



VOLUME SEVEN • MARCH 2011

SWEET

THE OFFICIAL WASHINGTON ROWING QUARTERLY

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THE HUSKY COXSWAIN

A WASHINGTON ROWING STEWARDS PUBLICATION

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ROWING

Class Day Weekend



The 2010 Class Day races were won by the Senior Women and the Junior Men

The Husky student athletes have put in countless hours getting ready for the spring season, and it finally arrives with the annual Class Day weekend. And as always, it's going to be a great party. You won't find the unofficial stuff mentioned here even though we know your class get-togethers in the area's taverns and restaurants are a weekend highlight, but we do encourage you to contact your friends and make sure those events happen.

Here's the official lineup.

VBC Banquet

Al Erickson's annual affair will be the kickoff event and, as always, any proceeds that exceed the costs will be placed in the Dick Erickson Scholarship Endowment. The date is March 25 and the time is 6:00 p.m. Be sure to read the companion article on page 3 for all of the details...

Women's Alumni Race

Calling all women's team alums - time to find that old racing uni in the back of your closet, and head down to the Conibear Shellhouse for the 1st annual Women's Alumni Race! This 1000 meter race will happen at 8am on Saturday, March 26th, and all former Husky Crew women are invited to attend. Either hop in a boat and race against your former teammates, or watch from the shore and enjoy a small reception after the races! Please email Denni Nessler at denninessler@gmail.com by March 10th if you plan to attend.

Cruise & Croissants

Saturday, March 26, is also the date of Dwight Phillips' annual Cruise with Croissants brunch. Celebrants and rowing fans will be treated to a warm, dry, well fed cruise of Lake Washington, and an up close and personal view of the Class Day races. There is no better way to watch a race so here is fair warning - this affair will sell out, too.

The boat will be docked near the Montlake Cut at the Waterfront Activity Center to the southeast of Husky Stadium. Boarding occurs promptly at 8:00 and will leave the dock shortly after - without waiting for stragglers.

The cruise aboard the Argosy, Goodtime II vessel takes you from the dock to Laurelhurst, Sandpoint and across to the east side of

Lake Washington to the Hunts Point and Medina. It will return to the race course where Bob Ernst and Michael Callahan will climb aboard to provide race commentary. You will then disembark at the point of origin and make the short walk back to Conibear shellhouse for the post-race barbeque and awards ceremony.

Act now to reserve your seat on the boat. The cost is \$38. Go to www.huskycrew.org to sign up (look under the "Events" tab on the front page.) Make your check payable to Washington Rowing Stewards and mail it to: Dwight Phillips, 24319 Crystal Lake Road, Woodinville, WA 98077. Be sure to get it in the mail before March 10.

The Races

The Class Day races will start promptly at 10:00 a.m. on the Montlake Cut course where there is plenty of room along the shore or on the bridge to watch your teams vie for trophies and bragging rights. As always, Bob Ernst is predicting that the seniors will win but others among you may have other ideas.

The Stewards BBQ

After the races, walk back to Conibear and get in line for Tristine Drennan's crew at the barbecue grills. Hamburgers, veggie burgers, drinks, chips and cookies will be available for all. And if you feel like putting a buck or ten into the collection cup, be our guest.

The Awards Ceremony

Stick around with lunch and your old and new friends as Bob and Michael introduce the winning crews and present the trophies. Then shake some hands in congratulations and let the student athletes know how much fun it was to win the same race back when you were in school.

Event Parking

Many of you know that the Sound Transit project has made parking off Montlake dicey. As always, parking is available for \$7 cash at the large E-1 lot to the north of the boathouse and baseball fields. If you are watching the races from the Montlake Cut, try parking on South Campus (to get to the gatehouse, turn south off of Pacific onto 15th, and follow the road to the East). Hourly parking is also available via pay stations near the boathouse and the Waterfront Activities Center at the entrance to the Cut.

VBC Banquet

Our perennial sellout, the Varsity Boat Club's annual banquet, is scheduled for March 25 and you need to act now to be a part of it. As many would-be attendees have discovered in the last few years, Conibear has a maximum capacity and the affair sells out every year, leaving too many of you on a waiting list. So sign up as early as possible to ensure a seat.

