never before associated roses with rowing.

To a male the most interesting aspect of the regatta was the apparent total lack of feminine awareness among the oarswomen. They were just not there to be women, they were there to row. They seemed liberated from that age-old competition as they joined in this common endeavor which clearly has something other than a sexual common denominator. I suspect when all is said and done, this aspect of rowing may prove to be of most lasting value to oarswomen. Most women never experience it, but those who do gain a new and different perspective of themselves as individuals, and perhaps some insight into the male of the species.

As for the bigwigs, I suppose some day it is possible for the Gail Piersons, the Chris Ernsts, the Molly Uptons, the Carrie Graves of this world to turn into blue-blazered fuddy-duddies (although I must say, chauvinist that I am, the term always carried a male connotation), but it is hard to imagine now. I hope it never happens.

Men could do well to take a leaf from the women's book and somehow shed a hundred years of stuffiness and prejudice (club versus college, East versus West Coast, Vesper versus NYAC) while retaining the tremendous value of more than a century of rowing tradition. Perhaps it is just that rowing women have had to fight so just to be permitted on the river that they have not had time to form debilitating jealousies and rivalries among themselves. The person fighting for his or her very existence rarely has time or energy for pettiness and selfishness.

In any case, to this oft times jaundiced eye the whole regatta was indeed refreshing. The crowd was not large, but it too was dedicated and interested in what it was watching. Everyone seemed to be trying to cooperate at the congested dock areas. The oarswomen were genuinely pleased with the triumphs of friends and teammates and saddened by their defeats. Even the program was indicative of the selflessness of the affair. It featured the oarswomen, with no regatta chairmen listed or any other official for that matter.

The day was particularly poignant to your sentimental reporter, who as a Yale partisan found himself on more than one occasion with his eyes misted over — naturally he made every effort to conceal this sign of weakness. Never had he heard the old Yale fight song so sweetly sung as the Yale Varsity pulled away from the dock. The soprano voices were still somehow not in keeping with the looks of determination and concentration on the faces of the stern pair and will no doubt take some more getting used to. 

COMMISSION NEWS

President's
Commission on
Olympic Sports

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: BEVERLY L. DODD
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, June 29 — Six active participants in U.S. rowing, representing athletes, coaches and administrators, met here on June 15 to advise the President's Commission on Olympic Sports.

Until World War I, rowing was one of the most popular recreational sports in the United States with clubs being the centers of activity. Today, rowing is a competitive sport centered primarily in Eastern colleges, but gaining interest and strength in Western and Mid-Western schools.

According to the members of the Commission's Rowing Consulting Group, what is most needed to further develop rowing in the United States is funding. Money is needed to pay coaches and officials; to buy equipment; to build new facilities; and to finance existing facilities during the summer so that the athletes may remain active and new programs may be developed.

Representing the Commission in the day-long round-table discussion were Rafer Johnson, Chairman of the Rowing Consulting Group, and Carolyn Levitt of the Commission staff.

The members of the Rowing Consulting Group are:

— Dick Erickson of Seattle, Washington, crew coach, University of Washington; assistant National Team coach, 1969, 1970; Pan Am crew coach, 1971

— Jack Frailey of Concord, Massachusetts, chairman, U.S. Olympic Men's Rowing Committee (USOMRC); vice-president, National Association of Amateur Oarsmen; coach, USOMRC Special Development Program

— Joanne Wright Iverson of Lafayette Hill, Pennsylvania, president and co-founder, National Women's Rowing Association; secretary, U.S. Olympic Women's Rowing Committee; manager, 1976 Women's Olympic Team; founder and coach, University of Pennsylvania Women's crew; coach, College Boat Club Women, 4 national championships

— Randall T. Jablonic of Madison, Wisconsin, head crew coach, University of Wisconsin; coach, Wisconsin's national championship crews, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975

— Harry L. Parker of Winchester, Massachusetts, coach of rowing, Harvard University; coach, U.S. Olympic Eight, Men's, 1968, 1972; coach, U.S. Olympic Women's Eight and Four, 1976

— Michael Vespoli of Wichita, Kansas, member, 1972 and 1976 Olympic Teams; 1972 World Champion; member, 1971 and 1975 Pan Am Teams; 6 time National Champion

The President's Commission on Olympic Sports is mandated to make a thorough study of the current structure of the U.S. Olympic Committee and other amateur sports organizations and to make recommendations to the President on how to improve the effectiveness of the U.S. in international competition.

In addition to conducting nationwide hearings with respect to organization, funding, athletes' rights, facilities, and other aspects of the current amateur sports situation, the Commission has begun the second phase of its study — a sport-by-sport analysis of the Olympic sports. Sports consulting groups such as the one for rowing serve as one means of researching the problem areas in each sport.

The rowing report will be submitted to the full President's Commission on Olympic Sports for its consideration in September, 1976. Input from each sports study group will be used to help formulate the overall recommendations of the Commission.



N.W.R.A. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

by Patricia Pinkerton



Just one year past the 100th anniversary of women's rowing and on the eve of the nation's 200th birthday, the National Women's Rowing Association Championships had a little bit of everything, from a Bicentennial salute to a small-boat demolition derby.

The four-day regatta was held in the Long Beach Marine Stadium, from Thursday, June 17th through Sunday, June 20th, allowing a full schedule of heats, repechages and finals. The weather was California-glorious, if one can forgive a fierce cross-wind, and a cross-current that caused collisions on the stakeboats and made starts nearly impossible.

Conspicuously absent from last year's championships, Tom McKibbin's Long Beach Rowing Association provided gracious hospitality in every way but one. Rowing in their backyard, demonstrating their superb sculling skills, it seemed only fair that LBRA win the euphemistically named all-points trophy and the national team championship, despite a strong challenge by ZLAC Rowing Club from San Diego. ZLAC, very strong in the junior and lightweight events, actually amassed more points but found themselves out in the cold when they discovered that junior and intermediate points did not count toward the overall point totals. ZLAC won the Junior Championship and finished fourth in the Elite class. Ironically, ZLAC donated the Junior Championship trophy last year in an attempt to recognize youth rowing.

The Princeton Nationals sported only a sprinkling of western and mid-western teams last year, the most notable being University of Wisconsin, the team that beat Vesper in the Open Eight and assured the continuation of the National Camp. In Long Beach, east met west with a vengeance. During the qualifying heats on Thursday, western teams dominated the entries, but eastern teams dominated the races. College Boat Club had a field day, winning five of five qualifying heats, including open-water wins in the Light Four, Open Four, Open Pair, Light Pair, and a close win over UCLA in the Open Eight. Defending champion Wisconsin won their Open Eight heat by five seconds over University of California, Berkeley. Cal also finished second in their Light Eight heat, one deck down on defending champion, Boston University. A combined boat from ZLAC and Mission Bay Rowing Association edged past University of Washington in the other Light Eight heat.

With Friday's trials, ZLAC began by sweeping the Junior Single, led by junior wonderwoman, Ann Benton. Teammate Joy Stockton joined her to stroke ZLAC into open-water victories in the Intermediate Eight, Junior Quad, and the accident-prone Junior Double.

Although billed as the Junior Double, strong crosswinds and cross-currents in the warm-up area aided in the introduction of a new event, the destruction derby. The ZLAC 'B' boat collided with a pair, and the Oakland Strokes broadsided the Greenlake entry, or more precisely, Greenlake's Kelly Dunbar, knocking them into the Club de Espana double. The Oakland and Greenlake boats were demolished, along with bow-woman Kelly Dunbar. Greenlake coach Kathy Whitman requested a postponement to locate another boat and attend to Dunbar's injuries, but the race ran without them. Head official Julian Wolff said the aligner was misinformed that Greenlake scratched. Whitman said all of the coaches were willing to rerun the race, but were unwilling to agree on a time.

