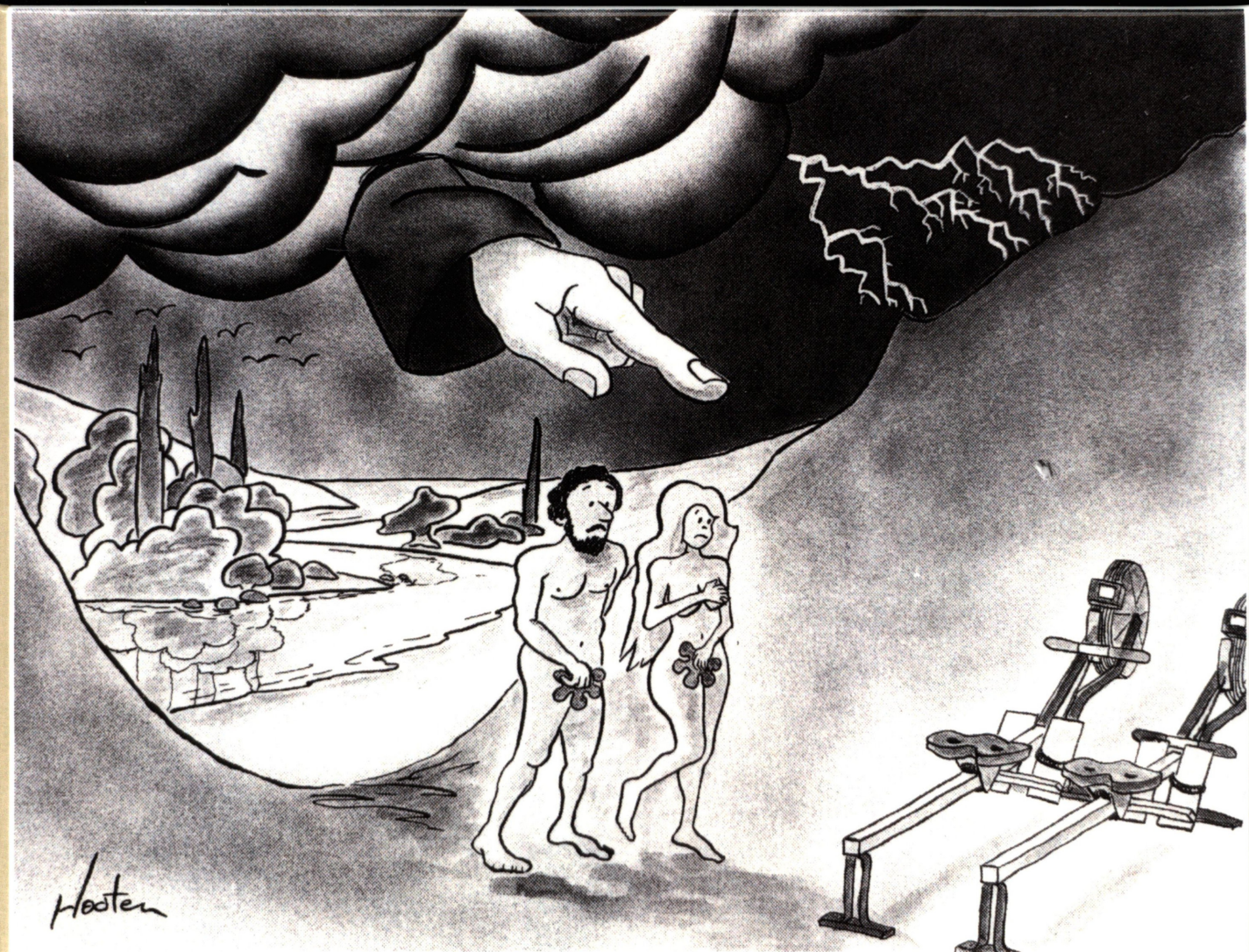
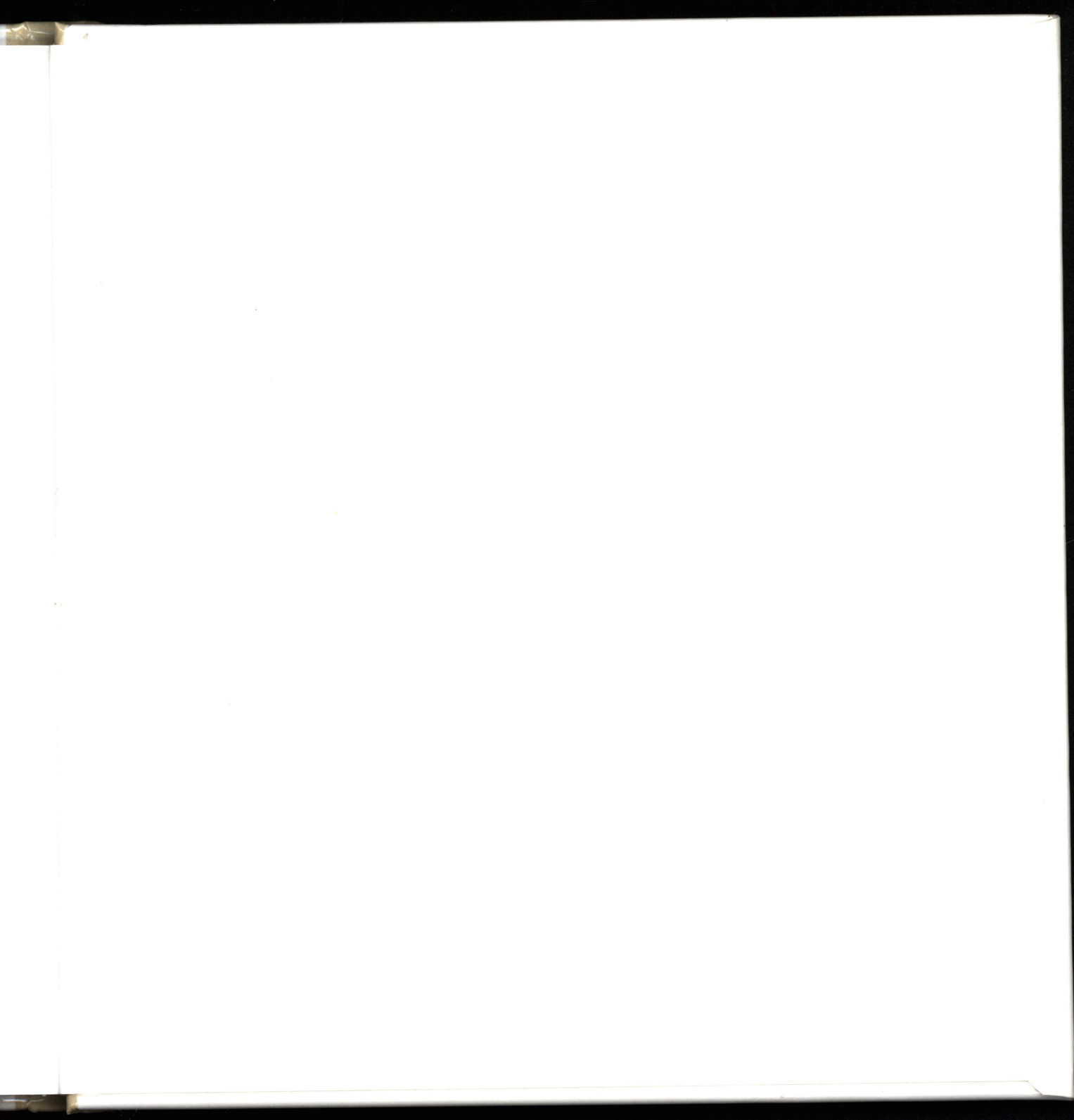