Once again Al Erickson has taken the lead and has put together a fine program. Festivities begin at 6:00 p.m. with a reception followed by dinner and a brief program.

This year the featured speaker will be Fred Schoch '73, a three year letterman and second generation Husky. Fred's father De-los "Dutch" Schoch lettered in 1935, 1936 and 1937, and was a member of the Washington contingent which went to Berlin and brought back Olympic gold. Dutch went on to coaching fame at Princeton, so rowing has been in Fred's blood forever. Fred rowed for the Kent School in Connecticut before coming west to the

University of Washington. He was recently lauded in Rick Rinehart's new book, *The Men of Kent*, which describes the 1972 Kent varsity season and their Henley triumph. Fred currently runs the Head of the Charles program and has built it into the largest and best attended regatta in the world. Along with Charlie Clapp '81, Fred was instrumental in helping the Huskies put the Head of the Charles on the annual racing schedule.

The cost of the banquet remains the same as it has been for five years: \$40 per person. If you choose, you can help the program by signing up as a sponsor at \$75 or as a patron at \$100.

Fill out the registration form below, enclose your check made out to the Washington Rowing Stewards, and mail it today to the address on the form.

See you on the 25th!

Special Note. Sound Transit construction at Husky stadium has made parking difficult. Avoid the large parking lot adjacent to the stadium. Instead, park in the large pay lot north of the shell house (\$7). All parking is cash only. You can also reserve an E8 parking spot ahead of time on the form below, and pick it up at the banquet. Detailed parking directions can be found on www.huskycrow.org so you might save yourself grief by reading and printing out the parking instructions there.

VBC Banquet Friday, March 25th, 2011 - 6:00pm

Name: _____ Class _____

Number of tickets at \$40.00 each _____ Total: _____

Number of Sponsor tickets at \$75.00 each _____ Total: _____

Number of Patron tickets at \$100.00 _____ Total: _____

Number of Parking Passes at \$7.00 _____ Total: _____

I want to sit with the following people _____

I am a friend/parent of current athlete _____ and would like to sit with them.

**Make checks payable to the Washington Rowing Stewards and mail them to:
University of Washington Rowing, Attn: Katie Gardner, Box 354070, Seattle, WA 98195**



Stewards Annual Meeting Report

More than 70 Stewards filled the Rose auditorium at Conibear shellhouse for the annual meeting on January 19. In the last issue of Sweep we mentioned that we are poised at a pivotal time in our history, and that point was reiterated and described for those in attendance.

Chuck Turbak assumed responsibility as our new Chair. He stated that he will focus on expanding several programs as well as continuing the work of re-connection and participation. Be sure to read his inaugural article in this issue as your chair. And watch for reports on his plans and successes in future issues.

Michael Callahan and Bob Ernst combined to deliver a powerful report on the state of Washington rowing. With the guidance of Blake Nordstrom, our coaching staff has embraced a new system that provides visual comparisons and measurements for all important aspects of the program. The product will be used in a number of ways. Internally, the process gives the staff an exceptional tool for introducing detail, comparison and objectivity to evaluations of the program's competitive, management and financial positions. In addition to focusing attention on priorities and challenges, it will give the coaches the ability to communicate objectively and in detail with the athletic department. The product will also will be used to educate our student athletes and the program's various communities – the Stewards, parents, fans and friends. And finally, it will give our coaches powerful tools for use in recruiting prospective Huskies. It was a well received report that drew many questions and enthusiastic statements from those in attendance.

Our new governance structure was outlined. It includes incorporation in the State of Washington and 501(c)3 status with the IRS. Under new bylaws, members of the board will be voted upon rather than appointed. The first vote is scheduled for June of this year, and succeeding votes will be held at our annual meetings in January. Directors will be slotted into three groups for voting purposes and each will serve a term of three years. Annual voting will put seven positions up for election each year. Directors who wish to serve additional terms may run for re-election at the end of a term. The chair will be elected from within the board and that term will also be three years. The vote will be conducted in June.

