



Sit ready...Ready all...

- Men's V8 Ends 20 year drought at IRA
- Change at the Top for SU Women's Team
- Alumni Eight Goes After Cornell in Camden
- Alumnae Eight returns to the Water at Sprints

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The Orange Oar

Men's Varsity Back Among the Elite at the IRA



SU Varsity Eight Chases Brown Across the Finish Line in IRA Grand Final

It had been a long season for Dave Reischman and his team and when it was over – after his varsity eight had finished sixth in the IRA Grand Final, his JV seventh (winning the petite), his varsity four ninth and his freshman eight 13th (winning the third level final) - he sat on a set of wooden steps in front of the shell trailer and looked back on it.

“I think as a coach going into a season you want to get done with your last race and look back on it and say that you got everything out of your guys you could,” he told *The Orange Oar*. “All the credit to the athletes I coach, with all four boats in our program I think we got everything...we could.”

It had been 20 years since an SU varsity eight had made a Grand Final. In 1990 Coach Bill Sanford's crew took bronze when the IRA was still on Onondaga Lake. Reischman's crews had come close. Most of his varsity that just missed in 2007 was in Camden to root on the 2010 crew.

This one made it by two-hundredths of a second – that's 0.02. It was so close that the Orange rowed back to the dock after the semi-final thinking they had just missed again.

(See Men's Season— Page 3)

Coach Kris Sanford Leaves SU Rowing

Kristen Sanford grew up in the Syracuse University Boathouse.

She eventually lived there with her husband and son, as head coach of the SU women's team. Now she is going on to another phase of her life.

Sanford met with Senior Associate Director of Athletics Rob Edson on June 7, and soon after announced her resignation – first in an email to her team and then in a news release by SU Athletics.

She'd been head coach 14 seasons and had taken her varsity eight

(See Sanford—Page 8)

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Letter from the President



Dear Fellow Alums-

I write this letter with mixed emotions for a season well rowed for the men's and women's programs but also on the heels of the announcement of SU Women's Head Coach Kris Sanford's resignation.

Although I never was coached by Kris, it was an absolute pleasure to work with her these last few years and can personally attest to her love of rowing and for her athletes. I thank her for her years of amazing service to the University and hold a deep appreciation for the stability and credibility that she brought to a program in turmoil. Kris will be leaving SU to pursue a degree in nursing – a clear reminder of her love and caring of people. Thank you Kris! A search committee has been formed to find Kris' replacement and SARA has offered its services as a resource to the University in the conduction of this effort. We will be sure to notify the alums as soon as we receive any news on an appointment.

On a sunnier note, we would like to commend the SU Men for a tremendous showing at the 2010 IRA Regatta. It's amazing to believe that the last time the men made the Grand Final at the IRA Regatta was 20 years ago. Having had the privilege of attending Saturday's finals, I can report that we have much to be proud of. The SU women wrapped up the year at Eastern Sprints several weeks ago at the same course in Cherry Hill, NJ and also concluded a very respectable season in a highly competitive field.

While the Coaches did their thing this year to make the SU crews as fast as possible, SARA worked behind the scenes assisting with race publicity, on-air live race broadcasts and race hospitality. We hope that many alums were able to come to the races and to benefit from some of SARA's new initiatives.

Please note that the SARA operating budget comes directly from dues. If you have not done so already, please go to the SARA blog and renew your SARA membership. These funds will allow us to continue to support the SU program and coaches and provide much-appreciated services around the SU and team events.

We've got a lot of items on the plate for the summer and fall. Here are some highlights:

Coming up, SARA will be offering Syracuse Rowing jackets, sweatshirts, hats and other gear through an online store in collaboration with Boathouse Sports. Information about this online store will be broadcast through the usual SARA channels: blog, Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn and email links. Stay tuned!

Event-wise PLEASE SAVE THE DATE! **Saturday, November 6** marks the resurrection (for better or for worse!) of the legendary Navy Ball. The event, featuring dinner, dancing, and overall merriment will be hosted at the Syracuse University Sheraton and will coincide with the Syracuse Invitational Regatta which will be held in the afternoon of the 6th. Please see additional information about this great event further in this edition of the Orange Oar.

I am also extremely excited to report that SARA is undertaking an important new project: the writing and publishing of the follow-up to the Mark of the Oarsmen. The first edition of this book documents the history of rowing at Syracuse University from its inception in the 1920s to approximately 1964. The sequel to this book will be coordinated through SARA Board Members Joe Paduda (who also authored The Art of Sculling) and John Nicholson, our dedicated Orange Oar Editor and noted Newhouse professor. This Herculean task is starting immediately and I ask you to start thinking about digging through your personal archives of photos and recollections to add to this next edition which will feature the history of SU rowing from 1962 to the present and will include the men's and the women's teams.

