



The Wave

Newsletter of the McGill University Rowing Club

May 1991 Vol III supplementary

Dear Friends: Without a journal of some kind you cannot unite a community. Fortunately, the Wave exists to unite the Friends; never has the MURC needed your support more.

The Department of Athletics at McGill has reclassified all of its 29 intercollegiate teams. On June first 1991, the MURC (along with 15 other teams) will be classified as a "Club" and shall receive no funding for its coaching or operations.

Last year, the Department subsidized the MURC to the tune of \$7300 for operations. This represented about a third of the Club's operating budget. A further \$500 was granted for a manager. Neither of these funds shall be available for this fall. The result is that the Club must either increase its membership fees or find a new source of funding.

The reclassification is the result of more than a year's work of the intercollegiate sports committee. While the recommendations were supported in principle by the MURC, there are some points of contention. Representatives from the Club met with members of the other "cut" teams in an effort to alter the classification criteria to our benefit. The MURC also requested that the changes be suspended until June of 1992 to allow time to prepare for such changes. Both attempts were unsuccessful.

The Department will continue to allow the MURC to compete under University colours, albeit without the financial support of the department. The FMR and MURC shall continue their fundraising operations, although there is some concern that the "funded" teams would get priority with regards to approaching foundations and corporate sponsors.

The Montreal Rowing Club is aware of our situation and is prepared to help in any way possible. The MURC is a member club in good standing with Rowing Canada Aviron; this means the **MURC will continue to operate.**

In the meantime, three competitive crews are going to the **Dad Vail regatta May 12-13.** Last year's winning womens' and mens' novice crews will be travelling with the flagship varsity women to Philadelphia in an attempt to win a pile of t-shirts from US college competitors.

Rachel Starr, our **World Champion**, is again trying out for the National team; she is training at the Basin with other MURC crews. In addition, the MURC is hosting the mens' Challenge regatta on **May 18th.** The Challenge winners are entitled to an expense-paid trip to the Victoria Challenge Boat Race in June. McGill won the right to host the Challenge when they won the OUAA championships last fall. The MURC won the Challenge last year and went to Victoria with Karol Sauvé as <<entraîneur>>.

This is obviously a team worth supporting.

You, the friends, can help the MURC in two ways. The first is by expressing your displeasure to the Department of Athletics; two names and addresses are given below. The second is to support the MURC financially. Not only do we need individual support, we also need the support of foundations to become fully self-sufficient. If you know of any foundations which could help the Club, please contact either of the MURC or the FMR.

Sincerely,

Tony Tremain,
FMR

Please write to:

Mr. Richard Pound, Chairman, Board of Directors, Department of Athletics
Mr. Robert Dubeau, Director of Athletics,
McGill University, 475 Pine Ave West, Montreal, Que. H2W 1S4