SEASON REVIEW
Washington Rowing welcomes longtime U.S. National Team coxswain Yasmin Farooq as the women's rowing head coach.

A two-time Olympian, Farooq, known as “Yaz,” comes to Conibear Shellhouse after 10 seasons as head coach at Stanford, where she won an NCAA championship in 2009. The Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association National Coach of the Year in 2009, she has also been named the CRCA West Region Coach of the Year in 2009 and the Pac-12 Coach of the Year in both 2008 and 2014.

“I am extremely excited to take the reins of such a storied program,” Farooq said. “Washington Rowing has a long-standing history of excellence, and I can’t wait to get to work to find out where we can take this team.”

At the 2016 NCAA regatta, Farooq led the Cardinal to a fourth-place overall finish, one point ahead of the fifth-place Huskies. The Stanford varsity eight finished third in the grand final, just a couple of feet ahead of fourth-place Brown.

“This program is a source of great pride to many people, and after spending some time with Yaz, it didn’t take long to realize she was the right fit to lead us into the future,” said Jennifer Cohen, UW director of athletics. “Her resume speaks for itself, but the further we looked into her background, the more we realized that the work she has done echoes our core objectives of positively impacting student-athletes, building a championship culture, and uniting community.”

Farooq began her career as a coxswain as a freshman at Wisconsin in 1984, winning a national championship in the JV8 in 1986 and eventually serving as captain and earning team MVP honors as a senior.

A native of Waupun, Wis., Farooq has served as a television commentator for NBC Universal for the last four Olympic Games and, along with her husband, has produced instructional DVDs for coaching coxswains. She earned a bachelor’s degree in broadcast journalism from Wisconsin in 1988.

Welcome Yaz!
Dear Friends,

Rarely do we have the opportunity to see our program through anything other than our own lens. The search for the women’s head coach provided us with such an opportunity. We heard time and again why the University of Washington is the best program in collegiate rowing. Our facilities are without equal. The athletic department has prioritized rowing, subscribing to the concept of being Rowing University. The community embraces the sport of rowing and its history unlike any place in the country. Finally, you, the Stewards, provide a level of support unique to the University of Washington. The resources you devote to this program are unparalleled. Prospective coaches consistently commented how fortunate we are to have such a broad foundation of support. Inasmuch as the Stewards operate behind the scenes, you have made waves throughout the rowing community.

A thank you is due to all of you who dedicated time and energy to enhance the program: the race day “Stream Team,” gear sales, VBC Banquet, Women’s Alumnae Brunch, Class Day Cruise and Barbecue, reunions, Alumnae Race, Opening Day Stewards’ Enclosure and away regatta hospitality tents. Your tireless volunteering and incredible monetary support impact the program on a daily basis. We thank you.

Conor Bullis was the right person at the right time for Washington. With no collegiate head coaching experience, he reinvigorated the program instituting the notion of “winning the right way,” prioritizing first and foremost physical and mental well-being. What followed was a string of parents reaching out to the Stewards and the athletic department commenting on the positive experience their kids were enjoying. Additionally our student-athletes achieved one of the team’s best results at NCAAs in the past decade. Conor is a leader, a mentor and is destined for great things.

Those of you who traveled to Lake Natoma or Mercer Lake this spring witnessed the character of Washington Rowing. Both teams stood at the water’s edge, pulling for their teammates irrespective of their boats’ results. The character embodied by these student-athletes speaks to the attributes prioritized by the coaches. They are team first and a credit to the legacy of Washington Rowing.

Michael Callahan affirmed that the level of collegiate rowing has taken yet another step forward. Our program began to craft its response just after the season’s final strokes were taken, beginning with the hiring of Yaz Farooq, our new women’s head coach. What Yaz accomplished in her time at Stanford is an unqualified success. As one of only six active coaches to have won a Division I NCAA championship, Yaz is on familiar terms with boat speed. We are excited to begin the “Yaz Era” at Washington and believe with her addition, the nation’s two best coaches have offices in the Conibear Shellhouse.