Have a great summer everyone! See you in the races in the fall. Go Orange!

All the best,
Tracy

Men's Season (from Page One)

“We walked through Columbia and BU was on the other side of the course in lane six so we weren't even thinking about them,” senior three man Tyson Bry said. “We were just focusing on Columbia.”

But the Terriers were coming and Bry says the cox shouted a warning to stroke Mike Gennaro. “With about 400 meters to go Kenny (Marfilus) the coxswain just goes ‘Mike, BU!’ We all take a glance over and they're cruising, like, son, they're sprinting coming through us. We just bump it up a couple beats and try to hang on.”

Washington and Cal were well ahead and the Orange and BU were fighting for the last qualifying slot. When the two crews crossed the finish line even the P.A. announcer thought the Terriers had done it. “We were all heads down, smacking the oars on the water and they were celebrating and throwing water in the air,” Bry said.

But Powerhouse timing told a different story. Syracuse – 5:40.111. BU 5:40.131.

“We got to the shore and I think it was like the Wisco coach was holding up “three” to us and Coach Reischman came onto the dock and pounds his chest when he realized that we actually got it.”

“I told them I was proud of them,” Reischman said. “It's been a rough couple of weeks I think in people's minds and I think in that process they learned to really trust each other.”

The Grand Final

But there was still one more race to two – the fourth in three days. “I said you know we're in the final and we're either going to end up road kill in the third 500 or we're taking a medal, but we're going to take our shot at the thing. And we took our shot and it didn't work out,” Reischman said.

Rowing in the outside lane, SU struggled to keep up as Cal and Washington shot out in an epic battle that saw the Golden Bears nip the favored Huskies by a fraction of a second. Cornell in lane one was in a dogfight with Harvard in lane three. Brown in lane five was just ahead of SU.

The plan was to get to 1,000 meters and try to make a move but it didn't work out. “We had to take a move earlier than planned and that took back a couple of seats but we couldn't quite get back in the race,” Reischman said. The Orange finished three seconds behind Brown.

“It was tough,” senior bow man Ryan Patton said. “We took our shot. From the minute he dropped the flag we went physically all out as far as we could.”



V8 Breaks the Huddle Before Heading to the Dock

“It's not the result you want,” junior stroke Mike Gennaro said. “You always want to win but given the last three weeks, I think we showed a lot of character.”

Three Weeks – the Plateau

SU's varsity had started the season strong – finishing third in the San Diego Crew Classic grand final behind Cal and in contact with Brown, which was then thought to be best in the East. The Orange beat BU twice in the two days of rowing and gained a number five ranking in the U.S. Rowing Poll.

Three weeks later in miserable conditions on the Severn River, Cornell edged the Orange by four-tenths of a second and Syracuse fell to #10 in the poll. The Orange then beat BU again, and Columbia (which it turned out was missing a key oarsmen) in New York before going out to Seattle and finishing a respectable nine seconds behind number one Washington.

Going into the Eastern Sprints SU had climbed back to number six in the US Rowing poll but also was seeded sixth in Worcester. Somebody seemed to know something. In the morning heat Syracuse did what it seemed to need to do to make the grand final, beating the seven-seed Northeastern. But #12 Dartmouth flew down the course to win the heat with Brown second and SU found itself in the petite facing – right – Cornell. Ah! Revenge! Or not. The Big Red beat Syracuse again – this time by nine-tenths of a second. SU dropped back to number ten in the poll.

The next Sunday found the Orange at Dartmouth. Ah! Another chance for revenge. The Big Green won again racing a crazy fast 5:31 to SU's 5:34.

"I think we hit a bit of a plateau after the Washington race through Sprints, through Dartmouth and the week after," Reischman told *The Orange Oar*, "and I think part of that plateau was the disappointment of not being in the final at Sprints. I don't think we were slower. I think we hit a plateau and we needed something to break us through that plateau."

Picking the Bucket

The coach tried a couple of things. First he decided to lower the work load. "I thought we were mentally tired so we did very little work, as little work as I've ever done between the sprints and the IRAs." Second, he switched the seating order in the shell, keeping Mike Gennaro and Chris Lutz at stroke-seven but moving the other six around.

He tried moving starboard oars, then bucketing five and four together. "And then we had a practice ... Saturday before IRA and we were talking - Kenny (Marfilus) the coxswain and I and Gennaro... and we're sitting there, we're throwing lineups around and all of a sudden I just said "what about Vince (Berry) behind Lutz at six and seven?" and everybody sort of looked at each other and said "it just might work."



Varsity Eight Stroke Mike Gennaro

"The final lineup came about Saturday and from the first row it was obvious that we were back to where we wanted to be and that we were fine."

