



# the Wave

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Newsletter of the McGill University Rowing Club

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Volume VII Issue 1

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## President's Message

*Damien Jinks*

It is with great pleasure that I commemorate the first renewed issue of *The Wave*. This is indeed an exciting time for all of us on the executive as we make preparations for the upcoming year. I am very optimistic, and it is with confidence that I predict smooth water ahead for McGill Crew.

We now aspire to unite a large and growing community of Alumni that has grown distant over the years. We hope to reestablish relations, both among the former rowers, and between the Alumni and the executive. Without such a link, the current rowers and executive are isolated and at times vulnerable. Thus, *The Wave* serves as our first bridge. As always, I invite your feedback and active participation in our quest to rejuvenate McGill Crew.

To all who have supported us with



financial contributions, thank you. Without such assistance, we surely could not keep McGill Crew alive. On behalf of the executive and all rowers, I extend my warm appreciation.

The quest is underway for boats and coaches. Unfortunately, this is the headache that the executive faces every year. With regard to boats, we have entreated several other universities (namely, the Ivies), but to

no avail. Consequently we must look to our standard, though not necessarily reliable, sources such as Hudson Boatworks et al. If any among you have contacts, either with a particular club or a particular distributor, that might aid us in procuring boats at a reasonable rate, your assistance would be greatly appreciated. Secondly, we are always looking for coaches for the upcoming year. Your expertise as a former Varsity rower, and more importantly, your dedication to keeping McGill Rowing alive and well, would do a tremendous service. If you, or perhaps someone else you know, intend to be in Montreal next fall, please inform us.

Well, there is plenty a buzz, so rather than have me spoil the suspense, I invite you to read on. My sincere thanks go to Paul Campbell, Megan Angus, and Jamie Paterson for getting this project going. Enjoy!

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## Novice Women: Seeds for the Future

*Rob McDowall*

McGill's Novice Women's program has always been a great source of athletes for the varsity programs, and even sometimes further on down the road, Olympic programs (cf. Tasha Tsang and Alison Korn). The Fall 1999 season was no exception. Emmett Kelly and I had the unique opportunity to coach a pool of very talented and strong athletes of the likes of which McGill Crew has not seen in several years. Going on recommendations from National Team and ex-MURC members Alison Korn and Henry Hering, we decided to keep the rowers as flexible as possible by switching their sides and places in the boat throughout the season. The result was an extremely adaptable and

cohesive crew that pushed each other through the fall. As the season progressed, both boats performed similarly at all regattas, however we never succeeded in securing a victory against all the other universities. Plagued by equipment problems and the occasional crab, some were skeptical of an OU victory.

(Continued on page 2)

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McGill-Queen's Challenge Boatrace April 30, 2000, Laval Rowing Club

## Editorial

Just like the tide that pulls away, seemingly gone, *the Wave* always comes crashing back onto your shore. And so, with a nod to Tremain, O'Connor, Crombie, and others, we bring the McGill University Rowing Club newsletter out of hiatus and into your mailboxes. First, I'd like to thank the staff of this reborn publication, Jamie Paterson and Megan Angus, for their efforts and patience with me and my stories about the good old days and how it used to be. Second, kudos to the executive for supporting this endeavor, even if most are too new to know what it is that they're supporting. Case in point, at the last AGM, someone had come across a mention of *the Wave* in the constitution, when it was asked, "What's *the Wave*?" I piped in from the back row (my usual seat at such functions) that it was the Crew newsletter to help keep us linked to the alumni. "It hasn't been printed in a while," somebody said, rather dismissively. "Well it should!" I retorted. Well, those three words sealed my fate, and here we are.

As I mentioned to several of you by email, this publication is for you. As such, unless you wish to be subjected to my one-sided, jaded-but-rose-tinted version of the MURC past and present (and believe me, I've got lots to say), I beseech you to let us know what you want this forum to be. Please send in stories, ideas, anecdotes, photos and personal updates. Other alumni want to know what you're up to, they have told us so. Thanks go out to those who have already submitted ideas; they are now in the works for future issues.

Ah, future issues...that brings up my next point. Originally, we had planned to make this an electronic publication, mainly because of the costs of printing and mailing. However, we don't have email addresses for the vast majority of our alumni (please keep sending them in, though), and the file size of this rag is 7.5 Mb (Kill Microsoft! Sorry, was that out loud?). Not wanting to cut anybody off, we agreed to publish *the Wave* in its traditional format. This is where he asks for the cash, you say. Clever group, I say. We are reimplementing a voluntary \$25 membership/subscription fee to the

Friends of McGill Rowing for the publication of *the Wave*, with the occasional beer-and-pizza for the hard-working staff. Just kidding, we don't need pizza. Seriously though, we've drained the executive's coffers to publish this issue, so it will be the last without external funding. Please earmark your cheques FMR/Wave and we will use the money to produce a larger *Wave* in which we can add photos, alumnotes and more features.

