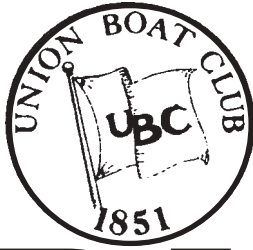


THE PUDDLE



Newsletter of the Union Boat Club of Boston

Summer 2000

Olympic Coach Inspires Enthusiasm

Annual Dinner Speaker



Mike Teti, the men's Olympic rowing coach displayed just why it is that he has been able to inspire his athletes to win three consecutive World Championships. His infectious enthusiasm was felt throughout his talk and the videos brought out the "behind the scenes" racing that occurs during a 2000 meter Olympic race. On the heels of this dinner, many members ex-

pressed an interest in helping Mike achieve his goal of winning Gold for the United States in Sydney. For those that would like to help, the National Rowing Foundation is set up to do just that as it focuses its attention and resources on National and Olympic team development and has been the seed corn for many of the programs that Mike so ably described. Should you have an interest in helping, you may send a tax-deductible contribution to:

National Rowing Foundation
67 Mystic Road
North Stonington, CT 06359 ■

UBC 149th Annual Dinner Draws Near Record Attendance

Almost 160 members assembled at the Harvard Club in Boston to enjoy the 149th annual

dinner held this year on May 17th. As always it was an opportunity to catch up with friends old and new and to reminisce about races or squash games past and present. The cocktail hour was punctuated by the award ceremony for the finalists in the squash tournaments and was ably presided over by our professional, Mark Lewis. The recipients of those awards are noted elsewhere in this edition of the Puddle. As has been the custom for the past several years the rowing awards are given at the Rowing dinner held at the close of the season in January.

The dinner always promises an enjoyable evening and it did not disappoint. The bisque was well seasoned, the roast beef was rare and the wine was well matched to the occasion. And so was our guest speaker, Mike Teti, who is the head coach of the United States men's rowing team. Under Teti's direction, the men's eight has won the gold medal at the World Championships the last three years in succession, with a fourth gold firmly in sight at this year's Olympics in Sydney. A combination of

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President's Message

This issue of the Puddle follows closely on the heels of our early Spring edition in part to bring more timely coverage of special events such as the Annual Dinner and in part because your editor is about to embark on a two month bike trip across the country and does not want to travel with the guilt of work undone.

The spring is usually a re-awakening time for the world at large and Union is no exception to that process. Our rowers are back on the river, the courts are filled with the play of tournament and league finals and runners are back on the esplanade, free of the constraints of winter workouts in the ice and snow. Running is a sport that barely gets mention these days around the club but every year we have a few souls that punish themselves by training for and running in the Boston marathon in April. This year's group of runners included Douglas Hart, Cap Kane, Jonathan Moss and Tim Timmerman. Their times ranged between just over three hours to four hours and fifteen minutes. Jon Moss turned in a very impressive 3 hours and 4 minutes. Congratulations to all who started and finished the race.

Spring is also a time to get our physical plant back in shape from the rigors of winter and users of the boathouse will see a completely rebuilt shower in the men's locker room, a project that has been in the works for a couple of years and finished ahead of the Big Dig. Repainting of the boathouse will also begin this spring as a two-step project that will finish in 2001. Things will be relatively quiet at 144 Chestnut St. for a change but we can all breathe a sigh of relief that the building finally appears to have stopped settling, a trend that we noticed after the rebuilding of the Squash courts.

All of you received notice of the

Cellular tower project and I thank you for your collective cooperation during the proxy solicitation; it will replace our flagpole with a similar structure

Upcoming social events that you will want to note on your calendars are the new members cocktail party and the summer Chicken Dinners that are usually accompanied by good weather and always accompanied by good fellowship. See the calendar on the back for more details.

Despite the excitement with which I look forward to my upcoming bike trip this summer, I have to admit to a certain regret at missing those early morning June and July rows on a calm and tranquil Charles River. Well, they will just have to wait this year. Have a great summer and I'll see you in August.

Cap Kane, President ■

UBC's VP is #4 In Duxbury Top 50 Athletes

The following is an excerpt from the Duxbury Clipper, May 10th, 2000.

Charles E. Clapp III participates in one of the few remaining sports that has not gone professional and he hopes it never does.

Crew has come a long way over the years and the son of Charles and Elinor Clapp holds a unique spot in the town's athletic history as our only Olympic medal-winner.

After cruising the waters of Duxbury Bay at his family's summer home, Clapp became a member of the crew team at Tabor Academy in Marion where he got his first taste of rowing competition.

Eager to test his skills after graduation, he enrolled at the University of Washington in '76 where he was a member of their two-time National Championship



Eights team.

When President Jimmy Carter refused to send an Olympic team to the 1980 Games, it opened the door for many rowers to prepare for the '84 Games as the interest level of the '80 team waned.

Traveling to Wisconsin, Clapp impressed the selection committee over a rugged three-month period of two-a-day drills and competitions. Not only was he selected, but he would eventually become the only athlete to make the United States' Eights team four consecutive years.

Just how good this team of new recruits was had not yet been determined, but at the '81 World Championships it earned a bronze medal and served notice that it would be ready for Los Angeles.

Prior to the Olympic Games in 1984, his U.S. boat competed in Lucerne, Switzerland and watched as the Canadian team set a new world record on Saturday's first day of competition. Not to be outdone, the American squad bettered Canada's mark the next day with a new course record and a world record which lasted for eight years.

"We knew the Canadians were a fast boat, and we had beaten the Eastern European block countries already, so we had a feeling going into the Olympic Games that we had a good shot at a medal," said Clapp.