Continuous evolution is standard practice with the Washington Rowing program. Such is the nature of sustained excellence. We are excited to embark on the journey with them and invite you along for the ride.

Go Dawgs!

Sincerely,

Co-chairs
Washington Rowing
Board of Stewards

Jane Powers
Trevor Vernon
Women’s Season Review

Tempered Satisfaction

“Disappointment with tempered satisfaction.” That is how The Seattle Times summed up our year and I completely agree. We expected to win the big races this year, but given the November change in coaching staff and the changes we made to the training plan, rowing stroke and mentality, I am proud to say that we did a good job winning three out of four in the dual against eventual National Champion California; taking 3rd place in the Pac-12, one tenth of a second from second place; and finishing 5th in the NCAA, two hundredths from 4th place, with two boats on the podium. I am proud of our team and all of the courage, passion and unity we displayed this year, but I am looking forward to seeing them go faster.

The support from outside of Conibear was integral to our success as well. Thank you to our team trainer, Chris Melton, and his training room staff for all of the support. Thank you to Jeff Bechthold, director of athletic communications, for covering a staff change in his department and managing all of the Sports Information for the rowing program. Thank you to Sandy Erickson, director of operations, for her support and passion for the team. Thank you to our coaching staff, Alan Meininghaus, Ben Hise, Haley Yeager and Lana Harshman, for doing the hands on day-to-day work to mold the team. Thank you to Michael Callahan for working closely with me and guiding me through my immersion into head coaching.

We are a product of what we are willing to do for Washington Rowing to push for excellence in all aspects of our program. Our community is strong and able to do such incredible things in rowing and the lives of our student-athletes. I am honored to have been the interim women’s head coach during the 2016 season. The team is very strong team and has a strong incoming class. The future is bright for Washington Rowing.

By Conor Bullis

Brunch. Thank you to all of the alums who came to see the team and ride in the coaching launch. Thank you to Jane Powers and Trevor Vernon (co-chairs of the Washington Rowing Board of Stewards) for their unwavering support through a tough year.
The Burden of Expectation

By Michael Callahan

Rowing at Washington has always carried the burden of immense expectations, but that is maybe true more now than ever after the success that the program has enjoyed over the past decade. We have challenged the student-athletes, the coaches and support staff, and the alums and friends of the program with making Washington Rowing the best intercollegiate rowing program in the world. This year, the Varsity 8+ and the team as a whole finished fourth in the country.

There are a number of contributing factors to this but behind them all is the simple fact that when people experience overwhelming success over and over, they often forget the hunger, hard work, and process that drove them to success in the first place. This erosion happens slowly, is difficult to spot and even more difficult to fight. Alongside this erosion is a tendency to feel the burden of expectations in an unhealthy way – rowing can become solely focused on avoiding being ‘that crew’ that lost.

The bottom line is that, on our final race day, we were not fast enough. Cal was more powerful, more talented, rowed better, and had something to prove. Arguably, Yale and Princeton were in similar situations. I’m also proud that we have the most students on the Pac-12 All-Academic first team with 10 first team while Stanford has 9 and Cal has 3. Graham Henry won the overall Athletic Department academic excellence award. Maybe most importantly, all of our seniors graduated with degrees in subjects that they are passionate about.

The freshmen showed a lot of resiliency this year. In that part of our team we have a lot of young, great, talented and hard-working rowers, and now it is time to bring them up through the program and see them at their full capability by the time they are seniors and juniors.

This team needed the reset that failure can provide. Now, we are challenging ourselves to react effectively, to examine how we are contributing to the team, and to act decisively. There is a lot of difficult work ahead of us to get to where we want to be but I think we are up to the challenge. Cal, Yale, Princeton and others are fast and have momentum but they don’t want to see a hungry and focused Washington.

