



SWEET

THE WASHINGTON ROWING MAGAZINE

W
ROWING

SEASON REVIEW

Off The Water

Get to know Assistant Women's Coach & Lead Recruiter Josh Gautreau

Josh Gautreau joined Washington Rowing in July 2016. Previously he was the assistant coach at the University of Virginia. Gautreau began rowing at Syracuse University, where he graduated in 2006 with a degree in physics. He is currently working toward a master's degree in exercise science.

What's surprised you most about Seattle?

The seaplanes. I've rowed everywhere and navigated many waterways, but an obstacle coming from the sky is a new one for me!

Have you discovered a favorite restaurant in Seattle?

The best burger I've ever had is from Rain City Burgers. My son, Boden, really digs their milkshakes, and my wife, Cat, loves that they serve sweet potato fries. It's a family favorite.

What do you like to do in your free time?

Free time? What's that?! JK. Many evenings Cat, Bode and I hop on bikes and ride the Burke Gilman to a beach or a park or the Ballard locks. On weekends we have been exploring the islands.

If you could choose one outdoor activity (besides rowing) in Seattle what would it be and where would you go?

Climbing mountains in the North Cascades. This is by far my favorite endeavor outside of rowing and coaching. I find the challenges to be one in the same—pursuing big goals through hard work and perseverance.

Any pets?

We arrived in Seattle with two cats, Leroy and Tuna. Leroy is still with us and we believe Tuna has returned to the wild forest of Ravenna Park.

What's your favorite movie?

Braveheart, because I love underdogs sticking up for what they believe in and I am secretly a sucker for love stories.

Favorite song of all time?

Pearl Jam's "Given to Fly." Cat and I went on a road trip in 2009 and this song was played so much it became an anthem



for the trip. Ever since then it brings back all kinds of great memories.

Proudest moment as a Husky so far?

Sweeping the 2017 PAC 12 Championship. That was such a long time coming and such a great team effort. I am not just proud of the win, but proud of the style in which we executed racing and the total commitment from the team to be in a position to perform how we did.



Friends,

It seems gratuitous to fill this space with words when just two will do. THANK YOU!

Thank you to those of you who support the program year over year; to those of you who are first time donors; and to those of you who have come back to the program after some time off. Your generosity set a new standard of support.

In concert, the student-athletes and coaches took us on a remarkable ride this season. The women finished with an unprecedented sweep of the NCAA Championships and the men reclaimed the Ten Eyck Championship Trophy at IRAs. Winning the men's and women's Pac-12 titles together for the first time since 1997 is the result of hard work and a full team commitment. It is also a reflection of the tradition at Washington and a community that believes in these athletes and their potential as students on and off the water.

Finally, thank you and congratulations to our talented and dedicated coaches, Yaz and Michael, for being named Pac 12 Coaches of the Year. Yaz was also named Coach of the Year by the Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association after her first season at Washington. We are grateful for Michael's and Yaz's dedication to reinvigorating the culture down at the Shellhouse.

Thank you to everyone in the Washington Rowing Family, we do not do this alone.

Go Dawgs!



Jane Powers



Trevor Vernon

Co-chairs
Washington Rowing Board of Stewards

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Cover: The 2017 NCAA National Championship Washington women's rowing team.

Trust, Teamwork, Toughness: The Three T's to the Triple Crown

By Yaz Farooq

"Give the ones you love wings to fly, roots to come back and reasons to stay." –Dalai Lama XIV

A year has passed since the beginning of this adventure: a team yearning to be respected, eager to add to the Washington Rowing legacy, hungry to write the future. A collection of coaches with diverse backgrounds, yet a singular mission: to build Trust, Teamwork and Toughness. And then give our fledglings the freedom to fly. We eased them into the training, knowing that trust and toughness would take some time to build. I've since learned that several felt that had they known what they would eventually be doing, they would never have believed they were capable of it. To their credit, they did the work, and at each step they were rewarded with genuine improvement--on the erg, in the weight room, on the water.

They pushed each other in each of these areas with genuine enthusiasm and the knowledge that they were making the team stronger by making one another better. The harder the work, the more enthusiasm they poured into it. When one of the Washington traditions, the LPR (Long Pair Race), morphed into the XLPR and then the XXLPR, they "Embraced the suck" together. Their mindset and desire, combined with steadily improving performances, kept everyone forging ahead—from the early strokes of the fall, through the cold, dark heart of winter, with wings spreading as the racing season rapidly approached.

My novice coach Jane Ludwig long ago taught me that she gauged her own success on how well she empowered and prepared us. We grew to trust her, but also knew that the lessons we learned would have to be implemented on the racecourse without her. As all rowers know, there's no halftime break or reset with your coach. Once you head out for the warmup, it's you and your boatmates on your own. When Jane shoved us off the dock for that first race of our careers, she shoved us out of the nest. She knew that we were ready. It was our opportunity to fly. She had peace of mind that we would take the lessons learned, stick to the plan, more importantly stick together, and then show what we could do.

At the Pac-12's and again at the NCAA's, when we coaches shoved each of our boats off the dock for the last time, I genuinely believed that they were going to execute the race of their lives, and that would result in each boat having a performance that they could be proud of, win or lose.

The fourth "T" is Triumph, but not in the way you might think. For all the talk amongst competitors about pushing another crew so hard that you "break them," the toughest warriors know that first you must triumph over your own fears, over pain, over adversity. This creates an inner



Washington women's crew celebrates their national championship sweep at the NCAA's.

conversation, no longer about who you can take out, but about how fast you can make your own boat go, what you can create together that translates into rhythm, run and pure boat speed.

At the Pac-12's, our novice eight, with several young women who had taken their first strokes ever at the UW, soared past the rest of our conference in their first true test. It was one of my sweetest memories of the year. Washington's walk-on tradition is as strong as ever. Then, race after race, Washington bowballs pushed into the lead, and never gave it back—from the 3V8 to the V4, then the 2V8, and finally the varsity eight.

Throughout the year, we never talked about winning. We never talked about sweeping. Even at the NCAA's. We talked about giving, persevering and sticking together no matter what happened outside of our lane. We talked about supporting our teammates within each boat and across all of our boats. Being the best true "Team" at each regatta. Mary Whipple '02, constantly spoke to our team about their identity as Washington rowers: who we are and what we stand for. When we focused on our identity and what we were prepared to give, magical things started to happen. Opportunities presented themselves, feared opponents became suddenly human, course records evaporated. It was no longer about "Am I in a fast lineup?" but rather "How can I contribute to the lineup I am in."

Wings became fins when our team swam out to the varsity eight after all three boats rowed into history, sweeping the grand finals, resulting in what Seattle Times writer Matt Calkins dubbed, "Rowing's Triple Crown." Watching from shore, my husband overhead an Ohio State parent say, "I have never seen so much joy."

