



### SIT READY . . . READY ALL . . .

- SARA Annual Meeting set May 17 in Syracuse
- SU IRA Varsity Eight Champions reunite for 25th Anniversary
- On the Learning Curve: The Reischman Era Begins
- Ted Kakas on Masters Rowing

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# The Orange Oar

## WEEKEND OF CHAMPIONS SET Gold Medal Crews to be Honored May 16-18



*1978 IRA Varsity 8 Champions*

Bill Purdy says the last 250 meters in the five seat are like it was yesterday, knowing the Syracuse University Varsity Eight was about to win the I.R.A for the first time in modern times. "It's one of the most memorable experiences of my life." It was 25 years ago.

Charlie Mills remembers stroking his S.U. Varsity Eight to the gold medal at the Pan Am Games in 1959. That race seems like yesterday to him. He calls being a part of that crew "one of the largest and best parts of my life." It was 44 years ago.

Now Purdy, Mills and dozens of other Syracuse oarsmen, coxswains and coaches who know how it feels to come across the line first in a championship race will come together to relive those memories, share them with one another, fellow alumni, and the current oarsmen, coxswains and coaches. It will happen at SARA's Weekend of Champions, May 16-18 in Liverpool.

*(See Weekend of Champions on page 4)*

### *Last Hard Copy Orange Oar*

In a bow to modern technology, the SARA Board of Directors voted last June to publish *The Orange Oar* on the internet web site. SARA members who do not have access to the internet are asked to write to SARA to request a hard copy of future issues. *(See Hard Copy—page 3)*

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## Tribute to a Captain



*Bryan and Nickie Collier dedicate the shell they donated and named for their daughter Kristin in 2001*

*Syracuse University Crew has lost an outstanding alumnus and friend with the death of Bryan Collier. His teammate, Doug Lehmann sent the following, which we feel is a fitting tribute.*

Just read in the "Orange Exclusive", that Bryan J. Collier, 1961 passed away on January 24, 2003. He was our Captain during our senior year at Syracuse. Bryan was 6'6" and pulled the #5 oar for that season in the varsity boat for every race. Only Bill Sanford, at 6'7" was taller (but 10 pounds lighter).

What does a Captain do? Bryan sent us the following letter on September 10, 1960 to the entire squad:

"To the '61 Crew:

Summer is drawing to a fast close and thoughts of fall turnout are looming up. Our biggest job is to assure a big Frosh turnout this year. We all know how important a good Frosh eight is to keep us all on our toes next spring.

Let's make our goal this year to not allow on potential Frosh coxswain, manager or oarsman thru the registration lines without first having been contacted at least once about signing up. With 100% cooperation we can attain this goal with ease.

Drop into the crew room as soon as you get to campus and let us know what days you will be on Deck!

This year, just as last year, we will divide up into three

teams in order to coordinate our efforts and get 100% coverage. This way a few men won't get stuck with the whole job -- everyone does a little.

I am looking forward to seeing you all again and to start the ball rolling for the '61 season. If you have any ideas on how to get those Frosh out, please drop me a line. Let's make this a year we can be proud of.

Bryan  
R.F.D. #3  
Plattsburgh, N.Y.

P.S. Mike advises me to tell all who desire to sell football programs for the opening football game on September 24 to drop him a note to confirm it. Send it to Vic Michalson, Archbold Gymnasium, Syracuse University.

B.C.

P.P.S. Programs will be issued at 11 o'clock the day of the game."

A Captain provides leadership! The Frosh won 3 races (including one over the varsity) and a 3rd in the IRA, the JV won twice, and the varsity only once. But for those of us who rowed for Syracuse that year it was a terrific year to end our four at Syracuse. We had spirit and Bryan provided his part. We sung in the bus rides all the time. There is a line in the "The Mormon Song" that goes "And if I go to heaven, I'll yell for Syracuse." Bryan is, and I'm sure he will.

Doug Lehmann, '61



## *The Learning Curve*

### *Orange Opens with losses at BU, Brown*

It wasn't what we wanted but at least we've got nine guys who want to fight and that will get you something." That was the word from SU Head Coach Dave Reischman after the opening weekend of the spring 2003 season.

The varsity eight, ranked 15th in the pre-season coaches' poll lost the Conlan Cup race to 19th ranked Boston University, in a "bang, bang" finish. The crews rowed into a 14-16 mph cross-headwind on the Charles River course. The Orangemen took a lead off the start, but the coach said by 500 meters, he knew the crew was in trouble.

"The varsity, I thought, was a little eager. They went firing out of the chute at 43, 44 - a couple beats high, settled a couple beats high and then of course you've got enough adrenaline running through your system the boat feels really good... for about 1,000 meters. After 1,000, we shortened up. It got choppy. The good thing about the race is that BU pulled even with us about 800 meters to go and I was thinking BU was moving pretty well at that point and I thought they were going to just keep going. We fought. We fought really hard and the never got to be more than three seats. We did the only thing you could do when your rhythm's gone, you're short and choppy. With 500 meters we take it up to 37 1/2, 38 and it got shorter and choppier but when you have no rhythm you've got to try something and we threw everything we had at them."

