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# SWEEP

THE WASHINGTON ROWING QUARTERLY

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A WASHINGTON ROWING STEWARDS PUBLICATION



# What Husky Rowing Means to Me - guest commentary by Stan Pocock

Guest contributions to this regular feature are welcome. Please send your submission to [jwilcox3@msn.com](mailto:jwilcox3@msn.com). Limit your submission to 500 words and enclose both your email address and telephone number so we can contact you prior to publication.



Having been born into the Pocock family, I found myself from birth thrust into a unique relationship with Husky rowing. I still have a copy of my birth announcement which appeared in the Seattle Times. It says something to the effect that.....“his proud parents hope that he will one day grow tall and strong enough to row on a University of Washington Varsity crew.

Fortunately for me, my parents never pushed me into being someone that I was not. In fact, it was only through the disgusted reaction of old Jim Ten Eyke, long-time coach at Syracuse University who had pushed his own son, Ned, into becoming a good enough sculler to win the Diamonds at Henley, that I ever even got into rowing. In chagrin, my dad broke down and built me a wherry. I was twelve or thirteen at the time. He only showed me how to get in and out of it and then left me to figure things out. I suspect that he wanted to find out whether I took to it naturally or not. I was able to get a few ideas by watching him sculling his single. Then one day he let me take a spin in it. I took a few strokes and fell overboard. He didn't ball me out, but it was a long time before he let me get into it again.

I really did begin to enjoy sculling in my wherry. In the spring and summers I would scull over to the Laurelhurst Beach Club where I could watch the girls while some of the kids took the boat out. Several of them ended up turning out at the UW. What I enjoyed most of all while sculling was studying what the mechanics of rowing were all about. I did learn a few things. I was surprised not too long ago to discover, while looking at some old 8mm film taken by my sister, that I had taught myself how to scull well.

When I entered the university shortly after the beginning of WWII and turned out for the Frosh crew, I found I had a distinct advantage in that no one else in the squad had ever had an oar in their hands. I probably would have made the crew, but Uncle Sam got in the way. I was shipped over to Navy boot camp at Farragut,

Idaho. The best thing I learned there was how vital it was for me to someday earn a college degree. While in the naval officers training program, I received a lot of college work. By the time I got out, the war was over. I only lacked a few hours to get a degree in Civil Engineering, so I went back to the UW on the GI Bill. I stretched the work load so I was able to turn out for the Varsity crew. I lucked out again when my main threat came down with appendicitis and had to quit. That got me my seat in the Varsity.



Stan (r) and his father George Pocock in the boat shop

Once out of school, I decided to spend my life building racing shells. Then, good luck struck again. The head coach, Al Ulbrickson, hired me to coach the Lightweight crews in the evening after work and then, later, to take on the Frosh job. This would mean a lot of time away from the shop, but my dad was all for it. I spent the next eight seasons dividing my time between building boats for the UW and coaching their crews.

After leaving Washington, I divided my time between shell-building and coaching crews at various levels. The boats were widely accepted and the crews did well. I attributed these successes to the years that I had spent in my wherry, my single, and then in those years of rowing and coaching at Washington. I had learned what was needed in the way of teaching how to make a shell go fast and at the same time how to design boats which allowed an oarsman to achieve his or her dreams of success.

## Consider a Legacy Gift

There are many ways to make a lasting contribution to the Husky rowing program, a variety of plans that will help generations of student athletes meet their academic and athletic aspirations.

The Athletic Department development staff is available and prepared to consult with you about the range of planned giving options available to you. There are gifts that pay you income during the remainder of your life, gifts that can be used by the University today, and gifts that take effect at death. One of them is certain to fit your financial situation and all of them will help the finest rowing program in North America.

Contact Roy Shick at 206 221-3105 ([rshick@u.washington.edu](mailto:rshick@u.washington.edu)) or Phil Pilewski at 206 616-9470 ([pilewski@u.washington.edu](mailto:pilewski@u.washington.edu)) to get the details on planned giving arrangement that fit your financial plan.

## London Calling - by Jeremy Cothran

The way Michael Callahan looks at it, he's just handing off the baton to the coaches at USRowing. His focus, of course, is winning National Championships. But the Husky men's crew coach also wants to develop and prepare rowers for the rigors of National Team selection.

Recently, Callahan traveled to San Diego to support two of his current seniors (Robert Munn & Ambrose Puttmann) racing at the West Coast Speed Order, an intense competition that determines invites to the priority selection camp.

"Our ethos is to help students develop," Callahan said. "A goal of mine every year is to help our athletes reach their potential. The ceiling for both Rob and Ambrose is incredibly high, and this was a great opportunity for them."

Munn and Puttmann finished 12th in the pairs and finished strong in the 6,000-meter erg test, but came back home knowing they need to be faster if they hope to qualify for the Olympic Team in the next quadrennial.