Women of Washington, you did it. Thank you for dreaming big and following through on your promise to one another. You have added to the legacy. Alums, thank you for paving the way, inspiring us and for all you do to support this team. We are proud to carry on this amazing tradition, one that empowers our student-athletes within the boat and beyond.

Shared Values

By Michael Callahan



Washington men's crew celebrates the Ten Eyck trophy at the Intercollegiate Rowing Association Regatta in June.

"NOW this is the Law of the Jungle—as old and as true as the sky; And the Wolf that shall keep it may prosper, but the Wolf that shall break it must die." - Rudyard Kipling

We set out on the 2016-17 season to re-establish some specific common values for our team. The first line of Rudyard Kipling's poem sets the theme: "Abide by the values of the team or leave."

It was a remarkable turnaround in the performance and strength of the team from 2016 to 2017. Those who bought in understood the key tenets of the program:

- **We work hard.**
- **We respect everyone. Yes, especially California.**
- **Competition is our key to success, and we embrace it.**

It was a tribute to the buy-in to common values that brought us the V4, 3V8 and 2V8 National Championships at the IRA - and the "Ten Eyck" Team Points Trophy. It was a tribute to those values that earned the team the PAC-12 Team trophy and the

Varsity 8 Championship. Every effort mattered, and everyone on the roster and our staff proved important to the overall culture and performance of the team. The narrow loss in the IRA V8 final—as painful as it is—reflected a veteran Yale team with three years of momentum as a program. At the same time, it showed our raw ability, our potential, and our youth.

The Class of 2017 set a new foundation. Strong and wide enough to now build a championship-level team that is resilient enough to win on our worst day.

The program had a major re-boot in 2017 and it is visible in our team performance. As difficult as it has been, those who have abided by our values have learned to be better citizens. Our grades are up again; we graduated all our seniors; and our boat speed is up. I am looking forward to September 13 when this group reports back to the Conibear.

We are excited to start the 2018 season and ready to take the next step in our pursuit of excellence.

Woof!

Year in Photos



Athlete Feature



Andre Mattus

Arlington, WA

BS Microbiology, '17

Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies Minor

Varsity Coxswain, UW Men's Rowing Team

By Amy Anderson

Anyone who's ever rowed knows a coxswain's entire job is built on trust.

"Building this level of trust requires an understanding of differences," says varsity men's coxswain, Andre Mattus, '17.

Mattus was selected as one of the Husky 100 for 2017 in recognition of his efforts—both on and off the water—to build trust and find more ways for student-athletes to explore different identities and cultures so they can build a stronger sense of empathy and connection within the UW student-athlete community.

Each year, the Husky 100 recognizes 100 UW undergraduate and graduate students from Bothell, Seattle and Tacoma in all areas of study who are actively connecting what happens inside and outside of the classroom and applying what they learn to make a difference on campus, in their communities and for the future.

Mattus was also named a 2017 Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholar Team Winner, a prestigious honor that recognizes outstanding minority sports scholars.

As a Gender, Women and Sexuality Studies minor, Mattus studied a concept called intersectionality—the recognition of how different facets of identity such as race and sexual orientation overlap and affect one other. "This concept is wildly important to seeing how systems such as language can affect and be affected by different people," he says.

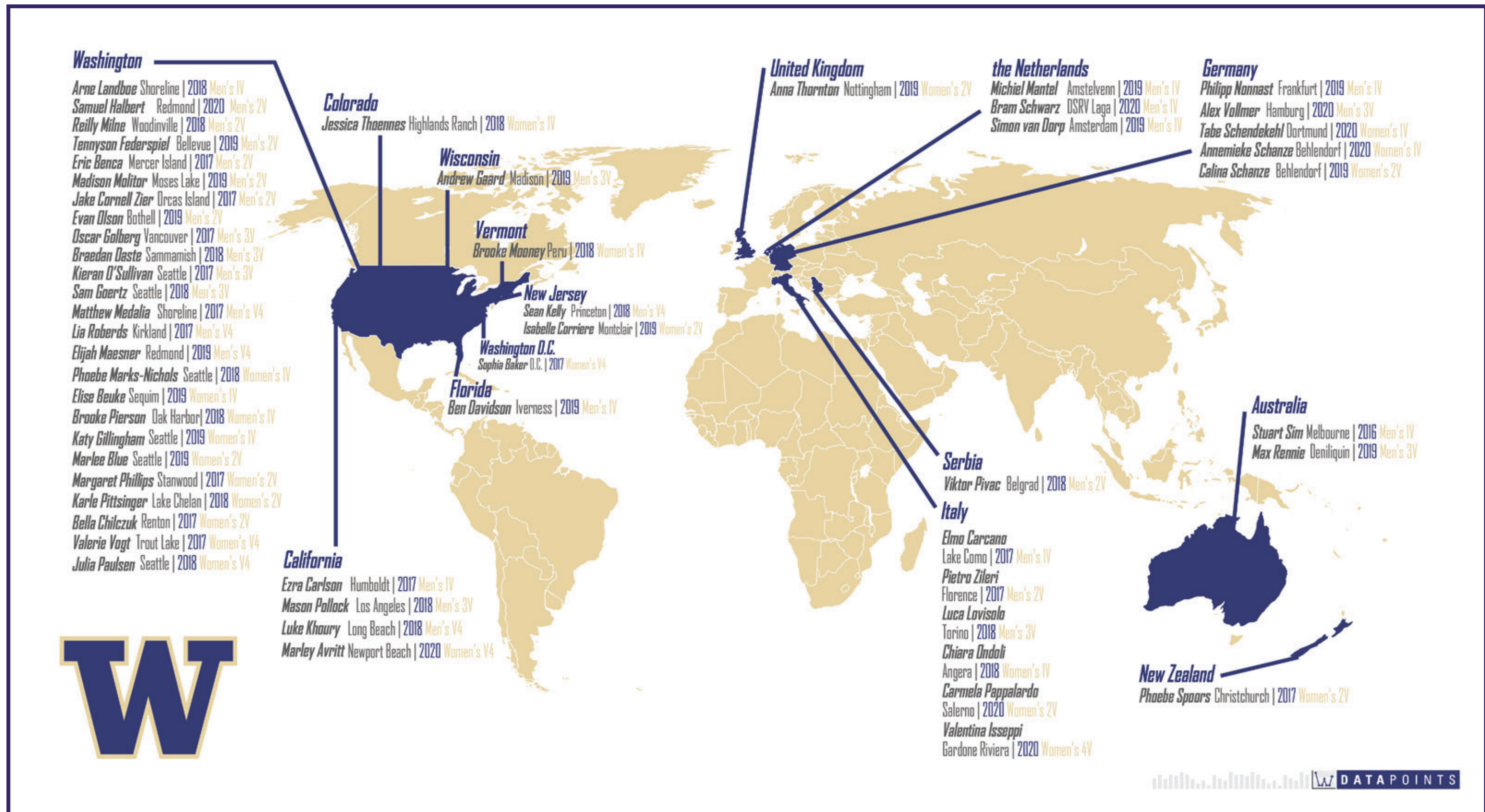
In February 2016, Mattus helped start the UW chapter of Athlete Ally, a national organization that addresses issues of homophobia and transphobia in athletics. Utilizing the idea of intersectionality this organization seeks to give student-athletes a space where they can start to talk about how our identities overlap and interact with one another.