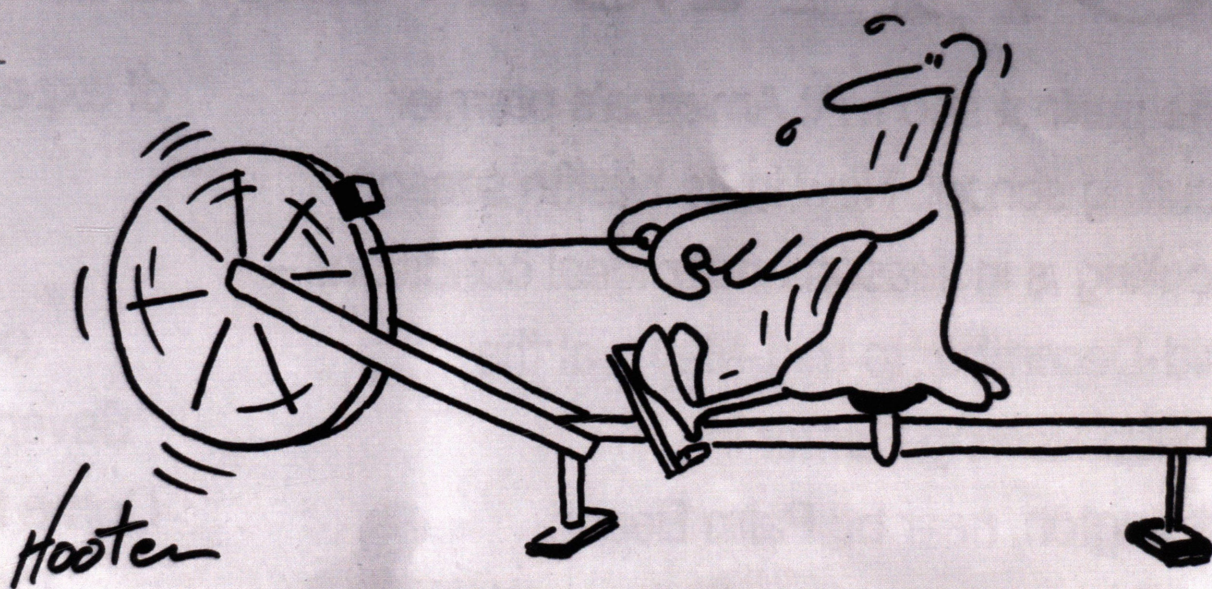
HOOTS

1991-1995
AMERICAN ROWING MAGAZINE

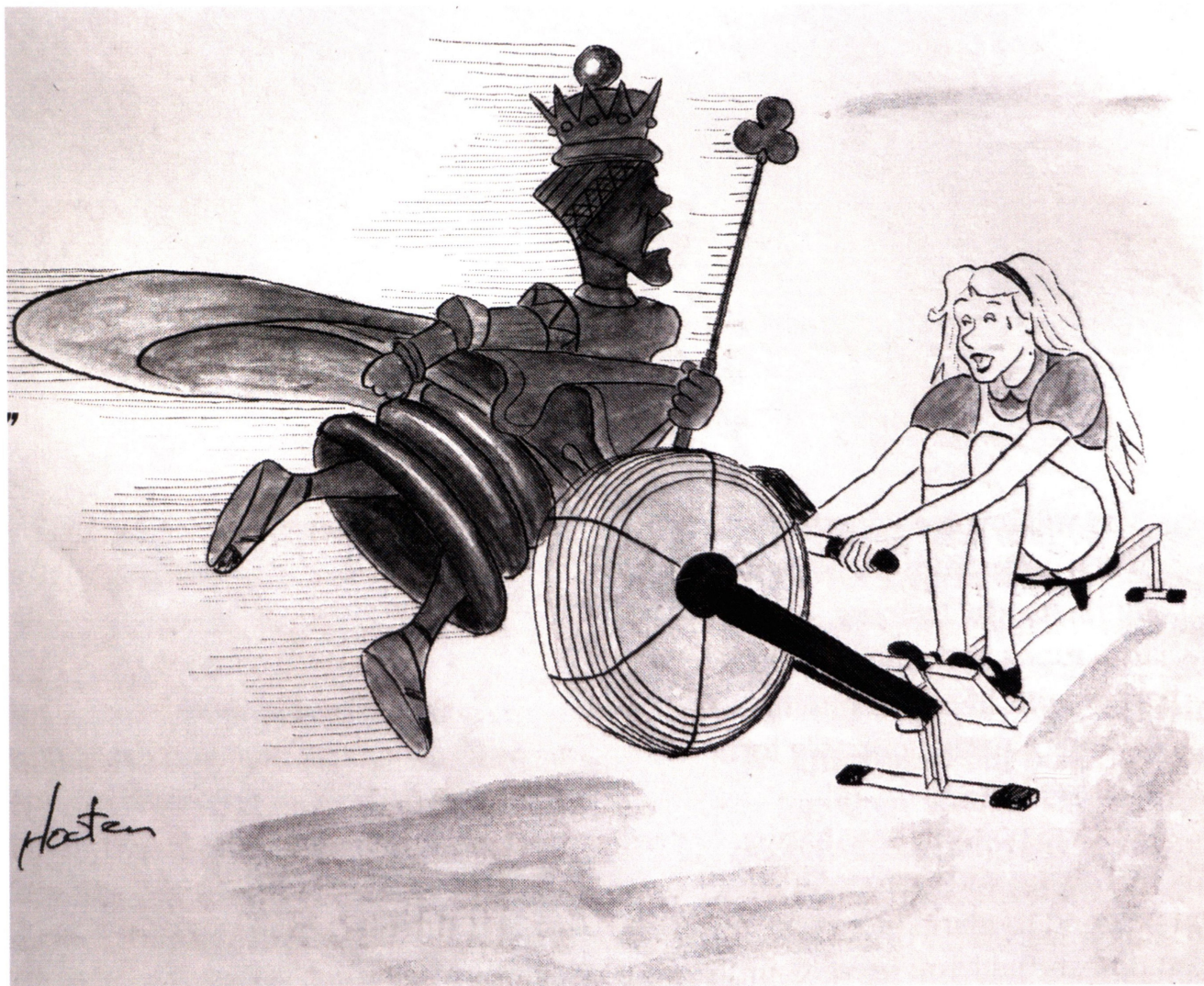


Ann Jonik

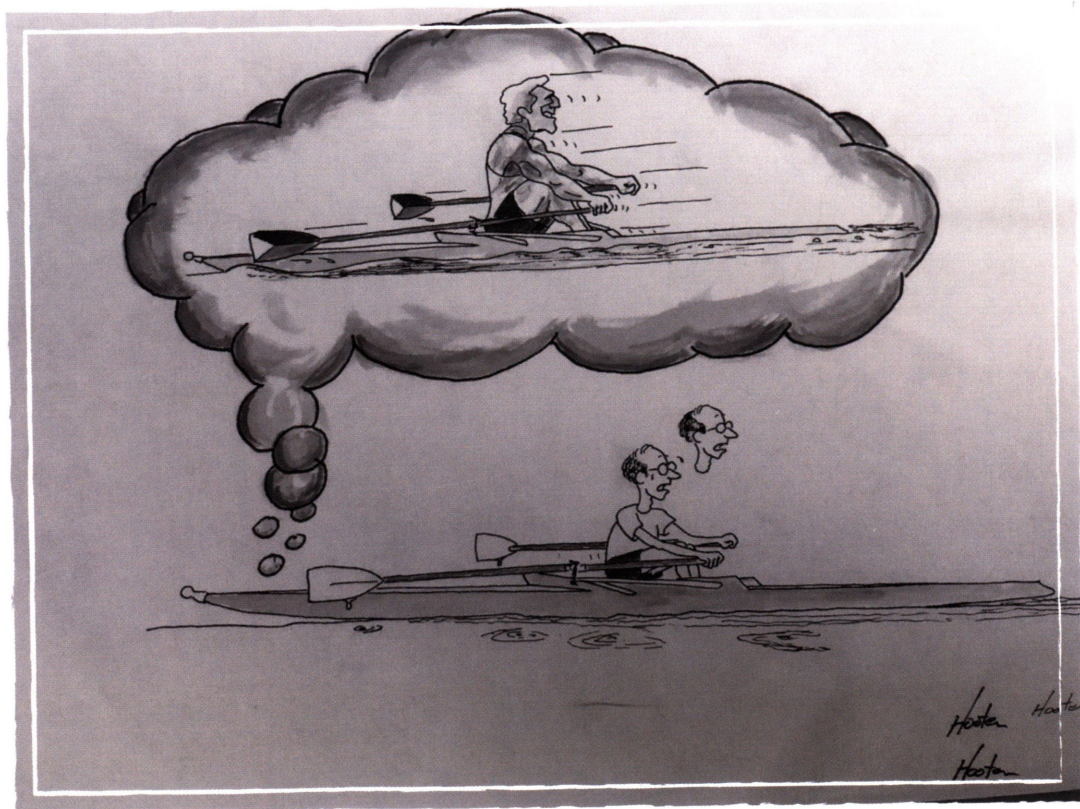




**Eventually, Darrell realized why all