

# THE PULL HARD

WINTER 1985

## Cougs take in fall races

SPOKANE — The Cougs saw a little racing action this fall, including two outings against Gonzaga and a junket to the Frostbite Regatta in Seattle.

The first meeting against Gonzaga was less than outstanding for the Cougar men's crew. Ken Struckmeyer described himself as "not happy" (as only he can) following the performance.

The second outing against Gonzaga was "much better," Struckmeyer says.

In men's racing, the Cougs took victories in the heavy, light and light novice eights, light and heavy fours. The frosh lost by six seconds, and Gonzaga also won the novice four.

The women won the novice eight and varsity fours events.

At the Frostbite, Nov. 9, the Cougs borrowed boats and oars to make up

for those stranded by the broken down truck in Washtucna.

Unfortunately, the truck suffered carburetor and gas line problems.

And the story gets worse. While the equipment was being moved around in Washtucna, the trailer hit a tree, damaging the "Dave Emigh." Ken Abbey said the crew plans to get the Emigh over for repairs in Seattle as soon as possible.

On the west side, Bernard and Steve Ranten spent much of the summer making structural changes and sprucing up the shell trailer.

Eights are now much easier to load onto the trailer and a crimson and gray paint job makes the trailer look brand new. Unfortunately, when the truck broke down in Washtucna the trailer was, for now, denied its Seattle debut. Maybe next spring.



## Important CRA session set Nov. 30

SEATTLE — Planning for the Cougar Rowing Association's future will be the focus of a meeting Saturday, Nov. 30 in Seattle.

The CRA Board of Directors, Doug Engle, Kathy Randall and Steve Porter would welcome participation in the meeting from any and all interested Cougar Crew friends and alumni.

Agenda items for discussion will include the following:

- \* Preparing nominations for officers for consideration in elections at Class Day in March.

- \* Selecting a "Pull Hard" committee to assist in producing and mailing the quarterly newsletter.

- \* Making data base improvements for our mailing list, to include specific mailing classifications.

- \* Financial report. The Cougar Crew has approached the CRA about paying annual insurance on the yellow van purchased by the men's crew last year. The '87 van, used this fall by the frosh, carries 15. A quote for insurance is \$1,058/year.

- \* NEW IDEAS!! For fund raising, activities, etc.

The meeting will begin at 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 30 at Linda and Craig Illman's home, 5543 38th Avenue, NE; Seattle. For directions, call (206) 524-4680.

We hope to schedule another meeting before Class Day as well.

If you are unable to attend one of these meetings, but have an idea or opinion, please write to the CRA, c/o Kari and Steve Ranten, 121 N. Ball, Sedro-Woolley, Wash., 98284.

## Good news in Pullman

PULLMAN — There is lots of good news coming out of Pullman these days — a new men's eight is on the way and the second highest turnout in Cougar Crew history was reached this fall.

A total of 69 men and 59 women are turning out for the crew this fall. The men wrapped up workouts on the river the last week of October, followed a week later by the end of women's river runs.

All are now into the rigors of winter workouts. Ken Abbey reports that the weather is "COLD!" — which always feels good on the lungs during that first run to the airport.

On the equipment and financial front, Abbey said that the men's crew has ordered a new Pocock C-shell. The composite shell was to be poured in early November, for delivery before the spring racing season opens. The \$9,600 shell will be paid for out of funds raised by the on-going support from the Cook family and other donations.

Efforts have now turned to working on ordering another C-shell for the women's crew.

Also, there's more good news on the financial scene.

Abbey reports that the ASWSU has allocated another \$4,500 to the Cougar Crew program, in addition to the original grant of \$4,500 for this year — bringing ASWSU support of the crew to a much-appreciated \$9,000 for this year.

The Parent's Association has also taken the crew in — donating \$4,000 this year.

Down at the river, detail work on the new shellhouse is shaping up. Oar and boat racks are in place. Alums Doug Engle and Bob Appleyard are working on a project to install work benches and shelves.

Power and telephone lines, along with sprinkler and alarm systems are in the works and will be ready by the '86 racing season.

Bids have been taken twice for construction of the float house and docks for the launches. The latest plan will have the crew members, coaches and alumni in Pullman building the docks over the winter to be followed this spring with a contractor completing the building structure.

## SPRING RACING

March 15 — Class Day

March 22 — at Gonzaga

March 29 — WWU at WSU

April 5 — Daffodil, Tacoma

April 12 — at UW

April 19 — UPS at WSU

April 26 — Tri-Cities

May 9-10 — Pac-10\*

\* The Pac-10 Championships this year are scheduled for the middle of Washington State University's finals week so WSU's participation is in question.

## CRA still looking for alumni help

SEDRO-WOOLLEY — The Cougar Rowing Association is making ends meet these days — thanks to the contributions of several generous members.