"One of rowing's biggest lessons is that no one person can make the boat move quickly, but just one can slow it down," Mattus said. "Precise motions must be repeated over and over in order to move forward. The same can be said towards making cultural changes around us."

"Looking toward the future, I'm eager to disrupt clinical biomedical research with intersectionality," Mattus says.

Coach Michael Callahan has no doubt he will do just that. "Andre was such a tremendous force for good on our team, articulating his ideas for making athletics more inclusive and empathetic. He really gained the trust of his teammates and helped them think differently. I wish him all the luck in his future endeavors beyond the boat."

Data Points: Championship Boats



Walk-Ons: A Washington Rowing Tradition

By Shon Purdy

At the beginning of each season, new members join in workouts with the aim of becoming part of the team. The grueling, long hours of tryouts will separate out those who want to become part of something truly special. This process values the team over the individual.

As racing season begins, the teams are named. Those named have the responsibility of representing their institution, their community, and their schools colors and traditions with pride.

Washington's rowing program has a storied past of successful walk-ons who became part of historic feats that remain unmatched in the rowing world. It is that legacy that has engraved a culture that still resides in the shellhouse today.

No matter where you come from, what your background is, or when you started—if you can row, there is a home for you at Conibear.

This season eight walk-on athletes were part of NCAA and IRA national championships; walk-ons from all walks of life and diverse athletic backgrounds.

Some of them had never rowed before coming to Washington, but excelled in other sports and had the work ethic it took to become part of the team.

Brooke Pierson, '18, Brooke Mooney, '18, and Jessica Thoennes, '18, won an NCAA national title in the women's varsity eight. Maggie Phillips, '17, Karle Pittsinger, '18, Bella Chilczuk, '17, and Valerie Vogt, '17, won every race this season, including the Pac-12 and NCAA Championship races. And Madison Molitor, '19, won Pac-12 and IRA National Titles in the men's second varsity eight. These eight student-athletes had what it took to make the team; they had what it took to work and develop into the rowers they are today.

From novice to commodore to captain, Phillips showed exactly what hard work can bring you. Having never rowed for a team in high school, she spent her days as a national competitor in dressage. At the UW she started rowing in the novice eight during her freshman year, and moved up to the varsity four by her junior year. This past season Phillips rowed in every race of the second varsity eight and was named to the Academic All-Pac-12 team for the second year in a row.

Mooney, a Peru, Vermont, native, started rowing as a senior in high school at the Vermont Academy. Before rowing, Mooney was a three-time member of the New England's Jr. National Nordic Ski team and competed at the U.S. Jr. Nationals. Her constant push to become a better rower every day saw her earn a spot on the varsity eight at the halfway

point of this season, where she was part of the winning varsity eight at the Pac-12 and NCAA Championships.

Jess Thoennes, '18, is an all-conference volleyball player from Highlands Ranch, Colorado, who also ran track and played basketball. After learning to row at UW as a frosh, Thoennes raced in the 4V8 last year, jumped to the varsity eight this spring, and most recently earned a spot on the US Under-23 Team. Thoennes will compete in the women's eight at the World Championships in Plovdiv, Bulgaria this summer.

Pierson came to the University of Washington as a multi-sport athlete, having competed in cross-country, basketball, track and swimming in high school. Like Mooney, she only began rowing as a senior in high school, but by the time she finished her freshman year at Washington she had won a Pac-12 championship in the third varsity eight. She went on to race in the Pac-12 and NCAA champion varsity eight this spring and will be racing in the women's pair at the U-23 World Championships this summer.

Molitor did not have any previous rowing experience coming into his first year at Washington, but he had made a name for himself as a high school state swimming champion in the 50-yard freestyle. He was in and out of boats during his freshman year, and claimed his spot in the second varsity eight throughout the entire 2017 season and won championships at Pac-12s and the IRAs.

Like Molitor, Bella Chilczuk, '17, Karle Pittsinger, '18, and Val Vogt, '17, took their first strokes ever at Washington. Vogt was a middle distance track star who won state championships in the 800 and 1600, but traded in her cleats for an oar at UW, just like older sister Liz. Chilczuk was discovered at a state swimming meet and followed in the footsteps of older sister Giuliana. Pittsinger was a volleyball player and track athlete in high school. The all-star thrower twice finished in the top two at the State Championships for both discus and shotput, and was recruited to the UW Track Team. After reading "The Boys in the Boat" she was compelled to attend the walk-on rowing meeting the first day of school.

These eight student-athletes, and all who came before them, proved that success is possible with hard work and a perseverance to become great. The extensive hours in the weight room, the early morning rows in the rain, and the dedication to the sport both on and off the water are just part of what it takes to be successful at Washington.

But above all else it requires a commitment to the team, a commitment to the team that is bigger than any part of their lives.



BROOKE PIERSON, '18



BELLA CHILCZUK, '17



BROOKE MOONEY, '18



KARLÉ PITTSINGER, '18



JESS THOENNES, '18



VALERIE VOGT, '17



MAGGIE PHILLIPS, '17



MADISON MOLITOR, '19



Huskies Compete Internationally

By Jeff Bechthold

With Washington's highly-successful collegiate season in the books for 2016-17, the eyes of the rowing world turn to the summer international competitions, where the Husky program should be very well represented, by both current undergraduates and alumni. Husky alums are making their way to the top of their national team programs, including Kirstyn Goodger, '14, (New Zealand) and Fiona Gammond, '15, (Great Britain), Jacob Dawson, '16, (Great Britain) and Finn Schroeder, '16, (Germany). All four competed in the World Rowing Cup II in June in Poland and will also continue on to another World Cup event in Switzerland in July. Dawson, the UW men's captain in 2016 and a member of two IRA champion varsity eights, has pulled off the rare feat of making the Great Britain national team despite having come to the United States for his college education. Just a year after earning a degree in geography, the 23-year-old native of Plymouth, England, will row in the GB men's eight at the World Cup. Earlier this year, he rowed in a men's pair, winning a gold medal at a World Cup event in Serbia, and taking fifth in the European Championships.

Gammond will also compete for the British this summer, rowing in the bow seat of the women's eight, which finished fourth at the 2017 European Championships. Gammond, who had a terrific youth and Under-23 career, made her senior team debut last year in the women's coxless four at the 2016 World Rowing Championships, where she helped row her shell to a gold medal.

