



# 2012 HEAD OF THE CHARLES®

OCTOBER 20-21

FORTY-EIGHTH EDITION      OFFICIAL PROGRAM





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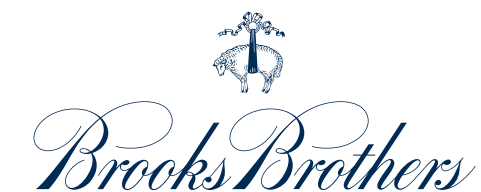
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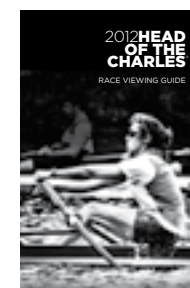
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WANT RESULTS?  
SCAN THE LINK

◀ FORCE CURVE





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## A LETTER FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

EDWARD J. SMITH, JR

**W**elcome to the 48th running of the Head Of The Charles Regatta.

On behalf of the Regatta's Board of Directors, as well as Executive Director Frederick Schoch and the office staff of Tom Martin, Mason Cox, Elizabeth Diamond, Kate Broderick and Brendan Mulvey, we are excited to welcome you back to Boston for another edition of the Regatta.

In 2010 no fewer than 12 course records were set in favorable conditions, some by impressive margins. The 2011 racing conditions proved significantly less favorable with only two crews were able to battle the winds and high seas on Saturday to set new records: congratulations to Melbourne University Boat Club in the Grand Master Eights for their time of 16:49 and to the Brown Alumnae in the aptly named Women's Alumnae Eights for their time of 17:15, just three seconds faster than the former record set by Northeastern in 2009.

For a snapshot preview of 2012, last year Harvard won the Men's Championship Eights for the first time since 1977 (and previously 1969) on the anniversary of coach Harry Parker's 50th season. Their determined run placed them ahead of USRowing, placing second and the

◀ GREEN BUOYS TO STARBOARD, RED BUOYS TO PORT ▶

PHOTO: MASON D. COX

2012 HEAD OF THE CHARLES

7



➤ University of Washington, placing third. This year, these boats will battle a men's field loaded with post-Olympic talent.

Returning to Boston in 2012 will be a modified version of the 2009 Men's Great Eight, remembered for their dramatic win in a nearly rudderless shell in the middle of a freak, fall snow storm. Comprised of talented scullers from eight different nations and led by Olympic 1x Champion Mahe Drysdale from New Zealand, the Great Eight will once again take on the field. No doubt, the returning medalists from 2011 will take up the challenge.

In 2011, the University of Virginia Women's Championship Eight won

Gevvie Stone (USA), Julia Michalska (POL), Annakatrín Theile (GER), Donata Vistertaite (LTU), Anna Watkins (GB), and coxed by Jill Carlson (USA). These decorated women will face other Olympic athletes from Canada, Great Britain, the Netherlands, and our very own US Olympic Gold Medalists.

These outstanding athletes will share water time with rowers of all ages and backgrounds as a result of the organizational work of our generous and hardworking volunteers, Race Operations Group and Race Committee. Thanks to the even-handed leadership of Senior Race Director Steve James and steady support of co-chair Maureen Keefe, meticulous planning has occurred throughout the year. The heart of the Regatta truly is the year-long effort of thousands of volunteers who freely give their service and energy. Please take a moment to thank them in your interactions this weekend.

Finally, I want to recognize and give thanks to the

board of directors of the Head Of The Charles for their continued guidance and counsel in plotting the course of this historic event. The Head Of The Charles holds a cherished position in the world of rowing and it is in no small part due to the skillful and generous leadership of the board.

We hope you enjoy America's Fall Rowing Festival this year and please come back again for the 49th edition next October.

Row hard,

*Ed Smith*

**EDWARD J. SMITH, JR.** IS A LONGTIME REGATTA VISIONARY, CURRENT SECRETARY, AND CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AND FERVENT MASTER SCULLER.

## ORGANIZATION

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The 2013 Head Of The Charles Regatta will take place on Saturday and Sunday, October 19-20, 2013. For more information call the Head Of The Charles general information number, 617 868-6200, visit [www.hocr.org](http://www.hocr.org) or email [regatta@hocr.org](mailto:regatta@hocr.org)

### 2012 PROGRAM PRODUCTION

#### DESIGN

Carlos Ridruejo|Caridossa.com

#### PHOTOGRAPHY

James Aulenback|sportgraphics.com  
Mason D. Cox  
Carlos Ridruejo|Caridossa.com

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2012 Olympic Games - W8+ Silver Medalists - Canada

# Olympic Sharks



Be a SHARK

2012 Olympic Games - M8+ Fourth Place - USA

Photos by: Ed Hewitt - row2k.com







SATURDAY EVENTS

ORDER OF EVENTS  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2012

1	Grand-Master Men's Singles 50+ (1x)	8:00 AM
2	Grand-Master Women's Singles 50+ (1x)	8:30 AM
3	Senior-Master Men's Singles 40+ (1x)	8:54 AM
4	Senior-Master Women's Singles 40+ (1x)	9:07 AM
5	Senior-Master Men's Eights 50+ (8+)	9:24 AM
6	Senior-Master Women's Eights 50+ (8+)	9:41 AM
7	Senior-Master Men's Fours 50+ (4+)	9:57 AM
8	Senior-Master Women's Fours 50+ (4+)	10:09 AM
9	Senior-Master Men's Doubles 50+ (2x)	10:35 AM
10	Senior-Master Women's Doubles 50+ (2x)	10:52 AM
11	Alumni Men's Eights (8+)	11:16 AM
12	Alumnae Women's Eights (8+)	11:34 AM
13	Club Men's Singles (1x)	11:48 AM
14	Club Women's Singles (1x)	12:09 PM
15	Club Men's Fours (4+)	12:30 PM
16	Club Women's Fours (4+)	12:55 PM
17	Club Men's Eights (8+)	1:20 PM
18	Club Women's Eights (8+)	1:35 PM
19	Master Men's Doubles 40+ (2x)	1:53 PM
20	Master Women's Doubles 40+ (2x)	2:04 PM
21	Master Men's Fours 40+ (4+)	2:19 PM
22	Master Women's Fours 40+ (4+)	2:31 PM
23	Master Men's Eights 40+ (8+)	2:49 PM
24	Master Women's Eights 40+ (8+)	3:02 PM
25	Championship Men's Doubles (2x)	3:16 PM
26	Championship Women's Doubles (2x)	3:26 PM
27	Collegiate Men's Fours (4+)	3:40 PM
28	Collegiate Women's Fours (4+)	3:55 PM
29	Championship Men's Singles (1x)	4:14 PM
30	Championship Women's Singles (1x)	4:23 PM
DP	Directors' Challenge Parent/Child Doubles (2x)	4:34 PM
DX	Directors' Challenge Mixed Doubles (2x)	4:51 PM
Awards Ceremony for Events 1 - 12		4:30 PM
Awards Ceremony for Events 13 - 30		6:00 PM



