



The Pull Hard

A WSU Men's Crew Publication

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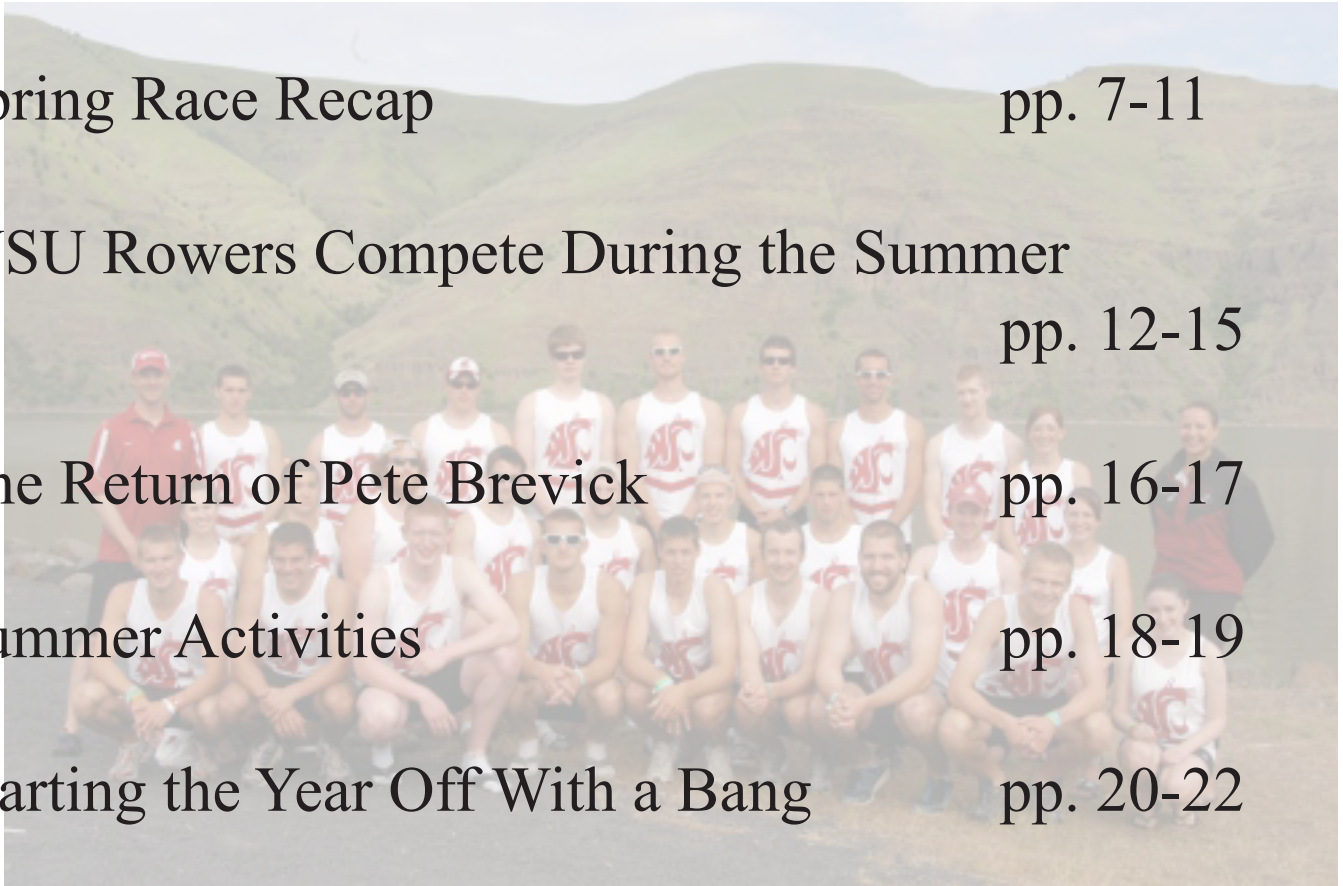
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Cougs Win Fawley Cup!

*By
Eric DeMaris*



The skies were gray and silence fell over Silver Lake on the April morning of the Fawley Cup Dual. With the command “Attention.... Row!!” the Cougs set out to make history. Just over six minutes later, the silence which had blanketed the scenery before had been broken by jubilant cheers from WSU rowers, friends, and family. The coveted Fawley Cup was returned to Pullman. With both the WSU V8+ and 3V8+ charging ahead of the Bulldogs to take victory, it marked the first time the Cougs have beaten Gonzaga in multiple events since the Fawley Cup Regatta’s inception.

In 2006, the Cougs walked through the Bulldogs in the last 500m of the race, claiming the Fawley Cup for the year. Not since that day had the Fawley Cup exchanged owners.