the other
ducks flew south for the winter...**



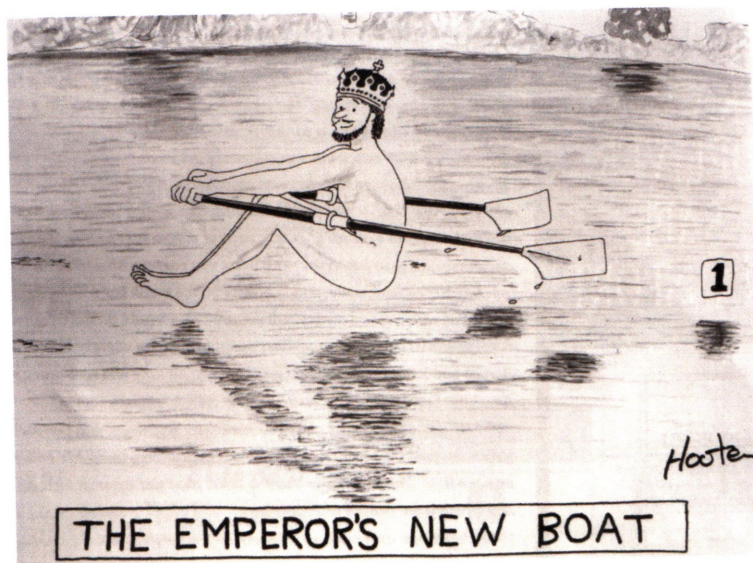
"FASTER! FASTER!"



(A ROUGH DRAFT)

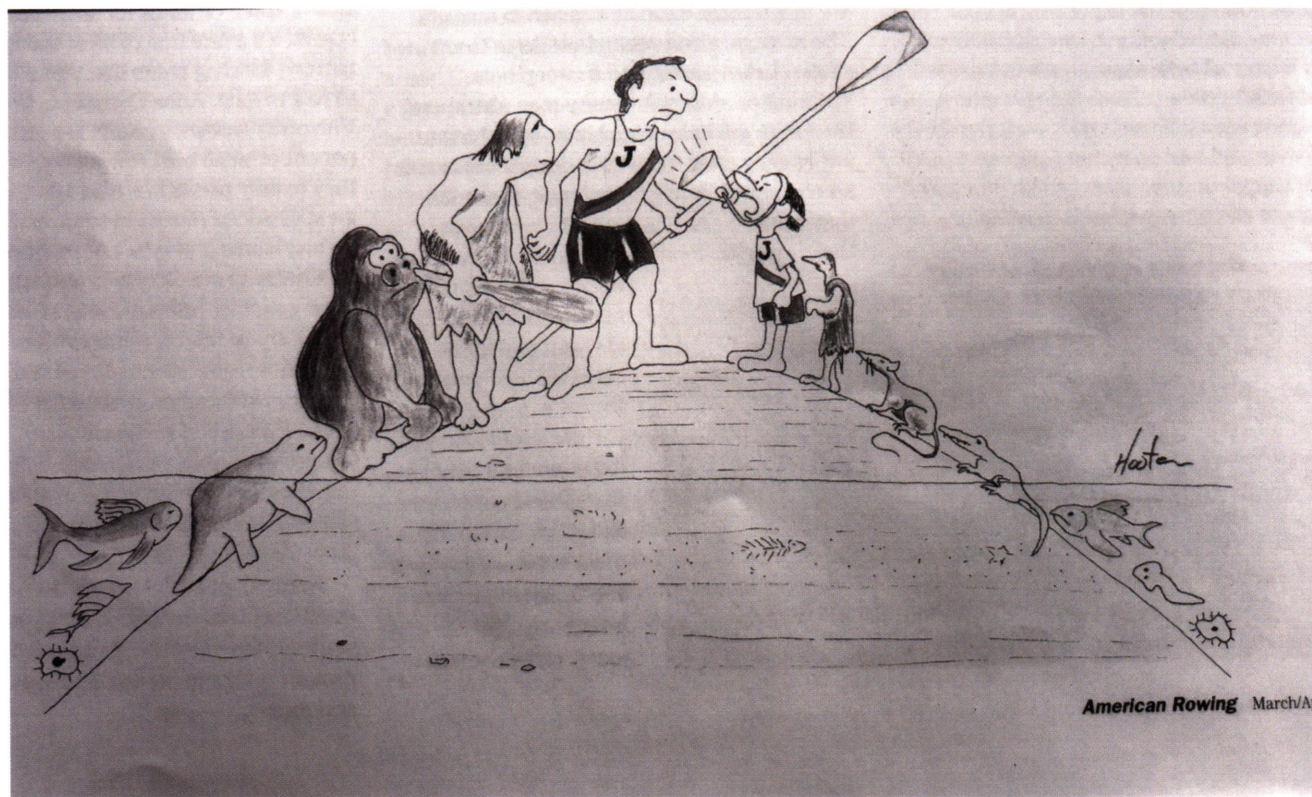


"LET'S HOPE THE AQUA
UNISUIT IS JUST A PLOD"