A member of Washington's 2014 men's varsity eight IRA champions, Schroeder will row in the German men's coxless four at the World Cup. Schroeder's four won the B final at

the European Championships earlier this year.

Goodger was a three-year member of Washington's women's varsity eight. She will row in one of two New Zealand entries in the women's pair in Poland, where she'll be making her senior team debut for the Kiwis.

Later this summer (July 19-23) in Plovdiv, Bulgaria, there will be a lot of Husky representation at the Under-23 World Championships. For the U.S. women, Brooke Pierson, '18, will race in the women's pair while Elise Beuke, '19, and Jessica Thoennes, '18, race in the stroke and bow seats, respectively, in the American eight. Calina Schanze, '19, Annemieke Schanze, '20, and Tabea Schendekehl, '20, will be racing in the women's four for Germany after winning the German National Championships. Carmela Pappalardo, '20, and Valentina Iseppi, '20, will be competing for Italy (lineups to be determined) and Anna Thornton, '19, will be competing in the women's quad for Team GB.

Five Huskies will row for the U.S. at U-23s in the men's coxed four: coxswain Rielly Milne, '18, along with rowers Ben Davison, '19, Tennyson Federspiel, '19, Arne Landboe, '18, and Evan Olson, '19. Additionally, Bram Schwarz, '20, Simon Van Dorp, '20, and Michiel Mantel, '19 will row for the Netherlands (M8+); Philipp Nonnast, '19, and Alex Vollmer, '20, will represent Germany (M2-); Luca Lovisolo, '18, will row in the Italy M4x and defending World Champion Viktor Pivac will row the Serbia M2-.

Additionally, Danielle Hansen, '16, and coxswain Amanda Durkin, '19, were both invited to join the U.S. PR3 Mix4+ selection camp.

For more information and to follow results, go to www.WorldRowing.com.

Jacob Dawson (third from left) won the gold medal in the men's pair at World Cup I in May this year.

Huskies Sweep 2017 Windermere Cup

The sun was shining and so were the Huskies at the 31st Annual Windermere Cup on May 7.

Both the men's and women's varsity eights set Montlake Cut 2,000 meter course records to claim the Windermere Cup over the men's and women's Shanghai High-Performance rowing teams. Washington also took home the Erickson Cascade Cup in the men's and women's races with open-water victories.

The crowd was electric and racing conditions were perfect at the 2017 Windermere Cup. Washington ultimately swept all 10 collegiate races on the day with open water victories in each race.

The Washington men's varsity eight time of 5:27.48 broke a 20-year-old Montlake Cut course record set by Washington in the 1997 Cal Dual (5:30.0).

"We got to show the crowd a really fast race,"

said men's head coach Michael Callahan. "This is a hard place to go fast. The water is cold and it is usually windy. But we had great conditions and we had a good race. Having our fans pack the Cut made all the difference."

The Washington women's varsity eight also set a new Montlake Cut course record with a time of 6:07.03, beating the 30-year-old record set by the Soviet Union National Team in the inaugural Windermere Cup (6:11.73) in 1987.

"I had no idea the record had been in place for so long," said women's head coach Yaz Farooq. "We had two highly motivated eights on the course that day and they were throwing everything they had at it. It was a thrill to see them go so fast and to set a new course record."

Washington Rowing extends a very special thank you to Windermere Real Estate for their generous support.



O Coxswain! My Coxswain!



By Ed Kromer

From the shore's remove, the motion of the vessel and her crew appears almost balletic. The sleek shell skims across the racecourse swiftly, elegantly, the crisp whoosh of eight oar blades flashing through the water in perfect parallel, the swing of eight torsos in metronomic sync.

Except for a ninth figure, smaller than the rest, at the stern of the boat. He sits hunched over the gunwales, lurching forward and aft with each powerful pull of the oars. His gaze is alert, like a bird's, darting between his cockpit computer, the linear engine of the competition off to starboard and port. His sharp, staccato commands pierce the rising roar of the crowd lining the Montlake Cut. Exhorting his charges toward the finish. Asking for more.

This is Stuart Sim, coxswain of the varsity men's eight of the University of Washington Rowing team. He is a master of this position that is unique in sport. The brain behind the brawn of the oarsmen. Navigator, strategist, analyst, communicator, motivator, coach and commander. All together. All the time.

"A lot of people undervalue coxswains," says Michael Callahan, the head coach of the vaunted UW men's rowing program. "I almost do the opposite. They have to articulate strategy and tactics, and get people to execute them. They have to analyze and adjust on the fly. But most of all, they have to unify the crew, get everyone moving together. That's what (Washington's legendary master boat-builder) George Pocock called swing. It's the story of rowing."

By any measure, Sim is an exceptional steward of

swing. A third-generation coxswain of the Australian national team, he has already steered the Husky varsity eight to national titles in 2014 and 2015. After taking last year off to captain the Aussie men's eight in the run-up to the Rio Olympics (narrowly missing the seventh and final spot to the Americans), he has returned for his senior year, bringing such a deep well of experience, skill and athletic intelligence to the Huskies that Callahan considers him another coach in the boathouse.

But Sim has other unfinished business at the UW. He's working to complete his degree in finance at the Foster School of Business, where he's a fixture on the dean's list.

This particular dual identity places Sim along a proud lineage of transcendent Washington coxswains who have been intellectually powered by Foster. Five are enshrined in the Husky Hall of Fame.

Moch One

The first—and most famous—was Bobby Moch (BA 1936), the coxswain who led "The Boys in the Boat" to glory at the 1936 Olympics. Raised in the foggy logging town of Montesano and diminished by a botched appendectomy when he was a kid, Moch earned his seat in the Husky varsity eight with unrivaled wit and unyielding tenacity. His legendary underdogs won the Intercollegiate Rowing Association national championship in a late charge and then overcame impossible odds to claim the gold medal—in another breathtaking comeback—before 75,000 roaring partisans and a disapproving Adolph Hitler at the Berlin Games.

"Bob got some things out of the crew," recalled bowman Roger Morris, "that I didn't think were there."

After razor-thin victory at the IRAs, James Burchard of the World-Telegram wrote that "it was a story of psychology, pure nerve, and rowing intelligence. Moch's noodle was the best oar in the Washington boat."

On land, that magnificent noodle earned him a Phi Beta Kappa key. He graduated magna cum laude from the UW with a degree in business administration, then picked up a Harvard law degree while coaching crew at MIT. Afterward, Moch ran a successful law practice in Seattle for more than five decades, eventually arguing and winning a case before the US Supreme Court. He also served as president of the UW Alumni Association.

American Dreamer

Vic Fomo (BA 1942) embodied the American Dream at a time when it was needed most. The son of Italian immigrants grew up in Anacortes during the Great Depression and found a future at the UW. On the water, he became a cagy coxswain who led three national championship boats and never lost a race in four years (a singular feat in the sport).