Tension was high for seniors Alan Scott (6 seat), Paul Ehlers (5 seat), Mark Hoffman (Bow) and Nichole Martin (cox), who were all in the V8+ which narrowly lost to Gonzaga in last year's Fawley Cup Regatta. However, the sweet victory over the Bulldogs laid their hard feelings to rest. "Ever since my freshman year, the mystique of the 2006 crew that managed to beat Gonzaga has permeated the boathouse. Even our WIRA-champion, 3rd-in-the-nation V8+ last year came up short in our bid to unseat the Bulldogs. To go out on top like this, as a senior, is tremendously rewarding," said Paul Ehlers of the win.

Pouncing off the line with a strong start, the V8+ took a commanding 5-seat



The victorious V8+, returning to the dock

lead over Gonzaga within the first 250m of the race. By the 1500m mark the Cougs drew out their lead to a boat length. A strong sprint allowed the Cougs to clear open water and come across the line in 6:01.8, with the Bulldogs 6 seconds down at 6:07.8.

WSU's 3V8+ took the lead early on in their race, and even as Gonzaga began to take seats back, the Cougs stayed strong. A crucial boat-stop-



The 3V8+ getting ready to race the Bulldogs.

ping crab in the Bulldogs' boat solidified WSU's lead. The 3V won with a time of 6:25.1, 5 seconds faster than Gonzaga's 6:30.6. Senior oarsman and stroke of the 3V8+ Jimmy Johnson had nothing but good things to say about his teammates. "The guys in my boat really came through and pulled a great piece in a race that was one of my last shots at beating GU. All 9 athletes in the boat gave their best and we couldn't have asked for a better result."

The JV8+ was unable to pull off a repeat of last year's historic performance. They finished 15 seconds behind Gonzaga with a time of 6:22.1.

The N8+, despite a valiant effort, fell to the Bulldogs 6:13.0-6:29.0. Coming off their promising UW Dual and San Diego Crew Classic, they were unable to claim victory over GU's novice. The 2N8+ had a very close race for the first 1700m, however within the last 300m a crab set them behind, finishing behind GU 6:41.2-6:45.8. Also racing in the event were WSU's 3N8+, who finished in 6:59.3.

It was an exciting moment for Head Coach Arthur Ericsson, as the win marked the second time in his 7 years at WSU that he had been honored with the Fawley Cup. "The Varsity 8 took the race right off of the line and held them at boats-length for the entire body of the race. I'd like to think they could go faster if they had to. I'm proud of the entire varsity roster. The 2V also had a very solid race but I'd like to see their margin closer to the V8. The 3V can take a lot from this race, and their win showed that we have depth."



Andy King (2-seat) being congratulated by Cougar Crew alumnus Weston Spivia

Opening Day Regatta

By Eric DeMaris

The annual Windermere Cup Opening Day Regatta, held on the first Saturday in May, marks the beginning of the year's boating season. The races are quite the spectacle for yachts and sailboats lined up along the course, and for the past 8 years Cougar Crew has been absent from the event due to conflicting regattas. This year, Opening Day fell on the weekend between the WIRA and PCRCs/Pac-10 Regattas, giving the Cougs an opportunity to accept the invitation to the event for the first time since 2002.

While the rest of the post-season Cougar squad was preparing for PCRCs/Pac-10s, the Cougar V8+ braved cold temperatures and less than ideal racing conditions to take second place in the regatta's Open 8+ event. Finishing about 5 seconds behind UW, WSU had a clear lead on the other crews from Seattle U, Pockock Rowing Club, and WWU. Winning the premier event and



The stern of the V8+ rowing back through the Montlake Cut

taking home the Windermere Cup was UW, who edged out Stanford, and Cambridge.

Coach Arthur Ericsson said of the racing, "With a new high profile race on our calendar, and a significantly revised lineup, I was hoping that this event would act as a launch pad towards becoming a new and faster crew. I hope all nine members of the crew feel the same way I do. Now we have to extract confidence and boatspeed entirely from our daily workouts."

Splashes of crimson lined the Montlake Cut, as family, friends, fans, and even some Cougar Crew alumni showed support for the Cougs.

Coug alum, Kent McCleary ('90) came out to see the Cougs represent the Palouse. He rowed with the team from 1986-90 and was part of the team that visited Istanbul for a competition in 1988. Cougar pride runs deep in the sport of rowing!

Kent McCleary ('90) and Head Coach Arthur Ericsson at Opening Day



Spring Race Recap

By Paul Lund



Daffodil

N8+ 3rd with two boat stopping crabs and re-start. The WSU heavy-weight JV8+ took 3rd. The Ltwt. women's V4+ took 6th, with their N8+ taking 3rd.

Husky Open

The lightweight women's N8+ closed margin to WWU significantly.

UW Dual

UW swept all 5 events,



however the N8+ had a good showing against UW's 2N8+. The V8+, missing stroke Alan Scott, crossed the line just over 20 seconds behind UW's 3V8+.