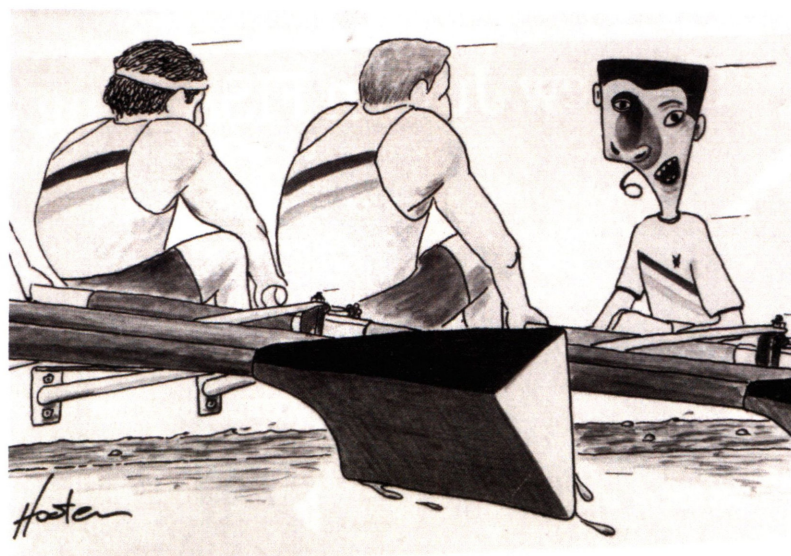
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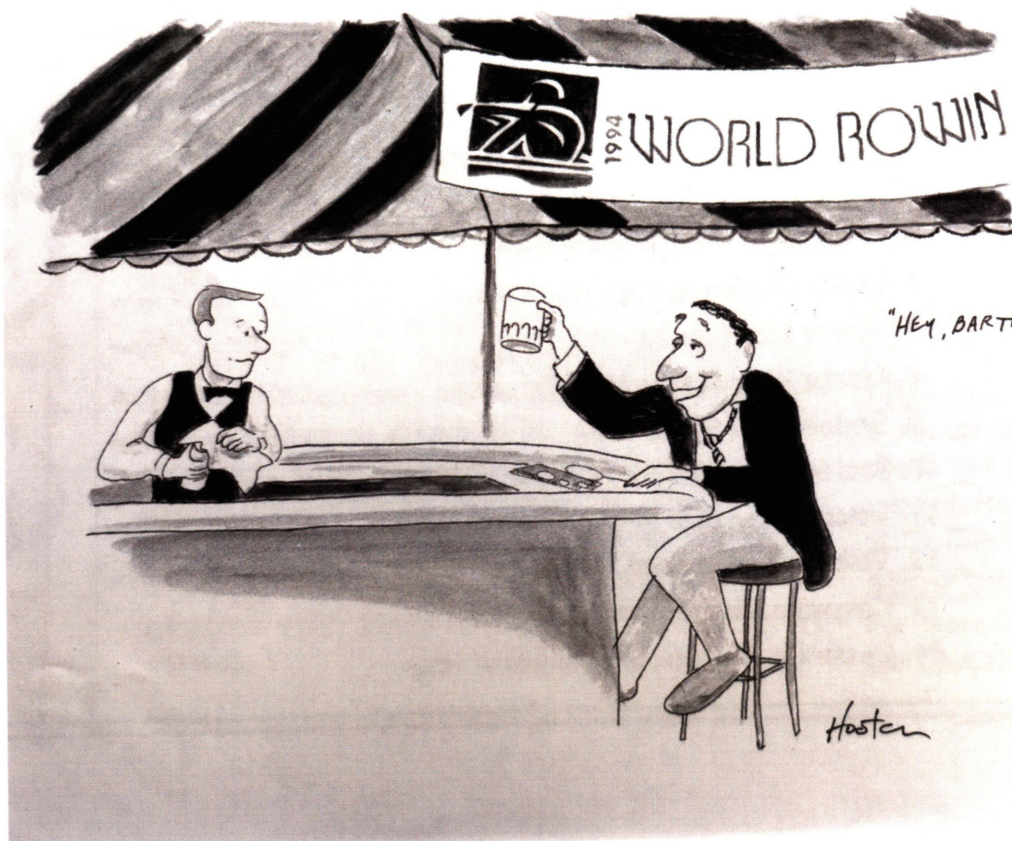
THE EMPEROR'S NEW BOAT