NEED BOW NUMBERS?  
SCAN THE LINK

◀ RELEASE AND CATCH





SUNDAY EVENTS

ORDER OF EVENTS  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2012

31	LTA Mixed Gender Fours (4+)	8:00 AM
32	TA Mixed/Same Gender Doubles (2x)	8:16 AM
33	Senior-Veteran Men's Singles I/II 70+ (1x)	8:35 AM
34	Veteran Women's Singles I/II 60+ (1x) Senior-Veteran Women's Singles I/II 70+ (1x)	9:03 AM
35	Veteran Men's Singles 60+ (1x)	9:30 AM
36	Youth Men's Fours (4+)	10:05 AM
QW	Directors' Challenge Women's Quadruples (4x)	10:36 AM
37	Youth Women's Fours (4+)	10:52 AM
38	Master Men's Singles 30+ (1x)	11:23 AM
39	Master Women's Singles 30+ (1x)	11:35 AM
40	Youth Men's Doubles (2x)	11:55 AM
41	Youth Women's Doubles (2x)	12:12 PM
42	Lightweight Men's Singles (1x)	12:33 PM
43	Lightweight Women's Singles (1x)	12:44 PM
44	Youth Men's Eights (8+)	1:05 PM
QM	Directors' Challenge Men Quadruples (4x)	1:34 PM
45	Youth Women's Eights (8+)	1:50 PM
46	Championship Men's Fours (4+)	2:32 PM
47	Championship Women's Fours (4+)	2:40 PM
48	Championship Men's Eights (8+)	2:55 PM
49	Championship Women's Eights (8+)	3:08 PM
QX	Directors' Challenge Mixed Quadruples (4x)	3:26 AM
50	Collegiate Men's Eights (8+)	3:43 PM
51	Collegiate Women's Eights (8+)	4:00 PM
52	Lightweight Men's Fours (4+)	4:15 PM
53	Lightweight Women's Fours (4+)	4:23 PM
54	Lightweight Men's Eights (8+)	4:38 PM
55	Lightweight Women's Eights (8+)	4:45 PM

Awards Ceremony for Events DP - 41	3:30 PM
Awards Ceremony for Events 42 - 55	5:30 PM



NEED BOW NUMBERS?  
SCAN THE LINK





# GLOSSARY

## ROWING TERMINOLOGY

- Bow** The forward section of the boat. The first part of the boat to cross the finish line.
- Bow number** A card holding the number assigned to each boat for a race.
- Bow seat** The rower closest to the front or bow of a multi-person shell. In coxless boats, often the person who keeps an eye on the water behind themselves to avoid accidents.
- Coxbox** Portable voice amplifier; may also incorporate digital readouts displaying stroke rate, boat speed and times.
- Coxswain** The oarless crew member who is responsible for steering and race commands; the coxswain either sits in the stern or lies in the bow of the boat.
- Engine room** The middle group of rowers in the boat. In an eight, this is generally seats 3, 4, 5 and 6. They are generally the biggest and strongest rowers.
- Gunwales** The top rail of the shell.
- Hatchet blade** Oar blades that have a more rectangular shape. (see Macon blade)
- Heavyweight** A rower who weighs more than the restrictions for light-weight rowing.
- Lightweight** A rower whose weight allows him or her to be eligible to compete in Lightweight rowing events.
- Macon blade** Oar blades that have a curved shape. (see Hatchet blade)
- Port** A sweep rower who rows with their oar on the left side of the boat.
- Sculler** A rower who sculls—rows with two oars.
- Seat numbers** A rower's position in the boat, counting up from the bow. In an Eight, the person closest to the bow of the boat is “bow,” the next is 2, followed by 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and finally 8 or “stroke.”
- Starboard** A sweep rower who rows with their oar on the right side of the boat.
- Sweep** A rower who rows with one oar.
- Stroke seat** The rower closest to the stern of the boat, responsible for the stroke rate and rhythm.

- Hard on port (or starboard)** The rowers on that side of the boat must row harder (and the opposite side must row slightly easier) in order to facilitate a sharp turn.
- Easy** To stop rowing hard.
- Hold water** Stop the boat.
- Check it down** Square the oars in the water to stop the boat.
- Let it run** To stop rowing and put the handles of the oars to the gunwales out in front of the rower in such a manner that the oars are parallel to the water, yet not touching. This allows the boat to glide for a distance.
- On the square** To row without turning the blades on the recovery.
- Weigh-enough or “Wain...’nuff”** To stop whatever the rower is doing, whether it be rowing or walking with the boat overhead.
- Power 10** A call for rowers to do ten of their best, most powerful strokes. It's a strategy used to pull ahead of a competitor.
- In 2...** Most water commands are appended prior to the command to take place after two strokes. For example “In 2, Wain...’nuff”

SOURCE: ADAPTED FROM USROWING

◀ YIELD THE LINE CHOSEN





# EQUIPMENT

## BOAT AND OAR NOMENCLATURE

### Eight-rower shell

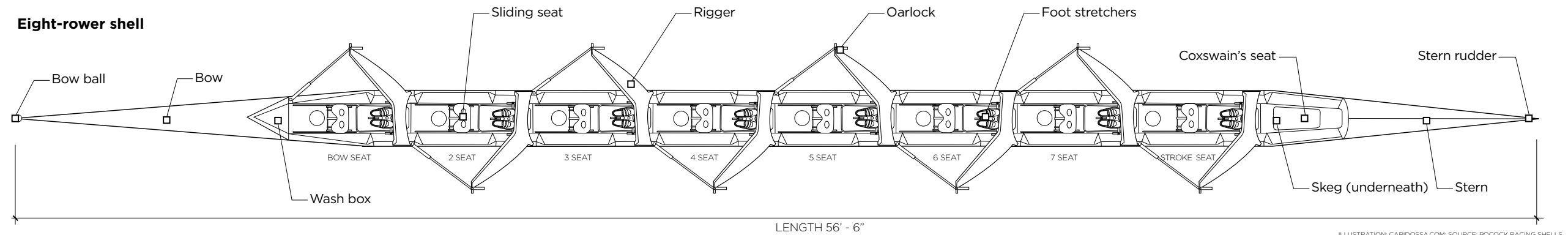
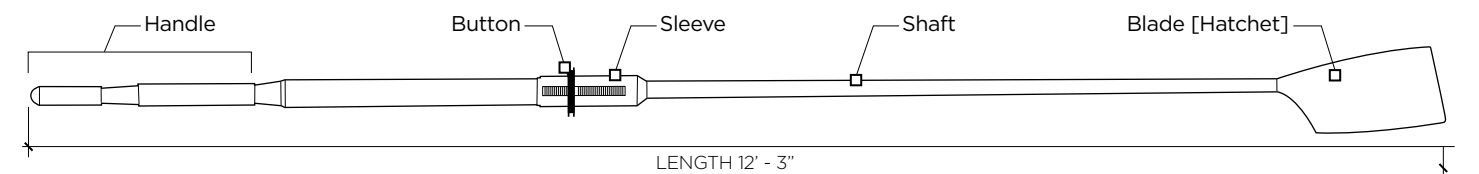


ILLUSTRATION: CARIDOSSA.COM; SOURCE: POCOCK RACING SHELLS

### Shell construction

Rowing shell construction has greatly evolved since the days of entirely wooden boats. Today's boats are considerably lighter and stiffer, thanks to the use of space-age technology such as aircraft aluminum, carbon fiber and honeycomb construction.