WIRA

The Cougars came into the Western Intercollegiate Rowing Association Championship as defending champion of the V8+, LW8+ and Team Point competition. Knowing that competition is tough, the Cougar Crew team was prepared to bring a year worth of practice to the water. The V8+ won their heat and advanced to the Grand Final after walking through USD and UCSB in the last 600m. In the grand final, the Cougars executed their aggressive race plan. They were only half a length down on GU and UCSD at the 1k mark. The leading boats then pulled away while WSU and UCLA had a breathtaking fight for the last spot on the podium. For the first time in the race, the Bruins got ahead of the Cougars with about 10m left and crossed the finish line with a margin of no more than a seat. "Ending up on the wrong side of a 3-4 sprint finish is always heart-breaking, but we came out here and executed the race we planned on. I'm proud of the way the guys in this boat really meshed and raced above ourselves," says senior Paul Ehlers, one of only 3 rowers returning from the



WIRA-winning V8+ last season.

The V4+ made it to the Grand Final after finishing second to SPU in their heat. The Cougars were expected to finish last in the final based on their heat time, but demonstrated their fighting ability by edging off SPU and finishing 5th in the final.

The 2V8+ finished 2nd in the petit final, crossing the finish line 5.3 seconds behind UC Irvine.

The LW8+ had this weekend circled off on the calendar since training started last August due to the rivalry with Cal Lightweights. In the final, the Cougars were up six seats at the 1K mark, but were not able to keep up when Cal made its move and ended up two seconds behind.

Four lightweights doubled up and raced in the LW4+. As in the LW8+, Cal won, while the Cougars took home bronze medal after Loyola Marymount University finished second.

The 1N8+ held off Arizona State in the heat to take 2nd, made it to the Grand Final for a third straight year. With the fourth best heat time, the Cougs were a contender for podium. However, in the final, they were not able to keep up with the rest of the field, and crossed the finish line seven seconds behind number five.

The 2N8+ and 3N8+ participated in the 2N8+



The 3N8+ sprinting through the last 500m

event, whereby the Cougars demonstrated the depth of the Novice squad by being the only other club alongside UCSB that entered three Novice boats. Unfortunately, the steering on the 2N8+ boat broke during warm-up,

and they were not able to race. The 3N8+ finished with a time of 7:09.7.



The Lightweight Women in the Novice Open event heat

The Women's Lightweight program had a strong showing, bringing home a bronze medal from the Varsity Lightweight 8+ event. Six of the rowers in that boat won the 3rd final in the Novice Open event an hour earlier.

Overall, the WSU Crew team took 3rd in the Team Points competition, demonstrating the depth of Cougar Crew.

Pacific Coast Rowing Championship

The WSU Crew Team entered two boats in the V4+ event, one boat

composed of four rowers from the V8+, and the other of the four lightweights competing at ACRA. The V4+ were dead even with Cal at the 1K mark, but lost a bit of ground in the 3rd five hundred. They picked up speed in the last five hundred, but were not able to close the gap, and finished with a solid silver medal. The LWT4+ took 4th, beating heavy-weight crews such as Oregon, USC, and Portland State.

Pac-10s

Facing some of the fastest boats in the country, Washington and California, the Cougars entered the V8+, V4+ (with lightweights) and 1N8+ hoping to show their competitiveness. The V8+ event was won by the favorite, Washington, while the Cougars finished 5th, in front of club rival UCLA. The LWT4+ took fourth in the V4+ event, which was also won by



our state rivals. The 1N8+ was fast off the line, keeping up with big names such as Stanford and Oregon State. They faded a bit, but were only seven seconds behind the Cardinals, and about 45 seconds a head of USC in 6th. “Pac-10’s was an eye opening experience racing against the top teams in the country and brought our team to the next level in preparation for nationals”, reflected N8+ 2-seat Nathan Mauren.

ACRA

The Cougars sent four boats to Gainesville, GA to compete in the American Collegiate Rowing Association (ACRA) National Championships in May. Here they set out with the goal to solidify their reputation as one of the top club teams in the nation.

The V8+ conserved their energy in the heat and took the necessary 4th place to advance to the semifinal, where they won and earned a 3rd ranking going into the final. At the halfway mark the Cougars were in third place, but the aggressive start caught up to them in the end as they were passed by three boats and crossed the finish line in 6th place with a time of 6:04.2, five seconds off bronze medal.

The LWT4+ was in the toughest heat on Saturday and fell 0.67s short of qualifying for the Grand Final. In the Petite Final they were in the lead at the 1000m mark when an oarlock came up. This set them out of contention for winning the petite final. The four senior oarsmen bow-Garrett Heiman, 2-Brandon Close, 3-Mark Hoffman, stroke-Kramer Wahlberg have had a stellar career as members of Cougar Crew including medals from WIRAs, conference and national honors.