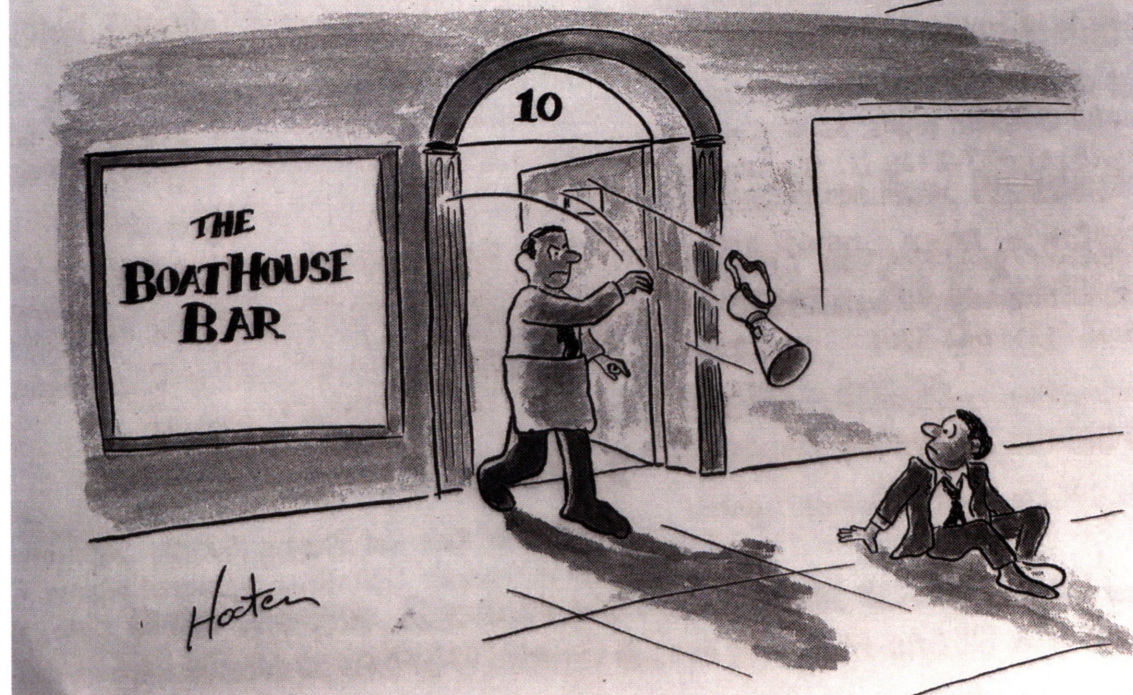


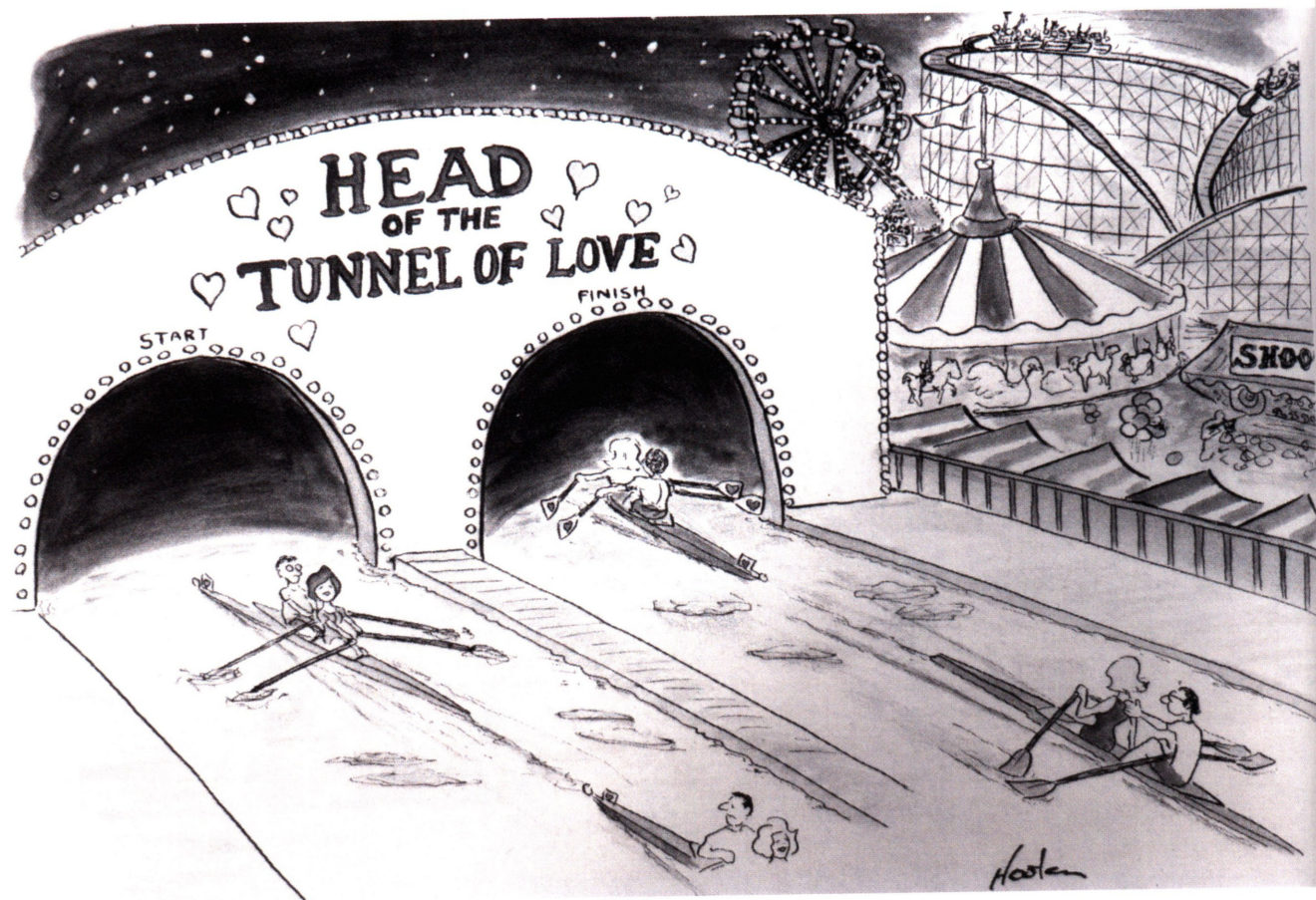
T SHIRT DESIGN

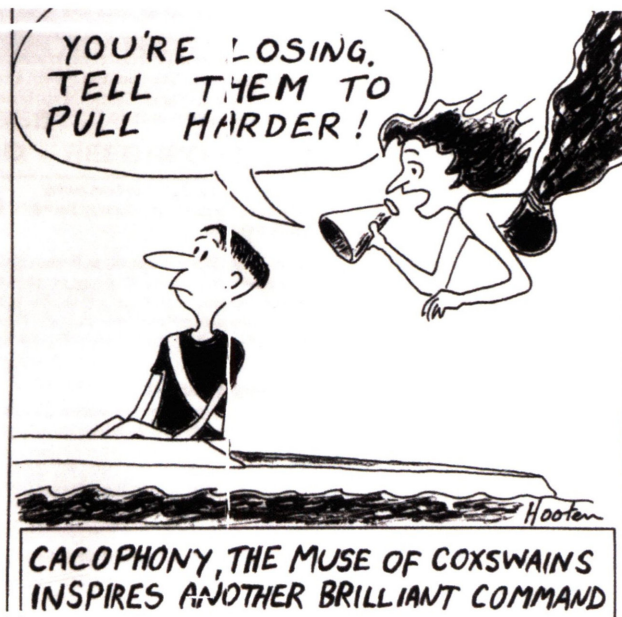


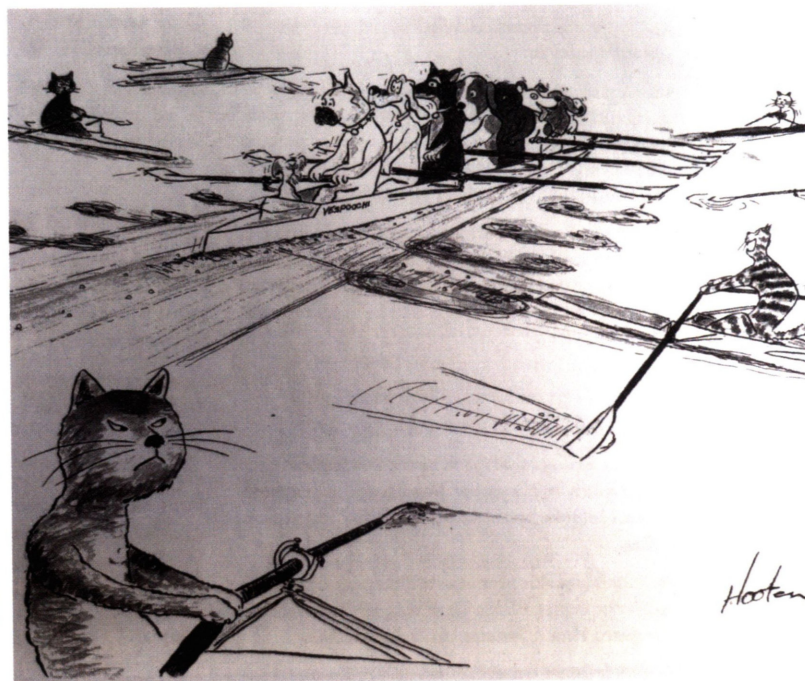