The Orange J.V. came up with the only win of the weekend, rowing through the Terriers and taking it strong across the finish line. "They rowed sort of like I envision a Syracuse crew rowing," Reischman said. "We just sort of steadily throughout the race came back even and came through and I thought rowed a great race."

Sunday morning saw the Orangemen up at four-thirty in Providence, to take on 8<sup>th</sup> ranked Brown in the rain on the Seekonk River. It was a strong tail wind this time and the Bruins made the most of it. SU led off the start, again rowing high, and the crews were even at 500 meters. But Brown edged ahead and took a 3/4 length lead at the halfway point, then added another 3/4 length over the second half of the race. Still, the coach was much happier with the varsity's performance than the day before. "We fought, though. We didn't give anything away in bunches. When we got down we didn't pack it in. We kept fighting hard. They (Brown) had to earn every seat they got."

The Jayvees' performance was not as strong as the day before, and Brown raced to an easy win. "Now we go from this stiff headwind to a really stiff tail and the JV had trouble with it. As good as their race was against BU it was the exact opposite against Brown."

With two races under their belts and two weeks to get

ready for the home opener against Rutgers, Reischman was seeing the upside.

"The good news is what we're doing through the water is fine. We're putting the effort in. There's a lot of things we can do out of the water on the recovery to get a little more run out of the boat. If you look at the two crews side by side it's obvious we're working a lot harder than the crews we're racing. That's a good thing because that means there's a lot more speed for us to gain as we make those changes."

The Coach said SU's veteran oarsmen have a tendency to try to win races with the start and the finish. He's trying to teach them something different.

"I'm a base pace guy- you grab your lunch bucket and go to work. You set a challenging pace by not making mistakes, but not slowing the boat down between strokes. And that's what we're doing right now we're just getting a little too eager coming forward and not letting the boat work for us as much as we could do."

It's apparent we have guys that want to fight and if you have guys that want to fight and have the ability to make changes then you're going to get faster as the season goes on.

I'm confident that as the season goes on we're going to learn something and we're going to get faster."

#### **Syracuse/ Boston University**

**Varsity Eights: BU 6:25.4, Syracuse 6:25.9**  
**Second Varsity Eights: Syracuse 6:38.2, BU 6:39.7**  
**Freshmen: BU 6:45.3, Syracuse 7:02.5**

#### **Syracuse/Brown**

**Varsity Eights: Brown, 5:49.6; Syracuse, 5:55**  
**Second Varsity: Brown, 5:49.6; Syracuse, 6:06**  
**Freshmen: Brown, 5:54.3; Syracuse, 6:18**

#### ***Hard Copy (continued from page 1)***

The idea is to save printing and mailing expenses in the thousands of dollars and put the money to better use supporting other SARA activities and the SU team. It is no one's wish to leave those not connected to the internet out of the loop. We'll still print hard copies as needed. But we will need a note letting us know you still need a hard copy. Please send it to:

SARA  
 P.O. Box 7202  
 Syracuse, NY 13261

Everyone on the e-mail list will be notified when a new edition or update is on line. If you are not on the list, please send your e-mail address to:  
[jsnich@juno.com](mailto:jsnich@juno.com)

***Weekend of Champions (continued from page 1)***

The Weekend of Champions will honor the members of every modern Syracuse crew to win gold at the I.R.A and the Eastern Sprints. Also included are the 1956 Freshmen Eight I.R.A. Champions, the 1961 Freshman Eight Eastern Sprints winners, the 1976, 1977 and 1978 Freshman Eight I.R.A Champions and the 1981 Varsity Four I.R.A Champions.

Highlights of the weekend include the Saturday night dinner at the DoubleTree Suites Hotel, honoring all the championship crews, and Sunday morning home races against Dartmouth, as Coach Dave Reischman's crews try to take back the Packard Cup.

Also included are: the annual meeting of SARA, Saturday morning, and a barbecue and alumni races at the boathouse, Saturday afternoon, plus plans for a golf outing Friday afternoon and informal get-togethers Friday night.

Bob Donabella, who coxed the '78 Freshman Eight is doing double duty as a committee member and honoree. A member of each crew has been working on rounding up his teammates and the early report is that a strong turnout is expected.

But there are some team members among the missing, including Pan Am Crew Captain Jim Kries, and help is needed locating everybody. Anybody who is a member of a championship SU crew and has not been contacted is asked to get in touch with SARA. "It's not that we haven't been looking," Weekend of Champions Committee Chair John Nicholson said. "We're keeping after it and hoping crew members will be able to help track their teammates down so we can get all these great alums together."