Following the last edition of the "Pull Hard," detailing the on-going need for money, several nice donations were received.

The offer still stands. For \$10, a dues paying member will receive the quarterly "Pull Hard" and other CRA news. For \$15 to \$50, a CRA sponsor, will receive mailings, plus we'll send you a 1984 Liberty Lake T-shirt (be sure to include size), for more than \$50, a CRA benefactor receives mailings, a T-shirt and a cast Liberty Lake medal.

Please consider making a contribution to the CRA — the key to building the program and helping to support the crew is you.

To that end, a heartfelt "Thank You" to the following list of individuals whose contributions keep the CRA at work:

Tom Anderson, Bob Appleyard, Jim Austin, Sandy and Mike Buckley, Tom Caudill, Lisa Coble, Paul Enquist, Sue Ernsdorff, Jim Fisher, Chris Gulick, John Lafer, Tim Malkow, Mike Pabisz, Kathy Randall, Rich Ray, Tim Richards, Jim Rudd, Phil Sprute, Kurt Wahle and Bruce Warningner.

In recent months, our account has paid \$1,300 to pay in full the Liberty Lake T-shirt debt, another \$408.56 in Liberty Lake debts and \$190.50 toward the cost of printing and mailing the "Pull Hard."

## Picnic

KIRKLAND — Hot weather, a cool lake, good food and great company added up to an excellent summer CRA picnic Aug. 24.

Nearly 20 Cougar Crew alums and friends turned out for the event, held on the shores of Lake Washington. Elmer Schoen, next-door neighbor to the Randalls (parents of Tina and Kathy Randall), kindly allowed us to use his beachfront property for the day.

Among those in attendance were Brian Romanick, Tim Richards (vacationing in the Pacific Northwest from Hawaii), Mike Pabisz, Doug Engle, Bob Appleyard, Cyndi and Gene Dowers, Paul Enquist, Martha and Brad Sleeper (and daughter), Linda and Craig Illman, Kathy Randall, Murray Etherington, Kari and Steve Ranten, John Lafer (and fiancée), Tina Randall, Ken Abbey and, last but certainly not least, Phil Sprute, who showed up just in time to wave farewell.

As no Cougar Crew gathering would be complete without it — there were several dock sweeps and few went away dry.

**IMPORTANT!**  
**Cougar Rowing**  
**Association Meeting**  
**Nov. 30**  
**5 p.m.,**  
**Seattle**

**Cougar Rowing Association**  
**121 N. Ball**  
**Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284**



It seem that with press and spectators watching, the Cougar Armada set off to conquer the mighty Snake and Columbia rivers. It must have been an impressive sight; seeing that sleek 60-foot craft steaming out of Hell's Gate Marina under full power — people waving and cheering. Fortunately, one of the locals, who was not caught up in the fanfare, made the observation that the shell was headed for Colorado and not the Pacific Ocean as per our plan. This information was quickly transmitted to the coxswain and soon the wayward shell was properly pointed downstream. Great events often start with humble beginnings...

The first two days were by far the worst. Blisters and TB (tired buttocks) were excruciatingly painful, but after a certain point the body senses that the brain is simply not paying any attention to its signals and shuts up (ie, grows numb). Although we were not totally masochistic, since "tuff skin" and stadium cushions piled six or seven high in some cases were the order of the day throughout the cruise. Spirits were kept up by knowing we were rowing downstream (although in the middle of the summer a current was virtually non-existent) almost al-

*← continued over there.*

# CLASS IS TRASH

The best and worst of our times.

By Doug Engle  
 Guest Columnist

Ah, the infamous Cougar row-a-thon. Long hours of paddling through some of the most scenic areas of Eastern Washington. I had the distinction of serving on the crews that pulled two of these expeditions in the summers of 1977 and 1978. We rowed from Lewiston to Longview and Lewiston to Tri-Cities respectively. These were mixed events with both men and women participating, making the camp out much more enjoyable. It was also a trip with a sense of history, since Lewis and Clark travelled the exact same route 150 year ago on their historic fact-finding mission. Using our own muscle power to guide a small craft down the same canyons and seeing many of the sights they did was a unique and enriching experience.

There are countless stories to tell. The following is an account of some of the more memorable events of the '77 trip as seen through my eyes. How-

ever, I am but one observer; at this time, I invite those of you who braved these tortuous journeys to send in your versions of what **REALLY** HAPPENED. Write down a few of those anecdotes you are always telling at Class Day and send them in to Kari Ranten, 121 N. Ball, Sedro-Woolley, Wash., 98284.

Anyway, it was on the long bus ride back from the Pac-10 Regatta at Redwood Shores, we were pitching ideas back and forth as to how the club was going to raise money. Mark Shaber came up with the brilliant strategy of staging a row-a-thon. The idea was to row from Lewiston, Idaho to Vancouver, Washington, thus fulfilling a boyhood dream.