Thank you again for your support in victory and defeat and the journey along the way. This program will weather losses from time to time. How we react to them will determine the quality of the program in the end. We are already in the process of comprehensively reviewing everything we do and how we do it. It starts with recruiting this summer, working effectively this winter, and executing next spring. We need everyone pulling on the oar. Are you ready for some blisters? Woof!
It was at Dexter Lake in Eugene, Ore., that then high school junior Ezra Carlson, ‘17, from Eureka, Calif., first found Washington. He had traveled there with his club team to compete in the Covered Bridge Regatta. Washington was there competing against Oregon State.

“I was blown away by this team that was just on another level,” Carlson said.

Carlson watched as the Huskies rigged their boats. He was impressed by how focused, professional and in sync the team was as it prepared to race. The longer he lingered around the program, the more he was intrigued.

“I want to be a part of that,” he said. “I want to be on that team.”

Two years later, he was back in Eugene, back at that race. This time, though, he was wearing purple and gold as a freshman for the Huskies.

“Wow, I’m part of this team now,” Carlson thought at the time.

But, as much as Washington has meant to Carlson, “The Washingtonians” is a series about local athletes. How does a kid from Northern California fit in? Well, while he didn’t grow up in the state, he is a resident, and that’s the story.

After his first year with the Huskies and that return trip to Dexter Lake, Carlson and his family couldn’t continue to pay out-of-state tuition. It left him with two options – find a way to become a Washington resident or head back to California.

In order to gain residency, he would be on his own. He had one year to become a resident. There was no promise it would work.

But, when he weighed the challenge of becoming a resident against losing his chance to compete at Washington, he decided a year away from the program was better than leaving it behind forever.

“There were some really tough moments during the year where I questioned if I should be doing this,” Carlson said.

Looking back now, though, “It was entirely worth it. I have absolutely no regrets,” he says.

During that year, he would get up in the morning and head to Ballard to row by himself. Then he would head to work, either at Agua Verde or a Cash & Carry in SoDo. He also spent time working at the Eureka! restaurant in University Village, the Seattle Rowing Center and worked on the Huskies’ grounds crew.

Then he would drive to Northgate for night classes – he took one per quarter. Money was tight but he never lost sight of his goal.

“This is the guy that parked your car or washed your dishes so he could row for UW,” coach Michael Callahan said. “Ezra’s leadership comes from the fact that he is so committed to this program. He’s the glue and is willing to do the dirty work.”

After a year, Carlson was granted residency.

Not only did he return to the team but by the end of the season he was in the varsity eight, helping the Huskies earn their fifth straight national championship.

When Carlson talks about that title it’s not the personal accomplishment he is concerned with.

“I don’t feel like I won any more of a national championship than the guys in the JV or the 3V, freshman eight,” he said. “That’s part of what makes this team so special. It doesn’t matter what boat I’m in as long as our boats win.”

Carlson was introduced to this idea the first time he watched the Huskies. “Nobody rows for themselves here,” he said.

Watching Washington, he knew he wanted to be a part of the program. He wanted it so much, he was willing to spend a year away to extend his career.

“I would have given just about anything to come back and row here,” he said. “This team means everything to the guys here.”

It means everything to Carlson. He fought to be here. He did whatever was needed to become one of “The Washingtonians.”
For Sarah Dougherty, success on the water means little without her teammates.

“We couldn’t do it without each other,” Dougherty said.

What is it about the group she trained with every day that makes rowing for Washington so special?

“The women in this program push each other so hard out on the water and on the ergs and, when we’re not working hard, we’re best friends, sisters, teammates,” she said. “That contrast between pushing ourselves so hard, but doing it to make each other better is what makes us a great program. I don’t think the bond and sisterhood we have here can be found anywhere else in the country.”

When Dougherty thinks about the person she has become over the course of four years at Washington, she credits those around her.

“They have developed me into a better leader, a better person, a better friend and a better athlete,” she said. “I would not be half the person I am without them.”

“It’s been a lot of hard work emotionally and physically,” she said. “It’s always about how we can be better. It’s never just accepting something. We always try to create a higher standard each and every day.”