Fomo's 1940 crew was selected to represent the USA in the Helsinki Olympics before they were cancelled by World War II. "We cried like hell," he recalled. "We all had confidence we were going to win."

The next year, his Hall of Fame varsity eight rowed away with the national championship. "As great a crew as I've ever had," remarked legendary coach Al Ulbrickson. "I've never seen a gang with such sockeroo."

After graduating from the UW, Fomo served as a navigator in the Army Air Corps during WWII and the Korean War, then put his business degree to work in sales for Dictaphone before a successful run of commercial real estate development.

Veteran Leadership

Al Morgan (BA 1950) served in the Navy in the South Pacific during WWII before studying business at the UW on the GI Bill. His wartime leadership translated famously into the rowing shell, where the Seattle native coxed the Husky varsity four to a gold medal at the 1948 London Olympics.

His was the only UW crew to be coached by the master boat-builder Pocock, who commented, after that come-from-behind victory, that he had "never before or since seen a four pull as we did in the last 15 strokes. They were actually lifting the bow out of the water."

"I attribute our win completely to Al Morgan," remarked oarsman Gordon Giovanelli. "A coxswain has to steer a straight course, coach the crew and cheerlead. Al was the best I ever had. He won the Olympics for us."

But Morgan wasn't finished. The four-year letter-winner delivered another national title in the Husky varsity eight in 1950 before graduating to a career managing sales of Gestetner duplicating machines.



Comeback Kid

John Bisset (BA 1958) had never been in a rowing shell when some fraternity brothers convinced him to turn out as a coxswain his freshman year at the UW. Maybe it was his experience as Roosevelt High School's "Yell King" or the slighthness of his frame.

"I remember thinking, what a thankless job," he says.

But Bisset became a tremendous coxswain for the Huskies, leading the 1958 varsity eight to the Henley Royal Regatta in England after an undefeated season. They fell hard to the powerful world champions from Leningrad. But two weeks later, they delivered a stunning and symbolic victory at the rematch in Moscow, winning the first athletic contest between the USA and USSR on Soviet soil—or water—since the start of the Cold War.

After graduating from Foster, Bisset became an assistant coach at the UW and head coach at UCLA before coming home to become executive director of the UW Alumni Association. Later, he served as president of Alumni Holidays, the Chicago-based pioneer in university-affiliated group travel.



Row Around the World

Polio robbed Dwight Phillips (BA 1971) of his promising athletic prowess. But he found a fitting competitive outlet in the coxswain seat at the UW, leading a major renaissance in Husky Rowing. In 1970, his junior varsity eight contributed to the school's first IRA national title in 20 years, then represented the USA as a four in that year's World Rowing Championships in Canada.

In 1971, Phillips coxed the national champion Husky varsity eight that was selected to represent the USA at the Pan American Games in Colombia, taking the silver medal. And even after graduation, his Husky pair-with-coxswain competed in the 1973 World Championships in Russia.

"We had some wonderful athletes who I, jokingly, say gave me a ride around the world," says Phillips, who was elected team captain his senior season.

After a stint in coaching, he embarked on a long career in banking. He serves as senior vice president of Columbia Bank today.

The Business End

Why has the UW produced so many masters of boat and of business? Eric Cohen (BA 1983) is in a better position to answer that question than anyone. While studying operations management at Foster, he coxed the Husky varsity eight to a pair of Pac-10 titles before a career in marketing gave way to his role as chief historian of the storied Washington program (his definitive research can be found at WashingtonRowing.com/history/).

Through this work, he has come to know these Hall of Famers well. And he sees the connection between rowing and business as more than just metaphor.

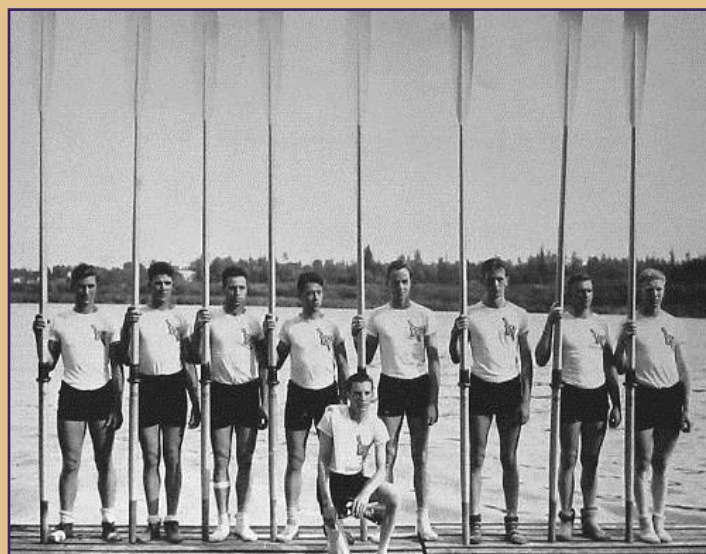
"There's a common bond between all of us who have experienced the uniqueness of the coxswain position," Cohen says. "It's the ultimate multitasking management job. You're doing five different things at the same time, all of the time. Steering, coaching, executing the training or race plan, analyzing and motivating. Getting the most out of your team. All to maximize the efficiency of the boat.

"Sounds a lot like business, doesn't it?"

Technology and Tradition

If Callahan is the CEO of this competitive floating enterprise called Washington Men's Rowing, Sim is his chief operating officer in the boat. Maybe chief technology officer, too.

The coxswain's job has evolved alongside the tech at his disposal, from the stopwatch-and-megaphone days to the modern rigger-mounted power sensors



and biometric monitors delivering real-time data to a dashboard computer and a communication network that runs the length of the shell. In addition to feeling the boat, a cox needs to be a crack analyst of data.

"That's the modern world," says Callahan. "Just as in business, we're making that jump of turning data into intelligence. So I look for coxswains who can command authority and are situationally aware, but who also are quantitative, detail-oriented and articulate. Above all, I recruit intellect. There's a lot to process and then simplify so that everyone has one direction."

He says that no collegiate coxswain manages instinct and intellect—and what it takes to meld eight strong-willed individuals into a high-performance machine—better than Sim.

In his senior season, he has led the men's varsity eight to gold at the prestigious Head of the Charles and Pac-12 Championships and a second-place finish in the grand final of the IRA national championships, their late charge to the line falling short by the thinnest of margins: 69 thousandths of a second. It was enough to secure the school's 14th Ten Eyck Trophy for the overall points victory.

After graduation, Sim plans to retire from competitive rowing and embark on a career in entrepreneurial finance. He packs an impressive resume, even beyond internships at Uber and Ignition Partners.

"I tell employers that my job as a coxswain is synthesizing data to make decisions that add value," he says. "In rowing and in business, those who turn information into better decisions win the day."

