

# Case Western Reserve University Crew Club



## Alumni Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 1

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### Dad Vail 2007

by Christopher Shoemaker

The Case Crew Team sent a men's open weight four to Dad Vail Regatta this spring. Having no times posted from the previous season and being put up against several regular finalist boats, the team was not expected to go beyond the qualifying race. However, with a stunning jump off the starting line and an unbelievable race, the boat was able to secure its passage to the semi-final races on Saturday, by defeating the 2006 champion boat from Temple. On Saturday they were poised against what would be the two fastest boats in the regatta but were able to hold 3rd place until the last 500 meters of the race when the other 3 boats were able to overtake



From coxswain back: Rebecca Carter, Christopher Shoemaker, Christopher Bowley, Christopher Denzel, Brian Chorney

them. With a time of 6:55.73 the boat had successfully cut 12 seconds off their time from the day before and placed 18th of 56 in the regatta.

#### Inside this issue:

<i>Coach Bio</i>	2
<i>Recap of Spring Season</i>	2
<i>Fall Regatta Schedule</i>	3
<i>Novice's Perspective</i>	3
<i>Thanking Our Supporters</i>	4
<i>Home School Regatta</i>	4

### Rowers from Past and Present Join Again at the Alumni Regatta by Nina Ma

Brilliant weather and high spirits came together and gave Spartan rowers and alumni a beautiful gathering for our second annual Alumni Regatta. The previous night, alumni, students and coaches shared stories and updates over good drinks and food at the Great Lakes Brewing Company in downtown Cleveland.

The following morning, as we did last

year, races were held in brackets using two 4+s. The biggest surprise came when the Alumni Men's Boat cruised through each heat, proving that age did not come with a loss of power. Their fast times brought them face to face with some of the year's most skilled students. However, the men's and women's final round were eventually won by the 2002 Men and the 2004 Women, with times of

1:41.9 and 1:52.6, respectively. Each winning boat received a trophy that is supposed to make their way to every seat in that boat, ensuring continuing communication until the next Alumni Regatta.

Thank you to those who came out from near and far to support us and your alumni Spartans!

### Erg-a-thon by Christopher Shoemaker

The Case Crew team organized a very successful fundraising event over the previous winter during which the team rowed for a full 24 hours, each rower being sponsored for the amount of time they would erg. Two rowers erged at a time being required to do a minimum of 15000 meters. One individual,

Brian Chorney, even went the extra mile, or more specifically 26 miles, and did an entire marathon. Several of the lovely ladies from the team spent many hours baking for the event and were a huge help in fundraising by selling their fantastic treats. The team was able to row about 429 mi, approxi-

mately the distance from the Cleveland boathouse to the starting line of the Dad Vail Regatta and do a large amount of fundraising with the event. All of the funds donated by Greeks were donated to Row for a Cure. The team does intend on having the event again but has not yet set a date for it.

## Coach Information

### Coach Chris Sheridan

This is Coach Chris' sixth year coaching at Case and eighth year coaching rowing in Cleveland. Also, this is her fifth year teaching in Case's SAGES program as a Presidential Fellow. Coach Sheridan grew up in Florida and was a competitive swimmer. She graduated from Yale University and has been an editorial writer at The Plain Dealer since 1995. Her son, Conor, is 6 years old. Coach Chris first discovered rowing here in Cleveland.



Coach Chris racing at the Speakmon

### Coach Tim Marcovy

Coach Tim has coached Case Crew from 1993 till 1996 and from 2002 till the present and was one of the five founders of the Western Reserve Rowing Association. Coach Tim is a Case alumnus (LAW '77) and a partner in the law firm of Willacy, LoPresti & Marcovy in Cleveland. He has been rowing off and on since college. His daughter is a former high school rower and former rowing coach. His son, an IRA medal-winning oarsman for Columbia University, is also a former adult and junior rowing coach, and presently competes on the elite squad for Vesper Boat Club of Philadelphia.

### Coach James Mack

Coach Jim is our new novice men's coach. He started rowing for the first time in 1998 here in Cleveland. Since that time he's traveled to the Florida Rowing Center and the Craftsbury Rowing Camp for sculling coaching and instruction. This is Coach Jim's first coaching experience, but he is not new to Case. Coach Mack is an emeritus assistant professor from the department of Psychiatry at Case's Medical School. He first moved to Cleveland when he joined the Case faculty in 1970. Although he's been retired since 2003, he still continues his research in neuropsychology at Case.

## Spring 2007 Season Regatta Results

Event	Place	Timed
<b>URA Regatta</b>		
Women's Open 8+	3rd	7:28.7
Women's Varsity 4+	5th	8:00.6
Women's JV 4+	5th	8:32.0
Women's Novice 8+	4th	8:06.9
Women's Novice 4+	4th	8:44.1
Men's Varsity 8+	3rd	6:40.1
Men's Varsity 4+	4th	7:22.2
Men's JV 4+	5th	7:50.8
<b>Governor's Cup Regatta</b>		
Women's Varsity 4+	2nd	9:06.1
Men's Open 2x	3rd	4:19.6
Women's Varsity 4+ (A)	2nd	6:52.0
5 <sup>th</sup> /5 B boat 7:41.0 (B)	5th	7:41.0
Women's Novice 4+	3rd	7:58.8
Men's Varsity 8+	1st	6:59.4
Men's Varsity 4+ (A)	3rd	6:24.7
Men's Varsity 4+ (B)	5th	7:00.2