In the last issue of Sweep, we asked for statements of interest from Stewards who wished to run for a position on the board and we received replies from several of you. That call for interest will remain open through April. **Contact Chuck Turbak at turbakgrp6@aol.com before April 23rd if you are interested in running for a position.** He will let you know the requirements and timing. Full details on the voting process will be distributed to everyone by May 1st. The vote will be conducted at an open Stewards meeting in June. Those eligible to vote who cannot be in attendance may vote by proxy. All voting details will be described in a special mailing in late spring.

The intent of these changes is to encourage greater participation by a more broadly diverse group from within our rowing family, and to build directorship skills that will serve both the organization and Washington's rowing program. If you are interested in serving on the board, contact Chuck at the email address above.



Attendees at the annual meeting also learned additional details about the Washington Rowing Stewards designation as a charitable organization. We are many months away from implementing the full advantages of this charitable designation so please note that the Stewards organization is not yet taking donations. And note further that our principal fund raising efforts will always be conducted in concert with the Tyee office of the University of Washington, and the great majority of our contributions will always be processed through and managed by the University. This new designation was put in place to respond to special situations requested by potential donors over the last few years. We will provide more on this subject in future issues of Sweep.

“Under new bylaws, members of the board will be voted upon rather than appointed”

The Regents' recent decision to increase the quarterly payout on current endowments was also discussed. In practical terms, the new payout will increase funding for men's scholarships by about \$40,000 this fiscal year (June 30, 2011). It is significant help but it still leaves us well short of the amount needed to finance the full cost of the rowing program. In the six years from FY2004 through FY2010, the number of endowments dedicated to Husky Crew rose from a base of 8 to a present total of 25. The market value swung wildly over those six years but currently sits at about \$5.4 million. In spite of the progress we have a ways to go.

Endowment reports led directly to a discussion on the program's financial position. Progress on the PoWer3 Campaign will be found on page 6. The important point made at the meeting was this: If we raise \$175,000 between January 1 and June 30, we will have paid down our entire deficit and we will fully underwrite our current scholarship expenses. That means that every dollar raised in the next fiscal year (July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2012) will be used solely for next year's expenses. Please see the companion article in this issue for more detail.

That would be huge – akin to paying off your home mortgage – and would stand as a pivotal event in our contemporary history. Among other things, it will ease the pressure on you of our fund raising efforts. Of course there is a flip side: If we don't find the full amount, we will carry a deficit into the new fiscal year. Expect a hard driving finish to the middle third of this race we are running, and a ramped up third and final year to the PoWer3 Campaign.

100 years of "The Cal Dual"

Every year, Washington Rowing fans circle one Saturday in April on their calendar - the annual dual against California. No matter the win-loss record of each crew going into the race, the dual is always guaranteed to be a knock-down, drag out fight until the last stroke. This year's UW-Cal dual is particularly special because it is the 100th running of the race. UW currently holds the advantage with 69 wins, 29 losses, and one tie. We asked Eric Cohen ('82), webmaster of www.huskycrew.org and the man in charge of compiling the 100 year history of Washington Rowing, which races he thought stood apart from the rest. Here is what he had to say:

"There really is no one race, throughout the 100 years, that describes it. They are all unique. But that doesn't mean we haven't seen a lot. Close finishes for sure. Inches of separation after 2k. Inches of separation after 3 miles. In 1963 - 3miles later - the V8's tied. Curvatures (both programs have been on both ends of that one). But then there have been the wild ones. Rowers passing out, double crabs, launchings, skegs falling off mid-race, collisions, sinkings. In 1920, Cal was dubiously disqualified on a stormy Lake Washington for going off course and "stopping and bailing". In 1927 on the Estuary, Rusty Callow, following the race in his launch, was broadsided hard by a yacht and sank on the course mid-race. His V8 watched it all happen as they raced (and lost). And none can top 1914, when the varsity and frosh races started at different ends of the Leschi course and collided head on mid-race, Hiram Conibear bashing his megaphone into the bow of his launch as he watched in disbelief.

But the great thing about the Dual is it gets better with age. The teams, on a national scale, are as good as they have ever been. Alumni in both programs are as positively involved as ever. Re-

Oars, Oars, Oars

We hit a sweet spot with our holiday gift oar announcement. You will recall that we offered you an opportunity to gift a new oar to the program, receive Tyee points and a tax deduction for the gift, have the name of a loved one – or yourself – affixed permanently to the new oar, and walk away personally with an old oar.