***YOU CAN BE PART OF THE NEXT GLORY DAYS  
COME TO THE WEEKEND OF CHAMPIONS  
SUPPORT SU CREW!***

***Weekend of Champions Schedule*****Friday, May 16**

***1:00 pm SARA Golf Outing  
Location (TBA)***

**Saturday, May 17**

***11:00 am SARA Annual Meeting  
SU Boathouse***

***1:00 pm Alumni Barbecue & Races  
SU Boathouse***

***6:00 pm—7:00 pm Social Hour (cash bar)  
7:00 pm Dinner of Champions  
Doubletree Hotel, North Syracuse***

**Sunday, May 18**

***(TBA) SU vs. Dartmouth  
Onondaga Lake***

***Reservation forms are available at the SARA website: [www.saracrew.org](http://www.saracrew.org)***

***Dinner: \$30 per person, Children 6-11—\$8.95  
Children 5 and under—Free***

***Buffet dinner includes: Prime Rib, Chicken Cordon Bleu, Scalloped Potatoes, Baked Ziti, Green Beans Almondine, Fruit Salad, Caesar Salad, Cheesecake, Coffee and Tea.***

***Questions:***

***Contact Colin Goodale '90 at (315)638-2600  
or Bob Donabella '81 at (315) 488-5647***

***By e-mail: John Nicholson '68  
[jsnich@juno.com](mailto:jsnich@juno.com)***

## Orange Oarsmen Network

By Jason Premo '98

The Syracuse University oarsmen and SARA would like to develop an interactive directory of former SU rowers and coxswains as a resource for all past and present members of the team. All Orangemen will have access to this directory if they wish to seek information about a potential career, a specific job-type, references, information/suggestions on geographic relocation, or if they would simply like to get back in touch with an old friend and teammate.

Alumni should shortly begin checking their mailboxes (both electronic and at the end of the driveway) for a mailing from SARA asking you to fill out a brief survey that would provide information for this directory. You may offer as much or as little information as you are comfortable with. As we start to fill out our directory, it will be made available to alumni and current team members.

If you have any questions or suggestions regarding this project, or you would like to fill out the survey electronically, feel free to contact Jason Premo via email ([jmpremo@hotmail.com](mailto:jmpremo@hotmail.com)) or phone (315-475-1799) to discuss.



**SU Alumni IRA Champions 2002**  
*Ted Kakas (2) is second from right in back*

## Masters Rowing Update

*Ted Kakas '64 is Chairman of the US Rowing Masters Committee. With so many SU alumni involved in masters rowing, **The Orange Oar** asked him for an update on Masters Rowing issues. Here is his report:*

Approval has been given for 21 to 26 yr olds to race at masters regattas. We were losing a lot of post college oars because they didn't have time, interest or ability to compete at senior Nationals, National team or even Canadian Henley so we wanted to offer a chance for them to stay involved at a slightly less competitive level.

We changed the rule that limits competitors at Masters Nationals to compete for only one club. That rule stands for rowers but coxswains may cox for other crews except for the "Club" races where they can only compete for their club.

Also at Masters Nationals we are proposing awarding multiple sets of medals in races with more than one age category. Currently those races are handicapped and only one set of medals is awarded.

We are working to get rowing included in the National Senior Olympics in Pittsburg in 2005. Rowing has never been part of the Senior Olympics and Pittsburg would be a great place to get started as a "demo" event. We are debating a one time weight-in for lightweights (instead of having to weigh-in everyday) at the 4 day Masters Nationals.

We are concerned that FISA dropped the H2 (75 yr. old) category at the FISA World Masters in Vichy. We have asked them to reconsider for Hamburg in 2005.

We are having Masters Sweep Camps at U. of Washington with Bob Ernst and Jan Harville, Northeastern with Buzz Congram and Holly Metcalf, UCLA with Hartmut Buschbacher (former Nat. team coach) and Amy Fuller (UCLA) and at Temple with Gavin White (Temple) and Barb Kirch (Penn). All will be 3 day weekend camps in July.

## BACKSPLASH . . . News of Our Alumni

### 1940s

**John Bruch, Jr. '44** – lives in Muncy, Pa. John says his JV Crew “Career” was interrupted by World War II. He spent three years as a B-24 pilot before returning to SU.

### 1950s

**Dick Hortsmann '57** – Dick’s brother Peter writes “Dick has been disabled since 1994 and is now a resident of Oakdale Nursing Center, 76 N. Main St., W. Boylston, MA., 01583. He enjoys greatly receiving news and letters from SU classmates and friends, particularly those involved in men’s crew. Dick was an ECAC rowing official for many years. He keeps in touch with his rowing colleagues by attending the Eastern Sprints Regatta in Worcester each May. He also includes visits from a number of his old teammates including Jack McClelland, Bob Angelucci, and Pete Beckett.”