The V4+ won the D-final, finishing 19th of 21 boats. Joe Sudar says of the experience of competing at the highest level: I'd been "googling" the course at Lake Lanier for months before ACRA. Seeing the Olympic Tower for the first time really drove home the fact that we'd made it for another year"

The 1N8+ beat their seeding (12th) by taking 2nd place in the Petit Final behind Grand Valley. "At the start line, I told the guys to dedicate the race to coach Julia", says coxswain Catie Schwartz, referring Novice Coach Julia Gamache. The Novice set a personal best with 6:16.4. Purdue won the 1N8+ event with a time of 6:00.1.



WSU Rowers Compete During the Summer

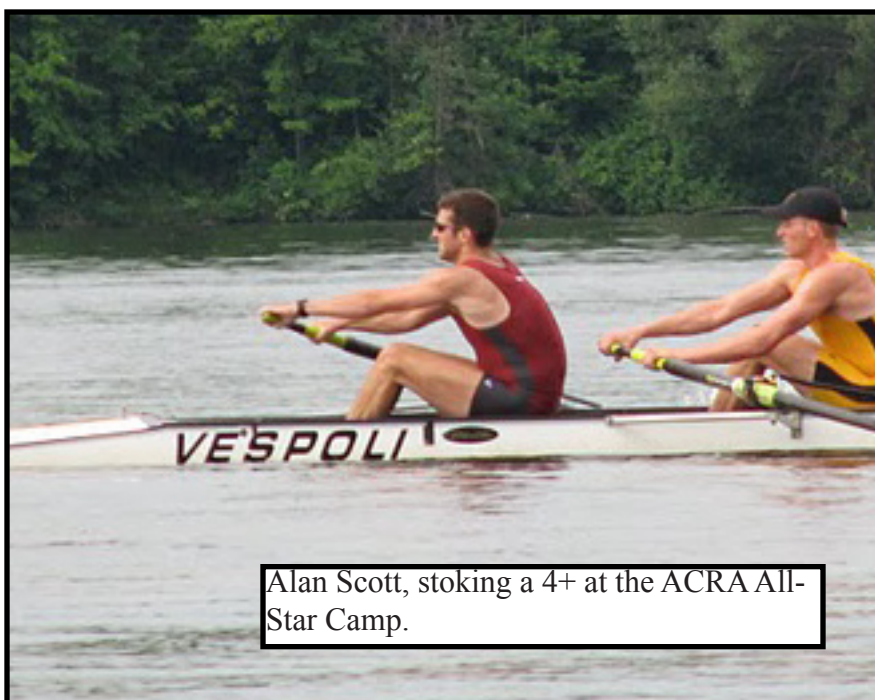
By Paul Lund

4-year Cougar oarsmen Paul Ehlers, Alan Scott, and Brandon Close each spent time over the summer developing their skills at rowing camps across the country.

Ehlers and Scott participated in the American Collegiate Rowing Association All-Star Camp which hosted the elite of club rowers from across the country. The camp was held in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and run by University of Michigan head coach Gregg Hartsuff.

After helping the Cougars to a 6th place finish at the ACRA National Championship in Gainesville, GA, Ehlers and Scott went home, re-packed and headed straight to Ann Arbor for nine weeks of intensive training and competition.

The participants of the camp competed for a seat in the top boat which was going to a total of four regattas; the Royal Canadian Henley, Club Nationals, US Elite Nationals and U23 trials for the U23 national team. The Cougar oarsmen both made it into the top-boat; however, their path there was very different. Ehlers won the pairs matrix-ten rowers raced in pairs and changed partners after each piece. Scott was sitting last of the port rowers after the pair's matrix, but won his spot through traditional head-to-head seat races.



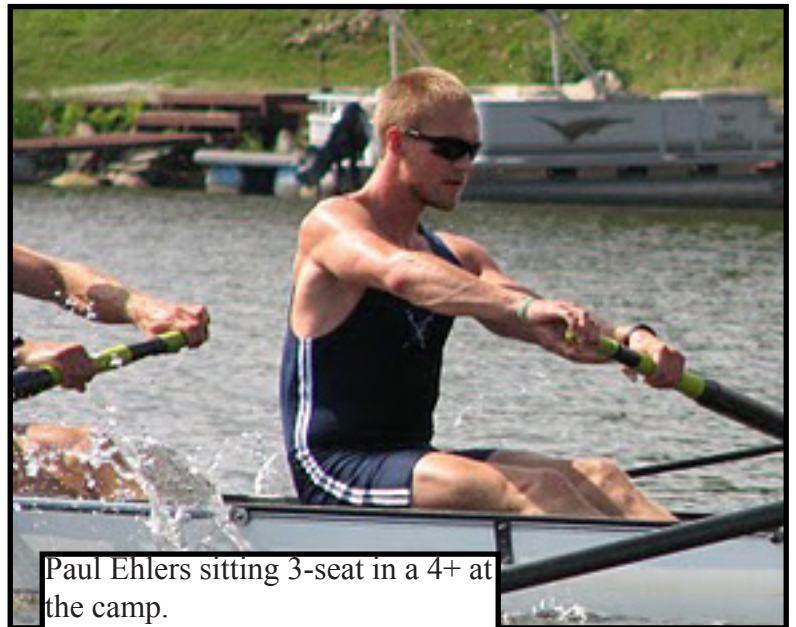
Alan Scott, stoking a 4+ at the ACRA All-Star Camp.