Cooper River Racing

Thursday morning at the IRA on Camden County's Cooper River, the Orange varsity found itself too far behind Harvard and Columbia to catch up in a heat where just two would qualify, so rowed it home at cadence and saved strength for the afternoon repechage. Then the Orange men cranked it up, rowing through Princeton and falling just short of Brown to qualify for the Friday upper level semifinals. There they'd face five crews they'd raced before this season: Washington and Cal, who beaten them, BU, Columbia and Northeastern, who'd fallen to the Orange – BU four times by a total of 17 seconds. The Terriers would fall once more.

JV – Waiting to Compete then Getting it Going

SU's JV (or second varsity for those who prefer the term) stayed home while the varsity raced in San Diego, then had its Goes Cup race scrapped 500 meters in with the shells taking on water in the awful conditions at Navy. When the crew finally got to race the following weekend, SU took BU and Columbia by more than a length. In Seattle, the Orange JV finished a couple of lengths behind Washington but clobbered Oregon State and went into the Eastern Sprints as the six seed.

In Worcester, twelve-seed Northeastern rowed its race of the season, taking second behind top seed Brown in the morning heat and consigning the Orange JV to the petite final. Yale, which SU had beaten in the morning heat, came back to win the petite, edging SU by less than a second.

A week later the JV beat Dartmouth in Hanover by about two-and-a-half lengths and went into the IRA as the ten seed.

Quick Qualification, Semi Frustration

The JV needed to finish in the top three in the Thursday morning heat to move directly to the IRA semifinals and that's what it

did, taking third behind Brown and Cornell and leaving Yale and Penn behind. But on Friday, needing again a top three finish to get to the Grand Final, SU couldn't get it done, finishing fourth, a length behind third place Wisconsin. It would be the Petite Final again.

Rowing Away With It

With two seniors, Peter Kruse and Clai White rowing their final race for SU, the Orange would not be denied. SU in lane four grabbed the lead, powered down the course in the noon-day sun in front of a roaring contingent of supporters and held off a charge by Princeton in lane six to win it by a second.

The JV had been rowing a strong first 1,000 meters in previous races but had trouble holding onto it in the second half of the race. "We've had a history of when they caught us they caught us in that third 500," sophomore stroke Kynan Reelick said. "Today we just made a conscious effort not to let that happen and push through instead of letting them catch up."



SU JV Sprints for the Finish to Win IRA Petite Final

The big move came at 1,000 meters. "I said 'this is it, let's take control,'" sophomore Coxswain Isaac Budmen said. "We took 20 strokes and kind of pushed out about 3/4 of a length and they knew they were in control at that point."

Princeton made one last push, but SU answered with a ten at 300 to go and held on.

"It was fun; definitely our best race of the season so it's good that we finally put together a really strong race," senior bow man Kruse said. "We definitely we saw this as the last chance really row as a crew and to do a good job and it feels really rewarding that we could finish the last race on a really strong note."

Third Varsity Four Makes it Count



SU's varsity four didn't get to race until April 24 in New York but the 3V downed BU in that one, then won its event at the Eastern Sprints and beat Dartmouth in Hanover the following weekend. Not a lot of competition, but the crew beat everybody it raced and came to the IRA unbeaten. With sophomore cox Isaac Budmen moved to the JV, senior Jack Mutty took over the four.

SU was third in the Thursday morning heat, then took second by .009 over Princeton in the repechage and moved on to the Friday semifinals. The Orange struggled there, coming in fifth and that sent the 3V4 to the Petite Final on Saturday.

Varsity Four—Bang—Bang—Bang at the Finish

With Yale out front and SU back in the pack, the Orange rallied, moving through George Washington and Temple and just missing second place Penn in a "bang-bang-bang" finish. SU was third – ninth overall.

"I thought it was the best race we had of the four," sophomore two oar James Olson said "Today we had a good rhythm all the way through and it helped us walk through Temple and George Washington in the middle of the race."

Freshmen – "They Have Some Resolve"

Like the JV and 3V, Coach Dave Weiss' frosh had to wait until New York to get in a race and when they did they ran into one of the best freshman crews in the East, BU. The Terriers won it by open water, with Columbia just a second ahead of the Orange.

That was it until the Eastern Sprints where the Orange frosh finished fourth in their heat and third in the Petite Final, two seconds behind Brown and one-and-a-half behind Wisconsin. BU (4th) and Columbia (6th) both made the Grand Final.

A week later SU broke through with a convincing win at Dartmouth. With a lot of practice but not a lot of racing behind them they headed for Camden. Maybe it was the lack of experience, maybe something else, but after finishing fourth in the Thursday morning heat, Syracuse came in fifth in the repechage .069 seconds behind fourth place Penn but more than a length behind third place Oregon State, the last semifinal qualifier. SU was consigned to the Third Level Final.