**Nelson Miller '59** – is looking forward to getting together with his Pan Am Crew teammates at the Weekend of Champions. Nelson was the six man in that championship eight. He lives in Seattle.

### 1960s

**Charlie Mills '60** – also has his eyes on the Weekend of Champions in May. “I’m really looking forward to seeing all. I want to introduce Brenda to one of the largest and best parts of my life and all that participated.” Charlie recently started a consulting firm in telecommunications.

**Bill Sanford '63** – has formed a consulting firm with fellow former New York Assemblyman and long time political colleague Hal Brown. Bill also served as coach in the launch for daughter Jennifer’s UConn women’s crew during winter camp in Florida, while Jen was getting set to deliver Bill’s first grandson. Bill and wife Nancy have been traveling extensively to visit family since his term in the Assembly ended.



*Big Bill Sanford and Little Will Wendry*

**Dick “Pappy” Yochum '68** – continues to coach youth rowing while competing in Masters rowing out of the Rochester area. He is retired from a government career and when not rowing or coaching, he reportedly spends a lot of time in the local library.

### 1970s

**Bill Purdy '79** – is an oral and maxillofacial surgeon in a group practice in the Burlington, Vermont region. In Bill’s words, “I have been rowing masters since the fall of 2000 when I was encouraged to row the Head of the Charles with teammates from the 1980 Olympic team. I currently row my single with a small club here in Vermont and compete in various masters races. I row from late April until early November about 5-6 days/week. Otherwise I torture myself on the erg.”

## BACKSPLASH . . . News of Our Alumni

### 1980s

**Bob Donabella '81** – continues his close association with rowing. Bob serves as an official at numerous races, including refereeing most SU home contests. He lives in Camillus.

**Barry Weiss '83** – and his wife Kathy are on a mission to visit all 50 states before age 50. An April visit to teammate Gordon Hull in Oregon will make it 35 states for them. Barry is administrator of the Onondaga County District Attorney's Office in Syracuse.

**Shawn Sanford Bebko '87** – and her husband David have moved from Texas to their home in Westport Island, Maine. Shawn and David became parents last July when they adopted Mia Kathryn from China. Mia is the first grandchild for Coach Bill Sanford and wife Nancy.

**Jay Rhodes '89** – is back in San Francisco after a stint in Chile.

### 1990s

**Colin Goodale '90** – and wife Andrea are proud parents of a second son. Kyle Thomas was born on Jan 29, 2003 at 8.57 weighing in at 8 lb. 15 oz. and 20.5 inches long. Colin says Kyle has already applied for the 2020 SARA Scholarship. Kyle and older brother Ian leave the Goodales just 6 oarsmen short of a full boat. Of course Colin is still competing, so maybe five and a coxswain would do it. The Goodales live in Baldwinsville and Colin continues as computer maven with Pioneer Development in Syracuse, while performing yeoman duty as SARA treasurer.



*Kyle & Ian: Stern pair?*

**Jennifer Sanford-Wendry '93** – delivered a healthy son, William Richard on Feb. 7. “Will” was 8 lb. 13 oz. at birth. Jen, husband Brian, and Coach Bill's first grandson live in Connecticut, where Jen coaches the UConn women's crew.

**Brian Fitzgerald '94** – graduated with an MBA from Temple University in January. Brian lives in Abington, Pa.

### 2000s

**Glenn Heyer '00** – has landed a position with C&S Engineers in North Syracuse and plans on attending most of the SU

### *SU Women Open with Sweep*

Head Coach Kris Sanford's Orangewomen started the season by winning all four races against Boston University and Massachusetts on Saturday, March 29. The varsity eight took possession of the inaugural Kittell Cup for the first time after defeating Boston University with a time of 7:13.07 on the 2,000 meter course.

The Orangewomen have competed in the NCAA's three of the past four seasons.

**Syracuse Alumni Rowing Association, Inc**

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## CREW CALENDAR

Alumni, parents, & friends of S.U. Crew ...

Reserve these dates on your calendar to join the fun and show your support for the team.

### MEN'S CREW SPRING 2003 SCHEDULE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TIME</u>
Sat., Apr. 12	Rutgers University (Ten Eyck Cup)	Home	TBA
Sat., Apr. 19	Cornell and Navy (GOES Cup)	Home	TBA
Sun., April 27	Georgetown, Temple (Tentative)	Away ( <i>Washington DC</i> )	10 am
Sun., May 11	EARC Sprints	Away ( <i>Worcester, MA</i> )	TBA
Fri-Sun May 16-18	SARA Weekend of Champions	Home	
Sun., May 18	Dartmouth (Packard Cup)	Home	TBA
Thurs.-Sat. May 29-31	IRA Regatta	Away ( <i>Camden, NJ</i> )	TBA