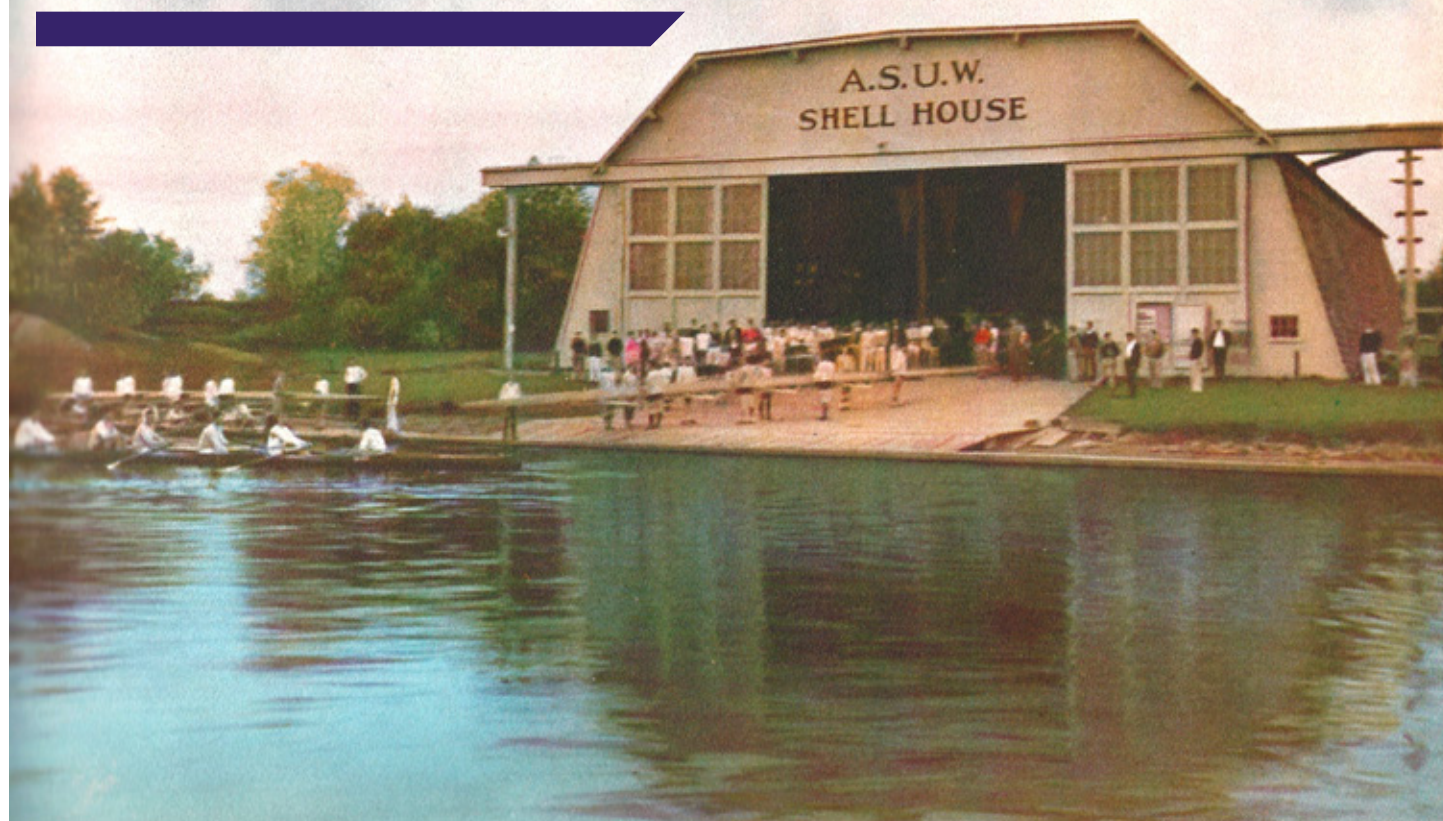
And that's really what this great pantheon of Foster-educated Husky Hall of Fame coxswains has always done, from Moch on up the line. It is how an indelible tradition is built. "We have a saying that the 'W' is bigger than you or I," Sim says. "You do this for more than yourself."

And when he goes, another able coxswain will step into his seat at the helm of the formidable Husky varsity men's eight.

Maybe it will be Rielly Milne of this year's national-champion second varsity eight. Or Braedon Daste of the national-champion third varsity eight. Both, it happens, are juniors at Foster.

More on the web: What makes a great coxswain? www.washingtonrowing.com/sweep

Celebrating the Montlake Cut: Our Home Course Turns 100



By Eric Cohen

On July 9 of this year, the Army Corp of Engineers, in conjunction with a number of historical organizations, will celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Hiram Chittenden Locks and the completion of the Lake Washington Ship Canal with a boat parade through the locks.

The Chittenden Locks in Ballard were officially opened on July 4, 1917. To celebrate, the SS Roosevelt led a marine parade of commercial and pleasure craft through the Ship Canal to Lake Union and Lake Washington. Over 100,000 Seattle residents lined the shores of the new waterway to watch the parade that day.

The 8-year project itself was a combination of man-made canals linking already existing bodies of water (Lake Washington to Portage Bay; Lake Union to Salmon Bay; then culminating in the 20 foot drop at the westernmost end now known as the Chittenden Locks). But it was the easternmost canal – the Montlake Cut – that would ultimately have a transformative impact on Washington Rowing.

When Europeans first arrived in the region, the area known as the Cut today had been used by Native Americans for portage to Lake Union for centuries. Footworn trails already existed on the narrow, 2,500

foot isthmus between Lake Washington and Lake Union. Within a few decades, and as commerce – driven by the logging industry – flourished, creative solutions for moving old-growth timber between waterways were evolving, including troughs, horse drawn sleds, and finally a short railroad. But for Hiram Conibear's crews – who lived together and trained out of the VBC building on Lake Union – it meant they carried their shells the half mile on dirt paths over to Lake Washington to race.

Finally, with the arrival of Hiram Chittenden in 1907 to lead the Army Corp of Engineers in Seattle, an official plan was put in place to begin digging a canal from Lake Washington to the Sound. But it did not go smoothly. Lake Washington sat nine feet above Portage Bay, and a canal would mean the lake level would drop that distance. Docks, beaches, mills – you name it – would be left high and dry, and by 1910 there were enough injunctions in place to periodically stop construction completely. But as the courts would take their time, digging did not. Much of the glacial sediment that was removed became fill on the new UW campus, and by 1914, with legal issues behind it, the Cut was fully dug...only to be delayed by voter reluctance to fund bridge work.

By 1916 – with the public finally approving the needed funds, and concrete lining the banks with fresh new railings along the shore – the Cut was ready. In late August the cofferdams at each end were breached. Over the next few weeks, Lake Washington rushed into Portage Bay and on into Lake Union, ultimately cascading into Puget Sound on the western edge where the Locks were nearing completion. By the fall, the two bodies of water were merged.