In the Royal Canadian Henley, North America's largest regatta, Scott and Ehlers raced in a pair where they fell short of a final appearance by only 0.2 seconds. At Club Nationals, the camp sent an 8+ that took 5th

in their event. Due to technical difficulties, the 4+ was not able to race at U23 trials. The disappointment from U23 did not last long as the Cougar oarsmen took silver medals in the 8+ at Elite Nationals. A boat composed primarily of U.S. National Lightweight rowers crossed the finish line five seconds ahead. Being the highlight of the summer, Paul Ehlers says of the event "After spending the entire summer in small boats, hopping in to that 8+ was a great experience. Lake Mercer, the site of the regatta, is where trials for all of the US National Teams occur, so it was a very memorable venue and course."

The ACRA camp capped off a remarkable career-including winning WIRAs, a Fawley Cup win and West Regional All-Star team for the two rowers. Alan Scott is thankful for the opportunities Cougar Crew have given him "I was introduced to rowing and had the opportunity to train and race alongside some excellent rowers. Cougar Crew's program stands with the top club teams in the nation, and I'm excited to follow the team from the sideline in years to come."

Brandon Close, 4-seat in the LWT8+ that took silver at WIRAs, participated in a selection camp at Dartmouth University Boat House in Hanover, New Hampshire. Former commodore, Karl Hutha, informed Close about the camp and encouraged him to contact Dartmouth coach, Dan Roock. With the help by donations from '10 oarsman Weston Spiva and women's lightweight coach, Dan Thayer, Close was able to travel east for the experience of a lifetime.



Paul Ehlers sitting 3-seat in a 4+ at the camp.

The camp gathered a total of 22 lightweight rowers, and Close was one of only three who came from club programs. The majority came from lightweight powerhouses Dartmouth, Georgetown, Princeton and Harvard. The first week consisted of steady pieces, which gave coach Dan

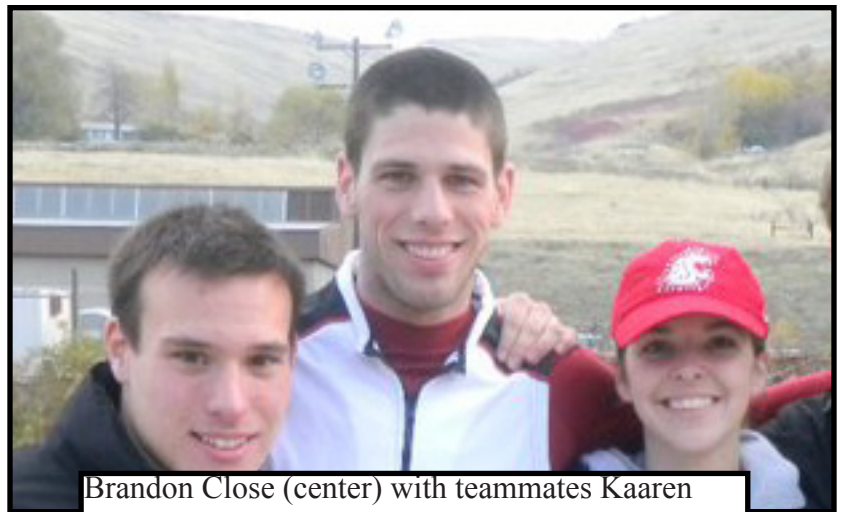
Roock the opportunity to watch the rowers and correct their form. With the goal of putting together a 8+ and 2- for the US trials, the competition tightened in week two. Close lost his seat race in a 4+, but instead of being kicked out right away, he was able to train for a few more days. He sculled and rowed in a tank for the first time, both of which helped his technique tremendously. “Coach Roock offered me some great advise, and rowing in a tank improved my feel and understanding for the rowing stroke”, says Close on the experience.

One of the best memories from the camp was learning that Cougar Crew is known for its accomplishments across the country. Close roomed with a Georgetown rower who said he knew Washington State has a good club program. “It was cool to come there and train with these big-time rowers and hear that Cougar Crew is known among the elite Varsity programs on the east coast.”