"They more than held their own," Callahan said. "Even at Washington, though, those two aren't our fastest U.S. pair. Our level of competition is intense here, and we are preparing these seniors for the next step once they graduate."

One of the challenges with making the transition to the senior level is the loss of the tight bond of the team environment. USRowing open weight head coach Tim McLaren discussed how athletes need to be disciplined to work hard on their own, a trait he often sees in Washington oarsmen.

"We help work the kids through that transition," McLaren said. "In college, they get strength through their peers and a commitment to a cause. The kids at Washington have such a great support network, and that's why I feel the college system is the best in the world."

Unlike most nations, the development system for USRowing is the collegiate system. And few universities have a track record like UW. This reputation was recently enhanced when freshmen coach Luke McGee was named the development coordinator for the U.S. National Team. McGee will help identify and train talent for the U-23 World Championships, where success is often a precursor to making the senior team.

Last year, the Huskies had nine American rowers who competed at the U-23 World Championships in Amsterdam. Additionally, several alums including Giuseppe Lanzone, Brett Newlin and Scott Gault have established healthy careers with USRowing, and recent graduates like Hans Struzyna and Ty Otto are on the cusp of selection. The system used by the Huskies has been a well-proven entry portal for those with potential to row beyond the college level. While it's not a complete facsimile, Callahan structures his program to mirror those of a national team, everything from a dedication to training in small boats, tactics, technology and the support staff.



*Rob Munn and Ambrose Puttmann at the 2011 Fall Speed Order*

"We prepare the rowers as much as we can, and then we hand them off to (US coach) Tim McLaren," Callahan said. "Our goal has been to construct our program to model those that you see at the training center in San Diego."

Because the primary focus of collegiate rowing is winning the varsity eight event, there's a difficult transition for oarsmen to make when they move over to the national team. Struzyna, in particular, struggled at first when away from a team dynamic. McLaren said a lot of athletes go through an adjustment period when the eight is de-emphasized for smaller boats. Because UW rows so much in small boats, the learning curve flattens out for Huskies competing at the national level. What expedites the adjustment level as well is what McLaren tagged as the most common trait he's seen in Washington oarsmen – coachability.

"All those kids, they're just very solid," McLaren said. "They're good to coach, very supportive, well-mannered, across the board; really respectful of hard work."

This, of course, is something Callahan emphasizes as one of the hallmarks of his program. But the primary directive is to a) win and b) develop rowers capable of rowing at the next level.

Callahan also has the pedigree of time spent coaching on the national team. He's coached a U-23 boat five times in the past seven years, most recently this past summer in Amsterdam. He's also a product of the national team system, and knows full well the difficulties in sustaining careers at that level.

"We're an academic institution, so we're also developing guys to have successful careers once they leave Washington," Callahan said. "Ambrose told me he'd like to go to medical school and the Olympics, and we're going to do everything we can to help him realize those goals."

Coming back to Munn and Puttmann, both are the type of rowers who fit the national team prototype. And while they didn't win the West Coast Speed Order, Olympian and Washington Alum, Scott Gault '05 did. They proved to the USRowing staff that they have the tools and the will to row at the senior national team level in the future.

*This article appeared originally on the University of Washington Athletic Department website [www.gohuskies.com](http://www.gohuskies.com). The author, Assistant Director of Communications for the Husky Athletic Department, is an integral part of the Husky rowing program's communications team.*

# A Man For All Seasons

Rowing produces leaders; it's axiomatic. But there are many kinds of leadership and many ways leaders make their contributions. People who know Eric Cohen and his work on behalf of the Washington rowing program know he has been indispensable. But much of that work has been visible only to a small group of active alumni. And like so many of his rowing brethren, Eric's temperament and self worth thrive perfectly well without attention. That's all well and good but we want to change things; we want you to meet this leader and the legacy he has created.

In an odd but understandable way, the core of the Eric Cohen story began on May 18, 1980, on the Oakland estuary. He and his crew were about to race for the Pac-10 Championship. To many, it would be just another championship race but not to him, not to his teammates and not to Dick Erickson. Each of them knew that the next six minutes they were facing might define their future in the Washington rowing program.

Steve Gladstone took over the California program in the mid-seventies and their program was ascendant. When he brought his boys to Seattle for Opening Day in 1979, they crushed the Huskies, embarrassed them. So just over a year later, Eric and his mates were sitting in a borrowed Carboircraft on the estuary starting line and it was time to man up.

To understand the success of the Husky program today, you need to know about that title race in 1980. And to understand the success of that Husky squad – then and now – you need to know the equally compelling story of the man in the cox seat. The lineup – Frank Dohrn, Al Erickson, Al Forney, Eric Watne, Gary Davidson, John Zevenbergen, Charlie Clapp and Greg Guiliani – knew what was on the line, and Coach Erickson was so nervous that he couldn't watch the race, choosing instead to sit at the 1200 meter mark in a building – above the water, mind you, but inside nonetheless – pipe clamped in his teeth, smoke swirling. His oarsmen would become familiar names among the rowing cognoscenti, two would become Olympic medalists, but at that moment the cox and his oarsmen were college boys with no knowledge of the future.