For those on the Internet, the MURC website has been completely rebuilt, thanks to fabulous efforts of ALC Web Design. We're pretty pleased with the new look; check it out at <http://www.mcgill.ca/athletics/rowing>. The alumni website will shortly be going through its own overhaul and to reiterate – we need photos!

Enough of my ramblings (it's good to be Editor), on with the show. The next edition is planned for midsummer, and features on the drawing board include revisiting the birth and rebirth of MURC and Olympic/National team profiles. I hope you enjoy our work so far.

*Novice Women (Continued from page 1)*

Two weeks before the final race, Emmett and I decided it was time to put the faster rowers in one boat and make McGill's bid for an OU victory. The novice women's category at this year OUA Final hosted an impressive 32 boats. In the heat, the A-Boat, stroked by powerhouse and Novice Women MVP Lyn Mihailovich, cruised to a commanding 19 second victory over second place. The B-Boat rowed their best race of the season but were just shy of qualifying for the final. In the afternoon, from the starting gun, the Novice

Women set out to execute their race plan. Everything was going like clockwork, we got ahead off the start, built a lead to the 500, powered through after the 1000 to dominate the race and continued to push the other crews back. With a spectacular lead, it looked like it was all over for rivals Trent when 10 meters from the finish line, a crab stops the boat dead in its lane and turns it 45 degrees to the line. Gathered and composed, the women rowed their shell across the line. Two consecutive beeps were heard, one for Trent and one for McGill. What had seemed as a disaster turned to ecstasy for all 18 crew

**"...10 meters from the finish line, a crab stops the boat dead..."**

members as the officials announced: "Western: Third, Trent: Second, .... McGill: First". In my 6 years with McGill Crew, never before have I witnessed the victory of one boat being felt and celebrated by all 18 athletes alike. If the Fall 1999 season is anything to go by, McGill Crew women's future is looking good.

### McGill University Rowing Club

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Not responsible for lost or stolen articles

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## Profiles

### *Paul Campbell*

This section will be dedicated to past members of MURC who exemplify the wide range of individuals who have been drawn to McGill rowing, and have gone on to succeed in their lives, on or off the water. In this issue of *The Wave*, we focus on an individual who gave much of his life to the service of McGill: D. Lorne Gales.

Born in 1911 in Montreal, Lorne Gales attended the prestigious Lower Canada College before entering into McGill's halls in 1928. He graduated with a B.A. in 1932, followed by a B.C.L. in '35, yet those degrees listed on his transcripts are but a shadow of the riches of McGill life that Lorne Gales filled his student days with. Arts, athletics, and accountability would be a more accurate description of Gales' talents: vice-president of the Players' Club and business manager of the Red & White Revue, president of his fraternity, Delta Kappa Epsilon, president

and crew captain of the McGill Rowing Club, participant in the 1930 British Empire Games, member of the Athletic Board, and president of the Student Executive Council. Well-rounded certainly seems to be a feeble description.

While embarking on the practice of law, Lorne Gales was elected vice-president of the Montreal Junior Board of Trade, and 1<sup>st</sup> secretary of the McGill Associates. After World War II, in which he served with the Royal Montreal Regiment and rose to the rank of Staff Captain with the Canadian Armoured Corps, Gales returned to his association with McGill. Hired as Field Secretary for the Graduates' Society, his mandate was to reorganize and develop alumni branches. About his career switch from law to alumni relations and extracting funds from his fellow graduates, Gales claimed, "Certainly it is not very much more parasitical than law. In any event, I am happier by far now."

As Executive Director of the Alumni

Association (1948-60, 1964-73), Lorne Gales sought to link the resources of the many alumni to the needs of the current student body. In this way, he hoped that the variety of life outside essays and exams that he had enjoyed as a student would continue to flourish. Remembering his oarman experience, Gales was integral in the rebirth of intercollegiate rowing at McGill in the 1970s.

For his alumni efforts, Gales was awarded the Graduates' Society Gold Medal Award for Distinguished Service on behalf of the University. At the convocation ceremony of 1979, McGill University bestowed upon D. Lorne Gales the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*.

Today, MURC remembers the man and the spirit each spring, when the D. Lorne Gales Challenge Cup is awarded to the overall champion of the McGill-Queen's Challenge Boatrace.

## pERGatory

### *Megan Angus*

This year's turnout at the annual Pergatory was terrific thanks to an organized executive and especially VP Fundraiser, Gerald Sheehan.

Pergatory is a required 2000m erg test for McGill rowing athletes hoping to make the spring boats.