And did you ever respond! The total came to 28 new oars for a program budget savings of nearly \$8,700. The coaches and the student athletes send a thousand thanks to you donors for your support of the greatest collegiate rowing program in North America.

ally, from a historical standpoint, the Dual is as competitive, in a very healthy way, as it has ever been. That fact alone – that on April 23rd, fans will watch many of the best crews in the nation in their respective events - is the strongest testament to the appeal of this tradition. Congratulations to both programs for maintaining it – and celebrating it - at the level it is today."

So be sure to circle Saturday, April 23rd on your calendars, Husky fans. Because if history is any indication, the 100th UW-Cal dual is sure to be one exciting race.

Celebrate!!

California is coming to town for the 100th running of the Washington-California Dual Regatta. We're celebrating the milestone the night before on the lower level of the Duchess Tavern - that's Friday, April 22, at 6:00 p.m.

Husky Crew alumnus, Howard Lee '84, has generously offered to host the party. That's free food and beer for all who attend. So call your friends and teammates, put together a group, and join the celebration. And in case you are wondering, this is a party, not a fundraiser. The coaches will be there to help us relive past victories and mingle with Huskies of all ages.

The address of the Duchess is 2827 N.E. 55th Street, but chances are you already know that. We'll see you there at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, April 22. If you have any questions, contact Howard Lee at FindHoward@gmail.com.

Gil Gamble

Efforts are underway by several Husky rowing alums from the 80's to purchase a racing shell for the men's program. The eight will be named after Gil Gamble, freshman coach at UW from 1981-1987. Gamble is currently battling cancer.

If Coach Gamble had an impact on your life as a Washington Row-er, we urge you to contribute to this effort. Contact Phil Pilewski at 206-616-3624 or Pilewski@uw.edu for more information.



\$175,000 To Go!

That's our target. That's the number we need to balance the books on the program by June 30, 2011. The Power3 Campaign is in the middle third of the race for financial security and the jury is out on the results. As always, there is the good news and the ... well, call it challenging news.

Here is the good news. The Board of Regents raised the payout on University endowments which means our program will receive approximately \$40,000 in unanticipated funding during this current fiscal year. Between July 1 and December 31 (the first half of the current year), you contributed \$229,100 to the program, easily the largest amount we've ever received in the first half of any year. That allowed us to pay down our deficit from prior years to zero and have about \$10,000 left over to apply to this year's scholarship expenses. By publication date, your contributions will have increased that to \$25,000 which means that we have \$175,000 left to raise by June 30 to achieve our fiscal year goal.

And the challenging news? \$175,000 is a lot of money. In fact, just two years ago, that was the total amount our alumni, family and friends contributed for the entire year! Can we do this in the few months left in the fiscal year? Of course we can but it's going to take a number of you who are "sometimes givers" and even

more of you who have thought about donating but haven't taken the step. And, yes, many of you who have already given this year will need to write another check. But believe us, the end of this PoWer3 Campaign is in sight. With your help we can close it off and get on to other initiatives.

"(W)e have \$175,000 left to raise by June 30."

We continue to hear from you that you are thrilled not only with our success on the water but also by the new openness of the Stewards. We are committed to expanding our active alumni base and activities, and you can help us enormously by getting in the boat with us financially.

We have faith that your support will continue to improve the program and improve the rowing experience for our student athletes. Please fill out the form that follows and make a stretch gift to help us over this major hurdle. And remember, the bulk of our contributors are small gift donors – under \$500. If you can do more, trust the coaches to put all of directly to work for speed on the water. But remember, too, that every donor of every amount becomes a Steward and is fully and enthusiastically welcomed.