Just a sophomore, Eric watched Dick Erickson make boat changes through the year in response to the challenge from California and to the growing unrest among Husky alumni. And Eric knew that the changes were working; his varsity was finally starting to click. But was it enough? And would they settle into their borrowed boat and be able to get the most from it?

Six years earlier, a home room friend at Roosevelt High School in Seattle talked Eric into turning out for the Green Lake Crew. It was a fine fit; as schoolboys, Eric and his future Washington teammates, Scott Carter and Al Erickson, won US Rowing's West Coast Championships four years in a row.

His plan for college, however, had a different track. "Aside from academics," he said, "I wanted to play, not think. Coxing at a high level requires too much mental effort." He had been a gymnast at Roosevelt and he intended to play intramural basketball and football in college. But once again a friend intervened and Eric



*Cohen getting laked after a 1981 Opening Day victory*

found himself at Conibear listening to the then freshman coach, Bob Ernst, sell the glories of Washington rowing.

By winter quarter of his freshman year, he knew he had found his home. "The crew house was magic in those years," he said recently, with reverence and a bit of irony. Surely Eric knows that the comment is so common among Husky rowing alumni that it borders on the trite, but it was his thought, his memory, his reality, and the power of it cancelled the generational echoes. He had earned his piece of the tradition – the romance of the sport, the friendships, the fellowship of pain and disappointment and competition, and the inexpressible thrill of success – and revisiting it clearly was a personal luxury. And here is what we found so fascinating about Eric's comment: In that moment of recall, he defined the Washington rowing program. He put voice to the private truth shared by our alumni: it is a brotherhood unique in college sports.

By his own admission and without apology, Eric Cohen says he was an emotional coxswain, a description echoed by his teammate, Charlie Clapp. "He gained the respect of all of the oarsmen in the boat through that intensity, and it was certainly something that defined him in a positive way."

On the starting line that day, Eric could barely contain himself. Under Gladstone, Cal had patented a move they called the flutter, an early sprint that drove up the stroke, and it had broken the backs of every crew they faced. But Dick Erickson had deciphered the tactic; Eric was ready for it, frightened he might miss it, but ready to challenge it.

The boats got off to a clean start. At 500 meters Eric was directing his men through the race plan but he also had his eyes on the Cal cox. When the flutter came at 600 meters, he called a power 20. On the first stroke they were down by a seat; on the twentieth stroke the Huskies had pulled even. And when they passed Dick Erickson and his pipe at 1200 meters, they were up by two seats.

Why was this race among so many others over so many years such a singular contest? Because it marked one of the periodic rebirths of Washington rowing, and like the others that had come before, it was key to all that followed. The race was the first U.S. race in which the Huskies raced in something other than a Pocock boat. It

was their first race in a carbon fiber boat. It was the first with composite oars. And because of the athletes involved and their drive and passion, they set a new standard for the program.

You know the result of the race. When they passed under the bridge, the boys of 1980 knew they had returned the favor; they had broken Cal's back and they brought the shell home about a third of a length ahead. Eric would recall that his team grew up that day on that 2000 meter stretch of California water. Inevitably, he became their captain.

After graduation, Eric went to work for Holland America Cruises and quickly rose to a senior marketing manager position. He describes the time – his twenties – as one of constant work, both endless hours on the job and endless hours at night rehabbing the house in which he still lives on Queen Anne Hill. But as his thirties approached, he looked up long enough to spy Heidi, now his wife and closest friend.

In 1989 he took Heidi to Opening Day and he succumbed once more to the lure of the program. In 1995 his close friend and teammate, Al Forney, brought him onto the Washington Rowing Stewards board and Washington captured one of its most important alumni leaders.



*Eric Cohen in the 1980 Varsity Eight*

Al Forney, Husky great and Olympic silver medalist, says this of Eric: "I cannot think of another alumnus of the Washington Rowing Program over the last 30 years that has had as much passion for the program and has had as much of an impact on it as Eric Cohen. The countless hours behind the scenes building the content and image of the program and his unwavering support are second to none."

Any involved rowing steward will confirm those words. If there is a race or an event, Eric has either taken the lead or has been a central part of it – the Centennial Banquet, the Class Day BBQ, the Stewards Enclosure for the Windermere Cup races, the re-emergence of the rowing program, fund raising support, marketing and communications – the list never ends. Along with Forney, he sells rowing gear to alumni and fans at rowing events and the proceeds go to their Washington Rowing Foundation which just recently signed papers to establish a new endowment for the program. It



*Eric Cohen (front) and the 1980 Varsity crew*

is Eric who finds the photographers and arranges web broadcasts for the away races, and Eric who streams live video to thousands of Husky fans, and Eric who puts together the media coverage for Windermere Cup and California Dual race rowing fans.