OK – so you win that one. The Orange did. “It was a fun race,” Coxswain Matt Cosmann told *The Orange Oar*. “I think we had one of our better starts,” stroke Nick Pickard said. But the boat rowed a little heavy in the second 500 meters, so Pickard said Cosmann got the crew going. “After that he called us up at 1,000. The boat got a lot lighter and we started to pick it up and that’s when we moved out on the rest of the boats.”



SU Freshmen Lead Penn Across the Line

“Penn came up from behind, Cosmann said. “It was us and Penn. At the 500 meter mark we started taking it up and that was it. (We) sprinted it out and just beat them.” SU held off Penn by less than a second, with Northeastern, Yale and Dartmouth behind.

“I was proud of these guys for coming back from in their minds what was a disappointment a couple of days ago and

racing I think a tough race and flat out just seeing what they’ve got,” Coach Weiss said. “They’re not the biggest, strongest guys but when push comes to shove they have some resolve.”



Frosh Pose After Third Level Victory

Summing Up the Season

And so the long season was over. “I thought the varsity left the last bit of everything they had on the water,” Reischman said. “I think the JV the 3V and the frosh did the same.”

He talked about his seniors – Jack Mutty who coxed the JV much of the year and drove the V4 to a strong finish at the IRA – Peter Kruse and Clai White who finished with a win in the JV, and the two V8 oarsmen – Tyson Bry and Ryan Patton.

“There was a moment on the dock, that the boat was on the dock and some of the guys were carrying the oars up and I was standing with Tyson and Ryan on the bow and it was a little teary-eyed. Nobody was saying anything but both Tyson and Ryan had tears in their eyes. If a kid can leave your program and have that type of experience and those types of strong feelings about the program that’s all we can hope for.”

The Future

Dave Weiss says his freshmen will help the SU squad in a couple of ways as they move up. “Talent – we’ll see where that ends up. I don’t know how many of these guys are going to end up in the varsity but from a competition standpoint, from an every day give it everything you have standpoint these guys absolutely have that – that kind of toughness, that kind of mettle to help the varsity squad.”

While Bry, Kruse, Mutty, Patton and White have graduated and move on, seven men from the varsity eight and seven more from the JV eight are due to be back for at least another year.

“We had good leadership ahead of us the past two years it’s slowly been getting better – the class graduating last year and two years before that,” Patton said after the Grand Final. “We had leadership – good things to follow so we took it to the next level

and I'm sure next year they're going to do the same."

"After the semifinals I had Martin Etem ('09 captain) text me and said "Congrats," Gennaro said. "All I could do was thank him for pushing the program to where it was and I just thanked Ryan Patton and Tyson (Bry) for pushing the program up one more step. We wouldn't be doing what we're doing now or what we'll be doing next year without those guys."

"There's a lot of confidence that comes from knowing you can do it," Reischman said. "I think that the key is that you don't get the 'we have arrived syndrome' – that you remember all the hard work that went into it. Hopefully two things happen - you relax with the knowledge that you can do it so you manage your intensities better so you know you've just got to keep building and the other thing - you get a little greedy - you get a little taste of it and you want a little more and that turns into a little extra work here and there that you didn't know you were capable of and hopefully that allows us to make that next step."

"Another year and we'll see where it goes," junior Dan Berry said after the Grand Final. "I hope to be right back in this spot with a medal around our neck next year. We'll see."

Two of the oarsmen varsity stroke-seven Mike Gennaro and Chris Lutz were off to Oakland to the US Rowing Under 23 camp – Gennaro's second year with U23.

Reischman would head for Oklahoma City just four days after the IRA to work again with the USRowing Under 23 National Team there. "The chance to work with other coaches at that level and to share ideas - it is rejuvenating in a lot of ways," he said. "But the most important thing is I think it makes me a better coach when I get back (to Syracuse) with my guys."

"Anything else you want to add, Coach?" *The Orange Oar* asked, sitting on those wooden steps in front of the shell trailer.

"Nope," Dave Reischman answered. "I'm tired. I'm going to sleep for a couple of days I think."

He probably wouldn't. But he deserved to.



Joe Paduda posts to SARA Blog as Orange Oar Editor John Nicholson interviews Coach Dave Reischman at the end of the 2010 IRA

IRA Notes

SU Varsity Eight that took Third in 1990

Cox - Jonathan Parella '90, Stroke - Jeff Pesot '90, 7- Don Smith '90 6- Chris Ludden '91 5- Allan Green '90 4- Mike Love '92 3- Steve Locke '90, 2- Colin Goodale '90 Bow- Dirk Stribrny '90

SU Parents Are the Best

With SARA supplying the hospitality tent, Syracuse crew parents put on a terrific spread at the IRA, pausing only to dash to the shore and cheer as Orange crews came by. Thanks to ringleader Carol Kruse and all the many others who are such a big part of the program for both the men's and women's teams.