The 8+ from the camp Close participated in, won the US trials, and represented the USA in the World Rowing Championship in Bled, Slovenia. September 1st they won the race for lanes by beating Italy by 0.2s. Three days later, they took 5th in the final with a time of 5:51.24. Australia took gold, crossing the finish line in 5:44.57.

Close, who graduated in May with a degree in

Movement Studies, now resides in Estes Park, Colorado, where he is working at a health fitness center. He recently measured his VO2 max to 74 ml/kg/min, a testimony of his hard work as a Cougar oarsman. Close plans to stay in shape and will strongly consider participating in a similar camp in the future. “I gained a lot of experience and will be better prepared the next time around. The facilities here in Estes Park are great for training and improving as a rower”, says Close.



Brandon Close (center) with teammates Kaaren Harvey (right) and Andy Walston (left)

Do You Have What It Takes to Pull a *Power 10?*



For just **\$10**, **\$20**, or **\$30** a month, your small donation can help keep Cougar Crew alive! Check out the *Power 10 Campaign* under the alumni tab on **cougarcrew.com**

The Return of Pete Brevick

By Eric DeMaris



With the departure of Novice Coach Julia Gamache at the end of Spring 2011 (more on that in the next issue of *The Pull Hard*), the search was on for a replacement who could continue producing the fast rowers.

The search for a new coach eventually led to the prospect of hiring WSU Cougar

Crew Alumni Peter Brevick to the position.

Brevick first joined the team in 2002, and throughout his four years, he had the honor of serving as both the team Publisher and Commodore. In fact, as Publisher, he had the opportunity to restart *The Pull Hard*. Brevick is no stranger to the workings of Cougar Crew, which made him a strong candidate for the position. In addition, Brevick was part of a very monumental moment for Cougar rowers. When asked about his proudest moment as a Coug, he said “it would be April 15th, 2006, when Luke Jones, Charlie Remington, Julia Collins (Anderson) and myself were part of the V8+ that won the Fawley Cup for the first time since the 80's.” Making history like that is something that few ever get to do. In addition to his participation with the team, he served as an assistant coach for one year after he was done rowing.

With the racing season quickly approaching, Brevick is eager to start the year off strong. He looks forward to “getting to plant the seeds of ideas with the athletes to see their passion grow for not only rowing, but also the team and its unique mixture of training, fundraising and competition.” As an alumni of Cougar Crew, he sees importance in the traditions

of the team. “I am of course very excited about coaching the novice class on the water, on the ergs and in the weight room, as well as seeing them perform at the national level, but I am most excited about seeing them grow in their ownership of the team and its ideals.”

Brevick also looks to build on what the recent years have brought to the team. “I have been very impressed with what the team has accomplished the last few years and I think that has laid an excellent foundation that we will continue to build upon.” With Cougar blood pumping through his veins, Brevick is well on his way to fill the shoes of Coach Julia. He is excited to be a part of the team as a coach. “The opportunity is great to see the team grow in size, character, results and reputation. I am honored to be a part of that.”



Brevick (second from the left) standing with his boat after their Fawley victory in 2006

Summer Activities

By Paul Lund

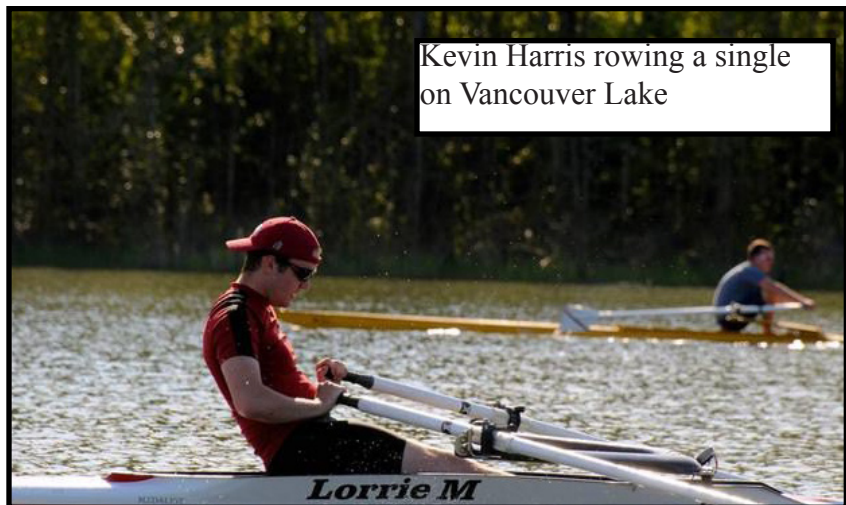
From rowing in the early morning to racing in a marathon, these Cougs made sure to keep active over the summer.