### Sweeping oar



### Sculling oar

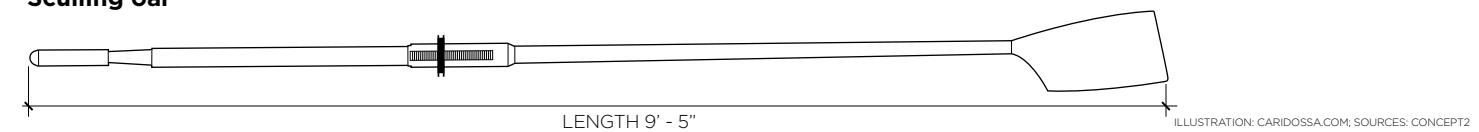


ILLUSTRATION: CARIDOSSA.COM; SOURCES: CONCEPT2

“When we gather for the happiest week in all the year, it is the brotherhood of rowing, the comradeship of the oar that we recall...”

—Sir Theodore Cook



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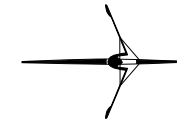
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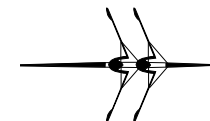
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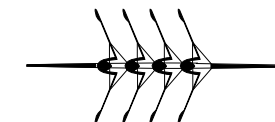


BOAT  
SPECIFICATIONS**Singles Sculls (1x)**

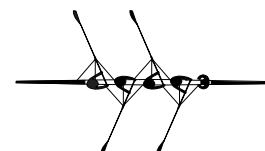
Singles are boats about 26 feet long, 11 inches wide and weighing some 30 pounds, propelled by one person with two oars.

**Double Sculls (2x)**

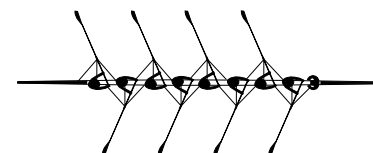
Doubles are approximately 32 feet long, 13 inches wide and weigh about 59 pounds. They are boats propelled by two people with two oars each.

**Quadruple Sculls (4x)**

Quads are generally 42 feet long, 21 inches wide and weigh approximately 114 pounds. They are propelled by four rowers with two oars each.

**Coxed Fours (4+)**

Coxed Fours are about 42 feet long, 21 inches wide and weigh roughly 112 pounds. They are propelled by four rowers with one oar each, and are steered by a coxswain.

**Coxed Eights (8+)**

Eights are approximately 60 feet long, 26 inches wide and weigh nearly 211 pounds. The boats have eight rowers with one oar each, and a coxswain to steer the boat.

ILLUSTRATION: SHERRY PROCTOR; SOURCE: FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES SOCIÉTÉS D'AVIRON (FISA)

◀ HEADS IN THE BOAT



## Cambridge Boat Club

REGATTA HEADQUARTERS



4

Buckingham, Browne & Nichols Boathouse

Belmont Hill - Winsor Boathouse

Hospitality Row

Eliot Bridge Enclosure

Newell Boathouse  
Harvard University

Reunion Village  
PRESENTED BY EMC



Rowing & Fitness EXPO  
REGATTA REGISTRATION



Finish Area Launching Site

HERTER PARK



Henderson Boathouse  
Northeastern University

Birmingham Parkway



- Regatta Information Kiosk
- First Aid Station
- Licensed Merchandise
- Food / Beverages
- Regatta Food Court
- Official Programs / Posters
- Reunion Village
- Shuttle Bus Stop

Red Line  
HARVARD SQUARE

Weld Boathouse  
Harvard University

Weld Exhibition



Weeks Footbridge



Red Line  
CENTRAL SQUARE

CAMBRIDGE

1 MILE

Riverside Boat Club

2

Singles And Doubles Launch



DeWolfe Boathouse  
Boston University

Green Line  
BOSTON UNIVERSITY

## RACE COURSE MAP AND VENDOR LOCATOR

### WELD EXHIBITION

Regatta First Aid  
Regatta Information & Results Center  
Regatta Licensed Merchandise

5-Hour Energy  
Boloco  
Brooks Brothers  
Cascadian Farm Organic  
CBS Radio  
Consulate General of Israel to New England  
Core Power  
D'Angelo  
EMC  
Food Should Taste Good  
Green Mountain Coffee  
LARABAR  
Lightlife  
Luke's Lobster  
MINI Cooper  
Mohegan Sun  
Mountain High Yoghurt  
O.N.E. Organic & Natural Experience  
PARK Restaurant & Bar  
Russell House Tavern  
SALT/American Student Assistance  
Samsonite  
US Marines  
Wild Bill's Soda

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Dartmouth Alumni  
Emory University  
Phillips Exeter Academy  
Franklin & Marshall College  
George Washington University  
Georgetown University  
Hamilton College  
Harvard Graduate School of Design  
Harvard Kennedy School  
Haverford School  
Kent School  
King's Crown Rowing Association  
Middlesex School  
Mowglis School of the Open  
Newark Academy  
Ohio Wesleyan University  
Oxford & Cambridge Society of New England  
Phillips Andover Academy  
Princeton University  
Susquehanna University  
University of California - Berkeley  
University of Chicago  
University of Delaware Alumni  
University of Pennsylvania  
Vassar Club of Boston  
Washington College New England Alumni  
Wayland-Weston Rowing Association  
Wellesley College  
University of Wisconsin Alumni

### CAMBRIDGE BOAT CLUB

Regatta Directors' Hospitality Tent  
Regatta Information & Results  
Regatta Licensed Merchandise  
Regatta Press/Media Center

### FINISH AREA LAUNCHING SITE (FALS) AND ROWING AND FITNESS EXPO

Regatta Athlete Registration  
Regatta Awards  
Regatta Information & Results  
Regatta Licensed Merchandise  
Regatta Weigh-In

Alden Racing Shells  
ALINE Systems  
AMI Graphics  
Boathouse Sports  
Brooks Brothers  
Burnham Boat Slings  
Cambridge Health Alliance  
CBS Radio  
Concept2  
Connect-A-Dock  
Craftsbury Sculling Center  
Crocker USA  
Durham Boat Company  
EMC  
Fluidesign  
Gay & Lesbian Rowing Federation  
Gentle Giant Moving Company  
Henson Rowing  
Hudson Boat Works  
Hyndsight Rowing  
JL Design  
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Noble Hardware  
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RegattaCentral  
RegattaSport  
Resolute Racing  
Rubini Jewelers  
Samsonite  
Sew Sporty  
Shimano  
Shox-Box  
Sport Graphics, Inc.  
Spunkwear  
Swingulator  
Revolution Rowing  
Teddie Peanut Butter  
The Perfect Snake  
USRowing  
Vespoli USA  
WaterRower Inc.  
WinTech Racing

### HOSPITALITY ROW

Regatta Licensed Merchandise

BNY Mellon Hospitality Tent  
Eliot Bridge Enclosure  
Island Creek Oyster Bar  
Lenox Hotel Hospitality Tent  
National Rowing Foundation

Lufthansa  
Sperry Top-Sider



# A Woman's Place is On the Water

As we celebrate the 40th anniversary of Title IX, the federal law that has proven the Magna Carta of women's sports, we look back on what women have meant to the Head Of The Charles—and what the sport of rowing has meant to Title IX. In 1976, The Yale women's crew brought Title IX from the fine print to the headlines.