Pledge/Gift Form

Name _____

Address _____

Home or Business Phone _____ Email _____

Payment Information

____ Credit Card (V/MC/Amex) Card Number: _____ Exp Date _____

____ Check (Payable to University of Washington)

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

(CREWFC/64-1511)
CRW11

ATTENTION

Kris Norelius '82 wrote recently to alert us that Shyril O'Steen '81, who won Olympic gold in the 1984 U.S. eight, is battling lymphoma once again. Kris writes: "tests indicate it is time to start treatment again. She started chemo this past Thursday (January 13) and the intent is to continue it until the cancer has been beaten back enough for another stem cell transplant. This will be a rough ride. I was thinking she would really enjoy any photos you might have of yourself and/or photos of the good old days." We hope that everyone in the Husky family will send their thoughts, prayers and best wishes to Shyril, and that you will add any boredom-breakers you might think of with your words:

crossword puzzles, books of short stories, comedy CDs or DVDs. Shyril's address is 7208 36th Ave. SW Seattle, WA 98126.

Kris added an important note to her message: "If any of you are interested in and able to get on the transplant registry, here is the website: <http://www.marlow.org/index.html?src=tabhome>. A rowing friend, Alex Smith, just went through the initial process and she said it was no big deal."

Do it today.

From the Chair by Chuck Turbak

When I rowed we didn't have ergs to measure the power of our stroke – we used the size of the puddle and other visual clues. That focus on puddle size recently brought to mind an important and more contemporary question: How does your puddle measure up since you left the rowing program?

As a Class Captain, I was able to find a UW Daily article that listed about 100 men trying out for the crew in 1961. So for the sake of quick math, let's say we averaged 100 athletes each year turning out for crew in the 1950s, 1960s, 1970s and 1980s. Then add a similar number of women to the calculation from the eighties to now. My rough estimate puts the total of men and women exposed to the sport for at least one quarter over that 60 year period at something close to 6,000. Some of them continue to make big puddles.

There are two basic ways to measure our individual puddles: one ***"I am not looking at your wallet, I am looking at your work ethic."***

is by financial contribution and the other is by volunteered time, intelligence and effort. Today I'm addressing the latter. I am not looking at your wallet, I am looking at your work ethic.

John Wilcox shared some encouraging numbers with me recently. Seven years ago, just 35 rowing alumni contributed financially to the program. Today, we have nearly 500. Our alumni base is larger than 6,000, of course, because family, fans and friends also participate, but that 6,000 represents our core. And if my numbers are correct, I need only to divide 500 contributors by 6,000 core alumni to find that our financial participation rate is, at best, about eight percent.

But what about volunteered time? The number of people actively working with the program is significantly fewer than the number contributing money, yet for many it offers the easiest and most rewarding sort of contribution. It is important for everyone to know that time, ideas and a willingness to do the work necessary to bring those ideas to fruition count every bit as much as a financial contribution.

My goal for the Rowing Stewards over the next three years is to increase your participation in our program. Men, women, lightweights, managers, parents, relatives, friends – all of us are part of Husky Crew and the program's storied past.

Rowing Stewards Board 2011 Election

Seven positions on the Rowing Stewards Board are up for election this June. Are you interested in becoming a board member? Email Chuck Turbak at turbakgrp6@aol.com. The deadline for submitting your name is April 23rd.



Chuck (r) and teammates celebrating the 1961 Class Day Victory

One way I plan to build our volunteer group is to use the model that was put together by Charlie Clapp '81 and Fred Schoch '73 for the Head of the Charles. When our team arrives in Boston, there is a visible, well-placed alumni tent at the finish line sponsored by UW rowing alumni. East coast alumni, family and friends are informed of the event, and that has led to increasing participation on race day. The alumni support helps the Huskies win, and the victories help our coaches publicize the school and recruit talent. As a direct result of alumni presence and support, an increasing number of East coast parents realize that the UW is a legitimate place for their sons and daughters to get a superlative education and feed their rowing passion. I find that a perfect balance.

My vision is to establish a Purple and Gold presence at every race venue. This means that we must identify and motivate our base of rowing alumni, parents and friends at each racing venue. Let's start by finding a stroke for Sacramento where the Pac-10s and NCAAs will be held this spring. Are you that leader? Are you ready to start making a larger puddle? Will you step up and help fill the boat with Husky alumni who live in California and all the other western states? Contact me if you are.

Once again and with emphasis: I am not looking at your wallet, I am looking at your work ethic. I need your time and your pride.

Contact me at turbakgrp6@aol.com.