Not to be outdone, by the doubles, in the Light Eight repechage, which set the precedent for troubled starts, a broken tiller caused Cal to ram Oakland ten strokes off the stakeboats after twenty minutes of alignment problems and

false starts. Officials ruled equipment damage and Cal came back to win. In the Light Eight finals, officials called back another start to avoid a collision between a ZLAC/MBRA boat and Greenlake.

LBRA's Debbie Rozowski won the Intermediate Single and a third-place MBRA finish foiled an LBRA sweep. Saturday it was a different story in the Open Single, with Olympic sculler Joan Lind leading Rozowski and Karen McCloskey in a LBRA sweep. LBRA also won the Light Quad, Open Pair, Single Dash, and the Open Quad.

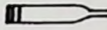
ZLAC won the Light Wherry, but defending High School Eight champions were blitzed by a superb eight from St. Paul's School. In Saturday's featured race, defending champion Boston pulled out for a three-second win over Cal in the Light Eight.

Friday belonged to ZLAC, and LBRA won nearly everything Saturday, but Sunday belonged to College BC. In the first event of the day, College BC leaped out to a ten-second win over Wisconsin in the Open Four. Joan Lind and Lisa Hansen won the Open Double for LBRA, ZLAC won the High School Four, and then it was back to College, after a brief pause for patriotism.

To make sure no one forgot the importance of this bicentennial year, the National Drag Boat Association, displaying a better relationship than most rowers have with drag boats, blasted down the course in an All-American salute, complete with six flags, sirens and the inevitable wakes.

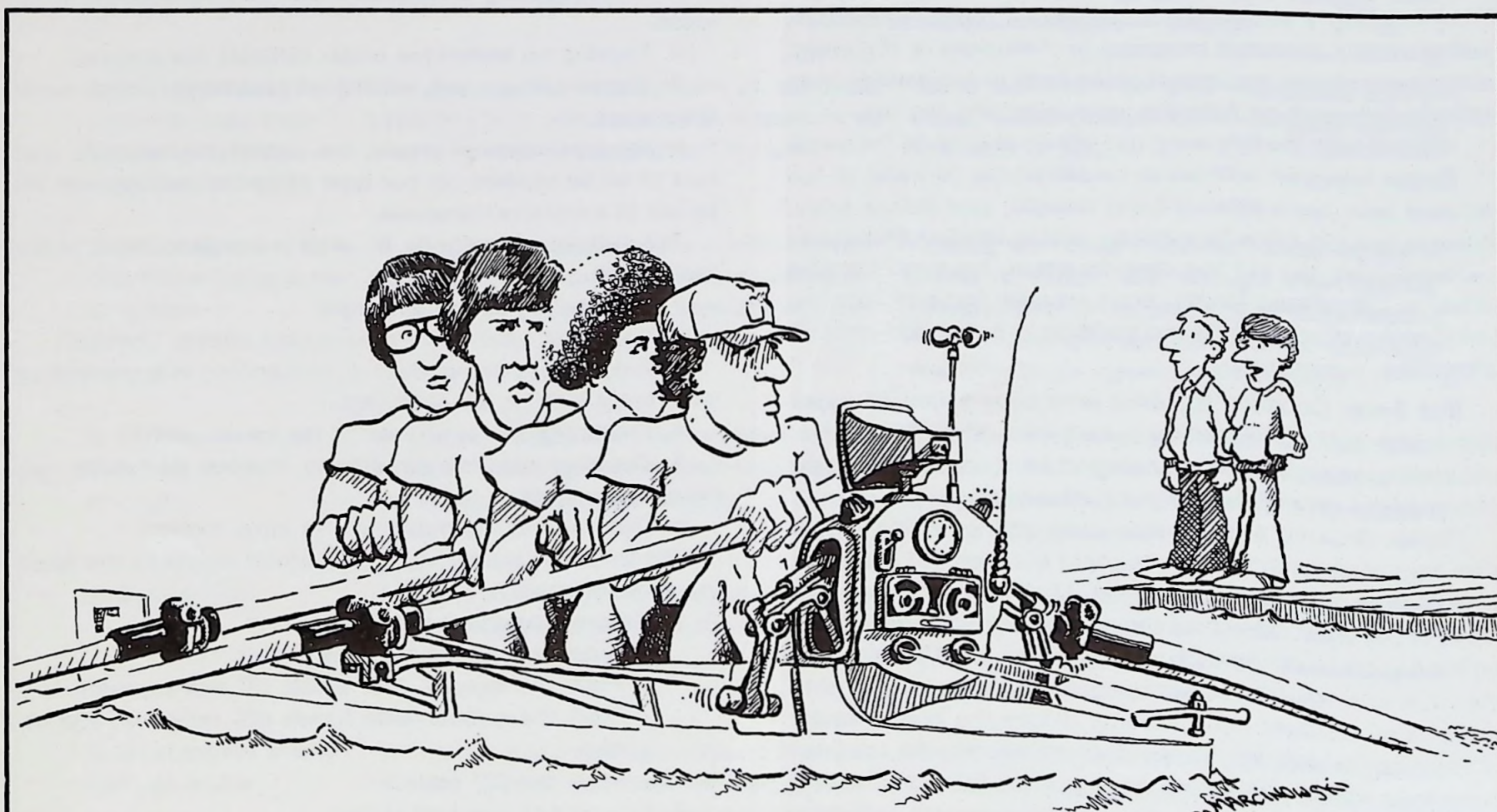
With 400 meters to go in the hotly contested Light Four, College was stroke for stroke with Minnesota, Boston and Washington. Minnesota and College pulled away before College went on to a one-length win. In the prestigious Open Eight, defending champion Wisconsin stroked a 41 throughout the race, but it wasn't enough to overcome the crosswinds and College BC, who had drawn a semi-sheltered lane.

Cal and UCLA finished a close third and fourth.

During the awards ceremonies afterwards, regatta chairwoman Winnie Rich presented flowers to the Club de Espana oarswomen. Mexican boats won the Light Single and placed second in the Junior Double, but they were ineligible for medals or points. With a touch of class, Lake Washington's Joanne Lennox gave her gold medal to Mexico's Light Singles winner, Laura Trapaga, ending the 1976 NWRA Nationals with a meaningful salute to the Bicentennial. 

RESULTS:

JUNIOR SINGLE 1. ZLAC-Benton 4:17.8 2. ZLAC-Stitt 4:26.1 3. ZLAC-Stockton 4:32.9 4. Oakland-Jackson 5. Lake Ewauna-Jack 6. Greenlake-Black **INTERMEDIATE SINGLE** 1. LBRA-Rozowski 4:02.4 2. LBRA-O'Reilly 4:06.3 3. MBRA-Heitanen 4:14.6 4. LBRA-Wong **JUNIOR DOUBLE** 1. ZLAC 'A' 3:57.0 2. Mexico 4:03.7 3. ZLAC 'B' 4:03.9 4. Oakland **INTERMEDIATE EIGHT** 1. ZLAC 3:44.5 2. Minnesota 3:48.1 3. Combo-Holy Names 3:49.4 4. Lake Merritt 3:50.1 5. Oakland 3: 6. LMRC/UCB/MBRA **JUNIOR QUAD** 1. ZLAC 'A' 4:12.0 2. Greenlake 4:18.5 3. ZLAC 'B' 4:18.9 4. Oakland **LIGHTWEIGHT QUAD** 1. LBRA 3:46.4 2. ZLAC/MBRA 3:48.7 3. LWRAC/Boston 3:52.5 4. Oakland **OPEN SINGLE** 1. LBRA-Lind 3:52.2 2. LBRA-Rozowski 4:07.3 3. LBRA-McCloskey 4:08.5 4. MBRA-Krenn 5. LWRC-Sands **LIGHT WHERRY** 1. ZLAC-Beaudette 5:05.0 2. Oakland 5:09.2 3. LBRA 5:12.5 4. ZLAC 'B' **HIGH SCHOOL EIGHT** 1. St. Paul 3:27.9 2. ZLAC 3:33.5 3. Greenlake 3:41.0 4. Oakland **LIGHT PAIR** 1. College BC 4:09.0 2. Minnesota 'B' 4:15.0 3. Greenlake 4:16.5 4. Boston 5. LBRA/CSULB 6. Minnesota 'A' **OPEN QUAD** 1. USA-Olympic Quad 3:31.2 2. LBRA/LMRC 3:36.7 3. MBRA/ZLAC 3:50.2 4. Rainbow Crew **LIGHT SINGLES** 1. Mexico-Trapaga 4:10.5 2. LWRC-Lennox 4:19.5 3. Mills-Rozowski 4:26.4 4. LBRA-McIntire 5. LWRC-Brumley 6. Bachelor's-Mynaugh **OPEN PAIR** 1. LBRA 'A' 3:53.5 2. College 3:57.5 3. Cal 4:05.0 4. CSULB/Oregon State 5. LWRC 6. CSULB 'A' **LIGHT EIGHT** 1. Boston U. 3:42.3 2. Cal 3:45.8 3. Minnesota 3:46.9 4. ZLAC/MBRA 5. Greenlake 6. Washington **OPEN FOUR** 1. College BC 3:42.4 2. Wisconsin 3:51.4 3. Dartmouth 'B' 3:51.5 4. Washington 5. Dartmouth 'A' 6. Minnesota **LIGHT SINGLES DASH** 1. LWRC 'B' 1:32.4 2. LBRA 1:32.5 3. Potomac 1:38.5 4. LWRC 'A' 5. LBRA 6. Bachelor's **OPEN WHERRIES** 1. MBRA 'B' 4:50.1 2. UC San Diego 4:55.7 3. MBRA 'A' 4:57.0 4. LBRA 5. Oakland 6. ZLAC **HIGH SCHOOL FOUR** 1. ZLAC 3:59.0 2. Greenlake 'B' 4:08.3 3. Greenlake 'A' 4:08.7 4. Oakland 'A' 5. Pomfret 6. Oakland 'B' **OPEN DOUBLES** 1. LBRA 'A' 3:36.7 2. LBRA 'D' 3:40.3 3. LBRA 'B' 3:49.3 4. MBRA 5. Cambridge/LWRC 6. LBRA 'C' **LIGHT FOUR** 1. College BC 3:56.0 2. Minnesota 'A' 3:58.3 3. Boston 4:06.7 4. Washington and Seattle Pacific 4:08.62 5. Chicago **LIGHT DOUBLES** 1. LWRC 3:56.2 2. LBRA 'A' 4:03.2 3. LBRA 'B' 4:07.3 4. Bach. **OPEN EIGHT** 1. College BC 3:23.4 2. Wisconsin 3:25.1 3. Cal 3:26.9 4. UCLA 5. Dartmouth 6. Washington



"They no sooner perfected the damn stroke than it broke out of the lab, got drunk and ran off with the coach's lawnmower."

PROBLEMS IN ROWING

by Dieter Altenburg

Translated from *Rudersport Der DDR*, 6/75, pp. 9-12.

GENERAL

At all levels, these basics hold for sculling instruction:

- Left before right (left closer to the body) and left under right.
- This holds for drive as well as recovery. Gross differences in reach between right and left are to be avoided. Above all, strive for equal reach at the catch.

The following holds for sweep oared shells as well as sculls.

WATERWORK

Catch: Immediate pressure on the blade after a quick entry, using as much forward lean with as little splash as possible.

Mid Drive: Further increase of power through good coupling of legs and back.

Finish: Minimal reduction of pressure, coordinating backward movement of shoulders and upper arms, extending the drive as long as possible; quick, but not too hard or jerky release.

STYLE

In creating a pattern of movement, a fluid harmonious, and smoothly converted progression of motions is important, since every uneven movement of the body or extremities is an adverse influence on both the propulsion and the run.

In particular, the following guidelines should be followed:

Catch: Insertion with blade perpendicular to water at full forward lean, arms extended and relaxed; just before entry, blade is brought close to water by raising hands; after quick, perpendicular, but not too deep insertion, leg push initiates drive; at full relaxed length, arms transfer force of legs; no jerky swing of upper body; no yielding in harnessed arms or shoulders, nor in torso.

Mid Drive: Coupling leg drive with body swing of upper torso; arm pull is initiated by pulling back shoulder blades; constant tension between handle and footboard; no yielding of harnessed musculature in arms, shoulders, torso, or legs.

Finish: Prolong stroke using arms and swinging shoulders back with torso rigid and upright at finish; lift blade out with as little spray as possible; no giving in the legs; no collapse of the upper body over the oar handle; no pulling down on the handle (washing out); with the quick and fluid release, the calm and smooth recovery begins. Now the object is to not let any mistakes unnecessarily reduce the peak velocity of the boat, which will in any case be decreasing continuously from water resistance. Hanging at the catch and letting the blades drag is forbidden. No rough movements with handle; slide progresses smoothly and continuously; back and arms in concert with slide move into forward lean position without starting reversal of motion; back and shoulder musculature are extended forward; concentration is on the immediate

following catch, avoiding an extra "washing out" movement in the forward lean position from additional swing of the upper body.

DEVELOPMENT AND PERFECTION OF ROWING TECHNIQUE

The schooling and perfection of technique must become a permanent part of training after the beginner's instruction is complete in order to lead our rising young crews to an even higher level technically as well.

By technical development we mean the conscious perfection and consolidation of athletic preparedness. With respect to rowing and rowing technique, that means those movements of sculls and sweep oared shells currently acknowledged as rational, purposeful, and efficient ways of attaining greater performance over a racing distance.

According to Harre, several levels may be distinguished in technical development:

1. Perfection of technique under light loads and constant conditions.
2. Consolidation of technique by gradually increasing tempo and power.
3. Strengthening technique under varying external conditions.
4. Firming up technique under difficult conditions.
5. Consolidation and testing of technique under racing conditions.

In the correction of errors, the underlying reasons must first of all be studied. In our type of sport, lacking raw materials is a common problem.

The following methods of error correction have proven their worth:

1. Contrasting wrong and right
2. Feedback (mirrors in rowing tank, films, photos)
3. Exaggerated demands (e.g. demanding exaggerated upward body jerk for tail shooting)
4. Practicing single phases of the movement.
5. Creating practice conditions making particular mistakes impossible
6. Carrying out the movement in slow motion.

The following are named as important points in the teaching of technique:

1. Balance exercises of various sorts
 - From the layback with hands off
 - From the layback with hands off and recovery.
 - From the layback with hands off, recovery, and one stroke.
 - From the 90° position.
2. Learning to row both sides.
3. Rowing one handed in a sweep-oared shell.
4. Learning rhythm by counting out the beats, changing the beat, rowing with squared blades, etc.
5. Practice correct releases. 