The row-a-thon began in a truly auspicious manner. Even though I did not personally witness the event, the details were related to be faithfully. You see, I joined the parade at the end of the first day at Starbuck, 40 miles downstream.



# MAIL BAG



We hope to make "Mail Bag" a regular feature of the "Pull Hard" but we need your help to keep the flow of information coming. Let us know if you have moved, done something wonderful, had a baby, won a race or whatever. Send your notes to Kari Ranten, 121 N. Ball, Sedro-Woolley, Wash., 98284. Thanks!!

■ Sue "Crew" Ernsdorff, a resident of sunny San Diego, rows with the Mission Bay Rowing Association and competed in the San Diego Crew Classic and the San Diego City Championships this year. She works for GA Technologies, where a locker room, pool, weight room, tennis courts, soccer fields and more are at her disposal — so she bikes to work and runs or swims at lunch. Sue reports "I sure do miss Washington, east and west. I often think longingly of the good ol' Palouse and the Snake River Canyon." Anyone in Southern California is welcome to stop by — "with enough advance warning, I could arrange a row on the bay!" she says. Sue, and her husband James Pierce, can be reached at 1134 Sapphire in San Diego.

■ Tom Caudill can also be found in warmer environs these days, sporting

a suit and tie as an attorney at Adams, Wenzel, Plank & Bicknell in San Jose. Tom wants everyone to know that he's alive, well and still a lightweight. His latest hobby, along with a little rowing including the San Diego Crew Classic, is pounding an ugly concoction called "Kamikazes." Mostly vodka, with a splash of lime juice and Triple Sec for sport, Tom invites everyone to join him at the Black Watch for a couple.

■ John "Yumbo" Holtman turned up recently at the Frostbite regatta after disappearing to Corvallis where he is coaching frosh crew at Oregon State University — and loving it. John has 64 men turning out this fall and says the prospects are good. The best part of the job? He knows how he will pay for his next peanut butter sandwich.

John is working beside varsity coach Dave Emigh, who said — while standing in his familiar yellow rain gear in the cold of the Frostbite regatta in Seattle — that things are looking good for his crew this year. Dave and his wife Jill are expecting their third child this spring.

■ Tom Anderson checked in from his new address in Houston, Texas; Kiska Jose is planning to study for a mas-

ter's degree at the University of Heidelberg for the next several years; Eve Boe can be found in Champaign, Illinois these days and Chuck Elliott is living in Vancouver, Washington.

Be sure to check out the September issue of the *Hilltopics*, page 2, where a true friend of Cougar Crew, Kevin Veleke, is featured as the 1985-86 president of the WSU Alumni Association. Congratulations! Kevin helped organize and is very active in the rapidly-growing Tri-Cities regatta where he is active with the Cougar Club.

■ Lisa Coble has been a resident of San Diego for the past year. Of California she says "It's a beautiful place, but it isn't worth a dime compared to the Snake at dawn in March at about 32.1 degrees. . . ." She is employed by a large architectural firm and just completed her architectural licensing exams and is awaiting the results.

■ John Durante dropped us a line from Williamston, Michigan. He attended last spring's west coast regatta and offers this summation of the lightweights fine performance: "They were second to San Diego State by a scant 1½ seconds. Moreover, their defeat of the California Maritime Academy and twice thrashing of the Huskies assured the rowing world down south that Washington State's lightweights were no fluke." He is starting work on a PhD at Michigan State University, and says 'although, I've only been out of Pullman for one month I miss it already.'

*On a very sad note, we report the death of Dave Maclean. A lightweight, he rowed for three years, beginning in 1978. Dave was killed in a car accident this fall in Eastern Washington. A Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity member, he was pursuing his master's degree in English at WSU.*

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ways having beautiful weather, numerous back splash wars, singing military drill songs and countless "attitude checks" when things got too quiet.

The most memorable "attitude check" has to have been when Ed Beck was riding in the launch trailing the shell. He had rigged up a beer can so that it would collapse when he "crushed" it against his forehead, a la John Belushi in "Animal House" which had just been released that summer. The funny part was when a couple of macho studs in the shell tried to copy his feat with real cans!

That movie also precipitated another event, much to the chagrin of one Ken Struckmeyer. We were all walking through the Columbia Mall in the Tri-Cities just after making a new record at Farrell's Ice Cream Parlor for the most Pig-Troughs ordered at one table (we ate them all too). Suddenly, someone yelled "GATOR!" and all of us fell to the floor on our backs, madly kicking our legs in the air. Ken, who was following close behind the group, quickly sought to separate himself from this obnoxious assemblage and dove headlong into the nearest store. It was quite a sight to see a 300-pound crew coach trying to look nonchalant in a lingerie store.

■ Stay tuned for the next installment of the row-a-thon saga when Engle's story takes up the Cougar Crew's struggle from Cougar Rock to the Columbia Gorge.