As much as the program has meant to Dougherty, when she was younger she never planned on a future in rowing.

During her senior year at Kentlake High School in Kent, Wash., Dougherty went into the state swimming championships looking to impress college coaches. Things didn’t go according to plan.

As she was comforted by her mom, one of Washington’s Rowing coaches approached the teenager to ask if she was interested in a future in collegiate rowing.

“I gave him a little bit of sass,” Dougherty said with a smile, looking back on that moment.

Then she gave the idea some thought. She went to a practice. She made a decision. She found the teammates she now considers family.

“It has been amazing,” she said. “It’s a little hard to explain, because we’ve been through a lot as a team the past four years.”

In June, Sarah was named to the Pocock All-America first team by the Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association and the first-team All-Pac-12. She also earned an invitation to the U.S. National Team under-23 camp this summer. She hopes to have a career as a professional rower and to one day compete in the Olympics which is fitting since her teammates voted Sarah “most likely to win an Olympic medal.” Sarah graduated with a degree in Sociology in June.

Sarah Dougherty Credits Teammates

“They have developed me into a better leader, a better person, a better friend and a better athlete.”

- Sarah Dougherty, ’16

Editor’s note: “The Washingtonians” is a series about rowers from the Northwest written by Mason Kelley for GoHuskies.com.

Read more “The Washingtonian” stories on GoHuskies.com.
The University of Washington’s association with Olympic rowing is a long and well-documented one, all the more so in the last couple of years thanks to the overwhelming popularity of Daniel James Brown’s bestseller, “The Boys in the Boat,” the tale of the Husky crew that won Olympic gold in Berlin in 1936.

And, while long gone are the days when a group of undergraduates from one university crew would represent its country, the UW’s representation at the Olympic Games remains impressive and a worthy source of great pride for the program.

This summer in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, a total of 12 Washington alumni (tied with 2012 for most in UW history) will row for the United States and Canada at the 2016 Olympics – eight for the U.S. and four for our neighbors to the north. Huskies will feature in six different events: the men’s and women’s eight, the men’s and women’s quadruple sculls, the women’s lightweight double sculls and the men’s four.

Washington has sent rowers to every Summer Olympic Games since 1972 (if you count the six UW men and women named to the roster for the 1980 Games, which were boycotted), making this the 12th straight Games that the UW has had alumni compete. Prior to 1972, UW men rowed in 1936, 1948, 1952 and 1960.

This year, starting with the American team, the Huskies will have four men and four women compete. All four of those men are in the U.S. eight, which after not earning a spot via the 2015 World Championships, underwent a number of lineup changes (including the addition of several Huskies) before winning the Final Olympic Qualification Regatta in Lucerne in May. Sam Ojserkis, ’12, Sam Dommer, ’13, Rob Munn, ’12, and Hans Struzyna, ’11, all rowed in that winning shell and secured a ticket to Rio.

Two Huskies will feature in the women’s eight: coxswain Katelin Snyder, ’09, and Kerry Simmonds, ’11. The U.S. women’s eight heads to the Olympics having won the last 10 consecutive World Championship and Olympic regattas. Snyder has coxed the boat to the last three World titles while Simmonds was in two of those boats.

Also on the U.S. team are two U.S. Olympic team veterans: Adrienne Martelli, ’10, and Megan Kalmoe, ’06, who were both named to the quad sculls lineup. Both won a bronze medal in the same event in 2012, while Kalmoe rowed in the U.S. double sculls in 2008 as well.

Four Huskies will row for Canada: three men and one woman. Patricia Obee, ’14, has earned a spot in the lightweight double sculls, having twice won silver medals in that event at World Championships.

Will Crothers, ’09, and Conlin McCabe, ’11, will comprise half of the Canada men’s four boat. They both won a silver medal in the eight at the 2012 Olympics. Another member of that eight, Rob Gibson, ’09, (who also went to the 2008 Games as a spare) earned a place in the quadruple sculls.
The 30th Annual Windermere Cup was one of the high points of the Huskies’ 2016 season as both the men’s and women’s rowing teams took home the Windermere Cup and the Erickson Cascade Cup for their respective programs. The sun was shining down on the Montlake Cut and the Husky rowers as UW boats won all 10 collegiate races.