SAMANTHA LAINE

**A**fter 40 years, a world championship, two turns at representing her country in the Olympic games and making some women's rights history through her sport, the thrill of being in a rowing shell continues to draw Chris Ernst to the river.

"It's the combination of being on the water and making it go that sucks you in," Ernst, 58, says as she gazes out at the Charles River on a late summer's evening, the hum of traffic providing a backdrop to the calm waters. "Even in the middle of the city, there's something different about being on the water."

The setting sun casts a golden hue on the treetops surrounding the Cambridge Boat Club. Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School students row their eights to the dock, finished for the day. The wind in the yard tousles Ernst's short, sandy-blond hair as she takes in the evening and the river. Her blue eyes light up behind her wire-framed glasses as she describes the paradox of an athletic

endeavor that can be at once punishingly physical and yet serenely tranquil.

"When you're rowing really hard, you feel it in your upper legs. The blood in your head and lungs is making so much noise—between your breathing and circulation—that your body is roaring," she said. "You have that sense of it being an effort at the start of the stroke, but there's this moment of balance where you release the water and come up for the next stroke, and everything is in balance."

Ernst rowed on the U.S. Olympic teams in Montreal in 1976 and Los Angeles in 1984. She won a 1986 world championship in the women's lightweight double sculls with partner C.B. Sands. And this past June, she shared the stage at the TD Garden with the likes of Pedro Martinez and the Patriots' Rodney Harrison as the New England Sports Museum honored her with one of their "Tradition" awards. Ernst is recognized for her rowing achievements to be sure, but in particular she is remembered for one off-the-water moment in 1976 >

< MARCH 3, 1976: JONI BARNETT, YALE'S ATHLETIC DIRECTOR, LISTENS AS CHRIS ERNST READS THE TEAM'S STATEMENT.

PHOTO: NINA HAIGHT/YALE DAILY NEWS



## SURVIVED THE WORLD'S LARGEST 2-DAY REGATTA UNSCATHED



➤ that forever changed the face of women's athletics, the reverberations of which are still felt today.

In 1976, Ernst was the captain of the Yale women's crew. The school was still figuring out how to incorporate females into its culture, having gone co-ed only in 1969. Women had the opportunities to participate in sports and extracurricular activities, but many of the facilities were lacking or non-existent. Men's and women's crew practice was held in Derby, a 30-minute bus ride from Yale's main campus in New Haven. The small trailer that served as a "locker room" for the women's crew lacked hot water, leaving the women to wait on the bus—cold, wet and exhausted after practice—while the men showered and warmed their bodies from the freezing river water.

Ernst and teammate Anne Warner had recently returned from the 1975

World Championships, where they had won a silver medal in the women's eight. For Ernst and other members of Yale's crew, the Olympics later that year became not just a far-off dream but an immediate reality. The women needed to train, and the lack of facilities increased the likelihood of getting sick. Warner developed pneumonia.

On the freezing bus, Ernst and her teammates, waiting for their male counterparts to finish their showers, began plotting a plan to get the facilities that were essential to their health and subsequent success. The women joked about throwing Joni Barnett, then Yale's women's athletic director, into the river. Then they thought it would be funny to bring buckets of water into her office to show her what it felt like to sit soaked to the core. Finally, the women agreed on a drier and even more dramatic form of protest.

They took off their shirts. And aired their grievances topless.

"We said we should go in there, and strip. And say, 'This is what you're dealing with: We're here. No more fooling around,'" Ernst said of the 1976 scenario. She remembers her teammate Warner daring her to follow through with the idea, and the plan was set into action.

On March 3, 1976, 19 members of the women's crew walked into Barnett's office, accompanied by photographer Nina Haight-Frost and *Yale Daily News* editor David Zweig, who also worked as a *New York Times* stringer. Ernst, who had made the appointment with Barnett, remembers the athletic director standing up in surprise, her expression quickly followed by one of despair as she realized Yale's lack of response to the crew's concerns. The women took off their Yale sweatshirts to reveal the phrase ➤



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➤ “Title IX,” which was written in marker on their bare chests and backs. Ernst stepped forward and read the statement—written and edited by her and her teammates—the beginning words of which continue to echo today:

“These are the bodies Yale is exploiting . . .”

Zweig remembers the somber mood of the demonstration. “[Barnett] looked down and she was so dejected and in so much pain, it was just horrible. Horrible for everyone: for her, the students, the crew, me. I had made up my mind I wasn’t going to look at it. I remember I just wanted to disappear into the carpet.” *The New York Times*, and the *Yale Daily News* ran stories—and a picture—the next day,

◀ MEMBERS OF THE 1976 YALE CREW (FROM LEFT): ANNE WARNER, CHRIS ERNST, LYNN BAKER, LYNN ALVAREZ, ELAINE MATHIES, CATHY PEW, CHRIS STOWE AND JENNIE KIESLING.

and suddenly Yale, and universities across the country, were forced to confront the new realities of Title IX, and provide for their women athletes facilities, coaching and opportunities that were truly equal.

Title IX, a portion of the Education Amendments of 1972, states in part that “no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.” The 1976 women’s crew became the torchbearers of this legislation, showing the rest of the country what discrimination looked like.

Donna Lopiano, the general consulting manager of Sports Management Resources and the long-time head of the Women’s Sports Foundation, said that Title IX was originally intended to widen the scope of women in academia

to be able to attend professional schools in fields other than teaching and social work. While the legislation was passed in 1972, it took three years for Congress to approve and sign the portion of the legislation addressing equity in athletic programs. Federally funded institutions then had a three-year adjustment period to meet the new regulations.

“It’s fair to say most schools ignored the regulations, and didn’t make a move to comply,” Lopiano said. “[But] they couldn’t take three years to discriminate: They needed to show they were making progress.” She said that what the ’76 Yale women’s crew did was the perfect example of nonviolent protesting, because it created a situation of public embarrassment that Yale could not ignore. Yale quickly remedied the shower situation, and became an ex-

ample of compliance across the country.

Filmmaker Mary Mazzio, a 1992 Olympic rower herself, chronicled the Yale demonstration in her award-win-

“These are the bodies Yale is exploiting . . .”

ning documentary, *A Hero for Daisy*. She first heard the story from Ernst when they were crewmates on the national team. She remembers wondering how she missed such a great piece of history. She wanted other women to benefit from hearing Ernst’s story.