Flaws in Technique and Their Possibilities for Correction

Problem	Possible Cause	Cure
1. "Shooting the tail"	Uncertainty in balance; inadequate strengthening of the back muscles, too much forward lean; yielding in hips (lower back)	Rowing with no slide; emphasis on swing of upper body at beginning of drive; delayed leg drive; utilization of entire slide; esp. sternward portion.
2. Hunching shoulders over handle at the finish	Inadequate strengthening of shoulder and back musculature; yielding in shoulders; upper body drive ending with body perpendicular to the water.	Same corrections as 1.; emphasize shoulder drive; pay attention to position of elbows — don't spread them apart; do not recover upper body from layback position until after the release.
3. Crooked drive; body deviates from perpendicular to keep, esp. at finish.	Pull through uneven with unequal power in each arm and each leg; pulling one oar handle (P. or S.), past the body.	Correct hand position on grip; insure simultaneous blade entry on both sides; at mid-drive, hands should be pulled into close contact; avoid pulling past body (adjust foot boards); develop arm strength.
4. Pulling with left scull closer to body than right on drive; vice versa on recovery.	Finish not pulled straight back on starboard (washing out); port too slow in release movement; too tight a grip with entire hand.	Speed up finish on port and speed up release; prolong drive on starboard, pulling only with fingers.
5. Washing out at finish; throwing up water at release.	Pulling handle along thighs combined with jerking handle down at finish; insufficient arm strength; feathering prematurely.	Rowing with blades squared; check wrists at finish; let blade float through while holding loosely; pull in to lower ribs, then release with blades still vertical; feather only after reaching thigh; develop arm strength.
6. Stroke too short; catch not sharp enough.	Too little forward lean; entire slide length not utilized; pushing handle down into boat in last phase of recovery; "skying."	Bring handle forward level, roll up just before catch; at catch, give short light upward lift on grip, then quickly apply pressure (by starting swing of upper body)
7. Backsplash	1. Blade carried too close to water, and when squared up, blade's lower edge scrapes water, or 2. Catch too slow.	Balance drills emphasizing correct distance of squared and feathered blades from water's surface; rowing with squared blades, moving handle forward level; fast catches.
8. Boat moves jerkily through water.	Rhythm is disturbed; turn-around of slide motion at catch is, proportionately to rest of stroke, too slow; recovery too fast; stroke lacking power.	Blade entry and release motions must be drilled until they can be made quickly. Rapid release with a hint of a pause just as handle is to move forward at knee height; no jerky raising of upper body from layback position.

Freshmen crew team coach
Boston University

June 14, 1976

Dear Mr. Beall

I have heard, from what seems to be a reliable source, that there is a high rate of early fatality among individuals who were active on crew teams during their college years. Their deaths, which are primarily the results of lung and heart malfunctions, have been attributed to the over exertion of these organs while crewing.

I am interested in joining the crew team at Boston University in 1976. I myself cannot understand why crewing would be any more detrimental to one's body than other physically taxing activities. However, if what I have heard is true, I shall have to give the idea of joining the team more serious consideration.

I would appreciate any information you can give me on this subject. Please respond as promptly as possible.

Sincerely,
Christina M. Peterson

Editor's Note: This most persistent myth thrives in the public's ignorance of athletics in general and rowing in particular; we read in an account of World War I the description of a soldier whose heart was weakened by rowing at college; the most recent apocryphal tale is of the 1964 Japanese Olympic eight rowers who sprinted 2000 meters at 50 strokes per minute and died within the year. This article is reprinted from *The Oarsman* May/June 1973 issue, as reprinted from the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, June 26, 1972.

Life * * * * * Expectancy of College Oarsmen

Curtis Prout MD

The rigorous training of rowing and the sustained exertion of the races have been alleged, without foundation, for more than a century, to bring about serious physical damage and occasional early death. This myth was sufficiently widespread by 1873 to warrant a careful investigation. J. E. Morgan did a follow-up investigation of the health of 294 oarsmen from Oxford and Cambridge. It remains a valuable study. Morgan concluded that rowing was usually healthful, and only harmful to those few who were in poor health before commencing to row, or to those who had "let themselves go in later life." Morgan's conclusions are in agreement with several later writers.

In the year 1897, three well-known British oarsmen, all in their 20s, died. Articles on the dangers of rowing promptly appeared in the British lay and medical press until Lehmann, an old oar who knew all three, disclosed that they had died of a ruptured appendix, tuberculosis, and overwhelming infection, respectively. In each case the cause of death was evidently unrelated to rowing.

As recently as 1968, a letter to the *Journal of the American Medical Association* alleged that all the members of the Harvard 1948 crew were already dead, a statement hotly denied by every one of them. The AMA Committee on the Medical Aspects of Sports has attempted to trace similar stories which appear from time to time, all without foundation. Evidently, fiction is more fun than fact.

The nature of crew races perhaps leads to these ideas. The precise timing of a successful eight-oared crew requires each man to exert himself uniformly, continuously, and maximally. The duration of this work is from seven minutes for the classic Henley distance to 22 minutes for a four-mile race. Long distance swimming and running races may last longer, but there the individual performer can vary his pace to suit his own capacity, whereas an oarsman cannot. The examination of a trained oarsman at rest shows some

For 100 years, college rowing has been accused of producing injury and early death. Earlier studies indicated that rowing was safe, and that athletics do not injure the heart or shorten life. One hundred seventy-two varsity oarsmen, when compared with random controls, lived longer. The factors contributing to this longevity do not include height, social class, or educational level.

features not usually seen in other healthy persons; resting pulses with normal sinus rhythms in the 50's and even in the 40's, are not rare. Normal bradycardia of this degree is frequently associated with an apical mid-systolic murmur. The electrocardiogram may be interpreted as abnormal unless one has seen a number of such results in trained athletes. The ECGs of oarsmen have shown some coronary nodal rhythm and sinus bradycardias, according to unpublished data on the 1968 Harvard Olympic crew, gathered by William S. Kaden, MD. There was no evidence of atrioventricular block. The QRS complex had a normal configuration but a greater than normal amplitude, and the ST segments in the limb and lateral precordial leads were occasionally elevated. These changes are not thought to be pathologically significant. For these reasons, and to answer the recurring rumors of damage, it is worthwhile to review the literature and to study the lives of oarsmen, and to compare them with a randomly selected control group. This should also involve an attempt to identify the selection factors which produce varsity oarsmen. We need to know the causes of death of those few oarsmen and controls who died at relatively early ages.

The effect of vigorous exercise on the healthy heart of the trained athlete is harmless. This was stated by Sir James McKenzie in 1912 when he disproved the existence of "athletes heart." Lee et al studied the heart size of oarsmen at Harvard in 1915 and found no significant enlargement. Deutsch and Kauf, in 1927, studied the heart size of a large series of Viennese athletes, including oarsmen, with similar findings. Pomeroy and White, in following the later lives of former Harvard football players, also found no harmful effects. The standard American textbooks of cardiology nowhere suggest that exertion can harm the previously healthy heart of the trained athlete.

The most convincing proof, however, must be in a study

of mortality. The first such attempt was that of J. E. Morgan whose 1873 group contained many men who were still living. He tried, through correspondence, to ascertain the cause of death in the rest. He compared them with Farr's standard tables of British mortality, and while he found that oarsmen lived longer, he admitted that he was dealing with a selected group. The causes of death were listed for only 39 men. This cannot be compared with standard tables, but only three of the deaths were attributed to heart disease.

Hartley and Llewellyn, in 1939, reported 767 Oxford and Cambridge "Old Blues" extending over a period of 100 years of races. Their life spans were compared with insured lives who were certainly better risks than the general population, but perhaps not comparable to a university group. They found the largest margin of superiority of oarsmen to be in the "deaths under 50" group (as has the present study). The mortality experience of these British university oarsmen was "appreciably superior" to the insured population, although the difference grew less with each year of age.

The largest series of data on longevity among athletes was compiled by Dublin and his associates at the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. and published in 1949 (Fig 1).