The UW men won their 22nd Windermere Cup, breaking a two-year drought by fending off Stanford and the Russian National Team to take back the trophy in stylish fashion.

The women’s win marked their 10th straight Windermere Cup victory, also their 22nd overall. In a race that featured Cambridge University and the University of San Diego, the Huskies pulled away after a close first 1,000 meters of racing to a comfortable win, with the University of San Diego in second ahead of Cambridge.

Record crowds (left) lined the Montlake Cut for the 30th annual running of the Windermere Cup. Fans viewed the races from start to finish on the jumbo-tron, which was a new addition this year, and were able to participate in the Awards Ceremony at the Finish Line immediately following the races, also new this year.

UW president Ana Mari Cauce (below) waves to the crowd after watching the races aboard the vintage Husky II coach’s launch driven by Washington Rowing alum Blake Nordstrom, ’82. Also on board were UW Athletic Director Jen Cohen (in stern, port side); Nordstrom’s cousin Susan Dunn and his wife Molly (in bow); and his aunt Anne Gittinger in the stern.

Race Results

**Women’s Erickson Cascade Cup (2V8+)**
1. UW A 6:30.907; 2. UW B 6:41.931; 3. USD 6:50.258; 4. WWU 7:17.718

**Men’s Erickson Cascade Cup (2V8+)**

**Women’s Windermere Cup (V8+)**

**Men’s Windermere Cup (V8+)**


One of the long-standing traditions at Conibear Shellhouse is christening new shells when they are delivered. On Saturday, Feb. 27, 2016, the Warren Helgerson, a Pocock racing shell, was christened in a special ceremony on Conibear Dock. In attendance were Helgerson’s family, current rowers, coaches and alumni. The boat was donated by the Helgerson family and honors Warren’s life and legacy. Helgerson, ’52, was a two-time National Champion and a Bronze Star Recipient in the U.S. Navy. Helgerson’s two sons rowed for Washington and his grandson is a current rower on the men’s squad.

On May 6, 2016, the eve of the 30th Annual Windermere Cup, the Erickson Family, a Pocock racing shell, was christened in a special ceremony on Conibear Dock. In attendance were Irma and Al Erickson, ‘82, wife and son (respectively) of former Washington coach Dick Erickson, the women’s team, members of Dick’s Chicks rowing club, and coaches. The new shell was raced by the women’s Washington A boat in the Erickson Cascade Cup that won on Saturday.
A Modest Proposal for Those Nearing Their 50th Reunion

Why you should consider a four year jumpstart on your 50th reunion

By Bill Collins, ‘66

Fiftieth reunions can be more than Old Oars from five decades ago gathering around the VBC Banquet and Class Day for memories, lies, a beer or two, a tear or two, and a row through the Cut and back.

Why not start your personal reunion four years sooner - 50 years from your arrival at the Shellhouse as a freshman, not your departure as a senior - with the goal of getting to know the current crop of frosh as they start their journey through Husky crew a half century after you did?

My personal four year 50th reunion celebration, ending with this year’s IRA, will leave me with friendships with a remarkable group of young men from the Class of 2016, unique memories, and a strengthened connection with the spirit of Washington Rowing.

In the fall of 2012, I watched and listened as Luke McGee welcomed the Class of 2016 to the Shellhouse. Echoes of John Bisset's long ago welcome echoed through my mind. Rick Gherst, who replaced Luke as frosh coach that fall, shared thoughts about the ’16ers with me in a couple of launch rides during the year.

Rick “formally” introduced me to the ’16ers on Gruntie night, as the 50 year alum speaker. There have been 50 year alum speakers now for several years. I followed up by chatting with members of the class at the VBC Banquet a couple of nights later. Cox Stuart Sim agreed to carry my 1966 class day shirt with the boat through the racing season, something that then I sort of forgot about.