“It took me six months to convince Chris to do [the film]. She hates attention, and she doesn’t think she deserves it,” Mazzio said of the 1999 film. “The ➤



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➤ power that it had, and the inspiration it has . . . that's her legacy. And it's a powerful one." In the film, Senator John Kerry refers to Ernst as the Rosa Parks of Title IX. As Rosa Parks' refusal to give up her seat a Montgomery bus triggered the Civil Rights Movement, Ernst and her teammates' nude stand pushed Title IX into action.

At the time, Ernst and her teammates had no idea that their actions would begin a revolution towards compliance with Title IX. The women—who would eventually become doctors, lawyers, business leaders and activists—simply wanted to be treated with the dignity and fairness they deserved. But they've become an inspiration for all women to stand up and fight for equity. Ernst is quick to say she doesn't believe she is a hero, and that she doesn't feel like she did anything special. She finds the comparison of herself to Rosa Parks "horribly embarrassing." Parks risked her life,

she said. Ernst doesn't think she deserves the recognition for what the women did as a team. Regardless, that moment in '76 has become a defining moment for women to look back on and remember.

"[Ernst] just thought it was the right thing to do at the time, and she does not see it as extraordinary," Mazzio said. "But . . . what was a small act of defiance turned into something that could be captured and written about, and have an impact far beyond what the women could have imagined in their wildest dreams."

Since the 70s, Title IX has made great progress in bringing equal opportunity to female athletes. According to the National Council of Youth Sports, in 1970, one in every 27 women played high school sports. Today, roughly one

in 2.5 play varsity sports in high school, which means over 3 million girls are actively involved in high school sports across the country.

The women simply wanted to be treated with the dignity and fairness they deserved.

The 2012 Summer Olympics have also been referred to as the Year of the Woman, becoming the first year in which every country had at least one female competitor in their delegations. The United States sent more female than male athletes for the first time, and the women out medaled the men, 100-59.



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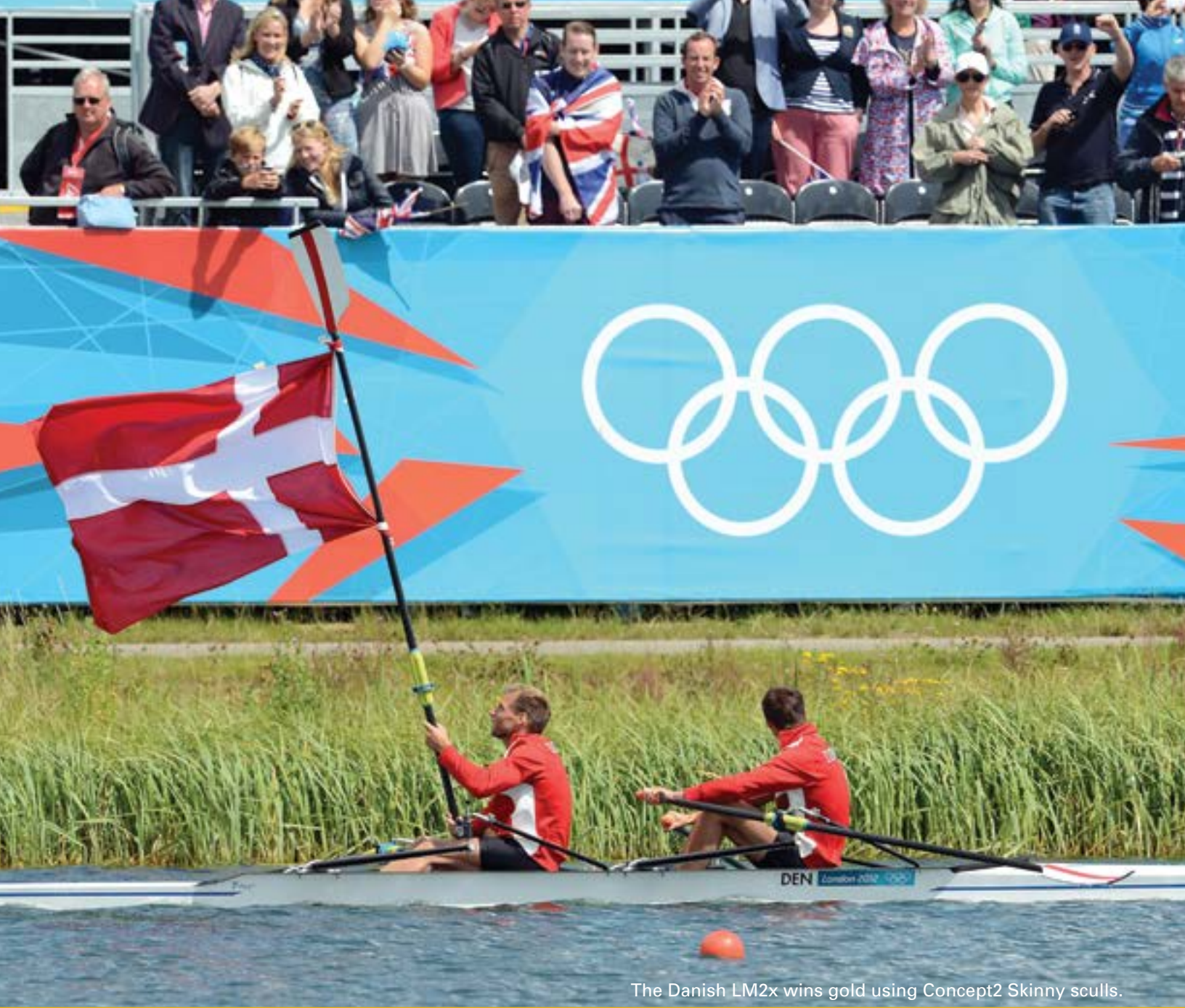
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## Yale Women Strip To Protest a Lack Of Crew's Showers

Special to The New York Times

NEW HAVEN, March 3—Nineteen members of the Yale women's varsity crew stripped naked this afternoon in the office of Joni Barnett, director of physical education, to protest the lack of shower facilities at Derby, Conn.

The nude women, with the words "Title IX" emblazoned across their chests and backs in Yale-blue paint, stood at attention as Chris Ernst, a senior from Wilmette, Ill., who is captain of the crew, read a 300-word statement to Mrs. Barnett.

The statement said, in part: "These are the bodies Yale is exploiting. On a day like today the ice freezes on this skin. Then we sit for half an hour as the ice melts and soaks through to meet the sweat that is soaking us from the inside."

Title IX refers to a ruling by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare requiring equal facilities for women's athletic teams.

For the last two years, the women's crew, which has placed second and third in the national championships, has used four crowded showers in a rented trailer, according to Anne Warner, a junior from Lexington, Mass.

"For four months Barnett has ignored our request for the zoning variance necessary to get electricity and hot water into the trailer," Miss Warner said, "and we'll probably get it when Peter Pan comes back to life."