For the rowing team at Washington, that connection was transformative. That fall, practice was no longer limited to Lake Union, and opened up significantly longer and more protected areas for distance rowing in Lake Washington. More importantly, as the original VBC building on Portage Bay continued to deteriorate, it led to the opportunity, post WWI, to move into the Navy Seaplane Hangar built on the Cut by the Navy. Ed Leader learned a thing or two from his mentor Hiram Conibear, and as the war ended, quickly moved his team into the empty building on the Cut. For 30 years that building would be the home of the Huskies, generating some of the greatest teams in our history.

For the men and women of Washington today, the Montlake Cut is home. Through the 60's the Cut was used for the occasional 2,000 meter race; but by the 70's, with the first "Opening Day" regatta held in 1970, the official home course for the UW would transition from Seward Park to the Cut. It has remained that way now for almost forty years.

As part of the celebratory boat parade on July 9th, Kirk "Lucky" Knapp has been active in organizing a Washington Rowing contingent for the parade. "I think we would steal the show if we can get Callahan in a fedora in the Conny," said Lucky, in reference to the common headwear of Al Ulbrickson and the launch – rescued by Lucky 30 years ago—that was Ulbrickson's on-the-water office for decades.

The 2017 Centennial Parade will begin at 10:15 a.m. with the historic schooner The Adventuress entering the locks from the west end. As she cruises the Ship Canal at the east end of the Locks passage, she will be joined by vessels of all types and sizes, including the Glory Be and Keewaydin, two vessels that were in the original 1917 parade. The parade will end in South Lake Union.

Current plans are in the works to row a shell (possibly two) in the boat parade, followed by the Conny. Stay tuned to the Washington Rowing Twitter page and our Facebook page as we get closer to July 9 for more details. We hope to see you July 9 as we help celebrate the 100-year anniversary of the Lake Washington Ship Canal!

Thank you Jennifer Ott and History Link (www.historylink.org) for providing the bulk of the information and research on the planning and development of the Montlake Cut.

For more information on the Montlake Cut, the Centennial of the ship canal, and the boat parade, visit the website: <http://makingthecut100.org/> Watch a video made for the Centennial, featuring the Windermere Cup and the significance of the Montlake Cut to rowing in Seattle: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pg0WhGnGjC4&feature=youtu.be>



(opposite) The converted Navy Hangar on the Montlake Cut in a colorized photo from the 1930 Tye. (top) The original VBC building on Lake Union in 1916, less than a year before Lake Washington and Lake Union would merge via the Montlake Cut. (middle) Al Ulbrickson in the Conny keeping a close eye on his 1940 team on Lake Union. (bottom) The cofferdam on the Lake Union end of the Montlake Cut being breached on August 21, 2016.

From Transition to Triumph – The Story of the '88 Women



and I met every day, as we were all trying to preserve and protect the tradition and culture that was built into that program.”

“I knew Jan was a great coach and had the experience... I wasn't worried at all,” said Trudy (Ockenden) Taylor, bow seat of the V8. “You knew where you stood. There was no drama.”

Harville echoed that sentiment right back to the athletes. “I had coached the freshmen for seven years and felt like I was walking into a situation with great athletes,” she said. “Bob (Ernst) was a great mentor and talked me through a number of challenges along the way. We were all working within the system that he created.”

“There was pressure on everyone. They (the V8) were favored everywhere they went, so it was different from 1987. They had a target on their back and they knew it, but the personality of this team was one of strength

and confidence. The experience and trust they had within that team helped them maintain their focus.”

The mid to late 80's saw many of the east coast universities re-building their women's programs. Wisconsin, in 1986, had knocked Washington off of the top spot on the podium for the first time since 1981. The team was forced to re-group, and the result was an expectation of performance that was visible each day. “When it is that clear, when it is something people share, everyone is on board...” said Doyle, “those women were not going to let one stroke go by that they did not pull their hardest and row their best. It was a standard of excellence I had never seen before.”

The varsity eight would proceed through the spring season undefeated, but the competition was fierce. At the Redwood Shores match-racing regatta in April, the team would face down Radcliffe (Harvard), Yale and Brown in three separate races, and in each case were tested the full 2k. Taylor remembered the trust and confidence she had in her team: “We were behind to Brown by a length at the 1500 meter mark. None of us cared where we were because we knew we would win. My biggest take away from that year was the confidence our team had – we were so amped up in the last 500 we could beat anyone.”

By the time Nationals rolled around the team had perfected both their race strategy and their physical conditioning, and knew they were on the cusp of meeting the expectation they had set at the beginning of the year. But the stormy weather at Hammond Lake, in the upper reaches of Pennsylvania, had a different agenda that June weekend. On a windy Sunday, when the Varsity finals were set to go, there had been enough swampings and near sinkings in the earlier races that regatta officials cancelled the marquee V8 event. It was agreed that the race would be postponed to Monday, but due to flight schedules and concerns for more bad weather it was going to need to be early. And early it was.

“We got up at 3:30 a.m. It was dark when we were stretching,” said Taylor. “And it was dark when we went to launch.” Doyle remembers the same, but with a twist: “It was very peaceful. Contemplative and serene. And then suddenly Radcliffe showed up and started blaring music from their van. I just remember thinking ‘Bring it on.’”

Bring it on is what Washington delivered. Out of the blocks in a flash, the Huskies held the lead through the first 1500. “We were in Jane's Friendship (the 1984 US Olympic Empacher named for the late Jane McDougal '82 and donated by longtime UW Rowing Steward Hunter Simpson). We were ahead and I remember feeling in control, and in the last 500 we poured it on. Yaz (Farooq) was in that race... I remember her voice so distinctly,” said Taylor.

Yaz remembers that day too. As the senior coxswain for the Wisconsin Varsity 8, she was at the starting line that morning as well. “We knew Washington was the team to beat,” she said. “They were fit, strong and looked confident.” Even so, as the only team to beat Washington at the National Championships since 1981, Wisconsin figured they had a shot. “We held with them through the first 1500 meters... but coming into the last 500 the UW just started walking. Nothing appeared to distract them. They had been trained all season for that moment and nothing was going to stop them.”

“We finished and there were no fans,” Doyle said. “No one was there. Our parents had all left on Sunday. We got off the water and hugged each other. Jan had a smile from ear to ear.”

“I give full credit to that crew,” said Harville. “It felt like racing in the middle of the night. It was pitch dark when we got to the course... it was not right. But you train for the unexpected... to be ready for anything. And we got it. And they just went out there and took care of business in the biggest race of the year. We won the team championship that year as well, so all around it was an exceptional group of women.”

Thirty years later those same women still highly

value their experience at Washington. “It was one of the most profound experiences of my life,” says Taylor. “I had never been on a team before that was that dependent on your teammates. I learned so much about discipline, dedication and hard work.”

