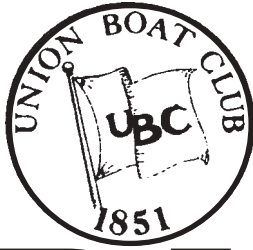


THE PUDDLE



Newsletter of the Union Boat Club of Boston

Spring 2000

150th Anniversary of UBC Coming Up!

For Your Information...

The 150th anniversary of the founding of the club will occur in May of 2001. We are planning a few different ways to commemorate this occasion in addition to an expanded annual dinner. Under discussion are a renovation of the Winslow room, publishing an updated history of the club and the possible donation of a statue, in honor of rowing on the Charles River, to the city of Boston.

For any or all of these to become a part of this celebration we need some additional hands to help the Captain in his course of duty planning our social events. Specifically, please contact Bill Motley if you have an interest in the Winslow room, call Cap Kane or Max Turner if you'd like to help with the History and Nick O'Connor will gladly accept your assistance with the statue project. Thanks in advance to those who intend to volunteer.

The Club has been exploring the need for a defibrillator as a compliment to CPR. The initiative

has been spearheaded by Dr. Bob Ackerman and we hope to have the equipment installed within the next few weeks. Preceding the installation, there will be a course on the proper use of the machine and also on CPR. The Massachusetts "Good Samaritan" Law exempts potential care givers from any liability if a recognized association, such as the Heart Association, has certified them. The course will be taught by a Boston EMS instructor and takes four hours to complete. The accreditation is good for two years and we hope that active users of the club will take the time to become accredited. There will be a mailing announcing the course date(s).

The February New Member reception was a big success. About 40 people turned out to see Mark Lewis defeat his counterpart from the University Club in a display of squash to which few of us can relate. It was an excellent opportunity to have the recently elected members meet a good cross section of the regulars in the club. It was even overheard that one new member thought Max Turner was a nice guy. AT EASE!

Important! It is an MSRA and

Union Boat Club Rule that all players must wear eye protection on the squash courts. NO ifs, ands or buts about it. The risk of injury is high and the result of a racquet or ball in the eye is often blindness. Mark Lewis, members of the executive committee and the squash committee are empowered to halt play until both players are in compliance. Please cooperate with this request as the eye they help to save just might be yours.

Finally, this year's Annual Dinner will be on May 17, on a Wednesday (not Thursday!) evening. As usual it will be at the Harvard Club. Mark your calendars and we hope to see you all there. ■

From Foreign Shores

UBC athletes continue to play their games wherever they may be. Fellow members Chip Elfner, Steve Marks and Jon Smith collided in Tokyo in early December and found that happenstance to be a perfectly good reason to

continued on back...

President's Message

With the millennium two months old and the world at large mostly as it was in the old millennium, I am happy to say that The Union Boat Club enters its 149th year in good fettle. Our Y2K initiatives were less complex than those of many institutions but the end of 1999 saw continued change at UBC. Most noticeably, the gymnasium has had a substantive makeover in that the new equipment promised in the most recent edition of The Puddle is up and running. Upon the advice of our squash and rowing coaches, and with feedback from many of you, we've added a new leg press machine, a new leg extension machine, a Cybex multi-exercise weight machine and a variety of new benches and weight racks to allow for safer, more convenient use of the equipment.

Our treasurer, Gene Clapp, has been diligent about paying of our indebtedness to the Brookline Savings Bank that we incurred as a result of our renovation project. To date we have paid back over \$300,000.00 which brings our total indebtedness to \$900,000.00, including the notes to certain members. You hopefully noticed that the January billing showed that the assessment is no longer being charged. You will also note that there is an increase in the dues portion of your bill that was approved at the special meeting held on January 13, 2000. This is our first increase in three years and is necessary to maintain the club's sound financial structure, as well as to offset the higher costs of running the club.

Finally, I want to remind all of you that our 150th anniversary is 15 months away and coming fast. On our calendar of possible events/projects is an expanded annual dinner, the publishing of a 150 year history, and the renovation of the Winslow room. The executive committee needs and solicits volun-

teers to help with any of these activities. Please call either Bill Motley or Cap Kane if you'd be willing to help us plan a proper celebration.

I hope you have had a great winter and have stayed fit and healthy for spring. ■

Cap Kane, President

Rowing News

The annual Gov. Keys 2000 Meter Erg Torture Test was held on Saturday, January 29. Although the morning was cold and raw (and a Saturday), a number of stalwart oars showed their mettle. The winner with the impressive time of seven minutes was Jim Keating. Jim's dedication to erg training during the winter months certainly showed in his performance!