Sanford (from Page One)

to the NAAs five times, most recently in 2005.

“Although we were not as fast as we wanted to be this year it was great waking up every morning excited to go to practice,” she said in the email to her team.

A search for her successor is underway. In the meantime assistant coach Alciea Kochis is handling day-to-day operations for the women’s rowing program.

A Life in Rowing

Rowing has always been a big part of Kris Sanford’s life, living in the boathouse with her father, Coach Bill Sanford, her mother, Nancy and her sisters, Shawn who coxed for the men’s crew and Jennifer who went on to become women’s head coach at UConn.



Kris went west to the University of Washington where she stroked championship crews in her four years as an undergraduate and was honored as one of the top rowers of the 1980s in the Pac Ten. She graduated in 1988.

She spent four years as the Executive Director of the Indianapolis Rowing Center and one year as the Midwest Regional Technical Director for USRowing, before coming back to SU as women’s novice coach and recruiting coordinator in the fall of 1994.

She succeeded Chris Lang as head coach two years later and her first varsity eight made the inaugural NCAA Rowing Championship in 1997. The eight would make it again in 2000, 2001 (finishing sixth in the Grand Final), 2002 (when the full squad was invited) and 2005.

Kris Sanford Sums Up the 2010 Season— May 28

The 2010 Season: A Turning Point on Cayuga Lake

The 2010 season got off to a good start. SU’s varsity eight trounced Boston University on a frigid March day in Syracuse (*below right*). But the following Friday disaster struck on Cayuga Lake. Up against top-ranked Yale (which wound up winning the NCAA championship) and Cornell, SU expected to try to keep stay close to the Eli and be right in it with the Big Red. Instead it was Cornell that battled closely with Yale and SU fell well back.

“The week before where they had control of the race and they were able to be comfortable and strong and confident, it became like an ‘Oh (bleep)!’ Sanford said. “ If I look at a turning point in the season and a point that we had to then rally and it took us a long time that was the one race – that was the race that did it for us.”



The next morning SU raced again, barely beating Buffalo and that afternoon in a third race in two days, got edged by Gonzaga. “I think if we had won against Gonzaga by a tenth of a second it would have made the next few weeks easier, but again, confidence a big thing in our sport and that’s going to be the thing as you’re building a program to that next level I think that trying to build on confidence is almost tougher than anything that you’re facing.”

The Orange lost again the following week to Northeastern and Penn in Philadelphia and again the week after in Boston, to Dartmouth and Radcliffe.

After a third place finish behind Notre Dame and Louisville at the Big East Championships, Sanford's road warriors went out to Seattle, losing to the Washington Huskies but managing to out-row a crew from Oxford.

The season ended in Camden, with a fourth place finish in the Petite Final of the Eastern Sprints – tenth overall. The feeling? "Disappointed, because we don't do this to be tenth," Sanford said. "We put in far too much time and effort. But at the same time...as we shoved the people off the dock for the final – what I said to them is you need to be able to come into the dock and say that's the best we could have done that was all we had – no looking back on it no saying 'well if we had just done this or this or this' - and they were all able to do that."

The Future: Losing the Stern Four

The new coach will find the stern four gone from this year's varsity eight. Six-oar Sydney Axson (a fifth year senior) and five-oar Susan Groff have graduated. Seven-oar Natalie Mastracci, generally recognized as the best athlete on the team, had already decided to forgo her senior season to pursue the Olympic team in her native Canada. And stroke Allison Ehrke is in a five-year academic program that will take her abroad in 2011, so is red-shirting.

Rachel Ogundiran (4 seat) is slated to return as a senior, Keriann Miller (3) and Ann Couwenhoven (bow) as juniors and Emily Moomey (two seat) as a sophomore along with junior coxswain Allison Todd.

From the 2V –Coxswain Lydia Wong, stroke Kaitlin Grant and two-oar Anne Vanhouten have graduated. Three oar Brandis Arcadia and Jackie Lee (bow) will be seniors. Elizabeth McGehee (7), and Naomi Carlson (6) are slated to return as juniors, along with Gina Biascoechea (5) and Macey Miller (4) as sophomores.

The second varsity didn't win a race all season and finished in the third level at the Sprints but Sanford said the crew was always battling. "Sometimes they came out on top of it and sometimes they didn't but a lot of things ended like within a half a second."

In her parting email to the team Sanford offered some advice to the returning team members. "Make sure you work out and come in this fall in great shape. First impressions will be very important and you have the chance to really make a statement by how you come back to campus. Everyone starts with a clean slate," she said. "I am very excited to watch the progress of the program in the coming years because I know it is going to get faster."