SHOW ME THE SIZE OF YOUR PUDDLE.



The Husky Coxswain

For decades a few of us have abused our favorite coxswain, Ron Wolfkill '61, for excessive weight and crooked courses, and we never lose the opportunity to grouse about pulling him and his wooden leg around the lake for four years. In fact, it has become such a natural part of our dialogue that we seldom address the other side of it: back in 1961 we elected him our captain.

Such is the fate of many coxswains. We forget or at least underplay the skill, nerve, humor, perception and uncommon good sense that star-class coxswains possess. While some rowers will always think of the seat as a free ride with a bit of steering and cheerleading tossed in, one needs only to talk to a cox or a coach or a perceptive stroke to understand otherwise. So when a friend suggested that we look more closely at the coxswain's seat, we were ready.

And who better to educate us on the requirements of the job than some of Washington's finest. We found their answers to our questions as variable as spring weather in Seattle, but on performance matters they spoke with one voice.

Paul Andonian, the varsity cox in 1954, 1955 and 1956, who stayed with the sport for years and knows more than many about the job, made an interesting observation. "Some cox'ns should have rowed but most oarsmen should have coxed!" Fast forward to today: Here is Mary Whipple '01, Olympic Gold medalist, current National Team cox and our "all everything" Husky with a variation on the same theme: "A smart cox will take out a single to (learn) the feeling of what they are seeing the rowers do."

George and Stan Pocock '47 often coached from the cox seat, a practice endorsed and used occasionally by Dick Erickson '59. The cox is in a great position to evaluate performance and technique, and the evaluation is enhanced by being able to "feel" the boat as his teammates do. Riding, observing and feeling puts the cox at an interesting nexus between team member and coach. At the very least, Andonian says, "the cox must be an arm of the coach," and he adds that the cox seat is "no place for a dunce."

Dwight Phillips '71 says that coaching is "a key skill" for a cox. The daily observation and instruction on "the fine points of the progression from rough to fast crew, can lead to a keen eye" and a knowing feel. And once a crew becomes race ready, the cox must "be thinking and communicating strategy" to the rowers.

Eric Cohen '82 has a slightly different take. He says that by spring he knew the strengths and weaknesses of every guy in the boat so he was "more comfortable finding ways on and off the water to help them improve as a team rather than with individual coaching suggestions." And Mary Whipple adds: "When both steering and practice execution is mastered, a coxswain should focus on coaching (in a way that never) interferes with what the coach wants done during practice."

No wonder so many coxswain's go into coaching. Think Ky Ebright '17, Russ Nagler '21, Don Grant '24, Bob Moch '36, John Bissett '58, Rick Clothier '65, Dwight Phillips '71, Chris Wells '75, Lee Miller '83, Erin O'Connell '96, Sean Mulligan '99 and

Steve Hertzfeld '05. While there may be fewer in the collegiate coaching ranks today than in some past periods, it is likely only an aberration, a function of timing. Coxswains have always had, and will continue to have, a special affinity for the coaching launch.

Rick Clothier '65, the long-time head coach at the U.S. Naval Academy, says that he has always treated "our coxswains as extensions of myself and ask that they reinforce good, solid rowing habits." He adds: "Our very best crews over the years have strong leaders in the coxswain's seat. They really do become our assistant coaches." And he emphasizes the importance of leadership by saying, "I have always been able to allow for a missing coxswain skill if I can find a man with strong leadership traits."

Eric Cohen hit the same note in summary by noting: "Maybe most importantly, (coxswains) need to know their guys really well – individually and as a team – and advocate for (them) from launch to load-out."

