



UCI ROWING ALUMNI NEWS

Fall 2006/Winter 2007

Three Men's Boats Dedicated On Alumni Day!

Over thirty alumni along with their family and friends joined the current rowers for Alumni Day at the UC Irvine boathouse on Sunday February 4, 2007. During this event the Irvine men dedicated three newly acquired boats to three people whose spirit and dedication has made a profound impact on the Anteater Rowing program. The men's varsity coach Scott Charette started the festivities by introducing the presenters: Bill Butler, UC Irvine Oarsmen 1971-1974; Ali Bolorian, UC Irvine Oarsmen 1997-00; and Mike Sullivan, UC Irvine Oarsmen 1971-1974.

The "Johnny Walker" was named after alumni John Walker who rowed at Irvine from 1971-1974. He rowed in many post-collegiate sweep and sculling events. His contributions to the rowing community include over 25 years as a Referee for collegiate, national, and international competitions. Walker is one of 21 FISA-certified officials in the United States and has been a Referee at over a dozen international events including the 2000 Olympics in Sydney and the upcoming 2007 Pan American games in Rio de Janeiro. He served as Course Manager at the Rowing venue for the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles and is active with international organizations to develop rowing world wide. Walker has also worked on creating more alumni support while serving on the Steering Committee of the UCI Rowing Alumni organization.



Bill Butler Christening the "Johnny Walker" with John Walker and family

The "Jan Fiesel" was named in recognition of Jan's decades of contributions to the UC Irvine rowing program and assistance to Crew founder Duvall Hecht. Jan Fiesel provided indispensable logistic and administrative support for the operations of the UCI crew including team travel, home race referees and permits, coaches and administrator meetings and detailed correspondence with around the clock availability. She facilitated alumni outreach, creating the alumni data base that we use today and acted as the contact for news, questions, and events for all alumni. Her tireless interest and attention to detail led to many on-water and off-water

(Continued on page 2)

2006-2007 SCHEDULE

2/24	Long Beach Scrimmage	Newport
3/3	Parker Cup	Marina Del Rey
3/10	UCSD, CSULB	San Diego
3/17	UCLA (M)	Marina Del Rey
3/18	Chapman	Newport
3/24	Berg Cup (W)	Newport
3/31-4/1	San Diego Crew Classic	San Diego
4/7	Collins Cup (W)	Newport
	OCC, CSULB (M)	Newport
4/14	Chap, CSULB, UCSB, UCSD (W)	Newport
	Newport Regatta (M)	Newport
4/28-29	WIRA	Sacramento
5/11-12	Dad Vail (V)	Philadelphia

For more information on these events including times please check our websites www.wcrew.uci.edu and www.mcrew.uci.edu

Thank you for reading the Fall 2006/Winter 2007 Edition of the UCI Rowing Alumni News! Please keep checking the website for more up to date information.

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successes of the program. Sadly, Jan passed away this last year. Her enthusiasm for the crew and sacrifices for its members will always be remembered.



Ali Boloorian christening the "Jan Fiesel" with Eric Fiesel

The "Roger James" was named for a man's love and dedication to rowing and the UC Irvine crew. Roger James rowed at UC Irvine from 1968-1971 and was a leader of crews that helped establish the traditions and recognition of UCI in rowing with wins over Cal, UCLA, and Long Beach. He was diagnosed with leukemia early in his senior year and after informing Coach Ernst decided to continue rowing without telling any of his teammates. During his last year of life and rowing, his disease limited him physically, but did not diminish his spirit which he generously shared with his crewmates. He not only rowed his entire senior year but also applied and was accepted to law school. He unfortunately died the summer of 1971 and the Varsity eight was named in his honor. This was a renaming so that the spirit of Roger James and his crewmates will continue through our program.



Roger James' family

Alumni and friends of the program enjoyed themselves, sharing stories and catching up with former teammates. The crewmates of John Walker and Roger James along with alumni who worked closely with Jan Fiesel took out the newly dedicated eights. For some alumni this was the first time they had rowed in over 20 years, yet you would not have known this by watching them. Many of the novice rowers commented on the alums ability to balance a boat and are eager to develop their own skills.