American Rowing





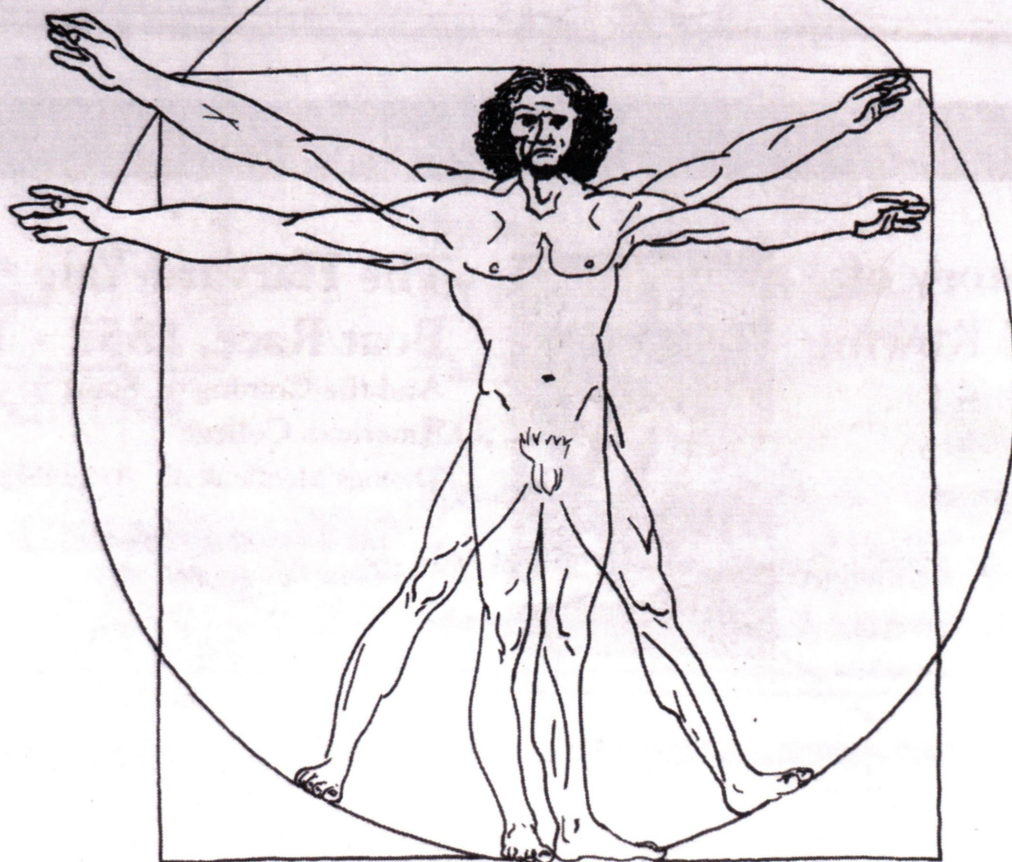






A 2(+) FAMILY MATTER

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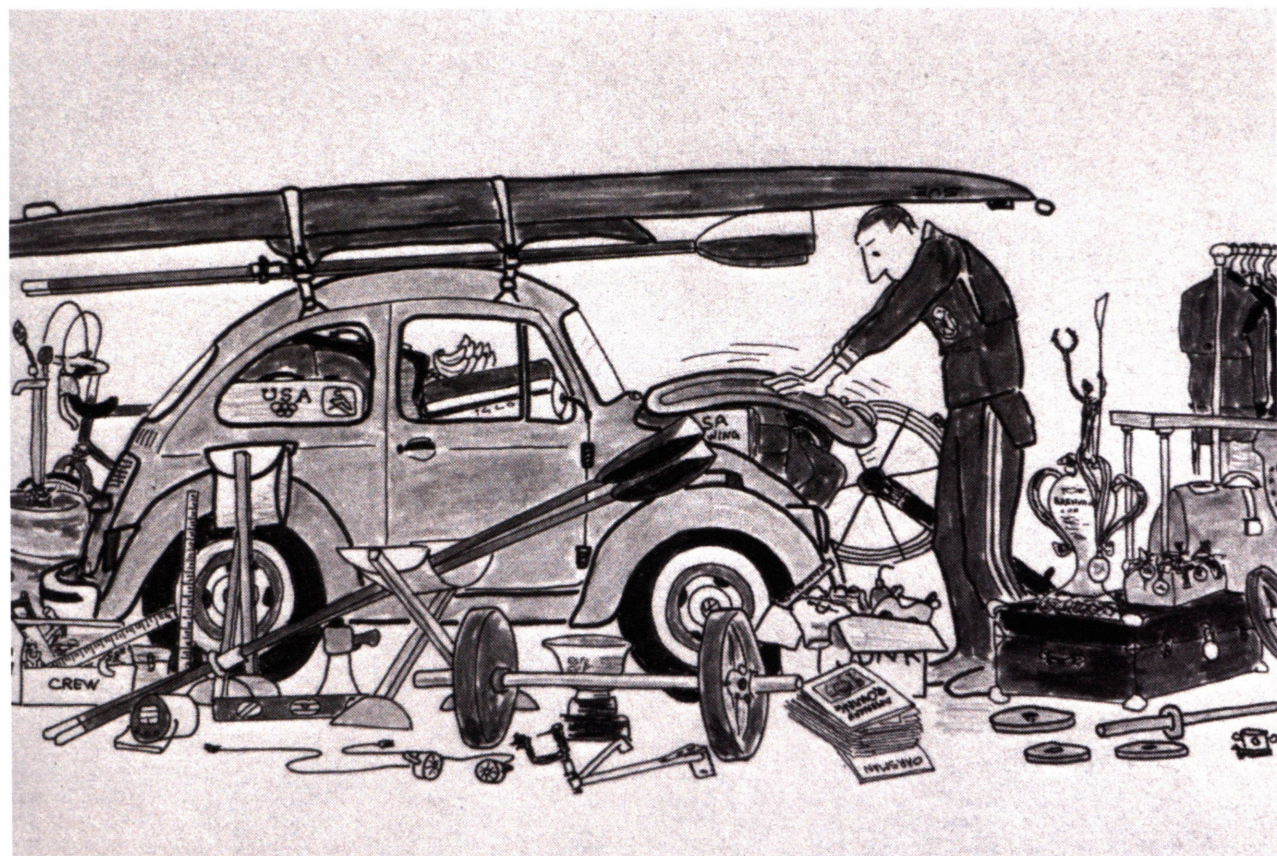