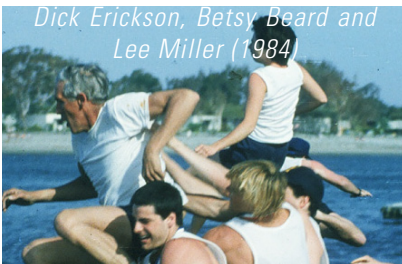
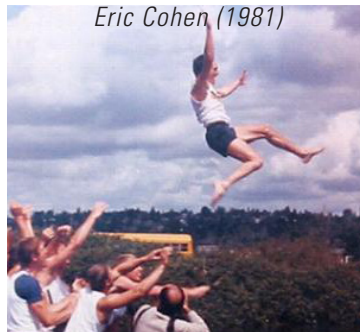
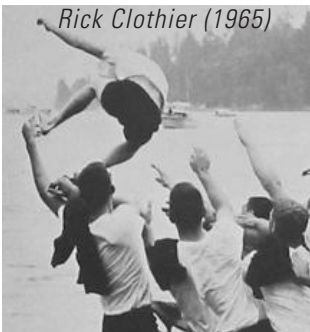
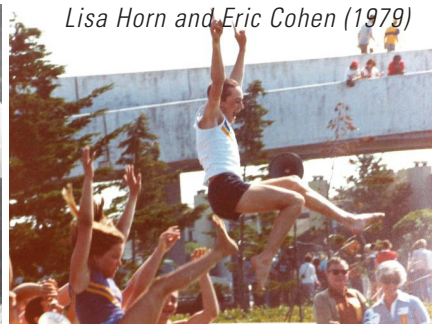
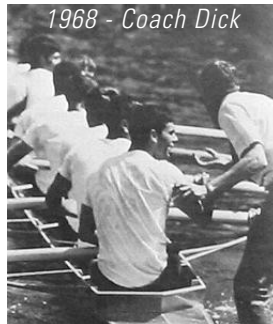
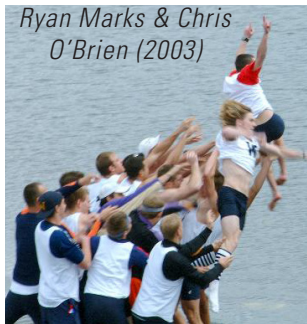
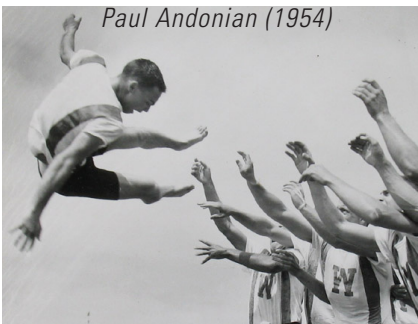
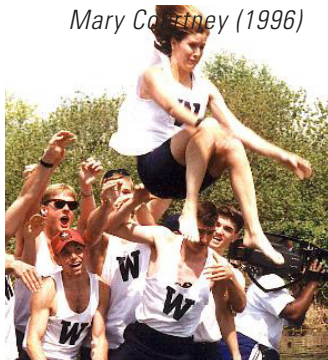
But leadership and coaching skills must be built upon a host of other traits. A good cox, Andonian says, must "keep a lot of things in mind simultaneously: ... safety of the men and equipment, (the tendency to) wander or over-steer, ... the wind conditions and their effect, ... an unwanted change in the stroke count, ... late or early oars," and all performed with self-confidence so that respect of the oarsmen is earned.

Mary Whipple points out that the strongest contribution – or added value – a cox can make is focus. "A fast, well-coached eight," she notes, "can begin to fear losing, or get paranoid that they are not winning races by greater margins. A great coxswain focuses the crew on the race plan using information in a motivational way. But if information gets in the way of focus on the race plan and maximum speed, there is no added value to that information. Coxswains who contribute relentless focus will add boat speed."

Dwight Phillips agrees and adds the importance of strategic and precise communications between cox and crew – especially in a race. And he sums up the responsibilities with five words: poise, alertness, honesty, quickness and smarts. We liked that list for its unspoken but obvious reflection of a larger truth: the lessons taught by rowing transcend the sport to provide a foundation for well-lived lives.

And on the subject of rowing and life, listen to Rick Clothier once more. He wrote: "Without the help and understanding of Dick Erickson, George Pocock and Stan Pocock, I doubt I would have been able to have spent more than forty years as coach of college rowing. As a life-time coach, I am still no more than a collection of little bits of all of those men who took the time to help and mentor me along the way."

We – that is coxswains and rowers alike – need to look no farther than those words to understand why the rowing program at Washington is unique among all collegiate rowing programs. For 108 years and counting, our tradition builds and informs not just the men and women who participate but the sport itself.



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