

The Wave

Newsletter of the McGill University Rowing Club

October 1991 • Volume IV, No. 1 - fundraising edition

Dear Friend:

Welcome back to another exciting year for the MURC. This year we will be building on the exciting successes of last year. Under the skilled leadership of head coach Karol Sauvé, the MURC completed one of its best seasons ever last fall. At the Ontario Championships, the varsity heavy men won their first OUAA championship. Competing against 9 other university teams from Ontario, the men's eight defeated the University of Toronto, the reigning champions. The success of the spring program was outlined in the previous edition of the Wave; this summer the men's crew again won the Canadian Championships and came sixth at the international regatta in Nice, France. The women's crew posted equally impressive results at the Head of the Charles Regatta last fall and won the Dad Vail regatta this spring.

It is not too early to predict an extremely successful year for the top MURC crews, but we have an added financial burden due to the recent restructuring within the department of Athletics. While we are currently attempting to fund our operations through our own fundraising and increased dues from our members, we can use all the help we can get from you, our supporters, especially for equipment. The Club is in desperate need of a new midweight coxed four and trailer.

Your thoughtful gift to the McGill University Rowing Club, no matter what the amount, will be a significant boost both financially and spiritually to the team as we prepare for another season. If this is your first gift to the MURC, we extend our sincere appreciation. If you are a previous donor, I ask that you consider an increased gift to help us reach our goal. Your tax deductible gift directed to McGill University, Rowing, can make a difference. Please do the best you can.

More information about the MURC can be found in the August edition of the Wave. If you have not received your copy, or if you have any questions regarding our program, please contact the MURC office at the address given on the back.

Tony Tremain

Season opener:

Head of the Trent Regatta

The following was submitted to the McGill Tribune after the September 28th regatta by past-President Jennifer Mactaggart:

The McGill University Rowing Club (MURC) took part in its first regatta of the season this past weekend in Peterborough, Ontario. Saturday may have been a cold, rainy fall day, but the McGill team shone. The bone-chilling cold couldn't take the heat out of our crews over the 5km race distance.

Due to a lack of local university competition, the MURC takes part in two leagues outside of Quebec, namely the Ontario OU/OWIAA league (including 14 rowing universities), and the "Ivy League" of the northeastern United States. Of our five scheduled regattas this fall, 3 are in Ontario, and 2 in the States. The "Head of the Trent" marks the traditional season kick-off among the OU/OW schools.

continued...

Celebrate at the Banquet!

Your invitation follows:

*The members of the
McGill University Rowing Club request
the honour of your presence at the annual*

Rowing Banquet

*Saturday, November Ninth,
Nineteen Hundred and Ninety One
Restaurant Hélène de Champlain
Isle Ste. Hélène.
Cocktails at Seven
Dinner at Eight
Black Tie*

*\$100 Alumni and Friends
\$35 hard-luck cases*

R.S.V.P 495-9181

Head of the Trent, continued

And what a kick-off it was! This year McGill proved its strength from race one -- all of our varsity crews finished in the top 3 positions. The Varsity men's 8, Varsity lightweight men's 8, and Varsity women's 8 all finished 3rd, the Varsity lightweight women's 8 finished 2nd, and the McGill alumni men's 4 took home the gold. In the "small boats" (doubles and singles), McGill also won another flurry of 2nds and 3rds. These results are hard to beat; our strength is exciting.

Traditionally, certain universities have dominated particular events--Western sweeping the women's category, Queen's dominating the lightweight men--but this year the top times in each category were consistently close, and the competition intense. When talking with coaches from the different universities, the feeling was unanimous. The UWO's club president, Heather Carthwright summed it up: "There is great competition this year. The lack of obvious dominant schools is promoting very high-caliber rowing throughout the league."

The McGill novice crews are also strong. The Novice men's 8 rowed an excellent race, finishing 3rd, and the Novice women's 8 crossed the line 8th. The Novice women's 4 surprised everyone by finishing 4th in the varsity race!

One exciting aspect of this year's team is the number of varsity oarspeople who have come up through the ranks at McGill. 15 of our 36 varsity members began rowing as McGill novices. The MURC's novice rowing program is quite unique

among Canadian schools. Coach Anthony Tremain elaborates: "One of the McGill rowing program's greatest achievements is that it builds its own varsity athletes. Our novice rowers develop quickly into highly-competitive oarspeople. We are good at "growing" our own talent, and nurturing these athletes even as far as the national level."

The Head of the Trent regatta is notorious for its tricky course which, being the first regatta for most novice crews, poses obvious navigational difficulties for the inexperienced athletes. The McGill crews raced exceptionally cleanly, our equipment returning unscratched. Trent, however, did not fare so well. Much to the delight of the madding crowd, a novice Trent crew managed to collide head on into a concrete wall--their \$15 000 shell crumpling like sheet of paper. No one ever said that the sport of rowing is without its excitement.

While taking a hot shower after the day's race, one of the McGill Varsity lightweight men, Will Tinmouth, took part in an interesting conversation with some fellow seekers of warmth. "Those McGill Lightweights are a real force to be reckoned with..." said a Queen's rower. A Western oarsman agreed. They turned to Will, not realizing his allegiance. "They certainly are. You'd better watch out" was his response.

This attitude can be extended to encompass the entire McGill team. The traditional rowing powers remain: U of T, Western, and Queens, but McGill is now an active part of this list.

Where the heck are they?

We are trying to contact as many alumni as we can with our mailings. If you can remember the names of the people in your crew in any given year, please contact the FMR at the address given below.

As well, if you know of anyone who would be interested in receiving *the Wave*, please let us know.

Novice Regatta in Montreal

McGill has invited many of the local universities for a day of informal racing at the Olympic Basin. Parents and other rowing enthusiasts will want to come out for this popular event on **Saturday, October 19th**. Among the invitees are Carleton, University of Ottawa, Queens, Dartmouth, University of Vermont and RMC. Coaches meeting at 10:00, with the first race scheduled for 11:00. Bring a warm pair of mittens.

Alumnotes

Gales, Mr. D. Lorne. Lachine old boy and staunch supporter of the Friends of McGill Rowing, Mr. Gales was instrumental in setting up a five--year coaching grant in 1983 for the Club. Mr. Gales died on October 7th of a heart attack. Best wishes to Mrs. Gales from the Club.

MacNaughton, Alan A. Was granted an award by Prince Philip for creating the Canadian branch of the World Wildlife Federation.

Stumborg, Mr. Basil. Samuel was born on June 23rd, at 8 lbs, 9oz. in Victoria, BC. Basil is back at McGill pursuing a masters in Economics.

Gadjanski, Emil. Married to Kris Mann

Mann, Kris. Married to Emil Gadjanski, when he took a break from rowing. Word has it they have returned to Toronto from Japan where they worked for a year.

Christie, Doug. Married to Jane Shepherd

Jones, Robin. Married Mr. O'Hara

Shepherd, Jane. Married to Doug Christie