The history and spirit of the boathouse came alive as several alums representing the past forty years of the Irvine program joined in the weekend festivities. Thank you for sharing your stories and memories with the current athletes and giving them the opportunity to feel and see Irvine's vibrant traditions. The linking of the present to the past is what builds a great future!



Alumni rowing the "Johnny Walker"



Alumni rowing the "Roger James"



Alumni rowing the "Jan Fiesel"



Alumni and friends listening to presenters at Alumni Day.

An Athlete's Perspective

Fall 2006 ended a summer of sun, beach, vacation and biking hundreds of miles a week. It doesn't seem like the ideal summer, full of relaxation, but that's what a rower has to do to keep in shape. It's all about the next racing season. How much faster can we get? Where will we place next year?

Fall was a true test. It revealed who was really dedicated. The women's practice schedule was 3 days a week of water time and team practice, 3 days a week of weights, 1 Tenacious Tuesday, and 1 Lido Lap time trial in a single. Tenacious Tuesday is new to the women's program. It is meant to test a rower's mental and physical being. It is meant to make you cry, suffer, and prepare you for what it's like to race. It is meant to increase confidence on race day. Thus far, it's done wonders for the mental toughness and physical fitness of the team.

The Lido Lap time trials are done in our fleet of singles. Each week we perform a time trial to rank each girl on the team. Unfortunately, fall was riddled with injuries but the Lido laps were still a good indication of where people stood. Being ranked every week makes you push yourself against the clock and against each other. Those that were able to participate really pulled through over fall quarter. Our boat speed was evident at NARF on our home course in Back Bay.

Winter quarter is here and the racing season is rapidly approaching. If we can keep people healthy and keep working hard, I think we could have a very fruitful season. It's 2007. It's a new year, a new racing season, a new crew. Time will tell, but our hard work should pay off. All those strokes we've been putting into the bank will finally be cashed, and we will be rich.

Rachel Wong- Senior Oarswomen

Dear Alumni and Parents,

My name is Mark Caswell. I am a senior oarsmen on this years team. I red shirted last year due to a wrist injury early in the year, but have now fully recovered and am eager to get back to rowing. Over my five year tenure here at UCI, I have experienced a wide range of athlete personalities and this year is no different.

As in years before, our early preseason has brought us a rash of injuries; myself being one of the casualties. Another senior rower has suffered a serious back injury prohibiting him from rowing for an indefinite amount of time. Still another senior rower suffered a back injury in fall and has been rehabbing his way back into the weight room. Despite our early injuries, we are still poised to be one of the more competitive teams on the west coast. With the recent purchase and acquisition of new boats and equipment for the Men's Team, there has been a surge of excitement throughout the team. I am extremely pleased with the current demeanor present at practice. Everyone has a genuine interest in balancing the boat, sometimes even too much interest. We need to learn how to relax more and just let the boat flow. We have a few veteran rowers on the team this year at the Varsity level, but are composed mostly of second year rowers. Although everyday they mature and improve their stroke a little more than the day before, we are still one of the youngest crews in terms of years rowed. However, what we lack in experience, we make up for with attitude and mental toughness. This was especially apparent after our annual preseason scrimmage with Orange Coast College. Usually OCC will take 10 strokes and take the lead, never to be challenged by us. This year OCC took their ten strokes, but found themselves even, and twice behind, our top varsity boat. We won one of the three pieces against OCC by open water, and battled with them on the other two losing only by 3 seats at the most.

If our preseason scrimmages and overall team demeanor are any indication to how the next three months will play out, I am thrilled to be on this ride. I encourage each and everyone one of you to attend our races and support your UCI Rowing Team, I know I'll be there.

-Mark Caswell- Senior Oarsmen

Fall Wrap-Up

by Coach Scott Charette

I can't believe our first race is just 3 weeks away. We made it through January which always seems to be the most difficult time of year. The first weekend in February was alumni weekend with the Hall of Fame Brunch on Saturday and Alumni Day at the boathouse on Sunday.