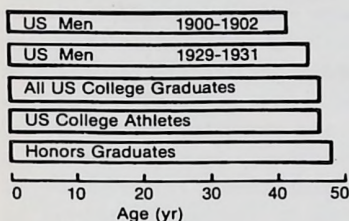
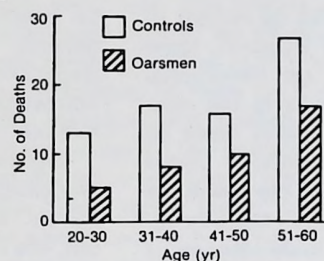


Fig 1.—Expectation of life at age 22, US males (Dublin et al.).

Fig 2.—Early deaths by ten-year periods (172 in each group).



The college students referred to in this figure were graduates of eight eastern colleges, classes 1870 to 1905 (closely comparable to our study), observed until 1925. The greater longevity of college students was probably related to social and economic factors. It is of interest that in this group, athletes had a mortality no different from the whole college population. The superior longevity of honors graduates has been noted in other studies.

Another study was reported in 1957 by Montype and his colleagues at Michigan State University. They sent questionnaires to 1,129 athletes, none of whom were oarsmen. Evidently the same questionnaire was sent to an equal number of "age-matched non-athletes." Six hundred twenty-nine of the former athletes replied (or surviving family members replied for them). Replies were received from about 583 of the non-athletes. The authors thought that, on the basis of the replies they received, there was no difference in the mortality between athletes and nonathletes. The literature, therefore, strongly suggests that rowing does not damage the heart and that the life of oarsmen is not shortened. To date, however, rowers have not been fully compared with their peers.

The group in this study consisted of 172 graduates of Harvard and Yale, each of whom rowed at least once in the four-mile varsity race. The years of the races selected were from 1882 to 1902 to insure a complete mortality experience. For each oarsmen, a classmate was picked at random

to serve as a control. The number of oarsmen in each class was compared with an equal number of nonoarsmen selected from that class by the random number method. Their ages were the same. There was no way to determine from the alumni reports reliable data on social differences or previous health. The height and weight of each oarsman was recorded, his age while rowing, age at death, and, when available, the cause of death. Every man who rowed in the Harvard-Yale varsity race in these years is included.

The average life span was calculated for the crew members and the control groups (TABLE 1). At both Yale and Harvard the average for the crew was higher than for the controls. The difference between the two groups at Yale was 6.35 years, and at Harvard 6.24 years. The difference between these averages was tested for significance by the standard *t*-test, and at both schools the probability that the difference would have occurred by chance was less than the 5% level. Where this occurred in both samples, one can feel quite secure in stating that the differences were real ones.

Needless to say, coxswains were not included in this study. There were differences, possibly not very significant, in two other categories; the 35 crew captains had a life span of 66.1 years, slightly less than the general average, and the 27 stroke oars lived to an average age of 69.5 years.

Group	No. of Subjects	Average Life Span	t-test	P
Harvard crew	90	67.79	2.41	<.05
Harvard controls	90	61.54		
Yale crew	82	67.91	2.37	<.05
Yale controls	82	61.56		
Combined crew	172	67.85	3.39	<.01
Combined controls	172	61.55		

	Controls	Oarsmen
Stroke and heart disease	7	6
Acute infectious disease	8	2
Appendicitis	7	0
Tuberculosis	5	1

Unfortunately, the otherwise excellent alumni records do not often have a reliable diagnosis of the cause of death. Some information can be gained, however, from a study of the number of early deaths in each group, and the cause where it is available (Fig 2). The superior mortality of the oarsmen is most striking under the age of 50, as was also noticed by Hartley in 1939.

The causes of death for those under the age of 60 are incompletely listed and the numbers are small (TABLE 2). Why appendicitis caused deaths only in the control group seems unexplainable.

It is tempting to think that rowing itself made these men more long-lived, but other selection factors may be operating. The use of a control group probably excludes two factors known to have a favorable effect on mortality, namely college education and social class. Obviously the oarsmen were in good condition to begin with, otherwise they would not have been chosen.

Height is an obvious attribute of oarsmen, but Dublin found that under age 40, tall men had a higher mortality than short or average men, and after age 40, they had a higher mortality than men of average height. This was confirmed in a study of Harvard and Pennsylvania students. A distinct possibility is that former varsity oarsmen tend to continue to exercise and to avoid obesity, but this needs further study. Lastly, there is the speculation that people who are successful in various fields tend to outlive their less successful contemporaries.

LETTERS (Cont'd from p. 2)

that I coached for three years at the same boathouse from which he rowed; that he and I often discussed "making weight" efficiently; and that we jointly published an article on our experimentation with Lightweight dehydration. I think the "dark urine" story is apocryphal because I cannot believe that any oarsman worth his salt would put himself in so weak a position for his race the next morning.

But if an oarsman abuses his body, will not the physical price when he is forced to row two hours after weigh-in by greater than when he rows 12 to 20 hours later?

The serious-medical-consequence issue is, I believe, a red herring because chances are the longer weigh-in has a less intense physical effect on oarsmen. The shorter period, at best, would eventually result in very slightly smaller oarsmen who are losing about the same amount of weight as with the longer period but are taking a greater physical chance of injury.

I never knew a lightweight who did not make weight; losing weight, highly overrated in the best macho tradition of rowing, is actually a relatively easy process for most Lightweight oarsmen, the most serious medical consequence of which is the loss of a few pounds of baby fat. Many oarsmen, in fact, become food and nutrition experts who eat better and more intelligently than their heavyweight compatriots.

The real issue is what to do with transitional oarsmen, that is, borderline light-heavyweights, or heavy-lightweights, not whether lightweights will do physical damage to themselves. Ward Romer's letter meets the question well. My recollection of conversations with Gordon Sikes (Princeton '16 and a founder of intercollegiate lightweight rowing) corresponds with Mr. Romer's

point that the lightweight competition was created simply to provide more people the opportunity to row competitively than was previously possible with a single team dominated by large oarsmen.

I believe Mr. Stone to be incorrect in his assessment of the ease of entry by a nondescript J.V. heavyweight into a varsity lightweight first boat. I think the record will show that most such attempts have failed to achieve an "easy" varsity letter.

On the other side, however, the record will show that *novice* oarsmen in the transitional weight area with reasonably normal builds will, at the outset of their rowing careers, generally be more valuable to lightweight squads and, indeed, will be more likely to continue rowing because of more encouragement and better instruction. On a lightweight squad the transitional oarsman may be the cream of the physical crop rather than the dregs ignored by a heavyweight coach enchanted with his 6-4, 200-pound first-stringers.

No matter where one sets the line (and I, for one, believe it is time the lightweight weight limits be raised) or how one performs the weigh-in, there are always going to be transitional oarsmen. The decision as to the crew upon which to row is ideally made by the oarsman himself without undue outside pressure. One of the functions of a good head coach of rowing is to ensure that, where the outside pressure is present for whatever reason, an equitable (and unselfish) decision is made for the oarsman.

Mr. Stone is naive if he believes either that lightweights' going fast is a "myth" or that oarsmen in the transitional weight area are recruited by lightweights for any other reason than to beat other lightweights. (The occasional — but regular — beating of heavyweights is mere icing on the

cake.) Finally, I doubt whether there is a creeping trend toward heavier lightweights. The lightweight crews on which I rowed about a decade ago were much bigger than any of the current lightweight boats — and we were mid-gets compared to the Cornell lightweights of the same period.

As for my second point, it is discouraging to learn from Mr. Baker that the only way lightweights can gain representation among the national powers that be is to replace the lightweight chairman (Mr. Baker) with a new (heavyweight) chairman who already has a seat and has some interest in lightweight rowing. This seems rather myopic (not to mention undemocratic) on the part of the powers that be.