A New Direction



Kris Sanford, her husband Craig Milburn (once her assistant coach) and their son Aiden moved out of the coach's apartment at the boathouse a year ago and into a home in Baldwinsville. Now in her early 40s, she plans to go to nursing school and start a new career.

"This is something I have always wanted to do and I am excited about the next chapter in my life," she said in her email to the team. But she leaves with mixed emotions. "The mixed emotions come from leaving something and people I really love and something that has been a part of my life for 16 years."

Coach Kris and son Aiden after Kittell Cup Race

Honors for SU Men's Crew and Women's Rowing Team Members

BIG EAST All-Conference

First Team

Natalie Mastracci

Second Team

Sydney Axson
Allison Erkhe

Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association (CRCA) Mid-Atlantic All Regional

Natie Mastracci— first team
Sydney Axson—second team



Natalie Mastracci

CRCA National Scholar-Athletes (Requires a 3.5 GPA and participation in 75 percent of the team's races)

Allison Ehrke
Anne van Houten
Catherine Wilcox

Syracuse University Scholar Athletes of the Week

Tyson Bry—March 22
Lydia Wong—March 29
Mike Dietrick—April 5
Mark Vyzas—April 19
Natalie Mastracci—April 26
Ryan Patton—May 3

41 members of the Syracuse University women's rowing team were named to the Athletic Director's Honor Roll for the fall semester. The recognition goes to a student-athlete who achieves a 3.0 grade-point average. The 41 rowing honorees mark the most from one single team.



CREW COMMENCEMENT

As usual the Eastern Sprints conflicted with SU Commencement so the men's varsity seniors had their own ceremony.

(from the stern) Jack Mutty, Clai White, Mark Vyzas, Coach Dave Reischman (who already has his Master's Degree), Tyson Bry, Ryan Patton and Peter Kruse.

Mark II—The Next 50 Years

That's not actually the title but SARA's executive board has set the process in motion to write a sequel to Mark of the Oarsmen, the engaging story of SU crew, published in 1962. Joe Paduda, the SARA secretary who has written "The Art of Sculling" and Orange Oar Editor John Nicholson are collaborating on the new book and looking for input—stories, contacts, pictures and articles to help research the story.

The new book will take us from the early years of Coach Loren Schoel through the Bill Sanford years including the 1978 IRA varsity eight championship and up to the present Dave Reischman Era and SU's return to the upper echelons of collegiate crew. It will include the beginnings of women's rowing as a club sport at SU, the tumultuous early years as a varsity sport, the rise to NCAA competition under Coach Kris Sanford and the transition to the new coach.

Please contact Joe Paduda jpaduda@healthstrategyassoc.com or John Nicholson jsnich@twcny.rr.com with suggestions, material and offers to pitch in. There is much work to be done as we bring the history of the program up to date.

Navy Ball Returns!

On Saturday November 6th SARA will renew an old tradition – The Syracuse Navy Ball. The event will cap an event-filled day starting with the Syracuse Invitational crew races, followed by a SU football game vs. Louisville.

The banquet at the Sheraton Syracuse University will include dinner, dancing and a celebration of Orange rowing - a chance to catch up with former teammates and get together with many others who share the experience of having been involved in Syracuse crew. Please join SARA for the inaugural rekindling of a classic. Tickets will go on sale in July.

As there are many events in Syracuse this weekend, rooms have been blocked with a discount at the Holiday Inn Express in East Syracuse. The phone number is 315-373-0123. The address is 5908 Widewaters Parkway East Syracuse, NY 13057. Please tell them that you are calling in reference to the SARA event.

Please contact Chip Gibson with any questions. cgibsonjr@delandgibson.com

A Stellar Graduate Looks Back at her Syracuse Rowing Career—and Ahead



Sydney Axson spent five years (including a redshirt year) with the SU Women's Rowing Team. Immediately after the 2010 season The Orange Oar asked her what rowing has meant to her and how her hard work has paid off. Here is her answer.

I couldn't have asked for a better college experience. I have loved this team, I have grown a lot on this team, and I am pretty sure I am going to be lost when I find myself not moving back to Cuse in August! My teammates have been (and still are, of course) my best friends and I have looked up to Kris and Alicea during my career here. I am faster than I have ever been and I am happy that I can keep racing in my immediate future. Further, my future in graduate school doesn't faze me because if I can survive countless dome tours, 2ks, 6ks, trainings trips etc, etc, I can certainly handle a classroom. I am very lucky to have been a part of this team and I can only hope that the younger folks will have as great of an experience as I did. Go Cuse!

Sydney Axson

And what are her plans now?

"Right now I am headed to a 6 week USRowing development camp in Philadelphia. I look forward to working hard and going fast! I am uncertain of what my rowing future will be after the summer, but I do intend to keep with it in any way I can. Immediately following camp I am headed to Tampa, FL for some rest, relaxation, and home cooking. And in the fall I will begin working towards a master's degree in Public Health at the University of Pennsylvania. I will be focusing my graduate work on community health, policy, and bioethics in hopes of ultimately earning my Ph.D."