So far this year, the women's crew has been without any facilities at all.

Mrs. Barnett was not available for comment.

➤ Taylor Ritzel is one of those medalists. She is a 2010 Yale graduate who won gold with the U.S. women's eight. She is proud of her Yale pedigree and her connection to that 1976 crew.

"Being able to stand on their shoulders in the Olympics and hear about the things they had to struggle through [helped me] not take for granted the great experience I had," Ritzel said. She met Ernst when Ernst spoke at an event in 2009, and was inspired by her story. "She represents the rich tradition of Yale women's crew and the fact that those women made a huge impact on women's sports today in this country. She definitely made my experience on the team feel bigger than itself."

Ernst's legacy stretches across the entire sports community. "If you really look at what has impacted sports the most over the past several decades, Title IX is at the top of the list," said Rusty Sullivan, the executive director of the Sports Museum of New England. "What we try to do is select people who were not only great athletes and had great accomplishments on that stage, but who also had an impact off the field."

While Title IX has advanced women sports significantly in the past 40 years, those who celebrate Ernst and the '76 Yale crew are quick to point out that work still needs to be done. Nancy Hogshead-Makar, the senior director of advocacy at the Women's Sports Foundation, believes the country needs more heroes to take a stand for equity.

"The Women's Sports Foundation would love to have a hundred Chris Ernst's around the country, at least two in each state, to bring attention to gender equity in their states," Hogshead-Makar said. "Because that's what it takes."

Ernst retired from racing some


twenty years ago, after competing in the Head Of The Charles Regatta almost every year from 1974 to 1992. She has been the owner a plumbing business for the last 13 years, and now prefers quiet

In the 2012 Olympics the United States sent more female than male athletes for the first time in its history.

evenings on the Charles River to the busy mornings filled with competitive rowers. She jokes that she has become part of the afternoon crowd of old people she dubs "the slow row club."

"The young people do all this aggressive training in the morning. And I'm like, 'Okay, been there, done that,'" she said.

She remembers the opposition she faced in the 70s as being difficult, but easier to recognize and deal with than the battle for equity now. She said she was used to facing people telling her her goals were impossible, but now the battle is a lot more subtle. The current generation of women needs to stand up and continue to fight for equity, she says, in all fields, not just in sports.

"I think that if you are lucky—and maybe you make a little bit of your own luck—you find the people who will work with you and then you don't have to make a lot of commotion," she said. "But at some point, you do have to. I mean, at some point you run out of time or things are so outrageous that it really is time to make noise." 

**SAMANTHA LAINE** IS A FREELANCE WRITER WHO HAS WRITTEN FOR *THE BOSTON GLOBE* AND OTHER NEWS WEBSITES. SHE IS A RECENT GRADUATE OF THE MASTER'S PROGRAM AT THE NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM.

◀ ORIGINAL ARTICLE PUBLISHED BY *THE NEW YORK TIMES* ON MARCH 4, 1976

SOURCE: THE NEW YORK TIMES

2012 HEAD OF THE CHARLES

31





# Picking up the Oar

## Women in the Head Of The Charles

MEG HECKMAN

**M**ahra Lawrence expects a full range of thoughts and emotions when she and her Friends of Concord

Crew teammates row to the start of the Women's Youth Eights at this year's Head Of The Charles Regatta.

She'll be excited certainly, nervous, probably. She'll be thinking of the coaches and parents and teammates who helped her get to the Charles River starting line. And she'll be mindful that she is about to become a part of one of rowing's most historic events.

"It's an honor to take the position of those who have gone before me," said Lawrence, 17, a senior at Concord (N.H.) High School.

The Head Of The Charles history that Lawrence and her teammates will join is both rare and unique. Rare because the Regatta has built a worldwide reputation in a few short decades and unique because it has included women from its earliest years. At a time when a Boston Marathon official tried to rip the bib off a woman who had registered for the all-male race using just her first initial, the Head Of The Charles was recruiting female athletes. While colleges and universities anguished over how to comply with the demands of Title IX, women were already helping the Regatta grow by serving in key leadership positions. Female athletes didn't have to fight for a place in the Head Of The Charles, but their role is noteworthy for what it says about the

power of a single organization determined to provide athletes of both genders with a world-class competition venue.

The story of women in the Head Of Charles begins not with protests, lawsuits or other controversies, but with an old-fashioned rule about a Harvard swimming pool. In 1968, a new economics professor joined the faculty. Her name was Gail Pierson Cromwell and, while working on her PhD in Michigan, she'd developed a fondness for swimming. The pool at Harvard was off limits to women because, she was told, some men liked to swim naked.

When her coworkers heard about the problem, they were outraged. Pierson was the first female member of Harvard's regular economics faculty, and many of her male colleagues wanted her to feel welcome. For one of them, that meant inviting the newcomer to join the Cambridge Boat Club. It wasn't long before Pierson Cromwell was rowing regularly with other members, pulling 2.5 miles upstream and then racing 2 miles back.

"I often played the role of rabbit," she wrote in a recent email. "I would get a head start and they would try to catch me... I enjoyed these workouts and my rowing companions very much. I loved being in the open air much better than swimming."

When her rowing companions began training for the Head Of The Charles at the end of the summer of 1969, Pierson asked if she could enter. The Regatta organizers approved and,

< FRIENDS OF CONCORD CREW (PREPARE FOR WEEKS)

>





➤ because there were no events for women, suggested she compete in one of the singles divisions.

“We were in the era of race organizers at the Boston Marathon trying to exclude women from its race, but the Cambridge Boat Club was completely supportive,” she said.

On a Sunday afternoon in 1969, the Head Of The Charles became a co-ed event. The Regatta was only five years old and still fairly small with just 13 catego-

This year’s Regatta organizers expect 4268 female rowers.

ries and 175 entries. Gender wasn’t even mentioned on that year’s registration form, just age, weight and a request for entry fees ranging from \$5 to \$25. Pierson Cromwell’s division — novice singles — included 17 athletes. She beat two of them.

**A SIDE TRIP TO THE HEAD OF THE** Charles quite literally changed Coleen Fuerst’s life. It was 1972 and Fuerst was headed home to New York after a job interview in New Hampshire. Two male friends were competing in a double at the Head Of The Charles and Fuerst agreed to perch herself on a bridge over the course and holler down split times as they passed beneath.

Fuerst had dabbled in rowing, but kept fit with softball after she was told that crew was a sport for men. That perception changed when, standing on the bridge, Fuerst saw a boat carrying eight women pulling oars through the muddy waters of the Charles. That boat, as she’d later learn, was from Durham, N.H., not far from where she’d had her ➤

➤ A CUT ABOVE



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job interview. Fuerst took the job and it wasn't long before she discovered the co-ed Durham Boat Club. She quit her softball team to spend more time on the water and, in 1974, competed in her first Head Of The Charles.

"We passed some boats and that was our first race of the fall season," she said. "It was really inspiring to do that."