I made contact with the frosh before and after all the home races and through frequent emails to Stuart. The Class of 2016 won the frosh race at the IRA that year. As their boat neared the beach at Lake Natoma after the race, fans wondered about the yellow/gold piece of cloth Stuart held up but I immediately recognized my 1966 Class Day shirt. Big thrill for this old guy. At least something I own has been in an IRA winning boat.

I’ve stayed in touch with the Class of ’16 ever since, through emails, seeing them at races, the VBC banquet, and occasional rides in the coach’s launch. They even let me row with in their pre-Class Day training session when they were sophomores.

A highlight of the season was watching them race at the IRAs in early June.

As an early opening to the Class of ’66’s 50th reunion year, John Vynne and I organized a pizza dinner with the ’16ers last fall. We had good attendance from both classes and there was plenty of interaction between the two age groups. This was a great way to start momentum building for our 50th Reunion activities around the VBC Banquet.

The young men of the Class of 2016 allowed me into their family and continue to greet me with smiles, hugs, and photo ops.

It is hard to describe how rewarding this four year experience has been for me. I hope the ’16ers have similar feelings. Beyond the personal feelings, the four year relationship between a frosh class and one or more 50 year alums helps build a stronger bridge between classes 50 years apart and in turn contributes to the strength of the Washington Rowing family.

To be clear, with the exception of the pizza night, this was not a “class” project, but a purely individual effort. The four year anniversary idea could take different forms and could be more of a class effort. My point in writing this to urge all you who are approaching your 50th anniversary to think about creating your own four year reunion celebration and building ties with the young men following in your half century old footprints. You will cherish the experience.
Jan Harville Named Pac-12 Women’s Coach of the Century

Longtime UW women’s coach Jan Harville was named Pac-12 Women’s Rowing Coach of the Century. The Pac-12 All-Century Rowing teams were announced in May as part of a year-long celebration of the 100th anniversary of the founding of what is now the Pac-12 Conference.

Harville, herself a UW rower and two-time U.S. Olympic team member (1980, 1984), was the Huskies’ head women’s coach from 1988 until her retirement following the 2003 season. Her crews won 13 Pac-10 championships (including 11 in a row), three NCAA championships (1997, 1998, 2001) and, before the NCAA began sponsorship, the 1988 National Collegiate Rowing Association title.

Harville, who was inducted into the National Rowing Hall of Fame in 1991 (as a part of the 1980 U.S. crew) and the Husky Hall of Fame in 2006, was a nine-time Pac-10 Coach of the Year and worked as a national team coach a number of times at a variety of competitions. Harville was also the coach of the 1997 women’s varsity 8, which was named the women’s varsity 8 of the century in the Pac-12.

Whipple Earns UW Hall of Fame Honors

The University of Washington announced that coxswain Mary Whipple, ‘02, will be inducted into the 2016 Husky Hall of Fame class. The new class will be inducted at a ceremony on October 22 at Alaska Airlines Arena. Event details are scheduled to be released in late summer. Visit gohuskies.com for more info.

UW Men and Women Named Varsity 8s of the Century in Pac-12

It isn’t just the 1936 Boys in the Boat getting recognition this time. While eighty years after their feat the Pac-12 Conference honored the rough and tumble farm boys turned Olympic gold medalists as the conference’s men’s Varsity Eight of the Century, the 1997 Washington Rowing women’s V8 took home the honor as well.

The ’36 crew that won Olympic Gold in Berlin included cox - Bob Moch, stroke - Don Hume, 7 - Joe Rantz, 6 - George Hunt, 5 - Jim McMillian, 4 - John White, 3 - Gordon Adam, 2 - Charles Day, bow - Roger Morris and coach Al Ulbrickson. In addition, eight former Huskies (including three members of that 1936 crew) were named to the Pac-12 Men’s Rowing All-Century Team: Dave Calder (1998-2001), Will Crothers (2006-09), Matt Deakin (2000-02), Don Hume (1936-38), Conlin McCabe (2009-13), Bob Moch (1935-36), Rob Munn (2009-12) and Joe Rantz (1935-37).