CANON OF PROPORTIONS

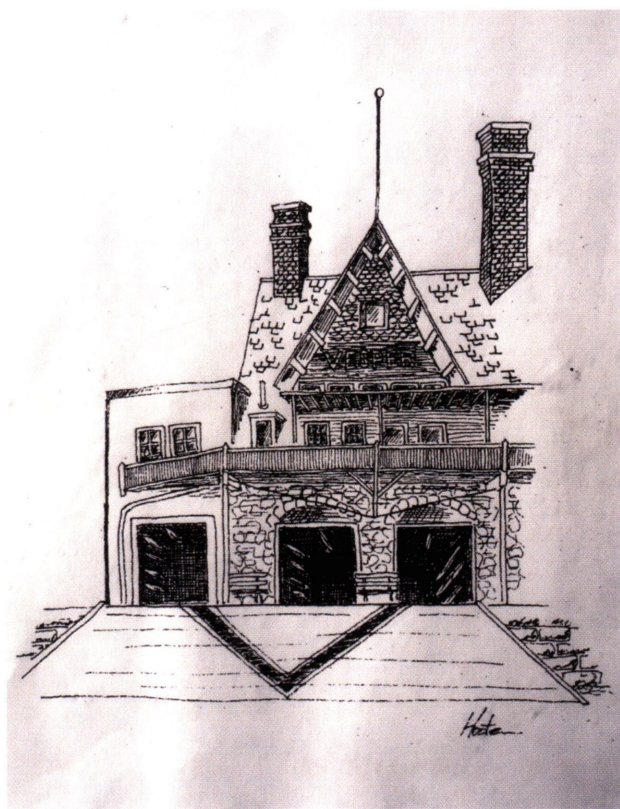
STARBOARD

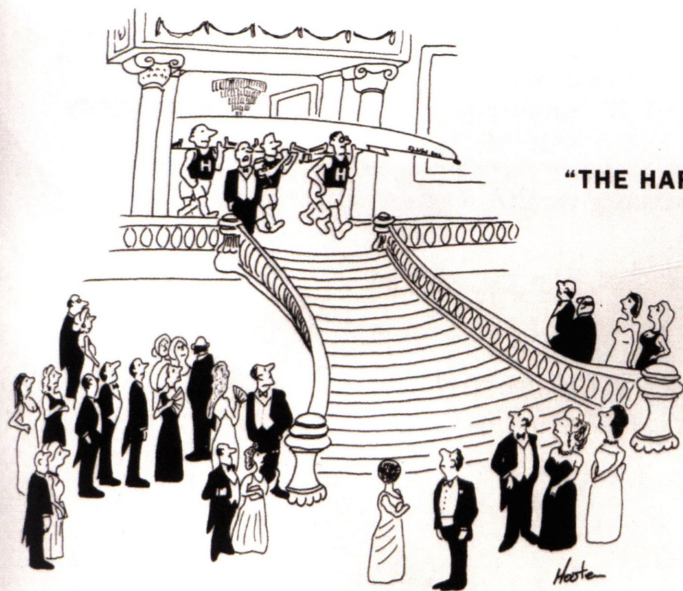
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Ho ten retto Leonardo da Vinci