Kevin Harris, stroke seat in the 2N in the spring, spent a lot of time on the water-both sculling and sweeping. From early May to mid-June he rowed with a master program; the remainder of the summer was spent with a mixture of college and high school rowers, including WSU Novice Dustin Crossman. “Rowing in small boats this summer improved my form on the water; it was a lot of fun sculling, especially in a quad”, says Harris of his experience on Vancouver Lake.

Orion McCabe, 4-seat in the V8+ which made it to the grand finale at ACRA Nationals last season, rowed with Olympia Area Rowing Club on Puget Sound. McCabe spent most of the time in pairs and 4s with the occasional practice in an 8. He says he improved his slide control and understanding of balance “I stroked the 4 a few times, which made me aware of what the rowers behind me were doing. Overall it was a great experience, and I look forward to bringing the small boat finesse I learned into our 8s.”

Ryan “Bibs” Bibko, bow-seat in the 2N at

WIRAs, made it to all but two practices over eight weeks with the Lake Union Crew. They practiced Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 6:45 to 8:15. He was able to scull in a single which taught him a lot about balance and quick hands at the start of the recovery. His improvement during the summer was rewarded by being able to row in a racing single. It was a high-caliber group of athletes Bibko rowed alongside with, including Oregon State, University of Miami, UW and WSU oarsmen. In addition to



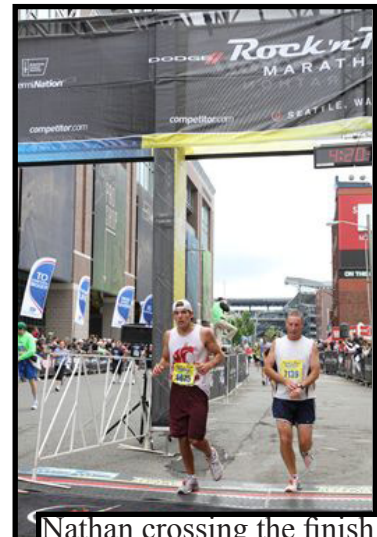
Kevin Harris rowing a single on Vancouver Lake

rowing, “Bibs” ran the Seattle Rock ’n’ Roll Marathon the last weekend of June. The most impressive part of it is that Bibko had a foot operation six months earlier. “The marathon was a post-op milestone for me. It was painful, but I embraced the pain”, says Bibko on the 26.2 mile run.

Jeff Rhubottom, a regular in the 1N last year, rowed with the collegiate program for Lake Union Crew. He sculled and sweep rowed, and lists a row in a pair with Bibko as one of the highlights of the summer.

Rowing in small boats made him more aware of the impact a rower has on the set of the boat. Rhubottom rowed port when he was in a sweep shell, hoping it will make him more attractive for the V8+. “After rowing starboard my Novice year, I wanted to become familiar with port side to open up more seats”. Rhubottom also ran the Seattle Rock ’n’ Roll Marathon. The race’s trademark, the live music every mile, was a big inspiration for him during the race. “The music and people supporting along the streets carried me through the pain. It was tough, but I’d like to do it again someday”, says Rhubottom.

Nathan “Dewey” Mauren, 2-seat in the 1N at PAC-10s and ACRA, joined his teammates Bibko and Rhubottom and ran the marathon. He finished in 4h 3min, the fastest time of the Cougar oarsmen who took the challenge. Mauren says the marathon ranks among his greatest accomplishments due to not only the physical, but just as much the mental stamina it requires. “Because of the way the course was set up, we passed the finish-line with the people doing the half, and then had to run another 10 miles. The last hour and a half was the most pain I’ve ever been in. I have a different perspective on life after completing the marathon-it has made me tougher, and the experience will help me push through when the lactic acid starts building up during hard practices and races”, says Mauren.



Nathan crossing the finish line

Starting The Year Off With A Bang

By Paul Lund

On Saturday August 27th the Men's Varsity team had its third annual Olympic Distance Triathlon. Fifteen varsity oarsmen, a coxswain, a coach and a former rower walked 1500m south from the boathouse and jumped in the Snake River at 7:30am. Wearing colored swim caps, they swam back to



the boathouse. For safety purposes, two lifeguards from UREC followed in kayaks while a third was in the launch with former Novice coach Julia Gamache, and '11 oarsman Kramer Wahlberg.

First onto land was senior Josh Wadagnolo in 27:42; followed by 11' oarsman Jake Logar. Paul Lund, Ryan Bibko and Arthur Ericsson came out at the same time when the clock passed 30min. Coxswain Caitlin Aldrich finished the swim in 31:01, only beaten by three rowers—a great showing by the competitive senior. Sophomore Will Hanson was the next out in 31:16. The team had an additional eight team members on the erg; those who did not pass the swim test, or chose to erg instead of the open water swim.