Saturday after the alumni brunch the real party started, courtesy of Duvall at the hotel bar for hors d'oeuvres, drinks and stories as we watched DVD's of UC Irvine rowing in the 70's. On Sunday we dedicated 3 shells; "Johnny Walker", "Jan Fiesel" and "Roger James." After the dedication, speeches were given by Bill Butler, Ali Bolorian and Mike Sullivan, the champagne was poured and then all 3 boats were filled with alumni for a short row out to the bluffs. Some of the novice were amazed at how the alumni were able to glide with blades off the water to an almost complete stop. Only 1 boat full of current varsity oarsmen went out on the water to do a couple short race pieces with the younger alumni boat. As it should be, the day was mostly about the alumni reconnecting with team mates to relive their glory days when boats were made of wood and men were made of steel. It was a great day and hopefully some young minds were inspired after seeing the lifelong friendships developed on and around Shellmaker Island.

While many of the alumni were sleeping on Saturday morning, the current collegiate oarsmen and women were on the water with Orange Coast College for the annual pre season scrimmage. I ran the scrimmage for the novice women while Tom Speakes, a varsity rower, watched over the varsity men. John Segui took video so I could watch the action later. The women did 4 eight minute pieces and won the first 2 and lost the second 2. During our last scrimmage just before break OCC won all the pieces by significant margins so this was a huge confidence builder for the women. The timing could not be better. With their new found confidence the novice women are training with hunger. The varsity men did 3 pieces and won the 3k piece by a little open water and lost the 1,500 and 2k by a few seats. This was a big day for the guys as it has been too many years since the varsity men have had a bow in front of OCC. I know coast will shake things up and bring it on race day but this shows the guys that they are in the hunt and they have been training like it ever since.

With the season fast approaching it's seat racing time so I'm off to check pitches, Scott

Fall Wrap-Up

by Coach Bridget Jacobson

Hello Alumni and Friends,

This is an exciting time for the novice men with racing season just around the corner. Their numbers have slowly diminished from over 30 in September to 15 rowers and 2 coxswains. Only the dedicated and hard working are left, which makes for productive and fun practices. As the days go on the practices are getting more and more challenging and the men are not shying away from these challenges. They are spending most days in 2 or 3 fours, so there is always a boat to race. Their balance in the eight is quickly improving as they get better and better in the fours. Our last scrimmage against Orange Coast College showed much improvement and all of the men are hungry for more. They are learning how to push themselves harder and harder each day at practice which will be very important as we start racing. We have begun to analyze video a few days a week which is really helping the men learn how they row and what they need to do to be more effective in the boat. They all understand what needs to be done and are all working towards improving their strokes. All 15 rowers are hard working and eager to be in the novice eight so seat racing is going to be a vital part of the next couple of weeks. This racing season will be a great one for the novice men and I invite all of you to come out and watch some races.

Bridget Jacobson
Novice Coach

Fall Wrap-Up by Coach Carrie Parsons

Hello Alumni and Friends of UC Irvine Rowing!

It is amazing to think that we are only weeks away from the start of spring racing season! It seems just yesterday that we wrapped up fall racing season!

The varsity women return 6 rowers and are joined by 4 rowers from the novice squad from last year. With the absence of a coxswain, fall training comprised many singles, pairs and straight four rows with an occasional jaunt in the eight. At first glance it seemed such a disadvantage to not have a returning coxswain. However, the girls took great advantage of this situation and threw their efforts into mastering the skills required to make small boats fly. A weekly race pace team erg session, three team lifting sessions and two additional individual rows in the singles rounded out the fall training regime. The mental training and discipline required in fall practices transferred well into the eight as they raced into a very respectable mid pack finish at the Newport Autumn Rowing Festival. With only a few seconds separating the crews in the pack, Irvine has shown we have what it takes to be in the race.

This quarter the varsity women practice at the same time as the novice women. This has given us the opportunity to be in the eight several times a week, working with different novice coxswains. We race the novice once a week at varying lengths and rates always with an eye on honing race performance. The varsity women continue to train once a week in the pair as well as once a week on the erg. The erg sessions challenge race psychology including mental preparation and efficient pacing. The practice schedule is demanding and the varsity women continue to impress. They have great guts and go after their numbers on the erg, chase down other boats on the course, dig in deep late into a tough piece.