It is almost as discouraging as the recent practice of appointing heavyweight coaches (certainly fine people), for whatever reason, to coach the lightweight national team, when there are many lightweight coaches out there of equal ability who would offer a unique expertise and understanding and would benefit personally and professionally from the appointment. The effect would be positive for lightweight rowing in general. It might even encourage a larger and more representative group of lightweight oarsmen to row on a national level.

Lightweights compose a sizeable percentage of the rowing population. As Mr. Baker has graphically pointed out, the lightweights appear to be subjected to taxation without representation. This is the stuff of which revolutions are made. To date, for many reasons, not many lightweights have spoken their minds as has Mr. Baker. His actions were courageous and important; they must not be lost in the shuffle.

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CETERA
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my talk.



THE DEATH OF OUR SPORT?

As I write this on July 16, 1976, our Olympic Men's Rowing Team prepares to enter competition, buoyed by the usual tide of pre-game optimism. This Corner, thankfully, sought high ground; I must predict that, despite the courage and talent of our oarsmen, no U.S. men's crew will win a medal in Montreal, and even that no U.S. men's crew will make the finals.

Such unhappy predictions are the result of a poison in our rowing system which threatens to kill our sport. This poison is not one specific toxin, and the antidote must go beyond simple cures such as changing a coach here and there, or developing new talent.

Our problem is the desire, in what could be called the moneyed interests of our sport (NRF and Olympic Committees) to send elite teams abroad every year. This creates an annual push for "The Trip", to be made whether we are good enough, or experienced enough, or have any club rowing left or not. The Trip will be made, regardless, so there must be money spent, must be coaches, managers and oarsmen selected. And then, of course, in the process a few political favors get done, a few people get abused, a lot of egos get gratified, and if one or two of our boats gets a medal, there, God, aren't we doing everyone a great service by having The Trip, weren't we serving the sport well by doing this?

The sad facts are that The Trip and the diseases it spreads may be lethal for our sport. It creates tremendous struggles for personal prestige and power among coaches, administrator and oarsmen alike. It has ended rowing as many have known it, as a pastime, an amateur sport. The Trip and its sponsors have brought about the end of senior rowing in America, have beset everyone with a plague of egoism and hypocrisy, and have forced upon us all an elitist tyranny wherein 95% of our funds are spent on 5% of our people.

As this Corner warned last summer, such tyranny can only lead to voluntary withdrawal by oarsmen from the programs

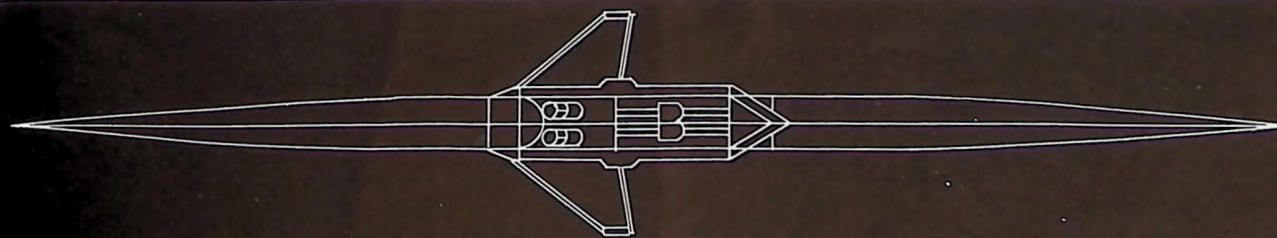
of the NAAO and Olympic Committee. Many observers felt that such a warning was a purely personal viewpoint, based upon a solitary misfortune incurred by an athlete of less than overwhelming reputation. But this summer the poison struck again, and the casualties were such highly reputed individuals that little doubt could be left that something had indeed been wrong.

The corner dislikes negativism in all forms, so it therefore proposes some solutions. U.S. rowing must move in new directions, directions more in keeping with the desires and needs of *most* of its competitors, not just the elite few. Toward that end, our leadership must be more broadly based. We doubt the wisdom of the same group of people running both the NAAO and the Olympic Committee in close concert with the NRF. We cannot tolerate coaches who place personal rivalry above national rowing unity (as Mexico City oarsmen pointed out). Our leadership must be national, self-disinterested, and cosmopolitan, or rowing as we know it will die.

Such leadership must adopt a sound, long-range goal of philosophy to which it can and will adhere permanently. Our current leadership, eaten up with the notion of sending crews abroad to win medals, has leaped at every short-term solution in order to guarantee a winner for the next year or two. This was how one coach came to be appointed for more than one year — the overwhelming desire to guarantee a winner; for what purpose? How many talented oarsmen have quit in disgust, how many thousands of dollars have been spent, and still, does the rowing leadership really expect a great success this year? The corner thinks not. We must have a sound, long-range plan, and the confidence to stick to it.

As a basis for a long-range plan, the self-disinterested leadership must know enough about rowing to realize that so often the difference between winning and losing is so small that it is barely significant. Part of this realization is the knowledge that all victories are relative achievements. After 1974, very few of those involved with the gold medal of the heavyweight eight in Lucerne considered that anything more than personal effort was involved in their win. Yet members of the 1964 Olympic eight told me that they felt quite thankful and humble after their victory, full of the knowledge that in that race, and indeed in any race of international calibre, a repetition of the race on the following day or later on, could bring totally different results. Therefore, the Corner agrees with Emory Clark, who in a recent *N.Y. Times* letter to the editor, supported the idea that the U.S. need not win every

(Cont'd on next page)



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OARSMEN'S CORNER

event it enters and that this lack of necessity should be part of our philosophy. We can be proud of crews which do not win. If we cannot, then we *are* the losers.

If new leadership wishes to continue a commitment to international rowing, then let them separate elite oarsmen from the other classifications; let's abandon the collegiate model as a basis for our international teams, and provide the elites with a training center, equipment, *competent* coaches appointed for one year only. But let us not all become slaves to The Trip. In fact, let us eliminate The Trip entirely for at least one year out of each quadrennial, possibly two. In these years, the National Championships and quality results on a re-born senior rowing circuit, would be the major goals; indeed, these could be pre-requisites for participation in the Elite program in subsequent years. The clubs, now decimated in Senior ranks, would again be sponsoring regat-

tas, providing a rowing experience for Senior oarsmen, providing a development tool for future elite teams. We must bring back Senior rowing in this country, and by eliminating one or two of our grand excursions each quadrennial, we would certainly save a great deal of money, enough to firmly place Elite rowing on an international level with facilities and equipment, and re-kindle Senior rowing as well.

Finally, we must have strong, un-aligned, fair, and honest men coaching and administering our sport, and we must have a structure strong enough by itself to prevent such men from succumbing to the intoxications of power. Strong and good men exist in rowing today, but they are unwilling to become entangled in the current patriarchal structure.

The Corner wishes every member of the Olympic Team, many of whom are close friends, the best of good fortune at Montreal. Despite the unhappy prediction, it hopes that our team does well, and that everyone in rowing particularly understands that should our men do well, they will have done so in spite of the toxins we fight. It hopes that Olympic success will not blind anyone in rowing to the desperate troubles we face.

NRF

(Cont'd from p. 6)

ahead. We face a commitment to send the Junior and Lightweight teams to Villach in Austria. In 1977, we anticipate expenses of approximately \$125,000 to send the squad to Amsterdam, if all crews make the time standards. You can imagine the costs involved in 1978 when the World Championships will be held in New Zealand.

I imagine your question now is, "Howinell did they ever get into this mess?" Our question, "Howinell are we going to get out of it?"