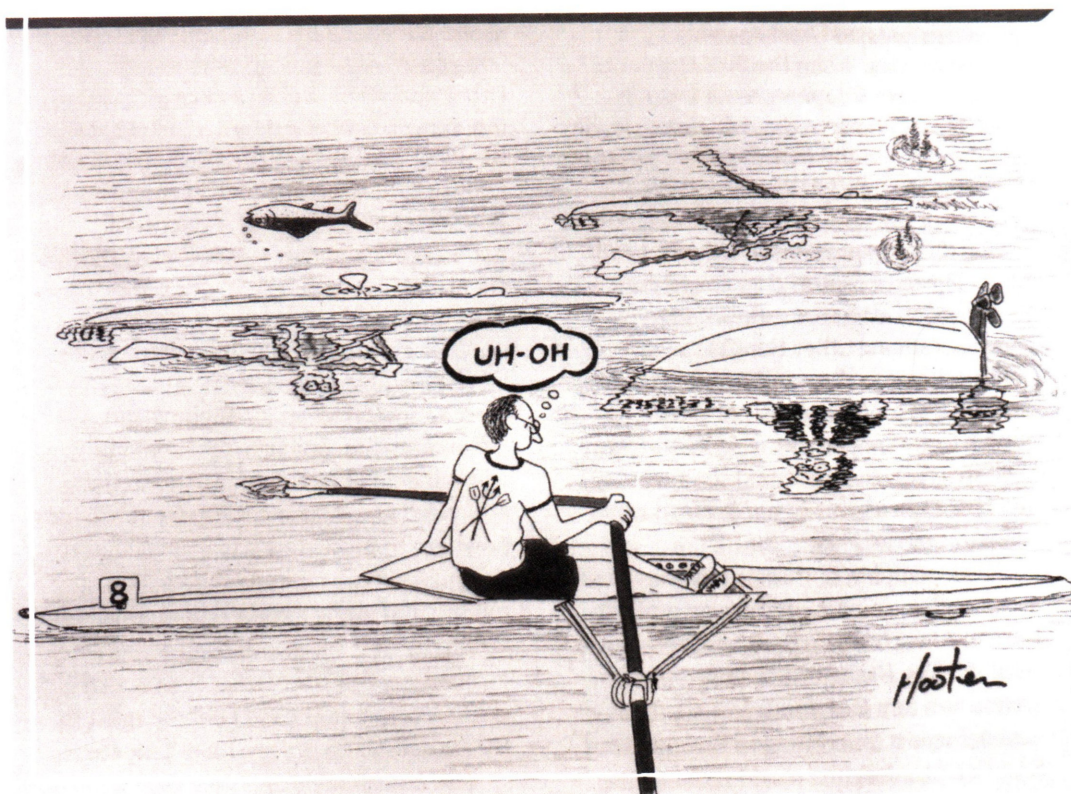


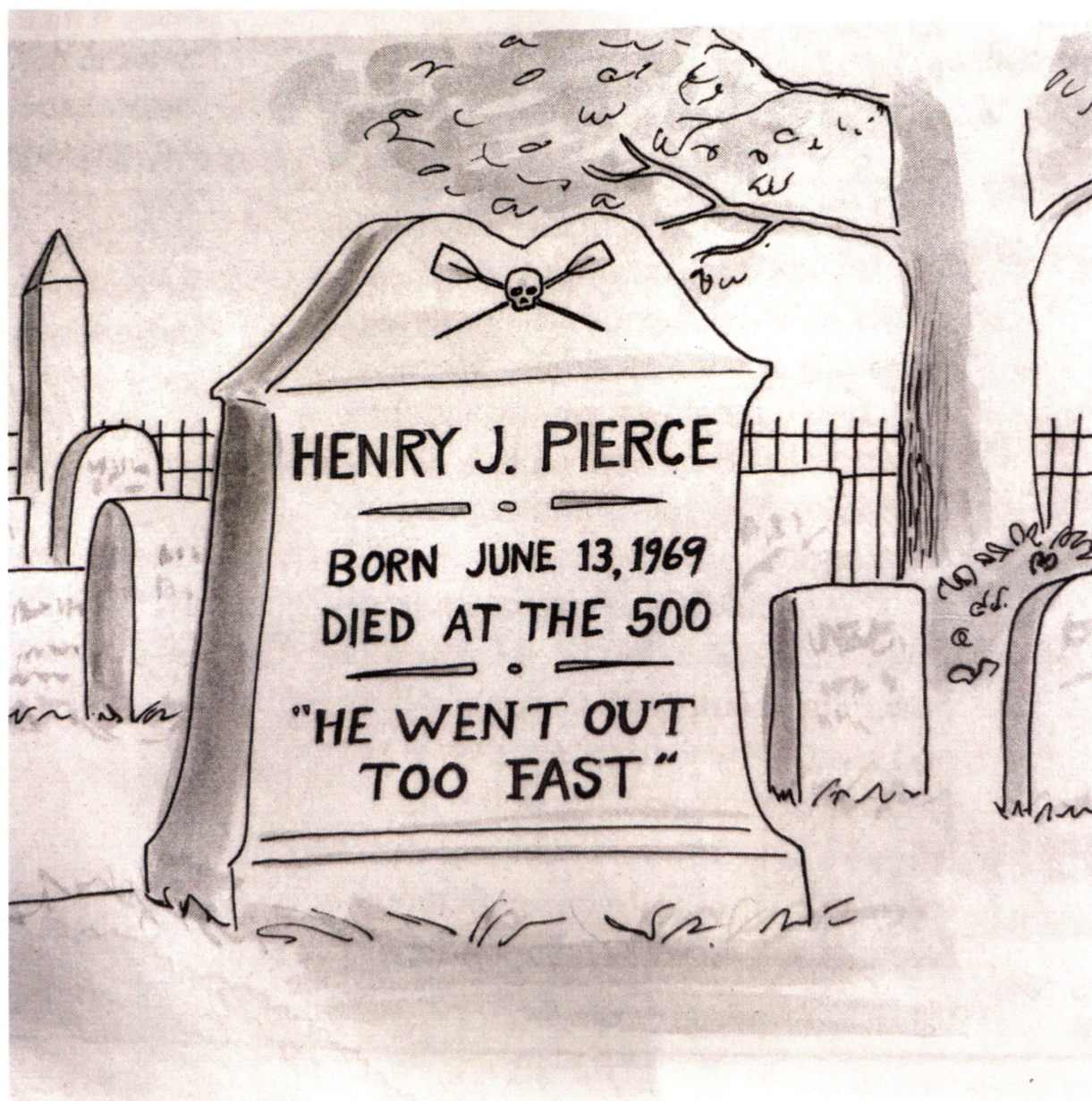
A FEW OF THE MANY
HOOTEN
BOAT HOUSE ROW
T SHIRTS





"THE HARVARD UNIVERSITY CREW AND THEIR BOAT."





Where Are They Now?

What happened to John Hooten, rowing's best cartoonist?

How many people remember *The Oarsman* magazine, and how each issue it featured a cartoon? As good cartoons do, they captured something about the sport that was both funny and illuminating; they held a mirror up to our funny little corner of the athletic world. There was an authenticity to these illustrations because a very talented coach drew them: Vesper Boat Club's John Hooten. Hooten, a coxswain at Temple until his graduation in 1973, had begun to coach while still an undergraduate. By the time I was reading his stuff, he was the highly regarded coach of the Vesper women. The first women's Olympic team in 1976 had six Vesper athletes in Team USA uniforms and Hooten helped get them there.

Sometime in the 1980s, though, the cartoons seemed to stop and Hooten was no longer coaching in Philadelphia. I've always wondered what had happened to him, and to the mind that produced, "Bowmen neither hear nor think much."

I tracked Hooten down near Sacramento, Calif., where—believe it or not—he is not coaching rowing. "My wife Sue (an Olympic rower) was in medical school when I was coaching and after the 1980 boycott we decided to step away from rowing and start a family. I coached at Temple in 1984-'85, but soon after, she moved to Bakersfield, Calif., for her job and where there is no rowing. Gradually, we kept getting further and further away from the sport and after a while I stopped doing the cartoons and did other things," Hooten told me. Through his kids, he got involved with the Scout Movement, basketball, soccer, unicycling, and eventually swimming. He became head

coach of the Barracudas, a very successful swim club. Although he always planned on going back to rowing, Hooten had morphed into a swim coach.

"Vesper in the 1970s was a really great place," Hooten says. "So many people who ended up as major contributors to the sport were rowing there." The Dreissegackers, Calvin Coffey, Mike Vespoli, Jim Dietz, Ted Van Dusen, and a young Mike Teti. Then, of course, there were the women whom Hooten coached: Anita DeFrantz, Bets Kent (of the Head of the Charles), Nancy Storrs, the Jonik twins, and Cathy Menges Zagunis, whose daughter Mariel is the only American ever to have won two Olympic gold medals in fencing.

Hooten, one of the youngest coaches at the 1976 Olympics,

began rowing in earnest after he stopped coaching. "I was the coxswain who kept growing, and because I was the kind of cox who did everything that the oarsmen did, I began to scull. As I got bigger and bigger, I began to fill in and eventually, after I stopped coaching, began to row for the lightweights. I was the youngest coach and the oldest rower. I guess I've always had a strange point of view in the sport."

That point of view may be what has helped him find a point of view for his cartoons. "I've always enjoyed doing the cartoons. You know, there's one rowing cartoon that gets done over and over—where there's basically one rower in a boat with eight coxswains. I like to try to other ideas, finding a cliché and shoving it into a cartoon."

As his children have grown up and left the house, he and Sue have cautiously dipped their toes back in the water. Sue won the C.R.A.S.H.-B.s in 2008 and set the world record in the 55-59 category. She has qualified every year since, but hasn't felt the need to go back to Boston in the winter. For the last four years, she has rowed for the 1980 Crew at the Head of the Charles. John is planning on rowing with old friends in this year's Head

Wouldn't it be great to get him back drawing again? I own a rare copy of his 1979 collection, *Who's In Bow* that contains his first four years of material. His last published cartoon was in 1995. "But I've got another 20 years' worth that I'll publish eventually." John, the time is now. □

ANDY ANDERSON
'DR. ROWING'
2011
'ROWING NEWS'

MANY THANKS!
SUE (MORGAN) HOOTEN
AND FAMILY
2020



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