Alumnae Eight—Representing at the Sprints

There was a certain amount of braggadocio going in, but they weren't really in it to win it. Not this first time anyway. What the SU alumnae in the eight at the EAWRC sprints wanted was to show the flag and to see each other and Coach Kris Sanford. Seven of them had rowed for her in the NCAA's. The eighth rower, SARA President Tracy (Rude) Smith '90 is Sanford's contemporary and a former Olympian. 2009 Coxswain Kate Todd agreed to sit in the stern.



Cox to Bow: Kate Todd, Nicole Garofalo, Tracy (Rude) Smith, Jillian (Kott) Carleson, Rachael (Kirchhoff) Posey, Alicea (Kochis) Strodel, Kate Modolo, Libby Abbott-Graves, Jordan Brophy-

They practiced on Saturday, dined together that night along with many spouses and children and got back into the shell on to race on Sunday.

“Being back in the boat with those women was great,” five-oar Rachael (Kirchhoff) Posey '02 told *The Orange Oar*. “Even when the race wasn't going well I didn't have any doubt that every single person in the boat was giving 100 percent. I think that is a testament to the competitiveness and determination that Kris helped foster in us during our four years at Syracuse.”

Prodded by your Orange Oar editor ahead of time, several of the Orange alumnae had said they expected to win. (Those annoying reporters!) So off they went.

“The race itself went pretty well,” Smith said. “We rowed down the course at a 30 which was not too bad considering that several people had not picked up an oar since

NCAAs.”

As it turned out, Brown won the race with Radcliffe well behind, Dartmouth another couple of lengths back and then Penn edging SU by three-tenths of a second.

“It would have been nice to finish higher up in the rankings,” Smith added. “But I think that we all know what we need to do to get ready for next year.”



Coach Kris Sanford, Rachael (Kirchhoff) Posey '02—, Tracy (Rude) Smith '90, Kate Modolo '01, Jordan Brophy-Hilton '02, Alicea (Kochis) Strodel '02, Libby Abbott-Graves '02, Nicole Garofalo '03, Jillian (Kott) Carleson '02

“Seeing so many great friends made the trip worth it,” Posey said. “And if there had been a handicap for number of moms with infants (three) in the boat then I think we definitely would have won!”



Three New Moms in a Boat: Alicea and Marty, Rachael and Cam, & Libby and Emmett.

Alumni Eight—Chasing the Big Red



The Syracuse boat was full of studs – notwithstanding the fact that their average age was 57. The thing is, Cornell’s boat had an average age of 67 and that was just enough to give the Big Red the 2010 Master’s Eight title at the IRA.

Cornell got about a 30 second head start and the Orange boat was next. “We started at about 40,” said coxswain **Joe Peter ’69**. “We settled at about 33-34. That was our plan – we did like a double ten at about 1,000 meters.”

Younger crews from MIT and a couple from Penn followed behind but never made any progress on SU.

“It was good,” four-man **Bill Bater ’79** said. “It was strong and powerful. I think rowing a 34 as we get older is somewhat difficult. But – it went well.” Just not quite well enough. With 500 meters left it looked as if the Orange were still three to four lengths back.

“We took it up with about 250 meters to go,” Peter said. SU was moving and Cornell was hanging on. “Joey kept telling us we were catching them but we didn’t see them,” five-oar **Steve Rogers ’69** said. “We could see the puddles so we knew we were getting close.” But they needed one more length and the finish line came first.

“It’s like a head race,” said seven-man **Don Smith ’90**, a former Olympic oarsman. “You just have to keep going at it down the course and we didn’t make it in time. It was a good piece. The course wasn’t long enough.”

Stroke **Bob Price ’88** admitted he was a little frustrated. “(The boat) felt really good. It was a typical Syracuse alumni race. It was nice and solid, good swing we just couldn’t close the gap.”

“These are good guys,” said three-man **John Campbell ’67** “Once a year it’s a good boat to row in. You know the boats I row in during the year aren’t as good. I wish I could row in this boat all the time.”

Six-man **Andy Hobbs ’83** agreed. “It was a lot of fun... good to see all these guys.”

Bow-man **Jim Edmonds ’59**, another former Olympian, underplayed his role. “I always enjoy rowing down the course with a bunch of younger guys taking me for a ride,” he said. Edmonds, who’d turned 72 the day before always pulls his weight – and more.

And two-man **Ted Kakas ’64**, did you row hard? “All the way,” he laughed. But he was serious. Row hard is his motto.



Joe Peter takes care of chores as Coach Dave Reischman chats with Master’s 8

Next year they’ll all be older, but then so will the Big Red, who keep trading this Master’s title back and forth with the Orange every couple of years.