Dollar inflation has been part of the problem but people inflation is the real answer. Our original commitment was to finance the expense incurred by the entry of seven elite men's crews. Now we are attempting to underwrite *eight* elite men's heavyweight crews, three elite men's lightweight crews, six women's crews and eight junior crews.

Admittedly part of the problem is attributable to the Officers and Directors of the NRF. It initially relied on heavy contributions from a few dedicated former oarsmen who had been successful in their professions or businesses. The demands upon them from other sources plus the recession resulted in reduced donations to the Foundation. The Directors were a bit slow in reacting to the new situation but, in the

past few months, have made an effort to rise to meet the emergency. The first hard step was to meet the realities of the revised situation head-on. In order to fulfill our goals we require an endowment fund of \$3,000,000 capitalized at 7.5%. Attempts to create an endowment will be supplemented by an army of annual givers. Certain members of the Committee will be concentrating on arranging for substantial donations from the more affluent members of the rowing community, businesses and other foundations. However the immediate and, I hope, most rewarding results will have to come from you, the readers of *The Oarsman*. I say, "I hope . . ." because, having recently been elected treasurer, I am concentrating on this aspect.

Some of you have already received letters from me outlining our program and our needs. Perhaps you have noted the large amounts of money needed and decided the contribution you could afford would be too insignificant to bother with. Au contraire! When every ex-oarsman and other aficionados of the sport contribute on an annual basis what they can afford, the NRF will meet the total commitments of the five goals outlined earlier.

I beg you — please do not hesitate to stick your oar in. Make out a check to the National Rowing Foundation. Send it to Jack Franklin, Treasurer, P.O. Box 6030, Arlington, Va. 22206, and share personally in the accomplishments of those who have inherited your seat and your blisters.

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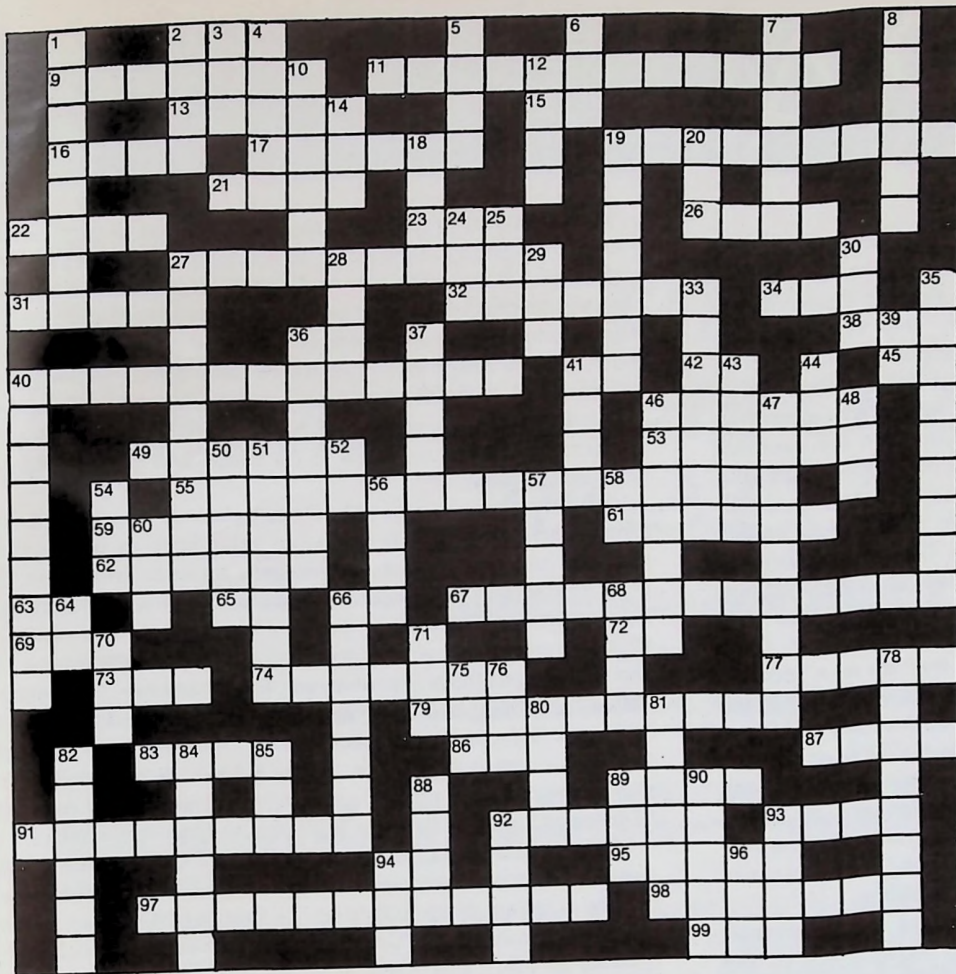


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THE CREW

By Diane Gribcor
and Judy Geer

ACROSS

- 2 Fix stretchers (abb.)
- 9 Per. 1976
- 11 Loses control
- 13 ____ and ____.
- 15 "Stroke ____."
- 16 Winter water
- 17 Whew!
- 19 Philly Olympian
- 21 Burst
- 22 Not for cox
- 23 Knee wood
- 26 Half a boat
- 27 Boatbuilder
- 31 Betting article
- 32 Hill of rowing Sisyphus
- 34 News Service
- 36 Coast Guard (abb.)
- 38 #53 Across (abb.)
- 40 Opposite of #40 Down
- 41 ____ hard ____.
- 42 365 days
- 45 Coaches' cutter
- 46 Extras
- 49 "Put the ____ to 'em."
- 53 Boatbuilder

ROSWORD

- 55 October event
- 59 All over togs
- 61 Type of fuel
- 62 With more effort
- 63 "____ the water."
- 65 "____-ho!"
- 66 Half a bye-bye
- 67 Took drink
- 69 For bolt
- 72 "____ You Like It."
- 73 Old regatta (abb.)
- 74 Fly into the wind
- 77 Stretch
- 79 Harry's game
- 83 1st race word
- 86 Re heavyweights (abb.)
- 87 A few power ____.
- 89 Rainbow's end
- 91 Scorer
- 92 Pacer
- 93 Rowers' community
- 94 South America (abb.)
- 95 Angular cut
- 97 Below elite
- 98 Races
- 99 Hands in rough water

DOWN

- 1 Reprimand to earlybird
- 2 Train service (abb.)
- 3 Post office (abb.)
- 4 Peanut butter
- 5 Don't, during race
- 6 Second chance (abb.)
- 7 Disstaff meant her
- 8 Unliberated English regatta
- 10 Gunk
- 12 Boat skin
- 14 Top number
- 18 Wound's remains
- 19 Cromwells, leaps
- 20 A command
- 24 Elders (abb.)
- 25 Fast
- 27 Shell shoes
- 28 Winner's advantage
- 29 Don't row over this
- 30 Affix oar supports
- 33 Spring totem
- 35 Forward-looking people
- 36 Nautical soup
- 37 East, West
- 39 Each (abb.)
- 40 Stroke-chooser's cry
- 41 Bridge section
- 43 Tests
- 44 Receive (abb.)
- 46 Short races
- 47 Little big man
- 48 Winter training equipment
- 50 Part of start
- 51 Preferred command
- 52 "____ far ____ good."
- 54 Exclamation of disgust
- 56 T. Keller, Pres.
- 57 Drinks beer
- 58 Coach's boss (abb.)
- 60 Waterfront denizen
- 64 Boston school (abb.)
- 66 Blister treater
- 68 Epic story
- 70 Easy, in a single
- 71 Exclamations
- 75 Long fish
- 76 For grease, etc.
- 78 Udub boathouse
- 80 Measure
- 81 Aussie blade maker
- 82 Cox'n's tone to bow
- 84 Required at catch
- 85 Seat
- 88 Eight-oared shell
- 89 Hunk of #10 Down
- 90 Set up
- 92 Left by #18 Down
- 93 Crab has one
- 94 Tennis term
- 96 Winner's balloon

EDITORIAL

by Peter H. Raymond

Although the Olympic Games have not opened at the time of this writing, events of this year's preparations for them indicate that as a member of the Olympic Rowing Committee, I made a significant error in judgment. This conclusion is based upon the departure from the National Eight Camp of Ken Brown, Tim Mickelson, and Mike Vespoli, who with Larry Gluckman preferred to row in the fours with trials rather than continue as candidates for the eight. Others in the past two years have left the National Camps in disappointment, but the credentials of these former gold medalists and their failure in the four, when at least two of them were almost certain to row in the eight, suggest that the Olympic Committee must take a careful look at the factors leading to this and other significant disappointments of elite rowers in the 1976 Olympic effort.