Since then, Fuerst has made a life out of rowing, eventually becoming the president of the Durham Boat Company, which manufactures carbon fiber boat parts and offers sculling lessons. She's also continued to compete in the Head Of The Charles and other regattas, often partnering with women of all ages.

Fuerst wasn't alone in developing an interest in rowing in the early 1970s. The eight she saw speed down the course was one of many that swarmed to the Charles after Regatta organizers created categories especially for women. By 1972, the year that Title IX was enacted, seven women competed in the singles division and 12 boats were registered in the eights.

Although the Regatta organizers were welcoming, many of the women's crews were stymied by inadequate training and equipment. On Dec. 5, 1972 the Harvard Crimson reported that the Radcliffe crew team might have to abandon a "potentially bright" future because of a lack of money. The team's lone boat was 14 years old, the oars were crumbling and, should the team qualify for any international events, the athletes would have to pay their own way.

Such grim conditions were commonplace at the time, but that soon changed when college athletic directors struggling to comply with Title IX realized that crew was a quick way to field a large number of female athletes. And once those women got a feel for the sport, they'd often set their sights on competing in the Head Of The Charles.

In 1973, Pierson Cromwell de-

scribed the rise of women's rowing in an article for *The Oarsman* magazine, praising the competitive spirit of women who were still learning basic techniques.

"The majority of boats were composed of women in their first six weeks of rowing, and their performances were very good," she wrote. "The crews have much improving to do, but it takes heart to row a three-mile race only four to six weeks after gripping your first oar, and the girls showed plenty of that."

Pierson Cromwell also offered a bit of advice to the organizers of other regattas, "Make girls show their interest, but don't suppress them with negative attitude. You'll have a better and more interesting regatta in the end."

The next two years brought even larger fields of women and, in 1975, Regatta organizers issued a press release declaring the 500 registered female rowers they expected that year "the largest field of woman participants at any regatta anywhere in the world."

**TITLE IX'S SPIRIT — EQUALITY FOR** women in all facets of sport — will also be on display at the Head Of The Charles. During the Regatta, the banks of the river become a gallery of opportunities for any woman interested in a lifetime of rowing: female-owned companies, college teams offering generous scholarships, Olympians who routinely outperform their male counterparts. The Regatta is a reunion of sorts, too, for early pioneers of women's rowing and the elite female athletes who followed, a chance to honor — and compete against — several generations of heroes.

"It's a really meaningful event," said Mary Mazzio, a 1992 Olympian, documentary filmmaker and member of the Regatta's board of directors. "The women who came ahead of me, what did they do? They didn't just inspire me to row. They

inspired me to be a better woman."

Mazzio began rowing when she was a student at Mount Holyoke College and competed in her first Head Of The Charles in 1982. By that time, women were commonplace on the water, and competing on the Charles was a goal for many young rowers.

During the HOCR, the banks of the river become a gallery of opportunities for any woman interested in a lifetime of rowing.

"It was a huge deal," she said. "That was back in the day where people would lower down crates of cold beer after you rowed."

Mazzio has remained a regular on the racecourse despite busy careers as an attorney and, more recently, a documentary filmmaker (One of her best-known works is *A Hero for Daisy*, which tells the story of how Olympian Chris Ernst led a protest at Yale University that forced the school to comply with Title IX.) This year will mark the twentieth year that Mazzio and her partner from the 1992 Olympic Games, Cindy Matthes, have raced together.

**THE 2012 HEAD OF THE CHARLES** will differ greatly from the regatta Pierson Cromwell finished in 1969. She was the lone woman on the course; this year's Regatta organizers expect 4268 female rowers. Pierson Cromwell's participation was subdued; this year, one of the most public faces of the Head Of The Charles belongs to a woman.

Gevvie Stone, a three-time Head Of





➤ The Charles champion, grew up on the Charles River, watching her parents, both world-class rowers, train and compete. Her mom, Lisa Stone, rowed in the 1976 Olympics; her father, Gregg Stone, was equally elite, a Head Of The Charles Champ Singles winner, who lost out on his chance at the Olympics because of the United States' boycott of the 1980 Games. But her parents weren't the only athletes Gevvie watched. By the time she was rowing for Princeton she had a long list of athletes to emulate.

"Having role models helps you to set your goals high," she said. "Seeing women in other classes who went on to D-1 schools and seeing my mom and my friends go on to the Olympics, it helped me set really high bars for myself."

Those lofty ambitious — and years of

◀ US OLYMPIC TEAM MEMBER GEVVIE STONE

PHOTO: MASON D. COX

hard work — paid off this year when Stone, a medical student at Tufts, rowed her single in the 2012 Olympic games in London. Although she's been busy with school since returning to the States, Stone isn't going to miss this year's Head Of The Charles.

"It's a big rowing reunion," she said. "A fun race to just go down the course. It's definitely something I look forward to every year."

**THE REGATTA STILL HAS THE** potential to help young women set goals — and that's one reason why Jay Printzlau, head coach of the Friends of Concord Crew, enjoys bringing athletes like Lawrence to Cambridge each fall.

Printzlau witnessed the early struggle of female rowers firsthand as a member of the crew team at Yale in the early 1970s. He remembers when mem-

bers of the women's team so famously and effectively protested disparities in equipment and facilities. Their actions, he said, have had a lasting impact on his own coaching philosophy. He spends his time on the water coaching the girls' team and makes sure every athlete understands that athletics were not always so welcoming to women and girls.

His favorite teaching tool is Mazzio's film.

"Nobody graduates without seeing that film and having a conversation around that," he said. "It's energized me personally to help the girls understand the opportunities they have. It's part of why I like coaching girls."

The Friends of Concord Crew eight, will race on Sunday of Regatta weekend. On Saturday, Printzlau will take his athletes on a walk along the course. The stated purpose is to review quirks of the

course and talk about strategy. But on that three-mile walk, Printzlau is also likely to point out a few other things.

"Having role models helps you to set your goals high," says Gevvie Stone

"You see these programs from all over the world," he said. "You see the quality of the rowing and we have an opportunity to talk about where they fit in and what they might aspire to."

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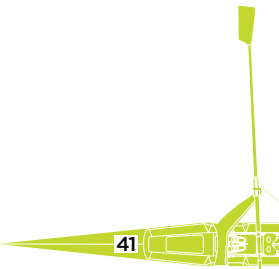




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# LAST TEN STROKES

## A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FREDERICK V. SCHOCH

**O**n behalf of the Cambridge Boat Club and the 2012 Race Committee, Race Directors, and Race Operations Groups, I welcome you back to the Head Of The Charles Regatta. This year we are proud to host not only crews from across the United States but also from 28 foreign nations, 37 states, 383 cities, and 705 clubs; a new record for us. This swelling of international interest is due, in part, to a post Olympic bump by elite competitors but mostly because the HOCR has become everyone's fall favorite. Reunion Village fills quickly each year with generations of alumni, friends, and family. The banks of the Charles River are consistently lined with spectators and athletes in the best of weather and the worst of weather. There is simply no other fall race in America which matches the challenge, field, fun, and atmosphere of the Head Of The Charles Regatta.