The Boys in the Boat were inducted into the Huskies Hall of Fame in 1980, the second year of the Hall’s existence.

In 1997 the women took home the gold at the first NCAA championships, earning them a spot in rowing history. In the boat that year were cox - Alida Puves, stroke - Sabina Telenska, 7 - Denni Nessler, 6 - Kelly Horton, 5 - Katy Dunnet, 4 - Annie Christie, 3 - Jan Williamson, 2 - Tristine Glick, bow - Kari Green.

1. Members of the Erickson family at the Finish Line at Windermere Cup. Left to right: Mary Ann, Irma, Anna, Wesley, and Al Erickson, ’82.

2. Members of the Class of 2015 and friends enjoy the Opening Day festivities. From left to right: Michael Evans, Matt Milner, Parker Ksidakis, Sean Raffetto, Nick Cypro, Eric Ledbetter, Sash Malowany, and Lisa Caldwell.

3. Current and former rowers and friends hit the water during the Class Day Women’s Alumnae Race.

4. Alumni, current rowers and their families kicked off the 2016 season at the VBC Banquet at the Don James Center on March 25. In attendance were Dave Herness, ’91, Michelle Chan, ’91, Tiffany Campbell, ’91, and Trevor Vernon, ’92.


6. The IRAs brought out Amy Ojserkis (Sam, ’12), Karoline Borup (USRowing Host Parent to Sam Ojserkis, ’12, and Sam Dommer, ’13), Melissa Bunkers (Alexander, ’13), Dan Ojserkis, Scott Bunkers, Dan and Suzan Mannisto (Max, ’13), front: Randy Borup, aka “The Taste of Seattle Grillmaster.”
Lou Gellermann, who earned legendary status at the University of Washington on two entirely unrelated fronts, has passed away. Gellermann was 79 years old.

A member of Washington’s 1958 eight-oared crew that rowed to an historic victory in the USSR, Gellermann went on to serve as the popular public address announcer at Husky Stadium, where his opening line, “Hello Dawg Fans!” is still remembered fondly.

Gellermann, born August 18, 1936, passed away on Friday, May 13.

In 1958, Gellermann and the UW varsity eight traveled to England for the Henley Royal Regatta, where the Huskies lost to the Leningrad Trud Club. A rematch was arranged and the Husky eight traveled on to Moscow, where they beat the Soviets in the first sports event ever broadcast back to the United States from behind the Iron Curtain. The victory made international news and marked one of the biggest moments in the illustrious history of UW rowing.

In 1984, the ’58 crew was inducted into the Husky Hall of Fame.

A Seattle native who attended Roosevelt High School, Gellermann rowed for four seasons at the UW and earned a degree in communications in 1958. He attended the 1960 Olympic Games in Rome as an alternate for the coxed four.

Gellermann served as rowing coach at the U.S. Naval Academy (his ’65 freshman eight won an Intercollegiate Rowing Association championship) before returning to Seattle in 1968 to coach the freshmen for three seasons under his former UW ’58 classmate, Dick Erickson. In 1969, his freshman eight finished in an unprecedented dead heat with Penn to share the IRA crown.

Also in 1968, he began a job as the UW football internal (press box) announcer before taking over as the public address announcer in 1986. He held that position (he also worked men’s basketball games for many seasons) before retiring in 2007. At the start of each football and basketball game, Gellermann began with the iconic “Hello Dawg Fans,” to which the fans always responded, “Hello Lou!

Gellermann is survived by three sisters (Margaret Hays, Joan Nykreim, and NancyLou Patterson), son Kurt, daughter Casey McSweyn (Matt) and grandchildren Grady and Hattie.

From the 2010 Seattle Sports Star of the Year Awards, member of the Huskies’ 1958 varsity eight, with Lou Gellermann at far right.