I cannot here contend categorically that we as a committee failed in our decisions this year, but it is clear that the 1976 camps have been to a large degree destructive and counterproductive. The camp system itself is not at fault, but we must be aware that it places a far greater responsibility on the head coach than the trials method places on any one coach involved. The demands for fairness, equanimity, compassion and encouragement are frightfully exhausting, but they must be met or the entire rowing community suffers.

There are some truths, and I capitalize only half-facetiously, that I and perhaps others forgot while voting on the committee's decisions in the past two years.

Our rowers are very, very selfish. If they weren't, they couldn't train.

The competitors cannot judge the character or motivation of their coaches or, if they can, they are afraid or incapable of acting upon their judgment. And apparently the authority of a coach is so great that a bad one can persuade a crew to do almost anything with little fear of rebellion. If, in the eyes of the crew, the coach becomes associated with a winning experience, his authority is virtually unimpeachable, regardless of his methods. The effort of the coach always appears to be generous, obliging the crew to its coach and further impairing its judgment.

Yet the coach, like the NAAO itself, is only a servant to the competitor. He or she is secure in value only to the degree that the competitors are encouraged, trained, and aided in their preparation to compete; in a word, to the degree that the competitors are *served*.

When athletes train for four years with the Olympics in mind; if they train for just one year, or one season, their emotional, physical, and in some cases, financial commitment demands far greater respect than heretofore paid by the USORMC, and in past years, by the NAAO. The terrible danger is that they are utterly vulnerable and very often request or demand policies that are injurious to their real wishes.

Judgment in behalf of the oarsmen and oarswomen must override personal concerns, squeamishness about public or private criticism of an individual, or fear for one's own glass house. As coaches Nat Case and Jay Mimier so carefully explained to me, "You can't legislate morality." I encourage coaches and officials and competitors alike to speak publicly and thoughtfully to make rowing in the United States an educational and cheery pursuit.

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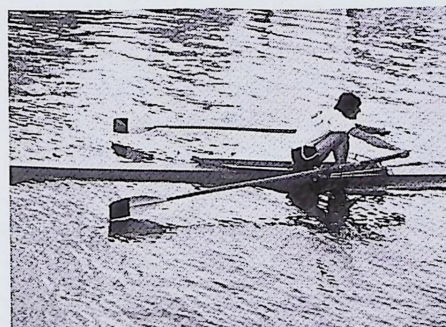
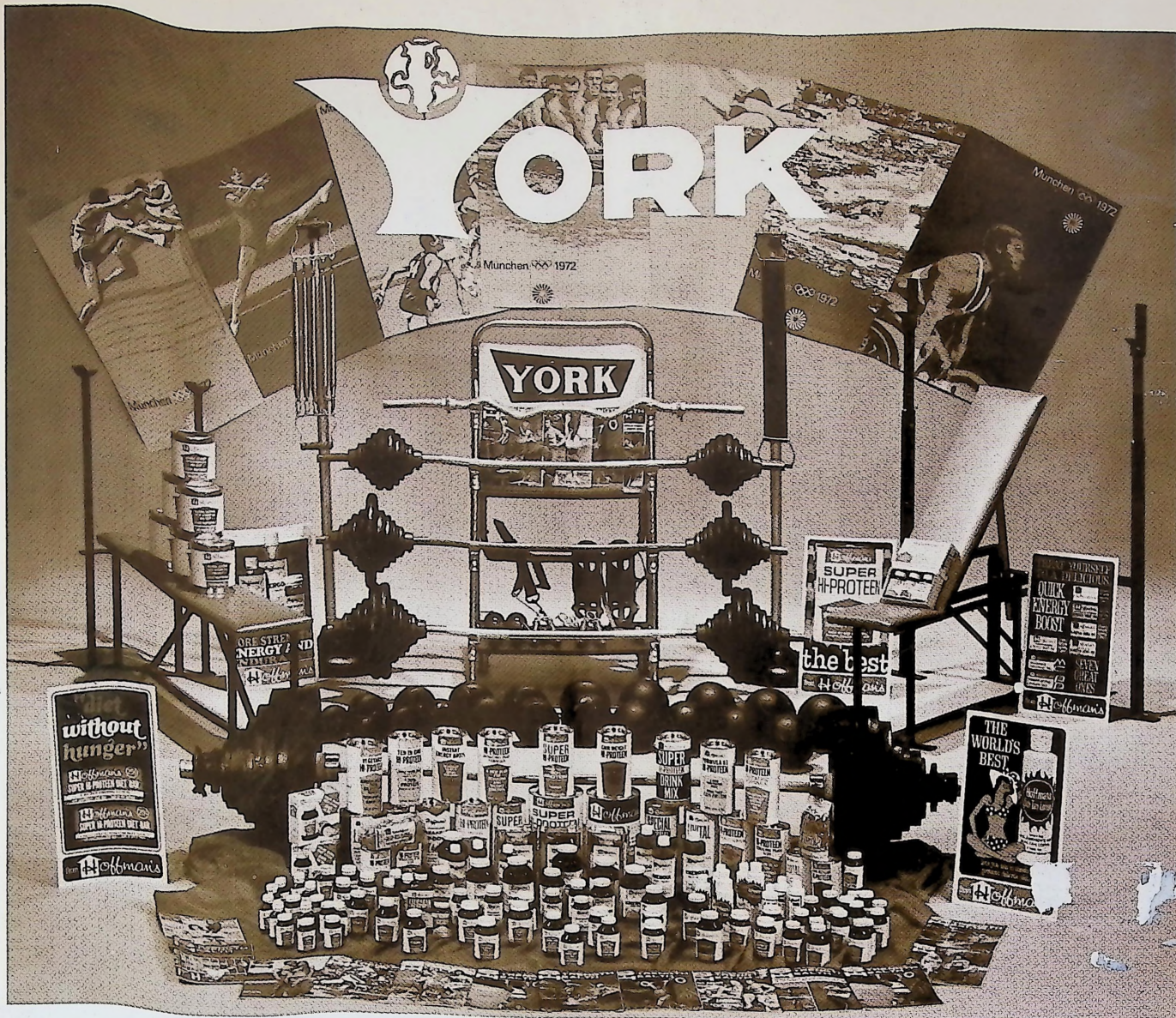
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4. Entries for all other events will be limited to a total of 40 per event on a "per organization" basis insofar as is necessary to keep the total down to 40. Organizations that finished among the first 15 places in any non-single-sculling event last year will have prior rights for one boat in the same event this year provided a valid fully paid entry is received by September 15. Priority beyond this will be established by order of receipt of valid entries within the "per organization" limitation.
5. Any person who won in any Intermediate event in the '73, '74, or '75 Head-of-the-Charles Regatta may not compete in that same event in the '76 Head-of-the-Charles Regatta.
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