In terms of sponsorship support, "what a difference a year makes." In 2011, we were fortunate to have stable sponsors in EMC and Brooks Brothers. This fall we are pleased to add to this anchor roster BNY Mellon Investment Management, as a premier partner and the official investment services

sponsor of the Head Of The Charles Regatta. Lufthansa Air Lines will join us at the Directors' Hospitality tent and Sperry Top-Sider will increase their participation on Hospitality Row just upstream of the Eliot Bridge with a "beach cottage" themed sales area, right next to Island Creek Oyster Bar's fresh seafood stand.

This year, EMC will energize their presence at the Weld Boathouse area, the Rowing and Fitness Expo and the Reunion Village with unique photo kiosks engaging students and graduates in discussions about future work opportunities with their global brand. Brooks Brothers, our proud Official Apparel Sponsor for the third year, will offer two retail shops along the river and sell co-branded clothing that will surely resonate with all attendees. Watch out for our 1,400 volunteers on the river and on the shores wearing custom-designed jackets by Brooks Brothers.

Returning again this year will be luggage icon, Samsonite. Be sure to stop by one of their two kiosks—at the Weld boathouse area and the Rowing and Fitness Expo—to buy a weekend bag, backpack, or accessory, all co-branded with the HOCR logos. The Regatta is also pleased to welcome MINI Cooper. >

< SARASOTA SPEED



➤ Be sure to watch for Brooks Brothers clad River Control Volunteers at the helm of a MINI Cooper patrolling in

This fall we are pleased to add BNY Mellon Investment Management, as a premier partner

front of the Weld Boathouse area.

Of course, the weekend would not be complete without a visit to the Rowing and Fitness Expo, near the finish line. Get a first-hand look at the rowing equipment manufacturers and

apparel brands that support the rowing community. Under the Expo's big top tent, you will also find Concept2, Hudson Boat Works, Pocock Racing Shells, Fluidesign Composites, WinTech Racing, JL Racing, Connect-A-Dock, Nielsen-Kellerman, the Perfect Snaque, and many, many more. The Samsonite bags available for purchase will make a suitable carry-all for your many Rowing and Fitness Expo purchases!

A group of very important in-kind sponsors also help ensure the success of the Regatta. These include but are not limited to: USRowing, The Lenox Hotel (our official hotel), CBS Radio Boston, The Boston Globe, Island Creek Oyster Bar, Towerstream (official wireless provider), Regatta Central, and Gentle Giant Moving & Storage. We would also like to

thank our official timing company, Regatta Master for all their hard work throughout Regatta Weekend.

Finally, we thank Commissioner Edward Lambert Jr. and Janice Parlon, Manager of Special Events of the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), for their support and partnership, without which the Regatta could not exist.

Good racing to all competitors and may your trip up the Charles be speedy, rhythmic and powerful! Enjoy the weekend and we'll look for you again in 2013 on October 19th & 20th.

*F. V. Schoch*

FREDERICK V. SCHOCH HAS BEEN THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE HEAD OF THE CHARLES SINCE 1992.



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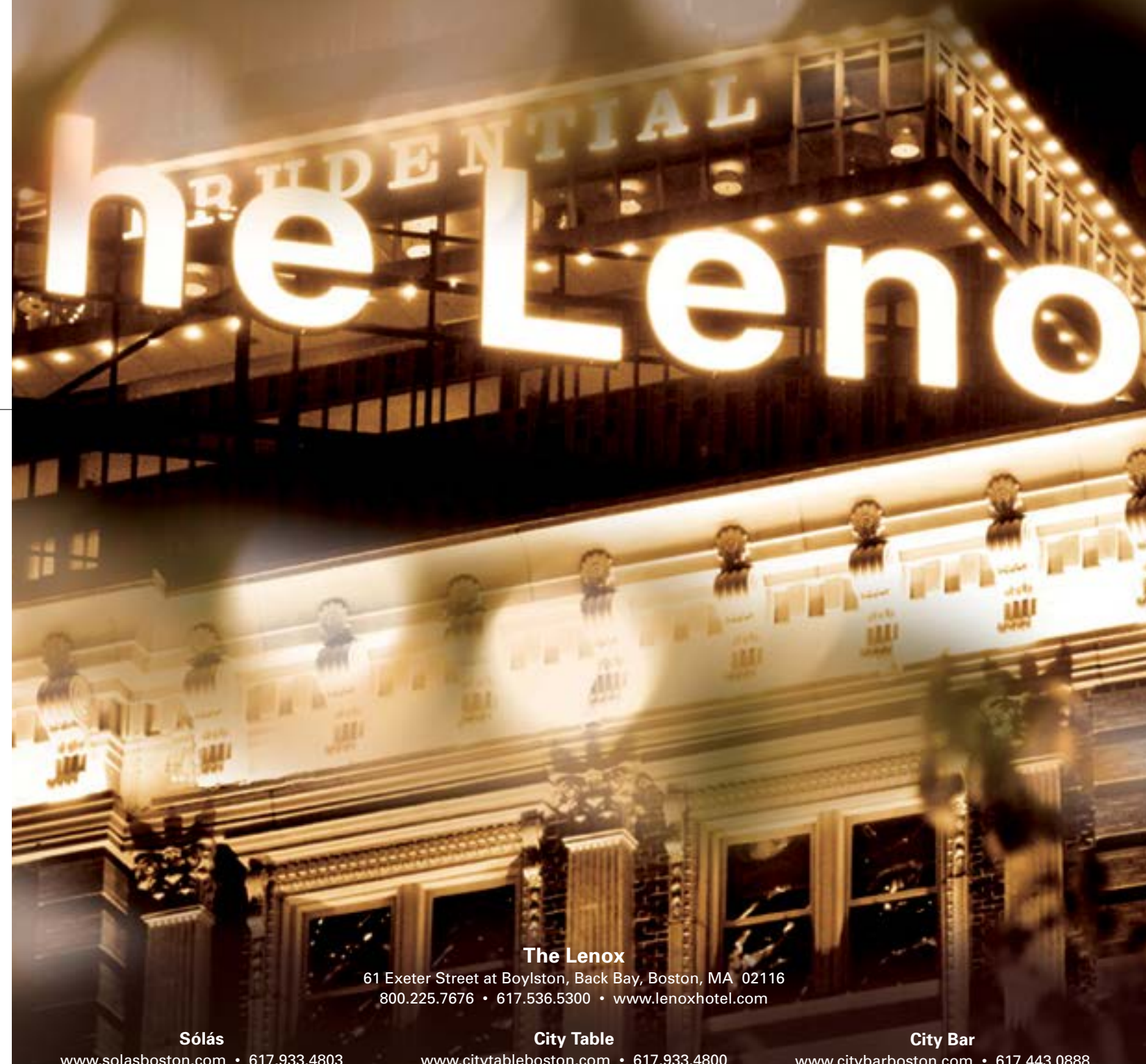
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