Ryan Bibko made a smooth transition and took advantage of his experience as a former elite cyclist. He completed the 26 mile bike ride in about 1h 9min, in which he made up seven minutes compared to the leader after the swim, Josh Wadagnolo. The second fastest on the bike portion was Coach Arthur Ericsson. There were some technical difficulties; the most unfortunate was last year's Novice captain, David Herrick, who got a flat tire at the beginning of the bike ride. "In one word: frustrating. There were times I wanted to toss the bike in the river and run the rest of the way. It was something I had to come to terms with and deal with, and it added to my overall experience. I know I won't forget it", says Herrick on

the challenge he overcame.

When the leaders started the run, the temperature had reached 80F, and it would continue to rise. Ryan Bibko was soon passed by Josh Wadagnolo, who remained in the lead until two miles remained. The winner of the inaugural triathlon in 2009, and last year's runner up, Jake Logar, came from behind and demonstrated his athletic talent when he crossed the finish line



Ryan "Bibs" Bibko leading the 40k bike

in 2:31.21. Logar ran 6.2 miles in less than 45 minutes, something few can do with rested legs. Wadagnolo came across in 2:34.35, and received the award "More Than a Rower", given to the high finisher among active varsity rowers. Coach Arthur Ericsson came in at 2:35.15, followed by Paul Lund in 2:39. Ryan Bibko saw four men pass him on the run, but held off Commodore Andrew King to take fifth in 2:45.55, only 25 seconds ahead

of King.

Josh Wadagnolo, 7-seat in the V8+ ACRA grand finalist, was happy about the win, and sees several advantages to the season kick-off "The triathlon is a great tradition for the Men's Crew team. It is a good wakeup call for those people that maybe slacked off a bit too much over the summer and also provides a good benchmark



Triathlon champion Josh Wadagnolo finishing the 10k run

for our coach to assess the fitness level of the team. I hope the team continues to hold the triathlon at the beginning of each year and I also hope that winning the More Than A Rower award becomes an honor that people are excited to fight for."

Overall, the team had a strong showing in its third triathlon. "If we look at the average triathlon times from last year's varsity 8 with my projected varsity 8 for this year, the guys were a staggering 8 minutes and 50 seconds faster than last year's ACRA grand finalists," exclaimed Head Coach Arthur Ericsson. "This definitely says a lot about the commitment the guys gave to our summer cross training and I see no reason why this won't carry into our upcoming headrace season. I thoroughly believe that training for a legitimate triathlon like this builds tremendous athletic maturity and camaraderie. It also becomes something that the guys will be really shooting for next year."

Lightweight Women Update

By Brittany Darnell

The lightweight women ended their second year as a team with a bang. The novice competed in the open weight Novice 8+ event and finished first in the 3rd finals, beating a decent number of varsity programs. The lightweight varsity 8+ took 3rd place overall, only having been beat by two Stanford boats and bringing home bronze metals.

This year, the lightweights are working very hard during practices and fund raising events to travel to more competitive races during the spring. With a dedicated and fast-learning group of novice and varsity rowers, the cougar lightweights are a program to look out for. They have goals set for the spring racing season and plan to make it a successful year.



2010-2011's Lightweight Women

First Annual Fall Fundraiser

By Eric DeMaris



Saturday, November 5th 2011, friends and alumni of Cougar Crew will have the opportunity to cruise the waters of Lake Union and Lake Washington on board the *Virginia V*. The 125' steamship was built for the West Pass Transportation Company in 1922, where she traversed the waters between

Elliot Bay and Tacoma until 1938. She is the last operational wooden hull, steam-powered vessel of Puget Sound's famed 'Mosquito Fleet'; a predecessor to the Washington State Ferries system. Restored in 2005, the *Virginia V*, a National Historic Landmark Vessel, is now the home of Cougar Crew's first annual fall fundraiser.

The cruise will involve food, drinks, and a raffle which will bring in money for WSU Men's Crew. Cougar Crew alum Chris Seaman, the organizer of the event, is looking forward to seeing some alumni there who aren't able to make it to class day. "Mostly the event will be about dinner, drinks, and decent company," says Chris.

The fundraiser is also scheduled for the day before the Head of the Lake Regatta on Lake Union, which he hopes will bring more people out to cheer on the Cougs.

With a capacity of 150 guests, tickets will be going quickly. Tickets for the fundraiser can be purchased at the team's University Recreation site www.row.wsu.edu. Reserve your spot now on the Puget Sound's very own *Virginia V*!

Questions? Contact Chris Seaman at chrisseaman@gmail.com

For more information about the ship, go to www.virginiav.org.

Fall Race Schedule

October 22- Head of the Spokane @ Gonzaga (Spokane River).

November 5- DARE Dual @ WWU (Lake Whatcom)

November 6- Head of the Lake (Lake Union)

November 12- Head of the Snake vs. Gonzaga (Wawawai Landing)