

# The Maroon Lagoon

University of Chicago Crew Club  
Winter 2007



## Novice Experiences at the 2007 Chicago Indoor Rowing Championships

On a snowy Saturday in February, I joined the rest of the Chicago Crew team at the annual Chicago Indoor Rowing Championships. Excitement ran high on the North Side as rowers of all ages and experiences pushed themselves to the point of physical exhaustion—and the day's effervescence led to several amazing 2K times for our squad.

As a first-year novice, this was my first experience with competitive rowing and it was quite a day. Not only did I quickly catch onto “crew fashion,” as I saw the many seasoned rowers who sported t-shirts from various races and regattas over their perfectly aesthetic and functional spandex, but I learned that the sport is much more than physically demanding; it has a mental component as well.

As I entered the gym to get ready for my heat, I saw my sweaty and exhausted teammates getting off their ergs. I quickly congratulated them before I directly headed towards the warm-up bank. My legs shook slightly as I strapped in for my warm-up. Distractions were everywhere, but I pulled my other thoughts out of my head as I took a few long, even strokes. I drove harder, beginning to breathe as I pulled a power ten to remember my stroke rate. All too soon, it was time.

My mind raced as I pulled the first thousand meters. My numbers just would not do what I wanted, no matter what I did. I refused to let this dissuade me, though—and I finished, exhausted and ready for doughnuts!

By far the best part of the entire event was the coxswain's race: everyone on the team had pulled their pieces and we were ready to stand behind Chad as he raced through one thousand meters. The exhaustion we experienced during our own races disappeared as we screamed, jumped, and found great satisfaction

in the success of our team. Watching Chad win was exhilarating and I cannot wait for next year.

*-Jamie Morgenstern  
Class of 2010*



Jamie (left) with fellow rower Morgan Lindsay and coxswain Liz Chen (right).

*Photo courtesy of Ngiste Abebe*



Coach and alum Jeffrey Hreben encouraging rower Tristan Bordon as he pulls his 2K who placed fourth in his event with a time of 6:49.0

*Photo courtesy of Chicago Indoor Rowing Championships Homepage*

On entering the giant room that was the location of the Chicago Indoor Rowing Championships, I knew I was in the right place. Everything that I had been preparing for was in a single room. People flooded every square foot of the room, and the giant screen reminded me of how much this competition mattered to each team.

The room was so humid, crowded, and distracting that I wondered how I was going to race a 2K. After Coach wrote on my hand the time I needed to warm up, I sat against a wall, stretching and

psyching myself out as adrenaline kept flowing through my veins. Soon the time came, and I was rowing my 2K. All of this ended quickly, and I slowly rose off of the erg having achieved a PR for the Winter Season. Although I felt great, this was nothing compared to what was in store for the rest of the day.

After my 2K I woke up from my own mind games and remembered that while everyone was worrying about their own 2Ks, we were racing as a team. Looking at the results, I was amazed and filled with pride. Together as a team, we were amazing. Back in the gymnasium, I joined our crowd as we cheered on varsity, watching their animated boats on the screen inch slowly past the others, taking the victory at every crucial point. We were a force to be reckoned with. The experience gave me a taste of the Spring racing season and I can't wait for more.

*-Christopher Quintos  
Class of 2010*



Chris Quintos (bottom) and gold medal winner John Deyer watching the scoreboard as they warm up.

*Photo courtesy of Hila Mehr*

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR CIRC MEDAL WINNERS!**



Chad Hughes- Gold in Coxswain Men 3:42.3  
John Dyer- Gold in Novice Lightweight Men 6:47.2  
Marjie Bush-Silver Novice Lightweight Women 7:58.6  
Hayden Hudson-Silver Lightweight Men 6:49.6  
Matthew Bruce- Bronze in Lightweight Men 6:49.7  
Sean Beyers- Bronze in Novice Men 6:44.4



## SPRING 2007 RACE SCHEDULE

4/1 URA's  
4/7 Northwestern/Possible  
4/14 Grand Valley State  
4/21 Long Practice Weekend  
4/28 Big Ten- Petition (scrimmage?)  
5/5 Macras  
5/12 Dad Vails

If you are in the area or live nearby any of these events feel free to come by and cheer us on!



## ELECTION RESULTS

<b>President</b>	Matthew Bruce <a href="mailto:mbruce@uchicago.edu">mbruce@uchicago.edu</a>
<b>Vice President/ Regatta Chair</b>	Elizabeth Chen <a href="mailto:ejchen@uchicago.edu">ejchen@uchicago.edu</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Hayden Hudson <a href="mailto:hudson@uchicago.edu">hudson@uchicago.edu</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Becky Brehl <a href="mailto:rbrehl@uchicago.edu">rbrehl@uchicago.edu</a>
<b>Parent/Alumni Chair</b>	Morgan Lindsay <a href="mailto:morgan.lindsay@uchicago.edu">morgan.lindsay@uchicago.edu</a>
<b>Fundraising Chair</b>	Majie Bush <a href="mailto:marjibu@uchicago.edu">marjibu@uchicago.edu</a>
<b>Equipment Manager</b>	Miles Betley <a href="mailto:mbetley@uchicago.edu">mbetley@uchicago.edu</a>



*A very special thank you to all of you who contributed and helped make our first annual Erg-A-Thon a success!*

## New Boats and Fundraising Opportunities!

The Women's Board at the University of Chicago has given the team money to purchase three boats. While one of the boats will be named in honor of the Women's Board, the naming rights are still up for grabs on a Wintech 2x and a 1x. If you are interested in bidding for naming rights please visit <http://life.bio.sunysb.edu/~crnoto/crew>

The crew team is also offering Chicago Oars for purchase. For more information about owning a piece of Chicago Crew history visit the website above or contact our equipment manager Miles Betley at [mbetley@uchicago.edu](mailto:mbetley@uchicago.edu)

## Team Wish List

- A new pair of Vespoli swings for the boats- one can never have too many: \$109 per pair
- 18 C-stickers that will go on the team's new oars: \$81.50 for 18 stickers
- Your e-mail address! To cut down on costs, the team would like to make a complete switch to an electronic newsletter by the Spring 2007 edition. Please send your e-mail address to Morgan Lindsay at [morgan.lindsay@uchicago.edu](mailto:morgan.lindsay@uchicago.edu).