Perhaps his most spectacular contribution, however, is [www.huskycrew.org](http://www.huskycrew.org), certainly the finest rowing website in the world. He knew little about websites when he determined that the program needed one, and after early fumbling, bootstrap learning and help from friends, he built the site to a remarkable level of sophistication. The history section alone has become the stuff of legend and worth a story in itself. He spent more than a year in the Suzzallo reference rooms to compile what became a lasting gift to all Huskies.

In speaking of Eric, Charlie Clapp commented that coxswains "are rarely thanked for their efforts and contributions (but) it was pretty clear to everybody that raced with and against Eric that he was a meaningful contributor." And so he is now as well. Just as he was an emotional cox, he is an emotional man whose passions are firmly fixed on his family and the Husky rowing program. Heidi and their children – Monica, 14, and Chad, 12 – come first in his life (and deserve our endless thanks for sharing him with us), but we know that his home office has five computer screens and two telephone lines that buzz around the clock with work on the program's behalf.

We asked how he would like to be remembered and he mentioned two men from Washington's distant past as models: Rusty Callow and Curley Harris. "It's what they did afterwards for the program," he said, "because the program was so important to them, to the kids and to the community."

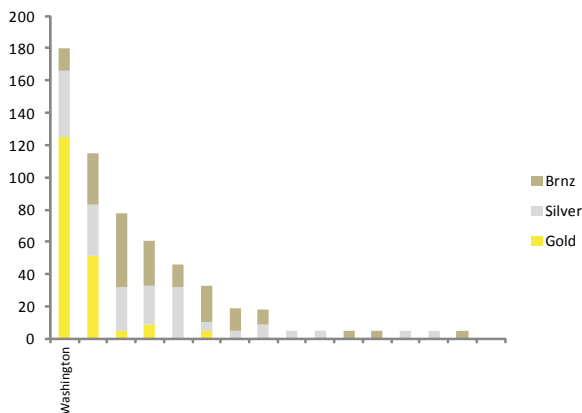
Eric need not worry; his legacy is firm. But right now you will find him with his head down because there is just so darn much work to get done.

# The Product and the Profit - by Michael Callahan

Over the last year I have been working with a handful of alumni to create a business plan for the team. There are multiple goals and impetuses for the project, but at the core, we want to create a stronger and more efficient team (and alumni base) that enables us to compete at the highest level of intercollegiate athletics. To do so, I want to provide transparency of how our budget is constructed and how our funds are spent. I also want to produce a communication plan that provides this transparency to the Athletic Department, Alumni, and friends associated with the program.

The challenge for producing a business plan for a collegiate rowing team is that we have to define the product and how we are profitable. It is easy to name winning (and the necessary fundraising to support winning) as a goal. Yet, that story feels incomplete. Something special is happening at the Conibear Shellhouse and it isn't described by a budget, or financial aid, or which rowing boat we purchase and why. If you have ventured down to the Coni in the last few years you can feel the energy and purpose of the group. As a coach, my focus is the student athlete, the experience and education that student receives while rowing at the University of Washington. The caveat in our business plan is our "product" or "profit" is undeniably human. Now that I understand this, I realize the compatibility of a business plan that sustains and builds UW Crew and the intangible qualities that define it.

IRA Performance 2007-2011



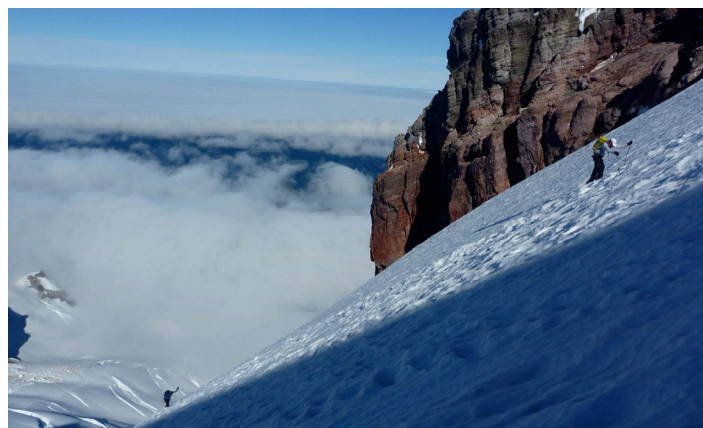
My goal is to have the best intercollegiate rowing program in the world. We know the costs associated with competing at the highest levels, but the atmosphere, camaraderie and quality of work at the UW is important to the final product. We compete against teams with more exclusive educational brand names, larger budgets, better financial aid packages and more support staff, but we have been able to triumph in this competitive environment.

So what is our competitive advantage?

I believe it is the student athlete. The Washington Rowing Program develops passionate, dedicated people who learn how to succeed with integrity. We learn these qualities in rowing boats, on campus, and from friendships with each other. While I have always understood the value of our student-athletes, I don't think I fully appreciated just how their experience and most importantly, what their experience makes them, ultimately defines the success of the program. To explain what moved me, I want to share an example

of something that happened to me this summer after the Intercollegiate Rowing Association National Championship.