Event	Place	Timed
<b>Alumni Regatta</b>		
Women Champions	2004 W	1:52.6
Men Champions	2002 M	1:41.9
<b>Dad Vail Regatta</b>		
Men Open 4+	18th/56	6:55.73
<b>Hammer Ergatta</b>		
Case Crew Team	1st	7:41.2
JCU Crew Team	2nd	7:42.5
<b>Pittsburgh Erg Sprints</b>		
Brian Chorney	6th/18	6:48.6
Miranda Cullins	1st/24	7:13.8
Grace Bell	6th/26	7:56.9
Agata Toborek	11th/25	8:09.0
Patty Wolford	6th/11	8:27.7
Case Crew (6 person relay)	7th/14	10:04.8

## Fall 2007 Schedule

- 8.19 Row for a Cure
- 9.15 Head of the Cuyahoga
- 10.6 Head of the Ohio
- 10.20-10.21 Head of the Charles
- 10.27 Speakmon Regatta



## End of the Year Novice Perspective By Jessica Schneider

I arrived on campus like any other freshman: overwhelmed. Join this club! Support this organization! Do this, do that, eat here, live there. And, on top of hearing all of this, I noticed some writing on the ground. Join Case Crew. Hmm. There was a big picture of a boat on the binary walkway. Outside the physics building, by the Veale Center, outside Schmitt, the invitations were everywhere. "Mom, I am going to join the crew team." Naturally, she and my father laughed at me, and did not think I would actually do it. Me, a wanna-be softball player who managed to get cut from the worst team in my high school athletic division trying to do a sport that requires immense physical input? The idea was ludicrous. I was a catcher for a reason. But the activities fair came around, I put my name on a list and I went to a meeting. And there it was. I joined the crew team.

Fall season was a blur. It seemed like after only 5 practices, the first regatta was set to launch. It was a cold and blustery October morning and the rain was imminent. We started long before the sun rose, unloading our boats and setting up our waiting area. What seemed like days later, we finally raced. It might not have been very pretty, or very fast, or very ANYTHING that a boat race is supposed to be, but we learned a lot on that day about teamwork and how rowing is supposed to work.

Winter training made us all bosom buddies with the erg. We spent a lot of time rowing to nowhere, while refining our technique and increasing our strength and endurance. We also started to meet the varsity for the first time. Two indoor ergattas later, spring season arrived, and we were back on the water.

Throughout spring training, we made huge strides at every practice. Now, as opposed to during fall season, we knew what we were supposed to be doing, and had an idea about what it was supposed to look like, how it was supposed to feel. At each regatta, we did better than the one before. We were growing as a team, growing as rowers, and growing as friends.

Looking back, do I regret joining the team at all? Absolutely not. I met some of the people who I am closest to on campus, I found a rowing mentor, an academic mentor, many friends, and a place on campus



Jessica Schneider (right) Sophia Houghton (left)

where I feel connected to those around me unlike any other. I have built up mental and physical strength I did not know I had. There are some things you cannot do without becoming closer to yourself and the people around you. Crew is one of those things.



**Want to share a Case Crew memory?**

**Want your name on an oar?**

**Want directions to a Case Crew event?**

**Want some Case Crew gear?**



**We want to hear from you!**

**Track us down on our homepage at**

**crew.case.edu**

## Acknowledging Our Many Supporters

by Nathan Uber

As the team roster grows, we are investing a lot of effort to raising funds to purchase and maintain equipment. Our club is still student-run and our executive committee and our athletes spend considerable effort and hours on fundraising and organizational tasks. But the successes that we have achieved are in no small measure thanks to the support of many other people.

First we would like to recognize our wonderful coaching staff. Our coaches VOLUNTEER their time for us. They spend hours of time practicing with us on and off the water, they go to all of our regattas, and they advise and assist us with all of the physical repairs on our equipment every year. Case Crew would not be possible without their support.

Next we would like to recognize the Cleveland Rowing Foundation. CRF really works hard to provide the facili-

ties we need and to ensure safety on the Cuyahoga. Additionally they are always there to help. This year many Case rowers learned how to skull using CRF shells and CRF helped us find trailer space several times this fall.

The Brown's have been our most reliable contributor for the past several years. This fall we worked a concession stand during every home game in exchange for a percentage of the take. Case USG also supported Case Crew by donating money for equipment upgrades this fall. The USG money will go towards upgrading all of our oars with vortex tips.

Finally we would like to thank all of the Case Crew Alumni. You have contributed in so many ways, and many of you have continued your support since graduation. To recognize our alumni and preserve Case Crew traditions, we started a

project last year to memorialize the history of Case Crew. If we don't see you next spring at the Alumni regatta, please send us any pictures or memories from your years on the Case Crew.

Thank you all for your support of Case Crew. Thanks to you, we'll be seeing you on the water for many seasons to come.

Thank You  
Thank You

## Home School Regatta 2007

by Meg Grady

Case Crew took the Home School Regatta for the second consecutive year. On March 24th the Case Crew Club took on John Carroll and Cleveland State in the fifth annual Home Schools Regatta on the Cuyahoga River. The team took first in the Men's and Women's Varsity 8+s, in the Men's Varsity 4+, the Women's Novice 4+. At the start of the final race, men's

varsity 8+, the score was tied 4 to 4 between Case Crew and Cleveland State. The overall standings at the end of the regatta were: Case 5, Cleveland State 4, and John Carroll 1. The competition was fantastic but Case Crew was victorious.



## Contributors to this Alumni Newsletter

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Below: Case Crew and Alumni at 2nd annual Alumni Regatta

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