Peter, who has been coxing all over the world after a lower boat career as an undergrad, conceded he was not satisfied with second place. “No, but I’m satisfied and happy to row in this event. Just being able to row in this boat is fantastic. I finally made the varsity.”

BACKSPLASH—NEWS OF OUR ALUMNI

1950s

Jim Edmonds '59 – turned 72 the day before the IRA Master's race and rowed in the bow as usual. He's still active with Potomac Boat Club. How much longer? "Maybe another ten minutes. We'll see. Every year it's another question – we'll see."

1960s



John Campbell '67 – was upbeat in an interview with the Orange Oar after the IRA Master's Race - "No complaints. We have five kids. 31, 29, 26, 25 and 21 and everybody's employed. We're happy about that. I'm retired. We live in Jackson Hole, Nantucket and Philadelphia."

Don Plath '69 – sends these thoughts from Skaneateles - "As all, very proud of the Varsity making the Grand Finals. Spent a week with #1 son and family on Mexico coast after he returned from Iraq with all appendages. #2 son is in the City doing derivative pricing for HSBC. Hope to be rowing the single again in summer after 5 vertebrae /discs were removed, cleaned up and returned. Humbling. Maureen is on cloud nine after taking early retirement from teaching. Seeing the November '70 reunion, rescheduled plans to be there. Have a photo project for Paul Buff that has been in the attic for 40 years. Remember running Archbold seats with the black weenies? Hope Rich Kortright can make it. Captain Frank Doble, the recluse, too? "All Together", a great read by Coach Bill Stowe and Stroke of the '60 Olympic gold medal Eight from Vesper."

Andy Hobbs, John Campbell at IRA

Steve Rogers '69 – came all the way from Oregon to row in the Master's eight at the IRA and says it was well worth the trip even though the Orange couldn't catch Cornell this time. "You know I was in the boat last year (in Sacramento) and got my gold medal – 40th anniversary of my last IRA, so I was OK with second today."

1970s

Bill Bater '79 – is still working at Wells Fargo Bank and working out of his home in Long Beach, California. Bill also rowed in the SU master's eight. His son just finished his freshman year at Syracuse.

1980s

Andy Hobbs '83 – says life is great. (See photo above) "I live right down the street (from the IRA) in Wilmington, Delaware. Boys are all grown up and I'm loving life." Andy won't be down the street much longer. He's moving to Jupiter, Florida – into the same neighborhood where Burt Reynolds lives.

1990s

Don Smith '90 – How's life? "It's good. Busy and good. Little kids. Not much time on the river. Five, three and one." Don also rowed in the Master's eight at the IRA.

Todd Selig '91 - The New Hampshire Center for Public Policy Studies, a non-profit, independent, nonpartisan public policy research organization based in Concord, has named Todd Selig (right) of Durham chair of the Center's board. Selig has served as Durham's town administrator since 2001.



BACKSPLASH—NEWS OF OUR ALUMNI

Molly (Tibbetts) Scannell '96 – “After my second child was born (Feb 09), I raced in the club single at the Head of the Charles last fall (Oct 09). I came in 6th out of 35. I was determined to pass that single with rower wearing wings! Who wears wings while racing? Turns out a friend wears wings! Funny.”

Molly lives in Arlington, MA with her husband and 2 girls - Ava, 3 and Clara 1.



Scannell Sculls on the Charles

2000s

Ruth Frantz '07 - “just finished my first year at USC at the Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism. I will (hopefully) graduate May 2011 with a master's in journalism. I love Los Angeles and I have run into a lot of other Syracuse alums that work in the entertainment industry. I have been working with Annenberg's online news site www.neontommy.com and also with KNBC in the investigative unit.



“I was also fortunate enough to be in Seattle for Opening Day and meet up with the Syracuse boats that were rowing! It was great seeing Kris and the girls.”

Frantz (right) with Susan Groff '10 in Seattle

Matt Morrow '07 – is living outside Philadelphia and working for Merck. The former varsity eight stroke is one of at least a dozen recent alums who turned out at the IRA to support the Orange men.



Tim Mambort '07, Mike McHarris '08 Brian Azeff '09 Matt Morrow '07 Jamie Hubbell '09, J.P. Geise '07 Ryan Armstrong '08 Noah Chase '08 Jon Flynn '07—Showing their Orange

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STAY IN TOUCH WITH THE ORANGE

For regular updates on SARA activities and events and the Women's and Men's teams check the SARA blog: <http://syracusealumnirowing.blogspot.com/>

SARA is on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/syracuserowing>

To send a message to the email lists contact the coaches:

Men: Dave Reischman - dreichm@syr.edu

Women: Alica Kochis - amkochis@syr.edu