On August 23rd I got a text message from Carlos Dinares, a volunteer coach, that read "Mt. Baker tomorrow?" I knew what this meant. I have a dream of climbing all the volcanoes in Washington State. I've climbed St. Helens, Adams, Mt. Rainier and I felt like Mt. Baker and Glacier Peak are the next two to summit. Carlos and I had been talking about climbing Mt. Baker for the last couple of summers and wanted to attempt it. Having some experience but not the full skill set of glacial rescue, snow route finding, avalanche knowledge, and the list goes on; I thought it would be wise to get someone with that could guide us up Mt. Baker. I sent Tad McCrea '05 a text message "Can you climb Mt. Baker with me? Carlos wants to do it tonight" ...SEND.



Climbing Mt. Baker

30 seconds later Tad McCrea replied, "Lets do it."

Me, "Is it safe...snow conditions...etc?"

Tad, "Conditions should be prime."

Me, "Ok. I'm committed."

Tad, "Sick."

The next thing I know we are waking up in Bellingham at Carlos' house, Tad is cooking breakfast and we are headed to Mt. Baker for a 3am start.

Tad McCrea was a freshman in my first class of Grunties in the spring of 2005. He is a larger than life character with a bigger laugh and ambition to become a professional climbing guide. Ultimately he is looking to complete first ascents on mountains (be the first person to ever summit) and name the routes. Tad was the first freshmen I meet after I accepted the Washington Freshmen job. He makes a good first impression. He's friendly, well spoken and fits the eye test for a collegiate rower: 6'5" and ripped at 210lbs. I didn't recruit Tad. Bob and Fred secured him the spring before, so it was fun to meet the first victim of my coaching. Did I mention that he was stubborn? He drove me crazy over the next four years, and I likely returned the favor. He medaled his freshman year, made the varsity 8 his sophomore year, failed to make a

racing boat his junior year and came back to win a Gold his senior year. He developed personally and athletically over those years, and when he came back to volunteer coach last year he was a tremendous asset to the team.

Back to climbing though. We breached the tree line and now put the crampons on our feet. We were headed over the glaciers towards the summit. This is where the dangerous stuff starts. Tad has always been positive with everything he says. On the mountain he let me know what to expect and when we might have to make some decisions. These decisions could be on anything from how to find our route around open crevasses, roping up together, or when to refuel. If you know me...you know that I need frequent refueling.

We had been climbing non-stop for a couple hours now. He could see that I was getting quiet, my pace was slowing and maybe I said something that sounded a little grumpy. "Callahan have a energy snack and have another in 30 minutes." So I did. He was racing all over the mountain like it was a level pitch, checking the snow quality, finding the route, talking up a storm, laughing, and having a great time. I found a rhythm after that snack on the last push up the mountain. I found a second wind. At that moment I saw how competent, responsible and professional he was at climbing. He knew what he was doing. He was encouraging me, he was patient, and he was teaching me the whole time. I was the novice and he was coaching me. I realized that I trusted him. A moment of pride came over me. I was indefinably proud of him and what he had become.

We summited the mountain that day in 4 hours 30 minutes, and we got down safely in 3 hours 30 minutes. It was just another day at the office for Tad.

Tad is much like many of his classmates. Andrew Beaton is now on the Board of Rowing Stewards and works for a financial firm downtown. Drew Fowler is a Seattle Police officer who patrols my neighborhood. Rob Gibson is on the Canadian National Team and has a chance to the London Olympic Games. Derek Devries has the

## Luke McGee's Talents Rewarded

Huskies have known about Lucas McGee's coaching talents from the day he arrived at Conibear but in October the fact was confirmed to the world when he was appointed Coordinator of USRowing's Under 23 program for 2012. In this new assignment he will work with collegiate and club coaches and the senior U.S. national team's coaching staff to oversee the selection for the 2012 Under 23 team.

This doesn't mean he is leaving Washington, only that he will be adding duties to an already overloaded coaching and recruiting schedule.

Luke joined the Huskies four years ago as freshman coach and led his teams to great seasons in each year. In addition to three PAC-10 Championships, the Huskies won silver in 2008 and 2011 at the IRA Championships, and gold in 2009 and 2010. His 2010 team



*Michael Callahan and Tad McCrea at the summit of Mt. Baker*

aspiration to start his own company. Toby Dankbaar is working in Hong Kong, and the list goes on. In their time they helped change a good program into the best intercollegiate rowing program in the nation. They won medals at the Head of the Charles, PAC-10, Cal Dual, and IRA National Championship, but that's not the whole story. They developed relationships in those boats, learned how to be committed to something, learned how to be excellent and passionate about what they do in life. Much like you, they are all the products and the profit of Washington Rowing.

Learning how to reach that tangible goal of winning helps produce those intangible "Washington" qualities in our athletes.