For Doyle, when asked what Washington Rowing has meant to her, she said, “Excellence, and what it means to truly want it. I continue to attempt to live by that idea on a daily basis. It instilled that as part of my being to this day.”

Excellence, dedication, confidence... all words that describe the women of 1988. Throw in the ability to adjust to a dawn start for the biggest race of the year... and you have the makings of a champion.

Note: The 1988 Women's team is planning a 30-year reunion in 2018. Thinking about a reunion for the spring of 2018? If so, contact Eric Cohen at webdev@huskycrew.org and let us know your plans!



(top) The 1988 Varsity 8, left to right: Sarah Watson, Gail Dorf, Fritz Grevstad, Trudy Ockenden, Katerina Wickstrom, Stephanie Doyle, Chris Van Pelt, Lisa Bellucci, Kris Sanford, Jan Harville. (bottom) Yaz Farooq with her Wisconsin team at the starting line in an earlier heat, before the wind disrupted the event.

By Eric Cohen

The alarm clock went off at 3:30 a.m. Eastern time (12:30 a.m. Seattle time). Monday morning, June 6, 1988. Time to race for a National Championship.

For the women of Washington, it was just another adjustment. They had spent most of the year getting up in the dark and practicing at dawn, why not race in it?

The '87/'88 season was a year of adjustment for Washington as Bob Ernst – the coach behind the historical run of women's National Championships – would turn his focus to the men's squad. Jan Harville, the '80 and '84 Olympian and women's novice coach since 1981, was elevated into the women's head coaching role. “It's not just a job, it's a lifestyle” she said to the Seattle P-I in 1988, “it's what I want to do. I'm lucky.”

In her first year as head varsity coach, she joined a veteran team coming off of a historical National Championship sweep in 1987. Stephanie Doyle was the senior varsity coxswain in 1988, and working under the new coach was an easy transition: “Once we all got over the shock of it,” said Doyle, “it united us even more because we had someone joining us who we knew. We had pursued success together before. Jan

News & Announcements

2017 Captains and Most Inspirational Award ➤

Individual awards were announced at the Washington Rowing Banquet on March 24. From left to right: Marissa Therriault and Harrison King (Schaller Scholarship Award); Dani Hansen (Piggott Inspirational Award - also awarded to Harrison King); Maggie Phillips and Arne Landboe (Team Captains). Congratulations all!



◀ Farooq & Callahan Named Pac-12 Coaches of Year

Washington's head coaches Yaz Farooq and Michael Callahan were named Pac-12 Coaches of Year following their teams' strong season. Callahan's award marks his seventh time winning Pac-12 Men's Head Coach of the Year. Eight Huskies made the Pac-12 all-conference team including Guglielmo Carcano, Stuart Sim, Ezra Carlson, and Arne Landboe on the men's side, and Elise Beuke, Katy Gillingham, Chiara Ondoli, and Phoebe Marks-Nicholes on the women's side.



Women's Crew Honored at Mariners Game ➤

The NCAA National Championship women's crew was honored at the Mariners game on June 8 with Dani Hanson throwing out the first pitch.

Alumni News

In Conversation with Olympian Bob Will

Bob Will, '49, sat down with Al McKenzie, '68, Lenny O'Donnell, '81, of Rowing Archives, and Washington Rowing Historian Eric Cohen, '82, in May and talked about his rowing career at Washington, and his experience winning Olympic gold in the US 4+ in London in 1948. Here's an excerpt from their conversation.

"When we got to England our coach was George Pocock, and he knew everything about the river because he grew up there," said Will. "And he also helped us get better by making small adjustments. He was a gentle coach as he was a gentleman...just a one in a million person."

"Our shell (The Clipper Too) was 12 years old. But everybody coveted it because it was so well-made," he continued. "After we won, George came over and said 'Well done boys'. That was about it, but it meant everything to us."

In the photo of the final, Bob is in the two-seat wearing a half-jersey. The reason? "We were used to racing without shirts on. The jersey they gave me hung loose and my thumbs kept getting caught at the release. So I cut it off."

The entire interview will be available soon at www.RowingArchives.com, where you will find many other historic rowing videos including original Pocock footage from the '36 team, film from the 40's and 50's, and historical photos and rowing material from the past.



(top) Bob Will in the two-seat as The Clipper Too crosses the finish line to win gold at the Olympics in London. (bottom) Bob Will with Pocock Rowing Center co-founder Al McKenzie

Tim Brislin – A Lifesaver

By word from two of our alums, we are just now hearing about Tim Brislin, '00, who was honored two years ago by the Phoenix Fire Department for helping save two people from a burning home while out on a morning jog in May of 2015. Tim had just finished his jog when he saw smoke rising from a home nearby. After calling 911, he and two others helped pry open the front door and found two people inside the burning home. Thank you Tim for your quick action and service to your community!

In Memoriam: Art Rounds

Art Rounds, Class of '68, passed away on June 8, 2017 after a four-year battle against multiple myeloma, a type of bone cancer. Art was a big, tough guy who played football in high school at Roosevelt and rowed at Green Lake. At the UW, he rowed in the five seat of the Frosh eight, finishing 3rd at the IRA in 1965. As a sophomore, he was in the 2V, when about three days before the Cal Dual, the coach learned he had a concussion in high school and dismissed him from the team. Disappointed but undaunted, Art spent the next 50 years enjoying the sport he loved, winning a couple of National Masters Rowing championships along the way. Art loved Husky Crew, and rarely missed a home race. Even a week before he died, he was rooting on the Dawgs from his hospital bed. The Washington Rowing family extends our sincere condolences to Art's family, friends and classmates.

Out & About



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1. Husky fans pack the shores of Lake Natoma and cheer on the Washington men's V4 as they cross the line as 2017 IRA National Champions. 2. Melanie Barstow, '16, and Boys in the Boat author Daniel James Brown at the Class Day Cruise in March. 3. The 2017 women alumnae rowers celebrate with Dubs up at Conibear Shellhouse on Class Day. 4. At the 2017 Henley Royal Regatta, Terry Fisk, '79, Mike Hess, '77, Mark Miller, '79, John Stillings, '78, and Jesse Franklin, '77, celebrate the 40th anniversary of their Grand Challenge victory with the trophy. 5. Husky alums, from left to right, Sam Potter, '16, Giuliana Chilczuk, '15, Dani Olson, '16, Grace Spoor, '16, and Sarah Dougherty, '16, cheered on the women's team at the NCAA National Championships at Lake Mercer, NJ, in May. 6. A packed house in the Don James Center for the 2017 Washington Rowing Banquet in March. 7. Former women's head coach Jan Harville, '73, with current women's head coach Yaz Farooq at the Pac-12 Championships at Lake Natoma, CA, in May.



Boys of '36

“Up against Ivy Leaguers and elite German athletes, a team of American working-class rowers inspired the world by winning gold at the 1936 Olympics.”

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