We recently had a huge breakthrough practice on the water. All of the various components of training came together for everyone on the same day and the level of the "art" of rowing elevated. The pick-up of the water is seconds quicker with less disruption, the transition to the drive is less forced and more stable, the bend on the oar starts earlier and lasts longer, the blades are held in and connected through the finish. What an amazing practice! It has elevated the concept of good rowing and the goal of each oarswoman in turn has been thrust higher.

Spring racing is fast approaching and the varsity women are excitedly preparing. The little and big lessons learned, the efforts on and off the water will soon come together and be tested by various opponents as can not be simulated in practice. I look forward to the continued unfolding of this chapter in UC Irvine Women's Crew!

Go Eaters!

Carrie Chamberlain Parsons
Head Coach
Women's Rowing

A LOOK AT THE FALL 2006 UCI ROWING SEASON



Class Day Races 2/10/07

The Junior class triumphed over the freshmen, sophomores, and seniors in all three 2k races to claim the cup. The women raced in five fours, split by year in school. Juniors pictured above from left to right Katie Albo, Laurel Dinwiddie, Denise French, Alix Howard, and Ali Baraff

Long Beach Erg Sprints 1/27/07

Laurel Dinwiddie- 1st place Collegiate Women
Denise French- 1st place Collegiate Ltwt Women
Rachael Thomassen- 2nd place Collegiate Novice Women

Head of the Marina

11/11/06
Women's open eight
2nd out of 5 - time 20:29

San Diego Fall Classic

11/05/06
Women's open eight
5th out of 7 - time 22:49

Newport Autumn Rowing Festival 11/12/06

Women's open eight
Varsity 10th out of 21- time 17:33

Women's novice eight
17th out of 20 - time 21:31

20th out of 20 - time 23:48

Women's open four
Novice 16th out of 21 - time 21:10



Class Day Races 2/10/07

The Sophomore Class was the winner of this years Class Day, winning all three pieces. The men raced in 4 eights based on the years they have rowed. Sophomores pictured above from left to right top row firs: Derrick Diego, Alex Tessier, Josh Cohen, Mat Anderson, Jeff Draper, Rowan Cannaday, Matt Navo, Jon Iwata, Andre Paredes

Long Beach Erg Sprints 1/27/07

Matt Michaelson - 1st place Collegiate Men
Josh Cohen - 2nd place Collegiate Men
Jon Iwata - 3rd place Collegiate Ltwt Men
Mark Caswell - 1st place Open Men

Newport Autumn Rowing Festival 11/12/06

Men's open eight
12th out of 27-- time 15:42

13th out of 27-- time 15:47

Men's novice eight
15th out of 23-- time 18:10

18th out of 23-- time 19:21

21st out of 23-- time 20:30

San Diego Fall Classic 11/05/06

Men's open four
2nd out of 3--time 20:31

Men's open eight
2nd out of 6--time 18:24

VARSITY 2006-2007 ROSTER WOMEN'S TEAM

<u>Name</u>	<u>HT</u>	<u>YR</u>
Katie Albo	5-10	Jr.
Laurel Dinwiddie	5-11	Jr.
Amanda Evans	5-10	So.
Ashley Fee	5-6	So.
Denise French	5-2	Jr.
Alix Howard	5-10	Jr.
Nia Hunt	5-11	So.
Leanorra Sanchez	5-5	Sr.
Katie Sullivan	5-8	Jr.
Rachel Wong	5-5	Sr.

MEN'S TEAM

<u>Name</u>	<u>HT</u>	<u>YR</u>
Mat Anderson	6-0	So.
Lewis Baloian		Sr.
Rowan Cannaday	6-6	So.
Mark Caswell	6-0	Sr.
Thomas Chiu*	5-10	Sr.
Josh Cohen	6-3	So.
Derrick Diego	5-10	So.
Jeff Draper	6-0	Jr.
Jon Iwata	5-6	So.
Mathew Michaelson	6-3	Jr.
Troy Nelson	6-2	Sr.
Andre Paredes	5-10	So.
Travis Petovello	6-2	Sr.
Artur Sarkisyan	6-2	So.
John Sequi	6-3	Sr.
Thomas Speakes	6-5	Jr.
Alex Tessier	6-1	So