In the end, the approach is business-like, but the project is deeply personal. I will do my best to help you understand the business plan of Washington Rowing and how we hope it will allow our student athletes to stay competitive and have the same experience of winning (and occasionally losing) that shaped so many of us alumni. Ultimately, I hope our approach will enable us to keep producing the best student-athletes and people in the world. If you want to learn more about the program, please come the open Stewards meeting on January 18th. I will outline the rowing program's goals, how we stack up against our competitors, how the budget works, the role of the Rowing Stewards, and most importantly how our student-athletes are progressing this year.

went undefeated and finished their season by winning the Temple Challenge Cup at the Henley Royal Regatta.

Matt Imes, USRowing High Performance Director said: "We really want to strengthen our connection with the colleges and clubs ... (and) we want to create good development opportunities for athletes with National team aspirations. Luke's success as a coach and athlete fits well with this role."

Luke graduated from Brown in 2001 and attended Oxford University where he helped Oxford defeat Cambridge in The Boat Race in 2002. He is a six time national team member, and in 2003 he stroked the men's four with coxswain to a gold medal at the world championships in Milan, Italy. He is married to 2008 Olympian Portia McGee and they have one daughter, Nora.

## London Bound - by Bob Ernst



Megan Kalmoe and Adrienne Martelli show off their Husky pride in the 2011 Fall Speed Order

Just a bit over six months from now the world will again witness the Greatest Spectacle in sport – The 2012 Olympic Games in London, England.

For rowers this is the pinnacle! The fittest, the strongest and the most motivated rowing athletes will test themselves against each other for little more than bragging rights and, of course, the Gold, Silver and Bronze medals.

Washington Rowing will be well represented. The best opportunity for Gold should ride in the U.S. women's VIII on the shoulders of 2008 Olympic Champion Mary Whipple '02, '11. After taking some time away from the tiller after Beijing to earn a graduate degree from Washington, Mary was right back in the saddle with the US VIII to win another Gold medal at the 2011 World Championships in Bled, Slovenia. Certainly the U.S. VIII is odds on favorites to defend their Olympic gold!

Megan Kalmoe '06 and Adrienne Martelli '10 won Silver in the U.S. women's quadruple sculls in Bled and have a good shot at a medal in London. Rob Gibson '09, Will Crothers '09 and Conlin McCabe '12 should represent Canada in a very good men's VIII. This Canadian crew won Bronze in Bled and, if reports out of Victoria are accurate, they have a good opportunity to take down the World Champion German VIII and give Coach Mike Spraklen his third Olympic Gold medal men's VIII.

Three time Olympian, Dave Calder '01 and his pair partner, Scott Fransen, are on a TOTAL crusade to return to the form that brought Canada a Silver medal in the pair in 2008. After taking some time away from rowing, this duo were finalists in Bled and they are determined to chase down the World Champion Kiwis.



Will Crothers (stroke) and Conlin McCabe (two seat) in a recent training session with the Canadian National team.

Giuseppe Lanzone '05, Brett Newlin '05 and Scott Gault '05 represented the U.S. in the men's four in the finals in Bled – finishing just off the podium. These Huskies are busy at work at the ARCO Olympic Training Center in Chula Vista, California with Coach Tim McClaren. Tim is an Australian native and he has had great success prepping fours for the Olympic Games. Anthony Jacob was in the Canadian four in Bled that qualified for the Olympics, and Coach Terry Paul will have both Anthony's four and Dave's pair ready for the BEST!

Ty Otto '11, Hans Struzyna '11 and Blaise Didier '09 are working very hard to make the U.S. VIII and qualify it for the Games. This group may also include some of Coach Callahan's current athletes! I am sure we will hear a lot more about the evolution of the U.S. VIII as the year progresses so stay tuned!

Kerry Simmonds '11 is training in Princeton with the U.S. Development Squad with an outside shot at the team.

We have a lot to look forward to at the London Games! This is sure to be one of the most exciting and productive Olympic Regattas for Washington Rowing!

While looking forward, we must keep in mind that these athletes will be working very hard. They need to be very lucky to stay healthy while on their quest and they can use all the support and positive vibes we can send their way!

If you want to send a note of support and encouragement, send it c/o Katie Gardner at [kgardner@uw.edu](mailto:kgardner@uw.edu) and Katie will forward it. Please add the athlete's name in the subject line.

Good luck to all our Olympians and Olympic hopefuls!

Go Huskies!

The Annual Rowing Stewards Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 18th at 7pm in the Rose Auditorium of Conibear Shellhouse. The coaches will fill you in on the state of the rowing program. The nominating committee will also submit a slate of board members to be voted on at the meeting.

If you plan to come, contact Katie Gardner at [kgardner@uw.edu](mailto:kgardner@uw.edu) or 206-543-1117. We look forward to seeing you on January 18th!