This year the event had a little twist. Through the ingenuity of the executive, other teams and *even* everyday students were invited to take their turn on "the beast" – for a small fee, of course. These novices had the opportunity to do a 1000m race or a 2000m relay consisting of 4 people.

For days before the show, posters were up all over campus, coxes were phoning their crews, and everywhere there was a buzz about who was coming to try out for the spring season. By the day of the event the crew was full of energy, to pull their tests and ready to teach beginners to erg.

The most exciting race of the day consisted of the swim team relay squad against the McGill Crew relay team.

The McGill Crew team consisted of Doug Vandor, James Reid (both heavy men), Melanie Goodday and Lyn Mihailovich (both novice women). Everyone was a bit nervous when they saw the swim team practicing, but the rowers were confident that with their supreme talent they would prevail; and of course, the rowing team came through strong.

The following are the top results from the pergatory races:



| Category              | Name            | Time    |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------|
| Novice Women          | Lyn Mihailovich | 07:23.7 |
| Novice Men            | Jamie Paterson  | 06:59.3 |
| Varsity Women         | Kate Gorsline   | 07:47.0 |
| Varsity Men           | Joel Warkentin  | 06:12.6 |
| Beginner Men 1000m    | Robin Bruen     | 03:20.8 |
| Beginner Women 1000m  | Carrie Kuurne   | 04:02.1 |
| Intercollegiate Relay | Swim Team       | 06:39.2 |
| Championship Relay    | McGill Crew     | 06:25.4 |

## 1999 Season Results

|                                  | M8+ | Ltwt<br>W8+ | W8+  | JV<br>W8+ | W8+ | W4+ | Ltwt<br>W4+ | M1X | Ltwt<br>W2X | Novice<br>M8+A | Novice<br>M8+B | Novice<br>W8+A | Novice<br>W8+B |
|----------------------------------|-----|-------------|------|-----------|-----|-----|-------------|-----|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Head of the Rideau - Ottawa      | 2nd | 2nd         |      | 5th       | 1st | 1st |             | 1st |             |                |                | 1st            | 3rd            |
| Head of the Trent - Peterborough | 2nd | 2nd         |      | 6th       | 5th |     |             |     |             | 2nd            | 5th            | 4th            | 5th            |
| Brock Invites - St. Catherines   | 5th | 4th         | 6th  |           |     | 3rd |             |     |             |                | 2nd            | 2nd            | 3rd            |
| Stonehurst Capital - Rochester   | 7th | 4th         | 14th |           |     | 1st |             |     |             |                |                |                |                |
| McGill Invitational - Montreal   | 1st | 2nd         | 4th  |           |     | 1st | 1st         | 1st |             | 2nd            | 5th            | 5th            | DNQ            |
| Head of the Charles - Boston     | *   | 7th         |      |           |     |     |             |     |             |                |                |                |                |
| OUA - St Catherines              | 5th | 4th         | 7th  |           |     | 2nd | 2nd         |     | 3rd**       | 3rd            | DNQ            | 1st            | DNQ            |
| CURC - St Catherines             | 8th |             |      |           | 8th |     |             |     | 8th         |                |                |                |                |

\* MURC Alumni Mens Lightweight 8+ placed 22nd at The Head of the Charles

\*\* Also competed in Open Women 2X, placed 5th

## Queen's - McGill Challenge Boatrace

*Megan Angus*

For many of us MURC members, rowing this summer is key to training for the fall. Well, in order to get the summer of to a big bang, MURC will be racing against Queen's University rowing team this April 30.

That's right – it's time for the annual Queen's – McGill Boatrace. For those of you who are unfamiliar with this exciting event, here's the lowdown: Every spring, one of these two schools, which have a longstanding rivalry, picks up their rowing gear and travels down the road to the other school. The teams take turns hosting this event every other year. This year it's McGill's chance to show them what we've got.

The boatrace has been held for the last

three years, on its way to becoming one of the most anticipated traditions of the team over the years. This year's event is going to be a great one. All alumni are encouraged to cheer on McGill and participate in an alumni boat. The actual races will be held at Laval Rowing Club and each crew will race a sprint and a head race. Everyone is also invited to attend the reception held at Tomlinson Hall (5:00pm Saturday) followed by dinner the night before the races.

Most important, the awards ceremony is where the truth really comes out: which school is off to the better start for the summer. The "Challenge Blade" and the "Challenge Trophy" are presented to the winning men's crew and women's crew respectively. An overall trophy, the

"D. Lorne Gales Challenge Cup" is the final award. In the last three years, McGill has taken home each of these awards and we intend on keeping them here in Montreal this year again.

So if you're feeling the competitive blood running through your veins, be at the Queen's-McGill Boatrace. If you've got any further questions, do not hesitate to contact us.

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