While not quite at the level of his Olympic experience, Clapp has

competed many times in the Head of The Charles Regatta with members of the '80 Olympic Eights team in the Masters Division and various UBC entries.

Clapp currently lives in Hingham with his sons Elmo (8) and Calvin (6) who are already in training with dad's recently-assembled rowing machine. ■

Greetings From Afar

The following came from member Peter Gish in France last month:

I had meant to write you after having received the minutes of the UBC annual meeting but a new baby girl, business and the general craziness of living in the south of France prevented timely correspondence. Nonetheless, I do periodically wonder how my friends at the club are doing.

First and foremost, I wanted to comment on the passing away of Mr. Crosby senior. One of my fondest memories of UBC is of rowing back to the boathouse, having competed in the Head of the Charles regatta and seeing Mr. Crosby (then 80+ years old) sculling his way out to the competition. What a statement about the man and the club! I hope this very special, multi-generation aspect of the UBC membership endures forever. In my experience, the bond formed by men in the crucible of competition is one of the most enduring and valuable of all. The fact that UBC is one of the few places in the U.S. where father, son, and grandson can come together and revel in the spirit of athleticism is something to be cherished and celebrated.

I hope that spring training on the Charles goes well. Although my concept II ergometer gets regular use, it's not the same as the tranquility borne of an early

morning workout at UBC.

Best regards, Peter Gish

p.s. Please give my best to B. Smith, C. Clapp III, D. Dill, A. Anderson and the rest of the gang. ■

Rowing News

John Riley's "good-bye party" as our rowing coach for the last 6 years was held at Sibley Reppert's house. Everyone enjoyed John's remarks about how much coaching at UBC has meant to him.

The Club's new coach, Tom Bohrer, a two-time Olympic silver medallist, has just returned from the U.S. Trials. This becomes UBC's gain as he will be here with us this summer to transition our program from John Riley. Once he has settled in, he will be posting his coaching clinic times for novice and experienced rowers.

By the way, and a point of pride for our club, with Tom were two of the Club's rowers who were also competing in the U.S. Trials: Bill Belden in the lightweight double and Catherine Humblet in the lightweight women's double.

The boathouse attendant for the summer is Mike Cody. He just finished his freshman year at Cornell, rowing for the lightweights. His hours are Mon-Fri, 2-7:30 P.M. and he can give help in launching and access to the river and boathouse during that time. He will be able to offer a rowing tip or two for those that want or need it during that time.

Thanks to the efforts of Sam Truslow, the boathouse has new showers and painting of the exterior is currently underway. Finally, the summer program remains active and enthusiastic. On Sunday, June 11th, fifteen new members learned the "rules of the River" and kicked off what has been both a traditional and successful program. ■

UBC 149th Annual Dinner

...continued from front

his anecdotal style of speaking and some very inspiring film clips of the past three U.S. victories made for great after dinner fare.

The assembled multitude lingered long after the final strains of the club anthem were sung to drain the last of the glass of wine and have a final puff of the cigar before reluctantly heading home. A good time was had by all. ■



Cap Kane, President, waxing eloquently.



Past President and Recipient of the Ray Rodriguez Award for Most Improved Squash Player, Chip Elfner



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Boston, MA 02108
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Squash Update

At the Annual Dinner, it was clear to those who could hear above the boisterous cocktail chatter, that The Union Boat Club squash program had capped off yet another successful season. For those who could not hear the details, the visual experience of seeing the transfer of silver at the podium to the Club Champions and Runners-up illuminated a number of surprises in both finalists and scores in this year's UBC Club Championships.

Here are the results: Russ Mucklow defeated Philip Constable, 3-1 in the A finals, and in the Bs, Jake Garmey defeated Dan Gallagher in a grueling match. Moving down the ladder, John Gates defeated Ethan Ladd, 3-1 in the C finals and Todd Vandam defeated R.J. Lyman, 3-0 in the D finals. As for the remaining categories, Bob Loring defeated Jon Smith, 3-1 in

the 50+ finals, Chip Elfner won The Ray Rodriguez Award for most improved player, and Jonathan Kelly defeated Clay Yonce, 3-1 in the Handicap finals—gotta love that Handicap Match!

Outside the Club, the UBC 50+ Team won the state championships, defeating Concord-Acton 3-0 in the Finals. Contributing to the Team's success were Jon Smith (Captain), Chip Elfner, Mike Keating, Tris Dammin and Dick Drury. Though not as victorious, each of the A, B and C Teams made it to their respective semi-final matches with at least two of these teams losing to the eventual champions. In addition, though the D Team did not make the playoffs, they defeated all of the teams that did make the finals during the second half of their season.

Finally, in the individual state championships Todd Vandam made it as far as the semi-finals of the State D championships and Russ Mucklow defeated Tyler

Hindermann in the State 35+ championships.

Reviewing the season, it is clear that with all the players who have made noticeable improvements in their games this year, the UBC will again make its presence known in both League play and in the individual championships next year. Have a great summer!! ■

IMPORTANT DATES

Thurs., August 3, 2000:	<i>Esplanade Chicken Dinner</i>
August 9 & 10, 2000:	<i>Canadian Henley</i>
Sat, August 19, 2000:	<i>Commissioner's Cup</i>
October 21 & 22, 2000:	<i>Head of the Charles</i>
August 25 - 27, 2000:	<i>Summer Doldrums Squash Tournament</i>
Sat, September 19, 2000:	<i>UBC-UBC in Philadelphia</i>

Squash Professional, Mark Lewis will be coaching the U.S. Junior National Team at the Junior World Championships June 23 to July 31. He will back in the club August 1.