*Coxswain



Novice Women 2/3/07



Novice Men 2/3/07



Varsity Women 2/14/07



Varsity Men 2/3/07



Novice Men 2/3/07

NOVICE 2006-2007 ROSTER WOMEN'S TEAM

<u>NAME</u>	<u>HT</u>	<u>YR</u>
Jenny Arellano	5-1	So.
Allison Baker	5-10	Fr.
Ali Baraff	5-6	Fr.
Gloria Barajas	5-5	Fr.
Alexandra Bolt	5-9	Fr.
Heather Conniff	5-2	Fr.
Emily Folick	5-10	So.
Kim Gordan	5-7	Jr.
Jennifer Hahn	5-10	Fr.
Lauren Henry	5-4	Fr.
Carrie Keister	5-7	So.
Shawna Mcknight	5-10	Fr.
Laura Meyers	5-7	Fr.
Marrissa Romero	5-5	Fr.
Kathleen Sharkey	5-6	Fr.
Rachael Thomassen	5-9	Fr.
Samiyyah Tillman	5-10	Fr.
Vanessa Wong	5-8	Jr.

MEN'S TEAM

<u>Name</u>	<u>HT</u>	<u>YR</u>
Emad Ali	5-9	Sr.
Jesse Angle	6-2	Sr.
Richard Denny	6-5	So.
Kia Koko	6-2	Jr.
Aleks Logvinsky	5-11	Fr.
Justin Maeda	5-5	Fr.
Matthew Navo	5-9	Fr.
Edwin Ohanian	6-2	So.
Tony O'Toole	6-1	So.
Nicolas Papajohn	6-3	Fr.
Rom Rahimian	6-5	Fr.
Paymaun Rezai	6-3	Fr.
Brad Scott	6-3	Jr.
Robert Shelby	5-10	Jr.
Mike Ward	6-3	Fr.
Stephan Yang	5-11	Fr.

*Coxswai



Varsity Women 2/14/07



Novice Men 2/10/07



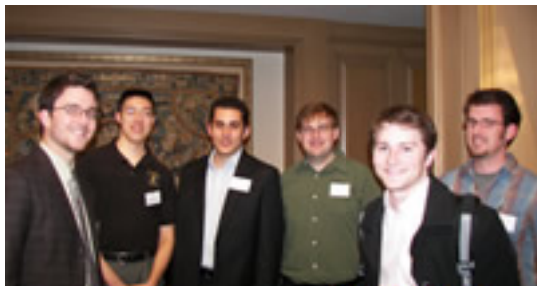
Varsity and Novice Men 2/10/07



Varsity and Novice Women 2/10/07

ALUMNI NEWS

The Athletic Department's Hall of Fame Brunch took place on February 3, 2007. The Rowing program boaster nine tables of alumni and current athletes. This is always a fun event and this year was no exception. Thanks to Duvall Hecht for planning a fantastic after party in the hotel bar, where many gathered to catch-up and watch rowing DVDs of Irvine in the 1970's. Thank you for making this a great success!



Look for the women's alumni boat at San Diego Crew Classic in the women's open race. If you are not rowing please come to the regatta and support the anteaters, current and alumni!

Irvine alumni competed in the Canadian Henely last August. They placed 2nd in a seven boat final for senior oarsmen. The alumni four included Aaron Frank, Rob Walker, Kieren "K.C." Coghlan, Jedd Rogge, and Coxswain Jen Jacobson.

BOATHOUSE NEWS

In the previous newsletters we have written about the plans for a new boathouse. These plans are still in the works but have been delayed due to the construction of the The Department of Fish and Game's new facilities.

The alumni database is growing thanks to all of you whom have completed your on-line bios.

If you have not filled out your bio please take a moment to do so. Don't be afraid to let your former team mates know what you are up to. The information section is the most interesting part to read. Once you have filled out your bio let your former team mates know about the database that we are trying to create so that they too can fill out their bios.

When filling out the alumni bio please input all of your information so that we can send you an occasional e-mail regarding an upcoming event or a letter in the mail.

Once you have filled out your bio please don't forget to update the contact information or any other information that you have provided. To update any information just fill out a new bio or e-mail crew@uci.edu with any changes that you might have.

If you are interested in writing an article for the next edition please e-mail crew@uci.edu