## Middle East Mission - by Nicole Mazikowski

*In the last issue of Sweep, we called for updates from you on how you put your University of Washington degree to work. We were captivated by the report that follows from 2004 graduate, Nicole Mazikowski. All the best to you Nicole. Thanks for the important work you are doing.*

I majored in Community and Environmental Planning and Political Communication at the UW. I was also an Army ROTC student and upon graduation commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army as an Engineer. I spent my first four years as an Engineer where I didn't really use anything from my degree other than general knowledge of creating information papers, the planning process and the competitive spirit that comes from a graduate and rower from the UW. When you are searching for IEDs and training the Iraqi Army, community planning doesn't help much unfortunately.

Recently I became a Civil Affairs Team leader as part of the United States Special Operations Command. I am now a senior Captain and am currently deployed to Afghanistan. Finally here in this job I am putting my degrees to use. My main focus here in Afghanistan is working with village and district level government officials, Afghan elders and security forces on development and governance in their country. The Army officially calls it Village Stability Operations. I am sometimes part politician promoting their governance and leadership using some of the skills I learned in political communication classes. Other times I work alongside the Afghans and other coalition forces to develop plans to grow their communities, help with agriculture and help them to progress and be sustainable communities.

## Football Seats and Husky Crew

Hey football fans. Pay attention here.

You season ticket holders are biting your nails, checking your Priority Points, and scanning the seating charts trying to figure out where you might sit and how much it will cost. Decision time begins in about a month. And for the first time, most of the seat selection and payment will be done online rather than by mail.

You know by now that the Husky Athletic Department installed a new online process for seat selection and payment for the 2012 season at CenturyLink Stadium and for the new Husky Stadium in 2013. Seat selection begins around the first of February. Assistant Athletic Director Roy Shick said in a recent announcement: "The next couple of football seasons will include significant changes for our football fans, how they renew their seats, and where they will sit. With the move to CenturyLink Field in 2012 and back to the



*Nicole Mazikowski on the Afghanistan-Pakistan border*

While it may not all be speeches and sustainable environmental initiatives like we focused on in my classes, the ideas, skills and knowledge base I received from the UW degree programs is directly affecting my life here in Afghanistan as well as my teammates and the Afghans. Then you throw in the competitive spirit and physical endurance skills I honed while rowing at the UW and everything I did for four years is used here in the mountains in Eastern Afghanistan.

Attached is a picture of me showing my husky pride at the border of Afghanistan and Pakistan on one of my missions here in country.

new Husky Stadium in 2013 we are preparing for the largest seating reallocation in the history of this program. The reallocation of our season ticket holders is a massive undertaking and we are doing our best to communicate with our fans and donors."

So are we. One thing that hasn't changed is your ability to remember your Husky rowing program as part of the football ticket payment process. The change from December forms to February online applications opens a brief window for us to remind you that that the ticket payment format allows you to direct a contribution to Husky Crew.

Read the online seat selection and payment site carefully and be sure fill in a donation for your Husky rowing program. As always, every dollar donated will go directly to the program.

## Stop Press!

Just moments before going to press we learned that Rowing News honored Husky Men's Coach Michael Callahan as "Coach of the Year," and his 2011 varsity as "Men's Collegiate Crew of the Year." The 2011 Husky varsity eight received Honorable Mention for "Race of the Year" for their dominating win at the IRA Regatta. Mary Whipple received Honorable Mention as "Female Athlete of the Year."

# PoWer<sup>3</sup> - Adding up the Numbers

You've received two mailings in the last month about our poWer<sup>3</sup> Campaign and its importance to the Husky rowing program. And even though you may have responded already, this brief piece won't be the last you will read. The campaign draws to a close on June 30 which gives us a few more months to find \$300,000. We need to put this financial bind behind us and finish the program's race to the top proudly and successfully.

Your support of your Husky Crew has been unprecedented. You've written checks, you've found matching gifts from your employers, you've scheduled periodic payments from your checking accounts and your credit cards; in short, you've brought the program to the very top of the rowing world.

As exciting, you've re-connected with the program in all sorts of ways. Proof? Think about your dual races with California and Stanford through the Montlake Cut or into Andrews Bay. Let your memory scan the few fans that gathered on the beach to watch your effort and cheer you on. And then know this: 5000 fans turned out for the Cal Dual last spring. Five thousand! That's resurgence and loyalty beyond anyone's dreams.

The whole Washington family knows the story. From the Athletic Department to the President's office, from the rowing alumni to all the rowing family and friends; the support you've delivered has turned into a thrilling, heart-warming story. We do, indeed, possess the finest collegiate rowing program in North America. But there is work left to do.

In June, 2005, we wrote that the Husky men's program was at a tipping point. We could continue at the same level of funding and accept the inevitable second tier status that would come from it, or we could generate support from our alumni, friends and fans that would underwrite the tradition as it was meant to be. You chose

the latter and look at what you have wrought. Last spring the boys went to the IRA and returned with four gold medals and a silver, along with its fifth Ten Eyck trophy in a row.