Christine and Sib Reppert were the gracious hosts for the Rowing Awards Dinner which was held at their home on Friday, January 21. The dinner was very well attended and a rousing success. Chairman of the Rowing Committee Nick O'Connor served as Master of Ceremonies. The mileage trophy for men went to Bill Belden (2020) and for women to Victoria Reeders (1924). Those in attendance enthusiastically cheered the following as they received their awards as Club Champions:

Veterans Men—Jim Sowles

Grand Masters Men—Peter Hanson

Masters Men—Steve Glick

Masters Women—Terry Maher and
Victoria Reeders

Open Men—Geoff Marois

Open Women—Catherine Humblet

This Rowing dinner was the last for John Riley in his capacity as Rowing Coach for UBC. John has

decided to devote his full attention to his successful rowing camps and relocate with his wife to the Philadelphia area. Those of us who were fortunate enough to receive John's coaching during the early morning hours over the last several years will greatly miss not only his experience and energy, but also his clear commitment to our individual improvement at every level. John's tenure as Rowing Coach has been distinguished by a truly remarkable increase in both the levels of participation and performance of UBC Rowers. Three of the Club's members whom John has coached are serious Olympic team contenders: Bill Belden and Catherine Humblet for the U.S. and Marcus Dahloff for Sweden.

The Club is very grateful to John for the time he has given us and wish him the best of luck in his future coaching career! ■

Squash News

As we approach the league's mid-year point, the UBC A Team record is 6-3 in league play. We currently hold the number 4 spot, ten points behind the number 3 team and seven points ahead of the number 5 team. In individual play, we have registered a 23-13 match score, accumulating 76 games won versus 45 lost. As we head into the second part of the season, we are confident that our results will get even better. Our schedule has forced us to play tough competition and has put our team on the road for 6 of the 9 matches and, as we enter the second half, we should have a home court advantage for many of the remaining matches.

The A team has been comprised of Tyler Hindermann, Philip Constable, Patrick Fiscoeder, Chris Lutes, David Winship, and Sandy Pegram. Competition for the positions has been tight, especially among the top tier, as Mark Lewis has helped raise the level of play through "stealth" lessons with

various players. As usual, the depth and strength of our field has enabled us to compete favorably with many of our opponents. Additionally, we have had very good consistency in our individual participation which has helped deliver a solid team effort.

Going forward, we should do well if we can maintain this consistent effort, especially from Philip "Just Five More Pounds" Constable, Patrick "Velvet Hands" Fiscoeder, and hopefully Jay "The Animal" Healy, if we can draw him into our matches.

B Team Update:

Co-Captains Cromwell and Forbes have led the B Team to a fast start, compiling a 11-0 record through the midpoint of the season and positioned us as the only undefeated team in the league. However, the team is in third place in points overall, which the captains characterize as an efficient use of players, utilizing more than a dozen players to date to fill out the four man roster. (A few matches have been won on points rather than total games). Teams from Concord and the University Club looked to be tough matches looking toward the second half of the season, though the UBC was victorious over Concord early this month thanks to Greg Fox's *come from behind* win!

The UBC team should be able to compete with these and other top teams for their first league title in seven years, but it will certainly be a tough test. Notable participants have included the legendary Phin White, who only needs an A Team match to round out his league resume, the elusive, yet incredibly talented Hugh O'Donnell, "Lefty" Cromwell, the always youthful Andrew St. John, the also elusive, yet incredibly talented Patrick Sartor, "MIA" Todd Savage, "come back to the B's" Jim Luchars, and "speedy" Forbes. Other players include, Dan Gallagher, Tim Cambell, Phil Laird, Nick Godfrey, Jake Garmey, Greg Fox and Spencer Macalaster.

C Team Update:

At the midway point in the season, UBC was in second place in the C league standings, having won all but two matches. The C squad is showing good depth this year with players Phin White, John Jennings, Archie

McIntyre, Dave Mattaliano, Ethan Ladd, Alex Iler, George Kimball, Tim Nash, and Tris Dammin.

Recent events of note include an away match at Andover, when champ Tris Dammin not only won his match, but he claimed victory in another one that same night. He then posed for a picture with the football team, after they had shaved their heads for their Exeter game.

Co-Captains John Jennings and George Kimball have high hopes for the playoffs this year and believe that as long as the squad doesn't have any players on the injured reserve, we can bring home the States.