The “Hello Dawg Fans” shell is named after Gellermann’s famous intro line. The shell won the gold medal at the 2016 IRAs.
In Memoriam

Brian Karl Wagar

Brian Karl Wagar, an investment banker, passed away surrounded by his family on January 8, 2016, in Bend, OR. He was born to Al and Ruth (Kroeger) Wagar on March 30, 1939. Brian leaves his wife, Adrianna (Hardwick) Wagar; daughters, Caroline Wagar and Vanessa (Wagar) Cornish; son-in-law, Mark Cornish; granddaughter, Louisa; and numerous nieces and nephews. Brian is preceded in death by his sister, Karen Ruth Murphy.

Brian was raised in Aberdeen, WA, where he was a National Merit Scholar at Weatherwax High School. He went on to the University of Washington to earn undergraduate and MBA degrees. Brian was an oarsman on the 1960 Husky Varsity Crew and Sigma Nu member.

Brian attended U.S. Navy Officer Candidate School at Naval Station Newport, R.I., did a tour on the USS John W. Thomason DD760, and competed in the 1964 Olympic rowing trials with the Navy Crew.

Brian joined Citibank in the mid-60s with assignments in New York, Hong Kong, Sydney and Manila. Brian served as CEO of Hong Kong-based BKW and Associates from 1990 to 1997, when he retired. Brian will be deeply missed.

Norman Millar

Norman Millar, ’75, passed away on April 14, 2016 due to complications associated with surgery following a diagnosis of pancreatic cancer.

An award-winning architect, educator and visionary, Norman served as Dean of the School of Architecture at Woodbury University in California.

“A warm, caring and passionate man, he will be deeply missed – on our Los Angeles and San Diego campuses and in the architecture community worldwide,” said Dr. David Steele, Woodbury University President.

He graduated with a Bachelor of Environmental Design degree from the University of Washington. He was an avid rower with the Huskies before going on to earn a Master of Architecture degree from the University of Pennsylvania School of Design. He also earned a certificate from The Ross Minority Program in Real Estate at the Lusk Center for Real Estate in the Marshall School of Business at USC.

Norman is survived by his life partner Tam van Tran and beloved family and friends. Donations can be made to the Norman R. Millar Endowment for the School of Architecture at Woodbury University.

Sasha Panasik

Sasha Panasik, ’94, pictured here with his wife Jennifer on their wedding day in 2005, passed away on April 20, 2016 after battling stomach cancer for more than five years.

Panasik graduated from George Washington High School in 1990 and from the University of Washington in 1995. He received a masters of fine art from California College of the Arts in 2004. He worked for Digitas. He is the son of Susanne and Peter Panasik, of San Francisco.

Jennifer stated, “Watching him face this disease with such courage and strength has been unbelievable, yet knowing his true character, we shouldn’t be surprised. He was being himself the whole way through.”

Sasha rowed with the Huskies while obtaining his degree from the University of Washington. He would go on to work in the computer sciences fields, designing interfaces and experiences for mobile, tablet and desktop devices.

He made his home in San Francisco. He is survived by his wife Jennifer and their two daughters Noa and Mikah. Sasha passed away just six days before his 44th birthday. His family celebrated with a toast and by raising a fish flag for him, something he did every year for his daughters on their birthdays.
## 2016 Washington Rowing Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rio Olympics</td>
<td>August 6-13</td>
<td>Rio, Brazil</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burnaby Small Boat Regatta (W)</td>
<td>October 8</td>
<td>Burnaby Lake, Burnaby, BC, Canada</td>
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<tr>
<td>Head of Charles Regatta (M)</td>
<td>October 22-23</td>
<td>Cambridge, MA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Head of the American (W)</td>
<td>October 29</td>
<td>Lake Natoma, Sacramento County CA</td>
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<td>Head of the Lake</td>
<td>November 6</td>
<td>Montlake Cut, Seattle, WA</td>
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For schedule updates, visit [WashingtonRowing.com](http://www.WashingtonRowing.com).

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