You made it happen. It deserves repeating. Your early contributions in 2005 and 2006 gave us hope that it was possible. Your donations in 2007 and 2008 convinced us that we were on our way. Through those first four years, the total raised increased each year and your gifts funded the ability to recruit against California, Harvard and the rest.

And then the economy fell apart and the value of the endowments we worked so hard to secure dropped precipitously. When we launched the poWer<sup>3</sup> Campaign in response, your support blew apart all our expectations. Your contributions doubled and you filled the gap. And now we are faced with this final challenge, to FINISH in the manner we expect of Huskies. We need to find that \$300,000 and cross the line on June 30 in first place. You want nothing less from your program.

Yes, it's true; we will probably ask for donations every year for the foreseeable future. But this time, this campaign, this year, is critical. Please sit down right now and write a check for the poWer<sup>3</sup> Campaign. If you've given in the last few months, consider a second gift. If your employer has a matching gift program, be sure to arrange one. It goes without saying that no gift is too large but please understand that no gift is too small either. Our success has been built on hundreds and hundreds of small donors and each is a valued Steward of the program.

So do it right now while the thought is in your head. And know that you and your support of the Husky rowing program whether financial or non-financial is appreciated. You are part of the team.

## Pledge/Gift Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home or Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Check (Payable to University of Washington) Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Credit Card (V/MC/Amex)- Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ total (\$1,000 minimum) in \_\_\_\_\_ equal installments beginning \_\_\_\_\_ charged to above credit card.

\_\_\_\_ **Payment Information:** I have arranged a matching gift from my employer

Return to: University of Washington Athletics, Attn: Husky Crew Fund, Tyee Office – Box 354070, Seattle, WA 98195

(CREWFC/64-1511) CRW12

# Notable News

## Sports Star of the Year

The 2011 Husky Men's Varsity has been nominated for the 77th Annual Sports Star of the Year award, presented by ROOT Sports. The program will be January 25th at Benaroya Hall so contact the Seattle Sports Commission now for details on ordering your ticket.

Created by Royal Brougham and the Seattle Post Intelligencer in 1936, the annual awards show has recognized such greats as Don James, Apolo Ohno, Keith Jackson, Gary Payton, Steve Largent, Hope Solo and Felix Hernandez – not to mention our own Al Ulbrickson, Jan Harville and Jim McCurdy.

Be sure to be there on the 25th to support our 2011 National Championship varsity men's crew.

## Head of the Charles

In October, Coach Callahan took an eight back to Boston to defend their title in the Championship Eight at the Head of the Charles. The Huskies rowed well and came in third out of 34 entries, finishing behind only Harvard and the U.S. National Team entries.

## Head of the American

October on Lake Natoma is hard to beat. Ask the Husky women's eight. Erin Lauber, Kirstyn Goodger, Fiona Gammond, Haley Yeager, Ruth Whyman, Skye Pearman-Gillman, Veronica Tam-sitt, Adriene deLeuw and Kelsey Jackson went south to race in pairs and eights. Facing their Pac-12 rivals, the Huskies clocked the second fastest time on the 3.1 mile course. Earlier in the day, all four pairs finished in the top eight. Fiona Gammond and Skye Pearman-Gillman took third place.

Coach Ernst said: "This was a wonderful opportunity to prove themselves against tough competition and get better."



*The women's team after a successful day at Lake Natoma*

## Pair Head Record Falls

We thought the 20:38 time posted in the annual Pair Head by Con-lin McCabe and Anthony Jacob last year might stand for a long time. Tom Lehmann and Mathis Jessen thought otherwise and proved it by blasting through to put up a phenomenal 20:20. Now there's a record that should stand awhile. Or will it?



*Pair Head Champions (l to r) Tom Lehmann, Kirstyn Goodger, Erin Lauber, Mathis Jessen*

Not to be outdone, Kirstyn Goodger and Erin Lauber turned in the second fastest time in history for the women. Along with the great showing at the Head of the American, it would seem that the women are set for a great racing season next spring.

This intra-squad competition, begun in the early 1990s, has become a fall highlight for the women's and men's teams, and a good measure of the conditioning progress made by both. This time around, the men placed four teams in the top ten list and the women placed two teams in their top ten.

## Turkey Trot

Racing in cold temperatures and a rare hail storm, senior Sarah Velling and freshman Nick Cypro won the 35th Turkey Trot race. This is Sarah's second consecutive victory. Nick defeated the two-time defending winner Beddome Allen, his former cross-country teammate at Lewis & Clark High School in Spokane. In fact, Beddome is the one responsible for talking Nick into walking on to the freshman rowing team at UW.

## Conibear "W" Board

After months of research and planning, the "W" board in the Conibear Shellhouse has been updated! When the new boathouse opened in 2005, the "W" board installation was missing several key names. We looked through old records, media guides, and put a notice out in this publication for any names that might have been overlooked. Stop by the Windermere Dining Room at the Conibear Shellhouse to check it out for yourself!

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