D Team Update:

The UBC D team is having a "rebuilding" year with 3 wins in our first 10 matches. This places us 6th out of 10 teams with solid wins over the four teams below us. VanDam is the only returning player stepping up to the #1 spot, filling Scudder Sinclair's shoes, as he lost in the state D finals last year. Newcomers fresh out of Mark Lewis' Tuesday clinics include David Page, Neils Blair, Richard Pierce, Tim O'Brien (who separated his shoulder in one of our matches—typical D level effort) and Anson Clough. We are building a solid base of experience for future years and believe that if we line up our best four players at one time (which has been done successfully three times) we can have a winning record in the 2nd half of the year.

50+ Update:

The UBC 50+ team is currently #1 in the League by a margin of 14 won games. While enjoying a great season, the team has been led by Jay Healy in the number one spot, with Mike Keating, Chip Elfner and Jon Smith rounding out the rest of the team. Others on the roster have included Rob Gray, who has been out with foot surgery recently, John O'Brien who has also been injured and Dick Drury, who

recently pitched in for a match against Milton. The team remains very optimistic for the remainder of the season, particularly with Gene Clapp joining the team, as he just turned 50 this fall so he can join the team for the home stretch.

Important Note:

Eye Guards! All squash players are required to wear protective eye wear. There will be no exceptions to this rule and it will be strictly enforced.

Summer's Cup December 17-19:

The Summer's Cup Tournament took place successfully with over 52 entries, the largest ever. Wayne Hodges was the winner in the 50+ year category, while Charles L. Forbes topped the Main Draw, defeating Chris Chan 3-1. Congratulations to Wayne and Charlie!

Club Tournaments:

The Handicap draw is posted, and the club tournaments will be posted soon. Play your matches as soon as you can!

Exhibition Match held Feb. 17th:

Hopefully, many of you enjoyed the exhibition match held between UBC Squash professional Mark Lewis and University Club Pro Chris Spahr. This event welcomed new members to the Club during the winter season. A good time was had by all who attended.

U.S. Nationals:

St. Patrick's Day weekend ten UBC squash enthusiasts played in the U.S. Nationals.

In the 4.0/B draw Phin White bowed out in the 1/4 finals of the consolation draw. Charlie Forbes and Gordon Cromwell played in the 4.5/B+ draw. Forbes lost a heart-breaker 10-9 in the fifth game of his first match. Gordon Cromwell won a couple of matches before losing in the 1/4 finals.

In the 5.0/A draw Patrick Fiscoeder put up a hard fight in his second match versus the eventual winner. Also in the 5.0/A draw Laurence Wintersteen lost to the #3 seed 10-9 in the fourth game.

The UBC had five competitors in age group divisions ranging from

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35+ to 60+. In the 35+ Tyler Hindermann got through to the finals of the consolations before losing 10-8 in the fifth after having been ahead 8-7. Hindermann took down last year's UBC Champion Russ Mucklow in the first round of the consolations.

Chris Fox was the sole UBC member playing in the 45+ division where he won his first match then lost his second. Chip Elfner played in the 55+ age group and bowed out the ten time national champion, Jay Nelson.

John O'Brien, in the 60+ division, got through to the consolation finals before bowing out to a Texan.

UBC squash professional Mark Lewis lost a long 5th/6th playoff match, 9-7, in the fifth game to New York professional Richard Chin.

For all of the UBC members who competed, it was a positive experience. With some prodding, hopefully, some of this year's players will make the trip out to Seattle for next year's Nationals. ■

Dates and Times to Remember

Squash Club Championship Finals:

May 4, 2000, at 6:00 P.M.
144 Chestnut St.—Beer and chips will be served so come support the athletes that have worked hard to make this final round.

Annual Dinner:

Wednesday, May 14
Harvard Club, Commonwealth Ave.
Cocktails at 5:30, Awards at 6:30,
Dinner at 7:00.

Alex Snegour and Vladimir Shulman wish to remind us that Massage Therapy is available Mon, Tue, Wed & Fri: 8 A.M.-4 P.M. and Thu: 8 A.M.-9 P.M., by appt.

Alex: 617-734-9335
Vladimir: 617-630-4029.
Massage Room: 617-742-1761

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play in the first ever (and last?) UBC-Tokyo Cup, held at the Tokyo American Club on the evening of December 9th. Elfner was able to vanquish Smith, aided in part by the effects of the Ginza strip on Smith from his visit there the night before. Elfner played down the significance of his victory, crediting his ability to count the score in Japanese as the deciding factor. Marks played the role of official photographer and blames his poor photography on German cameras not understanding Japanese film. Well done lads! ■

